

Fated to Them by Jessica Hall Chapter 36

Read Fated to Them by Jessica Hall Chapter 36 – I hop in the back, Cyrus drives while Eli makes a phone call. I see Cyrus watching me in the mirror and I look away when my phone starts vibrating in my bag. Reaching in I grab it, looking at the screen my heart skips a beat. My eyes go to them when I see Cyrus once again observing me. I reject Sam's call when it suddenly rings again. I reject it again to message him and tell him I can't talk right now.

"Addie is everything alright?" Cyrus asks.

"Yep, everything is great" I lie looking at my phone screen when a text message comes through.

Sam Meet me tonight at the piers.

Me can't talk now, with my bosses

Sam tonight then?

Mel will try

"Who are you texting?" asks Eli turning around in his seat to look at me. I gulp fear setting in, would they be mad if I talk to Sam? I had no doubt they would be so instead I deleted the messages and locked my phone placing it in my bag.

"Just my mum, she is worried about Taylor" I tell them, Eli watches me for a second before turning back around, Cyrus watching me in the mirror again before his eyes go back to the road.

When we get to work, we catch the elevator up to our floor. Eli's phone rings and he answers it going into his office and closing the door behind him. I walk toward my desk when Cyrus grabs my arm tugging me back before turning and walking us to his office and shoving me inside. He closes the door locking it as I nearly stumble in these goddamn heels.

"Hand it over?" He says walking toward me while I step back by the furious look on his face.

"Your phone, I know you were lying, now give me your phone Adeline" I shake my head taking another step back as his eyes turn red, his face turning demonic and I watch as his fangs protrude, my a**e coming in contact with his desk.

"Now Addie" He demands holding his hand out expectantly.

"I wasn't lying," I told him. He rips my bag off me before rummaging through it and pulling out my phone. He clicks the phone screen realising I changed the Password which was my birthday.

"Unlock it"

"No, I was only talking to mum"

"If that is true you won't have a problem with me seeing your phone then, now unlock it Addie or you won't like what I do next" He says thrusting my phone in my hand. I unlock it typing in Maya's date of birth. He snatches it from me scrolling through my messages, which was empty because I deleted the texts. He growls before placing my phone on his desk and leaning closer and I lean back as he towers over me.

"Who were you messaging Addie?" He growls below my ear, his hands on either side caging me in.

"My mum" I stutter out my blood running cold as his face goes to my neck, I feel his tongue run over my mark making me shiver.

"I will only ask one more time Addie, now who were you messaging?" He asks, his breath fanning my neck, his hand moving and going to my neck as his fingers wrap around it.

"I hate liars" He growls his grip tightening and I gasp from the pressure, tears spilling over and onto my cheeks, my entire body starts to tremble.

"Cyrus!" I gasp trying to breathe as his grip suddenly cuts off my air, my face changing colour when he suddenly loosens his grip, he kisses my lips softly, his other hand going to the blouse of my shirt as he pops the button before moving to the next his hand moving and brushing my cleavage while the other still held my throat.

"I will find out, and when I do you will wish you never lied Addie" He says his nail moving over my b****t above my bra, I whimper when I feel his nail cut across my b****t, feel the warm trickle of my blood when he grabs my chin turning my face away before dipping his head. His tongue running along the cut before he kisses my jaw then kissing the side of my mouth.

"You taste so good" He whispers against my lips before biting my bottom lip and sucking it into his mouth, his fangs slicing through it painfully making me cry out.

"Are you lying to me?" He asks and I say nothing, his arm wrapping around my waist as he forces me on top of his desk pushing between my legs.

"I have ways of making you do anything I want; would you like me to show you" He asks, I shake my head wondering what he means. His hands move to my thighs as he

pushes them further apart before pushing my skirt up to my hips and exposing my black lace underwear.

“Sam I was talking to Sam” I confess as I feel his hand brushing the lace before cupping my p**y. He growls low before removing his hand and gripping the waistband of my panties and ripping them down my legs just as the door opens, Eli walking in and he looks at me startled.

