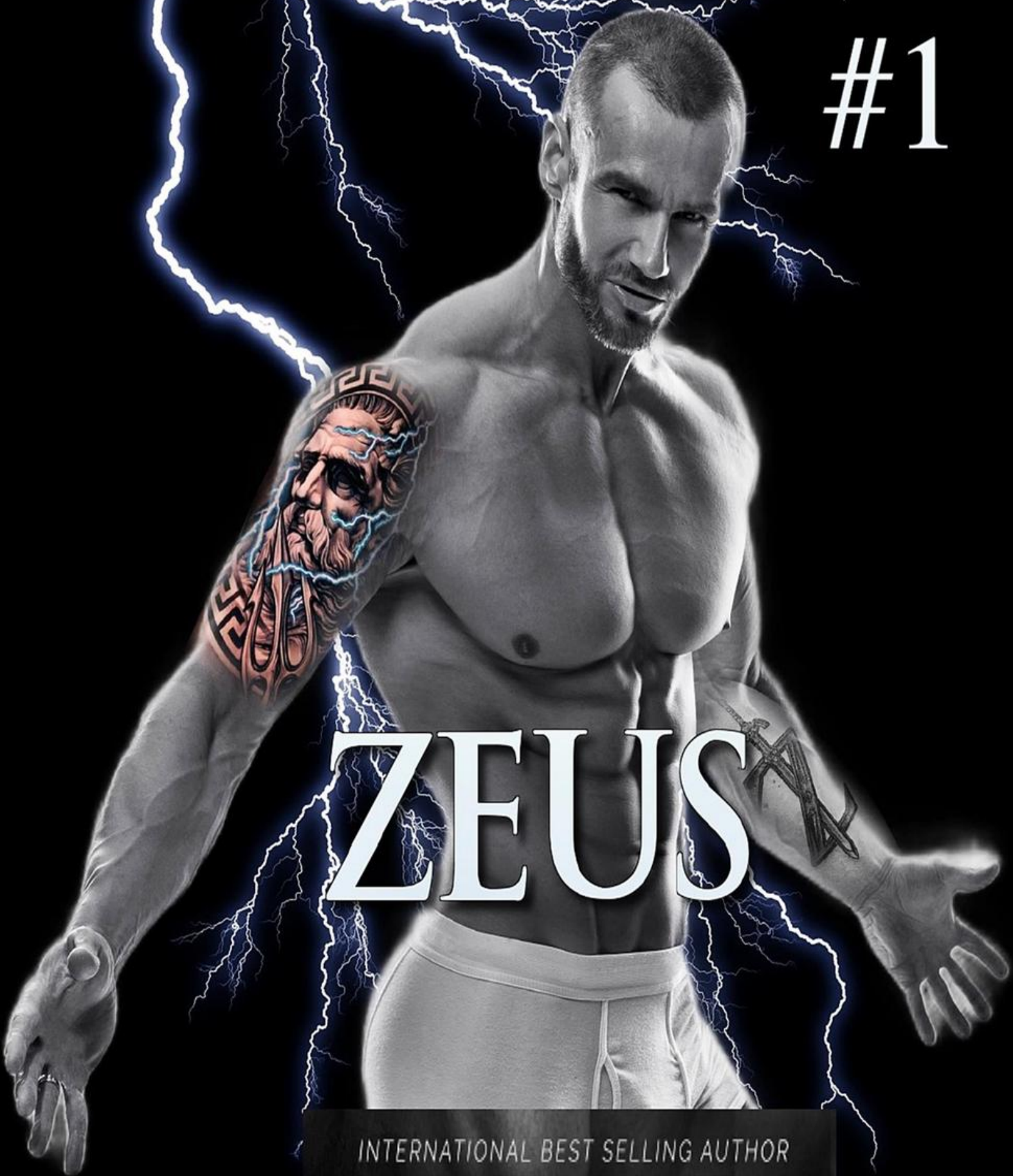


BROTHERS AT ARMS MC

#1



ZEUS

INTERNATIONAL BEST SELLING AUTHOR

K.J. DAHLEN



ZEUS

Brothers At Arms MC

#1



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Zeus

When we first met Marty, we all thought she was Sam Wyatt. It wasn't exactly all our fault. We didn't know she was Sam's twin sister. Now Sam did a lot to mess our club up for whatever reason and she brought out the worst in all of us.

Marty had saved my daughter's life. That alone should have told us she was nothing like her sister but some of us didn't get that memo. My daughter hasn't spoken to us in over a year and half but for some reason she talked to Marty. And what she had to say surprised us all.

That's when we found out just what Sam had done to her this whole time. Marty helped us get her back. When Angel came to me and told me everything...I wanted to destroy Sam Wyatt and a few others.

Then I realize I'm about to lose Marty and I don't think my heart can take that as I have lost a lot in the last couple of years. I have to fight for what I want... and I want Marty.

Martine

I came looking for my sister at my dad's deathbed request. I finally tracked her to Fergus, Missouri but then I found out I'm too late. She's moved on again and I'll have to start all over again. First though, I have to save a little girl named Angel.

Her father won't let me go and I'm stuck. Her dad tugs on some of my stings but the little girl tugs on my heart strings. Then my sister comes around and she really messes things up. I can't let her hurt an innocent child. Sam learns that I will fight her if I have to and she makes sure I have to.

Sam has her own secrets and we thought we knew what she was hiding. When I find out about a huge secret she has kept, I make a deal with the devil and I will have to live with it all. But in the end, I wouldn't change a thing.

Chapter One

Dressed in jeans, a tank top, and a long duster type jacket, along with her well-worn cowboy boots, Marty walked the streets of Fergus. She looked around the dusty little town. It wasn't a big town and she could see signs that claimed it had Crystal City as a sister city.

It was almost dark and she still had to find the Brothers Tavern. She had heard it was the last place where her sister might be and she really had to find Sami. Why, she wasn't sure but it had been her father's last wish.

She came through the alley and finally found the back door of the bar. Now all she had to do was wait for Sami to show up. She spotted a crate near the door and used it to climb a few feet up to hide her small backpack in between the branches of a tree at the backend of the alley. Once she deposited the backpack, she returned the crate sorta where she found it and sat down to wait. She couldn't afford to lose her bag and she didn't want anyone else to know about the pack either. She figured it would be safe in the tree. She settled in to wait and see if Sami would show up or not.

Everything happened so fast. One minute Marty was sitting against the tree alone while staring at the back door of the Tavern when suddenly she heard a sound. She turned to see the back door being pushed open. Next, a little girl with long reddish hair was tossed out into the cold as the door slammed shut.

The little girl looked to be about four or five years old. Looking scared, she held a stuffed rabbit close to her tiny chest.

Marty wondered what this was all about. Who would throw a little kid out into an alley behind a bar?

The air was a bit on the cool side tonight and the little girl had been put outside without a jacket. She kept crying as she wobbled backwards out into the alley with tears running down her face.

The poor thing looked scared to death.

A rumbling sound broke the silence; it was the sound of a motorcycle coming down the alley.

The rider didn't have a helmet on. He wore a look of hate and rage on his face. One of his hands left the handlebar as he pulled a wicked looking knife from his waist. His eyes were locked on the little girl and it looked like he was going to hit her, either with the bike or the knife.

The little girl seemed to hear the sound of the rumbling motor and froze. Turning her head, she opened her mouth as if to scream but no sound came from her throat.

The man on the motorcycle wasn't slowing down and it seemed like he was intent on running her over.

Marty moved to draw her weapon from the holster at the back of her jeans. Swiftly, she swept the little girl into her arms while aiming her gun at the rider.

He snarled and swung out his arm jabbing the knife at her.

Marty didn't even feel the blade slice down her side as she glared at him.

He tried to snatch the girl from her arms but Marty wasn't giving her up. She raised her foot as if to kick the biker away from her but he swerved and she missed. Everything happened too fast as the rider scraped by them.

He revved his bike and sped down the alley.

She got one shot off as the biker made his turn at the end of the alley.

He looked like the bullet hit him as he seemed to lose control of his cycle but he adjusted his ride and took off.

With a loud bang, the back door of the bar was thrown open as men poured out of the bar with their guns drawn. They fanned out, standing almost shoulder to shoulder, forming a wall of muscle and testosterone ten feet wide and well over six feet high. They all had their weapons drawn and sadly, for her and the little girl they were pointed directly at them.

Holy shit she thought to herself.

One of the biggest bikers she'd ever seen growled, "Sam, what the hell? I threw your smart mouthed ass out of here a couple of months ago. I told you then to never come back here again."

Marty shook her head trying to focus on what the big man had said, as she tightened her grip on both her weapon and the little girl. "I-I'm not Sam and this isn't what it looks like."

"Drop your weapon and then put my daughter on the ground," the big man told her. "And you'd better put her down gently."

"How the hell did she get Angel anyway?" One of the large men beside him growled. "One of us would have seen her if she'd come into the bar."

"Listen," Marty cut in. "I'm not Sam. I'm putting my gun back into my holster now, nice and slow." She lowered her arm slowly.

The little girl wound her tiny arms along with the stuffed rabbit around her neck and hung on tight. She buried her face in Marty's neck and refused to look at the men.



Zeus frowned as he watched his little girl hugging Sam tight. She never used to like Sam and this caused him to worry. Sam never cared for his daughter either. Something was off with this picture. He looked over at Memphis and shook his head.

Memphis looked just as surprised as Zeus was.

Sam simply held Angel a bit closer as she gazed down at her. She rubbed the little girl's back and squatted down to put her on the ground.

Angel made no move to release her tight hold or drop her feet down and stand on her own. Instead, she clung to Sam like a little monkey with a stuffed rabbit.

Sam stood up again while holding Angel and looked at the lineup of men. “What the hell did you guys do to her anyway?”

Zeus’s eyebrows shot up to his hairline. “What did we do to her? What the hell are you talking about? What the hell did you do to her?”

His daughter Angel made a sound like a whimper at the rage in her father’s voice. She clung to Sam even tighter.

Sam began rubbing her back and murmuring, “It’s ok baby, don’t worry, I got you.”

Zeus stepped forward.

Sam tried to step back but with the girl in her arms, she lost her balance. She started to fall.

Zeus grabbed her arm and hauled her back onto her feet.

His daughter wrapped her arms around Sam’s neck a little tighter.

Sam looked like she couldn’t breathe as her face had gone white and she stumbled against him.

He continued to hold her arm and wrapped his other arm around her, bringing her body close for a moment.

Sam peered up at him and she looked confused for a moment. Then her eyes rolled up and she passed out.

Zeus bent forward to swing both her and his daughter into his arms.

Angel refused to let this woman go.

Suddenly, he felt a warm stickiness soaking through his shirt. He shifted the girls away and his eyes widened when he saw the wet spot was blood. He turned and marched back to his men. “Memphis, find Grave Digger, she’s hurt.” He turned to the back door.

Diabolus was there to open it for him.

Zeus walked down the hall and into his office. He laid the woman on the sofa. He tried to loosen Angel's hold.

Angel shook her head and refused to let her go.

"Baby, you have to let go of Sam," Zeus told his silent daughter. "Grave Digger needs to check her out. I think she could be hurt."

Angel shook her head again and refused to go to her father's arms. Instead, she slid to the side, wedging herself between Sam and the back of the sofa, but she wasn't moving far.

Zeus stepped back and shook his head. He looked over at his brother Memphis. "What the hell is going on here? She never liked Sam and Sam never liked her either."

Memphis stared at the woman and shrugged. "Better question is what the fuck was Angel doing out back? Donna was supposed to be watching her."

Before Zeus could answer him, another brother came into the room.

Grave Digger glanced around the room and frowned when he saw the woman on the sofa. "What the hell is she doing back here? I thought you kicked her out a couple of months ago."

"I did." Zeus crossed his arms over his chest and glared at the woman on the sofa. "She's hurt though and Angel won't leave her."

Grave Digger stared down at Angel who was in fact holding onto Sam. "What the fuck? Angel hates Sam."

Zeus nodded. "I know that but for some reason, she won't leave her now."

"Well, let's see what we're working with here." Grave Digger moved to the sofa and knelt beside the woman. He brushed the long coat away from her body and found a dark red stain on her t-shirt. Lifting the bloody clothing away from her skin, Grave Digger frowned. The knife wound was barely

more than a scratch but it was just deep enough to open her side and the cut was bleeding heavily. "Bring me my kit," he called out.

Someone set a first aid kit down on the floor beside him.

Grave Digger rolled her over enough to remove her shirt so he could check her back. Grabbing her holster, he handed it up to Zeus.

Zeus gave it to Memphis as he kept his attention centered on the woman and the doctor.

Digger cleaned up the wound and was busy taking care of his patient.

"What the fuck?" Memphis growled.

Zeus turned his head and stared at him. "What?"

Memphis held up the holster Zeus had handed him a moment ago.

"What about it?" Zeus asked.

"Look at it man, carefully brother."

Zeus took the holster back and dropped his eyes down to the worked leather. It was smooth and the holster was well worn but what drew his eye was the golden disk embedded into the leather. The golden disk was engraved with a sharp shooter's stamp and the numbers of a year, ten years ago. There was a name engraved on the disk as well. *Martine Shaw*. He looked up at his brother. "What the fuck does it mean?"

"Damned if I know." Memphis shrugged. "Sam must have stolen it or something."

Grave Digger snorted.

Zeus raised his head and looked over at him. "What's so funny?"

Grave Digger glanced at him. "This woman isn't Sam Wyatt."

"How do you know that?" Zeus frowned.

Grave Digger tossed down another bloody rag and picked up the girl's right hand. "Cause Sam never had her hand smashed like this. She might look like Sam but she isn't her."

Zeus stepped closer and saw what Grave Digger had seen. At some point in her young life, this woman's hand had been shattered by something. The original wound itself was dead center of her right hand and it had been hard enough it would have shattered the bones under the scar. Long healed, the scars remained and he couldn't help but wonder what the hell happened to her. The more important question was... *Who the hell is she and what is she doing here?* "How is she?" he finally asked his medic.

"She'll live," Grave Digger told him as he applied super glue to her wound and pinched it shut. It was the best he could do for now. "She lost a lot of blood but she'll live."

"Why isn't she awake then?" Zeus asked.

"She'll wake up when she's ready to wake up," Grave Digger explained. "Like I said she lost a lot of blood and when she came down from that adrenaline high she just short of crashed." He looked up at Zeus and asked, "I was told you guys all heard a gunshot before you tore out of here, did you find anyone else injured?"

Zeus shook his head. "I don't think we even looked."

Just then, another brother, Diabolus joined them in the office and he looked pissed. "Wrong boss. Blocker called me. He was out searching for trouble and he ran across it. When I joined him, I found a wrecked bike and its rider, three blocks away from here. She nailed him in the neck and he got that far before he died from blood loss. She got him spot on, right in the artery, and you ain't gonna believe what he was wearing." He then handed the biker's cut to Zeus.

Zeus glared at his brother then looked down at the cut. The patches on the cut read *Dragon's Breath MC*.

Grave Digger picked up the holster and frowned. He stared at the golden disk and read the name engraved on it. "Holy

shit,” he swore under his breath. He raised his eyes to the girl still passed out on the sofa. “So that’s what happened to her.”

Zeus glared at his medic. “What ? What happened to who?”

Grave Digger shook his head. “Boss, this woman ain’t Sam.” He lifted the holster and said, “This belongs to Martine Shaw. Ten years ago, she was the best of the best, the top sharp shooter in the nation. What was so unusual about that was the fact she went up against grown men and still beat them.” He shook his head and said, “I actually got to see her shoot once and man, it was a piece of heaven I can tell you that. Pure fuckin’ art if you ask me.”

Zeus narrowed his eyes and glared at him. “So? She’s a crack shot, what’s the big deal? Women can shoot too.”

Grave Digger snorted. “Yeah, women can shoot I agree, but she was barely fourteen when she won this title...just a kid. After that competition, she just disappeared. No one has ever heard or seen her again. Most of the judges and the men competing complained it was a fluke. They wanted a redo but no one could find her.” He shook his head. “Now, I know why. It looks like someone smashed her hand to make sure she couldn’t ever shoot that good again.”

Zeus swung his gaze over at the woman and found her eyes were open. Up close, her eyes were gray but he knew Sam’s eyes were blue, but the two women shared the same heart shaped face, the same long dark hair. They were almost identical in looks... shit, they were even about the same height. Like Grave Digger said, this woman wasn’t Sam Wyatt, but she sure as hell looked like her. “Lady, just who the hell are you?” He stared at her.

She didn’t give him an answer as she turned her head and found Angel staring at her.

Angel smiled and reached out for her.

Zeus was stunned as his daughter hugged the woman. Angel hated Sam. Also, Sam would have pushed the little girl away and made a nasty face saying for her to get her grubby

hands away from her. But this woman didn't act that way. She just wrapped her arm around his daughter and held her close.

"I asked you a question and I never ask twice, sweetheart," Zeus growled out.

Gray eyes turned back to him and she whispered, "My name is Marty. Who are y'all?"

"We're the Brothers at Arms MC." Zeus stared back at her.

Marty groaned and tried to sit up, but she did so with a cute little monkey of a girl and stuffed rabbit attached to her neck.

Grave Digger helped her to sit up and then sat back on his heels. "Are you okay, honey?"

Marty nodded. She looked down at her side and shook her head. "I didn't realize that biker had gotten so close to me. I never even felt it."

"You were lucky he didn't go deeper." Grave Digger shook his head. "He could have laid you wide open."

Marty hugged the little girl closer. "He was after her, not me. I just got in his way."

Zeus sucked in a breath. "That bastard was after my Angel? Why?"

Marty nodded then shrugged. "I have no idea why. After she was tossed out the door, he came roaring down the alley. I thought he was going to kill her. Like I said, I got in his way and he swiped me. I was going to kick his bike and he swerved at the last minute and that must have been when the knife got me. I didn't even feel it."

"How the hell did Angel get out in the alley in the first place?" Memphis wanted to know.

Marty leaned her head on top of the little girl and didn't say anything.

The little girl just gripped her rabbit tighter to her chest as tears ran down her face.

Zeus growled and turned to Diabolus. “Get the body under some cover and set a watch. We need to know if any more of the Dragons are in town.”

Diabolus nodded and disappeared.

Zeus looked at his brother and said, “Bring my cage around to the back. I’ll take Angel and Marty back to the compound. Angel needs to get to bed soon anyway.”

“You’re taking the woman home with you?” Memphis exclaimed. “We don’t even know why she’s here yet.”

Zeus shook his head. “I’m not letting her leave my side until I get some answers but Angel is terrified right now and I need to see to her. Find Donna and asked her how she lost my daughter in the first fucking place.”

Memphis nodded. “I’ll find out and meet you back at the clubhouse.”

Just then, an explosion rocked the street.

Everyone in the office felt it as glass rained down from the window. The people in the bar were screaming as pure chaos ensued.

Chapter Two

Zeus covered Marty and Angel as dust and shattered glass flew everywhere.

The explosion must have been close by as there was billowing smoke coming in through the windows when he and the brothers picked themselves up off the floor.

Zeus got up from the sofa and looked down at Marty. “Are you alright?”

Marty nodded and looked stunned for a moment then gazed down at Angel.

The tiny girl was cowering in her lap and fresh tears were rolling down her cheeks while she still clutched her rabbit.

Marty held her and began humming a tune nobody else recognized.

Zeus watched, as the tune seemed to calm his daughter.

Memphis and a couple other brothers went outside to see what blew up.

Zeus just sat and watched his daughter be comforted by a woman that he didn't know at all.

Memphis returned a few minutes later, shaking his head. He looked at Zeus and said, “You ain't driving your truck anywhere boss, someone must have put a rag in the gas tank and lit it up. The brothers are trying to put it out now.”

Zeus dragged his hands over the top of his head and swore, “What the fuck is going on around here tonight? First, they try to get at Angel, then the body of a Dragon shows up dead and now this?”

Memphis turned to look at Marty and while he didn't say anything, the message was clear. He thought she had something to do with the events that happened tonight.

Marty looked up at him. “I swear it wasn't me. I had nothing to do with this.”

Zeus shook his head and glanced at Memphis. “Find me a cage. I need to get them back to the compound. We have better protection there than here out in the open. Then close this fucking place up and everyone get back to the clubhouse. We need to figure out what the fuck is going on around here.” He swung his glare to the cut Diabolus brought back with him. “Just what the hell do the Dragon’s want now?”

Memphis snorted. “You know damn well what they want. They want our territory and us dead.”

“Yeah.” Zeus nodded. “I know that, but why now and what does she have to do with this?” He motioned his head at Marty

“I don’t have anything to do with this,” Marty stated again.

“Why did you come here tonight, of all nights then?” Zeus asked her.

Marty bit her lip and looked away. They wouldn’t be happy if they knew the real reason she came here. They all hated Sam and had kicked her out a while ago. Damn, she needed to find Sam as this had been the first time in two years she’d even gotten close to finding her.

Marty knew they would want to know why she was looking for Sam and she wasn’t ready to tell them that. That was between her and Sam. She looked down at her hand and felt the ache she had learned to live with. It had taken her ten years to accept that she would never have full use of her hand again. Not like she had in the past, but she had retrained herself to use her hand again and she’d done it ten times better than the doctors told her she ever would. She really needed to find Sam and this place had been her last hope.

Dammit, she was always a day late and several dollars short. She would have to start her search all over again.



Zeus borrowed his brother's vehicle then drove Angel and Marty back to the compound. They were escorted by two of the bikers as Memphis stayed behind to deal with the cops and the fire department.

When they pulled into the compound, the front doors opened and men spilled out of the clubhouse.

Zeus shut the truck off, the men formed a line and some of the men had frowns on their faces when they saw Marty sitting there. They clearly thought she was Sam and they weren't happy she was back.

Marty looked down at the little girl sitting beside her.

When her dad stopped the truck, Angel had snapped off her seat belt and climbed on Marty's lap. Angel was wide awake and leaning as close to Marty as she could get. Her little arm remained wrapped round Marty's arm and Marty hugged the little girl close to her then whispered something into her ear.

Angel leaned away so Marty could take off her own seat belt.

Wrapping her arms around Angel's body, she whispered, "Shall we go inside?"

Angel nodded.

By the time Zeus got out and around the truck to open her door, Marty was ready to get out. She hesitated as she stared at the men in front of the truck. Looking over at Zeus she said, "The natives seem a little restless tonight."

Zeus shrugged. "You have to understand something here, Sam Wyatt made an ass of herself around here. She pissed off

quite a few of us before we got sick of her and booted her ass out.”

“And the fact that I’m not Sam won’t make a damn bit of difference, will it?”

Again, he shrugged.

Marty glared at him. “Look, why don’t you just tell me where Sam went and let me go? I’m not here to start any trouble.”

Zeus stared at her. “Why the hell would you be looking for Sam? She’s nothing but a backstabbing trouble maker.”

“I know, I heard and I understand but honestly, I really don’t want to look for her but I made a promise. So I have to try.” Was all she would tell him.

“Well come on then, we’re all gonna need some answers.” Zeus tried to take his daughter but she wouldn’t let go of Marty. He growled in frustration and stepped back.

Marty slid from the truck and once she was on her feet, she secured Angel in her arms as she moved forward.

When they reached the line of men standing between them and the clubhouse, one of the men growled, “What the hell is she doing back here and why are you trusting her with Angel?”

Zeus looked around at his men and explained, “This isn’t Sam, she saved Angel from being killed tonight. Angel won’t let go of her, so I’ve got no choice but to let her hold her.”

“What the fuck do you mean she saved Angel from being killed tonight?” another voice called out.

Zeus held up his hands. “I know what you’re thinking because I had those same thoughts. Nobody has heard the whole story, and that includes me. Nobody but her and Angel know what happened before we found them in the alley behind the bar, but I do know she shot at someone who would have taken Angel, or worse would have killed her. That attacker died three blocks away from the bar because she shot him in

the alley. What is interesting was the fact this biker was wearing a Dragon's cut."

The grumbling among the brothers began and grew to a loud crescendo.

Zeus raised his hands again and the crowd settled down. "I closed the bar and everyone left in town will be here soon. We need answers and we will get them soon."

"So why are you driving Memphis's truck?" one of the men asked him.

Zeus glared at the bunch of them. "I was gonna bring my own truck but wouldn't you know... someone stuck a rag in the gas tank and lit that fucker up."

The roar of the crowd almost deafened Marty as everyone turned their glare toward her.

Angel whimpered and tightened her hold around Marty's neck. Marty gently began rubbing her back and trying to hush her whimpers.

Zeus turned his head and saw how upset his daughter looked. He turned and told his men, "Look, I know what you may be thinking but we've got no proof that any of this is her fault. We all need to back up a step and wait until everyone gets here before we go off half cocked. Right now, we have to get inside and I need to look after Angel."

The men parted as Zeus grabbed Marty's elbow and escorted her into the clubhouse.

As Marty passed them, she could hear their low grumbles and snide remarks but she ignored them as she carried Angel inside. When she entered, she saw three women in the kitchen area.

When they saw her, they all stopped and stared. Or rather—they glared.

She looked around and saw the room was split up into two areas. One area was close to the kitchen and had tables all lined up to sit at while the other part was a bar, there were some sofas and a pool table.

Zeus led her to a table close to the kitchen.

She sat down and adjusted Angel to be more comfortable on her lap.

The little girl laid her head in the crock of Marty's neck. Hugging her rabbit, she closed her eyes.



Zeus just watched his daughter settle in and he had to shake his head. He still couldn't believe she was holding onto this woman so tight. She didn't even know her. And the fact that she looked a lot like Sam made it even harder to understand. Angel would never get close to Sam as Sam had made it clear she didn't want the child near her.

