A Hot Cup of Holiday Cheer

By: Firingwall Story done for Lacy the Otter of Twitter

So cold, so cold. Lacy hugged himself tightly, his shoulders clenching. They were starting to feel a bit sore after doing that for so long.

However, that brief soreness was nothing to the situation he found himself in. Then again, how could he have expected it? The weather was gray and a little cold, but nothing to indicate a full-blown blizzard would roll in like that suddenly!

Now, everything ahead of him was nearly invisible in this thick, white blur surrounding him. Just wanted to get a little walk in, he told himself, walk, save a little on gas, and get something to eat from the store. Stupid, stupid.

Lacy shook his head. He couldn't blame himself for the freak weather, but he still felt like doing so. At this rate, he was probably going to freeze. Who knew walking four blocks in his city neighborhood would be the end of him?

He snorted. *Can't think like that.* He looked around. Despite being on the sidewalk, he could barely see the buildings next to him. All he saw were vague outlines of them and whatever object or car was nearby. Nothing seemed like salvation.

At first at least. Up ahead after walking a few more feet, a light started to peer through the whiteout. He walked further, seeing it pouring out of a large window.

A café! Lacy was briefly confused. When did a café open up near him? He was sure he didn't see one before when he had passed by before. Not even any indication anyone was moving into any storefront.

Still, what did it matter? The lights were on and peering through, he could see someone inside, and an Open sign was in the window. Salvation had arrived!

Lacy hurried inside, though with difficulty. He trudged through the almost knee-deep snow and pushed himself through the door. Thank heavens it opened inward.

He quickly closed the door behind him and sighed, taking in that warmth. He took a look around the small café. A few chairs and tables were set up with a large counter on the side of the room. Several menu signs were above the counter, the smell of coffee, chocolate, and baked goods tipping him off on what they offered.

However, Lacy's attention was on the biggest thing in the room. The server, the only visible employee around was a reindeer woman. She was a very curvy reindeer with snow-white hair, done up in two large, twin-drill ponytails.

The reindeer looked up from the counter, adjusting her sharp glasses on her snoot. She gave a warm smile and sweetly spoke, "Hell-loooo, dearie! Welcome to my lovely shop~."

Lacy shivered, giving himself one last hug and squeeze to warm up. He approached, graciously saying, "Th-thank you."

"My name is Cindy Snowfall~." The reindeer pushed her chest out with a wink, indicating her name tag on her left breast. "How may I help you this fine evening?"

"J-j-just need refuge." Stuffing his wet gloves in his pockets, Lacy rubbed his face. "I was just going t-to the store when that bl-blizzard showed up!"

"Oh yes!" Cindy nodded, looking concerned. "It did come out of nowhere didn't it?" She tapped her chin. "Hmm, tell you what! I suspect it will take a while for the blizzard to blow over. How about some nice hot chocolate to warm up while you wait?"

Lacy's heart positively leaped. "Tha-thank you!"

He hurried over to the counter as Cindy began prep work on the drink. He pulled out his wallet and opened it. "Nuh-uh! Put that thing away!" Cindy had spun around, wagging a finger in his face. "This is on the house, dearie!"

Cindy went back to making his chocolate. *Well, it's not like I'm not going to be grateful here.* He slipped a few dollars into the tip jar. The reindeer woman paused briefly when he did that, almost like she noticed. However, she continued her work without a peep.

A moment or two later, she turned around and handed him a big cup. "There you go! Please enjoy!"

Lacy smiled and took the cup over to a table near the window. Sitting down, he glanced outside. *Yep, still falling. ...probably gonna be a while.* Plus, who knew when the city's snow plows were gonna get out and start their work?

He took a sip of his cocoa, and then a longer one. "Mmmm," he sighed, slumping into his chair. *This tastes great*!

His body felt warmer already, that delicious, sugary goodness rocketing through him. He shivered, toes tapping the ground rapidly. A low gurgle and odd feeling came from his stomach, but it faded. How strange!

