DEADLY PUCK DADDIES BOOK 2

ZACK WISH

Pucking Lethal

Deadly Puck Daddies

Book 2

Zack Wish

Zack Wish Books

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KEEP IN TOUCH

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KEEP IN TOUCH

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Author's Note

Hey there, thank you for reading *Pucking Lethal*. Please note that this is a fictionalized version of the real world. As such, artistic license has been taken with the intricacies of the hockey season, team names, and of course the fact that in reality a Mafia family could never own a hockey franchise... *or could they?*

Pucking Lethal is intended to be fun, steamy, and full of just the right amount of action, violence, and sporting drama on the ice. Thank you for reading, and I hope you enjoy Pucking Lethal...

PS - I will never, *ever* use AI in my writing.

Chapter 1

Joshua

'Woo-hoo!' Joshua hollered, accelerating along the country road, his new motorcycle using every valve and piston to power itself as fast as the wind. 'Let's go!'

Joshua Ramone might have been a twenty-four year old hockey star whose livelihood depended on his personal fitness and safety, but that was never going to stop him pushing things to the absolute limit whenever he got on his bike.

With his shoulder length black hair streaked with purple blowing in the wind and his emerald-green eyes focused and alert to the dangers of the winding road, Joshua was having serious fun as he sped his way toward his new team's preseason training camp.

Me... an Ice Bear?

I've dreamed of this trade for a long time.

Everything about it is perfect. Well, nearly everything ...

Joshua was wearing his leather biker trousers with a tight black t-shirt and plenty of his customary silver jewelry. Joshua actually kind of looked more like a rockstar than a hockey player, and it was this look and style that had seen Joshua often marked out as one of the bad boys of hockey.

With his body covered in tattoos and his love of posing online with various swords, blades, and knives of various

shapes and sizes it was easy to see how Joshua had built a loyal following of fans who dubbed themselves The Ramoniacs.

Joshua was a hockey star rolled into a rock god, rolled into a movie star.

This hadn't always made Joshua popular with the teammates at his old team, the locker room dynamics of any major hockey team often struggling to handle someone whose individuality made them a star off the ice. But Joshua didn't care. As long as he was bringing the performances on the ice, Joshua felt that he should be allowed to do whatever he wanted off it.

'Are you okay back there, Slice?' Joshua laughed, taking a potentially deadly S-bend with ease as he flung his motorcycle from one side of the winding road to the other. 'You trust me, right?'

Joshua quickly glanced back over his shoulder and saw that Slice, his most loved stuffie, was safely strapped in just behind him. Slice was the softest and most squishy biker mouse, whose super-cute big ears were perfect for some comforting strokes as Joshua fell asleep each night.

With his custom made miniature denim jacket and biker trousers, Slice was very much Joshua's little biker buddy – and as far as Joshua was concerned, the pair of them would ride together forever.

Being a Little in hockey hadn't always been the easiest thing for Joshua to handle. In fact, it was one part of his identity that he tried to keep private. Despite wearing flamboyantly rebellious clothes and rocking enough ink to keep a tattoo parlor in business for a year, Joshua would shy away from discussing being a Little with all but his closest friends. For Joshua, being a Little was his own thing – a side of himself that he only brought out behind closed doors, or in safe spaces where he was surrounded by other Littles and Daddies.

However out on the open road as he made his way upstate to his very first Ice Bears training camp, Joshua felt more than happy to have his darling stuffie on full display.

'Hold on tight, Slice,' Joshua hollered. 'I'm about to really see what this beast can do!'

With that, Joshua accelerated down the long stretch of road and loved every second as the tall pine trees either side of him whizzed past in a blur and the motorcycle's engine roared like a rampaging lion.

Joshua figured that he was about an hour away from the training base that he and his new teammates would be based for the next couple of weeks. That was plenty of time for Joshua to have some fun on his new motorcycle, but it was also enough time for him to nervously wonder about how he would fit in with his new teammates...

Jack Steel? He's a legend.

Chase Light? Loves to party, we could be friends.

Connor Valley? One tough S.O.B. defenseman... just like me.

But as Joshua mentally went through the playing roster, there was one player who he was intentionally not allowing himself to consider. And that player was none other than Alex Rebrov.

Joshua and Alex Rebrov had built up something of a fierce on-ice rivalry ever since Joshua's debut season for The Lynxes. With Alex playing as a left wing and Joshua as a right defenseman, the two of them were in constant contact during each game they came up against one another. And the fact that the Ice Bears and The Lynxes had a long standing rivalry just added to the heat.

In fact, such was the competitive edge on the ice between Joshua and Alex, the media had made a big play of the differences between the two of them off the ice.

On the one hand, Joshua was the wild young rebel, while on the other there was Alex Rebrov, the sophisticated veteran with ice running through his veins.

Just don't think about him.

It will be fine.

I mean, we're on the same team now, so ...

But as much as Joshua tried to convince himself that everything between him and Alex would smooth itself out, he couldn't let go of the feeling that this was one aspect of his move to the Ice Bears that might not be such a smooth transition.

'Come on, Slice, let's find a diner,' Joshua said, the thought of some pancakes and a hot apple juice sounding like the perfect thing to take his mind off any potential teething pains with settling into the Ice Bears famously tight locker room culture.

The Ice Bears training camp would be tough – and the chances of indulging in a sweet treat for the next couple of weeks would be less than zero. Joshua might have been the tattooed bad boy of hockey, but that didn't mean his Little side didn't need nourishing too!

With that, Joshua pumped the accelerator and rocketed himself and his darling stuffie along the road and toward the nearest roadside diner. 'Two pancake stacks and a hot apple juice coming up,' the server said, a big smile on his face as he took Joshua's order. 'And good luck this season. Go Ice Bears!'

'Thank you,' Joshua said, his blushes almost certainly not fitting in with his rebellious public image. 'We'll do our best to keep hold of the championship.'

With that, Joshua walked over to the corner booth to wait for his order.

As he took a seat and looked out onto the parking lot, Joshua took a moment to think about how far he had come in his career in what was a relatively short space of time. Three full seasons in, and Joshua had gone from a rookie at The Lynxes to a big offseason arrival at the reigning champions, The Ice Bears.

Damn, life moves quickly.

I hope I can repay the Ice Bears' faith in me.

I just need my knee to hold out all season...

Joshua didn't like to overthink things, but his desire to settle into his new team and go a whole season without his troublesome knee flaring up were a twin combo that was difficult to keep off his mind.

Growing up, Joshua was one of seven siblings. His mom and pop split at an early age, and pretty much for as long as he could remember, Joshua had been in survival mode. It was hard to get any attention at home, and Joshua didn't blame his mom for that – after all, with four younger siblings, and older brothers who were constantly in and out of juvey, Joshua had grown up knowing that if he wanted attention, he had to go to great lengths to get it.

'Here you go, enjoy!' the server said, placing down a highly appetizing plate of pancakes and a hot apple drink

on Joshua's table.

'Thank you so much,' Joshua replied, the scrumptious sight of the syrup-covered pancakes more than enough to take his mind off his childhood. 'These looks *delicious.*'

The server smiled and walked back to the counter, leaving Joshua with his tasty treat.

As he began to tuck into his food, Joshua's eyes were drawn toward two SUVs pulling into the parking lot. Both of them were all black, with blacked out windows too.

'Huh,' Joshua said, momentarily distracted from his sugary snack. 'That's... interesting.'

Joshua watched men with sharp suits, sharp haircuts, and serious looks on their faces step out of the SUVs and exchange words and briefcases too.

Clearly, some kind of business interaction was going down. And judging by the SUVs and the general demeanor of the men it certainly didn't look like IRS approved business either.

'That's the Doni family, kid,' an old trucker said from the opposite booth. 'Best keep your eyes down while they're around.'

Joshua smiled and nodded, not wanting to give away his surprise at hearing that name.

The Doni name was all too familiar.

The Ice Bears were run by the Doni family, and there had long been rumors about the kind of business that allowed them enough money to outright purchase a hockey franchise and then built it up into one of the dominant forces in the league.

Joshua's management team had even advised Joshua that a trade to another team might be preferable.

Amongst the world of sports agents, there were many who hated dealing with the Doni family because of their unorthodox negotiation tactics. To put it mildly, the Doni's didn't respond well to agents trying to squeeze them for more money – but despite Joshua's agent advising against the move, Joshua had insisted as it seemed like the best chance for him to win some championships and improve his game playing under Coach Tremaine.

'Trust me, kid,' the old man said again, sipping on his black coffee. 'The Doni's aren't the guys to be messing with. Best off keeping yourself off their radar if you can.'

Joshua nodded once more and duly shifted his body position away from the window. Clearly the helpful old timer wasn't a hockey fan and hadn't recognized Joshua, but either way Joshua appreciated the heads up.

The olde dude is right, it's none of my business.

I need to keep my head down.

I play for the Ice Bears, not the Doni family...

With that, Joshua reached into his backpack and put his baseball cap on to cover his face. The last thing he wanted to be dealing with was a discussion with one of the Doni family. As far as Joshua was concerned, he wanted to eat his pancakes in peace and enjoy the last sweet treat he'd be having for the next couple of weeks.

Joshua might have been a fast-driving rebel with a love for danger and risk, but he drew the line at messing with a family who were widely rumored to be Mafia. And so as he pulled his cap down and continued to munch on his sweet pancakes, Joshua instead decided that he was going to focus on hockey.

Not even the prospect of finding a Daddy was going to distract Joshua from making an impact on the ice and helping The Ice Bears to retain their title.

Joshua had been single for quite some time, and his only real relationship with a Daddy had finished before it had even gotten going for real. But that was in the past. Joshua didn't even know if he actually wanted to settle down – the last thing that Joshua needed was a Daddy trying to control him or stop him from living his wild, rebel lifestyle.

I'm going to kick ass on the ice.

I'll kick ass off it too once I'm settled into my new place.

And I'll do it my way...

Out of the corner of his eye, Joshua saw the two black SUVs pulling out of the parking lot and speeding away. Whatever it was that the Doni family and their associates had been doing was all done and dusted. Speaking of which, Joshua's plate was enarly empty.

'Excuse me, another double stack over here, please,' Joshua said, removing his cap and taking a big gulp on his hot apple juice. 'And I'll have these with an extra dollop of ice cream too.'

Joshua smiled.

Preseason training would be grueling, and with Coach Tremaine's fearsome reputation coming before him, Joshua knew that the next couple of weeks would be the hardest training camp that he had ever undergone.

It was time for one last extra-sweet treat before the real work began...

* * *

The final stretch of the journey to the training camp was wonderful. With his tummy fully of pancakes and hot apple juice, Joshua was smiling the whole way as he pushed his motorcycle to its limits. During the season, the Ice Bears practiced at their Pine Rise training complex, but for preseason camp they would be based at Mount Ledge, a specialist fitness resort up in the mountains. Training at altitude was beneficial for endurance and pushing players to their limit, but judging by Joshua's first impressions as he rode his motorcycle up to the front entrance, it didn't look so bad...

'This place looks more like a five star resort,' Joshua said, chuckling to himself as he watched to staff members whizzing by in a golf buggy. '*Pffft*. This will be easy work for me.'

But before Joshua could get to smug about the situation, he was brought back down to earth with a bump...

'Ramone! You're late!' Coach Tremaine bellowed, hopping out of his own golf buggy. 'New signings were due here three fucking hours ago.'

Suddenly, Joshua was feeling the full force of the legendary Coach Tremaine's bluster...

'I don't want to hear a single excuse from you either,' Tremaine continued, a look of pure anger in his eyes and his voice full of menace. 'Park that fucking motorcycle, get changed, and get your ass to the athletics track. You're already on five extra laps. Don't make me add another five. Oh, and welcome to the Ice Bears...'

With that, Tremaine jumped back into the golf buggy and barked an order to his assistant. Before Joshua could even contemplate responding to his new coach, Tremaine was well into the distance.

'Butthole,' Joshua said, muttering the words a little louder seeing as Tremaine was out of earshot. '*Silly* butthole.'

Joshua took a moment to compose himself. This was hardly the first impression he wanted to make, and it didn't seem like things were going to get any better for him when he arrived at the athletics track. The thought of doing even more extra laps was not appealing at all, and Joshua decided that he would get his butt into gear as quickly as he possibly could.

Okay, so this isn't a good start.

But I can turn it around.

And at least the veterans and star players didn't witness that...

However Joshua's relief was short lived. As he jumped off his motorcycle, he saw none other than Chase Light approaching him.

'Yo! JR!' Chase called. 'I see, or should I say *heard*, you get the famous Coach Tremaine welcome.'

'Chase, hey, it's good to meet you,' Joshua said, extending his hand out to Chase as he got closer. 'Tremaine *definitely* lived up to expectations...'

The two of them giggled.

'Hey, don't worry,' Chase said. 'Tremaine's bark is way worse than his bite. Trust me, I've been on the receiving end of it. I think he likes to go hard at first, but when he gets to know you, he's different. I know it can be hard as a...'

Joshua nodded. He was pretty sure that Chase was about to say *as a Little*, but before the conversation could go any further, a few more players rocked up and introduced themselves to Joshua.

After shaking hands and even comparing tattoos with a few of his new teammates, Joshua knew that he had to haul his Little ass to the locker room and get changed. It felt like each moment that passed was going to equate to another extra lap of the track – and unless Joshua seriously stepped up the pace, he knew he might be spending the entire training camp running laps.

'Catch you later,' Chase said, a kind smile on his face. 'We should hang out this evening, after dinner. I'll tell you everything you need to know about life as an Ice Bear.'

'You got it,' Joshua replied, smiling. 'That's if Coach Tremaine doesn't kill me first!'

With that, Joshua turned and made his way to the locker room.

It might not have been the most auspicious of first impressions, but Joshua was determined to show Coach Tremaine that while punctuality might not be his strongest suit, there was no one on the whole squad who could compete when it came to sheer hustle and cardio endurance...

Chapter 2

Alex

Alex Rebrov liked to do things his way.

Whether it was a preferred training routine, the exact cut of his many tailored suits, or down to his perfect haircut – there was no room for maneuver when it came to what Alex saw as the correct way to operate.

'I want a three year extension, with an annual pay rise, and a bonus to match Jack Steel if and when we lift another championship,' Alex said, holding his cell phone in one hand and a cup of espresso in the other. 'You're my agent, Bill. We've been together for six years, over half my professional career. But loyalty only gets you so far. Deliver me this deal.'

With that, Alex ended the call to his agent and carefully put his cell phone down on the immaculately clean works surface in his kitchen.

'Agents, right?' Alex said, looking across to his dog, Emilio. 'Can't live with them, can't live without them...'

Emilio was a German Shephard who loved nothing more than going out with Alex on one of his early morning runs. But there would be no early morning run today. With the dog sitter expected to arrive soon, Alex wanted to make the most of his time with Emilio before they would be separated for the next couple of weeks.

'Training camp won't be so bad,' Alex said, sitting down on his large couch and welcoming his canine friend up onto the comfortable cushions with him. 'Trust me, the dog sitter is going to spoil your ass so much. And I'll be breaking my ass in the name of fitness. I know who's position I'd rather be in!'

Alex chuckled to himself and gave Emilio a thorough scratch around his ears and big, wet nose too.

Many people saw Alex as being detached, supersophisticated, and even a little aloof.

However as far as Emilio was concerned, Alex was just a big softy.

'Okay, enough,' Alex said, sitting up from the couch and striding toward his bedroom. 'This might be a preseason training camp, but I'm not going without at least three decent suits.'

Alex walked through his bedroom and into the large, walk-in closet.

On both sides there were racks of perfectly presented and entirely hand tailored suits from all over the world. From Japan to New York, to Paris, and all the way to Russia, each suit had a story to tell and Alex appreciated each one.

Alex was thirty years old and very much in the peak of his hockey career. Having been on the Ice Bears squad since he was twenty-four, Alex was by this point very much a key part of the Ice Bears leadership group.

In fact, Alex, Connor Valley, and Jack Steel were unofficially known as the Three Musketeers given how close they were both on and off the ice. If there was a problem to be solved, then the three of them were always likely to be the ones to solve it.

Whether it was a new teammate who needed help settling in off the ice, or a player who needed support

getting into their best form on the ice, Alex and his friends prided themselves on being the men to help.

But it wasn't just hockey matters that Alex, Jack, and Connor bonded over. Far from it. Outside of their Ice Bears commitments, the three of them were close friends. And the fact that each on of them was a Daddy was a big part in that.

'Hmmm, I certainly think this suit is coming with me,' Alex said, running his hand down the sleeve of a suit he purchased in Paris the previous Christmas.

Behind him, Alex heard the patter of Emilio's paws approaching followed by an inquisitive bark.

'Yes, I *know* it's a training camp,' Alex chuckled. 'But that doesn't mean I'm going to be walking around like a scruff during the evenings. And anyhow, I think me and the Daddies will be allowed privileges to hit the town once or twice. A Daddy must be prepared at all times...'

Alex smiled to himself and unhooked the Parisian suit from the rack.

With his ice blue eyes and immaculately parted chestnut brown hair, Alex was certainly a handsome Daddy. In fact, it was rare that Alex went out at night and didn't spend much of his time batting off interest from a variety of eager boys.

But one night hookups just weren't Alex's thing.

In fact, the thought of a meaningless night of sex was just about the least appealing thing that Alex could conceive of. Alex was a private man. There was little in the world that Alex valued more than having his own private space and he guarded it with the kind of steely intensity that he had while closing in on goal for the Ice Bears. Sure, Alex had been in one or two relationships over the years. But nothing stuck. Alex had such a busy schedule, and there was the added factor that Alex had to be extra careful about being seen out and about – the threat of paparazzi spotting him and trying to sell a story about him being in a relationship was something that Alex simply didn't want to deal with.

Put simply, Alex didn't want any one night stands and he was realistic enough to admit that finding a boy for a long term relationship would be tricky. All in all, a relationship just didn't seem on the cards, and Alex was for the most part pretty much okay with that.

The previous season saw Jack find his Forever boy in the shape of Chase, and Alex was truly happy for Jack. But Jack was just about ready to call time on his career and he was older too. Alex simply wasn't in that place himself – and the thought of having to compromise on any aspect of his life to fit in someone else's needs just didn't seem appealing.

But while Jack was very much taken, Alex knew that he at least had Connor Valley to hang out with outside of Ice Bears time. Connor was rough, tough, and one hell of a defenseman. But despite their very opposite characteristics, Alex and Connor made great friends – the chemistry just worked.

And speaking of his friends, Alex felt his phone buzzing in his pocket...

REBROV – you'd better bring your dancing shoes to Mount Ledge. I've spoken to Coach Tremaine, and he says the senior group can party two times during training camp. Oh, and I'm hearing you still haven't signed your new contract... don't keep the Doni's waiting on that is my advice. JACK. I second that. I signed up for four more years, done and dusted. Don't be a stuck up asshole, Alex. Sign the fucking deal so we can toast to it over beers, whisky, and hot boys! CONNOR.

Alex couldn't help but laugh. Jack and Connor were more than teammates or work colleagues, they were like brothers at this point. Jack was the eldest brother, then Connor, and then Alex. But there was no hierarchy between them. On and off the ice, they were equally integral parts of the Ice Bears machine.

However if either Connor or Jack thought they could push Alex into signing a contract that he didn't think reflected his worth, then they could think again.

I've put too much into this franchise.

I'll get what I'm due.

Or I'll have no choice but to skate elsewhere ...

With that, Alex set about finishing the last stages of his packing and getting himself ready for the long journey to Mount Ledge. With his driver arriving shortly, and the dog sitter due any moment, Alex knew that time wasn't on his side.

Alex took his suit and walked out of the closet.

It was time to get up to Mount Ledge and get in the best possible shape for another victorious season. Even if that did mean teaming up with a player who he once swore he'd rather kill than play on the same side as... Alex felt the cool breeze of the SUVs aircon pass over his face as he reclined in the luxury SUV's rear seat.

The Doni family had put on a car service for the senior players, and Alex wasn't going to pass that opportunity by. Alex might have been in a contract standoff with the Doni's, but he was no fool – a luxury journey upstate was always better than driving himself.

One of Alex's great strengths both on and off the ice was his ability to keep his cool and not make any snap judgements. The easiest thing to do in a contract standoff would have been to break off all contact with the management board in an attempt to show his strength.

But Alex was too smart for that.

Alex didn't want to give the Doni's a single reason to call him out for being a troublemaker or as someone who was looking to engineer a trade to another franchise.

Staying calm and collected was one of Alex's biggest strengths. On the ice, he was known as a player with ice in his veins to match the color of his ice blue yes. Over the years, Alex had honed his finishing so that each time he was through on goal, there was typically only one outcome.

Alex also was able to handle some of the toughest and most agitating behavior from defensemen. Extra-hard physical contact, verbal roasts, Alex was more than capable of taking whatever the opposition would throw at him and barely bat an eyelid.

As the SUV took a turn off the highway and hit the country road, Alex took a moment to remember the passing of his father.

Love you, Dad.

It was never the same after you. But I'm still here, making you proud. Alex was only ten when his father was murdered in a bar brawl. The effects of being without his father, and in such horrific circumstances, had threatened to derail Alex's life as a teenager. But after a brief flirtation with the dark side of life, Alex had decided to remove all anger and emotion from his life. As much as Alex loved his father, he knew that he never, *ever*, wanted to end up suffering the same fate as him.

The reality was that Alex's father was an emotional man who often found himself getting involved in situations that he really should have sought to avoid and keep well clear of. Had Alex's father had more control over his emotions, the likelihood was that he would still be alive to this day.

So for Alex, his life was built around control.

Controlling his emotions was one thing, but Alex now lived such an ordered and clearly defined life that it left him little room to accommodate others. Even if he had the time and inclination to handle the paparazzi, Alex felt it would be hard to find a boy who was capable of living to Alex's very exacting standards.

But as the SUV began to ascend up the first set of hills that would him closer to Mount Ledge, Alex knew that now wasn't the time to be thinking about boys. Now was the time to refocus his mind on having another legacy making season with the Ice Bears.

With the drama of the previous season's winning run to the title behind him – not to mention a gunfight in a downtown launderette – Alex was ready to hit the ice and stick to what he did best... scoring goals, and lots of them.

'How long now, driver?' Alex said, speaking through the intercom.

'About an hour, Mr. Rebrov,' the driver answered.

An hour wasn't a long time, but Alex was suddenly feeling anxious to arrive and get to work. Not only was this a big training camp ahead of the season, Alex knew that the better he performed, the more likely the Doni family would be to agree to his contract demands.

And not only that – but Alex also felt the pressure of knowing that the team's latest signing would be making his first appearance too...

'Joshua Ramone...' Alex growled, momentarily feeling himself lose control of his emotions. 'Let's see who the hell you *really* are...'

With that, Alex reclined in his seat and turned the volume up on the SUV's sound system. The sound of Brahms' classical symphonies playing, Alex brought his heartrate all the way down and felt himself find his quiet place.

The next hour would fly by – and then it would be time to show everyone that Alex Rebrov was back, and he wasn't a player to be messed with...

* * *

'Rebrov, my man!' Jack said, striding over toward Alex as he stepped out of the SUV. 'I was about to send out a search party.'

'And I was all ready to lay my claim on your antique watch collection in the event of a dead body,' Connor added, his usual dark humor never failing to impress Alex.

'Gentlemen, it's a pleasure,' Alex retorted, warmly embracing his two most cherished teammates. 'Now how about we hit the sauna and steam room ahead of the tough stuff to come later?' 'That's a good idea,' Jack said. 'My ancient back is already creaking and we haven't had our first session, let alone the first game of the season.'

'We'll leave the young guns and new signings to sweat their assess off doing laps of the track,' Connor chuckled. 'They can enjoy our privileges when they've earned them. Although, I am interested to see whether Joshua Ramone can actually back up his bullshit...'

Alex nodded but didn't want to give away too much of his distaste for the Ice Bears' new defenseman. Over the last four seasons, Alex and Joshua Ramone had battled several times on the ice and as much as Alex hated to admit it, his younger rival had been getting stronger with each season.

But it wasn't just Joshua's defensive strengths that frustrated Alex, it was the player's attitude too. There was something about coming up against Joshua's long haired, tattoo-covered, pierced bad-boy façade that infuriated Alex.

Alex was a man of taste, of true sophistication.

And as far as Alex could tell, Joshua Ramone was just about the complete opposite end of the spectrum. But, rather than allow himself to get overly worked up about his new team mate, Alex decided to stay calm and not give anything away to either Jack or Connor.

Well, that was the plan ...

'So I hear Joshua might be a boy...' Jack said, arching his eyebrow.

'Yeah, and?' Alex said, doing his best to sound as uninterested as he could at this revelation.

But all Alex's apparent lack of interest did was prompt both Jack and Connor to burst into laughter. 'Brother, could you make it any more obvious?' Connor roared. 'Don't worry, I'll give his ass a good spanking if he tries to act the rebel. You know, just so you don't have to...'