“What are you doing Cyrus?”

“Making sure she never lies again” He says before ripping me off the desk, I step back trying to pull my skirt down when he jerks me forward draping me over his lap as he sits in the chair.

I thrash trying to get up, his hand in the centre of my back holding me down. Eli walks over and leans against the desk and I look to him in panic wondering what the f**k Cyrus was playing at. Eli smiles before kneeling next to my face and gripping my chin forcing me to look up at him.

“You won’t lie again, will you?” He asks and I shake my head trying to get up only to be shoved back down by Cyrus. I feel his hand push my skirt up to my lower back before feeling his hand rub over my a**e. Eli’s grip on my chin tightens before I feel his lips move to mine, his tongue moving between my lips as it plays with mine, when I feel Cyrus’s hand come down on my a**e with an audible flesh on flesh sound, my skin burning as my eyes water making me whimper into Eli’s mouth. Cyrus’ hand moved over where he struck me, soothing the sting as tingles moved over my flesh.

Fated to Them by Jessica Hall Chapter 37

Read Fated to Them by Jessica Hall Chapter 37 – “Tell Eli who you were talking to, Addeline,” Cyrus says, his fingers moving between my legs as he runs his finger over my slit.

“Sam, I was talking to Sam” I tell him before gasping as his fingers slide between my lips plunging into my wet heat making me gasp. He moves them in and out slowly and I am shocked by how wet I was, arousal flooding me as he moves them in and out of me making me m**n.

“What did Sam want?” Eli asks still gripping my chin, my face heating at my reaction to them while Cyrus keeps up his slow torture of moving his fingers in and out. I shake my head pressing my lips together when I feel his fingers leave me before feeling his hand come down on my a**e again making me cry out and flinch, this time harder as I feel his hand b**n into my skin, and I know my skin was definitely red and raised as I feel it welt my skin.

Eli's grip tightens forcing me to meet his gaze as he watches my face which was streaked with my tears. Cyrus' hand moving over the slap made me shiver from the intense burning sensation.

"What did Sam want?" Eli repeats but I glare at him and Eli nods to Cyrus, his hand coming down on the back of my thighs this time making me buck and choke on my sob.

"Answer Addie it will get worse if you don't" Cyrus says his hand soothing the sting once again before I feel his hand move to the apex of my legs before he shoves his fingers in me again wriggling them inside me making me gasp.

"So wet, so tight," Cyrus says, plunging them in deeper, making me m**n loudly.

"Are you going to answer?" I shake my head pressing my lips together losing myself in the feel of his fingers deep inside me before they suddenly disappear again, my arousal spilling onto my thighs as he runs his fingers between my cheeks and over my a*s again. I wriggle as they trace the welts on my a*s. I feel his hand raise off my skin before coming down on my a*s making me whimper and buck.

"Please no more" I sob my eyes watering as my skin stings with an intensity I was not used to feeling.

"Answer and it will stop," Eli says before brushing my hair from my face as my head hangs, he grips my face pressing his lips against mine.

"Tell me Addie" he whispers against my lips, I shake my head and I feel Cyrus' hand move and I try to remove myself from his lap but it is no use, like I am being held in place with a vice. His hand came down again with so much force I bit my tongue to stop from screaming, a strangled noise leaving my lips as I slump against him.

"To meet him at the piers" I cried out not wanting to endure anymore, my skin felt like it was bleeding.

"Good girl," Eli says, letting my chin go.

"Please no more," I tell them.

"No more Addie" Cyrus says dipping his fingers inside me, he curls them hitting that sweet spot inside me I can never reach as he speeds up his movements, my stomach tightening and I feel my walls clench his fingers, my skin heating up when he suddenly pulls them out of me and pulls my skirt back down just before I come. I huff at being tortured then teased like that. He pulls me up and I glare at him and he chuckles. Gripping my chin.

"Next time don't lie and I will finish what I started" He says pecking my lips.

I get up moving toward the door wanting to escape them.

