

# Can My Mind Be Controlled???

By : [Vampirekiss17](#)

Hi Iâ€™m Nikita, I want to tell you something about me before you tell me your name, I donâ€™t want you to regret meeting me. This way, you can pretend you havenâ€™t. I can move things with my mindâ€™s eye, I could also kill you in seconds with the help of my friends from the other side. Donâ€™t call them dead people, they will kill you without my help. Nikita Middleton has never had problems, but sheâ€™s never really been like a normal girl. At fourteen, things start to happen and her mindâ€™s eye canâ€™t be controlled as it strengthens, thereâ€™s one thing that can help her. But he needs to be willing to be sacrificed. She doesnâ€™t know that her family has a curse. One she is need of getting rid of before her mindâ€™s eye kills a victim. How many can she kill before sheâ€™s found out???

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## Chapter 1: Prologue

### PROLOGUE

*We stood in a line, my anger rising as she tried to insult me. "Like you give two shits, right???" That's normally what you say." Mr Gales came and opened the door, inviting the class into A2. She pushed into me and I pushed her hard sideways into the doorframe. If only she'd known to go about and mess with me.*

*"Feisty one you are," Ashleigh said at as I walked to my seat. My mind swept from grip before I could stop. She insulted me again and my mind blew like a gust of wind and I heard struggling and screams. I heard shuffling of feet but I couldn't-wouldn't-move to see if she was OK.*

*I could see it in my mind; a ghost hand gripped her neck and started to strangle her. She gripped an invisible finger and tried to prise it off her neck; the grip tightened and threw her against the wall. It smashed her head off the glass window, hard enough for it to break and there was more screams. She wasn't moving and I finally got up from my seat. I opened my eyes and pushed myself from my seat, grabbing my bag and jacket before running from the class. I doubted anyone was watching me evacuate the suffocating classroom.*

*Tears spilled from the rim of my eye and onto my cheeks as I stopped to look into the class room across mine. He sat there, watching me cry with his soft, gorgeous brown eyes and so was Kaitlin. I ran as he watched me and shot through the doors, my minds hand opening them for me.*

*I sat on the boring, brown bench, ignoring the patches of water from the rain that had fallen earlier. I placed my head in my hands and silently cried. Had I killed her???*

*"Fit were you dein looking in ma class en???" a strong Scottish accent asked, I looked up and saw Kaitlin standing with her bright yellow jacket and her baggy jeans, her chubby cheeks overlapped with the mole on her right side at the top of her lip. She had her hands in her back pockets, she barely looked feminine.*

*"Kaitlin, leave her alone," I had heard that voice before, a soft voice as soft as his eyes. I felt the tears race harder down my cheeks as I heard his quiet footsteps come closer.*

*"Fit's she gan ti dee???" Eat ma???"*

*"Kaitlin," I began giving her a look she was too stupid to use as a warning, "don't I can hurt if you get on my bad side."*

*"Like fit???" I lost control of my minds eyes and my eyes were forced shut as I saw a bin fly to hit her at the speed of light. My eyes shot open and I looked at him, his bewildered face, his shocked eyes, his shaking hands. He looked at me and I stood up, racing for the door at the opposite side of the courtyard.*

*"Wait, girl!!! Wait!!!" being him, from the information I had gathered about my crush, I knew he could outrun me. He got to the doors and stretched his arms out. "Who are you???"*

*"I can't tell you that???" I wiped the tears from my cheeks and whispered, "Please let me through, I have to go to Bus Park."*

*"Tell me your name first."*

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*"A girl of your imagination, that's all you need to know. For now." He might find out my name soon but it wouldn't be from me. He stood to the side and let his arms fall to his sides and I pulled the door open, running down English, hoping that the teachers wouldn't hear my pounding footsteps. I stopped at the math stairs beside Guidance and closed my eyes picturing him*

*He wasn't standing at the doors anymore; he was standing beside the lockers his. Wonder streaked across the field of longing in his eyes.*

*"Will I see you again???"*

## Chapter 2: School Can Turn Into A Nightmare.

### School Can Turn Into A Nightmare.

I Gourni rang softly around the room until it reached max sound, helping me escape my nightmare. I got up and showered, peeling my clothes from my tall, lean body. The water fell from the showerhead and hit my body with a ping, helping me to forget my horrible nightmare.

The hand, her neck, my tears, their screams. His eyes, his voice.

I got ready for school and walked the two second walk to my cousins. We had argument about his nose, whether he should put his head back or not, whether he should put some toilet paper to it and run to catch the bus, if we would make it in time to catch the large, white, double-decker bus. Lucky for us there were lots of seats left when we caught it second time round.

I waited a few minutes until I plugged in my earphones and zoned out, ignoring the world around me, the jostling, the shouting, the annoying school kids. We ventured out of the small village name Cruden Bay (also known as the Bay.) I wished we could get there fifteen minutes early, just so I might catch a look of his face and smile, smile through the hardships of Monday morning.

Though as much as I wished, we got to school a few minutes before the first bell. I met Louise Maitland and Amy Garland at the front doors and we walked to the vending machines together, my Reggie was two seconds away and Amy was a step away from hers. I stayed there with them, chatting until the first bell rang, instructing us to make our way to registration. I got to the science stairs and gave one of my dirtiest looks to Lisa, she's a girl I cannot live with.

"Georgina!!!" I called to Georgia Findlay as I climbed the last step. She gave a dirty look and I laughed. She was one of my best friends, since nursery.

How she puts up with me??? I'll never know.

I ran over beside her and jumped like a toddler jumping in a puddle, or like Georgia jumping into a puddle. I smiled at her and she looked at my face, my lips puckered and my nose scrunched while my eyes were barely opened. She started laughing and Mark Garland came over, calling me an orange which her laughing and crying. Math was crap, like normal, we were doing something to do with triangles and angles. I wasn't really prying any attention. I sat there and copied the work in my jitter though it did earn me a detention.

English was the same, though we did do something fun. We went to the computer lab beside the library and had to finish out Autobiographies. Which meant we were allowed to look for pictures. Which meant there was a lot of messing around and naked girls on boy's screens. Which earned some more detentions. Luckily enough, I'm not one of them.

I walked out to the courtyard at break, hoping to catch a sight of my crush, Joel Robertson. Then I remembered, he doesn't go to the courtyard, he either goes to Prince Street doors or beside the courtyard, he never goes outside.

Georgia made it outside a second or two after me and I grinned, somebody had penned her face right down her cheek.

"Looking good!!! What kind of make-up have you got on today then Georgina???" she tried not to smile but ended up laughing at it.

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"Dean got me with Sharpie right down my face!!!" she pointed a stern finger at her cheek and I laughed at her annoyance.

"Didliumdums!!!" she gave me a look which made me laughs harder and start to get watery eyed. Jack Willox and Mark came outside as well as Callum Ritchie. Sown of the boys outside started to play football with a blue and black plastic ball Cameron Binnie had taken to school.

I saw Georgia ache for a shot and shouted to the lads, "Oi!!! This quine here wants a go!!!" I pointed to the embarrassed Georgia and laughed. The bell rang and we made our way to science, getting ready for two periods of either experiments or myself falling asleep. Miss Fotheringham is nice but can be boring sometimes. Science just bores the hell out of me and sometimes my eyes are too heavy to keep up.

We did an experiment on 20m Acid (which most, including me, put on their skin to see if it burnt which it didn't and annoyed me) and some Alkali solutions. The chemical reactions were cool, one turned from purple to green, one fizzes, one stayed the same but heated up and the last one made a popping noise. We had RME next and most of us are sure our teacher Mr McDonald is a paedophile. He keeps looking at Georgia's bum and looking half the girls up and down. And he never picks the girl to answer questions, he just smiles.

We learned some more about why the prince gave up his life or luxury and turned into a Buddha. Louise says I'm a Christian loving Buddha, because someone said Joel's a Christian. I don't mind, I was shocked at first because he didn't come across as Christian and I don't believe in the religion myself.

It was lunchtime and Georgia hates going downtown where as I hate staying in for school lunch so we compromised and decided that we would get Pasta King for Georgia (which she chose chicken toriano) and Morrison's for me because I forgot my purse but found Â£1.50 in my bag.

We walked to Morrison's with Louise and joked around. As Georgia doesn't like going into Morrison's, she and Louise waited for me to get back. I got my lunch of a tuna and sweet corn sandwich and paid. Walking outside, I got a good feeling. I stood with the girls as my cousin came out of Morrison's and had a joke with him.

Louise was really quiet because she and Michael used to go out for around a year. He left to go to the street with his big (and by big, I mean HUGE) bag of cheesy Doritos. We stood there, me chewing on my tuna and sweet corn sandwich and chatting to Louise and Georgia.

We began our way back to school when a boy went past in a grey super dry jacket, he had dark hair but not too dark, more brown. His eyes looked black; I knew what colour they were. The most gorgeous brown eyes I had ever seen.

"Is that.... It isn't it???" Georgia asked. Louise looked at me as if to say *have fun* and I grinned. My mind said the same thing as they did. *Is that??? No it isn't it is.*

"It's Joel."

He walked past and I had the incredible urge to run back and walk with him, hug him, laugh with him. The same urge I felt every time I saw his gorgeous face. Louise went quiet all of a sudden and a frown covered her mouth. Georgia gave me a look that said *I can't be bothered with her moods right now* and I rolled my eyes.

I grinned and felt butterflies flutter in my stomach as I thought of him, he looked different, and his hair looked darker than usual. Well, maybe I would find out later why. We walked back to school, shouting and laughing all the way while Louise walked ahead of us because Michael came up behind us and walked with us.

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When we got to the courtyard I stood up on the small wall and leaned against the pole before closing my eyes and thought about Joel, what was he doing now???. Did he ever think about me???. Where was he???

*He was standing in line waiting for the man in front of him to stop chatting to the blonde saleswoman and pack his bags with his shopping, he was polite, not saying anything but the man realised the look in his eyes wasn't just the thirst he felt for his bottle of flavoured water but annoyance towards the man.*

*The man said his goodbyes and sorry to him and packed his bags in record time before leaving him to pay and say hello to the woman.*

I opened my eyes, no way did I just see what I thought I just saw, there was just no way in hell I could tell what he was doing. Georgia came over and gave me a queer look.

"You okay???" Nikita???" she asked, sitting on the table.

"Fine," I replied, listening to the shouts and watching her face soften, trying to figure out what had happened, "just thinking???" She didn't did any deeper, probably thinking I was thinking about Joel, which, fair to say is quite true, just in a different way that she expected.

"Do you know what's wrong with Louise???" it's really annoying me," I shook my head and she blinked, wondering why.

"Doesn't it annoy us all???"

"Yeah, you're right," she put her hand on her chin, thinking. "You're right, but it's not the temper that annoys the hell out of us, it's her." She stood up and went to the laughing boys and the soaked girls and was whispered too. She looked towards me and so did Jack.

I closed my eyes and imagining the ball flying into the air, one small blue and black ball, lifting miles into the air, soaring higher than the clouds, a pop didn't happen, just bits of blue and black plastic dropping to the ground at people's feet. I laughed and laughed, stepping off the small wall and spun around. People were gathering into the courtyard as Georgia laughed with me and the rest gasped in wonder and horror.

The deputy head teachers came outside to find out what was happening with the crowd, the shouted and I imagined a ghost hand clamping over their mouths as their muffles were completely clouded out. Cameron threw his hands in annoyance at his burst ball and I laughed even harder. This was one good Thursday.

"Nikita???" Jack came over and gave me a shake so I would pay attention to him. I looked at him and then at the gathering crowds and the muffled DHTs and the plastic on the ground. "It started when you closed you're eyes, you missed it."

"Tell me about it then," and he did, I had realised I was not in my perch but I was standing on the concrete ground and a grin on my face. He told me about the ball flying miles into the air and bursting and Cameron getting flustered and the DHTs trying to calm everything down but was failing.

I had done that. I had made the ball burst. I had made the DHTs muffle instead of talking. I had made Cameron get flustered. I had made Georgia laugh because of it all. I grinned as Jack carried on with his tale, a tale he should never know was true.

And then it hit me, people would want to find out what was happening to me, the would want to find out what I could do. I could never tell anyone about my ability.



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The bell rang as I felt the blood drain from my face, my head, all the way down to my feet. I made it as far as the courtyard doors at the bottom of the Link's Corridor before I fainted.

## Chapter 3: Wakening To Lovely Sight And An Invitation

### Wakening To Lovely Sight And An Invitation

I opened my eyes to find myself in the First Aider's office, lying on the bed beside where she sat with a pupil. I sat up and had to lie down again, my head hurt, it was dizzy, everything was spinning where I was.

I tried sitting up again, slowly this time and managed. I listened closely, trying to figure out who was talking.

"I'm sure she'll wake up soon, you may as well go to class, thank you for taking her here." There was a mumbling, soft voice, so soft that it would sound exactly like honey if it could talk. "Okay, thank you again, Joel." My eyes shot open and I looked over to the First Aider and her visitor. I couldn't keep the gasp in that slipped out my mouth, like a prisoner escaping from their cell.

Joel looked over and stood up, he nodded at the First Aider and said goodbye before leaving, his belt clinking softly as he left me lying in wonder. The First Aider came over to me and spoke, "How are you feeling dear???" she asked in her Scottish accent. She flicked her dark, shoulder length hair past her ear and gave me a smile.

"I feel fine, thanks. Just a bit woozy." She nodded and helped me set my feet off the side of the bed. "Can I be nosy and ask why the boy was here???" she gave me another warm smile.

"Joel came in with you because I was busy he had you in his arms like a pillow case, he wouldn't let you down until he was sure he wouldn't drop you and wanted to stay until you woke up, but didn't stay any longer than necessary." She walked over to the sink and came back with a small cup of clear water, "drink up dear. You need some liquid in your system."

As much as I tried, I couldn't even swallow a sip of water. What was he doing here???. Why did he help me???. Why did he care???. I closed my eyes and wondered what he was doing now.

*He sat in class, hoping she was Okay, she was lucky he was there to help. Yet all she had done when she saw him was yelp, which obviously wasn't a thank you. He looked at his paper, he had been there for around ten minutes and all he had written down was the date and the title, he had a question sheet in front of him with more than twenty questions on it. All the words swam as soon as he tried to read them.*

*He couldn't think about his lesson, he could only think if she was Okay, was she wondering what happened???. Was she sleeping again???. Was she thinking about him???*

I got onto my feet slowly and quietly told the First Aider I felt great, easy to go and she gave me a slip to leave the office. I took the small green slip and left, collecting my bag while I was at it. I had art, but only ten minutes left of it. I would be fine wandering around school without leaving for class.

I stood beside the assembly hall and closed my eyes, if I could move things then I would need to get Joel out of class.

*His pencil flicked, trying to get out his hand. He loosened his grip on it and watched it fall off the table and roll beside the door. He watched as it filled in a slip for leaving the class room and made an excuse.*

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*"Miss," he said quietly in his soft voice, the dark haired, plump teacher turned from the board and look at him with annoyance,*

*"What is it Joel???"*

*"Can I go to the First Aider, I have a severe headache." She nodded and told him to get a slip. It was all written out in a font he didn't recognise. The box beside First Aider was ticked and ready to go.*

*She signed the slip, giving him permission to leave for the period to do what he wanted. He was told to take his things as he probably wouldn't be back before the bell and let him go.*

*He kicked his pencil out of the classroom and closed the door behind him, trying to pick it up. It rolled out of reach and kept going until it got to the assembly hall.*

I looked at the approaching pencil and heard the footsteps; I could just barely hear them. Joel came round the corner and stopped when he saw me. His pencil stopped and he bent slowly to pick it off the grey floor, never taking his eyes off me.

"I thought you were in the First Aiders office." He said, staking a step closer.

"I thought you were just going," I leaned on the locked doors and watched as he threw a hand through his brown hair and came closer. He stuffed his pencil into his pocket and kept his hand there, confused by what I had just said. "how's your head???"

"Why do you care, you don't even know me."

"Why did you help me when I fainted???"

"Because nobody else would." I raised my eyebrow and he sighed. "Because I hadn't thanked you for your letter." I put my head down, my cheeks reddening as I remembered that letter. My friends had embarrassed us both and I was too chicken to apologize in person.

"Why did you bring it up???" I had my eyes closed and it was difficult to stay where I was. I almost imagined him kissing me like my dream.

"Why not???" My arm got really itchy, my exima kicking in again and the image getting clearer. I couldn't breathe, the thought of people prodding me with surgery instruments, trying to cut me open to get to my brain.

"Hey, are you okay???" I shook my head and heard him come closer, "put your head in between your knees, I'll hold you up. Don't worry." I did as he said and he held my shoulders, flicking my ponytail onto my back again and again. I breathed in and out until I felt better, he held me the whole time.

"Why are you helping me??? You don't even know me."

"I don't have to know you to help you." I stood up straight and heard the bell ring, if I left now, I wouldn't be crushed in the rush. "I'll walk you to the bus." He took my arm and walked out the doors with me, I didn't even make my mind's eye make him.

"So, in that letter, you saw me at Ellen I think you said you though I was cute, was it???" I laughed and dropped my head in extreme embarrassment. I felt him chuckle as we crossed the crowded road, not at all letting the cars pass.

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"Do you have to remind me of what I wrote in that annoying and embarrassing letter???" he nodded and I sighed which made him grin, it made him even more gorgeous than before.

"Yeah, and I want to embarrass you as much as I can." He wrote something on the leaving slip he got in class and ripped it off before slipping it in my bag. "Try not to faint on the way home." I laughed as he left to go to his small bus, leaving me at the doors of the double decker bus I had to go home in.

I got in and sat down, it wasn't two minutes before Lisa came up to me and asked what happened.

"Why weren't you in Art, Nikita???" I smiled, partly because of what happened and partly because of Joel. If I felt like crying, a look at his face would almost make me smile.

"Hold on," I said putting my index finger up, indicating to give me a minute. I closed my eyes and watched from a bird's eye view.

*The longer St. Fergus bus rolled out of Bus park, leaving the other buses to follow. The small Boddam bus left and the small St' Fergus bus was getting ready to leave when the tire burst and they couldn't move.*

"I fainted and was brought to the First Aider where I stayed for almost two periods." I looked out the window towards the non-moving mini-bus and grinned. There was other busses coming in but you had to pay to get on those. The bus driver came onto our bus and said something to our bus driver Steve and then left.

"Alex!!!" Aaron shouted from the back of the bus, "What's going on???" we soon found out.

"Listen you lot!!!" Steve came halfway down the bus and shouted at us, basically because half of us don't listen unless he does. "The St. Fergus bus is coming onto this one, so make some room for them and we'll need to go to St' Fergus."

He went to the front of the bus and got into the driver's seat. The pupils from the St. Fergus bus piled onto our bus and Joel and his Jordan were last on. Jordan found a seat at the front and the only seat left for Joel, was the seat beside me.

He smiled at me and walked over, "Care to move your bag???" I shifted my blue bag onto my knees and moved closer to the window, giving the giggling Lauren a grin. "thanks," he said once he had sat down. "Still got that number???" I nodded and he smiled at me again.

I took the number from my bag and messaged it.

**Heya. N**

I got one seconds after. **HI. J.** I saved the number into my contacts as Joel R and turned to him.

"So, you get to talk to me now, upset or what???" she chuckled and I laughed, feeling happy beside him, feeling the heat radiate from his body.

"Not upset, maybe on the verge of crying but not upsetâ !..." I slapped his arm gently and he laughed, I felt my cheeks redden as he laughed. Believe me, it sounded amazing.

He kept laughing to himself as I tried to put my feet on the seat. "Stop laughing at me!!! Joel, stop it!!!" he stopped when I said his name and I started to go red again.

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"How do you know my name???" I retire my hair in my pony tail as he asked, getting even more embarrassed.

"Don't you think I would know your name to write a letter and get it delivered???"

"Do you know anything else about me???" I felt my eyes widen as I lifted my head to look at him, how could he ask that???

"Maybe. Not much. Just a little." I made my finger look like they were going to pinch air but stayed from doing so. He raised an eyebrow and I dropped my hand onto my bag.

"She knows a lot about you!!!"

"Shut up Lisa!!!" I gave her a death stare and he giggled with Lauren. Who also told her to shut her mouth. Joel looked at me with questioning eyes.

"What exactly is 'a lot'???"

"I know you live in St. Fergus, you name's Joel Robertson, you went to the primary school in St. Fergus, your brother's Jordan, you're in fourth year and you go to Hame Bakery just about every day for your lunch." I took a breath and felt the world spin around me. "Take this for a second would you???" he took my bag and I dropped my head in between my legs and took deep breaths until I felt like normal. Or almost normal.

"Nikita??? Are you feeling okay???" Lauren came over as we were turning a bend and almost fell. Joel caught her top and kept hold until she got her balance.

"You okay Lauren???" she nodded and smiled at him. I lifted my head and looked at her giggling at my cheeks.

"Having fun Nikita???" I laughed and Joel looked between us before going red. I laughed even harder at his cheeks and took my bag from him. We were out of Peterhead and going round the roundabout beside McDonalds as Joel got up and walked to his brother. Our came back and sat down beside me. Lauren made a *phone me* sigh and I laughed.

"How about going to lunch tomorrow???" We have P.E tomorrow at the same time." he asked me. I felt fluttering in my stomach and nodded, "Hame bakery???" I nodded a second time as we were entering Cruden Bay.

"Great, sounds Awesome. I'll text you later okay???" he nodded and I fell silent. I was asked to lunch by Joel!!! I felt like singing, like laughing until I cried like shouting at the top of my voice. And it was only lunch.

We came to my stop quickly and I asked Joel to stand up so I could get out. He did so and I walked quickly to the front of the bus so I could hope out as soon as the doors opened. I glanced at Jordan and he gave me a where look. I thought nothing of it and got off the bus, waiting for Michael to hurry off it. He joked with me and I couldn't hear what he was saying until the bus went by.

Joel sat waving out the window at me.

I ran home and closed my eyes as soon as I got in the door.

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*He sat there, looking at his phone, waiting for her to text him. Lauren was sitting, trying to ask what was going on between them and he stayed quiet until she gave up.*

*"Are you at swimming tonight???" Lauren nodded and he sighed, great, more questions about lunch.*

*Fantastic, who knew helping somebody would be so annoying???*

*Especially someone he feels the need to get to know.*

I squealed and dad shouted to me, asking what I was screaming for.

"Not screaming dad," I shouted back, "squealing. I'm happy!!!" I walked into the kitchen, a place that was definitely getting built into perfection. We had made another small room and joined up the two of them. All that was left was painting and sockets. I smiled at how well it looked and grinned at my paint covered dad. "Been painting all day???"

"no, I've gotten some sockets into the wall." he started to explain how the whole room was hopefully going to look for the fiftieth time this week and I smiled, mum was fine and had her own ideas Which would have to be used and dad had some better ideas, she didn't like that nobody was on her side.

I was starving since I had a small lunch and made myself a bowl of cornflakes. Just to test, I went to my room and concentrated on the bowl. I close my eyes and controlled the spoon to take some cornflakes and milk and go into my mouth. It ended up spilling onto the bed sheet. I ended up controlling bits of cornflakes individually.

Once I had finished, I put the bowl aside and got my phone out my front pocket.

***Heya, anything you want to talk about???*** N

I put my phone on loud and sat it on my desk. I would need to control something else. I closed my eyes and controlled a random book to move slowly over to me. It landed in my crossed legs.

My phone rang and I controlled it to move to me, answer and go on loud speaker. I threw my hand out towards the door and slammed it shut so I could talk.

"Hello???" I grinned at his voice.

"Heya, you wanted me to text but I phoned instead."

"I can see that," I heard the grin in his voice, his butterflies-flittering-in-my-tummy grin. I sighed happily and waved my hand in front of my face, trying to cool the blush that attacked my cheeks.

"I can tell you're blushing."

"Oh, how come???"

"Because you go quiet and I just know you're either grinning or blushing." I laughed at his accusation and hit up, walking to the bathroom. "and since I know what you're like when I talk I can tell you're blushing."

"Well, maybe I'm just grinning, you wouldn't know."

"What are you doing now Flush???"

"Flush???" He chuckled and I grinned, completely controlled by his voice.

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"Yeah, my new nickname for you. Like it, Flush???" I shook my head, laughing as I entered the bathroom.

"I guess I can live with it."

"Where do you live???" I turned the tap on and splashed some cold water onto my cheeks.

"You know Zara Stephen, ask her." he sighed at I laughed.

"Nikita!!! Come do the dishwater!!!" my dad shouted from the bottom of the stairs.

"Got to go, I'll see you at bus park doors to tomorrow."

"No." did he want to cancel??? Dint he want to go to lunch anymore??? "Meet me at assembly hall doors." I grinned, retying my hair Ito its ponytail.

"Of course, even better."

## Chapter 4: A Date Doesn't Normally Come With A Warning Does It???

### A Date Doesn't Normally Come With A Warning Does It???

I had told the story three times, as my Facebook status, Lauren and Georgia. I couldn't get away from my mind's eye either. I wanted to know what was going on, mum and dad would have told me if they were like me wouldn't they???

As soon as mum got in the door she made a coffee like nothing was out of the ordinary. She opened the fridge and took the milk out, dad has one sugar no milk and mum has milk no sugar. Strange, I know.