'Asshole,' Alex mumbled under his breath, before letting the slightest of smiles form at the corner of his mouth. 'Come on you sonsofbitches, let's get a coffee and hit that sauna.'

With that, the three Daddies walked up the steps toward the Mount Ledge resort health center. There would be plenty of hard work to come over the ensuing hours and days, but for now it was about letting their veteran bodies relax.

Alex held the door open for Jack and Connor to go in ahead of him, and just as he was about to do so he saw Coach Tremaine bawling out a player.

But it wasn't just any player.

It was... Joshua Ramone.

Ha. The new kid's off to a great start.

Go on, Tremaine. Put the boy in his place.

Joshua Ramone doesn't know what's about to hit him, and I'm going to love every moment of it too...

Chapter 3

Joshua

'Keep running, Ramone!' Coach Tremaine bellowed, his voice echoing around the indoor athletics track. 'I brought you to the Ice Bears to see hustle and aggression. I need to know you can last the God damned pace!'

Joshua wiped the sweat off his brow and continued to pump his arms and legs as he ran past Coach Tremaine and into another lap.

I must have done ten laps now.

I won't quit, no matter what.

I want my place in this team...

Despite the fact that his heart was thumping inside his chest and his legs were filling with lactic acid, Joshua was determined to keep running and prove that reports of his cardio prowess hadn't been exaggerated. At school, Joshua was on the track team alongside playing hockey, and his natural born ability to run and run hadn't deserted him – but Coach Tremaine seemed intent on breaking him.

'Faster!' Tremaine hollered, speaking into a megaphone as Joshua ran the bend and hit the long strait on the opposite side of the track. 'This is the championship game. You can't quit. I need to know I've got a winner on board.' Tremaine's words were enough to keep Joshua running.

But it wasn't just Coach Tremaine's words that were motivating Joshua. Over on the far corner of the track, Joshua could see the other players watching on, including Chase.

The last thing that Joshua wanted to do was to quit in front of his new teammates. They would be watching him to see exactly what he was made of, and the prospect of showing weakness in front of them was not something that Joshua wanted to contemplate.

When it came to competing, Joshua prided himself on having zero quit in him. He knew that he might not win every race or every hockey game, but that would never stop him trying and pushing himself all the way to the end.

There were far more technically gifted players than Joshua, but there weren't many who had his never say die spirit, that was for sure.

However with his legs feeling heavy and his lungs being worked to their absolute maximum, Joshua knew that he was going to dig into every reserve of strength and endurance in that moment.

Nice thoughts.

I'm thinking stuffies, snuggles, milk and cookies.

Rompers, coloring pencils, nursery rhymes...

As Joshua filled his head with the most positive and calming images he could think of, he felt a serene feeling come over him. Yes, his body might have been at the point of athletic failure and stress, but Joshua felt like he was running on air as he came into the final straight.

With the sound of some of his teammates cheering him on, Joshua ran the final stretch and was greeted by the harsh rip of Coach Tremaine's whistle. 'Not fucking bad,' Tremaine said, arching his eyebrow as he watched his assistant coach upload Joshua's GPS data onto his iPad. 'You've got the Ice Bears spirit, Ramone. Now take a break.'

'Thanks coach,' Joshua said, running his hands through his long hair and walking over toward the drinks table.

'Wow, that was great,' Chase said, jogging over toward Joshua. 'And to get a compliment like that from Coach is pretty awesome.'

'That was a compliment?' Joshua said, glugging down some electrolyte water.

'Hehe, that's just coach,' Chase giggled. 'He can be... a bit on the gruff side.'

'Really?' Joshua laughed. 'I hadn't noticed...'

The two Littles laughed together and began to walk out of the track enclosure and up toward the locker room. Joshua could tell that Chase was a genuine and open hearted player, and it made him feel a little bit more at home as a new player.

Making friends wasn't exactly a strong point for Joshua, or it certainly hadn't been at his previous team, The Lynxes. Joshua's long hair, love of tattoos, knives, and motorcycles had marked him out as being a bit different – and difference wasn't always appreciated in a team environment.

In fact, when the chance to leave The Lynxes and move to the Ice Bears arose, Joshua had taken the opportunity with both hands. Yes, it was a sporting decision on the one hand. But it had been a personal move too, and Joshua hoped that a fresh start with a new team would give him a good shot at making some friends and finding people who accepted him for who he was. 'I like your ink, by the way,' Chase said, casting an admiring glance at the various tattoos dotted around Joshua's arms and upper chest. 'They're super cool!'

'Thanks, I like them,' Joshua replied. 'Have you got any?'

'Look,' Chase replied, pulling down the collar of his t-shirt to show a tattoo saying MVP on his left pec. 'Most valuable player! Hehe, I couldn't resist. You probably heard the rumors about me being all cocky and full of myself, right? Well, they weren't exactly rumors. But I've changed. Ever since me and Jack...'

Joshua felt a rush of excitement come over him.

The rumors about Chase and Jack had been going for a long time both in the hockey world and increasingly in the outside world too. The idea of two star players being a Daddy and Little was something that filled Joshua was excitement and intrigue – and he knew that this was Chase's way of letting him into his life a little bit.

'Is it awesome?' Joshua replied, his excitement getting the better of him. 'To have a Daddy, I mean?'

'Yeah, it really is,' Chase replied, blushing. 'It wasn't always easy for us, and we definitely had to deal with some stuff, but I wouldn't change it for the world. How about you, have you got a Daddy?'

'No,' Joshua replied, his heart sinking. 'I don't think I'm really what Daddies want to be honest. But I'm cool with that. I like to live my life on the edge. Do my own thing. You know?'

'You might be surprised about what Daddies want,' Chase said, putting his arm around Joshua's shoulder. 'But, hey, let's focus on us right now. How about we grab a shower and then go for a smoothie and protein boost down in the village. Coach Tremaine said that I can take you out to help you bond.' 'Coach Tremaine said that?' Joshua laughed, not quite sure whether Chase was telling the truth.

'Hmmm, I could tell that's what he was thinking,' Chase giggled. 'Come on, let's do it. Tremaine will be busy with the older guys this afternoon. No one will know we've gone!'

Joshua felt a surge of happiness come over him.

Chase was doing his best to make Joshua feel welcome as a new team member, and even though Coach Tremaine probably wouldn't approve, Joshua didn't see anything wrong with a little trip into the village.

After all, two Littles going for an innocent smoothie tighter, what could possibly go wrong?

* * *

The village beneath the Mount Ledge complex was just about as wonderfully wholesome as Joshua could imagine anywhere being – not that he was about to admit it.

'Pffft. It's okay, I guess,' Joshua said, rolling up the sleeves on his black t-shirt to show off his arm tattoos.

'Naaaw, come on, I know you love it,' Chase giggled. *'We're only a street away from the smoothie spot I told you about. Even if the village is too quaint for you, there's no way you're not going to fall in love with their triple berry Cream Delight.'*

Joshua rolled his eyes, trying to act indifferent.

But Joshua couldn't stop himself from smiling...

'Okay, okay, it's definitely kinda cute here,' Joshua said, noticing a dog walker approaching with four of the cutest pooches he'd ever seen. 'Now that's what I call a pack of dogs.' Chase and Joshua stopped to check out the dogs as they approached.

'You want to pet them?' the dog walker said, his soulful brown eyes and closely cropped hair bringing out his high cheekbones. 'They're all super-friendly. I'm Jax by the way.'

'I'm Chase and this is Joshua,' Chase said, enthusiastically rubbing behind the large fluffy dog's ears. 'And who's this?'

'That's Ruffles, he's an Old English sheepdog,' Jax said. 'Trust me, washing all his hair after a muddy walk is tough!'

'Damn, I bet it is,' Joshua said, giving a Weiner dog a belly rub. 'My next door neighbor growing up had an Old English. We used to give him bath time in the garden every Sunday.'

'Well, if you guys aren't too busy, why not come and help me?' Jax said. 'My little base is only round the corner.'

Joshua and Chase exchanged a look.

'Washing and drying some cute doggos?' Joshua said. 'This is too good a chance to miss, right?'

'Let's do it!' Chase replied. 'Thanks, Jax. Lead the way!'

With that, the two Ice Bears and their new friend Jax walked down the street and into Jax's doggy day care store. With four muddy dogs to wash, there was going to be a lot of soapy fun ahead – and maybe when they were done they might even find time to grab those smoothies!

* * *

'That was so much fun,' Joshua said, walking up the stretch of hill that would take them back into the Mount

Ledge complex. 'And meeting another Little on our first day here too. Perfecto!'

'Yeah, Jax is awesome,' Chase added. 'We need to hang out with him again soon. But something tells me that coach Tremaine is going to be riding our assess pretty hard for the next few days at least.'

'Bah, Coach Tremaine can bring all the pain he wants,' Joshua said, a show of bravado in his voice. 'He tried to push me on the track, but I did everything he asked and more. He'll know that I'm not the player to try and break now.'

'Hmmm, don't be so sure,' Chase giggled, a knowing look in his eyes. 'Oh, look, it's Daddy!'

With that, Joshua looked over to where Chase was pointing and saw the one and only Jack Steel. But Jack wasn't on his own. Jack was flanked by Connor Valley on one side and Alex Rebrov on the other...

Okay, play it cool.

Don't show any fear.

They may be hockey legends, but I deserve to be an Ice Bear...

As Joshua and Chase approached the three Ice Bears hall of famers, Joshua couldn't help but feel his heart beating faster and his mouth drying up. This was a big moment, and Joshua had to work very hard to not give away a single indication that he was intimidated or concerned about meeting Jack, Connor, and Alex.

Jack and Connor weren't such a big deal. Joshua knew from Chase that Jack was a gruff but welcoming guy. And Connor's reputation as a wild but good hearted soul was widespread in hockey circles – plus they were both defensemen who loved the rough stuff.

But Alex Rebrov? That was a whole other matter.

Aside from the fact that the two of them had clashed numerous times on the ice over the previous four seasons, Joshua sensed that Alex really didn't like or respect him as a person.

Joshua loved to play hard and push his opponents to the limits with physical and verbal banter too. But there was something about the way that Alex Rebrov had always treated him on the ice that made Joshua feel insecure and unsettled. The fact was that no matter what insult Joshua had thrown at Alex, he had never responded in kind. Many times, Alex Rebrov had simply given Joshua the silent treatment.

There were *never* any post game handshakes or chats – and Joshua felt like this was a sign of Alex's contempt for him.

'Are you okay?' Chase said, probably sensing Joshua's increasing tension as they approached Jack and his two friends. 'Don't worry, you're an Ice Bear now. Anything that happened before is in the past. You're one of us.'

'Sure, okay,' Joshua said, running his hand through his hair and hooking it behind his ears. 'I've got it.'

Chase smiled at Joshua and gave his hand a friendly squeeze of support.

Joshua knew that Chase had been in a similar position last season as the new boy on the team. But Joshua's position was different. Chase had been a rookie, playing his first season in the pro game. Joshua was young, but he already had four seasons behind him – and especially four seasons of animosity between him and Alex Rebrov.

With each step closer to the three veterans, Joshua could feel himself getting more and more tense. But rather than backing off and being quiet, Joshua was determined that he was going to put his best foot forward no matter what. Joshua might have been the new guy on the team, but he was about to show the older players that Joshua Ramone was here to stay...

Chapter 4

Alex

The music in the gym was a pumping mix of classic house, some techno, and a little bit of classic hip hop too. All in all, it was a soundtrack very much designed to get the juices flowing and allow three veteran players and pure bred Daddies to work their bodies in search for some strength gains.

Alex, Jack, and Connor were in the process of finishing a weights session in the gym. As veterans, they were trusted to do their own strength and conditioning work by themselves, save for one of the S&C coaches supervising them from a distance.

'Good job, guys,' the supervising coach said. 'You could teach the younger players a thing or two, that's for damn sure.

'You're Vancheck, right?' Alex said. 'You used to work for the national hockey squad?'

'That's me, Vitali Vancheck,' Vitali replied, holding out his hand for the three guys to shake. 'I'm here on a one season deal. I've got international commitments with the Canadian Olympic team from next year, but I wanted to do a season with a franchise to keep up to date on everything. And I think I picked a good squad for that.'

'A pleasure to meet you, my man,' Jack said. 'And this might be crazy, but... have I seen you hanging out at *The Rocks* before?

'You certainly might,' Vitali grinned, a knowing look in his eyes.

The Rocks was a Daddy bar that the Alex and his friends hung out in back in the city. Alex thought he recognized Vitali too, so was unsurprised when he revealed himself to be a Daddy.

'Yup, and you'll have certainly seen us three assholes sinking some of the good stuff at *The Rocks*,' Connor bellowed, rubbing his thick beard. 'When training camp is over, you need to hang out with us. We'll put your whisky drinking to the test, don't you worry.'

'I don't doubt it,' Vitali laughed. 'Anyway, you guys make sure to load up on your protein shakes right away. You all moved some serious weight just now, you need to replenish and refuel ASAP.'

'Got it,' Alex replied, smiling at Vitali as he made his way out of the gym, his height and broad physique making him look more like a professional powerlifter than a coach. 'Damn, we could do with him on the ice.'

'Hey, I'm more than enough to keep our defense on point,' Connor said, arching his eyebrow. 'But, yeah, the dude is huge. Ain't no denying that.'

With that, Jack and Connor walked out of the gym, with Alex just behind them.

Alex had enjoyed the workout, although he was typically far less focused on lifting weight than he was on his flexibility and core strength exercises. Alex knew that now he was in his thirties, he would need to rely far more on maintaining his body and keeping it in the best possible condition to avoid injury or fatigue.

Still, the chance to hang out with his best Daddy friends and lift some heavy weight was something that he was never going to miss out on doing – even if that meant having to put up with Connor's hyper-competitive nature when it came to the bench press.

So much of Alex's life was built around clear thinking, executing offensive plays, and keeping his cool no matter what. This was just how Alex felt like he had to be in order to live his best life. But being with Jack and Connor in the gym or at *The Rocks* always gave him a chance to loosen up a little and have a good time.

But if Alex thought that the rest of the day was going to go along similar lines, he had another thing coming. As he stepped out of the gym behind Jack and Connor, Alex saw the shadowy figure of Antonio Doni over in the lobby.

Antonio Doni was the Doni family's representative at the Ice Bears. While the senior Doni family members were the ones who owned the franchise, Antonio Doni was in a senior management position in their family hierarchy. And it was Antonio's role to make sure that everything at the Ice Bears ran smoothly – no matter the cost.

Alex flashed a look over toward Antonio and could see that Antonio's eyes were trained very much in his direction.

Where there's a Doni, there's usually trouble not too far away.

Antonio knows my skillset on and off the ice.

The only question is what does he want from me this time?

* * *

Jack and Connor went their own way to pick up their protein shakes, leaving Alex to speak privately with Antonio. 'Catch you later, brother,' Jack said, turning and giving Alex a nod of support.

'If we never see you again, it was a pleasure,' Connor added, a knowing wink and a smile making Alex laugh at his friend's typically bleak humor.

Both Jack and Connor had been at the Ice Bears long enough to know that when a representative of the Doni family appeared on the scene, the best policy was to get as far away from them as they possibly could.

As far as Alex was concerned, it was time now to be his typically self-assured and calm self. Whatever Antonio wanted, it was hardly likely to be good news.

Unless of course it pertained to the delicate matter of his new contract...

'A pleasure to see you, Mr. Rebrov,' Antonio said, his welltailored black suit and formal shirt pleasing Alex. 'I trust you are settling into the training camp and readying yourself for a new season?'

'That I am, Mr. Doni,' Alex replied, shaking Antonio's hand and keeping a positive, but formal tone to the proceedings. 'How can I help you?'

Alex figured that Antonio was going to instruct him in one way or the other and whatever it was that needed doing, it wouldn't be a request. By this logic, Alex thought it was best to offer his services before being asked as a sign of good faith.

'Your contract...' Antonio said, holding out his hand and gesturing for Alex to follow him along the corridor. 'I know that your agent is pushing for new terms. And I know that your agent is acting on your instructions. This is correct?'

Alex knew that there was no point in playing games with Antonio. A man who had been schooled in Mafia negotiations wasn't going to be blindsided by a hockey agent and his client, that was for sure.

'This is correct, yes,' Alex replied. 'With respect to you and your family, I know my worth as a player to the Ice Bears. And I know my worth off the ice to the organization too. My request is that my value is met with an appropriate contract. *Respectfully*, Mr. Doni.'

Alex felt confident that he was stating his case with dignity and in a way that couldn't be conceived as challenging the authority of the Doni clan. Other players had tried to go against the wishes of the Doni family in the past, and to say that things hadn't worked out as they wished would be a huge underestimation, to say the least.

'You're a fine servant to this franchise,' Antonio said, having taken a moment to consider Alex's words. 'I'm going to be holding a meeting with some of the senior family later this week and I'll make sure to make my thoughts on the matter *very* clear. Here, look at this...'

With that, Antonio stopped in front of a large floor to ceiling window that looked out onto the Mountain Ledge training complex and then the hills that led down toward the village beneath them.

The vast expanse of ancient trees all around made a spectacular sight even more so.

Alex couldn't help but feel a sense of awe as he surveyed what was outside. But for Antonio, it wasn't the splendid scenery that was the focus of his attention...

'These woodlands are so old,' Antonio said, his voice controlled and ever so slightly menacing. 'And they're so large, too. A man could walk into them one day and never be seen again. Could you imagine such a thing, Alex?'

Alex looked directly into Antonio's dark eyes.

Even though he felt his heart rate jump, Alex was determined to maintain his unflappable exterior.

Show Antonio nothing.

He wants to intimidate me.

No weakness, no emotion ...

'I think the woodland is spectacular,' Alex said. 'And in its vastness, it's certainly easy to imagine a hundred secrets or more being held there forever.'

'Ah, you put it so well,' Antonio said, a smile on his face. 'Good. We'll talk again very soon. But for now, you need to rejoin your teammates.'

'As you wish,' Alex replied, nodding his head in acknowledgement of Antonio and making his way back to his friends.

As far as conversations with Antonio went, it could have been a lot worse.

But Alex couldn't shake the feeling that as far as he and Antonio were concerned, there was still a lot more to come...

* * *

'Was your conversation with Doni as fun as I'd hoped?' Connor said, wiping away the last traces of protein shake from his beard.

'I'm still alive, aren't I?' Alex said, rolling his eyes. 'It was fine, thank you for asking. But I'm not out of the woods yet... literally.'

With that, Alex, Connor, and Jack walked outside and were greeted by the sight of Chase and Joshua Ramone approaching. 'If I didn't know better, I'd say those two boys snuck out of camp for a visit to the village,' Jack said, frustration in his voice. 'Someone is getting his ass warmed tonight, that's for sure.'

'But what about Joshua Ramone?' Connor said, arching his eyebrow. 'Who's going to heat his butt up?'

'Don't even say it,' Alex said, flashing a look of disgust toward Connor.

The three Daddies chuckled amongst themselves as Chase and Joshua drew nearer.

As far as Alex was concerned, he had no interest in befriending Joshua. They were too different, and way too much bad blood on the ice had passed between them to make anything more than a cordial relationship a possibility.

But Alex was nothing if not a pro.

For the sake of the Ice Bears, he would keep his feelings toward Joshua to himself and act in a manner befitting a veteran player with top dog locker room status.

However, things got off to a bad start when Alex's attempt to say hello to Joshua was met with a less than impressive riposte...

'Yo, what's good?' Joshua said, a bratty tone to his voice.

Alex wasn't sure how on earth he was meant to react to that. For Alex, manners were a huge part of his value system. If a man, or in this case *boy*, didn't have good manners then that was the sign of a bad character – and definitely not the right kind of person to have as a teammate.

'Suit yourself,' Joshua said, adding emphasis to his words to up the snark factor.

Alex felt a sudden urge in his Daddy Dom side. What this boy needed was to have his sweatpants pulled down around his ankles and his bare cheeks turned into a bright shade of red right there and then.

In fact, a public spanking in front of the whole Ice Bears playing squad and support staff might just have been the perfect solution to Joshua's impertinent attitude.

But with his green eyes, high cheekbones, and plump lips, Joshua was also dangerously close to matching up to Alex's idea of sexy. The long hair and purple streak would have to go, but other than that Alex immediately felt a strong attraction to the boy.

Does Joshua being a brat make him hotter or ...

Fuck. I can't even do this.

The boy's a brat and he needs putting in his place...

'Guys, I'm going to do some tactical work in the analysis suite,' Alex said, not wanting to be in Joshua's company for a moment longer. 'Hit me up later ahead of the team meeting. I've got some things I want to discuss.'

Alex could see a look of worry flash across Joshua's cocky face.

As far as Alex was concerned, there was no way that Joshua Ramone was going to waltz into the Ice Bears and break up the team spirit and professional values that had made them the most successful team in the league for the last six years.

And if push came to shove, and Alex felt like the boy needed to be put across his lap for a spanking he would never, *ever* forget... then Alex Rebrov was ready to be the Daddy that Joshua Ramone so clearly needed.

Chapter 5

Joshua

Joshua heard his alarm beeping over on the table next to the window. Joshua always put his early morning alarm as far away from his bed as he possibly could as a deliberate tactic to make sure he actually had to get out of bed to switch it off. This prevented him from hitting snooze and falling right back to sleep.

Bleurgh, it's too early,' Joshua moaned, giving Slice a squeeze as he wriggled around in bed and tried to hide himself under the covers to drown out the sound of the alarm.

The first three days at the Ice Bears preseason training camp were full of cardio, analysis, and some of the most brutal strength training that Joshua had ever experienced.

The Lynxes had a reputation as a tough team, but Joshua was very much discovering how much harder the Ice Bears pushed things when it came to getting ready for the season ahead.

Joshua was waking up each morning and feeling the soreness in his muscles that told him just how hard Coach Tremaine and his support staff were riding the players. But Joshua didn't mind this. Far from it in fact. A big part of Joshua's game was his endless energy and never say die attitude – he figured that if Coach Tremaine could get him even fitter then this could only be of benefit to him in the long run. However, for all of Joshua's physical gains, there was something that was troubling him. And that trouble went by the name of Alex Rebrov. After the initial awkward meeting between the two of them, not much had changed.

Alex Rebrov was known as the Icey Assassin by hockey fans, and as far as Joshua could tell the name was also pretty much accurate when it came to Alex as a person too.

Joshua hadn't anticipated that they would be friends right away, but Alex was even colder and more distant than he could have predicted. There was something so arrogant about the way that Alex distanced himself from most of the other players, Jack and Connor excepted.

Joshua was making friends with some of the younger players, and Chase of course – being a fellow Little they already had a bond together that would surely only get stronger and stronger as the days and weeks passed.

But when it came to Alex Rebrov... nothing.

Well, not quite nothing...

'Ooops,' Joshua giggled, looking down at the front of his teddy bear patterned pajamas and seeing a big sticky wet patch over his crotch as his still semi-hard dick flexed and twitched.

Immediately, Joshua remembered exactly what he'd been dreaming about.

'Why *him*?' Joshua said, rolling his eyes as he forced himself to sit up and get out of bed.

The memory of Joshua's naughty dream came flooding back to him at pace...

Alex Rebrov... in a jockstrap, parting his cheeks.

Making me do things to his butt...

Me loving every second of it and then him taking his Daddy dick out too...

Joshua felt his cock begin to stiffen again, only minutes after having shot its load already that morning.

'Nope, no time,' Joshua said, hopping out of bed and making his way over toward the alarm clock and switching it off.

As Joshua opened the curtains and looked out onto the training pitches, fitness center, and the practice ice rink, he couldn't help but wonder whether his confused feelings for Alex Rebrov were going to cause him problems settling into the team.

'I'm crushing on a veteran who can't stand me,' Joshua said, shaking his head. 'And I don't actually like him either. *Pffft*. What a mess.'

Joshua checked his clock again and saw that he didn't have too long before the team was expected to meet for breakfast down in the dining hall.

Coach Tremaine was big on team unity, so there was no option for skipping breakfast or being late. Joshua knew that he needed to get showered and then get his butt into gear for the day ahead.

As Joshua stripped out of his blue teddy bear pajamas, he took a moment to look at himself in the full-length mirror.

'I think I'm due a new tattoo,' Joshua said, his eyes scanning over his naked body.

The truth was that Joshua had plenty of tattoos that meant something to him, but also plenty that had just been done on the spur of the moment and meant little. For his next tattoo, Joshua wanted one that would commemorate his first season as an Ice Bear. 'How about the Ice Bear crest, Slice?' Joshua said, running his fingers over his smooth, peachy butt. 'Or maybe if we win the playoffs I could get the championship cup?'

Joshua giggled at the thought of the stiff, formal Alex getting a tattoo.

The truth was that Joshua found something utterly irresistible about Alex Rebrov. Even though they were polar opposites, Joshua couldn't deny that Alex was incredibly handsome.