One of the women brought over a tray with a coffee carafe and a single cup. She set it on the table in front of Zeus.

Zeus just stared at her.

Instead of calling her out on her rudeness, Marty just reached inside her long coat and brought out a bottle of water. She unscrewed the lid and took a swig. Before she redid the lid, she offered the little girl on her lap a drink.

Angel grabbed the bottle and drank from it. When she was done, she handed the bottle to Marty, she smiled.

Marty put the lid back on the bottle and placed it into her coat.

In the meantime, the men began to gather around the table while continuing to glare at her.

Just then, the doors opened and the missing men joined them. Memphis, Grave Digger and Diabolus were among the men that came in. The three of them came to stand near Zeus and they all stared at Marty.

Memphis tossed a backpack onto the table. “The men found this near the tree across the alley when things died down. We think the explosion knocked it out of the tree.” He turned to Marty and snarled. “Does it belong to you?”

Marty nodded, noting the slight burn marks on the pack. “Yes, it’s mine.”

“Care to open it and show us what’s inside?” Memphis snarled.

“No, I don’t think I care to,” Marty told him. “What’s in that bag is my business, not yours.”

Memphis looked at his brother and at Zeus’s slight nod, he grabbed the bag and tore the clasps off. Then he dumped the contents out onto the table.

The men around the table gasped at what was discovered there and Zeus frowned.

There was a not so small banded stack of cash and several legal papers along with a map and a notebook. There was also another handgun in a holster, and a knife inside a leather sheath.

Grave Digger reached out for the knife then paused and looked at Marty. “May I?”

Marty didn’t look happy but she nodded her head slightly.

Grave Digger picked up the knife reverently. He pulled it from the sheath and gasped.

The room went quiet at his reaction to the knife.

The workmanship was outstanding as the blade was engraved elaborately. Grave Digger juggled the blade in his hand and he knew it was balanced to a T.

“Where did a girl like you get such a blade?” Diabolus snarled. “That’s got to be worth a helluva lot of money.”

Marty didn’t say a word.

Grave Digger tipped the knife over and studied the handle for a moment. Then he looked at her and asked, “Is this what you’re doing these days?”

Marty shrugged slightly.

Grave Digger looked over at Zeus.

Zeus shook his head at him.

Grave Digger gathered her things up again and put them back in the bag. Then he handed her the pack.

Marty reached out and took it from him. “Thank you.”

Zeus looked over at her and finally asked, “So what happened tonight? Why were you out in that alley and what did you have to do with the biker and saving my Angel?”

Marty shook her head. “First of all, what I was doing in the alley had nothing to do with Angel or you guys. I wasn’t looking for trouble but as usual, trouble found me.” She sighed and without looking at anyone she told them, “I just got to town and found your tavern. I decided to wait until closing time to see if Sam was there. About twenty minutes after I got there, the back door opened just enough for someone to push this little girl outside in the cold. She was alone and scared. She was crying but she didn’t make any sound. I was waiting for the door to open again, you know? For someone to come looking for her, when I heard a bike roaring down the alleyway. He was coming up fast and he didn’t look like he was joyriding either. So I scooped her up and the next thing I know he’s reaching for a blade. He was going to run her down, possibly stab her, so I reached for my weapon. I tried to kick him out of the way but he swerved. I didn’t even feel the cut he gave me when he passed. So when he was at the end of the alley, I got a shot off. The next thing I know you and your posse burst out of the tavern and we all were at a Mexican standoff.”

“Wait a minute,” Memphis snarled, “Back that up a bit, you saw someone push Angel out into the alley?”

Marty shrugged. “I saw the door open and a woman’s arm pushed her outside. She was wearing a lot of bracelets and they jangled kinda loud.”

Zeus reached out for his daughter.

Angel flinched at the gesture.

Zeus pulled his hand back as his fingers tightened into a fist. He looked around the room. "Did anyone find Donna?"

The men all shook their heads.

"Fucking hell," Zeus swore. "What the fuck?"

Grave Digger nodded. "I checked the biker she said she shot at." Then he snorted. "I'm a little surprised he made it three blocks. Her bullet hit its mark and went right through his neck. The shot was true."

Diabolus snorted. "How could anyone hit a moving target on a bike?" He shook his head and said, "Damn, she got off a lucky shot."

Marty and Grave Digger locked eyes.

She shrugged her slim shoulders. "Ok, you're right, I got off a lucky shot."

Zeus looked over at Marty and frowned when she downplayed her skills. Then he noticed Angel was asleep in her lap. He shook his head and stood from the table. "That's enough for now. Angel needs to get some rest and we can ask more questions after we've all had a chance to cool off."

Marty stood with the sleeping child in her arms. She grabbed her pack then followed him down the hall and into a bedroom made for a child. She walked over to the bed and carefully laid the little girl down on the mattress.

Angel woke up enough to panic.

Marty sat down on the bed and held her on her lap again.

Zeus sighed. "Are you ok to stay here with her tonight? She doesn't seem to want to let you leave."

Marty shrugged. "I'm ok with it if you are."

Zeus snorted. "I don't have a choice. I don't think you do either." He took a step toward his daughter but stopped when Angel flinched and hugged Marty a little closer. He shook his head and whispered, "Baby girl, I don't know why all of a sudden you're so afraid of me but I get it. I won't bother you anymore tonight. You get some sleep though ok? Marty said

she would stay with you and I want you both to know you're safe here."

Zeus turned and walked out of the room, closing the door behind him.

Chapter Three

Zeus joined the others in the main room. He went over to the bar and grabbed a beer. He chugged about half of it down before he joined the others at a table. As he sat down, he looked over at Memphis. “What did the cops have to say about my fucking truck?”

Memphis shrugged. “They asked if you had any enemies that wanted you dead.”

Zeus snorted.

Memphis went on, “I didn’t mention the attack on Angel because then he would have wanted to see the biker and how the hell do we explain that? Just what the hell did you bring that bitch back here for anyway? I mean how do we know she didn’t set up that hit?”

Zeus took a swig of his beer and said, “We need to ask her what the hell she’s looking for Sam for and why she came looking for her at our place.” He shook his head. “What I don’t understand is the connection between her and Angel. I mean for the last year and a half, Angel hasn’t said a word to anyone nor has she gotten close to anyone, even me and I’m her dad. She still flinches whenever I come close to her.”

Memphis shook his head. “That might have something to do with how her mom died.”

“Dammit, I didn’t hurt Anne. Why would I hurt the mother of my child?” Zeus snarled.

“No one here said you hurt Anne, we all know you didn’t have anything to do with that, but even after all these years, we still don’t know what happened or who killed her.”

Zeus nodded at his brother. “You and I both figure Angel saw who did it and she’s been afraid of just about everyone ever since that day.”

“And that brings up another bone of contention, doesn’t it?” Memphis shrugged. “Why is she so taken with Marty?”

Zeus looked over at Grave Digger. “Yo, Grave Digger, what was with the knife in her bag?”

Grave Digger shook his head. “Boss, that wasn’t just any ole knife in her pack. That was a Samuel Shaw knife.”

“And just what the hell is a Samuel Shaw knife?” Memphis wanted to know.

“He’s a blacksmith of the old school. He learned the craft from generations of his family. They made a very good line of blades and they have shipped them all over the world. They are the number one best of the best. This one though, had his signature on it, so it was custom made and that is hard to find”

“What the hell was she doing with one of those?” Memphis asked.

Grave Digger shook his head. “Well, think about it, Samuel Shaw, Martine Shaw?”

Memphis looked at Zeus then back to Grave Digger. “You think she’s part of that family?”

Grave Digger nodded.

“Then what in the fucking hell would she want to do with Sam Wyatt?” Memphis snorted. “That doesn’t make sense any way you slice it, brother.”

Grave Digger shrugged. “I don’t know but from the first day Sam was here, she did nothing but cause trouble. Kind of makes you wonder what she was really doing here don’t it?”

Memphis scoffed again. “We all know what she wanted.” He looked over at his brother Zeus. “Boss man here, already had a woman and she never stopped trying to get between Zeus and Anne. Not even after Anne died, the cold bitch still tried to get into his bed.”

Zeus didn’t say anything but instead drained his beer. Then he stared at Memphis. “Yeah, she tried to get into my bed but that didn’t stop her from sleeping with several others here, did it?”

Memphis sneered. “Naw, she did the only thing a whore like her could do. But she kept hoping she could work her way

up to your bed.”

“Like hell, that shit wasn’t happening.” Zeus shook his head. “She should have listened better when I tried to tell her that.”

“Brother, she wanted you real bad.” Memphis teased him.

“Naw, she didn’t want me, she just wanted the title of President’s woman.” Zeus snorted. “She didn’t give a shit about me. She just wanted to be able to boss everyone around, including me. She actually thought she could tell me what to do and I would just do it.”

Memphis just shook his head sadly. “She was an idiot, that’s for sure. Thank God, she’s someone else’s idiot now though.”

Grave Digger looked over at Zeus and asked, “So what are you gonna do with Martine?”

Zeus shrugged. “I don’t know. I think we have to at least entertain the idea that she came looking for Sam for a reason. And I think we’ve earned the right to know what that reason is. I’m not just going to let her go find Sam then come back and set us up for something stupid.”

“You think she’s working for the Dragons?” Grave Digger asked with disbelief in his voice.

Zeus came back with, “Do you know for sure she isn’t?”

Grave Digger shook his head.

“You might want to take her guns away from her while she’s here,” Memphis suggested. “If she can shoot a biker half a block away while he’s on the move, then she might just start shooting us one by one.”

Grave Digger scoffed as he shook his head.

Zeus looked over at him. “Ok Grave Digger, what the fuck? What else do you know about Martine Shaw that we do not?”

Grave Digger looked animated again as he told them, “When she disappeared from the shooting circuit ten years

ago, after that splash she made to win the whole thing, I tried to find her as I keep an eye on that circuit ya know? It seemed as if she had just up and disappeared. I couldn't find anything on her for three years. I then saw an article about an up and coming very young karate champion. At seventeen, she had mastered a black belt competition. I looked all over YouTube for the video of the competition and I watched it. Her work was flawless and at seventeen, she was one of the very best anyone has ever seen."

Zeus shrugged. "So she has ambitions? She has to be the best in whatever she does, that just makes her vain and dangerous."

Grave Digger shook his head. "No boss, you don't understand. She didn't do it to become the best. I heard the interview after the competition was over. One reporter asked her why she had to be the best of the best. Do you know what she said?"

Zeus shook his head.

Grave Digger went on to explain, "She said she never wanted to feel helpless again. She said she only felt helpless one time in her life and it almost cost her life. She said never again. That she learned how to protect not only her life but the lives of the people around her."

"So you're saying even without her weapons, she could still kick our asses?" Memphis asked with a raised brow.

"Pretty much." Grave Digger nodded.

Memphis snorted. "I'd like to see that happen."

Grave Digger gave him a steady glare. "Don't back her into a corner like an animal, Memph or you might not like how she comes out of that corner. Especially if she comes out fighting."

Zeus just stared at Grave Digger for a moment then he stood from the table. "I'm going to bed. Tomorrow, we can try to ask more questions. She isn't going anywhere until I know she isn't a threat to us." He walked down the hall.

Memphis watched as his brother went to his own bedroom. He looked over at Grave Digger and shook his head. “Tomorrow should be a helluva interesting day.”



Marty woke up to a whimpering sound. She turned her head and saw Angel with tears running down her face. She shifted her body around and felt a cold wet spot between them. She looked down and found Angel had wet the bed.

Marty looked at her and she could see the fear in her eyes. “Oh, baby girl,” she whispered. “It’ll be okay, accidents happen.” She sat up and grabbed her phone. It was like two a.m. and the night light cast a shadow over the entire room.

She had taken her long coat off earlier as well as her jeans and boots. She turned around and smiled. “Well kiddo, let’s get you cleaned up and then we can come back and get some more sleep, alright?”

Angel just stared at her.

Marty asked, “Do you have some clean clothes, pajamas maybe?”

Angel nodded then pointed to the dresser on the other side of the room.

“Well, let’s figure this out,” Marty told her. She stood from the bed, walked over to the dresser, and opened one of the top drawers. She found clean underwear and a pair of pajamas. She went over to her long coat and began pawing through the pockets for her own clean clothes and then she turned to Angel. “Come on little Angel, let’s get us a bath.”

Angel reached out for her hand slowly.

Marty waited for her patiently. Then she leaned down and whispered, “You’ll have to show me where the bathroom is

because I don't know where it is.”

Angel smiled then taking her hand; she went to the door and opened it. The hall beyond was dark but Angel knew her way around. She led Marty down the hall to the main bathroom. Looking over her shoulder, she raised her finger to cover her lips as if to say be quiet.

Marty nodded as she opened the door and they went inside. She closed the door carefully and turned on the light.

Angel squinted at the bright lights then showed Marty the tub.

Marty started the water running then turned to Angel. “Ok sweetheart, let's get our wet clothes off, and get you clean again.

Angel backed away from her while shaking her head.

Marty shut the water off and sat down on the floor. She motioned for Angel to come to her and when the little girl sat down beside her, Marty wrapped her arm around her. “You know something kiddo, I guess I don't blame you. I'm a stranger to you and I don't know that I'd want to get naked with anyone either. How about this? How about all you take off is your jeans then we'll both be in our undies and a shirt and I'll get in the tub with you.”

Angel seemed to consider this idea as she cocked her head at her.

“Baths can be fun if you know how to do them,” Marty told her.

Angel just stared at her for a moment then she stood and began taking off her wet jeans. She walked over to the tub, turned and waited for Marty to join her.

About the time Marty stood up, she spotted something on the top shelf and smiled. She looked over at Angel and reached for the bubble bath. “Should we add bubbles to the mix?”

Angel nodded and smiled.

Marty turned the water on again and dumped in a good wallop of the liquid bubbles.

Angel clapped her little hands and swished the water around.

Pretty soon the tub was half full.

Marty climbed in and held out her hands for Angel to join her.

When she lifted the little girl into the tub, she could see it had been a while since her last bath. Her feet were stained with dirt and grime but Marty didn't say anything about it. She just set the little girl down into the warm water.

She played with the little girl for a while as they made bubble mounds on their hands and blew them at each other.

Finally, Marty raised the washrag and began gently washing her legs and arms. When she ran the washcloth over her back, Angel hissed. Marty stopped and wrapped her arms around the little girl. "It's okay darlin', how about we wash your hair instead?"

Angel nodded slowly.

Marty felt tears pricking in her eyes. She slowly soaked Angel's red hair and began washing it with shampoo then rinsing it out. After they were done, she cuddled the little girl in her arms, and whispered, "I don't know who hurt you baby girl, but I never will. You will be safe with me, always. I know it might take some time for you to trust me but I can give you that time." She sighed deeply then told the little girl, "When I was your age, I had a sister who liked to hurt me. She did it because she was just mean. I never did anything to start it but I used to hide it from my dad. I didn't want him to know what was going on and I didn't want to get my sister in trouble. I knew she would hurt me worse if I did."

Angel turned and stared up at Marty, the look in her eyes was years older than it should have been. Angel reached out and touched the scar on the back of Marty's right hand. Then she looked back up at Marty.

Marty nodded. “Yes, my sister did that to me. It was the one time my dad caught her and boy, did she get in trouble for it.” She shook her head. “It was too late to matter, but that didn’t stop my sister.”

Angel got up and turned around to unbutton her shirt.

When she finally took it off, Marty could see the bruises on her back and legs. Tears ran down her cheeks as Angel sat down in the water again. “Oh baby, I’m so sorry,” Marty whispered while holding the little girl close to her.

After a minute or so, she got to her feet. Carrying Angel out of the tub, she began drying the little girl with a towel. She then put her in clean clothes. Finally, she stripped off her own shirt and underwear. Putting her clean clothes on, she took the clothes both she and Angel had been wearing and rinsed them out in the tub. She hung them up to dry on the shower pole.

After she was done, she took Angel back to her room. She found extra blankets and a sheet set in the closet then fashioned a bed on the floor since Angel’s bed was wet.

She stripped off the wet sheets and threw them into a corner. Gathering the little girl up, she laid down with her on the floor. “Go back to sleep sweetheart. Morning will be here before we know it.” She kissed Angel on the forehead and watched over her as the little girl fell asleep.

Sleep didn’t come for Marty for a long time as she had too much on her mind. Who had done this to this sweet child? Who had abused her? She found no answers, but she vowed that she would.

Finally, she closed her eyes and slept.

Chapter Four

The morning sun crept in through the curtains when Marty felt a finger poking her. She groaned and tried to hide underneath the blankets. Opening her eyes, she saw Angel's smile.

"Morning darlin." Marty stretched and sat up. "Are you all slept out sweetie?"

Angel nodded and held her bunny close.

"You want to get up and go get something to eat?"

Angel nodded again, then rubbed her tummy a bit.

Marty yawned and said, "Ok, well let's get dressed then. Can you go find some clothes while I get dressed then I'll help you if you want."

Angel got up and went over to her dresser. She began going through her clothes and picked out something to wear. She grabbed a pair of shorts along with a tank top and brought them over. She began taking off her pajamas.

Marty finished pulling on her own clothes and then turned to watch Angel.

Angel kept struggling to put her top on.

Finally, Marty sat down next to her and said quietly, "Those darn tank tops. They can be a pain in the butt to put on, can't they? Can I help you with that?"

Angel stopped struggling and nodded softly. Tears ran down her face.

Marty reached out and patted her small shoulder. "Oh sweetie, it's ok. You'll get there sooner than you think." She pulled the top off, straightened it out and showed the little girl how to figure out the top. Next, she helped with Angel's shorts. Grabbing the brush off the table she brushed her long red hair. When she was done, Marty smiled. "There you go darlin' all ready for the day. Now I gotta find my brush and comb my hair. Then we can go get some food."

Angel decided she also needed a long sleeve shirt so she also put that on over the tank.

A few minutes later, they were ready to go as Marty grabbed her jacket at the last minute.

Angel wanted to be carried so Marty swung her up and settled her on her hip. Together, they went down the hall to the main room.

There were a few of the brothers sitting there drinking coffee and the three women were setting out breakfast.

Angel folded herself close to Marty and she looked around not seeing her dad.

Marty paused just inside the room and as she gazed around, she could feel the tension in the room growing. Suddenly, she was pushed from behind and she stumbled into the room.

”Oh, excuse me.” Diabolus sneered. “I didn’t see you standing there but you know you shouldn’t just stop in front of someone like that. You could get pushed out of the way.”

Marty looked him in the eye and nodded. “Apparently.”

Diabolus paused at her snarky comment.

A look came into his eyes that she didn’t like. Marty set Angel down and nudged her toward the wall. “You stand out of the way babygirl, this could get ugly real quick and I don’t want you to get hurt.” She turned back to Diabolus. Staring at him briefly, she motioned for him to bring it on, to come get her.

Diabolus snorted and shook his head. “Honey, you can’t take me on and hope to win. You’re just a girl.” He was a towering man with huge arms and powerful looking legs.

Marty snorted back. “Why not? I can guarantee you ain’t gonna touch me.”

“Huh,” Diabolus retorted. “I could snap you like a twig.” He snapped his fingers.

Marty motioned again for him to bring it.

Diabolus stepped up. He hauled his fist back and let it fly but she was no longer there. Then her foot sunk into his belly. He wasn't prepared for the kick, so it took his breath away.

He growled and reached out to grab her, but again she wasn't where she was supposed to be. Diabolus almost fell on his face, he caught himself at the last minute as he peered up and saw her standing there motioning for him, it made him angry when he noticed her mocking smile.

He grabbed for her again and this time, he caught her by the hair. He wrapped it around his wrist and pulled her toward him.

The boys sitting around began to pay attention now and they thought their man was going to show her up.

The next thing they knew, Diabolus was flat on the ground. It took a moment or two for him to get his breath back. He surged back to his feet with a roar and came after her, he really looked pissed.

Marty just stood there and at the last second, she turned, sinking her foot in his belly again. She moved so fast they couldn't even see her movements. Her foot twisted as she did a double kick, hitting his chest dead center and in a flash, her foot popped him in the throat.

Diabolus was down flat on his back while struggling to catch his breath again, but this time he wasn't able to breathe.

Marty knelt beside him and laid a hand on his chest. Looking him in the eyes, she could see the fear there and she whispered, "Breathe in slowly and exhale slowly." She stayed with him until his breathing came back online then she got to her feet wordlessly. She went over to Angel and picked her up.

The whole room went utterly silent as she walked over to a table and sat down with Angel on her lap.

Zeus came into the room and saw Diabolus still on the floor. "What the hell is going on out here?" he demanded as he helped his man up off the floor. Then he looked at Diabolus' hand, still holding several strands of long dark hair. "What the

fuck, man?” He growled as he looked around the room and found Marty sitting with Angel.

“I’m sorry boss, I know how you feel about not hurting women, but dammit, she provoked me.” Diabolus shook his head.

“Just how did she provoke you?” Zeus growled.

“She wouldn’t get out of the way.” Diabolus shrugged. “I got mad and then she just went crazy.”

The men around him snickered.

Grave Digger told Zeus what happened, “Don’t worry boss. He never actually placed a hand on her, but she laid him out on the floor a few times. Righteously so, too.”

Zeus shook his head. “He might not have laid a hand on her but he pulled out a bunch of her hair.” He looked around the room at his men. “We’re better than this, brothers. I know you’re pissed but she isn’t Sam Wyatt. We don’t hurt women.” He growled as he stared at his men.

The men all looked away or down at the table.

Zeus then zoned his disgusted gaze on Diabolus. “You got what you fucking deserved, you devil.”

Diabolus sighed and lowered his head as he rubbed at his chest.

Exhaling a disgusted breath, Zeus walked over to the table where Marty and Angel were sitting. He sat down with them.

One of the women brought out a carafe of coffee and a couple cups with a glass of orange juice. Then another woman brought out three plates of scrambled eggs, bacon, and toast. She glared at Marty but didn’t say a word as she set the plates on the table.

The plate she put in front of Marty looked different than the other two and Marty’s nose picked up the difference. Someone had added some heavy spices to her eggs. She shrugged. It was a good thing she didn’t mind spicy foods.

She pulled the plate toward her and took the first bite. Immediately her mouth felt the fire and she began to sweat but she refused to give up.



Zeus noticed her discomfort and he could even smell the spices coming from her food. He stared at her eggs, then at his and scowled at the difference in color and appearance. He reached over, scooped up a forkful of her eggs, and took a bite. After a few seconds, he threw his fork down on the table and surged to his feet. “Stella, get your ass out here right now!” he yelled.

All the women came to the door of the kitchen. He glared at all three of them. “What the fuck is this, ladies? I thought I could trust you to cook our meals and serve something that’s edible. This is not edible unless you intend to serve it to everyone. Now bring her a fresh plate and there better be no mix ups this time.”

Marty didn’t say a word to his announcement but she didn’t like all the attention she was getting. She set her fork down and folded her hands in her lap.

Angel reached over and pushed her own plate toward Marty.

Marty looked at her and smiled but pushed her plate back. She gave the little girl a nod, suggesting she eat her own eggs.

The little girl began eating again.

When Zeus sat down again, Marty stared at the table and speaking softly, she told him, “You have to let me go. I don’t belong here and they know it. Hell, you and I know it.”

“I’m not letting you go until I have some answers and you don’t seem to want to talk to me.” He growled.

“What I’m doing here is none of your business. It is mine and I can take care of my own business. I don’t need to run to a man when I have a problem. I can take care of myself. It’s easier that way, no one gets in my way, and I don’t get in theirs.”

Zeus just stared down at her. “Yeah, well guess what sweetheart? You became my business when you put yourself between a killer and my daughter. You could have just stood there and watched him kill her but you didn’t do that. You stepped in and saved her life and I need to know why and how that happened. I need to know why she was outside in the first place and why that man wanted to hurt her.”

Marty sighed. “I told you everything I knew last night. And I don’t have those answers for you. But you still brought me here. I told you what I saw and what I did and you still won’t let me go.”

Suddenly, Angel began choking. Her hand went to her throat and she gasped for air that did not come. Her little face went red as her eyes rounded in panic.

Marty turned to her and saw her in distress. She got up, grabbed Angel and laid her onto the floor. “She needs a doctor!” Marty called out.

Zeus pushed her away from his daughter and yelled, “Grave Digger, get over here!”

The men all gathered around.

Grave Digger pushed himself in and knelt beside the little girl. He checked her throat and saw it was swelling then he turned to glare at Zeus. “What the hell did she eat? She’s going into anaphylactic shock. She needs medication that I don’t have here. I need a fucking EpiPen.”

Marty reached out and in her hand was an EpiPen.

Grave Digger paused for a second in surprise then took it and jammed the tip into Angel’s thigh.

They all waited and watched as her breathing came back, though it sounded a little labored at first. Then slowly her coloring came back and she could breathe easier.

Angel wanted to get up but Grave Digger put his hand on her small chest and held her in place.

The little girl struggled against his hand while trying to get up.

Marty laid her hand on her chest as well.

Angel swung her gaze up to Marty. Seeing the warm smile on her face, she settled down.

“What the hell just happened?” Zeus demanded as he raked his fingers through his hair. “She’s never been allergic to anything before.”

Grave Digger looked up at him. “Maybe not but she’s only four and her mom was allergic to shellfish. She always had an EpiPen around here just in case.” He shrugged. “Thank God, she never needed it but she had one.”

“I never knew Angel had any allergies,” Zeus complained.

“We never had seafood around here until recently.” Memphis shook his head. “When you found Anne was allergic, you forbid it to be in the clubhouse.”

“Then how the hell did it get in here now?” Zeus exploded.

