

Sabira Stahlberg

Follow the bird



Lecti book studio

Chapter 6 Restaurant

Axel shook his head.

‘No, I was just sliding. See you.

Thanks for straightening the carpet!’ Mia snorted.

She always had to clean up after other people.

She went into the lift and got out at the entrance.

She felt that she was hungry.

No, the birds must be fed first.

Mia went into the restaurant.

It was in a beautiful garden with glass ceiling

and glass walls. In the garden

grew many kinds of huge, beautiful flowers.

A whole glass wall was covered by plants.

Here one stepped into another world.

The restaurant was often packed with people.

Right now it was quiet,

but soon the guests would arrive.

The white table cloths were ironed.

Glasses and plates were set on the tables.

There were also rooms for conferences,

but most people liked to meet in the restaurant.

The food was excellent and the service perfect.

Sometimes not all fit in at the same time,

but then latecomers just waited in the café.

The cockatoos made a lot of noise,
but they never sat down on the tables.
They had been taught not to make a mess.
Occasionally they sat on the shoulder
of a person they liked.
They could imitate voices.
The guests usually jumped,
when the cockatoos talked like people.
But the birds never begged for food.

From the kitchen voices were talking:
'Breakfast to room T-329,' someone cried.
'Room H-211 wishes shrimps on a sandwich.
Room L-407 wants clams with lemon.
A green salad to room P-144.'

Three cockatoos were sitting in a palm tree.
Wait... the third was not a cockatoo,
but the budgerigar of the professor.
It was probably looking for food.
Mia tried to coax the budgerigar,
but the bird did not pay any attention to her.
She had no seeds to offer.

As long as the budgerigar was all right,
everything was fine.
Mia would have time to eat lunch
and take care of her tasks.
Later on she could bring the budgerigar
back to the professor.

He did not miss Ramses right now anyway.
'You are just messing up,' she said to the birds,
when she came with their food.
They sat chattering in a corner.
She put out apples and pears.
In order to get at the seeds they had to peck
with their beaks through the fruit pulp.
If the birds did not receive fruits,
they became angry and could destroy the plants.

Mia went into the kitchen.
There was a pleasant smell and the pots steamed.
As usual everybody was hurrying in the kitchen.
There was a lot of noise as well.
In a corner Rock was singing on TV.
It was very hot near the ovens.
From the freezer cold air floated out.

'What are you doing here?' the cooks asked.
'I could help with serving the food,' said Mia.
In the back of the kitchen Axel was sitting.
He threw pieces of sausage into his mouth
and was finishing a big plate of mashed potatoes.
It took only half a minute.
Axel waved his hand and disappeared.
The main cook went around in the kitchen
and tasted all foods with a spoon.
She shouted to all working around her:
'Use a sharper knife. Don't burn the meat.
Stir the gravy. Mix lemon juice into the salad.

Give Mia a plate of soup.
Get that cockatoo out of here!
What is wrong with all the birds today?
They will not stay in the dining room.
Mia, can you do something?’

Mia’s head was spinning.
She caught the cockatoo Gaga
and let her out into the restaurant.
Gaga protested and tried to nip Mia’s arm.
The cockatoo wanted to stay in the kitchen
where the fruit and nuts were.
‘Mia, please take this tray to
conference room PTH,’ said a cook.
‘There are some politicians who wait for their fillets.
Take the serving cart.’

**Strange things
happen in the hotel.**

**Someone is wrinkling
the carpets in the corridors
and breaking bottles
at the hairdresser's.**

**The birds have gone crazy.
What is going on?**

**Mia has to solve
the riddle somehow.**



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