There was something sexy about how smart Alex always appeared. Even after a session on the ice, Alex's hair never seemed out of place in the slightest either. This was a total contrast to Joshua's hair, which always seemed to be the biggest, sweatiest mess after a practice session or game.

'Maybe I'll get smarter and more suave when I get old,' Joshua laughed. '*Naaaaaah*. I'm a rebel for life. Ain't that right, Slice?'

With that, Joshua walked his naked body into the bathroom and turned the shower on to full blast. It was time to clean up, shape up, and get his Little butt down to the breakfast hall.

After all, with another grueling morning session ahead, Joshua wanted to make sure he was fueled and fired up. It was defense versus offence on the practice ice that morning, and Joshua was determined to get one over on a certain Alex Rebrov...

* * *

'Okay, I want to see the defense pushing harder,' Coach Tremaine yelled, his voice as gruff and full of fire as ever. 'And as for the offense, you need to be working a shit-ton harder on these plays!'

Joshua took a moment to compose himself.

With ice under foot and the pressure of going up against the Ice Bears offensive players on him, Joshua knew that each moment was vital. Concentration had to be at a maximum. There could be no slip-ups, there was zero room for error.

'Joshua, keep working, you're doing good,' Connor said, skating into position ahead of the next drill. 'You've handled Jack and Chase well. But you've got Alex this time along with Richie. Richie is a rookie but watch out for his pace. The kid's electric.'

'What about Alex?' Joshua said, gripping his stick in readiness for the action.

Joshua waited for Connor to reply, and he could see that the grizzled defenseman was thinking of some words of encouragement.

'Just try not to piss him off,' Connor laughed. 'Sorry Josh, you'll have to work Alex Rebrov out for yourself. You're an Ice Bear now, you need to be able to think on your skates.'

'Jeez, thanks,' Joshua said, rolling his eyes.

'You're fucking welcome,' Connor bellowed, seemingly finding it all very amusing. 'Now, come on, focus. We're about to go into action.'

With that Joshua and the other defensemen in his group skated into position and listened to Coach Tremaine explain what he expected from them. Joshua knew that even with Richie's pace, he would have too much experience for the rookie. But handling Alex Rebrov was a whole other matter.

Just stay focused.

I'm younger, faster, and more aggressive.

Alex Rebrov is mine.

But as the training drill played out, it very quickly became clear to Joshua that Alex was gaining the upper hand and he was at a loss at to what to do to handle him.

'Work smarter, defense!' Coach Tremaine bellowed, exchanging words with his assistant coaches. 'Ramone, I want you tighter on Rebrov. We signed you to defend, not fuck around with your hair all day.'

Joshua felt himself blush.

But it wasn't the rebuke from Coach Tremaine that bothered Joshua, it was more the fact that Alex was slowly but surely dominating him. With each play that passed, Alex seemed to be beating Joshua's attempts at defense with more and more ease.

Joshua could feel his frustration increasing by the second, and it was hardly helpful that Connor wasn't offering any advice either...

'Connor, can you please give me some help?' Joshua said during a brief break in play after Alex had fired in yet another goal. 'Like, I'm new. I don't know how Tremaine wants me to position myself on the ice yet. It's hard, and I'm dealing with Rebrov down my side too.'

'The best help I can give you is to let you learn the hard way, boy,' Connor snarled, clearly unimpressed with Joshua's complaining. 'Now get ready. You can do this. But you need to trust Tremaine's system.'

Joshua clenched his jaw and got himself ready to go again.

Connor was very much an old school player who had old school attitude to go with it. Joshua felt like he'd been the best defenseman in the league for the last two years and didn't really appreciate being told what to do. I'll get Alex under control.

But I'll do it my way.

Tremaine and Connor can suck it ...

But as the next play began and Joshua took matters into his own hands, he soon found himself outsmarted yet again by Alex.

'Argh!' Joshua said, slamming his stick into the ice as Alex cut inside and then back out again before slashing the puck into the net. 'Bullshit!'

'Maybe try listening to coach next time,' Alex said, skating past Joshua with a smug look on his face. 'In fact, try listening full stop. You might get somewhere.'

Alex's taunt was enough to send Joshua into a rage and before he knew what was going on, Joshua was being surrounded by the offensive and defensive players as they held him back from going for Alex.

'Let me at him!' Joshua cried out, his voice full of emotion. 'This just isn't fair! It's not fair at all!'

It took a moment for the melee to calm down, and all the while Joshua could see Alex Rebrov standing with his stick in one hand, balancing a puck on the end of it like he didn't have a care in the world.

You, get into the locker room and get changed,' Coach Tremaine growled at Joshua. 'You're done for the day. I'll be speaking with you later, but until then I want you to cool down.'

With that, Joshua slapped his stick down onto the ice and skated off toward the locker room. This had been far from the first on-ice practice session that Joshua had wanted in front of his new teammates. And something told Joshua that now Alex had seen how easy it was to get under his skin, there would be more to come. I hate Alex Rebrov.

I hate him more than a wet diaper on a cold day. Argh. I just want to be back with The Lynxes...

* * *

After a quick shower and speedy exit from the locker room, Joshua found himself up in his room and snuggling up with Slice.

'I wish I'd never joined the Ice Bears,' Joshua said, still feeling emotional about what had happened back on the practice ice. 'I had a good life at The Lynxes. And I traded it for... *this*?'

Joshua couldn't help but feel glum.

Alone in his room, not even his stuffie and a fresh pair of super-cozy panda print pajamas could make Joshua feel any better.

Even after an hour of trying to unwind and let all of the stress evaporate, Joshua was still feeling aggrieved as to how everything had gone.

If Connor would have helped me more...

If Coach was better at explaining his tactics...

If Alex Rebrov wasn't such a stink-butt...

Joshua knew that he was making excuses, but he couldn't help himself. In this moment, it felt okay to vent and toss the blame around at anyone for himself.

As he was about to get up and open up another bag of chips, Joshua saw his phone flash up with a message. And fortunately for Joshua, it was from Chase... *Hey, I just wanted to check in and see that my buddy is okay. I know that must have*

been tough for you, Josh. I had some tricky practice sessions when I first signed up

too. It's just how the Ice Bears works. It's a harsh environment at times. But I can promise you that it's worth sticking with. The rewards will become clear soon enough, you've got my best Little Promise on that. I've got to go now and do some stuff with my Daddy but we'll hang out later, okay? Chase XoXo

Joshua smiled and sent three thumbs up emojis back to Chase. It felt good to have at least one ally on the team, and in that moment Joshua actually even felt a little bit more positive about his whole Ice Bears experience.

Joshua reckoned that if Chase had been through the same experience himself, then the chances were that things might get better for him too – just like how they had done for Chase.

But just as Joshua was about to finally settle down and munch his way through a fresh bag of salted chips, there was a knock at the door.

'I didn't order room service, did I, Slice?' Joshua said.

Joshua walked toward the door and opened it just enough to see who it was standing on the other side.

To Joshua's great surprise, it was the last man he had expected to see.

Standing before Joshua was Alex Rebrov.

'We got off to a bad start,' Alex said, looking immaculate in a three piece suit and with his hair as perfectly placed as ever. 'I want to change that.' Joshua wasn't sure what to say or do in that moment. Alex's ice blue eyes were staring back at him, waiting for a response...

'If I may come in,' Alex said. 'I think I have a solution that could help you, me, and most importantly – the Ice Bears. But if you're not interested...'

Joshua knew it was now or never.

Alex might have been an aloof, intimidating figure but Joshua knew that he had to let him into the room and hear him out. After all, Joshua wanted to make his time at the Ice Bears a success, and the way things were headed that wasn't looking likely.

'Y-y-yeah, come in,' Joshua said, fully opening the door and watching as Alex stepped inside.

Joshua's heart was racing, and adrenalin was pumping around his body.

But if Joshua was feeling flustered now, he could never have guessed what Alex was about to say next...

Chapter 6

Alex

The look on Joshua's face told Alex everything he needed to know. Behind the bravado, attitude, and outright sass, Joshua was a boy who needed the firm hand of a Daddy to put him in his place.

The only question was whether Joshua was ready to listen to Alex's offer and go along with it...

'What happened on the practice ice wasn't good,' Alex said, stepping into Joshua's room and casting his eyes around.

The room was a little untidy, with clothes strewn everywhere.

There was a cute biker mouse stuffie over on the bed, confirming Alex's instincts that Joshua was a pure Little at heart behind all his attitude.

Alex also couldn't help but notice two Japanese style daggers that were resting on top of chest of drawers over in the corner. That certainly wasn't a sight that Alex relished seeing, although he knew from having done some online research about Joshua that the boy had a thing for collecting knives of all shapes, sizes, and nations.

'As I say, it really wasn't good. In fact, how you behaved was unacceptable,' Alex continued, walking over toward the window and taking a moment to stare out onto the spectacular view. 'Yeah, but-' Joshua interjected, a pleading tone in his voice.

'No buts,' Alex continued, determined that he was going to lay his cards on the table first. 'The Ice Bears are successful because of our skill on the ice, that's true. But probably what's even more important is how we work for one another during games, but also in practice too. From star player to regular starter, right down to rookie and rotation player. We've all got a part to play. We all have to be pulling in the same direction. And right now, you're pulling against us.'

Alex paused and walked over toward Joshua.

Alex could tell that the boy was listening to him. It might have been the fact that it was just the two of them in the room and Joshua had less pride about being called out without other teammates listening. Or perhaps Joshua's response was due to the calm, controlled way that Alex was taking charge. Whatever it was, Alex was determined not to let the momentum slip.

It was time to take things up a notch.

'I've got a proposition for you, Joshua,' Alex said, making sure to maintain eye contact with the boy. 'Are you open to hearing what I have to say?'

Alex waited for Joshua to respond.

Alex knew that there was no point in trying to help Joshua if he wasn't ready to be helped. This had to be a two way street, and Alex had been in the professional game of hockey to know that a player who didn't truly want to improve never would – and it was a waste of time trying to help them.

But one thing that Alex did know for sure was that Joshua was cute. Like, *seriously* cute. Aside from the fact that Joshua's teddy bear pajamas totally put his supposed

bad boy reputation in the trash can, there was no denying that they fitted him just right.

Alex subtly scanned his eyes over Joshua's upper body, the snug fitting pajama top perfectly emphasizing Joshua's lean, slender build that was still muscular enough to give the toughest wingers and centers a rough ride over the three periods.

And as Alex glanced down toward Joshua's equally sweet pajama bottoms, it was clear that there was a lot going on inside them too. The outline of Joshua's dick was quite apparent, and if Alex didn't know better he might even have said that it was rather rapidly growing too.

'I'm waiting,' Alex said, both growing tired of standing around waiting for Joshua to respond, but also needing to refocus his mind away from what was going on inside the boy's PJ bottoms.

'I'm... open to what you have to say,' Joshua said, biting his bottom lip. 'I... want... you to help me. Okay? Is that enough?'

Alex could sense a strong internal battle going on with Joshua. On the one hand it was quite apparent that the boy did indeed want his help in settling into the team. But on the other hand, Alex could see that Joshua had pride – and lots of it too.

This situation would need to be handled with care, and with some very clear boundaries too. Alex wanted to help Joshua fit into the team and make the most out of his talent. And Alex knew from past experience that once Coach Tremaine turned against a player, there was little chance of that situation leading to anything but that player been traded out of the Ice Bears at the first opportunity.

Joshua was a pain in the ass. Alex knew it wouldn't be easy to guide him. And in many ways, it would have been far more simple to let Joshua sink or swim. But Alex felt like the decent thing to do – and what would help the team most – would be to at least try to offer Joshua the best chance of succeeding.

'Good,' Alex said, nodding his approval. 'I'll be your mentor. We'll work hard together to bring your best side forward. Both on and off the ice, I'll expect commitment and respect. And if I don't get it, or if I feel like you're not meeting your side of the bargain, there will be consequences.'

'Consequences?' Joshua replied, his eyes widening and a slight tremble in his voice. 'You mean...'

'I mean the kind of consequences that a Daddy dishes out,' Alex said, his voice gruff but still totally under control. 'Do you understand?'

'I understand,' Joshua replied, his hands instinctively covering up the front of his pajama bottoms. 'I want to succeed here. I really do.'

'Well from this point onward I expect you'll make sure that your actions align with your ambitions,' Alex said, ignoring the obvious embarrassment Joshua was feeling about his excited state. 'I have business to attend to now. What I suggest you do is spend some time in the analysis suite. We have a great support staff at the Ice Bears, the kinds of sports scientists and in game analysists that give us an extra edge when it matters most. Make the most of them. Trust me, you'll see the difference.'

'Yes... Alex,' Joshua said, momentarily stumbling over his words but regaining his composure.

With that, Alex shook Joshua's hand and left the room.

Alex was under no illusions about the difficulty of the task ahead. A young, headstrong player like Joshua wasn't going to change overnight. If Joshua was a first year rookie, it might have been easier – but the reality was that he was four seasons into his pro career and had habits and behaviors that would be harder to break down and build back up.

But all of that could wait.

Alex had a meeting scheduled with one of the most important men in his career... his agent.

* * *

Alex walked into the restaurant at the Mount Ledge resort and immediately spotted his agent, Bill Broadside, over by the window seat.

'Mr. Broadside,' Alex called out, purposefully striding over toward his agent and longtime friend. 'A pleasure, as always.'

Alex and Bill smiled at one another before their handshake turned into a full-on embrace. Despite the professional nature of their relationship, the two men had become good friends over time.

It helped of course that Bill was a Daddy too. And just like Alex, he was single. Except in Bill's case, there was always a boy or three being juggled at the same time. Bill simply had an insatiable appetite for boys – sweet, sassy, peachy, and bratty... Bill simply couldn't resist finding himself a boy wherever his business travels took him.

And unsurprisingly, Alex was immediately quizzed about the quality of boys at Mount Ledge...

'I know you say you're too busy, but you mut have noticed if there are any cute little tushies around here?' Bill said, chuckling as he took a seat at the table.

'I'm focused on shooting my shots on the ice, Bill,' Alex said, unwilling to get involved with Bill's insatiable appetite. 'But I'm sure you'll find someone who catches your eye. Try the village. There's plenty going on down there, or so I've heard.'

'I think I might just do that,' Bill said, opening up his laptop. 'But first, I think we both know why I'm here.'

'Talk to me,' Alex said, knowing full well that with his contract situation still up in the air, it was probably time to start putting contingency plans in place for what they might do in the event of them not being able to agree terms with the Doni family.

'Okay. So... you're a man in demand,' Bill said, swiping up on the laptop's touch screen and showing Alex a graphic detailing the offers on the table. 'The Lynxes, The Bright Lions, The Rebels. They're the best offers. All teams who will be challenging for the championship next season too. But...'

'But what about the Doni family?' Alex said, knowing that there was the delicate issue of walking away from the Doni's to take into consideration. 'I know it's tricky. Believe me, I've already spoken to Antonio Doni and it was very much what I'd expected. But on the other hand, I must insist that I get what my market value is. I've put time and sweat into this franchise. My numbers are up there with anyone in this God damned championship. I need to be rewarded like Jack and Connor, and that's my bottom line.'

Alex stopped talking a took a deep breath.

For a brief moment, Alex had felt his emotions riding up inside him. In many ways, it wasn't even about the money itself – it was the principal of the matter. Alex had earned more than enough money and invested it smartly too. But as he drew closer toward the final years of his career, Alex felt it was important on a personal level for the Ice Bears hierarchy to show their respect for his accomplishments and put him in the same bracket as Jack and Connor.

'I know how you feel, and I agree,' Bill said. 'Don't worry about the Doni's. Easier said than done, I know. But I've built up a good relationship with them over the years. I mean, I've been through a few players trades and contract negotiations and I'm still alive, right? That must mean something. Anyway. We'll work this out. But in the meantime, I think it does us no harm to keep our options open.'

'The Rebels... could that be the best option if I don't stay at the Ice Bears?' Alex said. 'I mean, I know they're a strong team. And there's something about the chance to play for a team near the ocean that does appeal. Plus, they've got a world renowned opera house in the city too. It could be a lot worse.'

Alex didn't want to leave the Ice Bears, but the more he considered it the more he could see that there very much would be life beyond what he had known for the last six years.

Everything in Alex's life felt so unstable when his father died. And the chance to put down roots was always something that Alex knew he wanted to take when the opportunity arose. But having been at the Ice Bears for so long, there was a voice in Alex's head that was telling him that it might – just might – be the time to consider the next big move of his career.

'Leave it with me. But, yeah, The Rebels is a great sporting project for you,' Bill said. 'I'll work on seeing what kind of package they might be willing to put together. Now... tell me all about the new kid, Joshua Ramone. Is he as much of a pain in the ass as I've been hearing?'

Alex chuckled.

'Well...' Alex said, reclining in his chair. 'Before you say anything, no this is not what it sounds like. But...'

With that, Alex began to explain the situation to an attentive and eager Bill.

Soon though it was time to wrap up the meeting. Both Alex and Bill were busy men. Bill had a meeting with Coach Tremaine to discuss potential rookie signings for the following season, and Alex was due for a yoga session with Jack Steele.

However, as Alex walked across the concourse from the restaurant toward the health suite, he saw a sight that stopped him dead in his tracks.

'That stupid, disobedient, reckless boy!' Alex growled, watching on as he witnessed Joshua playing with his knives down in the Japanese relaxation garden. 'This *cannot* stand. And it won't go fucking unpunished either...'

Alex sped up the pace of his walking and by the time he got to the exit door he was practically marching. Joshua was about to find out exactly what it was he had agreed to earlier in his room.

And if Alex had his way, it was a lesson that Joshua Ramone wouldn't be forgetting in a long, long time...

Chapter 7

Joshua

The talk with Alex had been good, and Joshua actually felt like it might help to have a mentor to assist him with settling down and getting to grips with Coach Tremaine.

But there was still something bugging Joshua.

And it was a feeling that Joshua just couldn't shake as he paced up and down his room in his sleeveless black tshirt and a pair of black jeans with enough rips and tears in them to last a lifetime.

'Alex shouldn't think I'm his Little now...' Joshua said, picking up Slice and wandering toward his window. 'He might be older than me, and he might be helping me out... but I'm not *his*. And he'd better not think I'm just going to do anything he tells me to either.'

Joshua felt a strong sense of defiance come over him.

Having grown up having to fight for each and every bit of attention he received, Joshua wasn't suddenly going to curtail his individuality just to please a stiff, older team member.

I'm Joshua Ramone.

The fans love me for who I am.

I won't change, and I'll never wear a silly smart suit either!

Joshua was feeling the adrenalin pumping over his body. He might have been intimidated into compliance by Alex earlier, but now that it was just him and Slice again, Joshua felt like he was going to speak his mind.

The fact that Joshua had found himself visibly aroused when Alex was in his room earlier was just adding to his sense of rebellion. The very thought that Alex had seen the outline of his hard cock was infuriating. Yes, Joshua found Alex sexy... but not in any way that he wanted to do anything about it. Alex was distant, cold, and clearly had no idea how to have a fun time. The last thing that Joshua would ever want to do would be to get down and dirty with him.

There's a thousand hot Daddies in the city.

And probably a few hot ones in the village here too.

I seriously don't need to be fantasizing about Alex Boring Rebrov...

'I'll do what I want, when I want,' Joshua declared, proudly jumping up onto the bed and pulling off a forward flip. 'Coach Tremaine's tactics will sink in eventually. But until then, I need to keep being me.'

Joshua began to do flip after flip on the large bed.

Soon enough, the bed sheets and covers were a tangled, bunched-up mess and Joshua decided that he wanted to have some fun outside. And in a flash of inspiration, Joshua cast his eyes over toward his Japanese knives.

'It's time to take these bad boys out for a whirl,' Joshua grinned, his mind already imagining tossing the knives at the various trees and wooden walls that were in plentiful supply in the Mount Ledge Resort. 'I'm going to have some fun with a capital *fuck off*. And no one's gonna stop me...'

With that, Joshua jumped off the bed, grabbed his knives, and headed out of his room. It was time to experience

Mount Ledge's great outdoors – and put his knife throwing skills to the ultimate test.

* * *

'Take... *that*!' Joshua declared, sending one of his knives flying through the air and straight into a wood paneled wall in the relaxation garden. 'Bullseye!'

Joshua loved playing with knives.

There was something about the feeling of holding a super-sharp blade that just made Joshua tingle with excitement. The knowledge that the knife's blade could pierce and cut through the toughest of surfaces was a thrill, and the danger and feeling of rebellion that it brought out in Joshua was just irresistible.

So sleek. So sharp.

Dangerous. Deadly.

Just like me on the ice hehe ...

With that, Joshua was about to run and retrieve his blades and have another attempt from further away this time. However before Joshua could even take a single step toward his precious knives, he felt a firm hand on his shoulder.

'What the hell do you think you're doing?' Alex said, promptly spinning Joshua around to face him. 'I'm asking you a question, boy. You'd better answer and make it quick too.'

Joshua's heart felt like it skipped not one, but several beats.

The sight of an angry Alex Rebrov standing over him was something that Joshua simply hadn't anticipated, and suddenly he found himself lost for words. In the absence of a response, Alex began to lay down the law with conviction and a sternness that made Joshua feel weak at the knees...

'Imagine if a paparazzi got hold of photos of you throwing knives,' Alex said, clenching his jaw. 'The last thing the Ice Bears needs is that kind of media attention. And not forgetting the fact that you're a highly paid athlete... what on earth possessed you to think that playing with lethal weapons was a remotely acceptable idea?'

As Alex continued to reprimand him, a familiar feeling came over Joshua.

Joshua didn't like being told what to do, and he absolutely didn't appreciate being lectured to – even if it was by an older man with a higher status. In fact, Alex's age and status made the telling off even more galling for Joshua.

I'm not letting him speak to me like this.

I'm going to have my own say.

I don't care if he's older, Alex Rebrov doesn't tell me what to do...

As Alex continued to deliver his sermon, Joshua felt himself getting more and more worked up and angry. If he wanted to play with his knives, then he didn't see why he couldn't – and he was going to tell Alex exactly that.

'You're silly! You don't get to tell me anything!' Joshua blurted out, his logic and arguments all going out of the window. 'If I want to play, then I'll play!'

'Right, that's it, we're doing this right here and now,' Alex roared. 'Come on, over here.'

With that, Alex grabbed Joshua by the wrist and marched him over to a bench in a secluded corner of the relaxation garden. Joshua followed him in a stunned silence, not wanting to admit what was about to happen but knowing full well what Alex clearly had in mind.

'W-w-w-what are you going to do?' Joshua said, his voice trembling and his cock as hard as it had ever been.

'You know exactly what I'm going to do boy,' Alex barked. 'And you're going to give me your safeword right this instant.'

'Blueberries,' Joshua said, his mind racing and his legs trembling as he felt Alex bring him down across his lap. 'P-p-p-please, I won't play with the knives again. Honestly, I won't.'

'I know you won't!' Alex barked. 'And the reason you won't is because I'm going to teach you a lesson, boy. You will take six spanks on each cheek and after each one, I want you to say thank you, Mr. Rebrov.'

'No!' Joshua squealed, his rebellious side kicking in once more. 'Spank me, but don't expect me to thank you for it!'

'So be it,' Alex said, reaching for Joshua's jean button and popping it open before yanking his jeans down. 'No thank you required. But you'll be spanked twelve times on each cheek instead. We can discuss how you feel about your decision once I'm done warming this butt up.'

'Poo to you!' Joshua said, his defiance giving way to a gasp as he felt Alex adjust his position behind him slightly.

Joshua gasped as Alex then slipped his warm hands inside the waistband of Joshua's briefs and pull them down toward the bottom of his butt cheeks.

'That's another one spank on each cheek for insolence,' Alex said. 'If you want to become an Ice Bear, you'll need to learn respect. And sometimes, that will be a difficult lesson to learn.' With that, Joshua felt Alex hold his exposed bottom in place before bringing his hand crashing down twice in quick succession, one on each cheek.

It hurt. In fact, it hurt a lot.

Alex brought down his hand twice more, just as hard and equally as accurate. Joshua quickly realized that his sass might not have been worth it.

'It hurts!' Joshua cried out, stifling his voice as best he could for fear of anyone hearing. 'What if someone sees me?'

'Then they'll see a very naughty boy taking a welldeserved spanking from a Daddy Dom who had no other choice,' Alex said. 'Hopefully this will be a worthwhile lesson. If it's not, then you can expect plenty more where this came from. And next time I might do it in front of the rest of the squad too.'

Joshua gasped in horror at the thought of being exposed and punished in front of the other Ice Bears. But at the same time, a part of him felt an electric charge of excitement at the very thought of being disciplined so publicly.

However Joshua had no time to explore his public exposure fantasies as Alex continued to rain down the spanks, each one more lethal than the last.

Soon, Joshua was kicking his legs and struggling to stay composed as his booty burned red-hot from Alex's firm, flat hand.

'Awwwww!' Joshua cried out, clenching his cheeks as yet another double spank came crashing down. 'T-t-tthank you, Mr..... Rebrov.'