“Oh and Addie, I hope you told him no because you won’t be leaving our sight” Eli says behind me as I reach for the door handle. I nod walking out and closing the door behind me.

I all but ran from the room and then, sitting at my desk I tried to ignore the throbbing between my legs, pressing my thighs together under the desk. What the f**k was wrong with me? Who gets turned on by such vile acts, shame hitting me. When I see an email pop up on my computer screen, a smile on my lips. Sneaky sneaky, Sam must know they are keeping tabs on my phone and I doubt they would check my email.

Opening the email I read it.

Tried ringing your phone and Eli answered, end pier at midnight. I have some things I need to tell you.

Love Sam

Love Sam? Wonder what got into him, he never writes stuff like that, he was acting weird, it made me nervous but also excited me. I have always liked Sam even though for the most part of our arrangement I never admitted it. Being with him was easy and came naturally. Was he only just realising that now or is something else going on with him ? I wonder.

I had so many questions like how he knew what my mark meant, come to think of it, how well do I really know him? No, that’s a ridiculous thought to have, Sam has been there for me for years, even if he was hiding something I knew I could trust him so I replied.

No meet at fields near my house, they know about the piers, see you at midnight. X

I quickly delete the email before removing it from my recycling bin as well just to be sure.

I get out of everything just in time to see Eli step out of Cyrus’s office. He looks over at me and I feel my face heat at what happened in the room. He smirks before walking into his office. When lunch time comes I get up from my seat intending to go see if Bella was having lunch soon.

Just as I went to walk toward the elevator both of their office doors opened.

“Where are you going?” Asks Cyrus.

“To see Bella” I answered annoyed that I needed permission to do anything, I was a grown a*s woman yet I needed to get their approval for everything and they demanded me around like a child.

“Go don’t be too long and Cyrus goes with you” Eli says.

“I was planning to with or without your say so. F**k stop being so controlling you interfere in my life enough as it is and I don’t need a babysitter’ my voice rising higher than I intended. Eli growls stepping out of his office completely and walking toward me or should I say stalking, the vibes coming off him made a shiver run up my spine.

He stops in front of me glaring down at me and I realise his hands are trembling in his anger. I watch his jaw clench and unclench.

“We just don’t want you to get hurt, Addie. Why do you feel the need to keep fighting us with everything?” He says his words laced with his anger.

I don’t know where my sudden anger from earlier came from but now it vanished with him standing this close.

“I’m sorry, can I go or not?”

“Yes but lose the attitude but like I said Cyrus is going with you”

“I don’t have an attitude, but you accusing me of having one, will give a goddamn attitude” I snap back.

Fated to Them by Jessica Hall Chapter 38

Read Fated to Them by Jessica Hall Chapter 38 – Geez there it is again, that strange bubbling in my veins when I realise it wasn’t my anger but his, I think? My brows furrow and I look toward Cyrus’ he was watching from where he was leaning on the doorway. I go back to my desk flopping down in my seat.

“Are you going with Cyrus or are you staying now?” Eli says, pinching the bridge of his nose in frustration before sighing loudly.

I say nothing instead, looking at my computer screen.

“You deal with her Cyrus, she is driving me nuts” he says before walking into his office and slamming the door. Cyrus walks over sitting on the edge of my desk between my legs.

“You two feed off each other’s emotions, you getting angry makes him get angry and vice a versa”

“Yeah well he doesn’t have to be so controlling, I just want my life back” I tell him, folding my arms across my chest and glaring at him. Cyrus raises an eyebrow at me.

“That’s not going to happen, until you realise that Addie, things are just going to get harder for you. We only want what’s best for you”

“Yeah, well you have a funny way of showing it when your trying to make me leave my family”

“Once the mate bond kicks in you will understand” I roll my eyes at their invisible bond.