When she was concentrating on the milk not spilling onto the unit, I closed my eyes and moved the milk top onto the microwave. She looked for it as soon as she set the milk down.

"Looking for something???" Mum turned to me and gave me a quire look. "Check the microwave." Mum moved to the microwave and spotted the green milk lid.

"How did it get there???" I stood up and began to leave the room when mum said my name, "Nikita???" I turned towards her, hoping she would give up and tell me what I wanted to know, it was a family gene, I wasn't a freak that people want to experiment on. She didn't, all she said was, "Make sure you brush your teeth, it's ten o'clock."

"Yeah Mum," I sighed, I couldn't be bothered with this. Maybe it was a on off, just a day fling. I couldn't wait until tomorrow morning now. I said my goodnights and gave my hugs and ran upstairs to get ready for bed, I shoved on my navy and black PJ trousers and my black strappy top after brushing my teeth and using my face wipps to wash my face (the soap makes my face itchy) and jumped into my warm bed. I made sure my alarm was on and snuggled down with Twilight to read.

Tomorrow couldn't come quick enough.

~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*

*I was walking in the woods, it was dark and I couldn't figure out where I was, even with the stars. I kept walking, hoping to find something familiar to me to fins my way home. The only thing distracting me was the whispering.*

*"She cannot possibly be the one, she is a dark brunette!!! Her hair is almost black yet not blonde, as we were told!!!" One angry voice whispered.*

*"She had the dream, both her parents are fair headed and so were her grandparents. But we must still help her." Help??? Why did I need help??? I'm not insane, that I know off.*

*"hello???" I shouted into the black night, "hello, is there anyone there???" I heard the whispering quieten and come to a stop as a figure appeared in the distance. A man's figure, a man with blonde hair. I blinked and he was right in front of me. He had skin as pale as snow and his face was clear of moles, warts, freckles, everything. Two eyes, the shade of icy blue and a small nose sat on his face along with lips. Thin lips that were a pale pink and I couldn't stop looking at.*



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*He lifted a pale hand to my cheek and held it there. It was warm despite the cold night air. He was utterly gorgeous. Who was he??? What did he want with me??? Could he answer my questions???*

*"It depends on what you wish to ask." I gazed at him, awestruck that he could read my mind. "Thank you for the compliment," he started to chuckle and I felt my cheeks start to burn.*

*"You what what's happening to me don't you???" he nodded and let his hand drop before sighing at me. "Can you tell me anything I need to know??? Why I'm, not blond like you, like my family, why they're angry. What am I???"*

*He sighed a second time and I shook my head. Obviously no one could answer my questions, why??? I don't know. Seems like I don't know a lot these days.*

*"That's not true. You know a lot, just, not about yourself." I raised an eyebrow and he laughed, the sound made my inside melt into weird butter. "You really can't help thinking can you???"*

*"Well," I said, my cheeks experiencing the burning sensation again, "if you would stop listening to my silent conversation-"*

*"With yourself."*

*"-with myself, then you wouldn't hear all the comments." He laughed and my insides started churning for the second time in the past minute.*

*"Nikita, you need our help, you need to harness you mind's eye."*

*"Who are you?!?!?!?" I was getting frustrated now, I needed and wanted to know who he was.*

*"All you need to know-for now-is that I'm from the other and we are here to help you. If you can't control your mind's eye then you could kill someone. Maybe more than oneâ.."* I stared at him in bewilderment. *I could kill, as easy as blinking.*

*"Until you have gained control, you are going to see a lot of me. For now, reality calls your name." Now, to me, the sound of seeing more of him was pretty damn good.*

*I saw the scene fade away and he disappeared. A stranger in my dream, a stranger who I believe was real. I closed my eyes and reopened them.*

*I was lying in the same position as I fell asleep last night, but I was in the middle of the woods.*

*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\**

I ran home, it was easy now I could see where I was going and slammed the door behind me. Mum was long gone to work and so was dad wich made me alone to go to my room and think for a second.

I looked at the clock on the wall and sighed, even if I was to get ready for school and took an hour, I would still be about three *hours* before the bus even *entered* the Bay. Why did that guy, that-that-*thing* show up in my dream and just tell me that I could kill if I didn't let them help me???

I wanted to see him again. I wanted him to take my hand and show me where he came from. I wanted to fall into his arms, fall into his eyes, I wanted him to fall into my *life*. Yet I had thought all of this of Joel just

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yesterday.

The thought of going to lunch with him still amazed me, I mean, he was kinda popular judging the group he went around with and heaps of people from school befriended him on facebook. I checked my phone, had had called me earlier and I missed it. I would phone him later when I got to school.

Thinking about what subjects I had today, I remembered the assembly I had every Tuesday and sighed, the only thing I had looked forward to was the fourth year assemblies but they didn't get any. My registration right next to the assembly doors so I get to see all the people who have to go for assemblies, yet it's only first to third years that get assemblies.

I switched on the shower anyway and peeled out of my mud caked PJ's before stepping into the warm needed of water. Water had always helped me too relax and think, whether it was pondering over things that confused me or just daydreaming, it had that effect on me.

His amazing blue eyes, his pale skin, his sharp but soft voice. They all shot into my head like bullets. What was going on??? I could kill people, he said. Who was he??? He said he was from *the other side*. I spent ages washing my hair and thinking, even as the water turned ice cold.

I got out the cold water and wrapped myself in a towel, leaving my hair lying limply down my back before switching the shower off. I sat on my bed, wondering what to do for the next three hours and finally decided to grab my sketchbook and pencils.

I began by drawing eyes, a pair of detailed eyes, dark on the outside light on inside, the lashes, the soft touch of pale. They almost looked real; I had amazing talent since I was young.

Stretching my drawing skills, I drew the slope of the nose, the thin lips, the light hair, the stocky neck, the broad shoulder and worked the last details of the eye again. I got my blue pencils out and began to colour his eyes, rubbing some part with my thumb to mix the colour. By the time I was finished my masterpiece, I had an hour until the bus rolled to a stop at my bus stop.

I got dressed into my cardigan and my tank top of which were all black and of course, my black and white converse. I grabbed my shorts and stuffed them into my bag and dried my hair before tying it up, brushed my teeth, wiped my face and added mascara, eyeliner and lip-gloss. Couldn't hurt could it???

Michael didn't have a nose bleed that morning so we made it ten minutes before the bus did and got good seats. I couldn't keep focus as my mind raced between today's lunch, my dream and yesterday.

Instead of going straight to school, we turned left at McDonalds roundabout. We kept going until St. Fergus and I grinned, Joel would have to get on the bus again. I got my phone out my bag and made the necessary text message.

***Double decker has entered St. Fergus. There's still a seat beside me if u want me to save it for you.***

***Yeah, thanks for the heads up J that would be great, see you soon.*** I grinned at Lauren and she leaned forwards in her seat.

"What's happening today, Nikita??? You have that dreamy smile on your face again." I laughed as we came to the first stop. I told her about today's plan for lunch and Joel sitting beside me and she laughed with me.

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We came to the last stop and two brother turned to face the bus as it rolled to a stop and stepped onto it. I bent my head down as Joel walked up the steps and looked around. Closing my eyes, I wanted to see where he would sit without me telling him

*He stood there, looking for her so he could sit down, the driver was telling him to find a seat as he walked up to Lauren.*

*"Is she on the bus???" she giggled and looked at the sleeping girl. He laughed and sent a text to Nikita*

*I see you. Her phone sounded and she couldn't stop giggling before shifting her bag onto her knees.*

"Hi Joel," he grinned at me and I smiled back. I loved Tuesdays. I used peek at him when we were getting registered for P.E. but careful not to catch his eye, now I didn't need to worry. I looked through my bag for something to do instead of gaping at the gorgeous boy sitting beside me.

Lauren kept giggling at me and I tried really really really hard not to blushing and stop smiling but he grinned, making it that extra bit harder.

"Still in for lunch???" I looked at him with wide eyes, slightly amazed he still hadn't backed out. "You can cancel if you want, I don't mind."

"Thanks for the chance, but I'm fine, I made sure I wasn't busy or going anywhere special. Just so we could go downtown." He grinned at me and I smiled back, honoured he cared so much.

"Great we can go to Hame Bakery and Astra Leisure if you want???" I was completely and utterly fine with it as he asked me.

"I'll warn you now," he gave me a warning look and I just managed to keep a straight face as I leaned towards him and whispered in his ear, "I have Mrs Ritchie before lunch."

## Chapter 5: The Start To beautiful Lunch

### *A Start To A Beautiful Lunch*

I sat in assembly, trying to focus on Mr Mackys words as he went on about good behaviour and thing, but all I could think about was Joel and I holding each other up as we walked into school giggling at each-others red faces.

He had walked with me to the science stairs and tried not to laugh at my tearful eyes but I couldn't stop giggling. "Nikita, calm down!!!" I shook my head at him and the bell rang so he made his way to his registration.

"Bye Joel." I waved as he turned back and smiled at me.

"Bye Nikita." I was standing there until the second bell, watching the space he had just been in.

Georgia nudged my arm and I turned away from this morning and looked at her. "Are you okay??? You look kind of spaced out." I nodded at her and grinned, she shook her head, knowing what I was thinking of.

From what I was listening to, the assembly was quite short, so we made our out the theatre and down the stairs toâ ã ã find Joel standing at the Vending machines. I grinned at him and he smiled back.

"What do you have first???" I raised my eyebrow as he came over to me and nodded at Georgia.

"English, why???" he shrugged his shoulders and walked beside me as Amy gave me a wide eyed surprised face.

"Just wondering, Flush." He chuckled at my face as the heat raced to my cheeks. I shook my head at him and he began to laugh at me.

"Why do you call me Flush again??" he just shrugged his shoulder and blinked. We stopped at my English class. We were the first people there, not even Miss Belenkina was there yet.

"Because I like calling you Flush, it's better than Blush." He grinned at me and leaned forward as I just stood like a pole. Completely still. He leaned beside my ear and said "See you at lunch," and kissed my cheek. It was basically nothing, yet my cheeks flared and he chuckled down the English corridor.

Everyone got to the door and Miss Belenkina unlocked it and caused everyone to push and cause chaos. I looked at Lauren and she grinned at me, obviously knowing something was going on.

I sat down in my seat and felt my phone vibrate. I looked at the teacher who was helping everyone get their books and jotters and shook my phone out of my pocket to find a text.

***You OK??? Where you going for break??? J.***

***Nowhere special, probably courtyard. Why??? N.*** English couldn't have been longer, I sat there, looking at my phone every ten seconds and even though the teacher saw me, she didn't take it from me.

A few minutes before the bell Joel text me again. ***Meet me beside assembly hall. J.***

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*OK, will be there before you. JXX N.*

*What will I get if I win???* J I looked at the door, wondering why he wanted to kiss my cheek. The thought made my cheeks flare again and the bell rang, stopping Miss Belenkina from talking and letting us go. I almost ran through the corridors and up the ramp as I sped along to the assembly hall. I looked around, I couldn't see Joel anywhere as I walked to the doors.

He was leaning against the doors.

"Well, what's my prize???" he said as I stopped in front of him. I grinned at him and shrugged my shoulders. "I'll think about it and say what I want at lunch. Promise you'll deliver???" I lifted my pinkie to him.

"As long as it's nothing out of range." He shook his head and wrapped his pinkie with mine. We grinned at each other and my phone vibrated in my pocket. "Hold on two seconds," Louise had text me asking where I was. Never mind her, this moment was more important than replying to her text.

"Later, text her later. You don't need to reply." I laughed at his words and he grinned at me, sending a frenzy of butterflies to flutter around my stomach. We began to walk to the courtyard when some of Joel's friends shouted him over. I nodded at Joel and he went to his friends and I carried on walking to the courtyard.

"Nikita!!!" Louise ran up to me at super speed, she's pretty fast, growth must all be in her legs. She used to run into me all the time and earned the name "Comet." I moved out the way so she wouldn't almost knock me over and look at her smiling face though she almost tripped over.

"Hello small person." She shouted my name again, telling me to stop calling her that and said I was so annoying, she says that to me all the time. Literally. We walked over to Georgia and she gave me a look *so, what happened???*

"Hi," I said awkwardly. Georgia gave me the look again and I sighed. "He took me to my English door, and said bye to me." I felt heat creep up to my cheeks and Louise sighed at me like it was a crime but Georgia giggled.

"What else happened, I know something else happened."

"Well, he kinda-" I looked at Louise and then Georgia, "-kissed my cheek." I grinned and she laughed. Louise had long gone. Lisa came over and asked what happened and I simply said, "nothing." The bell rang and we made our way to business studies, we had our second test, spread sheets. Last week we had done web design, I probably failed miserably.

We got to the top of the stairs and Jordan followed us but went to the opposite door for science. When he saw me he gave me one of the dirtiest looks known to man.

"What's his problem???" I shrugged at Georgia's question; why he didn't like me was beyond me, maybe it was because I gave his brother a letter, maybe he just wanted to give me dirty looks but it didn't bother me, why did I care about Jordan???

We did our first test in ICT, web design which I was sure I would fail and get very little marks. Geography went by quickly thanks to a movie we watched about tsunamis. I don't even know what we did; I was paying all my attention to my iPod clock.

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Because of something to do with injuries with rush hour when the lunch bell rings, we got out two minutes early so I was okay to walk normal to the assembly doors to wait for Joel.

He wasn't too long after me and we began walking out of the Prince Street doors and downtown, ignoring his friends whistles and calls as we went.

"So, what'ch ya wanna talk 'bout???" he shrugged his shoulders and my cheeks went red, embarrassment taking over. "Are you always this quiet after classes??"

"Yeah."

I stopped talking, thinking of things to say so I could get him to talk. "How many days do you do swimming lessons???" Lauren does them nearly every night."

"Three days a week, cycling another day and jogging twice a week." holy mother of whatever, he did more fitness than Lauren!!!

"How's that gone???"

"You saw me at swimming in November." I did, and I blushed immediately as he said it, I tried to remember him with the top on instead of just his skin tight, blue, knee-length swimming shorts.

"I did, I justâ€¦ forgot." He chuckled and kept walking.

"Come on Flush, if you don't walk then we'll never make it to Hame Bakery." i hurried after him, silent until we got there, him chucklung at my embarresment all the way.

## Chapter 6: Lunch, Fun And A Kiss To And Back

### Lunch, Fun And A Kiss To And Back

We got to Hame bakery and ordered our lunch, macaroni pie for me and sausage role for Joel. We began walking round beside Farm foods and I couldn't stand the silence any longer.

"Why are you so quiet at Lunch time???" he shrugged his shoulders and I stopped, waiting for him to finish his bite of sausage and pastry.

"I guess there's just not much to say." He said quietly, I sighed at him and he turned to look at me.

"It's me, I don't know anything about you, you shouldn't know anything about me-" his pastry started to crumble in his hand and the clouds were changing direction. I looked up and then at his pastry and he began to look up and I panicked.

I bloody well sneezed.

Joel almost fell over and if there were any trees beside us, they would have most likely fallen. The clouds went back to normal and his pastry stopped crumpling uncontrollably.

"Bless you, and a half!!!" I *grred* and he chuckled.

"That's nothing to laugh about!!! I could have hurt you by *sneezing*!!!"

"If you listened properly, I wasn't laughing, I was chuckling." I had a short wire, it was burning pretty quickly to the quick. "Nikita, let it out, *laugh*, I'm just kidding around with you." I sighed and felt better. I giggled and began laughing, then laughing so hysterically that I almost fell over and Joel had to keep my upright, finishing his lunch quickly and chuckling as he looked at me, making me feel like a drunk.

"You maybe shouldn't have said that," I giggled, still having to hold onto Joel. Well, I *pretended* I needed his help, really, it was just to be close to him. "Because now you won't get rid of me."

"I still have to tell you my prize from earlier." I had forgotten about that but he grinned, laughter in his eyes. "Will you go on a date with me???" I just looked at him and blinked, he was really asking me out wasn't he??? My friends don't like him the way I do. The say he's ugly and I'm nuts for liking him, I say the opposite, there's very little people I would call 'sexy', well, there's only two people. Nathan Sykes and Joel Robertson

"Yeah, okay. Where???" he grinned and I let go of Joel and shyly slipped my longest strand of fringe behind my ear.

"Where ever you want, movies, park, swimming, anywhere."

"Where would you rather go???" Actually no," he took it the wrong way, he thought I didn't want to go with him, I watched his face fall and laughed, "I still want go on a date, I just had a thought. Surprise me."

"oh." I laughed even harder and he grinned, chuckling with me. "What about Friday???"

"Perfect," I said, shy to take his hand, as if reading my mind, my hand suddenly became warm and I looked at Joel, absent minded taking my hand and keeping it warm

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.we talked for the rest of lunch, walking to school from Astra Leisure and talking about us. Joel has a passion for cycling, running, swimming and Smarties. I laughed (a lot) and admitted my favourite sweets were peanut M&Ms which he chuckled at.

I admitted I was definitely not fit, I liked cycling, hated running and loved swimming though I didn't do any of them much. Joel was kind of dumbfounded and said I had to work out of some kind because I was always on my feet when he saw me and I was pretty skinny.

"Honest, I don't much of either, walking at my normal pace or slower isn't working out." He laughed at that and I giggled with him. He swung our arms as we walked to Astra and I couldn't help but laugh.

"Have you been thinking about what you want to do in fourth year??? Or maybe for spring break???" I had completely forgotten about the subject choices.

"I don't think I'm doing anything for spring break and for subjectsâ.I haven't even given it a seconds thought!!!" we got into Astra and Kaitlyn and Amy were there with Louise. I gave Kaitlyn a look as if to say, *embarrass me and I will whoop your ass with a baseball bat!!!* She laughed at my face and Louise giggled while Amy just smiled at me, happy for me.

"So Joel," Kaitlyn was round him in seconds, "What do you think so far???"

"Shut it Kaitlyn, I'm warning you!!!" she laughed and I looked at Joel, "I'm sorry, she's kind of annoying like this."

"No need to be sorry, she's the one that told me you liked me after all." I hung my head and walked to the counter, ready to order my sweets. The ladies name, which I don't know, stood there grinning at us. She had a round, sweet looking face with small pink lips, a small nose and wide, green eyes.

"Now, what can I get you today??? Hello Joel," she said, not to be rude. She got her plastic serving glove on and a paper bag at the ready.

"Can I-" Joel stopped talking and touched my shoulder, giving it a squeeze as if to say *hold on a second*.

"Can I have fifty pence of blue and pink bottles and fifty pence of rhubarb & custards please, and in another bag can I get a fifty pence of pink and blue bottles please." I looked at him in shock then looked at Kaitlyn, Amy and Louise. Amy had her grin on and her thumbs up, the other two were laughing.

*Thank you*, I mouthed to them, the three of them nodded or gave thumbs up. I got a pound out of my purse and tried handing it to Joel.

"No, I'm not taking it. Let me try some and it'll be all the pay back you need to give me." He handed me the small bag of sweets and asked me to hold his for second while he got the money out his wallet.

I grinned as he held it hand out, he really wasn't self-conscious was he??? I turned and grinned at the girls and they laughed at my happiness as Joel and I walked out the door and into the street.

"What are you doing in P.E. on a Tuesday???" Joel asked me as we crossed the road.

"On Tuesdays we swim, have you never noticed my hair wet on a Tuesday???"

"Yeah, I just haven't seen it wet in a while."



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"Well, then again, I think we're doing a fitness block now for the next eight weeks but I brought my shorts." He began to swing our arms again as we walked and I grinned. "What about you???"

"I do badminton for the next few weeks, I don't know what we're doing after." We crossed the second road and was almost at school. "Where do you normally go at lunch???"

"Courtyard, that's where I spend a lot of my time."

"I see you around a lot....."

"I'm going to admit, I used to get my friend to go back and forth to prince street door to see if you were in school yet, but you were normally still out." He laughed, I mean really laughed from the stomach. "It's not funny!!! I got slagged off and everything."

"Okay," he said, chuckling. "I'm sorry. You really used to look for me???"

"This is a lot to say considering it's me and you're not making it any better."

"You're right, I'm sorry, really. Can I try some of the sweets yet??? I don't really have them." I shook the bag and held it out, I hadn't eaten many so he could choose from a wide range of mucked up sweets to perfectly shaped sweets. Joel took a few out the bag and popped some in his bag and one or two in his mouth.

"They tasteâ!" I laughed as his mouth scrunched up as he ate the blue and pink bottle, "â!..sour, yet good."

"See if I can throw one in your mouth???" he stopped where he was and I took a few steps away before chucking a sweet at his face, it hit his mouth. Second sweet, his eyeball, lucky it was a rhubarb & custard. Third one, we got in his mouth bag on!!!

"Dancer!!! I shouted pretty loudly, he chewed the sweet and took my hand again, it was warm and made me smile. "Sure you don't want to run away before Tino, Taylor, Aaron and all them see us together???"

"I don't care, do you??? No??? Well then leave it, I want to be seen with you, they can't say anything about it." I smiled and blushed as we walked down towards Prince Street doors. Some looked at us both together and others left us to it.

We walked through the doors and towards the courtyard as happy as could be, my cheeks were most likely glowing with red light even with the cold breeze hanging outside. Georgia, Lisa, Mark and Jack were outside when we got outside and didn't look at us until Jack announced it.

"Nikita!!!" he said in a gay voice, even though he's not gay, "Is that Joel???" he pointed a finger towards the beauty boy beside me, holding my hand. I nodded and blushed even more. "Hahahahaha!!!"

"Shut it Jack!!!" I shouted back. "Leave him be."

"It's fine, I don't mind." Joel said quietly, I looked at him with a grin and he looked back. Lisa and Georgia exchanged look and stared at Joel and I.

"Mind if I borrow her for a second???" Lisa asked, her taking one arms and Georgia taking the other arms, the closest beside Joel. He shook his head slowly and I gave him a death stare which he laughed at. He stood beside the boys and began talking about something I didn't hear.

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"How was it??? Did he kiss you, hug you or just hold your hand??? Confess his undying love for you??? Did he buy you anything???" These questions were pelted at me the moment they got me away from Joel.

"t was fine, he didn't kiss me or hug me though he held my hand for most of the time. What love??? He doesn't even know me well. That much. He wouldn't pay for my sweets at Astra Leisure, he bought them for me." They giggled and squealed until I told them to be quiet, he could probably hear us.

"So??? Joel!!! Nikita says she loves you!!!" I slapped Lisa's arm and Georgia laughed at it.

"Awesome." They squealed even more and laughed and giggled. I looked at Joel with a raised eyebrow and he just grinned making it very hard to try be serious with him.

"Nikkita, Nikita, Nikita!!! He loves you!!!" I shook my head and then I was crashed into. Louise had run into me with the power of a comet. (I actually started to call her that a few weeks ago) and I had to grab onto Georgia to gain balance again.

Through the last twenty minutes of lunchtime, Lisa was soaked in Juice, Jack had been partly soaked, Marks hat had been stolen a number of times, Georgia had almost peed herself with laughter, Joel had asked if this was normal and if I was sure, he had taken my hand and not let it go and I had gotten embarrassed as Louise and Kaitlyn told Joel what I had said, how good looking he was, how sweet his voice was to my ear. Everything.

The bell rang and we began making our way to P.E. so we wouldn't get into trouble for being late. We stopped outside the doors to the P.E. department when nobody was going through the corridor.

"I'll see you tomorrow, Nikita. Well, I'll see you later. Wait for me at the bus park door, okay???" I nodded and he leaned down towards my face. I felt a bad case of fluttering going round my stomach as his lips placed themselves onto my cheek. I had to hold my stomach to try and stop the fluttering.

"Bye Joel," I said when he had done. I kissed his cheek quickly and ran off, he has said earlier that he was going to wait for his friends. I looked back quickly and saw his grazing his fingers across his kiss mark and smiled.

Maybe things were looking for me now.

## Chapter 7: We Have To Fight For This Love, Don't We???

### *We Have To Fight For This Love, Don't We???*

I was running, but my mind was completely out of it. All I remember is starting the beep test in the assembly hall and running as fast as my legs could take me. I heard a beep and snapped out of my trance. There were only three people running, Kerry, Kathrin and I.

"Come on Nikita!!!" I heard people shout, just not too loudly. Another beep sounded and I raced to the other side of the hall. Kerry was there a millisecond to late and was out of the beep test. Just Kathrin and I. I ran and ran, managing a second to breath before the beep went again.

I got to the other side and Kathrin was a millisecond to late, just like Kerry. I ran and ran and ran as the beep sounded again and again. I couldn't hear the shouts of my name, I could only hear the pounded pulse in my ear. I began to slow down and then heard another voice.

"Come on Nikita!!! Run girl!!!" it was Joel, I ran even faster, sprinting for a good few minutes and then my legs went numb. I didn't let that stop me, I kept going and finally opened my eyes to the brightness around me, the different colours of clothes, the different faces. Joel standing beside Mr Lawson.

They were all shouting on me, rooting me on as I ran as fast as lightening to each side, again and again, over and over. I ran and ran until my legs went dead. I ran the last bit of the hall and slumped down at the wall, resting my hand on the wooden surface.

"Well done Nikita. Go get a drink if you want." That was the last thing I heard before I went crashing down.