'Good, now say it again,' Alex bellowed, spanking Joshua's tushy once more.

'T-t-thank you, Mr. Rebrov,' Joshua cried out, the words coming easier to him each time as Alex continued to spank him until each and every spank arrived as promised.

'And that is just about that,' Alex said, finishing off the spanking and immediately reaching into his pocket for a tube of cooling cream. 'There might be a slight breeze in the air to assist, but I'll make sure your little bottom gets the best cooling treatment out there.'

Joshua felt a serene sensation come over him as Alex began to squirt the cooling cream onto his hot buttocks. The spanking had been unlike any other Joshua had experienced before, and to say it was a relief that it was over would be an understatement.

At the same time, something about the spanking felt right.

As Joshua calmly lay across Alex's lap and submissively allowed him to work the cooling cream into his tender ass, Joshua let out a long sigh. But it wasn't a sigh of frustration or anger. Far from it. Joshua felt looked after and cared for in a way that he couldn't recall experiencing before.

'Thank you, Mr. Rebrov,' Joshua said, lifting his butt upward to help Alex get the cooling cream between his cheeks.

'You're welcome, young man,' Alex replied. 'And you can call me Alex now. Save the Mr. for the next time I have to warm your tushy.'

'Hehe, okay,' Joshua giggled, taken aback by Alex's light touch in that moment.

Maybe Alex does have a sense of humor, after all?

And maybe he's not so boring.

After all, he did just spank me in public...

'I think I probably deserved that spanking,' Joshua said, quietly gasping as he felt his cock begin to stiffen as it pressed up against Alex's strong, muscular thighs.

'Yes, you certainly did,' Alex replied. 'But I want to know something. Was everything okay with it? Did you remember that you could use your safeword? It's important to me that you feel safe and cared for, even when I'm giving your butt a real toasting.'

'I felt safe and secure,' Joshua replied, feeling nothing but respect and admiration for Alex in that moment. 'You did a great job teaching me. I won't be playing with my knives here again, that's for sure.'

'That's good to know,' Alex chuckled, working his hand up the back of Joshua's shirt and giving him a tender, relaxing back rub. 'I think we've got a few things we need to work on together. But this spanking might just have been what we both needed to help make this work. What do you think?'

'Yup, I think you might be right,' Joshua said, his dick now throbbing with excitement. 'But...'

'It's okay, no need to be embarrassed,' Alex said. 'Here, I'll shut my eyes while you stand up and pull your little briefs and jeans back up. On three. One, two...'

But just before Alex could get to three, Joshua sprung up and for a brief second his thumpingly hard dick was on full display.

'Whoops!' Joshua said, quickly turning away and pulling his briefs and jeans up. 'that was an accident, I promise.'

'I'm sure it was,' Alex replied, a hint of a smile on his face as he arched his eyebrow. 'Come on, let's go. I think it's time we had a nice nap back in my room. I'll tuck you in and read you a nice little story, if you'd like to, of course?'

'Like to?' Joshua replied. 'I'd love to.'

'Come on, we'll take those knives out of the wood panels and head up right now,' Alex smiled. 'And maybe I should look after them for the time being?'

'Yes, sir,' Joshua replied, knowing full well that it was for the best. 'Can we stop at my room to pick up Slice first though?'

'Of course we can, boy,' Alex said. 'I know how much you Littles like your stuffies. And the truth is, I might have a soft spot for a good stuffie too.'

Joshua giggled and the pair of them walked out of the gardens together.

It might have been a painful and public lesson for Joshua to learn, but with the prospect of a private snuggle and story with Alex to come, it was feeling to Joshua like a lesson well worth learning.

Maybe Alex isn't so bad after all.

I kinda was being a brat.

I just hope Alex snuggles as well as he spanks though...

Chapter 8

Alex

Alex's bedroom was bigger than Joshua's. Being a senior player, Alex was given one of the resort's best rooms. All teams needed hierarchy, and Alex was happy to sit near the top of the Ice Bears tree. Even taking into account the current contract stalemate, as far as the room provision went, Alex couldn't have been happier.

After a tucking Joshua into his king sized bed, Alex had delivered an old Russian bed time story that his Babushka had told him countless times as a child. It had been a pleasure to tell Joshua the story, and Alex could see that post-spanking, Joshua was much more content and willing to listen.

And with the story coming to a conclusion, Alex could also tell that this particular Little was feeling very Little indeed...

'And the curious bear got into bed, shut his eyes, and fell asleep for the whole night,' Alex said, smiling gently as he watched Joshua's eyes slowly begin to shut.

'Cute bear,' Joshua said, barely able to get his words out. 'Bears go *raaawr*!'

'Yes, but not sleepy bears,' Alex said, running his hands through Joshua's hair as he crouched down beside the bed. 'What do sleepy bears say?'

'Zzzzzzz,' Joshua giggled, his eyes full of innocence as his eyelids drooped and he drifted off to sleep. 'Nighty-

night.'

'Sleep well, you've earned it,' Alex said, standing up and surveying the sight of Joshua tucked up in his bed, stuffie under his arm, and a quiet peacefulness in the air.

After delivering a hard, but much needed, first spanking, Alex had strongly suspected that what Joshua needed more than anything was a story, a snuggle, and a long nap. And by the looks of things, that was exactly how it was all going to play out.

Alex smiled as he stood over a sleeping Joshua.

This was a far cry from the wild, disruptive influence Joshua had been so far in his early weeks as an Ice Bear. But Alex could tell that while Joshua was probably never going to be the easiest teammate in the world, the truth was that behind his bravado he was a good kid.

Sleep well, boy.

There's more work to be done, that's for sure.

But we've made a start together, and that's not nothing ...

Alex smiled and walked out of the bedroom and into the living area of his master suite. While the rookies and squad players had smart but small rooms, Alex's suite had a living area that would easily pass for a luxury apartment.

As he walked over toward small table with his laptop, Alex put on some classical music in the background. The low hum of the music wouldn't wake the sleeping Joshua, and if anything its soothing tranquility would probably help him sleep for longer.

Alex took his seat and opened the laptop.

'Okay, let's have a look at The Rebels squad...' Alex said, his mind already imagining precisely where he would fit into The Rebels offense should a trade occur. 'Hell, I'm Alex Rebrov. They'll play me left wing... just where I like it.'

Alex could see that The Rebels had a talented squad, but it was nothing that he couldn't handle. Along the way during his hockey career, Alex had developed a confidence that meant he was able to carry himself in a reserved, dignified manner. Alex didn't need to shout and scream about how good he was, he simply allowed his hockey to do the talking for him.

Opposition fans and players would call him arrogant or aloof, but Alex didn't care.

Alex knew who he was and what his values were.

And it would only take a single training session at The Rebels for that group of coaches and players to understand his value too. Alex had built his cast iron selfbelief over the years, and alongside his sophisticated tastes and impeccable appearance, he knew exactly how much of an asset he could be to any franchise.

And yet...

A move away from the Ice Bears would mean leaving Jack and Connor behind, two great teammates and even better friends. And there was also the fact that the Ice Bears were still the team to beat. Alex was still ambitious, and each and every championship he could potentially win was important to him.

There was another factor that Alex suddenly needed to consider too.

And that intriguing dimension came in the form of the sleeping boy in Alex's bedroom...

Joshua's got potential.

I think... we... have potential together.

But I can't base a decision off a relationship that doesn't even exist yet.

Alex knew that he had much to consider in the coming weeks and months. There was always the option that the Doni family would come through with a formal contract offer that met Alex's expectations. But until that time, all Alex could do was keep his options as open as he could and not rule *anything* out.

'Okay, that's The Rebels checked out,' Alex muttered, moving his finger over the laptop's trackpad. 'Now let's see who The Bright Lions have on their roster...'

With the sound of classical music and Joshua's snoring mixing together surprisingly well, Alex put his reading glasses on and got down to more research...

* * *

Alex arrived at practice the next morning alongside Jack and Connor and was pleasantly surprised to see Joshua already on the ice, seemingly practicing some one on one drills with Chase and a couple of the other younger players.

'Hey,' Joshua called out, waving his hockey stick in Alex's direction before getting back to work with his teammates.

Alex nodded subtly and continued walking with his fellow Daddy friends.

But if Alex thought that his interaction with Joshua was going to go uncommented upon, then he had another thing coming...

'Okay, wow, what the fuck was that all about?' Connor asked, putting his hand across Alex's chest to stop him in his tracks. 'You and the rebel boy?' 'No, it's not what you think,' Alex replied, carefully but firmly removing Connor's hand away from his chest. 'But I'm not saying it's nothing either. It's a professional relationship.'

'Okay, I think I get it,' Jack said, a knowing look in his eyes. 'Well, even though it's a *professional relationship* and nothing more, I'm happy for you. You deserve it.'

With that, Jack and Connor chuckled to themselves, both of them clearly knowing that there was a lot more to Alex and Joshua's relationship than two teammates working to help one another out.

'Yeah, you guys laugh your asses off,' Alex said, sitting down to put his boots on. 'But you know a man of class like me wouldn't tell you even if there was something happening. Which there isn't, by the way.'

'Sure, we know that,' Jack said, playfully punching Alex in the arm. 'and don't worry, I won't pull rank as captain and make you spill the full story, whatever that might be.'

Alex shook his head in irritation but couldn't help let a subtle smile creep onto his face. Even though Jack and Connor were riding his ass a little, it felt good to have two close friends who ultimately were nothing more than happy for him.

And the truth was that Alex did in fact feel happy about what was going on between him and Joshua. After his long nap the previous day, Joshua had woken up in a brilliant mood and taken himself to the tactics room to work on some of Coach Tremaine's plays and implement his own ideas too.

Alex loved to see the boy show initiative while still sticking to the established order too. It showed character and a previously unseen sense of respect for authority – and with a new day and a new training session about to start, Alex was optimistic that Joshua's early days as an Ice Bear were going to keep on improving.

To his horror, however, Alex hadn't banked on Joshua's rebellious streak coming to the fore once more...

'Ramone, are listening to a damned word I'm saying?' Coach Tremaine bellowed, a look of real frustration on his face as he slammed his fist onto his portable whiteboard. 'Listen or you'll find yourself benched... or worse.'

'Coach, I'm making *your* play,' Joshua replied, clearly not accepting what Tremaine was saying. 'It's not my fault that I'm making it too well.'

'Enough!' Tremaine hollered, his already short fuse in danger of running out in triple-quick time.

Alex could see that the situation had the potential to boil over into something totally out of control. Not only did Tremaine look furious, but Joshua appeared to be close to having a major tantrum himself.

I have to step in.

I knew Joshua would have ups and downs.

Now it's my time to show what a Daddy can do to help a boy...

'Wait,' Alex said, skating over toward Tremaine and holding his hands up to calm him and Joshua down. 'If you could allow me ten minutes with Joshua. I've got this. I know what's happening, and I think I can correct it.'

'You think you can turn this cocky sonofabitch into a player who can use his brain as well as his speed?' Tremaine said, clearly skeptical.

'I think I can, yes,' Alex said, the authority in his voice clearly giving Tremaine second thoughts. 'Like I said, give me ten minutes. Fifteen at the most.'

'You've got fifteen minutes,' Tremaine said. 'I want you both back on the ice in fifteen. Or you'll both be doing an extra cardio session later.'

'With me, *now*,' Alex said, pointing his stick at Joshua.

As the two of them skated toward the edge of the rink, Alex knew what he had to do – the only question was... *where*?

* * *

'But Coach was being a mean old ass-butt,' Joshua said, standing barefoot behind the large SUV in the parking lot.

'Yes, but we all have to accept that Coach Tremaine is the most successful coach in the league,' Alex said, patience in his voice but a sense of urgency too. 'He's won more titles than any other coach in hockey. That counts for a lot. Now, pull those pants down, but you can keep your jockstrap on.'

Alex checked that they were as hidden from prying eyes as was possible.

And Alex also caught a glimpse of the package at the front of Joshua's jockstrap too.

'I'll make this quick,' Alex said, firmly turning Joshua and bending him over the hood of the SUV. 'But I want you to consider what just happened that led you to this position. Sometimes we have to eat shit from coach, that's just the way it is. But it's worth it. He knows more about hockey than all the players on the squad combined.'

'Y-y-yes, D...Daddy,' Joshua replied, submissively sticking his peachy butt out to make the position smoother for Alex to get his spanks in. 'Good,' Alex said, his voice firm and his dick even firmer inside his pants. 'Now let's do this, boy.'

And just like that, with the sound of the morning birds tweeting and chirping around them, Alex delivered six quick spanks onto Joshua's exposed butt.

As Joshua gasped and let out little cries after each spank, Alex couldn't help but feel incredibly aroused at the way that the jockstrap was framing Joshua's cheeks so magnificently well. Not only did it make for a crisper spank, but it was truly a sight for sore eyes.

Keep focused.

I want that ass, but this isn't about me.

The boy needs to learn his lesson ...

'Awww, thank you, Daddy,' Joshua said, the focused spanks making two wonderfully clear red blotches on his cheeks.

'Well done,' Alex said, finishing off the quick volley of discipline with a flourish. 'Now a little bit of cooling gel on there and you'll be good to go.'

'Uh-huh,' Joshua replied, clearly humbled by the spanking. 'I'm going to get my head down and prove Coach wrong. I can listen... and I *will* listen.'

'That's the spirit, champ,' Alex said, applying a finish touch of cooling gel to the reddest spot on Joshua's butt. 'Don't lose your natural instinct, but *do* listen too. It's what separates the talented players from the successful ones. I've got a few stories I could tell you along those lines, believe me on that.'

'I'd like to hear them,' Joshua said, standing up and pulling his hockey pants back up.

'Okay, well maybe later,' Alex said, going back into business mode. 'But now it's time we get back on the ice and show Coach Tremaine that you're ready to be the Ice Bear he brought you here to be.'

And after checking that no one was watching, the two of them ran out from behind the SUV and made their way to the practice ice.

Alex didn't know whether Joshua would convince Coach Tremaine in what remained of the session, but he certainly felt like Joshua had taken another step forward – and not only that, Alex felt like his feelings for the boy had taken a step, or several, forward too.

The only question for Alex was how he was going to handle these burgeoning feelings – this might just be the time for him to loosen up a little and let his emotions run wild for once...

Chapter 9

Joshua

The rest of the practice session after the impromptu dash out to the parking lot for a spanking went much, much better.

Not only was Joshua able to focus better on Coach Tremaine's instructions, but he found himself building up a solid partnership with Connor in defense. Joshua knew that the key to a starting spot with the Ice Bears was working well with the number one defenseman in the league in the shape of Connor Valley. Coach Tremaine was always going to pick Connor, so it was a case of being the best of the rest – and showing a good understanding with Connor in practice was certainly going to help with that mission.

Joshua even got a compliment from Tremaine as the players skated off the ice. Well, kind of. The fact that Coach Tremaine nodded in his direction and gave the slightest hint of a smile was enough of a sign to Joshua that he had at least done something right.

All in all, the practice session would have to go down as a win, even taking into account the early teething troubles. With Joshua back in the locker room and most of the other players in the showers, he found himself approached by Alex...

'Hey, good work,' Alex said, standing before Joshua in nothing but a short white towel that barely covered the tip of his dick and revealed two of the strongest, most well-defined thighs that Joshua had ever seen. 'But you know we can't do *that* every practice, right?'

Joshua giggled.

Yes again, Alex's super-dry humor had caught him off guard – so much so that Joshua had to make a last ditch grab for his own towel to prevent it from falling to the floor. But Joshua just about managed to save his blushes and safely held the towel up.

'With reflexes like that maybe you should be a goalie?' Alex said, clearly impressed but also appearing in a flirtatious mood too. 'I'm sure you're good with pucks flying at you, right?'

Joshua blushed and looked around to see whether any teammates were listening. The last thing that Joshua wanted was to be the subject of team and management gossip having only just arrived at the club and not exactly made the best first impression.

'Don't worry, we're in the clear,' Alex said. 'Listen, Connor's already got the guys singing the Ice Bears song. He won't be letting anyone out of the shower any time soon either, certainly not until they've had at least two perfect renditions. So... how about we go somewhere calmer?'

'Yeah, I'd like that,' Joshua said, smiling sweetly while trying not to sound like an over-enthusiastic puppy. 'But where?'

'Follow me,' Alex said. 'You forget, this is far from my first time at the Mount Ledge resort.'

With that Joshua followed Alex as he walked out of the locker room and across the narrow corridor through an innocuous looking door.

'Woah, this is wicked cool,' Joshua said, surveying the sight of five steam rooms lined up next to one another

along with a row of three sports massage jacuzzis on the rear wall. 'I had no idea this was here.'

'Well, that's what you learn with experience,' Alex smiled. 'Come on, we'll sit in this one. It's always the hottest, and we definitely need to let our muscles recover after that practice session.'

Alex held open the door to the steam room and Joshua walked in.

The lighting was low, save for the warm glow of the heated panels that ran across one wall. The wood panelled seating was smooth and surprisingly comfortable too.

Joshua took a seat on one wall and watched as Alex confidently took a spot on the adjacent row of seats. The sight of Alex's muscular upper body was impossible to ignore. Even the way that Alex's strong, boulder-like shoulders stood out under the lights was turning Joshua on.

Just don't make it too obvious.

Whatever you do, don't stare.

One spanking is enough for today...

'So... I was wondering... you know the whole Doni family thing?' Joshua said, the heat from the steam room already making him sweat. 'Is it... *true*?' You know, the things the family has done? Or still do?'

Even through the thick fog of the steam room, Joshua could see Alex frown.

'Okay, rule number one about the Ice Bears,' Alex said. 'You do not talk about the family. You respect them when you see them. You thank them and shake their hands. But you don't talk about them. Got it?' 'Yup, that sounds kinda weird but...' Joshua replied. 'I guess it makes sense. But-'

'We *don't* talk about them,' Alex said, his voice stern. 'Trust me, if they want to talk to you, they'll find you and make that conversation happen. Other than that, you're best forgetting they exist. That's how the Doni's like it, and it's for the best.'

Joshua could tell that Alex wasn't kidding around.

Joshua knew all about the rumors, and him and Chase had kind of danced around the subject. But hearing Alex put things in very clear terms was probably more than enough evidence to confirm that the rumors were probably true.

'Now, about that spanking in the parking lot...' Alex said, leaning forward in his seat. 'It was another punishment outdoors. I didn't think about that at the time, but you've had two outdoor spankings now.'

'Yeah, I guess I have,' Joshua said, feeling his cock spring to attention.

Joshua had never been into the kink scene as such, usually preferring far more typical Daddy and Little clubs and parties. But he couldn't deny that for as long as he could remember, the thought of being caught naked or in a compromising position outdoors or in public view was something that thrilled and turned him on in equal measure.

And judging by Alex's direction of travel, it seemed like Alex might have noticed that about Joshua too...

'It's... *exciting*,' Joshua said, standing up from his seat and walking through the steam to sit next to Alex. 'I mean, don't get me wrong – the spankings both hurt! But being outdoors and having that risk of being exposed and maybe humiliated a bit too, well... you probably noticed I was excited.' Joshua stopped talking and looked to Alex.

As he waited for Alex to respond, Joshua began to panic that he'd overshared and crossed about a hundred different boundaries all at once. With his heart racing and the sweat dripping down his nose, Joshua knew he had to say something.

But just as Joshua began to speak, Alex gently reached over and wiped a big bead of sweat off his bottom lip.

'It's okay, I get it,' Alex said. 'We've all got our own kinks. It's very impressive that you can talk about it. It takes a bit more to get me talking, that's for sure. Sometimes I wish I could open up like you just did.'

'Hey, you can tell me about your kinks now if you want,' Joshua giggled, his cheeks glowing red from the heat and from blushing too.

'Nice try, but no cigar,' Alex said, rolling his eyes in mock disapproval. 'But I'm thinking that if these spankings are going to happen more often, we should probably sit down and sign a kink contract. You know, just to make sure that we both know what our boundaries are. If I'm mentoring you, I want you to always feel safe and secure. That's important. It's what a Daddy does.'

Joshua felt his heart sing.

Although he and Alex certainly weren't officially or even privately together, it certainly felt like there was a developing bond between them that was going way beyond a senior player helping the new Little settle into the club.

'That would be good,' Joshua said, the tent at the front of his towel now at bursting point.

Joshua flashed his eyes down to Alex's waist and saw the long, thick outline of Alex's cock running along his thigh. In that moment, all Joshua wanted to do was reach down and grab Alex's dick through the towel and give it a squeeze.

But Joshua didn't want to make a move without Alex's permission.

Joshua was very much a Little when it came to Little activities and fun times, but being around Alex was bringing out his truly submissive Little side too. The idea of giving himself to Alex's wishes and desires was a huge turn on for Joshua, and as they sat in the steam room together, those thoughts were very much on Joshua's mind.

OMG. I want to feel that big dick in my hands.

And my mouth.

And all up inside my ass too...

Joshua was brought out of his daydream by the feeling of Alex putting his hand down on Joshua's half-covered thigh.

'So you like the idea of being put on display?' Alex said, a gruff tone in his voice. 'Well drop that towel and climb up onto the bench opposite me. Maybe the thick steam in here will mean I won't see you. Or maybe I will. You'll just have to wonder...'

'Y-y-yes, Daddy,' Joshua replied, not wasting a single second as he took a couple of steps over and clambered onto the bench as instructed by Alex.

As he let his towel drop to the floor and presented his butt in Alex's direction, Joshua arched his head back and could only make out the vaguest outline of Alex. Joshua had no real idea as to whether Alex could see him or not. But one thing was for sure, as Joshua squatted and bounced his butt on the smooth, wet bench, he knew that this was one of the hottest scenarios he'd ever found himself in – and it was exactly the kind of position he always dreamed of being in.

'Now turn and face me,' Alex said, stern and in command as ever. 'That's Daddy's Orders. I want you facing me, and I want you to grip that excitable manhood in your hands too.'

Joshua tried to speak but didn't have the words for it.

Such was the rush of adrenalin that Joshua was experiencing in that moment, all he could do was simply follow exactly what Alex told him to do. And there was no doubt in Joshua's mind that Alex was very much *telling* him what to do rather than *asking*.

If Alex wants me to jerk my cock until I come, I'll do it.

If he wants me to crawl over and suck his dick, I'll do that too.

And if someone walks in a sees me... I won't stop.

And Joshua didn't have to wait any longer for Alex to deliver his next command either.

'Work your cock, and don't stop until you're done boy,' Alex said, his masculine, controlled command coming through loud and clear through the fog.

As Joshua began to pump his dick, he could feel the excitement rising at an unstoppable speed. Facing in Alex's direction, Joshua pumped and pumped the full length of his shaft until a hot stream of cum shot up into the dense air and fell back down onto his stomach.

Joshua gasped and let out a little moan of pleasure as he made sure to drain his cock of each and every last drop.

Joshua leaned back against the wall and his heavy breathing continued as the thrill of what he'd just done stuck around a lot longer than Joshua had managed when it came to pleasuring himself. But had Alex seen the action for himself?

Or had Joshua's gasp of orgasmic pleasure been the only giveaway?

Either way, Alex wasn't sticking around for a moment longer...

'I'll see you later, Josh,' Alex said, standing and walking through the fog and out of the steam room. 'You rest up and make sure you get enough fluids on board. The training camp has been easy so far. The real work will start soon, and you'd better be ready for it...'

'Uh-huh,' Joshua replied, his breathing starting to settle down. 'Catch you later, Alex. And don't worry, I'll be ready. I'll be ready for whatever Coach Tremaine, or you, can throw at me...'

Joshua listened to the sound of Alex chuckling to himself as he opened and then shut the steam room door behind him.

So far, Joshua's first training camp at the Ice Bears had been unlike anything he had ever experienced in hockey. It was a world away from what he had experienced at The Lynxes, that was for sure.

But one thing Joshua knew was that he was always up for something new.

And while Alex Rebrov might have been all stuffy and formal on one level, it was becoming more and more clear to Joshua that beneath the surface veneer, Alex was a down and dirty Daddy Dom who could get as freaky as any Daddy around – and Joshua was all there for it.

Suddenly though, Joshua heard voices entering the main room outside the steam room. Being exposed in public was one of his kinks, but right now, and post-orgasm, it was the *last* thing that Joshua wanted. It was time to quickly towel-up and find a shower to cool off under – in more ways than one.

Chapter 10

Alex

The following few days at the training camp very much saw Coach Tremaine turn up the heat on the players. The thing that separated Tremaine from most other coaches was that he had a truly relentless desire to win.

One championship wasn't ever going to have been enough for Tremaine – he wanted to win each and every year and didn't accept any comfort from finishing a close second either. It was win or bust. And all the Ice Bears players were made very aware of their head coach's attitude too.

Alex of course had plenty of experience of Coach Tremaine's attitude at this point, so was very much prepared for how things would pan out over the course of the Mount Ledge training camp. But even Alex's vast experience hadn't prepared him for the brutality of that day's strength and conditioning blast...

