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AN INVITATION FROM HELL

BY

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Chapter One

“Gosh! I can’t believe I’m having a tough time with this math class. I had this damn professor before why I’m not getting it? This is so freaking frustrating.” I looked up at Professor Docket who was staring right at me when he said, “I’m so disappointed in some of you who had my class before. I can’t believe that most of you flunked this test and it was the easiest one.” He paced angrily around the room looking at each student as he walked by. I looked around and I noticed that most of the student’s faces were gloomy. I could not help but smile because I knew I wasn’t the only one feeling frustrated. As soon as I turned back around, I found Professor Docket standing right in front of me. “Am I amusing you Ms. Porter?” he asked. I immediately cleared my throat and said, “No Sir!”

He stood there staring down at me for a minute making me uncomfortable and I whispered, “Damn it! Why don’t you go stand somewhere else?” Finally, he moved away and stood in front of his desk and said, “I suggest that some of you go to the

math lab and find a tutor fast.” Then, he started handing out the test scores. When he handed me my test I saw a big 50 in red ink written on the top corner of my paper. “Damn it! I can’t afford to fail this stupid class. It’s my last semester to graduate.” I whispered in frustration. After seeing my grade, I didn’t even want to be in the class anymore. I tried to cover my grade with my hand so the students next to me would not see it. After handing back the tests, Professor Docket started talking about the final exam. I was too angry to even listen to what he was saying. Professor Docket saw that I wasn’t paying any attention and said, “Ms. Porter, are you with us?”

“Yes Sir.” I replied with any enthusiasm. “I need to see you after class.” he said. I nodded my head and looked him in the eyes but my mind was wandering elsewhere. I stared at the clock and the time looked like it was frozen. I couldn’t wait to get the hell out of that class. Professor Docket said, “I’m going to go over all of the questions you have wrong because you guys will see them again on the next test. So, just call out the

number you want me to review.” One at a time the other students called out the questions they wanted an explanation on. To be honest I needed him to go over everything on my test paper. Thank goodness the time started to move a bit faster as he went over the problems. Finally, it was one thirty and I was the first one out of the door. I completely forgot that professor Docket requested to see me. The minute I walked out of class, Ana came running and screaming, “Oh my God! Oh my God! Guess what?”

“What?” I replied.

“Michael just invited me to a party tonight. Can you believe it?”

“No way!” I answered sarcastically.

“You have to come with me.” She said.

“I have to come with you because...”

Then she gave me a puppy face look and said, “Because you are my only best friend.”

“Oh, best friend huh? Well, let me remind you in case you don’t remember. Last time you took me to a party I woke up in the front of Mrs. Ryan’s lawn without my shoes. Not only that, my purse was stolen and someone charged \$1100 on my card that I’m still paying for.”

“It’s not like you were the only one Bree. Remember, I was on the lawn too. If you weren’t so mean to Jessica she wouldn’t have spiked our drinks. Gee, I thought you were over that Bree.”

“Obviously I’m not over it. I can’t keep waking up in front of people’s lawn every time you take me to a party.”

“How many times do I have to say that I’m sorry Bree? Girl, you have to learn to let things go. It’s not healthy, you know?”

“Oh, so waking up drunk in front of people’s lawn is healthy.”

“Listen, I’m not trying to destroy your reputation okay. It’s just that I really like Michael and I think it’s a great opportunity for

me to get closer to him.” She said making a sad face like a damn kid. I stopped and said, “Please, you really need to stop making that ugly face.”

“Okay, Michael asked me to come with him to this dinner party and wants me to bring some friends.”

Chapter Two

“Why do you even like him? I told you there’s something creepy about him. I don’t trust him.” I turned around and began to walk away from her. “Come on, please. Don’t make me beg.” She said with a puppy face look. “I wouldn’t ask you if it wasn’t important to me.” I stopped walking and said “You don’t have to follow that creepy guy wherever he goes for him to like you. I don’t even like him for you.”

“Bree, I’m not asking you to like him. All I need is your support, okay.” I took a deep breath and said, “Listen, I’m having a bad day and I’m not in the mood to party.”

“Come on, Bree. Will you come if Jacob’s going to be there?” Ana said with a big grin on her face. “Okay, what about Jacob? The guy doesn’t even know I exist.” I started to walk away and the girl refused to leave me alone. Out of nowhere, this idiot jumped and stood in front of me like a retard and said, “That’s not what I heard.” I rolled my eyes in frustration looking at her.

For crying out-loud why won’t she quit already? I have better things to do. Why won’t she go away? This girl is like a fungus. Doesn’t she have other friends to harass? She’s like the annoying donkey in Shrek. I faked a smile and said, “And your point is Ana?”

“Come on, please. Don’t make me beg.” She said with her bottom lip sticking out. “Alright, I will go but I’m not staying past midnight.”

“It’s a date. Be ready by 9:30.”

“Wait, why so late? What time is that dinner party?”

“Bree, it’s Friday and it’s not like you’re going anywhere tomorrow morning.”

“And how do you know that?”

“Our dorm rooms are in the same hallway Bree, remember. Girl, you need to live a little, Hello?”

“Well, just because I don’t want to be at your dumb party doesn’t mean I’m not living my life.”

“Come on Bree, will you please.” I took a deep breath and rolled my eyes. I felt something grabbing my legs and when I looked down, I saw Ana on her knees with one arm around my legs saying, “Please, come with me!”

“Get off your knees and quit embarrassing yourself. I’ll go with you already.” She stood up, hugged me, and said, “Thank you! I promise you won’t regret it.”

“Okay, can you let me go now?” Then she let go and said, “I will personally make sure that Jacob checks you out. I will see you later.”

“Whoop-tee-doo.” I replied then walked away. Later that evening, around 9:20 p.m., I heard knocking on my door. I opened the door, and what do you know, Ana was standing right in front of me smiling from ear to ear. “Oh God, not you again.” I said as I held the door. I really wanted to tell her I

forgot but I know it wouldn’t work so instead I said, “Now what Ana? Please, don’t tell me that you’re ready to go now.”

“Yes, I’ am. It’s 9:20 it will take us forty five minutes to get there. You should have been ready.” She replied with excitement on her face. “Where the hell is that place anyway?”

I asked as I pulled the door closed after she walked in. “We need to leave now hurry up and get ready.” She replied dragging me to the closet. I reluctantly put my clothes on and I had to remind her again that I’m not staying past midnight. “I know girl, you told me a thousand times already. I’m not staying past midnight.” She said mimicking me. “I will make sure your little butt gets here at exactly 11:59.” She said looking at me smiling. “Oh, you got jokes, don’t you?” I replied rolling my eyes at her. When I thought about it, the little twerp didn’t need me after all because when I got in the car thinking I was the only one, Jasmine was sitting in the back. “I thought you didn’t have anyone to go with you?” I asked frowning at Ana.