***"Idiot, you do realise until you get a grip on things you're vulnerable. If you work yourself to much you'll faint and stop breathing a lot."***

***"Shut it you negative spirit. Blondie." He shut up and I woke up.***

I was lying down in the hall, a damp towel on my forehead and a hand holding my neck up. "What happened???" I asked, doing my best to sit up as slow as I could. Joel took the damp cloth from my head and lifted his hand from my neck to help me sit up.

"You need to stop fainting, are you okay???" he chuckled as he asked me. I nodded and gripped the cloth to my cheek, it was cold and I was absolutely roasting. "Come on, better get you checked out with the First Aiders." He helped me stand and kept an arm around my waist. Why was he in the assembly hall anyway?? He should have been in P.E. himself.

We walked towards the First Aiders and sat down, waiting for her to finish seeing the pupil in her room. "I thought you were in P.E." I said quietly as we waited.

"I was, but then I was told to go to Mr Lawson to tell him something, I was walking through when I saw a bunch of third year girls and saw you running against that girl. I thought you said you weren't fit???" he pulled me closer to him and kept his arm round my sides.

"I'm not, sheer willpower." He chuckled and shook his head, as not to believe me.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

"You can't run for that long and say *sheer willpower*, I've done the beep test and you got to around nine point six. That's a lot of running." I shook my head and it began to swirl again, I leaned my head against the wall and he lifted it off the wall and shifted it onto his shoulder. If I could I would have protested but his shoulder was comfortable and my head was fine there.

"Why did you want to go for lunch???" he looked surprised at me when I asked, I needed to know why, was I just another girl he wanted to know??? An unfortunate girl he wanted to seduce??? If I was I didn't want to be.

"I want to know you, become the friend you need, become the person you most need. That so bad???" I nodded and he stood up.

"I don't want to be just another girl!!!"

"I kissed you on the cheek twice, gave you my number and spend most of my time with you. Does it look like you're another girl??? Nikita, I asked you on a date!!!" I turned from him and the First Aiders door opened, a first year kid that I didn't recognise walked out and I gave Joel a look that said *leave me to calm down or you'll regret it*. He walked out and I walked into the First Aiders room.

"Weren't you the girl that came in yesterday in that boys arms???" I nodded and told her what happened. She listened and then gave me a slip to get out of school for the last fifty minutes of school. I thanked her, left and got my things from P.E. before going to Mr Lawson and telling him I was okay to leave school.

I went into the P.E. department and left through the bus park door there. I looked back into the corridor leading to the door and saw Joel standing at the end. His lips were moving and it looked like he was trying to tell me something.

*Don't leave, watch out.* Then he was actually running down and pointing when I looked behind me and was smashed in the head with something. I fell to the ground and watched the world disappear.

***"He loves you." I looked at Ash and frowned. "He has feelings for you, you can tell can't you. Of course not, all that's missing is the blonde hair."***

***"Shut up Ash!!! Of course he doesn't love me, I don't love him either. That much."***

***"Of course you do, I would rather you didn't I would rather you loved on of us," he came closer and lifted my chin, making me look at him. "One of you, one of me, one of us who understands you. Someone who can keep themselves together when you lose control."***

***"I don't want anyone else!!! I want him!!! Not some dead person, not someone who knows and understands because they're going through it but someone who can make them themselves understand even though they don't know what they're going through!!!" ash looked hurt at me and I shook my head.***

***"I don't want you or anyone else, I want Joel." He cringed at the name and I grinned, if he was going to be mean and spiteful to me then I won't let him get away with it. "What don't like his name??? don't like that his face goes into my mind every second of the day that I have to think, when I'm with you, when I should hate him, don't you like that it's his face, his voice, him that goes into my mind and ears all the time and not you." He growled and flew at me, trying to knock me down yet I managed to just step out the way and let him fall to the ground.***

***He flew at me and got me down this time. "Say it again and I will bite you."***

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

*"What??? Say that I like him and not you???" he said he would bite me, yet he bit my bottom lip. "What the hell are you playing at???" he looked me square in the eye and kissed me, a proper tongue and lip action kiss. I began to kick and tear my lips from his yet he was stronger than me. He kept kissing me and holding me by my wrists to the muddy ground, not releasing his grip at all.*

*I closed my eyes tight and made myself wake up.*

"Nikita!!! Nikita are you okay???" I opened my eyes and found Joel looming over me. I sat up and he moved beside me. My lips tingled from Ash's kiss and I lifted my fingers to them. Ash had kissed me because he was jealous of Joel because I liked him and not Ash.

"I'm fine. I-I need to go." I grabbed my bag and got up, stopping to stumble a second or two before almost falling again. Joel caught me before I hit the ground and lifted me bridal style. "What is it with you and carrying me???" he shrugged and walked to the double decker.

"Am I okay to go on here???" Steve nodded and walked up the two steps and then to the seats.

"What time is it???" Stuart was the only person on the bus so the bell mustn't have rang yet. Joel sat me down on one of the cold, pinkish-reddish benches and sat down beside me but turned to Stuart.

"Joel???" he turned to me and then turned back. I sighed at that and leaned my head on the window. Joel turned towards me and sighed.

"Do you forgive me???"

"For what??? Defending yourself against my harsh words???" he shook his head and I closed my eyes, I couldn't wait to get off this dreary bus, get home, plug in my music and forget the world. "My bag!!! I shrieked, I don't think Stuart liked that too much. "Where did my bag go???" Joel lifted it from the flood of the bus and plonked it onto my knees. "Thanks, I guess."

"I don't get a thank you then???" I gave him a look and we both sighed at each other. I leaned my head back on the window and tried to leave the world behind then remembered the stupid blonde that would be waiting for me. Instead, I got my iPod and earphones and tuned in to the music, ignoring the people filling into the bus.

We got out of Peterhead and began to go to Cruden Bay when I fancied walking the rest of the way. I closed my eyes and pictured the back two tires bursting when we got near a layby. The bus started to slow down and Steve drove into a layby. I walked up to the driver cab.

"I think the tires burst, mind if I walk the rest of the way to Cruden Bay???" he shook his head and told me to go to back to the seats while he checked. He opened the doors and closed them behind him. *I am not waiting for the old man to get back and tell us we have to wait half an hour for another bus.* I closed my eyes and prised the doors open with a ghost hand, the deck board he had at the drivers wheel was complicated. The doors opened and I grabbed my bags from beside Joel before jumping off the protesting bus and jogging away from everyone, letting them all shout for me to go back.

"Stuff that." I thought as I jogged away from the non-moving bus. I heard footsteps behind me and sped up to cross the road before the car came by. The footsteps stopped and Joel began to shout.

"Nikita!!!" I stopped and waited for him to hurry across the road.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

"Are you following me now??? Or do you just adore me too much to leave me???" I was joking but when he didn't answer I shut up and began to jog again. He kept up with me and wouldn't let me over take him or leave him to go in front.

I began to sprint as soon as we go into the Bay and took a difficult route to follow unless you know your way around. Joel kept up with me until I ran into a hidden drive and waited for him to jog pass, looking for me. I sprinted the opposite direction from Joel and ran homewards bound.

I walked up the steps and in the back door once I found out that the front door was locked. I walked inside and dumped my bag on the chair as well as my jacket. Grabbing a glass from the cupboard and making myself a drink, it slipped out my grasp and spilled all over the floor in a huge orange puddle.

"What are you doing here??? How did you find out where I live???" I snarled at the two boys sitting in the kitchen, one on the windowsill while the other sat on a chair. Joel stood up and coughed.

"I asked someone and the dude came with me."

"So you walked inside my house???" he shook his head and pressed a finger to his lips. I heard mum snoring upstairs. "What do you two want???"

"You." Ash was standing beside me now, trying to take my hand but I slapped his face. Think of it harsh if you want but I was confused, angry and annoyed with this blonde boy.

"Me??? You're trying to take my hand because less than an hour ago you kept getting annoyed that I liked someone who wasn't you!!!" I turned towards Joel and sigh, "and you??? Don't bother seeing me on Friday. I don't want to go out with you."

"You don't have a choice." He stood up and walked beside me, eyeing Ash as he did so. I raised an eyebrow and he carried on, "you owe me."

"She doesn't owe you anything," Ash said, stepping in front of me. "So just go back to the retarded place you came from, messed up twit." I stared, astonished at Ash as he called Joel name after name.

"Come on, I didn't call her anything or you, I did no harm to anyone. I would never-" he looked at me out the corner of his eye and I looked away "-ever hurt Nikita."

"Get out." They both looked at me and I looked at Ash, "get out my home, Ash." His eyes clouded and he swore at Joel, leaving us on our own. "Why, why did you say that???"

"Because I meant it." He took a step closer and took my hands in his and lifts them up. "I meant it Nikita, every word." I didn't want to hear that. I shook my head, as if to clean it of the mush I was hearing. "Nikita, I meant it!!! Honestly!!!"

I gave up, I just gave up. I slumped against the drawers and felt the handles dig into my back. Joel lifted me up so I could sit on the unit instead of arching my back so it wouldn't hurt.

"What do you want???" I whispered. He just looked me square in the eyes and kissed me square in the lips. I was shocked at first, my eyes wide and my lips non-moving as he tried to kiss me. He pulled away and looked at me with shaky eyes. I took my hands from his and slipped them on his face and brought it to mine. He slipped his hand on my waist and moved his lips with mine in a synchronised harmony.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

I had always read romantic stories when just after a day or two they two people began to fall in love or began to kiss or whatever and thought they were stupid for letting each other take over. I always wanted to tell them to get a grip, I wanted to tell them to get a life, a job, to go and wait for a week at least then they could snog and do whatever they want for how long they wanted.

Now I was sitting, on one of the kitchen units, with my hands on Joel's face, his hand on my waist and kissing like there was no tomorrow. Eat my words??? As long as they have a drink.

"Nikita," Joel mumbled as we stopped to lean our foreheads together. I blinked and looked at him through my eyelashes. "I lo-"

"Don't, too soon."

"I have to though, I have to say. You don't need to say anything back, I just want you to hear me say it." I closed my eyes for what he was going to say, not sure if I was ready or not. Things were going quicker than the speed of light. "I love you Nikita. I've never felt this way for someone before but I love you, so much it hurts when we fall out." I looked at him and smiled

"I love you too Joel." He grinned back at me and pressed his lips onto mine. I didn't protest. "Does this mean we're still on for Friday???"

"Tonight, we'll go out tonight, that okay???"

"Better than okay, that's terrific."

## Chapter 8: A Goodbye In Your Sleep

### A Goodbye In Your Sleep

As soon as Joel left I went to get ready, what do you wear on a date??? I looked through every single piece of clothing I owned. Jeans and t-shirt??? Nah, to laid back. Gorgeous dress and heels??? Nah, to posh. Jeans and a gorgeous top, skirt with a top, dress and leggings???

I went to my drawers and looked through my tops, what one could I wear??? I called my sister, she's really good at helping me look for something nice.

"Shaz!!! I need you to come over, I need help!!!"

"What with???"

"I'm going in a date later and I don't know what to wear!!!"

"Fine," she sighed, "I'll be over soon. You're lucky I'm off today." she hung up and I remembered. She had her second scan today, my sisters pregnant and only has a few months left until the baby's due.

Sharon came over and helped me look for something while giving me a questionnaire.

"What's he like??? Is he cute??? Where are you going for your date??? Who is he???"

"He's really sweet, he like me a lot," *I love you Nikita*, "he's adorable and he keeping it a secret from me, so I don't know where we're going. His name's Joel Robertson." I loved the name so much. Sharon smiled at me and held out a top I got for Christmas. It had a grey tank top underneath and I White long sleeved top that went down past the shoulders and was ruffled at the bottom of the sleeves.

I knew the sort of thing that would go with the top. I went to the wardrobe and pulled out my black straight jeans and my purple converse sneakers.

"Looks good, go try them out." I ran to the bathroom and got changed into my outfit. I looked good in it. I went back to Shaz and she got my make-up out. She applied eyeliner, mascaras, lip-gloss, light blusher and tried the foundation but I stopped her.

She also helped with my hair, straightening it but braiding some at the front. I didn't know what else I could do so I text Joel.

*When do you want to me or whatever??? N*

*Can you manage to meet me at the bus top beside the lido??? Six thirty okay??? J*

*Perfect xxxxx love you loads. N.* I grinned at the texts and Sharon agreed to drive me in. Zit was already six o'clock so we got going after I got my Handbag. My phone, iPod and my purse were in it so I kind of needed it. We got there a few minutes early and Sharon needed to go home so I got out the car and let her drive away.

*Where are you, I'm ready when you are. N*

Bus is late, should be there soon. J. I walked up and down the street for a while and he still wasn't there by



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half past. I walked to the garage across the street and got a drink and sat at the railing. I leaned over to look at the caravans and went a little too far over. I wasn't really paying attention though, I imagined that the bus was going that extra bit faster. I opened my eyes and I panicked, my feet slipped and I began to tip over the railing.

It's a steep hill to fall down.

I squealed and felt hands around my waist, pulling me back over. I looked at my saviour and kissed him quickly. "Hi Joel." he grinned and took my hand, his hair a little messed up but it looked good on him.

"Hey, I hope you're just trying to get my attention." I grinned and we began walking.

"Where are we going???" he tapped his nose and kissed my cheek. "Joel, at least give me a clue."

"It's not here."

"So much of a clue!!!" he chuckled and I stopped. He stopped with me and I just looked at him.

"Something wrong???"

"No, I just wanted to do this." I brought his face to mine and kissed him softly. He kissed me back and held my face as I gripped his hand with mine. I felt him smile against my lips and smiled back, leaning my forehead on his.

"Come on Nikita, I don't want us to be late and miss the whole thing." he took my hand and we began to run, good thing I had shoved on my converse instead of my heels. We ran until we were in the middle of Peterhead centre.

"Joel, Joel!!!" I began lagging behind as soon as I felt myself get tired, I didn't want to faint again. "Joel, go slower, I can't go at the same pace as you!!!" he slowed down and we slowed to a walk, I felt myself get really tired and lagged behind. He slipped an arm round my waist and pulled me close, helping me to walk quicker. I began to cough viciously and bits of the pavement went flying in front of us. It didn't look too good.

Joel and I walked for ages, he wouldn't let me know where we were going, he wouldn't give me clues and kept me in the dark. Not literally of course, Peterhead was lit up by lights like a show board. We stopped at a park bench and sat down.

"Can you tell me now???" Please, when are we getting there???" I begged him, gripping his hand and holding them close to me.

"Okay, I'll tell you," he chuckled and I sighed happily, "We're here." I looked around and all I saw was green woods and swings and obstacle courses, being honest, I didn't even know Peterhead had a park at all. I felt disappointed, I thought it would be amazing, the movies, dinner, somewhere that wasn't..... Here. But then I realised, just knowing Joel picked here for us made it the best date ever.

"I love it," I grinned at him and hugged him. We sat and talked for an hour or two then went for the nearest fish and chip shop. We went back to our bench and saw an old lady with her dog sitting peacefully and left her where she was.

"Joel???" I turned and stopped him from walking, tugging him back towards me.

"Yeah, Nikita???"

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

"Why do you love me???"

"Love has no reason." he wrapped his arms around me as it began to rain. "Plus, I love everything about you, not what's above the skin but what's under."

"You can't love everything, you don't know half the things about me." I mumbled when we started walking. I would have to tell him, he loved me and I was beginning to definitely love him. We knew just about everything about each other, he just didn't know that I was 'special'.

"Nikita, are you okay??? You seem a little intense tonight." I shook him and ran a metre away from before sneezing. He still fell over!!! I tried not to cough and sniffed instead but when I coughed trees and wooden fences kept coming out of their places. *That's it* I thought, *I'm leaving*.

"Joel, I think I'm coming down with something, mind if I rain check???" he sighed but shook his head. I texted Shaz and asked if she could come pick me up.

She phoned me, whining in my ear and complaining it was about one in the morning, she wasn't coming to pick me up. "I can probably get a ride to Cruden Bay, if you want???"

We ended up getting on a bus with the last of our money though we both knew Joel would have to go home. "You had be best to go home now, as much I like having you with me." I said, taking his arm as he walked me home.

We got into the door, he still needed to go home but we hadn't gotten him a ride yet, when mum was sitting with a coffee in hand and a dark look on her face. "Where were you???" I let my hand drop from Joel's arm dropped my head.

"In Peterhead."

"This time in the morning??? Nikita, I'm disappointed." she set her coffee on the table and walked over. "You must be Joel."

"Yes Mrs Middleton."

"You must be in need of a ride home."

"Well yes, I do."

"Stay here tonight, I'll phone your mother and tell her, if she's still up that is." I got the phone and Joel dialled his number.

"Hello, Mrs Robertson, your son is here in Cruden Bay. He was on a date with my daughter and just got in the door. If you want he can stay here, my older son might have clothes he can borrow for tomorrow. Yes, he'll be fine. Yes, yes, I understand. Okay, goodbye Mrs Robertson."

"Where will I sleep???"

"I trust you with my daughter so she'll get a sleeping bag and you can go on her bed. But she goes into the bed. Understood???" he nodded and we walked away, hand in hand, listening to my mother sigh. I got the pink sleeping bag with a furry trim and giggled as Joel stared at it.

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"Sorry, the other one's really thin. It'll keep you warm." he took it and I got my PJs and left for the bathroom. I brushed my teeth and made sure they looked okay, washed off the make-up, un-braided my hair and tied it in a straight forward bobble and got changed into my White strappy top with spaghetti straps and my grey, baggy, knee high yoga trousers. Joel was sitting there when I remembered he needed trousers for sleeping.

"Do you need a top???" he shook his head and I ran downstairs to get a pair of my brother's PJ trousers. He was only an inch or two taller than Joel so they should fit. I turned round and closed my eyes while he got changed and focused on black. He wrapped his arms around my waist from the back and kissed my bare shoulder, I watched him as he walked to the double bed, his back showed a lot of bone but it was still gorgeous, the freckle on his shoulder, his tanned skin, I loved everything about him.

"I love you," he whispered, making me giggle sleepily.

"I love you too, now come on. We have school in a few hours." he got into the sleeping bag and I shimmied under the covers, turning to face my gorgeous boyfriend. He slipped his fingers through mine and clasped them together, kissing my forehead, my nose, my cheeks and my mouth. I giggled at him and he chuckled, but lay there gaping when I accidentally levitated my cat.

I dropped her on the bed and closed my eyes and mouth. He would think I was a freak, I wouldn't tell him unless he asked, though just not tonight. We just lay there for what must have been an hour at least, only blinking and pretending to be asleep when mum came to check on us. Joel was first to fall asleep, holding my hand and sighing now and then. I kept looking at him, his nose, his dark eyebrows, his tanned skin, his broad shoulders, his thick neck, his full lips. Everything about him was amazing, sometime it looks like he's glowing.

His eyes popped open and I smiled at him, making him smile back. "Go to sleep Joel, you'll be shattered when we go to school."

"What about you??? Won't you be tired???" I shook my head, I didn't want to go to sleep and see Ash, I was sleeping with my boyfriend beside me and I thought of Ash, he was never far from my mind.

"I'm used to it, I don't get tired, I'm wide awake in the morning." He grinned and kissed my nose.

"Well try and go to sleep for me. No blonde strangers now, your boyfriends only here!!!" I giggled and wrapped my arms around him, which was kind of difficult considering the sleeping bag. How did he know about Ash??? Had someone heard me talk about him and tell Joel??? Well, I didn't care. He was right, my boyfriend was only beside me. My wonderful gorgeous boyfriend.

"I'll try, they're hard to resist." he chuckled and closed his eyes again, one closing extra slowly and got me giggling. He popped the same eye open and brought his two diners towards my eyes and rolled them down. I let him do it and snuggled as close as I could to him. We both fell asleep at around the same time.

~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*

*I sat up slowly, looking around the pitch black room. I couldn't see anything out of the ordinary; Joel was still on his sleeping bag with his arms dropped onto the bed, where I had been. There was tapping, it wasn't at the door, it was out the window.*

*"Come on, this might be your dream but he can still wake up." it was the blonde stranger.*

*"I can't have one night without you can I???" he chuckled and I opened the window, climbing onto the bedside table and taking his hand so I could get out into the morning moonlight.*

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

*"Until I despise you, it's going to be hard to miss me." I sighed, was that a bad thing??? He helped me clump over the roof and down the shed until our feet reached solid ground. We climbed the fence so we were in the front garden and I smiled, I had never thought of how beautiful it was, I only used to open my door to see who was shouting in the middle of the night.*

*"Why do you come and see me???" he shrugged as we sat down on the granite steps beside the front door.*

*"Why not???"*

*"It's like courting, just a little weirder." I said, taking his arms when he offered it. Ash smiled at me as we walked Gothenburg from door steps and sat down.*

*"You didn't answer my question though, why do you come to see me."*

*"Because I can." yeah, but you know u have a boyfriend I thought. He sighed and looked up, towards my bedroom window.*

*"Ash, I can't do this anymore, you'll just get hurt." he shook his head and I Sighed, getting up from my perch.*

*"Bye ash."*

## Chapter 9: A Morning Full Of Non-Existant "Sex"

### *A Morning Full Of Non-Existance "Sex"*

I slipped back into the back door, closing it so carefully that it sounded like it never opened, it never closed. I made my way back to my room, careful to miss the creak stairs and nearly jumped into bed. I felt so extremely lucky to be sleeping next to Joel.

I looked at his tanned face and amazing features before laying my head on his chest, it was and made me feel extordnry instead of some freak who's like Matilda. Joel shifted, lifting his arm to wrapping around me and slipping farther I to the sleeping bag to lay his cheek on mine.

I'm so lucky, I felt like a rainbow with a pot of gold at the end.

I closed my eyes quickly and felt myself fade away, soon I would wake up and find Joel. I heard something ringing, a soft sound that sounded like Swan Lake and opened my eyes. Joel was beginning to stir as I realised I had to go to school. Why couldn't I just stay off for the day with him???

"Morning gorgeous." I whispered once He opened his eyes.

"Back to you. I'm too sleepy to come up with anything." he whispered. I giggled at him and he smiled sleepily at me.

"So, prince sleep a lot, I guess I should be sleeping beauty shouldn't I???" he chuckled and I sat up, waiting to get up for school.

"What did you dream about???" I went completely blank, what was I supposed to say 'some blond spirit called Ash invaded my dreams and told me it shouldn't be you to have me.' I couldn't really say that to him now could I???

"Is it weird that I dreamed of darkness??? Completely black???" I said to him, feeling extremely guilty for lying to him. But what could I do??? I can't tell him yet I thought. Not yet.

"Not at all," I looked at him, waiting for his dream and he sighed happily. "I dreamt our date."

"That would have been a long dream would it not???" he chuckled at say up, stretching his arms and making the sleeping bag fall. I gawked at his bare chest, it looked seriously good.

Joel looked at me and followed my gaze before laughing and grabbing me to him. I squealed and remembered school. "We have to get ready; I still need to get you some clothes!!!" I shot up and ran to the door, laughing as Joel tried to catch me.

"Nikita, Nikita!!!" I turned to look at him as his grin spread across his face. "My clothes from last night were black, I can use them." I grinned and laughed, looking at him chuckle. He wrapped his arms around me and pulled me to him.

"I wish we could spend the whole day together." I whispered in his ear.

"We can spend lunch together." I nodded and he sighed happily, bending down to lift me up. "What is about the bus you said???" shizimms. The bus. I struggled out oh Joel's grip and grabbed my clothes before shorting

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

to the bathroom.

"Wait!!! I screeched to know one in particular and ran back, kissing Joel on the cheek before I went to get changed. I shoved on my outfit from the day before and brushed my teeth while I made my mind's eye tie up my hair so I would be ready quickly. "Can I come in yet???" I said to my bedroom door.

"If you want to see me half-dressed then yeah."

"What half???"

"Top half." I opened the door and grinned at him. He grinned back as he pulled his black t-shirt over his head. "So, you've seen me half naked, what about you??? It's your turn next."

"Don't think so boyo." I laughed as he pouted and wrapped my arms around him. My bedside clock said it was only half past so I reckoned we had some time left. I lifted my head up and placed my lips on his. He hugged me tight and kissed me back, not with rage of hunger but just slow kisses.

He lifted me to sit on the bed so I wasn't on my tiptoes and he didn't have to lean down to touch my lips with his. I heard mums door open and smiled, she opened the door as Joel was dusting the bottom of his top and I landed on my feet.

"Nothing's happening, Right???" I shook my head and smiled at her. She moved away from the door and walked down stairs. I grabbed my bag and filled it with the things I needed for today.

"I thought something was going on???" He pointed to me then him, frowning though his eyes were laughing.

"I was playing you Joel. I thought you knew that???" his eyes died and I laughed at him. "I love you to much to play with you, you Muppet!!!" he turned from me and began walking downstairs, ignoring me as I said his name over and over. My eyes began tearing an when I began snuffling he turned round.

"Why you crying??? Because I'm a Muppet???" a tear rolled down my cheeks, I hated it when he was mad at me. He began to chuckle and I stared at him, he was laughing at me crying.

"What's so funny???" as soon as I said it, my eyes widened and I slapped my forehead. He had joking about being in a mood. Of course he was, it's Joel. Last time I had seen him flustered was when I had fainted at school. "You're so cruel!!!" he laughed even harder and wrapped his arms around me. As soon as I felt his warm arms engulf me, I couldn't help but smile.