'I'm exhausted,' Alex laughed, speaking on the phone to his agent, Bill. 'If you could possibly include a *No Training Camps* clause in my new contract, that would be great.'

Alex was only joking of course, but he knew that Bill had been in negotiations with several other clubs over the last few days, and as it stood at that moment the Ice Bears still hadn't come back with a fresh offer. Alex reclined in the comfortable armchair in his suite as Bill continued to talk through the various proposals that were on the table. The truth was that each of the offers had its own merits. Some of those benefits were financial. Others were based on the location of the franchise in question. But crucially, none of the teams excited Alex in the way that the Ice Bears always had done, and still did to this day...

'You know I appreciate your work, Bill,' Alex said, sipping on a large glass of iced water with a slice of lemon. 'But you also know what it is I truly want. I've got faith in you. But we need to somehow find the angle to make the Doni's pay me what I'm worth. I wasn't screwing around when I said I'd leave. This isn't an empty threat or a negotiating trick. I will genuinely leave the Ice Bears if an agreement can't be reached.'

Alex stared out onto the night sky as Bill continued to talk and explain various angles they could take, and perhaps even a risky new strategy that they might adopt. Bill had almost as many ideas as the dark sky had stars in it, but all Alex wanted was to find a resolution to the situation.

This has been going on for too long now.

I'm in my prime, this shouldn't be so damn difficult.

I want to be paid my worth ...

Alex felt a wave of anger flash over him. But the anger passed almost as quickly as it had arrived. For years, Alex had worked on his self-control and he wasn't about to let a delay in his contract throw away all the progress he had made – after all, he wasn't known as *The Ice Man* for nothing.

'Okay, good, we'll talk again by the end of the week,' Alex said, wrapping up the call with Bill. 'Go well, my friend. I've got faith in you, like you do in me.' With that, Alex ended the call and carefully placed his cell phone down on the glass table next to his armchair.

'Damn, I need to do some stretches,' Alex said, a dull ache in his shoulders as he reached upward.

Coach Tremaine and his strength and conditioning coach had pushed the players hard that day. Some of the players had been close to total collapse by the end of the session. But Coach's idea was to see which players have what it takes when it comes to the most painful, stressful, and exhausting moments during a big game.

Alex passed the test with flying colors. He always did. But that didn't mean that his thirty year old body wasn't going to pay the price later. Far from it, in fact.

'I think this lemon water might just need an upgrade to a vodka,' Alex said, walking over toward his minirefrigerator and taking out a bottle of premium Russian vodka. 'Just the one for tonight. But I'm going to make it a big one...'

Alex smiled as he opened the bottle's screw cap and poured the chilled vodka into a small glass. Alex wasn't a huge drinker, but he did enjoy the feeling of immediate relaxation and often pain relief that that a late night vodka could bring.

However any thoughts of relaxation went out of Alex's head as he heard a slow, subtle knock at his suite's door.

Alex's first thought was that it was Jack and Connor, their Spidey Senses telling them that a bottle of liquor had just been opened. However, as Alex opened the door he was greeted by a far less friendly face.

It was Antonio Doni.

And judging by the time of night and the look on Antonio's face, he was there to talk business... 'Allow me to pour you a drink,' Alex said, welcoming Antonio into his suite even though he knew that this wasn't likely to be a social visit by any mean.

'The famous Rebrov charm and sophistication never lets you down,' Antonio smiled, gladly receiving a glass of vodka from Alex. 'But of course you know that I'm here to discuss serious matters.'

'Of course,' Alex replied, his brain quickly switching into business mode. 'The contract?'

'The contract,' Antonio replied. 'I met with the family and they wish to convey their utmost respect to you. You are a valued and cherished member of the Ice Bears family, Alex.'

Alex could tell that there was a *but* coming.

Antonio was well versed in speaking the Doni language of honor, respect, and good manners. But Alex knew too that Antonio would always preface a sensitive subject with this kind of respectful, flattering talk.

'There is a new contract for you, Alex,' Antonio said. 'But the family would very much appreciate it if you could preemptively return the favor by completing a small task for us... off the ice.'

'Leading in assists and goals isn't enough?' Alex replied, arching his eyebrow.

'We appreciate your skill on the ice,' Antonio said, sipping on his vodka. 'But we also value your abilities off it too.'

'And which skills are those?' Alex countered, the sensation of the vodka slipping down his throat providing a welcome relief from the tension.

Alex had done this dance before, and he knew exactly where Antonio was headed at this point. To say that this wasn't Alex's first time at the rodeo would be an understatement. But Alex still needed to hear precisely what Antonio had in mind.

'We have a problem in the city,' Antonio continued, walking over toward the window and taking in the view down toward the Mount Ledge village beneath, barely visible now in the darkness.

'The kind of problem you need a hockey player to handle?' Alex said, joining Antonio by the window. 'Or more accurately... a hockey player like me?'

'That's correct,' Antonio said, a hint of a smile on his face. 'The Doni men are currently keeping a low profile. There might be a war brewing in the city. And not just with the Cardini family again, but with the city's elected officials, and the men who run The Lynxes.'

'So you need a smart, suave, and *deadly* hockey star to do some work?' Alex said, forming the picture in his mind.

Antonio nodded.

But it was clear from Antonio's face that there was something else going on too.

Alex wasn't sure what the extra angle was, but he never liked going into a situation without knowing the full picture.

'Joshua Ramone,' Antonio said, finally breaking his silence. 'We know that you and him are close. Don't bother trying to say otherwise, you're too smart for that. The family thinks that you and Joshua would work well on this task.'

'I won't involve the boy,' Alex said, his Daddy instincts kicking in.

'You don't have a choice, Alex,' Antonio said. 'The fact is that Joshua still has close ties to The Lynxes. That kind of connection is invaluable. You'll be doing the heavy lifting, but the boy will be alongside you for assistance. This has all been decided by the family. We see potential in Joshua. And we also see you signing the most valuable contract in the history of the league when this matter is resolved.'

Alex held firm.

The last thing that Alex wanted to do was show even the slightest hint of emotion. The Doni family didn't fool around. If Antonio thought that Alex had even the slightest doubts about this task, then it could spell trouble for both him and Joshua too.

'So we're agreed then,' Antonio said. 'You and Joshua will meet with me and another family member in the city early next week. We'll talk specifics then. You can explain all this to the boy yourself.'

And with that, Antonio downed the remainder of his vodka and left Alex alone in his room.

Alex squeezed the vodka glass before finishing off the cold, strong drink.

It was time for another vodka, and maybe another one after that too.

Alex had already arranged to meet up with Joshua tomorrow on their morning off, but that coffee date in the village was looking like it was going to take on a whole other complexion now.

Can I really allow Joshua to get involved in this?

It's not like I have a choice in the matter, but...

There's simply no way I'm putting the boy at risk.

* * *

The café was cute, colorful, and had the most perfect innocent charm to it. Which was ironic given the nature of the conversation that Alex was in the middle of having with Joshua.

After a turbulent night's sleep following Antonio Doni's late night appearance, Alex had decided that the best approach with Joshua would be to lay everything out on the line, clear as day. That way, Alex figured that if Joshua was scared or clearly not suitable for the task, then he could at least approach the Doni's and try to demand to take the job on solo.

However, Joshua's response had been one of neither fear nor trepidation...

'Woah, that's so cool,' Joshua said, his eyes full of sheer delight as he leaned back in his chair and put his sneakers up on the table.

'Feet down, you know better than that,' Alex said, reprimanding Joshua's manners. 'And... *cool*? Seriously?'

Perhaps Alex should have expected that Joshua would react like this to his revelation that the pair of them were going to be taking a trip to the city to do some extracurricular work for the Doni family. But what surprised Alex the most was that Joshua didn't appear to be putting on a show of bravado – his enthusiasm seemed utterly genuine.

'Yeah, super cool,' Joshua continued, his feet now back down on the floor like they should be. 'I knew the rumors about the Doni family, but... to actually get to be a part of it? That's wild! I can't wait. When are we leaving?'

'Calm down,' Alex said, noticing that Joshua was maybe a little bit too excited. 'If I'm taking you to the city with me, it's as part of my cover. You won't be a part of the action. Is that understood?' 'Yeah, yeah, whatever,' Joshua replied, his mind clearly whirring with a thousand different thoughts all at once. 'I just can't wait. Oh and missing two days of Coach Tremaine's fitness regimen is pretty sweet too.'

Alex couldn't help but chuckle.

The boy had a point. It certainly would do his body good to have a break from the training camp and its seemingly endless fitness tests.

'Where will we stay?' Joshua asked, finally settling down a little bit. 'The renovators are still in my new apartment. I could always stay at a hotel though...'

'You'll be staying with me,' Alex said, gruffly. 'That's nonnegotiable. There's no way I'm taking you into this situation and letting you run loose over the city. We'll be operating by my rules at all times. I've done this dance before, and it's my way or the highway. Got it?'

'Got it!' Joshua replied, sipping on his hot chocolate and getting a big spot of whipped cream at the end of his nose.

Alex reached over and wiped the cream off. And in that moment as their faces only an inch apart, Alex and Joshua both felt something. An electric charge was running over his body, and Alex wanted nothing more than to kiss Joshua – and judging by the look of pure desire in Joshua's eyes, the boy wanted the same thing too.

'Let's finish these drinks and get out of here,' Alex said. 'I've got an idea, and I think you might like it a lot...'

With that, the pair of them finished the last drops of their drinks and made their way out of the café. Alex had in mind something potentially very hot for him and Joshua, and time was of the essence... Alex knew the village like the back of his hand, and after a quick diversion down two side streets off the main parade of shops and cafes, both he and Joshua found themselves at the entrance to the woodland.

'Most people use the walkway that runs along the road to get back up to the Mount Ledge resort,' Alex said. 'But I think we need to take a more scenic route.'

Alex's cock was hard already, and the thought of giving Joshua everything he desired was making Alex harder by the second.

'Do any people come up this way?' Joshua said, his own excitement clear at the front of his black skater shorts.

'Sometimes,' Alex said, taking Joshua by the hand and walking him into the undergrowth and then into a small clearing beyond that. 'But you like the thought of that, don't you?'

Joshua nodded.

And just like that, the fire between them was lit.

As Alex and Joshua kissed, Alex's hands travelled down Joshua's back and onto his trim, firm waist. Alex pulled Joshua in close and the pair of them gasped in unison as their rock-hard cocks pressed up against one another.

'Here, here, I want it to be *here*,' Joshua said, breaking away from the kiss. 'I'll do anything you want, just fuck me *here*.'

'First, *this*,' Alex replied, his voice deep and full of intent.

Alex undid the zipper on his smart black trousers and pulled his cock out from inside his briefs, and then out of the trousers too. 'Get down on your knees, boy,' Alex growled. 'You're going to want to make this nice and wet ready for what's coming your way.'

'Yes, Mr. Rebrov,' Joshua said, breathlessly taking in the sight of Alex's thick length of manhood as it bounced up and down in anticipation.

'You might think you're a hockey bad boy,' Alex said. 'But you're *mine* now. And you can start by sucking my cock like the good, obedient boy you are.'

Alex looked down and watched as a hungry Joshua took his cock in his hands and opened his mouth wide. The pair of them had already agreed that no protection would be necessary, and this was a strictly monogamous relationship. Alex knew that Joshua felt safe – but also that Joshua wanted to feel danger too...

'Now swallow me and work that rebel mouth of yours,' Alex commanded, taking Joshua's long black hair in his hands, and showing the boy exactly what he expected of him.

Alex grunted as he felt Joshua's tongue lapping around his shaft.

The boy knew what he was doing, that was for sure.

But Alex was in charge of this situation, and he was about to show Joshua *precisely* what that meant...

Chapter 11

Joshua

'Daddy!' Joshua gasped as Alex picked him up and promptly tossed him over his shoulder.

With salvia still dripping from his lips after sucking Alex's cock out in the open, Joshua giggled with glee as Alex carried him over toward a felled tree.

They may have been deep in the Mount Ledge woodlands, but Joshua knew that at any moment they could be interrupted.

A Daddy and his boy might be taking their dog for a walk...

Two Daddies might be going for a trail run together...

Or even some of the Ice Bears squad might be doing some extra fitness work in the woodland...

The options were endless, and each one of them served to turn Joshua on even more. But while it was good to know that Alex was helping him experience the thrill of living out one of his kinks for real, Joshua was in no doubt that Alex was enjoying himself too.

'Now bend over that tree, boy,' Alex roared, firmly planting Joshua down over the width of the fallen tree. 'You certainly won't be needing these any longer.'

Joshua gasped as Alex wasted no time in pulling off his skater shorts and tiny Batman print briefs too. With his

lower half totally exposed, Joshua reached down and took his rock-hard cock in his hands.

But that wasn't part of Daddy's plan, as Joshua soon found out.

'Hands off!' Alex barked, swatting Joshua's buttocks. 'Don't worry, you'll have plenty of pleasure. But this is on my terms.'

'Yes, Daddy,' Joshua said, his booty tingling from Joshua's brief flurry of spanks.

'Now spread those legs for me,' Alex said, his tone firm but full of lust too. 'You're going to need to be as wide open as you can be.'

Joshua duly spread his legs and arched his back so that his butt was presented as cleanly as possible for Alex. Joshua could tell that Alex was in no mood to accept anything less than the best, and Joshua wanted to do everything in his power to please his Daddy.

'Now let me help get that little hole ready,' Alex purred, crouching down behind Joshua and parting his cheeks wide open. 'You hold them just like this, boy. I'm going to let my tongue do the talking. And I don't expect any sass or wise talk from you in return.'

Joshua was about to respond, but the first sensation of Alex's wet tongue lapping up against his sensitive hole was enough to render him speechless. Joshua mewed with pleasure as Alex expertly teased, probed, and pleasured his ass hole.

This is... something else.

I've never had a Daddy do this to me before.

And... fuck... it's almost too good...

Joshua felt an urge to grab his cock and jerk himself to orgasm, but he knew that he had to try and obey his

Daddy. But the more that Alex pleasured his ass with his mouth, the more that Joshua wanted to feel the sweet release of orgasm.

'Daddy... it's *sooo* good... I just want to...' Joshua said, biting his own hand to stop himself from cumming.

'Well it's about to get even better,' Alex said, moving his mouth away from Joshua's booty and instead spitting into his own hand and working the wetness around the tip and shaft of his cock. 'This might be uncomfortable at first. But remember you can talk to me. In fact, I insist you talk to me. Tell me how it feels.'

Joshua knew what was coming his way.

And Joshua wanted it more than anything.

Ever since the first time he saw Alex Rebrov skating out onto the ice, Joshua knew deep down that he wanted to feel Alex's cock drive up into him and make him his boy.

'It's really happening...' Joshua said, half to Alex and half to himself.

'It sure is,' Alex said, taking Joshua around the waist and holding him in place. 'You're mine now, boy. You're about to be *all mine*.'

At that moment, Joshua felt the wet tip of Alex's thick dick head pressing up against his ass hole. Joshua gripped onto the felled tree for dear life, his nails digging into the bark as Alex applied enough pressure for his cock to slowly enter inside Joshua.

'It's tight... it *stings* a bit...' Joshua said. 'But keep going. I'm okay. Keep...'

Joshua did feel some discomfort as Alex worked his cock deeper inside him. But any discomfort was more than made up for by the feeling of having his ass stretched and filled by a Daddy like Alex. As far as Joshua was concerned, this was about as far away as you could get from a drunken hookup or some kind of dating app liaison. This felt *real* – and for that reason, it felt magical too, even with the moments of discomfort that came with it.

'I'm going to go harder,' Alex said. 'Deeper too. I think you can handle it.'

'I can, I can, *mmmph*, that feels... good,' Joshua said, his heart beating harder than with less than five minutes to go in the final third of a hockey game. 'Harder. Give it to me harder, Daddy.'

Alex was more than happy to oblige, and soon enough Joshua was moaning loudly as he felt Alex's cock driving in and out of him, the sensation of Alex's balls slapping up against the backs of his legs driving him wild too.

'Daddy, I'm going to...' Joshua said, his head spinning as he felt his cock just about ready to shoot its load.

'Fuck, same here,' Alex grunted, his thrusts now as hard and fast as he could muster.

And with that, the pair of them climaxed together, the sensation of Alex's hot seed shooting up into Joshua's ass promoting him to cross the line into his own orgasm.

The two Ice Bears collapsed onto the soft, long grass underneath them and looked up at the sunny sky above.

'Daddy, that was...' Joshua said.

'I know, it was for me too...' Alex said. 'And I guess our sleeping arrangements at my place in the city just got a whole lot easier too...'

Joshua giggled and snuggled up to Alex as the morning sun beat down on them through the gaps in the ancient trees that towered above them. As far as Joshua was concerned, something truly special was happening between him and Alex, and going off the look in Alex's bright blue eyes, he was feeling the same too.

With a potentially dangerous trip to the city very much on the horizon, Alex might have been forgiven for wanting to spend the rest of the day getting himself ready for what might be in store for him.

However with a playdate with Chase and Jax the dog walker already arranged for after lunch, it looked like Joshua had plenty to keep his mind occupied ahead of his big few days...

* * *

The back room of Jax's doggy day care base was perfectly set up as a Little playroom. Jax had Little friends in the village who would all regularly come over for playtime, warm milk, cookies, and whatever Little fun they felt like on the day.

'This place is super-cool,' Joshua said, looking around the room and taking in the sights.

With its candy-striped walls, soft rugs, and plethora of the squishiest of squish pillows, the playroom was everything that a Little could wish for. And that was without even mentioning the perfectly organized play-zones.

In one corner there was an arts and crafts cupboard that was like a treasure trove of coloring pencils, paint, assorted colored paper, and some of the brightest and most sparkly decorations you could ever imagine.

Over on the far wall there was just about the biggest collection of wooden building blocks that Joshua had ever seen – and he just couldn't wait to get playing with them.

'I love building!' Joshua said, his mind already relaxing and easing into Little Space. 'I like building the biggest towers and best bridges. Shall we build a village together?'

'Sounds super-fun, let's do it!' Chase said, his wide smile and cherished stuffie Blade the bear under his arm.

'Yay! Building is my favorite too!,' Jax said. 'One day, I want to build my own house. A *real* house. One with a Daddy inside all for me!'

The three Littles giggled and made their way over toward the huge array of building blocks.

Having changed into their rompers, and with nice fluffy white diapers underneath to keep them feeling cozy and secure, the three Little didn't waste a moment before they launched into their building mission.

Joshua was having a great time, and any thoughts of the thrilling but potentially dangerous trip to the city were put out of his mind. However that wasn't to say that his feelings for Alex weren't near the forefront of his thoughts...

'My Daddy made me feel so special,' Joshua said, giggling. 'It was the best thing ever.'

Both Chase and Jax reacted with delighted giggling and squeals of delight as the continued to build a tall tower between them.

'Was it your first time?' Chase said, a look of glee on his face.

'I remember my first time,' Jax said. 'It feels weird at first, kinda uncomfortable. But then... woo-hoo!'

'Yeah, that was how it was for me too,' Joshua said, blushing but feeling totally at ease in sharing with his friends. 'I think... *nawww*, I don't want to say it.' 'You think you might love him?' Chase said. 'Well, I know that my Daddy thinks Alex is a super-duper-cool guy. They've been friends for a long time.'

Joshua smiled.

It was good to know that Chase was supportive of what might be a relationship between him and Alex. The locker room dynamics at The Lynxes meant that being open about Little and Daddy stuff just wasn't an option. There were definitely other Littles and Daddies in the squad, but everything was kept totally on the down low and Joshua had never felt like he was able to express that side to him.

In a sense, Joshua's emphasis on his bad boy rebel image probably was in part down to not being able to express his true Little self. As he continued to help build the tall tower, Joshua wondered if he might be able to one day change his public image a little bit to show his Little side.

Joshua knew that he would always want to have an edge to his style, but the idea of being able to be a role model for other Littles also kind of appealed too.

But now wasn't the time to be getting all deep and thoughtful.

As Jax made a quick visit to the kitchen area and returned with three bottles of perfectly warm milk, the three friends paused the building block tower for a moment and settled down on the large squishy cushions to get some wholesome milk inside them.

'Mmmmm, yum-yums,' Jax said, a big smile on his face as he suckled on the milk bottle's plastic teat.

'I like milkies more than even the nicest energy drink,' Chase said, rolling onto his side and gripping the milk bottle in both hands. Joshua gurgled his approval and held onto his milk bottle as he continued to drink the warm, sweet milk down. The feeling of the milk trickling down his throat and into his tummy was just about the most wholesome and safe feeling that Joshua could imagine.

The only thing that was missing in that moment was having a Daddy there to burp him and make sure that he was all snug as he drifted off to sleep.

But Joshua was happy to be up close and snuggly with his two new Little friends too.

Having a supportive fellow Little teammate like Chase was a dream come true for Joshua, and definitely something that he had never experienced before in his hockey career.

And meeting such a sweet Little as Jax was wonderful too.

The weekend ahead might be full of danger and intrigue – but in that moment, all that seemed a million miles away.

As he began to drift off to sleep, Joshua felt safe, secure, and full of love.

I'm one lucky Little.

Good friends, a warm milky tummy...

And maybe the sexiest, gruffest, big-dicked Daddy I could ever dream of...

Chapter 12

Alex

Typically, the senior players were given their own personal drivers. But for this specific moment, Alex had wanted to ride solo. It was how he preferred to do things when working on a special project for the Doni family.

'You just fall asleep, boy,' Alex said, looking across to the passenger seat and seeing that Joshua was just about ready to let his eyes shut and begin to snooze. 'It's a long journey, and I want you feeling fresh and alert this weekend.'

'Yes, Daddy,' Joshua said, smiling sweetly and clutching onto Slice, his beloved mouse stuffie. 'I'll have some fun dreams about what's we'll do in the city.'

Alex smiled and dropped the car down a gear as they approached a hilly, twisty segment of road. Alex didn't want to break Joshua's illusion that this weekend would be anything but fun.

To Joshua, going on a weekend trip to the city under the orders of the Doni family probably seemed dangerously thrilling and like something from a movie. But Alex knew better. This mission to the city would be a cold, hard business transaction that would see at least one member of the Cardini clan lose their life – and maybe an executive from The Lynxes too, depending on Antonio Doni's instructions. Alex thought back to the times where Antonio had 'requested' his assistance in carrying out a killing. During his six years at the Ice Bears, Alex had been on similar missions on four other occasions, and each one followed a similar path...

Smart, sophisticated Alex Rebrov arrives at venue.

Target is identified.

Target is eliminated with no room for doubt.

Alex Rebrov leaves as smoothly as he arrived.

The reason that Antonio selected Alex for these kinds of missions was of course in part down to Alex's ability to move so freely and easily amongst the city's great and good. A master of appearing calm and totally at ease, Alex was as comfortable in a world class opera house as he was an accountancy office in the business district.

But there was more to it than just his ability to blend in.

Alex had received military training as a teenager and had come to know some highly specific skills through his training. Passed on through generations in his family, Alex was a lethal shot and had the required mental fortitude to squeeze the trigger without breaking a sweat.

Alex wasn't proud of being able to kill, and it wasn't something he promoted or even discussed amongst even his closest friends. But the reality of the situation was that he had a skillset that was appealing to the Doni family, and business was business.

There was also the fact that very early in Alex's career the Doni's stepped in and made a DUI disappear for Alex, along with several other minor charges that might have derailed his career. Alex hadn't always been so in control of his emotions and would have the occasional blip or serious error of judgement. The Doni's had helped keep Alex's career on an upward trajectory, and in return they had certain expectations as to what Alex would do for them.

However with Joshua now in his life, and a growing sense that he had paid his dues to the Doni family over the years, Alex felt like he could with some justification say that this would be his final mission for them of this nature.

'One last time,' Alex muttered under his breath. 'One final mission...'

'What's that, Daddy?' Joshua mumbled, half asleep. 'Did you say something?'

'No, boy, it was nothing,' Alex replied, reaching out and patting Joshua on his shoulder. 'I was just thinking aloud. You shut those beautiful eyes now. We'll be there before you know it.'

With the tall mountain trees running tight either side of the road, Alex eased his foot onto the accelerator and began to power along the road at a greater speed.

It's time to get to the city.

I'll do this one job and get the contract.

Then that's it, I'm done killing... for good.

* * *

Alex dropped the speed right down and adjusted the volume of the car stereo as he pulled up in the underground parking lot across the street from *Le Steak*, Antonio's Mafia owned restaurant in the city.

Alex had hoped to go to his house first and freshen up before meeting Antonio, knowing that this would have given Joshua the chance to settle down too. But it wasn't meant to be. Antonio had messaged about an hour ago to say that Alex and Joshua would be required to meet Le Steak ASAP – and Alex could tell by the tone in Antonio's message that he wasn't asking, he was telling.

'Hehe, this place is dark,' Joshua said, a mischievous smile on his face as he looked out of the car window and saw the almost deserted parking lot. 'We could do lots of things here...'

