



A
BEAUTIFUL
the Beautiful series
MISTAKE

EMILY MCKEE

A Beautiful Mistake

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OceanofPDF.com

A Beautiful Mistake

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Dedication

For Alessandra Torre:

Thank you for making this at times difficult but always amazing process worthwhile.

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“I’m selfish, impatient and a little insecure. I make mistakes, I am out of control and at times hard to handle. But if you can’t handle me at my worst, then you sure as hell don’t deserve me at my best.”

~ Marilyn Monroe

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Prologue

Tripping over clothes that were all over the floor in my room, Dylan picked me up and threw me on top of my bed. Giggling, I took off my tank top and unclasped my bra and let them fall to the floor to add to the mess. Kicking off my heels, I threw them on the floor and then unsnapped my jeans.

Most people are careful and precise in the decisions they make. Me, on the other hand, I make mistakes and I learn from them. I figure you only live once, so you might as well go all out with a bang, which is what I'm just about to get myself into, or more like someone's going to get into me.

With the sound of the button unsnapping on my jeans, Dylan looked over at me and smiled. I smiled back because I needed to have a real good fucking. I hadn't had sex in quite a while... about a month. *Oh who the fuck am I kidding? It's been the longest dry spell of my existence. One month, two weeks, four days, eleven hours, nine minutes and nine, ten, eleven seconds. Not for long, though!*

For me that was saying something because the old me couldn't go more than a couple of days without getting off.

I kind of lost it after mine and Jason's dad died. It had been hard on the both of us finding closure and dealing with saying goodbye when we hadn't even had the chance really to say hello.

It was also really tough on me because Ashlynn, my best friend, had finally gotten together with my brother. It had only taken them like three

years to finally realize they were destined to be together.

On the one side I was extremely happy for them, especially Jason. He had pretty much given up on finding a girlfriend or being in a relationship, but he realized that Ashlynn was the one. I had known about her crush on him pretty much since the first time they ever laid eyes on one another, but I knew their relationship wouldn't be all clean and tidy, wrapped in a nice little bow and presented to you, no! It would be a complete mess, with tears and the slamming of doors. But out of that mess they were now pregnant with twins. *I couldn't wait to be an aunt, Aunt Jade. Okay, that kind of makes me sound old.*

Meanwhile I was getting a good look at where my life was and I was pretty much the exact same, minus the dry spell.

Ashlynn was still living with me but she was over at Jason's apartment at the moment. Sometimes I was envious because of Jason's hot roommate, Neil James. His name alone gave me a fucking lady boner, but my god that guy was sex on a fucking stick. He had an ass that I just wanted to bite. An eyebrow ring that instantly creamed my panties and in my head I pictured myself ripping off my clothes and lying on my back saying, "Fuck me, already!"

He kind of looked like a bad boy rebel, but there was something about him that seemed so sincere. Then it was all brought back to me when he looked at me with those bedroom eyes and he bit his lip. God, I swear just looking at him I have an orgasm. Not just any orgasm, though. The orgasm of all orgasms. That shaking, sweating, uncontrollable 'fuck me and make me forget my name' orgasm. *God, I seriously need to get laid.*

The second I pulled my jeans down along with my panties, Dylan walked over and stopped me. "Don't take all the fun away from me, babe. At least leave the panties on for me?" I just bit my lip and quickly took off my jeans.

I laid back, relaxed, and watched Dylan remove his jeans, but he left his boxers on. While he wanted to play the "take off your panties with my teeth" game, I did not. I wanted him to rip those boxers off and have that condom on and ready for me, like I was for him. I was drenched, and while Dylan was cute, I think most of it had to do with the fact that I hadn't been laid in a while.

He began to walk over to the bed but I put up my finger and said, "Boxers off. Condom on."

He stopped dead in his tracks and this wicked grin came across his face. "I like the way you think, babe."

Okay, seriously, he better be a-fucking-mazing because I'm really getting tired of the pet name. Way to come up with something original, Dylan. Babe? Like what am I, a pig, for fuck's sake?

Dylan was moving way too slow for my liking so I leaned over and grabbed a condom from my nightstand table and tossed it at him. He quickly caught it and said, "Ready so soon?" I quirked my eyebrows and giggled. Laying back down on the bed, lifting my legs, and dropping them to the side, I waited for Dylan to look down at my soaked panties. I watched his facial reactions, and slowly moving his perusal from my eyes down to my painfully erect nipples and finally to my soaked panties, I saw his eyes bulge out of his head.

Lifting the condom to his teeth, he ripped it open and quickly rolled the condom onto his erect, bulging cock. Without taking his eyes off of me, he got up onto the bed, ripped the panties right off of me, and sunk in.

Just wondering, but even though I was drenching from how turned on I was, don't you think it's a little rude for no foreplay? I mean, I'm not asking for much, but a little twiddle of the fingers on my clit or maybe a stroke or two from his tongue would have sufficed. Don't you think? And plus I really liked the thong I was wearing. It was purple with some lace and a few diamonds. I mean, cute, right? Not anymore though, because they were ripped to shreds on my floor.

He started to slam into me and I wrapped my legs around him. A few more thrusts later I was hoisted into the air and I was on top of him.

Of course I would have to do all of the work coming out of my dry spell.

He rested his head on the pillow and with this dazed and confused look, he licked his lower lip and said, "Fuck me, baby." I placed my hands on the headboard above him and quickly moved up and down while he skimmed his hands up and down my body. He had one hand twisting and pinching a nipple, the other was down by my pussy with his thumb forming circles against my clit.

I moved harder and faster up and down his bulging cock, and as soon as I felt the spasms overtake me, Dylan flipped me over and rammed into me. My head was bouncing off the headboard but I didn't mind because he was going all animalistic on me. He was going so deep and shaking my bed so

hard that I honestly thought I was going to have to go to IKEA tomorrow to buy a new one.

With his thumb still on my clit he said, “How’s that feel, baby?”

I just moaned in appreciation and with a different swivel of his hips, I knew I was going to come. “Oh god, harder, Dylan! Harder!”

Both hands on the headboard, he rammed into me over and over again and I met him thrust for thrust.

“AHHH!”

I began to rub my own clit because I was so fucking close and I knew he was going to come because I felt him getting bigger inside of me. With one hand I stroked my clit, the other was squeezing and pulling his balls. Pushing Dylan to the extreme, he pulled all the way out of me and slammed right in.

“Oh, god, yes! Yes! Yes!” Keeping my fingers in sync with his cock slamming in and out of my dripping wet pussy, I began to shake and twitch and scream.

One more slam into me, I heard Dylan growl, “Ahhh!”

With the sounds of the bedpost no longer banging back and forth and the squeaks from the mattress slowing down, Dylan collapsed on top of me, still inside of me. I was trying to even my breaths in and out and slow my heart rate down, but it didn’t help when a 6 foot 4 inch guy who is about 225 pounds of muscle collapses on top of you when you are maybe 5 feet 6 inches on a good day. With heels on, I might add!

I mean, asshole much? Like, way to think about yourself. Forget the fact that I’m the best fuck you probably will ever have. Nope, just collapse right on top of me and try to kill me while you’re at it. Squish me like I’m a disgusting bug with your tennis shoe, not a drop dead gorgeous girl who probably just got a concussion from you slamming so hard into her that she smacked her head off the wooden headboard. Nope, sorry, my mistake.

While Dylan’s breathing was slowly coming back to normal, I was wheezing and attempting to get out from underneath him. I started to poke his back while his head nuzzled in the crook of my neck and he whispered, “That feels good, baby.”

Really... Baby? I ain’t your Baby! The only time that’s acceptable is in Dirty Dancing because I mean, come on, it’s Patrick Swayze. However, you and I, we just met tonight. Oh, hell no, you’ve got to be shitting me right now. Yeah, this concussion was MOST DEFINITELY not worth it now!

In the most smartass voice I could manage, I said, “Baby, could you get off of me, please?” He leaned up on his elbows and slowly moved his head away to look into my eyes and smiled. While he got out of me and sat up in bed, I let out a breath because “Baby” was fucking squishing my lungs, plus, thank heavens, because he was getting ready to leave.

Dylan took the condom off, tied the end, and wrapped it up in a tissue. While he got ready to throw it in my garbage can, I stretched my muscles and made some gurgling sounds. I was just about to sit up in bed when I felt the bed dip and a knee between my legs. He was leaning down over top of me and slowly moving his head in for a kiss.

Oh, hell no! You ain't kissing me after you attempt to squish me!

Placing my hands on his shoulders in an attempt to stop him, he got the wrong idea and in that gorgeous head of his he probably thought I was pulling him closer. I noticed he closed his eyes and that was when my eyes bulged out of my head. I said, “Um, Dylan?”

His mouth was like three inches from mine, if that. He opened his eyes and his eyebrows scrunched together while he made this gruffing sound.

I did this cutesy, yet I should probably add pathetic giggle in an attempt to get out of the horrid situation and quickly said, “I don't kiss on the lips.”

I wanted to point to the lips on my mouth and say, “Clarification, these lips,” but I didn't have to because he didn't go down on me beforehand.

He looked at me quizzically and then laughed, saying, “Funny, babe,” and began to lean in again.

The first time I was being polite, but right now I'm a little pissed off because not only am I positive that I have a concussion but I have to deal with an asshole who wants to kiss me goodbye, when in reality we both know that we'll probably never see each other again after this.

So I put a hand to his chest and slowly pushed him away. That's when it actually hit him that I really don't kiss. “What the fuck, babe?”

That's about the time when I got up out of bed and pulled on some cute panties off of the floor and a t-shirt. I pulled my hair out from underneath the t-shirt and then turned to look at Dylan with a hand on my hip. “Look, Dylan, I'm not like normal girls. I just don't kiss on the lips.”

That's when Dylan got all macho and with a sneer in his voice said, “Why not, babe?”

I placed both hands on my hips. “It's not really any of your business, now, is it? What's the point in explaining myself when we both know that

what we just had is called by definition a *one-night stand*.”

He pulled his boxers and jeans on. Buttoning his jeans, he slipped his feet back into his shoes and then pulled his shirt up and over his head. He turned back to look at me.

I put a hand up. “Seriously, Dylan, it’s all good in the hood. No hard feelings, so I’ll see you in Lab on Monday?”

With a shrug of his shoulders he said, “Cool. I’ll see you then, Jade.”

Just like that he walked out of my bedroom and then I heard the sound of my front door opening and finally closing.

Pulling on some sweats and walking into the living room, I certainly needed some ice for my head. I put some ice in a Ziploc bag and poured myself a glass of wine then walked into the living room and sunk down into the sofa. I searched for a good movie to watch and that’s when I came across the ultimate classic.

I’m not talking about *Breakfast Club* or *St. Elmo’s Fire*. No, I’m talking about *Pretty Woman* with Julia Roberts and Richard Gere. That movie has always been my favorite, and after all the shit that went down with my boyfriend in high school, it got me thinking about the differences between fucking and kissing. I think Julia Roberts really did have a thought a process going on there. I’m not saying I’m going to drop out of school and become a hooker just in case I find someone like Richard Gere.

But people can have sex without feelings, which is what I’ve been doing since high school, thanks to Brandon Maxwell. Brandon was my first crush, first kiss, first boyfriend, first everything. We were your ultimate couple because I was a cheerleader and he was the quarterback. Apparently, somewhere along the way, whether it’s from movies or books, people think that the quarterback and the head cheerleader are going to last forever.

Yeah, trust me when I say that I was one of those dumbass nitwits too, until I found Brandon fucking a girl on the squad in the back of the auditorium. Somewhere in the depths of my idiotic soul I thought we would go to the same college, get married, and have children one day. Or at least I thought that until I saw Brandon pumping into Kristen and hearing her obnoxious moaning.

I remember just standing there while they went at it like morons and that’s when it hit me. Besides the tears and the heart shattering where I thought my life was over but the thought process of fucking and kissing. You can fuck anyone, of course you can also kiss anyone. But to me and

Julia Roberts the hooker, kissing is sacred, which is why I only save it for people I truly love or have fallen in love with. And that's why I haven't kissed anyone since Brandon Maxwell, but I've certainly had my fair share of guys inside me since him.

I'm just wondering when I'll find my Richard Gere. Where he drives up in a limo with flowers and climbs up my fire escape, professing his love to me. Where we share that breathtaking, firework erupting kiss, and in that kiss I know that I haven't made a mistake of everything in my life.

In the case that you have, like me... that all of those mistakes were worth it in the end.

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Chapter 1

“Thanks for letting me move in here, Jade. I really appreciate it. I don’t know what I would have done if you hadn’t offered the extra room,” Neil said as he placed a box down in the living room.

I just nodded my head and mumbled, “Don’t worry about it,” while trying to wipe drool from the side of my mouth without being noticed. I was leaning against the dining room table drinking in the sight of Neil with his red cut-off shirt, which showed off his lovely muscles, and grey sweatpants, which had me wondering what exactly was hidden underneath them. Almost like buried treasure.

Wait, does that make me the pirate? Oh, that’s what I’ll be for Halloween this year, a sexy ass pirate with Neil as my buried treasure. I like.

He must have said something to me because the next thing I knew, Neil was waving his hands in front of me saying, “Earth to Jade. Come in, Jade.”

While I wanted to say, “Fuck, yes, I want you to make me come,” I settled with, “I’m sorry, Neil. What did you just say?”

Chuckling, he waved his hands nonchalantly and said, “I asked what you wanted to do tonight?” God, he was killing me. I swear everything he said had a double meaning. *If I had balls right now I would rip off my shirt, unclasp my bra, and wrap my arms around him, saying, “You, Neil. I want to do you. I want to ride you and scream your name when I come. I want to hear you moan and grunt and slam into me.”*

However, I opted for, “Um, I don’t know. It’s Saturday, so there’s probably a party at the frat house if you want to go check it out? I’ve been

there before and it's not that bad. They have decent alcohol and okay music."

Shaking his head back and forth in disagreement, Neil said, "I've got a better idea. How about we just stay here tonight?"

God, yes, I love this idea. Go on, sexy Neil James.

"—we could order some pizza or Chinese food—" waving his hands back and forth, he said, "Whatever you like. I'm not picky—"

I like you. I really like you. God, I need to get laid!

"—and we could watch some movies or play some games. Something like that."

Games? What kind of games, Neil?

Out of nowhere, I noticed a light blush come across Neil's beautiful cheeks.

Oh God. Did I just say that out loud?

He started biting on his lower lip and my attention went straight to that gorgeous view. I licked my lower lip and then I lifted my eyes and saw he was staring at me. His pupils were dilated and he started to walk towards me but instantly stopped. Looking down at the floor, he shook his head back and forth and then took a few steps away from me.

I wondered what he was thinking about to make him stop, but I didn't think about it for too long. Opening my mouth to end the silence between us, I said, "How about Chinese food? Every time Jason and I moved when we were little, it was tradition to have Chinese food that night."

Pausing, I smiled at the memory. It's actually my favorite memory from my childhood. It was before Dad started making all the money and Mom was at the spa or the club. We lived in a little house on a normal street. But when Jason and I were five, everything changed. I could feel tears prickling my eyes and I quickly blinked them away. Shaking my head, I looked up at Neil, who was staring at me. I could see sadness in his eyes and I wanted to get rid of that image. Taking a few deep breaths to calm myself, I said, "I like the beef and broccoli with a spring roll."

I felt so comfortable telling Neil things from my childhood. When Dad died, he was there for me, no questions asked. He comforted me. He made me feel safe, if only for a short while. He reassured me and told me if I ever needed anything or anyone, he was there for me. And he hadn't let me down since.

Nodding his head, Neil gave me a crooked smile. He wrapped me up in his arms and rested his chin on the top of my head. I wrapped my arms around him and he began to run his fingers up and down my body, lazily trying to comfort me.

I had never really cuddled with anyone before nor let anyone hold me, but with Neil, I felt safe. I rested my head on his chest and just breathed him in. The smell of his cologne and himself. Somehow his touch soothed me and his smell calmed me.

We stayed like that for a few minutes and then we reluctantly broke away from one another. Looking up into his eyes, I took him in. It's funny really, because on the outside Neil looks like this punk rock god with the eyebrow piercing and the ripped jeans and band t-shirts he wears, but the way he acts is completely different. He's so sincere and yet there's something naïve and vulnerable about him. I just wonder who the real Neil is.

I watch him when he talks to Jason, acting all macho and tough. But with me his cheeks blush and he stutters over his words. He sometimes rambles and bites his lower lip.

Tilting his head to look into my eyes, he smiled and said, "Thank you for telling me that, Jade."

Nodding my head, I said, "You're welcome, Neil," and gave him a small smile.

We stared at one another for a few seconds, then I noticed a devilish grin come across his face. "God, I love a woman who knows what she wants."

Oh, if only you knew exactly what I wanted.

I started smiling but he began to wave his hands and he blushed again. "I—I mean food. I mean food-wise." Giggling, I reached my hand up and started to pat him on his upper arm to reassure him that everything was okay.

Plus I got a chance to touch his huge, sweat-covered muscles. It kind of made me feel amazing because he was blushing and stuttering his words around me. It made me feel invincible. I knew just by looking at him that Neil was a pretty busy guy when it came to the ladies. I mean, how could he not be? He was freaking gorgeous.

Then a jealous streak came over me because I knew I didn't want to see any of those skanky ass bitches coming into my apartment. God knows I

would be totally and completely, one hundred and fifty percent jealous of them. I wanted to be the skanky ass bitch.

Shaking the anger out of my thoughts, I looked up at Neil and giggled. “I know what you meant, Neil. Don’t worry about it. All’s good in the hood.”

Quirking his eyebrows, Neil asked, “All’s good in the hood?”

Slapping him on the arm because, well, I just couldn’t resist, I said, “Get used to the lingo, bro.”

Laughing, Neil said, “A’ight gurl,” and did this weird hand gesture.

I began to laugh. The front door opened and I saw Jason walking through with a box. “What’s so funny in here?”

I looked over at Jason. Waving my hands, I said, “Oh, Neil just thinks he has cool lingo like moi, here.”

Neil faked getting his feelings hurt and placed a hand over his heart. “Jade, I’m crushed.”

Patting him on the arm again, I said, “All in good time, my young apprentice. All in good time.” Turning towards Jason, I noticed he had a scowl on his face. Quickly wiping it away, he placed the box down and began to chuckle.

“Yeah, good luck trying to decipher Jade’s lingo there, buddy. I still don’t understand it and we’re twins, for fuck’s sake.”

Walking over, I patted Jason on the back. “True dat, home slice.”

Jason then looked from me to Neil. “See what I mean, man?”

I looked over in the direction of Neil and saw he was staring at me with a smile on his face and a twinkle in his eye. I began to smile back when Jason made a low growl under his breath. As fast as I could, I looked over to Jason and gave him a small smile.

Every single time I smiled at him, I got out of the trouble I knew I was in. Good thing I was a metal mouth all through middle school because my straight pearly whites worked like a charm when it came to my big brother. *By four minutes, I might add.*

Jason smiled back at me and I knew I had him right where I wanted him. Giving him a kiss on the cheek to reel him in the entire way, I said, “Well, I’m going to catch up on some reading, so I’ll see you later, roomie. Bye, Jason. Say hi to Ash for me, will ya?”

Without hesitation, Jason said, “No problem, sis.”

By that time I was walking into my room. I put my hand to the knob and was just about to close the door when I heard Jason harsh whisper under his

breath, “What the fuck, man?”

Then I heard Neil’s voice. “What, dude?”

I then heard movement. “You were so staring at her ass when she walked away,” said Jason.

I started to hear Neil say something but Jason cut him off. “Don’t even get me started on the way you were staring at her when you thought I didn’t notice.”

I bit my lip because I was curious as to what Neil would say. Loudly exhaling, he said, “Look, man, your sister is beautiful. I mean, anyone with eyes could see that, but like I said before, man, I have my own problems and I’ve seen my fair share of mistakes to know when something would be a mistake.”

I was just about to shut the door because I was crushed, but then I heard Neil say, “Your sister wouldn’t be the mistake, I would be. Plus, I promised you that nothing would happen between us when I moved in here and I intend to keep that promise.”

He made Jason a promise? Well, that was one promise I definitely intended to break.

“Well, all right then, man. I don’t want you to think that I don’t think you’re good enough for my sister—”

If anything, he’s too good for me.

“—but Jade’s been through a lot and I don’t want to see her get hurt again.” There was a long pause. “It’s Jade’s story to tell, but if you ask me, I think you guys would actually be really good together.” *Really? I’m getting Jason’s approval?* “However, since you guys are roommates, that changes things. I’m just trying to look out for her, Neil. I hope you understand.”

I heard some footsteps and slaps on the back. Then I heard Neil say, “I get it, dude. You know she’s really lucky to have a brother like you looking out for her like that.”

Boy, do I know it.

Listening in far too long to the conversation Neil and Jason were having, I quietly closed my bedroom door and turned on some music. I loved it when authors made playlists to go with the book they wrote. Just as I picked up *Shallow* with Payton and Nick to read, I noticed out of the corner of my eye that my toes were looking a little grungy.

Putting the book to the side, I hopped up off my bed and walked over to my vanity. Grabbing my makeup bag, I plopped down on my bed and began

to rummage through, trying to figure out what color I would want to paint my toenails. After painting my toenails periwinkle, I decided to get back to reading *Shallow*.

About halfway through there was a knock at my door and I looked up to see Neil standing in the doorway, looking sweaty and oh so delicious. I couldn't help but lick my lips at the sight of him. His arms were crossed in front of him and his once dry shirt was soaking wet. I looked up from his arms to his gorgeous throat and finally made my way to his blazing eyes.

He was staring at me with such intensity that before I knew it, Neil was walking over to me like he owned the room. My heart was beating so fast, and before I knew it, Neil was taking my Kindle from me and putting it on my nightstand. Ripping his shirt off his body, I saw his bare, chiseled stomach. I didn't have time to take in the masterpiece of Neil's top half before he said, "Lift your arms, Jade." Doing as he said, Neil lifted my shirt over my head and somehow unclasped my bra at the same time.

"Stand up," he said as he dropped them to the floor.

Getting up on wobbly legs, Neil picked me up and wrapped me in his arms. Wrapping my arms around his neck and my legs around his waist, Neil kissed and sucked on my neck. He moved me a little to hold onto me tighter when I felt his erection against my crotch and I moaned. He was so hard and it felt so good rubbing against one another. I had never felt that way before and I couldn't wait for him to be inside of me.

Neil sucked and licked along my neck and it was the sexiest thing ever.

I couldn't wait for him to suck and lick other places on me.

My eyes were closed and then I heard Neil say, "Um, Jade?"

I shook my head back and forth and said, "No, Neil, please keep going." That's when I felt Neil shake my shoulders. "Jade, wake up." Just when things were starting to get good. I let out a huff and opened my eyes to see Neil looking down at me, biting his lip with red cheeks.

Seriously, what is with this beautiful man blushing all the time? Oh my lord, did I say, "No, Neil, please keep going"?

I was just about to say something, anything to get out of this little predicament when Neil said, "I got Chinese food for us. I also picked up a case of beer, so I'll see you out in the living room."

I nodded, my mouth hanging open.

Neil said, "Okay, I'll see you in a few." I stayed in the same position as Neil got up from my bed, looked down at me with a smile, and quickly left

my room.

Once my door was closed, I looked down at my body and holy shit! I was wearing a tank-top with a sports bra and you could clearly see my hardened nipples. Gasping, I looked a little further down and well, I would have to change my boy shorts because they were soaked. There was a visible wet spot and I knew Neil did actually see that.

I tried to take a few calming breaths to relax myself but my nipples were painfully hard and my clit was throbbing. Letting out a breath, I leaned over to my nightstand drawer and pulled out my Rabbit Vibrator. I rarely ever used it because I was always with a guy, but it was emergencies like this one I needed to get off and pronto.

My iPod was still playing on the speakers, so I quickly undressed and inserted my vibrator. Turning it on just a few degrees, I could feel an orgasm building. Closing my eyes, I moved the vibrator in and out and thought about how I wanted that dream to end or better yet, start—with Neil going down on me and making me come. Kissing all over my body and finally fucking me. Making me his, if only for a little while.

I started to feel the ripples of an orgasm and just as the shudders went through my body, I heard a knock at the door and Neil said, “Jade?” The second he said my name, I came. I tried to stay as quiet as possible, but a little squeak escaped. My pussy clenched around the vibrator and I began to shake uncontrollably. I couldn’t believe how crazy this orgasm was. Of course I had masturbated before, but it always took a little while for the orgasm to come. This time though, the damn thing was inside of me for maybe two minutes and what got me over the edge was Neil saying my name. Maybe it was even just hearing his voice that got me coming.

Turning the vibrator off, I laid my head back down on the pillow and looked up at the ceiling. I attempted to control my beating heart and my uncontrollable breathing, but it was no use. Closing my eyes, I tried to mentally and physically shake off what just happened.

I had just begun to calm down when there was another knock at my door and Neil’s sexy voice coming through asking, “Jade, are you okay?”

I began to nod my head up and down but realized he couldn’t see me, so I said, “Yeah, I’m coming.” Little did he know but I had already come with him on my mind and his voice in my head. *Holy hell, if this is the direction I’m headed, I can only imagine what the rest of the night is going to bring.*

Better yet, I wonder what's going to happen in the future with Neil as my roommate.

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Chapter 2

Taking a deep breath, I put all my clothes back on and headed out of my bedroom. However the second I opened the door, Neil was standing there, leaning against the wall with his arms crossed. He was looking down at the floor, but the second he heard the door open, his eyes were on mine like white on rice.

Kicking off the wall, he walked over to me and cupped my face in his hands. “Are you okay, Jade?” he asked. The second he touched me, I was a pool of liquid at his feet. I thought my masturbating only seconds before would get me through my wet dream of Neil, but his touch only ignited another fire inside of me.

Looking into my eyes, he said, “Your face is all flushed. Are you coming down with the flu?”

Oh I’m coming, all right.

Attempting to shake away my thoughts, I broke from his touch. “No, I was just sleeping. I kind of sleep like the dead sometimes.”

I began to laugh and then looked up into his eyes. He was biting his lower lip, looking down at me. I could have sworn he was leaning into me but maybe that was just my imagination, because next thing I knew, he was patting me on the back saying, “Don’t worry. I’ll come in and jump on your bed if I need to wake you up.”

You can definitely jump on my bed with me lying underneath you and with you inside of me. God, I need to get a grip or a cock.

Next thing I knew, Neil had turned towards the living room. Taking a deep breath, I followed, but stopped when I saw a blanket on the floor with

a cooler of beer and Chinese food containers all over the place.

My heart instantly warmed and I had to catch my breath, because it brought me back to a time when my family was actually a family. When my dad taught me and Jason how to ride bikes. When dad played baseball with Jason. When Mom let me dress up in her clothes and she would put makeup on me. Before the times when our dad verbally and physically abused both Jason and I. Before our mom ignored it and drank all the time to stay numb.

I felt tears prickling the back of my eyes. I sniffled. Opening my eyes, I looked over and saw Neil staring at me with such compassion. Before I knew it, Neil had his arms wrapped around me and he was murmuring sweet words in my hair like “it’s okay” and “I’m here.” Wrapping my arms around him as tight as I could, I held onto him because I needed someone there for me. To take care of me because I couldn’t take care of myself when it came to handling emotions and feelings. Neil began to rub up and down my back to soothe me; I just moaned into his chest. It wasn’t anything sexual, at least not the whole thing, but I enjoyed being held in his arms. He made me feel safe and wanted.

After a few minutes of holding onto one another, we let go and sat down on the blanket. Neil began to open containers and I started to get up to go get plates but Neil asked, “Where are you going?”

I looked at him like he was crazy, and pointing to the kitchen, I said, “Um, I’m just going to go get plates.”

He stopped me halfway through. “We’re eating out of the containers. Live a little, Jade.” I still started to get up because I needed a fork when Neil said, “Please don’t tell me that you don’t know how to use chopsticks?” My face must have said it all. “All right, sit your cute little ass down now. I’m going to teach you how to use chopsticks before the night is over.”

Of course I didn’t overlook the fact that Neil said I had a cute little ass, but I was excited to hang out with him and just joke around. I smiled at him, then looked down at all of the containers. Neil got spring rolls, beef and broccoli, rice and lo mein. While Neil opened up all of the containers, I turned and got a beer out for the both of us and saw that he had cards right next to the beer. Turning around with the beers and playing cards in my hand, I looked at him with a look of confusion.

Shrugging his shoulders, he said, “I thought we could just play some games while we drink.” Tossing him his beer, I cracked mine open and took

a healthy gulp. I put the beer down and started to open up the cards package.

“First I want to show you how to use chopsticks,” Neil said.

I took a sip of my beer. “Go for it, stud, but you should know now that it’s hopeless. Jason tried to teach me when we were younger but eventually he gave up.”

Holding a pair of chopsticks in his hands, he got up from the floor. I thought he was going to sit beside me, but he sat down behind me and pulled me up against his hard chest.

Turning to look into his eyes, I asked, “What are you doing?”

Neil grinned at me. “Well, I can’t teach you sitting next to you, silly.”

He ripped the chopsticks from the wrapper and handed them to me. Placing his hand over mine, he gruffly said in my ear, “Now listen to what I have to tell you and pay attention.” Feeling his warm breath on my skin, I instantly felt goose bumps on my body. I tried to shimmy away from him before I tossed myself on top of him and took control of the situation. I couldn’t do that though because he wrapped his other arm around my middle and said, “Where do you think you’re going?”

I shook my head. “Nowhere.” I relaxed against his chest as he rested his head on my shoulder. With his arms wrapped around me, Neil attempted to show me how to use the chopsticks, but it didn’t work out. In a normal setting it wouldn’t work out, so with Neil’s body up against mine and his breath tickling the side of my neck and my ear, I knew without a shadow of a doubt it wouldn’t work. In the end, Neil gave up and let me stab my beef and broccoli with one of the chopsticks while I scooped up rice or twirled the noodles with a fork.

We ate the rest of our dinner, joking around and laughing. Once dinner was over, Neil placed the empty containers in the brown paper bag they came in and put the leftovers in the fridge while I opened the package of playing cards and began to shuffle. Once Neil sat back down, I asked, “What game do you want to play?”

He took a gulp of his beer. “You choose,” he said, turning on some music for background noise.

As I continued to shuffle the deck, a mischievous smile appeared on my face.

“Oh no, what are you thinking, Jade Williams?” Neil said.

Shrugging my shoulders and acting like it was nothing, I said, “Never have I ever?”

“Go for it,” he said, laughing.

I placed the cards to the side. “Do you want to go first?”

He shook his head back and forth. “Ladies first.”

Giggling, I tapped my pointer finger on my chin. “Okay. Hmm? All right, I got it! Never have I ever peed standing up!”

Chuckling, Neil said, “Well, that’s a good thing, I guess.” He took a healthy gulp of his beer. He looked at me. “Never have I ever had a twin.”

I lifted my beer to my lips. “Really? That’s how this is going to go?” I took a sip.

We played a few rounds, getting one another to take sips of beer. I knew I was getting drunk. I wasn’t that much of a drinker and with four beers down, I was feeling pretty good.

Giggling at nothing really, Neil said, “You okay, Jade?”

I nodded. “Yuppers, Neil James,” I said, taking a sip of my beer. I noticed Neil take another sip of his and then I asked, “Whose turn is it?”

“It’s mine.” He placed his beer down on the table.

“Well, come on with it, James.”

For a few minutes we just stared at one another and I sobered up instantly. It felt like the air had shifted, and within a second everything had changed. We were no longer joking around and laughing. There was sexual tension and I gulped, waiting in anticipation for his “Never have I ever” statement.

Not taking our eyes off of one another, Neil said, “Never have I ever wanted something as much as I want you.” My mouth instantly dropped open and I was about to say something when he amended his statement. “No. I mean never have I ever wanted someone has much as I want you.” Before I could take a breath, Neil pulled me onto his lap. Placing one hand on my lower back and the other in my hair, he began to pull me down to his mouth. I could feel butterflies in my stomach and my panties growing wet with anticipation but then it felt like cold water was doused on me.

I placed my hands on his chest. “Neil.”

He instantly stopped what he was doing and his eyes got big. “I’m sorry.”

He started to pull away but I grabbed fistfuls of his shirt to stop him. He fluttered his eyes up to meet mine. “I just don’t kiss on the lips. It’s a long

story that I don't want to get into," I said.

I couldn't believe I had told him that but I felt so comfortable with Neil that I didn't really think before I said it. Looking deep into my eyes, he nodded his head. "Okay, Jade."