"You can be a bit slow sometimes Flush." I grinned and lifted my head to kiss him. Then mums voice rang down the stairs, saying it was twenty to eight. I grabbed my bag and Joel's hand and ran out the door, the bus would probably still be going to the Bay when we got there but it sometimes came early.

Michael walked up the street alone, watching me as he ate the packet of coco pops. He got to the bus stop and stared at Joel and I. "Who's that???" he said, not even blinking as he stared at Joel.

"My boyfriend. Joel." Michael looked suprised and Began laughing. "What is it wiu people laughing at me today???"

"Actually," Joel whispered in my ear, "I was laughing with you, not at you." I smiled at him and frowned at Michael. What on earth Louise thought of him was beyond me. I forgot to mention. Louise and Michael went out for a while, things didn't work out and now they try to avoid each other.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

Let's just say, I'm glad we don't run into him sometimes.

The bus took its own sweet time driving to our stop and when it did there were a few bewildered faces as we walked down the bus to my normal seat. Lana was open mouthed and wide eyes, as were many people as they looked through the bus windows before stepping on and walking up the steps.

Lauren was the only one who smiled at Joel and I. Lana, seeing the grin on her friends face and the happiness on mine, came over and asked why Joel was at the bus stop.

"He was at my house." her eyes widened again and I laughed at her dirty mind. She thought I slept with him!!! Well, to a certain extent I had, just not what she thought. "We had a date last night and didn't get home until around one o'clock. Mum let him over night."

Joel tightened his arms around me as Lana walked back to her seat, thinking of what to twist in the answer and turn it into a juicy story. "Maybe we shouldn't have told him." he said, then realized his mistake. "Her, her I meant her!!!" I giggled at him and leant my head on his shoulder while he asked if I wanted to plug on my earphones.

"What music does your Phone have??" I asked, he got it out his pocket and gave it to me.

"Listen to your heart's content." I smiled and looked through the list of songs. Chiddy bang, Eminem, Deadmau5- my eyes widened as I saw "Lack if a better name." One of my very favourite songs. He chuckled at my expression and plugged an earphone in my left ear. This boy was my dream boat, and I was ready to sail the seven seas.

"Man, I didn't know someone with good music existed." he poked my side Wichita made me giggle and twitch. "Where's your Reggie???"

"Geography." I smiled at him as the bus pulled into Bus Park. We got off and I felt like Bella walking awkwardly into school with Edwards's arms around her shoulders, the whole school staring at us. Except my boyfriend isn't a sparkling weirdo vampire and his arms is beside me holding my hand in his instead of around my shoulders.

I looked at him and gave him a genuine smile, so genuine I could almost feel my eyes twinkling at him.

"I'll walk you to science, I need to go to the canteen anyway." we walked towards the other end of the school. Joel kept chatting, knowing I was feeling uncomfortable with all the stares. I just kept smiling and tried to ignore everyone.

Then my friends saw us.

Georgia smiled at me, and then began grinning as she saw where Joel's arm was. Louise was grinning so much it looked like her skin was about to bunch over her ears, Kaitlyn was laughing and Amy was giggling. Lana just glared, goodness knows why but I didn't give a flying fig at that moment in time.

"You want to stay here or come up with me???" he was beginning to slid his warm arm off my gaining-cold shoulders. I smiled at him and took his and in mine. "That doesn't feel as comfortable."

"No you're right, put your arm back." he lifted it back onto my shoulders and I leaned my head onto him as we walked up the stairs, winking my eyes at Georgia as we went. There were some people already upstairs like

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Cameron, Mark and Greg and one or two third years. They stared in awe at us and Joel just kept whispering, telling me to ignore it.

A feeling like cola started to fizz up my throat towards my nose and I gulped and gulped trying not to sneeze. "Can I get a tissue please???" I asked a canteen lady and she ratted and went on about young kids and germs, if only she knew what was happening. Joel looked at me and quickly gave me a tissue and grabbed my hand, disappearing out of the canteen with me before the lady got back. I went to a corner and just got the tissue to my nose before my worst yet sneeze paid a visit.

I ended up banging my head off the wall really hard and falling on my backside. Joel came over and said I needed to stop sneezing just as the bell rang.

"I'll meet you here at the end of break, try not to sneeze please. Or cough." I laughed and said I'd try as he kissed my forehead and descended down the stairs.

"Nikita!!!" I looked at everyone filling upstairs and half of them coming to ask what happened. I told them we had a date- to which Lana had fun saying he slept with me that night, as in had sex with me- and we got on the bus together.

"I don't know if you slept with him, I'm somehow doubt it." Georgia was glancing at Lana, describing how I had done it all. In great detail.

"Well, she's wrong to a certain extent. We slept together, but not like that, Mum wouldn't even let him sleep under the covers, he was in a sleeping bag." Georgia widened her eyes and I smiled, last night was amazing, even when I was about to fall from the railing and he caught me. As we sat in Reggie, they all tried to include me into conversation; Georgia had to nudge me a few times to get my attention for the register.

"Are you okay Nikita???" I looked around to see who it was, Ash stood beside the bin for glass and I just stared at him in wonder, how had he got here without anyone seeing him??? I turned from him, still angry about yesterday and began to float away as soon as I could. German was the same, every chance I got I drifted. It was the same things each time, Joel pulling me from the railing, Joel taking me through hours of walking, Joel coming home with me, Joel's back, Joel, Joel, Joel.



## Chapter 10: A Mind Blowing Decision

### A Bing Blowing Decision

Break was a breeze, standing at the science door for my next class, and Joel meet up with me to tell me that we were going to lunch, it was my choice where we went (I picked Hame Bakery of course) and whether Georgia came with us and if his friends came with us of we just went alone.

"Your choice," he had said to me before kissing me quickly on the lips and running back to the canteen to see is friends.

Science was easy, running around class (we get a different class for Wednesdays than Monday which the door leading to it also used by Joel and he held the door open for Georgia and I) like a bunch of monkeys for revision on our next test. We got to go to computers fourth period so I slyly text Joel staying we were going.

*Going to Computers in next period, keep an eye out, I'll make it hard to spot me. Nxxxxxxx P.S. I love you.*

*Haha, lol, I'll find you, love you too Nikita. Jxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx J*

I smiled as we were packing up to go through since we wouldn't be going back to the classroom I hid behind Junior and Bruce, but told Georgia I was still Her partner. I peeked at Joel and winked, okay, maybe he could find me.

*Who's the blond kid???* You're not cheating on me are you???

 Lol Jxxxxxxx

*No!!! I can't believe you would think such a thing. Haha Nxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx*

We went on every website we could to do with Space. We had fourth minutes to write and type and click as much as we could. Georgia did a lot of writing, while I did almost half as much while texting Joel.

*How's science???* Lol Nxxxxxxx

*Great ha I have science tomorrow as well Jxxxxxxx*

*Way hay!!! Why on earth are you taking all three sciences???*Nxxxxx

*I want to be a radiologist later on in life. Jxxxx love you.*

*Love you too Nxxxxxx.*

We all finished up and got to go our two minutes early. Georgia sighed and left me waiting for Joel to get out the science department.

I stared at the back if her head as she left and Joel came quickly out the door. "Something wrong Flush???" I glanced backs and shook my head.

"Not at all." I felt myself slip away to a sneeze, oh god, I thought, worst one yet. Then a cough came a long at the same time. Most people had been blown to the Walls, I was on my back, the doors nearest us had been blown of their hinges and I couldn't see Joel.

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"Joel???" I tried to sit up but couldn't, most of the people were getting up and looking around. "Joel!!!" no one could see him.

"He's safe; I've got the little prick." I heard a voice say.

"Ash where is he???" I whispered angrily. I tried to get up and fell again. Hands went around my arms and people began pulling me to my feet.

"I've got her, I'll take her to the nurse." a girl with blonde hair and piercing green eyes looked at me as she helped me up.

"Where is he???" I whispered, badly having the energy to do so.

"Don't talk, he's fine with Ash though he want to kill lover boy. You'll be with him soon." She began walking with me basically hanging onto her, badly walking and as soon as we were in the nearest toilets we disappeared. I whimpered at the pain, my legs felt like a wild cat had been set to them and my hands felt like bees flying around.

Traveling wasn't making it any better.

"I want Joel." He nodded and Joel came into view just as the setting settled. It was a tree house, with a small window on each wall the size of an envelope and a bed and a small table with a lamp and binoculars and two fold up chairs.

And on the bed lay Joel.

He was snoring lightly, almost inaudible as he slept, knocked out from the blast. Ash sat in a fold up chair with his arms folded across his chest. The girl set me down beside Joel as I snuggled up to him, laying my head on his chest as he woke up slightly.

"Heya Flush," he looked around him as he turned on his side to look at me and wrap his arms around my waist. "Where are we??? How did I get here???"

"Shush, go to sleep Joel." I just managed to slid his eyelids down and kiss him softly before he fell asleep. I closed my eyes and shifted and Joel fell onto his back again. Closing my eyes, I heard sighed and whispers.

"She cannot wait any longer Ashling. She must train." the girls harsh but sweet tone said

"One more day Dalya, I beg you, just one more day and she can train, have mercy and give her one more day of peace and of Joel." he begged her. One more day before training, what did they mean??? One more day of Joel??? Certainly not!!!

"Ashling, that blast almost killed her, she is weak from it, training must begin."

"One day," he said, moving to stroke my hair, "please, one more Day is all that I ask of you."

"Fine, one more day and she trains. It cannot wait longer than that."

"I'm sorry Nikita, I really am."

## Chapter 11: When One Dies, One Is ReCreated

### When One Dies, One Is ReCreated

I was running. I was running away from millions of blonde people, millions of normal people. All holding weapons to destroy with, to destroy unnormal thing.

To destroy me.

Joel was running to, he was running behind me, shouting to me, holding a bunch of flowers.

"Horror!!! Witch!!! Mistake!!! Demon!!!" he was shouting. He was running with the large crowd, his bunch of flowers were on fire, his face of sheer hate.

"Die evil bitch!!! He shouted, catching up on me. The crowd gathered around us and someone threw their weapon at Joel.

"Kill her!!! Destroy her!!!" everyone was chanting, they chucked weapons at us, urging him to kill me. He set the flowers to my hair and grabbed a cross bow and aimed it at my heart.

"Goodbye Nikita."

I woke up screaming, sweat pouring from my face, trembling like it was winter. No one was at my side, Joel wasn't there with a crossbow, people were t there trying to kill me, the dead were gone. I was okay.

Unless I was dead.

I pulled my hair to my face and saw a blonde tinge at the bottom of my brown hair. I screamed and ran to the bathroom, my skin was still tan, my eyes were still greenish blue and my hair was still brown. Just going a little blonde.

I was in my house, almost falling to the floor, alone. I climbed onto the unit and looked out the window, no cars in the drive. I was alone. I walked back to my bed and loomed at the clock on my phone, eleven thirty in the evening.

My phone rang and I answered it to mum. "Hi, I didn't think you would be up."

"neither did I. Where are you???"

"at the hospital on night shift and getting you tablets, you've never been this ill, tonsillitis is as far as you've gotten and in the past three days you've fainted twice and disappeared from school.

"Mum I'm s-"

"Never mind, stay home tomorrow and don't go anywhere, try to sleep sweetheart, love you lots. Bye." the phone went dead and I was confused. Completely confused. My phone vibrated in my hand and I looked at the screen. A text.

*U at school 2morrow??? Were were u??? Spill scoffer.* Georgia, she made me laugh. I text back saying I was fine and I had Togo home and I wouldn't be at school tomorrow.

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I the phoned Joel. I know, half way through the night and all but he still picked up.

"I didn't wake up did I???" I heard mumbling and giggled. "are you okay???"

"Yeah," he yawned, mumbling again. "Go to sleep, have you seen the time???" I laughed and he chuckled. "I'll see u later tomorrow Nikita, try not to faint or sneeze or breathe okay???"

"I'll try not to. Love you Joel." he mumbled it back and we said bye before he began snoring again. I hung up the phone and switched it off. I needed some sleep to. I tried and tried but I couldn't go to sleep, I wasn't tired. I say for ages with my eyes closed until the black sheet gripped my hands with feather feeling softness.

"You've been sleeping for most of the day. I knew you would need it." I looked around for Ash but no one was there. There was a dummy. It looked like one of the people with the weapons trying to kill me.

"Ash??? Ash where are you???" I heard whispering and saw the dummy slowly take a step towards me, showing more of its features. It had freckles across his cheeks and square glasses on his nose. When it took another step I saw it was Daniel. A closed eyed Daniel. "What is he doing here???" I said to the darkness, knowing Ash would hear me.

"He's a dummy, you hated him once, so long it went on for months and now, now you use that anger."

"to do what???" I screeched.

"To attack." the dummy stool another step forward and moved the crossbow to its eye level, getting ready for a shot. I screeched and used my head. Literally. I ran into him with the speed of a chaeta and head-butted him in the stomach. He fell to his backside and disappeared.

"Where's Daniel??? How did I do that??? What are you doing to me?!?!?" Ash stepped out into the darkness and walked over to me.

"Daniel is at home, He will Never Know He was even here. Your Killer instinct is starting to be called and you need to be ready for when it decides to lead you alone. I'm not going to help you forever."

"I have questions!!!" I screeched back to him. "A lot of questions!!!"

"And I'll answer them. Any of them you want to ask." he stepped out of darkness and was an inch away from me. If we both puckered our lips we would probably be kissing.

"Any???" I whispered to him.

"any." his hand went to my cheek and it felt natural, as if it belonged there. My head couldn't resist snuggling closer as my hand lifted to hold his hand on my cheek. I blinked and felt something warm on my lips.

I opened my eyes to Ash's closet than they had been before. I jerked away and walked back.

"Nikita, wait, please!!!" Ash had kissed me. Again. He didn't understand that I was with Joel and not him.

I pushed Ash away from me and tried to run. I took one step and was lifted into the air and my breathing stopped.

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"You know you can't run, so why even try, Nikita???" I'm always going to be stronger than you." that got my cheeks flaming and my blood boiling. Did he seriously think just because I didn't know how to use my mind he was stronger than me???

What an ass.

I closed my eyes and concentrated really hard before I dropped to the ground.

"What the...???" he whispered as I stood up and dusted myself off. I walked over and stood on his hand, stopping him from getting up.

"Don't play this game with me, Ashling." he looked when I said his name. "Because I know what the rules are, so I know what to break." before he could say anything or stand up I squeezed my eyes closed and disappeared from Ash's view and woke up in my bed. I turned to look at my alarm clock, twenty past twelve.

"Really???" Only twelve???" I groaned, I felt like I had been sleeping forever. My phone rang and I picked up from the floor, no idea how it had gotten there. Without looking I answered and smiled.

"You okay???" he asked me in a drowsy tone.

"I'm fine Joel, don't worry." in honesty I wasn't fine, I was going blonde, I had to train with an asshole, I was scared in case I got a cold and I couldn't see my boyfriend as much as I wanted. Right now, life sucked.

"Okay, I'll get it out of you tomorrow. I have to go, mums coming up to take my temperature, school phoned and said about me getting a good head bang two days ago." I heard a woman's voice say to Joel about putting the phone down and opening his mouth.

"Bye Joel," I said quietly then shouted, "hello Mrs Robertson!!!" he whimpered at the sudden loud noise in his ear and hung up as I giggled. I sat up and held onto the bed post and closed my eyes. My head was pounding. I gathered some clothes as soon as I could open my eyes again and walked through to the bathroom and switched on the shower. I looked at the mirror and screamed again.

My hair was half blonde. My eyes were blooming into bright piercing blue.

"Nikita???" What's wrong???" my mother had gathered I to her long sleeping gown and shuffled out of her bedroom sleepily and was now staring wide eyed at me.

"Mum," I whispered, what the hell was happening?!?!?!"

"Nikita???" What have you done to yourself???" tears formed in my eyes as the words sank in, she thought I did this to myself when really, it was me turning into one of them.

"Have you got something to tell me???" About nana and grandpa???" she closed her eyes and looked out the window. "Why didn't it pass to you???"

"Because my family members were well kept and didn't die so easily, you nana's side of the family is almost gone. And Barry....." her heart was of pure heartbreak and I wasn't sure I wanted to hear.

"Your brother, he's in hospital. The oil rig crashed and he was a survivor but he's in a coma and we're cutting the cord soon. The machines are the only thing keeping him alive." mum had to lean into the door for support and she cried

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"So Barry's more or less gone???" she nodded and I understood. One of my main family had to die in order for me carry the curse. Grandpa had died after mum began her own family and granny died after mum and dad got together

I switched off the shower and sighed. I definitely felt bad now. "What will happen once he's gone???"

"You'll be one of them."

## Chapter 12: Answered Questions & Another Invite

### Answered Questions And Another Invite

While my mother went back to her bed to cry and sleep before getting up for work, I finally got in the shower and almost fell. Water had always helped me think, it was just a soothing thing.

"So when Barry dies I-"

"Turn bright blonde and will have a tough time with the eyes." I almost screamed again when I spotted Ash standing in the corner of the room, facing the wall.

"What are you doing here???" I hissed and returned round. "Ash!!!" his eyes were closed as he leaned against the wall and crossed his ankles.

"What???" I can't see you."

"Doesn't make it okay!!!" he chuckled and I finished rinsing my hair and turned off the shower. I quietly wrapped a towel around me and tip toed over to him, raising my hand to slap his pale cheek.

"I wouldn't do that if I were you." his eyes cracked open and his hands shot out. One grabbed my wrist and the other wrapped around my waist and pulled me closer to the body it belonged to. He let go of my wrist and held my hand instead, making me move into a dancing pose. "Always was the little mover, pretending you could dance on stage with your heels on."

He snapped his fingers and we disappeared from the bathroom and turned up on a stage, with hundreds of people. Ash stood there with me, dressed in a White tuxedo and holding out his hand to me for the taking. I looked down at what I wore and saw a White dress that overlapped itself and a gold thick belt around my waist with gold heels that were gorgeous.

I took Ash's hand and he spun me in, my feet moving to the beat of the ballroom piano. It was like they didn't belong to me, they just moved. We spun, twirled, stepped and stopped at the exact second we were supposed to. It was brilliant. When we were done people threw roses at our feet and I smiled, was that me or Ash's ability???

He picked up a bouquet of roses and lilies and took a lily from the bunch before slipping in my hair and giving me the bunch. "a little souvenir for the little princess."

The scene disappeared but I didn't. We were standing in the exact same pose as we had on the stage, the flowers were still in my hands and when I put my hand to my ear I felt the lily a little farther up. I looked at Ash, still in his tuxedo and watched as it faded.

I looked down and clamped my hands over Ash's eyes so he wouldn't see me stark naked. He laughed and pulled me close to him and I saw he was still wearing the outfit he had on before. My towel became more visible as each thread disappeared from the dress.

"Don't go," I whispered as the dress finally disappeared and Ash chuckled at me. "Why are you doing this???"

"Your starting training. Today." I shook my head, I was not going to go through that again, not hurting people I know. The phone rang and before Ash could protest, I jumped away from him and ran to answer it.

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"My mums going to Cruden Bay to say hello to a friend or two." Joel said as soon as he heard me say hello. "I'll text you as soon as we get there. You have explaining to do." then He hung up.

"What a waste of space and time he is." I turned round slowly to face him and almost slapped him.

"Don't you dare say that about Joel. Never ever say that about Joel." I growled, stepping so close to him that we could almost kiss. He bent down closer to my ear.

"You know it too, you don't love him at all. He's merely a crush." Ash turned my face quickly to give me a kiss and disappeared.

I sat down on my bed and cried. I was frustrated. I my mother knew what was happening and she never told me!!! Joel was questioning what was happening, I was getting confused between the two guys, I was beginning to get too powerful and I was beginning to look like them.

I definitely needed to get some contacts.

I heard mum shuffling about in her bedroom and stood up. My brother was basically a goner and that was enough to start me off. Great. I heard a car stop outside and a car door slam. Spying it the window, I saw Joel walk up the drive and raced down to open the door to him.

"Don't lie to me. Not anymore." he whispered, a look of pain glittering in his shaking eyes.

"You never asked, therefore I never lied Joel." I opened the door wide to let him in and he shook his head, grabbing my arm and pulling me outside and into his arms.

"Promise you won't lie to me???"

"I promise." he hugged me tight and sighed.

"Where do we start???" I spent the next hour answer Joel's questions and trying to plant and re-plant flowers. We had sat down on the stone steps in front of my door.

"So, you have to train and they used one of your best friends to begin with???" I nodded. "Can I help???" I shook my head, "why not???"

"I could kill you, I'm not gonna let you die because you want to help me."

"What about me??? Can I help???" I heard Ash say near my ear and felt his lips on my neck but when I looked at Joel he seemed unphased.

"Well, I don't see how I'm different from anyone else," I lifted my hand to his face and kissed him gently.

"Your special Joel, to me, your more important than anyone else." he gripped my waist and lifted me to sit in between his crossed legs. I turned my head and we sat, kissing as Ash growled in my ear. Joel pulled back and I leaned my head back onto his shoulder and he leaned his head awkwardly on mine.

"What else can you do??? As well as plant flowers and kiss good???" I giggled at him and he wrapped his arms around my waist, tightly holding onto me. I felt safe, like nothing could hurt me.



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"Wait to see if you noticed the changes." he looked at me properly and opened his mouth to something. Then closed it again. And did this for the next few minutes. He closed his mouth and I jumped quickly to kiss it before he did a fish action again.

"What the he'll have you done to yourself???" he whispered once I pulled away. He held a lock of blond hair in his hands and looked into my eyes.

"I didn't do anything, I-" he kissed me before I could say anything else and cupped my head in his hands as I wrapped my arms around him. He pulled away, looked at me and kissed me again. And again. And again.

"Nikita," he panted once he pulled away, "I don't care, you still look amazing. You're still my Nikita." I smiled and leaned my forehead on his.

"Really???" he nodded and stroked my cheek. "Mind if I go bright pink then???" he chuckled and then looked wide eyed at me when I didn't.

"You dint mean it do you???" I laughed and he blew out a breath and grinned.

"When's your mum coming to pick you up???" he shrugged his shoulders and smiled. "Well, I might go into Peterhead later; I am not staying blonde like this."

"What about the eyes???"

"My first priority." he nodded and stood up, backing into the blonde idiot behind him.

"Hello Jiel." he said in an evil voice. I glared at Ash and he just grinned devilishly.

"It's Joel actually." Ash rolled his head to the side as if to say and I care???

"Ash what are you doing here???" Get lost. Now." he grinned at me disappeared. Joel held out a hand for me and I grabbed it, using it to help myself get upon my feet again.

"What has he got against me???" I shook my head and kept my mouth shut. He held my waist and kissed my ear as I giggled at him. "Flush, I want you to meet my family soon. I don't know when yet, but soon."

"Okay, just text me when." he grinned at me and kissed me quickly. "And don't worry 'bout Ash, he's a muppet." he chuckled and I grinned at him, his chuckling made my heart skip a beat, every time.

"I have nothing against him," I raised an eyebrow at him, "But when he gets in between us or tries anything on you he's dead." I swallowed, hard to kill a dead man, I thought, especially a dead man like me.

"Forget about him, okay, nothing's going to happen. I love you Joel, not Ash." he grinned at me and kissed me again, licking my bottom lip, asking me to open up. I opened my mouth a tiny bit and he smiled against my lips, knowing I was being jokingly mean. I opened my mouth a little more and let him in. He slipped his Tongue over mine, mingling with me and cupping my cheek in his hand and holding me close to him by the waist. I moved my hands around his neck and held the back of it, moving my mouth in time with his and biting his bottom lip every now and then. We heard the sound of a car coming closer and stopped, pulling away for air, grinning at each other as we did.

A black Alfa Romeo came into view and stopped at the road beside my house. A small woman with ginger-blond hair and tanned skin got out to the car and walked up the drive before spotting her song holding

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

me by the waist and the cheek.

"Oh, Joel. And you must be Nikita???" she smiled threw her thin lips as her eyes shone at the sight of us. Joel removed his hand from my cheek and turned to face his mother, keeping on hand around my waist and shoving the other in his back pocket.

"Yeah, nice to meet you Mrs Robertson," I held a hand out to her and she shook it, holding it with both hands.

"Amanda, call me Amanda." I grinned at her and she laughed before turning to her son. "Come on Joel, we need to go home, your father will be waiting for his supper."

She smiled again at me as Joel kissed me quickly on the cheek and began walking after his mother. When they were at the bottom of the stone steps she turned back to me and said loudly, "You come over for supper on Saturday, we would love to have you over!!! Good bye Nikita!!!" I laughed after her and Joel waved goodbye to me as I blew him kisses.

"I would love to Amanda!!! Bye Joel, see you at school!!!!" I waited, waving until they had disappeared, Joel and his mother waving as they drove past, before running inside and into my bedroom. I was going to Joel's house for supper on Saturday!!!

## Chapter 13: A Crash And Threat From The Enemies

### *A Crash And Threat From The Enemies*

I looked at the clock once I had gotten inside. It was about half three PM. I grabbed my small beige bag, my shades and my purple sparkly hat before running downstairs to speak to mum.

