

MARISSA ANN  
RAE GOLDMAN

*Poison Pen  
Series  
Book 4*

*Mika's*  
HEART



**Mika's Heart**

**Poison Pen Book 4**

**Marissa Ann & Rae Goldman**

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)

## **Copyright 2022 Marissa Ann**

All rights reserved. Without limiting the rights under copyright above, no part of this publication or any part of this series may be reproduced without the prior written permission of both the copyright owner and the above publisher of this book.

This book is a work of fiction. The names, characters, brands, and incidents are either the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. The author acknowledges the trademark status and owners of various products and locations referenced in this work of fiction, which may have been used without permission. The publication or use of these trademarks is not authorized, associated with or sponsored by the trademark owners. This book is licensed for your personal enjoyment only. This book may not be re-sold or given away to other people.

### **Credits:**

Cover Design by: Vanilla Lily

### **ASIN:**

### **ISBN-13:**

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

[Title Page](#)

[Copyright Page](#)

[Prologue](#)

[Chapter 1 | Mika](#)

[Atka](#)

[Mika](#)

[Chapter 2 | Mika](#)

[Atka](#)

[Mika](#)

[Chapter 3 | Mika](#)

[Atka](#)

[Chapter 4 | Mika](#)

[Atka](#)

[Chapter 5 | Mika](#)

[Atka](#)

[Mika](#)

[Chapter 6 | Mika](#)

[Atka](#)

[Chapter 7 | Mika](#)

[Atka](#)

[Mika](#)

[Atka](#)

[Chapter 8 | Mika](#)

[Atka](#)

[Chapter 9 | Mika](#)

[Atka](#)

[Chapter 10 | Gerald](#)

[Mika](#)

[Atka](#)

[Gerald](#)

[Mika](#)

[Chapter 11 | Atka](#)

[Mika](#)

[Atka](#)

[Mika](#)

[Chapter 12 | Mika](#)

[Atka](#)

[More from Author Marissa Ann](#)

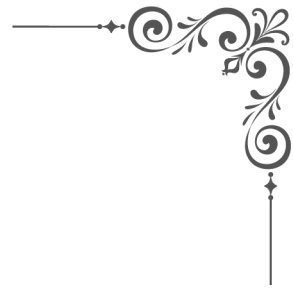
[Join Marissa Online | Website | Facebook | Twitter | Instagram](#)

[Read More of Marissa's Books](#)

[More from Author Rae Goldman](#)

[Dedication from Rae Goldman](#)

[\*OceanofPDF.com\*](#)



## PROLOGUE

Standing on the stage after my name is called to accept my high school diploma, I look out at the parents waiting for their kids to walk across the stage but mine aren't there.

It's not a total surprise since we've been growing apart lately but it still hurts.

The greatest achievement of my life to this point and nobody is here for me.

Everything started going wrong when I turned 16 and wanted to get a job as well as my driver's license.

My dad, Gerald Butler, told me I didn't need those things and my mom, Hillary backed him up.

I heard arguing later that night after they thought I had gone to sleep. Mom was saying something about my birth certificate.

I knew I had a birth certificate, I had to have one to enroll in school but I've never actually seen it.

A few days later when I got home from school and the house was empty, I went looking for it.

Knowing where Dad kept important documents led me to the one drawer in his desk that was always locked.

It only took me a few minutes to get it open.

Quickly flipping through all the files, I found it and took a picture with my cell phone to study it later. If I took it, then he would know.

My best friend Jan and I compared it to her's. Mine didn't look exactly right.

I did some research on the computer during my library time and the only conclusion that I could come up with is that my birth certificate was a fake.

It looks real but there is information missing and the raised seal of the state isn't there.

If a 16 year old girl can see that it's a fake, how in the world did my parents get away with it all these years?

And are they really my parents?

For the last two years, I've been searching for leads to who I really am.

I've also been working at the local diner as a server. It wasn't hard to convince the owner to let me work for cash, and I have saved every penny.

All my free time was spent in the library using the computers to find any information I could get my hands on, which was basically nothing.

About six months ago Jan suggested I look outside of Ohio. I felt so stupid because it never crossed my mind to look elsewhere.

That's when I finally found something.

I did a nationwide search for missing kids that shared my birth date.

That's when I stumbled across an article from Virginia about a baby that went missing from the hospital.



The mother died in childbirth and the father was out of the country for work. The only witness was a little boy.

There was a family picture with the news story. Looking at the woman was like looking into a mirror.

The little boy's name was Taylor Burns. The article didn't really give any information about him except for his age.

Using that, I guessed what year he was born and searched his name online.

The only Taylor Burns I found that fit his age and location at the time is a big time lawyer that lives in Alaska.

Coming across a more recent article that had an interview with him. I paid attention to every word.

He was talking about how over the years random girls have shown up claiming to be his sister, but they were all scam artists after his money.

I don't care about the money; I just want to know who I am.

I'm scared of putting all my eggs in one basket as my English teacher would say, but I feel it in my bones that this is the right thing to do.

I have my backpack packed with my sketchbooks, a few changes of clothes and all my money I've saved.

It's not a lot but it'll have to do.

Gerald and Hillary, I refuse to call them mom and dad anymore, are thinking I'm going to Jan's house after graduation.

But they are wrong.

My name is Mika Stone.

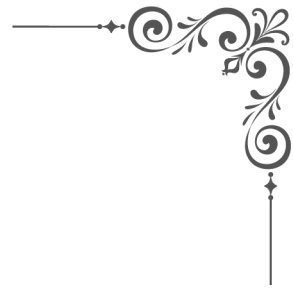
Wait, maybe it's Kimberly Burns?

I don't think I would mind being a Burns, my research says they were a happy family.

I don't want to be a Kimberly, it's a pretty name but I don't think it fits me.

Maybe I could be Mika Burns? I guess I won't know until I get to the truth.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



# CHAPTER 1

## MIKA

Jan and I have been planning for weeks on how I can get out to Alaska to meet what might be the only biological family that I have.

The first item to start on my grand plan of course is getting an ID since it is needed to buy a plane ticket.

Finding someone who can create a fake one was an even bigger challenge than I thought.

A boy from one of our classes who is known to be in illegal things was the only one we could think of that might know who I could contact.

Looking down at the address I was given, my heart beats wildly at the thought of going into that part or town.

We all hear about the crimes that happen here. Especially to young women alone.

The bus finally comes to a stop and I step off onto the corner.

Checking the maps app on my phone, I head in the direction that it says until I get to Brown Street.

Just ahead I see the sign for the mechanics shop where I'm supposed to ask for a guy named Rick who will have what I want.

As I walk closer, I notice a lot of others just standing around.

They take notice of me as I walk closer, some even leering in my direction.

“Can I help you?” A man that looks like he’s bathed in grease asks.

“I need to see Rick.” I say.

“Come with me.” He grins as I clutch my purse closer to my body.

Following him through the shop, we walk down a hallway until he opens a door to what looks like an office.

“Rick, this little lady says she needs to see you.”

Looking at the man behind the desk, I almost relax at the look of him.

He’s an older man that is possibly someone’s grandfather.

The other guy ushers me in, shutting the door behind me.

Rick looks me over, raising his brows in a silent question.

“Someone told me you could help me get an ID.” I say quickly.

“Why would a girl like you need a fake ID?” He asks.

Squaring my shoulders, “I think that’s my business. Can you help me or not?”

Smiling at my false bravado, he moves some papers around on his desk, picking up a camera and taking my picture.

“Why’d you do that?” I ask quickly.

“I need your picture for the ID. I just need to make sure you have the money first.” He raises his brows.

Pulling out the envelope, I hand it over and he quietly counts it before sticking it in his desk.

He asks for my information and I just hand him a copy of my birth certificate.

He looks at it for a minute and I can tell he can see how fake it is but he doesn't say a word.

“It'll only take a few minutes.” He says, turning to a computer behind him.

I stand quietly while he works, looking around the room that is overfilled with file boxes and paperwork.

He's clearly in need of a secretary.

“Here you go little lady.” He turns back, handing me my documents back as well as my new ID.

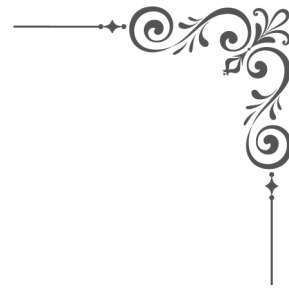
Looking it over, I smile at how real it appears to be.

“Thank you.” I say, turning back to the door.

I hurry to catch the next bus not wanting to be in this area after dark.

Once I'm in my seat, I take the ID out and marvel at it once more.

Now I just need to buy my plane ticket.



## ATKA

Closing the files on my desk, I stack them neatly and ready them to be gone over by my employer, Taylor Burns.

I was lucky to land this internship with him a few weeks after law school while I prepare myself for the Bar Exam.

While our firm is really busy, Taylor makes sure that I always have time set aside each week for study.

Although I was top of my class in school, I'm worried about failure. Being an Alaskan Native, it's important to me to represent my culture in the best possible light.

My brother, Eagle, is the President of one of the only motorcycle clubs here in Alaska.

I've never understood why he's gone the direction that he has in life.

No one has ever been able to prove any differently, but I'm certain that the club does not always do things the legal way.

Legally or not, I still have faith that he at least does things that are just.

Hearing someone, I look up and see Taylor coming out of his office.



“Atka, I didn’t know you were still here. Are you packed for our trip to Montana?” He asks.

“Yes, sir.” I answer automatically.

“I’ve asked you to just call me Taylor.” He shakes his head.

“There’s not that much difference in our ages. Although I do feel like it sometimes.” He chuckles as we both head towards the front door.

“Sorry.” I shrug. “It’s a habit.”

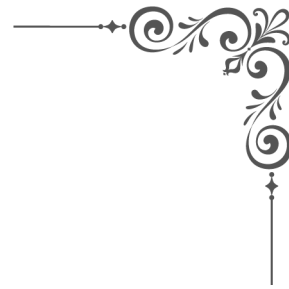
“Arin and I are going out for dinner tonight if you’d like to come along.”

“I’d rather not be the third wheel. Besides, she may want you all to herself tonight before we leave.” I watch his face light up with thoughts of his wife.

I’ve never seen two people more in love than they are.

“Suit yourself. I’ll see you in the morning.”

We say goodbye, heading in opposite directions to our cars.



## MIKA

When Jan and I were making our grand plan, we didn't realize how much higher everything would cost here in Alaska.

Wrapping my jacket tighter around me, I hurry to my hotel room with the bag of food that I bought at the grocery store.

After paying for my flight out here and a week's stay at the hotel, my funds are running super low.

So low that I'm watching every penny to the point that I'm living on ramen noodles cooked in a microwave.

I found Taylor's practice the second day that I arrived but learned that he is currently gone on a trip to what they call the lower forty.

They didn't say when he'd be back, so I've been there several times but have yet to see him go in or come out.

Unlocking the door to my room, I walk inside, locking it back behind me before putting my bags down on the bed.

Looking at what all I was able to buy with what I had, I know there's no way to stretch this until Taylor returns and I have a chance to talk to him.

Not to mention, I'll be out on the street in just a few days time without a way to pay for the hotel.

I've got to get a job. There's no way around it but considering that all of my documentation is fake, I need to try to find something that will pay me in cash.

Deciding to go for a walk to find a newspaper, I put away all my things and head out the door.

Once I'm on the road, I look both ways and turn to go the opposite direction from earlier. Not having seen a newspaper stand back towards the store I had visited.

I walk for nearly fifteen minutes when I finally spot one, so I cross the street hurriedly in that direction.

Putting it under my arm, I head back to the hotel to read it there.

It's getting late even though the sun has not gone down. Apparently, this time of year it's still daylight at eleven p.m. And the sun still rises again before five a.m. Thank God my hotel room has dark window coverings.

Once back in my room, I fix a bowl of ramen, turning the TV on for background noise while I read the newspaper.

Hoping that I can find a job before I completely run out of money.

A few minutes later, my phone ringing drags my attention away from the paper in front of me. Picking it up, I smile seeing Jan's number.

"Hey, I was just about to call you." I answer.

“Your parents came by here looking for you.” She interrupts.

My heart kicks up at that wondering what they could possibly want.

Neither of them seemed to care that they missed my graduation or that I moved out of their house.

“Did you tell them?” I ask.

“Of course not. I told them I didn’t know where you went.”

Holding my hand over my racing heart, I sit back on the bed.

“They say what they want?”

“No. Just told me to tell you that they need to talk to you as soon as possible.”

“Good.” I pick up my bowl of noodles and take a bite.

“So how’s it going up there?”

“Not very well.” I admit.

“You haven’t been able to find him?” She asks.

“Yes and no. I found his law firm but the secretary told me he was out of state. She wouldn’t tell me when he’d be back.”

“Well, you could see the sights while you wait for him to get back.” I can hear her smile over the phone. “I bet it’s beautiful there.”

“It’s beautiful and also expensive. I’m going to have to find a job if he’s not back soon or else I’ll be out on the

street.” I huff.

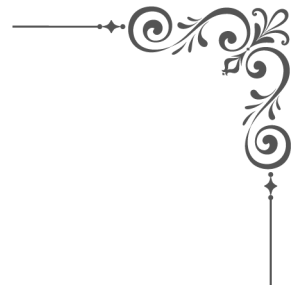
“I’m sorry girl. You know if I had any money I’d help you.” Her voice puts tears in my eyes.

“I know. You are an amazing friend and I wouldn’t be here now if you hadn’t helped me. Don’t worry about me. I’ll find something.”

We both change the subject and talk about other things for several minutes before getting off the phone.