Alex smiled.

'We certainly could, Josh,' Alex replied. 'But not now. And I'm going to make this very clear, for both of our sakes. This is *serious* business, the kind that no boy should be part of. It wouldn't have been my wish to bring you, but the Doni's made it clear that I had no choice. So when I say it's time to be alert, calm, and composed, then that's what you do. Understood?'

'Daddy's Orders?' Joshua said, smiling but serious too.

'That's it, that's absolutely right,' Alex replied, leaning over and kissing Joshua on the forehead. 'Okay, let's go.'

With that, Alex and Joshua got out of the two seater sports car and made their way out of the dark, underground parking lot and out onto the bright city street.

'Hold my hand,' Alex said, swiftly navigating Joshua across the busy street before letting go of the boy's hand as the pair of them approached Le Steak's quietly glamorous entrance.

With a quick nod of acknowledgment between Alex and the door security, the pair of them were inside the restaurant and being escorted toward an already seated Antonio Doni in the rear.

'My two favorite Ice Bears,' Antonio smiled, standing up and shaking Alex's hand first and then Joshua's. 'It's so good to see you both.' 'And it's a pleasure to see you too,' Alex replied, pulling out a seat for Joshua before sitting down himself. 'Shall we proceed to business?'

'We shall,' Antonio said, his respect for Alex's direct but polite approach clear to see. 'We have two individuals. Leo Cardini, a mid-level Cardini family member. Fast shooter. Likes to work with a close, skilled crew. He's been causing us problems. And he's been crossing the line too many times. Specifically, Leo's been causing us issues with Edward Carlson, a city official who seems to want to be in our business a little bit too much. Leo and Edward seem to be the root source of a lot of sudden police and city hall investigations into our family. It can't continue. Is that understood?'

'It's understood,' Alex replied, shooting a quick look over to Joshua, who appeared enthralled by Antonio's words. 'But... why me?'

'Leo has expensive tastes. I'm talking classic cars, the finest suits,' Antonio said. 'And we know that he'll be travelling to an art gallery this weekend. There's a premiere of a new exhibition and he'll be there, taking it all in. Black tie event, high society. We need your skills, Alex, but we also need your personality too... I mean, it's not like we could send Connor Valley to do this, is it?'

Alex smiled.

Antonio was right. While Connor Valley had plenty of skills, attending a high society art exhibition incognito was hardly one of them. But Alex very much did belong in that world, and he knew that Antonio was more than happy to put him into that scenario with a very specific target.

'We're saying Leo, and Edward,' Alex said, wanting to clarify the goal beyond doubt. 'Both?'

'Both,' Antonio said. 'And once this is done, you can feel sure that the contract offer will be beyond your expectations.'

'Agreed,' Alex said. 'And Joshua's involvement?'

Alex looked across to Joshua and could see that the boy was listening intently, that same look of excitement on his face. It was good to see that Joshua wasn't scared, but his enthusiasm did give Alex some degree of concern.

'Joshua will be your back up,' Antonio said. 'His presence will help to draw the attention of the press and some of the celebrities there. While you're a known face around high society life, it will be something of a novelty to have hockey's young bad boy punk at such an event.'

'But I won't have to wear a silly suit, will I?' Joshua said, a sudden look of horror on his face.

'It's black tie, so you will have no choice in the matter,' Antonio said. 'And Alex will make sure that you look as you should too.'

Alex nodded and shot Joshua a stern look.

The last thing Alex wanted was for Joshua's attitude to give Antonio any cause for concern. And Alex was happy to see that his piercing stare was enough to calm Joshua down and prevent any further nonsense.

'Good, it is agreed,' Antonio said, standing up from his chair. 'Normally I would invite you both to stay for food, but I have some pressing matters that require my attention. If you'll excuse me.'

'Of course,' Alex said, standing up and shaking Antonio's hand.

Alex felt a pang of embarrassment as Joshua remained seated, but that was something that could be dealt with later.

In this moment all that mattered was that the outline for what needed to be done was confirmed.

'Up onto your feet,' Alex said, gritting his teeth. 'We're going to my house. It's time I showed you exactly what to expect from me as your Daddy.'

Alex could see a sudden look of worry on Joshua's face – but the boy had absolutely no idea about what was actually about to come his way...

* * *

Alex was happy to welcome Joshua into his city townhouse. Alex's house was part of one of the oldest rows of houses in the whole city, and had a price tag to match. Either side of Alex's house, the neighbors were either Hollywood actors, high ranking diplomats, or various investment fund millionaires from the world over.

But all Alex cared about was the fact that it was his home.

Alex saw his old house as a respite and retreat from the world of hockey. In his home, Alex was able to read, listen to classical music, or simply settle down and play a long game of chess.

However, the sight and sound of Joshua having fun in the grand reception room was something that felt better than anything Alex had experienced in a long time...

'Daddy, can we play shoots and ladders?' Joshua said, his delightful red romper suit with blue buttons looking perfect on him. 'You've got so many games!'

'I do,' Alex replied. 'And that shoots and ladders set is from the 1950s. It's an original, one of the first from that particular toy company. But, hey, that's not important. What's important is I show you who the best player in the whole city is.'

'Poop to that! I'll beat you!' Joshua giggled, opening the game box and enthusiastically setting the board up. 'I won't get a single shoot, you'll see!'

'I shall see,' Alex said, walking over toward Joshua and settling down on the thick rug next to him.

With the fire roaring in front of them, everything was set up for a perfect game.

'Can we play best two from three?' Joshua asked, holding Slice in one hand and getting his little red disc ready at the starting square.

'Let's just see how this first game goes,' Alex said, mindful of the time and the requirement for both of them to get a good night's sleep ahead of what was sure to be a high adrenalin next couple of days.

'Okay, I suppose so,' Joshua said. 'But can I go first?'

'Sure, you can go first,' Alex chuckled, marveling at just how keen Joshua was to play the game.

During their time as rivals on the ice, Alex had never seen this side to Joshua. That was understandable perhaps. After all, a hockey game wasn't the place to show even the slightest hint of innocence.

Joshua might still have been more than capable of sassing him during a board game, but Alex felt an overwhelming feeling of care and affection toward him now.

Alex was seeing more clearly than ever that his long running rivalry with Joshua Ramone was a thing of the past, and their future together was going to be about as far away from a rivalry as you could ever possibly imagine. This boy's special.

He wants to be tough, cool, and dangerous.

But he needs a Daddy to make him safe. And that Daddy is me...

Chapter 13

Joshua

'Hey, are you sure you didn't let me win that last game?' Joshua asked, giggling as he paraded around the reception room with his arms aloft in triumph.

'No, you won fair and square,' Alex replied, a look of lust in his eyes as Joshua shook his butt in triumph.

Joshua felt his cock react to Alex's obvious horniness, and he made a beeline toward Alex who was now sitting on the large, luxuriously patterned antique couch.

'So...,' Joshua said. 'What's my reward for winning the final game?'

'And do I get a reward for winning the first two?' Alex replied, arching his eyebrow. 'Maybe we should *both* get a reward.'

Joshua giggled.

There was something so sexy about seeing Alex at home. It was like Alex was able to drop his professional ice hockey player persona and truly let his full self out into the open – and Joshua was very much into it.

'You know, I told you about my public kink...' Joshua said, his hand running along the width of Alex's pajama top, the feeling of Alex's rock-hard pecs sending a surge of electricity over Joshua's body. 'Maybe you could tell me about one of your kinks.'

Joshua waited as Alex looked back at him.

For a brief moment, Joshua wondered if this was a step too far for Alex. Everyone in hockey knew that Alex was different to the typical hockey player. Alex Rebrov was suave, aloof, and sometimes portrayed as being stuffy. But Joshua knew that even though this wasn't the real Alex, he still might not be ready to fully let go.

However, Joshua was about to be surprised.

'Instead of me telling you, why don't I *show* you?' Alex replied, a look of lust in his ice blue eyes.

'Yay!' Joshua replied, his eyes widening as Alex got up from the couch and strode toward the door. 'Where are you going, Daddy?'

'To the bedroom,' Alex replied. 'You stay there. I'll be back in a moment.'

As Joshua waited for Alex to return, his mind ran wild with possibilities. In fact, Joshua even felt a little bit scared that he might be a little bit too taken aback with what Alex was about to reveal.

As the sound of Alex's bare feet on the hardwood floor signaled his impending return, Joshua was feeling a mixture of trepidation and excitement.

'Daddy...' Joshua said, a look of surprise but pure desire on his face. 'You look... amazing.'

Standing before Joshua was the sight of Alex wearing nothing but a pair of high-cut, lacy blank panties with a matching garter belt. The combination of Alex's ultraripped body and the sleek, feminine design was absolutely perfect.

But the best was yet to come...

'And now it's your turn,' Alex said, holding out a brilliant white panty and garter set for Joshua. 'I want to see that perfect little booty in these in less than sixty seconds flat. I might be wearing panties, but that doesn't mean I'm any less of a Daddy Dom.'

'Yes, Daddy!' Joshua said, his words spilling out as he sprung up from the couch and began to practically rip his clothes off so he could get himself in the panties and garter.

While Joshua had never considered whether he would like to wear feminine underwear before, something about it immediately felt right – and as he pulled the delicate, sensual panties up over his toned legs and achingly hard cock, Joshua knew it was going to be something he would want to do again, and again, and again.

'Now let me see you,' Alex said. 'Actually, let's *both* see one another.'

With that, Alex took Joshua by the hand and led him over toward the large, ornate full-length mirror next to the open fire. With the red-hot flames burning next to them, both Joshua and Alex's bodies were perfectly lit to show off the full effect of the lingerie.

'You look so good, Daddy,' Joshua said, his cock thrusting upward and pushing the intricate lace panties outward.

'I could say the same for you, young man,' Alex replied, taking Joshua by his panty-covered butt cheeks and pulling him up close.

Without a further word being spoken, the pair of them began to kiss and it wasn't long before both were lying down on the fluffy rug next to the fire.

'Like I said, we both deserve a reward for winning the game,' Alex said, maneuvering Joshua's body so that they were in a sixty-nine position. 'We keep the panties on, but we let our cocks out.'

Joshua felt a wild release of excitement as he lifted Alex's black panties to the side and allowed his monstrously hard cock to spring out. And before Joshua knew it, he could feel his cock being released and swallowed up by Alex too.

As the pair of them sucked, licked, and worked each other's manhood, Joshua knew that he wouldn't last very long. The sheer thrill of being in Alex's home was one thing, but the fact they Alex had revealed a long held kink to him felt like a huge turn-on too.

Oh, and the fact that both of them were passionately pleasuring one another probably added a considerable amount to Joshua's arousal too...

'D-D-D-Daddy...' Joshua said, his muffled words barely audible as he allowed Alex's thick, long member all the way inside his mouth. 'Deeper... more...'

Suddenly, Joshua felt Alex's cock stiffening and trembling as he shot what felt like wave after wave of hot, salty cum deep into his mouth. Joshua came too, his entire body contracting with sheer orgasmic pleasure as his Daddy's tongue and lips did their thing on him.

As soon as it was over, Joshua rolled off Alex's strong body and lay next to him with the fire continuing to burn bright in the background.

'Is this what it's like every night at your house, Daddy?' Joshua asked, breathing heavily.

'It could be,' Alex replied. 'And the night's not over yet either...'

Joshua giggled and snuggled up to Alex. Joshua would never have contemplated at this time last season that he would be in Alex Rebrov's house, naked but for panties, and calling his one-time rival his Daddy.

But a lot could happen in a hockey off season.

And judging by Alex's comment, the evening was far from over...

'How does that feel?' Alex asked, gently holding Joshua in his arms as the two of them lay in bed together.

'It feels good,' Joshua replied, his fluffy white diaper and night-time pajama onesie feeling perfectly snug on his body. 'I'm thirsty. I want milkies.'

'Of course you do,' Alex smiled, holding up the bottle of perfectly warmed milk. 'And Daddy's going to deliver it for you just how you like it.'

With his face pressed up against Alex's bare chest, Joshua began to suckle on the milk bottle's orangebrown teat. The feeling of the warm milk hitting Joshua's tastebuds was something else – and it was made even better by the fact that the milk was being administered by his Daddy.

Joshua could feel himself quickly regressing.

Despite the fact this was his first time in Alex's house, Joshua had never felt more safe or secure. The entire Cardini clan could be hollering and shooting guns outside, and in that moment Joshua wouldn't have cared.

As far as Joshua was concerned, being given his milk by Alex was the most comforting feeling in the world. Even during his childhood, Joshua had never felt comfort and security like this. After all, being one of seven siblings meant that Joshua only ever received the tiniest scraps of attention, and even those had been pretty infrequent as his other siblings demanded more time.

'Sleep-sleep?' Joshua said, gurgling in between his words as the warm milk settled in his tummy and made his youthful cheeks glow. 'Yes, *sleep-sleep*,' Alex replied, kindly moving a stray length of Joshua's hair off his face and tucking it up with the rest of his hair. 'And don't worry, you've got your diaper on. There's no need to be afraid of sleeping the whole way through until morning. Remember, Daddy wants you rested and ready to go tomorrow.'

Joshua smiled and shut his eyes.

Knowing that he could fall asleep with a tummy full of warm milk and not have to worry about waking up to go to the bathroom or making a wet patch in the bed filled Joshua with an extra-layer of security and safety.

Wearing a diaper in bed underneath his romper was a wonderful feeling, and with both Alex and Slice to cuddle with, Joshua knew that he was about to enter the deepest, most satisfying sleep of his life.

My Daddy's so kind and handsome.

I think I love my Daddy.

And maybe I'll tell him that soon...

* * *

Joshua woke up the next morning and felt absolutely superb.

The combination of the milk and safely fastened diaper truly had made for a wonderful night's sleep, and Joshua was all ready to face the more challenging part of the weekend in the city.

'Yay! A message,' Joshua said, glancing over to the bedside table and seeing that Chase had sent him a message earlier that morning... Helloooo! I hope you and Alex are having fun in the city with whatever it is you're doing. Coach Tremaine has been busting our butts even harder since you've been gone. By the time this training camp is over, the rest of the league won't know what's hit them! But... the reason I message is that me and Jax have arranged a playdate for when you get back to Mount Ledge. We're going to make cookies out of clay and set up a stuffie bakery! Pleeeeease say you'll be back soon??? I can't wait to have some fun with you and Jax. Chase XoxoXo

The idea of setting up a stuffie bakery was right up Joshua's street, and he knew that Slice the mouse would love to get his furry paws on a big cookie.

Without giving it a second thought, Joshua tapped out a message to Alex and sent it off to him...

Yay! A million-million times yes! I can't wait. And I also can't wait to tell you about all the *fun* I've been having with my Daddy too... Josh XoxoXoXo

Joshua smiled and put his phone back on the bedside table. With the sound of movement and a coffee machine grinding beans coming from downstairs, it was time for Joshua to get out of bed and haul his butt downstairs.

But as he stood up, Joshua felt his diaper sagging.

'Whoops, I guess it's kinda full,' Joshua said, blushing. 'Daddy! I think I need some help!'

It didn't take long before Joshua heard the sound of Alex's sizeable frame running up the stairs to provide his expert assistance. 'Well, someone certainly slept soundly,' Alex said, his eyes on the pee-pee filled diaper. 'Don't worry though, I'll get that tush of yours all dry. And once we've got you all fresh, we'll head downstairs. I've got pancakes, a strawberry smoothie, and of course... a high-protein energy ball too.'

Joshua smiled.

Alex was totally hot, great at sex, and kinky too. But as if that wasn't enough, he was also just about the most considerate and caring Daddy a Little could wish for.

Remembering his last thoughts before he fell asleep, Joshua decided that he would tell Alex that he loved him very soon. But not until after the city mission had been completed. The last thing that Joshua wanted to do was risk causing any distraction of upsetting the balance between them ahead of the big moment.

For now, Joshua would happily content himself with the fact that he was living his best Little life in the company of a Daddy who had everything he was looking for, and a whole lot more on top of that too.

The weekend had been super-fun so far.

But the time was ticking.

Very soon, the mood would change and the real action would begin.

Joshua had plenty of experience ahead of big hockey games, but Antonio Doni's mission for them was going to be like nothing he had ever faced before.

Chapter 14

Alex

The morning and afternoon passed by in a tranquil and almost serene manner. Alex was pleased to see Joshua calmly playing with a selection of old wooden building blocks before settling down to watch a Pixar movie after lunch.

But the afternoon was over.

It was evening, and the day's real purpose was drawing ever closer.

Alex was in the large walk in closet in his master bedroom. The lighting was perfectly pitched in a nice warm glow and the soundtrack of classical music being played through the house's speaker system was soothing and nicely drowned out the sound of the bustling evening street outside Alex's home.

Alex had been worried that Joshua would be too excited and risk burning out all his energy ahead of the evening. And the last thing that Alex would have needed during his *work* at the art exhibition would have been a tired and grumpy boy to look after.

However as Alex watched Joshua getting changed into his formal black tie and tuxedo, Alex couldn't help but admire how composed and collected Joshua was being ahead of what was going to be a big night for the both of them.

He looks cute. Damn cute.

Maybe the boy's a natural tuxedo wearer.

Maybe he's just like me after all...

'Here, let me help you,' Alex said, stepping forward and showing Joshua how to tie his bowtie. 'It's only easy once you get the hang of it. I remember trying to tie my first one too. To say I needed help would be an understatement.'

'No way, I don't believe you,' Joshua giggled. 'A Daddy like you was probably born wearing a bowtie!'

'Ha! Not quite,' Alex replied. 'I haven't always had the money for expensive dinners, suits, and bowties. In fact, I barely grew up with anything. Every single thing I own has been bought and paid for by me thanks to the goals and assists I make happen on the ice.'

'I didn't have much growing up either,' Joshua said. 'It feels strange when you get money to begin with. I think I kinda lost it a little bit. That's when I started buying all those crazy motorcycles and blades. Don't get me wrong, I like them. But maybe I don't need so many of them.'

'Maybe,' Alex replied. 'But... I am going to suggest that you take *these* with you tonight.'

Joshua had a puzzled look on his face as Alex reached inside his jacket pocket and took out a small, black metal case.

'Open it,' Alex said, seeing the look of expectation on Joshua's face. 'It's a little good luck gift from me to you.'

Alex watched as Joshua opened the metal case to reveal two compact but seriously sharp Japanese throwing knives. Alex wanted Joshua to be prepared for the worst possible outcome at the art exhibition, and as far as he was concerned the boy needed to know that should everything go wrong then he at least had a fighting chance. 'Cool!' Joshua said, his eyes lighting up as he took a knife in each hand and held them aloft as if he was about to throw them into the nearest wall. 'These are... superawesome.'

'Yes, and they're for emergencies only,' Alex said, a stern tone in his voice even though he was delighted to see how much Joshua liked his gift. 'They are a last resort, should something go badly wrong. But you probably won't need them. Now, repeat after me: emergencies only.'

'Urgh, okay, Daddy,' Joshua said. 'Emergencies only!'

'Good,' Alex said, straightening Joshua's jacket so it was perfectly lined up on his slender but strong shoulders.

'Thank you, Daddy,' Joshua said. 'Not just for the knives, but for looking after me so well. I...'

'Me too,' Alex said, a strong idea in his mind of what Joshua was about to say. 'Me too. But let's save the talking for later. I'm going to drive us over to the gallery now. It's nearly time, we just need to park across the street and scope the place out until we see Cardini and Carlson arrive.

Joshua smiled and Alex leaned over and kissed him on his forehead.

The moment of truth was rapidly approaching – a moment so big that it could make or break Alex's career at the Ice Bears, and maybe even his life too.

It was time to leave the house and get across town to carry out Antonio Doni's deadly wishes in *full*.

* * *

Alex turned the keys to the car and suddenly the roaring Porsche engine went silent.

'We're here,' Alex said, looking across to Joshua and placing his hand on the boy's knee. 'All good?'

'All good, Daddy,' Joshua replied, a slightly nervous smile on his face. 'I've never done anything like this before. But I think I can do it.'

'You *definitely* can,' Alex said, reassuring the boy. 'Your role is as a decoy. Just imagine we're on the ice. You're the player who pulls the opposition focus onto yourself so that the left wing can cut inside and slash in a goal. Got it?'

'Yeah, I've got it,' Joshua said, a look of determination on his face. 'And when this is all over, you get a contract that keeps you at the Ice Bears?'

'That's very much the plan,' Alex said, seeing from the look on Joshua's face how important this would be. 'Don't worry, I'm not planning on going anywhere anytime soon. Now, why don't you put your headphones on and chill while we wait?'

With that, Alex gently placed a set of headphones on Joshua's head and smiled as Joshua put a nursery rhymes playlist on via his phone. The boy needed to be as calm as possible, and this would help while they waited for Leo Cardini and Edward Carlson to arrive.

As Joshua bopped his head from side to side to the music, Alex felt inside his jacket and ran his fingers along the length of his silenced pistol.

I'll get it done quickly and quietly.

Two shots to the head, two to the heart.

Then we're out...

Alex had been in similar situations on the Doni's orders in the past and so far had never run into trouble. Of course, there was always a first time for everything, but Alex had mapped out in his head when he would make his move. The only difference though was that with this being a public event with lots of photographers, Alex would need to be extra judicious when it came to his movements both before and after the shooting.

As Alex waited patiently for his targets to arrive, he looked down at his phone...

Brother, just a little message to say... we're looking forward to your return. Have a good evening and don't do anything we wouldn't do. You've got this. JACK & CONNOR.

Alex smiled. While his friends couldn't spell out that they knew what he most likely was doing, it had always been an open secret between the three of them that they had each done special work for the Doni family.

'It's a crazy, crazy Ice Bears life,' Alex whispered to himself, shaking his head in disbelief at the reality of what he was about to do.

However Alex had long made peace with the things he did for the Doni's. Alex knew how morally grey his actions were, but he was able to live with it. There had always been a darkness in Alex's life, it had been there ever since his father was murdered. Taking out a few bad guys here and there wasn't something that Alex would lose too much sleep over.

And speaking of which...

'Boy, game head on,' Alex said, gently lifting the side of Joshua's headphones up off his ear. 'It's Leo Cardini and Edward Carlson. They've arrived together. It's time to focus. I'll only have one shot to get this right. You know what to do. We go in, we act normal. We wait. Then I'll give the signal. All as we discussed, right?' 'Right, Daddy,' Joshua said, the brave boy looking determined and focused. 'You can count on me.'

With that, the two of them got out of Alex's Porsche and crossed the busy night street as they made their way toward the grand gothic building that may have housed some of the world's most prestigious art but was now about to be the site of a double assassination.

* * *

The inside of the art gallery was undeniably a magnificent site. With the stone carved walls and smooth, reflective marble floors, Alex wanted to take a moment to drink in the surroundings.

'Maybe we'll come back here on a more leisurely trip one day soon,' Alex said, a knowing look in his face.

Joshua smiled and Alex could see that his words had helped bring Joshua's heartrate down a little. It couldn't have been easy for the boy being thrown in at the deep end by the Doni family, but Alex was proud of Joshua for how well he had handled everything so far.

'Come on, let's walk around and take in some of the paintings,' Alex said, motioning over toward a series of huge paintings that dated back to the 1700s. 'Now *this* is real art. All that modern performance art or installation art is a waste of time. This is the kind of craftmanship that a real artist should be aiming for.'

'Alex, the targets have made a move,' Joshua said, his voice quiet and calm, not wanting to draw any attention.

'Good spot,' Alex replied. 'We'll keep track of their movements. The moment has to be just right.'

As they continued to drink in the incredible artwork, Alex became conscious of just how many paparazzi and well known figures from city life were at the opening. Suddenly, Alex realized that it was going to require a hit with absolutely zero room for error.

Alex watched as Cardini and Carlson walked back into the main gallery area. Alex could see that the pair of them were happily chatting, no doubt plotting more movements against the Doni family.

Each time the pair of them appeared to be heading off into a more secluded area, they would change direction at the last minute. Alex had done this dance too many times to become frustrated. The night was long, and Alex knew that an opportunity would present itself at some stage.

Patience.

Pace.

Lethal precision.

'Okay, it's go time,' Alex said, giving Joshua the green light as both Leo and Carlson walked up the stone steps on the opposite side of the lobby and into an experimental art room. 'It's your time to shine boy while Daddy does what he needs to do.'

Alex squeezed Joshua's hand in reassurance.

They didn't need words in this moment, the pair of them totally connected and on the same page.

Joshua turned and made his way toward a large sculpture and quickly drew the attention of the photographers and gallery guests by posing in front of the naked sculpture. Seeing the bad boy of hockey at an art exhibition was one thing but seeing him engaging like this with a piece of art drove the attendees wild.

As for Alex, he quickly made his exit and headed across the lobby and up the stone stairs. The side room was dark and lit only by neon strobe lights. Alex could see the two shadowy figures of Leo Cardini and Edward Carlson standing in the far corner, their faces lit up in neon green, pink, and blue.