"Are you going into Peterhead later???" she nodded and I took my chance, "can I come, I need hair dye and contacts." a second nod was giving and I hastily hid my hair in the hat and slipped my shades on after running upstairs to grab my phone, iPod, earphones and purse.

"Hurry up Nikita," mum said, "I'm not waiting forever." I grinned and ran after her, careful not to let any of my hair escape. As soon as we were in the silver polo I turned the radio to North Sound One and started singing to the songs.

"Mum, where would I get contact lenses???"

"Duncan and Todd's might have, or Specsavers. How are they anyway???" we were coming to a junction so I quickly slipped the shades from my eyes and turned to her. She didn't say anything, just turned and looked at the road. I slipped the red shades back on.

"Are they that bad???" I whispered as she drove out the junction. She nodded and I held my breath, hoping I could either get on the medical list to wear shades all the time or there were contacts that would match my eye colour. We drove in silence to Morrison's, not even The Wanted making me want to sing.

I text Georgia saying if she was in Morrison's she had to look out for me. And got a reply saying she would. I smiled, maybe I could tell Georgia this, someone to help me calm down in class when Joel couldn't. We got in and I headed straight for the colours. Mum came quickly after me and looked at the two colours I had picked up.

"If I have to have my hair dyed, why not make it a colour I want???" she smiled and looked from the cherry red to the plum purple

"I guess, choose your pick," I grinned at her and slid the purple back where it had sat before Picking up another two bottles of the red. We got the shopping and the hair dye (and what mum said was "a well-deserved treat" which was a small tub of ben & jerry's baked Alaska and twilight, breaking dawn part one) before shooting off to Duncan and Todd's.

"Hello, what can I do for you???" a honey blonde lady sat behind a desk with a laptop. Her face was clear of anything and had green eyes. Lucky, I thought.

"I was wondering if you had any eye contact lenses??? My daughter doesn't need glasses but we're in need of coloured lenses." the lady nodded with a tight lipped smile at us and stood up.

"Could I see your eyes for a second please???" she asked when she was standing directly in front of us. I hesitated but slipped the shades from my face and looked at her. She gasped at my eyes and smiled, really smiled this time before taking my hand and leading us into another room filled with cabinets of coloured lenses.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

"Have you got any that are a deeper blueish green??? Mostly green???" she smiled and flicked her hands out quickly towards different small boxes of contacts. I looked at the different colours, the light coming from the large windows helped to see the normal colour. There were green, blue, grey, brown, black, and even red. I was tempted to take the red but I knew I needed normal looking lenses. I saw lenses that looked a lot like my eyes had been, just a little more blue. Who would notice???

We got the lenses happily and started towards home when Ash walked into the middle of the road. Mum saw him and began to brake quickly as I screamed for her to stop. We stopped quickly but my hair was standing on ends, like I was in water and my voice gurgled.

Then we toppled.

The car flipped in the air and after what seemed hours we crashed, roof first. The airbags were out, the seat belt was nipping my skin and stopping me from tumbling head first onto the roof. My mums head was hanging and blood was crawling down her face as I screeched her name. No sound came from her at all.

"Hello??? Hello!!!" I screamed into my phone as the lady asked what was wrong. "I need an ambulance!!! Just outside Peterhead centre!!! We've crashed and my mums unconscious!!! Help!!!"

"Calm down, an ambulance outside Peterhead centre." I screeched yes and she hung up. People were trying to get us out but the doors were jammed and I was too frightened to do anything. I saw Ash standing at the back of the group, pain on his face.

"*I HATE YOU!!!*" I screamed, hoping he would hear me, "*I HATE YOU WITH EVERYTHING I HAVE IN ME!!!*" I looked at mum and shook her shoulder. Mum??? Mum, wake up, please wake up!!!" she didn't even stir as I pressed two fingers to her throat to feel her pulse. I hoped the ambulance would get there soon.

I heard my name and saw Georgia she was banging on the window and trying to say something. "They're coming, it's okay, Nikita." I heard blaring sirens and saw the lights of the ambulance. I felt something on my arms and seeping on my head. I looked at my arms and saw cuts all over them, blood gushing, when I pressed my hands to my head there was wet substance, more blood was on my hands when I looked.

"Oh shit." the people were stared to vanish and we saw some people trying to open the door and more siren and lights. Everything was going blurry and I felt the shades shift from my face. "Mum, wake up, please." there were crunches and more noises and then I could see light, lots of it, and shapes, shapes of moving people, and blurry voices and noises, sparks of purple thread, my hat. I threaded my fingers through the holes and gripped it, using my other hand to grip my mothers.

The doors were off and they were trying to get us out. I heard some people reassure me it would be fine but I didn't believe them. Not since my visions was leaving me. And the voices, and the noises, all of them leaving me to hear Ash.

"Nikita, I'm sorry. I am so so so so so sorry." he kept saying it as I slipped away. Further and further. I opened my eyes and saw green. Lots and lots of green and blue. The sky was bright blue and the grass was gorgeous green. I looked at myself and saw no cuts, my pale skin glowing and smooth. I flicked my hair in front of me and saw brunette. I laughed as I sat up. I was wearing a knee length red dress, neat sweetheart line and tight until the waist, then it blew out.

There was a cabin a few feet away from and a lake about a mile away from me. And someone sitting there. I ran to see the brown haired boy sitting without a shirt and brown breeches. He had his hands behind him, leaning on them as he sat with his head back, eyes closed and relishing the sunlight.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

I ran to his and kissed him. He laughed and opened his eyes standing up and circling his arms around my waist and spinning me round.

"Hello Nikita." I smiled at the brown boy and laughed.

"Hello Joel." He grinned at me and set me on my feet, holding my hands, fingers in between mine and kissed my shoulder, up to my neck, to my chin, to my lips and kissing me for a length of time.

"What are you doing here???" I whispered to him when I got a chance.

"I didn't want you to wake up alone," I raised an eyebrow and he smiled, "I'm not here, you think I am because you want to see me but I'm not." I smiled at him for some reason and shrugged it off. Oh well. He kissed me again and I giggled at him, loving his lips on mine.

"Your still here though."

"Not for long, you have to wake up soon. You can't stay forever." I grimaced at him but he smiled at me and kissed me again. "We have time for a last kiss though." I grinned and kissed him, opening my mouth for him and smiling against his lips. He licked my Tongue and slid it against my teeth before I bit it.

"Goodbye Nikita, I'll see you soon." I smiled at him and nodded. Wrapping my arms around his waist and burying my face into his bare chest.

"See you soon Joel." it all disappeared and I was left to wake up to silence. Was I dead???

"No. But close to it." I looked around and saw a black man in a White lab coat stand beside my bed, pushing small, square glasses up the bridge of his nose and holding a clipboard with a sheet of paper on it.

"How long have I been out of it???" I sat up slowly, taking in my surrounding. It was a small room, a chair at one side of the room beside the medium hospital window and wires and a beep machine on one side of the bed. There was a sink at the others side of the window with a mirror and a cabinet. In the farthest away corner of the room there was a large cubicle type thing with a door which I could only imagine was the shower or bath.

"You've been sleeping for the past four hours," his deep voice answered. Four hours were a lot considering I hadn't been up long after I had gotten up.

"What about my mother???" he smiled at me and set the clipboard beside the sink.

"Your mother is in another room, she's fine and kicking, just getting a check-up. She lost consciousness in the crash but you got the worst wound. A good cut on your head and about twenty on your arms. The one on your head will leave a scar, as will some on your arms. Other than that, you're fine."

I held my hand to my head, there was nothing there and my arms were covered in bandages. "How long before I leave???"

"Tomorrow, I think, you seem fine, but of course, we want to make sure you're fine before you leave." I nodded and looked at the door. No one was there. I lie down on the bed and felt something on my pillow. My hat was there, ripped by it made me feel better.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

"Is my bag here???" he grabbed it from the chair and handed it to me. I thanked him and checked my phone. I smiled as he chuckled at me, noting the stereotypical. Blonde, hopeless and phone lover. Not exactly true. I checked the voice mails, one was from Georgia and three were from Joel.

"Hey," Georgia started, "I hope you're okay, I'm sorry I couldn't help when I was there. Please text me or something when you get this. Okay, bye."

I listened to Joel's a few times, smiling at him. "Nikita, have you opened your eyes yet??? I hope it's you listening to this. Forget about Saturday, we can do it another time, I doubt you'll be stable to come over."

"Listen," the second one said, "I sound mean in that last one, we can talk about it later, think if you're okay to. Okay, I forgot to tell you I love you in the last one, so.... I love you."

The last one was the only one I hadn't heard. "Hey, Nikita??? Are you awake yet??? I'm getting worried. If I'm not there when you wake up then I'm sorry, I was there for ages and I wish I didn't have to leave, we need to talk about Ash and all soon. I need to see you again soon. Call me when you can. I love you."

I grinned and settled down with my hat in bag before texting Joel and Georgia

*Hi, I'm fine. Now anyway. I'll phone when I get home tomorrow. Love ya, Nxxx*

*Hi, I'm hospital, go figure, I'll phone later, I find it rude to do so in hospital. Love you loads and loads and loads. Nxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx*

I then closed my eyes and sighed. I was in hospital. With a cut in my head that would leave scar and loads of little scratches on my arms. My mum was fine. We crashed. In the car.

Because of Ash.

I noticed the Doctor was gone and no one was there in his place. So I lay there and cried. While quiet footsteps found my room.

"Nikita???" I turned, sniffing, towards the wall and ignored him. Why was I to go and talk to him, tell him it's okay that we crashed because of him. I could have seriously been hurt. My mum could have died. Yet she dared show his face. "Nikita, please talk to me."

"What is there to say???" I wiped a tear from my face and felt a hand on my cheek. I grabbed the finger and twisted it awkwardly back.

"Everything. There is everything to say." I shook my head and felt him trace the line where the scar would be. "Let's start off with I'm sorry." I wiped another tear on the back of my hand and watched it travel.

A purple droplet was crystalizing on my hand.

"What is this???" I lifted my hand to get a better glimpse of it. It was going incredibly slowly and was leaving a trail of purple crystals in its wake.

"Something that only you can have. You're a special case Nikita. Your turning blonde and blue eyed, everyone else was already blonde and blue eyed. You have more power than half of us on the other side and your tears are turning into purple crystals." I looked at him and his gaze was amazement. "You really are a special case."

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

I sat up but turned away from him, I don't care what I was, one thing I knew for sure was I wasn't easily forgiving. He grabbed my sides and pulled me towards him.

"Nikita," he whispered once he had settled his chin on my shoulder. "Talk to me, tell me I'm forgiven, tell me that I can't do it again, tell me I have to stay away from you." I closed my eyes and tried not to turn round and give him what he wanted.

"Tell me you love me."

I squeezed my eyes shut. I didn't love him, I couldn't love him, I loved Joel. I always did, but there was something-something that as much as I wanted, I couldn't figure out just what it was- that sat in me, throbbing for Ash every second. I knew there was, but I just couldn't admit to it.

"Ash, don't do this to me, please don't do this to me," I whispered back as he kissed my neck, sending tingles through me.

"Your wish is my command," he whispered back, taking his chin from my shoulder and stepping back. I sighed and love for him to settle back where he was, to whisper sweet nothings in my ear, but I knew I couldn't do that. "I'll wait, I'll wait for you Nikita, whether it be a day or forever, I'll wait."

I turned round to say no, don't wait, I won't, but when I turned round, no one was there.

\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*

Mum had been in quickly to see me before leaving again as Joel came in the door. I smiled weakly at him and he smiled back at me.

"I'll leave the two of you alone and I'll come back later," she kissed my forehead and left, nodding at Joel as she left. He nearly ran over and hugged me, really tightly as if he couldn't believe I was there, as if to reassure himself. I laughed and he looked deep into my eyes and I sighed happily, he really was scared.

"You're really okay???" I nodded and he kissed me, I giggled against his lips and cupped his cheeks. He pulled back gasping and watery eyed. "Don't do that to me again!!!"

"Kissing you??? You seemed to rather like it," he shook his head and hugged me again.

"Don't do something like that!!! Crash, get ran over, jump of a cliff, anything!!!" I sighed at him again and hugged him back.

"I'm doing my best you know. It wasn't exactly my fault." I looked away from him and he sighed this time, not a happy sigh either. "Joel I-"

"It's okay, really, I'm just glad you're alive." I snuggled against Joel, trying to stifle a yawn when I remembered the droplet. I quickly got off the bed and grabbed a paper towel, pressing it to my cheeks as a tear ran down it and caught the droplets. Joel marvelled over them as I showed him the paper towel, grinning at his wide eyes.

"What the hell is that???" I pointed to my eyes and he closed his eyes then opened them. "There is a line from your eye. And it's purple!!!" I laughed and then grabbed onto the sink, maybe I shouldn't be standing yet. Joel rushed to pick me up, literally sweeping me from my feet to put me on the bed again.

"Joel!!!" I giggled as he tickled my neck with the kissed, making slurp noises as he kissed further up my neck.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

"Yeah???" He asked as he kissed beside my ear to my eye.

"What are you doing???" He shrugged his shoulders and kissed my other eye and my nose before hovering just on top of my lips. I kept my eyes to his, enjoying the colour of melted chocolate that swirled in his irises, glancing to his lips every few seconds. He grinned at me and lifted his head up before I whimpered like a child and gripped the back of his neck, pushing his head towards mine and kissing him. I forced his mouth open and tangled my tongue with his, nipping his bottom lip every now and then.

"Flush!!!" I let go of him and looked at his mouth. I had somehow given his lip a good bite and made it gush of blood. I opened my mouth to say something and closed it again, I didn't know if it was me or the power I needed to gain control of.

"Joel, I'm so sorry, I-" He cut me off by taking my hand and kissing my knuckles. I looked at him with shaky eyes as he pulled away, letting my hand drop beside me. I didn't want him to leave, but I had done that to him. Whether it was me or the power, I didn't ever want to do that to Joel again.

"Don't look so sad Nikita, I'll come by later or tomorrow if I can. Bye," I whimpered again, hoping he'd sit beside me or something. But I had no such luck, he left the room without so much as a wave towards me. Mum came in quickly after he left and the doctor followed.

"Okay, your skull is fine, but as I said earlier, the stiches will leave a scar as a souvenir," he laughed at his lame joke and I closed my eyes, just wanting to be alone for a second. My mother, on the other hand, had other plans/

"Your father is coming in by to see you after work, so he should be here in about an hour, okay???" I nodded and listened to her babble on about having a lazy day on Saturday, staying in my bed watching films all day.

"I can't," I whispered, finally opening my eyes, "I'm going to Joel's for supper. I was invited earlier and I really don't want to go back on the offer." My mother didn't like the sound of that. She didn't like that I wanted to spend half my Saturday with another family instead of my own. She nodded and got up.

I was upsetting everyone today!!!

"Mums-" She waved it off and said she was going for a coffee and a cigarette. I let her walk away and didn't say anything as the doctor told me I should stay in on Saturday, in case I did any damage to my head.

"I'm sorry, but how's being in a car then being in a house for a few hours going to hurt my head???"

"Because you have more training to do." I sighed and rolled over on my side. I was *not* dealing with anyone. "Do you think we *want* to train you??? Or that we *like* what you're doing to Ashling???" when I looked up at who it was, I saw the girl that helped me after the sneeze, the girl who told me that Ash had 'that little prick'.

"What would you do if I left to go on Saturday???"

"Then you would have a terrible accident, and someone isn't going to make it this time." I looked questionably at her and she just said: "You are not one of us, you will never be one of us. It's about time you just let go about it and forgot everything. She disappeared and I was left with my thoughts.

I certainly didn't want to be, but I was.

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## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

I was *home*. After one night and a day of being stuck in hospital and being visited by two spirits and my boyfriend ignoring me, I was home. I had phoned Georgia as soon as I was home, telling her I was okay and I would have a scar on my head and some on my arms but I was okay. My dad actually was home from work and hugged me tight, saying how sorry he was about not being at the hospital, mum was happy to let me see my room tidy, I bed made, my carpet hovered and hair dye and packets of bluish green lenses were on my desk. As well as a card.

"We left it for you to see first, I'll help you with the hair dye later. Okay???" I nodded when she asked and let her leave the room, leaving me with my card. I opened the cream envelope carefully and looked at the silver card inside, it had nothing on it, it was just silver, gleaming card.

*Nikita, I'm sorry, I hope you can understand that. Go to St. Fergus, I'll make sure her threat isn't carried out. I will come see you later, I don't know when, but I will. We need to talk. Just, think of me when you look at this.*

*Your sorrowfully and regretfully,  
Ashling.*

I side with the card was a dream catcher, a small silver one that had two rings. The both of them was silver, as were the beads, the string patterns were blue and matched the silky feathers. In between the multiple feathers to one bead, two chimes sat, waiting to be clattered. I already had a huge, pink one and a small multi coloured one hanging from my window, but this one would be going on too, a sweet gesture.

"Why is he doing this???" I whispered to no one in particular, "he's hot then he's cold." I sat down with the envelope and the card, looking back between each one. He said I could go to St. Fergus, and nothing would happen. I'll make sure her threat isn't carried out, he had said. I was fine to go on Saturday!!! I looked up from where I was sitting and got the shock of my life.

"I said I was coming round," he whispered, tightening his hands behind his back.

"I know," I whispered back, standing up to tie my dream catcher beside my window. I stood right below it but still had trouble getting it up as I stretched my arms. I felt hands around my waist and my feet go off the ground. Ash sat me on his shoulder and made it easier to get it on the metal bar at my window. I tied it securely and waited for Ash to let me down. Instead, he set his head against my lap. "Ash," I said.

"I know, it just feels nice, if I can never have you then I want to at least say I did this." I smiled at him and sat my hand on his and ruffled his blonde hair with the other.

"Your hairs fluffy," I had always had a thing about fluffy hair, no idea what, I just have.

"I like it like this, and I know you do." I grinned and couldn't help a giggle or two. He lifted his head and gripped my waist again, setting me on my feet quickly and hugged me from behind. "I know, I know, I just want to hold you." I could accept that, I had wanted to when I met Joel, when I saw Joel.

"Okay," I whispered, not saying anything else. I knew he could hear my thoughts. Settling his head on my shoulder, I held his hands, he was obviously upset, I didn't know if it was to do with me or what. "When are we training???"

"Anytime you want. I have no agenda to follow." I sighed and giggled once or twice, Ash silently laughing at his own joke. I turned round and hugged him properly.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

"Why do you do this??? Making sure I'm okay, putting up with me, looking after me since the rest won't???" he shrugged his shoulder and slipped a lock of hair behind my ear.

"Must I *always* have a reason???" he whispered. I knew what was coming, he had moved my hair out of my face, his eyes were glittering and he was moving closer as each aggravating second walked behind us.

"Ashâ !" I whispered as his lips stopped about a centimetre away from mine. He sighed and I knew he was despite, but did I want to be nice enough to the boy who had annoyed me endlessly, the boy who could have killed my mother and I???

"I'm sorry, Nikita, I'll go away after one thing." He didn't have to continue when I knew what he wanted, and I didn't feel in a position to give what he wanted. I shook my head, so much I thought it would fall from my neck.

"I don't feel right to give you it, I'm with Joel. Not you, therefor I should be kissing Joel, not you," one growled annoyingly at me but in a flirtatious way. I kept glancing from his eyes to his beautiful rosy lips and he chuckled.

"I never noticed they were rosy." I smiled a little but couldn't stop glancing at them to his shockingly blue eyes, his sparkling blue eyes. *I never noticed him moving until his lips were on mine.* His arms and hands gripped and tightened around my waist, his lips not prying mine open, his eyes almost closed but no completely. My hands wanted to grip his neck and ruffle his soft hair, my lips wanted to prise his open.

And to think I almost gave in.

I pulled away and looked at him, he had kissed me, *again*, when I asked him not too, why didn't he *listen* to me?!?!?! I pushed him away from me and sat on my bed, I almost gave in, I almost kissed him back, I almost licked his Tongue with mine. I almost liked it.

"Nikita, I-" my hand went up as I closed my eyes, trying to think, but I couldn't as he threaded his fingers through mine. I pulled my hand back when Ash slipped his hand on my chin. I opened my eyes and saw his face close, trying to get me to look at him. I lost my patience and collided my fist with his jaw.

"Dead people *better* be able to break their bones." I said, anger rising into my voice. He looked at me with soft eyes. How could he have soft eyes when I punched him in the face???

"Training, now, come on," before I had time to scream or argue, we vanished.

We stood in a field, one that looked like the field where Hercules was day dreaming about Megara. I wanted to kick him, punch him, beat the dead day lights out of him. He grinned at me and kissed my knuckles ad heat rose up my neck to my face. I punched him in the face just as he was about to place his lips on my knuckles and hear a sickening crunch. Ash wiggled his chin with his hand and then without his hand and grinned mischievously at me.

"You're gonna wish you never did that," he started to walk near me with metal weapons flying towards me. I crouched down, just as they were away to thump me in the face. As was standing in front of me when I looked up, making me shit myself almost. "Feel the *power* in your veins??? The strength in your mind??? *Use it!!!*"

I shook my head and he raised his hand, palm up and two metal poles flew up. I slipped off my flip flops and ran like the wind, my summer dress skirt flapping uselessly behind me. The poles caught up to me and tripped me from my feet, I fell to the moist grass with a crunch and thump.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

"Ash!!! Stop, please!!!" I pleaded as he lifted two more poles and two weights and sent them flying at me. I screamed and they stopped flying just as they were about to make me into Nikita Pancakes. They wobbled and shattered to pieces, before turning their sharpest points at Ash and shooting quicker than they had towers him. He disappeared and reappeared at my side and with a simple "boo" I was jumping and getting caught in his arms.

"Just a tad scared then???" I jumped down from his arms and gave him a good shove. Who the *hell* did he think he was???

"Can't we start off with small things??? Wouldn't that be a better???" He lifted his hand to his chin and pondered over it for a slight second before gripping my hand and making us disappear.

When I opened my eyes, we were in the forest, in a small tree house, the one Joel and I had slept after I had the powerful sneeze. I dusted off my red sundress, one that was tight to the waist and then flapped about to the knee with a sweet heart top line. Ash gestured to the bed and walked to the desk to pull out the chair and sit backwards on it, leaning forward against the back rest.

"What do you want to start with???" he asked me, half grinning. I stayed quiet and then grinned and his chair slipped from beneath him and he fell to the floor. "You seemed to have made up your mind."

"You really have fallen for me haven't you???" he did a mock '*hahaha*' while I sat laughing at his fall and my fail of a joke. He got up and dusted down his trouser and then began chuckling once he had seen my teary eyes.

"Next, but stronger." we worked for what seemed hours moving things, using techniques, skills, Ash showing off, the works.

"Are we done yet??? My head is killing me, and I feel like it's going to start bleeding again," he nodded and shot up and helped me up before I had time to even think about getting up. The tree house disappeared and we were in my bedroom, the sky the exact same as before we left. "What are we doing next time???"

"I need to think about it, you're strong but you need to work on it. Maybe back to the field." I groaned, he would attack me as soon as we got there and I really couldn't be bothered with poles and weights and things.

"Hey, can you go back in time or are you just a spirit with abilities???" he nodded and I grinned, "Think we could go somewhere some time???" he nodded again and I thought of the places we could go, Rome, Paris, we could see Abraham Lincoln, see Elizabeth II being crowned Queen. We could do so much!!!

"I'll promise, we go to the field in a few days and then we can go or do whatever you want, what about that???" I nodded and got really excited and almost started to jump.

"Sounds great!!!" I hugged him, squeezing him tight and then heard my mum shout from downstairs, asking me to empty and fill the dishwasher. "You have to go, maybe I'll see you later???"

"It's a date," he grinned, going for my cheek again while I stood still. I raised my eyebrow and kissed the back of my right hand instead. "Until next time, my lady," I giggled and curtsied as he bowed.

"Bye Ash, see you soon," he nodded and was gone, disappearing into thin air.

"Nikita!!!" I ran down stairs, grinning at the thought of appearing somewhere and seeing something amazing, one of the only good things about my week.

## Chapter 14: Meet The Family

### Meet The Family

Lying in bed that night, I thought about the conversation with Joel. He had phoned soon after Ash left and stopped me when I tried to apologize.

"Nikita, it's okay, you have a lot on your plate. Don't worry about it," he said as I began to grin.

"Are you sure???" I really am sorry Joel" I closed my eyes and pictured him, watching him smile. We talked for a while before mum asked me to get showered and get ready for bed. I, being myself, told her I was a big girl and could look after myself. She left me alone for a half hour before repeating the instructions again.

"I have to go Joel. Love you loads."

"love you Flush." I hung up and got ready for school. Now I was lying in bed, wishing I was with him, wishing I wasn't messed up in a way nobody could understand.

"Maybe, maybe everything will get better. Someday." I whispered to the pitch black room I was in before drifting off to darkness. Wednesday moved on to Thursday and Thursday moved onto Friday and Friday moved onto Saturday, the day of meetings Joel's family. Well, meeting his father as I knew his brother and had briefly met his mother.

Mum was trying to get me to talk As we drove to the address Joel had given me. His parents couldn't come through because I wouldn't let them come to pick me up and just go through again and Joel couldn't come through because Amanda needed his help making the food, especially since he had prized out the foods I did eat that were peskitarian safe.