“And why would that make me understand”

“Because you will feel the same way we feel about you, you will understand why we won’t leave without you”

“Looks like your staying then because bond or mates whatever it is, won’t make me change my mind about leaving my family”

Cyrus growls and goosebumps rise on my arms before he grips my chin. “Would you like a repeat of earlier?” He asks. Arousal flooded me at his words, making me remember how turned on it made me, the throb between my legs returning and I pressed my legs together. His eyes darted down and his lips tug up slyly.

“And you think the bond won’t work on you? That we have no effect on you?” He leans closer, so close his lips brush mine as he speaks.

“Yet I can smell your arousal, smell how much you want me to touch you” he whispers against my lips before I feel his tongue trace across my bottom lip before he sucks it into his mouth, making me m**n softly. I j**k back at my reaction to him. He chuckles before getting up and walking off back to his office.

I shake my head trying to get rid of the strange sensation that just rolled over me, my body feeling foreign to me.

When the day ends I sit spinning in my chair waiting for them to finish up when Cyrus and Eli walk out.

“Finally I am so b****y bored” I tell them standing up.

“We still have a few more hours,” Eli says and I stop.

"I'm joking, Addie we are going home" he says holding his hand out to me. I grab it, tingles running up the inside of my arm.

"Wait, are we going back to my place?"

"It's up to you, I am happy anywhere," Cyrus says.

"I want to go check on my mum and see if she knows what's going on with Taylor"

"Then your place it is then" Eli says just as the elevator doors open. I step inside and press the button before taking my shoes off. My feet were k****g.

Eli drops Cyrus and I off before leaving to go get a change of clothes. Walking inside, my mother was reading while Maya was sitting on the floor drawing in her sketch pad.

"Any news?"

"They are holding her till they can get her before a judge," my mother says.

"Did she try to ring you?"

"Not yet but she will when she can get bail" my mother says which is the only time we ever hear from her is to bail her out.

"Did you see Ethan's house burnt down, he along with 8 others died. Said a meth lab blew up" my mother says clearly forgetting that I told my sister this morning.

"Yeah seen it on the news last night before I left"

"Feel terrible for his parents, he used to be a good kid" my mother says.

"Used to be mum," I tell her.

"Life is a life no matter the dislike for their life choices Addie" my mother says when it gets me thinking, I turn to look at Cyrus who was suddenly unusually quiet.

I nod turning to look at him.

"Oh Cyrus dear lovely to see you, didn't see you there you were so quiet"

"Just listening is all, hungry I will order pizzas" he says and Maya looks up excitedly.

"Cheese pizza?"

"Whatever pizza you like Maya" he says, giving her a wink.

“Sure I don’t feel like cooking anyway” my mother says, hopping up and going to the kitchen. She grabs a bottle of wine and some glasses.

“Drink Cyrus?”

“No, I’m good,” he says, taking his phone out. “Addie?” My mother asks holding the wine bottle up.

“No ma not tonight” I told her.

“Since when do you knock back a drink? Very well more for me” she states and I chuckle.

Eli returns carrying three pizza’s. We watched a few family movies relaxing in comfortable silence. I put Maya to bed at 8pm tucking her in. My mother puts herself to bed a little tipsy making me laugh as she staggered to her room.

“What time do you start tomorrow?” I ask her.

“7am” she calls back.

“I will wake you” I call to her and she hums back.

“Are you both staying tonight?” I ask and they nod. I get up and they follow me to my bedroom. Grabbing some clothes I walk to the bathroom and turn on the shower. I shower quickly before hopping out and grabbing them towels. Walking into the room I see Eli only wearing shorts.

“Showered before coming back,” I nod but Cyrus grabs one of the towels from me pecking me on the cheek before walking toward the bathroom. I wait for Eli to turn around only he doesn’t. Instead, watching me, a smirk on his gorgeous face before he raises an eyebrow at me.

“Are you going to get dressed,”

“Can you turn around?” I ask.

“No, I have a good view,” he says. I roll my eyes before walking over and grabbing an oversized shirt and pulling it over my towel before slipping my panties underneath the towel and pulling them up.