I miss having someone to talk to. Jan was and still is all I really have.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## CHAPTER 2

### MIKA

I've been in Alaska for several weeks now and I've still been unable to make contact with Taylor Burns.

The cost of living here is so much more expensive than I thought it would be.

I've been watching every penny that I spend, buying the cheapest things possible in order to eat every day.

Knowing that I need to pay for yet another week in this hotel, I'm afraid that the only way I can manage it is if I cut back to only one meal a day.

That will only help me through one more week though.

Thoughts of being homeless in a place where I know absolutely no one has brought on nightmares when I sleep at night.

The phone ringing gets my attention and I rush to answer it, glad to hear a friendly voice on the other end.

"Jan! It's so good to hear from you." I say with excitement.

"How's it going up there?" She asks.

"I've still been unable to contact him. I really hope he comes back soon." I sigh, looking down at my notebook where I keep up with my meager finances.

"Can his secretary not give you his number?"

"She wouldn't. She did ask to relay a message but I really think this is something that should be done face to face. Don't you?"



“Actually yes. Otherwise he may think you are another one of those gold diggers looking for a pay out.”

“I don’t want his money!”

“Of course not. I know you aren’t like that but he won’t know that until he gets to know you better.” She sighs over the phone. “Have you at least seen any of the sights around town?”

“Just the free ones.” I chuckle. “I can’t afford anything else. I can’t even afford my own food.”

“Surely it’s not as bad as that. I can ask my parents to loan you some money if you want.”

“No. It’s okay. I actually have a job interview later today. I might as well work while I’m waiting for him to come back.” My heart races with the lie.

“If you’re sure. You know my parents love you and wouldn’t like to know that you’re going hungry.” Her concern causes my eyes to go blurry with tears.

“I promise that I am fine. Really. I have it all under control.” I breathe deeply to control my emotions.

“We all miss you, ya know. We can’t wait until you come back.”

Her admission takes me by surprise because I’ve never actually thought about going back.

“Have you heard anything else from my parents?”

“Nothing so far. You think they’ll really come back again?”

“I’ve no idea. It’s not like they really cared much in the first place. They weren’t even at my graduation.”

“You know, their punishments towards you have always seemed quite harsh to me. I don’t know how I’d feel if my parents were like them.”

“Your parents could never be like them. They very clearly love each other and you very much.”

“I’m glad too. Otherwise they may kill me when I tell them that I’m putting off college for a semester.”

“What? Why?” I ask, wondering what all I’ve missed since being gone.

“I want to travel for a bit. Ya know, like those backpackers do across Europe. You going to Alaska is what got me thinking about it. I’d rather do some traveling for a while before I set out on my career path. You think they’d go for it?”

Thinking about her loving parents, I smile. “Actually, yes I think they would.”

“Good. I plan to tell them tonight at supper. I wanted to talk to you about it first and see if you wanted to go with me. If you’re back in time of course.”

“I’m sorry Jan, but I honestly don’t think I’ll be back for quite some time. You should still go though. Enjoy yourself and experience the world. Go visit some of those nude beaches overseas.” I giggle.

“Oh gads! Mom would flip out!” She laughs.

Looking at the clock beside the bed, I know that I have several hours that I could spend walking around putting in applications.

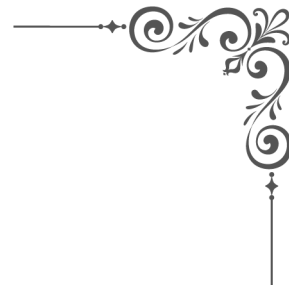
“I should go. I’ve got that interview.” I lie once again.

“Okay. Stay safe. I’ll talk to you later.”

Hanging up the phone, I stick it inside my purse and head towards the door.

I’ve got to find a job. At this point, I don’t care what it is so long as it pays me in cash.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## ATKA

Sitting at the cafe waiting for my order, I watch as a few of the men from the Wolfsbane Ridge MC pull up out front.

I met several of them when Taylor and I first got to White Summer to finish up the adoption of little Cordelia to Lily and Austin.

Lily works at Poison Pen with Fiona who is related to the MC.

Knowing how motorcycle clubs work because of my own brother, Fiona is essentially what is called an MC Princess.

Now that I've met her though, there's no way in hell I'd ever call her that to her face. She's a nice enough woman but I have a feeling that she'd not blink an eye at cutting my throat.

"Hey man! How ya liking our little town?" Blade, the VP of the club whom I met when I arrived, asks while taking a seat at the table next to mine.

The guys with him sit down as well and I can feel them all sizing me up.

"It's beautiful here. I've really enjoyed the mountain view from the cabin. It reminds me of home."

“How’s the adoption going?” His question has me looking over at him.

“We’re all family.” He shrugs.

“Dealing with court filings and the like is always a slow process but everything should be final soon.”

“Good. She’s already part of the family but I know Austin will feel more relieved when it’s all legal and everything.”

Bella, the owner of the cafe as well as Blade’s wife, calls his name from the front and all the men stand up, heading that way.

“We’ll be having a cookout at the club as soon as everything is settled with the adoption. You and Taylor of course are invited before you leave for Alaska.”

“I’ll let Taylor know. Thank you.”

I watch as they all pick up their order from the front and leave out the door.

All the men in the MC seem reserved when talking to me and I’m fairly sure that I know why.

Even my brother’s club does background checks on everyone that comes into contact with them.

I don’t know if there’s any rivalry between the two clubs. I probably should have asked my brother the last time I spoke to him.

I’d hate to be placed in the middle of anything.

While I still try to keep a relationship with my brother, it’s a strained one since he doesn’t always seem to be on the right

side of the law.

At least not the legal side.

“We should get to the courthouse.” Taylor’s voice next to me pulls me from my thoughts.

“Sorry, I didn’t even see you come in.”

Paying my tab at the register, Taylor and I head over to the courthouse to file the next batch of paperwork. There’s a lot when it comes to adoption.

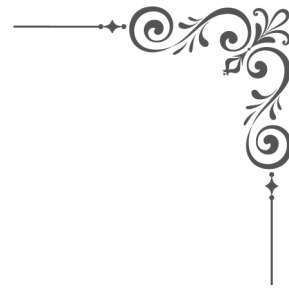
While I find family law to be rewarding, I’ve still not decided if it’ll be what I want to do with my career.

My brother thinks I should do criminal law.

He only wants that so his club can use my services if a need arises. I’m just not sure that is my path either.

Isn’t right and wrong clearly black and white? I’ve always thought so but my brother does not.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## MIKA

I've walked through town for hours but everywhere that I've stopped to inquire about a job will want my social security number and everything.

Having fake documents to buy a plane ticket is one thing. Having fake documents on file with the internal revenue service is completely different.

Deciding that I should head back to the hotel soon, I look around at where I'm at and realize that I'm now on a street I've yet to walk down.

Deciding it can't hurt to go just a little further, I take a right on the street.

As a car passes, I look over and spot a little shop on the left with a sign that says Poison Pen.

It looks to be a tattoo shop but what has my attention is the sign in the window advertising for an apprentice with artistic talents in drawing.

Crossing the street, I read all the requirements on the sign.

Must be good at drawing.

Must take directions well.



Must not be a dick.

That last one has me chuckling to myself.

I love to draw. I've done it my entire life. It's actually something that I learned a long time ago that calms my nerves.

However, I wouldn't call myself an artist.

Thinking that it may not be for me, I turn to go when I hear someone at the entrance.

“Hi! I saw you looking at the sign. Are you looking for a job?”

Looking up I see a woman close to my age with a friendly smile that has several tattoos covering her arms.

“Oh, I'm not sure I'd be a good fit.” I answer honestly.

She looks me over carefully before answering.

“Can you draw?” She asks.

“Yeah. I've been drawing since I was little. My best friend Jan swears I'm amazing at it but I've never really shown it to anyone else.” I start to feel a little nervous.

“Why don't you come in and draw something for me? Kind of like an audition.” She smiles, opening the door wider.

“Um. Can I ask first how it pays?”

My question has her brows drawing together so I hurriedly say, “I don't have my social security card or anything with me. It could take a while for it to get here.”

“That's not a problem. You'd be paid in cash here and get a 1099 at the end of the year so you can file your taxes.”

Smiling at the relief that I feel, I walk inside with her.

“My name is Arin by the way and this is my shop. We’ve not been open very long but long enough that I need some help around here.”

She walks over to a desk, picking up a drawing pad and pencils, handing them to me.

“My name is Mika.” I introduce myself. “What should I draw?” I ask.

“Whatever comes to mind. It’s best if you draw something from your own heart.”

Taking the supplies, I sit down at the table across the room, opening the drawing pad to a blank page.

Arin walks over to the desk to answer the phone. Staring at the blank page, I let my mind go until an image pops into my head.

With a secret smile, I pick up the pencil and begin to draw.

A few hours later, I’m walking back to my hotel with a huge smile on my face.

Arin gave me the job as an apprentice. She even sent me home with some drawing exercises to work on that will help with my hands staying steady.

I finally have a job but there’s still a small issue. My first paycheck won’t be for two weeks and I’ve only got enough money to pay for a few more days at the hotel.

The hotel manager is a nice lady named Carol. Maybe if I explain that I need a little more time to get it together, she’ll

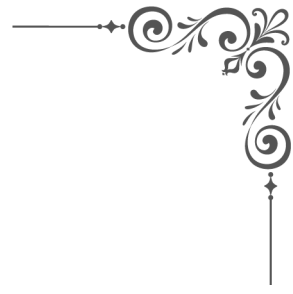
let me stay until payday.

Once I'm back at my room, I make myself something to eat and sit down on the bed with my new drawing pad that Arin gave to me to work on the exercises.

I never thought I could get a job where I could draw all day. My parents hated it when they'd catch me drawing. They would always tell me that it was a waste of time that was better spent doing something else.

I'd love to be able to prove them wrong. Then again, if they are not my parents, what does their opinions about my life matter anyway?

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## CHAPTER 3

### MIKA

I'm not ready to give tattoos yet but Arin doesn't think it will be long. She says I have a gift.

I spend my shifts working the counter and keeping the shop clean for now.

When I'm not busy she has a case of oranges and grapefruits for me to practice using the tattoo guns.

Friday is my first payday, but that's still several days away.

The first thing I'm going to do when Arin gives me my earnings is get a hot meal.

I'm dreaming of a big juicy cheeseburger with everything on it, with a giant plate of french fries drowning in ketchup, when pounding at my door suddenly wakes me.

Wiping the drool off my face I stumble to the door and open it.

It takes me a minute to see who's there, but my heart stops when I realize it is the hotel manager.

"I'm sorry but I've already let you stay an extra week. You need to turn in your room key and vacate the premises today." She tells me.

Barely holding back tears, I make sure to thank her for the time she gave me, before closing the door to pack my bags.

When I get downstairs to the reception desk, the manager is there waiting for me.

She doesn't know my situation but she knows I don't have anywhere to go.

Handing her the key I have no intention of saying anything but when I turn to walk out she stops me.

"Mika, I have something for you." She comes around the counter with a duffle bag in her hand.

"It's not much but here." giving me the bag. "There are some cans of stew and a sleeping bag. I'm sorry I can't do more but the owner is doing an audit and if he finds out you're still here I'll lose my job."

"Thank you Carol, for everything." I manage to say it without crying.

I know from previous talks that Carol belongs to a native tribe and most of her earnings go to support her family.

She even asked her family if she could offer me a place but they firmly said no. I'm grateful that she tried though.

Heading towards the shop since I have no place else to go, I'm joined by a scraggly dog.

I have no idea who the pup belongs to but for the last two weeks he has walked to work with me.

Some nights he is even at the shop when we close and walks me back to the hotel.

At first I ignored him but after I realized he wasn't going to hurt me, I started calling him Comet.

He's my only companion for the mile long walk. I can't tell what color his fur is because he is so dirty but he has

mesmerizing blue eyes. Comet makes me feel safe.

Arriving at the shop, Arin has the front door blocked open and she's struggling to carry a large box inside.

Dropping my bags I jump in to help her even though it's too early for my shift.

"Thanks." Arin calls out. "We got new ink in today and I wanted to get it set up before we open."

Collecting my bags and closing the door so nobody wanders in early I tuck them out of sight in a storage closet.

When I turn around I jump because Arin is right behind me.

She is jumping up and down, "Want a tattoo?"

"What?" I ask, still trying to catch my breath from being startled.

"We have time before opening and I really want to try out this new ink Fiona sent me. Please." She begs.

"Who is Fiona?" I don't recall hearing that name.

"She's our big boss back in Montana." Arin explains. "Technically she is my business partner but she taught me everything I know. I wouldn't be here without her giving me a start."

After several more minutes of begging, I give in and find myself laid out in the tattoo chair while Arin draws a Phoenix on the back of my shoulder.

Her argument that convinced me to give in was that if I give tattoos I should know what it feels like to get one.

I wanted something simple but then she wouldn't have been able to experiment with all the colors she wanted to try out.

Expecting pain I tense up when the buzz of the gun starts but quickly find myself relaxing.

Tuning out the world around me, I'm only half listening to Arin, when I think she says the name, Taylor, but I miss what she said.

After she finishes about two hours later, I don't have time to even look at her work before the first customer of the day comes in.

From there, we are too busy for anything. People wander in and out of the shop for hours. Some with appointments and some without.

Arin handles the ones with appointments as they patiently wait their turn.

I handle reception and set up appointments for the ones without.

One asshole got so mad that he couldn't get what he wanted immediately, he started making threats. A guy that was waiting his turn escorted him out.

Arin stood by me as we watched him get thrown to the curb.

"The guy with the nice ass is Eagle; he's the leader of the Midnight Sons MC. You don't have to worry, the asshole won't be back." She says with a giggle before going back to finish the tattoo she was working on.