My stomach was in knots, I was really nervous and just switched on the radio. My mum knew about me turning into something like she never had the chance to but she didn't know about Ash and the threats and the other spirits. I wonder what she would say is she did.

"Nikita, are you that nervous???" I nodded and she turned down the radio so it was like it was nearly off. "I'm sure you'll be fine, I'll talk to Amanda and see what's she like, I just want to know his family aren't really nutters." I just looked forward, we were almost in St. Fergus now, which meant we were almost at Joel's. The Wanted's *Chasing The Sun* slowly got on and I started to smile, just what I needed to relax.

We got to the address we were giving and I almost told mum she must have been wrong, but Amanda saw us at the window and began to make her way down the stone path from the door. "Nikita," she sang, "How good you could make it!!!" I grinned and stepped out the car, mum following suite.

"And you must be Mrs Middleton???" she came up to us and hugged both mum and I.

"Yes, you must be Mrs Robertson," she leaned in close to Amanda's ear so I couldn't hear but I think she, as well as I, knew she was failing. "Nikita's a little nervous, once she tarts to talk a lot you should be fine. I-" her voice quietened when she saw my face as Joel walked down the path towards us.

"Nikita," I grinned as he kissed my cheek and went to shake hands with my mum. "How are you Mrs Middleton???" It's been a while, looking as young as a twenty one year old." my mum laughed and patted Joel's shoulder.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

"Hello Joel, thank you, I'll take it as a compliment," she laughed again and Joel took my hand, leading me up the path as Amanda and mum spent a few minutes talking before going up the path behind us.

"How's everything going???" I shook my head and grinned.

"I'm tripping up Ash and making him fall on his face all the time, so I'd say pretty good," he chuckled and led me through the front door. The house was a peachy-pink with white windows that multiplied by about ten and a deep mahogany door and a slanted roof near the ground, showing it was a bungalow. The garden was almost completely green, it had the stone path which was made of peach and grey stones with flowers beside it and roses creeping at the bottom of the walls of the house.

"Your house is gorgeous. How do you keep it like this???" I heard my mum ask as she caught up with us. The inside of the hall was a sky blue with pictures of the family on both walls. There weren't doors. Jordan looked almost exactly the same as he did, but obviously smaller. Joel, you wouldn't recognise him except for the small nose and the deep melted chocolate eyes. His face was chubbier and his lips were straight though his eyes basically screamed of laughter. They both had around six gold medals around their neck, the kind you got at a school's sport day.

"Is that really you???" he smiled sheepishly and I grinned, taking his hand and squeezing it, "well, I think you were a little cutie." he chuckled at my compliment and I soaped him softly on the arm, "you're not meant to laugh!!!"

"But it's funny, me being a little 'cutie'," I grinned again and he walked with me through the rest of the house, the living room was massive, with a large oak table and lots of posh looking sofas and chairs. Jordan walked out of one of the doors leading out of the room and walked over to us.

"Hello Nikita," he took the hand that was free and kissed my knuckles before raising an eyebrow at his brother and walking away, "I'll see you both at dinner." we walked through the door opposite the one we entered and stood in the kitchen.

There sat Joel's dad, with grey hair that was gelled in a stylish way, spiked at the top and gelled to the side towards his face. I grinned as he got up on his feet and walked over, putting his hand out, waiting for me to do the same. We shook hands and then he gave me a quick hug.

"Dad..." I giggled at Joel's shunning tone, but his face shown proudness at his dad.

"Hello, you must be Nikita," I nodded and he smiled slightly at me, his eyes definitely had the gene that was passed to Joel. "Call me Mark. It's great to meet you, I hope you're taking good care of my son, his mind's a little loopy."

"Okay, Mark," I laughed and gripped Joel's hand again, watching as he failed to try and hide a grin. "I'll take good care of Joel, though I think he's doing a better job of looking after me." he nodded and smiled at his son, patting his son's shoulder and leaving his hand there for around fifteen seconds.

"We have to go dad, we're going to see Jordan." his dad nodded again and I said bye as we evacuated the room through another door. Joel saw my face and grinned before saying, "we have a lot of doors, you'll get used to them."

"You seem really proud of your dad."

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

"I am, it took a lot for him to get here tonight, I barely see him because he's a police officer, so he works a lot." he smiled a little soft smile; one that made it obvious he was sad about not seeing dad as much as he would have liked.

"Well, it was a privilege to meet him," I smiled softly at Joel, giving his hand a squeeze and then sighed, "do we really have to go see Jordan, he doesn't seem to like me much."

Joel laughed and hugged me, spinning me off my feet and twirling my red, knee high skirt around us. We heard a cough at the door and Joel stopped once he saw his younger brother glaring at us, but mostly me. "Told you," I whispered.

"Nikita," he nodded as he walked over to us and Joel rubbed the back of his neck awkwardly. I smiled at Jordan and saw his cheeks gain colour.

Hello Jordan." Joel grinned at me, pleased I was making an effort to be nice to his brother. "How are you???"

"Fine, as are you I'm I think. How nice you look today, out of black and White."

"I like the colour scheme, seems like you don't though." he shook his head and he circled us. "Can I just ask, what are you doing???" Jordan gave me a glare before stalking out the room into another.

"Maybe you were right, Jordan does seem to dislike you."

"Hate."

"Is too strong for Jordan. He doesn't hate anyone." I raised my eyebrow as Joel led us out of another room and led me to the back garden. I grinned at the trampoline and made a run for it.

"I'll beat you!!!" I screeched as Joel began to jog behind me.

"What will I get if I win???" I just kept on running and was a finger away from touching the blue plastic safely wrapping before arms went round my waist and held me while a tanned hand went in front and almost touched the trampoline. I grabbed the arm and pulled it towards me before toppling onto the trampoline with Joel.

"I'm glad I wore leggings," I whispered as Joel leaned on his elbow. "Who won???" He shrugged his shoulders and leaned closer. "Draw???" he nodded and smiled as he placed his lips on mine. I grinned against his lips and sat up, folding my legs underneath me and holding Joel's cheek. He shifted beside me and was suddenly kneeling, looking a whole lot taller than me.

"Flush," he whispered as we stopped for breath. I looked up at him and smiled at his shining eyes, "should we go back to my family???"

"I am absolutely sure, they can look for us for a second or two," I whispered back, grinning as I leaned to his lips again, waiting for him to make the rest of the way. His lips landed on mine with ease and moved with mine in ease. Joel wrapped his arms around my waist and pulled me on top of his legs, holding me tightly and close. I gripped the back of his neck, pulling his head to mine as close as it could go. I was happy, sitting there, with Joel, on his trampoline when his mother called his name.

"Joel!!!" I grinned as he pulled away and groaned, obviously annoyed at the interruption. We made our way off the bouncing contraption and walked back through the French doors to find Jordan and his mother

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standing there looking at us.

His mother had a look of fright and his brother was confused. I looked at Joel and he shared the same look as his brother. What was going on???

Mark came through the door and stopped grinning when he saw us, then grinned again and said rather loudly "Come on, I think the foods ready!!!"

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As we sat at the round oak table, everyone was chatting and piling food onto their plates. Amanda had made an amazing pasta dish for me. Taglatellie with a marscapony and tomato sauce. Some would say that it doesn't sound nice but don't knock it until you try it.

"Amanda, this is *amazing*!!!" she grinned at me and sipped her water. Joel sat beside me and his family sat at the other side. There were mashed potatoes, roast potatoes, chicken for the Robertson's and the pasta dish for me. There were steamed vegetables, sauces, I felt spoiled and almost full just *looking* at the food.

"I'm glad you like it," she laughed, shovelling some roast potatoes on her plate. I grinned and spooned some more on my plate.

"Mind if I try some of your pasta???" Joel asked quietly as he eyed my food. I nodded and handed over the dish. I watched as he tried some and grinned, "I like your taste in food Nikita."

"So do I," I grinned then realised my mistake as everyone's started laughing, even Jordan. "That made...no sense did it???" Joel shook his head and gripped my hand under that table and gave it a squeeze before trying to eat again.

We talked about most things, schools, families, weather, shows, everything ad we all ate. Jordan began to make conversation with me and Joel gave us a pleased look. We finished and Jordan and Amanda went away with the dishes, Mark left to sit in the living room, we were all alone.

"Can I see your bedroom???" I asked sheepishly, looking around for his family listening in. He nodded and took my hand, leading me through three rooms until we were almost at the back garden again. The beige door had nothing on it as decoration and it was a gateway to Joel's room. The walls were a vibrant red and had yellow along the edges and corners. He had a built in wardrobe, a chest of White drawers and a king sized bed with red covers and pillows, encrusted with the Aberdeen Football Club logo.

"Like it???" he whispered, watching my gaping mouth.

"Just a smidge," I whispered back, marvelling over the glow in the dark stars on the White ceiling. "not fair, you stole my idea!!!"

"Really???" I gave him evil eyes then laughed before climbing onto his bed. "How have I 'stolen your idea???"

"I always wanted glow in the dark stars on my roof, I know it's kind of babyish but I like the idea, and fairy lights above my bed." He grinned and jumped onto the bed beside me and tickled my side, making me lie down as I giggled and tried to fight him back. He laughed as he sat on me and pinned down my arms, knowing I couldn't really fight back.

"Joel!!! Get off me!!!" He pouted at me and I was grinning like an evil monkey. I raised my eyebrows and he was in the air, trying to get back down. I made him go down slowly, so his feet were an inch off the ground.

"Can u drop me now???" He whimpered, pouting again.

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"But I'm not done yet," I got to the end of the bed and kissed him, concentrating really hard to let him down softly instead of him dropping like a doll. Ash and I had practised, I kept lifting him and he body turned into a rag, he just dropped to the floor of the tree house with a thud.

Every time.

He had said he landed like that because I had a lot more power than the average mind's eye. Joel was steadily on his feet in seconds and kissing me back, gripping my neck and holding my face to his. I cupped his face, not hard but hard enough to make him bite my lips. He kissed me furiously and passionately for minutes before breaking for a breath.

"I should," I panted, having to stop for more breath, "I should do that more often," he grinned and pulled in again, taking my breath away yet again. He pushed me onto my back and lied down beside me, crushing my chest as he lay across it, getting to my lips. My phone rang, ruining the moment and the mood.

"Leave it, don't answer," Joel whispered as he kissed my neck.

"It's mum, I have to answer," so I did. She asked when I was getting home, what was I doing, how was the food, how was I getting home. When I said I don't know, she said she was just getting the car keys. I hung up and sighed as Joel sat up and pulled me closer to him.

"Have to go???" I nodded and he sighed with me before kissing along my jaw. I giggled and he started to make slurping noises and he kissed me. I kicked my shoes off and crawled to the pillows, wanting to see how fluffy they were. Joel caught my feet and pulled me back towards him, when he realised it wasn't happening he tickled my feet. I froze when he did that and was pulled close to him again, scrabbling to get away and failing.

"Let me go or you'll be in the air again," he didn't seem to care though because he gripped my legs and kissed me again. I wrapped them just above his waist and gripped his neck, tightening my legs as he stood away from the bed. "Where are you taking me???" I whispered as we went out the room.

"I want to kiss my girlfriend under the stars."

"We already have." he chuckled and quietly walked past his mother and brother, careful not to make a sound. We got to the trampoline and I scooted to the middle, going down farther as I did. Joel jumped on the trampoline with me and helped me to my feet, making me fall again as he began to jump.

"Let me get up!!!" he laughed and grabbed my hands, helping me up and jumping at the same time, almost making me lose my balance again.

"Enjoying yourself???" Someone whispered in my ear, yet, when I turned round there was no one there. "Having fun are you???" The blonde girl was behind Joel, slid her finger against her neck, pointing to Joel.

"Come on, I had better get my shoes and wait for mum," he nodded and went to jump off the trampoline. Just as he jumped off, a sharp rock appeared where he was about to land. I quickly concentrated on keeping him in the air and moving him before setting him down slowly on a danger free patch of grass.

"What the hell???" I pointed to the disappearing rock and helped him up on his feet.

"Come on, let's find a space where they can't kill you."



## Chapter 15: A Bottle Of Laughs And A Day Full Of Fun

### *A Bottle Of Laughs And A Day Full Of Fun*

We had gotten home and mum had helped lessen down the choices. I was sent to bed and told I was going to sleep for most of tomorrow, in hope I would get better. They thought I was sick, I wasn't, I just hadn't been getting sleep, therefor making me look and feel ill. I didn't have long until the party and mum wanted me looking good.

"Hurry up and go to bed, you look far too tired," mum helped me get upstairs, my legs failing to climb some simple steps and getting into bed. I managed to get into my PJ shorts and black vest before sliding into bed and pulling the covers up to my chin. I fell into the dark chasm and was almost ecstatic when I thought it was a pitch black night but then realised I could think, therefor dreaming. Ash walked out of the dark and kissed me lightly, cupping my cheek as he did so.

"Hello," he smiled impishly and stroked my cheek with his pale hand.

"Hi," I smiled softly at him and hugged him, glad he was there. He kissed me again and I just stayed still and waited until he pulled away. He looked at me with confusion and I just smiled again. I felt like everything was wrong just now, everything.

"Have I done something wrong???" I shook my head and sighed, boy was I glad Joel wasn't here. He nuzzled his face into the base of neck, breathing into me and making me shiver. Imagined Joel instead of Ash and he pulled away, anger slowly clouding his face.

"That's why???" He whispered, "That's why you won't kiss me???" my eyes started to blur as Ash walked away, whispering the same thing to as he walked away backwards. "Maybe he won't be here for long. Maybe something will happen and you can't do anything."

Ash sent messages to my head, pictures, one was Joel and I, sitting on his bed kissing as passionately as we had that night I met his family, the next was his house on fire, him screaming out the window and his family burning in the front garden. It was me with the lighter and the gas, it was me who made the fire, it was me who killed Joel's family and was killing Joel.

"Ash!!! Stop it!!!" he stopped walking and looked at my tear stained face. One second and he was right at me, holding me and cooing, trying to stop me crying. But of course I couldn't, I couldn't even push him away. I tried to concentrate on darkness, scared of what he could hear without me speaking. My mind was whirling though, I couldn't concentrate and kept thinking back to the kiss and couldn't stop crying even harder. He took a step, still gripping my arms and looked at me with shaking eyes.

"You really can't stop thinking about it???" I sniffled and nodded. What else was I to say??? I couldn't, and I couldn't be bothered lying about it when I would be found out anyway.

His hands left my arms and gripped my face before crushing his lips to mine again. My limbs went slack and he was holding me up, one hand gripping my face and the other gripping my side while his lips smashed and grinded with mine.

"Ash..." He looked at me and stopped, letting me drop to the ground I scrunched up into a ball and screamed as his power took a blow to my head.



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Grandma Willow."

"Well," he said, "Grandma Willow, tell me, what will happen to us, will we have children???" I grinned at him and wrapped my arms around his waist before pushing him off balance again and climbing up some of the branches until I got to my bit. It had a single, thick branch, one hefty enough to hold three peoples weight. Joel stood at the bottom and grinned up at me, getting down on one knee.

"Rapunzel," he said, throwing one hand in the air and pressing the other to his chest, "Throw down your red hair!!!" I laughed and made my hair grow, something I was getting good at. I made it grow a little long and wrapped it twice around a branch before carrying on, laughing as Joel's eyes few large.

"Hurry up!!! I don't want anyone to see!!!" he climbed, actually climbed, up my hair, using a branch as a foot rest so he wouldn't tug out all my hair at once. He got up beside me and grinned, hugging my waist.

"Now tell me Rapunzel, how do you make your hair short again???" I froze, wondering what the he'll I would do, I couldn't go to the house, people would see that my hair had grown five metered in ten minutes and wonder what the hell was in their tea!!!

"Joel??? be a babe and run to the house and get the scissors for me???"

He chuckled and climbed back down my hair, swinging as he went. He was back in two minutes with scissors and climbed up for the last time.

"What's my reward???"

"Getting to comment on my do when I'm done." he pouted and I kissed him quickly, wanting to get on. I unwrapped my hair badly while taking out about ten strands a least and seeing the length. I hacked at some and watched the pool of dark red form on the grass and twigs beneath us, looking sad yet vibrant. Joel cut some on his side and helped with the back, kissing each patch of neck he could clear. I closed my eyes and looked around my head, concentrating on the scissors cutting any bits that needed the treatment.

"Come on, you look beautiful," Joel said, jumping down into the red hair. He held his arms out and grinned at me as I made the decision as to jump or not. I jumped from the branch and fell into his arms, bridal style.

"Well, maybe the day is today???"

"Maybe, but first, help me get rid of this," he set my feet on the ground and picked up most of the hair. I picked up the rest and we shuffled to my house, throwing it all in the bin. Joel kept a huge lock or so after we chucked it all and wrapped it around my waist, giving me a devilish grin.

"Come here," he whispered before tugging on the hair.

"Your wish is my command," I giggled, running quickly into him, making us both fall to the ground in a fit of laughter. I laid my head on his bouncing chest and controlled my giggling as he stopped laughing.

"I love you Flush," he whispered, settling down and quietening his laughter completely.

"I love you too Joel," I whispered back, sighing happily and closing my eyes for the slightest of seconds. I turned my head slightly and saw Mum and Sharon standing with Nicola at the window, hands on chins and watching us, dreamy faces on them. "Sharon and Nicola and mum are-"

"I'm on it," he began shuffling under me and I started in a giggle of fits as he tickled my sides to get me off. He got on his feet and gripped my hands, helping me up before twirling me around.

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"Come on Joellllllll!!!" he set me down again and we began walk/shuffling up the drive and the stairs. His arms were wrapped around my waist and his chin resting on my shoulder. We got to the back garden and sat on the bench, just sitting there until I became restless.

"Can I play with your hair???" he sighed and shook his head as I whined. He gave up and nodded before sitting on the grass and letting me grow and cut his hair endlessly. The dogs came bounding out and Meg attacked Joel with her kisses and paws. Molly walked slowly and blindly towards us and nudges her head against my leg.

"Hello baby girl," I whispered, unaware of Joel's hair growing to the grass. He patted my leg so I would look and giggled before braiding it. "No, you definitely don't have hair as thick as mine."

"No, but it's longer," he growled. I grinned and got the scissors from my bag before hacking away at his brown locks. He sat there quietly and still as I finished off his natural look. I slipped the scissors back in my bag and zipped it up, patting Moll's head at the same time.

"Fed up of my hair???" I grinned at the faint hope in his voice and began flicking bits of brown.

"No, I just don't want to play with it anymore. Can we sit on the grass???" He pulled me onto my feet and sat down, pulling me down after him. He lied down and we heard a squelch and a horrible smell. "Joel???"

"When was the last time Mrs Middleton poop scooped???" I giggled and shrugged, helping him onto his feet and looking at the back of his head.

He had a fresh lot of greenish brown crap in the back of his hair.

"Awe, I just finished your hair!!!" I slapped his arm and pulled him into the house, to the upstairs bathroom and handed him a towel and leaving him too it.

"I'll be fine you know!!! Get the bus home or something?!?!?"

"Go in the shower, no one wants to smell crap anywhere!!! Now get clean," I ordered, walking downstairs to get a drink.

"So," Sharon said in a serious tone, the three women sitting at the table, the old, the pregnant and the weird. "Does he know how to work it???" I nodded and we started giggling unstoppably.

"I should think so." I got my drink and sat down on the window ledge, soaking up the sunlight. We were all used to it, I literally soaked it up. Bad day with rain and I looked worryingly pale, sunlight the next and you could see my cheeks gain colour and my lenses strain to keep the natural colour under control and my lips go rosier.

We all chatted for a while and then heard the shower switch off. I made my way slowly to my room and opened it before screeching and turning. He stood with the towel to his ankles before shuffling and getting the towel around his waist.

"You shouldn't have come in!!!"

"You should have changed in the bathroom!!!"

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"You can come in now, I have clothes on." I turned round and saw that he did indeed have trousers and boxers on. He grinned at me and tried to hit me with the towel.

"Hey!!!" He laughed and hit me again before catching me off guard and getting me to the floor. I lay there, like I had with Ash, but it was Joel instead. He rested his lips gently on mine, immediately melting the tension my bones were gaining. I grinned though my lips and kissed him back, wanting as much of him as I could get. "You have a lot of muscle," I mumbled, poking his biceps and his muscular stomach.

"Just so I can take you on when I need to," he grinned, kissing me quickly up my neck to my ear. I giggled and kept prodding his muscle, making him growl when I nipped his arms or sides.

"You should be a bear, you're starting to get fuzzy enough and your pretty good at growling," I whispered, scratching his upper lip and feeling the moustache growing.

"I do everything for you."

"So if I asked you, would you shave???" he nodded and grinned, kissing me one last time before rummaging in his bag, another night of him sleeping over. He brought out a razor and shaving cream and my eyes widened, he just grinned even wider and stalked off to the bathroom, turning the tap on and leaving the door open. I walked in and wrapped my arms around his shirtless waist, hooking my fingers on the belt looped of his jeans and leaning my head on his warm, tan shoulder. I stood very still until he was done and then started to fidget around.

"Done," he said once he had gotten rid of all the cream.

"Missed a spot," I lied, kissing him quickly and then turning towards my bedroom.

"You seem to have gotten a bit on you too somehow," I could hear the grin through his voice as he did the exact same, hooking his finger on my belt loops and pulling me back towards him. I turned at the last second and kissed him, making him jump at what he was planning on doing.

"I feel old now," I whispered against his lips.

"Why???"

"Because I'm barely a year younger than you." I grinned as he frowned, well, tried to frown but tragically failed. His birthday had been the middle of March, making him sixteen.

"I'm not that old, I'm not old at all!!!" he said loudly and kissed me again before letting go.

"Well think about it," I said, slipping my hands behind my head, "I love you, therefore I love an old man. See not so bad."

"Yes, but think about this, I love a girl younger than me, it makes me sound like a paedophile." I grinned and shot up to kiss him, my arms wrapping around his neck and going on my tiptoes to kiss him.

"I don't care much since we're joking around," he grinned and tickled my sides, sending me into a frenzy of giggles and squeals.

"Nikita!!! I need you to go to the shop for me!!!" I sighed as Joel pouted at my mother's uncanny interruption. I grinned and tugged on his hand, grabbing a black top and throwing it to him, hoping it was his. He raised an

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eyebrow and turned it round, the black top with a teddy on front. The one I slept in.

"Umm, I didn't know you, umm," I couldn't think of anything as I giggled at him, wishing he would try it on.

"Definitely not mine." We saw a top rise and Joel swatted my arms as it did. He didn't like me using my mind's eye as much as I did. I grinned as the top flew to his face, dropping to the ground like a brick. He picked a black top off the bed, the one he had been wearing earlier and shoved it on before taking my hand. We walked downstairs, got the money and shopping list from mum and began down the path to the shop.

"So, what do you wanna do after we get back???" I said, swinging our arms as we walked.

"You chose, I flow with you," I grinned and began running, hearing a second pair of pounding feet and arms around my waist. We got to the shop and bought the thugs mum needed, getting a whippy ice cream at the same time for us. We walked slowly back to the house, eating our ice creams and being careful not to let them melt down our hands.

"You're, umm, growing tanner by the second and a little taller," Joel whispered in my ear. I looked at my hand and indeed, I looked like I had been to Spain and sunbathed in a bikini for a week straight.

"You'll get used to it," I whispered back. "Want to go the beach after this???" he nodded and we ran back home, me doing my best to run while Joel jogged alongside me. I had practiced it with ash, it was between a jog and a sprint but not running, I would have fainted again. There's not a lot I can do until Ash gives the okay, so there's not a lot I can do.

"You would rock at Halloween. Dressing up really creepily and then moving stuff with your mind," Joel said, a little louder as we walked in the house.

"Never really thought about it being honest," I said back, dropping the bag onto the table and picking things to go away. Joel hadn't seen me do things a lot, giving the gobsmacked look just about every day. "Mum!!! We're going to the beach soon!!!"

"Soon???" Joel asked.

"Well, I'm not wearing full jeans to the beach, and I'm sure you want to see my bikini," he grinned and I laughed as I left him in the kitchen, things floating into sandwiches or into the big float bag we were taking. I ran upstairs, got changed into a red bikini, short denim shorts and ran back down after getting my flip flops.

"You could be a model you know," Joel said as I came nearer.

"Oh really???"

"When I want to share you with fans anyway," he grinned and kissed my forehead before grabbing the bag and heading to the beach. We found a good patch on the sand, not too far away from the water but a bit far towards the sand dunes.

"Want to go for a paddle???" We raced to the water like children, my hair whipping my back and neck every chance it got to catch up. We waded into the icy cold water and I immediately began shivering but waded in up to my knees.

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"Come on Joel!!! I'm in up to my knees!!!" he came beside me and lifted me, making my look taller than him and barely being splashed up to my knees.

"I bet you feel tall," he grunted, holding my entire wait.

"You're not much taller than me, just an inch or two."

"Stronger though!!! And can easily drop you if I wanted," he grinned evilly, loosening his grip around me.

"You wouldn't dare," I hissed, wrapping my arms around his neck.

"Watch me," his arms disappeared and I toppled into the salty cold water. I found the surface and growled, Joel, being the annoying boy he can be, looked amused. Until I jumped on him. He lost balance and fell in after me, splutter if and coughing as he came up again. I stood and laughed, despite the hair on my arm standing on end.