I remove the towel and Eli seems annoyed. “We will see you eventually”

“You already saw my a*s you are not seeing nothing else” I tell him.

"We'll see," Eli says, pulling the blanket back. I climb in next him remaining on the edge so I don't have to climb over them when I sneak out later. After a few minutes Cyrus comes in climbing over me and dropping between Eli and I. I reach up flicking off the lamp before rolling in to my back.

"Did you do something to Ethan?" I ask. Neither of them say anything and I roll over facing Cyrus. I could just make out his face from the hallway light seeping into the room that we leave on for Maya.

"You did, didn't you?"

"Does that upset you?" Cyrus asks,

"Not really actually I hate what they did to my sister, though she made her choices for someone who claims to love her he enabled it" I say wondering if that makes me a bad person for not caring he was d**d.

Cyrus nods. "Go to sleep, Addie," he says and I close my eyes, rolling back to face the bedroom door.

I waited for them to fall asleep even. I waited longer till it was 11:40pm before quietly hoping out of bed. Cyrus rolled while I stood frozen on the spot to see if he would wake.

I Chuck on some pants and grab my jumper before walking downstairs. Every noise and creak under my feet makes me hold my breath wondering if they heard it.

Getting to the front door I quickly open it before gently pulling the door shut behind me. The soccer fields were at the end of my street backing on to the wetlands. The ground felt cold under my feet as I walked across my neighbours dew-covered lawns.

Coming to the end of the street I see Sam's car but he wasn't inside it, I head for the grandstands. Sam was sitting on one of the benches.

Fated to Them by Jessica Hall Chapter 39

Read Fated to Them by Jessica Hall Chapter 39 – Sam stands up when he notices me before walking over to me.

"You must be freezing," he says, looking down at my b**e feet.

"I can't stay long they might wake up"

"They're at your place?" I nod.

“I was talking to my boss we might be able to do something to get rid of your mark”

“You told your boss about them?”

“If you sit down, I will explain Addie” he says and I sit down Sam looks around nervously.

“I don’t work for no tech company Addie, your father didn’t work for anyone either”

My father, Sam, never met my father so why did he mention him?

“My father, what’s he got to do with any of this?”

“Your father worked with mine, I knew your dad he was a good man, he was also a hunter like me”

“A hunter?”

“Yes we are raised to hunt down the likes of them, usually the oldest of each generation takes over for their parents when they turn 18. You’re father would have introduced you to our world when you were old enough like my father did”

“Wait that makes no sense Sam, my dad died in a freak accident”

“A freak accident where they never found the body?” He says making me think. So much didn’t make sense about his d***h but I couldn’t believe he would keep this from my mother and us.

“He was k****d by a vampire, Addie” he says, making my head snap toward him.

“You wanted to know why I came back, it was because of your bosses. I have been back for awhile. We had been trying to track them for months, this is the first time they have stayed this long so I was sent back to see why. Then I noticed you started working for them”

“Wait why are you tracking them”

“We like to keep tabs on them, make sure they don’t slip up. If they do, we step in, as long as they control themselves we usually don’t seek them out, we leave them be. Well until I found out you’re their mate”

“So you know what mates are?” Sam nods cocking his to the side looking at my neck. I pull my hair forward, covering it not liking the way he stared at it.

He drops in front me, placing his hands on my thighs bending down in front of me.

"I can help you be free of them Addie, before your bond kicks in. As long Cyrus hasn't marked you, the bond can be reversed" he says.

"How?" I ask, none of this really made sense,

"A witch gave me this, we have a few that work for us. You only have to drink it" he says, producing a small vial from his pocket. He handed it to me, the yellow liquid inside was shimmering.

"What is it?"

"Not sure exactly but it worked before the witch said, my boss also confirmed it works. You drink that then the bond breaks and you're free to be with me. They will leave you alone after that" he says leaning forward while I examine the vial in my fingers, my eyes snap to his.

I pull back realising he was going to kiss me. "Eli will feel it, if you kiss me Sam" I tell him.