“I never said I didn’t have anyone to go with me. I asked you to come.” She said with a smile making me look like an idiot. I really had nothing to say this time because she was right after all. I didn’t know where the hell she was going but it seemed like we were lost. The road looked old like a deserted area. There were no homes and very few streets lights. It gave me the chills. I felt like I was in a scary movie scene. Something felt creepy about the place she was heading too.

I constantly glanced around in case something creepy jumped in front of the car. I can’t believe Ana agreed to go to a place like this. I couldn’t hold my tongue anymore so I said, “Ana, it looks like we’re in the middle of nowhere. Do you have any idea where you’re going because I have not seen one house since you entered that road? I really don’t like this.”

“Please, you’re giving me a headache. Stop the whining already, it’s not like we’re walking.” Jasmine replied sitting in the back.

“I’m sorry, is your name Ana?” I asked sarcastically while rolling my eyes. “I can’t believe I actually agreed to this. What if something goes wrong?”

Chapter Three

I looked at my phone and I had no signal. I took a deep breath and said, “This is just great! Here I am with Tweedledee and Tweedledum who have no clue where the hell we are going.” I turned my attention to Ana again and said, “Ana, what kind of party is in the middle of nowhere? What if something happens? Who are we going to run to for help?”

“Have you ever heard of cell phone, hello?” I heard Jasmine say in the back. I was livid with anger and literally wanted to choke the crap out her. I turned to her and she rolled her eyes at me and I said, “Listen, don’t make me stick my foot in your mouth. All you dumb idiots care about is alcohol, sex, and partying. And yes, I’ve heard of a cell phone because I happen to own one you moron. My point is my phone doesn’t have any signal and I’m sure yours doesn’t either. How do you girls know that your so called friends who invited you to this dinner party in the middle of nowhere are not going to offer you for sacrifice?”

“Come on kids, stop the cat fight. You see, we’re here.” Ana said with excitement as if she’d just won a gold medal. I turned my attention to the front and there was a huge mansion. My instincts were telling me to go back home. “Wow, that’s a huge beautiful mansion. Donald Trump must own this place.” Jasmine said as she hurried out of the car the minute Ana parked. Something didn’t feel right about this place because it gave me the creeps. Granted there were a lot of beautiful expensive cars parked in the lot. The mansion was nice but why in the middle of nowhere? What bothered me was some of the people I saw coming out of their cars were not our age. Why are we here with a bunch of older people? “Look, there’s Michael and the others going inside.” Ana said with excitement.

“I really don’t like this place.” I said to Ana. “Well, why don’t you stay in the car?” Jasmine said walking away from the car toward the front door.

“Who was talking to her? I really can’t stand that girl.” I said as I got out and Ana turned to me and said, “Listen, why don’t you

come inside with us for a little bit and then we will leave around eleven.”

“Who are you fooling Ana? I know you are not going to leave any time soon so cut the crap.” I said as we were walking towards the mansion entrance. I looked above and couldn’t avoid noticing the lighting on a gargoyle statue with two horns, red eyes, sharp looking teeth, and huge wings sitting on a human skull. As we were getting closer to the entrance door, we saw two large rusty dagger gargoyle statues looking at us as if they were ready to attack us. It gave me the chills. The usher at the door looked a little weird. He was just standing still and I thought he was also a statue. I reached out to poke him to see if he was real and he turned to me; I screamed like I’d just seen a ghost. Ana jumped and asked, “What’s wrong with you?” I laughed and said, “That guy scared the crap out of me. I thought he was a statue.” Gee, whose idea was that to put him at the entrance door? Ana and I proceeded inside the mansion. As I looked around I noticed that everyone else was all dressed up.

All of the men were dressed in black and white tuxedos and the women in black dresses. We sure didn’t get the dress code memo because most of the people I saw from our college weren’t dressed as fancy including me. “Did Michael say anything about the dress code?” I asked Ana. “Yeah, he said we didn’t have to dress up.” She replied. Something didn’t feel right about this so called “party” the two idiots dragged me too. Am I the only one feeling this way? I can’t be that paranoid, can I? I have to get out of here. I looked around and noticed that there was not much partying going on. People were just talking to each other and the music was enough to put me to sleep. It felt more like a senior citizen evening event. Maybe we’re too early or something because there’s nothing fun about this party so far. I’d rather be home on Facebook or playing that stupid Farmville game. I looked to my right and I saw Michael walking down the stairs towards us. I turned and glanced at Ana and she had a big cheesy smile on her face. She looked as if she’d just got a bad dose of Botox. Why was she fidgeting?

Chapter Four

I had to nudge her with my elbow for her to stop. “Hi, are you guys enjoying the party?” Michael said with a smile. “Yeah!” Ana replied smiling like a little kid. I didn’t know if she was pretending to be enjoying herself or if she was just nervous. I know he didn’t seriously ask us if we are enjoying ourselves. I couldn’t help but laugh out loud and I say, “You’re being sarcastic, right?” He rolled his eyes at me and took Ana’s hand then walked away with her. I laugh aloud as I watched them walking away. “I think I hurt his feelings.” I said with a smirk on my face. Anyways, I have to find a way to get the hell out of here before I die of boredom. I looked at my phone and I still had no signal. I couldn’t even browse the internet on my phone. They can’t be that cheap with no internet in this huge mansion. I needed a drink, a heavy one at that. As my eyes wandered around I spotted a waiter with drinks and my face lit up. I hurried and grabbed two drinks and hoped it was strong enough. After I swallowed both glasses of champagne, I didn’t know

what to do with myself. So, I walked around a little. Ana and Michael were nowhere to be found. I happened to wander down the hall and there was this golden double door. I really wanted to know what was behind that door. I opened the door and I saw a huge room with a vaulted glass ceiling and I could see the sky and the moon as if it was on top of the building. I had never seen a ceiling like that before. I closed the door behind me and walked to the center of the room to get a better view of the ceiling. Then I started to look around and there was a tall bookshelf facing me. There wasn’t much furniture in the room. I look down at my feet and I realized that I was standing on a huge circle. I took few steps back and saw an engraved picture of a gargoyle like the one I saw on the top of the mansion. There was writing in the circle but I didn’t know what language it was. Then I felt a presence in the room as if someone was watching me. I quickly walked out of the room and bumped into a big guy. He stared at me as if I’d just stolen something, so I ran to where all the guests were. While running, I bumped into

another guy who was just standing there looking at me and he just continued to stare at me. He didn't even ask me if I was alright. Something seemed different about those two guys I ran into. Although I tried to stay calm, I was too distracted to remain calm because I was afraid the guy would come after me but I never saw him again. I didn't know where Ana was and she had the car keys with her. I was looking around to see if Ana or Michael would show up but no luck. I didn't want to explore anymore after what I saw and felt in the room; so I just stood there like a lost girl.

Then I felt a hand on my shoulder. I thought it was the guy in the hallway so I screamed. When I turned around I saw it was a girl. "I'm sorry. She said. I didn't mean to startle you. You don't look too well, are you alright?"