Stella stood there as she shook her head. “I was making jambalaya for supper. An old family recipe and there is crab and shrimp in it. I had the shrimp thawing on the counter. Some of the juice must have gotten on her plate. Boss, I am so sorry. I wouldn’t do anything to hurt Angel, you know that.”

Zeus studied her for a minute then nodded. “Well, this is the first time and now, we all know better.” He turned to look at Marty. “You had the EpiPen, thank you for that. Why do you carry one in the first place?”

Marty shrugged. “There are certain things I can’t eat either. I always have one or two with me when I travel.”

“Well, thank God you had one today,” Grave Digger told her. He looked down and saw Angel was breathing regularly and seemed to be back to normal. He released her.

Angel scrambled up and dove for Marty’s lap again.

Zeus just rolled his eyes but he knew he couldn't stop her. He wasn't even sure he wanted to as his little girl seemed to get comfort from Marty. But he just couldn't figure out why Angel was so attached to this woman. In fact, there were too many things that he just couldn't figure out. He sure as hell didn't like this feeling either. He stood from the table and looked around at his men. The fury in his eyes said it all then he turned and stomped back down the hall to his office.

Chapter Five

Grave Digger just shook his head. Looking over at Marty he said, “That boy needs a good kick in the butt.”

Marty shrugged. “You can’t really blame him. I am a stranger after all and this little girl didn’t know me from Adam before last night. Besides, everyone here thinks I’m Sam and while I can’t help that, she must have left one hell of a mess behind her, as usual. Which doesn’t really surprise me at all. She thrives on creating chaos. It’s what she does best.” She looked down at Angel.

The little girl was staring at Marty’s hand then she gazed up at Marty.

Marty leaned down and whispered something to her.

Grave Digger watched the exchange and wondered what was going on but he didn’t say anything.

Angel shook her head but Marty was insistent.

Finally, Angel nodded but held on to Marty tightly.

Marty looked up at Grave Digger. “I think you need to see something.”

“Ok...” Grave Digger studied her for a moment then suggested, “Why don’t you two come with me, so we can do this in private.”

“That might be best.” Marty got to her feet and followed him down the hall to his infirmary.

When they got there, Angel seemed to change her mind and began shaking her head adamantly.

Marty set her on the bed, cupped both her cheeks and looking her in the eye she whispered, “They need to know, little Angel. You’ve done nothing wrong, but someone needs to know what happened to you.” Marty raised her right hand and explained, “I let it go too long and I almost died because I didn’t want to get her into trouble. Please don’t make that

mistake. You didn't ask for this and it's not your fault. Please let Grave Digger see your back."

Tears ran down her little face as finally she nodded but she continued to hold onto Marty.

Marty helped her take off the shirt she was wearing. Then she lifted the little girl's tank top.

Grave Digger observed the bruising on the little girl's back. Some of them were fading but some were fresh and he could see that as well. "How far down do they go?" he asked in a tight voice.

"To the top of her thighs," Marty told him.

"How did you know about this?" He looked up at her.

"We had to have a bath last night and she wouldn't undress all the way. So I got in the tub with her and when I was washing her up, she flinched and cried. By the way, is there a washer available? I need to wash some clothes."

Grave Digger nodded. "Yeah, we have those available." He paused and stared at Marty. "You know I'm gonna have to tell her dad right?"

Marty nodded. "I know but this is something he needs to know about. For her sake as much as for his."

Grave Digger felt a little sick to his stomach as he pulled her shirt down. He leaned down to look Angel in the eyes. "Honey, this never should have happened to you and I'm so sorry we didn't know before. Marty is right, this is something you never should have hid from us. Did Donna do this to you?"

Angel nodded and then mouthed the word, "*Sam.*"

"Donna and Sam?" Grave Digger asked in a shocked voice.

Marty gasped and closed her eyes. Hanging her head, she held the little girl to her.

Grave Digger shook his head. "No wonder we can't find Donna. She knew what would happen if she got caught. This

little girl is important to the club. Donna was trusted to take care of her and she failed big time. Zeus is gonna be pissed.”

Marty nodded. “I would imagine.”

“No, I don’t think you really do.” Grave Digger shook his head. “This MC has been plagued by misfortune for some time now. There is another MC in our sister city, Crystal City and the Dragon’s Breath wants our MC brought down badly. We have a thriving club with a couple of businesses in town. Most of the brothers here are ex-military, so they know enough to keep their noses clean and play within the law. The Dragon’s Breath are not any kind of moral and they do not care. They run drugs and guns while over half of them are sitting behind bars right now.”

Marty held Angel tight as she listened to the history of the club.

“Zeus had a woman. Her name was Anne,” Grave Digger explained. “She was his whole world. Then she gave him Angel. Everything was fine up until about eighteen months ago when Sam Wyatt got to town. She took one look at Zeus and decided Anne didn’t deserve him and she began tearing Anne down every chance she got. Then one day, when we came home from the bar, we found Anne dead and Angel sitting next to her mom, crying her little heart out.” He shook his head. “She hasn’t said a word since then. The fact that she attached herself to you is really surprising. The fact you look so much like Sam, honestly makes this even worse.”

“What happened to Anne?” Marty asked as she seemed to ignore the look alike remark.

Grave Digger shrugged. “That’s just it, we don’t know for sure. Sam disappeared the same day and most of us think she went over to the Dragon’s Breath but we honestly don’t know where the hell she went. Anne took a terrible beating and then she was left to die alone and without help. At some point, the killer took a knife to her gut but we didn’t find any knife here. Angel was too little to understand what happened and even if she did see it, she couldn’t tell us what happened.”

Marty gazed down at Angel’s frightened face.

Grave Digger looked angry now as he went on, “Sam had been a pain in the ass from the moment she came here. She decided Zeus would be better off if she were at his side, not Anne. She kept trying to nudge Anne out but Zeus wasn’t having that. No man was safe from her clutches... if you know what I mean. Then Zeus put his foot down and kicked her dumb ass out of here, but she kept coming back. She just wouldn’t quit, then Anne was killed and we haven’t seen Sam around here since. Then one day, she came around the bar and I know Zeus wanted to kill her and it took everything he had in him not to. So instead, he kicked her out all over again. That was a couple of months ago and to date, we haven’t seen her.”

Marty shook her head. “You might not have seen her again, but she’s around.” She gazed down at Angel. She raised her head to look at him. “You may as well know, I was outside the bar yesterday, hoping I would find Sam.”

Grave Digger studied her for a moment then had to ask, “Why? What do you want with her?”

“I made a promise to a man I loved dearly, that I would try to find her.” She shook her head. “I just...I realize I can’t keep that promise anymore. I just can’t.”

“Well come on then, I’ll show you where the washer is and you can get started on the laundry.” Grave Digger motioned her toward the door.

Down the hall, he showed her where the laundry room was. He then turned and headed the other way.



Marty went to Angel’s bedroom and gathered the sheets. She took them back and put them into the washer. She went over and sat on the floor with Angel.

Suddenly, Angel whispered to her, “You should have told him Sam was your sister. That she hurt you.”

Marty froze at her softly spoken words. She stared at Angel and couldn’t believe that she had just spoken. “Why? What good would that do? They all hate Sam enough and she’s caused enough damage here.”

“Like you said, maybe they need to know,” Angel reasoned as only a child could.

Marty couldn’t believe that she could speak so well. “Is that why you haven’t spoken since your mom died? Because you were scared?”

Angel looked down at her small hands “I... remember being scared the day she was hurting my mom and I was crying. She grabbed me by the throat and told me to shut my mouth. Then she opened my mouth, pulled my tongue out and threatened me with a knife. She told me if—if I-I made another sound... she would come back and c-cut my tongue out. Then she laughed while saying if she cut my tongue out I would never make another sound for the rest of my life. S-she said she would know if I-I talked or not but I would never know when she would— be back. She said she would be watching me and she would know if I told them w-what I saw.”

Marty wrapped her arms around the little girl and just held her for a moment. “Oh darlin, I’m so sorry.”

“Why?” Angel asked softly. “You ain’t Sam and could never be her. You got all the goodness and none of the bad.”

Marty sighed as she smoothed Angel’s hair with her hand. “We all got some good and some bad in us. Sometimes it’s a struggle to find the good and too easy to find the bad.”

Just then, the door to the laundry room opened.

Zeus and Memphis came in, followed by Diabolus and Grave Digger.

Grave Digger shook his head and said, “I’m sorry. I had to tell them.”

“I need to see her back.” Zeus snarled.

Marty shrugged. “I’m not stopping you.”

Angel crawled into her lap and she wouldn’t look at her dad. She kept shaking her head.

Marty looked down at her. “Angel, you need to show them at least your daddy.”

Angel stubbornly shook her head but refused to speak in front of her dad and his men.

Marty leaned in close and whispered, “Sweetheart, remember what I said. You gave Sam power when you stopped speaking. Don’t let her take this away from you too. Neither her or Donna should get to have that kind of power over you. You need to take it back.”

Angel was trembling as she continued to cry.

Marty kept eye contact with her. “I know you’re scared honey but your dad needs to know the truth, so he can help you. You know him and you know these men, have they ever hurt you before?”

Angel shook her head.

Marty nodded at her. “And I doubt they will ever hurt you. You are their princess and they love you.”

Angel reached up and whispered softly in her ear, “Will you hurt me if I don’t?”

Marty tucked her head back while feeling a bit shocked. “I will never hurt you darlin.”

Angel paused and grew really still then she slowly nodded her head. She let Marty slip her shoulders out of the shirt and then lifted her tank top.

Zeus slowly walked around her and stared at his little girl’s back. He saw the bruises, some old and some not so old. His hands curled into fists. He turned around and nearly roared out his rage as he hit the wall several times with his fist. His knuckles were bloody and he left some of his blood on the wall behind him.

Angel curled into a ball and began to cry in Marty's lap.

Marty tried to hush her and she looked up at Zeus. "She told Grave Digger and I that it was Donna and Sam that hurt her."

Diabolus snorted. "Yeah, we haven't been able to find Donna but I'm sure she'll turn up at some point."

"How the hell did you figure this out?" Zeus asked Marty.

"We ended up having to have a bath last night after everyone else went to bed and she wouldn't undress. So I got in the tub with her and when she was wet, I could see the bruises."

Zeus narrowed his eyes at her. "Why were you in the tub in the middle of the night?"

Just then, the dryer went off with a *ding*.

Memphis walked over and opened the door. He pulled out Angel's sheets and showed them to Zeus.

Marty shook her head. "Accidents happen."

Zeus stared at her as blood dripped from his hand onto the floor. "Lady, I just don't get you. I don't understand why she's so attached to you when you should remind her of the one woman we think killed her mother. Of course, we don't have any proof of that because Angel hasn't spoken a word in over eighteen months but we don't know if Sam didn't kill her either." He just shook his head in disgust. "This is just too much. Too much." He turned and headed out of the laundry room.

The rest of the men filed out of the room behind him.

Grave Digger had been left behind with the two girls. He finally made his way over to where they were sitting and knelt down to Angel's level. "I sure wish you could tell us what happened that day baby girl. Your dad and the men need closure that only you can give them." He leaned in and brushed a kiss to the little girl's forehead. "I guess you'll speak when you're good and ready. I just hope it's soon. Your dad and the men are hanging on by their fingertips here honey."

They need some good news and I can't think of anything better than you talking again."

He got up and went out of the room.

Marty just held her close for a moment.

Angel whispered to her, "You think he's right and my daddy is waiting for me to speak again?"

"Yes lil darlin, he is waiting for that day to come. I can see that you mean everything to him." Marty nodded.

Chapter Six

Angel stayed close to Marty all afternoon. When the sheets were dry, they went back to her bedroom and remade the bed. Afterward, they played with Angel's toys together.

When they went down the hall to lunch, they saw only Memphis sitting there. Marty went to a table a fair distance from him. She and Angel sat down.

Stella stood at the kitchen window. When she saw the girls sit down, she brought out a plate of sandwiches, and chips then put it on the table. "Angel honey, are you okay now?" Stella asked.

Angel nodded then pulled the plate toward her. She grabbed a sandwich and smiled when she found it was peanut butter and jelly. She pushed the plate toward Marty. Then Angel frowned as Marty took a few of the chips but she didn't take a sandwich.

Marty smiled at her. "I can't eat peanuts but you go ahead. I'll be fine."

Stella stared at her and frowned. "Would you like something else? Ham or chicken salad maybe?"

Marty shook her head. "No thank you, I'm good. The chips will be fine."

"Nonsense," Stella said. "If Zeus found out you didn't eat anything today, he would have a reason to yell at us again. I ain't takin' his anger for anyone, and that includes you."

Marty looked up at her. "Then bring me just some jelly on a slice of bread please."

Stella turned and stomped back to the kitchen and when she returned, she had what Marty requested. She plopped it on the table in front of her, snorted, and turned to go back to the kitchen.

Angel looked down at the messy torn apart pieces of bread with jelly smeared and shook her head.

Marty checked the sandwich and saw just jelly like she asked but the bread was a mess. She picked it up and half the jelly fell out of the other end. She sighed but continued to eat. She mopped up the fallen jelly with her fingers but they got really sticky.

Angel seemed to notice her sticky fingers and pointed to a door just off the main room.

Marty got up and went to wash her hands. When she came back, Stella was taking their plates away and fussing about how some people had to be so picky.

Angel sat there with her head down as if Stella was scolding her.

Once Marty sat down, she reached out and took hold of the little girl's tiny hand. "It doesn't matter little one. I'm not Sam and I haven't done anything wrong, so let her say what she wants to say."

Angel peeked over at her uncle and saw he was paying close attention to them, so she didn't say anything. Instead, she got up and tugged on Marty's hand, pulling her down to her bedroom. Once there, she slammed the door shut and threw herself into Marty's arms.

Marty picked her up and held her close while the little girl sobbed. She went over to the bed and sat down. She held Angel close and just let her cry. "It's okay, lil Angel."

The door opened and Memphis walked in as he caught her statement. "No it's really not. While you went to the restroom, Stella ranted on and on, calling you a whore and a fake. She also told Angel she best watch herself in your presence because you might be worse than Sam ever was and you might be here to kill her since Sam couldn't."

Marty felt shocked, she hung her head and her own tears dripped down her face. "Your brother needs to let me go. I can't stay here. I don't want this sweet child putting her life in danger because of me. What Stella said was so wrong. I am not Sam and I would never hurt this child."

“Zeus sees that or believe me he wouldn’t let you be anywhere around his daughter.” Memphis glared at her. “But me? I don’t know you and I don’t know what you’re here for, but I will find out. And lady, if you’re up to no good, there won’t be a rock big enough for you to hide from me. I take my job as VP and her uncle very seriously.” He turned and left the room, slamming the door behind him.

The girls sat there in silence and after a moment or two, Marty wiped her tears away. “Come on kiddo. Crying and tears aren’t gonna help us none. We need to buck up.” She hooked her finger under Angel’s chin and raised her head. “Words hurt us because...well sometimes, the person saying those words doesn’t know what they’re talking about. They just sometimes feel a need to lash out at the unknown. I don’t know this Stella person, I’ve never met her before. By saying bad things about me, she’s only showing the whole world what kind of a jackass...I mean, a fool she is. Now I can’t control what she says but I can control how I respond to it.” She shook her head. “Trust me when I say, I am not my sister. I would never hurt you or this club. That’s not who I am, that’s not what I am either. I made a promise to a man I love with all my heart. He’s gone now and I was hoping to find my sister and tell her I forgive her but I realize now she’ll never accept it. I failed in my mission. I just haven’t wanted to admit that to myself but I guess I have to.”

“What are you going to do?” Angel asked her softly.

“I guess I am going to give up and go home. Sam left a long time ago and now it’s too late for her to come back. I need to start over, I need to try and make a life alone.”

“I don’t want you to leave!” Angel cried out and wrapped her arms around Marty.

“Oh sweetie, I can’t stay here,” Marty told her. “Please understand, I can’t stay.”

“Then take me with you, please? Don’t leave me here,” Angel pleaded, her cheeks flooded with tears. “Please, don’t leave me behind!”

Marty hugged her and together, they shed a few more tears. Her heart was breaking as the little girl cried. She just rocked her back and forth and let her cry it out. Finally, the little girl went quiet and when Marty looked down, she noticed she had fallen asleep. She held her a few minutes longer then laid her on the bed.

Marty brushed the hair away from her little face. “Oh baby, I do wish I could take you with me but your dad needs you as much as you need him.” She leaned closer and kissed the little girl’s forehead.

“Oh, how touching,” a voice spoke from behind her.

Marty froze at the bitter tone. She knew that voice well. Slowly, she turned her head to see an almost identical reflection looking back at her. Sam stood in front of the closet.

Time hadn’t been good to Sam. Her once dark hair was now blonde and it looked like straw. As if it’d been bleached too many times and her skin was darker, from spending too much time out in the sun without protection.

“Sam?” Marty whispered.

Sam smiled that mocking smile she’d always had.

As Marty looked in her eyes, she saw the blank look she always had as well. Marty hated that look as she’d learned over the years it was never a good thing. “How did you get in here?” she asked, stalling for time.

Sam smirked. “I know a little something about this place that the club doesn’t know. I come and go and they never know I’ve been here.”

Marty frowned. “How can that be?”

Sam looked around the room. “This clubhouse has a history that not many people remember or even know about. In the early 1900’s a crime family owned this property and they came here during the times they needed to hide from the cops, they would hide away till the cops cooled down.” She smirked and added, “I found the tunnels by accident one afternoon but now I use them to come and go. So no one even knows I’ve been here.” Sam nodded at Angel. “She’s seen me several

times but since I scared her shitless, she ain't talking anymore, so I'm not worried about her telling anyone."

"So why are you here now?" Marty asked.

"Donna told everyone how you saved the brat the other night. Only she thought you were me and that I betrayed the Dragons. Now I have to prove you and I are two very different people." Sam shrugged. "I mean we haven't seen each other for years. But now, just as I am finally getting the recognition I deserve, you come around? I want to know why."

"Maybe I just wanted to see my sister." Marty shrugged.

Sam tilted her head back and laughed. "Oh, that's gotta be a lie, it has to be. You don't give a shit about me anymore than I do about you. I left home ten years ago. Hell, I've been on my own even longer than that."

Marty shook her head. "It didn't have to be that way sister. You turned your back on me and Dad long before we let you go."

"I needed my freedom!" Sam all but shouted. Then she glanced at the door expecting it to be thrown open and bikers would be spilling into the room. "This is stupid. We have to get out of here before we get company, I don't want or need. You always were slow but I can't get caught here." Sam reached for the knife on her hip and when she drew the weapon, she pointed it at Marty. "You are coming with me. I suddenly have to prove that I have a sister to my man and that means taking you with me. Donna, that stupid bitch, told Raggio she saw me save the kid's life the other night. I have to prove it wasn't me and that means dragging you back with me."

"And if I don't go?" Marty asked her.

"Then I'll kill the kid and drag you out of here anyway," Sam told her. "Better yet, you bring the kid with us. Raggio will be happy to have her as a hostage, then I can kill Donna for lying about me saving her. As soon as I heard that shit, I knew you were here. I'm getting sick of her whining anyway." She snickered. "She even accused me of wearing a dark wig

and being noble and shit like that. She don't know me well enough to be making that shit up."

"What happened Sam?" Marty couldn't believe this woman was her sister. So maniacal, so cold. "You've changed so much."

Sam leaned in a little closer and snarled, "No sister, I haven't changed at all. This is the real me. This is who I've been all along. You and Dad just never saw me. Dad was only interested in supporting you. I was just the fucked up kid that he never saw. You were his golden child and no matter what I did, I could never get the praise that you did. He always brushed me aside when you were around. Then when you got old enough, you started bringing in those gold medals and shit." Sam looked down at the scar on her sister's right hand. "How is your hand, sister dear?" She grinned at her.

Marty covered her scar and blanched at her sister's question.

Sam just snickered and then just as quickly she snarled, "Everyone's eyes were on you that day as you blew away competitor after competitor. Then you won that gold disk and that changed everything didn't it? You were the world's golden child and that left me out in the cold again." She glared at Marty. "God, I hated you so much then."

Marty nodded. "I know, I was there, I felt it firsthand."

"Oh that's a good one! First hand..." Sam smirked. "Well, let me tell you in case you didn't know, to smash your hand like I did, with that hammer? Damned, if it didn't feel so freeing. I had pent up so much hate for you that I just couldn't contain it anymore. It was worth the beating I took to watch you cry out in pain that day. I so wanted your hand to be your head but it wasn't." She stared down at Marty's hand again and asked, "Did you ever get movement back in it? Or are you just a little lame duck now?"

"I got some feeling back but not everything," Marty admitted.

“Well, that’s too bad.” Sam nodded as she mimicked a whiny tone. “I was hoping you would be a little lame duckie all this time.” Then she stared at Marty realizing there had to be a reason her sister showed up here. “So what did you come all this way to tell me anyway?”

“Dad wanted you to know he was sorry you left. He still believed in you and he wanted you to know that.”

“I don’t care, whatever he said, he’s a day late and fucking dollar short...it was what he did at the time that mattered, not now, ten years later.”

Marty shook her head. “It broke him when you walked away. He wasn’t the same after you left; it finally broke his heart when he couldn’t find you. He wanted my promise that I would try to find you and beg you to come back home again.”

Sam snorted. “Well sister, you found me and you told me but I can’t say I’m in any hurry to go home again. You people expect too much. I’m free and I’m not giving up that freedom for you or anyone else. So you can fuck off.” She snarled. “Now grab that kid and let’s get the fuck out of this place.”

Marty shook her head. “I’ll go with you but there’s no way in hell you’re taking Angel with you.”

“I don’t have time to waste with this shit. Grab the kid and let’s go.” Sam all but shouted, holding up the knife. “I will kill you if you don’t listen to me, sister or not.” She stepped toward Marty.

Marty took up her stance. “Don’t do this Sam. I won’t let you hurt her.”

Sam snarled and twisted the knife in her hand. “Then I guess we do this the hard way, don’t we sis?” She got in a crouch and studied her opponent like her dad taught her as a child. Then she rushed Marty.

Marty didn’t stand there waiting for her. She moved to circle Sam to throw her off her game. Then she used several moves to avoid her. All that she’d learned in martial arts did well for her now.

This really seemed to piss Sam off. She tried to strike her several times but didn't get very close any of the times she tried. Sam stumbled and went down on one knee as she cried out a little.

Marty moved in to help her up.

Sam played on her sister's good nature and it worked. She struck her with the knife and sliced it across the top of her bad hand.

Marty screamed bloody murder.

Sam glared at her and slowly got to her feet. She slashed at her sister again, with the knife just enough to cause her sister more pain. Then she spit in her sister's face. "Fuck you Marty!"

They both heard footsteps coming hurriedly down the hall.

"God dammit, I gotta go." Sam glared at her. "But I'll be back and when I do, I'll get the kid." She turned and ran for the closet. She disappeared just as the door opened.

Memphis and Zeus rushed into the room.

Marty cradled her bleeding injured hand and sat down on the end of the bed.

Angel scrambled onto her lap and she was sobbing.

"What the hell happened here?" Zeus asked as he looked around to see the blood and signs of a fight. There were scattered toys, a broken lamp, books, and blood all over the floor.

Chapter Seven

Marty looked up at him and whispered, "Sam was here."

"What?" Zeus growled. "How the hell could she have been here?" He stared at her. "How the fuck did she get in here? And without any of us seeing her."

Marty had wet tears on her face from the pain she was enduring and just shook her head. "She said she can come and go as she pleases because she knows a secret about this place that you guys don't. She's been coming back here since you booted her out and you guys never knew she'd been here."

"What else did she have to say about this place?" Memphis wanted to know.

Grave Digger moved over to the bed. He knelt down in front of Marty and took her hand in his. "I need to see your wound honey."

Marty hissed in pain but allowed him to straighten her hand.

He saw the cuts and shook his head. "She had a knife?"

Marty nodded.

Then Diabolus interrupted, "What the hell? You can flatten me but you can't protect yourself against a woman like Sam Wyatt? Why is that?"

Marty looked up at Grave Digger as she refused to look at the man who'd asked the question and told him, "I had to protect Angel. She wanted to take Angel back to some guy named Raggo and use her as a hostage against the club. I couldn't let her do that."

Grave Digger nodded. "I'll need to treat these cuts." He stood to his feet. "I'll be right back." He disappeared through the door.

The men in the room all stared at Marty with puzzled expressions.

Angel kept hugging her tight as she sniffled through her tears.

When Grave Digger returned, he had his medical bag with him. He knelt again in front of Marty and opened the bag. Quietly, he went to work to clean her hand of the blood.

Marty nodded at him as she gazed up at Zeus. “Sam told me she comes and goes from here freely. She also said this clubhouse has a history that not many people remember or even know about. She claims she found the tunnels by accident one afternoon but now she uses them to come and go. So no one even knows she’s still around. I think she told me about the tunnels because she hadn’t planned to leave me here.” She glanced down at Angel. “She told me that Angel has seen her several times with Donna but since she scares Angel shitless so much, she isn’t talking anymore. So she’s not worried about her telling anyone.”

“Did she do something to Angel that caused her not to speak?” Zeus narrowed his eyes at Marty.

Marty looked down at the little girl again.

Angel kept shaking her head.

“Darlin’, I have to tell him,” Marty said softly. “He deserves to know what’s going on here. You are his little girl and he loves you.”

Angel peeked over at her dad.

He stood there looking like someone had punched him in the stomach. “Please baby, I love you so much,” he said in a soft voice. “You mean the world to me. You are all I got left of your mom.”

Angel frowned at his words. She shook her head and leaned closer to Marty.

Marty tried to tip Angel’s face up to get her to look at her but the little girl wouldn’t budge. Marty then winced and let out a groan.