He began to lean in again but I put my hands on his chest and pointed between the both of us asking, "What are we doing here?" I paused. "Because I don't do relationships."

Searching my eyes for something, Neil let out the breath he was holding. "I don't know. What do you want, Jade?"

I didn't even have to think. "You." His eyes got huge. I backtracked quickly. "I mean we could do a 'friends with benefits.' You know, if you want?"

I dropped my head to study my bottle of beer. Neil put two fingers underneath my chin and lifted my eyes to meet his. With a smirk on his face, he said, "Oh I definitely want that, Jade."

Before I could anticipate it, Neil took the beer from my hand and put it on the coffee table. He then grabbed ahold of me. Before I wrapped my arms around his neck, I said, "We stop when one of us falls in love."

Smiling up at me, he said, "Deal." I wrapped my legs around his waist, where I could feel his hard cock rubbing up against his sweats. I began to rub up against him because I could feel a tension building and man, did I need a release. Rubbing up against him felt so good that I didn't even realize Neil was walking back to my bedroom with me in his arms until he set me down on my bed.

I took a minute to drink everything in. The way he was breathing heavily and his chest was rising and falling in an erratic form. The way his eyes were hooded and bored into mine. The way Neil was sucking on his lower lip and how his hands were on his sexy hips where I just wanted to see the v-cut.

I was just about to stand up from the bed when Neil sat down in my comfy chair. Putting his hand up, Neil said, "Wait." Staying seated, I looked at him and tilted my head. I could feel my heart beating rapidly and I was trying to control my breathing. I was starting to get nervous because we just stared at one another for what seemed like forever. A part of me thought this was a big mistake for starting the friends with benefits in the first place. But then the other part of me wondered if maybe Neil was thinking he made a mistake.

I was just about to open my mouth but Neil said, "I've never been in a friends with benefits relationship before. I don't know if you have, but we're going to do things a little bit differently." Pausing to see my reaction or if I had anything to say, he took in a breath. "As much as I want to make you come right now, I'm not going to." My mouth dropped open and I was left speechless. I couldn't form words. Chuckling, Neil put up a finger. "At least, not tonight. But very soon, I will make you come. With my fingers."

Please.

"With my tongue."

Yes, please.

"With my cock."

Oh God, yes!

"However, right now I want to see how you make yourself come, Jade."

I thought my pulse was racing before, but the way Neil just took control was probably the sexiest and most dangerous all-in-one, deliciously wrapped package that I couldn't wait to unwrap. As soon as I started to stand up, Neil stood up as well. On shaky legs, I fingered the bottom of my t-shirt to take it off at the same time Neil placed his hands at the hem of his shirt and ripped it off his body.

My insides instantly liquefied and my clit was throbbing. I thought his words were my undoing but his body was... beautiful. I started to bite my lower lip. "Please don't do that, Jade." I looked up at him and he said, "I want to kiss your lips and it's driving me crazy right now. And if I can't kiss those lips, then I want to kiss your other lips." He sucked in a breath. "Right now I want to know what you like and I'm trying to control myself with you, so please, for the love of God, don't suck or bite on your lower lip."

Giggling, I released my lip and then undid the clasp on my bra. Letting it fall to the floor, I thought Neil was going to break eye contact with me and look at my erect nipples, but he didn't, and it made me feel really vulnerable.

He must have sensed I was uncomfortable. "What are you thinking?" he asked.

Taking a deep breath, I said, "You're making me uncomfortable."

He tilted his head to the side. "I haven't even touched you yet."

I shook my head. "But you're looking into my eyes."

"And that makes you uncomfortable?"

I nodded. “This is just supposed to be fun and I feel like we’re taking it to a whole new level that I’m not ready for.”

Nodding his head at my reason, he said, “Jade, I just don’t want you to think you made a mistake later. I want you to feel comfortable with me, and if you can’t feel comfortable with me looking into your eyes and not at your gorgeous tits, then we’ll have to take this slower. Because I want you to feel comfortable with me when you scream my name when you come undone. I want you to feel comfortable with me being on top of you and when any part of me is inside of you, whether it be my tongue, my fingers, or my cock.”

I couldn’t help but moan when he said that. It was so sensual and erotic—it took my breath away. I had to gulp a few times and I quickly took off my shorts and panties while Neil took off his sweats and boxers. As much as I wanted to, I didn’t look at his cock because he didn’t look at my pussy. I would have known if he did because I would have seen a look of satisfaction and lust when he saw how drenched I was for him because the evidence was running down my thighs.

With my hands at my sides I said, “What now, Neil?”

Sitting down in the chair, Neil said, “Now comes the fun, yet torturous part. While you make yourself come, I’ll be doing the same thing.”

As I sat down on the edge of the bed, I asked, “Why will it be torturous?”

He tilted his head and let out a low laugh. “Because I just want to suck on your clit and bury myself inside of you. I want to lather up all the desire that’s running down your leg and you have no fucking clue how hard I’m trying to hold myself back right now.”

I wanted to bite my lower lip but I knew Neil was trying really hard right now to stay seated in that chair. Plus as much as I wanted him pounding into me, this was really something. I think this was the most erotic thing I have ever done and we aren’t even touching yet. It just built up anticipation for what it would be like once we did touch.

Once he sucked on my clit and fingered me.

Once I sucked on his cock and came in my mouth.

Once he was inside of me and had me writhing underneath him.

Sucking in a breath, I scooted to the back of the bed. Sitting up, I moved my legs as far apart as they would go and looked up into Neil’s eyes. Taking

ahold of himself, he slowly began to move his hand up and down. “Now touch yourself, Jade,” he said.

Putting my big girl panties on, I started to rub my nipples. As I pinched and pulled them, Neil said, “Tell me what you’re thinking, Jade.”

Looking into his eyes, I said, “I’m thinking about you sucking on my nipples and lightly biting down.” Sucking in a breath, I noticed he started to move a little faster. Trailing my fingers down my body, I stopped at the top of my pussy. Biting the inside of my cheek, I used my pointer and middle finger and slowly started to rub lazy circles around my clit. I had to suck in a breath because I couldn’t believe how sensitive I already was and knew I wouldn’t last long.

My breathing began to quicken. “How close are you, Jade?” he asked.

Trying to even out my breaths, I said, “Really close.” I noticed he squeezed himself harder and I saw pre-cum falling from the tip of his cock and running down the base. While my pointer and middle finger on my right hand rubbed circles on my clit I took the middle and ring finger on my left hand slowly inserted them inside myself. I gasped because it felt so good and I had to close my eyes because I could feel the beginnings of a powerful orgasm going through my body.

I heard Neil grunt, and I quickly opened my eyes when he asked, “Jade?” Nodding my head up and down because there was no way in hell I could utter any words, Neil began to pump himself faster and faster while I drove my fingers in and out as I rubbed my clit. My stomach began to move up and down quickly. I moaned and screamed his name as my orgasm ripped through me. It felt like waves were crashing, fireworks were going off, and a rollercoaster was doing loop-de-loops in my stomach. I quickly opening my eyes to look into Neil’s, he grunted, “Jade,” and came all over his stomach.

He never took his eyes off me as he came and it was probably the hottest thing I had ever witnessed. Well, besides the beautiful Neil James touching himself and saying my name. While he slowed down his pace, I tried to even out my breathing. Once I managed to accomplish that, I felt like a limp noodle. I wanted to say something to Neil but he got up from the chair and walked over to my nightstand, where I had a box of tissues. Plucking a few from the box, he wiped himself off and threw them in the trash can.

While he cleaned himself off, I scooted down in my bed and looked up at the ceiling. I started to get goose bumps all over my body because I was

cold, but for the life of me I knew there was no possibility of sitting up to retrieve my blanket. I began to close my eyes when I felt a blanket cover me. Quickly opening my eyes, I saw Neil wrap me up in a blanket and tuck me in. He never touched my skin as he wrapped me up and I found it to be really sweet. Once he was satisfied with his tucking me in, he looked into my eyes and smiled. Leaning in to me, he kissed me on the forehead and said, “Sweet dreams, Jade.”

I smiled up at him. “Sweet dreams, Neil.”

As soon as I said his name, he said, “Say it again.”

I looked up at him and said, “Swee—” but he cut me off.

“Just my name.”

“Neil.”

Leaning in, he rested his forehead on mine, and never taking our eyes off of one another, he said, “That’s what you’ll be saying from now on when you come.”

Neil turned around and walked out of my bedroom, turning off the light and closing the door behind him. The second I heard the knob click shut on my door, my stomach dropped. I couldn’t breathe. I couldn’t do anything besides think about what the hell just happened. *First I have a wet dream about Neil, then I masturbate with him on my mind, and now we’re friends with benefits?* If this is what happens the first night with Neil as my roommate, then I just made the biggest mistake of my life.

Chapter 3

Waking up the next morning, I stretched, and holy hell balls, was I sore. To add to the ridiculousness of my sore body, I was also hung over. It felt like gremlins had crawled up into my brain and shook it around like a motherfucker. Closing my eyes in an attempt to stop the spinning, I took slow, deep, even breaths.

I remembered back to last night. The memories raced through my mind all at once.

The dinner.

The drinking.

The amazing orgasm with Neil.

I still couldn't get over the fact that he hadn't even touched me, and without a doubt in my body, I'd had the best orgasm known to mankind. Known to the universe. Known to anything and everything out there.

It's crazy really because he knew my body more than any other guy I'd ever been with. I don't believe in finding your other half or that soul mates truly exist. I don't believe in fairytales or Happily Ever Afters. But what I do believe in is that you connect with people on different levels throughout your life. You just have to figure out whether they're worth it to you or not. If they are, then you have to try your damndest not to mess it up. To not make mistakes. And if you do make mistakes, then you'll know if you're worth it to them.

I couldn't get the blush off my face or the memories to vanish from my mind even if I tried. Everything that happened last night was crazy. Crazy in a good way because I think if it was with anyone else, I would think of it as

a mistake, but Neil was something else. I wasn't falling in love with him by any means. I was more or less falling in comfortable with him, if that makes sense. In my mind, at least, it does.

Untangling myself from the sheets, I got up and put on some panties, sweats, a sports bra, and a tank top. Grabbing a hair tie from my vanity, I put my long, hazel brown hair up in a bun and used a headband to keep back all of the fly-aways out of my face.

Walking out of my bedroom, I smelled bacon and heard it frying up in a pan. My stomach instantly growled. Before going into the kitchen, I went to the bathroom, brushed my teeth, and washed my face.

I can't actually explain why, but as I walked out into the kitchen, my stomach swarmed with butterflies and my heart skipped beats here and there. Sitting down at the breakfast bar, I watched as a shirtless, gorgeous Neil fried up eggs and flipped bacon. I watched as he jumped back so the grease wouldn't splatter all over him and how he talked to himself as he cooked up breakfast.

I watched as his muscular back arched. The way he moved his hips from side to side as he watched the eggs cook up. I listened to him as he hummed a song I couldn't pinpoint. I was mesmerized. In that moment I felt like I was the cobra and he was my master playing a song. I was his puppet; I would do anything. I was under a trance.

The fuck?

Shaking my head and blinking a few times, I watched as Neil plated up the food and turned around, smiling at me. Reaching over the sink, he set a plate down in front of me and another to the side of me. Never taking his eyes off of me, he smiled and said, "Morning."

Smiling over at him, I said, "Good morning."

I started to bite my lower lip and noticed that his eyes traveled from mine to my lips. I had forgotten about that, so I quickly let go of my lip. He stared at my slightly opened mouth for a few more seconds and then looked back up at me. He chuckled and said, "Why yes, it is."

Quickly looking down at my plate so he wouldn't see the ridiculous smile on my face, I saw that my plate was filled with toast, eggs, and greasy bacon. Picking up a piece of the bacon, I popped it into my mouth and watched as Neil got himself a cup of coffee and poured me a glass of orange juice. Walking over to sit next to me, he plopped down and started to eat his breakfast along with me.

For a few minutes we just ate in silence, taking sips of our drinks or piling our forks with bacon and eggs. We were enjoying each other's company without actually having to talk; I found it comforting, hence the "falling in comfortable" with him.

As I was wiping my face with a napkin, I noticed out of the corner of my eye that Neil looked over at me and smiled. Taking the napkin away from my face, I asked, "What?"

Shrugging his shoulders, he shook his head back and forth. "Nothing. You just—" he waved his hand to stop himself from talking.

Turning my body so I was facing him, then I waved a hand in the air. "Go on."

I watched as his chest heaved up and down. "You just look really beautiful."

I gasped because I wasn't prepared for that. Putting a hand up, I said, "Neil—" but he cut me off.

"I know we're doing a friends with benefits relationship, but Jade, it's okay for me to tell you that you look beautiful." Pausing he asked, "Would you rather me lie to you and tell you that you look ugly?" Giggling, I shook my head back and forth. "Then Jade, you look beautiful."

I smiled. "Thank you."

As he nodded, I noticed that he never took his eyes off me.

I started to bite on my lower lip because I was getting uncomfortable. Nobody had ever been so direct with me or stared at me like I was the lottery prize or the last piece of chocolate cake on the planet. Gulping a few times, I asked, "What?"

"I'm thinking about how much I want to kiss your lips."

"Neil."

Putting up his pointer finger, his smoldering eyes looked into my scared ones as he said, "Either."

I was about to tell him, "Yes, please, for the love of all things good."

However, he said, "But not now. I actually wanted to ask you something."

As Neil leaned into me, I asked, "What?"

He stopped a few inches from my face. "What are you doing for Christmas?"

I hadn't really thought of that. It's not like I would ever go visit my mom. Plus, I knew Jason and Ashlynn wanted to be alone for their first

Christmas together, even though they had invited me. I figured I would probably be with Neil, but I had forgotten that we were just roommates and nothing else. I knew he had a family, but it just sucked being alone.

That's why I do the one night stands. I'm afraid of the whole taking chances part. Opening up my heart, falling in love, and ultimately having someone stomp all over it. Granted, it's only happened once, but as that saying goes, "Shame on you the first time. Shame on me the second."

If you asked me what I'm afraid of, without a second thought I would answer, loneliness. You get lost in your thoughts and you're all by yourself. You think about anything and you question everything you get your mind on and you run with it. You escape, not in a good way, but in the way of trouble and regret.

Loneliness is the scariest thing out there. It's scarier than spiders crawling on your skin. Snakes slithering at your feet. Tornadoes and hurricanes destroying your home. Even death. Death is inevitable. You can't stop it. It's going to happen eventually. But loneliness? That's something totally different. It's scary and raw, and for some people like myself... very real.

Looking up into Neil's eyes, I couldn't say it. I couldn't say the words and he must have known. He must have sensed it. Felt it. Because the next thing I know he was saying, "Well, I thought you could come home with me for Christmas this year. It's not much, but my mom is having dinner and we're opening up presents. My little sister Jacqueline and my younger brother Tommy will be there, so you can meet them. They'll really like you." He took a deep breath. "I would really like for you to be there."

For some unknown reason, I felt tears forming in my eyes. I felt cherished and appreciated. And it was all from someone I had only known for a few months. Against my better judgment, I nodded my head. "Okay."

Smiling down at me, he placed his hands on my shoulders. Leaning down so were eye level, he said, "I'm glad."

"Me too."

"Are you ready?"

Turning around from my bed, I looked up and saw Neil standing in my doorway, looking completely edible and delicious.

It had been a week since we decided to become friends with benefits and we hadn't done a damn thing since. Normally with stuff like this, I take the reins, but I figured Neil had a plan and I was just waiting for him to put it in action. I couldn't wait for him to go down on me. Be inside of me. Have me writhing underneath him and screaming his name when I came around his cock.

Nodding my head because I was breathless from thinking about him doing things to me, I noticed Neil tilt his head to the side.

I gulped in a breath. "What?"

I watched as he bit his lower lip and shook his head back and forth, then he stopped. Turning completely in my direction, his pupils dilated and he stalked over to me.

My chest was heaving up and down and my heart started to beat so fast because I was... nervous. I had never been nervous before when I was with a guy but Neil had me questioning everything. I started to wonder what exactly his motives were with us becoming friends with benefits when he actually hadn't even touched me. Until now.

Breathing heavily, he looked down at me. "Sit down."

As soon as those two words left his lips, I listened. With shaky legs, I sat down and waited to hear what he had to say.

Kneeling down right in front of me so our faces were right in front of the other, he asked, "Do you have a vibrator?"

My eyes bugged out of my head when he asked me that question. *Like how the fuck do I answer that?*

Smirking at me he said, "I'm going to assume, since you didn't say anything, that you do own a vibrator. Where is it?" I started to bite my lower lip but he took hold of it between his thumb and pointer finger. He looked at my mouth and swiped his tongue along his lips. I was mesmerized by his tongue and couldn't wait for it to be on my lips—the ones below my waist line.

Looking into my eyes, he said, "You know how I feel about you biting your lip, Jade. Now, I'm going to ask you one more time. Where's your vibrator?"

I couldn't form words, so I just moved my head with his fingers still attached to my lower lip and looked towards the nightstand. Moving my head back to look at him, I noticed he had a small smile on his face.

Letting go of my lower lip, he chuckled. "I knew it."

Standing up from his kneeling position, he walked over to my nightstand. He never asked. He just opened up the drawer and picked up the vibrator. I was already embarrassed but I would have been more embarrassed if I hadn't cleaned it after the last time I used it. The last time I used it, of course, was the night Neil moved in.

Turning his body towards me, he asked, "Do you use this often?" I had begun to shake my head, but he said, "I need to hear you say it, Jade. Do you use this often?"

Taking in a deep breath, I said, "No, Neil. I don't use it often."

Walking over to me, Neil again knelt in front of me. "When was the last time you used it, Jade?" I started to shake my head, but he said, "I have an idea when, but I need to hear you say it."

Looking down at the floor, I took in a deep breath and let it out through my mouth. With a beating heart and a shaky voice, I looked up into Neil's eyes. "The night you moved in."

It completely turned me on when I saw the redness appear on his cheeks. It made me even wetter when I saw his eyes get darker.

He cleared his throat. "Do you trust me, Jade?"

There was no question in my mind that I trusted Neil. Even though we had only known each other for a short time, he made me feel safer than the two people who brought me into this world. Than the guy who took my virginity.

Nodding my head, I said, "Yes, I trust you, Neil."

Standing up again, he retreated from me backwards. Never taking his eyes away from mine, he said, "I want you to take off your clothes."

Listening to him tell me what to do had me panting. Standing up, I lifted the violet sweater over my head and unclasped my bra. I let those drop to the floor and then I placed my hands at the top of my jeans and unclasped the button. I looked up into Neil's eyes and saw he was breathing really heavily when I slid the zipper down. Shimmying out of my jeans, I was now just standing there in just my panties.

I watched his Adam's apple bob up and down when he swallowed. I knew he could see how wet I was for him. The panties were black with glitter, so I knew he could see the soaked spot in the front and how the wetness had started to slide down the inside of my thighs.

I licked my lips as I watched his eyes go from my soaked panties up my body. They stopped at my erect nipples and then they finally reached my

eyes. I thought he was going to lose it in more ways than one. I could see the bulge of his erection in his jeans and I knew that it was probably really painful for him. Yet somehow he managed to keep control and order me around.

Letting out a breath, Neil said, "Take off your *soaked* panties, Jade." I instantly got goose bumps when he said the word, 'soaked.' I think he wanted to see how I would react and I swear I had a mini, very mini orgasm when that erotic word left his mouth.

Placing my hands at the top of my panties, I pulled them down. I bent over to get out of them completely and then let them drop to the floor as I looked into Neil's eyes. It kind of made me a little weirded out because he was completely dressed and I was not. I was in my birthday suit. Of course I had been with a bunch of guys, but in some odd way I found this to be extremely intimate.

Breaking me from my thoughts, Neil asked, "What are you feeling, Jade?"

"I want you naked, too."

Shaking his head, he looked down at the floor. Muttering under his breath, he said, "So do I." He looked into my eyes. "But right now it's about you. I told you in the beginning when we started this that I wanted to know exactly how to get you off. What you like. What you don't. How I can keep you on your toes without them actually curling from the explosive orgasms you'll have. I want to know which buttons to push. I want to know your body. Now lay down on the bed, Jade."

Turning around, I walked over to my bed and did as he said. I scooted all the way back and rested my head on the pillows. Lying down, I turned my head and saw that Neil was still standing in the same spot, holding my Rabbit vibrator. "Are you comfortable?" he asked.

"Yes."

He moved to the edge of the bed. "Lift your legs, Jade, and spread them."

Neil moved up the bed and laid on his stomach. He rested his body to my left so his shoulder was around my hips. With his left hand drawing lazy circles on my stomach, he turned the vibrator on the lowest level and drug it up from my right knee to the very top of my thigh. I gasped because I wasn't prepared for the little jolt I felt, and then he did it to the opposite leg.

He watched as I gasped for air and got goose bumps all over my body. He watched as I squirmed underneath him and lifted my hips.

“You still trust me, Jade?”

Before I could even really think about it, I said, “Yes.”

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Chapter 4

“Say it again, Jade.” I tilted my head to the side...I didn’t understand.
“Tell me you trust me.”

“I trust you, Neil,” I said breathlessly.

As soon as the ‘l’ of his name was on my lips, he started to slowly insert the vibrator. While Neil deliriously pushed in the vibrator, he said, “I want you to trust me. Fuck, I want you to trust me more than anything in this world. More than anything anybody could ever offer someone else. I want you trust me, Jade. I need you to trust me. Can you do that?”

The vibrations were taking control of my body, so all I could do was nod my head as he pushed the vibrator completely into me. The second the vibrator was fully inside, I opened my eyes to see Neil looking down at me, breathing deeply. I was just about to say something, anything, when he said, “I want you so damn bad. You have no idea how badly I want you, Jade. I’m selfish and I need you to trust me. We both have our skeletons and secrets, and to be honest, I think we’re both damaged. For some reason you won’t let me kiss you on the lips and you have no fucking clue how bad I want to attach my lips to yours right now.”

Closing his eyes, he shook his head. He took the vibrator out of me and turned it off, then he opened his eyes. “That’s why I’m doing this whole friends with benefits thing differently than it’s normally done. I want you to trust me enough to let me kiss you. I’m not saying now, but eventually I want to know what your mouth tastes like, moving along with mine. I want to touch your tongue with mine. I want to explore your mouth and suck on

your lower lip. I want to hear you gasp and shudder when I kiss you. That's what I want."

Pausing, his eyes moved down to my lips and stayed there. "And in return, I'll have sex with you. I'll slam my cock into your tight little pussy. I'll have you screaming my name. I'll have you shaking and sweating when you come because of me. I'll have you thinking about me every single time you get wet down there. I'll have you drenched. Soaked. Glistening."

Well, fuck me sideways.

I was actually contemplating what he had to say because of just how badly I wanted Neil James's hard cock inside of me.

Moving his eyes up to meet mine, he asked, "Can you do that, Jade?"

Could I? "Okay."

I'm guessing he wasn't prepared for that answer because his eyes got huge. "You can?"

Can I? "Yes."

What can I say? I'm a selfish bitch.

Breathing deeply, Neil said, "Hold on."

Neil grabbed ahold of the bed sheets underneath me. "I'm not going to lick you. I'm not going to finger you. I'm not going to fuck you with my cock."

With a groan, I slammed my head on the pillow and heard him chuckle. Lifting my head to see him staring at me with a mischievous grin on his face he said, "But I am going to make you come with the vibrator."

I started to bite on my lower lip. "Lip, Jade," Neil said.

Regrettably, I let go of my lower lip. The second I did, Neil turned on the vibrator to a low speed and inserted it back inside of me. With my eyelids fluttering closed, my head fell back onto the pillow and I moaned.

I knew there was no way I was going to last long. I had never done anything this sexual or erotic before. I couldn't believe how *insane* this was. Insane in the best, most humanly way possible. Neil James made me feel insane. He knew how to push my buttons, as well as the vibrator's. He knew how to get me to the brink of ecstasy without letting me fall over the edge. Without letting me scream his name when I came undone because of him.

For him.

With the vibrator on at full speed and only the tip inside of me to give me just enough, Neil asked, "What do you want, Jade?"

“I want you to make me come,” I gasped.

“Open your eyes, Jade.” Neil chuckled. “I’m going to make you come so hard. When you use this vibrator from now on, I want you to think of me. Only me. I want you to remember what we just did.”

After I nodded, he slammed it back into me. “FUCK,” I yelled at the top of my lungs. With one, two, three, four more slams of the vibrator , I came. I spasmed and shook. I was sweating and shaking. I was screaming and moaning. And it was all because of Neil. Neil James.

With the vibrator still inside me, Neil turned it off as I tried to catch my breath. My heart was beating so fast and my stomach was moving up and down. My legs were twitching. I couldn’t believe how powerful an orgasm I had just had. And it was all because of a plastic fucking cock. It wasn’t even the real thing. But this experience was more real, more in the moment than any other sexual encounter I had ever experienced in my life. I just couldn’t wait for Neil to actually be inside of me. I thought I had died and gone to heaven with this, so I could only imagine what it would be like when he was really inside me.

He took the vibrator out of me and then I felt the bed dip. Slowly opening my eyes, I watched as Neil got off the bed and walked out of my bedroom. I heard the water from the bathroom being turned on and a few minutes later, I watched as he walked back in, drying off the vibrator. Walking over to my nightstand, he placed the vibrator back inside. Closing the drawer, he sat down on the bed and then looked into my eyes. Giving me a shy smile, he nodded his head towards the bathroom and said, “I’m going to go take a cold shower. Hopefully after that, we can leave for my house.”

“Okay,” I whispered. I still hadn’t moved because I was in a state of sexual, erotic, pure bliss. Just as he was about to leave my room, he turned around to look at the view, which was me sprawled out, hands behind my head. Mouth slightly parted. Legs wide open. Wet spot on the bed underneath me. I looked at Neil and watched as he shook his head and muttered, “Fuck me,” under his breath and left.

And man oh man, did I want to fuck him more than anything.

Taking ahold of my bags, Neil closed the trunk of his car and nodded his head towards the house with the dark green door. The house wasn't big. It wasn't small. It was just right. I hadn't even walked inside yet and I already felt at home. I felt more at home here than I ever had growing up. I honestly don't think I would have lasted long if it wasn't for Jason. We leaned on one another growing up. He was my protector and I knew he would do anything for me.

Neil started to walk up the path to the front door but I didn't follow him. I was nervous. What would his family think of me? What did Neil tell them about me? I started to second guess and question what exactly I was doing here when I noticed Neil heading back over to me. Stopping right in front of me, he huskily whispered, "My family won't bite you." He paused. "Me, on the other hand, I'm not so sure."

And cue the wet panties!

Gasping, I giggled and then smiled at him. Nodding his head towards the front door again, he said, "Come on."

Yes, please!

Following him towards the front door, I rung the door bell since Neil's hands were full with our bags. We stood there and waited a few minutes. On the other side of the door, I could hear two kids arguing with one another and I automatically knew they were Jacqueline and Tommy. Neil had told me so much about them and I couldn't wait to meet them.

I hope they like me. Whoa, wait. What the fuck?

Before I could think about it any further, the front door opened and this young woman was standing there staring at us with a smile on her face. I heard Neil clear his throat from beside me and that's when the woman shook her head and started to giggle.

"Oh, I'm sorry. Come on in, you guys. You must be freezing."

Following her inside, she closed the door behind us. Turning back to us she placed her hand out in front of her and said, "I'm Neil's mom. You must be Jade? He's told me so much about you."

This is Neil's mom? She's so young... Wait! He's talked about me with his family?

My mouth instantly fell open. I couldn't believe this lady was Neil's mom. She must have had him when she was like sixteen or something. Blinking a few times, I smiled and extended my hand to shake hers. "Yes, I'm Jade. It's nice to meet you, Mrs. James."

After letting go of my hand, she said, “Oh, please call me Sydney. And my last name is Taylor.”

Looking over at Neil, I saw his face was a little red. *Why was he embarrassed?* Looking back over at his mom, I smiled and said, “Well, it’s nice to meet you, Sydney.”

She smiled and then turned her attention to Neil. Grabbing him in a hug, she said, “Baby, I missed you so much.”

Dropping the bags, Neil wrapped his arms around her and said, “Hey, Mom.”

I started to smile and then watched as two little kids ran into the hallway, screaming and yelling. The little girl had these beautiful blonde curls in pigtails and the little boy looked like a little terror. I imagine that’s probably what Neil was like when he was little.

Hold the phone. Stop thinking like that, Jade.

As soon as they noticed me, they stopped yelling and stared at me. The little boy, Tommy, smiled and said, “Well, hey there, good lookin’.” I couldn’t help but giggle and then watched as Neil lightly tapped the back of his head. Tommy looked behind him at his older brother and then looked back at me. “When you get sick of him, you know where to find me.” I just laughed. I felt bad for Sydney because I knew he would be a handful when he got older.

Once Tommy was finished hitting on me, he pulled on Jacqueline’s pigtails and started to run out of the room. Smiling at me, Jacqueline ran after her brother, yelling, “I’m going to kill you.” With the sounds of footsteps running off in the distance, Sydney looked between Neil and I and smiled. Looking back at Neil, she said, “Well, Neil, how about you show Jade where she’ll be staying?”

Nodding his head, Neil looked over at me, picked up the bags, and said, “Follow me, Jade.”

Walking up the stairs, I couldn’t help but take a few minutes to look at all of the family photos. Neil as a baby. Football and baseball games. Dressed up as ninjas and pirates for Halloween. Looking so cute all dressed up for school dances. Wearing his cap and gown at his high school graduation carrying his diploma.

After leading me into the spare bedroom, Neil said, “You’ll be staying here.”

Pointing across the hall, he said, “My bedroom is right across from this one if you need anything.” Neil put my bag on the floor and started to walk out of the room, saying, “Well, I’ll let you get all situated then.”

Just right before he closed the door, I whispered, “Thanks, Neil.”

Stopping with his hand on the knob, he looked at me and I didn’t recognize the look in his eyes. They looked lost and confused, and I wondered where I had gone wrong. Sucking in a breath, he nodded his head and left my room, closing the door.

I just stood there for a few minutes. Frozen in time, almost. My heart was beating wildly. My breathing was uneven. I didn’t really understand what was going on. I had never done this, or better yet, felt like this with any guy before. Not even Brandon.

Pausing to catch my breath, I fell backwards onto my bed and closed my eyes. I needed to shake these feelings off, whatever the hell they were. I needed to keep my heart guarded so I never got hurt again. I didn’t think I would be able to survive it again if someone hurt me the way Brandon hurt me. However there was something about Neil and I couldn’t really pinpoint exactly what it was, but he made me feel... safe.

Safety. That’s something I treasure. Growing up I never really felt safe. I felt on edge. But Jason... he was my safety. He protected me, and for the longest time, I only felt safe with my brother. But Neil was changing that and it’s kind of a contradiction, really. I felt safer with him than I ever had with Brandon when Neil rocked me and took care of me when Jason and my father was dying. It’s a contradiction, really, when I feel safer with someone who’s my ‘friend with benefits’ than I ever had with the guy who took my virginity. The guy who I dated all through high school. The guy who I thought I would marry. I guess it’s safe to say that Neil and I were a contradiction.

Finding comfort in more ways than one, I placed my arms over my eyes and relaxed. I had just started to drift off to sleep when I heard a slight knock at the door. Sitting up in bed, I said, “Come in.” Watching the knob twist and hearing the door creak open, I watched as Neil walked in.

Instantaneously, my heart started to skip a beat, but then my stomach plummeted after seeing the look on Neil’s face. It was contorted. His eyebrows were scrunched together. He was biting his lower lip. He was wringing and twisting his fingers. I swear I could even hear his heart beating rapidly in his chest.

Sitting on the edge of the bed, my mouth dropped open and I started to breathe heavily again. For some reason I was nervous and scared.

Upon closing the door, Neil rested against it and looked down at the floor. I didn't know what to do, so I just watched him. It looked like he was having a battle with himself and I was more scared than I cared to admit. Holding my hands together and crossing my legs, I waited. I wished I could have said Patiently, but I was extremely nervous of the outcome. I was scared what exactly Neil was going to say.

Still looking down at the floor, Neil sucked in a breath and whispered, "Jade, I need to tell you something."

I had begun to nod my head but I realized he couldn't see me, so I shakily said, "Okay. What?"

This time he looked into my eyes and he looked scared to death. Lifting his left arm, he started to twist his brown curly hair in between his fingers. If I had any doubt before that he was nervous, I knew now without a doubt he was. Jason always twirled his hair when he was nervous, so with Neil, I knew.

For some reason I wanted to cry. I couldn't explain it, but I felt like I had shared a piece of myself with Neil and I was nervous what he was about to say.

