

Unprofessional Behaviour

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Rated: G

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Summary: This follows on from *Gratitude* and is set at the end of the episode “I’ve Got a Crush on You.”

Story Size: 452 words (2Kb as text)

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Author’s note: I’ll admit that I don’t particularly like Clark in this episode. I think he comes across as a bit of a prick. I know he’s playing a part as Charlie King, but he treats Lois poorly and his teasing borders on the mean-spirited. But that’s just my opinion. Anyway. Thanks goes to Trina for beta-reading.

This story is part of a series following “[At First Sight](#),” “[A Matter of Time](#),” “[Evil Lurks](#),” “[Invisible](#)” and “[Gratitude](#).”

I crossed a line.

I horned in on Lois’ story and I didn’t even have a good excuse for doing it.

As much as I want to be partnered with her, I think I have a lot to learn about partnership.

I told everyone — including myself — that I wanted to back Lois up. That it was too dangerous for her to go it alone on the Metro Gang story.

I still think it was dangerous, but that wasn’t the real reason I wanted in on the story. It was partly pique and partly overprotectiveness.

I know I tend to be overprotective of people I care about — my parents have told me that, many times. The thing is, I see so many people injured or killed by things that wouldn’t even knock me off my feet that I’m uneasily aware of just how fragile human beings really are — something that Lois seems to be completely oblivious to.

It was mostly pique, if I’m being honest. Perry had said we were partners on the special stories, and this one looked like a special one to me.

So I horned in. I didn’t back her up — quite the opposite. Instead I got in the way of her investigation, I blew her cover, and — worst of all — I treated her like an object.

I’m not surprised Lois was angry with me. I’m angry at myself. She’s my partner and, I hope, my friend, and I treated her like— like she didn’t matter. It’s no excuse to say I was trying to maintain my cover, that every other male in the club treated women like that.

Mom would tan my hide if she knew.

In spite of my extremely unprofessional behaviour, Lois seems to have forgiven me — for which I am both grateful and surprised. I’ll be watching my step from now on however, as I don’t think she’ll be as understanding a second time.

I know I wouldn’t be.

Only one good thing came out of the whole experience.

I’m pretty sure she was jealous.

THE END

The next story in this series is “[But for the Grace of God](#).”