Grave Digger had swiped her hand with an alcohol pad. “Sorry, but it needs to be cleaned. Heaven only knows where

Sam's knife has been."

Marty bit her lip and nodded. Then she looked up at Zeus again. "Sam is with the Dragons, whoever they are and so is Donna. She came here to drag me away with her because Raggo doesn't believe she didn't save Angel the other night. He believes Sam saved her."

Memphis shook his head. "I know you guys look alike and all but why would she have to prove that?"

Angel patted Marty's shoulder and mouthed the words, "*Tell them. They need to know, tell them.*"

Marty stared at her for a moment then nodded. Taking a deep breath, she exhaled and peered up at Zeus. "We more than just look alike... we're sisters, twin sisters."

"What the everlovin' hell kind of game are you playing here, bitch?" Diabolus snarled.

"See, that was why I didn't want to tell you." Marty growled as she glared at him. She looked over at Zeus and told him, "I haven't seen Sam in over ten years. We were both fourteen almost fifteen when I won a huge shooting competition. My dad was overjoyed that I won and that set Sam off. She was always jealous of me and I didn't do anything to make her feel that way." She held up her damaged hand. "This is her idea of punishment. She waited until we went to bed that night. Then she got a hammer and smashed my hand with three hard blows. I went from a sound sleep to being attacked. She hit it three times but that wasn't good enough. She also hit me in the head with the hammer before my dad got there and got the hammer away from her. Her downfall that night was my dad had friends over and one of them called the cops. They arrested her and took her in. Dad bailed her out the next day then he asked her why she attacked me and you want to know what she told him? That I deserved the beating for showing her up time after time. She felt so entitled. She said I out shined her by winning. She couldn't shoot very well and she thought I should have thrown the competition to save her face. I had no idea what she was talking about. I spent a week in the hospital and the next three

years learning to reuse my hand. I have about 75% mobility now but it's been ten years. Then on top of everything else, she ran away on our fifteenth birthday, a few months after she attacked me in my sleep.”

Then men in the room all stared at her as they listened.

Grave Digger shook his head in disgust at her tale.

Marty went on, “My dad spent a small fortune on PI’s looking for her, but he never found her. Then two years ago, he had a stroke and he never got better. He pleaded with me, begged me to look for her. To tell her that he forgives her. It was after I made that promise that he went to sleep and never woke up again. So for two years, I’ve been searching for her and I thought she was here. So that’s why I came here. It’s why I was outside your bar the other night. I came here looking for Sam and found myself in a situation I hadn’t planned on.”

Angel scooted closer to Marty and wrapped her small arms around her.

Marty paused to pat the little girl’s head. “Now you can hate me all you want for not telling you the truth before, but you guys don’t need another reason to hate me do you?” She glared at all of them. “You’ve already made up your mind about who and what I was before you ever knew the truth. You know what though? I’ve had enough of your bullshit. I’m going to leave tomorrow and there’s nothing you can say that will stop me.”

Memphis just glared at her. “So where is this tunnel system and why didn’t we ever know about it before?” He just ignored her outburst like it wasn’t important to him.

Marty shook her head. “How the hell do I know? I’m not the one who has been using it. I just got to town a couple of days ago.” She looked Memphis directly in his eyes and stated, “Sam went into Angel’s closet when we heard you guys coming down the hall.”

Memphis and Diabolus went to the closet and using their phones as light, they found the door leading into the darkness

beyond.

“Well, I’ll be damned!” Memphis exclaimed. “Zeus, there really is a passage in here.”

“Check it out but be careful,” Zeus replied. “Sam might be waiting for one of us to come through it.” He walked over to the bed and sat down on the edge of it. Looking at his daughter he asked her, “Honey, has Sam been coming and going from here in secret?”

Angel nodded but did not speak.

“Has she and Donna been hurting you?” he asked.

Angel paused then nodded again.

“Why didn’t you tell me, sweet Angel?” Zeus asked gently.

“I can answer that if you’ll let me,” Marty said quietly.

Grave Digger looked up from wrapping Marty’s hand to see his reaction.

Zeus kept his gaze on Angel as he sighed hard and nodded his head. “Please tell me why my daughter won’t speak and didn’t tell me she was being abused.” His voice sounded deep and trembling.

”She was here the day Sam killed her mom,” Marty whispered her answer softly. “She saw the whole thing. When your Anne was laying on the floor, Angel was crying and that got on Sam’s last nerve. She grabbed Angel’s jaw and pulled her tongue out of her mouth. Using the bloody knife that she just stabbed your woman with, she told Angel to shut her mouth. That if she ever told anyone she was here she would come back and cut off her tongue and then she would never speak again.”

Zeus sat there looking stunned. His face had drained of all its color.

Grave Digger looked pissed, but he nervously turned his head to stare at his prez.

Zeus leaned his head back and roared with rage. The sound of fury that came out of his mouth was truly frightening.

Angel wrapped her arms around Marty's neck tighter and sobbed in fear.

Marty embraced the tiny girl and held her close. She looked up at Zeus. "Stop! You're scaring your daughter."

Zeus turned his head and glared at her. The fury in his eyes would scare anyone. His fists were clenched as he seethed in anger. It was a frightening sight. The man looked as if he barely clung to sanity at this point. "I'm gonna enjoy gutting your sister," he stated in a low whisper. "I want you to know that before it happens, because it *will* happen."

Marty nodded. "I believe you, I do. And you're right, it will happen and Sam deserves it for what she's done. You aren't her first victim and if someone doesn't stop her, you won't be her last. She mentioned Donna's name too. She wants to get rid of her. I wouldn't be surprised if she is Sam's next victim."

"So Sam was here to grab you to prove herself somehow?" Grave Digger asked, as he too looked shocked and angry.

Marty nodded. "She needed to take me back with her to prove to this Raggio person that we really are two different people. She also said she'd wanted me dead for a long time now and would make that happen, after she cleared herself with this Raggio guy. Donna told them that she'd witnessed Sam saving Angel that night. So she needed him to see me and her in the same room. Then she decided Angel should come with us and I told her no way. That's when she attacked me."

Zeus hung his head for a moment and released a long breath, as he seemed to try to get himself straight.

The small group in the room all waited.

He rose from the bed to pace a bit and looked like he wanted to punch someone. He was muttering expletive's under his breath that most of them couldn't hear.

The room went quiet.

After a minute, he stopped pacing to stare at Marty then he glanced at his frightened looking little girl. “You saved my daughter again at your own expense. Thank you. I don’t know what I would do without her. It’s killing me that she won’t talk to me, won’t talk to anyone. All I can see is fear in her eyes when she looks at me and I don’t have a clue why. I’ve never hurt her or her mom and I swear I never would.”

Angel turned her head and peeked at her dad. Still clinging to Marty, she searched her dad’s eyes for the truth... she trembled badly and held Marty even tighter.

“Damn it.” Zeus lowered his head again while releasing a heavy sigh and headed toward the door.

Just then, Memphis and Diabolus returned. Both men were covered in cobwebs and they both looked madder than wet hens.

“That fucking bitch.” Memphis growled. “That tunnel goes out a long way and comes out at the far edge of the trees beyond the fence line. It’s completely hidden and yet it accesses the clubhouse. How the hell did we never know about it before?”

Zeus turned at the door to stare at his men.

Marty also stared at them and nodded her head. “Sam read about the history of this place. She said something about Capone using this place for running moonshine. The mob had tunnels all over the place in case they needed to escape without being seen.” Shaking her head she admitted, “That’s something that would make it exciting for Sam. A forbidden adventure and Sam likes anything that’s forbidden. She likes breaking all the rules and cross every line she can find.”

“Is that how she snuck in and murdered Anne?” Zeus quietly asked as he almost winced at mentioning the murder. “Is that what she did? She got in here through the tunnels?” He watched Marty so intently that he almost missed his daughter nodding her head. He swung his gaze down to stare at Angel still clinging to Marty.

Grave Digger had been watching Angel too. He looked over at Zeus then at Memphis and Diabolus. “Well, now we know what the truth is, don’t we?”

Chapter Eight

“I’m gonna kill that bitch!” Zeus roared.

Marty barely heard him, even as loud as he was. She let out a sigh as she laid her head on top of Angel’s head and just stared at nothing. Her soul was hurting right now. With a heavy heart, she realized that Sam was now lost and had been for a while to the darkness inside her.

Sam had never been a good woman but this was too much for Marty to understand because she was her sister. Her heart hurt for her dad and his agonizing struggle for both of his daughters, which she believed brought on his stroke. Marty realized her sister had most likely been lost to the darkness from a very early age.

She never admitted this to anyone before but the night Sam attacked her, she saw the cold emptiness in her eyes, before the hammer ever struck her the first time. Tears leaked down her face and she felt herself shutting down.

Memphis glared at his brother and growled, “What do you want done with the tunnel?”

“Block it so she or anyone else can’t get in here again,” Zeus ordered. “Block both ends and then cement the blocking. Check for any other tunnels that might be down there, block, and cement them as well. This is the last time that bitch gets in here. Then find me whatever book it was she read this information from, where she found the secrets of this place. We need to know what she found out. I don’t want any more surprises.”

Memphis nodded.

Zeus looked around the room and grumbled, “In the meantime, find Angel another room. I want her close to mine. I don’t want her staying in this one anymore. This room has become a nightmare for her and I won’t have that.” Shaking his head he said, “I thought she would be safe here in our own house.” He turned his head and glared at his brother. “Sadly, that didn’t turn out to be the case, this shit stops today. Block

that fucking tunnel.” He glanced at Grave Digger. “And get me info on this compound. If Sam can find these secrets, so can we.”

Marty and Angel watched as first Grave Digger left then Diabolus and Memphis left.

Memphis said they would be back to block the doorway.

Marty looked down at Angel and shook her head. “Well, that was fun.” She let out a heavy sigh.

“You had to tell them. You really did,” Angel whispered.

Marty closed her eyes. “Yeah baby girl and now, they have another reason to hate me, to not trust me any further than they can throw me.”

“Can I tell you a secret?” Angel asked her.

Marty nodded and looked down at her.

It took a moment for Angel to speak but Marty waited patiently.

“T-the night Sam hurt my mommy...” Angel struggled with the words. “...s-she was screaming at my mom. She said something like my daddy... sent her to take care of my mom. M-my mom told her she didn’t believe that, she told Sam and Donna that my daddy loved her... and she loved him and that was something Sam would never find with my daddy.”

Marty’s heart broke with her words. Sam lied and Angel had believed those lies all this time. “Oh honey, Sam lied. She wanted what she couldn’t have, so she told lies. I didn’t know your mom and I barely know your dad but even I can see that he loves you so very much. All these men love and adore you and they are hurting because you won’t speak. I can see the pain in your daddy’s eyes when he talks about your mom. Sweetie, Sam was not telling the truth. I can see that your daddy did love your mom.” Marty paused then leaned toward Angel’s ear to whisper, “And he most definitely loves you. And none of these men, especially your daddy, would ever hurt you sweetheart.”

Just then, the door to the bedroom flew open and several of the brothers walked in with sheets of plywood and tools.

Diabolus looked toward Marty and glared but didn't say anything as he made his way to the closet.

The others followed him.

Memphis was next to walk into the room, he stood there and just stared at the open closet. He headed toward it and disappeared into the small enclosure, following the other men.

Marty didn't say anything to the men. She hugged Angel tighter. "Oh baby girl, I wish I could tell you things are gonna be alright." She shook her head. "I have a feeling this isn't over yet. I can tell you one thing, Sam won't get anywhere near you again. Now that your dad and his men know about her, they won't let you down. And neither will I," Marty vowed. Shaking her head, she told Angel, "I came here looking for Sam because I made a promise to my dad. I told him I would find her and tell her, but she didn't care. Now I can go home with the knowledge that I did what I said I would do."

"Take me with you," Angel begged.

Marty shook her head. "I can't, Angel. You belong here with your daddy and your uncle and these guys. They love you."

Angel looked her in the eyes, searching for something, some hint of love, maybe. "B-but you could l-love me too. Couldn't you?"

"Oh sweet baby girl, I love you already but you don't belong to me, you belong here." Marty hugged her tight. "I live far away from here."

"Where do you live?" Angel wanted to know.

"I live up north in a small town in Montana. I stayed with my dad in the house I grew up in. He owned a ranch and we had horses and workshops. Me and Dad, we made knives and daggers from raw steel." She let out a sigh. "Then before he died, he wanted me to find Sam and tell her to come home.

When I told her about dad, you heard what she said about that. So I guess I'm going to head home alone."

"Take me with you," Angel repeated.

"Awe sweetheart, I would love nothing more, but you know I can't. You don't belong to me. You belong here with your dad, your uncle, and this MC."

Angel truly began to sob.

Marty held her close and after a few minutes, she whispered, "I don't know what made you so afraid, but you need to tell your dad whatever secrets you are hiding."



Memphis stood at the edge of the partially open closet door. He could see and hear the two of them sitting on the bed. His eyes narrowed as he realized Angel was talking to Marty. She had actually been saying words to her. Something she hadn't done to anyone here in over a year and half. For some reason, that just pissed him off.

Just then, Diabolus and the others were coming back from doing the work required while in the tunnel. They were grumbling and talking amongst themselves.

When Diabolus saw Memphis glaring at Marty, he held his hand up to hush the men and he asked, "What the hell is going on?"

Memphis turned his head and said, "Angel is talking to her."

Diabolus frowned. "What do you mean? Talking to her?" He shook his head. "Actually saying words and shit?"

Memphis nodded. "Yeah, actually saying the words. She hasn't spoken out loud to anyone here in a year and half but

she knows this woman for two days and she's talking to her? Just ain't making any sense."

Just then, Zeus came to the open bedroom door and told Angel, "Come on baby girl." He was looking at his daughter. "We're moving you to another room."

Angel grabbed her blanket and her bunny. Taking Marty's hand, they walked to the door.

Zeus turned and walked down the hall to the room next to his. He opened the door and motioned them both inside.

Angel kept a hold of Marty's hand and they walked in together.

"Oh look Angel, this room is really nice and bigger than that other room," Marty told her.

Angel shrugged.

Zeus nodded and looked down at Angel. "We'll bring your things in here and I'm right next door if you need something baby girl."

Memphis came to the doorway and motioned for Zeus to join him.

When they stepped out into the hall, Memphis glared at his brother and said, "Angel was talking to her. *Actually* talking."

"When?" Zeus frowned.

"A few minutes ago. I didn't hear everything she was saying cause she spoke so softly but Marty was telling her she had to leave and something about not being able to take her with her. She told Angel that her place was to stay here with you and the rest of us." Shaking his head he admitted, "Angel sure didn't like that."

Zeus looked back into the room and caught sight of his daughter. She was looking so sad, and she had been crying.

Just then, Grave Digger came up to him and growled, "I found out where Sam got her info on that tunnel."

"Where?" Zeus's frown deepened.

“Would you believe a travel brochure?” Grave Digger shook his head. “When Marty was telling us the story, I thought something sounded familiar but I didn’t know what it was. It was a story about a gangster. It wasn’t Al Capone who stayed here but Alfonzo Raggetti. In fact, Raggetti ran a bootlegging job from here. That’s why there are tunnels.”

“*Tunnels?*” Zeus barked. “As in more than one?”

Grave Digger nodded. “There are at least three but don’t worry, I sent Scout and two other brothers looking for them.”

“Well, they’d better find them fast.” Zeus ran his hand over the back of his head. “Angel’s life is on the line here and I won’t have that.”

“I really don’t think Sam is stupid enough to come back here and try to take her,” Memphis told him. “I mean she ain’t the smartest cookie in the box but she ain’t dumb either.”

“I beg to differ with your statement, there kid.” Grave Digger scoffed. “Sam is actually *that* damn dumb.”

“We have to be on alert until we can find all three tunnel systems and can block them all.” Zeus growled. “I won’t put my daughter’s life on the line, not ever again. Same as I won’t put our lives on the line. Cuz you know as I do that if Raggo knew these tunnels existed, he would lead his men in here and kill us all in our sleep. I’ll be damned if I’m gonna let that happen.”

Stella came looking for them to announce supper was ready.

Zeus stepped into the bedroom and called out to Angel, “Come on baby, supper’s ready.”

Angel grabbed Marty’s hand and tugged her toward the door. Marty dragged her feet but went with her anyway.

Zeus shook his head. When Marty got close to him, he told her, “Thank you for being here for her. I don’t know what Sam and Donna told her but because of you, she’s coming back.”

Marty shook her head. “Don’t give up on her, like you said she’s coming back and one day, she’ll be back. Her fears are

legit. Sam terrorized her, but Angel is coming around. It's just gonna take time."

Zeus nodded as he stepped aside.



Marty looked up and saw Memphis' glare. She hesitated briefly then Angel pulled her along. When they passed Memphis, she felt his eyes staring a hole in her back and she shivered as she moved toward the main room.

When she and Angel walked into the main room, she heard complete silence. Taking a deep breath, she tried not to make it about her. She sat down next to Angel.

Just then, Stella brought Angel's meal and she nodded toward the buffet line. "Everyone helps themselves around here for supper. I figure you can walk up there and choose your own."

Marty nodded. "Thank you for telling me." She waited until Stella went back to the kitchen before she got up and went over to the buffet table. When she looked at her choices, she knew what game Stella was playing. She saw that Shrimp gumbo, and peanut Thai like chicken were the main choices tonight. So she couldn't eat anything she fixed. There were also ham sandwiches and hot pulled pork sandwiches. There was fruit salad which had sunflower seeds. But there was bread, so she took a couple chunks of bread and some fruit. Then she went back to the table and sat with Angel.

Once she placed everything down and sat, she noticed Grave Digger sitting across from Angel.

He looked at her sparse plate and shook his head. Then he went to the buffet and took note of everything on the menu. He glanced at the kitchen.

Stella and the two other women were snickering and staring at Marty.

He didn't like the look in their eyes. He shook his head and took his plate back to the table. Sitting down, he looked over at Marty and asked, "So what exactly are you allergic to?"

Marty chewed her bread slowly and told him, "Shellfish and peanuts but I don't like pork either as it doesn't agree with my body. It's hard for me to digest, so I just don't eat it anymore."

"Hmmm." He thought for a moment then said, "Sam was allergic to peanuts too but she ate ham all the time. She used to have a rash that drove her bonkers, do you know what caused that?"

Marty shrugged her shoulders. "Probably the ham. It would give her hives but it would make me puke until it was out of my system. I just couldn't eat it. Sam, she knew ham was her downfall. She loved it, but it didn't love her back. I just avoid all pork products when I can."

Angel finished her plate and looked over at Marty. Then she yawned.

Marty smiled and said, "I think it might be a cute little girl's bedtime."

Angel frowned at her and shook her head.

"Oh yes, young lady. Bedtime for you. We can go take a bath then I can read you a story before you go to sleep ok?"

Angel smiled and nodded. Grabbing her hand, she hurried Marty up and they walked down the hall.

Zeus came over and sat down by Grave Digger. He looked at Marty's plate and just shook his head. "She sure didn't eat much did she?"

"Boss, she's allergic to shellfish and peanuts and she doesn't eat ham or pork of any kind. Her body just doesn't handle it well. What did you expect her to eat when the cooks went out of their way to make foods that she can't eat?" Grave Digger asked him.

“She could have asked Stella for something else,” Zeus told him.

“Not when Stella told her we help ourselves around here with the options available. She has her own pride and she won’t beg anyone,” Grave Digger told him.

“Where did Angel go?” Zeus looked around.

“Marty told her it was bath time and then she would read her a book before bed.”

Zeus raised his brows in surprise. “That’s all it took?”

Grave Digger nodded. “That’s all it took.”

“Anne used to do that every night,” Zeus admitted.

“I know, I remember.” Grave Digger sighed.

“But she’s not Anne.” Zeus growled.

Grave Digger reached out and put his hand on Zeus’s arm. “She isn’t trying to take Anne’s place. But think about it man, when was the last time Angel had a bath?”

Zeus frowned. Then he turned his head and gazed down the hall. “I guess I left that up to Donna didn’t I?”

“Yeah brother, you did. But I don’t think Donna cared one way or the other if Angel ever had a bath, do you?”

Zeus hung his head. “Some father I am. I never really noticed my own daughter needed me.”

“You want my opinion on this?” Grave Digger asked.

Zeus raised his head and nodded.

“I think Marty is making progress with Angel because she’s giving her options. She’s telling that girl to trust you and the guys that live here. She isn’t taking your daughter away from you, but I do think because Marty is telling her to trust you again, that your daughter is looking at you and us with different eyes.”

Zeus stared at him for a long moment. “I guess we’ll see won’t we?” He got up and walked over to sit down next to his brother.



Marty laughed and splashed Angel back in the tub and then she grabbed a towel and told her, “Ok, time to get out.”

Angel stood and leapt at her.

They both laughed as she got dried off and into her night clothes.

“You gonna read me a story now?” Angel whispered.

“Sure. I’ll even let you pick out the book,” Marty told her.

Angel smiled and ran off to her old bedroom, since they hadn’t moved everything over yet. She grabbed some books and went back to the bedroom where Marty waited for her.

Marty was waiting in bed for Angel.

Angel jumped onto the bed and snuggled up to her for story time.

Twenty minutes later, Angel was sound asleep and Marty smiled as she put the book away.

She shut the light off and snuggled down with the tiny girl and let sleep take her.

She wasn’t sure how long she’d been asleep but when someone grabbed her by the hair and yanked her upright, Marty was jolted awake. She turned her head to see Sam holding her hair in a tight grip.

Sam punched her in the face. “I owed you that one sister,” Sam growled softly. “Raggio wasn’t happy when I didn’t drag your ass back with me.”

Marty tried to shake off the punch and glared at her sister. She noticed the black eye Sam had along with the swollen cheek and jaw. She felt her own eye throbbing and beginning

to swell as Sam pulled her out of the bed. She knew she couldn't look for Angel but she hoped she was hiding.

Sam threw her down to the floor and snarled, "Where is the little brat?"

"I have no idea," Marty admitted.

Sam leaned in close to her sister's face and sneered. "At least you're here. I can take you now and come back for her later." She motioned at Marty with the knife in her hand. "Get your lazy ass up and moving and for god's sake be quiet. If anyone finds us, I will kill you before they get to me. I got nothing left to lose at this point. So don't test me."

"Where are we going?" Marty asked. "They found the tunnel in Angel's old bedroom."

"I know!" Sam snarled. "But there's another tunnel near the kitchen and no one is there at the moment." She leaned close to Marty and hissed at her. "And like I said, you'd better not be loud." She grabbed Marty by the hair again and shoved her toward the door.



As soon as they were gone, Angel popped out from under the bed and stared at the door. She sneaked up to it. She laid her head up against the wood but she couldn't hear anything. She opened the door and stepped out of the bedroom but the hall just looked empty.

Taking a few steps, she suddenly stopped. She turned her head and looked at her daddy's door. Tears were running down her face but she thought about Marty and Sam's knife. She ran to her daddy's door. She had to wake him up.

She sneaked over to the bed and looked at him.

Zeus was sound asleep.

Trembling, Angel had to take a deep breath before she got closer. “Daddy,” she barely whispered. “Daddy wake up.” She poked at his shoulder. Her voice was barely there, so Angel poked his shoulder again. “Daddy,” she called out louder. “Wake up!” She poked him again and this time Zeus groaned and turned, moving away from the poking. “Daddy, please wake up. I need you.”

Zeus opened his eyes and slowly turned his head. He stared at his daughter standing next to his bed. “What did you say, baby?”

“Daddy, I need you,” Angel whispered a little louder.

Chapter Nine

Zeus didn't feel like opening his eyes, but when he heard his baby girl whispering and crying, he slowly opened them and gazed at his little girl. "What do you need, baby?"

Tears ran down her cheeks and she hugged her bunny close to her chest. She whispered something as she stammered.

"What...what did you say?" he asked in confusion.

Angel repeated herself with just a bit more voice, "S-Sam came back and s-she took Marty w-with... her."

Zeus felt a rage growing in his chest. *That bitch had gotten in here again?* He swung his bare leg over the side of the bed and grabbed his jeans.

Angel backed up until she hit the wall behind her as she watched her dad getting dressed and he was getting madder. He kept grumbling and shaking his head.

Zeus pulled his boots on and grabbed his cut without putting a shirt on. Then he went to the door and stepped out in the hall while shouting out names, "Memphis, Diabolus, Grave Digger, wake up and get your asses out here. Shooter, Blaze, Scout, I need everyone awake and out here now!" Then he turned back to his bedroom and walked over to Angel. He squatted down and saw her distress. He so wanted to take her in his arms.

When he reached out to do that, Angel cringed.

"Oh baby, I'm not mad at you. I'm mad because Sam got back in here." He tried to explain. "Don't be afraid of me, please baby, please don't be afraid of daddy. I would never hurt you. Baby girl, I love you."

Just then, men poured into his bedroom.

Memphis looked around the room and finally saw Angel. "What the hell is going on here?"

Zeus snapped his head around and told him with a snarl, "Sam got back in here and this time, she got Marty."

“What the hell?” Memphis growled. “How did she get in here? We blocked the tunnel.”

“Yeah, but Grave Digger said there were three separate tunnels, remember?” Zeus stated. Looking back at Angel, he asked her, “Angel, did you hear which way she got in?”

Angel nodded but was too afraid to speak. Instead, she grabbed her dad’s hand to lead him down the hall then to the kitchen. When they got there, she pointed at the kitchen door.

Memphis and Diabolus pushed the door open, flipped on the lights and they looked around the room. They saw no sign of anyone else in the room. Memphis looked back and shook his head. “There isn’t anyone in here.”

Zeus quickly lifted his daughter into his arms and walked into the kitchen. “Are you sure she said the kitchen, baby?” He looked around. “I don’t see anything.”