With his eyelids fluttering up to meet mine, he said, "I should have probably told you this before we started this whole friends with benefits relationship thing, but I never thought we would start something. Even if we are just friends with benefits."

Nodding my head at his statement I said, "Go on, Neil." *Why am I so damn nervous? I feel like I'm going to have a panic attack or something.*

Never taking his eyes away from mine, he walked over to me. Stopping in front of me, he knelt down on the carpet so we were face to face. Lifting his arms, Neil took a hold of my hands. The feel of his hands were sweaty and moist. I could also feel his hands shaking and my heart sped up.

When his hands touched mine, I looked down at our conjoined hands. I noticed Neil looked down at our hands, too. Taking a minute, we just breathed in and out, to try and relax our nerves.

Relax. Kind of ironic really, when Neil is about to tell me a secret.

It was like we were one person. We both took a deep breath at the same time and then somehow we both looked up into one another's eyes. It felt

like time stood still. We could have stared at one another for one second, one minute, or one hour and I wouldn't know the goddamn difference.

Squinting my eyes to try and telepathically tell Neil, "Go on," he took in a huge breath and slowly let it out. I watched as his Adam's apple bobbed up and down a few times and a part of me wanted to shake his shoulders and yell, "Just fucking tell me!" However, I knew that he was extremely nervous. I noticed how scared his eyes were and mine probably mirrored his.

Nodding his head slightly, Neil whispered, "I'm a virgin."

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Chapter 5

Neil

Well, there you have it. The secret's out. I'm a virgin.

Jade didn't say anything for a couple of minutes. Her eyes just bugged out of her head and her chest moved up and down at a rapid pace. I was just getting ready to explain my reasoning when she started to shake her head back and forth, muttering something that sounded almost like, "I knew this was a mistake."

That word. I fucking hate that word.

Mistake. To me that is the ugliest word in the dictionary. I don't think anything is ever a mistake. In life. Love. Friendship. You name it. I think you have one choice and a million different options and paths to choose. People say things are or were a mistake because they don't like the outcome. The end result. It's because they're scared of having to face facts. Man up for their actions. People come in and out of our life every day. Shit happens and sometimes you can't explain it or predict it. You just have to work with it.

I've heard that word so much growing up in my life.

You were a mistake. This was a mistake. I made a mistake.

Fuck that.

I thought it was bad growing up, but hearing Jade say, "I knew this was a mistake," felt like someone had just stabbed me and twisted the knife. It felt like someone ran me over with a car.

I was being destroyed from the inside out and I had to explain it to her as fast as possible. As fast as the words could come out of my mouth without sounding like a jumbled, fucked up mess.

Taking ahold of her shoulders, I felt her attempt to maneuver herself away from my touch. Standing up and attempting to shake her, I said, “Jade. Jade. Please calm down.” Closing her eyes, she started to shake her head. Releasing my grip on her shoulders, I wrapped my arms around her waist and walked us both over to the wall. Pressing her back up against the wall, I caged her in so she couldn’t get away from me. “Jade, look at me.”

She started to shake her head again but I placed her back down on the floor so she was standing in front of me. Cupping her face in my hands, I soothed her and whispered, “Look at me, Jade.”

I watched as her eyelids slowly fluttered open and then looked up into mine. I could see unshed tears in her eyes and I hated myself for putting them there in the first place. But she had to know. I had to tell her. I couldn’t let what we had going on go any further without letting her know.

I took a deep breath. I put my hands on her shoulders... I was afraid she would bolt as soon as I let her go. “You probably noticed that my mom looks really young?” Waiting for her to acknowledge my question, I watched her scrunch her eyebrows together and then nod her head in answer. I sucked in a breath. “Well, my mom had me when she was fifteen. When my dad found out, he vanished. He was gone without a trace. He wanted my mom to get an abortion. He was seventeen and I mean, they were young. They didn’t know what they were doing. Anyway, my dad told her to get an abortion and when she refused, he left.”

At some point I looked down at the floor because I didn’t want to see the look in Jade’s eyes when I told her. However I heard her suck in a breath and whisper, “Oh my god, Neil.” Lifting my eyes back up to meet hers, I saw tears falling from her face. Cupping her face in my hands, I slowly wiped them away with my thumbs.

I didn’t want to stand anymore, so I lifted her up in my arms and carried her to the edge of the bed and sat down. I couldn’t look at Jade when I told her the rest of the story, so I cradled her in my lap, almost like when I held her in the waiting room at the hospital when her dad died.

I felt her wrap her arms around my waist and nuzzle her head underneath mine. Resting my head on top of hers, I shut my eyes. I didn’t want to cry in

front of her. Taking a few seconds to calm myself and catch my breath, I opened my eyes.

“Anyway, after he left, my mom was pretty heartbroken. She knew she had to tell her parents and they were pretty religious. They didn’t believe in sex before marriage or any of that kind of stuff, so after she told them, she was kicked out of the house. Nothing to her name except the clothes on her back and me growing in her stomach. She was all by herself with nowhere to go.

“Anyway, she survived. She beat the odds. She had me, and yeah, we struggled a lot when I was growing up. However, I wouldn’t change a thing, because while everybody else was telling her that I was a mistake or that she was making a terrible mistake having me, you know what she told them?”

Jade didn’t move. She just shook her head and held onto me tighter. Sucking in a breath because I could feel the tears forming in my eyes, I smiled and said, “My mom said, ‘Maybe I am making a mistake, but you know what? He’ll be the most beautiful mistake I ever make in my life.’” I smiled. “I know it sounds weird. It’s kind of a contradiction really, but that’s my mom. Always seeing the good, instead of the bad.”

I felt Jade smile against my chest and then she moved her head and turned to look at me and a beautiful smile was on her red, dampened face. “Your mom is an amazing person, Neil.”

I nodded. “Yeah, she is.” I cupped Jade’s face in my hands to make sure she looked at me. “She’s not the only one.” I waited a minute to see what Jade would say but she didn’t say anything. She just looked scared shitless.

“That’s why I’m still a virgin. I could never give a part of me away and then have someone stomp all over it.” I smiled at Jade. “That’s why I chose to do this friends with benefits with you. Because I knew that you wouldn’t just run away from me. I know we haven’t known each other very long, but I feel like we know each other more than most people know do. We’ve also gone through a lot in the short time we’ve known each other.”

“Ne—” I cut her off.

“I haven’t fallen in love with you, Jade. More like I’ve fallen in like with you, if that makes any sense.”

She nodded. “Yeah, it does. More than you know.”

“We should probably head back downstairs.”

I thought she would nod in agreement but she didn't. Without taking her eyes off me, she got up from my lap. Placing one of her hands in mine, she pulled me up so I was standing. My heart started to beat rapidly. I was just about to ask her what she was going to do when I felt her fingertips at the hem of my shirt. She was looking down, but then she looked up and met my eyes and I knew what she wanted. Lifting my arms, I watched as she lifted and pulled the shirt off me.

Letting it fall to the floor, Jade then placed her hands on my belt buckle. I sucked in a breath as I watched her unbuckle it. She then unbuttoned my jeans and unzipped them. Placing her hands at the top of my jeans, she kneeled and pulled them down. I lifted one leg and then the other so my jeans were completely off. I watched as she slowly skimmed up my body until she was standing again. I gulped as I watched her lick her lips when she saw the fucking tent in my pants.

Placing her hands on the top of my boxers, she looked up at me and asked, "Is this okay?" Swallowing, I nodded my head and watched as she ever so slowly pulled down my boxers. Again lifting my legs one at a time, she took the boxers off me. Standing back up, she smiled at me and said, "Sit down, Neil."

She didn't even finish saying the sentence before I obliged. Standing in front of me, she placed her hands on my shoulders and leaned in. Kissing me lightly on the neck, she pulled back to look into my eyes. "Tell me enough is enough." I nodded. She gave a small smile. Kneeling in front of me, she first kissed each of my nipples and then kissed to my belly button.

I could feel pre-cum already forming at the tip of my cock and I knew there was no way in fuck I would last long, but I didn't care. This was... indescribable. Placing her right hand on my thigh, she wrapped her left hand around my cock. I twitched just from her touch. She looked up at me. I nodded and she slowly started to move her left hand up and down. I started to groan but she chuckled and whispered, "You have to be quiet, Neil."

"Okay."

"Can I taste you?" she asked with a twinkle in her eye.

Holy fucking shit. My mouth fell open. I couldn't articulate in words that I wanted her to do that.

Smirking at me she said, "I'm going to take you being speechless as a yes."

She licked the pre-cum off the tip of my cock. Groaning again, I wrapped my hands in her hair to move it aside. I needed to watch her. As amazing as it felt, I needed to see her do this. I needed the proof. The evidence that Jade's mouth was wrapped around my cock giving me this fucking incredible blow job.

Licking her lips, she smiled. "You taste good."

She took me into her mouth and I moaned her name. I could already feel the beginnings of the orgasm taking over. Of course I had done other things with girls and they had done things with me. However, this felt like something totally different and I wondered if it was because of Jade. Oh, what the hell. I knew it was because of Jade.

She bobbed her head a few times. I grunted. "Jade, I'm going to come."

I wanted to warn her in case she didn't want me squirting in her mouth. I mean, fucking shit. It would be the sexiest thing to watch Jade take me in her mouth and then swallow my come, but I wasn't a dick.

She sucked me as far into her mouth as she could without gagging. I fisted her hair. Freezing in place, I felt my dick twitch in her mouth and the come squirt in the back of her throat. With her left hand, she moved it back and forth to fully release all of me into her mouth. I said her name over and over again and finally collapsed. Releasing my death grip on her hair, I tried to catch my breath. With a *pop* Jade released my now limp cock from her mouth. Taking ahold, she licked from the base to the tip to clean me up. Letting go of my cock, she looked up into my eyes and said, "Now we can go downstairs."

She stood up from her kneeling position and walked out of the room. Collapsing backwards onto the bed, I put my hands behind my head and closed my eyes. All I could think was *Goddamn, that woman will be the death of me.*

During Christmas Eve dinner, which consisted of a bunch of little appetizers like cheese and crackers, chips and dip, little finger sandwiches, and a fruit and vegetable tray, all of us, Mom, my step-dad Charlie, Jacqueline, Tommy, Jade and myself watched my favorite, *A Muppets Christmas Carol* and *A Charlie Brown: Christmas*. Once they were both over, everyone decided to get ready for bed.

Jade and I were both silent when we walked up the stairs. When we got to her room, she turned to face me.

With her hand on the knob, she looked up into my eyes and said, “Merry Christmas, Neil.”

Smiling at her, I nodded and said, “Merry Christmas, Jade.” It seemed like neither of us wanted to move away from one another. Yet at the same time, neither of us knew what to do or what to say. “Sweet dreams, Jade.”

Lowering her glance to the floor, she then looked up at me and the twinkle from her eyes were gone. “Goodnight, Neil.” I waited for her to go into her room and close the door before I went into my room.

Taking off my shirt and my jeans, I fell back onto my bed and looked up at the ceiling. The memory of Jade giving me the most amazing blow job had me stirring and I couldn’t get to sleep. I probably lay in that damn bed for twenty minutes before I jumped up out of bed. “Fuck this.”

I twisted my doorknob and looked out into the hall. I didn’t want to get caught by my parents because that would be the most embarrassing thing ever. Figuring the coast was clear, I walked across the hall and lightly knocked on Jade’s door. I must have stood there for five seconds before the door opened and I was pulled inside. “What took you so fucking long?” she asked.

Closing the door behind me, Jade pounced on me and started to kiss all over my neck but I said, “Jade. Jade, stop.”

She looked up at me. “What’s the matter?”

I walked her backwards. When her knees hit the back of the bed, I placed my hands at the hem of her t-shirt and said, “Lift your arms, Jade.”

I pulled the shirt over her head and watched as her hair got pulled back and then fell in layers around her, framing her face and falling across her shoulders. Looking down, I watched her little pink nipples harden. I kneeled down and placed my hands in the tops of her pants and thong and pulled them down her body. Once she was out of those, I stood up and said, “Lay down on the bed.”

Never taking her eyes away from mine, she moved backwards on the bed. Resting her head on the pillow, she placed her hands on her stomach and waited patiently for me. Crawling up between her legs, I slowly moved them aside. Looking down I could see her glistening, wet pussy and I could smell the musky, sweet scent of her arousal. I could see her stomach moving up and down rapidly and her nipples tightening up harder. I saw her

mouth slightly parted and I watched as her eyes slowly fluttered open and closed.

Mental Note: Keep my eyes on hers when she comes.

Kneeling on the bed, I lifted her left leg and kissed the inside of her ankle. Hearing her gasp, I kissed up along her leg and stopped at the very top of her inner thigh. Lowering her left leg, I took hold of her right and did the same thing, but I didn't stop there. I moved my nose along the outer edges of her pussy and took a deep breath.

I wasn't going to taste her tonight. I'm not sure really who wanted it more, me or her. Lying down on my stomach, I spread her legs apart and watched as she lifted her hips to tell me exactly what she wanted from me. Chuckling, I looked up at her and said, "Not tonight, baby."

Hearing her groan, I slowly spread her lips apart. Inserting my pointer and middle finger of my right hand, I curved them upwards so I could hit her at just the right spot. At the same time, I slowly circled her clit with my thumb.

First I moved slowly, but when I felt her breath quicken and her breathlessly say my name, I moved my fingers in and out of her harder and applied more pressure to her clit. I placed my left hand on her lower stomach and applied a little pressure. Lifting my head to look at her face, I watched as her eyes slowly fluttered opened and felt her pussy walls tightening around my two fingers. I knew she was extremely close, so right before she came around my fingers, I inserted my ring finger and lightly bit down on the inside of her right thigh.

I watched as her hands took hold of the sheets. Watched as her eyes closed and her mouth opened. Watched as she shook uncontrollably. Heard as she quietly moaned my name. Smelled the sex oozing from her orgasm. Felt her pussy clenching up around my fingers. The only thing I didn't get to do and wanted to do more than anything was taste her body. Her salty skin and her sweet little pussy. Eventually that would happen. We just had to work up to it.

Pulling my three fingers out of her, I inserted them into my mouth and groaned. I knew she would taste completely edible, but goddamn motherfucker, she tasted like heaven. And that just put me on edge because I couldn't wait to actually suck her clit into my mouth or press my tongue inside of her pussy and lap all of her sweet juices up.

Releasing those fingers from my mouth, I watched Jade come down from the high of her powerfully, erupting orgasm. She got up onto her elbows to look down at me.

Goddamn, she's beautiful.

Her skin was glowing and her chocolate brown eyes were glistening. Catching her breath, she smiled at me; in return I smiled back.

I slowly climbed up her body so we were face to face. Eyes to eyes. Nose to nose. Lips to lips. "Hi."

She giggled. "Hi."

Staring at her, I wanted more than anything to kiss her, but I knew now or anytime in the near future wouldn't be the right time. As much as I didn't want to, I fell alongside her body. I stared at her as she turned to face me. She was completely naked. I just had my boxers on.

We just stared at one another for a few minutes and then she said, "This doesn't change anything. The rules still apply. You know that, right, Neil?"

I knew she was talking about me being a virgin. I nodded, but I hesitated before I gave her the answer she probably thought she needed to hear. Although I'm not so sure if she wanted to hear it or not. At least I hoped she didn't. "I know."

However a part of me, and shit, was it a big part, didn't want the rules to still apply. If anything, I wanted to break these rules and go against the grain for once in my life. Make her change her mind and have *this* be the best mistake she had ever made. Better yet, would ever make.

Chapter 6

Jade

I couldn't believe Neil was still a virgin. When he told me he had something to tell me, him being a virgin was the last thing I was expecting. I was honestly speechless, but his reasoning behind it was really touching. I couldn't believe that someone would just throw their pregnant daughter out into this world with nothing to her name.

How could anyone just forget about or deny a child something like a home or compassion and understanding when they were in a state where they so desperately need it from the people who love them? It shouldn't matter whether they got pregnant at a young age or who they choose to love. That shit just doesn't make sense to me. I mean, I could understand if your child did something horribly awful, like kill a bunch of people. But because they were probably a little too young to bring another life into this world or because they love someone of the same gender? I will never understand those people.

Lying on my side like a limp noodle after that amazing orgasm with Neil, I tried to catch my breath. At first I was kind of pissed off that he wasn't going to taste me, but he certainly made up for it fingering my pussy like no one ever had before. His fingers were dazzling inside of me. It's like he knew my body even better than I did. His fingers pushed buttons I had never had pushed before. Hell, I didn't even know those buttons existed. Don't get me started on the pressure he put on my belly. It just jolted

everything and made everything ten times more heightened than I had thought possible.

Staring at him, I broke the silence. “This doesn’t change anything. The rules still apply. You know that, right, Neil?” I could hear the hesitation in my voice and I hoped to God he hadn’t picked up on that.

Waiting a few seconds, he searched my eyes. “I know.”

Nodding my head in approval, for some reason I felt another hesitation. I didn’t understand why, though. We had a deal. We made an arrangement. There were rules. But aren’t rules meant to be broken?

Stop thinking like that, Jade! You can’t let your heart get broken again. You’ve lost too many pieces already.

Neil closed his eyes and nodded his head. Opening his eyes, he started to get off the bed as he said, “I should probably get going.”

My stomach tightened and I felt my heart drop. I didn’t want him to leave. For some reason I wanted him to stay with me. Lightly nodding, I hesitated before I uttered, “Yeah, probably.”

Neil’s back was to me and I watched as it stiffened with the two words that left my mouth. Adjusting himself on the bed so he was looking at me, he tilted his head to the side. “But what if I don’t want to go?”

Trying to lighten the mood, I giggled and licked my lips. “Do you want me to make you come?”

I thought my sexual comment would earn me a little chuckle or something but Neil’s shoulders stiffened and his face hardened. Standing up, he leaned over and boxed me in with a hand on either side of me. His face was mere centimeters from me. When he spoke, his lips almost... almost touched mine. “You know what I mean, Jade.”

My breath caught in my throat and my stomach fluttered. Gulping down the butterflies in my stomach, I barely whispered, “Neil.”

However, he put his pointer finger up to my lips to keep me quiet while he looked into my eyes and searched for something. What something was, I just wasn’t sure. Lying down on his side, he pulled me up against him so we were spooning. This was new territory for us; cuddling after getting one another off.

With an arm under my head, he twirled my hair in between his fingers as the other hand was wrapped around my waist and his fingers grazed against my stomach. I didn’t know what to do. I had never cuddled with anyone

besides Brandon and that was like three or four years ago. Normally after I had sex with a guy one of us would leave.

Cuddling is showing emotion, and you can certainly have sex without emotion. But sex with emotion? That's a completely different story and feeling. I hadn't had that or shared that with someone since Brandon. After what he did, I made a promise to myself I wouldn't open up my heart as easily to another man ever again.

Moving the hair off my neck so it was resting on the pillow behind me, Neil rested his head on my shoulder and whispered, "I thought we could get a cup of coffee or go to dinner or something. What do you think?"

He must have sensed I was getting ready to say something by the way I began to breathe heavily or by how my body instantly stiffened, because he tightened his hold on me. Rolling me onto my back, Neil lay down between my legs and settled there. With his chin on my lower stomach, he trailed kisses along my belly button. I took in a breath and looked down and saw that Neil was staring at me.

Breathing onto my belly, he said, "I know you don't like coffee. I was just trying to make a joke to lighten the mood. We don't have to do that, but what do you think?"

I huffed. and said, "I can't, Neil. Besides, we have an arrangement."

Moving my legs farther apart, never taking his eyes off of me in this deep, sexy, husky voice, he said, "Forget about that arrangement." He lifted his hand and waved it in the air. "You know what? Fuck that arrangement. So what do you think, Jade?"

I started to bite my lower lip and shake my head. "Neil, I can't."

He slowly slithered his way up my body until he was staring straight into my eyes and then he said, "Can't? Or won't?" I opened my mouth to say something but I quickly closed it. He lifted his hand and slowly cradled my face in it and rubbed his thumb across my lower lip. "Jade?"

I opened my mouth but nothing came out. I mentally had to prepare myself before I answered. "I can't."

With a sly grin appearing on his beautiful face he began to lower himself down my body and said, "I bet I could change your mind, Jade Williams."

I felt his weight leave the bed and then the bed creaked. I lifted myself onto my elbows. "Is that so, Neil James?" He just hummed and pushed me back so I was lying down, but I stopped him by placing a hand on his chest and looked deep into his eyes.

“Why do you want to change my mind, Neil?”

Slowly pushing me back down on the bed again so my head was nestled comfortably on a pillow, he said, “Isn’t it obvious?”

Neil didn’t give me much time to answer, because as soon as they left his mouth, he quickly pulled me to the end of the bed and kneeled down between my legs on the floor. I gasped because I wasn’t ready for that, but then Neil was lifting my legs up on either side of his shoulders and fell between them. I began to wiggle my hips out of pure excitement and I heard a deep chuckle resonate from Neil’s throat.

Never taking my eyes off him, I saw him suck his lower lip into his mouth and it was probably the sexiest thing I had ever seen in my life. It would forever be engraved into my memory. But just then, when Neil spread my lips apart with his fingers, I saw him run his tongue along his lips to wet them. I automatically bit my lower lip in anticipation for what was going to come.

Me.

He slowly moved his head down to my lips, opened his mouth, and blew warm air on me. My hips had a mind of their own and moved closer to his face. Seeing my reaction, a low groan escaped his throat and he looked at me and groaned. “Fuck. I can’t wait to taste all of you.”

I started to nod my head in approval but Neil raised his pointer finger. “But not till you agree.”

Running a finger through my folds, he slowly inserted that finger inside my tight pussy. My head fell back onto the bed, my eyelids fluttered closed, and I moaned. Pushing the finger fully in and curving it to hit just the right spot, Neil then placed his thumb on my clit and rubbed lazy circles around it. Moaning, I took ahold of the bed sheets. Lazily rolling my clit, Neil asked, “Is that a yes I hear?”

I figured what the hell. Plus at that point I didn’t care because I just needed my release, so as I began to say, “Yes,” Neil cut me off halfway through and he was instantly sucking my clit into his mouth and pushing two more fingers inside of me. He curved those talented fingers because he could definitely feel me tightening around him and then he began to pinch and roll one of my nipples. Letting my clit go from his mouth, he groaned and grunted.

Shaking his head he barely managed to say, “Fuck me.”

I could feel myself getting ready to convulse and shake and I moaned, “God, yes, Neil.”

With his mouth right above my erect nipple, Neil blew warm air on it. “Come for me, Jade.” I lost it.

My eyes instantly closed and all I could manage to do was hold on for dear life. “Oh God, Neil. Fuck,” I said, over and over again because it was so fucking good.

The word good doesn’t even cover it. Maybe magical, sensual, ethereal, provocative... but definitely not good.

Catching my breath, I opened my eyes to see Neil staring down at me with a look of pure fucking hunger. I gave a slight smile and then looked down to see how hard he was for me through his boxers. Sitting up on the edge of the bed, I grabbed ahold of his boxers and started to yank them down his body. I heard him groan, and once they were off, I took ahold of his hard cock in my right hand and lightly massaged his balls with my other. Without releasing him, I stood up and turned us so he was sitting on the bed and I knelt between his long, muscular legs. I started to kiss all over the upper half of his body. I started to kiss a trail down his body—I couldn’t wait to taste him. I sucked his nipples into my mouth and he wrapped his fingers in my hair. I kissed along his abs and down to his belly button.

I looked up into his eyes and saw he was biting his lower lip. Smiling, I looked down at his cock and saw there was already pre-cum on the tip. I knew he wouldn’t last long and I wanted him to enjoy this. Lifting his cock so it was right by my mouth, I swiped my tongue along the tip and heard him groan. Looking up into his eyes, I bit my lip and then kissed the head of his cock.

I continued to stroke him and I opened my mouth and began to take him in, but stopped and looked up into his eyes. They were so dark. He groaned. With this lazy rhythm of my hand stroking him I asked, “What do you want, Neil?”

Swallowing, Neil barely managed to say, “I want you to suck on my cock, Jade.”

I could feel myself getting wet again. I loved hearing him say things like that to me. There were guys in the past who would talk dirty during sex and it didn’t turn me on, but when Neil said that he wanted me to suck his cock, I swear I could feel tingling in my pussy.

Gripping him harder in my hand, I sucked him as far into my mouth as I could. I really wanted to please him. I wasn't the best at giving head and I could feel him getting closer to the back of my throat when I began to gag. I thought he would get annoyed or something that I wasn't that good at giving a blow job, but I heard him groan. Moving my head with his head still inside my mouth, I looked up into his eyes and realized he liked hearing me gag.

Giving myself an internal pat on the back, I took as much of him into my mouth and when the head of his cock hit the back of my throat, I made a gurgling sound and began to choke. Honestly, it was so worth it because Neil wrapped his hand in my hair and said, "Fuck, Jade." Taking that as proof that I was pleasuring him, I started to bob my head up and down. About four bobs in, Neil took a harder grip of my hair and said, "Not yet, Jade."

Releasing him, I looked up into his eyes. I was just about to ask him why he didn't want to come in my mouth but he lifted me up into his arms and somehow managed to get on the bed without releasing me. Resting his head on the pillow, he flipped me over and began to suck on my throbbing clit. "Fuck, you're so wet. You get turned on giving me head," he said. But I didn't get turned on giving Neil head, okay yeah, I did. I got turned on hearing Neil groan and moan. I got turned on just because of Neil James.

Between licks on my pussy, Neil said, "Suck on my cock, Jade. I want us to come at the same time." He didn't give me time to say yes before he was sucking my clit back into his mouth and I gasped. I had never done the 69 position before, but holy fucking shit. He spread my lips apart, and as he inserted two fingers, I bent down and sucked his cock into my mouth. I sucked his long, hard length as far into my mouth as I could and began to gag. Between his licking and sucking and my gagging, there wasn't any other noises in the room. As I squeezed his balls, Neil curved his fingers in my pussy and I began to tighten up. Releasing my clit, he said, "Jade?" I just made a gurgling sound as I sucked on his hard cock.

Just as he sucked my clit back into his mouth, he squirted in the back of my throat and I sucked his fingers up into my pussy. I started to shake uncontrollably and I had to release his cock from my mouth because as I moaned, "Neil," as he grunted, "Jade." I still moved my hand up and down in rhythm to him pushing his fingers in and out of me, and as our orgasms subsided, I fell on top of him. I was trying to catch my breath when Neil

rolled me off of him and somehow managed to pick me up and turn me so I was lying on his chest. As he relaxed his chin on the top of my head, he began to slowly rub up and down my back.

My hands were on his chest and I could feel his heart beat slowly going back to normal. After a few minutes, I realized Neil and I were cuddling and my heart dropped and my stomach tightened. This was new territory for me and I didn't want to get close to him in that way because this was an arrangement. No one was supposed to fall in love. Not that I was in love with Neil, but I could see myself getting there if we kept up this whole cuddling, lovey dovey bullshit thing.

Moving to my side of the bed, I lay down on my back and looked up at the ceiling. I felt the bed move and I thought maybe Neil would get up and leave, but out of the corner of my eye, I saw he was laying on his side looking at me.

He looked over at me and asked, "Why'd you move?"

Flipping to my side I said, "Because, Neil. We made an arrangement and the lines are starting to get blurred." I shook my head. "I'm just trying to keep those lines between us."

Before I finished that last sentence, Neil was on top of me and my legs were on either side of him. I started to breathe heavily and Neil said, "Fuck that arrangement, Jade, because it was a mistake."

I couldn't even anticipate it before my stomach was doing my somersaults, my heart was beating out of my chest, and I could feel tears forming in my eyes. Before I met Neil, no one had ever fought for me besides Jason. This was so new and different and I was terrified because I didn't want this to end badly. I didn't want to add *this* with Neil to the huge list of mistakes I had made in my life. I didn't want Neil to be a mistake. I wanted this to turn into something... beautiful. I guess I could say that a part of me wanted him to be my Richard Gere.

Biting my lip, I closed my eyes and took a few deep breaths. I was trying to calm myself and shake those thoughts from my head, but when I looked up into his eyes, I could see that he knew he had already won.

Tilting his head, Neil looked into my eyes and while chuckling, he said, "So we're going on a date?"

I let out a breath and shrugged my shoulders. "I guess, but this is going to be a huge mistake. You know that, right, Neil?"

Neil leaned in and kissed my forehead and then looked into my eyes and smiled. “Not even in that ball park, Jade.” Pausing, he looked at me and then whispered, “Not even close.”

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Chapter 7

I couldn't believe how quickly everything was changing. What we had going was just supposed to be an arrangement. No feelings. No emotions. But Neil threw that out the window. Within the course of twenty-four hours I had found out Neil was a virgin and we had decided to go out on a date.

Okay, I know, because technically he "forced" me to say yes, but I don't know. A part of me and I don't want to admit it, but a kinda, sorta, big part of me wanted to see what could happen with us. Between us. I just hope it's not a big mistake in the end but maybe something... I don't know... beautiful?

Christmas Day at the James's we all exchanged gifts. I got Neil something even though I wasn't sure if he would get me anything. I ended up getting him a couple band t-shirts because he loved music and the whole punk rock look, which was kind of growing on me. I was surprised when he handed me a jewelry box. Inside was a necklace with a feather pendant. He said that I reminded him of a bird: beautiful, wild and free.

Neil didn't want to wait too long to go on this date because he didn't want me changing my mind. Of course I joked about it, but deep down, *oh, who am I kidding?* Because at the forefront of my mind, the very base of my heart, I was excited. Nervous... but excited.

Today was the day of our date, and to say I was scared shitless would be an understatement. I was sweating in places I never thought I could sweat before and my heart was beating out of my chest. I didn't understand why in the hell I was so nervous. After all, this was Neil; a really delicious looking guy and oh yeah... my roommate. I didn't even understand why he wanted to go out on a date with me. I told him what I wanted from the get go and he had agreed. I just didn't understand now why he was changing the rules on me. I never let anyone change the rules besides myself because I never followed the rules. I never gave a fuck. I always broke them, which got me into making mistakes, but somewhere along the way I was grateful, because Neil James was the best mistake I think I had ever made.

I decided to pamper myself today. After all, I hadn't gone on an actual date since high school with Brandon. Shaking my head to rid him from my thoughts, I decided to take a long hot bubble bath and shave everything. Twice! I lathered, rinsed and repeated.

Drying myself off, I took extra time in putting on my makeup, which was only mascara and some lotion. I rubbed Warm Vanilla lotion all over my body and sprayed some perfume on as well. I painted my fingernails a pale pink and my toenails this pretty green color. I could say that they needed it but I was secretly excited about this. I was excited to just have some fun with Neil. He could always make me laugh and feel like I didn't have to worry about anything even though I sometimes felt like I had the weight of the world on my shoulders.

Neil walked in without knocking and asked, "You ready for our date, Jade?"

I turned to find Neil standing in the doorway of my room looking like a fucking sex god. He had on these ripped baggy jeans and a green plaid button up shirt. His hair was in a mess but it worked for him and he had a little scruff on his face that was just downright wrong—wrong in the best way possible. Of course I can't forget to mention that soaked, panty dropping eyebrow ring.

It's funny really, because I never thought piercings on guys were that sexy. That is until I saw Neil with that ring looped in his eyebrow and my mind was forever changed. Although I think my mind was only changed because it was Neil. He was beautiful to begin with but that eyebrow ring just did something to me. And what it did was soak my panties, flush my face, and harden my nipples.

He was slanted and he had his arms crossed which showed off his ginormous muscles. I didn't even realize I was licking my lips until Neil chuckled and asked, "Do you like what you see?"

I should have been embarrassed for getting caught. My face should have turned a bright shade of red and I should have ducked my head and bit my lip, but I didn't. If you can't tell already, I'm not your average girl. Instead I stood up straight, walked right up to him, and licked my lips. That was my second mistake, and with Neil, I often made mistakes around him and fucking loved every single one.

He didn't laugh like I thought he would. Instead he stood up straight, sucked in a breath, and his pupils dilated. We were standing so close together that our chests were touching. In fact, everything was touching.

When he breathed in, I breathed out.

I placed my hands on his chest and looked up at him. With seductive eyes, I placed my hands on his chest and slowly took them down his body, stopping at the bulging erection I knew he was going to have. Not breaking eye contact, I unclasped his belt buckle and unbuttoned his jeans. While I lowered myself down his body, I unzipped his jeans. Landing on my knees, I placed my hands in the waist of his jeans and pulled them and his boxers down.