It's time.

Quick and clean.

Then exit the scene.

Alex put his hand inside his jacket and slowly pulled his pistol out, ready to fire. But just as he was about to take aim, Alex felt a huge clunk on the back of his head. Spinning round as he stumbled backward, Alex saw two imposing figures walking toward him.

It had been a trap.

Cardini and Carlson had lured him into the room, knowing full well that their two bodyguards were lying in wait.

Alex continued to stumble backward, the flashing strobe lights making it even harder to bring his head back into focus as the heavy blow to the back of his head played its part.

'Have a good time with our friends, Rebrov,' Leo Cardini sneered. 'Don't worry, we'll kill the boy too once we're done with you.'

Alex was doing everything he could to unscramble his brain, but he had taken an almighty blow. With his pistol on the floor and his back up against the wall, Alex watched as the two bodyguards inched closer to him.

Alex had won enough MVPs on the ice to last him a lifetime, but right now he felt helpless. There had to be a way out of this, but time was running out – and Alex knew that unless he did something extremely quickly, this could well and truly be the final buzzer for his life.

But with his boy to think about as well as his own life, there was simply no way in hell that Alex was going to let the corrupt and villainous Cardini take him out.

Chapter 15

Joshua

As he posed in front of the huge sculpture, Joshua smiled and went through the motions as the cameras flashed and the gathered crowd of people took great pleasure in seeing him at the exhibition opening night.

Joshua had never really experienced this level of fame while he was at The Lynxes.

Having signed for The Lynxes as a rookie, Joshua had gradually climbed up the ladder during his four seasons there and it wasn't until the final year of his contract that his profile grew.

But being in a new city and playing for such a high profile team as the Ice Bears, Joshua was realizing that the attention was very much there if that's what he wanted out of life.

The season hadn't even begun yet, but Joshua was experiencing in real life just how prominent a role an up and coming hockey player for the Ice Bears could have in celebrity circles.

'To the left!' one photographer hollered, wanting Joshua to wrap his arm around the sculpture.

'Like *this*?' Joshua said, making sure to do the most flamboyant poses so as to keep all eyes on him and allow Alex to do what he needed to do with the least possible chance of any unwanted eyes on him. In that moment, and with all eyes on him, Joshua had a flashback to his childhood. It had been so difficult to get any attention. With his mom busy with his younger siblings, Joshua had always felt like a spare part or unwanted extra. Joshua knew deep down that his mom hadn't done it intentionally, but as a child he didn't have that perspective.

It was hard for Joshua to figure out just how much the lack of attention he received as a child had impacted him, but Joshua had spent the early years of his career gradually becoming more and more of an extravagant rebel in order to get as much attention as he could.

In fact, Joshua was beginning to realize that the time he spent riding motorcycles for attention or taking part in dangerous stunts with knives would probably have been better spent focusing on his hockey instead.

It wasn't that Joshua hadn't had a good career so far, because he had.

But Joshua's experience of the Ice Bears training camp had gradually made him feel like there were levels to his professionalism and skills that he could improve upon to make himself a better player and maybe a more rounded person too.

'Hey, Joshua, kick your leg out!' another photographer called out, the look of glee on his face making Joshua feel a little bit uncomfortable.

Joshua was seeing that the attention he was receiving was from people who wanted to use him for their own clicks, likes, and attention. As he cast his eyes around the gathered crowd, Joshua suddenly felt far less comfortable with putting himself on show for the amusement of others.

If this is what attention feels like, I'm not into it. And why hasn't Daddy come back yet? Something doesn't feel right ...

Joshua quickly beckoned two nearby model influencers up to the sculpture to pose with him, and after a quick few poses made himself scarce and let the photo frenzy continue with the two influencers.

It might have been instinct, but the closer Joshua got to the room that Alex entered, the more he felt like something was up.

With his hand in his trouser pockets, Joshua subtly pulled out his throwing knives and held them close to his side.

'Daddy!' Joshua called out, shocked to see a dazed Alex backed up against the wall.

'Boy!' Alex called back, a look of pain on his face as two thugs towered over him.

Joshua saw Leo Cardini and Edward Carlson in the corner of the room, the pair of them with wicked, mean looks on their faces.

But rather than focus on them, Joshua made a splitsecond decision that he had to help his Daddy in his hour of need. Without a second thought, Joshua held his knives aloft and threw them at the thugs, the knives landing and striking both of them in the neck.

'Yes!' Joshua said, watching as Alex sprung to his feet and fired two rapid-fire bullets into each thug, flooring both of them. 'But what about them?'

Joshua watched as Leo and Edward scurried out of the room via the door at the rear.

'We should go after them!' Joshua said, swiftly running over to the fallen thugs and removing his knives from deep inside their necks.

'Let's fucking move,' Alex replied, now standing on firmer feet. 'Follow me.'

With that, Joshua followed Alex as he ran across to the door in pursuit of Leo Cardini and his corrupt politician friend Edward Carlson.

It didn't take long before Leo and Edward were in their sights.

And it was quicker still before Alex dispatched the pair of them with a shot to the back of the head.

'Are they... dead?' Joshua said, looking down on Leo and Edward's crumpled, still bodies.

'Two shots to the head. They're gone,' Alex replied. 'And it's very much time that we were gone too. And luckily for us, I've been to this building enough times in the past to know precisely where the old corridors lead to. We'll be back out onto the street in moments, and all we need to do then is let Antonio know that we're done, and he'll establish our alibi... just in case.'

Joshua felt a sense of pride at how calm and in control Alex was.

To know that he had a Daddy who could handle even the most extreme of situations with a cool head made Joshua feel very fortunate indeed. But in that moment, there wasn't time to stand around a have all the feelings... it was time to make their way through the dusty old back corridors and passages of the gothic building and get the hell out of the building and back to the safety of Alex's home.

But if Joshua thought that the evening's activities were over, he was very wrong indeed...

* * *

Joshua and Alex arrived back at Alex's house and they both felt a huge sense of relief that the evening's work had been completed – even if it hadn't gone as smoothly as Alex had initially hoped it would.

As Joshua stood in the kitchen and yawned, Alex turned to face him and had a big smile on his face.

'Have I got one tired baby boy on my hands?' Alex said, making sure to keep one eye on the milk as it slowly heated up in the saucepan.

'Yes, Daddy,' Joshua said, rubbing his eyes before yawning once more. 'I want bedtime...'

'I know you do, my darling,' Alex replied, pouring the warm milk into the milk bottle. 'And that's exactly what you'll have soon enough. I think we'll skip bath time tonight and just get all cuddled up and ready for sleep as quickly as we can. How does that sound?'

'That sound perfect,' Joshua said.

With the lights in the kitchen dimmed, the main light in the room was coming from the streetlights outside.

'If you want to be helpful, you could shut the curtains?' Alex said, screwing the cap onto the milk bottle before rummaging around in a cupboard to pick out the crumbliest looking choc-chip cookie that Joshua had ever seen. 'An extra little bedtime treat, just this once as a way of saying thank you for coming to my rescue like that.'

'You would have worked it out without me, Daddy,' Joshua said, blushing but feeling very proud to be complimented by his Daddy.

'I'm not so sure,' Alex said, a frown on his face. 'Maybe I'm getting too old for all this. I should have known that Cardini would have had at least two street soldiers with him. Josh... are you even listening to me?'

But as he stood by the window ready to pull the curtain shut, Joshua was frozen.

'D-D-D-Daddy, I think we might be in trouble,' Joshua said, his voice trembling. 'I just saw some men getting out of a blacked out car. They had guns. I think they're coming to get us.'

Joshua suddenly felt more frightened than he could ever recall feeling in his whole life. The mission at the art exhibition was meant to be a one and done situation. But now it looked like there was a revenge mission already in play.

'Daddy! What are we meant to do?' Joshua asked, running over toward Alex and burying himself in his Daddy's strong chest.

But before Alex could even reply, there was a cold, hard knock at Alex's front door.

'Don't answer it, Daddy! Please!' Joshua said, watching in horror as Alex walked toward the door. 'Wait... why *are* you answering the door?'

Joshua's question was soon answered though as Antonio Doni walked into the lobby and embraced Alex.

Either side of Antonio, he was flanked by three gun-toting street soldiers.

'Just a little extra protection on a night like this,' Antonio said, motioning to the men. 'The Doni family won't be very popular with the Cardini clan or the cops tonight. Even less so than we already were.'

'Understandable,' Alex said, shutting and bolting his front door. 'But, as I messaged, I can confirm that the targets were handled. And I'll add now that I was very fortunate to have Joshua with me, and I would like that recognized by the family.'

'Of course,' Antonio said. 'You two make a great pair. And the family won't forget that either. And I know that we agreed upon your contract beforehand, but we have made one change.'

Joshua looked across at Alex and tried to see how his Daddy was responding to this news. Joshua knew that Alex wouldn't tolerate any messing around with his contract, especially as the deal had been agreed in principle.

But Joshua didn't need to worry.

Antonio's revised contract in fact included a ten percent raise on the basic salary, plus increased bonus payments too if and when the Ice Bears made the playoffs.

'You now sit at the top table,' Antonio said, opening his briefcase and presenting Alex with the contract to sign. 'You, Jack, and Connor are the pillars upon which we build the Ice Bears dynasty. The Doni family is proud to see you rewarded.'

Joshua watched on with great pride as Alex signed the deal and secured his future at the club. Joshua knew that this would make his and Alex's relationship even more secure too, and that could only be a good thing.

'Thank you,' Alex said, shaking Antonio's hand. 'Please pass my gratitude and respect to the senior heads of family.'

Joshua could tell how much this moment meant to Alex.

It felt good to know that he might have played a small part in helping Alex achieve what he had always wanted, but Joshua also knew that Alex was a Daddy who was capable of doing things on his own too.

As Antonio Doni and his men bade farewell for the night, Joshua felt just about ready to curl up on the floor in the lobby and fall asleep. But luckily for Joshua, his Daddy was at hand... 'Here, your milk's still warm,' Alex said, lifting Joshua up and cradling him in his arms before handing him the milk bottle to suckle on. 'It's time for bed. For both of us. I don't know about you, but after all the drama I'm actually looking forward to getting back to the training camp and facing another fitness blast from Coach.'

Joshua smiled and suckled on the milky teat.

It was time to sleep, and knowing that he would be sleeping all snuggled up with his Daddy was the absolute cherry on top of the cake for Joshua.

Chapter 16

Alex

The drive back to the Mount Ledge complex was a lot more relaxed and easier going than the journey into the city. With Cardini and Carlson dealt with, and the new contract signed and sealed, both Alex and Joshua were in great spirits.

'Hey, boy, how about a quick pitstop for a coffee and milkshake?' Alex said, his foot on the accelerator as the Porsche powered along the treelined country road.

'A milkshake with extra sprinkles and cream on top?' Joshua said, looking adorable in his Ice Bears t-shirt and ripped black jean shorts.

'Seeing as you were such a good boy this weekend, I don't see why not,' Alex chuckled. 'I know a great place close by. We'll still be back in time for the morning training session. And something tells me that Coach Tremaine is going to go extra hard on us two.'

'Yikes. I hope not,' Joshua said, a slightly worried look on his face. 'Coach Tremaine still scares me. I don't think he likes me. And with the season start coming up fast, I really don't want to miss out on the gameday squad.'

'It's not like Coach doesn't like you,' Alex said, keeping his eyes fixed on the windy road ahead. 'Coach will push you hard until he feels like you're drilled into his way of seeing things. I've been there. I know it's tough, but you have to dig in and keep going.' Alex could see Joshua nodding out of the corner of his eye.

Despite playing like a fearless and tenacious aggressor on the ice, and attempting to convey the bad boy reputation off it, Alex could see that Joshua was just like most other boys.

What Joshua needed was encouragement, discipline, and a whole dollop of love too.

Alex recalled how he felt in the early years of his career. Making the move to the Ice Bears when he was a similar age to Joshua had been equally tough, and if anything Coach Tremaine had ridden him harder than he was currently doing of Joshua.

So as far as Alex was concerned, what he needed to do was make sure that Joshua's morale didn't drop and he kept working as hard as he could to fit into Coach Tremaine's plans for the season ahead.

As defending champions, Alex knew that the Ice Bears would have a big target on their chests. Each and every team in the league would want to beat them even more than they usually did – and that was saying something.

But a fit and settled Joshua playing as defenseman alongside Connor could make a real positive impact on the team. It was just a question of working out how best to keep Joshua's mind on the job and stopping him from getting disheartened by Coach Tremaine's verbal volleys.

Joshua could be the team's star defenseman in the next few years.

The boy's got everything he needs to be a legend on the ice.

I just need to figure out how to draw it out of him...

With the turnoff for the diner coming up, Alex was just about ready to slow the car down in readiness to take the exit.

But Joshua had other ideas...

'Daddy, a milkshake would be nice,' Joshua said, a determined note to his voice. 'But I'll pass. I want to get back to Mount Ledge as early as I can. I'm going to show Coach Tremaine what I'm all about. I'll do a hundred extra sessions if I have to, but I'm going to prove my worth.'

Alex felt himself glowing with pride.

To hear his boy talking like this was superb – and there was no way that Alex was going to stop Joshua in his quest to put the extra time and effort in at Mount Ledge either.

'As you wish, young man,' Alex beamed. 'As you wish.'

With that, Alex put his foot to the floor and powered along the road so fast that it felt like the Porsche might just take off.

It was time for Alex to get back into camp and show Coach Tremaine and the whole squad that his boy was the best boy in the entire league.

* * *

'Are you really sure a hike was the best idea?' Connor Valley asked, his upper body already drenched in sweat as the three Daddies powered up the mountain behind the Mount Ledge training complex.

'This certainly *was* the best idea,' Alex laughed, stopping for a moment to take in the view around him.

With the dramatic mountain range peaks, lush greenery, and then the resort and village beneath, it was quite the spectacular sight. And Alex was feeling relieved to be out in the open world and putting his body through its paces after the enforced weekend out of camp to handle Antonio Doni's job.

Coach Tremaine had put the squad through its paces earlier on that day with an epically brutal strength and conditioning session, followed by a fast-paced tactical analysis meeting.

Alex had powered through both the physical and mental aspect of the day with ease. For him, it felt like the easiest two sessions of his life in comparison to the drama that had unfolded in the city.

Alex may have had some extra skillsets outside of hockey, but his true comfort zone was on the ice. Alex had relished his return to the locker room and all of Coach Tremaine's tactics and fitness exercises.

And with the season due to begin soon, Alex was now starting to feel primed to help the Ice Bears lift another championship.

'Don't tell me, you're thinking about your boy,' Jack said, noting that Alex appeared to be staring off into the distance. 'I know that wistful look.'

'I wasn't actually,' Alex retorted, shaking his head. 'Don't get me wrong, me and Joshua are for real. But what I was actually thinking about was how ready I am for another season. You know, after my off-season work.'

'So that's what we're calling it,' Connor chuckled. 'But yeah, I know what you mean. Sometimes I wish the Ice Bears could just be a normal fucking hockey team. But wouldn't that be a bit... *boring*?'

'I don't know about that,' Jack laughed. 'I've had quite enough excitement. I just want to enjoy the final two seasons of my career with hopefully one or two more championships to show for it.' 'And we definitely can go back to back on the championship this season,' Alex said. 'After seeing Joshua working so hard today, I think he could be a real asset. I know I'm biased, but I think we've got a real player on our hands here.'

'I think you're right,' Jack said, taking his water bottle and squirting some cool water onto his face. 'Connor, how about it? Can you see yourself working well with Joshua in defense?'

'The kid's got what it takes,' Connor said, his arms looking extra pumped after several brutal weight sessions. 'The tattoos, the hair, all that rebellious stuff... none of it matters. The boy's got talent. And he's got heart. He just needs to show that on the ice now.'

Alex could see that Connor meant every word he was saying. And that was a big deal. Connor Valley was a man who spoke his mind and didn't pull any punches. If Connor thought that Joshua had what it took to become a true Ice Bears player, then that was a good sign.

'But what about you, Alex. What do you think?' Jack said. 'I know that I saw Chase's potential both on and off the ice. And together we worked to make sure that he fulfilled it. Do you see in your mind how far Joshua can go?'

Alex paused and gathered his thoughts.

'Yeah, I do,' Alex replied. 'Joshua is fearless, a quick thinker, and can use his initiative. These are qualities that you can't train into a player, and that makes Josh one special boy. If he can win coach Tremaine over, I think we're looking at a future Ice Bears hall of fame defenseman.'

Both Connor and Jack exchanged a look between them.

'Good, then let's do whatever we can to help Joshua realize his potential,' Jack said. 'Now come on, we've still

got another long uphill stretch to go. We might be the three kings of the Ice Bears, but that doesn't mean this mountain won't kick our asses if we don't take it seriously.'

With that, the three Daddies held their water bottles aloft and toasted to the season ahead. It was time to scale the mountain and then enjoy the long, sunny walk back down to the Mount Ledge training complex.

And with the rest of the squad set to finish their extra training soon, Alex wondered what he and Joshua might do to fill the rest of the day...

* * *

After enjoying the final scramble up to the mountain peak and then the ensuing descent, Alex was more than ready for some relaxation with Joshua back at the hotel complex.

'Boy? Are you in here?' Alex said as he opened the door to his suite and made his way inside.

Joshua had messaged an hour ago and said he was preparing something fun for them, and Alex's interest was certainly piqued as soon as he stepped inside his suite.

With the sound of quietly playing music coming from the bedroom, Alex immediately felt a surge of excitement coming over him.

The boy's in bed.

He's waiting for his Daddy.

Or at least I hope he is...

Alex wasted no time in finding out exactly what Joshua had planned for him. In no time at all, Alex was striding

into the bedroom and found himself met with a quite delightful sight.

'Daddy, do I look hot?' Joshua said, laying on the bed in nothing but a pair of pink satin panties that were cut extra-high on the hips. 'Here, look...'

With that, Joshua turned onto his front to reveal the tiny thong at the rear of his panties before lifting his butt high in the air and giving Alex the full view of his perfectly strong yet feminine ass.

'Had I known I was returning to this I would have sprinted down the mountain,' Alex growled, his cock hardening in less time than it took for him to score a goal. 'Now you just hold that position. Daddy wants to inspect his boy a little closer...'

Joshua giggled and shook his ass from side to side.

'I'm going to make those cheeks clap, don't you worry boy,' Alex said, removing his t-shirt and shorts and jumping up onto the bed in nothing but his jockstrap. 'Now hold still and let me see what we're working with around the front.'

Alex got close to Joshua and reached around to the front of the panties and felt the hard, throbbing outline of Joshua's fully erect cock straining to get out of its silky confines.

'We'll keep you nice and tucked up inside the panties, for now at least,' Alex grunted. 'I want to have plenty of fun with my boy before we think about your release.'

'Are you going to tease and deny me?' Joshua said, a note of excitement in his voice. 'Like we talked about?'

'I think that might be an idea,' Alex said, the fact that both of them listed tease and denial as a shared kink making this a perfect opportunity to explore. 'I expect you to fully satisfy me first. And maybe, if you're a good boy, I'll give you your release at the end too.'

With that, Alex pulled the thong to one side and ran his wet finger over Joshua's exposed hole, prompting the boy to whimper with pleasure.

'This is going to be fun,' Alex said, a note of wicked delight in his voice. 'I just hope you've got the stamina to last the whole ride...'

'I'll try, Daddy,' Joshua gasped, the feeling of Alex's tongue on his ass hole making him let out another gasp of delight. 'I'll try my best... but this is so fucking good.'

'No cursing!' Alex barked, quickly spanking Joshua's left and right cheek. 'Don't make me turn the pleasure into punishment. Well not yet, anyhow...'

Joshua giggled and gasped as Alex set to work on his ass.

For Alex, this was the most fun he could ever imagine having on or off the ice.

As far as Alex was concerned, it was starting to feel like him and Joshua were the perfect partnership. But now wasn't the time to tell the boy how he felt, this was a moment for nothing more than purely sexual indulgence...

'Push back,' Alex commanded, moving his mouth an inch away from Joshua's ass and waiting for Joshua to push his sweet hole onto his outstretched tongue.

'OMG, that's... just... wow,' Joshua said, bouncing back and forth on Alex's tongue.

'Keep going,' Alex said in between bounces, his own cock straining for release from inside his jockstrap. 'But remember... no... orgasm... for... you... yet.'

Alex loved the sound of Joshua's increasingly desperate moans and groans of pleasure. Keeping the boy as close

as he could to release without pushing him over the edge was ticking all of Alex's Daddy Dom buttons and the added detail of seeing Joshua in such a delicate pair of panties was the icing on the Little cake... quite literally.

Alex knew he could have taken his cock and plunged it deep inside Joshua's booty right there and then. But Alex was enjoying seeing how hot and horny he could make the boy.

'How close are you?' Alex said, reaching underneath Joshua's body and playfully slapping Joshua's cock through the satin panty material. 'Are you... close-close?'

'I'm close-close,' Joshua said, his voice trembling in between his gasps of pleasure. 'P-p-p-please will you let me cum, Daddy?'

Joshua's words were almost enough to send Alex into his own orgasm.

Alex continued to playfully stroke and slap Joshua's rockhard dick through the satin material and watched with delight as Joshua didn't hold back in showing how close he was to shooting his load.

'I'm... begging you, Daddy,' Joshua said, his entire body tensing and twitching in desperation as he was being held just at the point of release but with no end in sight. 'I need to cum. I need to show you how hot you make me.'

'Then do it, boy,' Alex said, a smile on his face as he pulled the front of Joshua's panties to one side and freed his throbbing cock. 'Cum for Daddy and show me what you can do.'

With that, Alex watched as Joshua spat in the palm of his hands and furiously jerked his cock until his orgasm arrived less than a minute later. Rope after rope of hot, thick cum shot out of Joshua's cock and onto the bedsheet beneath him. When it was all over, Joshua simply collapsed onto the bed, a look of wonder and pure satisfaction on his face.

'Hey, I think we might have found a new hobby?' Alex said, taking his own cock out of his jockstrap before bringing himself to a hard and fast orgasm. 'What do you think?'

'I think we definitely have,' Joshua said, his eyes looking sleepy and a big, happy smile on his face. 'But can we cuddle now?'

'Of course we can,' Alex said. 'I wouldn't have it any other way.'

And just like that, the two of them snuggled up with one another and pulled the bedsheets over their bodies.

It might have been another day at Mount Ledge, but as far as Alex was concerned there was always time for some Daddy and boy fun.

The next step for Alex though was telling Joshua exactly how deeply he cared for him.

The way Alex was seeing things was that this relationship could be forever – and now it was simply a matter of finding the right moment to tell Joshua. But with the training camp about to come to an end and the pressure of a new season just around the corner, choosing the right time was going to be the most important thing of all...

Chapter 17

Joshua

Joshua wiped the sweat from his brow and got ready for another drill.

I've got this.

It's going well, I just need to keep listening and learning.

Three... two... one... go!

Joshua skated across the ice to the center and made the interception just as Coach Tremaine had requested. With Connor playing alongside him and pushing up on the opposition forward, Joshua was able to make the play exactly how Tremaine instructed.

'Good! That's real fucking good, Ramone!' Tremaine hollered, his voice only just about audible over the simulated crowd noise that was being pumped into the practice arena. 'Now let's reset and go again. We're going to keep running these plays until you can all do them in your fucking sleep!'

Joshua smiled.

He was tired. He was sweaty. And Joshua was pretty sure that he was going to need an extra-long massage from Ricki the Ice Bears physio once the session was over. But none of that mattered.

Joshua could see that he was getting Coach Tremaine's plays on point, and in doing so he was also feeling the

love from not only the coaching team but from the other players too.

And perhaps most importantly, Joshua was aware that Connor Valley was impressed too. Connor may have been a good friend of Alex's, but in no way did that mean he was going to go easy on Joshua just because of their relationship. Far from it, in fact. If anything, Connor was being even more demanding of his defensive partner...

'Faster. Harder. You need to make every motherfucking split-second count,' Connor said, his gravelly voice as clear as his beard was wild. 'But... you're doing well. Just make sure you keep it up.'

'Got it,' Joshua replied, not wanting to outwardly smile for fear of showing weakness, but all the while smiling the biggest smile on the inside. 'Maybe if you moved a tiny bit left to make the attacker awkward on their angle, that might be good too?'

Joshua suddenly wondered if he had overstepped the mark.

The locker room hierarchy was such that Connor was pretty much untouchable at the top along with Jack and Alex. Joshua was now seriously questioning whether it was a wise move to try and give the league's most respected and toughest defenseman positional advice.

Joshua watched in silence as Connor stared back at him, not giving anything away as his eyes burned a hole into Joshua's head.

'Good idea, kid,' Connor replied, breaking out into a smile. 'I'll give that a try. Hell, you might even end up influencing Tremaine's playbook if it works.'