Angel struggled to get down and she too looked around. Then she sat down on the floor and began sobbing.

Zeus just stood there and felt helpless. He was happy that Angel had come to him and that she had actually spoken but he didn’t know how to reach her now.

Grave Digger joined them in the kitchen. He immediately went to Angel and sat down with her. “Hush baby girl. We’ll find your Marty.”

Angel looked at him and whispered, “S-Sam hit her.” She sniffled “S-she was going to take her back to Raggo. She’s going to hurt her some— more.”

Grave Digger snapped his head up and glared at Zeus. Looking back at Angel he had to ask, “And you’re sure she said she came through a tunnel, that they were coming here, to the kitchen?”

Angel nodded.

Diabolus and Memphis were opening doors and lower cabinets, searching every nook and cranny of the kitchen.

Memphis opened the door to the pantry; it was a large but narrow room. He turned on the lights and they all saw the

mess inside. Several bags of flour, and other items were dumped on the floor... footprints led to a gap in the wall. He pushed on the gap and a door swung open. "I found it," he called out. He kicked the stuff on the floor out of the way and swung the door open fully. Then he could see the steps leading down into darkness.

Zeus looked over his shoulder seeing the steps too and growled, "Get some light and follow that fucking tunnel. I want to know where it comes out."

Memphis and Diabolus along with two others all grabbed flashlights then disappeared into the tunnel.

Zeus heard his daughter sobbing, so he turned back to her.

Angel looked up at her dad and whimpered. "Please find Marty, daddy. Please, please, please?"

Zeus knelt beside her, taking her into his arms, he looked into her eyes. "We'll try, baby, we will do our best."

Angel nodded, then threw her arms around his neck. "I'm sorry daddy. I should have told you about Sam but she scared me. She hurt mama bad and threatened to hurt me. She told me she would know if I said anything to you, so I was afraid to talk at all."

Zeus just held his baby girl. His heart was sore from not realizing what had gone so terribly wrong. "Oh baby, I'm just happy you came back to me. I've missed you so much."

Angel snuggled into her daddy's neck. "I missed you too," she whispered softly, "Marty told me I should tell you about what happened to mama, but I was just too scared. Sam said she would know if I told you and she would come back and take me away and I would never see you again. S-she would cut out my— tongue and I would never be able to talk again. A-and that if I talked— she would come back and h-hurt you too. S-stick her knife in your heart and that you would die, just like Mommy." She looked at her father. "I didn't talk because I didn't want you to die daddy. S-Sam is an evil, mean person— she's just mean."

Zeus growled under his breath but he held his little girl tight. “She won’t hurt you or me baby.”

“B-but she plans to hurt Marty and Marty is a good person, she has a nice heart.” Angel sobbed. “She hit her and said— she would come back for me because she knew I-I was hiding.”

Zeus hushed her crying and held her.

They heard movement coming from the tunnel.

The first one through was Memphis and he had someone over his shoulder. He snarled as soon as he saw Zeus standing there holding Angel.

“What did you find?” Zeus asked, staring at the bundle over his brother’s shoulder.

“We found Marty.” Memphis told him. “She’s still alive but that bitch cut her. I don’t know how bad, but we found more blood at the exit of the tunnel. Whose blood is anybody’s guess at this point?” He went to lay her down on the floor.

Grave Digger called out to him, “Bring her back to the Infirmary before you lay her down. My supplies are all there.”

Everyone followed Memphis as he carried her down the hall. When he gently laid her on the bed, Marty groaned. There was blood on her shirt, up near her shoulder.

When Grave Digger tore her shirt open, he found the cut wasn’t as bad as he thought. He began washing the blood off the area of the wound and saw where the knife sliced into her upper chest. Grave Digger shook his head and growled, “This is one lucky woman, boss. She somehow deflected the knife or this would have been a bad hit.”

Marty groaned and slowly opened her eyes. “Shit, that hurts,” she whispered. When she looked up and saw Grave Digger, she winced and called out, “Angel? Is she okay?”

Grave Digger smiled and nodded. “She’s just fine, honey.” Then he motioned over his shoulder.

Marty struggled to raise her head, but she saw Angel in her daddy’s arms. “Oh, thank God.” She then seemed to wilt.

Tears rolled down her cheeks as she shook her head. “Sam has gone off the deep end. She’s always been half crazy in her thinking but this is so much worse. Thank God, she never got her hands on Angel.”

Grave Digger nodded. “Yeah, she told us what Sam said and did when she came after you.”

Marty stared up at him. “She—she talked to you?”

Grave Digger smiled wider and nodded. “She sure did, in fact she went into her dad’s bedroom and woke him up and told him you were in trouble. That’s how we knew where to look for you. She told us about the tunnel in the kitchen.”

Marty swung her eyes over to Zeus and Angel. “Oh baby, I’m so glad for you. You did it.”

Angel nodded. “I did it. You told me Sam lied to me and that I should go to Daddy. You were right. He does love me.”

“Yeah baby girl, I do love you,” Zeus announced to the room.

Memphis smiled and held out his arms for Angel. “How about you come with me and we’ll go get some ice cream while your daddy talks to Marty?”

Angel stared at him. “And you all are n-not going to be mean to Marty?”

Memphis stared at her then shook his head. “We won’t.” He looked upset.

“Y-you promise?” The little girl glared at him. “I don’t want her...” She swallowed heavily and finished, “To get hurt no more.”

The room went quiet.

Angel looked up at her dad.

Zeus nodded. “No one will be mean, I promise.”

Angel finally went over to Memphis.

Zeus told him, “Keep a close eye on her.”

Memphis rolled his eyes and said, “You know it, brother.”

After Memphis and Angel left the infirmary, Zeus looked over at Marty. “Tell me what happened tonight and don’t you leave out a thing. I want to know what was said and what your crazy ass sister did.”

“We were sleeping when Sam grabbed me by my hair and practically dragged me out of the bed. Then she hit me and said, I had that coming because when she went back to Raggio’s place without me, he hit her and told her to try again and she better bring me back or she better not come back at all.” She shook her head. “She had a black eye and bruises on her face and jaw.” Taking a deep breath she continued, “She asked me where Angel was but I told her I didn’t know. I was hoping Angel had heard the noise and hid but I couldn’t take the chance to look...all I could do was pretend I was in that bed by myself. She said she would come back for Angel but at least she could take me back to Raggio. She could always come back for her anytime.” Then she looked at Zeus. “Heaven help me, I left with her.”

Zeus slowly shook his head as he stared back at her.

She sniffled and swiped at her tears. “I figured I could keep Angel from getting hurt if I did. When I told her you guys found the first tunnel, she said she knew that but there was another tunnel in the kitchen. I really didn’t have a choice. So I went with her.” Marty shuddered. “We didn’t get very far inside the tunnel when Sam told me I always made her life harder because I did the right thing, she said, ‘what’s the fun in that?’ That I had to spoil her new setup by showing up, ruining her life like always...” Marty let out a deep breath and took a minute to get herself on track as she stared at the ceiling.

Zeus looked over at Grave Digger.

Grave Digger shook his head.

Marty spoke again, “I told her I was doing what Dad wanted by trying to find her and asking her to forgive him. She told me she didn’t give a shit that she would never be Sam Shaw again. She’d left that loser in the dirt a long time ago and she wasn’t ever going back to Montana with me, she would rather die first.” She paused then admitted, “We made it

to the end of the tunnel about that time and when we stepped outside, another woman was there. Sam called her Donna and asked what she was doing there. Donna looked at both of us and said something about being called out by Raggo and how she wasn't going to go along with that. She had a gun in her hand but Sam pushed me in front of her and the shot went wide. Then Sam stabbed me and she took off. The other woman ran after her. I crawled back into the tunnel and I-I don't know how far I got before I passed out."

Grave Digger pressed a pad onto her shoulder.

Marty hissed in pain as she glared at him.

He just shrugged. "The blade didn't nick your artery so that's a good thing, all I can do is use super glue to hold the edges together. Now we have to hope it works or you're going to need to go to the hospital and get stitched. If a doctor sees that wound, he's going to ask questions we don't have answers for." He stared at her. "Why didn't you lay her out?"

Marty released a sigh. "I wanted her to leave without finding Angel." She looked away.

Grave Digger kept staring at her. "You don't want to fight your own sister either."

Mary had a tear rolling down her cheek. "My dad loved her..."

Grave Digger shook his head.

"So what do you think your crazy ass sister is going to do next?" Zeus asked.

"I don't know." She shrugged. "I don't think she can go back to Raggo, not anymore. I don't know if Donna will really track her down and kill her or if Sam will kill her. I saw a flash of...I guess you could say it was like a wildness in Sam's eyes tonight that I've never seen before."

"Like what?" Zeus wanted to know.

"She's losing it big time." Marty looked over at him. "She feels cornered like a wild animal and she'll fight anyone who comes after her. She's got that look of desperation, and she is

slipping over the edge of sanity... it won't be long before she can't find her way back."

Zeus snarled. "Your sister is a menace to others. She'd be very happy if the stabbing she gave you tonight killed you. So don't expect me to have any feelings of sorrow for her."

"I know that," Marty admitted. "It's just sad though because my dad gave us every opportunity to make a life of our own. He wanted us to reach for the stars and he encouraged us to find ourselves. But that bounced off of her, she never listened to anyone, but herself. Sam would always say she could never be as perfect as me." Then she looked down at her damaged hand. "She hit my hand with a hammer over and over because she claimed I took that gold medal away from her. I didn't, but she claimed I did. She washed out in the third round. I went all ten."

"Is that why she likes blades so much? Because she can't shoot?" Grave Digger asked.

Marty snorted. "Oh, she can shoot, she just likes the feel of the blade in her hand. It makes her feel like she has control of everything with a knife in her hand. We both grew up with a blade in our hands. But she can shoot better than most of the men you have here."

Zeus looked over at Grave Digger and then back at her. "You must have known she was like this, right? Even before she crushed your hand."

Marty again looked away. "I did, but deep down, I just never wanted to believe it. I should have seen it coming. But why would I ever think she would come up on me while I was sleeping and do something like that? She's my twin, my blood."

"But you know now Marty," Grave Digger told her. "So why did you just let her knife you? You know moves that could have saved you this pain. Why let her take you through that tunnel?"

She turned her head to look at him. "In the bedroom, I wanted her to leave without Angel. I told you that."

He stared down at her. “I saw the wound and if you hadn’t moved the way you did. I figure you would have bled out in that tunnel before we ever found you.”

She remained silent as she bit at her lip.

Zeus stepped closer to the bed and looked down at her. “I am again thanking you for saving Angel’s life. But now we have another problem.”

She stared up at him. “What?”

He nodded. “Angel has become so attached to you.” He shrugged. “In fact, I’m even surprised that she left this room just now.”

Marty’s eyes filled with tears.

He went on, “If you die...” He looked up at the ceiling, as he seemed to try to control his emotions. “We may lose her again to her fears.”

Grave Digger stared at him.

Zeus then looked back down at her. “You need to forget that this fucking psycho bitch is your sister. You need to realize that she will kill you the very next chance she gets.” He leaned in close. “But you may get lucky and never have to face that if I find her first.”

Chapter Ten

Angel burst into the room and made her way over to the bed. “Are you okay now?”

Marty smiled and nodded. “Yep, Grave Digger took good care of me.”

Angel looked scared for a moment then had to ask in a whispery voice, “D-did Sam get away?”

Marty looked at the little girl and reached out to take her hand. “Yes baby, she did but you don’t have to be afraid. You got your daddy and all the rest of these guys to protect you and I’m still here. Do you understand what that means?”

Angel nodded. “I think so.”

Zeus knelt down beside his daughter, “Baby girl, Marty’s is right. Every single one of us is here to protect you. She won’t take you away from us.”

“But she took Marty!” Angel stated with tears in her eyes.

Marty smiled at her. “No sweetie, she really didn’t. I only went with her to protect you. I didn’t want her to hurt you. I’ll know better next time, if there ever is a next time.”

Angel tried to crawl onto the bed with her.

Zeus scooped her up and said, “It’s time you were back in bed, young lady.”

“I wanna sleep with Marty.” Angel whined.

“Come on Angel, you can sleep in my bed tonight,” Zeus told her. “Marty has a bad ouchy that hurts and she needs to sleep alone tonight.”

“But she’ll be all alone. What if she gets scared?” Angel argued.

“Don’t you worry sweet girl, I’m right in the next room,” Grave Digger told Angel.

”If she gets scared she can call me and I’ll come in and keep her company.”

Marty nodded at her. “That sounds okay, doesn’t it?”

Angel laid her head on her daddy’s shoulder. “I guess so. I’ll be back early in the morning to see if you are okay, ok?”

Marty smiled. “Yeah, that will be fine. Good night, sweet girl. Thank you for being so brave.”

Zeus nodded at her and carried Angel out of the room.

Marty looked down at her torn shirt then up at Grave Digger. “I think I’m going to need a new shirt.”

“I think you should stay right where you are tonight,” he told her. “If you need anything, you call out for me and I’ll hear you.”

Marty nodded. “Ok, but I still need a new shirt. I’ll just go change and come back here.”

Grave Digger helped her to her feet.

She swayed a moment then got herself grounded and left the room.

Marty walked to the bedroom she shared with Angel. She found her backpack and put it on the bed. She dug out a clean shirt then kept digging until she found what she was looking for at the bottom of the pack.

She took the treasured item out of the pack. Taking a deep breath, she gazed up at the ceiling. “Thank you dad for always guiding me in the right direction, give me the strength I need to see this through and—dad, please forgive me for breaking my promise.” Pulling the knife from its sheath, she stared at the blade. She now remembered the time when she and her dad formed this blade. He had always been so patient with her as she learned his craft. Those were the good times. They had laughed and were happy as they made the knife together. It was the last blade her dad forged with her before he died.

She changed her top and slid the blade down the back of her jeans. She would carry the weapon until Sam was caught. She hated the thought of someone’s blood marring the finish but it would be better than dying because she didn’t have it with her when she needed it.

When she got back to the infirmary, she noticed Grave Digger was no longer there. When she glanced at the door separating the rooms, she found him sitting at his desk reading. She let him know she was back as she laid down on the bed and closed her eyes.

Hours later, Marty woke slowly as she sensed something. Someone was in the room with her. At first, she didn't recognize the difference but then she smelled it, the thing that had disturbed her sleep. The scent of aftershave. Slowly, she reached for the knife at her back and brought it around to her front. She moved as if in her sleep, rolling over and at the same time, she brought up the knife in her hand to place the sharp edge against the person leaning over her.

The man standing there cleared his throat but he didn't move.

She slowly opened her eyes to find Diabolus very close, almost on top of her. He had a contemptuous look on his face as he could now feel the blade of the knife pressed against his groin.

Grave Digger silently walked into the room and growled out, "Diabolus, move away from her."

Diabolus did not move. "Uh uh, I ain't moving till she puts away the blade, she's got on me. I like my dick right where it is, thank you very much."

Grave Digger slowly moved to stand behind her and that's when he saw the knife. "Marty, please don't cut him. I hate doing stitches cuz I can't sew a straight line for shit."

Marty drew the knife away but her eyes never left Diabolus.

Diabolus stepped back in a hurry.

"What do you want here?" She snarled. "Don't you believe in personal spaces?"

"I was just checking to make sure you're still breathing." He snarled back.

Marty sat up and stared at him. “Why would you be interested ? Ever since I got here, you’ve been looking for a reason to kick me to the curb. You wouldn’t care one way or the other if I were breathing or not.” She slipped the knife back into the sheath.

Grave Digger watched the both of them with a perplexed look on his face.

Just then, Angel popped into the room followed by Zeus.

Zeus noticed the tension right away but Angel seemed unaware that anything was amiss.

Marty sighed, but she refused to spoil her day, so she smiled at the little girl. “Good morning, Angel.”

“Morning,” Angel replied sweetly as only a child could do. She studied Marty a bit then asked, “Are you feeling better today?”

“You bet, how about we go and get something to eat? I don’t know about you but I’m hungry.” Marty slowly moved to get up and side stepped around Diabolus, her eyes never leaving his. Once she was away from him, she took Angel by the hand and together, they walked out.



Zeus looked from Grave Digger to Diabolus and asked, “What the hell is going on here?”

“That woman almost unmanned me, that’s what.” Diabolus growled.

“Well, you were leaning over her when I walked in.” Grave Digger shook his head. “You may not like her and that’s your right, but as Zeus has pointed out several times, we don’t hurt women here. You need to back off, brother.”

Zeus glared at Diabolus. “In case you missed it...Because of Marty, Angel trusts us enough to start talking again. Angel was so scared this whole time that she couldn’t even speak, man. Marty has protected her like we should have. She damn well gave my daughter back to me. She isn’t Sam.” He stared Diabolus down then turned and walked out.

He went to join his daughter and Marty for breakfast. When he got to the table, he saw just buttered toast on Marty’s plate and shook his head. Making his way over to the buffet, he inspected the food that had been set out for the morning meal.

Even he could smell the peanut scent from just about every dish there. Peanut butter chocolate chip muffins and sweet rolls covered with chopped peanuts. Zeus growled under his breath and stomped into the kitchen.

Stella and the girls looked up with innocent expressions on their faces.

He snarled at them. “I think you ladies can take the rest of the day off, and tomorrow too, for that matter.”

Stella glanced at the other two and then back at Zeus. “Why? Did we do something wrong? We thought the muffins and the sweet rolls would be a treat this morning.”

He scoffed then shook his head. “A treat? I’m thinking not.”

“We came in this morning and found a mess in the pantry,” Ina explained. “There was flour, sugar, cans, and so much shit on the floor that it took us an extra 30 minutes just to clean it up. So we needed something quick for breakfast after that.”

He kept glaring at them. “Do you want to know why there was such a mess in here this morning?”

Stella just shrugged. “We figured Marty came in looking for something to eat and left a mess for us, out of spite.”

“Dammit, you three are the most jealous, petty females.” Zeus spat. “Sam got back in here last night. She came in right through there.” He pointed at the pantry.

At this announcement, the women all looked at each other with shocked expressions on their faces.

Zeus watched them closely as he went on, “She came in through a tunnel we found in the pantry and was gonna take Angel as a hostage for her boss Raggo.” He stared at them. “You know, *Raggo*, the president of the Dragon’s Breath MC? The man that wants us all dead?”

The women were quiet as they stared back at him.

“So, instead of losing Angel, the woman y’all are treating like shit convinced her sister to take her instead. She took Marty out through the tunnel and damn near killed her. In case you didn’t know, Sam is Marty’s twin. Her *evil* twin.”

Stella snorted. “That whole damn family is fucked up.”

Zeus growled and stepped closer to Stella.

Just then, the door opened and Angel walked in. She had tears in her eyes as she stared at Stella. “I h-heard what you said. M-Marty is not bad, she’s a good person.”

The three women wore expressions of shock at the sound of her voice. She hadn’t spoken in well over a year and they feared she would never speak again.

Stella looked up at Zeus. “She’s talking? That’s wonderful.”

“Do you know why she’s talking again?” he shouted, “I’ll tell you why...Marty! She took care of her for the last several days and convinced Angel to finally speak to me.” Zeus gave them a look of pure malice. “Now get the hell out of here and stay out of my way. I’m going to make Marty some food she can eat.”

Ina looked stunned as she shook her head. “I’ll make her something she can eat.”

“Don’t bother. I don’t trust you three anymore. I was told this shit had been going on since Marty got here. You three bitches have been trying to poison her.” Zeus glared at them then he headed to the fridge. Opening it, he took out a carton of eggs.

When he shut the door, they were still standing there.

He growled beneath his breath. “Move it *ladies*. I already told you to get the hell out of my kitchen.” He walked over, grabbed a pan, and ignored them as they left.

Angel came over to the stove and pulled a chair up. “Can I help, Daddy?”

Zeus smiled as he looked down at her precious little face... all the rage in him disappeared. “Sure kiddo.” He sprayed the pan. “Grab some eggs and let’s get to Crackin’.”

Angel took one in her little hand and tried to crack it but instead, she dropped it on the floor. Her little hands stilled as she looked up at him. Her expression was full of fear.

Zeus smiled at her as he shrugged his wide shoulders. “I’ll crack the eggs and you stir ‘em.”

She stared at him then a smile appeared on her lips as she moved over and took the fork, stirring the eggs.

They worked together as they spilled stuff and splattered stuff. She giggled and he chuckled. They were making a mess. When they were done, the eggs didn’t look the best but Zeus put them on the plate anyway. He handed the plate to a smiling Angel.

The little girl looked proud as she carried the plate out and put it on the table in front of Marty.

Marty looked surprised as she gazed down at the scrambled or rather...double scrambled eggs then up at little Angel. “Aww sweetheart, you didn’t have to do that.”

Angel smiled proudly. “Me and Daddy made them for you. I hope you like them.”

Marty looked up at Zeus. “Thank you.”

Zeus nodded as he sat down and sipped at his coffee.

The whole room full of men watched in awe as Angel began chatting away to Marty and her dad.

“...Then when we splashed all the bubbles away, we knew bath time was over,” she was telling her dad about their bath.

He nodded his head and kept smiling at her.

Marty finished her eggs and coffee.

Angel tugged her hand as they both got up. “I wanted you to help me pick out some outfits for my Barbie.” She dragged Marty down the hallway.

Click and Captain came over and sat down by Zeus.

“Kinda cool that Angel got her voice back.” Captain smiled at his prez. “She looks like a happy kid now.”

Zeus nodded at him. “And I plan to keep her that way.” He turned to Click, their IT guy. “Did you find out anything else about this place? Like where that fucking third tunnel is yet?”

Click stared at him. “Yeah and you ain’t gonna believe what I found. You know that Italian guy that built this place. Alfonzo Raggetti? He still has family in the area. And just who do you suppose his great grandson is?”

Zeus looked thunderous as he gritted his teeth. “Raggio? Raggio belongs to that family?”

Click nodded. “Sure as shit and rumor is that Raggetti not only bootlegged out of this place but he also left a safe full of money behind. I figure that’s the real reason Raggio has been after us to run us out of town, so he can move in here and find great granddaddy’s fortune.” He shrugged. “Of course, that’s just rumors but somebody believes them.”

“What about the third tunnel?” Zeus asked. “Did you find it? We really need to lock that damn thing down. I made a promise to Angel to keep her safe and I’m not gonna fail on that.”

“I’m pretty sure I know where it is.” Click gave him a nod. “But I need to get into your office to check it out.”

Zeus stood from the table. “Well shit, let’s do this. The sooner we find it and block it off the sooner I’ll feel better. We need to make sure Sam can’t get in here again.” He looked around at the men who were listening. “Or for the Dragons to get in here and kill us all in our fucking sleep.”

The men in the room grumbled and growled at this statement as they shifted in their seats.

Zeus nodded his head slowly as he kept spanning his gaze around at his men. “Yeah, brothers...It’s like that. So be on your fucking toes or you could end up dead. I want all of you to be real suspicious of anything that seems off and aware as all hell. And don’t trust the women who have been in the kitchen either. Those bitches make my stomach turn.” He turned and headed down the hallway.

Click and Captain followed him.

Memphis and Diabolus did as well.

They all ended up in the president’s office.

Click reached for the cell phone in his back pocket and scrolled the screen then he studied the drawing he’d found. Raising his head, his gaze roamed all around the room. He went over to the large filing cabinet, feeling along the wall.

Everyone watched him.

Suddenly, Click paused. Turning his head to look at his prez, he grinned. “Hope you don’t mind a little destruction, Prez.” He peeled the wallpaper away as he uncovered a touch panel. He looked over his shoulder at Zeus and said, “We need the combination before we can open it. I got to thinking and figured it’s the old man’s birthday.”

Zeus raised a brow at him. “Well, see if you’re right. Punch in the bastard’s birthday.”

Click grabbed his phone again and scrolled then he nodded. He punched the numbers in.

They all heard the click as the door opened. The wall slowly moved making a huge sound like cement moving against cement, ripping most of the wallpaper away from the sheetrock.

Zeus moved forward and peered in to see another stairway down into the darkness.

Captain looked over his shoulder at the same sight. “Fuckin’ hell, boss.”

Zeus nodded. “Grab some flashlights boys and let’s explore this thing.”

Zeus, Captain, Click, Diabolus, and Memphis went down the steps and followed the tunnel to the other end. When they opened the door, they were surprised to find themselves standing in what looked like an old garage. There were tools and auto parts scattered all over the place, covered in dust and spider webs.

Memphis walked over to one of the dirty windows and grabbed an old dropcloth, shaking it out. Using it to wipe the years of grime off of the old window, he then peered out. “Well, sonofabitch!” He turned to look at his brother. “Do you know where this comes out at?”

Zeus shook his head.

“I can see the main road to town to the left,” Memphis said. “And the highway is right down the road. It would have been a quick getaway, that’s for sure. The cops would have been left in the fucking dust while the bad guys got away clean.”

Zeus ran his hands over the back of his head and swore under his breath, “Damn it all to hell.” He looked up at his men. “We dig in and get as much information on this Raggetti guy as we can. If he left anything behind, we need to find it.” He looked over at Captain. “I want guards at both ends of this tunnel, 24-fucking-7 until we cement it.”

Memphis nodded as he looked around. “We will tear this place apart and find his secrets.”

Chapter Eleven

Zeus had a couple of men guarding the tunnel. “If Sam or the Dragons find the tunnel and get this far, I don’t want them to get any further.”

They all trudged back through the tunnel to Zeus’s office.

Diabolus heard a noise by the office door and when he went to investigate, he growled, grabbing and hauling her inside the room.

Marty stumbled as she fell to the floor and cried out.

“What the hell?” Zeus growled at Diabolus.