“I thought you were married?” I question over the sound of the gun starting up again.

“Married not blind.” She calls back.

The rest of the night remains busy and before I realize it, I’m standing outside the door as Arin locks up.

“Hey, your dog is here.” She announces.

“Oh, He’s not mine.” I tell her.

She laughs, “Better tell him that. Good night.”

Watching Arin walks away, I so badly want to reach out and call her back. But; she has already done so much for me by giving me this job and I know she has a baby waiting at home for her. So I bite my lip and wait until she’s gone.

It’s the middle of the night so there aren’t many people wandering around.

Walking first to the park a few blocks over I check for out of the way places where someone could possibly sleep.

Some place out of the wind and out of sight.

All the spots that looked acceptable were already taken. So with the tears I had been holding back all day streaming down my face I make my way back towards the shop.

The temperature is dropping so I pull the sleeping bag Carol gave me out of my duffle and wrap it around me, while I sit in front of the shop trying to decide what to do.

Comet, who has been by my side since the shop closed, curls around me for warmth and we must fall asleep at some point.

“WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE!” Someone shouts waking me up. I jump up, instantly alert.

Arin is standing there with one hand on her hip, a little girl curled in her arms and a little brown Chihuahua bouncing around her feet.

She’s wearing penguin pajamas, snow boots and a puffy coat.

I would laugh if I wasn’t so embarrassed over being caught sleeping on the street.

“Follow me” She directs as she turns and walks down the street.

When we are standing in front of what appears to be a brand new house, she stops and invites me in.

“This is Olivia and that ...” she says pointing at the little dog “is Mouse.”

It isn’t until she asks, “Who is your friend?” that I realize Comet has followed us.

Reaching down to pat his head I introduce them, but he is more interested in checking out Mouse than introductions.

“Come on, I was just about to make breakfast when I got a call that someone was sleeping at the store. You talk while I cook.” She says walking into the kitchen and putting Olivia in a high chair.

I watch as she pulls out a carton of eggs, a package of bacon and some bread.

The silence is deafening. I can tell she's waiting for me to start talking but I don't know where to start or how much to tell her.

When she places a plate full of food on the table she says, "My mom used to call me a fat embarrassment to the family name. Her and my Dad would sit down to a full breakfast but my plate would have only half of a grapefruit on it. That's all I was allowed to eat in the morning."

At first I think she is just saying that to get me talking but when I look into her eyes, I can see the pain lingering there.

The shared pain makes me open up like nothing else could have.

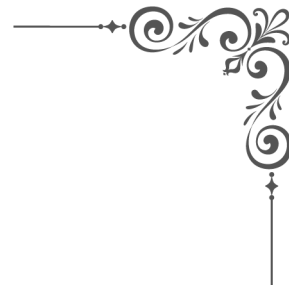
Not quite ready to share everything, I do admit that I came to Alaska to find someone but wasn't prepared for the higher prices of everything.

As we're eating and talking, I find myself sneaking bites of food to Comet.

Arin catches me but since she is doing the same for Mouse, she doesn't call me out on it.

Once our meal is finished, she points me to the living room, "If you could wait a few minutes for me to clean up the munchkin and make a couple phone calls. I might have a place for you to stay."

Olivia has a big grin on her face and is probably wearing more scrambled eggs than she actually ate.



## ATKA

The adoption is finally complete. Taylor and I plan to stay in White Summer for two more days, so he can check in on a friend of Arin's named Sydney.

Even though I'm eager to get back to my own bed, this trip has been interesting.

Watching how the local MC works with the people in this town gives me hope for my brother and his group. They're a big family, watching out for each other.

Last night after a cookout to celebrate the adoption, where it seemed half the town was invited, Taylor had a bit too much to drink.

He told me about growing up in a military family and how the MC reminded him of being on base.

By the time I helped him to his room, I wasn't really listening anymore. He wasn't making much sense.

Begging for someone to bring Kimberly back. I have no idea who Kimberly is.

It hasn't been long since I finally fell asleep when my phone rings. I try to ignore it but when I glance at the screen, I notice it's my boss' wife.

Not sure why she would call me and not him, I reluctantly answer.

“Hey Atka!” She greets me. “Are you still looking for a roommate?”

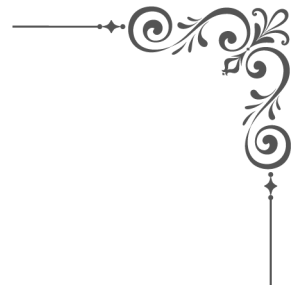
“Ugh. Arin, do you know what time it is here?” I groan.

“Oops, sorry.” she says but she doesn’t sound sorry at all. “I’ve got an employee that desperately needs a place to stay.”

“Yeah, sure, whatever.” I say before hanging up the phone and going back to sleep.

By the time I wake up the next day, I’ve completely forgotten about Arin’s call.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## CHAPTER 4

### MIKA

Standing in Arin's living room, I find myself drawn to the big picture window with a view of mountains in the distance.

It's the most beautiful thing I've ever seen. I decide right then and there that even if this trip was a waste of time and money, I'm never leaving Alaska.

Arin joins me a few minutes later. She's dressed now and the baby is cleaned up and bundled to go out in the cold.

"Beautiful isn't it?" she asks.

We stand there for a few more minutes taking it in, when she breaks the silence.

"I've got you a place to stay. We'll head over there after I take the crotch goblin here to daycare. Come on."

Grabbing my bags, Comet at my heels, we follow her out the door. Mouse attempts to follow but Arin tells her to stay.

When the little dog gives her sad eyes she gives in, "Fine but if you go all yappy at my customers, I'll bring you right home."

Together we walk back in the direction of the shop but instead of stopping, walk past it.

One block over Arin rings the doorbell next to a sign that says, "Little Eskimos Daycare."

I don't know who I was thinking would open the door but the short woman that greets us was not it.

She makes me think of Mrs. Clause, short and plump with a huge smile and a twinkle in her eye.

“Mama Lou.” Arin greets her as Olivia squeals, leaning to the old woman.

I take a few steps away, minding my own business while Arin hands her baby off to the daycare provider.

“Well come on.” Arin grabs my arm startling me and dragging me back towards the shop.

Arriving outside of Poison Pen, Arin pulls me to the side of the building and shows me a staircase I’ve never noticed before.

Digging out a set of keys as she goes up the stairs Arin explains, “My current tenant is out of state doing some work with my husband. Atka has been looking for a roommate.

The apartment is furnished. Taylor and I lived here while our house was being built.”

At the mention of Taylor I freeze. “Your husband’s name is Taylor?”

“Surely I’ve mentioned him? He’s a lawyer.” She looks back at me.

Hoping I don’t look like a deer caught in the headlights, I try to brush it off. “I don’t think I’ve heard you say his name before.”

“Well anyways I called Atka. You can stay here, when they get back he’ll work out the details with you.” She says handing me the keys.



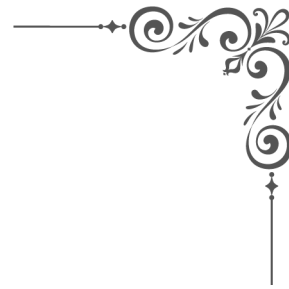
“Thank you.” I call after her as she slips past me heading back down.

Once I’m alone I slip the key into the lock. Stepping into the apartment I feel a nudge at my leg and look down to see Comet still at my side.

“Well boy, looks like we landed on our feet.” I tell him.

Reaching down to pet his head I decide the first thing I need to do is give Comet a bath.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## ATKA

I was so excited to see Montana and meet different people but now I just want to go home.

Some guy named Baratta gave us the use of his private plane so I thought the trip would be short and pleasant but we got grounded by a storm in Seattle.

The airport is crazy packed with all kinds of people. They seem to come out of nowhere and go nowhere.

I've never seen anything like it; my senses are overwhelmed by the crowds and the noise. I pray to the Gods of my people that the storm passes quickly.

It was not smart of me to leave the private lounge but my curiosity pulled me out into the main lounge area.

I see a man and a woman fighting, the woman has a baby in her arms. A group of what appears to be high school students is goofing around, someone called security on them. It is an absolute madhouse.

As quickly as I can, I make my way back to the private lounge. Sinking into an open chair I gasp for breath and rub my hands over my face.

“You okay man?” Taylor asks, taking the seat next to me.

“Yeah,” I answer. “Just never seen anything like this. People are nuts.”

“The Pilot says we’ll be able to leave in about 30 minutes.”

Raising my face to the sky, I thank the Gods. Taylor laughs as he walks away to answer his phone, “Just wait until you see Black Friday.”

Once we are back in the air I can finally relax. It’s just a short jump to Alaska but the adrenaline drop has me falling asleep quickly. Next thing I know Taylor is waking me up.

“We’re home, man.” He tells me.

We thank the Pilot then grab our bags and hurry to Taylor’s car. I want a hot shower and my warm bed. Taylor wants to see his wife and kid, they are everything to him.

He drops me off in front of the Poison Pen building and we unload my luggage.

The shop is closed today, Arin is probably preparing a welcome home celebration for him, and so I don’t keep him for more than a few minutes.

Even though the trip was work, it gave me time to think about my goals.

Taylor specializes in family law but I can’t see myself in that field.

After seeing the brotherhood of the Wolfsbane Ridge MC, I’m more curious about Eagle’s club than ever before.

Distracted by my thoughts, I make my way into my apartment. Once the door is open I'm instantly alert. Something has changed.

Quietly dropping my bags, I search the living room but don't see anything that stands out.

Moving on to the kitchen, there is a plate and coffee cup in the sink. Did I leave the dishes there?

Opening my bedroom, everything looks just the way I left it. The feeling of something being off is getting stronger as I move down the hall.

Reaching for the guest room, a sound from the bathroom makes me jump. Creeping to the door, I slowly and silently push it open. The sight that greets me has me dropping to my knees.

There is a Goddess in my shower! An honest to goodness Goddess and she's naked!

Her face is lifted towards the water, her hands in her hair. I can see her breasts lifted with erect nipples, and then one of her hands lowers from her head and slides down her body as if directing my eyes.

When her hand reaches her hips, I'm suddenly snapped out of my trancelike state by a bark.

Huh? What? I snap out of it and look down to see a dog lying beside the shower door.

When my eyes move back up the woman is staring at me. When our eyes connect, I know the Gods have sent me a gift.

The woman doesn't scream or panic, she calmly reaches her hand out, asking for a towel.

Numbly, I get to my feet and hand her one without breaking eye contact.

Something about her eyes is familiar but I know that I've never met this woman, this Goddess before. She's speaking to me but I can't hear the words.

The dog barks again and I jump. The Goddess is asking me if I'm okay. I'm more than okay; I want to worship at her feet for the rest of my life.

She starts laughing.

"While I appreciate being worshiped, could you step out so I can get dressed?" She asks.

"Oh shit, did I say that out loud?"

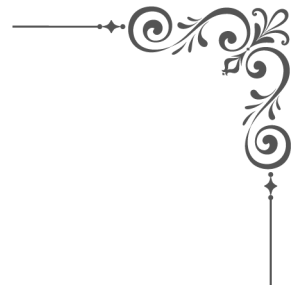
"Yes you did" she answers with a giggle.

Her voice is like a song, her giggle like a bell tinkling in the wind. I can't get enough.

Suddenly she is touching me, her hands on my shoulders. I want to sink into her touch but she turns me around and pushes me out of the room.

With a final giggle, the door closes between us. Suddenly reality hits me in the face.

"Why is there a woman in my apartment?"



## CHAPTER 5

### MIKA

**B**y the time I get dressed and walk into the kitchen, Atka is nowhere to be found.

I assume he went in search of Arin for answers about why there's a woman in his apartment.

My face heats remembering the look on his face when he found me in the shower, not to mention his reference to me being a goddess that he'd like to worship.

Arin's bombshell about who her husband is has had me lost inside my own head for several days now.

I may come face to face with the man that is possibly my brother a lot sooner than I thought I would.

A part of me is excited at the possibilities but another part of me is afraid of what his reaction to me will be.

What if he doesn't believe it? Or what if it is true but he doesn't want me in his life? What will I do then?

Tears gather in my eyes but I wipe them away quickly when I hear the door open.

"Apparently, Arin did call to let me know that you'd be here and I just forgot." Atka says as he walks back into the kitchen.

"I can try to find another place if you need me to."

I hold my breath praying he doesn't want me out just yet. I can't afford anything on my own just yet.

“No. No. You are fine here. Besides, I can now say that I live with a beautiful woman.”

I grin back at his serious expression. This man is too cute. Actually, he’s hot. Sexy hot.

When our hands touched as he handed me the towel earlier, I felt like I was jolted with electricity that traveled up my arm.

I realize that we both have been standing here in silence, staring at each other longer than we should have.

Turning to the sink, I rinse out my cup and grab my purse from the table.

“I’ve gotta get down to the shop. I have a drawing that I’ve been working on and need good lighting.” I say, heading towards the door.

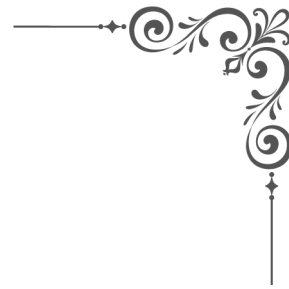
Turning to look back at him, he grins when he realizes I just caught him staring at my ass.

“I’ll see you later, yeah?” He says.

I shake my head yes, darting out the door.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)





## ATKA

After Mika leaves for the shop, I decide to go see my brother for a few hours.

Shooting him a text to let him know to expect me, I wait for his reply before heading out the door.

Pulling up forty minutes later, Eagle is waiting for me outside with a huge grin.