Nothing as strange as that swelling though. His stomach expanded a little, rising like bread in an oven. Just a little pudge dipping over his jeans, barely noticeable under his outer winter layers.

Lacy licked his lips, taking in more of that lovely taste. His hair quivered as he did, like a breeze rolling through despite being indoors. His brown hair began to brighten, turning to a hot, peppermint red.

Lacy took another sip, long but slower. He wanted to soak it in, every little bit of it as his body quivered. He never had hot chocolate like this before. Just so sugary and warm, perfect for a day like that day.

His feet and toes clenched as sugar coursed through. However, doing so, his feet began to shift. Toes started together as their toenails grew out of control, wrapping around and growing out over them. His feet further shrank as they reshaped themselves into hooves.

With how narrow his feet had become, his boots casually slipped off and hit the ground. His socks were ripped open in the front, the hooves tearing through. At the top where the ankles should be, brown fur was sprouting. The fuzz covered everything there, disappearing underneath his jeans.

Lacy leaned further into his chair with a warm, relaxed smile. This was exactly what he needed. He felt nice and toasty, that cold feeling a thing of the past.

He took another drink, fingers slightly twitching for a moment. Fingernails began to darken, gaining a deep brown tint. The nails grew then, wrapping around the tips of his fingers. It was almost similar to that of his feet.

His hands tightly gripped the cup as the sugary energy coursed into them. The same light brown fur as his legs began to sprout, starting at the "hooves" and going down each digit. They spread down on the palms and backs, quickly reaching the wrists and disappearing under the sleeves as well. The whole while, Lacy's body began to pack on some extra weight. Some more pudge was added onto his stomach, raising it to a muffin top size and a little beyond. Arms and legs lost some of their tone, getting a tad thicker and softer.

Hmmm? Lacy paused his drinking for a moment. Something seemed... off.

He looked over at Cindy. Was she just looking at him? It felt like she was, but she was wiping down the counter. Maybe it was in his head. Maybe there was nothing off at all.

With that handled, Lacy took another drink. His shoulders tensed up for a brief moment before relaxing... now narrower and daintier. His waistline narrowed a little, though not too noticeable with the soft belly he developed. Lastly, the chest pushed and puffed out a bit.

The guy took another look out the window. *Stiillllll snowing*. He sipped his cocoa again. *Reeeeally hope the snow stops or someone plows us out. I really want to get to the store.*

Beneath his clothes, he felt itchier, but also warmer. Fur was rapidly coating him, capturing all of his arms and legs now.

During that sip, something soft bumped up against his mouth. *Oh! Marshmallow*~. He chewed it up and swallowed it with some more of his drink. *Oooooooo*~. *That was really, really, reeeeeeally-*

POOF! *Goooooood*~. The back of his pants dipped down. From above his butt, a small tail popped out. Fuzzy and brown as his fur, it wagged gently. It looked quite a lot like Cindy's.

Still, it wasn't as if he was aware of it. Lacy just soaked it in as always. *Marshmallows go sooooo good with cocoa. And, like, this cocoa is totes delish!*

"Hehehe~." A soft, light giggle left his mouth. That caught his attention.

Lacy blinked a few times, eyelashes growing ever longer. *Where did that come from*? He scratched his face. Maybe the cold did get to him a little before he got inside.

Well, nothing like some more cocoa to fix that! He took a bigger drink now, gulping down a couple of small marshmallows with it. His hair quivered once more and began to grow out. Straight became curly, short became long. Long, ravishing red hair flowed down his neck and onto his back.

Lacy let out another small giggle. "My my; looks like you're enjoying yourself!"

"Eep!" Lacy's voice was so light and cute, but he didn't notice. He was taken aback by Cindy sitting across from him now. Sitting and staring deeply into his eyes with such a warm, happy smile.

Lacy's heart started to beat quicker. His chest warmed... and felt heavy. It began to expand, small amounts of fat filling them. Soon, small breasts, not visible underneath his coat, were pushing out.