"Let him, I want you Addie. I always have wanted you, we can be together, Addie. I love you" he whispers before grabbing the back of my neck with his hand. His lips crashing down on mine, soft yet demanding as I feel his tongue move between my parted lips. I kiss him back yet don't feel the same sort of feeling I get when I am near Eli and Cyrus. I loved Sam always have, but now with them in the picture this felt different, my feelings felt different...

Sam Deepens the kiss with his other hand going to my lower back as he pulls me up from the bench and closer to him.

I suddenly hear a loud growl making me jump and I pull away from him. Eli was leaning against the railing watching us. Sam however wasn't afraid of him which I thought odd because I was terrified of the look on Eli's face.

"Addie come here" Eli growls. I do what he says worried he will hurt him when Sam grabs my hand.

"You don't have to go with him, Addie" Sam says looking down at me. He takes the vial from my hand and holds it up. Eli's eyes flick to it before I hear a thunderous noise erupt from his chest that makes my blood run cold, Sam passes the vial back to me.

Eli lunges at him grabbing him by his shirt and slamming him down on the concrete. I scream rushing over only to be stopped when arms snake around my waist yanking me away from them.

Looking over my shoulder, I see Cyrus had grabbed me.

“Eli don’t hurt him please” I cry and he growls.

“He can’t even if he wanted to Addie, he kills me, he will have the entire organisation after them. Isn’t that right Eli Colten?” Sam taunts him.

Eli stops letting his first drop and slams him into the ground before getting up, he stalks toward me before grabbing the vial from my hand and emptying the contents on the ground. Sam sits up. A devious smile on his lips. Cyrus’ breath on my neck makes me shiver and his arm around my waist tightens.

“Take her home” Eli tells Cyrus and I feel myself get pulled away.

“No wait” Cyrus growls behind me, his breath on my neck making goosebumps rise.

“No more Addie, you fight us on this. I will let Eli k**l him” Cyrus says. I give Sam one more panicked look.

“Go Addie, don’t worry you will see me again,” Sam says before his eyes dart toward Eli when he takes a step closer to him.

Fated to Them by Jessica Hall Chapter 40

Read Fated to Them by Jessica Hall Chapter 40 – I suddenly feel hands grab me, a rush of air and the feeling of moving fast as air whipped around me, stinging my skin. My stomach drops when I find myself in my room in a matter of seconds. Cyrus places me on my feet and I am hit with vertigo making me Sway. Cyrus steadies me while my vision regains focus.

I clutch on to his arm waiting for the room to settle as it spun violently. My mother walks out of her room leaning on the doorway with a worried look on her face when I hear the front door shut a little too loudly, Eli coming up the steps and my mother jumps as he approaches her. A murderous look on his face.

“Is everything alright? Addie what’s happened?” My mother asks, looking between Cyrus and Eli nervously.

Cyrus walks over to her grabbing her face, my mother’s face goes slack as she stares at him, her eyes glazing over.

“Leave her alone” I tell him, staggering toward my bedroom door. I felt like I was walking on the moon, the floor moving with each step.

“Nothing is going on, go to bed Debbie and forget this encounter” Cyrus says before letting her go. She turns as if on auto pilot walking back to her room.

“Mum!” I call to her but she doesn’t even turn, just walks in her room and closes the door.

“What did you do to her?” I demand.

Cyrus turns on his heel glaring at me and I take a step back at the demonic look on his face. Eli growls stepping into the room before shutting the door. My heart rate picks up and the back of my knees hit the bed forcing me to drop into the bed.

“I can’t believe you would still go to him, even after knowing you are marked by me” Eli bellows. Goosebumps rise on my skin, my hair standing on end.

“You can’t just stop me from talking to my friends, you don’t get to decide that for me” I snap back.

“He isn’t a friend Addie, you know that. We are leaving tomorrow for Soya and you will be coming with us” Eli says stepping forward and gripping my arm.

“Eli let her go” Cyrus says to him.