“Welcome back, brother! How was your trip?” He asks.

“Pretty good I guess. Montana was beautiful.” I answer honestly.

“When did you get in?”

“Just this morning actually.” I look down at my watch.

“I really hate those early flights, man. They suck the energy right out of you. Want some coffee?”

He leads the way through the compound to his private office in the back, taking a seat at his desk.

“You going home anytime soon?” He asks, referring to the reservation where we grew up.

Our people are a close loving family. Although I went off to school, I have stayed close to them all including our parents.

“I thought I’d go for a visit pretty soon. You should come too. I know Mom would really like to see you.” He snorts at my last statement.

“I’m sure Dad wouldn’t like to see me though.”

I grin at him, knowing that he’s probably right. Our parents wanted Eagle to marry a girl from our tribe but Eagle wasn’t the least bit interested in her romantically.

There was a huge fight between him and our father. By the end of it, Eagle left the village and hasn’t been back since.

“That reminds me. I heard a rumor.” He sits back in his chair with a grin of his own.

“Well spit it out.” I demand when he continues to sit there in silence.

“The Elders are expecting you to ask for Catori’s hand in marriage.” He maintains his grin for as long as he can before he bellows with laughter at the look on my face.

“Fuck that!”

“That’s what they’re hoping you’ll do!” He laughs even more.

“It’s not going to happen! I’ll choose my own wife.” I say once his laughing subsides.

“Careful, they’ll think your big brother is rubbing off on you.”

“Honestly, I don’t see that as a bad thing.” I shrug my shoulders at his surprised look.

“What happened in Montana?”

“Nothing much. We got the adoption finished up and came home.”

He continues to stare at me until I say, “Met some really cool bikers too.”

“What bikers?” He raises his brow.

“The Wolfsbane Ridge MC in White Summer.”

“That’s Timber’s crew. How’re they doing these days?” He relaxes again.

“So you know them?”

“Of course. We’ve had some dealings with them before.” He doesn’t say what kind of dealings but I can tell they are on good terms. “Didn’t think you liked being around a bunch of bikers.”

“I had to be around them because of work but once I got used to them, I realized how close they all are to each other. Like family. A tribe.”

He shakes his head in agreement, knowing what I’m talking about.

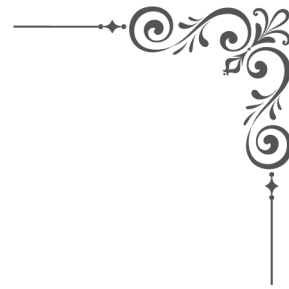
“I’m glad you are finally starting to understand why I prefer to be where I am. So what else is new?” He changes the subject.

“Let me tell you about the naked Goddess I found in my shower this morning.” I grin remembering how the water fell over the peaks of her perfect breasts.

“Fuck. My little brother is on drugs.” He looks at me like I’ve lost my mind and I can’t stop myself from laughing just

as hard as he did ten minutes ago.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## MIKA

Walking through the door of the apartment, I smell something amazing cooking in the kitchen so I head in that direction.

Atka is at the stove stirring something but looks my way as I walk in.

“Did you finish your drawing?” He smiles.

“It needs more work. Are you expecting company?” I ask, looking around.

“Just you.” He grins sexily. “Thought we could eat and get to know each other a little. I mean, we are living together.”

“I’m going to change into something a little more comfortable first.” I look down at my jeans that have ink stains all over them.

“Sure. It’ll be ready as soon as you’re done.”

Ten minutes later, I walk back into the kitchen and see that he’s already set the table and is waiting for me.

Taking the seat across from him, I take in the food in front of me.

“This smells so good! I thought that if it was a fish, it would have that fishy smell to it.” I say honestly and he chuckles.

“If salmon smells fishy then the cook isn’t doing something right.”

We fill our plates and he waits for me to take the first bite. The flavors assault my taste buds and I can’t stop my eyes from closing from the joy of the food.

Opening my eyes, he’s staring right at me and I realize that I was humming. My face heats until he looks back down at his own food.

“So where are you from?” He asks.

“Ohio.”

“Really? Whatever made you move out here?”

I take a bite of my food to give me time to think over my response. I don’t want to share too much just yet.

“I recently found out that I may be adopted.”

“So your birth family is here in Alaska?”

“Maybe. I really don’t know yet.” I squirm in my seat, uncomfortable talking about this.

He seems to get the drift and switches to asking me about my life in Ohio. The schools I attended and my friends.

“Jan and her parents are awesome. She is actually planning to take a trip backpacking across Europe. Knowing her, she’ll love it so much that she never comes back home.” I smile.

“She definitely sounds like an adventurous young woman. You are too, you know.”

“What do you mean?”

“Well, you came all the way to Alaska all by yourself without knowing anyone. That takes courage. Not many young women would be able to do that.”

Thinking about it, I have to agree. Coming here by myself could have been way more dangerous than it’s been so far.

I’m lost in thought when I feel him take my hand with his own.

Just as it did before, I feel a shock from his touch that makes me gasp.

“You are so beautiful.” He whispers across to me. “You seem almost familiar to me.” He continues, running his finger lightly across the inside of my wrist.

My heart beats rapidly just as I feel a heat pooling to my middle.

“You feel it too.” He states and I can’t deny it as it would be a lie.

I don’t understand the feelings though. How can someone I’ve never met feel like someone I’ve known my entire life?

Pulling my hand back slowly, I stand up from the table.

“I’ll help you cleanup. We both have work in the morning.” I don’t look at him as I start picking up the dishes.

I hear him chuckle behind me as I walk towards the sink.

“You may not admit it but you certainly don’t deny it.”

“I don’t have time for a romantic relationship. Especially one that may not last.” I feel the heat of his body directly behind me and I hold my breath.

“I know that you don’t believe in the old ways. The ways of my people. Maybe you will eventually. I know, in my heart, that the Gods of my people sent you to me.

You are here, in this moment with me because of them. You and I will not only have a relationship, we will fall deeply in love. We, my sweet beauty, were written in the stars.” He whispers.

I don’t take a full breath until he finally moves and I whirl around.

“You know you sound crazy right? We just met this morning.” I raise my brows at him.

He shrugs with a huge grin.

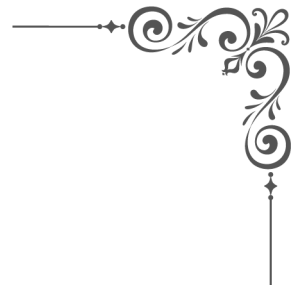
“Doesn’t matter. I still know it will all come to pass.”

Feeling even more flustered, I dry my hands on the towel and quickly walk back to my room.

I can’t believe that Arin would put me in an apartment with a crazy person.

Even if I do feel as though I can lay my head on his shoulder and feel safer than I’ve ever felt before, that doesn’t mean I don’t think that he’s crazy.





## CHAPTER 6

### MIKA

It's been three weeks since Atka got back from Montana and found me in his shower.

Three weeks of him getting home before me and having supper ready. He's an amazing cook.

We've learned a lot about each other over the last several weeks.

I've even confided in him a little more about my situation although he still doesn't yet know that my brother is possibly Taylor, his boss.

The next day after our first evening together, I went to work and told Arin about how Atka professed that we were meant to be.

I don't think she stopped laughing for a week after that.

She now makes it a habit to ask for all the details about our evenings together every day before we leave the shop for the day.

"Girl, you know you are falling for him. Hell! Who wouldn't? The man is hot as hell!"

"Arin! You are married!" I say the one thing that I seem to say to her a lot.

"I have eyes and I'm not dead!" Her usual response.

Hearing our front door open behind me, I continue talking to Arin, knowing that Gina, the part time front desk clerk, will take care of them.

“I’m convinced that everyone in Alaska is a little bit insane.” I laugh just as we hear something clatter to the floor.

We turn towards the front of the shop and come face to face with Taylor Burns for the first time ever.

He’s staring at me with his mouth wide open and eyes as big as quarters.

“Taylor? What’s wrong?” Arin rushes over to him and takes the baby he’s still holding.

The baby seems to be the only thing he didn’t drop on the floor.

“Who?” He asks, still staring right at me.

“This is Mika. I told you I hired someone. Why are you looking at her like that? Stop being rude!” She demands, slapping his arm and his eyes move to his wife.

“She looks exactly like my mother.” He whispers to her through clenched lips.

They both turn back towards me and I feel like a deer caught in headlights.

My own heart is racing rapidly. He just admitted that I look like his mom. Our mom. She was probably our mom and he’s probably my brother.

Tears cloud my eyes just as I sink to the floor crying.

I feel arms around me and see that it’s Arin. Taylor is kneeling in front of us with tears of his own.

They let me cry for several long minutes and once the tears stop, I wipe my face with my hands.

“You know who I am?” Taylor asks.

“I’m not certain. I thought that I might be your sister. It’s why I’m here. In Alaska I mean. I didn’t know Arin was your wife until after I started working here.” I hurriedly say so they don’t think that I’ve been stalking them.

“Looking at you, I have no doubts but we will have to get a DNA test done. Not to mention all the unanswered questions about where you’ve been.” His eyes tear up again. “Jesus. I never thought I’d ever see you again.”

“How about we all go out to eat? You two need time to talk and I’m starving.” Arin announces.

Taylor chuckles at her. “You’re always starving!”

Arin wanted pizza so we went to the little place down on the corner from the shop.

Sitting across from Taylor, I find myself watching him out of the corner of my eye, comparing our facial features.

“Where have you been living? I mean before you came to Alaska.” Taylor asks after our pizza is delivered to our table.

“Ohio. My parents have always lived there as far as I know.” His eyes widen when I say parents.

“You’ve been with the same people your whole life? They were good to you?” He asks gently.

“Yes and no. I think they’ve had me since I was at least a few weeks old. They had pictures of me as a baby. As for whether they were good to me, they weren’t exactly abusive or

anything. They just weren't exactly nice. They always made me feel as though they didn't really want a child."

I squirm around in my seat remembering my parents.

"They told you that you were adopted?"

"No actually. I wanted to get my drivers license which required a copy of my birth certificate. They refused to allow that. I snooped in dad's office until I found it but it looked different than my friend Jan's birth certificate. You could easily tell that it was a fake." I shrug, taking a small bite of my pizza.

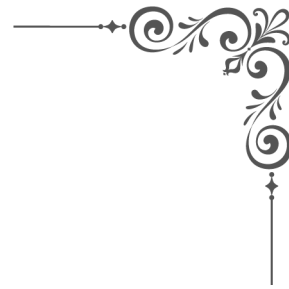
"How did you find out about Taylor?" Arin asks curiously.

"Once Jan and I knew the certificate was a fake, we started looking for babies born around the same time that I was, that went missing. We knew that if it were a legal adoption, my papers would still be real. I came across a story online that they did on you and your sister that went missing from the hospital."

I look up into his eyes that are looking straight at me with wonder.

"Now that you are here, I know Taylor may have so many questions but we have plenty of time for that. I'm about ready for my bed and I know you are too." Arin smiles at the two of us.

Taylor looks like he wants to ask more questions but I am thankful to Arin for calling it a night.



## ATKA

I'm just finishing loading the dishwasher when I hear Mika come through the front door.

She moves past the kitchen quickly, heading I assume for her room so I poke my head out into the hallway.

“Hey you. I put dinner in the fridge.”

She stops at her door, looking back at me.

“I'm sorry. I went to eat with Arin and Taylor. I should have called.”

Walking further into the hall, I shrug my shoulders.

“No worries.” I answer with a smile that slips once I get a good look at her face. “What's wrong?”

I can tell that she's upset about something so I move closer to her. She looks down at her feet but I lift her chin with my hand.

“No tears but you are still upset about something. Do you want to talk about it?” I ask softly, staring into those beautiful eyes of hers.

She sighs, relaxing her face into my hands.

“Why do you make me feel this way?” She asks instead.

“Like what?”

“Like you know me. Like I know you.” My hand slides down to her throat where I can feel her pulse beating rapidly.

My own skin prickles with awareness. Moving slightly closer to her, I lean my forehead to hers.

“As I told you. The Gods of my people sent you to me.”

My lips curve into a grin when I hear her giggle.

“You are so weird.” She whispers.

“There’s nothing weird about this.” I answer back, pulling her as close as possible.

There’s no way she can miss the hardness in my jeans pressing into her.

Pulling my head back slightly, I look deep into her eyes.

I need to know that she wants me. If she doesn’t, I’ll walk away right this minute.

Her tongue slowly comes out of her mouth to moisten her lips.

My cock jumps inside my jeans, making her gasp.

She presses herself closer but I continue to stare into her eyes.

“You have to say it.” I whisper.

“Say what?” Confusion evident on her face.

“That you want me to take you Mika. That you want me to push you into this room, strip you naked and worship this

body the way that I've wanted to do since I found you in my shower."

Her mouth opens slightly as she looks back at me.

All of my muscles coiled tightly like springs, waiting for her response.

If she says no, I'll probably be in a cold ass shower for the rest of the night but I'll do it.

For her I'd do anything.

"I..." She swallows hard. "I want you."

"You don't sound very sure." I say, concerned by the fact that she paused.

Her little fists curl into my shirt.

"I am sure Atka. I want you."

That's all I needed to hear as I slam my mouth over hers and my arms pick her up against me.

Instead of walking into her room, I carry her to mine, standing her next to the bed.

Breaking off our kiss, I steady her until she can stand on her own.

She's even more beautiful standing there with kiss swollen lips and pink cheeks next to my bed.

I can't wait to see this woman sprawled out across my black satin sheets. Her entire body is on full display for me and me alone.



Grabbing her t-shirt, I pull it over her head revealing her bra covered breasts underneath.