“I caught her hanging around the door like she was spying or something,” Diabolus explained as if the treatment was justified.

Angel came running into the room and tried to help her up. “Are you okay, Marty?”

Marty nodded. “Yeah, I’m okay. Thanks baby girl.” Shaking her head, she looked at Zeus and explained, “I wasn’t spying. I was looking at the hallway.”

“The hallway?” Zeus frowned. Stepping out, he looked in both directions down the hall and then he came back inside. “It’s just a hallway.”

Marty was holding her arm close to her body as the fall had jarred her shoulder and she looked like she was in pain. “Remember when I said my father wanted Sam and me to do whatever we wanted to? Go beyond the boundaries of everyone else. One of the things I enjoyed doing was architecture, so I took drafting classes. I was interested in the way a house gets built, you know? And it’s sort of a habit for me now to look at things no one else would notice.”

“What the fuck does that have to do with snooping around the hall, just as we were coming back from finding the third tunnel?” Diabolus asked with a snarl.

Marty glared at him. "I told you I wasn't snooping. I got to looking around the clubhouse and I noticed several areas that didn't make sense to me. The hallway just didn't look right, that's all."

"What do you mean it doesn't look right? It looks like a normal hallway to me," Zeus told her.

Marty looked around the office. Her frown deepened as she noticed the ripped away wallpaper, then she looked at all four walls.

"Now what are you looking for?" Zeus asked her.

"This room is smaller than it should be." Marty kept looking around.

"What do you mean smaller than it should be?" Diabolus glared at her.

"You got a tape measure?" Marty ignored Diabolus as she stared at Zeus.

Zeus paused, then looked at the room he called his office. "Yeah, I think so, why?"

"I need to measure this room and the room next door." She shrugged. "I could very well be wrong but something seems off."

Zeus glanced at Diabolus and shrugged. "Go get a tape measure and we'll find out."

Diabolus scoffed but left to find a tape measure.

When he came back, he helped Marty to measure the length and the width of the room. Then they went to the next room and measured there.

Diabolus stared at the numbers they found as he shook his head. He asked Memphis to help him and they measured the rooms again. Finally, he looked at Zeus. "I'll be damned, she's right boss. This room is smaller than the one next door. Two foot difference."

Zeus glared at him then looked over at Marty.

Having picked up the measuring tape, she was measuring the wall behind Zeus's desk. She walked to the short end of the room and measured that wall too. She looked up and shook her head. Turning to Zeus she said, "Let me guess there is a tunnel behind there?"

"Yeah, it has a staircase leading to a tunnel. It was pretty tight in places."

Marty nodded and turned to the space behind his desk. "I have a feeling that the wall behind your desk is hiding something." She went over and slowly moved along the back wall. Knocking every so often, most of the wall sounded hollow. When she got to the end of it, close to the tunnel her knocks sounded solid. Glancing at Zeus and the guys she said, "Something is here right behind this wall."

Memphis shook his head and did the knock thing she had just done and found the same results. He looked over at Zeus with surprise in his eyes and nodded. "She's right, something must be behind this wall right there. This part sounds more solid here than it did the rest of the way."

Click went over to study the wall. "There has to be a way to get to it without taking a sledgehammer to the entire wall." He ran his hands along the wall then paused. He found something behind the wallpaper and pushed at it.

Everyone in the room looked surprised when the wallpaper ripped as the wall itself cracked open.

Click halted as he glanced over at Zeus and at his nod...he pulled it outward.

It opened. The air behind the wall smelled musty as dust blew out. Click began coughing as he opened the door wider.

They all leaned in to look as they shared stunned expressions.

It looked like a relic from the past...an old banker's safe.

"Holy shit!" Diabolus swore as he stared at the safe. "Well, I'll be damned. She was right."

Marty just shook her head. “Yeah, how about that? And I didn’t even have to snoop on you all to find it.” Taking Angel’s hand, they both went out through the door, into the hall.

Zeus glanced from the safe to her and shook his head. He looked over at Diabolus. “Yeah, how about that?” He raised a brow at him.



Marty took Angel to her new bedroom.

“Are you okay?” Angel asked, “Does your arm hurt?”

Marty nodded. “I’ll be fine sweetheart. When I fell, I put my hand out to catch myself. Silly me, forgot I was hurt.”

“Diabolus shouldn’t have pulled on you like that.” Angel shook her head as she looked mad. Just then, her belly growled. “I think my tummy is hungry and Daddy told Stella and her friends they couldn’t cook no more.”

“Well, how about you and me go cook everyone some supper?” Marty smiled.

Angel’s eyes rounded as she stared at her. “I’m too little. I can’t cook.”

“Well, maybe you can be my helper. You can do that much, can’t you?”

Angel smiled and nodded. “Yeah, I can. I helped Daddy make your eggs this morning.”

“Yep and they were yummy too. So what should we make for supper then?”

Angel shrugged and smiled brightly. “I-I like spissetti.”

“I like it too.” Marty bopped her nose with the end of her finger. “I guess we should go and find out what we’ve got to work with. That way, we can see what we can make.”

Angel giggled. “Ok, let’s go.” She turned to go out.

Marty grimaced as she tried to move her arm. It hurt but it wasn’t too bad, as long as she didn’t try to move too fast, she thought she would be okay. She followed Angel.

They arrived at the kitchen and looked around. As Angel had said, no one was there cooking supper.

“Well little Angel, let’s see what we have to work with.” Marty washed her hands and dried them then walked over to the fridge. She opened the doors. There was chicken, hamburger and a huge pork roast that would feed a bunch of men in there. She looked down at Angel and asked her, “What do you think we should make with all this?”

Angel looked at Marty and whispered, “Spisgetti.”

Marty squatted down beside her and asked, “Spaghetti, huh?” She grinned at her as Angel had already said this.

Angel nodded. “I love spisgetti but Stella don’t like making it very much.”

Marty smiled. “Well first, let’s see if we got the stuff here to make it.”

They went to the pantry and found six large boxes of noodles. Then Marty also found the ingredients for the sauce. Marty gathered everything she would need out of the pantry. She gave Angel the noodles to carry and they took it all over to the counter.

Marty clapped her hands and smiled at Angel. “We have a lot of work to do, so let’s get busy. I’m going to give you the best job and we’ll have lots of fun.”

Marty found biscuit packages in the fridge and told Angel to grab a few like she did. Next, they found the pots and pans.

“Let’s get the sauce started first.” Marty nodded.

Angel stood in the chair next to the stove and watched her.

After pouring in the tomato sauce and all the seasonings, she then set a pan on the counter and went to the fridge. Pulling out 2 huge rolls of burger meat, she started the flame and cooked the meat. Next, she smiled at Angel. “This is the magic part.” She handed her one of the biscuit containers. “Take this and bang it on the counter.”

Angel scrunched her face up. “What?”

“Here, take it and bang that spot right there.” Marty pointed at a line on the cylindrical package.

Angel stared at it then did what she said, slamming it on the edge of the countertop.

POP!

The can broke open.

Angel’s mouth formed an O. “I-I think I broke it?” She looked over at Marty with a concerned expression on her cherub face.

Marty laughed. “You were supposed to break it.” She grabbed it from her and unwrapped the biscuits. “Go ahead and do the rest,” she said as she cut the biscuits up into smaller pieces.

The magic popping went on as Angel let out giggles each time.

After Marty mixed the garlic and butter, she showed Angel what needed to be done. Together, they dipped the rolled up biscuit dough into the garlic butter, putting them in a cupcake pan. Three pieces per space. Marty then left Angel to finish while she started the noodles to boiling. Soon the kitchen had the scent of tomatoes and garlic.

Angel was having a blast while helping dip the biscuits, laughing and singing as Marty put everything else together.

Suddenly, the door flew open and Memphis charged in. He stopped and stared at them in surprise. “What the hell are you two doing?”

“We’re making spisgetti, Uncle Memphis. And it’s gonna be sooooo good.” Angel beamed at him.

Memphis stared at the trays of spaghetti and garlic bread that had already been prepared then took in a deep breath as he raised his head to smell the air. “Damn, sweet baby if you ain’t correct, it sure is smellin’ good too.”

Marty gave him a nod. “If you want to help, we sure could use it. If you take those trays, we can serve supper. I think the table out there has all the plates and silverware already. And here’s the serving spoons and tongs.” She handed those to him. She began stacking the pots and pans in the sink while running water in them to make the washing easier.

Memphis leaned his head out the kitchen door and called for some help. He and Diabolus carried everything out.

Angel went with her uncle, leaving Marty in the kitchen alone.

She was washing the pots and pans. Just as she was finishing the last of the pans, she heard the door open behind her and glanced up.

Zeus stood there watching her.

“What?” she asked as she dried her hands off.

“It’s supper time, that means you eat with the rest of us. You should leave the cleanup for the 3 witches or if they don’t come back, the men can do it.” He growled.

Marty shrugged at him as she dropped the towel on the counter and walked out to the main room.

Everyone stood around and seemed to be waiting.

Marty stared at them then took a deep breath and walked over to get her plate. *At least there aren’t any peanuts here.* She smiled to herself.

Angel got in line behind her and helped the excited little girl to fill her plate. The two of them went over to a table, sat down and began eating.

Zeus, Memphis, and Diabolus scooped up a plate full, then went to join Marty and Angel.

Slowly, everyone else got into a line and filled their plates as well.

Smiling and saying how good it was while smearing sauce all over her face, everyone there could tell how much Angel liked dinner. Finally, she got done with her plate then went to the bathroom to clean her face and hands.

Marty placed her fork on her plate and looked at Zeus. “You have to let me go.”

Zeus ignored her statement and continued to eat.

“I don’t belong here and you know it,” she continued.

Nothing but silence.

Diabolus snorted but didn’t say anything as he continued to shovel food into his mouth.

Angel returned and sat on Marty’s lap.

Memphis had finished and got up then motioned to the others that were done. “We got the dishes.”

Someone pounded on the front door.



Zeus turned his head to glare at the door but he didn’t get up. Instead, he finished his supper.

After more pounding, he walked over to the door and threw it open. He frowned when he saw who stood there. “Can I help you, Sheriff?”

Sheriff Waylon Hibbings nodded. “I hope so Zeus. You had a woman who I believe worked here a few days ago, Donna White?”

Zeus nodded. “What about her? She was more of a hanger on and she used to watch my daughter Angel. Is she in

trouble?”

The Sheriff shook his head. “No, not exactly.” He looked beyond Zeus to the table where everyone else sat. Turning to Zeus, he asked, “Maybe you want to step outside for a moment?”

Zeus shook his head. “I got no secrets from my men, just say what you have to say.”

“Donna isn’t exactly in trouble,” Sheriff Hibblings explained. “She’s dead.”

“What?” Zeus’s eyes widened.

Hibblings shook his head. “She was found by one of your bar’s neighboring businesses when they took out the trash.”

Memphis, Diabolus, Grave Digger and several others joined them at the door.

“Near our bar?” Memphis asked.

The Sheriff nodded. “Actually, *at* your bar, she was killed there.”

“The bar has been closed the last few days,” Zeus explained. “Because of the fire and explosion we had there, days ago.”

”I know,” Hibblings said. “I’ve been keeping an eye on the place since it’s been closed, but I missed this until I got the call. I checked it out and found this.” He took out his phone and showed Zeus a photo of the back door of his bar.

Donna was strung up against the door. Her head was up, as she stared at the camera with empty eyes. A rope had been wrapped under her arms and tied to the doorknob to hold her up. Her eyes were empty and her chin was raised up because of the knife she had in her throat. The knife went in all the way to the handle and the tip was buried into the wood of the door.

“What the everlovin’ hell?” Diabolus swore.

The Sheriff sighed. “She had bruises on her body and her fingers were scraped and torn but someone held her up to the door then nailed her with that knife. The knife itself is rather

elaborate and the blade is scrolled. It's a fancy knife, I've never seen the likes of it before."

"Huh." Diabolus turned his head and stared at Marty. "We have. In fact, there's one of us here who can probably identify the blade."

Zeus snapped his head around to glare at Diabolus. He snarled under his breath and then took note of the Sheriff's interest. Rubbing his hand over the back of his head, he stated, "We've seen a knife like the one you described but the woman who owns it still has it, and she hasn't been anywhere but here."

"Can I speak to her and see the knife she owns?" the Sheriff asked.

Zeus nodded. He turned and called out Marty's name.

Marty left Angel sitting at the table. When she joined them, she stared at Hibblings. "Can I help you Sheriff?"

He scrolled through his photos and then turned the picture to her. "Do you know this knife?"

Marty took a look at the photo and went pale. She covered her mouth with her hand and took a step back. "Oh, my god."

Hibblings took note that she recognized the blade. "I'm told you might know who this knife belongs to?"

Marty nodded. "It's one of two knives. I own one and my sister owns the other."

"And do you still have your knife?" The Sheriff stared at her.

Marty nodded then reached to the back of her jeans. She pulled the blade out of the sheath then showed it to the him. "This is my blade and it is signed by my father. He created the pair of them and signed mine but Sam took her blade before he could sign hers."

The Sheriff studied the knife with interest then looked up at her. "Why would your father make both blades identical?"

"Samantha Wyatt is my twin sister."

Hibbings stared at her then looked over at Zeus, “So it’s Sam Wyatt we need to find?”

Zeus nodded.

The Sheriff shook his head with disgust. “Yeah, I was afraid of that. She’s as crazy as a loon these days. “This may not turn out so well for her.”

Chapter Twelve

Marty shivered at his words. Sam's spiral to insanity was worse than she'd thought. She knew in that moment that there was no coming back from something like this. Sam had crossed a line that she never should have crossed. She had committed murder.

Marty took a step back from the group and walked backward until she hit the wall behind her. She felt like she couldn't breathe, she could not take a breath. Then she slid to the floor and wrapped her arms around her knees. Hanging her head, her hair hiding her face, she gazed at the floor in a dry eyed stare. The pain in her soul told her this was real and it felt like half of her was just gone, torn away from her by her sister's own actions.

She was truly alone in the world now and that scared her. All thoughts of finally connecting with Sam were long gone, but it took this act by her sister to make her realize just how far Sam would go. Her father always told her she was the more practical sister as Sam was the impulsive one. Yet, this wasn't impulsive...this was evil. Rage at Donna had pushed her sister over the edge of no return.

Had Sam killed Donna on an impulse or on purpose? No one but Sam could answer that question. And why did it matter? It didn't anymore. Just the truth mattered and the truth was her sister was a killer. She paused and swung her head around when Angel called her name.

Angel looked so worried and concerned as she started to come over to her.

All the sudden, Stella was there as she grabbed the little girl and kept her away from Marty. Stella looked angry and she wouldn't release Angel.

Right now, Marty needed to feel the little girl's arms around her neck. She needed something good, something to chase away this darkness that had enveloped her world.

That's when the tears finally came. She was irrevocably alone in the world now. Suddenly, Marty couldn't stand the mistrust anymore either. She scrambled to her feet and ran down the hall to the bedroom she shared with Angel. Slamming the door, she dropped on the bed while sobbing.



She missed hearing Angel screaming her name and Zeus turning his head around to see Angel trying to escape Stella's hold. He quickly went over to his daughter and took her into his arms while glaring at Stella. "What the hell do you think you're doing?" he growled.

"I was stopping her from going to a murderer," Stella justified her actions.

"It was Sam who killed Donna, not Marty." Zeus snarled.

Stella just shrugged. "Same family."

"Get out of my clubhouse!" Zeus told her coldly. "Get out now. You are no longer welcome here."

Stella looked shocked at his words. "Y-you...can't be serious? Banger is my old man, you can't just toss me out like this!"

One of Zeus's men got up and walked over to her. "Yeah woman, he can." Banger told her. "This is his club, his house. You and your sister Ina have been pulling some funny shit here lately and I've been looking the other way when I should have put my foot down. Well, this is me putting my foot down. We ain't married. I never claimed you in front of my brothers and frankly, the shit going on around here has to stop. We got rid of Sam and Donna and now it's time to clean the rest of the house." He nodded. "The President gave you an order, woman,

both you and Ina can go now. No time for packing, we'll send you your stuff when we find the time."

Ina stood from the table where she had been sitting and walked to the front door as she stated, "We need our purses at least."

Banger went to the kitchen where they usually left them.

Once he came back and handed them the purses, they walked out.

No one said a word.

Angel smiled up at her dad, though she also kept silent.

The Sheriff just stood there and watched it all go down, but he didn't say anything.

Memphis looked over at him. "Is there anything else?"

The Sheriff shook his head. "No, I just wanted you to know about Donna and see if you knew what happened or who killed her. I guess we all know now who did it."

Memphis nodded. "We do. And..." He gazed around at the men and he paused at Diabolus. "It was Sam, *all* the way." He then returned his gaze to the Sheriff.

"Ok, well if anything else comes up, give me a call." The Sheriff turned and left.

Zeus walked over to his brother Memphis and handed Angel off. "Watch her closely. I need to go talk to Marty." He kissed his daughter on the cheek. "You stay with Memphis ok?"

Angel stared at him through her tears. "Please Daddy, don't let Marty leave."

"I'm gonna try, baby," Zeus promised. "I am really gonna try." He turned and walked down the hall.



Marty was lying on the bed, her sobbing was over, and she stared at the ceiling. When Zeus knocked on the door, she didn't bother answering. When he knocked again, she ignored it again. She really didn't want to see or talk to anyone just then.

The door opened and Zeus walked into the room. He shut it behind him and leaned back against it. "You didn't answer the door."

"I didn't answer it for a reason," she told him quietly.

"Tell me why."

"I think you know why." She turned her head to stare at the ceiling, all the while ignoring the man standing there. "I don't want to talk to anyone."

Zeus stalked over to the bed to sit down on the edge of the mattress. "Look at me." He growled.

Marty wouldn't take her eyes off the ceiling. "You have to let me go. I want to go back home."

"No," he told her. "We can't protect you if you leave the compound."

Marty didn't say anything.

He leaned over her and cupped her face with his hands gently moving her head so he could see her face. "You can't leave here. I won't let you go, not while Sam is still out there looking for you. She came here looking to spill your blood, why I have no idea but I'm not going to let that happen. She's off her rocker now and she's already killed one person, I'm not going to let her get to you or Angel. And I know she's still after Angel."

Marty closed her eyes and shook her head. “Why? Why would Sam want to hurt that sweet little girl? What does she hope to gain? That’s what doesn’t make any sense.”

“I don’t know,” Zeus admitted. “But you have done nothing but help us since you got here, you saved my daughter’s life the moment you showed up. You helped her to find her voice again, you found out about the tunnels and didn’t hesitate to tell us. You risked your own life to save my daughter a second time. You aren’t your sister, you would never do what she’s done.”

“But your people still blame me because Sam *is* my sister,” she finally voiced her concern. “They will always blame me for her deeds because they can’t blame her.” She shook her head. “I can’t live like that again. That was my childhood every single day until I turned fourteen and won that stupid shooting contest. Sam had everyone fooled, everyone but me, I knew she always hated me but I never imagined her hate would turn her into what she’s become.” She closed her eyes and shook her head slightly. “Do you know why she used dad’s knife to kill that woman?”

Zeus frowned then asked, “Why?”

“Because she knew I had the twin blade. If I hadn’t had that knife with me, anyone that knows me would have thought I committed that murder. She was trying to set me up for murder.”

At this point, Zeus wasn’t shocked by her admission. He knew it was true. Sam had always been unhinged and she would try something like that. He didn’t know how to convince Marty to stay. He then did something he had been wanting to do for some time now. He leaned closer and his lips brushed over hers.

Marty jumped then moaned as Zeus crushed her mouth with his own.

They both felt desire and as he deepened the kiss, Marty returned it while wrapping her arms around his neck.

It seemed to go on and on, as they got lost in each other.

Zeus finally broke the kiss and stared into her eyes.

“What the hell are you doing?” she finally dared to ask him.

Zeus did not answer as he groaned and went back to her mouth for more. The kiss went from warm to hot in a nanosecond as Marty moaned in need. He lifted himself up and moved over her as he continued the earth shattering kiss. He lowered himself down, his bulge grinding into her core. Breaking the kiss, he whispered, “I want you.”

“I want you too.” She slowly shook her head. “But we can’t.”

“Why the hell not?” Zeus stared at her.

“Because I’m not staying here, remember?” she whispered. “Because you and your men don’t trust me. They will not accept me. They will always feel like I am the same as Sam.”

Zeus growled and looked down at her. “I know you aren’t Sam. And I have trusted you with my child over and over. I never would have followed Sam into a bedroom. I never would have kissed Sam and I most certainly never would have gotten hard at the thought of bedding her.”

Marty looked into his eyes as Zeus ground his hard cock into her core area again and she whimpered. Closing her eyes she whispered, “God help me, I do want you.”

Zeus didn’t wait any longer. He stripped her clothes off and then his own. He didn’t stop until they were skin to skin and they both groaned together at the feeling.

Marty sighed as his hard body rubbed against hers. Her fingers ran over his chest.

When her fingertips brushed his nipples, Zeus had to hiss then he groaned. He kissed her again and then spread those kisses along her skin. Stopping at her breasts, he took a nipple into his mouth.

Marty was mindless with need and heat as he switched to the other one. Her body heated up and she felt like she was on fire.

He slid himself along her folds to spread her juices over his cock. “I can’t wait anymore,” he whispered. “I need to be inside you.”

“Go for it,” she whispered back as she gasped for air.

Zeus surged inside her and Marty cried out as he filled her to the brim. “Damn woman, you are so tight.” He growled in her ear as he pulled back to surge in again.



The pain she felt when he broke through her innocence quickly faded to pleasure. The man was large everywhere and she loved the feel of his body on hers. It felt so right. He was big enough he filled her up and long enough that he had to work his way in.

Then he suddenly slowed down as if he wanted this to last as long as it could. Bracing his hands on the mattress on either side of her, he lowered his head and kissed her deeply while seated inside her.

Marty felt entirely taken by him. Filled and whole. She never knew such a feeling existed before this. Like they were almost one person for a flash of a minute. It may have been brief, but it felt like they might have just touched eternity together. She had no time to think about this though as he took her to the top.

They raced to that top together as he picked up the pace again, his plunges deep and hard, his mouth remaining over hers. His tongue sparred with her as he tucked his arms under her to bring her closer if that was possible.

They raced for that last little bit and when Marty got there, she flew over the edge. She knew Zeus wasn’t that far behind her. She cried out as she reached total bliss in his hold.

He finally pulled his lips from hers as he roared while filling her up then he opened his eyes and looked down at her. Brushing his lips over hers, they completed the moment with another kiss. Their eyes remained locked as they came together.

With a gentle movement, Zeus pulled out and moved over to her side. He traced her body with his fingers and gazed at her as his fingers ran along her skin while his eyes followed the path. Then he came to her core and halted. “Oh honey, why didn’t you tell me?” he asked her as he stared at the traces of blood on her inner thighs. “I could have been more gentle if I’d known.”

Marty peered up at him. “Maybe I didn’t want you to be gentle, maybe I wanted exactly what you gave me.”

Zeus leaned over her and kissed her again. This time he took the kiss all the way and when he finally broke it, they were both panting for air.

Just then, someone pounded on the bedroom door and Zeus growled. He got up and pulled his jeans on then the rest of his clothes. He shook his head as he walked over to the door and opened it.

Diabolus stood on the other side and they spoke for a moment.

Zeus shut the door again and swung his gaze over to Marty. “Sam has been at it again. This time, she managed to pull us into her mess.”

Chapter Thirteen

Marty could feel tears burning her eyes. She closed her eyes for a moment then sat up. She began looking for her clothes. When she was dressed, she went with Zeus out to the main room.

Sheriff Hibblings was back and the fire department chief had come along with him. Both men looked exhausted and they smelled a little smoky.

Marty looked at the Sheriff and asked, “What did Sam do now?”

“Looks like she went back to the bar and when she found Donna gone and police tape around the place, she snuck in and set the structure on fire,” Hibblings told her. “A neighbor saw the flames and called it in right away but there is still a lot of damage. I have an APB out for her.”

Marty went over to a table and sat down. She was sick of this mess. Sam really had gone too far this time and it was time to stop this madness. She reached for her phone and dialed a number. When her attorney answered it she told him, “It’s time, go ahead, and do it. She’s so far out of control she’s a danger to herself and everyone around her.” She listened for a moment then agreed, “I know but I tried to reach her with no success, I don’t have a choice.” She hung up and looked over at the Sheriff. “Sam will be coming here real soon.”

“How do you know that?” Hibblings asked while looking puzzled.

“My father did very well in his career and he set us up with a trust fund right after we were born. We also had a trust from our Grandfather as well. Once a year, dad would add a bunch of money to our trust, so we wouldn’t ever have to work if we didn’t want to. So when we were eighteen years old, we could access both of our trusts. She’s been living off granddad’s trust fund for some time now.” She paused and let out a deep sigh. “When she left at fifteen, my dad gave me the power to shut down her funds if I saw the need. He wanted us to have the

money for something good but he also felt in his heart that somehow Sam would use the money for her selfish needs and maybe do bad things. Before he died, he restructured the trust so if I found she was misusing the money I could stop it.”

Everyone there stared at her in surprise at this news.

“She let out a defeated sigh and went on, “I just called our attorney and told him to shut off her funds. As soon as she realizes this has happened, or she goes to purchase something and finds she is out of money... She will call dad’s attorney and he will inform her that only I can restore her account.” Marty shrugged her shoulders. “So she’ll be coming after me.” She got to her feet and whispered, “God help me, cause she’ll come at me with all the anger of a wounded animal... Full of rage and desperate for survival.”

“Why would she do that?” Hibblings asked her.