"You look a tab wet babe," he scowled and made me laugh even harder as he failed to keep it going. He began chuckling and took my hand, walking back to the towel and getting sand all over us in the meantime.

"Sleepy much???" Joel said as I yawned.

"No, it's the sun. If I'm in the sun for too long my cells or something begin to get too big and comfortably and fell like sleeping to restore themselves. Make sense???" He nodded and sat down, lifting me onto his lap once I done the same.

"Your mum told me about you and sleep, that you've done something that pissed him off."

"Training, worrying, you," he grinned as I nudged my face into his neck. His arms wrapped around me and squeezed me tight, making me fell like nothing could happen as long as I was with Joel. Ash needed to realise that him and I would never happen; Joel and I would always be around.

We sat like that for about an hour, me sleeping soundly and Joel sitting there hearing my snores. How he put up with it I don't know.

For one rare hour, I slept in absolute darkness.

## Chapter 16: The Dream Catcher And The Asshole

### The Dream Catcher And The Asshole

"Wakey wakey, Sleeping Beauty." I whined and turned over, shoving my face into the pillow. "Come on, you have school," I whined and did my best to squeeze farther into the pillow. Joel voice finally registered and I sighed before turning round to face him.

"Can't I just sleep???" I remembered the beach and me falling asleep on his lap. "Hey!!!" he chuckled and kissed my forehead but I sniffed and turned round, my back facing him.

"It's about one o'clock, you fell asleep on my lap at around two in the afternoon," I sighed as he kissed my bare shoulder and gasped before trying to cover it by coughing.

"What??? And don't say nothing."

"Your marks getting bigger," I sighed as he said it. Since Barry died a mark had been growing on my beck, my shoulder blade to my wrist, and growing over my shoulder. It was black, White, blue, red and silver, a mix of the colours and shapes, plants that no one got the chance to see, animals that have been claimed to be extinct, the face of my Shiatra, my protector, guardian, trainer, my link to the spirits. Ash.

I, of course, had tried to get things added, taken away, coloured anything to make it look better. It was always gone by morning. Joel didn't like the idea of Ash's face on my shoulder blade, neither did I, but I couldn't help it. It was there and when it was finished, it would reach my waist line and cover both my arms and hands. It basically a tattoo, just one that didn't cost any money to do and one people wouldn't understand.

"So really, it's Sunday," I said, steering away from the award subject. He nodded and grinned before placing his hands on my hips, with some trouble. He rubbed my sides and whispered in my ear, things like "I love you" or "go to sleep" or "everything's okay" the works. I squeezed my eyes shut and slowly fell asleep.

Ash wasn't in my dream. Joel wasn't in my dream. His little brother was. Jordan was in my dream.

"Nikita, how did I know you would be here???" he walked over to me and grinned. "Didn't know I was connected did you???"

"What do you mean??? Are you connected with them???" He shook his head and explained it all.

"My mother was told when I was born, in her dream of course, that one of her sons would become a dream catcher, one who can see and greet people in dreams, but needs more than dreams to do what is needed, they catch dreams, make nightmares and blow them back into the empty space, they make hell. The only way to activate that would be for them to meet the newest mind controller, the Winatria.

"See when you walked inside my house, I could feel it, this power rising from my stomach." he lifted his hand to my cheek, as if to make sure I was still there. "I have a mission, and I know I'm going to fulfil it. If I die then I must have done it right. If I live then I'm lucky but not for long."

"You mean, if you live they'll kill you???" he nodded and I hugged him tightly, even though he hated me basically, even though if he died it would probably be my fault. To my surprise, he wrapped his arms around me and began to cry, silent tears streamed down his face on onto my shoulder.



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"I'm scared, Nikita, I'm so so so scared," he whispered, crying a little harder as he said it.

"Shush, it'll be okay, I won't let the hurt you," I whispered back, feeling incredibly guilty.

"I don't know what I have to do or when I have to, he said when the time is right, that's all he said," Jordan whispered.

"Who told you this???" he described a man that had shocking blue eyes, blonde hair that looked White and a voice that anyone could listen to all day.

"He spoke about you with a lot of care in his voice, it's obvious he loves you," I nodded and wanted to punch someone, but that would have to wait, I had Joel's little brother crying on my shoulder, scared of dying.

"Come on Jordan, get out of this dream and get some sleep, I'll see myself out." he stepped away and nodded, looking anywhere but my eyes. He vanished before I did the same.

"I need to speak to Jordan," I said; getting out of bed.

"At one in the morning???" I stood still and looked at Joel, grinning yet a confused look had registered in his eyes. "Come back to bed, babe."

"Why am I up at one in the morning???" I whispered, crawling into bed and snuggling into him.

"Because you've been restless all night and finally woke up. You were asleep for about ten twenty minutes." I sighed and scrunched up into a ball against Joel. I finally went to sleep, no Ash, no spirit, no Jordan, just complete darkness.

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The days past quickly, my mother getting more excited about my party, Sharon getting bigger and moaning about pregnancy, dad working all the more and Joel being supportive and scared when I had to use him to train. Life was good. In a weird way.

Jordan had been paying me visits and trying to be nicer in my dreams. Ash had stayed well away as Jordan took over. We chatted about things, the spirits, anything we could think of. Mark had gone and I went over nearly every day after school to keep Amanda company, or staying over before school.

Everything had been going just peachy, then the nerves set in the day before my party. Half of second year and some others were going to be there, that was around two hundred people. All for a fifteenth birthday. Wow.

"Nikita, Nikita dear, are you okay???" I glanced up from my lemonade at Amanda and grinned.

"I'm great Amanda, sorry I was day dreaming." She smiled politely and sipped the last of her coffee before getting up to put it into the dishwasher. Joel was cutting the grass and Jordan was revising for science, which really meant he was trying to figure what his role was.

"Have you heard from Mark yet???" She shook her head and sighed, whenever Mark left for the army Amanda was really down. I hated seeing her like this. "Maybe he'll send a letter soon, or call or something. Patience is what we need," I grinned and got up to hug her, hearing her snuffle and try not to get worked up.

"I should hope so, I miss him so much. But anyway, your mum will want you home soon, I'll give you a lift." Joel was just coming in-he had somehow 'installed' uncanny timing-and went to wash his hands before giving

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me a hug.

"You smell like grass," he grinned hugged me tight before ruffling my hair with his grass-smelling hands. After a scowl from Amanda, Joel let go of me and grabbed my hand instead as we walked out into the freshly cut from garden and climbed into the Alfa Romeo and waiting for Jordan. Reply to:

"I'll give this ride a miss mum!!!" Jordan shouted from the front door, "I have studying to do!!!" Amanda sighed and Joel just looked from her to me, giving me a look as if to say *is there something I don't know about???* I shook my head and kissed his cheek before he could say something in front of his mum, Amanda was going to lose Jordan and might lose Mark, I didn't want Joel knowing and making things harder.

"Joel," Amanda said as we turned beside Asda, "are you staying at Nikita's tonight???"

"No, I need to do something for tomorrow, Nikita can't see it." Amanda nodded and began driving again, becoming quiet for the remainder of the ride.

We got home and I said bye, kissing Joel and giving Amanda a quick hug, "cheer up, everything will be fine, I promise." They left and I made my way inside, dumping my bag as I walked in the kitchen.

"What. The hell. Are you doing. In. My. House???" Ash stood up and grinned at me, walking over before sitting on the window sill.

"I can't keep away," he pointed to my mark, "haven't you noticed???" his face was growing, almost full, when it was the mark would be finished.

"You're *killing* him, you're killing Jordan!!!" I almost screamed right in his face, how was any of this fair???"  
"Why Jordan??? Why give him this kind of future??? He has a *live to live and you're not letting him!!!*"

"Nikita!!! Calm down!!!" I jumped at him, tried to scratch his face, gouge his eyes out, anything to hurt him. How could he do this!?!?!? "Would you rather it was Joel???"

"Why had he got anything to do with this???"

"As I believe, it was either brother would be a Dream Catcher so, really, either Joel or Jordan would be the Dream Catcher. Who would you rather it was???" I just stayed still, I couldn't speak, what could I say???" *I would much rather it was Joel, in fact, why don't you kill him now???* Yeah, I can't stay that, even if I did, I would never mean it.

"You want him dead???" I shook my head, he knew I never wanted Joel dead, I loved him far too much. "You know, you think you love him but-"

"There is no but, I love him Ash, and you hate that it's not you." I walked away and grabbed my bag before heading upstairs. "Leave, *now*." I didn't even turn around, I knew he had left.

## Chapter 17: A Metal Suprise And Lovers Found

### *A Metal Suprise And Lovers Found*

"You need to come over, mum wants to see you before you go to the party," I grinned and shifted the phone to levitate beside my ear as I put on my makeup. "can Teresa take you over???"

"Yeah, I think so, I'll be over in less than an hour, I promise," the nail polish started to fly to my hands as the foundation sponge did its magic and the iPod changed the song. "Love you Joel."

"See you soon babe, love you too." He hung up and I got going with my nails as the phone slowly made its way to the bed. My dress was on its hanger, lying on the bed waiting to be worn. It was a strapless knee high dress that had a thin red belt under the bust, a black top and the skirt was a white skirt with black and grey roses on it, in my eyes, it was absolutely gorgeous.

Even Kaitlyn was wearing a dress, she wouldn't tell me what it looked like or show me it, but it's a rare time you would get her into a dress. A lot of people barely talk to me but mum has contacts at school and invited nearly *everyone* I didn't even know what was going on.

"NIKITA!!! HURRY UP!!!" Mum shouted from the door, obviously listening in, "Amanda phoned!!! She wants to see you before you go!!!" Maybe notâ ;

"I told Joel to say I would be there in the hour, give me time, woman!!!" I was just finishing off my nails when my make-up finished and my hair was completely straightened. I picked up the dress and grinned, apparently I looked amazing in it, I hoped Sharon and Mum were right.

"Okay, I just want to get you away soon, I don't know how long she'll take." I grabbed my shoes, black peep-toe pumps with small fabric roses at the toe, and carefully put them in my bag and folded the dress into the bag before running to catch mum.

"Where's your dress???" I pointed to the bag and she nodded before grabbing the car keys and leading me to the car, my party was in about two hours at my house. Joel wanted me to go over, so Georgia and I were going, she had stayed over the night before. She was now in the toilet.

"Georgia!!!" I shouted from the door, "Come on, we're leaving!!!" she shouted back before the toilet flushed and she ran to meet us at the door, her bag slung on her shoulder with her dress and shoes. Why we were leaving to come back was beyond me, but then again, everything was beyond me since I became a Winatria.

We drove to St. Fergus talking about the party, who was going, what songs were going to be asked for, what the DJ was like, and Georgia kept on asking about Jordan.

"Jordan's coming, right???" I nodded and she sighed happily, completely out of it.

"I just hope Ash isn't there," I whispered, barely breathed. Georgia still didn't know about the crash, the death, Ash, anything to do with my abilities, no way in hell was I going to tell her about Jordan, not when it's him.

"Are you ready for a million hugs and kisses, Nikita???" I laughed at mum, her and Amanda had been getting on like a house on fire. As soon as we parked the front door to the Robertson's was open and Amanda was rushing to the car with Joel and Jordan standing at the door grinning the faces off like Cheshire cats.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

"Nikita!!! Happy birthday sweetheart!!!!" I laughed as Georgia and I climbed out the car, getting hugged so much I couldn't breathe. She finally let me go and gave Georgia a hug before going to talk to mum, Georgia and Amanda had met once or twice before and they seemed to get on fine. Jordan had met Georgia, his face was of pure amazement when she came round or went to lunch with us.

"Hey babe, my mum didn't kill you did she???" before I could reply, Jordan was giving me a hug and then chatting to Georgia. Joel grabbed my hand and led me inside, covering my eyes as we walked through the house.

*Second front door, I thought to myself, getting the hang of the maze, living room door, kitchen door, bathroom door, Jordan's door, Joel's door. Bingo!!!* As soon as I opened my eyes I saw a beautiful silver chain with a diamond heart at the bottom and a thick silver bangle.

"Joel, they're gorgeous!!!" he handed me the bangle and I studied it, on the outside it had roses and lilies tangled together and on the outside it had **Joel & Nikita** branded onto it. I slipped it onto my wrist and grinned at Joel before kissing his cheek.

"I'll be back soon, I need to get my gear on," I giggled, looking at his cheek, which now had a bright red kiss mark on it. He grinned and kissed my lips, gaining another kiss mark.

"Stop it!!! I already have to re-apply!!!" he chuckled and grabbed my waist, kissing me like a wild thing. He finally let go after a laughing fit and I snatched my bag from the bed and went off to get changed.

"Nikita!!! Where's the bathroom???" I grabbed her hand and led her threw a door or two and opened the bathroom door for her. "thanks."

"Don't take too long, I need to get changed too." She nodded and locked the door. After a minute or two she came out in a gorgeous blue satin dress with a large, pink satin bow tied at the waist, it fit snugly and beautifully around her curves and suited the blue flats with metal studs and a tiny bow at the front. "You look amazing, Georgina."

"I just hope *someone* will like it," she smiled a little at the side. She leaned against the wall and gestured to the door. I went in, slipped the dress on and did my best walking in the three inch heels before re-applying lipstick and checking my hair, gorgeously straight.

"Come on, I need to ask someone a question before we leave." She nodded and walked along with me, trying on the heels as she went and almost falling. We changed back to our usual shoes and walked to Jordan's door. *Nothing there to make it look like his room, easy enough.*

"Nikie, what are you grinning at???" I shrugged and opened the door before gasping and laughing. Jordan turned round, startled and grabbed a top to cover himself before almost dropping it at the sight of Georgia.

"Umm, hi, Georgia," he stumbled, lost for words, "you lookâ !..". Georgia's head dropped and he walked over to lift her chin, "you look great, the belle of the ball."

"You've only seen Nikie and I," she giggled, going red, tomato red, what we used to call him before she got to know him.

"Even when I do, you'll still be the best looking," he grinned and started closing in the gap, I tiptoed away, not wanting to ruin her first kiss with a good guy.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

"Hey baâ !" he lost track of words once he saw me and just kissed my forehead instead. "Where's Georgia???"

"With Jordan, walk in on them and I'll slap you." He grinned and shook his head.

"Okay, I'm guessing they're playing tonsil tennis??? And you look amazing babe."

"That's one way to say it, and thank you, you look cutie-pop too," he just wore a white shirt and black jeans, his hair gelled into a spike.

"Come on kids!!! We're leaving!!!" I looked at Joel, wide eyed. When had Mark gotten home?!?!?! I grabbed Joel's hand and almost ran to the front door to give Mark a hug, he was back safe and sound!!!

"Hello Nikie," he grinned, his eyes shining and he hugged me.

"I didn't know you were home!!!" Amanda came through a door and wiped her eyes for what looked the one hundredth time. Her eyes were red and swollen and her face was pale yet she grinned.

What I hadn't realised though, was that Marks left arm was in a sling.

"What happened???" Joel whispered as Jordan and Georgia came through, his arm and her waist. Jordan stopped midway as Mark lifted his arms out of the sling, it wasn't flesh.

Someone had blown his arm off and replaced it with metal.

"Amanda, are you okay???" She nodded but kept sniffing as she walked over to Mark and hugged him tight. Everyone went quiet and he began to laugh.

"At least I'm here!!!" he bellowed with laughter and I began to laugh as well, everyone began laughing and the room was loud again. "Right, so, I guess you lot better get to your party???" I didn't bother asking how he knew; I just assumed Jordan had gotten through to him through dreams.

"Yes, yes, we better go, come on kids!!!" Amanda gathered us all out to the car and I couldn't stop a tear flying down my cheek as we walked. His arm was gone, great. I saw Joel wipe his eyes and get a hug from his dad before coming to the car.

"You okay???" I whispered as I waited for everyone to get in the car. He nodded and looked at his dad, standing at the door. I looked from him to his family and made my mind. "Mark!!!" I screeched as I took off my shoes and ran to the door, "come on, you're coming!!!" I grabbed his metal hand and began walking back to the car.

"Where will I sit???"

"In the front."

"What about you???"

"The boots counted as a door, I'll sit in there." He was quiet as Amanda popped open the boot, I climbed in and Mark climbed in the front. The top was off the boot so I could see and hear everyone as Amanda drove to my house, the music was The Wanted, since it was my birthday.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

Joel sang to all the words as he had been forced to listen to them but hadn't complained. Georgia was leaning on Jordan's arm while Joel sat with his hand holding mine as we sang, Jordan singing a few times too.

We got into the Bay and saw all the cars on my street, with people dropping off their kids or people here with their cars, like Daniel. There were heaps of cars.

What if something went wrong??? What if I killed people??? I couldn't live with myself.

We got out the car and Joel had to help me walk, I felt like I was going to faint. We got in the gate and I gasped, there were so many people!!!

As *Funs' We Are Young* came on, my fears melted away along with my worries.

"Would you like to dance Nikie???" Joel asked as soon as we were in the garden.

"Yeah, I would actually," with that, Joel and I began dancing to a massive tune at a massive party.

## Chapter 18: A Storm Breaking Slap

### *A Storm Breaking Slap*

It was about a few hours into the party, around seven in the evening and everyone was enjoying themselves, the bitches were bitching, some girls were chatting up every guy there was, some were sitting chatting in groups, some were dancing, someone had even found an old football and began to play with the majority of the boys. Everything was great until two pale people walked through the gate, shocking blonde, almost white, and shades on even though it was pitch black.

One smiled as soon as he saw me. The other scowled.

"Nikita??? What's wrong???" I pointed to the spirits and Joel sighed, scowled and sighed again as they got nearer.

"Nikita, Joel, how are you???"

"What do you want Ash???" his hand tightened around the girl, the one who helped us in the corridor once I sneezed.

"Savannah wanted to see a party, I told her this one was fine, take care of her." I glanced at the girl-Savannah and smiled before nodding, I would try. Before anyone even noticed, Ash was gone.

"I don't even want to be here, so don't bother." She patted down her dress like she was self-conscious, I didn't see why, she was gorgeous, her hair in natural waves and her face was pretty enough without make-up, yet she still didn't want to be seen.

"Come on, let's dance, I don't want you to be scared." She looked up at me and then at my out stretched hand, then she took it, just like that.

"I can't dance," she whispered.

"Neither can anyone else, we all think we can but we really can't," she giggled and twirled with me, stepped to the beat and began to enjoy herself.

"How old are you???" I asked, she looked about my age, but acted younger.

"I'm 14, Ash thinks of me as his younger sister," she sighed and stopped dancing, going to sit down.

"I get what you mean. Want a drink???" she nodded and I grabbed her hand, pulling her over to grab a drink. She was about to pick up water when I gave her a can of Monster, that ought to pick her spirits up a bit. I grabbed a can of relentless and a can of cola for Joel before leading her to out patch of grass.

"Here you go," I said as I kissed Joel on the cheek and handed him the cola.

"Thanks babe," he gulped it and his pupil's dilated. I grinned, in the next twenty minutes or so he would probably be running around without a top on, cola got him higgghhhhh as a kite.

"I've seen what cola does to humans over the years, does it happen to him???" I nodded and giggled as he became restless.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

"What for a half hour or so, you won't be able to stop giggling, that's how bad he gets." Savannah grinned before getting up, finishing the can of Monster and going to put it in the bin.

"What???" She asked when she came back, noticing me staring at her.

"Why don't you levitate it???" She gestured to all the people and sat down again, ah okay, to many people. We danced for a while as Joel's cola settled in his system and made its way to his brain.

"Joel, you okay???" I giggled as he stood up. He nodded and in the next ten minutes was running and dancing about without his shirt on. Savannah couldn't stop giggling, as could the rest of the party. He stopped acting like a chimpanzee and looked at me, then grabbed my hand and began twirling me around.

"I feel absolutely amazing, babe, what about you???"

"Being honest, I feel like I'm going to throw up at any second." He stopped and closed his eyes before smiling and looking at me.

"Sorry, I shouldn't have drunk the cola." I shook my head and hugged him, careful not to squeeze too tight.

"I'm not bothered, you were quiet funny actually, you even got Savannah smiling." He grinned and kissed me quickly before going to see Savannah. After a few seconds she was laughing and looked like she was relatively having a good time.

"Nikie!!! Come over here!!!" I smiled as Joel shouted and walked over, taking his hand and chatting to the both of them.

We danced, chatted, asked for songs, played truth or dare (until Dean dared someone to have sex with the bench and mum heard, that stopped the game pretty quickly). Soon enough it was time for everyone to leave, one o'clock in the morning and half of the people were falling asleep on the ground, on the sofa's, in beds, anywhere they could find a place.

Half of the people had gone and Georgia was falling asleep on Jordan's arm, when Ash came back.

"Savannah, come on."

"She's welcome to stay Ash, no need for her to leave." I stood a little in front of her, the poor girl was cowering!!! He raised an eyebrow and held out his hand towards her.

"There's still a lot of people here, Savannah, wouldn't want anything to happen now would you???" I scowled and nodded at Joel before taking Ash's hand and walked towards the front garden.

"What the *hell* do you think you're doing Ash???" I hissed, low enough for just him to hear.

"I'm taking Savannah home. Where she *belongs*." His eyebrow flew up again and he stepped towards me.

"She can stay, if you come with me."

"*Never*." He closed the gap and kissed me, trying to prise my lips open with his and licking my lips. I took a step back and lifted my hand.

"You wouldn't *dare*." But I did, the flesh on my palm connected with the dead flesh on his cheek. With a loud *crack!!!* His eyes narrowed and grey stormy as he glared at me.



## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

"Looks like I have sweetheart, watch yourself, I think the dead bruise." I smiled a fake smile and began moving back to the back garden when he grabbed my wrist, making me turn round to see an angry spirit that looked like it was in water. "Ash???"

"I told you *not to do that*." I just stood with wide eyes, too shocked and frightened to do anything. He began to float and I hoped no one could see us. I looked towards the sky and saw dark clouds, clouds that carried thunder and lightning. Clouds which were going to harm innocent people.

"Ash!!! Ash, it was my fault!!! Don't kill anyone!!! Stop the storm!!!!" but no, it was too late. I heard screams as the lightning shown threw the sky and thunder rumbled the earth. I grabbed Ash's hands and tried to pull him back down to the ground, he was having none of that.

He pushed me away and I fell, *bloody heels* I thought. I scrambled onto my feet again and ran, taking off the shoes as I did. People were falling, Lana was trying to gain balance at the picnic table. Joel and Savannah were making their way to the house, not a good idea but still, the house is sturdy.

"Joel!!!" I screamed he turned round and pushed Savannah oh before running back to me.

"I know," he shouted over the noise, "I know this wasn't by itself!!!"

"We need to stop him!!!" Joel just closed his eyes and then looked at the gate.

"Come on!!!" I looked at Savannah and urged her on to the house, she ran inside with the others and we ran to Ash. "ASH!!!"

"ASH!!!" we shouted it multiple times before he registered us calling him. "NIKITA!!! WHAT DID YOU DO???"

"I slapped his cheek and said that even the dead could get a bruise!!!" Joel stared and then started pushing Ash about.

"Fight like a man!!!" I shook my head and tried to stop Joel but didn't succeed, Ash finally fought back and made him crash into the stone wall.

"JOEL!!!" Ash stared at me as I sprinted over, his head was bleeding and he wouldn't wake up. "Wake up Joel, WAKE UP!!! PLEASE!!!"

"Nikita???" I turned to Ash and simply said one thing before he disappeared.

"I. Fucking. Hate. You."



## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

He and I both knew they wouldn't let him die, Georgia wouldn't let him die.

"Where's Jordan anyway??? Wouldn't he be here???"

"Sweetheart," I said quietly, shifting my eyes from Savannah to Georgia, even though I knew she could read my mind, "Jordan's in hospital, a brick or two fell on him. He'll be fine though, I promise."

"What???" she whispered. "He has to be alright, no way he can't be. He has to be alright!!!"

"He will be," Savannah made her move to wrap her arms around Georgia, "He's to important remember???"

"Because of *you*. If *you* weren't here this would have *never* happened. Joel wouldn't have nearly died, Jordan wouldn't be in hospital, people wouldn't be dying, I-"

"If my calculations are correct, it would have been someone else anyway, for all you know, it could have been you."

"She's right you know." We both looked at Savannah who had been silent until now. "There are a few families every generation, if it wasn't carried onto Nikita, then it wouldn't be carried onto Jordan, but she was born and we couldn't miss another generation. It had to happen." Georgia calmed down then and settled into lying down.

"It's pretty late, we should sleep. Including you, red head." I laughed as Savannah tried doing what Georgia did to lie down. We all settled down and I joined Joel wherever he was.

"Nikie," he said. We were standing on a bridge, a bridge surrounded by cherry blossom trees. "Are you actually here???"

"Yeah, I'm here," I looked around me, it was just cherry blossom trees and lilies. The bridge was a Japanese style one, the scene was gorgeous. Joel walked onto the bridge and took my hand before kissing it and twirling me around. He twirled me to his body and began waving, his body waved slowly, as if there was a soft piano playing.

"I love you Nikita Middleton." He whispered in my ear, meaning every word.