"O-Oh!" Lacy chimed, before giggling (he couldn't help it). "Miss Cindy~! Sorry, I was, like, so enjoying this drink! It's yummy!"

"It is~!" The reindeer host's smile seemed even warmer than before. "It's my own special blend of chocolate, marshmallows, and seasonal spirit! It does wonders for the soul and body~."

Lacy bit his bottom lip, thighs rubbing together. He nodded. It certainly did wonders for him. He felt so good. So very, very, very good as a bit more chub filled him.

Lacy twitched, a small "oooh" leaving him. The bulge in his pants suddenly vanished, along with the equipment that made it. In its place, something new.

Cindy leaned in and winked. "Especially for the body in this case~!"

"B-body?" Lacy looked confused. Was Cindy implying something? Probably, but what could it be?

Well, nothing another sip couldn't help with. Lacy took another drink but paused briefly when Cindy began to giggle. The reindeer seemed to sense the confusion and began to point down, right at Lacy's body.

For the first time, Lacy looked down at herself. A gasp soon followed as her clothing suddenly felt a lot tighter than before.

The tightness only grew from there as her form expanded. Her hips suddenly widened considerably, gaining a real, soft curve to them. Her butt ballooned, really stretching her pants now and filling out her seat. Breasts jumped up two full cup sizes to conclude, making themselves very well-known to them.

"Oh, wowsies!" Lacy ran her hands down her sides, over her tummy, and to her hips. "Curvy! So curvy!" "And soft~. Don't forget soft!" Cindy chuckled.

"Yeah..." Lacy took one more drink from her cup and poked her tummy. "Soft." She groped her belly, feeling it up slowly. "Sooooft~."

Soft was nice. Bumps appeared on her head. Soft was very nice. The bumps grew bigger, but narrower and extended out. Soft was wonderful. Bumps grew into full-on antlers.

Everything... Lacy's face felt numb. *Everything feels so nice*~. Her face pushed out into a short, cute muzzle, just like Cindy's.

"So," Cindy asked, leaning back casually. "Whatcha think of my hot chocolate?"

Lacy didn't even need to think about it. "Wonderful!" the new reindeer woman cheered, "Like, the bestest hot chocolate evar!"

Cindy applauded happily, her tail wiggling away. "Great! I'm glad you liked it, cutie. I sensed you needed some and came here as soon as I could!"

A curious thing to say, but Lacy didn't think much of it as Cindy continued. However, the reindeer owner's tone changed, soft and sadder. "Oooh, how I wish I could spread this lovely cheer to others more often! It's so hard by yourself."

Lacy twitched and suddenly blurted out, "Oh! Oh oh oh!! Can I help? Pretty please! I'm a good helper, I swear!"

Cindy gasped, placing her hands on her cheeks. "Awww, you wanna help little o' me? You wanna warm people up and give them a nice taste of the holiday spirit too? You're such a sweetie pie!"

"I am!" Lacy couldn't explain why, but she felt she had to. She loved this. She never knew she wanted to be a pudgy reindeer, but now she was one! She wanted to help spread this cheer around and-

GuuuRRuGLE! "OH!" Lacy giggled, patting her tummy, "I am sooooo hungie! I still need to get some yummies in!"

"Well, I have some lovely sugar cookies I can share with you! That'll fill you up! After that, we can get straight to work with bringing our reindeer joy to others!"

"Yay!" First, hot chocolate, and now, cookies?! Ooooooh, Lacy's day had made a complete 180 now.

"Buuuuut!" Cindy held up a finger to Lacy's face. "First things first! We need a lovely name for you that fits the season. You can't work here unless you got a cute name like mine!"

That made sense to her. Lacy scratched her chin. "Kewt name... kewt name... OH! How about Sugarplum?"

"Splendid!" Cindy stood up and walked over. She gave her newest employee a soft pat on the head. "Welcome to my wonderful shop, Sugarplum. This will be the beginning of a lovely winter, won't it?"

Sugarplum nodded. Yes. Yes, it would be~.

THE END