"No, I need to get out of here." I said still holding my chest as I tried to composed myself. She smirked and said, "I don't blame you because this party is pretty odd. Did you drive?"

"No, I came with a friend."

"Me too and I don't have a clue where she is." We both looked around. "I don't think we were brought here to have fun. I think there's something else going on." She whispered to me. I looked up and I saw the man I bumped into walking toward us, I immediately looked the other way. I grabbed the girl's hand and started to walk towards the door. "Let's get out of here forget the others." I said. When we reached the front door two big guys who looked like bodyguards in black suits came to stand in front of us. "We need to go outside." I said to them.

One of the guys said, "I'm sorry, you guys can't leave."

What the hell did I get myself into? The guys were too big to even put up a fight with. "We just want to go out for some fresh air." I said.

"What is this? Why can't we step outside?" The girl asked angrily. I didn't even know her name. "You can't keep us here against our will." I said. They just stood there ignoring us like

we weren't even there. Eventually we walked away and I said to her, "I'm sorry, my name is Bree. What's your name?"

"My name is Chloe."

"Nice to meet you Chloe." I said looking around. "Dido." She faked a smile and said. At least I wasn't the only one who thought this place was creepy. "I don't think some of us are leaving this mansion alive tonight." Chloe said.

"Please, say no more. I'm already freaking out." I replied. Before I knew it, it was eleven thirty. I hadn't seen Ana since she walked away with Michael. Around eleven forty five, I spotted Ana coming from upstairs with Michael. Interestingly enough, Michael was wearing a black tuxedo.

"Excuse me Chloe; I need to talk to them." I said pointing in Ana's direction. I walked up to her and asked, "Ana, where have you been?"

"I was upstairs with Michael. Why do you look so worried?"

"I'm worried because those guys standing in front of the door told me I couldn't leave."

"Relax girl, Michael told me they are going to do something special at midnight for us so they want everyone to stay inside. That's why they won't let you out." Michael was standing there looking at me as if he wanted to shut me up and I stared right back at him and said, "What exactly is it that you people are going to do at midnight that you guys don't want us to leave? Why are you so dressed up?"

Michael grinned at me and said, "Why are you asking questions you already know the answer to?"

"What the hell is that supposed to mean?" I replied angrily rolling my eyes. I knew I didn't like him for a reason.

"You were in the room earlier, weren't you? Figure it out."

"Hey, how did you know I was in the room?"

“Nothing goes unnoticed here my dear Bree.” He said smiling. He took Ana’s hand and walked away. I was shocked and pissed off seeing Ana walk behind him like a little dog on a leash. This bastard purposely invited us to a ritual ceremony. I heard someone call my name, when I turned around, I saw Jacob walking towards me. What do you know; he was dressed in a black tuxedo too. Great, he’s one of them too; what does he want? “What are you doing here?” he walked up to me and asked. “I’m sorry, I didn’t know this was your party.”

Chapter Five

“No, no I’m sorry. I didn’t mean to sound that way.”

“What the hell is going on here?” I said to Jacob angrily. Jacob grabbed my hand and walked to a corner with me. “I can’t tell you but you have to get out of here now.” He whispered to me.

“I already tried but those two guys over there at the front door won’t let me leave.”

“Follow me, I think I can get you out.” He said and walked toward the front door with me. The same guys were still standing there and one of them said, “I’m sorry but no one leaves until the ceremony ends. You know the rules Jacob.”

Oh my God, he had done this before. I looked at Jacob and fear begun to settle within me. I began to panic. “What Ceremony is he talking about?” I asked Jacob. I pulled my hand away from his and said, “You bastards invited us here to be killed.” He grabbed my hand and walked away with me. “Calm down Bree.” He said.

“Let me go and don’t tell me to calm down. What the hell are you?” I pulled my hand away from him again. He pinned me against the wall and said, “Will you stop making a scene. I’m trying to save your life.”

I immediately begin to feel light headed. I saw his mouth moving but I couldn’t hear what he was saying. I was out of it. He kissed me so I could snap out of it. I pushed him away and yelled, “Get away from me!”

“I am so sorry. I didn’t know you were coming otherwise I would have stopped you from coming.” Jacob said looking guilty. “I don’t believe this.” I covered my mouth in shock and said, “Oh God, I’m going to die.” Tears started to roll down my cheeks.

Jacob hugged me and said, “I won’t let you die. I promise.”

I gave a deep sigh. “Listen, if you stay with me I’ll protect you, okay.” Jacob said. He held both my arms and looked into my eyes. “Look at me Bree.” He said.

I looked at him with tears in my eyes and he whispered in my ear, “When you get inside the room, you must do whatever they do, okay.”

“Oh God, I want my daddy.” I cried and said.

“You must listen to what I say because that’s the only way I can get you out of here alive. Are you listening?” He looked into my eyes and I nodded my head still in tears thinking that I would never see my parents again. He hugged me to make me feel better but it wasn’t helping knowing that I was going to die. He said, “Whatever you see come down from the ceiling, do not stare at him or show fear. You will be fine if you do what I told you.”

“Okay.” I said and he hugged me for a minute. I held on to Jacob for dear life praying that God would let me out of here safely. I held on to the crucifix that my grandmother gave me when I was ten years old. I rubbed it as I prayed in my heart. My stomach tightened in fear when I saw the two guys close the

front door. Ten minutes before midnight everyone started walking towards the hallway that led to the room I accidentally walked into earlier. There weren't too many young people at the party because from what I could count there were about eight of us (including me) who were wearing regular clothes. As the college students began to follow the crowd to the room, eight big men walked through the crowd to stop them from proceeding to the room and Chloe was one of them. One of the guys walked towards me to grab me by the arm and Jacob said, "She's one of us." The guy looked at me for a second then walked away. "Remember what I told you. Remain calm." Jacob said to me as we continued to walk through the hallway. Interestingly, Ana and Jasmine were missing. As I followed him inside the room, everyone picked up a black silk cloak in a huge closet next to the door. Jacob and I walked into the closet and Jacob picked up two cloaks and handed one to me. "Here, put this on with the hood over your head." He said. Then there was a table with a bunch of black books laying there, everyone took

one of the books and stood on top of the big circle on floor. Minutes later, the bookshelf that was on the wall opened up, I saw Michael with an older man walk out, and they put their hoods on. I noticed that Ana didn't come out with Michael and I began to worry about her when I heard screaming coming from behind the bookshelf. Jacob gave my hand a little squeeze as my heart raced faster than normal. I felt as if I was going to pass out. I started to pray under my breath. "God, please don't let me die here. Not now, please let me out of here. I promise I'll go back to church. I will never go to parties again, or drink or smoke pot." I said. Everyone opened their books. Jacob elbowed me to open my book but I was afraid to even look inside of the book. When I was young, my mom told me a story about this guy who read in a Masonic book and became blind. I opened the book and I noticed that the words weren't in English. Everyone began to recite what was in the book in unison. Their voices started to get louder, and louder as they continued to recite passages in the book. The lights started to

flicker and I heard something walking on top of the roof. The mansion shook like an earthquake. I could see the chandelier shaking violently. All of a sudden, the lights went off and the only thing that illuminated the room was the candle sticks on the wall. I felt that creepy presence again and they kept chanting some other things. Minutes later, I heard the sound of wings flapping as if it was coming from above and when I looked up, I saw this big black thing ascending with huge wings.