Before I can move on, her hands come up on their own, opening the clasp in the front.

Her pink nipples, hard little points begging for attention.

I waste no time, leaning down and pulling the right one into my mouth hard. Her hands diving into my hair, curling into fists.

Letting go with a pop, I move to the other doing the same. She moves her body, trying to rock into mine.

Pulling back from her, I lay her on my bed, pulling her pants off quickly and fuck me, she's not wearing panties.

"Oh, you are a bad girl." I grin, looking back at her eyes.

Her face flushes pink until she grins back.

"You have no idea." She replies.

Her hands capture my attention as they glide over her own stomach, up to her full breasts and pinching her own nipples.

Her entire body rocks on the bed from her own administration.

My cock now throbbing, I release my own jeans, dropping them with my boxers to the floor.

I watch her eyes take in my hardness stretched up to my own belly button.

Instead of looking intimidated, her eyes take on a feral look.

Her hands move back down her stomach headed to that glistening mound at her center. Stopping her, I grab her hands and move them to her side.

“My turn to play.” I growl.

Moving my face closer to her center, I breathe in deeply, taking in her sweet scent.

Spreading her legs wide with my shoulders, I give no warning as I shove my tongue into her hot passage.

Her back bending off the bed and her hands grabbing my head, pulling me closer.

Moving my tongue in and out of her rapidly, licking up all her juices before moving my mouth to her clit.

Pulling it into my mouth with my lips, I give it a slight pull and pinch. Her hips buck under me.

“Oh, God, Atka!” She moans as her head thrashes.

Sucking her back into my mouth, I keep a suction on her with my mouth as my tongue flicks her hard little nub in a steady rhythm.

She bucks harder into my mouth at the same time that she’s trying to pull me closer.

Moving one of my hands closer to her passage, I coat my fingers in her wetness before pushing first one then another inside of her.

As the second finger moves all the way inside of her, she comes on a scream.

Her pussy squeezing my fingers and her clit throbbing into my mouth.

Pulling from her quickly, I grab a condom from the night stand by the bed, ripping it open and covering my cock as fast as I can.

Moving back and forth between her thighs, I coat my shaft until I'm just as slick as she is.

With our eyes on each other, I pull back, lining up the head of my throbbing cock with her heat and slowly slide inside of her so that I don't hurt her.

Her mouth opens into an O shape until I'm fully seated inside of her tightness.

Moving down over the top of her, I take her mouth with my own as I pull back slowly and push back inside.

Her legs open wider, taking me even more deeply.

She feels so good wrapped around me; I'm not sure how long I'll be able to last going this slow.

As I pull back once again, her legs lock around me quickly, slamming me back inside of her with force.

"Yes. Just like that." She breathes into my mouth.

Knowing that I'm not hurting her, I pull back, slamming all the way in again without her forcing it. Working up to a faster pace.

I hold her head by her hair and she does the same with me, our lips locked together in a battle of their own.

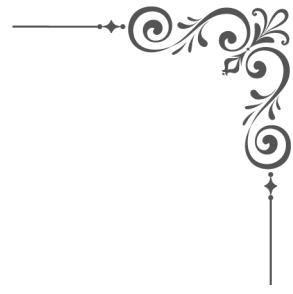
I can feel her orgasm building as her pussy walls begin to throb. My own cock gearing up for an explosion.

“Cum for me.” I breathe into her mouth.

Slamming into her one more time, her pussy squeezing my cock hard, she screams her release into my mouth and I explode into the condom harder than I have ever done before.

This woman, this Goddess in human flesh, is all mine.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## CHAPTER 7

### MIKA

It's been almost a month since Taylor claimed me as his long lost sister, putting everything into motion to get the DNA test to prove it.

Atka and I have spent a lot more time together as well, both in and out of bed.

For the first time in my life, I am truly happy but I'm also scared to death.

Taylor has been asking all kinds of questions about my parents, the people who raised me.

Deep down I guess I knew they didn't adopt me. Not legally anyway.

Knowing how my parents, mainly my father, have always treated me, why in the world would they take someone's child when they really didn't seem to even want one of their own?

None of it makes any sense.

"You're lost in thought over there." Atka's voice dragging my attention back to the present as he turns the television off.

"Sorry. Was the ending any good?" I ask.

"Not really. It was another one of those that ends with a crazy ass ending." He rolls his eyes dramatically.

"What time are we leaving in the morning?" I ask, standing up from the couch.

"Around seven. Do you have your bags ready to go?" He asks.

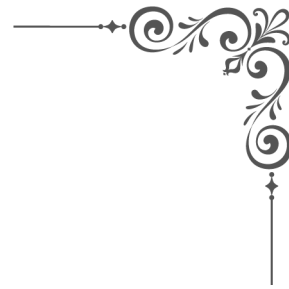
“I promise they are ready but are you sure they won’t mind you bringing an outsider with you?”

“My mom will love you!” He grins, taking me into his arms.

As I allow him to lead me to bed, I pray that he is right.

It would completely break me at this point to lose Atka. He’s gotten under my skin and there’s no way to get him out.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## ATKA

**M**ika has been quiet most of the trip out to the village.

I know that she's nervous to meet my people but I refuse to let her know that I too am a little nervous.

My father reacted badly when Eagle refused to be pushed into taking a wife chosen for him.

Several months ago, I didn't completely understand why he refused but knowing what I do now, I know that I could never attach myself to a woman that I didn't pick myself.

If that is what my family has also been planning for me, I'm hoping that introducing them to Mika will lay to rest those thoughts.

I plan to marry someone that I choose myself. Someone that I love and that loves me as well.

Cutting my eyes over at Mika, I'm filled with awe at her beauty just as much as the first time I ever laid eyes on her.

"We're coming up on the airstrip." The pilot says through the headphones.

Mika leans closer to the window, looking out.

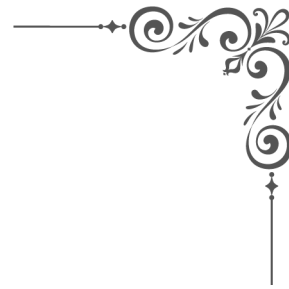


Far below I can already make out several people waiting not too far away from the strip with four wheelers.

“That’s probably my parents.” I say through the mic, pointing out the window to the people below.

Mika smiles back but doesn’t say anything so I grab her hand as the plane descends towards the runway.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## MIKA

Atka had told me that he sent word to his parents several days ago that he was coming and that he was bringing a friend.

It's obvious that they were not expecting that friend to be a woman though if I'm to judge their facial expressions when we got off the small plane.

His mother, Lusa, recovered more quickly than his father though, giving me a huge hug and welcoming me to the village.

His father, Hanta, was a bit more reserved, holding himself back but still giving a polite hello.

Atka and his brother Eagle apparently have their own house here that their mother cleaned up for us before our arrival.

Looking around the cabin, I'm pleasantly surprised by how much bigger it seems on the inside than it looks.

There are two bedrooms. Small rooms but still enough. What do you need to do in a bedroom anyway besides sleep?

"Come down to the big house when you both get settled. Everyone is already there waiting to see you." She says with a

huge smile.

“We’ll be there soon. I promise.” He hugs her before she shuffles back out the door.

“How many people will be there?” I ask, looking over at him as he opens his bag to pull out another shirt.

“Knowing my mom? Everybody!” He chuckles at my expression. “It’ll be fine. Are you ready to go?”

Actually I’m not ready but we are here now and I’ll not disappoint Atka. His family is important to him and he’s important to me.

A few hours later, I’ve met so many new people that there’s absolutely no way for me to remember them all. Everyone so far has been super welcoming.

Several of the women along with Atka’s mother are showing me how they cut the fish and hang them in the huge smoke house to preserve the meat.

“This is most of our diet through the winter although we get other meat as well. Fish, though, is a very important staple.” Lusa explains.

“All of this is amazing. Does Atka like to fish?” I ask but a voice at the door answers the question.

“No, he doesn’t.”

The girl who spoke looks to be about my age and I smile in her direction.

“I don’t think we’ve met. I’m Mika.” I introduce myself but she seems to curl her lip at me.

“Catori!” Lusa says to the girl harshly but the girl turns, stomping away.

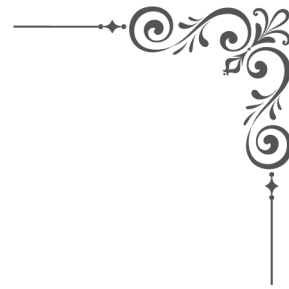
Lusa looks back at me with a small smile. “I’m sorry. That was Catori. She’s not usually so unfriendly.”

Confused as to why she’d respond to me in such a way, I shake my head before looking back at Lusa.

“It’s okay. I’m a stranger.” I shrug.

Lusa goes on to show me other things the tribe does and the encounter with Catori is forgotten.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## ATKA

After lunch, my dad asks me to walk down to the river with him to check on the family's fish wheel.

It's a giant wheel-like structure that is powered by the river and scoops up fish as they swim by.

The fish slide down into a catchment area that will keep them alive until they are scooped out and taken to the processing area, and then hung up in the large smokehouse.

The fish caught this season will help to feed the entire village through the long winter ahead.

I stand on the shore as he steps out onto the wheel, checking to be sure it's still working correctly.

"Should have a good catch this season."

He says as the wheel turns and we watch several fish slide into the catchment.

"It looks like a few of the boards will need to be replaced next year." I point out and he shakes his head.

"You can't be serious about this girl." He states all of a sudden.

"Of course I can." I look back at him, raising a brow.

“Why must you boys buck tradition? You should be married to a girl from the tribe. Someone who will teach your children the ways of our people. The way your mother taught you. This girl knows nothing of our ways.” He growls, turning back towards the village.

“She can learn. Besides, I am a lawyer now. I’ll always be in the city other than little vacations here or there. I can’t be a lawyer way out here worrying about fish wheels and trapping seasons.” I say to his retreating back but he doesn’t slow down.

I hang back as he goes, preferring to not argue with him any further.

I did expect him to say more than he did so maybe there’s still hope of him accepting Mika as much as Mom seems to have done.

“Atka! I’ve been looking for you everywhere.” I hear a voice.

Turning in that direction, I see a woman I know well walking towards me through the trees.

“Hello Catori. How have you been?” I ask politely.

“I’ve been okay. Been helping train some of the new dog teams.”

She smiles, coming to a stop right next to me and wrapping her arm around mine.

I’m uncomfortable with her so close but I don’t pull away as I don’t want to seem rude.

“Everyone has missed you around here.”

She looks up into my eyes, pushing her breasts further into my chest.

“I’ve missed everyone as well. We should get back to the village. I’ll need to leave soon.”

I try to steer her back in the direction of the village.

I know that she has always harbored hope that we would be married one day but my heart has never felt anything for her more than as a friend.

Having her as a wife would definitely appease my family but it would not appease me.

Don’t I deserve to have a woman that my heart wants to belong to?

Hearing footsteps, my head swings in that direction and I’m struck by the surprised expression looking back at me.

Mika doesn’t say anything before turning back around and walking away quickly.

Catori holds me even tighter with a huge grin on her face.

I want nothing more than to shove her off of me and run after Mika.

Not wanting to cause a scene though, I continue walking with Catori until I can excuse myself from her back at my cabin.

Before she lets me go though, she reaches up quickly, pressing her lips to mine.

It's over too quickly for me to even react. Shaking my head at her retreating back, I open the door.

I find Mika inside, grabbing her backpack.

We didn't bring much with us for this day trip so it doesn't take us long to be ready to go.

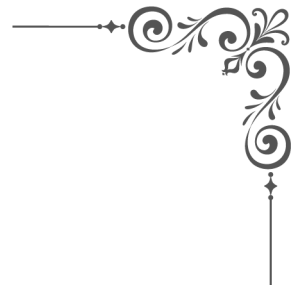
When I turn back to Mika, she doesn't wait for me before she's already out the door and my parents are waiting outside.

Well this should be a fun trip back. She's obviously mad at me for some reason but I know that I haven't done anything wrong.

I'm sure she will tell me eventually and we can work out whatever it is.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)





## CHAPTER 8

### MIKA

The entire ride back from the celebration, I didn't say one word to him.

If Atka noticed something was wrong he never once asked. Has this all been a game to him?

The way that woman wrapped herself around him made me want to puke and he didn't do anything to stop her.

Once we arrive back at our apartment, I decide to take Comet for a walk.

After about an hour of wandering aimlessly I find myself outside of my brother's house.

Watching through the window I feel like an outsider.

Taylor has his arms wrapped around Arin and they are dancing to music I can't hear.

Is it wrong to want that for myself? Someone to love me, someone to hold me and put me above everyone else?

I found my brother but he has his own family.

He would probably hate it if he knew I feel like an outsider but that's what I am always on the outside.

Turning to wipe the tears from my eyes, I start to walk away but arms reach around me and pull me back. I start to panic until I realize it's my brother.

"What's wrong?" He asks dragging me inside.

"I want to go home." I blurt out stunning myself.

There is no good reason for me to go back to Ohio but I can't stay here and watch Atka with other women.

"Can you?" I start. "Can you get me a ticket to Ohio? I can pay you back, please." I beg.

"First of all, if I buy you a ticket you will not pay me back. You are my sister; I will get you anything you need. Second, why? Have I done something or did Arin make you feel unwanted?"

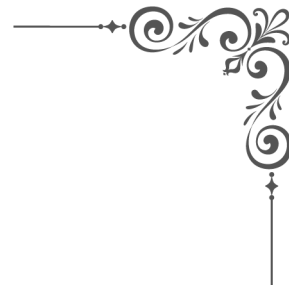
"No, no please it's nothing either of you have done. I just ... I need to go, please don't make me explain." I answer.