I was at the perfect height for his cock to bounce right out in front of my mouth. Opening my mouth, I lightly licked the tip of his cock and I heard Neil groan. He began to thrust his hips toward me and I moved my head back, giving him a seductive giggle.

I still hadn't taken my eyes off him and he looked like he was about to explode... in more ways than one. Looking up at him through my lashes, I licked my top lip and then my bottom and slowly bit down. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw pre-cum forming on his cock and I knew he was done for. Gripping him in my hand, I moved my hand up and down at a torturous pace while I sucked on his balls. I heard him groaning and moaning and it thrilled me beyond words.

Normally when I was with a guy, we just kind of fucked. We got sweaty, sticky, and had amazing orgasms, but with Neil it was different. I enjoyed getting him off with my mouth. With my hand. And I couldn't wait to get him off with my pussy. I swear on Louis Vuitton I could get off just hearing him moan and thrust in my hand. There was just something that I couldn't

articulate in words what I felt or how I felt when he came undone because of me... when he came on my hands or in my mouth.

I felt like I was never getting enough with him. Or better yet, of him. Every single time we were together I felt like I was experiencing something new, which was kind of hilarious because I've had my fair share of guys in my bed, but with Neil it was... wow.

After sucking his balls in my mouth, I licked from the bottom to the tip of his cock and slowly took him into my mouth. Normally I hated giving guys blow jobs because it never did anything for me. I always hated sucking some guy's cock into my mouth. Having it hit the back of my throat and start my gag reflex. Once I got over that initial shock, it was the bobbing of the head up and down, and after a few times, trust me, because your mouth hurts. You get tired, and sometimes, I swear, I got a kink in my neck. You also had to have rhythm while you moved your hand up and down to the motion of your mouth.

Don't forget the actual coming in your mouth. I always hated the guy coming in my mouth and it annoyed me when he didn't even warn me. He would just stiffen and before I knew it, he was squirting in my mouth and it tasted of salt. Pure salt.

I feel like I'm bitching and I am, but with Neil I did anything but bitch. I felt different with him. He made me feel... beautiful. Like I wasn't always making a mess of my life and making horrible mistakes. He made me feel like, in a weird way, I was making these beautiful mistakes. Which is a contradiction, I know, but that's how he made me feel. He made me feel dizzy and straight as can be. He made me question everything, but at the same time I felt like I had the answer. He made me feel like I was everything and anything and could do and be anyone.

But getting back to the fine specimen in front of me, I sucked him into my mouth. I slowly bobbed my head up and down as I twisted and lightly squeezed him in my hand. As soon as I felt him at the back of my throat, I moved my head back. I did this a couple more times and then I felt him wrap his hand in my hair and design a makeshift ponytail. He started thrusting in and out. I let him fuck my mouth. I let him determine the pace while I just kneeled with my mouth wide open, greedily sucking him in. I never did this for anyone until Neil, because with Neil he didn't try and suffocate me or make me gag. He knew when I had enough of him in my mouth, which is why I let him do it.

I started running my hands up and down his stomach. I grazed his stomach with my fingers and scratched. I felt him growing bigger inside of me and before he could anticipate it, I put my hands on his firm little ass, gave a gentle squeeze, and then pulled him all the way into me so he was hitting the back of my throat and coming. With Neil I tasted sweet and salty all in one, kind of like a Sour Patch Kid, you know? First they're sour then they're sweet. Neil was my favorite form of candy.

Swallowing, I then licked him clean. I gave a little light kiss to his head, and as I stood, I pulled up his boxers and jeans. Carefully tucking him in, I zipped, clasped, and buckled. I kept my eyes to the floor as I did this and then I slowly brought my eyes up to his, where he was staring at me with such want and passion. Pleasure and insanity. That's the word to describe just how Neil James made me feel.

Insane.

Licking my lips one more time, I said, "Now I'm ready for our date."

I started to walk around him when Neil lifted me up into his arms. With one arm wrapped around my middle, the other was in my hair, holding me in place. While any normal girl would feel giddy and excited, my heart was plummeting. I hadn't kissed anyone since Brandon and I knew I liked Neil, but I wasn't in love with him. After all, this was an arrangement we had made and nothing more. We were friends with benefits, which if you ask me, is the best kind of friend to have.

I guess he could see the worry written all over my face because he whispered, "Don't worry, Jade. I'm not going to kiss you on the lips." With a suggestive little smirk, he said, "Well, at least not these lips," as his eyes darted from my eyes to my lips. I let out a little moan and wrapped my legs tighter around his middle, where I could feel him growing harder against me.

Licking my lips, Neil's pupils dilated. "You leave the licking of the lips up to me." Before I knew it, he was falling on top of me onto my bed. I wrapped my arms tighter around his neck but he slowly trailed his fingers up my sides and then captured my hands in his. "Keep them above your head or you'll have to deal with the consequences."

Biting my lip, I raised my arms above my head and let them rest on my headboard. Winking at me, he said, "Good girl, Jade," and lowered himself down my body. He pulled my shirt up and pulled my bra down so my tits took center stage.

He started to open his mouth and I lifted the upper half of my body so he would suck my nipple into his mouth faster but he just blew warm air on it. My nipples grew even harder and it was becoming a little painful to bear, so I grunted. “What do you want, Jade?”

“I want you to suck on my nipples.” I didn’t even get to finish saying nipple before he was sucking one into his mouth. It was both painful and pleasurable. Both erotic and sensual, and before I knew it, a wave was crashing over me and I was coming.

I had never had an orgasm just from someone sucking on my nipples, but again, this was Neil. Lifting his head, he looked at me with shock on his face. I giggled and then bit my lip out of embarrassment because I didn’t know that could happen, but I wanted it to happen again and again. Placing a hand on either side of me, he lifted himself up off the bed and then placed his hands on the button of my jeans. Unbuttoning them, he pulled my jeans down but left my thong on. I lifted my legs so he could pull them off faster and he started to chuckle. “In a hurry, Jade?”

I just let out a breath and he chuckled again. Kneeling down, he placed a hand on my mound and started moving his hand up and down. He then moved my thong aside and I spread my legs so he could see how soaked I was. I knew he could feel it but Neil loved seeing how glistening and drenched I was for him. Sucking in a breath through his teeth, he moved a finger through my folds and slowly entered me. I moaned because with Neil it was so... strange. Strange in a good way, because I felt like I was always on the edge. Always so close and so ready to fall over. But fall over into what?

Lust?

Love?

Friendship?

I’m not sure.

Leaning his head down, Neil placed a hand on the top half of me and pulled my lips up so my clit was out and about.

Ready for a night out on the town with his tongue to play with.

At the very second he sucked my clit into his mouth, he put a little pressure on my lower stomach. That pressure intensified everything and he added another finger. He was pushing just the right spot inside of me and I began to wrap my legs around him to keep him there because it felt so

fucking good. I started to moan louder and thrust my hips up into him and I felt the vibrations of his chuckle against me.

Taking his fingers out of me and releasing the hand on my stomach, he unwrapped my legs from around his neck. Releasing my clit from his mouth, he moved his head away and said, "Keep your legs bent like this." He had bent my legs so they were about two feet apart. Nodding in approval at his assessment he then said, "And keep your arms above your head, Doll." I just moaned my answer and then he sucked my clit into his mouth again and pushed two fingers inside of me.

I closed my eyes because I could feel an orgasm coming along and before I knew it, I was releasing my hands from the headboard and wrapping them up in his hair because I needed to hold onto something of Neil when my release came through. I needed to hold onto him so he wouldn't let me go. Just as I felt the orgasm taking over my body, he let go of my clit and pulled the two fingers out of me.

My eyes quickly opened and my head lifted to see Neil smirking at me. My mouth dropped open and just as I was about to yell the fuck out of him he said, "I told you to keep your hands above your head and you didn't listen, Doll. Big mistake on your part, because if you had listened, you would be coming with my fingers inside of you as I sucked your clit hard into my mouth."

I just let out a breath and then said, "Well, if you won't finish the job, then I will." Just as I was about to place my fingers on my clit, Neil snatched them up and said, "Another big mistake on your part, Jade. As badly as I want to see you touch yourself, I'll get you off so good tonight if you're a good girl at dinner. Fuck, I'll be better than good with my mouth on your sweet little pussy."

Letting my head fall back onto the pillow I yelled, "Fuck you, Neil!"

He just laughed as he lifted my hips and pulled my jeans back onto me, saying, "All in good time, Jade. All in good time." The second he clasped the button on my jeans, Neil hoisted me up into the air and nuzzled the side of my neck lightly, licking and giving little kisses. Putting me back onto the floor, he slapped me on the ass. "Come on. We've got a date to go to."

Chapter 8

I just stood there frozen as I watched Neil walk all sexy to my doorway, with his hips swaying, his muscular arms moving back and forth, and his head bobbing up and down. When he reached my door, he stopped. Turning around, he looked at me and asked, “Well? Are you coming, Jade?”

Letting out a frustrated breath that said, “You’ve got to be kidding me,” I growled at him. Placing all of my weight on my left leg, I crossed my arms in front of me. Tilting my head to the side I said, “Nope. Not yet, Neil.” *But boy do I want to!*

Neil was a couple feet away from me. “What do you want, Jade? You have to tell me.” Slowly walking over to me like a lion hunting his prey, he bit his lower lip and stared me straight in the eyes.

I started to squeal and jump for joy on the inside and I would have to file away in my memory that Neil liked it when I growled. While on the inside I was celebrating my victory, my outside appearance was the total opposite.

I stood up straight and cleared my face of any emotion. Although by the of the time Neil reached me a hint of a smile appeared on my face.

Neil never stopped walking when he picked me up by the hips. Before I could even think about it, my arms were wrapping around his neck and my legs were wrapping around his waist where I could feel his hard cock rubbing up against my moistness. His eyes were crazy. I thought he was going to explode... in more ways than one. He was breathing heavily and he kind of looked pissed off in a way. There was a part of me that kind of found it really sexy when Neil got all “manly” with me. When he took control and did what he wanted with me.

Normally I take control in the bedroom, but with Neil? I kind of want him to be cocky and tell me what he wants. I mean not like whips and chains, but where he takes control. OMG! This is so turning me on.

Giggling and squealing now, I felt Neil fall onto the bed with me. As my back hit the mattress and my head hit the pillow, I started to breathe really heavily. Looking up into Neil's eyes, he looked almost like he was going to devour me. Both inside and out.

Releasing my hips, Neil took hold of both my hands and lifted them above my head. He was digging his hard cock into my clit and my legs were still wrapped around him. I started to moan because he was so hard and my clit was throbbing. It was actually starting to turn a little painful.

Letting out a grunt, Neil said, "You can't growl at me, Jade."

Laughing, I asked, "Why?"

He pushed his hard cock up against my pussy. "That's why, goddammit."

Breaking eye contact with me, he nuzzled his head into the crook of my neck. Mumbling, he said, "I want to take my time with you before you come because I want to nuzzle, suck, lick, nip, taste every part of your gorgeous fucking body." HE looked into my eyes. "And that could take a while." He paused. "And babe? I want to take you out on a date first."

My mouth dropped open because I couldn't believe how sexy he was. Sometimes I still couldn't wrap around the fact that Neil James... that Neil Fucking James was a virgin. Licking my lower lip, I sucked it into my mouth and bit down. I watched as his eyes darted from mine and zeroed in my lips. I watched as he flicked his tongue out and swiped it along his lower lip.

Standing just an arm's length apart from me, Neil placed his hands on his hips, and in a deep, stern voice said, "I asked you a question, Jade."

Quickly releasing my lower lip and blinking, I looked up at Neil and saw that he looked so fuckable, delicious, edible, sexy... beautiful.

That's what Neil James was. Beautiful. Most people think beauty is how someone looks on the outside. I'd be lying if I said I didn't think that, because I do. But then I get to know the person and it's the personality that sucks you in. Keeps you. And sometimes... they even steal your heart.

Looking up into his eyes was when I realized I was falling for him. Falling hard. Falling fast. However I just wasn't that sure yet if Neil could catch me. Better yet, would he catch me if I fell into him? That's what I was doing. I was falling into him.

Breaking eye contact, I looked away from Neil and started to blink a few times. I needed to get these thoughts out of my head. I needed to get these feelings out of my heart. I needed to get these butterflies out of my stomach.

What I needed more than anything was to get back to the arrangement.

Turning my head and looking back up into Neil's eyes I saw that the fire was gone. I saw that he wasn't looking at me sexually. He was looking at me and he was scared. But scared of what? That's what I wasn't exactly sure of.

Gulping, I nodded my head towards my bedroom door and asked, "Are you ready?" Scrunching his eyebrows together, Neil looked at me and nodded his head. Turning away from me, he walked towards the door and walked out without saying a word.

I'm not exactly sure why, but for some reason my stomach dropped and my chest tightened. Standing in the same spot for a few seconds, I took a couple of deep breaths. I wasn't sure if I was scared for the date or for what could happen with this date. Or even, if I just made a mistake by pushing Neil away?

Did I?

No, Jade. You can't let anyone ever hurt you again, especially after Brandon. You can't allow it. You won't be able to survive it after it's over.

But what if Neil's different?

It's your heart on the line. Is the risk really worth it?

I don't know.

After having that internal battle with myself, I shook my head, straightened my shoulders, and walked towards the door, but not before spraying on some perfume, putting on some lip gloss, and grabbing my purse off my nightstand. I was determined to keep up my wall. I was determined to set Neil straight. I was determined to clean up the mess of this arrangement. Most importantly, I was determined to not make this a mistake.

Walking out into the hallway, I saw Neil standing by the front door with his back against the wall. With his left leg resting behind his right, his head was lowered, watching as he dangled his keys in his hand.

I could tell that he was a little down because I had frozen earlier. But the lines were starting to get a little blurry. I know he said fuck the arrangement, but I just couldn't do that. A part of me wanted to more than

anything, but after everything that had happened with Brandon I just... I kept thinking about that. I knew that Neil was nothing like Brandon, but there was always the what ifs.

Halfway to Neil, I cleared my throat so he would know I was there. When I did that I must have scared him because he dropped his keys onto the floor. Muttering, "Fuck," under his breath, he leaned over to pick them up. Snatching up the keys, Neil started to stand up from his kneeling position when he looked up into my eyes. Never taking his eyes away from mine, he stood up. Placing a hand to his chest he said, "Wow, Jade."

Stopping right in front of him, I looked at him and turned into a big pile of goo on the floor. I was in a trance. Neil's eyes were filled with adoration and something else that I couldn't pinpoint. With a blush appearing on his face, I bit my lip. I watched how his face of a little boy turned into one of a sex-crazed, hyper-aware man.

Letting out a breathy laugh, I asked, "Are you ready, Neil?"

Blinking his eyes a few times, Neil's gaze dropped to the floor and he started to shake his head. Lifting his left arm, he scratched the back of his head. Closing his eyes, he nodded his head and said, "Um, yeah." Looking down into my eyes, he smiled a smile only Neil could and said, "Yeah. I think I am."

Moving my purse up onto my right shoulder, I stood there, patiently waiting for him to turn around. When a minute or two went by and Neil was still standing in the same position staring at me, I nodded my head towards the door. Trying to make a joke out of it, I said, "The door's thatta way."

Finally realizing he was still standing there staring at me with a dazed and confused look on his face, Neil blinked and said, "Oh yeah, right." Quickly turning around, he walked over to the door. Turning the knob, he opened the door. When it was fully opened he stood there and turned to stare at me.

Tilting my head to the side and quirking my eyebrows together, I asked, "What?"

With a look of confusion on his face, Neil said, "After you."

Walking over to the opened door with a mix of nerves, a million questions forming in my head, and little butterflies fluttering away in my stomach, I stopped in front of Neil. Turning to look at him, I smiled and whispered, "Thank you."

Nodding his head, he smiled and said, "I'll always do that, Jade." It felt like he wanted to add onto that, so I nodded my head for him to continue. Sucking in a breath, he smiled and said, "I'll always do that for you."

I felt tears forming in my eyes. No one had ever said anything like that to me before. Whenever I had heard other guys say things like that to a girl, I thought it was complete bullshit. I always looked at the girl with a look on my face and the words in my head that read, "Really? You actually bought the bullshit he just uttered? Are you that pathetic?"

And right now? I think I'm kind of, sort of, probably, maybe, just maybe turning into one of those girls who buy the lovey dovey, holding my hand, falling in love, Valentine's Day roses, diamond ring, yours forever... bullshit. Although with Neil? I'm not so sure that what he says is bullshit.

Walking out into the cold, snowy day, I bundled myself up in my jacket and fluffy scarf. My teeth started to chatter from the cold and my fingers were becoming numb. Before I could do anything, I heard Neil close the door and he wrapped his hands up in mine and blew warm air in the opening of his hands. I just stood frozen. I was now frozen from the contact of his touch and generosity of his heart, rather than the cold.

My mouth dropped open. I was speechless. He looked into my eyes like I was his everything. His forever... and I needed to stop it immediately. I couldn't drag him along and I couldn't let him in and break my heart.

Once he was done blowing warm air over my hands, he kissed my fingertips and asked, "Better?" Closing my mouth, I nodded my head and watched him smile and his eyes brighten. Only releasing one of my hands, he took a firm hold of the other and started to walk towards the car. However when he was at arm's length from me, he stopped and turned around. "What's wrong?"

Breathing in and out, I looked down at our hands holding on together and I shook out of it. I watched as his whole body shifted. His stance was now rigid. His jaw was set. His eyebrows were scrunched together. And his eyes no longer had the twinkle.

"I told you I would go out on a date with you. I never said I would hold your hand, Neil," I said harshly. I pushed past him to the car. I felt my heart breaking because I wanted to hold his hand. I wanted him to prove me wrong, that not every single guy is like Brandon.

But sometimes there are so many assholes out there that you don't realize when you've found the one who will change everything. You don't

realize when you found *it*. When you found him.

Walking over towards Neil's car, I stopped and waited. Hearing the click of the unlock button on his car going off, I quickly opened it and jumped in. I was freezing and couldn't believe I'd only been outside for a few minutes. Placing my hands together, I lifted them to my lips and blew warm air on them to stay warm, while Neil got in the car and started up the heat.

I turned on the radio. As soon as I did, Neil turned it off. I was about to ask him why when he turned to me. His face was stern and his voice cold. "Put on your seatbelt, Jade."

I felt like a child. I didn't feel like going on a date and I wanted to get out. Neil must have known what I was thinking because he quickly put the car in reverse, backed out, and sped down the road. Quickly putting my seatbelt, on I yelled, "Are you crazy?"

He let out a chuckle and said, "No, I'm not crazy, Jade."

Giving him attitude, I asked, "Well, do you want to tell me what the hell that was all about?"

Turning to me this time when he talked, he said, "Only if you tell me what the hell happened when we were leaving the apartment." I automatically froze. Turning towards the front, I sat in my seat and crossed my arms. I wanted to block him out. I wanted to block out any feelings or emotions I felt towards Neil.

I could see him out of the corner of my eye staring at me. He tightened his grip on the steering wheel and muttered something under his breath, although I couldn't tell what it was.

A few minutes went by in silence before Neil said, "Tell me something about yourself."

I laughed.

Really? We were going to get all personal now? I thought we were supposed to "get to know one another," before I gave him head. Before he fingered me. Before he went down on me. This was a joke, right? Was Ashton Kutcher around somewhere with a million cameras recording this moment? Was I getting Punk'd?

I was still laughing when I turned to him and he looked really serious. His arm muscles were tight, strangling the steering wheel and his eyebrows were pulling together while he bit his lower lip.

I gulped down my laughter. "What do you want to know?"

He turned to me while driving. "Something. Anything."

I wanted to keep this light hearted. “You’re really good looking.”

I turned to him and smiled but he slammed the steering wheel with his fist. “Dammit, Jade! I want to know something about you that nobody else knows. I want to get to know you. What’s so wrong about that?”

Fine! You want to know something? You got it ,buddy. I took a deep breath and just word vomited.

“All right. Well, you already know I have these huge daddy issues, so for me to open up my heart is saying a lot. I took a chance and my first and only boyfriend cheated on me with half of the senior class. The reason none of my friends visit me is because I have none except for the few I made here. All those assholes either knew about it and the guys gave him high fives or the girls were bent over having sex with him. I thought dating the quarterback since I was the *head* cheerleader was essential in high school. Jason didn't know about it because he would have killed each and every one of those fucks, but once he did find out, he almost killed Brandon.”

I paused to take a deep breath. “Needless to say, dating Brandon was a huge mistake. But a tiny speck of me still believes in true love. I just feel like it’s going to take someone really special to bash down the cement covered, plexiglass, dragon slaying, brick wall to attempt to get to my heart. And do you want to know what the worst part is, Neil? I don't think I'm worth it.”

The rest of the car ride was silent. I looked down at my intertwined fingers, wanting to punch myself in the vagina for telling him that. I knew I shouldn't have told him and that it would be this huge mistake, but I didn't care. He said he wanted to get to know me.

Well, there you have it. Ask and you shall receive.

While I wanted to cause my lady bits a huge amount of pain, Neil looked out at the road ahead of us. I'm not exactly sure if that was symbolic, like me telling him my dirty secret he could get through but I wondered if maybe he could break down my wall. But I think he already had put a dent in it. Or at least I hoped he did.

When Neil parked the car, I automatically knew we were back at the apartment. But when I looked up, I saw Neil had parked in the front of a restaurant and I wondered why we were still going on this damn date. It wasn't supposed to happen like this. We had made an arrangement to just have sex, and even though we hadn't done that part yet, we had done other

things. This date, however, was crossing the boundaries, and I was terrified about how *this* was going to work out.

But sometimes, I guess the best things in life are worth the risk.

I saw him get ready to place a hand on his door handle when he stopped and turned in his seat. I slightly looked over, biting my lip, and saw that he had a look of sadness on his beautiful face. I felt the breath leave my lungs and then I looked up into his eyes. And what I saw was a glimmer of... hope.

Breaking eye contact, he dropped his head and let out a breath. I could hear him breathing heavily and I wanted to ask him what was wrong. However, I just let him be. I didn't want to upset him even more than I already had. I watched him shake his head and watched as his beautiful brown, wavy hair shook.

Lifting his head, he was looking anywhere but my face, but then his eyes fluttered down to meet mine and he let out a huge breath. "For the record, Jade, you are worth it." He then moved his hands up to cup my face and looked me straight in the eyes. "You are so worth it."

Chapter 9

Neil

Lying on my bed with my eyes closed and my arms underneath my head, I started thinking. Was this date today with Jade really worth it? *Yeah*. I knew it was. I just knew that once Jason found out Jade and I were going out behind his back, he would kick my ass. He had talked to me prior to us moving in and he always brought it up when we hung out. I started thinking back to the last time we had hung out. It was a few days ago.

Ryder, Gabe, Jason and I all decided to go out to the bar. We just needed to relax and chill for a night without any girls. Ryder couldn't bear to hear any more about flowers and other things that had to do with his and Iz's upcoming wedding in the summer. Gabe couldn't handle any more talk about diapers and Sarah's up and down moods. She was either loving him or looking at him with disgust saying, "You did this to me," and growling at him. I always snickered when I saw her do that. I always got a slap on the arm or across the back of the head from Jade.

Jason was the only one who wanted to be at home. Jade had told me about his and Ash's past and how they both loved one another but neither of them would make a move. Anyone who saw the two of them together could see how much they loved one another and I couldn't be more happy for the two of them. Of course I knew a little bit of what went down between the two of them because I had taken Ash out. I didn't know that Ash was the girl Jason was all down in the dumps over.

I remember that day when I brought her back to the apartment. I thought for sure Jason would jump me and beat my ass, but I had calmed him down a little bit. *Thank God.*

Reaching my hand out to grab my ice cold beer, I could feel the moisture slowly falling down the neck of the bottle. I was getting a little tipsy. We had already been at the bar for about two hours now drinking cold beer and eating wings and watching whatever sports game was on at the moment.

Ryder and Gabe were arguing about which sports team was better and who was going to win. I wasn't really paying any attention. Sports didn't really do much for me. I liked listening to music and playing video games in my spare time. I had played sports when I was younger but when I got older and could make my own decisions, I quickly dropped those and joined a garage band. We weren't any good but I still had fun playing with the guys.

Bringing the beer up to my lips, I started to take a gulp when Jason turned to me from watching the game and asked, "So how are things with you and Jade?"

I had just started to swallow the healthy gulp I had taken when I started to choke on the foamy liquid. Quickly putting the beer down, I kept coughing and I felt Jason slapping my back, laughing out, "Jesus, Neil! I didn't realize you were a pussy drinker!"

Jason continued to slap my back for a few more seconds. Catching my breath, I said, "At least I'm not a pussy."

Jason quit slapping my back and instead slapped me upside the head, laughing out, "Fucking douche!" Pausing for a second, he smirked and said, "At least I'm getting some pussy, unlike someone I know."

Ryd and Gabe burst out laughing. Waving my hand back and forth, I asked, "Who said I'm not getting pussy?" and geared that question right towards Jason.

Our conversation quickly went from joking around to serious in a matter of milliseconds. Jason started to get up from his seat. I knew he was a little drunk and I probably shouldn't have said that, but I thought we were just joking around. Plus I kind of wanted to see what he would do.

His face was red with rage. "You fucking touch her we're going to have issues." I saw his hands turn into fists and out of the corner of my eye I saw Ryd and Gabe getting up from their seats to try and hold him back.

I didn't realize Jason felt *this* strongly about Jade and I, but at some point he had to let go. He had to realize that not everyone was an asshole. That some people, like myself, only want the best for Jade.

Ryd placed a hand on Jason's shoulder and Gabe said in a stern voice, "Jason, chill the fuck out right goddamn now." Jason shook his head and I could see his temper was disappearing. Sitting back down in his seat, Jason grabbed his beer and gulped down the rest of it in one sip.

Ryd and Gabe sat down on either side of Jason. Gabe said, "We all know Neil was just joking around and he isn't doing anything with Jade." He looked at me. "And if you are? Well, I don't want to be there when Jason finds out."

I continued to think about the conversations Jason and I would have about Jade and me. I knew he would have huge issues with me and Jade, if we turned into something eventually, but I knew that what I was doing with Jade was worth it. She was worth it.

After I said those words to Jade, my heart beat quickened because I didn't want to see her nervous. I didn't want to see her suck in air because she felt like I was suffocating her with my words. I didn't want to see her eyes search mine, questioning what I had just said. I didn't want to see her look like a small child who was scared to death.

And guess what? I didn't see that.

I saw her eyes start to light up. I saw her eyes begin to glisten. I saw her lips slowly form into a smile which showed off her straight white teeth. I saw her cheeks turn a light shade of pink. I felt the warmth of her skin radiate onto my hands and I knew in that moment, without a shadow of a doubt, I had made a crack in her wall. *I'll admit the tiniest, but still... a crack.*

Staring at one another, I waited. I wanted to hear what she would say. See what she would do. I guess maybe she was waiting for the same thing from me because she stayed still and stared at me with a smile on her face and a light in her eyes that I honestly thought I would never see. I watched her mascara covered eyelashes become clumpy and moist. I watched as little tears escaped from the corners of her eyes and black streams formed along her cheeks as the salty liquid slid down her pink cheeks.

I was still cupping her face in my hands. I didn't understand why she was crying. I hadn't said anything mean to her. I wanted to ask her but I didn't think that now was the right time. I attempted to wipe the tears away with my thumbs. I was doing it to be nice but I think I just made an even bigger mess. I started to chuckle because the black tears were now black swirls covering her face. Chuckling, I started to say something to her when she giggled and asked, "What's so funny?"

Looking into her beautiful brown eyes, I smiled. Staring for a few seconds at just how beautiful she truly was, I breathed in and said, "You have mascara all over your face."

Releasing a raspy chuckle, she said, "Just my luck."

I thought she would break free from my hands... but she didn't. She stayed still and let out a tiny, breathy moan. I smiled and watched as her lips puckered.

At that sight, every ounce of my being wanted to move my head forward. I wanted to touch my lips with hers. I wanted to taste her. I wanted to kiss her so badly. I think I would have given anything to touch her lips with mine. The closeness and the contact were now becoming too much to handle so I dropped my hands from her face. I watched as her eyes quickly opened and her eyebrows pulled together.

Clearing my throat, I turned towards the restaurant and pointed. Turning back to look at Jade, I said, "We should probably get going." Her eyes slowly lowered and her lower lip trembled. She nodded. I watched as her wavy, brown hair fell directly into her face. Lifting her arms, she moved her hair back and turned her body towards the front. Lowering the visor, she opened it and started to clean up the mascara covering her face.

I wondered what she was tearing up about but I felt like there was now a tension between us. A part of me wondered if maybe she wanted me to kiss her, and believe me, I wanted to more than anything. I honestly think I would have given my left nut for just one taste of her soft plump lips, but I knew that was a huge step for her. I knew she was already taking a leap of faith by going out on this date with me so I didn't want to push my luck too much and ruin what we had going for us.

I sat and watched Jade. I watched how her lips moved, almost as if she was talking to herself. I noticed how her eyes were more serious and less playful. I wondered where I had gone wrong. A part of me wanted to ask her but I didn't want to push her too far. I knew she was taking a gamble

with going out on this date with me and I wanted everything to be perfect. After all, this was my idea. I didn't want to mess this up. I didn't want her to think this was a mistake. I knew this would be a struggle for her but I didn't want her to regret making this decision later on.

I must have zoned out because next thing I knew, Jade was waving a hand in front of my face saying, "Earth to Neil. Come in, Neil." With a smirk appearing across my face, I quickly grabbed Jade's wrist and kissed it. I heard her suck in a breath and before she could pull her hand away from me, I pressed it down into my crotch where she could feel my hard cock.

Looking over at her this time, I watched as her chest moved up and down really fast. I watched as she licked her bottom lip. Her cheeks reddened and her eyes become half lidded and blurry. In that moment I wanted her. I wanted to taste. Touch. Take my time. However I knew that it wasn't the right time, because we were going on our first official date together. Hopefully, not our last.

Her hand was still in my crotch so I picked it up and wrapped my hand in hers. I placed her hand against my chest and breathed in. Letting the oxygen out, I looked into Jade's eyes and I could tell she was scared. Of the inevitable.

I kissed her hand, never taking my eyes away from hers. The second my lips touched her hand, I honest to God thought she was going to cry. I couldn't believe that some fucking douche bag could hurt Jade this much. I mean, it was bad enough that her father wasn't there for her growing up, but then her high school boyfriend cheated on her.

When she told me that, I wanted to go ballistic. I couldn't understand how someone could harm this girl, or any girl for that matter; physically or mentally. The physical part sucks ass, but it's the mental part that completely fucks with you. Bruises and scrapes, broken bones and fractures; they'll heal. It's the verbal abuse that will fuck with your head and your heart. Band aids and casts, Neosporin and aspirin can't help with that. It fucks with you and it's the worst kind of pain. Having to hear hatred spill from someone you love's mouth into your head and your heart—you never get over that shit. You can forgive but you can never forget.

I couldn't stand to be in the car anymore, so I quickly got out. Slamming the door behind me, I bundled up my jacket because my balls were freezing. I walked over to Jade's side of the car and noticed she'd started to open it.

Putting my hand to the door handle, I opened the door the rest of the way and helped her out of the car. Once she was out, she looked up at me and gave me a small smile. Whispering, she said, "Thank you."

In that moment I felt like her hero. Like I could do anything for her, and boy did I want to. I wanted to make sure she would never cry again, unless they were happy tears. I wanted to make sure she would never frown and always smile. Never scream, but always laugh. I wanted her to see the good in love, life, and friendships, instead of the bad. She had seen the bad too much in her young life and it was about damn time that she experienced the good. The great. The beautiful.

I didn't even hesitate when I wrapped her hand in mine and I was relieved when she held tightly onto my hand. Taking a deep breath, we walked hand in hand into the restaurant. It was a little mom and pops place. Not only was the food amazing, but I wanted to just have some alone time with Jade. I didn't want the hustle and bustle of the city. I wanted the peace and quiet to finally get to know her.

We entered the restaurant and were able to choose where we wanted to sit. I held out the chair for Jade and watched as she stared at me with a weird look on her face. Nodding my head for her to sit down in the chair, she looked down at it and then looked back up at me. As she tilted her head and gave me a small smile, I watched as her brown wavy hair fell in front of her face.

Lifting my right hand from the chair, I took ahold of her silky hair and placed it behind her ear. Cupping her face in my hand, I kissed her on the cheek. Letting my lips linger a bit longer, I was able to smell the perfume she was wearing and I was able to feel her slightly moving back and forth. Slowly moving my hand down from her face to her neck, I felt goose bumps appear on her neck. We stared at one another as I slowly traced my fingertips down her neck to her shoulder and along her arm. I could see her breathing heavily and her eyes beginning to widen. Out of fear? Out of excitement? Both? I wasn't sure.

