

Title: Catherine's Gift  
Major pairing: Trowa X Quatre  
Author: The Fables spinner  
Rating: PG  
Genre: Romance

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Dedication: This one is for my Friend Catherine Bloom. For putting up with all my long winded e-mails and page after page of drivel I send her to read. This story came into being after I read her notes to me today. She's as sweet as her namesake, and just as talented. I suggest everyone take the time to visit her circus. One of the best sites out there!

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Disclaimer: The characters in this yarn sadly do not belong to me. I wish they did but they belong in total to Sotsu/Sunrise and Bandai entertainment. I am only borrowing their colorful personalities for the sake of this story. I promise to return them, only slightly rumbled when I'm finished with them so the next writer can use them as their muse.

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I normally write original fantasy works, but sometimes, characters like these come along and I get inspired to make up my own little musings involving them. Usually these tales stay rattling around my brain, here's one I decided to put down on paper. I hope you enjoy my little story as I have enjoyed all of yours.

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*How can I say no?*

Catherine pondered this question then realized the simple truth. She could not say no. Not to them, she loved them too much. It was an unusual request, but not unheard of, it would be the greatest gift she could possibly give them. She looked up into their pleading eyes and smiled.

"I'm touched. Yes, of course I'll do this for you." Catherine said and was instantly pulled into Quatre's embrace.

"You will? Honestly?" He asked again, just to make sure he'd heard her right. "Yes, oh now don't cry on me. You'll set me off!" Catherine said grabbing the tissue that miraculously appeared in Trowa's hand. One for her and one for Quatre. A third appeared for his own eyes.

"Cathy, you don't know how much this means to us. Thank you." Trowa said kissing his sister's cheek.

"Trowa, Quatre I mean this. I am so glad you came to me first. I mean Quatre you have goodness knows how many sisters. Why me?" Catherine asked and Quatre smiled.

"I may have 29 sisters technically. I only have 2 who love me as much as I love them. Iria and You." Quatre said laying his hand to Catherine's cheek.

"Trowa and I talked about it long and hard and we decided that we wanted a representation of both of us. Iria is only my half sister. You and Trowa are full siblings. Do you understand?" Quatre asked and Catherine nodded.

"Perfectly. When do we do this?" Catherine asked and Trowa smiled

"I could leave the room." He said and Quatre looked at him horrified.

Catherine just laughed. "I'm teasing little one. I'm jealous, I wouldn't share you with anyone. Not even my sister." Trowa said patting Quatre's knee affectionately.

"Iria will help there in the lab. I've already done my part." Quatre said blushing. "All that needs doing is for you to stop by and see her, whenever you're ready. The procedure can be done in one day. Then the long haul after that." Quatre said still holding Catherine's hand.

"You'll stay with us Cathy, I want you to be comfortable and well looked after." Quatre nearly begged and Catherine giggled.

"You'll spoil me. You already took my target away from me Quatre. If I can practice on him to keep sharp while I'm on down time It's a deal." Catherine teased and Quatre swallowed the lump in his throat. Flashing steel glinting in Catherine's sweet hands was unsettling enough. Actually watching her hurl those daggers at his beloved was even worse. She had missed once.

"He agrees, don't you little one?" Trowa urged when Quatre remained silent.

"Uh-huh. Just do it when I can't see okay?" He asked and Catherine nodded. "I promise." She said tucking a stray lock of blonde behind his ear.

"You promise to pig out with me when I get the urge?" She asked and Quatre grinned.

"You're lucky there, you'll have two men to send out to the store at all hours." Quatre said hugging her again.

"Thank you Cathy." He said, the affection catching in his voice as the immensity of her generosity and love washed over him.

"You're welcome." She said kissing Quatre's temple.

AC 201 (December)

The snow had started falling just as they arrived at Heero's house. "Duo and Hilde are here." Trowa said as he parked their car next to Duo's. Quatre, was busy wrapping up the tiny bundle to ward against the cold.

"There now. Snug as a bug." He said kissing his daughter's cherub like cheeks.

"Here papa, hold her a sec?" Quatre said passing the infant to her second father.

"Come here little princess." Trowa said frowning at Quatre's excessive blankets.

"Quatre, she's sweating. It's ten feet to the front door." Trowa said and Quatre stuck out his bottom lip.

"I'll not have her catching cold here on earth! Remember, she's part of me too, we Arabians do NOT like the cold!" Quatre said pulling his parka tight against his body and taking the baby back. Trowa got out of the car and loaded up with the presents they'd brought to give to their friends and loved ones. The door flew open before they even reached it.

"OH! Gimme Gimme Gimme!" Hilde cried rushing out to see the baby. Quatre handed his daughter to the once again pregnant Hilde and she made a fool of herself as she carried the infant inside. Relena joining in the baby talk as she too ogled the one month old.

"Trowa, Quatre! She's a living angel!" Relena sighed, both men smiled proudly.

"We don't make ugly babies." Duo said leaning over his wife to get a peek at her too.

"You make enough for us all." Heero said Looking at the three already playing in his living room and the fourth due any time.

"HHeey! I like kids! I like mine even better.!" Duo said grinning.

"That's because you are a kid." The voice of Wufei came from the door.

"We'll let's see the newest arrival." He said with disdain, he took the mandatory look and nodded his approval.

"She's got your eyes Trowa." He said and Trowa beamed, he actually beamed, a huge smile on his face.

"I know, my father's eyes." He said as he relieved Hilde of the Baby and passed her to Sally who was nearly as big as Hilde.

"But the rest of her is all Quatre." Sally added to her husband's comment.

"Lemme SEE!" a voice from below eye level demanded. Sally fixed the young boy with a stern eye.

"Let me see what Chen?" She asked in the mother tone of voice.

"Please?" He said meeting his mother's gaze meekly. She was training the copy of Wufei not to act like his father. She smiled and moved to show her four year old the baby. He just wrinkled his nose, looking up at his mother. She could tell by the look on his face, he was wondering why all the adults thought a newborn baby was so fascinating.

"HEY CHEN!" came the voice from one of Duo's brood and with a look of pre determined mischief the boy scampered off.

"If your boy turns mine into a delinquent, I'll murder you." Wufei sneered at Duo and Duo laughed.

"Shall I load the gun?" He asked and Wufei just crossed his arms over his chest.

"So what's the little darling's name?" Duo asked making faces at the baby Quatre cradled in his arms now. Trowa wrapped his arms around both Quatre and their daughter and in unison they both said

"Catherine".