“Sam needs money, she’s been living off of her trust fund, and she can’t live without it. I think, well... at least in the last year or so, she’s formed some kind of habit and she makes a certain withdrawal nearly every day. When she can’t get it, like I said she will call dad’s lawyer and she’ll suspect I stopped it and she will be pissed.”

Zeus looked over at his brother and some of his men. Things were becoming clear now. Why they hadn’t put it together until now, he didn’t know. Not until Marty mentioned she must have a habit and hanging with the Dragons MC, it could only mean drugs. Sam had changed over the last few weeks she was allowed to be here. She would sometimes leave for hours or days at a time. Then for her to end up with the Dragons? The pieces of the puzzle were starting to fit together. They had only known Sam for the last two years but she made her presence well known in that amount of time.

“Are you sure she’s on drugs?” Memphis asked Marty.

Marty shrugged. “She’s on something. I looked into her eyes and saw my own reflection. After she attacked me, I was on pain killers for a long time. Until I didn’t recognize the woman looking back at me from the mirror. Then I went cold turkey and I thought the pain would kill me but I found a way

to stay off the pain pills and I eventually became my old self. It took me two years longer than it should have to get through the PT but I did it. It was a struggle but I did it. I can see the same signs in Sam that I used to see in myself.” She shook her head. “The sad thing is I don’t think Sam will ever give herself the chance to get better, that’s the first step. You have to admit to yourself that you have a problem before your recovery will work. Without the desire and the need to get better, you’ll never make it.”

“How did you get addicted in the first place?” Diabolus wanted to know.

“One night when I was fourteen, she took a hammer to my shooting hand. She broke so many bones in it that the doctors couldn’t count them all. They told me I’d probably lose the use of my hand altogether. Then before my father could reach us, she used that hammer on my head and left me unconscious with a fracture to my skull. I spent my fifteenth birthday in the hospital and the next three years in rehab. Until then, I never realized how much it drove her crazy whenever I won those shooting competitions. She actually intended to end me then. I know that now, she *meant* to kill me.” Shaking her head, she added, “Now she’ll come here and try to kill me because I stopped her cash flow.”

Diabolus snorted but didn’t say anything.

Zeus looked up at him and glared.

Sheriff Hibbings shook his head. “Well, we will do our best and keep our eyes open and try to capture her before she comes here.”

“Zeus,” Hibbings looked over at him. “We just came out here to let you know about the bar. Sam is in a lot of trouble and when we catch her, she’ll be doing some time behind bars. We have her on video for these crimes.”

Marty just watched and listened to their conversation, but she didn’t say anything. Sam had a way of getting around unseen and she knew Sam would come for her when she couldn’t get any money. Marty just had to be ready for anything.

Then she remembered she never got her blade back from the Sheriff. Marty looked over at the other man. “Do you still have my blade?”

Hibbings shook his head. “No, I gave it back to Zeus.”

Marty looked over at Zeus. “I want it back.”

Zeus glanced over at his brother.

Memphis shook his head. “I don’t have it.”

Zeus looked around at the others and it seemed no one knew what happened to her knife. “I’m sorry honey. I don’t know what happened to it.”

Marty was shocked. “I have to find it.” She began to shiver. “I need that blade.”

Zeus moved toward her bringing her into a hug. “We’ll find it, honey. We’ll find it.”

Marty trembled and shook her head. “You don’t understand.” She tore herself away and ran for the kitchen.

Zeus just watched her run then he looked around the room at his men. “Find that fucking knife and two of you get up on the roof and stand guard. If Sam comes here looking for Marty, I want to know about it.”

“What about Marty?” Memphis asked.

“Just leave her be.” Zeus shook his head. “She’s trying to wrap her head around the fact that Sam wants her dead. I gave you that knife brother and you’d better find it.”

The Sheriff and the Fire Chief shook their heads and turned to leave.

Everyone else scattered.

Zeus went to find his daughter. He needed to be there for Angel. He wasn’t about to leave her alone right now, not with Sam on the loose. His daughter needed him to be there for her, to protect her from a madwoman. He knew deep in his heart that Sam would be crazy enough to come here for Marty.

He walked down the hall toward the bedroom he'd given Angel and Marty. He found Angel laying on the bed reading one of her books.

She looked up at him with sad eyes. "Is Marty okay?"

He sat down on the bed and studied her for a moment. "I hope she is sweetheart."

"You have to help her Daddy. You can't let Sam get her. Sam will hurt her bad." Angel began to cry.

Zeus reached out for her and she jumped into his arms. She buried her face into the crook of his neck and just sobbed.

Her sobs were breaking his heart and he held her close.

"Please Daddy, please don't let Sam hurt her?"

"Sam isn't gonna hurt anybody here." Zeus kissed her cheek. "I promise. I won't let her hurt Marty or you or anyone. Come on, let's get you to bed." Zeus pulled the covers down and Angel wiggled into place. Then he covered her up and leaned over her to kiss her forehead.

When he pulled back Angel begged him, "Please don't leave me alone Daddy. I'm scared."

Zeus toed off his boots. Turning toward his daughter, he promised her, "I'm not going anywhere baby girl." He crawled into bed with her and laid on top of the covers. "Go to sleep now, daddy's here."

Angel closed her eyes and snuggled down. Her rabbit was in her arms and everything in her world was good.

Zeus laid on his back and stared at the ceiling as he thought about the last few days. In his mind, none of it made sense to him. So many of his questions about what happened to Anne had been answered but now he had a slew of new questions and again, he had no answers.

His MC had been betrayed from within and that didn't sit right with him at all. Donna had paid the ultimate price for her betrayal but Sam had not. Then when they looked into the history of this place, damned if they had more questions than answers. One question that he found himself wondering the

most about was why, if Raggo had been kin to the original owner, why didn't he buy this place? This old place had been the home of the Brothers since they got here seven years ago. Now in the last few days, they had found three tunnels and today, they found an old safe. A safe filled with money and if you looked real hard at the bank bands on the money, it came from all over the country. Had Alfonzo Raggetti been a bootlegger and a bank robber?

He shook his head and knew that when this was over, he was gonna have to turn the money they found over to Hibblings. He knew the MC couldn't keep the money, it wasn't theirs, but it also wasn't Raggo's. It was old money anyway. If anyone started spending it, they would be locked up in the police station answering some questions as to where it came from. People would notice bills from the 1920's.

He closed his eyes and fell asleep for a while. Then suddenly he snapped his eyes open and immediately looked for Angel, she was still asleep beside him. Then he looked toward the door and suddenly, he felt a deep dread in his chest.

He got up and left the room quietly. He opened Memphis's door and shook his brother awake. When Memphis opened his eyes, Zeus covered his mouth with his hand and then he whispered. "I need you to stay with Angel. Something's going down and I don't want her left alone."

Memphis nodded and sat up, grabbing his jeans and pulling them on as he picked his weapon up from the nightstand.

They both made their way to Angel's room.

Memphis looked at Zeus and asked, "What's going on?"

Zeus shook his head. "I'm not sure whatever it is, I am sure it's going down tonight. I have this feeling in my gut." He looked over at the bed and said, "Stay with her. Guard her with your life. If Sam does show up, she might come after her and I'm not gonna lose her too."

"You got it." Memphis then grabbed Zeus as he turned to leave. "Don't get dead brother, we both know Sam is out for

blood and it won't matter to her whose blood it is."

Zeus nodded. "I'll be careful. Just keep my baby safe."

Memphis just shook his head.

Zeus left the room.

Creeping down the hall, he stepped quietly until he got to the end of it and he looked out into the main room. It was dimly lit by a light from the kitchen and there were a lot of shadows but Zeus stood perfectly still for what seemed a long time. He went to take a step finally, then paused as he heard a sound.

"Hello Sam," Marty said from the shadows.

Zeus dropped to a squatting position and drew his gun from behind his back.

"Well, damn." Sam laughed from somewhere close. "I was hoping to surprise you. Guess I should have known it wouldn't work a second time huh, sister."

Chapter Fourteen

Sam slowly walked into the main room while looking around to see where her sister was located.

Marty looked up from her position on the floor beside the kitchen door. The harsh lights hurt her eyes as she had been sitting here in the dimness for a long time. “The first time was bad enough, but you knew that when you did it.”

Sam quickly turned toward her sister’s voice and nodded. “Yep, sure did. I had hoped to knock you off that pedestal you were sitting on, so I could shine. Only that never happened. Daddy always sided with you, never with me.”

“Oh what a pity, poor neglected Sam,” Marty mocked her.

“You need to unfreeze my money.” Sam growled.

“Nope, I’m not gonna do that,” Marty told her.

“You have to, I got bills to pay,” Sam snapped, no longer sounding amused anymore.

“No Sam, you live free with that man of yours. You’re a junkie and I’ll be damned if the money dad slaved over to provide for us goes to pay some fucking dealer.” Marty stated as she got up slowly. She had a knife in her hand, it wasn’t her blade, but she at least had a weapon.

Sam noticed it right off the bat. She smiled and mocked her sister right back, “Oh Marty, what happened to your blade? Did the police take it?”

Marty shook her head. “No, but they got yours didn’t they?”

Sam lifted the blade in her hand and smirked at her.

Marty was shocked. “What the hell?”

“The one I left with Donna was a cheap imitation, not the one dad made. I’ve been saving it just for you,” Sam gritted out. “I want my fucking money sister.”

“No.” Marty shook her head. “And don’t ever call me sister again. You are not my sister. You’re just a monster now.”



She and Sam began to circle each other. Sam would move closer and Marty would move away from her. They didn’t dare look away from each other, so neither of them noticed Zeus crouched in the doorway.

They also missed when Diabolus and Grave Digger joined him.

All three men watched as the sisters circled each other and Sam jabbed out at Marty. Marty ducked and avoided her blade. Sam snarled at the miss, as she got reckless. Marty had to defend herself then Sam ducked as Marty’s blade struck the doorframe to the kitchen.

The blade snapped because it was never meant to be used like she was using it.

Marty stumbled away from Sam.

Sam burst out into laughter. “Oh *sister*, you should have known that was going to happen. Daddy’s knives are so much better.”

Marty moved away.

Sam stalked her.

Diabolus called out Marty’s name and when she looked over at him, Diabolus tossed her knife to her.

Marty raised up to catch the blade handle in midair.

Sam snarled. “You cheater.” Then she lunged forward to stab her sister in the back but Marty ducked and Sam fell forward. She fell on the floor and screamed as she scrambled away.

Marty wasn't about to stab her in the back. She backed off and twirled the blade in her hand as she waited for Sam to get up.

Sam got back onto her feet.

Marty crouched and motioned for Sam to come get her.

Sam screamed and ran toward her but Marty wasn't where Sam thought she'd be.

"You bitch." Sam snarled. "Why couldn't you just die when I stabbed you in the tunnel? I need that money! If I don't give Raggo the rent, he'll never let me see Lily again."

Marty paused long enough to ask the question, "Who the hell is Lily?"

Sam smiled and charged her sister again and this time she nicked Marty's arm.

Marty screamed, bringing her knife up as she moved fluidly. She caught Sam in the shoulder.

"You bitch!" Sam cried out. "You cut me." She stumbled back "You actually cut me."

"Well, you cut me first," Marty reasoned.

"Yeah, but you weren't supposed to be able to get me!" Sam yelled at her.

"So who is Lily?" Marty wanted to know.

"She's my daughter. Mine and Raggo's kid. She's three years old and some of the money I get every day goes toward her. Now that you froze my money she might not stay healthy very long."

Marty snorted. "Your Raggo sounds like a winner. He must be a hell of a man."

"Actually he's neither but he found me again, after Lily was born So he took her and said if I could afford the apartment and nice things I had, then I could afford to pay him to babysit while I started working for him. Now that's not going to work for me anymore. So I have to get my kid and get the hell out of this stinking town. All thanks to you."

Marty shook her head. “I didn’t tell you to kill Donna or Anne and threaten a little girl into silence. You did that yourself.”

“Raggio wants this compound,” Sam revealed. “Although, for what I’ll never know. This place is nothing but a pig sty. He’s the one who told me about the tunnels and what I needed to look for when I came here. He wanted Angel as a bargaining chip to get the Brother’s out of this town. He’s been thinking of expanding his operation here.”

“You wanna know the real reason he wants this place?” Marty teased her sister.

“Like you would know.” Sam scoffed.

“This place once belonged to his great grandfather. A bootlegger and a criminal. Rumor says he had to bug out of this place, leaving behind a safe full of money.”

Sam paused and stared at her with a calculated look on her face. “Let me guess, you guys found the safe?”

“Yeah, Sam, we found the safe,” Zeus called out to her.

“Was there any money in it?” Sam asked while never taking her eyes off her sister.

“Yeah, it was full of cold hard cash,” Zeus told her. “Cash, we plan to turn over to the cops.”

Shocked, Sam turned to look at the two men standing in the hallway. “Why the hell would you do that? Cash is cash, it’ll spend the same.”

Zeus shook his head. “No, the bills in the safe are from the 20’s. They don’t look the same and no one could spend that money anyway. Not without getting hauled in for it.”

Sam threw her head back and started laughing. “Oh, now that would just piss him off royally. But he deserves it. All that trouble he’s gone to, just to get money that isn’t spendable.” She laughed some more. Then she turned back to Marty.

Marty could see something, an unhinged look in her sister’s eyes. She tensed and got ready for just about anything. Sam was known to be very sneaky with her attacks and Marty

knew that first hand. She switched her blade from her left hand to her right and saw Sam smile.

Sam was still under the impression her right hand was lame. She charged at Marty her again and again.

Marty managed to stay out of the blade's way, but she could see Sam was getting tired and sloppy.

When Marty wasn't fighting back, Sam finally noticed. "Fight me, damn it!"

"No, you aren't up to this fight and I'm not taking advantage of that," Marty stated. "You're either too drunk or crashing from the high you're on and I won't fight with you, not like that."

Sam snarled and faked coming at her again. Only this time, she knew the direction Marty would go, so she whirled around and was there waiting. Her knife sank into Marty's side.

Marty reacted in a way Sam never saw coming. Her knife sank into Sam's belly just below the sternum.

Sam had a surprised look on her face. She looked up at Marty and almost smiled. She stumbled away and fell on her knees to the floor. Holding Marty's knife against her belly she groaned as she lowered herself onto her back.

Grave Digger moved closer to check her wound.

"Don't bother." Sam grunted, yet she allowed him to check.

He did so but did not bother to remove the blade.

Diabolus stepped over to press a hand towel against Marty's side.

Marty grabbed it as she moved in closer and knelt beside her sister on the floor. "I'm sorry Sam," she told her quietly.

Sam barked out a laugh. "Don't be sorry sister. I would have done the same to you had the choice been mine." She groaned as the pain washed over her. "Damn, I can't believe you did it. I thought you had a dud hand, but knowing you, I

realize that you worked to get it back from the damage I did to it. You were always the good sister.”

Marty’s tears ran down her face. “I’m sorry.”

Sam grabbed her arm with a bloody hand. “Don’t be sorry, I deserved this and so much more. At least I won’t go to jail this way. But listen, you have to get Lily away from Raggo. Make whatever deal you have to but get her clear of him. He doesn’t give a damn about her and she deserves better than that. Promise me, you’ll get my daughter away from her father and keep her safe. Promise me that much?”

Marty nodded. “I will Sam. I’ll get her and raise her myself.”

Sam groaned and shook her head. “She’s a lot like you. I could never figure her out. I just want better for her than living with her dad. There is more than enough money in my trust for her.” Tears rolled down her face. “When she’s old enough, you tell her that—that her mother loved her, will you?”

Marty nodded as tears rolled down her cheeks. “I’ll tell her about you Sam.”

Sam barked out a laugh as blood seeped from her mouth. “Oh God, don’t tell her everything about me, that will just give the kid nightmares. I know I don’t deserve it but tell her I loved her. I did some pretty shitty things because I had to protect her from her father.” Blood dribbled freely now from the corner of Sam’s mouth and her teeth became stained red.

Zeus came over and knelt down.

Sam turned her head to look at him then shook her head. “Can you ever forgive me for what I tried to do to you?”

Zeus stared at her for a moment then squatted closer to her. “If you had just come after me, I might have been able to forgive you but you came after my family. My woman and my child. There is no way I can forgive that.”

Sam closed her eyes and whispered, “I understand. Just don’t put my sins on Marty and Lily. They had nothing to do with me doing you dirty.” Sam then reached out a bloody hand to Marty and she held on tight. “I’m scared Marty. I’m so cold.

I never knew dying was gonna be this painful.” Her breathing was labored now and her eyes were glazing over then she gasped her last breath.

Marty sobbed as Sam exhaled her last breath.

Zeus reached out and passed his hand over her eyelids to close them.

“The badge is on his way,” Diabolus broke the quiet in the room.

Zeus looked over his shoulder and nodded at him. Then he looked over at Grave Digger.

Grave Digger shook his head. “There was nothing I could do to save her. She was too far gone, the blade just made it easier for her to let go.”

Marty looked up and frowned at his words. “What is that supposed to mean?”

“Honey, your sister was a junkie,” he explained. “The drugs she took, hastened her death. With her heartrate and adrenaline, she had no chance. Normally, for a heathier person, that wound wouldn’t have killed her this quickly.”

Marty wept as she shook her head. “Why Sam...why?”

“She knew what she was doing.” Zeus tried to justify what had happened. “She said it herself. She didn’t want to go to jail, so she let herself die instead.”

Marty quit sobbing and wiping her tears away, she nodded. “Yeah, that sounds like the Sam I grew up with. I’m not surprised she left a daughter behind. My dad would have loved to know that before he died.”

“What are you going to do about that?” Grave Digger asked her.

“Whatever I have to. I made a promise.” She shook her head at the irony of it all. “Same as I did when I came here.” Marty straightened her shoulders. “With both my dad and my sister gone, it is up to me to make the decisions now.”

“What are you going to do?” Zeus asked.

“I’m going to get Sam’s daughter out of the Dragon’s den and take her home,” Marty told him.

Grave Digger touched her shoulder, “Honey, you’re not going to make it far. You’re bleeding. We have to check your wounds.”

Marty looked down at her side. Sam had stabbed her there with her blade and she’d somehow forgotten about that. “I’m okay, I’m gonna be fine.”

Grave Digger nodded. “I know that but I still need to check your side. At least to put some more glue on you if nothing else.” Shaking his head he said, “Hibbings will be here to collect Sam’s body soon and if I don’t look at the cut, he’ll insist that you go in to the hospital.”

Marty got to her feet as she swayed a little.

Zeus caught her to help her stand.

“The hell he will. I hate hospitals and I just won’t go.”

Zeus shook his head. “This trip sure hasn’t been good for you honey, first the biker got you, then Sam came along and now this. At least we can hope that this is the last time you get hurt.”

“I still have to deal with Raggo,” she reminded him.

“*We*, Marty. We still have to deal with Raggo.” Zeus held her steady. “You aren’t going up against that man alone. Not while I’m still breathing.”

Chapter Fifteen

Two hours later, Marty had been glued to Grave Diggers satisfaction. Now, she sat and watched as her sister's body was loaded up into the ambulance, on its way to the morgue.

Waylon Hibblings was satisfied that Sam died in a fair fight as Grave Digger, Zeus, and Diabolus all told him the same story. He saw Marty's wounds and everything looked just the way they'd told it.

Hibblings also looked at the safe while he was there and took the ledger book Zeus had found when they found the safe. He just shook his head at the evidence and said he would send his deputy sometime today to gather everything he could.

The sun was up when everyone went to bed.

Marty laid in her own bed and she thought about what happened.

Her door opened and Zeus slipped inside. He shut the door and walked over to the bed. He was dressed in just his jeans and he was barefoot. Sitting on the edge of the mattress, he just looked at her. He dragged the covers down and took off his jeans. In just his briefs, he crawled into bed with her. He cupped her face with his hands and kissed her.

Marty moaned as he deepened the kiss.

After a long moment, he pulled away.

She stared at him. "Is Angel okay?"

He nodded. "Memphis is guarding her." He kissed her temple and whispered, "Sleep now. You have been through hell. Tomorrow we'll face this together. It's been a hell of a long ass day." He snuggled in close to her and promptly fell asleep.

Marty laid there staring at nothing, she felt she was being sucked into a world she was unsure of. She looked over at him and wondered if she would ever see him again. She knew she would never forget him, that was for sure. The man was

dynamic and powerful, yet he could be so gentle and warm. He had come to mean something to her. Something she never would have imagined he would.

She knew once she got Sam's daughter away, she would go home, taking Lily with her. But she also knew it would just about kill her to say goodbye to Angel as that little girl had crept right into her heart. The problem she faced was the fact that she couldn't stay here. Sam had ended that dream by simply being Sam.

Zeus's men wouldn't want her around as a reminder of the shit Sam had pulled and she wouldn't subject Lily to being this close to her dad.

She knew the first thing she had to do was come to some kind of deal with this Raggo. That would be the tricky part. She had no clue what kind of man this Raggo really was but she knew he wasn't the best kind of man.

Marty was so tired but her mind wouldn't let her sleep, so she rose from the bed quietly, got dressed and left the room. She walked down to the main room and made some coffee. She sat in the kitchen drinking a cup while staring at her and Sam's phones.

Before she could change her mind, she grabbed Sam's phone and called Raggo.

"What the hell you, want bitch?" a man's snarl came over when the call was answered.

"I want Sam's daughter." Marty snarled back. "Name your price."

"Who the fuck is this?" he growled.

"This is Sam's sister, her twin sister."

The man went silent for a moment and then laughed. "I thought you were a figment of Sam's overactive brain. I never thought you were real."

"Yeah well, I am very real and I want Sam's kid," Marty replied. "Name your price."

"How much is Lily worth to you?" Raggo asked snidely.

“How much is she worth to you?” Marty countered.

“How much of that million dollars that is Sam’s trust is left?” Raggio asked. “She’s been getting a good sum of money every day, so I know there can’t be much left.”

Marty snorted. “There is about seven hundred thousand left in her account.”

“Then that’s the price I want,” Raggio snapped. “I’ll hand over the girl when you hand over the money. All cash if you don’t mind, I don’t take no fucking checks.”

“I need a picture of the girl, you know as proof of life thing,” Marty told him. “It’s gonna take two days to get that kind of cash together. I want to see the girl unharmed and alive. Because if you try and fuck me over, I will find you and I will kill you.”

He snickered over the phone. “Fat fucking chance of that, bitch.

She ignored his insults and his attitude as she thought of something else. “And I want a signed paper that you give up all your paternal rights to Lily. When I get Lily and that signed paper, I’ll give you the money.”

“Lady, you aren’t in any position to tell me what you want.” Raggio growled.

“I’m not an easy mark like Sam,” she stated firmly. “I don’t have a habit to feed and I’m sane. I need to know that little girl is alive and unharmed. If you want that kind of money, you’ll comply with the requests. Nothing on your end means nothing on my end.”

“Well damn, you think you’re all high and mighty, don’t ya?” Raggio scoffed. “Talk is cheap. Just get me the money and I’ll give you the brat.” He ended the call.

She picked up her cup again and stared ahead, making plans on how to do this risky meet with a man that sounded like a pig and a monster.

“What the hell did you just do?”

Marty turned her head to glare at Diabolus as he stood in the kitchen doorway. “I just made a deal with the devil.” She got up, poured the rest of her cup down the sink drain, and rinsed it out. She headed to the door then turned to say, “And no, I don’t regret it. I would do it all over again, given the circumstances.”

She walked back to the bedroom and when she opened the door, she saw that Zeus was gone. She crawled into bed fully dressed and pulled the blankets up over her head. Tears rolled down her face, but she knew she’d made the right choice. Her side throbbed but she couldn’t care about that.

She didn’t remember falling asleep but it was hours later when she woke up to find Angel in bed with her.

“Are you awake now?” Angel asked her.

Marty smiled and nodded. “Yeah baby girl, I’m awake.”

“Daddy said I couldn’t wake you up but if you’re awake that’s ok,” Angel reasoned out.

Marty smiled. “I missed you.”

“I missed you too.” Angel wrapped her arms around her neck.

Just then, Marty’s belly growled.

Angel giggled. “Your belly has a lion in it and he just made a hungry noise.”

“He sure did.” Marty nodded.

“Good, cuz my belly could use something to eat too.” Angel grinned.

“Well then, let’s go get something to feed these lions.” Marty threw the covers off and they both got out of the bed.

Walking down the hall, they entered the main room and everyone turned to stare at them. Mary ignored it. Soon enough, she wouldn’t have to deal with this anymore. She went over and grabbed a sandwich for herself while Angel got one for herself. She carried her plate over to a table and they both sat down to eat.

Zeus watched her eat and curled his lip.

When they finished their lunch, he looked over at Memphis.

Memphis got up and went over to the table. “Come on Angel, we need to move all your things over to your new room and you have to decide where to put them.”

Angel smiled and got down, “Ok, Uncle Memphis. Let’s go.”

Zeus got up as soon as they were gone. He came over along with Diabolus and a couple of the other men. “I understand you made a phone call this morning.” Zeus said.

Marty nodded and sipped her bottle of water. “Yeah, I did.”

“You actually called that slime bag?” Diabolus asked her.

“Yeah, I called him and asked him to name his price for Lily.” She snorted. “He named a price that was cheaper than I thought he’d ask for.”

“What was his price?” Zeus asked.

“He told me he knew Sam had a million dollars in her trust but he also knew she’d been taking a lot of money out of it. I told him she had about seven hundred thousand left and he told me he’d turn his own daughter over for that amount, in cash. I told him to throw in a legal document giving up his parental rights and we had a deal.” She shrugged.

Zeus looked sick to his stomach. “Seven hundred thousand dollars? He sold his daughter for money?”

Marty took another sip of her water and nodded.

“Can you even get that much money?” Diabolus asked.