Once Jade sat down, I pushed her in. Walking over to my chair, I sat down and placed my hands on the table. I looked over at her. She wasn't looking at me. In fact, she was looking anywhere but my face. She was wringing her hands together and I could feel her leg bouncing up and down underneath the table.

I was just about to take hold of her hands and tell her to calm down when a waitress walked over and took our drink order. As soon as she left, I stared at Jade. We were close already, however to me we weren't close enough. I wanted to be inside of her. I wanted to feel her pussy tighten up when she came because of how hard I was slamming into her. I wanted to feel her hot panting breath against my ear as I brought her to orgasm. I wanted to feel her fingernails trailing up and down my back as I moved in and out of her. And that's when it hit me. Ever so slowly, I scooted my chair in further so we were as close as the chairs and the table between us would allow. I was thankful for the tablecloth, because if it wasn't there, I don't think I could have done what I was about to do.

I thought maybe Jade would notice the closeness but she was still looking anywhere but towards me. I rested my chin in my left hand as my right hand disappeared underneath the table. Staring at Jade, I waited to see her reaction when she felt my hand slowly graze her knee and up her inner right thigh. As soon as my fingertips touched her knee, I felt her leg twitch and watched as her head moved from staring at something unimportant towards me. Her mouth was slightly opened and a slight pink color started to appear on her cheeks.

Taking ahold of her knee, I trailed my fingertips up her inner thigh. I watched as her breasts moved up and down and her beautiful little nipples pucker up. My cock went from a semi to a full on hard-on in a matter of milliseconds. I wanted this girl like a fat kid wanted pie. I just wanted to sink right into her. I wanted to feel her wetness. I wanted to hear her gasp when I moved inside of her. I wanted to hear her moan and scream my name when she came.

Attempting to get rid of those thoughts, I kept a straight face as I torturously moved my hand up her thigh. I felt her legs move farther apart and I knew I had her where I wanted her. I watched as her hands took a hold of the table cloth when my thumb touched the button of her jeans and skimmed down the zipper to her pussy. I watched her pant as I lightly pressed my thumb against where her clit was through her jeans. I heard a light moan escape her throat and I watched her squirm in her seat.

The tightness in my jeans was excruciating, but goddammit I wanted to get this girl off. No, scratch that, because I needed to get this girl off. I needed to know that she would let go with me.

Taking my left hand from under my chin, I put it under the table and slowly grazed my fingertips up her left thigh to her lower stomach. I watched her face as I moved up her body. She was breathing heavily and waiting in anticipation for what I would do next. I was still slowly forming circles around her clit with my thumb.

“I couldn’t wait until we got home. I needed you now,” I said. I put a little bit of pressure to her lower stomach and pressed my thumb into her clit. Watching Jade come was indescribable. She was beautiful. She was perfect. And for the briefest of times... she was mine.

Moving my hands away from her body, I placed them back up on the table. With a satisfied smirk on my face, I watched Jade catch her breath. I was just about to say something when out of the corner of my eye, I saw the waitress walk over.

“What would you guys like to eat?”

I watched as Jade’s rosy colored cheeks went to a bright red.

“Oh, what I want to eat, you don’t have on the menu.” Breaking eye contact with Jade, I looked up at the waitress, whose mouth was wide open. “But in the mean time, I’ll have the roast beef with mashed potatoes.” Slowly nodding her head because she didn’t know what to say, the waitress looked over at Jade, who had a devilish grin on her face. I wondered what she was thinking. I picked up my iced tea to take a sip.

“I’ll have the huge sausage,” said Jade. I choked on my drink. Jade amended her order. “Oh, with the peppers.”

I didn’t even bother to look at the waitress because I knew she was probably mortified. Staring at Jade, I waited for the waitress to scurry off. I didn’t get to say what I wanted to because Jade beat me to it. Giving me the most beautiful smile, she blinked her eyes and said, “You’ve met your match with me, Neil James.”

I nodded at the beautiful girl sitting in front of me. “Yeah, I think I have.”

Chapter 10

Jade

As Neil wiped away the mascara on my face, I felt it. In that moment I wanted to kiss Neil James so badly, but I wanted to take my time. I decided this date was going to be a clean slate. I was going to act like myself, and if he didn't like that, then fuck it.

Although, come to think of it, I had always acted like myself with Neil. With Brandon I always felt like I had to put on a front. More like only act like ninety percent of myself. The other ten percent was a fake, plastered smile.

And that's when it hit me. I was acting like my mom. I was pretending with Brandon but with Neil I didn't have to. I didn't have to fake it. I didn't have to put on a front. I didn't have to hide away who I really was.

I could just be me. Silly. Weird. Spontaneous. Boring. Because with Neil he would always be there for me. In what way? I wasn't sure exactly, but I really wanted to find out.

Facing Neil, I was curious as to what he would say to my comment. "You've met your match with me, Neil James." But he didn't say anything... verbally. It was all in the way he looked at me. Because with a twinkle in his eye, he just smiled back.

A part of me was hurt, but another part of me felt treasured and cherished. I felt loved. I felt cared for. I felt beautiful. For once in my life I didn't feel like I was making a mistake. With Neil everything felt right and I instantly felt butterflies in my stomach and my heart melting. I finally felt like I was the person I was always meant to be and it was all because of a boy. A virgin. Someone who wanted me for more than just sex. Someone who wanted me because of my personality and not just looks.

We were still staring at one another. It wasn't awkward by any means but I started to wonder what was going on in that sexy boy's head. "What?" I asked.

Blinking, he shook his head and said, "Nothing."

"There's always something behind that nothing. What were you smiling about?"

Without thinking, without blinking, Neil sucked in a breath and said, "You're so beautiful, Jade. I feel like I will never be able to tell you that enough. You deserve so much more than what I can give you. You deserve... everything." Pausing, he searched my tear-filled eyes. "I'm not perfect by any means, but I know in every fiber of my being, every breath that I take, every step that I make, that I'm perfect for you."

Chin quivering, tears falling, hands shaking, I stared back at Neil. I couldn't believe what he had just said and more than anything, I wanted to say something back. But I couldn't. I was awestruck. I was dumbstruck. I was love struck.

He must have thought my silence was something totally different, because he started to shake his head. "I know that you don't feel the same way as I do, but I want to prove it to you."

Wiping away the tears and swallowing the spit stuck in my throat, I watched Neil ramble on and on out of nervousness. Giggling, I watched Neil's eyes bug out of his head and search mine. I smiled at him. "Let's get out of here."

I watched as Neil's head dropped and his shoulders slumped over in defeat. I wanted to tell him my feelings more than anything but I didn't want it to be in a restaurant. I wanted it to be in our little apartment, just the two of us.

Waiting for the waitress to get our bill was awkward. I didn't know what to say and every time I looked at Neil, he was looking in another direction.

He wouldn't make eye contact with me. After Neil paid the bill, we left the restaurant and headed on home.

The drive back to our home was weird. It was uncomfortable but it wouldn't be for long.

Pulling into a parking space, Neil got out and started walking to the front door. He didn't wait for me this time. Quickly opening my door and closing it behind me, I ran after him. When he turned around, I jumped into his arms. I held on to Neil for dear life. I didn't want him to let me go.

Nudging my head into the crook of his neck, I felt at home. I felt safe and comforted. With Neil's strong arms around me, we walked into our apartment. I heard was the door closing and Neil locking it.

I thought he would put me down but he didn't. He kept walking and a few minutes later, I was falling, surrounded by his pillows and blanket. Neil didn't bother turning on the lights. I propped myself up on my elbows and looked up at Neil. He was breathing heavily and I could tell he was nervous. I was just about to open my mouth when Neil said, "We're not having sex tonight."

Well damn. Just twist the knife while you're at it.

Placing his hands underneath my knees he pulled me to the edge of the bed. I looked up at Neil. Shaking my head I couldn't believe how beautiful he was. The way his brown wavy hair framed his face. The way his eyes were boring into mine. The way his chest was rising and falling. And I swear I could almost hear his heart beating.

Falling to his knees in front of me, Neil cupped my face. We were at eye level with each other and I could see a twinkle in his eyes. I smiled. He didn't say anything and neither did I. We just stared at one another for a few minutes. Breathing in the same air. Feeling the same emotions. Neil started to play with my hair, wrapping it between his fingers. I started to get goose bumps all over my body, but I didn't look away from Neil because I couldn't.

Barely whispering, Neil said, "I want you to sleep with me tonight."

Tilting my head to the side I said, "But I thought...?"

"Just sleep, Jade. I want to go to sleep with you in my arms and wake up with you in my arms. I want you to be the last person I see before I go to sleep and the first person I see when I wake up in the morning."

Hiccupping, I blinked away my tears. No one had ever said anything so sweet and pure and real to me before. Neil was laying his heart out on the

line for me. He was giving it to me.

I saw Neil was staring at me, and nodding my head, I whispered, "Okay."

Biting his lower lip, he smiled a small smile and nodded. He let go of my face and placed his hands at the hem of my shirt. Raising my arms up in the air, Neil took my shirt off as he stood up from the floor. Standing up from his bed, I took off his shirt as well.

We were now standing chest to chest, breathing the same air, looking at one another, wondering where exactly the night would lead us. Running his finger tips along my hips, Neil moved them to my back and unclasped my bra, letting it fall to the floor.

There was something so intimate about it, neither of us could break eye contact. Bringing my hands up to the waist band of his jeans, I started to unbuckle and unzip. Neil started to do the same to me. Falling to my knees, I pulled down his jeans and boxers. His cock sprang out and it was really hard. I didn't know if Neil just wanted to cuddle or what, so I just looked up at him, wanting an answer.

Stepping out of his jeans and boxers, Neil placed his hands on my forearms and pulled me up so I was no longer kneeling in front of him. My jeans were already unbuckled, so Neil pulled them down along with my thong. Placing my hands on his shoulders for balance, I stepped out of the clothing. Tossing them to the side, Neil stood up and looked into my eyes.

Of course we had seen each other naked before, but there was something so intimate about this. For some reason I felt like I wanted to cry because this was so beautiful and I knew with all of my heart, body, and soul I wasn't making a mistake with Neil. I don't think I ever could.

Neil started to skim his fingertips along my body. From my face to my neck to my shoulders and down to my hips. Gripping my hips in his hands, he pulled me to him so every part of my skin was touching a part of his. I felt his chest rising and falling against mine. I felt his hard cock pushed up against my belly. I felt his legs shaking and quivering like mine.

Wrapping his arms around my back, I placed my hands on his strong forearms and allowed my head to fall against his chest. I could hear his heart beating at the same tempo as mine. Putting his head in the crook of my neck, I felt his hot breath against my neck. I then felt feather light kisses being placed all along my neck. I sucked in a breath because I wasn't prepared and I started to breathe heavily because it felt so good.

Moving his head, he kissed along the other side of my neck. Every few kisses he would lightly bite down and then lick the same exact spot. I gripped his forearms tightly because I didn't want to let go. I didn't want to fall. I didn't want this moment to ever end.

Leaning his head away from my neck, Neil looked down into my eyes and smiled. I smiled at him. Neil then lifted me into his arms. Crawling onto the bed, he fell on top of me. His weight was pushing me farther and deeper into the mattress and I welcomed it. He was holding himself up by his elbows and I felt his hard cock pushing up against my lower belly.

My insides liquefied, and pulling my legs up, I let Neil find comfort lying on top of me. With his left hand, Neil moved a few stray hairs away from my face. Looking down at me, he smiled and said, "You are so beautiful, Jade." He knelt down and kissed my forehead, the tip of my nose and my chin. Leaning away from me, Neil looked down at me.

Lifting my arms, I cradled Neil's face in my hands. I felt the hair along his face, the tips of his ears, and ran my fingers through his soft, silky hair. Leaning into him, I kissed his cheek and along his neck. I started to sit up but Neil placed a hand on my chest. Staying where I was, Neil scooted farther away from me.

Placing his hands at the backs of my knees, he pushed my legs farther apart than they already were. Lightly running his fingertips along the insides of my thighs, I started to shake because it felt so good.

With his left hand, he started to massage my inner thigh. His right hand started to play with my pussy. He was moving my lips apart with his pointer and ring finger and with his thumb, Neil started to rub slow circles along my clit.

My eyes were closed while Neil was doing this. I quietly moaned. I opened my eyes to find Neil staring down at me. Breaking eye contact, I looked down at his hard cock. My mouth started to water because I wanted to take him into my mouth.

Neil must have known what I was thinking because he shook his head and said, "Not tonight. Tonight, it's all about you." Looking back up into his eyes, I searched his, not understanding.

With a crooked smile, Neil blinked and started to scoot down so he was lying on his stomach. His face was just mere inches away from where I desperately needed him most. Lifting my hips to tell him what I wanted, I heard a deep chuckle resonate from his throat.

Nodding his head, Neil said, "I know what you want, baby."

As soon as he said baby, Neil swiped his tongue along my clit. I ran my fingers through his hair, searching for something to hold onto while Neil made me come with his mouth.

Still massaging my inner thigh with his one hand, Neil pulled up my pussy lips with the other. My clit was now wide open for him. He sucked it into his mouth. I moaned loudly and started to move around. I needed my release. I felt two fingers push into me.

Curving them upwards, Neil ran them along my inner walls. I could already feel myself tightening. Releasing my clit from his mouth, he gasped and said, "Fuck, you smell and taste so fucking good, Jade."

"Please don't stop, Neil. Not now." I sounded like I was begging and I was. I needed this.

With one more lick, Neil said, "Never, baby. I'll never stop." Sucking my clit back into his mouth, Neil pushed another finger into me.

Not giving a flying fuck, I moaned loudly. Moving my hips back and forth, I said, "Please, Neil, give me this." Pulling his three fingers out of me and letting go of my clit, he said, "Get up, Jade."

Groaning, I did what he said and watched as Neil laid down on the bed. Resting his head on a pillow, he looked up at me and said, "Sit on my face, baby." Crawling up his body, I did what he said. Moving my lips far apart, he pulled my clit into his mouth.

My hips had a mind of their own and I started to ride his face. One of his hands gripped my hips while the other was pinching and pulling my nipples. Placing my hands on his headboard for more momentum, I rocked back and forth against Neil's face.

Within seconds I felt the vibrations forming in my belly and slowly moving along my entire body. Gasping for air, I said, "Neil, I'm coming."

With him sucking hard on my clit, I started to spasm and shake. Neil held out my orgasm and gasping and moaning, I stuttered, "N-neil." Going limp against his face, Neil pushed me onto my back. Looking up at him, I watched as Neil took a firm grip of his hard cock in his right hand. Quickly moving his hand up and down, I heard Neil grunt and groan in approval.

Neil never took his eyes off me as he masturbated. With a loud roar he said my name and spilled his hot cum out onto my lower stomach. As soon as every bit of him was poured out onto me, Neil sat back on his knees.

With both hands, he massaged his hot cum onto my stomach. In a way I felt like Neil was marking me as his. Making me his.

Breathing heavily, he lowered his head. Neil trailed light little kisses from my belly button all the way up to my face until he was staring at me.

Cupping his face in my hands, I whispered, "Breathe, Neil."

Trying to even out his breaths, he closed his eyes and slightly nodded his head up and down. Blinking his eyes open, Neil leaned down and kissed the tip of my nose. Pulling back away from me, he smiled and fell to my side.

Looking up at his ceiling, I started to turn away from him to fall asleep. Getting myself situated, I breathed, "Good night, Neil." I started to close my eyes but they quickly opened when Neil wrapped his right arm around my waist and put his left arm underneath my pillow.

Scooting close to me, he got himself situated. His head was above mine and he took hold of my hands in his right one. I stiffened because I didn't know what to do and it was now Neil's turn to whisper, "Breathe, Jade."

I started to breathe but it was no use until Neil said, "You're safe, Jade."

Letting out a deep breath, I pushed into his arms and held on tightly to him because I knew that with Neil I was safe. I was safe in his arms. Closing my eyes, I started to even out my breathing, and with a kiss to the top of my head, Neil whispered, "Sweet dreams, Jade." In that moment I realized that for the first time in a long time, tonight I would.

Chapter 11

Feeling tossing and turning behind me, I felt Neil's grip tighten on my arm. Slowly opening my eyes, I felt Neil's hard cock pushing into my lower back. Gasping for air, I lightly moaned. With that simple moan, Neil pushed me onto my back and was laying on top of me.

Holding himself up with one arm, his other trailed down my body to my pussy. He didn't even have to wet his fingertips before he pushed a finger inside me because I was drenched for him. In fact he was the only man I was always wet and ready for.

I moaned and clenched up around his finger; it felt so good. I wrapped my left hand around his already hard cock and started to squeeze hard and fast. Stopping every now and again, his cock would twitch. As soon as it did that, I would squeeze as hard as I could.

Still fingering me, Neil started to suck and lick along the inside of my neck. Gripping his hard cock in my hand, I started to move my hand up and down at a fast pace. Neil started to go at the same tempo with now two fingers pushing in and out of me and his thumb applying pressure to my swollen clit.

Quietly moaning, Neil started to rock his hips back and forth in my hand while he still fingered me. I desperately wanted Neil inside of me, but I was doing this at his pace. Wrapping my legs around his waist, I started to feel the beginnings of an orgasm and breathlessly I said his name.

Applying full pressure to my clit, he started rock back and forth in my hand faster and faster. Grunting he said, "Come, Jade."

With those two simple words I shook and spasmed underneath his body. Gasping for air, I looked up into Neil's eyes and felt hot liquid spurt out onto my belly. We never took our eyes off of one another while we came together.

Falling beside me, Neil laid on his side. Turning on my side I watched as Neil's closed his eyes and he breathed in and out quite heavily. I watched as his soaked chest moved up and down, his lower lip quivered and his nostrils flared.

After a few minutes, Neil's eyes opened and stared into mine. Running his right hand along my face, his eyes moved down to stare at my lips. It was now my turn to breathe in and out heavily. Quickly blinking, his eyes moved away from my lips to my eyes, and giving a small smile, Neil kissed my cheek and got up off of the bed.

Walking out of the room, I laid in bed and took in the beautiful sight of a naked Neil James. Especially his chiseled, sexy little ass. I started to giggle, and as Neil was at the door frame, he didn't even turn around when he said, "You like what you see?"

Giggling even louder, I nodded my head and said, "Why yes, I do."

Turning to face me Neil smiled. "Good." He left the room.

Untangling myself from his covers, I got up out of his bed, grabbed my clothes, and walked back to my room with a little stride in my step. I was really happy and I couldn't remember the last time I was this happy. Or better yet, if I ever had been.

Throwing my dirty clothes in the hamper, I grabbed some yoga pants and a sweat shirt. Quickly putting them on, I went to the bathroom and brushed my teeth. Walking into my bedroom, I started to think about last night and how I desperately wanted to have sex with Neil. I started to think about this morning and how I desperately wanted Neil to kiss me. And then something else started to weigh in on my mind. I started to think about what if I made a mistake with Neil somewhere along the road.

Grabbing my cell from the charger, I started to dial a number. I didn't want to be like other girls where I was a bitch about everything and started tiny, immature arguments and make a big deal out of nothing. I needed to talk to her and spill my guts. I needed to tell someone what was going on and I knew exactly who I needed to call. Pressing her name, I brought the phone up to my ear and heard it ring as I waited for her to answer.

"Hello?"

Relieved, I let out a breath. “Sarah, are you busy?”

“No, did you want to hang out?”

“Yeah, I wanted to talk to you about something and get your opinion.”

“Is everything okay, Jade? You’re not in trouble, are you?”

Shaking my head, I said, “No, nothing like that. I just wanted to talk and get your opinion.”

Letting out a breath, Sarah said, “Yeah, okay, sure. Definitely.” She paused. “When did you want to meet?”

Turning to the clock on my wall, I asked, “Are you free right now?”

Giggling into the phone, Sarah said, “Yeah, I’m free right now. Did you want to meet at the little café down the street?”

“Thanks so much, Sarah. I really appreciate it.” Even though Sarah and I weren’t the closest of friends, I knew she would always be there for me no matter what.

Huffing into the phone, Sarah said, “I’m always here for you, Jade. No matter what.”

It’s almost like she could read my thoughts or something. With a small smile appearing on my face, I said, “I know.”

There was a long pause and then I heard Sarah take in a deep breath. I knew she was probably getting emotional like myself. Coughing, she said, “See you in a few minutes then.”

Once Sarah hung up, I clicked the end button. Grabbing my clutch, I put my cell in it. I zipped it up, grabbed my car keys, and walked out of my room. Walking to the front door, I heard noise coming from the kitchen. Not stopping my walk towards the front door, I saw Neil making breakfast. Looking up from the stove, he asked, “Where are you going?”

Shrugging my shoulders, I said, “I’m getting something to eat with Sarah.”

Neil nodded. “Okay, have a good time.”

With my hand on the front door knob, I turned to Neil and smiled. “Thanks. I’ll see you later then.”

“Yes, you most certainly will.”

I started to get goose bumps all over my body and I felt butterflies in my stomach. I knew what I wanted, what I needed. I just had to go into it with a clear conscience. I didn’t want to mess up or make a mistake, so I needed to do this first.

Jogging to my car, I got into the driver's seat. I pushed the key into the ignition and started the car up. Quickly backing out of the parking spot, I sped off to meet Sarah at the café. Finding a parking spot, I parked and quickly got out of the car. I knew Sarah would already be sitting there waiting for me. While she was always five minutes early for everything, I was always five minutes late. It didn't matter what it was, I just always was.

Walking into the café, I spotted Sarah sitting in the corner with an orange juice. She was looking down at her phone, probably texting me asking where the hell I was. Sarah put her phone down and lifted the drink to her lips when her eyes looked up and met mine. Without taking a sip, she put the drink down and gave a small smile and wave.

Waving back, I walked over to where she was standing. Wrapping my arms around her neck, she wrapped her arms around my waist and hugged me. I wanted to just squeeze her because I needed the comfort, but she was pretty pregnant with her and Gabe's first child.

I could feel tears beginning to form in my eyes so I quickly let go of Sarah. I knew if I held onto her for much longer I would completely lose my shit in front of everyone in this café. Sarah was like the mom I never had. She seemed so much more mature than the rest of us. I think part of it had to do with the fact that she lost her dad when she was younger, so she had to grow up faster and help out her mom a lot more.

Moving her head to look into my eyes, she gave a reassuring smile. A waitress walked over and asked, "What would you girls like?"

I'd been to this café numerous times, so I didn't even have to look at the menu. "Banana walnut pancakes and a cappuccino, please."

Jotting down the order, the waitress then looked over at Sarah. "And for you?"

Glancing down at the menu, Sarah said, "I'll have the yogurt parfait with granola and berries."

Once the waitress took down our order and took our menus, she left the table. No sooner had she left than Sarah was asking, "All right, now spill, Jade. What's going on?"

Smiling, I giggled at her. *That's what I love most about Sarah. She just gets down to it. There's no bullshit with her.* Taking in a breath, I looked into her eyes. "I'm in love with my roommate."

I watched as Sarah's jaw fell open and her eyes bugged out. She didn't blink for a few seconds and it started to make me nervous, so I waved my

hand in front of her face.

Smacking my hand away, she said, “And the problem is?”

I shrugged my shoulders. “Well, there is no problem... yet.”

“And by yet, you mean...?”

“I’m afraid of making a mistake with Neil. I don’t want him to be a mistake.”

Blinking, Sarah tilted her head to the side. “What do you mean, Jade?”

“I mean my life has been a mistake. It seems like all I do is make mistakes and I don’t want Neil to be one of them.”

I started to look down at my laced fingers when Sarah said in a harsh tone, “Look at me, Jade.” I looked at her. “Do you think you and Neil are a mistake?”

“No.”

Whispering, Sarah said, “From what you’ve just said, it seems like you want the both of you to fail. Is that what you want?” I shook my head because I couldn’t form words due to the lump in my throat. Sarah continued. “We all make mistakes, Jade.” She flung her arms all over the place. “I mean, I made my fair share of mistakes with Gabe. There are things I regret between the two of us.” Placing her hands on her swollen belly, she looked down. “But I look at where we are today.” She looked up at me. “We made it. We grew from those regrets into something so... beautiful.” She paused to let those words sink in., “Just ask yourself this, Jade. If you can go a whole twenty-four hours without thinking about Neil, then he’s not the guy for you.”

“But what if I can’t do that?”

At that moment the waitress came over and placed our plates down in front of us. I watched as Sarah’s eyes got big because she must have been starving, but she continued on in the conversation. “If you can’t do that, then he’s worth it. Your journey together will probably be the hardest thing you’ve ever had to do, but the best things in life aren’t always the easiest things, Jade.”

Shaking her head, she said, “I’m not telling you the journey will be easy.” Pausing she smiled and looked straight at me. “But what I am telling you is that in the end it will be worth it.”

Smiling, I nodded my head. “Thanks, Sarah. You always know what to say.”

Shrugging her shoulders, Sarah laughed. “Yeah, I know all.”

We both laughed. “Now can we please eat? I’m starving!” Sarah said.
“Of course, Mom,” I said, watching as the biggest smile came across my friend’s face.

Driving back home, I felt like a huge weight had been lifted off my shoulders. It’s not that I needed Sarah to tell me what to do. It’s just I needed reassurance and someone to tell me that I wasn’t making a mistake with Neil. That with Neil I was making something beautiful happen and that in the end it wouldn’t end up terribly wrong.

I parked and turned off the ignition, then I sat there for a few seconds. I looked at my front door and smiled. I smiled because I was finally able to come to terms with the fact that I’m not this horrible person who just messes up everyone’s life. I came to terms with the fact that I make my own decisions in life. That I get to choose how I want this thing with Neil to work or end up. That I make my own destiny and that “fate” doesn’t exist.

Fate. I have been living my whole live centered around that word. And up until recently I thought that fate existed. Well, you know what? Fuck fate. I make my own destiny. My own decisions. I choose my own path. And what I choose is Neil. Neil James.

With a smile on my face, I got out of the car. Slamming the door behind me, I bolted to the front door. I put the key in the hole and I unlocked the door. With butterflies in my stomach, I pushed the door open and ran inside.

I was breathing heavily and searching frantically for Neil. I yelled his name. I may have called his name twice. He looked frantic when he came out of his room. “Jade, what’s wrong?”

Tears forming in my eyes, I shook my head and whispered, “Nothing. Everything is the way it should be.”

He stopped in front of me. “I don’t understand,” he said.

I wrapped my arms around his neck and whispered, “I want you, Neil.”

I watched as his eyes went from scared to blazing in a matter of seconds. Placing his hands on my hips, he lifted me up into his arms. With one arm around my lower back holding me up against him, the other was tangled in my hair at the base of my neck. My hands were cradling his face and my legs were wrapped tightly around his waist.

Walking us back to his bedroom, he dropped me onto his bed. Giggling, I looked up at him and watched as he removed his shirt. Biting my lower lip, I removed my sweatshirt and unclasped my bra. Throwing them onto the floor, I watched as Neil slid my yoga pants and thong off me and threw them somewhere behind him onto the floor.

Lying completely naked in front of him, I took a second to take him in. *Mentally, not physically. Trust me, because we'll get to that part very soon. Exquisitely soon.*

Wrapping his hands around my calves, Neil pulled me to the edge of the bed and dropped to his knees. Breathing heavily, I lifted up onto my elbows because there's just something about watching a guy go down on you that just makes a girl wild. *At least for me, that is.*

Opening my legs up wider, Neil used his long tongue to flick my clit. I almost jumped up off the bed because I was so sensitive but Neil held me down with his strong arms. He kept licking me and pushed two fingers inside of me. It felt so good but I needed him inside of me, so I said, "Neil?"

With two fingers still pushing in and out of me, he looked up at me, not understanding why I stopped him.

"I just want you inside of me."

Neil instantly took his two fingers out of me. Standing up, he placed those two fingers in his mouth and sucked them dry. Placing a hand to his jeans, Neil unbuttoned them. While he slid the jeans off and took off his boxers along with them, I scooted back to the end of the bed and grabbed a condom out of his nightstand table. I ripped the condom open with my teeth as Neil crawled up to me. Sitting back on his knees, he waited.

Expertly rolling the condom onto his long hard cock, I started to breathe faster than normal. I was nervous because Neil and I were finally going to have sex. It felt like it was going to be the first time all over again. A part of me wished that my first time was with Neil. I felt that being with Brandon was a mistake, but I realized that I couldn't rewind time and start everything over. I had to move forward and hopefully I learned from the mistakes I made in my past.

Pushing me back onto the bed, Neil kissed along my neck and pushed two fingers inside of me. I gasped and wrapped my legs around him and rubbed my hands up and down his back. I kissed along his neck and sucked his earlobe into my mouth. Releasing his ear, I closed my eyes and

whispered, "Make love to me, Neil." I had never said those words before, but with Neil I wanted him to.

Moving his head from the dip in my neck, he looked into my eyes and said, "That was the plan all along, Jade Williams."

We looked at each other for a few minutes and a part of me thought he was going to kiss me. I should have been nervous but I wasn't. I wanted Neil to kiss me. No, I needed Neil James to kiss me. To show me that love still does exist, but instead he kissed my forehead, the tip of my nose, and finally my cheek. I closed my eyes because I was disappointed. In an alternate universe, I would have wrapped my hands in his hair and crushed his mouth to mine but this was reality. In reality, on the outside I'm this tough chick, but on the inside I'm this scared little girl who questions everything.

Removing his fingers from me, he rested that hand on my hip and I could feel how wet I was for him. I looked into Neil's eyes and smiled. I could feel the tip of his head at the outside of my pussy and he began to thrust in but missed and rubbed up against my clit. Shaking his head, he stopped and looked right at me. Sitting up on his knees, I felt my heart slowly breaking because I thought in that moment he didn't care for me the way I cared for him.

Closing my eyes, I felt tears fall onto my cheeks. Placing his hands in mine, Neil pulled me up against his chest. Slowly running his fingers through my hair, I started to calm down, but then I felt wetness on the top of my head and realized Neil was crying.

Moving my head from his chest, I looked up into Neil's moist eyes. Cupping his face in my hands, I asked, "What's the matter?"

He shook his head. I felt defeated. Dropping my head, I felt Neil place his pointer finger underneath my chin. Moving my head back up, he placed my face in his hands and said, "Jade, I need to tell you something."

"What?" I asked, barely able to talk.

My eyes were still closed because I couldn't look into his eyes. Kissing me on the tip of my nose, he said, "I need your eyes open when I tell you this, Jade."

Taking a deep breath, I slowly opened my eyes and saw Neil staring at me with a smile on his face.

With me still wrapped up in his arms, he pushed me back onto the bed. Wiping away hairs from my face, he looked into my eyes and whispered, "I

love you, Jade."

The second he said that, I swear my eyes became the size of half dollars "You weren't supposed to fall in love, Neil. We had an arrangement."

He shook his head all the while saying, "I know, but I did a long time ago. I fell in love, Jade Williams... with you."

My heart was beating fast and I could feel my eyes welling up with tears. I barely managed to gulp before I asked, "Why are you telling me now, Neil?"

Looking back into my eyes, he wiped a few stray hairs away from my face and said, "I'm telling you now because I think you love me, too." He paused. "No, I know for a fact you love me too, but I can tell you're scared."

I had no words so I stayed quiet.

He put a hand on my cheek with his thumb stroking my lower lip. "I'm going to kiss you now." He waited a second or two to see what I would say, and when I didn't say anything he started to lean in.

I couldn't tell Neil I loved him too because he was leaning in, so I did the next best thing... I met him halfway.

Chapter 12

Neil

I knew Jade loved me, too. She didn't have to tell me with words and I was fine with that because I could wait. I mean hell, I had waited almost twenty-three years to have sex. To say it was well worth the wait would be an understatement because it was with Jade. I knew the first time I saw her and she opened her smart-ass mouth there was something different about her and I wanted to get to know her. Every part of her. The good and the bad.

The second I told Jade I loved her, I needed to kiss her. I had wanted to kiss her for so long but because she never kissed on the lips, I would kiss all over her face instead. The corner of her jaw. Her neck. Her earlobes. Every single time I imagined I was kissing her lips. My heart was beating so fast when I leaned down, because this was it. It's not that I expected her to kiss me back, but I had to kiss her. I couldn't wait any longer.