Chapter Six

I quickly looked away, closed my eyes, and started to recite Psalms twenty three. Minutes later, I felt Jacob's hand slowly sliding away from my hand. I didn't have any sensation in my body anymore. I could feel that thing breathing down on me. I knew it wasn't Jacob, so I thought. I was shaking like a leaf on a tree. I closed my eyes tightly because I didn't want to see its face. Has the shadows taken my soul? Where am I? There was complete silence as if everyone had left the room. I continued to recite Psalms twenty three.

Suddenly, I felt like I was floating in the air. I no longer felt that horrible presence breathing down on me. It felt as if I was flying and I felt at peace. I began to relax, and then I heard a man's voice calling my name. He said, "Breanna, Breanna don't be afraid, I am with you." When I opened my eyes, I found myself lying in bed. I looked at the clock and it was almost 4 a.m. "Thank God it was just a dream." I said taking a deep breath and I went back to sleep. The next time I woke up it was

because my phone was ringing. I looked at the time and it was 8 a.m. I picked up the phone thinking it was Ana calling me and I said, “What do you want Ana? It’s only eight in the morning.”

I heard a sigh of relief and Jacob said, “I’m so happy to hear your voice. I was worried about you last night.” I was puzzled for a minute. Why is Jacob calling me? How did he get my number? “Jacob?” I asked. “Yes, are you alright?” Now I was really confused. I stopped for a minute to gather myself and tried to figure out why he was asking if I was alright. We didn’t go out last night, did we? “Wait, I’m confused why are you calling me?” I asked. I wiped my eyes and immediately sat up and asked, “Why are you worried?”

“You don’t remember?”

“No, what are you talking about?”

“Last night during the ceremony, he was going to take your soul.” He paused for a minute then he continued, “Then, a bright light suddenly appeared from above us. Neither of us

could resist the light. I had to let go of your hand because I felt like I was burning. In a matter of seconds, I saw something; I think it was an angel with a big shining silver sword ascending from the ceiling. We all ran out of fear and I tripped and fell. He looked at me but I couldn’t see his face and he said to me, if you repent I will not kill you. It was both scary and the most amazing thing I have ever experienced. Then you were gone with the light.” I could hear the thrill in his voice but I on the other hand was freaking out. Oh my God, it wasn’t a dream. I quickly hung up the phone in fear. I got up and started to pace around, then I looked at the phone and said, “No, no, no.” I faked a smile and said, “He’s just playing with my mind.”

I ran out of the room, and saw a bunch of students standing in the hallway, some were crying. Ana’s room was a few doors down from my room. I started walking towards it and as I got closer the door that was opened I saw Ana’s roommate Vivian in tears. I saw a boy standing nearby and I asked him, “What’s going on?”

“Ana and some other students got into a fatal car accident last night coming from a party and all seven of them died at the scene. It was so horrific the police said that their body parts were scattered everywhere and some of them weren’t even recognizable.” When I heard that, I ran back to my room, I locked the door, and sat on the bed. I didn’t know if I should cry or scream. My phone rung and I was afraid to pick it up. I let it ring and go to my voicemail. I sat on the bed with my legs folded rocking back and forth trying to figure out what happened last night. What if the police are looking for me? What do I tell them? How do I even explain how I got home? No one will believe me. What Jacob said didn’t make any sense. What if that thing comes after me? I felt like I was losing my mind because I just could not remember how I got home. After sitting on the bed for a few hours, I took a quick shower and headed to a nearby church. I felt that it was the only safe place I could go to at that very moment. I didn’t have a car so I had to walk to the church that was fifteen minutes away. I was afraid

for my life and felt very confused. It’s funny I’ve lived here three and a half years and I have never stepped foot in that church. As I was walking, I was constantly looking around me because I was very paranoid. When I got to the church, there was only one car in the parking lot. The door was unlocked so I walked inside. I laughed out loud because I couldn’t remember the last time I’d been to a church. Wow, it’s been about three years. God I don’t even know where to start. What do I say to Him? I leaned forward with my head down trying to process what went wrong last night. I took a deep breath, lifted my head, and I saw the pastor coming from a rear door by the altar. He came and sat next to me as if he knew something was troubling me. “I’m glad you came in.” He said looking at me with a smile. It was funny that I felt at peace the minute he sat next to me. It felt as if all my troubles were gone and I smiled back at him. “I’m glad I came in too.” I said.

“So, what’s on your mind?”

I looked down smiling before turning my attention to him and said, “I don’t know where to start.”

“Well, that’s a start.” We both shared a smile. “But, I didn’t even say anything yet.” I said.

“That’s the interesting thing with Jesus, you don’t need to because he already knows what’s in your heart.” He said pointing to his heart. I nodded and said, “So, what do I do now?”

“You can ask him back into your life and you won’t have to fear anymore.” I sat there quietly for a second thinking then I asked, “What about all the bad things I’ve done?”

“Everything you did in the past three years up until now will be forgiven. It’s almost as if you’ve been made new again once you accept him.”

“Why did he save me last night and not my friends?”

Chapter Seven

He took a deep breath and said, “One thing we don’t want to do is question His authority. God has a reason for everything. He loves all of us the same. Your friends are where they need to be right now.” I looked up and said, “Will you pray the sinner’s prayer with me, please?”

Then I got on my knees. He held both my hands and said, “Please, repeat after me. Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. I trust and follow you as my Lord and Savior. Guide my life and help me to do your will. In your name I pray, amen.” After I repeated the sinner’s prayer he helped me up and said, “Go back home to your dad child you’re needed at his church.” I was puzzled and said, “How did you know that my dad is a pastor?”

“The One above told me so. Go in peace my child.” He got up and said, “My job here is done.” My eyes wandered away for a

second and when I turned back to look at him he was gone. I walked outside then decided to go back in to ask him something. I walked back to the door and it was locked. I knocked on the door because I saw a guy vacuuming. He continued to vacuum so I knocked harder until I got his attention. He came to the door, opened it, and asked, "Yes, can I help you?" I smiled and said, "Hi, is it okay if I come in to see the pastor; I need to ask him something?"

The man looked puzzled; he looked behind him and then looked back at me. He was looking at me as if I was crazy. "What pastor?" He asked. "There's no one else here but me."

I faked a smile and said, "No, I was just talking to the pastor a minute ago. I just need to ask him something."

"Young lady I have work to do. The pastor is currently in the Bahamas as we speak and will be back on Wednesday. Feel free to come by tomorrow during service and you can talk to his assistant."