"I love you too Joel Robertson." I could feel him smile against my temple and laid my head on his shoulder, leaning against his chin. He kept giving me fairy kisses along my neck, from my colour bone to my ear, then nipped the skin just under my jawline, giving me a love bite. "Joel???"

He didn't say anything, just kissed y cheek, my nose, beside my eye, my lips. Was I ready for this??? Yes??? No??? I don't know!!! He kissed me slowly, just gentle but after a few seconds he became a little more passionate, wild.

I turned round fully and held his face with one hand and ruffled his hair with the other. He breathed my name every few seconds and gripped my waist with one hand and pulled me closer by the small of my back with other.

"Joel, Joel are you sure???" He nodded but stopped.

"What about you, I should have asked, I'm sorry Nikita, we cans top I'm so-" I shut him up but kissing him again, I was ready for this, I knew I was, he knew he was, I knew *we* were ready for this.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

His hands slipped down to my legs and I jumped, wrapping my legs around his waist, not braking one second of our passionate kiss. "I love you Joel, so much it almost hurts," I breathed.

"I love you too Nikita, I will *always* love you." I grinned and unbuttoned his shirt, he had kept it on with his boxers, I had my yoga trousers and a vest on. He moaned against my lips as I raked his muscular torso with my small, bitten nails.

He sat me on the ledge of the bridge and lifted my vest over my head as the setting changed from bridges and cherry trees to a stable filled of dove feathers, even though some were black. I heard horses somewhere and smiled as Joel dropped us both onto a huge pile of pillows and feathers in the stable corner. He wriggled the yoga trousers off slowly, making me wriggle in response. He chuckled before kissing right where my pants line was.

"Where's your hotspot???" I shrugged and giggled as he began kissing up my stomach to my bra line. I squealed as he kissed right in between my breasts and he laughed, "Found it."

"Uh huhâ " I grinned and brought his mouth back up for a kiss when he tickled my sides into letting him go. He went straight for my lips and bit them, hard enough to grip his hair and tug sharply. His hands when to my knickers and slid them down about a centimetre.

"Are you ready???" I grinned and kissed him in response as he slid my knickers down and unhooked my bra, I was completely open to the world's eyes. Joel slid off his boxers next and I saw it, his penis was not small. Not at all, but it wasn't fat either. He grinned when he saw my shocked expression and gripped my waist as he slid inside me slowly.

I gasped, no going back now "go further," I whispered, you either do it or not at all, no checkpoints. I gripped his shoulder and gave a small cry out, it hurt, but this was my first time, it was going to hurt, but it felt *good*.

"We can stop, just say when you want to stop, anytime," I shook my head and squeezed his shoulder tightly, using my 'claws' to dig in and arched my back. He went in further and I gave a small screech this time. "Nikita-"

"No," I gasped, "we're doing it, I'm not turning back, not now." He grinned and kissed my neck, nipping it with his teeth. The pain was excruciating but I like it, I *needed* it. I kissed Joel, biting his lip and scratching his back with my nails. He didn't object, he just squeezed my waist and bit my lips back as he thrust inside and out of me.

I screamed his name and clenched my teeth as he thrust the whole of himself inside me, I felt the last thread of pain disappear and more pain appear. I screamed Joel's name again and again, like it was a heavy metal chant.

"Nikita, Nikita," he panted, pulling back out of me, I shook my head and lay back on the soft bed/pile. "Are you, are you okay???" I nodded and gripped his hair as he lay back with me, hugging me tightly. Out of nowhere a blanket appeared on us and I smiled, feeling covered from the world

"Wow, that wasâ awesome, sore but amazing." Joel grinned at me as I closed my eyes. "to think you were almost dead a few hours ago."

"I think we're both glad I'm not." I turned towards him and kissed him slowly but gently.

"I definitely don't regret anything today. Especially not this."

## Chapter 20: A Scare And A Little Short Of Breath

### *A Scare And A Little Short Of Breath*

I woke up and grinned, had that really happened??? No, it couldn't have, could it??? Looking around the room, everyone was still sleeping, everyone was still except the stirring Joel. His eyes finally flung open as he jerked, sitting up faster than a cheetah. He looked at me with confusion and then smiled a little.

"Are you thinking what I'm thinking???" I nodded and he kissed my cheek before grinning like a Cheshire cat. "It *was* real, wasn't it???" I nodded a second time and he lifted my chin before grinning even wider. Obviously the love bite was still there. I sighed happily and leaned against Joel, his arm comfier than I thought.

"I hope you're okay, I didn't hurt you or anything did I???" He whispered so he wouldn't wake the girls up.

"Yeah, I'm in moral pain!!! Why am I even lying like this???" I joked. He grinned and kissed my nose. "I love you Joel, I don't regret anything that happened."

"Neither do I, and I love you so much Nikita, so much it's almost untrue." I grinned and sat up on Joel's lap, shifting my hands under his top, feeling the muscles again and kissed him. I felt him grin against my lips and gripped my waist. I took my hands out his top and wrapped them around Joel's neck.

There was a clearing of throats and we stopped, turning to the source of the sound. Savannah and Georgia were sitting there, grins plastered to their faces and watching us quite clearly.

"How long have you beenâ watching???" I asked awkwardly.

"I've only been watching since u started, I literally woke up from a nightmare." Georgia said, I just guessed it was the ice cream van.

"Umm, Nikita, can I talk to you???" I got up after kissed Joel's nose and walked through to my bedroom with Savannah.

"What is it???"

"I ummâ I don't know how to say this butâ I" she took a deep breath and said it so quickly that some might not hear it. "Ash somehow got into your 'dream' and watched you, he was able to make himself invisible, even though he always wants to show himself. He was there and I was the reason you were able to do that. He sensed I was helping you and Joel and stepped into your 'dream'." She took a breath and had tears glazing her eyes. "I'm sorry Nikie, honest, I don't what he'll do, he seemed pretty mad."

"It's okay, sweetheart, it's okay, it doesn't matter." I hugged her tight but was scared, would he try to kill Joel again??? If Georgia wasn't there I couldn't save him. Why was life so difficult??? "What if Ash does what he did??? Almost kills him??? How do I save him???"

"I'm not supposed to tell youâ Ash would hate me, butâ I" so she told me. Everything. Even things Ash hadn't told me I could do. I arranged with mum to have Savannah stay for a few days, no questions asked, she knew Savannah was a spirit by the eyes. Then mum even said half an hour later that Savannah need documents, she would be staying for a while.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

A few weeks passed quickly and with Savannah's help, she became a part of the family. Even though she probably was my ancestor. We got her into school, she was going to be the same year as me, third year and in most of my classes, considering she gets smarter as every generation is born.

Over the next week or two, Georgia and Jordan had been accompanying me when Savannah wanted to share something or help us learn new skills. She had been a Dream Catcher before she died, then got all the abilities Ash had, once she had died. She told us everything she knew or had figured out about the spirit people, they were the same as normal human being, but they couldn't die and they had more abilities.

"That's why Ash has such strong feelings for you, he's basically human, just a small amount more superior." She said to me. Joel didn't come much, he had exams to study for and colleges and universities to look for. When he did come to see what we were learning, we did simple things, we didn't want him to learn too much, we all knew it frustrated him that everyone but him had been in on a secret he couldn't ever be part of.

When he was home studying or looking for more school I would go over with a book or something, just to keep him comfortable.

"How can you keep in one pose for so long???" he asked one time, I had been sitting with my legs crossed for about an hour.

"I lose concentration in the story." He dropped his pencil on the table and leaned back in his chair, stretching.

"I wish studying was that easy, I can understand half of it." I took the book from his lap and grinned.

"This is easy!!! You're in fourth year and you can't do this???" He stared wide eyed as I began to explain, his eyes going to normal slowly.

"How do you know all this???" I shrugged and went over some different material.

Now, I sat on my bed, reading, crossed legged, with Joel lying down beside me. I kept glancing at him through my hair.

"I can tell you do it, Flush." He looked at me and saw me quickly move my head to look at the book. "And you still won't tell me how you're so smart."

"I don't know how, that's why," I said, turning the page over before being pulled onto my back. I snuggled into his side and sighed quite happily. I had finally gotten to sticking stars on my ceiling and tying fairy lights about my bed. Mum had finally changed the look of my room for me, it wasn't red and green and pink flowers anymore, it was a midnight forest setting. One wall (the bed wall) had a forest pattern on it and the rest of the walls had black paint, as did the ceiling. The light was no longer a star, it was a moon.

"What do you want to do today???" The weathers crap," Joel said, obviously bored with just lying down.

"What do you *want* to do???" I asked as the rain slashed on my window. He shrugged his shoulders and I decided to get *Woman In Black*. He still hadn't seen it and it was the best kind of time for watching it. Everyone was out, mum and dad were night shift and Savannah was staying at Jordan's with Georgia so we had the night to ourselves.

"What movie is it???" he asked cautiously, he watched *Chucky* when it first came out and had nightmares for weeks after, putting him off horrors. He had never been a paranormal fan either. Joel shivered once he saw the name cover and gave me a nasty look as I went off to get popcorn.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

*About an hour later*

I almost jumped out of my skin for the second time as the little boy appeared at the window. I could tell Joel was biting back a scream, and my nails digging into his sides weren't helping either.

"Can you let go please???" You're gripping my sides really really tightly, it's beginning to ache a little." I let go of Joel's sides and grabbed his arm instead. He sighed but didn't complain until the next scary part came up and we both screamed. "Turn it off!!! Turn the fucking thing off!!!" I scrambled to get the remote and switched off the TV, leaving us in the light of the lamp outside my room.

"Joel! you swore, you were really scared weren't you???" He just kept trembling and I kissed his cheek before gripping his arm tightly. I got off the bed and went to switch the bedside lamp on and shut the door when a creaking sound happened. I looked outside and saw a shadow go up some stairs before closing the door gently and trying not to shit myself.

"Nikita???" I put my finger to my mouth, telling him to be quiet and opened the door, only to hear the creaking again. This time Joel heard too. And shit himself. I levitated the heavy hairbrush into my hand and opened the door fully, just to see white and hear a swooping sound before Joel's cry.

When I turned round he wasn't on the bed anymore.

"Joel???" I whispered, terrified, "Joel, this isn't funny, where are you???" Joel!!!" I heard the swooping again but managed to hit the white.

"Damn!!!" that voice was familiar!

"Ash!!!" I kicked him in the stomach as he cradled his head. "Where's Joel!?!?!?"

"I don't know do I???" I kicked him again and he lay on the floor, crying out. I rung Joel's mobile but then remembered it was in his bag. I made Ash stand up and gripped his arm, making him come with me as we moved to my parents' room. Nothing in there. We made our way to the stairs, opening every door we could in case he was there.

"Ash, we need to go back, my room might be a good spot." We crept back and check the wardrobe, under the bed and the little cupboard. "The light won't switch on, can u crawl to the back???" He made his way to the back on his hands and knees before completely disappearing into the darkness. "Ash???" Joel???" Where are you???" I whispered before the sweeping noise went again.

I was knocked to the floor and stared at the face that couldn't be seen. She looked just like the *Woman In Black*. I wanted to scream but I was absolutely terrified, I wanted to run but I was stuck to the ground, I wanted to push her away from me but I was scared in case she killed me. Not that she would have much power against me then.

I gulped and opened my mouth before she made this growling/screaming sound which shut me up. I put my finger to my lips and was blown against my bedroom wall. I moaned and tried to stand up before she was in my face, breathing again.

"What died in there???" Another smash on the wall and a breath in the face. *Please Ash, if you can hear me, get your ass out of there. And if Joel's there get him too.*

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

I heard laughter erupt from the bathroom and scowled before shoving my hand near her face, making her crash into the wardrobe. I walked through to the bathroom and saw Joel cowering away from Ash and the door, in the shower. Completely soaked. I pushed Ash out the way and crouched down to see if he was okay.

"Joel???" Joel look at me, look at me," he shook his head, trembling, not wanting to look in case Ash or someone was deceiving him. "What did you do to him???" I asked, standing up and walking towards ash, my anger boiling in my veins.

"I didn't do anything, so stop making assumptions."

"I heard you laughing, he's scared of you, he's *in the shower soaking wet and cowering* what else???" I stepped right in front of him and whispered "What. Did. You. Do???"

"Just scared him a little. You know???" I slapped his face again but this time he laughed and *turned into the cookie monster*. "Hehehe that's tickles!!!" I screamed and crouched to the floor. I know I know, scared of the cookie monster??? What on earth??? I used to have a toy of him and he growled when he talked and gave me nightmares. Therefor gaining a phobia. Of the blue freak. Joel and Georgia were the only ones that knew this, as well as my mother and most likely my father.

"Nikita???" Joel breathed, I whimpered as Ash kept making Cookie Monster sound and was almost brought to tears. I heard Ash get up and felt his hands on my shoulders. "Leave her alone. She hasn't done anything."

"Where's Savannah dead boy??? She's going home. Now."

"Savannah's not going anywhere with you Blondie."

"If she doesn't then Nikita takes her place." I looked up and saw my vision clear, my lenses were melting, or disappearing or *something*, as was the dye in my hair. I felt my vision blur again and my breathing slow down, I could barely draw breath.

"ASH!!! STOP IT!!!" I dropped to the ground and began to squirm, clutching at my chest, trying to breath.

"What will it be Nikie???" he said, crouching down in front of me, "she goes free, human, and you come with me or you stay and she leaves. Make your choice or it'll be made for you." I didn't even hesitate.

"Me." He stopped grinning, gobsmacked and there was not sound but the sweeping of the bitch in my bedroom. I stopped breathing completely and couldn't hear anything, I couldn't see couldn't hear, I though I was a goner. Until I felt lips on mine.

Air was blown back into me, my chest was thumped, air blown into me, chest thumped, this when on for a while until I could finally see again and then hear again. "NIKITA!!!" It was Joel, of course it was. "YOU **BETTER COME BACK TO ME!!!**"

"Nope, I'm definitely a goner," I whispered as Joel's face became clearer. He had tears in his eyes and tears down his face. *Is he crying for me???*

"Nikita," he breathed, grabbing me into a hug, a tight hug.

"I'm back baby, can't get rid of me that easily."



## Chapter 21: Failing In Love

### *Failing In Love*

"Why, again, does he want you to leave with him???" Joel asked for the fifth time in the past half hour. He was completely out of it since the weird horror thing happened.

"Go to sleep Joel, nothing's going to happen, I promise." He closed his eyes and settled down, finally in his PJ's. He had given up trying to get changed, scared to be alone so in the end he just stripped to his boxers and climbed into bed. I got changed, still squeamish about Joel seeing me just about naked but I did it, no big deal.

As much as I wanted the promise to stay truthful, I couldn't imagine getting one nights rest without troubles, Ash, Savannah, Georgia, Jordan, everyone but Joel. I just wanted some time with him where no one could hurt us. Not even that could be easy enough.

"Seriously though-"

"Seriously nothing, go to sleep. You're shattered and still shivering." I climbed into bed and hugged Joel tight. It was true, he hadn't been able to stop trembling since Ash left with the scary bitch.

"What if he tries to take you away???"

"He won't be able to, I love this too much." I turned his head and kissed him slowly, "I love *you* too much."

"I love you too but I'm scared, I'm actually scared of you getting taken away more than anything."

"Why??? I'll be like Savannah, I'll be able to see you, touch, kiss you-"

"You won't *feel* me though, you won't be able to feel anything, remember what Savannah said, it's like all your emotions are sucked out of you, you're lucky if anything is left." He sighed and turned round completely, he had my biggest jumper on, the heating was full blast and the duvet was really stuffy. "I will not let them have you."

"You won't have too. I'm not going anywhere."

"Promise me, *promise*, that you will *never* go anywhere without me???"

"I won't make promises I can't guarantee to make."

"Fine. Promise me you won't go with Ash anywhere???"

"I promise."

"Say it properly."

"I promise you, Joel Robertson, that I will never go anywhere with Ash. Wait, what if you're there???"

"Okay, I guess I'll let you off with that." I grinned and kissed his cheek, I loved life, I loved my family, I loved my friends, I loved *Joel* too much to leave it all behind.

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

"Can you *please* go to sleep???" He nodded and closed my eyes with his fingers as he closed his. Soon enough there was deep breathing and his snuffles filling the room. Joel had finally stopped trembling so I thought it would be okay to go get a drink.

"What are you doing???" I just kept walking as the footsteps became louder. "Come back with me, *please*."

"And not feel any emotions??? Be restricted from seeing Joel???" I don't think so. I have a life here, a family here, friends, the love of my life is *here*." I got to the kitchen and got my glass of juice when there were hands on my waist and lips on my neck.

"You want to come with me, your heart's speeding just with the touch of my hands, your minds racing at the touch of my lips. Admit it."

"I admit to fuck all you blonde bastard." His hands tightened and I ripped them off me, smashing the glass in his face and making him blow back onto the far wall. He cried out, not of pain, but of principle and lay as he was, not even the slightest move to get up. "If I could kill you I would."

"Do it." I just glared at him, I couldn't even kill the jerk, he was already dead. Yet, before my eyes he turned into a tanned, jet black haired, brown eyed boy, lying in my kitchen. "*Kill me*."

I walked up to him, my mind reeling with what I could do. I could kill him??? He would really let me??? I put out both my fists, ready to blow as much power as I could into his face, to just get rid of him, to be free of him. Until I realised something.

I couldn't kill him.

Even though he almost killed Joel, tried to kill me, haunted my dreams, he was killing Jordan, making savannah's existence a misery, *I couldn't kill him*.

"Do it!!!"

"I can't!!!" I whispered, "you know I can't." he stood up, slowly changing back to the blonde, pale, blue eyed spirit I had been accompanied with for months. He held my shoulders while tears filled my eyes. I didn't even know why.

"You know why, Nikita, you've always known why." He whispered, his lips getting closer.

"Get out. Now." I turned away from him and felt the hands on my shoulders disappear before dropping to the ground in a fit of tears. I had the chance to do what I wanted so much and failed. I turned round, half of me wanting to kick the shit out of him until his heart stopped beating and half of me wanting to kiss him and never stop.

Even after what he did, I knew I loved him.

***A/N sorry!!! It's really short but it was a good place to stop, you get the feeling don't you??? And, I'm back on track if anyone's noticed?!?!? I'm updating  $\hat{A}$  1/2 chapters a day :D love u guys, keep reading and tell me what cha think bye!!!***

## Chapter 22: The Truth Hurts

### *The Truth Hurts*

I was in Math. Sitting next to Georgia. Being quiet for once. I couldn't speak, my mind was so confused, to confused to say anything in case I said the wrong thing. I had told mum I hated her by accident when I was supposed to say I love you before going to bed. I was thinking of Ash.

I told Savannah she looked ugly in her faverout colour, white, when I meant to say she looked beautiful. I was thinking of Ash.

I told Jordan I wanted him, when I missed out the "to help me study science". I was thinking of Ash. Dead.

I told Sharon she was going to have a stupid, ugly baby when I was meant to say she was going to have the best baby in the world. I was think of Ash

I told Joel he was dead to me when I meant to say he was amazingly good to me through everything. I was thinking of Ash.

I was upsetting everyone this week!!!

"Nikita," Miss Linder said, "what's the answer???" I looked at the board and couldn't see sums at all. The only things my eyes were filled with was the mark covering my body. I felt the blood drain out of my face and heard people shout out "she's gonna blow!!!" I ran out of class to the bathroom and wretched, nothing came up yet I felt sick.

I heard footsteps get nearer to the door and couldn't believe my luck when Chloe Chalk walked in.

"I heard you're still with Joel Robertson???" I stayed quiet as she intimidated me and questioned me. "Has he shagged you yet???" I stopped completely and looked at her, how would she know??? I certainly wasn't going to tell her. "He has, hasn't he??? It's *huuugee* ain't it???" he abusive voice asked.

"How would you know if it is or not, if *he* has or not???" she laughed and walked closer, leaning into my ear to whisper something only I couldn't hear.

"You're sick, just less than a week after your birthday, it's kinda obvious that he took your V-card. But don't worry, I lost mine to the two of them on the same day a year ago." She meantâ 'no, he wouldn't, would he??? Why would I be annoyed anyway??? It's not like I was pregnant, she doesn- "James is a two months old now."

"You're lying, he didn't make you *pregnant*," I jerked away from her and she laughed again. "You *whore*"

"The funny thing is, Jordan's baby is *inside my womb*." I slapped her face.

"Don't you *dare* talk shit about my boyfriend and his brother you slutty bitch," I hissed. She flew at me, making a grab for my hair before she was blown onto the door. I heard footsteps rush to the door and almost broke down there and then. Chloe just lay there, completely still ad barely breathing as Savannah whispered in my ear.

"Wanna get out of here???"

## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~

"ASH!!!" I shouted in my bedroom, Savannah had been helpful as too get mum and dad out the house so I could talk to him. "ASH I NEED YOU!!!" Like the night I almost killed him, his hands appeared on my waist and his lips on my neck.

"For what???" I wish Savannah had helped me but only Ash could, my Shiatra. The mark was now covering the whole of my back and up to my elbows, the stares I got was unbelievable and shocking from everyone, I tried not to get emotional. Which had been hard for the past week.

"I almost killed her Ash," I whispered, turning to face him, tears clouding my vision, "I don't want to kill anyone. *Help me.*" His lips went nearer and I shook my head, I was *not* in the mood for this.

"I can help you Nikita, I just need to see what's in your head."

"By kissing me???"

"Best way to get there." I didn't know if it was true but I didn't have time. What if Lisa went for me when I was outside and she went off the bridge??? I couldn't forgive myself. I let him kiss me, if it worked I would probably begin more training to balance my abilities instead of making them stronger, if not, Ash would never forgive himself for never seeing me again.

My head filled with pictures, of anything and everything. I closed my eyes and endured them, pictures of me lifting Ash with my mind, pictures of when Ash had saved us, times he saved me, the first time we met.

Then they changed direction, not going backwards, forwards. Like horrors. The time he scared Joel, him sitting frightened in the shower, the bitch in my bedroom, me at my party sitting with dying Joel. Me beside a cherry tree, me on a bridge ledge, me with Joel, him lying down with me at the end. Then I realised something.

He didn't want to help me, he wasn't here to help me do good. He was here to show me what I was capable of, capable of killing everyone that wasn't like us.

Killing the human race.

I pushed him away from me threw him across the bed, then changed tactics. If I could kill him, which I would *make sure I could.* Then I would get rid of him, but then how would I be safe, he was the only thing saving me from the rest of them. Savannah couldn't do anything, she liked Ash, but didn't know what he was doing.

"What the hell?!?!?!"

"You're killing them!!! You want rid of the human race!!! How could you, you, you, MONSTER!!!" he got to his feet and was at my side, letting me use my physical strength to punch him and kick him as much as I could before I broke down. "how many of me are there???" I whispered.

"You, you only. That's why you're so important to keep. But Nikita," he started as I moved away, that's why he was doing this??? Because I was the only Winatria left??? Because without me he couldn't even *try* to succeed in his plan??? "I was your Shiatra since you were *born*, but I fell in love with youâ I wasn't meant to!!! But I *did*!!!, I love you Nikita, I want you," he breathed, stopping for a short pause, "I want you to come back with me and *be mine. Together!!!*"



## Can My Mind Be Controlled???

"Want to get some sandwiches and leave them for you to nibble when you're not sick???" I nodded and sighed as he lifted me again, putting me on the bed with a basin from the sink cupboard in case I was sick again before evacuating the room.

"What am I doing with my life???" I closed my eyes and shoved my hair in a bobble, ready in case I was sick. I cried silent tears, feeling sorry for myself when I should be sorry for Lisa, for Chloe, for Jordan, Georgia, Savannah, for everyone else.

"Nikita, listen to me, please ju-" I shook my head and clutched my stomach again, feeling something move unhappily. Ash saw it and slipped his hand onto my stomach before his face darkened and he stopped moving, stopped blinking, stopped breathing (even though he doesn't need to breath), talking, just *stopped*.

"Ash???" I felt his cheek and finally got him to look at me before he disappeared. Clutching my stomach, I emptied the last of whatever my gut could shove out into the basin. The tears on my cheeks finally dried just as Joel was coming through the door. He sat down beside me and pulled me into a hug, rubbing my back and breathing slowly and loudly. "Are you okay???"

"Yeah I'm fine, don't worry about me."

"Can I ask you something then???"

"Of course," he looked at me as I sat up properly, taking a slow breath in case what I had been told was truthful.

"Have you lost your virginity before me???" I kept my mouth still and tried to keep my breathing steady.

"Why do you ask???"

"Answer the question, Joel." He hesitated before nodded and looking all over my face of any signs of moods. "Who with???"

"Do I have to answer this one???" I nodded and he looked away from my eyes as he whispered her name. "Chloe."

"last name???"

"Chloe Chalk."

"Did anything happen???" he sighed and confirmed it, sending me into silent tears and a fit of rage.

"She got pregnant. Didn't know she had started to develop eggs and got pregnant. Apparently had a baby boy."

"Your baby boy???" He nodded and I climbed off, making my way to the door and wiping my mouth on my sleeve.

"Nikita!!! Wait!!!"

"For what???" The day I find out I probably can't have children???" For the day Ash, who is a *complete nut job*, kills you???" I'm not waiting for that Joel!!! I wish you had told me that YOU WERE A FATHER before we did what we did!!!!"