When I leaned down I was maybe halfway and I wasn't prepared when she leaned up to meet me. I knew she was taking a big step with kissing me and she told me in her own special way that she loved me when her lips met mine. It was a light graze, but her breath shuddered and I could feel her heart beating against her chest because I was on top of her. She moved her head away from me, and for a second I was scared shitless that she would shut down, but she didn't. She looked from my eyes to my lips and back up to my eyes and smiled.

Lifting her hands from my shoulders, she moved them up to cup my face and pulled my face down to hers. It wasn't subtle. It was raw animal need. The second our lips touched, I growled and Jade moaned. Hearing her moan because of something I did—I lost my shit. I grabbed at her hips. I pulled on her hair.

Opening my mouth, I sucked in her bottom lip, nibbling down on it. I heard her gasp and that was all the motivation I needed.

Flipping onto my back, I pulled her on top of me. With legs on either end of me, Jade could do whatever she wanted to me and I would have welcomed it. Placing her hands on my chest, she got situated on top of me. I grew even harder feeling the moisture dripping from her pussy. I couldn't believe that I actually started to salivate thinking about wanting to lick all of her juices up and wanting to suck her clit into my mouth. I wanted to feel her insides clench up around my fingers from me making her come with my mouth.

Softly grinding against my hard cock, Jade started to moan. I watched as her tits softly swayed and her head fell back and she gasped. Something she was doing was clearly turning her on. For a few seconds, I watched as her nipples got hard and I couldn't take it anymore. I needed one of those little cherry colored candies in my mouth.

Sitting up, I placed my hands on her thin, narrow back. Her mouth was open and I could hear her light breathing. I was almost going to kiss her but I sucked one of her nipples into my mouth instead. As soon as my lips were wrapped around a nipple, Jade's hands were in my hair to keep me in my place, but little did she know I would have stayed there willingly.

Sucking at first her right, then her left nipple, I could feel Jade get even wetter for me. It was such a turn on and I started to get even harder. I knew I wouldn't last long but I needed to be inside of her right now.

Placing my hands at her hips once again, I flipped us. Gasping for air, I could tell Jade wasn't prepared for that. With the rocking of the mattress, the creaking of the bed, and the shallow breaths coming from both of us, this was it.

Chapter 13

I knew Neil was getting antsy. I could feel how hard he was for me at the lower part of my belly and my insides instantly turned to liquid. I was throbbing and it was actually getting painful. We both wanted one another, but I had to tell him something first.

With his eyes blazing, Neil started to get himself situated between my legs. Grabbing ahold of his long, hard cock, he started to move to my entrance. Placing my hands on his face, signaling him to look up at me, Neil let go of his cock and did as I wanted.

The second his eyes met mine, I felt butterflies in my stomach, tears forming in my eyes, and little goose bumps appearing all over my body. Just staring at him for a few seconds, I knew that with Neil I was safe. I didn't have to be afraid anymore.

Letting out a little breath, I cupped his face to make sure he was staring at me when I said this. "I love you, Neil James."

I watched as his mouth dropped open and his eyes closed. My heart started to beat faster than normal because he hadn't said anything for a good solid minute. I could hear my heavy breathing and just as his eyes opened, everything stopped. The only things going on at that moment were Neil and me. Nothing else mattered. Not school. Not drama. No bullshit. No family issues. Just what Neil and I shared together.

Running his thumb along my lower lip, Neil looked up into my eyes and uttered, "I love you, Jade Williams. Always have. Always will."

Gasping for air, I felt my chin quiver as I said, "Then show me."

Leaning his head down, Neil whispered against my lips, “Always,” and then lightly touched his lips with mine. It started out slow, but it soon turned to need, want, and desire.

Wrapping my arms around his neck, I pulled all of his weight down onto me. Opening my mouth, I swiped my tongue along his lower lip and then bit down. Hearing him groan, I took initiative and started to grind my lower half up against him. I could feel his need for me at my center and I couldn’t wait anymore.

“Neil, I need you.”

Looking into my eyes with desire written all over his features, he nodded his head. “I need you, Jade.”

Opening my legs for him, I tilted my hips up so it was easier for Neil to push himself into me.

Placing his right hand on his hard cock, Neil centered himself at my entrance. Looking up into my eyes, he said, “I love you, Jade.”

Tears threatening to spill from my eyes, I just nodded my head. We never took our eyes off of one another as Neil pushed into me. As I gasped for air, Neil groaned. I started to claw at his back because I needed to hold onto something.

Before Neil came into my life, I had sex with guys to try and forget about my past, but every time I had sex, those wounds opened right up again and I felt small and insignificant. With Neil I felt like he was made for me. I know it sounds completely cheesy and I sound like one of those girls where the second they meet someone, they’re planning their dream wedding, wondering how many kids they’re going to have, and dreaming of the perfect life they would share together.

And maybe I do remind you of one of those girls, but to me I don’t want perfect. I want the imperfect. I want the fights and arguments because with that, our love grows even deeper. I want the messes and the chaos. I want to make even more mistakes because with those I learn. I grow. I become better and do better. I achieve better. And I know that it will all be with Neil.

Society shows us what is right and what is wrong. They tell us that being a size 0 is beautiful. They tell us that big boobs are going to get us the

dream guy. They tell us that the house in the hills and the Maserati are the lifestyle.

I grew up with that life. The big house. All the money. The freedom. But everything comes at a price because behind that mansion, Jason and I were being abused. I'm not saying it's with every house but sometimes it's the small things in life that are to be treasured the most.

The most important things in life are your family and your friends. I think you only truly learn that if you've gone through the turmoil, because you realize that the money and the socialite events are complete bullshit. They don't mean jackshit in the grand scheme of things.

With his head in the crook of my neck, I could feel his hot breath against my skin. He was breathing deeply and I could tell that he was struggling not to move. Turning my head to face him, I slowly kissed along his neck. They were light. I wanted to calm him down.

Huskily, Neil laughed into my neck and said, "Fuck, Jade. You feel so good."

My insides clenched at his words. I hadn't meant to moan but I did, and before I could do anything, Neil was pulling out of me. I started to whimper but his smoldering brown eyes looked into my glossy ones and he said, "Don't you worry, baby. I'm coming back," and just like that Neil slammed back into me. A guttural moan released from my throat and I clawed at his upper arms. Digging my fingernails into him, I didn't want to let go.

Groaning, Neil yelled, "Fuck!" at the top of his lungs. Dipping his head back into the crook of my neck, he bit down and said, "I'm not going to last long, baby."

Nodding my head, I said, "Me neither."

With a nip of his teeth to my neck, Neil slowly pulled out again and slammed back into me. He did this a few times and every single time he would either bite my neck or lick it before he pulled out and slammed back into me. Grabbing ahold of his ass, I dug my nails in and bit at his chest. Angling my hips up, I was able to get his hips to hit along my clit every time he slammed into me.

Lowering his arms so they were by my head, all we could hear in the room were our slicked sweaty bodies slamming together, the mattress

creaking up and down, and our uneven breaths.

Slowly moving in and out of me, Neil moved his head to look into my eyes. He looked down at my lips then back up into my eyes. It seemed like the both of us were thinking the same exact thing, but before he could even put it into action, I moved my hands up to the back of his head and slammed his lips down to mine. Sucking his lower lip into my mouth, I heard him moan. I wrapped my legs around him to bring him that much closer to me. I needed him that much closer to me. He groaned into my mouth and I just held on tighter.

Neil completely stopped moving inside of me and instead of fucking my pussy, he fucked my mouth with his lips, tongue, and teeth. We were clawing at one another because neither of us could get enough. Breaking away after a few minutes, we were breathless.

Neither of us knew what we wanted to do first to the other, so we went crazy and did everything you could to someone else. Touching. Stroking. Biting. Licking. Scratching. Sucking.

Neil then started to move in and out of me. It wasn't slow, but it wasn't fast, either. It was bearable because if he went too fast or too slow I would have come. Pulling out of me and pushing back into me, Neil sucked on my neck. "Fuck, Jade. Your pussy is so good." Wrapping myself tighter around him, I sighed. His words were getting me to clench up around his cock.

Neil whispered, "I'm going to come, Jade."

Nodding my head to let him know I was going to come too, Neil slammed into me one, two, three more times. While I clenched up and shook, Neil pulled out of me, ripped off his condom, and came on my stomach, grunting my name while I moaned his.

My eyes were closed but I could tell Neil was staring at me. Opening my eyes, I saw just that. A sweaty, beautiful man staring down at me with a look of love and tenderness written across his face. Sitting up, I lifted my arms and cupped his face. Slowly wiping off the sweat, I smiled at Neil, letting him know that I loved him.

Lifting his hands and placing them on top of mine, Neil said, "I love you, Jade."

Running my thumb along his lower lip, I looked up into his eyes and said, "I love you, Neil."

Getting out from between my legs, Neil laid down to the left of me on his back. With his arms behind his head, he looked up at the ceiling and let

out a breath.

Lying down on my back, I turned to my side and looked at Neil. I saw a glimmer in his eye and a smile across his face, and if I could live in one moment for the rest of my life, this moment right here would be it.

Turning to look at me, Neil smiled a lazy smile. Wrapping me in his arms, he pulled me onto his chest. With his little chest hairs running against my face, I felt his fingers slowly form circles up and down the contour of my back. Tucking my head underneath his, I could feel his warm breath against the top of my head, and for once in my life I felt secure with the decision I had made. The choice I had made when I chose Neil.

With a smile on my face and hope in my heart, I fell asleep in the arms of a man I would want for the rest of my life and love forever.

Before I could even yawn or stretch the following morning, I felt Neil's heavy naked body moving on top of mine, grinding his hard cock into my ass. While he grinded into me, I pushed my ass back into him. Feeling his velvet, steamy, hard cock up against my ass instantaneously turned my insides to liquid. Hearing his grunting and moaning was such a turn on for me, but above all was hearing his deep breathing in my ear. I don't think I could ever get enough of it.

Neil pushed his hard cock up against my entrance and whispered, "Let me in that wet little pussy of yours, baby."

All I could do was nod and moan my answer. Feeling the bed dip, I didn't bother turning around. I used my other senses to figure out what Neil was doing. Hearing the nightstand drawer open, I heard Neil grab something and quickly slam it.

I felt his weight press into me. Hearing the wrapper of a condom rip, my heart beat rapidly because I couldn't wait for Neil's cock to be inside of me. As soon as he was situated, I felt his entire muscular body push into mine. Tilting my head to the side, Neil looked at me as he pushed into me.

Closing my eyes, my mouth opened and a soft moan released from my throat.

"Fuck, Jade, I could live in your tight little pussy forever."

I felt the same way, but I couldn't form words because his cock felt so damn good inside of me. He was the perfect length and width to ignite all of

these feelings and sensations inside of me. Slowly rocking in and out of me, Neil took his time building us up, but after a while I couldn't stand it anymore. I needed Neil to fuck me raw.

Feeling his sharp teeth and wet tongue against the side of my neck, Neil bit down on my soft flesh. Moaning, I gasped for air. "Neil."

Releasing my skin, Neil whispered, "What do you want, Jade?" He rocked his hips and moved in and out of me. "Do you like this?" Neil started to sway his hips. "What about this?"

I moaned my answer for Neil.

Pulling out of me completely, Neil turned me around so I was lying on my back. I wasn't prepared for that but I was so turned on by it. This side of Neil was completely new for me. When I looked at Neil, he looked like such a badass but really he was the sweetest, kindest guy I had ever known. While I loved the sweet side of Neil, this animalistic side of him was so freaking hot.

Breathing in and out heavily, Neil wrapped his big strong hands around my ankles and lifted my legs up. My legs were up straight in the air and Neil was on his knees, looking down at me with a fire in his eyes and sex in his voice. "What do you like, Jade? I want to know how to make you come with my cock. I want to torture you and pleasure you all at once. I want your pussy to tighten around my cock as you come from me fucking you."

Gasping for air, I was at a loss for words. This side of Neil was completely turning me on and I needed him inside of me right this damn second. Resting on my elbows, I never looked away from Neil when I asked, "You know what I like, Neil?"

Tilting his head, Neil said, "That's why I'm asking, Jade."

Pausing, I took a breath before I said, "I like your hard cock deep in my wet pussy. You can swivel. You can sway. You can slam into me. Just fucking stay inside of me."

I waited to see Neil's reaction. I thought it would turn him on but he just looked at me for a second with no emotion. Then all of a sudden he started to chuckle. Shaking his head, he said, "Fuck, I love a woman in charge."

Opening his eyes, Neil looked down at me and nudged his cock at the entrance of my pussy. I was throbbing to the point where it was painful and at my light moan, Neil slammed into me.

Guttural moans being released from deep within both of us, we each took a second to get used to how good everything felt.

I watched as Neil took sharp breaths in and out. He must have sensed I was watching him because his eyes opened quickly and they were black liquid. I was about to say something when Neil shook his head. "Wrap your hands around the bedpost, Jade. I'm going to fuck you now."

Doing as he said, Neil pulled out of me so just the tip of him was barely inside of me. Just as I was about to tell him to fuck me, he slammed into me and instead of whining, I screamed. Pushing my legs farther into my chest, Neil pushed all of his weight on top of me, pushing me farther into the mattress.

Neil put my legs on his shoulders. With his hands on my hips, he moved forcefully in and out of me.

Everything in my body was going haywire. I felt like I couldn't breathe and moan at the same time. I couldn't think. I felt like my body was going crazy and I knew my release would be one for the books.

Just as I started to feel the shock effects of my explosive orgasm building and slowly erupting, Neil rested his entire body on me, but just before he did, he licked his one hand and started to form hard circles up and around my clit, making everything that much more intense.

Neil sucked and bit along my neck while he drove in and out of me at a rapid pace. I was still holding onto the bed railings when Neil said, "Hold onto me, Jade."

Quickly releasing my hands from the bedpost, I grabbed ahold of his ass, pushing and pulling him out of me, letting him know what pace I wanted him to go. Tilting my hips up, Neil grunted out, "Oh god, Jade!"

Neil pushed a button inside of me and I could feel my pussy beginning to clench up around his cock. "Fuck, baby, right there! Oh god, I'm so close!"

I thought Neil was going fast before but he supercharged and rammed in and out of me. "Fuck, Jade! Oh god, Jade!"

Hearing Neil yell and grunt because he was fucking me completely turned my light switch on and I started to convulse and shake around him. "Oooh! I'm coming! Neil, I'm coming!" Still moving in and out of me to push my orgasm to the extreme, I yelled, "Oh god, Neil! Fuck!"

Twitching from my explosive orgasm, I felt Neil move in and out of me a few more times. With the mattress no longer screeching, everything went still. Opening my eyes, I saw Neil staring down at me with a slight smile on his face. The second my eyes opened, Neil let out a grunt, stilled, and then slowly collapsed on top of me.

Kissing the side of my neck, the mattress dipped and Neil got up from the bed, naked and beautiful. Walking over to the wastebasket in the corner of the room, he took off the condom, tied the end, wrapped it in a tissue, and threw it away. Turning around, he walked back over to the bed and climbed in, pulling my back to his chiseled chest.

Giving light kisses to the back of my head, Neil whispered in my hair, “I love you, Jade.”

Ducking my head, I felt butterflies in my stomach. Holding onto his hands, which were around my waist, I pushed back into his chest to have all of myself wrapped up in his arms. Tangling my legs up with his, I slowly turned my head to the side to look at Neil.

Taking a second to look at him with his messy brown hair, his glossy eyes, and his lopsided smile, I smiled back and whispered, “I love you, Neil.”

I can’t tell you who leaned in first or if we both leaned in at the same time, but the next thing I remember is my lips touching Neil’s. Giving light kisses, our mouths had just started to open when Neil’s stomach grumbled and I felt the vibrations against my side.

Leaning away from me, he chuckled.

Giggling, I asked, “Hungry much?”

Nodding his head, he blushed. “I worked up an appetite.”

Kissing him one last time on the cheek, I started to get out of bed. Grabbing his t-shirt from the floor, I made my way to the door. While placing his shirt on over my head, I opened his door. Turning to stare at Neil, who was sitting up in bed watching me with a glimmer in his eye, I giggled and said, “I’ll be back for round two in a minute.”

Smiling to myself, I started to walk out into the living room when I heard the front door screeching. Stopping in my tracks, I saw Ashlynn standing by the front door, breathing heavily with her eyes bugged out.

With my jaw falling open, my eyes got big and I screamed, “Ashlynn!”

Chapter 14

After talking with Ash I was relieved that she was going to keep my relationship with Neil to herself, even if it was only till graduation.

I mean, it's not that I didn't want to tell Jason, but Neil and I had finally become something and I didn't want there to be drama involved already. I knew keeping this secret would be difficult for Ashlynn. I felt torn in the first place for asking it of her, but I was thankful she was going to keep it; if only for a little while.

As soon as Ash left the apartment, I scurried off back to Neil's bedroom. Opening the door, I stood in the doorway and stared at him with a smile on my face. He was sitting up in bed, resting against a pillow. His brown, wavy hair was all disheveled, flowing every which way against his face. The blanket had fallen to his bare, chiseled waist, revealing a little patch of hair trailing from his belly button down to his package. Automatically my mouth started to water and I got short of breath. It was crazy how just staring at him and the little flashbacks of last night popping in my head could have me wanting and writhing.

Biting my lower lip, I lowered my head and just stared at him. I could feel my panties getting wet and my lower stomach started to flutter. Biting a little harder on my lip, my eyes started to flutter closed but they immediately opened when I heard Neil say, "If I can make you come with you just staring at me, imagine what I could do with my tongue, fingers, and cock."

Gasping for air, my eyes opened wide and my mouth fell open. I couldn't believe he'd just said that.

Curling his finger at me, he said, “Get over here, Jade.”

Walking over on shaky legs, I stood at the edge of the bed and stared at him.

“What are you doing all the way over there?” he asked. He slowly pushed the blanket off of his beautiful self and out sprang his long, hard, thick, velvet cock.

Licking my lips, I looked down and then right back up at Neil, whose eyes were blazing with fire.

Sucking in a breath, I was just about to say something but Neil had me in his arms and I was falling onto the bed before I could think.

Catching my breath, I opened my eyes and Neil was lying on top of me, staring down at me with a look of lust in his eyes.

I started to bite my lower lip and I watched as Neil’s eyes left mine and trailed down to my mouth. Flicking his eyes back up to meet mine, he lowered his head just a little bit and said, “You know I don’t like you biting your lip, Jade.” Neil cut me off from saying something, anything, because his mouth was on mine. He pushed his tongue into my mouth and flicked it along mine.

Wrapping my arms around his shoulders, I twined my fingers in his hair and pulled his head down and crushed his mouth even more to mine.

Groaning into my mouth, Neil started to grind into my lower waist. Neil wrapped his arms around my waist and rolled us over so I was lying on top of him. His cock was right at my entrance and the head was rubbing up against my clit. Grinding into him, I could feel myself starting to clench up. I knew I wouldn’t last long, but I knew Neil wouldn’t last long, either.

Every part of me was touching a part of him. My hands were on his chest. My lips were on his. My legs were on either side of him holding him down and keeping him in place. My hair was covering our faces like a curtain, so no one else could look in or enter our little world. It was just me and Neil, and I wouldn’t have it any other way.

I licked his lower lip and hearing him groan turned me ravenous. I sucked his lower lip into my mouth and bit down. Before I could comprehend anything, Neil threw me onto my back. Placing my hands at the hem of his shirt I was wearing, I pulled it up and over me. Tossing it onto the floor, I felt my long, brown wavy hair cascade down my back.

I started to take off my panties but Neil placed a hand on top of mine and said, “Keep them on, babe.”

I didn't understand what he meant but I nodded my head because I couldn't form words. I just wanted him inside of me.

Staring at me, he chuckled and my eyes flickered to the hand holding the condom. Raising that hand, he placed the wrapper in his mouth and ripped it open, never taking his eyes off me.

I tried to remember when he had gotten it, but I only thought of that for maybe a second. Two at the most. I mean, there was a beautiful man in front of me. I didn't want to think of the logistics. I just wanted him inside of me, fucking me raw. I wanted the kind of fucking where you couldn't remember your name and breathing was a hard concept.

Pulling the condom out of the wrapper, Neil expertly put it on. Lifting his head back up to look at me, I noticed his pupils were fully dilated.

Sucking in a breath, I could feel my heart beat quickening.

Tossing the empty wrapper to the floor, his eyes never left mine. He placed his hand in the center of my chest and gently pushed me back so I was lying down on the bed. My stomach was moving up and down quickly from the fast paced breathing I was experiencing. My mouth felt dry, and quickly swiping my tongue along my lips, I saw that Neil's eyes were glued to my mouth.

Pulling my tongue quickly back into my mouth, I noticed how Neil's eyes moved from my mouth up to my eyes. It was now his turn to suck in a breath. Closing his eyes, he shook his head. Opening his eyes again, he whispered, "My god, Jade, you're beautiful."

For some reason I felt tears threatening to fall. Of course I had heard guys say that to me before, but there was something in the way Neil said it. It made me feel important. Special. Beautiful.

I didn't know what to say, so I started to pull my lower lip into my mouth, but then I remembered how Neil didn't like that. Relaxing my muscles, I let out a breath and just looked at Neil. I mean really looked at him.

The way his wavy hair flowed across his head. The freckles that were scattered across his nose and cheeks. How the color of his eyes would change depending on whether we were in the dark or out in the light. Out in the light they were this hazelnut color, but in the dark they were this deep, dark, chocolate brown.

Putting a hand on either side of me, I felt myself dip further into the bed because Neil was putting his weight on top of me, but no part of him was

touching me. He was just on top of me, holding himself up, staring at me.

Hearing his breath shake as he took one in, I looked into his eyes.

Slowly letting out the breath, Neil concentrated on my face and said, “I love you, Jade,” and then his lips were on mine. This kiss was slow and passionate. It was filled with love, tenderness, and kindness. The way his tongue slowly swept along my lower lip and asked for entrance. And when I opened my mouth, he didn’t push his tongue in, he slowly trailed it along with mine. He made love to my mouth.

Finally relaxing all of his weight on me, I wrapped my arms around his neck and crushed his mouth to mine. I needed this. I needed him. Groaning in my mouth, Neil placed his hands on my hips and pulled me so we were lying on our sides, still kissing.

Wrapping my right leg around his waist, I scooted as close as I could to him without breaking the kiss. I could feel how hard he was for me up against my waist and my insides instantly liquefied and tightened at once. Slightly moaning into his mouth triggered something raw in Neil.

Next thing I knew, Neil had me lying on my back and he was ripping my panties off. Before I could comprehend what he had done, his head was dipping in between my legs. Lifting my head, I watched as Neil wet his lips with his long tongue and then sucked my clit into his mouth.

Loudly moaning, I lifted my hips to get more of his mouth on me. Tightly wrapping his arms around my legs to hold me in place, I grabbed ahold of the bed sheets and let my head fall to the pillow behind me. Closing my eyes, I let my other instincts take over.

I heard his heavy breathing against my sensitive, hyper-aware pussy. I felt his fingers moving in and out of me. I felt his warm, wet tongue lapping up the juices seeping out of me.

Feeling the bed dip a little bit more and hearing the creaking, I opened my eyes to see Neil was now resting on his knees, face in my pussy, and his fingers moving in and out of me. He was probably trying to get more momentum because before I knew what exactly he was doing, he rammed three fingers inside of me, curving them upwards, moving in and out quickly.

Lifting my legs and resting them on his shoulders allowed him to get deeper into my tight, wet walls. Sitting up on his knees, Neil lifted me up with him. Pounding his three fingers in and out of me and sucking as hard as he could on my clit, I screamed. I started to shake excessively. My legs

started to twitch. I wanted it to stop because it was so powerful, but at the same time, I wanted it to never end.

Shaking my head, I yelled, "Fuck, Neil!"

Moving his mouth away from my clit, he continued to ram three fingers inside of me as he grunted, "Give me all that pussy juice, baby." As soon as he said that, his mouth was back on me, sucking even harder on my clit.

I held on tight to the bed sheets. Gasping, screaming, and shaking, this orgasm took me over. I clenched up around his fingers as he continued to finger fuck me.

I thought it was finally over so I started to move my legs away from his shoulders but Neil held on tighter to them. He looked into my eyes and asked, "Where do you think you're going? I'm not even close to being done with you."

Feeling tingly all over, my mouth fell open.

Neil chuckled then stuck his tongue out and flicked my clit. I jumped because I was so sensitive and Neil only chuckled louder.

He looked down at my pussy. "I don't think I'll ever get enough of this pussy. I don't know which I like better, though. Ramming my cock in and out of this tight little hole or pounding it with my fingers and tasting all of its juices. What do you like, Jade?"

Shaking my head, I said, "I don't care as long as some part of you is inside me. I just don't give a flying fuck."

Looking back down at my pussy, he huskily said, "I think I love finger fucking you and sucking on your soft little clit." He flicked his eyes up to me. "But do you know what I'll absolutely love?"

"No, what?"

Not leaving my focus, he stuck his tongue out and swiped from my hole to my clit. I moaned loudly, my breathing started to quicken. I could see my juices all over his chin and it only excited me that much more. Licking his lips, Neil said, "I want you to squirt."

My eyes instantly bugged out of my head. *I have never done that before... well?*

Tilting his head he asked, "Have you ever done that before?"

In a tiny voice I whispered, "No."

"No? Not even with your vibrator?"

Staying quiet I looked at him.

Chuckling, he said, “So I’ll be the first to make you squirt.” Looking at me for a second, a small smile came across his beautiful face. “And the last.”

Before I could say anything, his mouth was back on me, his fingers were inside of me, and with his other hand, he was applying just a small amount of pressure to my lower belly and holding the hood of my pussy up so my clit was out in the open for him.

Making noises I didn’t even know could come out of me, I closed my eyes and bit down hard on my lower lip. Lifting my arms, I grabbed hold of my hair and started to wring it through my fingers, hard and rough, just the way Neil was fucking me with his mouth and fingers.

Applying a little bit more pressure to my lower stomach, I could feel my pussy clenching up and I started to shake uncontrollably. My hips apparently had a mind of their own because they started to thrust and grind into Neil’s deliciously scruffy face.

Keeping his three fingers inside of me, he curled them and wrung them back and forth along my sensitive g-spot. At the same time he sucked my clit as hard as he could into his mouth and applied just a bit more pressure to my lower stomach as he raised the top of my pussy.

Before I could react, my hips convulsively shook and I started to squirt.

Quickly taking his three fingers out of me, Neil put his face at my opening and took everything I squirted for him. Between swallowing mouthfuls, Neil said, “Give it all up to me, Jade. I want all of you.”

With my head falling back, I screamed his name as I came for him. I couldn’t believe how strong this was. It was so powerful and just as I started to calm down, Neil turned me onto my stomach, lifted my hips, and slammed into me from behind.

Releasing the loudest scream from within me, I came. I clenched up around his cock and shook uncontrollably. Neil didn’t stop slamming in and out of me. He continued to fuck me as fast as he could while I continued to come.

It was all getting too powerful and too mind numbing. Shaking my head, I grunted, “Neil, you have to stop.”

Slapping my ass hard, he groaned, “Can’t stop, babe. I have to fuck you now.” Pulling out of me completely, Neil slammed back into me and I came again.

I couldn't believe how sensitive I was. I started to bite down on the pillow and hold as tightly as I could onto the bed sheets but Neil pulled out. With his hands on my hips, he quickly turned me so I was facing him. Grabbing ahold of my ankles, he brought my legs up and placed one on each of his shoulders.

Leaning over me, Neil pushed his way inside of me and stayed still.

I didn't understand, so I opened my eyes and I saw Neil spitting into his hand and then he slowly rubbed it along my clit. My hips started to thrust upward to him. Chuckling, he said, "Don't worry, babe, because I will fuck you raw. Just like this." Placing a hand on either side of me, Neil put all of his weight on me and started to bounce up and down.

Wrapping my arms around my knees to keep them in place, I couldn't get over just how deep Neil was inside of me. He was balls deep in me and I still felt like he wasn't in far enough.

Lifting my head, I started to bite on my knee and above me I heard, "Fuck, that's so sexy."

Releasing the skin from my mouth, I looked up at Neil. His eyes were blazing, his hair was hanging down along his face, and he was biting his lower lip.

Letting go of my legs, I lifted them up and wrapped them around the back of Neil's head. Taking ahold of his hair in my hands, I pulled his head down to meet mine and crushed my mouth to his.

Groaning into my mouth, I could feel the vibrations coming from his lips onto mine.

Opening slightly, I sucked his lower lip into my mouth and bit down rough.

Wrapping his arms around my ankles, he quickly moved them so I was lying completely on the bed. But no sooner did he wrap them around his waist than he lifted me up. Cradling my head with one hand, he put the other on my lower back.

Wrapping my arms around his neck, I cradled his head in my hands and pulled at his hair, all the while keeping my lips attached to his.

With the hand cradling my head, Neil roughly took ahold of my hair and started to pull it back.

Releasing his lower lip from my mouth, I moved my head back to look at him.

Staring at me, he shook his head and said, “My god, Jade, you’re so beautiful.”

Feeling butterflies in my stomach, I was stunned. He had stopped our mouth fucking to tell me that and it was... amazing. Smiling back at him, I lowered my head and closed my eyes. I could feel tears threatening to fall and I didn’t want Neil to see that whatsoever.

But he didn’t allow it. Letting go of my hair with his hand, he used that hand to lift my chin up, all the while saying, “Please open your eyes, Jade.”

The second I did, not one, not two, but three tears fell from my eyes.

Looking at me, he tilted his head to the side and then he did something that shocked me. He looked down at those three tears and then looked back up at me and smiled.

“I love you, Jade.”

Lowering his head, he puckered his lips and kissed away those three tears. And in that action, relief washed over me. I knew Neil loved me, but I didn’t realize how deep his love ran for me.

Leaning away from me, Neil said, “I’ll always love you, Jade.”

Nodding my head, I said, “I know, Neil. I know.”

Pausing to look into his eyes, I saw compassion and understanding. Sucking in a breath, I cupped his face with my hands. Running my thumbs along his upper and lower lips, I looked at them and smiled. Raising my eyes up to meet his, I said with as much feeling as he did, because I too felt it, “I love you, Neil James.”

Closing my eyes, I met Neil’s lips halfway and moaned slightly. Opening our mouths at the same time, our tongues touched and I clenched up around his cock.

Squeezing me around the middle, it felt like he couldn’t get enough of me. Before I knew it, my head was resting on the pillow and Neil was moving in and out of me with his soft, velvet lips still on mine.

With one hand playing with his wavy hair, the other was at his waist, feeling him move in and out of me.

Moving his head to the crook of my neck, I could feel his heavy breathing and I started to get goose bumps.

Slowly moving the hand at his waist up my body, I wrapped it in his hair and whispered in his ear, “I love you, Neil.”

Feeling his head move up and down against mine, he huskily groaned, “I love you, Jade.” Moving his hips, Neil was in deeper that way.

Lifting my legs so he was in as deep as he could go, I ran my fingers along his chest as he quickly moved in and out of me. During that time, we never took our eyes off one another, which I found very sensual.

I could feel Neil's movements getting uneven. Pulling out of me completely, Neil sat back on his knees. Ripping the condom off as fast as he could, Neil came all over my stomach.

Feeling his hot, wet cum spilling out onto my stomach, I felt like he was marking me. Almost like he was making me his and for some reason I wanted to cry.

But I was brought back to the moment when I felt Neil moan and groan in a good way because of me.

Letting go of his cock he used that hand to smear the freshly spilled cum all over me. My lower stomach, the top of my pussy, as well as my inner thighs.

I watched him as he did this. I started to bite my lower lip, but I quickly let it go when Neil's eyes met mine and a small smile formed on his lips. Carefully falling on top of me, Neil looked down at me and said, "I love you, Jade Williams."

Nodding my head, I said, "And I love you, Neil James," and I didn't care what we had to go through to stay together... even if it was my brother.

Chapter 15

It's been one month since Neil and I started our relationship. I wonder sometimes how I haven't gotten sick of him yet or better yet, how he hasn't gotten sick of me. My only other relationship was with Brandon in high school and he would annoy the shit out of me sometimes. He was always so worried about what others thought and how he had to keep up "appearances."

Whatever the fuck that meant.

I think sometimes I thought I "loved" him because that's what I was brought up to think. His parents and my parents were country club people. I was brought up in a lifestyle that everyone wanted, but if they only knew what happened behind closed doors, they would be thankful they didn't have it.

Neil was everything Brandon wasn't and that's why I fell in love with him. He didn't give a shit about what people thought of him. If he wanted to do something, he would. I think a big part of his whole attitude on life had to do with how he grew up and what his mother taught him about love and life. How you should treat others with love and respect no matter who they loved or what.