“She f*****g kissed him”

“I know Eli I was there, now let her go” Cyrus warns him. Eli lets me go shoving me back on the bed. I get up going to the door to leave and go check on my mother.

“You are not leaving this goddamn room, now sit the f**k down Adeline or we will leave now” Eli growls jerking me back.

“I am not staying in here while you are acting like that, and I am not going to f*****g Soya” I scream sick of telling them I am not leaving. I shake his arm off walking to the door.

“I will help your sister, erase everything, give her a clean slate” Cyrus says, making me stop.

“How?” I wonder how that is even possible.

“Her records are easy for us to have deleted, and I can compel her like I just did to your mother, she will never do . D***s again, Maya can have her mother back and you can feel guilty free with leaving your mother” Cyrus says behind me. I feel his hand go to my hip as he tugs my back against his chest.

“I will help your sister but you come with us, and you stop fighting against the mate bond” he whispers below my ear. I shiver when his breath moves across my neck.

I shake my head not wanting to agree.

“Maya could have her mother back Addie, your mother will have her daughter and you your sister”

“But I will be gone,” I whisper.

“They can visit but yes you won’t be coming back here for a while” Cyrus says his hand moving over my stomach.

“You would be happy with us Addie, we would be yours and you ours” he says before kissing my jaw, his hand moving underneath my shirt. Sparks moving over my skin warming me wherever he touched.

“Do you want to be ours Addie?” He asks, kissing my neck and I lean back into him, loving the feel of his hands moving over my skin, the tingles rushing South making my core pulsate.

“Say yes Addie” Cyrus growls his hand slipping into my pants before cups my p***y. His hands rubbing over my slit. His fingers slick with my arousal.

“Give in to us, my love,” he whispers, running his nose along my neck to my jaw, he kisses Eli’s mark and I shiver. His fangs pressing against my neck a strange fogginess slipping over me making me feel light and airy.

“Ada I can’t wake grandma” Maya voices sounds on the other side of the door with a soft knocking, bringing me out of my fog bubble, the feeling that washed over me dissipating, making me come back to my senses. Cyrus’ hand slipped out of my pants and I walked to the door. Opening the door, I find Maya with her unicorn plushie tucked under her arm, her hair all messy wearing her matching unicorn pajamas. Scooping her up I walk toward her room placing her back in bed.

“Grandma is just sleeping she is tired” I tell her tucking the blanket back in around her. When I go to leave Maya, a soft little voice reaches my ears.

“You sleep with me Aunty Ada?” She asks, shuffling over on her single bed. I walk to the bedroom door, flicking the light switch off before turning back and climbing in with Maya. Her little arm draped over my neck as she snuggles closer.

“Ada?”

“Yes Maya?”

“Grandma will be sad when you go, so will mummy”

“Were you listening on the other side of the door, you know what grandma says about eavesdropping?” I ask her and she goes quiet.

“Can Mr Cyrus really fix mummy?” Maya asks. Her curls tickle my cheek as she snuggles closer.

“I don’t know Maya” I whisper unsure if he can just magically cure addiction away , when we have tried for years to get her clean with no success, it kind of seemed unrealistic to think someone could possibly erase years of d**g abuse.

“Mr Cyrus will try?” Asks Maya and I roll over to face her, brushing her hair from her face.

“He will if I leave with them, means I won’t live here anymore” I tell her and I watch her eyebrows furrow before she looks up at me.

“But I will see you everyday?” She asks and I feel my eyes fill with tears. I have raised her for four years alongside my mother she was more mine than my sisters, but at the end of the day she was never mine to begin with, but could I walk away from her because taking her with me would k**l my mother, she has endured enough, I could take the only thing making her hold on away from her.

“No, but you would be able to ring me and maybe visit and I might be able to visit” I tell her, wondering who she would choose, even though now I had made up my mind. Taylor was my sister, her mother. Even if it kills me, you make sacrifices for family, family always comes first.

“I will miss you when you go” Maya whispers and I nod swallowing the lump down that formed in my throat before answering. “I will miss you too”