

Eddie sits in a recliner, crutches leaning nearby. The doorbell rings. He groans, swinging his good leg to the door.

EDDIE  
Who the hell...?

SYLVIA (O.S.)  
Eddie! Open up!

SYLVIA, EDDIE'Ss manager, bursts in, sharp, confident, carrying a sleek leather portfolio.

SYLVIA  
Hey superstar, how's my MVP?

Eddie smirks weakly.

EDDIE  
Could be better. Could be worse.  
Depends who's asking.

SYLVIA  
Touché. Well... I've been on the hunt  
and today I brought someone who's  
gonna make it a lot better.

She gestures behind her. Enter DR. Chloe HART (30s), hotter than the usual, poised, polished, carrying a small medical kit.

EDDIE  
(skeptical)  
Another new name? Where's Dr. Kay at?

SYLVIA  
(sighs)  
Kay retired... lives in Oklahoma now.

EDDIE  
Who retires and moves to Oklahoma?!

CHLOE  
That's what I said.

Marcus snickers.

SYLVIA  
Apparently, people do. But trust me,  
Chloe here is top of her field. She  
knows exactly how to get you back on  
the court.

Eddie studies Chloe, cautious.

EDDIE  
So you say... I'm really not trying to  
risk my career

CHLOE  
I understand. It's natural to be  
guarded. We'll go step by step, okay.  
That's the mantra from now on. I know  
your history, your injury, your style  
of play... I'll work with you, not  
just for you.

Eddie hesitates, arms folded, weighing the promise.

EDDIE  
Alright... I'll give it a shot. But  
I'm not here for experiments. I want  
results.

CHLOE  
That's exactly what I'm here for. Step  
by step remember, no shortcuts.

EDDIE  
Step by step, huh? Sounds safe  
enough... for now.

Sylvia claps him on the shoulder and heads toward the door.

SYLVIA  
I'll check in later. Just focus on  
recovery.

EDDIE  
What you think I've been doing,  
Sylvia? Sitting with this broke ass  
knee for fun?

SYLVIA  
Damn... attitude.  
(then; to Chloe)  
Fix this man fast please, his mood  
swings are killing me.

CHLOE  
I got you, girl.

Eddie watches Sylvia leave, then looks back at Chloe. She  
gestures to the portable therapy setup she brought with her.

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