Marty nodded. “I told him I want a proof of life photo of Lily first.” She shrugged. “I still have to call my attorney and get the cash together, so I told him two days.”

“Damn girl, that’s more money than Raggo has ever seen in his lifetime.” Diabolus shook his head.

Zeus shook his head. “You got here with just a small bag and a knife. You put up with little food and no respect. Yet, you can just up and pay someone 700 grand?”

Marty shrugged. “It’s just paper. I’d pay that and more to get Sam’s daughter out of there. Sam had a trust fund from our dad but she also had a trust fund from our grandfather. We both did. I’ve always worked for a living, so I haven’t touched mine ever. I never needed it. The seven hundred will drain our grandpa’s trust but she’s still got Dad’s money. That money will now be Lily’s if I can get her, that is.”

“Well, you better make your calls and get this thing going.” Zeus stared at her. “You make sure you get the parental rights paper signed too. I want nothing to do with him coming after his kid while claiming he never signed his rights away.”

Marty nodded and called her attorney. She had to argue with him over what she wanted him to do but in the end, he did it. He even told her he would bring her the cash personally. Along with the papers she would need, to become Lily’s sole guardian.

When she ended the call, she looked over at Zeus. “He’ll be here with the cash and the papers in two days. Now all we need is for Raggo to keep his promises.”

Just then, her sister’s phone pinged. When she checked it, a photo appeared and Marty gasped. The little girl was smiling and Marty knew her right away. This was Lily. Her hand began to shake as she stared at the picture. Tears rolled down her cheeks.

Zeus took the phone away and studied the photograph. Then he passed the phone off to Memphis. He quietly stared at Marty.

She wiped her tears away and whispered, “She looks just like her mom.”

Diabolus snorted but didn’t say anything.

Marty shook her head. “You didn’t know Sam like I knew her. When we were little, it was different. I grew up with her

and we were never apart until she ran away at fifteen.”

“You’re right. We didn’t know her back then. She did all her damage much later in her life,” Zeus stated.

Marty hung her head. She had no words to say in defense. Instead, she got up, walked back to her bedroom and shut the door behind her. Going to the window, she looked outside and stared at nothing. She knew Zeus and his men would never give her peace. Sam had done the damage even before she arrived here.

In two days, she would take Lily and go back home. She would raise Lily in the same house she and Sam had been raised in.



Two days later, the attorney arrived on a private plane and brought the papers she wanted. The plane pulled into the small private airport in Fergus.

Marty waited in the wings for the plane to stop and when her attorney stepped out with a small duffle bag, she walked forward.

Zeus and his men were waiting as well. She had to rent another car this morning as the vehicle she came to town in had been burned out and when she left the compound, she had been alone. It was only a few minutes ago when she heard the bikers come in and spread out.

Her attorney Calvin Lawson looked around and saw them. “Good guys or bad guys?” he asked her.

“That’s up for debate right now.” She shrugged. “Sam did a lot of damage to them.”

“Of course she did,” he retorted. “That was something she did best. Leaving a path of destruction behind her.”

“I think this one is the worst, Calvin,” Marty admitted. Reaching out, she touched his hand. “I need you to come with me. I want a witness in case this Raggo tries to pull something stupid.”

He nodded. “Let’s get this done then.”

Marty smiled as she gave him the keys and told him where to go.

As soon as they left, the bikers followed.

When she reached the meeting place, she found a truck sitting there, waiting for her. She got out then she and Calvin walked toward the truck. Inside she saw a man she figured was Raggo. Also, there was a little girl with him. The same little girl she’d seen in the photo the day before.

Raggo watched her as she came over to his truck. “You and Sam really looked alike didn’t you?”

Marty nodded. “You’re Raggo?”

He nodded. “My name is Vincent Ragetti. Where is Sam?”

“Sam is dead. She died by my hand two nights ago,” Marty informed him.

“Well damn, that’s too bad ain’t it?” He got a funny look in his eyes and said, “Poor Lily, I don’t think she needs to spend her life with her mother’s killer. I’ll just take that money and use it to raise her with.”

Marty shook her head. “You must take me for a fool Mr. Ragetti. The Sheriff knows what happened that night and he knows you’re here to get money for the little girl beside you. I’m not giving you squat, if I don’t get her.”

Raggo snarled, “Fine, take the little brat. Just give me the money.”

Calvin stepped forward and held out the papers that gave Marty rights to the little girl.

Vincent barely looked at them but signed them anyway, handing them back to Calvin.

Marty took the bag from him and held onto it until Raggo told the little girl to get out of his truck.

Calvin walked over, opened her door, then held out his hand out to the Lily.

She took Calvin's hand, jumped down to the ground and walked away with him. She never bothered looking back.

Marty glared at Raggo and shook her head. Handing over the money she said, "I better not ever see you again, Raggo."

"Now why would I come looking for you or for Lily? I never wanted her in the first place." He looked around the area and sneered, "You got caught up with the Brothers?" He shook his head. "Now that's too bad, because I'm gonna smoke them out."

Marty shrugged. "Why? They already found your great grandfather's haul. They turned it all over to the cops. Your grandfather stole all that money from the banks he used to rob back in the twenties." She chuckled. "Did you know that you couldn't ever spend money made in the 1920's? Sam had a good laugh when I told her. And it reminded me of that old saying, birds of a feather flock together don't they? Once a criminal...always a criminal."

Raggo just snarled at her and started his truck. He burnt rubber pulling out of the parking lot but no one followed him.

She turned to head to the rental car.

Zeus rolled up beside her. "Where do you think you're going now?" he asked.

"I'm going home. My home in Montana. I'm taking Lily back to the place her mom grew up in."

"That's not your home anymore," Zeus told her. "The compound is your home now. You need to come back for me and Angel."

Marty shook her head. "I can't. Your men will never let me live there in peace. They will never face the fact that I'm not Sam."

“Damn woman, why do you think we are even here? Because we’re bored?” He shook his head. “I am here to protect you, don’t you get it?” Zeus told her. “Come back with me and they’ll see eventually that you aren’t like her.”

“Why should I have to prove anything to you or your men? Give me a reason.”

Zeus cupped her face and whispered, “Because I need you and Angel loves you.” He kissed her deeply and pulled her body to his. They were both breathless when he pulled away. “And I want a lifetime of that. I need you in my life. Angel loves the hell out of you already and you’ll break her tiny heart if you don’t come back to us. Lily can stay here too and they can grow up together. The club will protect her the same as they do Angel and now you.”

Marty looked at him and saw the truth in his gaze. “Tell me what I can see in your eyes.”

“I love you woman,” Zeus stated as he looked into her eyes. “After all this time, I never thought I would find love again but I found it with you. You can’t leave me behind.”

Marty stared at him for a long moment. She then walked around him toward Calvin and Lily who stood at the car.

Zeus’s men all stared at her and shook their heads as she went by.

Memphis looked over at his brother in sympathy.

She grabbed Lily’s hand and nodded at Calvin. Turning, she walked back over to Zeus.

He stared at her with a puzzled look on his face as he waited for her to say something.

“Ok, I’ll stay.” Marty nodded at him. “Take me home Zeus. Take us home.”



KJ DAHLEN

Author of the bestselling, award winning Bratva Brothers and Satan Spawns/Sin's Bastards MC Series...

I live in a small town (population 495) in Wisconsin. From my deck, I can see the Mississippi River on one side and the bluffs, where eagles live and nest on the other side. I live with my husband Dave and dog Buddy. My two children are grown and I have two grandchildren. I love to watch people and that has helped me with my writing. I often use people I watch as characters in my books and I always try to give my characters some of my own values and habits.

I love to create characters and put them in a troubling situation then sit back and let them do all the work. My characters surprise even me at times. At some point in the book, they take on a life of their own and the twists and turns they create becomes the story. Of all the stories I could write, I found I like suspense/thrillers the best. I like to keep my readers guessing until the very end of the book.

[KJ Dahlen's Website](#)

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WELCOME TO KJ DAHLEN



UPDATED LIST FOR NOVEMBER 2022

(The newest releases of 2022 are at the very end)

SATAN'S SPAWN MC

PREQUEL: GHOST FROM THE PAST

BOOK 1: SPAWN AND SPITFIRE

BOOK 2: REVENGE AND RETRIBUTION

BOOK 3: BABIES AND BASTARDS

SIN'S BASTARDS MC

BOOK 1: SILK AND BONES

BOOK 2: KARMA'S BITE

BOOK 3: NO REGRETS

BOOK 4: HELL'S FURY

BOOK 5: LIES AND LIARS

BOOK 6: STONE COLD

Bane prequel

Dec. 21st/20 Sin's Bastards Christmas Special Edition

March 2020 Mountain Special Edition

Girls Night Out-April 3rd 2021

Sin's Bastards MC Mother's Day Special May 8th 2021

Bane's Return-Saving Dusty - June 12th 2021

Christmas with the Sin's Dec. 2022

ST Pat's Day-Deacon- March 12th 2022

Reva Reborn Sins Special August 13th 2022

HELL'S FIRE RIDERS MC

Birth Of Hell's Prequel

BOOK 1: PAPPY'S SHADOW

Book 2: BETRAYED

BOOK 3: TRIGGER THE STORM

BOOK 4: COLD VENGEANCE

BOOK 5: HER FATHER'S SIN

BOOK 6: 42 DAYS

Hell's BOX SET 7/5/18

August 22nd 2020 Book 7 SHAY

April 30th 2020 TRUDY: INTO HELL'S FIRE Special
Edition

May 31st 2021 LEGEND Book 8

A Hell's Fire Christmas Dec. 2021

BRATVA BLOOD BROTHERS

Prequel- Blood Beginnings

Book 1: Yuri

Book 2: Mikial

Book 3: Barshan

Book 4: Sazon

Book 5: Roman

Book 6: Brothers United

Sept. 4 /18 .. Book 7. Iosif

Jan. 15 /19 .. Book 8 Kosta

Feb. 3 /19 .. Book 9 Nikoli

Mar. 16 /19 .. Book 10 Nicky

April 27 /19 .. Book 11 Sergi

June 22 /19 .. Book 12 Misha

Sept. 21/19 Book 13 Timor

May 27th 2020 Book 14 Felix

Book 15 Kirill ... Dec. 30th 2020

Book 16 Sasha Feb. 25th 2021

Dec.11th/19 SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EDITION MAXIM

Jan 8th/20 RETURN TO YURI Special Edition

A Bratva Christmas Dec. 23rd 2020

Mikial-Bratva Father's Day- June 19th 2021

Bratva New York- Special Edition October 22nd 2021

Christmas in Bratva New York Dec. 2021

Bratva Valentines Feb. 2022

Sergi's Father's Day June 18th 2022

CONTINUES IN BRATVA BORN SERIES

BRATVA BORN SERIES

The Prequel- Women Of Bratva Born March 17th 2021

Nubric #1 April 24th 2021

Koyla #2 July 10th 2021

Petrov #3 June 4th 2022 (Ghosts)

Minki#4 Sept. 27th 2022 (Ghosts)

Dima (Ghosts)

Anton (Bloodhounds)

Eski (Bloodhounds)

BRATVA NEW YORK

Bratva New York Prequel Nov. 2022

BOOK ONE-NIKOLI Feb. 26th 2022

BOOK TWO-MISHA-August 27th 2022

BOOK THREE- FELIX

BOOK FOUR-NICKY

BOOK FIVE- KIRILL

BOOK SIX-SERGI

SIN'S BASTARDS MC NEXT GENERATION

Book 1 : RAINE

Book 2 : CHANCE

Sept. /7 Book 3 : GAMBLER

Sept. /25 Book 4 : BOWIE

Dec. /20 Book 5 : JUDGE

March /19 ..Book 6 : BYRON

July 31/19 .. Book 7 : HOUND

September 25th .Book 8 .. : DANTE

Released Book 9 .. : Iceman

March 2021 Book 10 .. : The KIDS

May 11th Wiley Special Edition

August 31st Special Edition: ZIPPER

October 5th Calderone Special Edition

Jan. 2020 Leon Special Edition

April 8th 2020 Vincinti Women Special Edition

Jericho's Christmas Dec. 2022

WHISKEY BEND MC SERIES

July 27/18 Book 1: Lucifer's Woman - Lucifer

Sept 26/18 .. Book 2: Demon's Stand – Demon ..

Oct. 20/18 Book 3: At All Costs – Aries

Dec. 4/18 . Book 4 : Out of the Shadows- Hades

May 28 /19 . Book 5 : Jinx

July 20 / 19 . Book 6 : Shadow

Whiskey Bend MC Boxed Set

March 2020 Book 7 Cooper

July 2020 Book 8 Bender

August 8th Book 9 Saint

Christmas in Whiskey Bend Dec. 2022

Whiskey Bend Easter April 17th 2022

LOST SONS MC SERIES

Jan 21/19 Book 1.. Creed's Return

Mar 30/19 Book 2 .. Jack

Aug 24 Book 3 .. Tate

November 9th Book 4 Harry

March 18th 2020 Book 5 Silas

Book 6 Daniel Feb. 2021

June 30th 2021 Silas & Midge Special Edition

Nov. 13th Lost Sons Come Home Special Edition

Nov. 3rd 2021 Lost Sons Boxed Set

BRATVA ENFORCERS- THE NOMADS

March 18/19 .. Book 1. .. Viktor

May 22 /19 Book 2. .. Ivan

Aug. 14 /19 Book 3. .. Adrik

Oct. 30th /19 Book 4. .. Andrey

Feb. 22nd 2020 Book 5. .. Grisha

Book 6. .. Matvey Oct. 31st 2020

Nov. 2020 Bratva Enforcers Boxed Set

CONTINUES IN BRATVA BORN

WAR LORDS MC.

May 12 /19 .. BOOK 1.. ACE—TRUMAN

July 13 /19 .. BOOK 2.. KING—TREMAINE

November 23rd BOOK 3.. JACK

September 26th **2020** BOOK 4.. DEUCE

BOOK 5.. JOKER Nov. 7th 2020

BOOK 6 Traven Dec. 5th 2020

April 2020 Warlord's Boxed Set

November 20th 2021 Warlords Giving Thanks-

PRINCES OF HELL MC

Feb. 23 /19 . Book 1. Talon

April 20 /19 . Book 2. Rogue

June 12 /19 Book 3. Falcon

September 12th 2020 Condor Book #4

Jan 2020 Princes Of Hell 3 Book Boxed Set

THE DEVIL'S ADVOCATES MC

June 29/19 .. Book 1.—JACKAL

Aug 10/19—Book 2.—BEAST

May 6th 2020 Book 3.—WOLF

Dec. 2020 Book 4.—APOLLO

Jan 2021 Book 5.—SHADE

July 3rd 2021—SHADOW HUNTER Special Edition

July 24th 2021 Book 6.—TANK

August 2021 Devil's Boxed Set

DEVIL'S TRIFECTA MC

Gage .. Book 1 .. March 27,2019-

Joker .. Book 2 .. May 1, 2019 -

Sledge. Book 3 .. July 3, 2019 -

Dec. 2020 Devil's Trifecta Boxed Set

HELL'S BLOODHOUND MC SERIES

Aug. 21 /19 BOOK 1. BARRON .. RED

July 2020 BOOK 2. ..LEONID

CONTINUES IN BRATVA BORN

VENGEANCE IS MINE- PAYBACK SERIES

Oct 20/ 2018 BANE

Sept.7 /19 Book 1 GHOSTER

July 2020 Book 2 DAMON
August 7th 2021 Book 3 BANE'S SHADOW
Sept. 11th 2021 Book 4 CANE
October 29th 2021 Book 5 THE PRIEST
Jan. 22nd 2022 Book 6 Kill Me Twice/VI.M. #6
March 26th 2022 Kill Me Again-Orrin #7
May 28th 2022 Lionheart VIM #8
Lancelot- VIM #9 August 20th 2022
Valiant- VIM #10-Sept 20th 2022
Galahad-VIM#11-Oct 15th
BANE'S INFINITY Special Edition- July 2nd 2022
Lancelot- VIM #9 August 20th 2022
SAN FRANCISCO STEEL MC
Sept. 18/19 ... Book 1 SLAMMER
Sept. 28/19 Book 2 Shotgun
Oct. 16th/19 Book 3 Grinder
Oct. 19/19 Book 4 Mammoth
October 26th Book 5 Booker
November 2nd Book 6 Spider
Carson #7 San Francisco Steel November 20th
Texas #8 San Francisco Steel November 27th
Dec. 7th/19 STEEL BOXED SET
SAVAGED SOULS MC
October 2019 **Boone Book One**
2019 **Gunner Book Two**
Feb 2020 **Jett Book Three**
March 16th 2020 **Patriot Book Four**
April 2020 **Cobra Book 5**

June 2020 **Thor Book 6**

July 2020 **Gypsy Book 7**

August 19th 2020 **Grizzly Book 8**

November 2020 **Moose Book 9**

January 2021 **Skeeter Book 10**

2020 **Savaged Souls Boxed Set #1**

2021 **Savaged Souls Boxed Set #2**

NEW BLOOD SAVAGED SOULS MC

Arrow #1 April 10th 2021

Beau #2 May 1st 2021

Hayes #3 October 15th 2021

Runner #4 Jan 8th 2022

Acer #5 February 2022

Duke #6 April 23rd 2022

TENNESSEE BREEDS

Dec. 14th/19 #1 Breed... Pres Of Rebel's Blood MC

Dec. 24th /20 #2 Greer... VP

Jan. 15th/20 #3 Monster ... Enforcer

Jan. 29th 2020 #4 Crow... IT

Feb. 2020 #5 Maverick ... Lieutenant

Feb. 29th 2020 #6 Cowboy... Medic

March 7th #7 Blade

April 2020 Tennessee Boxed Set

BROTHERS OF CHAOS MC

March 25th 2020 Rambler

March 15th 2020 Hunter

March 29th 2020 Sinner

May 13th 2020 Bearcat

May 23rd 2020 Wizard

June 10th 2020 Raven

July 4th 2020 Taz

July 29th Thunder

August 2020 Brothers Of Chaos Boxed Set

Thunder & A Little Bit Of Lightning August 31st

Nov. 6th 2021 Snowman & Eden Special Edition

SILVER WARRIORS

June 6th 2020 The Quest

July 22nd 2020 The Ride

August 29th 2020 The Brothers

September 19th 2020 The Game

October 24th The Fall

November 25th 2020 The Race

December 19th 2020 Coming Home #7

Silver Warriors Boxed Set- April 2021

Silver Warriors Halloween-Oct. 29th

SOLDIERS OF HADES MC

1 Cottonmouth **Hade's Demons MC** Released

2 Python **Hade's Demons MC** Released

3 GTO **Hell's Fire Riders MC** Released

4 Lightning **Soldiers of Hade's MC**- (Spirit's brother)
Released

5 Whiskey **Hell's Fire Riders MC** Released

6 Spirit transferred to **Savaged Souls MC** Jan 2021

Soldiers Of Hades Boxed Set April 2021

Cobra's New Year / Special Edition Jan 1st 2022

LOUISIANA HEAT (Thor's Hammer MC)

Ajax Book One October 3rd 2020
Fireball Book Two November 14th 2020
Stinger Book Three Jan 30th 2021
Moon Book Four April 17th 2021
Racer Book Five June 26th 2021
Player Book Six August 28th 2021
LA Heat Series Boxed Set September 17th 2021

SINNERS MC

Hawk #1 Oct. 10th 2020

Pony #2 March 27th 2021

Prosper #3 May 15th 2021

Saber #4 August 21st 2021

Rebel#5 March 5th, 2022

Buzz-#6 May 14th 2022

SINNERS OF BOSTON

V- Sin's & Sinners June 25th 2022

Atlas#2- August 6th 2022

Echo - Sins and Sinners-Boston #3 - Oct. 1st 2022

SHADOW WARRIORS MC

Slade Book One-Released in 2021

Blue Book Two-April 30th 2022

Keno Book Three

MASTERS OF MAYHEM MC

Rance Bk#1 January 2021

Bull #2 March 2021

Korbel #3 June 5th 2021

Rocker # 4 July 31 2021

Nova #5- Sept. 4th 2021

Ram #6 Jan. 29th

Masters Boxed Set Jan. 2022

KINGS OF WRATH

Pride #1- Feb. 6th 2021

Candyman #2- March 20th 2021

Rage #3- May 29th 2021

Scar # 4- July 17 2021

Romeo#5- Sept 29th 2021

Cosmos#6- Feb. 19th

Kings Of Wrath Boxed Set- March. 2022

CRIMSON TIDE MC

Tacker Book One- released

Boomer Book two-released

Cyrus Book Three- released

Clovis Book Four- July 31st 2021

Vance Book Five- Sept. 22nd 2021

Tether Book Six- Nov. 13th 2021

Crimson Tide Boxed Set-Feb-2022

GHOST RIDERS MC

Pepper #1 March 2021

Phantom #2 May 22nd-2021

Dax #3 May 21st 2022

Venom #4 July 23rd 2022

Nite Stalker

Heathen

BORN OF DESPERATION

Nitro-#1 August 14th 2021

Pagan- #2 October 2nd 2021

Repo-#3 March 19th 2022

Typhoon-#4 May 7th 2022

Montana-#5 July 9th 2022

Capone-#6 October 8th 2022

LORDS OF HELL MC

Mayhem VP Book# One Released

Brutus Lieutenant Book# Two Jan.15th

Bear Lieutenant Book# Three April 2nd

Stone President Book- #Four July 30th 2022

Tag (IT) Book# Five

Svante (The Doc) Book# Six

ROGUES OF HELL MC

Titan #1 Released

Kota#2 Released

Brute#3 April 16th 2022

Nash#4 June 8th 2022

Wanderer #5 -July 27th 2022

Hawkins#6-Sept. 22nd 2022

BADASS WOMEN SERIES

#1 Winona & Dana-Savaged Souls Feb. 5th 2022

#2 Cassie & Melora Sin's Bastards MC April 9th 2022

#3 Badass Women- Brothers of Chaos-June 11th 2022

#4 Badass Women-Bratva Blood Brothers-Sept. 13th 2022

THE DEVIL'S OWN MC

Stormy- #1 July 16th 2022

STANDALONE SINGLES

Healing Charlie ..Released

Chasing Eve Released

Saving Sebastian Released

Never forget me- Released

A Life for Luke . Released

BOOKS RELEASED THIS YEAR

JANUARY 2022

Cobra's New Year / Special Edition Jan 1st

Titan/ Rogues Of Hell MC #1 Full book Jan 4th

Acer/ New Blood Savaged Souls MC #4 Jan 8th

Brutus/ Lords Of Hell MC #2 Jan. 15th

FEBRUARY 2022

Badass Women Series #1-Winona and Dana-Savaged Souls
Feb. 5th

Valentines- Bratva New Orleans Feb. 12th

Kings of Wrath- Cosmos #6 Feb. 19th

Bratva New York- Nikoli Feb. 26th

MARCH 2022

Boston Sinner's MC- Rebel March 5th

ST Pat's Day- Deacon-Sin's Bastards MC March 12th

Born of Desperation- Repo March 19th

Kill Me Again-Orrin VIM March 26th

APRIL 2022

Lords of Hell MC- Bear April 2nd

Badass Women- Cassie and Melora April 9th

Brute as a Full Book April 16th

Whiskey Bend Easter April 16th

Savaged Souls New Blood- Duke April 23rd

Blue- Book Two Shadow Warriors April 30th

MAY 2022

Typhoon-Born Of Desperation #4 May 7th

Buzz- Sinners MC #6 May 14th

Dax- Ghost Riders MC #3 May 21st

Lionheart -VIM #8 May 28th

JUNE 2022

June 4th-Petrov- Bratva Born #3

Preorder June 4th > June 8th Nash-Rogues Of Hell #4

June 11th Badass Women- Brothers of Chaos #3

June 18th Sergi's Father's Day

June 25th V- Sin and Sinners Special Edition

JULY 2022

Bane's Infinity- VIM SPECIAL EDITION- July 2nd

Montana- Born Of Desperation- #5- July 9th

Stormy-The Devil's Own MC- #1 July 16th

Venom- Ghost Riders MC- #4 - July 23rd

Wanderer Full Book Rogues Of Hell MC#5 -July 27th

Stone- Lords Of Hell MC- #4 -July 30th

AUGUST 2022

Atlas-Boston Sinners#2 August 6th

Reva Reborn Sins Special August 13th

Lancelot- VIM #9 August 20th

Bratva New York #2 Misha August 27th

SEPTEMBER 2022

Dixon- Special Edition- Sept 3rd

Badass Women- Daisy and Raven-Sept 13th

Valiant- VIM #10-Sept 20th

Hawkins as a full book#6- Sept 20th

Minki- Bratva Born- Sept 27th

OCTOBER 2022

Echo - Sins and Sinners-Boston #3 - Oct. 1st

Capone - Born Of Desperation#6 - Oct. 8th

Galahad - VIM#11- Oct. 15th

Silver Warriors - Halloween - Oct. 22nd

Fire and Ice Series - Halloween - Oct 29th

NOVEMBER 2022

Heathen- Ghost Riders#5-November 5th-

Zeus-Brothers At Arms MC#1- November 12th

Pendragon VIM#12- Nov.12th

Bratva Brothers New Orleans- Thanksgiving-Nov.19th

Cajun Kings- The King#1- Nov. 26th

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The most enthralling Chapter book yet...

When Cat is drawn back to Granite Falls, she has no idea she's coming home. To face her past, she has to face the family that she didn't know existed. But when the memories start returning, someone doesn't want them to and her life is now in danger. But the MC her grandfather runs is also under attack by someone and they figure out its all by the same person. But who is it that wants Cat dead and the MC gone? Secrets from the past are coming back and being revealed and someone doesn't want that...

How far will they go to protect themselves?