I remember when Patrick and Derrick first started dating, I was so jealous of them. I was jealous because they'd found each other. They found love. After all, that's what everyone wants out of life. Right? To love someone and to have that person love you back just as much, maybe even more.

That's why I don't understand how someone could hate another person because of who they choose to love. Love doesn't have a gender. It's something you feel and experience. You can't help who you fall in love with and that's the beauty of it, because when you least expect it, it happens. I know. Some of you probably think I'm lying or that it's bullshit, but it is real. It's not a figment of our imaginations. It's just hard to find, but when you find it? It's so worth it, in every way possible.

You don't have to settle, because there is someone out there for all of us, whether they are the same gender or the opposite. You have every right to love who you want to love. I think those people who hate are just jealous because they haven't found it or experienced it yet and others have. They want a reason to be envious of others.

But to those out there? I say don't give up. Fight for your right as a human being, as someone in love... to do just that... love.

Neil and I had become somewhat domesticated. I no longer went out to parties to hook up with randoms on the weekend, or even during the week, for that matter. In fact, the last time we went to a party didn't go so well, but it ended perfectly.

With our drinks in hand, Neil and I started to move on the dance floor. I couldn't believe how good of a dancer he actually was. He was grinding into me and I was moving my ass back in rhythm to glide up against his growing cock. Wrapping his left arm around me, Neil placed that hand on my lower stomach and moved me closer to him. Resting his head on my right shoulder, Neil nipped at my ear and breathed into my neck, "Do you feel what you're doing to me, Jade?"

I started to get butterflies in my stomach and felt goose bumps forming all over my body. I couldn't believe how sexy Neil was. I could feel my insides quickly liquefying. Our sex life was amazing. We had sex at least once a day and still that didn't seem like enough. Neil was something else. I loved having sex with him. He could do things to my body I didn't even know existed. I was a pool of liquid at his feet.

I loved every second of it. Every time we had sex I wondered how it could get any better than that. Yet somehow Neil and I always made it

better, when I didn't think it was possible. But that's Neil. He made the impossible, possible.

Getting back to our moment, I started to sway and rock my hips harder and faster into Neil on the dance floor. I was keeping up pace with the beat of the music and I could feel Neil's hot breath and hear his growling in my ear. I knew I was pushing him to his limit and I always loved going over into the unknown with him.

I could only imagine what we looked like on the floor. We were pretty much having sex on the dance floor, just with our clothes on. Neil moved his left leg in between mine and his thigh started to rub up against my bits. Slowly rocking back and forth on that leg, I could feel myself getting tingly and I couldn't believe I started to pant.

Neil started to chuckle in my ear and I knew he was teasing. He loved getting me on edge and begging for him. Before I knew it the song was over and Neil was whispering in my ear, "You want to get a refill on your drink?"

Turning my head to the side to look at his piercing brown eyes, I nodded and breathlessly said, "Sure."

Getting out of his strong grip, I was just about to take his hand in mine when I heard a familiar voice. "Can I have the next one, sexy?"

I knew before I even turned around to see the guy that it was Evan. He was someone I had "hung out" with a few times. He wasn't really that good in bed but at least he knew where to put it and to kind of sort of work the other things, so I was okay with it.

I just got a glimpse of him to know it was actually Evan before Neil said in a harsh tone, "I'm sorry, what did you just say?"

Putting his hands up, Evan said, "Relax, dude. No big deal," and started to laugh. He made a big mistake when he wrapped his arm around Neil in a "buddy" sort of way and laughed out, "She's good in bed, isn't she?"

Before I knew it or could even stop it from happening, Neil was punching Evan in the face. With wide eyes, I looked from Neil to Evan. Neil's chest was rising and falling rapidly. Evan was on the floor holding his bloody nose. Looking up at Neil, he said, "What the fuck, man! I think you broke my nose!"

Neil crouched down in Evan's face. "You say one more thing like what you just did to Jade, your broken nose will be the least of your worries. You hear me, *man?*"

Neil didn't move or look away from Evan before Evan nodded his head. "Yeah, I gotcha."

"Good." Getting up from the ground, Neil turned around and started to walk away from the scene.

I tried to put my hand on him but he pushed it off and brushed past me. I knew he was pissed and hurt, but he knew about my past. Letting out a breath, I turned around and followed Neil, He was heading straight towards the bathroom. I yelled out his name to try and get his attention but Neil didn't stop. He just kept walking. I knew he was ignoring me but I took it as he just didn't hear me over the loud music.

Just as I made it to the bathroom door, Neil shut it in my face. Letting out a grunt, I started smacking my fists on the door. "Neil James, you better open this door right now!" I yelled.

Pausing a second to see if he would, I was dumbfounded when he actually opened the door. I thought I was going to see a pissed off Neil but I saw the opposite. His eyes were droopy and his lip was poked out. I knew he was hurt.

Walking into the bathroom before he could change his mind, I closed the door behind me. Leaning against the sink, I tried to calm my nerves.

"I knew you had a reputation and I knew you had a past, but..."

In a small voice I asked, "But?"

Letting out a low chuckle, he said, "But I didn't think we would run into any of them."

Sucking in a breath, I said, "Neil I had choices and I made them. I made a ton of mistakes. But you?" I paused. "You aren't a mistake. Neil, you are the only man I want to be inside of me for the rest of my life. You're the only man I want touching me. Kissing me. Holding me. Making love to me."

I wasn't looking at Neil when I said that. I couldn't. I knew I would lose my shit if I did. Closing my eyes, it was then I felt Neil's hand hold my face. "Look at me, Jade." Slowly opening my eyes, I saw he had tears falling onto his face. "I love you," he said, and before I could say anything, his lips were on mine.

Bringing my arms up, I wrapped them around his neck and pulled his head closer to mine. He cupped my face in his hands, and in that kiss he was telling me exactly how I felt to him and how much he loved me.

Opening our mouths at the same time, I moaned and he grunted when our tongues touched. He was making love to my mouth, and this kiss? It wasn't just a simple kiss. It was a declaration of his love for me. It was a prayer for what he wanted in the future with me. It was in the moment, because those are the most beautiful of times. Not planning when things should happen. Just letting them come naturally and flow beautifully.

I'm not sure which one of us leaned away first but I was the first to speak. We were both breathing heavily from kissing for so long but I managed to say, "Take me home, Neil."

I now went home to a beautiful man who I loved very much and who loved me back just the same. It still brought butterflies to my stomach and tears to my eyes. I wondered sometimes if those reactions would always be there. I hoped they would. My life had literally done a complete 180 and I couldn't believe it.

I honestly never thought I would be with one person for the rest of my life. I always thought I would be like Samantha Jones from *Sex and the City*. Of course as a girl, in the back of my head I wondered if there was one person out there in that big ol' world for me, but I never thought I would be one of the lucky few to find him.

Well, I am one of the lucky few. I know that with Neil I want him for the rest of my life. I can only hope one day I make him just as happy as he has made me in the short amount of time we have known one another.

...someday.

Lying comfortably on the couch in the crook of Neil's arms, we were tangled up in one another. My head resting on his chest. His arms wrapped around me and his head on top of mine. It's a Friday night and we are just relaxing, like we always do. We are comfortable with one another and we're fine just relaxing and not doing anything... *well, besides each other.*

My eyes were slowly starting to drift closed, but they opened up wide when my phone began to ring. I must have startled Neil because he shook

against me. I let my phone keep ringing because when I looked over at Neil, I couldn't look away. He was just so beautiful and I wondered how I was able to go to classes sometimes. Do homework. Study for tests, even, when my beautiful boyfriend lived with me.

We no longer heard the phone ringing and I knew I had missed the call, but if it was important, they would call back.

Bringing my right hand up, I cupped Neil's face and started to trace his lower lip with my thumb. Staring at his lips, I let out a breath and a small smile touched my mouth. I couldn't imagine in my wildest dreams that I would fall in love and I was so thankful that it was with this man. A man who would treat me with respect and cherish me. I knew that Neil would love me forever.

Looking up into Neil's eyes, I saw he was staring at me. Sucking in a breath, I whispered, "What?"

Closing his eyes, Neil shook his head. Opening his eyes back up, he whispered, "I love you, Jade, and I want you forever."

I could feel tears forming in my eyes, and before I could do anything about them, they started to fall freely.

Moving up into a sitting position, Neil wrapped me in his arms. "What's the matter?"

Shaking my head against his chest, I swallowed before I said, "Nothing's wrong."

Placing his hands on my shoulders, he moved me away from him so he could look into my eyes. Moving strands of hair away from my face, he cupped it. Wiping away the tears, he looked at my lips and then looking up into my eyes. "Then why were you crying?"

Placing my hands on his heart, I said, "Because I found you."

Not understanding what I meant, he tilted his head to the side and waited for me to explain myself. Smiling at him, I took his hands in mine. Looking down at our intertwined fingers, I smiled. "I didn't realize how lonely I was before I met you," I said, lifting my head to look into his eyes. "I had no idea." I shook my head. "You, Neil James, have changed my life forever." I paused. "You've changed it— for the better."

I can't tell you who leaned in first, but his lips were now on mine. Nipping at my bottom lip, I moaned into his mouth. Swiping his tongue along my lip, he then entered my mouth and tangled his tongue with mine.

Wrapping his arms tightly around my middle, I thought to myself it was his way of saying, "I never want to let you go." I kind of wish he had said that because I would've said, "I'm not going anywhere."

Twining my fingers through his soft, curly hair, I tightly gripped at the roots.

Groaning into my mouth, Neil pulled me on top of him. Breaking away from his mouth, I loudly moaned. His rock hard cock was pushing on my sensitive area and I desperately needed him inside of me but I wanted us to take our time tonight.

My legs were on either side of him, caging him in. Neil started to kiss at the base of my neck and work his way down to my collarbones. Allowing my head to fall back so he could get even more kisses in, I started to shake and moan. It felt so good, and when he did that I was a sucker. Once he reached my collarbone, he started to work his way back up my neck.

His right hand moved along my lower back while his left slowly trailed up my spine. I started to get goose bumps and involuntarily shook because it felt so good. Working his fingers up my neck, he splayed them out and moved up into my hair. Gripping a good chunk of my long hair in his hands, Neil moved my head closer to him.

Moving my neck further out, Neil kissed along my jaw line and then up to my ear. Sucking my earlobe into his mouth, he lightly bit down.

Moaning a little, Neil then let go and whispered in my ear, "Wrap your legs around me, Jade." Moving his head away from my ear to look in my eyes, he tilted his head down. "Hold on tight."

Goose bumps moved along my body. Nodding my head to let him know I had heard him, I wrapped my legs tightly around him. I started to grind against his erection because I needed my release. I was throbbing to the point of it becoming a bit painful.

Chuckling, Neil said, "Don't worry, babe, you'll get off," and with that he had me wrapped in his arms. He stood up. Not giving me a chance to get situated for the ride to his or my bedroom (*hehe*) he marched off in that direction.

Gasping for air because I wasn't prepared, Neil chuckled against my neck and whispered, "You ready, babe?" Moaning my answer, he again chuckled. *Unbelievable! Somehow I even find his deep chuckle sexy as all fuck!*

I realized we were going into my room when Neil kicked open the door. Hearing the door hit the wall sent chills down my spine. Really good ones, because he couldn't even set me down to open the door with his hand. No.

He needed me like I needed him and every second that passed was excruciating torture until we both got what we needed from the other. The beauty of it was that even after we got it, we still wanted to be with one another in other aspects. Sexually and physically, but also mentally and spiritually.

Falling onto the bed with me on top, we were both breathless. While we each caught our breaths, I watched as his beautiful chest rose and fell. Letting my fingertips slowly slide against the bottom of his shirt, I felt him shake a little. Leaving that sight, I trailed my eyes up to his, where his eyes were blazing with sex and fire. He was watching me intently. Sliding my tongue out of my mouth, I ran it first against my top lip. As I started to run it along my lower lip, Neil grabbed me by the waist and flipped us.

Gasping, I looked up into Neil's eyes. "Nobody gets to lick those lips besides me," he said. Chuckling, a side smile swept across his mouth. I watched as his eyes devoured my body.

Before he could say anything else, I smashed his lips to mine. Opening our mouths at the same time, it was almost like we were both racing one another to see whose tongue would touch whose first and there was no clear winner.

Kissing away, Neil started to grind into me. Wrapping my legs around his waist to get more of him against me, I skimmed my fingers down his stomach while the other was wrapped around his head, keeping his mouth on mine. Getting my hand in his sweatpants and boxers, I grabbed ahold of his long, thick, velvet cock with my small hand.

He groaned into my mouth the second I touched him. Breaking free from the kiss, I asked, "Do you like when I touch you?" He couldn't form words so he just grunted his answer. Tilting my head to the side, I asked, "What about when I take you in my mouth?"

Nodding his head he said, "Mmmmm."

"What about when I put your long, thick, hard cock inside of my tight, dripping pussy?"

"Fuck, yes, Jade."

While we were talking dirty to one another, I was squeezing him and he got rock hard for me. I could feel how wet I was for him and I couldn't wait

for him to finally be inside of me.

I started to lift my head up to bite his lower one but Neil got back on his knees. Taking ahold of my ankles, he flipped me so I was lying on my stomach. Placing my hands by my head, I turned around to look at him.

Pulling a condom out of his pocket, he ripped it open as fast as he could. After throwing the wrapper somewhere on the bed, he quickly put it on himself and then he did something that seriously turned me on. Neil started to touch himself. I guess he could sense I was watching him because he lifted his eyes to mine and asked, "You like what you see?"

Biting my lower lip, I nodded my head.

"What do you like about it?"

Shrugging my shoulders, I said, "I don't know."

Still stroking himself, he said, "Well, I love watching you make yourself come."

Pausing to see my reaction, which was eyes bugged out, mouth open, barely breathing, he continued. "That first night I knew you were using your vibrator. I stood outside your door and listened to your light moaning and heavy breathing. The buzz from the vibrator quickly moving up faster."

Shaking his head, he said, "I had hoped you were getting off thinking of me but I never actually thought it would happen, to be honest. A part of me wanted to come in and just fuck you then, but I cared for you."

Letting out a giggle, he looked down, because I guess he couldn't look me in my eyes when he said, "I think I fell in love with you when we were at the hospital. The way you clung to me and held on. No one had ever needed me that badly before."

Looking back up in my eyes, I could see his eyes were filled with tears.

Turning over, I sat up and started to wipe away the few tears that fell. Neil had let go of himself and placed his hands on my legs and had begun to lightly massage them.

I didn't understand what was going on, so I stayed quiet. I knew he would talk when he was ready, so I waited.

I didn't have to wait long because Neil looked up at me and said, "Somehow I fall more in love with you every single day, Jade Williams. To tell you the truth, I don't think it's possible to love you more tomorrow than I have today."

He paused. "But I know I will, because I have that same thought every day and it's always proved wrong. You proved me wrong."

With a shaky voice I asked, “How did I prove you wrong?”

“That some people do stay. And because I know that I’m not a mistake, because I know that a beautiful girl would never love someone or something like that.” He cupped my face.

Closing my eyes, I could feel the tears forming, the heart breaking, and the chin quivering. I couldn’t believe Neil thought so little of himself. If anything, I was the mistake. Okay, I wasn’t a mistake, but I had made my fair share of mistakes and for that sole reason I knew he could do better. He was so pure and innocent, and me? I wasn’t.

I had come to “accept” myself a long time ago because I knew that no one else would. I had come to that conclusion. Of course I didn’t love myself, I mean how could I love myself when I was doing things that I was ashamed of doing? I just wanted love like everybody else and I knew I would never get it nor find it. I mean, my parents didn’t even love me. So if my parents didn’t even love me then how could someone who wasn’t even related to me? Of course I knew Jason loved me, but it’s a different kind of love.

The exception to this whole rant is Ashlynn Miller. I knew she loved Jason for a long time and I knew she would flip his world upside down and every which way. I just wanted that for me. I think we all want that.

We read books to escape from our loveless lives. We want to get sucked into a story where we think we are that girl. Even if she is annoying as fuck and makes dumbass decisions. Because in the end, the hot, sexy, badass, nerd guy will love her no matter what. That’s why I read. Because while I know I won’t get my happily ever after, I know that they will. And by reading those happy endings, it still gives me that little bit of hope I would find it one day. The best part? I didn’t even have to look because it just fell into my lap. At my lowest point in life I met someone and I fell in love. He loved me at a time when I didn’t even love myself, so I never expected anyone else to.

But that was Neil. He didn’t just look at the outer shell of me. The long, brown wavy hair and the mesmerizing caramel colored eyes. The gold tan skin and the sexy little giggle. He looked beyond that and what he saw was a pretty damaged person. Yet, somehow he still loved me. He fell in love with the real me. He fell in love with my soul and not just the outer vessel. And for that? I’m changed forever.

I don't even think about it before I say it. It's not something where I have to weigh the pros and cons, because there are no cons. I know that with Neil I want him forever.

So I whisper, "Marry me."

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Chapter 16

Neil

I'm at a loss for words. I knew I wanted to marry Jade. There was no question about it. But I didn't expect for it to happen so soon. I don't want to sound cliché when I say, "When you have it you'll know," but that's all I can really say.

There's something about Jade. I'm not sure if it's just one thing in particular about her, or if it's just every single thing about her that I love. She's beautiful. Not only physically, but also mentally. The way she thinks and how she carries herself. It's with grace.

I think for the rest of my life I will never understand how she can view herself as a mistake. If anything, I'm the mistake. I mean, I really was. I know my mom told me otherwise, but when you hear the negativity of a ton of people and only the beautiful from one, the bad outweighs the good. It's a sad truth, but it's still the truth. Yet somehow, Jade was changing me. She was proving me wrong and she was showing me a world that I desperately wanted to be a part of. A world with her. A life with her.

I look into her big, beautiful brown eyes and I see she's biting that lower lip out of nervousness. Giving her a small smile, I take her hands in mine and wrap them up. Closing my eyes, I think. I think about what I want out of life and a million other important things. There's always one thing that's the same... I want them all to be with Jade Williams.

Opening my eyes, I lean down and let my forehead touch hers. I noticed she closed her eyes and I close mine as well. I start to open my eyes and I

see hers are still closed. Breathing in and then breathing out, I say, “Jade, open your eyes.”

I watch as her beautiful eyelids slowly flutter open and her eyes are big with tears in them. My only goal in life is to take away all of her pain. I just want to protect her. She deserves that. She deserves so much more than I probably can give her, but I can't let her go. I won't let her go.

I start to smile and I watch as her eyes move down to my mouth. I wait for her to look back up at me and then I say, “Yes.”

I see she's stunned. She has no idea what to say. She's struggling with her words.

Letting go of her hands, I take her face in between my hands and say, “I love you, Jade Williams. I want you forever. You're the only woman I've ever loved and I know you'll be the last.”

I paused to search her eyes. “You've shown me what it's all about. I chose you a long time ago, Jade, and I'm astonished that you chose me.”

I watched as her lips twitched into a smile. I could see her chin quivering and I knew she was going to cry. Even her happy tears killed me. I never wanted to watch tears fall from her face.

It might sound a bit creepy but I felt like we could connect. If she felt something, then I felt it. Okay, never mind because that is creepy as fuck.

“I love you, Neil James. Now please make love to me.”

Nodding my head, I wrap my arms around her waist. “I'll make love to you forever.” She can't say anything because as I say those words, my lips are on hers. I feel like the second our lips touch I'm home. I'm safe. No one can hurt me.

I hear her moan and feel the vibrations against my lips and that turns me wild. Pushing us both back onto the mattress, I crush my mouth to hers. My nose is pressed up against her cheek and it's hard for me to breathe in and out but I won't leave her mouth. I can't. I feel like it's my oxygen.

I start to grind my cock against her. I feel her legs wrap around me and now I'm pushing up against the top of her pussy lips. I can tell she's soaked because I'm slipping and sliding. I just want to be inside of her, but this is one of those times where I just want to take my time with her. I want to touch every single part of her. Taste her. Love her.

I feel her fingertips trailing across my back and just when she reaches my shoulder blades, I slam my hips into her pussy area. I feel her

fingernails dig into me and I hear her moan loudly and breathlessly say my name.

I want to be in her tight, wet pussy so badly right now. I know if I'm in this position for much longer I'll just push right in. So breaking from her grip, I move my body down to where my lips are at the same height as her perky tits. Her nipples are fully erect and I see goose bumps starting to form all over her body. I notice she arches her back and my eyes quickly move up to hers. I see she's staring at me, and of course she's biting that goddamn lip.

Flicking my tongue out, I run it quickly along her erect nipple. I feel her body squirm underneath mine and I see her eyes flutter closed and hear her moan. I wait a few seconds and watch her eyes open again and then I ask, "Did that feel good?"

She just makes a sexy little sound in her throat and now all I'm thinking about is her taking my hard as fuck cock into her mouth as deep as she can. Because goddamn, that girl can give a blow job like no one else. The way she runs her tongue along the thick vein and just as my cock twitches up, she sucks it into her mouth. It's so goddamn tight and moist and I almost explode the second I'm in there because I imagine I'm in her little pussy.

I breathe lightly on her nipple, Jade moans again, and I ask, "What do you want me to do, Jade?"

Biting on her lower lip, she releases and gives a sly smile. "I want you to suck on my nipples and make me come."

Tilting my head to the side, I ask, "Are you sure?"

Getting up onto her elbows, she nods her head to the side and says, "Yeah. You think you're up for the mission, stud?"

I don't even answer before I'm sucking her one nipple into my mouth as hard as I can. I massage the other with my one hand and with my other I push two fingers inside of her, curving them upwards against her sensitive, hyper-aware walls. She's soaked and it makes me even harder. I grunt and the vibrations make her nipple harder than it already was before.

Jade wraps her hands in my hair, and as I massage her one nipple, I suck as hard as I can on the other. Then I switch. While I'm pinching and pulling that same nipple, I'm lightly flicking the other with my tongue.

Switching nipples, I also moved the two fingers that were inside of her and those are now massaging the other nipple. My other hand plunged right into her walls and I knew she was so close. She was so tight around my

fingers. While I curved the fingers upwards, I pushed my thumb against her clit and applied pressure.

Jade's body started to shake and she was moaning and saying my name over and over and over again. Her fingers were holding tightly to my hair and I knew she was going to come soon. Taking ahold of her hands, I released her fingers from my hair. She started to moan because I was no longer sucking on her nipples and fingering that tight, wet little hole. Looking up into her, I chuckled and said, "Oh, don't you worry, babe, because I'm nowhere close to finishing up with you yet."

She let out this breathless light giggle. After getting up on my knees, I lowered my head to her pussy as I pushed her thighs to the side. I ran my nose from her opening up to her clit; she smelled incredible. My mouth started to salivate because I just wanted her taste in my mouth.

Pushing her pussy lips aside, my tongue flickered open and I pushed it as far as I could into her tight hole as I ran my nose along her sensitive, pushed out, swollen clit.

In the background I could hear her moaning my name, but I was too focused on getting her to come and let all of that pussy juice enter my mouth. I needed this, probably more than she needed her release.

Pulling my tongue out, I licked up her juices and moved my way up to her big, swollen clit. With my left hand, I pulled the lips up and applied pressure to her lower stomach. Pushing my three middle fingers inside of her, I curled them against her soft, sensitive, tight walls. And then finally I sucked her clit into my mouth as hard as I could.

I could feel her legs moving every which way. I pressed my elbow on her inner thigh to hold her down and my other arm held down her other thigh. Her hips started to push up and grind into my mouth and I could feel from the fingers that were inside of her she was going to come really soon.

I couldn't believe how tight she was for me. I was no longer curving my fingers but I was pulling them out and slamming them back into her while I flicked my tongue up and down against her clit.

"Fuck, Neil!"

Still slamming my fingers in and out of her, I said, "That's right, baby. Come for me." I sucked her clit hard into my mouth and then released and said, "Come for me now, Jade."

It's like she was waiting for me to say that because as soon as I did, her walls tightened and slowly contracted. Her body started to shake and she

was making these noises that I couldn't explain. I watched as her head shook and her body convulsed and I needed to be inside her. I wanted to feel that around my cock desperately.

Of course I had gotten Jade to come with just my cock, but this orgasm was so powerful. I mean, she was twitching and convulsing for god's sake. I needed to feel that with her.

Grabbing Jade's shaky legs, I wrapped them around my waist. My cock was throbbing to the point of painful and I needed to be inside of her right fucking now. Positioning myself against her opening, I slowly pushed into her to make her orgasm last longer.

The second I'm inside of her I just stay still. No words can describe just how amazing and exhilarating it feels when I push into Jade for the first time. Her pussy is so tight, but it conforms to my cock perfectly. It's almost like we were made for each other, and in a way, I think we were. She taught me that I was worth something and I showed her that to me, she was worth everything.

Her pussy is slowly beginning to stop constricting back and forth so I start to slowly slide in and out of her. I need to move. I have this urge and I crave Jade Williams. I feel her legs wrap tighter around me and I look into her eyes. I see she's staring at me and her beauty takes my breath away. My heart starts to skip a few beats here and there and I can't believe this girl has turned me into a pussy whipped bastard, but she has.

"I love you, Neil James."

Nodding my head I say, "And I love you, Jade Williams. I always will." Leaning down so my entire body is touching a part of hers, I lower my head and kiss her. And in that kiss I symbolize just how much I mean what I just said. I will always love Jade Williams. No, actually I won't. I will always be in love with Jade Williams.

She wraps her arms around my shoulders and pulls me down further into her. Our kiss is getting carried away with little nips on the lips and our tongues dangling together, feeling like they'll never get enough. I start to pull out of her and slowly push back into her over and over again. She's extremely sensitive from her last orgasm and I'm as hard as a motherfucker. I know I'll come if I go any faster than these slow movements. So, we stay like this. Our kisses are wild and free, like the butterflies in our stomachs as we make love to one another. Me gripping her hips and her clawing at my back. Her light moaning and my heavy breathing.

My movements are getting more rigid and I can feel her body shaking beneath mine. I'm not getting enough oxygen into my lungs so I break away from the kiss and allow my head to fall in the crook of her shoulder. I'm breathing against her neck and I see little goose bumps appear in that same region. I can feel her shaking getting more out of control and just when I can feel her pussy tighten up completely around my cock, I look into her eyes.

I know that when I look into her eyes and say this we will come at the same time. Sucking in a breath I whisper, "I love you, Jade Williams."

And just as our orgasms are starting to go into effect she utters, "I love you, Neil James."

I don't take my eyes off hers because I want to witness how beautiful she is when she comes. I wonder for a second if she has the same thought as me because she doesn't take her eyes off mine. It's difficult for the both of us to keep our eyes opened because of the powerful orgasms but somehow we manage.

I feel her pussy constrict around my cock and I feel myself staying still and then I start to spasm and convulse as I spill all of my cum into the condom I'm wearing, but I wish it wasn't there. I want to know what Jade feels like without the condom. I want to know what it's like to come inside her. I also know that it will happen eventually, so I'm grateful for what I have right now with her. And right now? It feels like utter fucking bliss.

While our orgasms slowly fade away, all that's left are our heavy breathing and our glistening sweaty bodies shaking but still formed to one another. Ducking my head down, I tend to give Jade a small, sweet kiss on her lips but she has other things planned.

Wrapping her legs around my waist, she takes ahold of my hair in her hands and crushes her mouth to mine. I growl into her mouth because it feels so damn good. It's a kiss that I can only describe as a passionate one. We are carrying so many emotions and feelings and it's almost like in this kiss we're able to communicate. Something our speaking will never manage to get across, so for this kiss I'm thankful.

I'm thankful because I'm able to get across to her that I'll never let her go. That I will always fight for her. I will always protect her. I will always love her. I show her with my mouth on hers that I will never consider her as a mistake but only as a beautiful person I have fallen in love with and want for the rest of my life.

We could have kissed for seconds, minutes, or even hours and I would have never known the difference. As I'm leaning away from her, I see her lips twitch and her eyelids flutter. They're closed and I'm wondering what she's thinking. I want to ask her, but if she wants to tell me, then she will.

And then she finally opens her eyes. Her big, brown beautiful eyes and they're staring up at me with a look of fascination and bewilderment. I watch as her mouth slowly opens and then she barely whispers, "Wow."

I don't understand what she means by that so I ask. "What?"

I don't expect her next reaction, but her eyes fill with tears and she laughs. She laughs for a few seconds and I get even more confused. I feel her stomach rising and falling against mine and then it slowly starts to even out. As Jade catches her breath, I wipe the few tears that have fallen from her eyes.

Closing her eyes, Jade then opens them and looks up at me. "You're probably wondering what I was laughing about, huh?"

I want to know desperately but instead I slowly pull out of her. I can tell she's confused because she tilts her head to the side almost like she's asking the question, "Well, don't you?"

Getting up out of bed, I walk over to Jade's trash can and slowly take the condom off. Once it's off, I tie the end and grab a tissue from her vanity right next to it. Wrapping the condom up in the tissue, I throw it in the trash can. Turning around, I walk over to her bed and lie down next to her.

I take her into my arms and wrap her up tightly, but only after I pull a blanket over us. She's facing me because I want to hear the answer while she's looking at me. Jade wraps her right leg over my hip and places her right hand on my chest.

"All right, Jade, why were you crying and then laughing?"

"I honestly can't explain it. Neil."

"Try, Jade."

I wait a few seconds, and just as I think she's not going to say anything, she says, "It was almost like in that kiss you were telling me you would do anything for me." She waves her hand back and forth. "I know it's crazy, but that's what I felt and I started to tear up. The kiss was so passionate and sensual and I got carried away in my emotions." She lays her hand back on my chest. "And then I started to laugh about it, because that's a crazy thought—"

I couldn't let her continue. Flipping us so she was on her back and I was lying on top of her, I said, "That's what I had hoped I got across. Jade, I would and will do anything for you. I will protect you. I will love you. I will cherish you for the rest of our lives together."

I watched as tears fell from her eyes and I started to wipe them away. As her chin quivered she said, "I love you."

"I know and I love you." Smiling at one another, I fall over to the side of her and pull her back to me. Cuddling up in one another, we slowly start to drift off to sleep but then we hear Jade's phone going off. I don't want her to get up out of bed, but she starts to move away from me.

I wrap her up tighter in my arms but she giggles and says, "Neil, I'm not going anywhere but I have to answer the phone." I don't want to, but I let her go. Slowly she gets up out of bed but not before saying, "Ever," and kissing me on the tip of my nose.

I watch as she struts out of her bedroom naked and I yell, "Hurry back."

I hear her giggle and then she yells back, "Always."

The second she leaves the room, I let out the breath I was holding. I feel like I'm finally at a place in life where I'm happy and content and then I hear Jade shriek and scream into the phone and then she said, "Okay. Neil and I will be there soon."

I don't even have a second to wonder what she's yelling about before she runs back into the room and jumps on top of me. Taking my face in her hands she says, "I'm going to be an aunt."

As happy as I am for her, I know we're in for a rude awakening when our secret is out.

Chapter 17

I couldn't believe I was finally an aunt. I loved helping Ashlynn and Jason change their diapers and give them both baths. Most importantly, I loved holding them and rocking them in my arms. They would make these adorable little cooing sounds and the cutest faces. They would go from petrified, to getting ready to cry, and then these little innocent smiles.

There were times when I would catch Neil staring at me out of the corner of my eye with a small smile across his lips. I always got butterflies because I couldn't wait for us to start our own family some day. I never thought I would be at *this* place. A place filled with love, laughter, and contentment. My entire life I dealt with being scared and watching my back, but now? I feel safe and it's all because of Neil James.

I couldn't believe how fast the spring semester had gone and we were finally graduating. While I was relieved and excited for the new journey ahead, I was also terrified because Ashlynn gave me till graduation to tell Jason. I didn't think I would ever be ready but I knew I had to do this. I just hoped and prayed Jason wasn't too mad at me for keeping that secret from him. I was also nervous because I had something planned for Neil and I and I didn't know how exactly he would take it, but we shall see.

I knew it was going to be a mistake keeping this secret but I was selfish. I was only thinking about what I wanted and what Neil wanted. And what we wanted was just that little bit of alone time before it all turned into a shitstorm of a mess.

But we were quickly running out of time.

Time. It's something so precious and sacred. At least it should be. We are only here on this earth for a very short amount of time and what we do with it is a beautiful thing. I don't understand how people can waste their precious time on being hateful towards others. Whether it's their skin color, the way they look, the way they dress, or most importantly, who they choose to love.

Love is something I have slowly but surely learned is special. And those who do find it shouldn't be judged for it. We are at a time when we should be happy for people and not discriminating against them.