I took a deep breath and said, "Then maybe it was his assistant I spoke with earlier." He shook his head and asked, "Have you been drinking young lady?"

"No, no I'm not drunk." I said looking frustrated. "Come in." He said. I walked in and he walked towards the back to the door next the altar with me. We walked into a hallway; he opened a door, and said, "This is the pastor's office." He flipped the light switch and had me look inside the room. Then he closed the door and locked it back after I walked out. He walked to another door, opened it, and flipped the light switch on and said, "Go ahead and look."

I rolled my eyes in frustration and said, "Okay, you made your point but I know I spoke to someone a few minutes ago." I angrily walked away. "Wait young lady." He yelled after me. I turned to him and he said, "Listen, I'm not saying you didn't speak with anyone. All I'm telling you is I've been the only one here for the past 3 hours. It's possible the person you spoke with was your guardian angel." He said.

I smirked and said, "Yeah, right." Then I walked away. As I was walking home, it started to make sense. It probably was my guardian angel. So, they do exist? I remembered how Jacob was telling me about the ceremony that I thought was a dream. When I got to my dorm, I sat down on my bed and a few minutes later, I heard a knock on my door. Oh God, I hope it's not the police because I don't even know what happened last night. I got up and walked to the door and when I opened it, I saw Jacob. I immediately closed the door in his face. He knocked on the door again and said, "Bree, please open the door." He continued to knock. Crap! Why did he have to come here? I stood behind the door as he kept on knocking. "Please, open the door Bree!" He asked. Jesus, what am I going to say to him? I stood there trying to think but the man wouldn't stop knocking on the door. I slightly opened the door and asked, "What do you want Jacob?"

"Please, let me in. I need to talk to you." He pleaded.

"Okay."

I said as I opened the door wider. He got in and said, "Thank you. Why did you hang up on me earlier?" I rubbed my face and said, "Because... uh..." I took a deep breath and said, "You weren't making any sense Jacob. I can't remember how I got home." I took a second to backtrack and I remembered waking up in front of someone else's lawn and said, "Okay, it's possible that what you said is true but wouldn't I have been with them in the car crash?" He looked down before looking back at me and said, "They didn't die in a car accident. They were already dead and dismembered for the ceremony last night. We had to stage it to make it look like an accident."

"Oh my God, I think I'm going to be sick." I felt so nauseous that I ran to the bathroom to throw up. Jacob came into the bathroom and started to rub my back; I pushed him away. "What kind of sick bastard are you?" I asked.

"I'm sorry." Jacob said remorsefully. I looked at him angrily and said, "You're sorry. You people killed innocent people and you saying you're sorry. They weren't animals they were

human beings like you!” I yelled at him. I pushed him out of my way and went to sit on my bed in tears. He came and sat next to me and said, “Listen, I’m really sorry about your friends. I only got involved in it because Michael told me that I would become very wealthy.”

“What? You’ve got to be kidding me. What happened to getting a real job? Why would you want to sell your soul to Satan to become wealthy?”

“Because I’m tired of being poor Bree.”

“And you think killing innocent people is a better way.” I angrily said to him. Jacob was silent for a minute and looked remorseful. God I felt pity for him. So, I calmed myself down and I put my hand on his shoulder. “I’m sorry.” I said.

“I’ll never go back and I don’t care if they come after me.” He said in tears. I hugged him and he said, “I didn’t believe in God until last night. I realized that there is a greater power up above. I think God gave me a second chance last night. I want to know

Him Bree even if it kills me.” As I held on to him, the sinner’s prayer came to my mind. I pulled away and I said, “Well, all you have to do is accept Jesus in your life and start going to church.”

“How do I accept him in my life?”

“I can lead you with the sinner’s prayer if you would repeat after me.”

Chapter Eight

“Okay, do I need to get on my knees?”

“If you want to.” Then Jacob got on his knees and I said,

“Repeat after me, Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. I trust and follow you as my Lord and Savior. Guide my life and help me to do your will. In your name I pray, amen.” After Jacob repeated he opened his eyes and asked,

“Am I supposed to feel different?”

“No.” I smiled and said, “You just have to find a church and serve him with all your heart.”

He sat next to me and asked, “So, can I go to the same church you’re going to?” I smiled and said, “Jacob, I’m going back home to my dad’s church.”

“Your dad has a church?” I smiled and said, “Yeah, my dad is a pastor. I was overwhelmed with the responsibility as a pastor’s daughter. It felt like I was in prison. Everyone was watching my

every move and it was exhausting. I could never be myself; I had to act like this perfect little girl because no matter what I did people found a way to criticize me. So, when I went away to college I felt like I had more freedom. There was no one watching my every move or running to my dad to tell on me. I needed a break from church. I stopped talking to my parents and I just quit going to church.” I smirked and said, “Last night was a rude awakening for me. God has given me a second chance like you and I’m going to make good use of it.”

He smiled and said, “So, when are you going back home?”

“In two days?”

“Where are you going?”

I smiled and said, “Well, I’m going back to Florida, why?”

“No reason.” He smiled and said. “Listen, if you want you can come with me to the church down the street tomorrow.”

“Sure, at what time?”

“Pick me up at nine o’clock.”

“Okay. Listen, I have to go.” Jacob hugged me then left. After he left I made some soup then I called my dad. The phone rang but no one picked up. I didn’t leave a message because I would call them back later. The minute I hung up, I heard banging on my door. My heart started racing because I thought it was the police at my door. I was afraid to open the door but if I don’t open it they might break the door down. I stood there for a minute as the banging continued then I heard Jacob say, “Bree, open the door.”

“Wait, didn’t he just leave, what does he want?” I opened the door and Jacob said, “Get your passport and your identification we have to go right now?”

“What? Why, what’s wrong?”

“They are coming for us and we need to get to your dad’s church before midnight.”

“Wait, you’re scaring me. What’s going to happen at midnight and who are they?” I said with panic in my voice. Jacob just looked at me and said, “We don’t have time. We have to get to the airport to see if we can catch a flight to Florida.” I grabbed my passport, purse and we left. We walked down the hallway and left the building in a hurry. We got into Jacob’s car and he drove away. I could tell Jacob was trying to remain calm but I was still panicking. “When you said they back there, were you referring to the thing that was going to take my soul last night?” I asked. Jacob didn’t want to talk about it because I guess he hated the feeling of losing me. He kept checking the rear view mirror as if someone was following us. When we arrived at the airport, he parked the car in the garage and we went inside. It was around two thirty when we got to the help desk and we were fortunate enough to get a flight at four o’clock. While we waited, I called my dad again and he picked up. I was so excited to hear from him. “Hi daddy!” I said.

“Hey sweetie, how are you?”

“I’m fine daddy.” I said in tears.

“It’s been three years.” He choked up and said, “I’ve been waiting for this day. I’ve been praying day and night for you.”