Just then Arin enters the room, "I'm sorry I was trying to give you some privacy but I couldn't help overhear you. You realize if you leave now, you'll have to start your apprenticeship all over again?"

"I can't stay, please don't make me stay." I sob.

"Well." Arin draws out dramatically. "What if instead of going back to Ohio, you go to White Summer? Let me call Fiona to make sure it's okay."

Before I even answer her, she's got her cell phone to her ear.



## ATKA

**M**ika was unusually quiet on the way back to town. As soon as we got back she put Comet on his leash and took him for a walk. She's been gone for a long time, I'm getting worried.

Does she know how much it meant for me to take her to see my family, my people? I wonder if one of my brothers said something to scare her off. Pacing the floors is getting me nowhere.

Just as I reach for my phone, it rings. Looking at the screen I see its Taylor calling. Maybe something happened to Mika? Panic has set in.

"Where's Mika?" I blurt out before he even has a chance to say hello.

"She's here with us." He answers.

I take a few deep breaths to calm myself but then he continues.

"Something came up with Poison Pen. We're sending her to White Summer so she can help out Fiona."

"We spent the day together but she didn't say anything about going to Montana?" I can't help but question.

“She didn’t know it just came up.” He assures me. Taylor has never lied to me but something in his voice doesn’t sit right.

“Is she coming to get her stuff?” I ask.

“No, her flight leaves in an hour. We’ll make sure she has everything she needs.”

“What about Comet should I come get him?”

“Got it covered, man. He’s going with her.” he tells me.

That’s when I know, if she’s taking her dog with her, she’s not planning to come back. I hang up the phone and sink down on the couch.

The day’s events keep running through my head, what went wrong? I decide to call my mom, maybe she knows something.

The phone only rings twice before Mom answers, “Atka my dear boy. You only left a few hours ago. You miss your mama already?”

“Ma I have to ask you a question. Did anything strange happen today?”

“You mean my lawyer son bringing home a beautiful woman was not strange?” She laughs.

“Ma, I’m serious. I thought our visit went great but when we left Mika seemed upset. Then she left to go for a walk but instead of coming back, her brother said she is going to Montana.”

“I’m so sorry son. Everyone love her, even Chief and Elders were pleased with your choice. Your father was a bit distant but he spent the day with you.”

“Please Mom, I’m telling you something happened or she would not have walked away from me. Think about what you did with her today, there has to be something you missed.”

The line goes quiet for a minute; I hope that means Mom is searching her memory.

“I took her for tour of the village. We visit the shops and some farmer’s stands. After that we went to the community center. The children taught her to make corn dolls. She made one for you.

Then I showed her the fish shed. She was very curious, asking smart questions. This girl, she loves you very much. She wanted to know what you like.”

Mom pauses for a minute, “Wait a minute!” she shouts.

Pulling the phone away from my ear for a moment, when I put it back I get the answer I’ve been dreading.

“Catori came to fish shed. She did not say much but she was very rude. After that we went back to community center. I sent your girl to visit the weavers while I helped prepare for the celebration.

I give them space but I listen. I hear the name Catori many times. Maybe they tell her Catori loves you?”

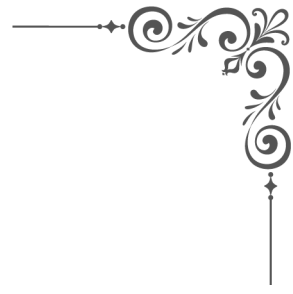
“Thank you, Mom.”

“Atka, that girl, she is special. You fix this and bring her home!”

I start to answer, “Yes...” only to realize Mom hung up on me.

Sinking down into my chair, it hits me that Mika found Catori wrapped around me but I did nothing to push her away. I really screwed up; hopefully, I get a chance to fix it.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)





## CHAPTER 9

### MIKA

**B**efore boarding the plane, Taylor hands me an envelope and makes me promise not to open it until landing in Montana. Sitting here staring out the window, I'm tempted but hold myself back.

It's been a long day and I just want to sleep but every time I close my eyes, I see that woman with her hands on Atka.

At first I didn't say anything because I thought he would push her away. Then when he put his arm around her, I didn't say anything because my heart was being crushed into a million pieces.

The Weavers told me all about Catori and her wedding plans. They gushed about the traditional dress that was being made for her.

One of the women even showed me some of the hand embroidery that would be applied once the bodice was finished.

I thought Atka had feelings for me. He never said he loves me or anything but the way he looks at me, the way he touches me, provides for me, how could it all be an act?

Every day when he finished work he would come to the shop to see what I was working on.

Then he would go to the apartment and cook dinner. No matter what time I dragged myself in after work, he was waiting for me with a hot meal.

Whether the shop closed at midnight or two in the morning, he was always there. Not wanting him to suffer, I begged him not to wait for me. His work day starts at eight.

I don't know how Taylor managed it but he arranged for Comet to have his own seat next to me, instead of being stuck in an animal carrier.

It must be nice to have money. He says there is money for me too. An inheritance.

He never gave up hope of finding me so when our Father died he left my inheritance untouched.

I'm not ready to claim it yet, I don't know what's holding me back but it just doesn't feel real.

Most of the flight I'm lost in thought. When the Pilot announces we'll be landing soon, I grab for my phone.

"Hey Jan." I greet when my best friend answers her phone.

"MIKA!" She screams excitedly.

I give her a moment to calm down before I share my news. "I'm in Montana."

"Oh my God! Where?"

"White Summer. Come see me, please." I plead. "I need my bff."

Jan asks me what's going on but before I can answer the flight attendant taps me on the shoulder. "I'm sorry dear but you need to turn off all your devices for landing."

Quickly saying goodbye and letting her know I'll call after we land, I reluctantly hang up. Landing is uneventful then I

find myself sucked into the crowded terminal.

Taylor said someone would meet me here but I have no idea who I'm supposed to be looking for.

Instead of fighting the crowd at baggage claim, I'm standing back to wait for it to clear out a bit when suddenly the roar of motorcycles vibrates the whole building.

A commotion at the entrance draws everyone's attention, including mine.

We watch as a tornado blasts through the door. This tornado is wearing shorts and a tank top, showing off tattoos that cover nearly every inch of skin from the neck down.

Just her presence in the room demands attention and respect.

It isn't until she calls out my name that I notice the men surrounding her. Standing by her right side is an intimidating man that looks like he could snap a person in half. The guy on the left has the same eyes as her and he's wearing a leather jacket that matches the other four men walking behind her.

Every eye in the room is glued to this group.

She leans over and loudly whispers, "I told you this was overkill. The poor girl is probably shitting her pants."

When she calls out my name again, I timidly raise my hand. I feel like a child with my hand up in the air until they approach me.

"I'm Fiona! Welcome to White Summer." She shouts before grabbing my hand and pulling me towards the exit.

“Blood, grab the girl’s luggage.”

Comet is pulled along with me as she escorts us to a cute little red convertible surrounded by motorcycles.

“Sorry about the peanut crew. They can be a bit overwhelming but the guys have had some trouble lately. I’m not allowed to go anywhere without an escort. I mean, I can handle myself obviously but between us girls, I say let them do their thing as long as they don’t get in my way.” She explains.

Without letting me get a word in she adds, “After we get you settled, remind me to run you over to Hay’s den. All my employees are required to learn at least one form of self-defense.”

Before I know it, the little red car is zipping through traffic with motorcycles in front and behind it.

“If we had more notice, we would have sent our private plane to bring you directly to White Summer.”

It’s almost an hour later when she pulls into an alley and parks. “My husband and I recently bought a house, so we decided you can stay in our old apartment. It is right over the shop, in the middle of town so you can walk for just about anything you need.”

At the top of the stairs, she unlocks the door and steps aside. As I go to walk past her, she reaches out, putting her hand on my arm. “Mika, I’m most likely overwhelming you. I just want you to know, you’re welcome here. Arin is like a

sister to me and our family owes Taylor. Anything you need, you ask. Get some rest; take a couple of days to yourself.”

One of the guys is right behind me with my bags; he sets them on the landing and walks away. Fiona puts the key in my hand and follows him.

Once I'm alone in the apartment I sit down and open the envelope Taylor gave me.

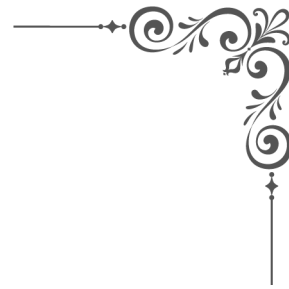
Busting out into tears, when I find a debit card with the name Mika Burns printed on the front.

There's a note telling me that Taylor transferred my part of our inheritance into my chosen name and filed the paperwork to make it my legal name.

The bank book I find tucked in with the note has a number that makes me gasp.

I knew I wouldn't be poor ever again but the number of zeros almost stops my heart.

The first thing I do is grab my phone and arrange for Jan to fly here. I'm still shaking after confirming her travel arrangements.



## ATKA

It's been two weeks since Mika left me. Everyone keeps telling me to give her space but I'm done with that.

I've tried calling Fiona and Lily but neither of them will tell me anything so I cheated and called Austin.

He tells me she's barely functioning. Doing what she needs to do every day but they all notice she isn't eating and never smiles.

The only time she seems to relax is when she is walking her dog.

When I got to the office this morning I told Taylor that I'm flying to White Summer. He surprised me by saying, "It's about time!"

"What? You told me to give her some space."

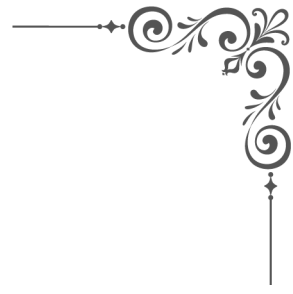
Taylor put his hand on my shoulder, "You did give her space now go bring my sister home!" Then he pushes me back out the door.

On my way to the airport, I call Austin to let him know my schedule. He offers to have someone meet me but I want to rent a car so we can have some privacy.

The airport is more of a madhouse than it was the last time I traveled but I block it out.

Mika is the only thing that matters to me. Not even the crying kid that ends up sitting next to me for most of the flight can distract me from the woman I love and plan to spend the rest of my life with.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)





## CHAPTER 10

### GERALD

We tried for years to have our own kid but when it didn't happen something in my wife changed.

Hillary was working as a labor and delivery nurse when one day she came home with a baby.

I tried convincing her to take the kid back but she insisted it was hers.

After a while I just went with it, she was a good mom the first few years.

Now I have to do something to keep both of us out of prison.

I've been watching Janice Long for months.

She and that little bitch Mika were glued at the hip from the day they met in kindergarten.

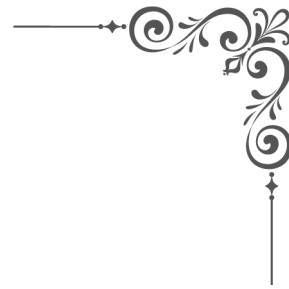
I followed Jan and her mother to the airport, pulling my ball cap down so they wouldn't recognize me. I get close so I can listen to their conversation.

"Mom, stop fussing. I'm only going to White Summer to see Mika, for a couple days. What are you going to do when I go to Europe in the fall?" she says.

Doing a quick search for White Summer on my phone I discover it is in Montana.

Blending into the crowd, I slip away and make my own plans. She will be coming back with me, even if I have to drag her back in a body bag!

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## MIKA

It's been two weeks since I left Alaska and my heart still aches.

Starting every day with a workout at Hay's den then late hours at the shop with Fiona and Lily, I should be too tired to think but nothing is enough to keep my mind off Atka.

When I close my eyes at the end of the day and will myself to sleep, I feel his hands on my body. I see his eyes looking into mine like he worships the ground I walk on.

Did I make a mistake?

Jan is flying in today. The people here are awesome but I need her. Maybe she can help me sort this out in my head.

I'm so excited I can't sit still. It has only been a couple of months but feels like forever since I've seen my best friend. Lily's husband Austin drove me to the airport to pick her up.

Austin is awesome! He's been teaching me to fight. He was only supposed to teach me self-defense but after seeing him and Lily sparring, I was hooked.

Even at six months pregnant Lily doesn't hold back. They have a beautiful daughter named Cordy, this baby is supposed to be a boy. Lily wants to name Micah.

I think the name is adorable, but then I am a little biased. Micah, Mika you see what I'm talking about?

Last night she let me feel her belly when the baby moved. It was an incredible feeling but it made me sad.

During my time with Atka, I was picturing little babies with his hair and my eyes.

Nervously pacing the waiting area, I jump when my phone rings. I'm wary of answering it because I don't recognize the number.

"Hello, is this Miss Stone?" The voice asks.

"Yes," I cautiously answer.

"This is Darren Jonas with the FBI. We were recently contacted about your situation. Can you meet with us to discuss it?"

"Umm sure," I answer.

"We can have an agent in Anchorage call you to set up a meeting if that's convenient." Mr. Jonas tells me.

"Oh, I'm not in Anchorage right now. I'm in White Summer Montana."

"That actually works out better. I'm in Billings Montana and could meet with you myself in the next few days."

I ask him to meet me at Bella's Brew and we set up a time, just as he is saying goodbye Jan's flight is announced. Not sure if I answered him or just hang up as I make my way to her gate.

By the time I see her, tears are streaming down my face. Throwing my arms around my best friend I finally feel something besides my broken heart.

Austin collects her luggage, while we head out to his car. As we are exiting the airport, I think I see Atka but that's not possible. He hated his last trip to White Summer; no way he would come back.

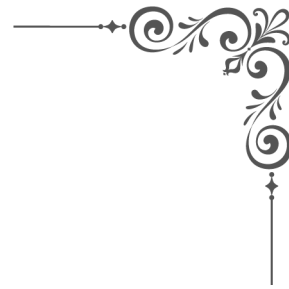
The entire drive back to White Summer, she talks not letting me get a word in. Some things never change.