I was sick to my stomach when Patrick and Derrick first started dating. Like Neil and I, they also had to keep it secret. They struggled with the community learning to accept them for who they were. And you know who they were? They were beautiful people who deserved to find love and experience it just like everybody else.

It seemed like everything was falling into place for all of us. Ryder and Isabelle were getting married soon. Ashlynn and Jason were parents, and I knew Jason was going to propose today after graduation. Patrick and Derrick had found happiness with one another. Sarah and Gabe were going to have their first child in August and I couldn't be happier for them. And Neil and I found love.

But things were going to change.

Sitting in the stands, I wore my cap and gown. My heart was beating rapidly. I was nervous and excited. Nervous because I had to tell Jason about Neil and I. It wasn't because Ashlynn gave me the deadline. It wasn't like she was forcing me to. But it had to be done eventually. I was also nervous because I had to talk to Neil about something, but it was a good kind of nervousness.

I also couldn't forget that I was finally graduating from college. I couldn't wait to start the new chapter in my life and it would be with Neil.

I always thought that after I graduated college I would be the same person, but this last year my life and my outlook on it completely changed. What I thought I wanted out of my life was no more. What I wanted out of it was a life I would share with Neil. I wanted to settle down and be happy. I deserved that after everything I had gone through growing up with Jason.

I wanted a home and children. I wanted all of the messes and to struggle for money. And I wanted all of that with Neil by my side. I had chosen him a long time ago and I couldn't wait to start it with him.

I was broken from my thoughts when my name was called to accept my diploma. Walking up the stairs, I felt total and utter bliss. I shook the hands of my professors, but it was all a blur because I heard the sounds of my friends cheering me on, my fellow classmates, and people in the stands. But out of every single person screaming and clapping, I could pick out Neil.

“Yeah, Jade! WOOO!”

I looked over in his direction in the stands and he was standing up like everyone else. He was clapping loudly and had the biggest smile on his face. I got butterflies and felt tears in my eyes because I could feel just how proud he was of me.

I had never experienced that kind of pride before from anyone. Growing up, it was just expected from Jason and me. We were never praised for our successes but we certainly were yelled at and often times hit for the mistakes we made.

Taking my diploma, I felt a huge weight had been lifted off my shoulders, but another one was put in its place, because I had to tell Jason and I was scared. After I took my seat back in the crowd of graduates, I waited and had time to think. I waited for the ceremony to be over. I waited for the day to be over because I had a feeling it was going to end badly.

I thought about what and how exactly I was going to tell Jason about Neil and me. I thought about what I was going to say to Neil. And I thought about my future with him and how I was so ready to start it.

As soon as everyone got their diploma and the caps were thrown, I ran off in Neil's direction. I just wanted to be wrapped up in his arms, because once I was there, I felt like I was home. I felt safe. I felt protected. I felt loved.

I could see him running towards me just as fast as I was running. I felt like I couldn't get to him fast enough. When we did collide, I jumped up into his arms and wrapped my arms around his neck and my legs around his waist. We stayed like that for just a few seconds.

I could feel him breathing against my neck and then he lightly kissed it. Breaking away from Neil, I started to walk over in the direction of Ashlynn and Jason, but then my heart dropped. I could see that Jason noticed Neil

kiss the side of my neck and now Ashlynn was whispering something to him.

I watched as he shrugged it off but gave Neil a death glare and I gulped down my nerves. Neil must have noticed my stance and my facial reaction because he wrapped his arm around my shoulders and said, "It will all be okay, Jade. Don't worry."

I smiled and then looked up at him. I could tell he was nervous to have a talk with Jason but he wanted to comfort me. Looking back quickly in Jason and Ash's direction, I saw they were holding their children so I quickly gave Neil a peck on the cheek and whispered, "I love you," in his ear.

Breaking away from Neil, I grabbed my camera and headed towards Ashlynn and Jason. I really wanted a picture of them with Jaylin and Bennett. I couldn't believe my brother was going to propose. Both of our lives had changed so drastically within this last year and a half and I couldn't be more grateful. We both found our happiness in life.

Standing next to Neil as I took the picture of Jason proposing to Ashlynn I got butterflies, because one day that would be me and Neil and I couldn't wait.

Neil decided he wanted to take a shower before we all went out to dinner. I was thinking about just taking showers separately but the second the water turned on, an evil smile came across my face. Walking out of my room, I waited by the bathroom door and waited till I knew Neil was in the shower. As soon as I heard the shower curtain close, I quietly and very carefully opened the door. The bathroom was already fogging up from the hot the water.

Carefully I closed the bathroom door and start to undress. As soon as I had all of my clothes off I slowly pulled the shower curtain aside and looked to see what Neil was doing. His back was facing me so I started to step into the shower.

Standing fully in the shower, I closed the curtain and stepped forward. Neil's head was underneath the water and he was hanging his head. He looked so calm and relaxed. I started to wrap my arms around his waist and felt him jump just a little bit but then he said, "Hey, babe."

With my arms fully wrapped around him, I kissed in between his shoulder blades. “Hi.”

Turning around in my arms, he asked, “What are you doing?”

Shrugging my shoulders, I said, “I just thought we could shower together,” and smiled up at him.

Placing his hands on the tops of my shoulders, he spun us around and put my head underneath the water. I let my head fall back as Neil ran his fingers through my hair, keeping it smooth. Pulling my head back up, he said, “Turn around, Jade.”

Dropping my hands from his waist, I turned around and waited. I felt Neil’s chest up against my back, but more importantly, I felt his hard cock up against my waist. I watched as Neil lifted the shampoo bottle from the stand and felt him squirt some in my hair. He rubbed his hands through my hair and gently massaged it in. I started to close my eyes because it felt so good and I moaned my appreciation.

Still massaging my scalp, Neil leaned down and whispered in my ear, “You like that?”

Nodding my head, I hummed my answer and I heard him chuckle into my ear. Sucking my earlobe into my mouth he asked, “What about when I do this?”

His hands were no longer in my hair. One was wrapped around my stomach, pulling me hard up against him, and the other started to go down in between my legs. Finding my clit, Neil applied some pressure and started to form lazy circles.

I let my head fall back against his chest and felt his lips kiss my neck. Whispering, he asked, “Do you like this?” Again I just moaned my answer but he said, “I want to hear you say it, Jade.”

“Yes, Neil, I like it.”

“What do you like?”

“I like when you touch my pussy.”

Grinding into my backside, Neil asked, “What else do you like?”

I could feel his cock slowly starting to push into me and I said, “I like you when you fuck my pussy with your hard cock.”

Moaning into my ear, I started to get goose bumps from the vibrations coming from his lips against my neck.

I thought he was going to push into me but he spun me around and put my head underneath the water. I started to psych myself out that maybe I

should have a talk with Neil, but just as I was about to say something, Neil spun us around.

Pushing me up against the wall, Neil whispered into my ear, “Tell me it’s okay, Jade. Please tell me its okay.”

I knew what he was talking about. Nodding my head, I said, “I want to know what it’s like without the condom, Neil.” As soon as I said the l on his name, Neil was pushing into me. He literally took my breath away and I started to moan.

As Neil entered me he grunted, “Fuck, Jade, you feel so goddamn good.”

His dirty talk did wild things to me and I started to moan even louder. I had always used a condom but I wanted to know what it was like and I knew I would be with Neil forever.

Pushing all the way inside of me, we both stayed still for a few seconds. I needed to adjust to his size and he was allowing me to do that.

Neil huskily whispered against my neck, “Goddamn, Jade, your tight little pussy feels fucking amazing.”

Moaning my answer, Neil took that as initiative. Wrapping his arms around my waist, he pulled us further away from the wall, still inside of me. Swiftly bending me over, I placed my hands on the wall. With his hands on my waist, Neil pulled out of me so just the tip of him was inside of me and then he slammed in.

“AHH!”

Pulling out of me again, he yelled, “Goddamn, Jade! Your fucking pussy!” and slammed into me over and over and over again.

My legs started to shake because my orgasm was coming on. Neil must have sensed that because he pulled out of me, but he quickly spun me around and lifted me up by my ass. I wrapped my legs around his waist and my arms around his neck. Somehow he pushed into me while I did that.

Quickly turning off the water, Neil pulled back the curtain and carried me into his bedroom. Turning on the bedroom fan, Neil walked over to the bed and sat down. With my legs wrapped around him, he scooted us and laid his head down on the pillow. Looking up at me he said, “Ride that cock, baby.”

Placing my hands on either side of his, I swiveled my hips up and down. My chest was touching his and I was nipping against his neck and sucking his earlobe into my mouth. Neil made these little moans and grunts every time I would slowly rise up from his cock and quickly slam back down.

Smacking my ass, Neil grunted, “You fuck that cock with that tight, wet pussy, baby.”

Moaning into his neck, I moved faster and faster against his cock. I could feel myself getting tighter and tighter against his cock and just as I was getting ready to come, Neil pulled out of me.

Getting up from lying down he pushed me onto my stomach so my face was down and my ass was up. Sitting on his knees Neil grabbed ahold of my hips and slammed into me over and over again and carried out my orgasm.

“Oh god, Neil! Fuck! You’re so goddamn deep!”

“That’s right, baby. You like me fucking that pussy?”

“Yes! Oh god, yes!”

“AHHHH!”

Slamming into me as hard and as fast as he could, Neil then pulled out and I felt hot cum spill out on my ass cheeks, my thighs, and my lower back. I held onto the pillow below my head tightly because I was shaking. I was breathing in and out heavily and couldn’t believe how powerful that was.

I felt the bed dip below me and slowly moving my head, I saw Neil was laying on his back. His arms were underneath his head, his eyes were closed and he was breathing heavily. Opening his eyes, he started to pull me to him and I gladly went.

Resting my head on his chest, I wrapped my leg around his waist.

Kissing the top of my head, Neil breathlessly said, “I love you, Jade.”

Smiling into his chest I said, “I love you too, Neil.”

We lay like that for a few minutes and then I remembered I had to talk to Neil. Breaking free from his grasp, I grabbed a t-shirt that was on the floor and put it on. I started to walk out of the room when Neil asked, “Where are you going?”

Stopping, I turned my head around and said, “Don’t worry, I’ll be back,” and smiled at him.

“Hurry back.” Neil smiled at me.

I whispered, “Always,” and walked out of his bedroom and into mine.

Finding what I needed, I walked back into Neil’s bedroom. He was sitting up in bed and when he saw me, he smiled and said, “Hey, beautiful.”

“Hi,” I whispered.

Walking over to his side of the bed, Neil asked, “What are you doing?”

“This,” I said, and kneeled down on the floor.

Tilting his head, Neil asked, “Jade?”

Pulling the ring box out from behind my back, I opened it and said, “Neil, I love you. You’re who I want. You’re what I want. I want the house and the kids and the messes, and I want all of that with you.” I took a deep breath. “Will you marry me, Neil?”

I could see Neil wasn’t prepared but we had both talked about this. I knew I wanted Neil for the rest of my life and I knew he wanted me.

Moving the covers from off his body, Neil placed his legs on either side of me. Looking up at him holding the ring, Neil looked down at me and smiled. Cupping my face, Neil said, “Yes, baby, I will marry you.”

“Really?”

“Yes, Jade. I want you to be my wife.”

With tears rolling down my face, I pulled the ring from the box and put it on his left ring finger. I started to lean in to kiss Neil when he started to laugh.

Pulling away I asked, “What?”

Waving his hand back and forth he said, “We’re just so different and opposite from others.”

Placing my hands on either side of his face I said, “And I wouldn’t have it any other way,” before I kissed him.

Chapter 18

Jason

I couldn't believe I was a father. It's funny how you make a plan for your life. But you never plan on life throwing you a curveball and what you had planned seemed so bland. I never thought I would be a father now, or ever, in fact, and I couldn't believe it was with Ashlynn. *This girl is my life... for the rest of it.*

As happy as I was that my life was finally "starting," I was sad because I wondered when exactly Jade's would? I wanted my little sister to be happy. I wanted her to find love. I wanted someone to love her, cherish her, and take care of her. Most importantly? I wanted someone to protect her. For so long I had protected Jade and I always would, but I wanted her to find love and happiness the way I found it with my beautiful Ashlynn.

I knew of Jade's reputation. Everyone did. But I turned the other way because I was her brother. I didn't want to hear about what my sister was doing with guys. Of course I could give her my opinion on it, but in the end I'm her brother, not her parent.

We leaned on one another for the longest time. But now? My life was different, and while I would always be there for her, I wanted her to find someone and find her own happiness. As soon as I proposed to Ashlynn, all I want to do is go home with my family and relax for the night. But we all decided to celebrate a little bit and have some dinner together later that night.

While I was excited to have dinner with everyone, I knew I had to confront Neil. I knew something was going on between him and Jade and I was pissed. Pissed at the fact that Neil had made me a promise and he had broken it.

Promises are sacred. When you promise someone something and you go back on that, you lose a bit of their trust. Trust is a hard thing to earn back. It's manageable, but it's difficult.

Don't get me wrong, because Neil was a great guy, but I knew my sister. As much as I wanted her to settle down, she was a wild child, and I didn't like the fact that Neil was taking advantage of that. I wasn't saying Jade was this little angel, because she wasn't, but I thought Neil and I had an understanding. *Apparently we didn't.*

I could see the way they looked at each other and their stolen glances. The way they would stand extremely close to one another. Their little touches here and there when they thought no one could see.

Oh, but I could and I was pissed.

Part of me wondered if Ashlynn knew something but I didn't want to ask her. I knew she and Jade were best friends and I didn't want to ruin their friendship. Ashlynn had nothing to do with this. She was just a bystander. This was between Neil, Jade, and I.

With my arm wrapped around Ashlynn, we give our kids kisses on their foreheads and let Garrett and Janie take them home for the night. They were babysitting so Ashlynn and I could hang out with our friends and celebrate our graduation and mine and Ashlynn's engagement.

As I drove back to the apartment, the ride was quiet. I had one hand on the steering wheel and the other resting on Ashlynn's leg. I wanted to talk with Ashlynn but I was too busy trying to think of what exactly I was going to say to Neil. I didn't have much time to think about it because Ashlynn broke me from my thoughts.

"Jason, you need to let your sister live her life. She seems happy."

Turning to Ashlynn, I saw she was staring at me, trying to get her point across. Shrugging my shoulders, I let out a breath and said, "I know, but Jade's my sister. I have to protect her—"

But Ash cut me off. "She is your sister. But Jason, she's your sister. She's not your daughter. She's a smart girl and she can make her own decisions."

My eyes were back on the road. Nodding my head, I said, “I know, but I’ve had to protect her for so long.”

Placing her hand on top of my hand that’s resting on her thigh, she said, “I know, Jason, but Neil’s a nice guy.”

Looking over again, I said, “He is, but he made me a promise. Ashlynn, he broke that promise. I mean, I don’t even know what kind of relationship they have. I just wanted my sister to maybe calm down this year and figure out who she is and what she wants out of life. Instead? I don’t know what they’ve been doing and they’re roommates. It’s not like I want to know exactly what’s going on, but Jade deserves to be treated with some respect and I don’t know if Neil’s doing that.”

Slamming my hand against the steering wheel, I said, “I’m mean, for fuck’s sake, Ash, he could just be playing with her emotions and she doesn’t need that.”

I was breathing pretty heavily in and out and my heart started beating rapidly. I was getting so pissed off at this whole situation. Neil needed to explain himself and he needed to explain himself fast, because I was going to fuck his shit up if he so much as hurt a hair on my sister’s head.

Running her thumb along my hand to calm me down, Ash said, “But Jason? What if they fell in love? What if he cares for her and will do anything for her? What if that’s the case? You should know that Neil’s a good guy, and if you ask me, I don’t think he would hurt Jade.”

Looking over at Ash, I let out a breath. “Then he should have asked me if he could date her first.” Shaking my head I said, “I’m not trying to run her life, but they’re roommates. If I had known they would have dated, I would have never said it was okay for them to room together. And Ash, he made me a promise and he went back on it. So he has some explaining to do.”

Letting out a breath, Ash said, “Well, I just hope you don’t make a mess of this situation.”

Ryder, Isabelle, Jade, Neil, Patrick, Derrick, Sarah, Gabe, Ashlynn and I all went out to dinner. We decided to go to a seafood shack that was pretty close by and convenient for all of us. The drinks were flowing, people were laughing and talking, and there wasn’t a silent moment at the table. But I

couldn't help but notice Jade and Neil were getting really close and a little too comfortable with each other.

As soon as our dinners all arrived, Gabe yelled, "All right, guys! I just want to make a little toast right now." The entire table settled down and we all waited to hear what Gabe had wanted to say.

Sitting down, he looked over at Sarah and smiled. Lifting his hand, he rubbed it along her swollen belly and then leaned down to kiss her stomach. Looking back at all of us, he said, "I just want to say congrats to everyone and I know we are all moving in different directions, but I want us to all stay close. We have become a family of sorts and I want us to remain that way."

Shaking his head, he said, "I know we won't see each other all of the time now but I want us to get together yearly. See how we're all doing and stay in touch. What do you guys think?"

At the same time we all smiled, our eyes were filled with tears and it seemed to hit all of us that we weren't going to be seeing each other every single day. In fact, we probably wouldn't talk every single day. But for all of us, we would remember that for those four long years at school, we leaned on each other and we became a family. We were able to ask for help when we needed it. We were able to cheer each other on when we aced tests we had studied our asses off for. We were able to laugh when we did stupid things like pass out drunk and wake up the next morning naked with cocks drawn all over our face and body with permanent marker.

I'm not going to say who but... Ryder.

Going into our first year of college, we all couldn't wait for it to end and now? Now we wondered where those four years had gone, but we were doing new things with our lives. We were married. We were engaged. We were having children. We were going to have children. We'd found the love of our life. And then there were Jade and Neil and I knew I needed to get to the bottom of it and fast.

The table had now gone on to our separate conversations, but I couldn't help but notice Jade excuse herself from the table and then just a few seconds later, Neil got up. My heart rate skyrocketed through the roof. I couldn't believe they were doing this at the table and I needed to get to them fast. I needed to talk to Neil and Jade right that second.

Placing my napkin on the table, I got up and furiously followed Neil. I was almost to him and then I saw him grab Jade. He started to kiss her up

against the wall where the bathrooms were in the back of the restaurant. I was furious and all I saw was red. I couldn't believe he actually went behind my back and I couldn't believe Jade had lied to me.

Grabbing Neil by his shoulder, I pulled him back off of Jade and I just started to yell at him. "What the fuck, man! You gave me your word that you wouldn't do this, you motherfucker!" Pushing him up against the wall, I was just about to hit him in the face when he wrapped his arms around my waist and pushed me up against the other wall.

We tackled each other to the ground and I could hear Jade in the back ground yelling, "Stop, you two! Stop it!"

Punches were being thrown on either end, but then all of a sudden two hands were on my back pulling me up and away from Neil. I saw that Ryder had Neil by the arms, so I could only assume Gabe had me.

My thoughts were put to rest when I heard Gabe yell from behind me, "Enough, you two! What the fuck is the matter with you?"

I just wanted to beat the living fuck out of Neil but Gabe continued to hold me back., "Calm the fuck down, Jason. I fucking mean it."

I was breathing in and out really fast and I could see Jade trying to comfort Neil. I was fucking pissed off that they would both lie to me and keep whatever was going on between them from me. *I mean I'm her fucking brother. Why couldn't she tell me?*

I heard Gabe in the background saying something about how Jade was an adult and she could make her own decisions but I turned to rage when I saw Neil lean down and kiss Jade.

Pushing Gabe off me I stomped towards Neil. I guess he saw me out of the corner of his eye because just as I was about to punch him in the face, he did something and I instantly stopped mid-stride.

He took Jade and put her behind him to protect her.

I felt tears in my eyes and all of my anger quickly washed away. I could see Neil wasn't understanding my reaction, so I asked, "What did you do that for?"

My eyes flickered between him and Jade and I saw he didn't understand but then realization hit him. Turning to look at Jade, he then look back at me and said, "I was protecting her. I didn't want her to get hurt in any way."

I didn't recognize them at first, but then I felt tears running down my cheeks. Looking Neil in the eye, I asked, "Why?"

There's only one answer I want him to say.

“Because I love her.” Looking back at Jade, he didn’t take his eyes off her when he said, “I would do anything for her.”

Closing my eyes, I lifted my hands to my face and tried to wipe away the tears falling freely but it was no use. A few seconds went by and then I felt someone’s hands trying to pry my hands away from my face. I automatically knew they were Jade’s. I unhid my face and quickly wrapped them around my sister’s waist and held onto her.

I felt relieved she had found someone who would do exactly what I had and would do for her for the rest of my life. I felt her kiss my cheek and whispered into my ear, “I’m so sorry I didn’t tell you, Jason.”

Moving her at arm’s length, I asked, “Why didn’t you tell me?”

Letting out a nervous giggle, she said, “Because I knew you would react *this way.*”

Chuckling, I said, “Yeah, I probably would have acted this way either way. I’m sorry li’l sis that I acted like this.”

Nodding her head, she said, “I’m sorry, big bro, that I didn’t tell you.”

I noticed she kept her head down and I could tell that she felt really guilty about all of this. I didn’t want her to feel any sort of guilt. I was ecstatic she had found someone who would love her for the rest of her life. In fact, I was glad it was Neil. I was just hurt that they kept this secret from me.

Lifting my right hand, I placed it underneath her chin and slowly lifted it up so she would look at me. I could see her eyes were filled with tears and I didn’t want to be the cause of it. I quickly gave her a little smile to let her know that everything was okay between the two of us. I watched as her lips formed into a small smile and then slowly a bigger smile.

I wasn’t prepared but Jade wrapped her arms around my neck and squeezed the living fuck out of me. I wrapped my arms around her waist and squeezed her back. Just not as hard. Just as I was about to let go of her, she kissed my cheek and whispered, “I love you, Jason.”

Nodding my head into her chest, I whispered, “I love you, Jade.”

Pulling away from one another, I watched as Jade ran over to Neil and wrapped her arms around him and he wrapped his arms around her. I stood there for a few seconds and then I felt a tiny little hand wrap theirs around one of mine and I knew it was my Ashlynn.

Turning my head to the side, I looked down and saw she was smiling up at me.

Letting out a breath, I said, "I'm sorry for how I acted, Ash."

Giggling, she said, "It's fine, Jason. I hope Bennett is that protective of Jaylin." She paused. "I know he will because he's your son."

Leaning down, I kissed Ashlynn lightly on the lips, wrapped my right arm around her shoulders, and pulled her against me. I looked over just in time to see Neil walking over holding Jade's hand. Extending my left hand, I said, "Sorry, Neil."

Meeting me halfway he said, "I'm sorry too, Jason."

We started to shake hands but I could feel something on his left ring finger and my blood started to boil. I started to squeeze his left hand just a little tighter and he sensed what I found out. Jade must have sensed it too, because I heard her gasp.

Turning to Jade, I asked, "You two are married?"

I heard gasps coming from every which way. By that point everyone was watching the mess unraveling right before their eyes.

Jade's eyes bugged out of her head. Shaking her head in a small voice, she said, "No, we're engaged."

Tilting my head, I asked, "You mean you proposed?"

With her head ducked down, she slowly looked up at me and whispered, "Yes."

My hand was still holding tightly to Neil's and looking back at him, I said, "If you fuck up with Jade, it will be a very big mistake. You hear me?"

Nodding his head he said, "I hear ya, Jason."

Letting go of his hand, I looked out at everyone and said, "Well, I guess we got something else to celebrate."

After everyone congratulated Jade, we all started to walk back to our table, but I was pulled back. Turning around, I saw Jade smiling at me with tears in her eyes. I didn't understand what was going on and just as I was about to ask, she said, "I love you so much, Jason. You have protected me for a long time." She sucked in a breath. "I don't know how I'll ever thank you, but I love you so much."

Wrapping my arms around my little sister's shoulders, I pulled her up against me and gave her the biggest hug. Resting my head on top of hers, I said, "I just wanted you to be happy, Jade. That's all I ever wanted for you."

Nodding into my chest, she said, "I know." Placing her hands on my chest, she slowly pushed away from me. Looking up into my eyes, she said, "And I finally am."

“Then I’m happy for you,” I said, and smiled down at my little sister.

“Thank you,” she whispered.

We stayed like that for a few seconds and then I said, “All right, weirdo, let’s go back to the table. They’re all probably wondering what kind of mess we have gotten ourselves into,” and smiled.

Laughing, Jade said, “Sounds good. Let’s go, big brother.”

I started to wrap my arm around her shoulder but Jade took my right hand in her left. Looking down at my little sister, all I could feel was happiness for the both of us and where we were with our lives. We had grown up with such sadness and hurt and betrayal. And now? Now we were in a place of peace and tranquility. Most importantly, a place of beauty and I couldn’t ask for more than that.

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Epilogue

1 1/2 years later

Jade

“Come on, babe, we’re going to be late.”

Neil and I were on our way to the doctor’s office. Today we were going to find out if we were going to have a little boy or a little girl. I really wanted a little girl but Neil wanted a boy. We knew we wanted to start a family right away. We just couldn’t wait to have kids. We pretty much got pregnant after coming to that conclusion to start a family.

“I’m coming, babe.”

I started to grab my coat but stopped when I felt hands come around me and land on my pregnant belly. With his mouth at the crook of my neck, Neil kissed me. Breathing against my skin, he skimmed his mouth from my neck to my ear. Sucking my earlobe into his mouth, I started to moan. Quickly releasing it, he whispered, “You aren’t yet, but you will.” With that he spun me around and wrapped his arms around my waist, pulling me as close to him as my belly would allow.

Wrapping my arms tightly around his neck, I started to play with the ends of his brown wavy hair between my fingers. Giggling, I whispered, “Tease.”

Looking down at me, he said, “Well, whatever I am, I’m yours.”

With tears filling my eyes, I nodded. “Yeah, you are mine.”

Leaning his head down, Neil placed a gentle kiss on my lips. Releasing me, he grabbed my coat from behind me. Making a turnaround gesture with his finger, I did so and he helped me with my coat. I giggled to myself because in one second, Neil could be a wild sex beast, and in the next he was the perfect gentleman.

Zippering up my coat, we headed to the front door. Of course Neil opened the door for me and I still got little butterflies when he did it. Closing the door behind him, Neil took ahold of my hand and we started our walk to the car. I smiled to myself because I still got goose bumps when Neil held my hand in his.

Getting in the car, we started our drive to the doctor's office. It was a quiet drive with Neil paying attention to the road and me just hoping our baby was safe. In the end it didn't matter whether we had a little girl or a little boy. Of course I wanted a little girl to dress up but all I really wanted was a healthy little baby.

Getting lost in my thoughts, I didn't realize we had finally made it to the doctor's office. Opening my car door for me, Neil gave me his hand. "Jade." Looking down at his hand, I looked up into his eyes and smiled. Looking back down at his hand, I took his hand in mine and gently got out of the car.

Standing, I wrapped my arms around Neil and leaned in to kiss him. He didn't hesitate. He just leaned down and met me halfway like he always did. Pulling away from me, he tilted his head to the side. "As much as I love you kissing me, what was that for?"

Smirking up at him I said, "Isn't it obvious?"

Smiling down at me, Neil started to lean in. Right before he kissed me again, he whispered against my lips, "I love you too, Jade."

Breaking away, Neil took my hands in his and did something he always does when the sun escapes and the wind begins to blow and the snowflakes fall. He took my hands in his and blows warm air to warm them up. Every single time he does my heart grows fonder for Neil James, my best friend, my lover and my husband.

Walking into the doctor's office, we wait patiently. Of course Neil can't help when his knee moves up and down at a rapid pace. And I can't help but bite my nails because we are both so anxious. As soon as our names are called, we're taken back into a room and wait for the doctor to do the sonogram.

“How is everything with you, Mrs. James?”

Every time someone calls me that I smile and get little butterflies. Looking over at Neil, I can tell he gets the same reaction as me. Giving each other a little smile, I turn back to Dr. Carlsson and say, “Pretty good. Just a little tired.”

Nodding his head he says, “That’s normal.” Turning off the room lights he says, “Now lie back and get comfortable.”

Listening to his instructions I lift my shirt up to under my breasts and wait for him to apply the gel to my stomach. It’s cool and ticklish in a way. Looking over at Neil who’s sitting right beside me I take his hand in mine. He instantly turns to me and smiles. Smiling back I then say, “I love you, Neil James.”

His smile gets even wider and he nods his head saying, “I love you, Jade James.”

Turning on the sonogram machine, the doctor asks, “Okay are you guys ready to find out what you’re having?”

That breaks our attention and we focus on Dr. Carlsson, who is moving the wand around on my swollen belly. Both Neil and I watch the machine and wait for Dr. Carlsson to tell us. A few seconds later he stops moving the wand on my belly. With his other hand, he points to the baby on the machine and looking back at us, he says, “Well, you have a healthy little baby boy.”

Tears instantly fall from my face, and turning to Neil, I see he has the biggest smile on his. He must notice I’m watching him because he turns to me and I see unshed tears in his eyes. Sitting up, I turn to Neil who is now standing from his chair and I wrap my arms around his waist as he wraps his around me. As we’re still holding onto one another I overhear Dr. Carlsson say, “I’ll just give you both a few moments.”

The second the door closes Neil’s lips are on mine. I’m not sure who leans in or initiates it first because it doesn’t matter. Opening my mouth I lightly touch his tongue with mine. Wrapping his arms tighter around me, I cling to the shirt he’s wearing. I’m probably stretching it the way I’m holding on so tightly, but he has plenty of shirts. As he moans into my mouth, I sigh into his.

Breaking away from me, he cups my face in his hands and smiles at me. Leaning in, Neil gently kisses me on the tip of my nose. Backing away, he whispers, “I love you so much, Jade James.”

Smiling, I nod my head and say, “I know. I love you so much, Neil James.”

With my face still cupped in his hands, my arms are on his shoulders. Leaning down, he kisses me gently on the lips. He breaks away too soon but then I realize the door is opening and in walks Dr. Carlsson again.

Wrapping his arm tightly around me, I squeeze Neil’s hand and wait to hear what Dr. Carlsson has to say.

“Well, we should expect you guys back here in four weeks.” With that he shakes first Neil’s hand and then mine. , “Thanks so much, Doctor,” said Neil.

Nodding his head, Dr. Carlsson then turns to me. Wrapping his hand in mine, we shake. “Thank you so much, Dr. Carlsson.”

Smiling at the both of us he says, “Well, I’ll see you guys in four weeks.” With that Dr. Carlsson leaves the room.

Turning to Neil, I wrap my arms around him and we laugh out of pure excitement. Calming ourselves we get ready to leave and drive back home.

On the way home I’m staring out the window thinking back on my life. I start to think about my childhood with Jason. How my life was then and is now. Neil must sense something because the next thing I know I feel him wrap his free hand around mine. Turning to him, I smile and tears are brought to my eyes once again because of this beautiful man.

I think back to our first real date and how Neil took a chance on me. I think about how grateful I am for that moment because without him I don’t know where I would be. All I know is that I wouldn’t be happy.

I’m broken from my thoughts when Neil says, “So I was thinking of names.”

Turning to him and smiling I ask, “And?”

Smiling he says, “What do you think of Matthew?”

With tears threatening to form I say, “It’s perfect,” and in that moment Neil turns to me and smiles and quickly wipes away the one tear that managed to escape.

I’m tearing up because I can’t believe where my life is and where it’s going to go. All I’m certain of is that Neil will be there with me, whatever life throws at us.

Because, before Neil came into my life, I used to think that I would just make these terrible mistakes for the rest of my life. Take myself down a long winding road, look back and never know how to get out. However the

day I met Neil, everything changed for me. I was no longer making mistakes I would regret later, but beautiful mistakes with a beautiful man. After all, those are the best kinds. Not to mention the most fun.

It's the contradiction in and of itself... of making a beautiful mistake.

The End

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XoXo, Emily!

About the Author

For the past 21 years, I have been a planner and an organizer. I always needed things a specific way and then everything changed for me. I've always had a vivid imagination and thoughts racing through my mind. I realized that life is way too short to let things pass me by, because in the blink of an eye everything could change. So I decided to just live in the moment, taking every chance and opportunity led my way. No second thoughts and just going with the flow.

I decided to put the fictional characters and the conversations going on in my head to paper. I know it makes me sound crazy, but I wouldn't have it any other way. I've embraced crazy and hectic and last minute because it's led me to making my dreams a reality.

When I'm not writing Happily Ever After's I'm reading about them and living one. I think this world is filled with too much sadness already we don't need to read about it as well. I write because I love it and I've allowed my imagination to run wild and be crazy and free. Just like me.

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