“I’m so sorry daddy.” I paused for a minute then said, “Daddy, I want to come home.”

“Baby, you’re always welcome back home. Your room is just as you left it.” He said.

“Really, how’s mom?”

“Your mother is fine and she will be happy to hear from you. So, when are you coming home sweetie?”

“My flight is at four o’clock and I can’t wait to get home. I missed you so much daddy.”

“I missed you too sweetie. Do you need me to pick you up?”

“Yes, if you don’t mind dad.”

“What time are you landing?”

“I’m landing at five thirty.” I said with excitement.

“Okay sweetie, I will see you then.”

“I love you dad.”

“I love you to baby.” He said before he hung up. I couldn’t stop smiling after I got off of the phone with my dad. My heart was filled with joy. Jacob smiled at me as if he wanted to tell me something and I said, “What’s wrong Jacob?” He said, “Nothing.” I smiled at him. When we finally boarded the plane, I was so happy because I was one step closer to seeing my parents. When we landed, I was so excited and I guess it was a good thing we didn’t have any luggage because we just walked right out of the plane. Inside the airport I found my dad and he was standing there with a big smile on his face. I ran to him and gave him the biggest hug ever. We held each other for a good five minutes and we were both in tears. We walked outside and I couldn’t believe who came out of my dad’s SUV. Kyle, oh my God, he looks so grown and handsome. I couldn’t help but hug

him because it's been three years since we last saw each other. I totally forgot Jacob was standing there and I said, "Oh my God, I'm so sorry guys. Daddy, this is Jacob and Jacob this is my dad, Pastor Porter."

Jacob shook my dad's hand with smile and said, "Nice to meet you Sir." I guess my dad was waiting to hear me say that he was my boyfriend because he just stared at me. Then I introduced Jacob and Kyle to each other. "Jacob, this is Kyle. We grew up together." I said. I could sense that my dad was still staring at me waiting for me to say it but I didn't. When we got into the car, my dad made sure Jacob sat in the passenger's seat as he looked at me in the review mirror smiling. My dad then looked at Jacob and asked, "Did Bree tell you that she and Kyle were dating?" Oh my God, I don't know why he said that to him. I faked a smile when Jacob glanced at me in the back. "No Sir, she didn't," Jacob said.

"Are you sleeping with my daughter Jacob?" I can't believe he just asked him that and I said, "Dad?" Jacob smiled and said,

"No Sir, I've never touched your daughter." He smiled looking at Jacob and said, "Good, then I won't have to kill you." I don't think Jacob found that amusing because he kept a serious face. My dad had no idea why we were here so he asked, "Son, are you saved?"

"Yes Sir, I accepted Jesus in my life earlier today." He politely replied. Pastor Porter laughed out loud and said, "Are you serious?" Jacob looked at him with a serious face and said, "Yes Sir I am. Your daughter prayed the sinner's prayer with me." Pastor Porter became serious but was also surprised, and said, "You're not here to ask for my daughter's hand, are you?" He frowned at Jacob.

"No Sir, I'm here because we need your help and we might not live another day."

My dad immediately pulled over to the side of the road, parked the car, and asked, "What are you talking about?" He turned to

me in the back and asked, “Bree, what have you gotten yourself into?”

“Sir, Sir it wasn’t her fault.” Jacob quickly interrupted and said.

My dad turned to Jacob and said, “What kind of trouble is my daughter in?”

Chapter Nine

Jacob took a deep breath and said, “Sir, a group I used to belong to brought her to a ritual ceremony to be killed.”

“Come again son?” My dad asked sounding very confused.

“Sir, I didn’t know they invited her to the party until I saw her there. Michael, my classmate introduced me to devil worshipping and I joined because he told me that I would gain fortune if I did. He never said anything about sacrificing people.” He paused for a minute to let my dad swallow everything he just said. My dad looked very baffled. Jacob continued to explain what happened and said, “Friday was my first time being involved in the ceremony. Michael told me each one of us had to bring three people to the ceremony and I didn’t know they were going to be killed. Michael had his friend invite Bree.”

“Is this a joke?” My dad asked.

“Dad, it’s the truth. I saw Satan with my own two eyes.” I said.

My dad laughed and said, "I never thought I would be here listening to this."

"Sir, Satan does exist. That night when Satan came into the room, your daughter wasn't supposed to be there and he knew it. He was going to take your daughter's soul. No one who is not a member of the devil worshiper cult ever left alive but your daughter did," Jacob said.

"We had a seventeen day prayer at the church and it ended last Sunday. Friday night I heard a voice that told me to pray for Bree and I immediately started to pray for my baby. I have never felt God's presence like that before." He choked up and said, "Thank you God for showing me your glory."

"Sir, that's not all. According to Michael no one ever escapes."

"What do you mean?" Dad asked. "I mean, you need to gather the same people at your temple again because at midnight tonight he's coming for Bree and all hell will break loose. Satan

will not stop until he gets her soul." Jacob said. "Wait, wait, that's who you meant was coming after me? But why?" I said.

"I'm sorry Bree." Jacob looked at me and said. "Sir, make sure whoever you are bringing in the temple tonight is sincerely a believer because if they are not they will be a victim."

Dad got back on the road, and drove directly to the church. We got down and dad said to me, "Sweetie, I need you to stay in the sanctuary. I'm going to be in the office making some phone calls. Oh and, your mother is on her way."

"Okay daddy." I replied. My dad walked to his office. I walked inside the church and went to the altar by the podium thinking tonight could be my last night. This day felt surreal. It's not that I didn't have faith in God; I was just afraid because I knew that I haven't been living righteous in God's eyes. I am so happy I accepted him as my savior again. I'm forever thankful that he saved me last night not looking at my faults. I guess it's easier when things catch you by surprise. The fact that Satan is after

me was freaking me out. I know how great God is but, I was still paranoid. This is something you see on television or in books. I saw Jacob walking towards me so I forced a smile. He came and sat next to me because he could sense I was panicking and said, "Quit worrying I'll protect you." He nudged me with his elbow smiling. "That's easy for you to say Jacob. This is not a normal life event. You're talking about something out of this world that is coming for me and you want me not to worry."

"Where is your faith?" He smiled and asked.

I couldn't believe he just asked me that. I replied with uncertainty and said, "I have faith."

"Then why are you worrying if you believe in the One above. Isn't God more powerful than what's coming?" I looked at him with a puzzled look on my face. I grew up going to church and Jacob just became a Christian this morning. He seemed to have more faith in my God than I did. A few minutes later my mom, sister Myer, and sister Benjamin walked into the church. My

face illuminated with joy when I saw them coming. I got up and ran towards them. I grabbed my mom and held on to her and said, "I missed you so much mom."

Chapter Ten

“My sweet baby girl.” She held on to me as we both cried on each other’s shoulder. “Are you okay?” She touched my face and asked. “Yes mom.” I replied. I kissed and held her again before greeting the two sisters. My mother saw Jacob who was still sitting at the altar asked, “Who is that young man?”