Arriving back at Poison Pen, Jan is yawning non-stop so I encourage her to take a nap.

Pushing her into my bedroom and closing the door, I decide to sketch out a tattoo that's been on my mind.

Quickly losing track of time, I'm alerted something is wrong when Comet starts whining and scratching at the door. He's never acted like that before. It makes me nervous.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## ATKA

The first thing I did after the plane landed was get a car and head out to the MC's clubhouse.

As eager as I am to go after my woman, she would probably appreciate me showering first.

The kid that was crying next to me on the flight. Yeah, she threw up everywhere when we landed.

It was really disgusting but after the mom explained they were flying in to see Dr. Ortez at White Summer hospital for cancer treatment, I couldn't be mad.

Calling ahead, Mina met me at the door with a cabin key, laughing her ass off. But; when I explained about the sick kid, she started crying. Hmm, wonder if she's pregnant again?

It doesn't take very long to get to the cabin and wash up but now it's getting late. Knowing tattoo artists work late hours, I decide to hang out with the Wolfsbane crew for the night.

Timber made sure that Taylor and I knew we had an open invitation.

The first thing I notice is there are no women in the club tonight. Odd, usually some of the wives are around at least.

“Yo Timber! Did you all lose something?” I call out as soon as I see him.

“No man,” He calls back. “Seems you did and our women are all hanging with her tonight. She got a visitor from back East. Fiona closed the shop tonight so they went out to Black Cats.”

“But Mika isn’t old enough to drink.” I tell him but he just laughs at me.

“You brave enough to tell Fiona that?”

I think about it for a minute, “Nope, that woman could kick my ass. Besides, I wouldn’t want to find frogs or snakes in my bed.”

Now everybody is laughing. After a few beers, I call it a night, telling the guys I’m heading back to the cabin but find myself parking outside of Black Cats instead.

As soon as I set eyes on Mika I want to pull her out and feed her until she bursts.

It’s obvious she hasn’t been eating. Her clothes are hanging off of her and she looks pale. The only thing that stops me is the smile on her face.

She’s joking around and laughing with the women. Something tells me this is the first time since she left Alaska that she has let go.

I recognize Jan sitting next to her from pictures Mika shared with me. It makes me happy to know her best friend is here for her. Deciding not to interrupt their night, I sneak back out.

As I'm about to open the car door, a small hand lands on my arm. I turn to find Mika.

"What are you doing here, Atka?" She asks me.

"I came to bring you home," I explain.

"Home?" she questions. "You mean the place where you make love to me, then marry someone else? Someone that has been your girlfriend since you were in diapers?"

"Mika," I say, reaching for her hands. "I have never planned to and will never plan to marry Catori."

She backs away not letting me touch her, "She touched you, she kissed you and you did nothing to stop her."

Taking another step back she continues, "The tribe is making her wedding dress. Did you know that? It's a traditional dress with hand embroidery, the most beautiful dress I've ever seen."

"Mika," I say again. "I will not marry anyone but you!"

That stops her in her tracks, no longer moving away from me, she looks up into my eyes. "But everyone is planning the wedding?"

"I don't care what everyone is planning. If I get married it will be to you, only you." She is finally close enough for me to reach so I wrap my arms around her.

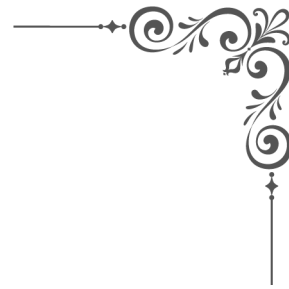
Gone is the smiling happy woman from inside the bar, I'm left holding this tear-streaked Goddess.

"I didn't think you would come here." She whispers into my neck.



“I’ll follow you anywhere.” I reassure her, “But for tonight, go back to your friends. I’ll meet you at Bella’s for breakfast.” I reluctantly let her go.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## GERALD

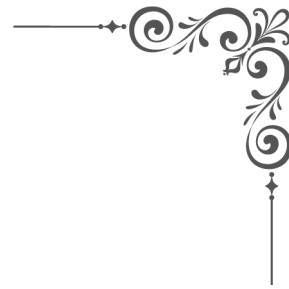
**H**ow in the world did I get so lucky? I got into White Summer just a few hours ago and I've already found my runaway. After asking around, I found out where she lives.

I went there but I decided to have a few drinks and confront her tomorrow. So I'm hanging out at Black Cats Bar when a group of women walk through the door. She is one of them.

She doesn't see me sitting in the dark corner. It gives me the perfect place to watch from. When she gets up and follows that man outside, I sneak out the back and watch.

At first, it looks like they are arguing, but then they are in each other's arms. A plan starts forming in my mind; I know exactly how I will get her back to Ohio.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## MIKA

Uhg, I'm glad I didn't drink last night, unfortunately, Jan did. After dragging her drunken ass up the stairs, she puked everywhere before passing out on the bathroom floor, which is where I left her.

Stepping over her to get in the shower, I refuse to miss breakfast with Atka.

We've been apart long enough. Getting dressed, my phone buzzes with an alert. It's a text from Mr. Jonas.

*I will be in White Summer today following up on another case. Can you meet?*

Deciding this is perfect timing, Atka can be with me. I reply.

*Yes, Bella's Brew in an hour?*

He answers right away.

*See you there*

When I get to Bella's, Atka is already here. He stands up when I walk in. Seeing him standing there makes my heart melt. Running into his arms, I can't stop the grin that breaks out on my face.

He leans in to kiss me but a loud whistle stops him in his tracks.

Looking to find where the sound came from we both watch as Bella, bends over laughing. “Get a room,” She calls out.

Atka’s face turns red as he pulls out a chair for me.

Neither of us says anything until after Bella takes our order and walks away.

I listen while he explains how the Elders have been pushing for him to marry Catori.

He never agreed to it and besides Catori isn’t in love with anything except the money she thinks he’ll earn as a lawyer.

She didn’t want anything from him except friendship until he started working with Taylor.

Once she knew he was working for one of the richest men in Anchorage, she started making her plans.

He told me about the phone call to his mother and how much his family liked me. Even his Dad who kept his distance during the visit agreed that Atka should choose me.

The first few times the door opened I jumped, so Atka asks me, “Why are you nervous?”

“I got a call from the FBI, they are investigating my case. Mr. Jonas is going to be here soon.” I explain, and then ask him, “Can you stay, please?”

“Of course, I’ll stay.” He answers, “You are mine.”

A shiver runs through my body as I lean over to kiss him. “And you are mine.” I whisper.

Just as we finish eating a man wearing a suit walks in and approaches Bella at the counter.

We can't hear their conversation but she points to me before he walks to our table.

"Hi, are you Mika Stone?" he asks, holding his hand out for me to shake.

"Yes, you must be Mr. Jonas," I answer. While moving around the table to be next to Atka.

Once everyone is seated again, he pulls out a recorder, a notebook, and a pen. "Please call me Agent Jonas, if you don't mind I'm going to record this, as well as take notes."

"Do you mind if my lawyer is present?" I timidly ask him.

"You aren't in any trouble," he assures me. "You can have anyone you want here with you."

Before we start, I ask Bella for coffee. She gives Agent Jonas a curious look but doesn't ask any questions.

I watch her walk into the kitchen and grab her cell phone. Pretty sure I know who she's calling.

My hunch is proved correct when bikers start filtering into the cafe before she even returns with a fresh pot of coffee.

After getting to know these people over the last few weeks, it makes me feel safer knowing they are here for me.

Taking a few sips from my cup I begin. "I was born Kimberly Elizabeth Burns," I tell him everything from discovering my fake birth certificate to finding my brother. It

feels like it takes hours to give him all the details, but when I'm done a weight is lifted off my heart.

For the first time since I began my story, I look around. The bikers aren't even pretending to eat; every one of them is listening to me. Bella discreetly wipes a tear from her eye.

Fiona, Mina and Lily aren't hiding their tears. I never even saw them come in. That's when it hits me; I have a real family now. A family I made.

Nobody says anything as Agent Jonas packs up his things. He shakes hands with Atka and I, promising to stay in contact, then stops at the table where Timber is sitting and says a few words before shaking his hand too, and leaving.

As soon as the door closes behind him I'm pulled from my chair into a circle of arms.

The women are hugging me and patting me on the back. They keep commenting on how strong and brave I am.

I don't feel strong or brave but for the first time in my life, I feel whole.

Having everyone surrounding me is also making me feel a bit claustrophobic, so I make excuses to get away for a few minutes. I need to take a walk and clear my head.

I've been walking the trail at the park for about ten minutes when I feel the hair on the back of my neck stand up. It's as if someone is watching me. Looking around I don't see anybody, so I keep going.

Hearing footsteps approaching from behind, I speed up but I'm not fast enough.

A hand grabs my arm and spins me around. To my horror, the man who claimed to be my father Gerald Butler is standing there.

Quickly deciding not to tell him I know the truth, I'm at a loss for words.

"What are you doing here?" I blurt out.

"The better question, dear daughter, is what are you doing here?"

"I...I got a job." I answer, it is partially the truth.

"You didn't tell me or your mother, you were leaving."

"You didn't come to my graduation!" I shout back. "How long did it even take you to notice I was gone, huh?" I questioned.

Instead of answering he tells me, "Have your shit packed and ready to go home tomorrow morning. Meet me back here at 8 a.m. or I'll take away all your reasons to stay. Starting with that boyfriend of yours."

He starts to walk away but then turns back. "Oh, and if you tell anybody, I'll make sure that little tattoo shop is dust before we leave."

Arriving back at the apartment, I find Jan wrapped up like a burrito, sound asleep on my bed. Deciding its best if I act like nothing happened, I get ready for work.

Fiona and Lily are already prepping the shop, when I make my way downstairs. After the emotional morning, they seem to understand my need to not talk.

Just after 6 pm, Fiona's phone rings. She only answers it because she doesn't have a client in the chair. The look she gives me after hanging up sends chills down my spine.

"Mika, when was the last time you saw Atka?" She inquires.

"This morning at Bella's, why? I answer.

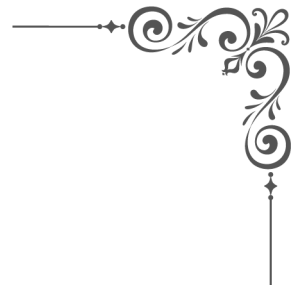
"He was supposed to have dinner with Austin and Cordy tonight. When he didn't show up Austin tried calling him but he didn't answer. Then he called Timber, who ran out to the cabin and Atka's car is there but he's not."

"Oh, God!" I cry crumbling to the floor. "He took him!"

"Everybody out!" Fiona clears the shop. "Lily call tonight's appointments and tell them we need to reschedule. Mika pull yourself together and tell us everything!"

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)





# CHAPTER 11

## ATKA

It's been several hours since I woke up in this room tied to a chair.

The last thing that I remember is walking outside the cabin, heading to the car for a trip into town.

From the dried blood I can feel on the side of my head, its obvious how I was knocked out but by whom is still unknown to me.

I can hear someone moving around in the next room and I think I heard them on the phone a few times but I couldn't make out what they were saying.

It hasn't escaped my mind that this could be related to a case but I've not been involved with very many high profile cases yet.

I'm still thinking over all the possibilities when the door opens and a man that I don't recognize walks into the room.

"Good. You're awake. Was beginning to think you'd bleed to death." He comments.

"Do I know you?" I ask.

"Not really but you know my daughter. I need you to help me get her back home to Ohio."

My eyes widen as I realize this is the man that raised Mika. The same man that the FBI is currently looking for in connection to the kidnapping of Kimberly Burns.

“I’ll not help you do a damn thing.” I say through clenched teeth.

“You don’t have a choice.” He grins. “You’re currently tied to a chair and that bitch of a daughter of mine will do whatever I tell her to do in order to save you. She always did have a huge heart for strays.”

“You are not her father.” I growl and he turns to me with wild eyes.

“How do you know that?” He screams but I stay quiet, not giving him any more information.

It’s currently clear that he has no idea that Mika already knows and that the FBI is on his tail.

He grabs the sides of his head by his hair, murmuring to himself about his wife before rushing back out the door.

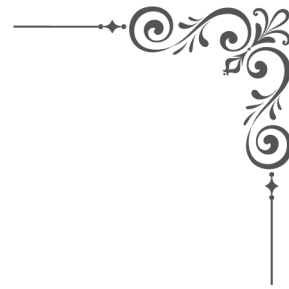
I tried once again to loosen the rope that’s holding me to the chair but it doesn’t give even an inch. My wrists are already sore and bleeding from my efforts.

My head is pounding furiously from the side that he hit to knock me out. I know that I have a concussion from the nausea that rolls through me in waves.

The only hope that I currently have is that Austin will notice when I don’t show up to our planned dinner together and will alert the authorities.

I pray to the God of my people to keep Mika safe. If Gerald is willing to go this far to keep his secret, there’s no telling what he might do to her if he gets his hands on her.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## MIKA

After relaying everything that I know to the girls and again to the MC guys that showed up after Fiona called them, I slip away outside for a breath of air. I'm only out there for a few minutes when Jan comes out to find me.

"You really think your dad took him?" She asks.

"Please don't call him that. He's definitely not my dad." I sigh and she pulls me into a hug.

"I'm sorry girl. It just takes a bit to get used to."

"Tell me about it."

Her phone starts ringing and she grabs it to answer it. I know something is wrong when her eyes widen and look back at me.

Holding the phone out to me, she says, "It's him. Gerald."

Grabbing the phone, I stick it to my ear quickly. "Where is Atka?" I demand.