I turned and looked at Jacob before turning my attention to back her. “He’s a friend,” I replied. I waived my hand so Jacob could come over. He walked up to us and I said, “Jacob, this is my mother, Rose Porter. Mom, this is Jacob.” Jacob smiled as he shook my mother’s hand and said, “Hi Mrs. Porter, it’s a pleasure to meet you. Wow, I see where your daughter gets her beauty from.”

My mother blushed and said, “Oh, I like him already.”

“Jacob this is Sister Myer and Sister Benjamin.” I said. “Hi Sister Myer, Sister Benjamin it’s a pleasure to meet you both.” He said as he shook their hands. My dad came walking into the

sanctuary toward us. He kissed mom and said, “Jacob I need to see you in my office.”

“Sweetie, you stay here with your mother.” Dad said to me and then they walked away. Later around eight o’clock, while I was sitting with my mom near the altar, all of the board members and some brothers walked past us. They headed toward the back to my dad’s office. I immediately got up to follow them and my mother came along. There were about 15 of them bunched together in dad’s office so my mother and I squeezed our way in. My dad said, “Brethren, I deeply appreciate that you all came as soon as you could.” He paused for a minute and said, “I will try my best to explain what’s going on and some of you I know will not believe me. Anyway, as you guys can see my daughter Bree is back from college. Friday, my daughter was invited to a party which turned out to be a ritual ceremony. To make a long story short, my daughter was going to be offered as a sacrifice. Those of you who were here with me praying, if you can remember, I told you right around eleven o’clock that God

told me to pray for my daughter. Most of you did stay up with me until around 12:15 to pray for Bree. Around the time we were praying, Satan appeared and was going to take my daughter's soul. However, God sent his angel to deliver my daughter." Some of the brothers smirked and some were looking at my dad like he was crazy. I heard brother Deon say, "I told you Pastor Porter needs to retire already." Dad continued and said, "Tonight brothers, I need you more than ever for prayers because Satan is coming back for my daughter's soul and I'm not going to let that happen." Deacon Bertrand interrupted my dad and said, "Pastor with all due respect, are you expecting us to believe that Satan is actually coming to get your daughter. Sir, have you lost your mind?"

"When was the last time you heard anyone say they've seen Satan? Let me guess your daughter said she saw him, didn't she?" said Deacon Cox as the other brethren murmured among themselves. "This is preposterous Sir. You actually believe that Satan exists?" Brother Devlin said.

"Sir, I could understand if you said evil spirits were after your daughter because in the bible Jesus himself had to cast out an evil spirit, but Satan? Have you gone mad Sir?" Brother Cordell asked. Jacob stood among them and did not say a word. My dad just stood there listening then finally he said, "Okay, let's say I've gone mad, crazy, whatever you want to call it. Why do you brothers marvel as if it's impossible? Don't you see this is an opportunity to bring more people to Christ? Don't you want to see God's greatness manifest in front of you tonight. We've been serving God for so long and that is the greatest opportunity that we have. This is proof! I'm sure some others would kill to see this event take place. I have no doubt in my heart that our mighty God will deliver us from whatever steps foot in this sanctuary and it will burn in the mighty name of Jesus! As it says in the Bible, every knee shall bow, every tongue confess, that Jesus Christ is Lord and He is real. So, how many of you are willing to come in one accord with me to pray for my daughters sake. Tonight Brethren we can make history. How

many of you are willing to stand with me?” It was amazing that all of them raised their hands. “Thank you!” My dad said. He paused for a moment and then he said, “There is one more thing. Many of you grew up with me and some of you have been with me for a long time. I appreciate your courage however; I’m going to ask those of you who have not been living a clean life in the eyes of God to leave. You know who you are. I know it’s hard to live righteously and I will not pass any judgment neither should anyone else here. Remember, you can lie to me but not to God.” After my dad’s statement, only seven brothers were left in the room. I respected them for their honesty. Right after they left, my dad had Brother John stay at the entrance to turn away those who were coming to the church that night. My dad didn’t want too many people to get involved in what is going to take place tonight. My parents had no choice but to be there for me and I thank them from the bottom of my heart. As for Jacob, he seemed so calm that he almost looked like he was enjoying what was going on. I mean, who is this

guy? I remembered that he had seen Satan before I guess that’s why he didn’t seem so worried. Anyway, only God knows what else he has seen.

Chapter Eleven

The seven brothers, my dad, my mother, myself, Jacob and Sister August, were there as we started praying around nine forty-five seeking God. We were standing in a circle around ten fifteen praying aloud. I opened my eyes and noticed Jacob was glowing as if he was receiving some type of energy from the prayer. I wonder if I was the only one who noticed that. When he opened his eyes and looked at me the glowing stopped and I immediately closed my eyes. Now I started to wonder what in the world Jacob was because it's not normal for anyone to glow unless they are from out of this world. He was standing across from me in the circle. I opened my eyes to peek at him again as everyone was praying and I saw him staring at me so I quickly closed my eyes. I started to get Goosebumps and suddenly my dad began to speak in tongue. I felt a little frightened and moved closer to my dad because I didn't like the way Jacob was looking at me. He was scaring the crap out of me. I was afraid to open my eyes again as I held on tight to my dad's arm and

pulled my mom closer to me. Then we heard someone banging on the door around eleven thirty. When my dad went to the door it was sister Woodrow. My dad wasn't going to let her in but because she was the prayer warrior in the church he decided to let her in. She was seventy years old but she looked fifty. I could remember everyone would always come to her for prayer. Even my dad as a pastor would sometimes ask her to pray for him. Sister Woodrow had a little boy and a little girl with her and she didn't have any grandchildren. I never remembered her coming to church with any children. "Sister Woodrow, did you get my message?" asked my dad.

"No pastor my home phone doesn't work." She said as she walked in. Sister Woodrow didn't drive, someone dropped her off. My dad was afraid for the children but as fast as the time was moving he didn't want to take the chance to send anyone to drop them home. As they were approaching us, Jacob came and stood in front of me then said, "Everyone move back." Then I noticed sister Woodrow stopped and the kids began to act

funny. My dad however wasn't paying any attention and kept on walking toward us. "What's wrong?" my dad asked. Jacob walked towards my dad and said, "Go back into the circle and keep repeating Psalms twenty three verse four aloud now!" My dad seemed a little lost when Jacob said that and asked, "Why?"

"Because you just let Satan's kids in the building just go and do what I told you." My dad hurried back to the circle and said, "Everyone get in the circle and say Psalms twenty three verse four." We all hurried and held hands and started to recite the Psalm. My dad couldn't believe what he had been told by Jacob. As we continued to recite the Psalm, my dad kept looking behind him and so did I. I saw Jacob walking toward sister Woodrow and the kids. The closer he got the more he would glow. I know I wasn't the only one that saw it. As our voices got louder, the kids let go of sister Woodrow's hand, cried out like some type of animal, and ran out. Then I saw Jacob lay a hand on sister Woodrow's head, she let out a weird cry, and fell to her knees. With her mouth opened, something like a thick

black shadow came out and it forced the door opened violently and left. We didn't stop reciting the Psalm and I saw Jacob pick up sister Woodrow off the floor and carried her to the middle of the circle.