"He's safe. For now. I'll send you an address. You come alone. I mean it Mika! We'll go back home to your mother and your friend here can go back to his boring little life. Do you understand?" He growls through the phone.

Thinking over my options quickly, I answer, “Yes, Father.” before he hangs up.

Pulling the phone from my ear, I stare at it for a moment until it dings with a text from him and I commit the address to memory before handing Jan her phone back.

“I’ve got to go.” I stand up.

“What? No! Mika you can not be serious right now!” Jan grabs my arm.

“Jan, please. If I don’t show up alone he might kill him.” I plead, my eyes blurring with tears.

“How do you know that he won’t kill you both?” She shakes my shoulders.

“I just need enough time to talk him into letting Atka go. He still thinks of me as his daughter and wants to take me back home to Hillary. Just trust me. Please?” I beg. She looks straight at me for several long moments before shaking her head.

“I’ll give you fifteen minutes Mika before I give the address to everyone inside.”

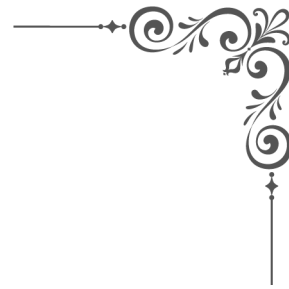
Grabbing her into a huge hug, I whisper, “Thank you.”

Pulling away from her, I take off down the steps to the road.

Austin’s car is parked along the curb and luckily, the keys are inside of it.

Jumping in, I take off as fast as I can towards the address that Gerald sent to me.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## ATKA

I must have passed out again as I jump awake from the door slamming open against the wall.

“This will all be over soon and everything can go back to the way it was.” Gerald says, stomping his way into the room.

“You are delusional.” My words slur out of my mouth.

“Shut up!” He screams, slamming his fist into the side of my head opening up my wound once again. “Ugh.” He says, shaking my blood from his hand.

My eyes roll and I fight to not lose consciousness again.

I watch as he moves around the room, grabbing supplies from a bag. He pours some kind of liquid on a rag before sticking it into his pocket.

“If you take her, I’ll never stop hunting you down.” I whisper, drawing his eyes to me.

“You’ll never see her again. Once I have her secure, you are going to disappear. They’ll never find you.”

That’s when I notice the small gun at his waist. He plans to kill me and anyone else who tries to keep Mika away from him.

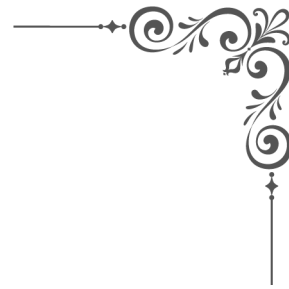


We both hear a car approaching at the same time. His face lights up with an evil smile as he stomps back out the door, slamming it shut behind him.

I start struggling with my bonds as hard as I can. My head is swimming furiously. The chair that I'm in falls over, jarring my entire body. Black spots swimming across my eyes.

Unable to stop myself, I pass out once again just as I hear a scream.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## MIKA

I finally come to the driveway that leads to a small house hidden in the trees. There's a small rental car parked at the side of the house.

Gerald steps out the front door as I roll to a stop right in front of the porch steps. Opening the car door, I step out shutting the door behind me.

"Daughter." He sneers.

"Where's Atka?" I demand, stepping closer to the porch.

"He's safe inside and he'll stay safe as long as you get into the car so that we can go home to your poor mother. She's worried sick about you."

"I want to see that he's safe first." I square my shoulders.

Gerald stares hard at me for a moment before he slaps on a fake smile. "Sure. He's right in here."

As I step up on the porch to walk past him, he grabs me around the waist as his other hand comes up to my face with a rag.

I automatically react as my leg comes up and I kick backwards connecting with his knee. He screams as he falls on his ass.

I scramble to not go down with him and get loose of his arm but he holds tightly. Something clatters to the porch under us and I'm surprised to see a gun.

Grabbing it quickly, I throw my arm catching him in the side of the head with the butt of the gun and he lets me go.

Putting several steps between us, I keep the aim of the gun on Gerald. My finger is inching closer to pulling the trigger.

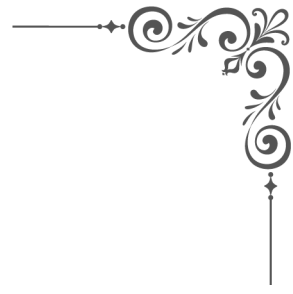
That's when I hear the roar of motorcycles as they pull up quickly.

"Mika." My eyes zero in on the one calling my name and I recognize Fiona's brother, Blood. "Give me the gun. You are okay now." He pleads with me.

I look down into Gerald's eyes and see defeat. Relaxing my arm, I let Blood take the gun and I turn to the door of the house rushing inside.

Finding Atka tied to a chair that is turned over in another room, I yell for help. He's still breathing but refuses to open his eyes.

I refuse to leave his side even when the ambulance shows up. I'm not sure how long it takes them as I hold his head in my lap and pray that he'll be alright.



## CHAPTER 12

### MIKA

I've not seen Atka since we arrived at the hospital. The doctors needed to run some tests and then the FBI wanted to take each of our statements separately.

“Gerald will be held in federal custody until a trial can be set.” Agent Jonas says, closing his notebook.

“And my... I mean, what about Hillary? What will happen to her?” I ask, not really feeling anything for the woman who raised me.

Perhaps if she hadn't gotten worse as I got older, I'd feel differently.

“Another field agent picked her up about an hour ago. She'll be processed in the same way for now but having heard the entire story she may need to be evaluated by a psychiatrist.”

“Will I have to testify?” I ask but get interrupted by someone calling my name.

“Mika!” Looking down the hall, I see both Taylor and Arin hurrying my way.

Taylor pulls me into his arms as soon as he gets close to me.

“I thought I had lost you again.” He whispers.

Pulling back from him, I give him a watery smile. “Not this time.”

“Mr. Burns? I’m Agent Jonas. It’s finally nice to meet you face to face.”

“You have them both in custody?” Taylor asks.

Arin pulls me away from the men as they speak.

“We were so worried about you.” She pulls me into a hug. “I can’t believe you went there on your own.”

“He threatened to kill him if I didn’t.” I look down the hall towards Atka’s room.

“Trust me. I more than understand but just know your brother is probably going to read you the riot act.” She smiles when I roll my eyes.

Looking down the hall still, I see the doctor walk out of Atka’s room and I rush over to him.

“How is he?” I ask.

“He has a pretty significant concussion. He’ll need to take it easy for a while but he’ll mend.”

“Will he be okay to fly back home?” Taylor asks from behind me.

“Not yet. We are going to release him today but I suggest waiting a few days before heading back to Alaska. He doesn’t appear to have any brain bleeds but we want to be sure he’s mending first.”

I sigh in relief that he’s going to be okay.

“Thank you Doctor.” Taylor shakes his hand and Arin rubs my arm as tears fall from my eyes once again.

Turning to Taylor, I ask, “What did Agent Jonas say?”

“He’ll be in touch with us about whether they’ll need us to testify or if they need anything else from us. These types of cases take years before they ever go to trial.”

“We should go check on Atka.” I look longingly towards his door.

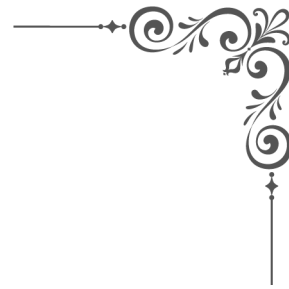
“Tell you what. You go check on him and wait for his discharge paperwork. We’ll make arrangements for where we all can stay for a few days.” Arin says.

Taylor looks like he’s going to argue with her but backs down when she stares hard at him.

I watch as they both head back down the hall and I can’t stop the small grin that takes over my face.

Its great having a brother although I think there will be times that I won’t think it’s that great.

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## ATKA

I'm lying back on the bed with my eyes closed when I hear the door open to my room. Barely opening my eyes, I see Mika walk inside.

"Hey." I whisper as loud noises make my head hurt.

"How are you feeling?" She asks, grabbing my hand into her own.

"Like I've been hit with a truck."

"I'm sorry." She whispers.

"You have nothing to be sorry for." I squeeze her hand.

"It's my fault you are here." A tear falls down her cheek and I reach to catch it with my finger.

"But you're the reason I'm alive." I grin at her.

"I shouldn't have run from you after our trip to your village. I should have talked to you about it first."

"You can always talk to me about anything. I know that I should have made it clear who you are to me while we were at the village. Should have put a stop to Catori's antics. I just got so used to ignoring it all instead. I won't make that mistake again. I'm in love with you."



“I love you too, Atka.” Tears fall freely from her eyes as she leans closer to me and I kiss her sweet lips.

Reaching into my pocket, I pull out the simple little ring that I had bought for her. I was hoping to surprise her with it before the attack by Gerald. As I bring it up closer to her face, her eyes widen.

“Mika Burns, will you do me the honor of marrying me?”

She looks at the ring in my hand and back into my eyes with a snuffle.

“Yes, Atka. I love you so much. I’ll marry you!”

Grabbing her face, I kiss her hard and deep until the throbbing of my head makes me pull back. Taking her hand in mine, I slip the ring onto her finger with a huge smile.

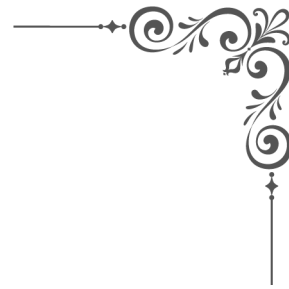
“Are you sure your family will accept me?” She looks at me worriedly.

“Absolutely. The God of my people gave you to me and they can’t argue with that.” I chuckle softly as she starts laughing at me.

I can’t wait to worship Mika, my Goddess for the rest of our lives.

**Continue on the following pages for more from the  
Authors**

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



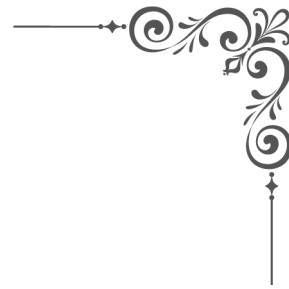
## MORE FROM AUTHOR MARISSA ANN

**M**arissa Ann spends her time in rural North Mississippi with her husband, the kids and all of their animals on a hobby farm.

She always said she would write books one day even though many thought she never would. She made a promise to a childhood friend who left this world for the next in 2015. That she would finally write and publish at least one.

Her first book hit the market in 2018 and she's never looked back. She now has several out with many more scheduled for release. Want to stay up to date with new releases, giveaways and all the cool things? **[Sign up for Marissa's newsletter here](#)** or join **[Marissa Ann Romance Readers](#)** on Facebook.

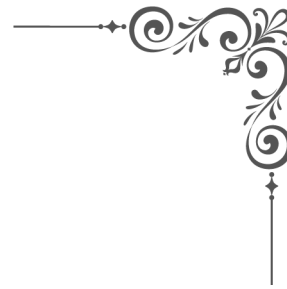
[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



**JOIN MARISSA  
ONLINE  
WEBSITE  
FACEBOOK  
TWITTER  
INSTAGRAM**

**TikTok**

***OceanofPDF.com***



## **READ MORE OF MARISSA'S BOOKS**

**Timber's Fairy**

**Blade's Pixie**

**Blood's Angel**

**Wrench's Salvation**

**Bear's Saviour**

**Torque's Gaze**

**Fang's Miracle**

**Reaper's Jewels**

**Grease**

**Buzz**

**Skeeter**

**Giovanni's Obsession**

**All I've Got**

**Baratta's Darkness**

**Lily's Shadow**

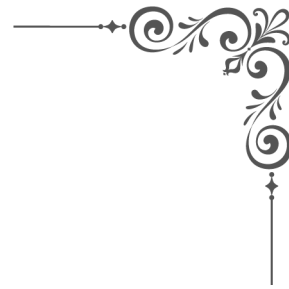
**Arin's Light**

**Mika's Heart**

**Cass' Vow**

**Shelby's Secret**

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)



## MORE FROM AUTHOR RAE GOLDMAN

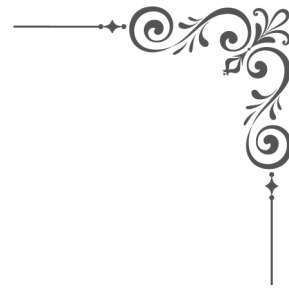
When a plane crashes on Prince of Wales Island in remote Alaska, the only people with the equipment to get in and out of the area are the Thorne Bay Logging crew. As the team Medic it is Lucas' responsibility to make sure everyone gets in and out alive, including the woman they are sent to rescue.

Megan

Testify against the Mob, they said. We'll protect you, they said. Nobody would ever think to look for you in Alaska, they said. But nobody predicted the plane crash that splattered my picture all over the media. The plane crash that killed me. I must be dead because Polar bears don't turn into hot red headed lumberjacks in real life.

<https://books2read.com/ThornebayLucas>

[OceanofPDF.com](https://oceanofpdf.com)



## DEDICATION FROM RAE GOLDMAN

This book is dedicated to Rosemary Kasmeirski. Once upon a time there was a new girl in school. She didn't have any friends because she wasn't like the other kids in her fifth-grade class. She was lonely until another new girl moved to town about halfway through the school year. The two girls bonded over being different and soon became inseparable until the first girl moved away in ninth grade.

Rosie and I explored abandoned houses, ate fish eggs for the first (and last) time. Drooled over boys that wouldn't give us the time of day. You taught me how to water ski, I taught you how to fall off of water skis. You had a big part in making me who I am. Thank you

Rosemary Kasmeirski

1972 - 2022

Rest in Peace

[OceanofPDF.com](http://OceanofPDF.com)