Jacob stood and said, "He's on his way. Whatever noises you guys hear don't panic. I need each one of you to put your Bible behind the circle, hold hands as you pray, and keep your eyes closed." Jacob glanced at me as if he wanted to say something. "Who are you really?" My dad asked Jacob.

"He's near." Jacob said looking up the ceiling but my dad was still waiting for an answer. He looked at my dad and said, "My name is Gabriel. I'm here to send Satan back to the underworld. I need you to keep chanting Psalms twenty three verse four none stop." I couldn't believe it. He must be the angel who took me home the night of the ceremony. But wait, how could this be? God, I'm so confused. So then he is Jacob and Gabriel but why would he say he saw the angel if he is the angel? He even accepted Jesus for his savior. He couldn't possibly be the angel.

I stood there battling with my thoughts. Then I heard him say, “Bree, I know you have questions and I know you think I lied to you but I didn’t. I’m the one Jacob told you about. You did talk to Jacob and he did accept Jesus as his savior. He’s still in New York and he is safe.” I was baffled when he said that to me. How did he know I was thinking about that?

“I know what all of you are thinking before you even say it. Now I need all of you to concentrate and continue to recite Psalms twenty three verse four nonstop.” Then out of nowhere the church building began to shake like an earthquake. Suddenly it sounded as if something just landed on top of the building. We continued to recite the Psalm chanting it louder and louder. I was so paranoid. I looked up to the ceiling, I saw it open up and two creatures that looked like gargoyles flew inside of the sanctuary. They both stood in front of Jacob. Well, not Jacob but Gabriel. I keep forgetting that Jacob is still in New York. I wasn’t freaking out or afraid anymore. I felt a supernatural power surround us as we were reciting the Psalm.

Then Gabriel’s shirt ripped off and two huge white wings opened up from his back. He became so bright that I could barely see him. He lifted up a two edged silver shining sword out of nowhere. It happened so fast it felt as if I was in some sort of movie. After Gabriel transformed the two gargoyles flew toward us and Gabriel slit both creatures in half. They immediately turned to stones as they hit the ground. Soon after, ten gargoyles flew inside the church from the roof to attack us and Gabriel was like the speed of light. He killed them left and right. One of the gargoyles grabbed Deacon Cox and flew around with him as he ripped him in half. Before the gargoyle could grab anyone else, Gabriel split it in two. Gabriel landed back down on the ground and we were all shaking but we continued reciting the Psalm. I think Gabriel pissed Satan off for killing his children because a few seconds later the entire church ceiling came off and Satan landed inside. Gabriel began to recite some type of prayer as he planted the sword into to the ground. The ground immediately opened up with fire beneath it.

As the ground shook violently Satan fell into the abyss. Satan tried to fly out of it but he failed because Gabriel threw the sword directly into his heart. Satan fell into the abyss, it swallowed him up and the ground closed. I don't know what happened after that because I fainted. Next thing I knew someone was knocking on my door and heard a voice that sounded like my mother. I opened my eyes and I saw my mother smiling at me. I quickly jumped out of bed and said, "Not again. Where am I?"

Chapter Twelve

"Are you okay sweetie?" She looked at me strangely and asked. "You're home baby in your room," she reassured me.

"Where's dad?"

"He's getting ready to go to the church for service, why?"

"Do you remember what happened last night?"

"Last night?" She asked and paused for a minute. "We didn't do anything last night," she said. I jump out of bed and went looking for dad. He wasn't in his room so I hurried downstairs and found him in the kitchen getting some coffee. He looked at me and asked, "What's wrong sweetie, aren't you going to church with us?" I paused for a minute and said, "Dad, what did we do last night?" My mom walked into the kitchen looking at dad. "Last night I had a meeting with some of the church members then I came home, why?" He asked looking at my mother and I.

“I don’t know.” My mother replied. She turned to me and asked, “Is there something you need to tell us Bree?”

I took a deep breath and said, “No, I’m going to get ready now.”

Both my parents looked at each other then looked at me. “Did Jacob go to a hotel?” I asked.

“Yeah, but he said he will see you in church so I suggest you get ready because you don’t want to make a bad impression on your first day back to church.”

“You’re right.” I said with a smile and walked away. Something happened last night but I couldn’t remember what and it bothered me as I was getting ready. I couldn’t wait to get to church not to see Jacob but to see if I could remember anything or maybe Jacob could help me remember what happened. My parents drove me to church. When I got there I still couldn’t remember a thing. Minutes after I sat down Jacob walked through the door. My face lit up and I immediately walked up to

him and grabbed his hand. I pulled him outside and asked, “What time did you leave here yesterday?”

“Well, good morning to you too and how are you doing?” He said sarcastically. I smiled and said, “I’m so sorry.” I took a deep breath, hugged him, and said, “Good morning, how was your night?”

“That’s more like it. I had a great night and you?”

“I guess it was fine because I can’t remember most of it.” I smiled and said. “What is it about last night that you want to remember so badly?” I sighed and said, “It’s nothing really.”

“Okay, all that I can remember is we were exhausted and you decided to go home to rest.”

“Really, that was it?”

“Yeah, why do you sound so disappointed?”

“I’m not disappointed.” I guess nothing really happened I said to myself and I smiled. “Let’s go back inside because church is about to start. My dad hates when people walk in late.” I said.

I turned to walk away but Jacob was still standing there and I asked, “Aren’t you coming Jacob?”

“Yeah, why don’t you go inside I have a quick phone call to make.”

“Okay.” I said and I walked back inside. The minute I sat down, my phone started to vibrate. I quickly looked at it and noticed it was Jacob’s phone number. Why is he calling me? So, I quickly walked outside to answer the phone but I noticed that Jacob wasn’t outside. I answered and said, “Hello, Jacob where did you go?”

“What do you mean?”

“You were just standing outside and now you’re calling me.”

Jacob sounded puzzled and said, “I was just at your dorm looking for you. I kept knocking but you never opened the door. So I went to the church but you weren’t there either that’s why I’m calling you to know if you’re alright?”

“Oh my God, he did it again.”

“Are you alright?”

“Yeah, I’m fine. Listen, I’m in Florida I was going to call you to tell you.”

“But I thought you were leaving in two days.”

“Something came up so I had to leave yesterday instead. I’m so sorry Jacob.”

Jacob sighed and said, “That’s okay.”

I could sense the disappointment in his voice and I said, “You should still stay for church.”

“Okay, I have to go. Talk to you later.” He said and hung up. I felt so horrible for lying to him. At the same time, I was still trying to figure out what happened last night and who was that guy I was just talking to earlier.

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