Joshua let out a sigh of relief and got himself back into position for the next drill. The fact that Connor respected him enough to give his positional advice a shot was

proof to Joshua that he was fitting into the Ice Bears way better now than he did initially.

Playing as a defenseman, Joshua knew that he was never going to be an all-out star like Chase, Jack, or Alex. But knowing that he potentially had the respect of a feared and respected defenseman like Connor Valley was worth its weight in gold.

As the next drill came and went in a flash, Joshua looked over to Connor and was relieved to see Connor giving him the thumbs up.

'Nice tip,' Connor shouted. 'If you have any more ideas to help an old dog of war like me, I'm happy to hear them.'

'You got it,' Joshua replied, beaming with satisfaction.

Joshua looked across the ice and saw that Alex was watching him. The look of pride on Alex's face made Joshua feel all warm inside. Knowing that he was doing his Daddy proud was as good a feeling as being on Connor Valley's good side or impressing Coach Tremaine.

In some ways, the only thing that mattered to Joshua was that Alex had faith in him.

Together, the two of them had been through a lot during the training camp, all things considered. And with the camp due to wrap up very shortly, Joshua was under no illusions that things were going to get any easier once the season started.

Offseason training was one thing.

But real games against live opponents was a whole other pucking situation.

However before the Ice Bears squad departed the training complex and the season commenced, Joshua had one more activity scheduled at Mount Ledge – and

this one certainly didn't involve either beastly fitness or mafia mob hits!

* * *

Joshua and Chase were both in their favorite romper suits. And even better, they were at Jax's little cottage and about to have a post-training playdate together.

'Today is my busiest dog walking day,' Jax said, sipping on his tropical juice box. 'you should see my pack. They're gorgeous, but mischievous too!'

'Naaaw, I'd love to be a dogwalker,' Joshua said. 'Or maybe I could motorcycle alongside the pack as they ran. Is that possible?'

Jax and Chase both giggled at Joshua's suggestion.

Joshua looked around Jax's playroom with a mixture of awe and excitement. Jax's cottage was just out on the outskirts of the small Mount Ledge village and despite looking small on the outside it was actually very roomy.

The playroom was at the back of the cottage and had double-doors that opened out onto the wonderfully charming little cottage garden.

'You must have so much fun here,' Joshua said. 'I love city life, but I can definitely see the appeal of country living too.'

'Me too,' Chase said, his blue and white rocket-themed romper perfectly shaping his slender, strong body. 'And I'm guessing you like city life too Jax...'

'*Hmmm*, what do you mean?' Jax giggled, blushing.

'I think you know *exactly* what I mean,' Chase laughed. 'Come on, tell Joshua about your new big city Daddy...' 'Wait, what?' Joshua said, nearly spitting out his juice. 'I go away for one weekend and you've got a new Daddy, Jax?'

Joshua felt a pang of irritation that he'd missed out on some fun and frolics while he was away. But more importantly, Joshua felt like he had to catch up on the gossip ASAP...

'Tell me! Tell me!' Joshua squealed, holding Slice aloft and kicking his feet on the floor. 'I need to know! I simply must!'

'Hehe, okay, okay,' Jax said, rolling backward and flopping onto his large, squishy cushion. *'Well...* I might have met a Daddy. And he might be kinda... special.'

'Keep going,' Joshua said, listening intently.

'He's called Bill and he works as an agent for the Ice Bears,' Jax said. 'I bumped into him one morning when I was walking my dogs and it turns out he's a huge dog lover. So...'

'Bill? I think that's my Daddy's agent!' Joshua said, full of glee. 'OMG, that's so much fun!'

'I don't think I would give up my life in Mount Ledge, but Bill says one day he could see himself moving here as he can do most of his work remotely now,' Jax said, struggling to contain his excitement. 'He's just so... gruff. But sophisticated too. And he's got a really, *really* big... you know.'

The three Littles fell about laughing.

Joshua could suddenly see the potential for lots of Little and Daddy hangouts with him, Chase, and Jax able to spend lots more time together. The prospect was superexciting, and Joshua couldn't wait to hear more about what Jax and Bill had gotten up to so far.

However, there was one problem.

Time was passing, and if the three Littles were going to finish work on the paintings they'd started before their drinks break, it was probably for the best if the talking stopped.

But Joshua wasn't willing to let go of things quite so easily...

'Jax, I need to hear all the deets of what you and Bill got up to when I was away,' Joshua said. 'If you write me, I'll write you back with all my juicy deets about me and Alex. Deal?'

'Deal!' Jax said, a mischievous smile on his face. 'And trust me, there are some seriously juicy details to tell!'

With that, the three Littles restarted work on their paintings, and for Joshua it was a painting that he hoped would be the best present a Daddy could wish for.

'I think Alex is going to love it,' Chase said, standing to the side of the painting and admiring it. 'It's so colorful and fun!'

'I love it too,' Jax added, closely inspecting the detail.

'Thanks, I hope Daddy likes it as much as you think he will,' Joshua said, a slight nervousness in his voice. 'I'm a better hockey player than I am a painter, but I've put my heart into it. But it's not finished yet. I've got one or two finishing touches to add.'

With that, Joshua put on a face of deep concentration and got back to work.

Joshua wasn't sure precisely when he was going to present Alex with his gift, but all of that could wait. Joshua wanted to make it the best painting he possibly could and then the rest would take care of itself.

'Cookies?' Jax said. 'I've got a fresh batch ready from my morning bake.'

'Yay!' Joshua replied, his mouth salivating at the prospect of some fresh cookies but his eyes still very much fixed on his great work of Little art.

* * *

Having returned from Jax's cottage, Joshua had packed up his suitcases and was waiting in the lobby along with the other players.

The painting was still drying at Jax's place, and he was going to send Joshua the painting via courier as soon as it was ready. Joshua was almost glad of the delay as it gave him time to consider exactly when he would give it to Alex.

Speaking of Alex, Joshua saw his Daddy walk into the lobby alongside Jack, Connor, and Coach Tremaine. The three of them looked like they meant business, and there was a sudden hush amongst the rest of the Ice Bears squad as the three of them walked to the front of the lobby and made their presence known.

'What's happening?' Joshua whispered to Chase.

'Ssshhh,' Chase said. 'Be quiet unless you want the biggest spanking of your life tonight. The Daddies are about to talk. They do this after every offseason Mount Ledge training camp.'

Joshua could tell that Chase wasn't kidding around.

As he stood and waited, Joshua attempted to make eye contact with Alex but to no avail. Suddenly, a flash of paranoia ran over Joshua.

What if I'm in trouble?

What if they've decided to kick me off the team?

I don't want to be hockey's bad boy forever...

But Joshua needn't have worried. As Jack and then Alex began to speak, it was clear that the only comments coming Joshua's way were going to be positive ones.

'And that brings us to Joshua Ramone,' Alex said, addressing the group but his eyes very much trained on Joshua. 'Now, I'm nothing more than a fancy winger. I don't know much about defense. But I have it on the highest authority, courtesy of Connor fucking Valley, that Joshua has made quite the impact this training camp. To come into the squad as a new player and show guts, determination, and a desire to not only fit in with his teammates but improve them too shows a lot of character. We're a tight family at the Ice Bears, and we don't accept anything less than the highest standards. So while I'm not sure I approve of the ripped jeans, I have to hand it to Joshua... he's a class act on the ice, and off it too. Welcome, Joshua. You're well and truly part of the Ice Bears family now.'

With that, the rest of the group burst into applause and Joshua felt himself radiating with sheer joy. In fact, Joshua had to work hard not to burst into tears. But not tears of sadness or remorse. No, these were tears of joy, of belonging, and true love.

'Okay, okay, that's enough congratulations,' Coach Tremaine hollered, bringing the atmosphere back under control. 'We'll leave any more celebrations until we get our first win of the season after our game against The Titans. And even better, we'll save the real congratulations until we lived another championship. Now get your asses back to the city and rest up. We've got a busy few months ahead of us. Go Ice Bears!'

With that, the players disbanded and went their separate ways.

Alex walked over toward Joshua and gave him a knowing look.

'The Porsche has gone back to the city. I've had a motorcycle delivered for the journey home,' Alex said, smiling. 'How about you and I go on a quick roadtrip. Two bikers, a Daddy and his boy. We might even stop at that diner I told you about on the way back from the city. How does that sound?'

Joshua felt himself getting emotional again.

'It sounds perfect,' Joshua said, suddenly realizing that it was just him and Alex in the lobby. 'I love you, Daddy. I want this to be Forever.'

'And so do I, my darling boy,' Alex replied. 'If I've got anything to do with it, we'll be together Forever and a day. I love you, Josh. Now let's get our butts in gear and you can show me just how good you are on two wheels.'

With that, Joshua and Alex walked out of the Mount Ledge training resort and toward their two motorcycles.

With their Forever Love declared, everything was looking up.

A road trip, a milkshake, and then a brand new season to look forward to...

Chapter 18

Alex

The coffee at *Power Roast Coffee Bar* was as strong as ever. With the bustling atmosphere and sound of coffee machines whirring and grinding, Alex leaned back in his chair and took a sip of the most satisfyingly strong espresso he'd had since leaving for Mount Ledge.

'It's good to be back home,' Alex said, looking out of the café's window and seeing the daily routine of people hustling through their lives. 'And it's even better to have that new contract.'

Alex smiled and looked to Bill, his agent.

The fact that it was Alex's special work for Antonio that secured the new contract didn't matter. Bill had been alongside Alex the whole way and had set up several alternatives should the Doni's offer not come to fruition.

Plus, on hearing that Alex had secured the new contract Bill had managed to improve his three most prominent product sponsorship deals. It turned out that being rewarded with a top table contract by the Ice Bears meant that Alex was now able to command more money across the board.

Alex wasn't motivated by money, well not entirely.

As far as Alex was concerned the contract negotiations had been all about respect, and being paid in a way that reflected his true value to the team. Now that he was sitting alongside Jack and Connor at the top table, everything was good and felt right.

'It's good to have you home,' Bill replied, sipping on his own strong black coffee. 'You belong here in the city. Training camps are one thing, but the real action is here. And I think this season is going to be something special. You're hitting your prime, Alex. All your fitness stats are off the charts and, correct me if I'm wrong, you've never been happier in your personal life either.'

'That's correct,' Alex said, a knowing smile on his face. 'And the same can be said for you too, or so I hear?'

'Hey, no one cares about my life,' Bill chuckled, deflecting the issue. 'I'm just an agent to the world's hockey stars. The only thing that matters is my client's happiness. But, yeah, life is pretty good for me too in that regard. Seeing as you ask.'

The two men nodded and raised their coffee cups.

Alex had heard all about Bill's romantic liaisons with the boy from Mount Ledge village, and it certainly sounded like Bill and his boy knew how to have fun.

Alex and Joshua had been having plenty of their own fun since being back home too. And Alex was beginning to wonder whether it might be the right thing to do to ask Joshua to move in with him.

Of course, the last thing that Alex wanted was to rush Joshua or pressurize him to move any faster than he felt comfortable with. Alex was very much a Daddy Dom, but a big part of that role involved caring and nurturing his boy in whatever way was best for Joshua.

Alex was feeling good about the impending season opener against The Titans and for now at least, he was making sure that both his and Joshua's attentions were very clearly aimed in an Ice Bears direction. Speaking of Ice Bears, at that point both Jack and Connor strode into *Power Roast* and took a seat alongside Alex and Bill.

'Talk about a hall of fame table,' Bill exclaimed, shaking hands with both Jack and Connor in turn. 'I don't think there's a coffee in existence strong enough to handle you three all at once.'

'Hell no,' Connor roared, beckoning the barista over to take his and Jack's order. 'And tell me Bill... are these rumors I'm hearing about a new arrival at the Ice Bears true or not?'

'A new arrival?' Alex said, arching his eyebrow. 'I assumed all the trading business was done for the season. I know the deadline hasn't passed, but with us having completed the training camp I assumed that we were all locked.'

'Bill, what's the intel?' Jack said, this clearly being news to him too. 'Don't hold back on your three favorite clients.'

Bill smiled.

Alex could tell from the look on Bill's face that he absolutely *was* hiding something.

'Okay, okay, I can't say the player's name,' Bill said, relenting as the three gruff Daddies stared at him in unison. 'But we might, and I stress *might*, be in the process of pushing through one more trade for this season. Young player. Very talented. Not your typical hockey background either. This kid is... different.'

'I don't like the sound of him,' Connor snarled. 'Different usually means *difficult*.'

'Don't rush to judge,' Bill said. 'And put it this way, if Tremaine wasn't sure that the kid was a once in a generation talent, there's no way he'd be pushing to bring him into the squad after Mount Ledge has already been and gone. But, like I said, there's no guarantee the deal will go through.'

'And you're sure that you're not going to give us a name?' Alex laughed, seeing just how frustrated Connor was at not knowing more.

'I'm sure,' Bill said. 'But you know me, as soon as I can reveal all, you guys will be the first to know. And speaking of deals, I need to make a move out of here. I've got a new client I'm dealing with at The Lynxes. And that means I need to haul ass out of the city. Well, after a quick... date... that is.'

Alex, Jack, and Connor roared their approval and watched as Bill gathered his stuff and left *Power Roast*.

'My money's on Corey Hales being the player Bill was talking about,' Alex said. 'He's a top prospect. Rich kid, grew up in LA, but sure knows how to puck.'

'Pffft. Corey Hales? I'll believe it when I see him on the ice,' Connor said. 'He's not Ice Bears material. There's no way in hell that Coach Tremaine would sign him. *Nah*, it's not him.'

'We'll see,' Jack said, exchanging a knowing look with Alex. 'But I think Alex might be on to something.'

'Either way, let's just focus on who we have in the squad right now,' Alex chuckled. 'The Titans first up isn't the easiest start for us. We need to make sure that the rest of the squad is focused and ready to go all out from the first buzzer.'

'Agreed,' Jack said. 'I'm getting close to the end of my career. I've got two seasons left. I need you guys and the rest of the team to help send me out in style.'

'Don't worry, I've got your old ass covered in defense,' Connor bellowed. 'But I agree. We need to start this season well. The last thing we need is pressure coming down on us from the Doni family.'

The three Daddies exchanged a look with one another.

No more words were necessary, and truly the last thing any of them needed was Antonio Doni showing up around the practice ice and making his presence felt. The Ice Bears was a magnificent team, but being owned by a Mafia family certainly added an extra level or two of pressure, that was for sure.

'Okay, so, here's what I'm thinking...' Alex said, leading the way into a quiet, covert discussion about how the three of them would shield the other players from any unwarranted Mafia attention over the course of the season.

Alex was thinking about how he could keep the Doni spotlight off Joshua of course, but the same was true for all the younger players in the squad. Alex respected the Doni family, but that didn't mean he wanted his boy anywhere near them unless it was absolutely unavoidable – after all, Joshua had already seen enough Mafia related violence to last him a lifetime.

* * *

The night was drawing in outside Alex's house. The temperature had dropped in the last couple of days, unseasonably so. But that didn't mean that either Alex or Joshua were cold inside. Far from it...

'Hehehe, the bubbles are so cool!' Joshua said, expertly slicing a slender layer of bubble bath bubbles onto his fingers. 'You try!'

'Okay, but I'm not as skilled as you,' Alex laughed, sitting at the opposite end of the large bath. 'I guess your experience with knives probably gives you the advantage with this, boy.'

Alex did his best to slice a layer of bubbles, but somehow instead managed to get a plastering of bubbles over his face, much to Joshua's amusement.

'Silly Daddy!' Joshua giggled, clearly loving the sight of Alex as he scrunched his face and wiped away the bubbles. 'I could do better with my eyes closed.'

'Grrrr, easy now boy,' Alex said, perturbed. 'Any more sass from you and I'll spank that wet booty right here in the bath. Which is something I might do anyway...'

'Or we could do *this*?' Joshua said, stretching his foot out under the water and squeezing it down on Alex's semihard cock. 'How does that feel?'

Alex let out a lazy, luxurious moan of pleasure as Joshua pulsed his foot down on Alex's rapidly hardening dick. The boy knew exactly what he was doing, and Alex wasn't about to tell him to stop either.

'Keep going,' Alex said, closing his eyes and feeling the bath's perfectly hot water lap up against his upper chest and neck. 'You show Daddy your best footwork. It might even help you ahead of the game tomorrow.'

Alex smiled as Joshua giggled and continued to give him the most perfectly soothing foot-job. The more Joshua pulsed and pressed his perfectly soft foot on Alex's cock, the more Alex could feel his senses coming alive as his erection grew to its peak.

'Keep fucking going, boy,' Alex moaned, tensing his round, strong ass cheeks against the bath's perfectly porcelain surface. 'Make me the happiest Daddy in the whole city. And pump your own cock too.'

Alex opened his eyes and saw Joshua's fist pumping up and down on his cock, half submerged under the combination of the bubbles and water. Alex could tell from the look on Joshua's face that he wasn't far from climax, and Alex was very much in the same boat himself.

As Joshua both increased the speed of his own hand-job and that of his footwork too, Alex let out a deep, guttural moan as the pair of them came together. With the bath water splashing and covering the floor around them with water, Alex let out a long sigh of pure satisfaction.

Alex had spent so long living alone and refusing to open up to anyone emotionally or physically. But Joshua had brought another side out of Alex that Alex had no intention of putting back into the shade.

As Alex looked lovingly at Joshua in his post-orgasmic glow, he felt his heart fill up with love and lust in equal measure. Alex knew that the time was coming where simply *saying* they were Forever wasn't going to cut it.

He's so God damned hot.

I lucked out with Joshua, he's one in a million.

We've said we're forever, so what's the point in waiting any longer?

Chapter 19

Joshua

The day of the season opening game against The Titans arrived and Joshua was feeling good.

Nervous, but good.

The Mount Ledge training camp had been a struggle to begin with, but even taking into account the drama surrounding the Doni family and the trip back to the city, Joshua had come out of things on the other side feeling fitter, stronger, and more settled as an Ice Bear.

And as if that wasn't enough, being with Alex was the gift that kept on giving.

Alex and Jack had arranged a special early morning playdate between Joshua and Chase. The idea being that the two Littles could play together and let go of any pregame nerves while the two Daddies hung out and allowed themselves some space away from the real world.

And so far, both the Littles and the Daddies were very much feeling the benefit of their playdate...

'Squee! Look at *meeeee*!' Joshua said, rolling backward on Chase's playroom playmats. 'I'm a rolling rock!'

'A talking rock that rolls itself, I've seen it all,' Alex said, sitting on the comfy couch that was backed up against the large window in Chase's playroom.

'Our boys sure know how to have a good time,' Jack added, sipping on his morning triple espresso, a tried

and trusted part of his game day routine.

'We know how to have the best time,' Chase said, cartwheeling and falling onto the squidgy play mat next to Joshua. 'But I want juice!'

'Grrrr, I've only just sat down,' Jack said, shaking his head in mock irritation. 'Don't say I don't ever do anything for you, my boy.'

Alex chuckled as he watched Jack haul his body up from the couch and fetch a juice for Chase, and one for Joshua too.

'Thank you, Jack,' Joshua said, smiling as he sucked down the pineapple and mango juice with relish.

The taste of the juice made Joshua smile and he could feel himself regressing and slipping into the comfort and safety of Little Space.

'Mmmmm, it's yum-yums,' Joshua said, lying on his back and kicking his legs in the air and pretending to cycle. 'Tasty, tasty, tasty.'

Joshua and Chase giggled as they both began to cycle their imaginary bicycles, the two Daddies watching on and talking amongst themselves.

'I think we're lucky to have such awesome Daddies,' Joshua said, smiling and giggling with delight.

'Yeah, I think we might be the luckiest Littles in the world,' Chase said. 'Follow me, let's cycle into space!'

Joshua squealed with delight as him and Chase closed their eyes and began a magical adventure on their special bicycles. Joshua could see nothing but bright colors, rainbows, the moon, and then the stars as he pedaled his feet in the air.

'Look, Slice and Blade are on their own little bicycles too,' Chase squealed with delight. 'They're over by the magic space rainbow!'

'Woooooh!' Joshua gurgled, his mind stimulated and yet perfectly floating in Little Space. 'Slice! Look at me!'

Joshua and Chase continued to play their game until it was time for milk and a nap.

Alex picked Joshua up from the play mat and carried him over to the large couch by the window. There, Joshua snuggled up close to Alex and sucked down the warm milk from Alex's bottle.

'You drink it all down, baby boy,' Alex said, smiling and with his eyes full of tender love and affection for Joshua.

Joshua simply smiled and continued to drink the perfectly warm and sweet milk.

It wasn't long before he felt himself falling asleep in his Daddy's arms. With Chase having his milk from Jack only a few inches away, Joshua gave his friend a quick look before the pair of them drifted off to sleep in their Daddies' arms.

There may have been the huge season opener against The Titans to come in a few hours, but in that moment, Joshua had never felt safer, happier, or more at ease in his entire life.

* * *

Joshua took a deep breath. Sitting on the team bus with Alex by his side, Joshua could hear the chants of the home fans as the bus slowly crawled through the masses and down into the stadium's underground parking lot.

This is big.

Like... seriously big.

I need to have a good game. I need to show the world that I deserve to be an Ice Bear...

Joshua felt super-relaxed after his morning playdate, but the reality of the season ahead was dawning on him more and more with each passing moment.

'Boy, it's okay,' Alex said, subtly squeezing Joshua's hand. 'I've been here. All of us on this team bus have. You're an Ice Bear now. We're family. We skate together and we win or lose together too. You've got this.'

'I hope so,' Joshua said, his voice wavering just a touch and his heart working at what felt like two thousand beats a minute. 'I just want to make you proud.'

'You already have,' Alex said, leaning in and whispering the words into Joshua's ear. 'You make me so proud that... I was wondering if you'd do me the honor of moving in with me. *Forever*.'

Alex's words were like a magical elixir.

In fact, Joshua almost felt like it was too good to be true.

'Am I still dreaming? Am I still asleep in Chase's playroom?' Joshua said, a look of wonder in his eyes. 'And *yes*! Yes please! I'd love to live with you.'

Alex smiled and gently rubbed Joshua's shoulder.

'We'll talk more later,' Alex said. 'But it's time to focus on the game now.'

Joshua nodded and fought as hard as he possibly could to wipe the stupendously happy smile off his face. Hearing those words from Alex was the perfect confirmation of motivation and love to give Joshua the belief he needed ahead of his Ice Bears debut.

Soon enough it would be time to hit the ice.

But for now, deep in the bowels of the Ice Bears stadium, Joshua felt like he had everything he needed to be the happiest Little in the world.

* * *

'Ramone, cover the flank!' Connor bellowed, his gruff voice barely audible over the crowd's emphatic cheers and reactions to each bone crunching hit or swift offensive play. 'Move!'

Joshua did what Connor ordered and successfully made the intercept.

Five seconds later, and Alex was assisting Chase for the opening goal of the season.

Ice Bears ONE, Titans ZERO – the game announcer roared over the speaker system.

There was a party atmosphere inside the stadium and suddenly, Joshua felt so confident that he almost forgot that this was his debut.

Despite having four seasons of pro hockey under his belt, Joshua was still a young player. But everything he had been through in the offseason had seemingly been the perfect preparation.

Joshua felt comfortable on the ice – and comfortable wearing the famed Ice Bears jersey too.

I've got this.

I deserve to be here.

I don't need to pretend to be a bad boy. I'm enough on my own!

As the first third played out and the Ice Bears eased into a 3-0 lead, Joshua stopped for a moment and looked up into the crowd. Joshua knew exactly where to look, and who he was looking for... 'Hey!' Joshua called out, waving up toward his six siblings. 'Catch you in the lounge afterward!'

Having his family at his Ice Bears debut felt incredible to Joshua. For a variety of reasons, they hadn't been able to attend his debut for The Lynxes. This had deeply upset Joshua at the time and brought back many difficult memories of struggling for any attention as a child.

But this was a new era for Joshua.

Now that he had Alex as his Daddy, Joshua had the confidence to stand on his own two feet, knowing full well that he had Alex's unwavering support should he require it.

And it was because of this that Joshua was able to simply be happy to see his family at the game. Had they not been able to make it, Joshua would have naturally been disappointed, but it wouldn't have been the end of the world.

But now wasn't the time for working out old issues, now was the time to focus and listen to what Coach Tremaine had to say...

'You think we're home and dry because we're 3-0 up?' Tremaine bellowed, his face red with rage. 'You sonsofbitches don't know the first thing about hockey. I want you working harder this next third. I want more hunger, more aggression, and more precision. And if I suspect a single one of you is slacking off, I won't think twice about benching your ass for the rest of the God damned season!'

As the players skated back onto the ice for the second third, Alex gave Joshua a knowing wink and smile.

'You know that Tremaine isn't joking around, right?' Alex said. 'But don't worry, you're doing great.'

'Thank you, Daddy,' Joshua said, covering his mouth so that no eagle-eyed network camera operator could lipread what he was saying. 'Thank you for everything.'

'You can thank me later,' Alex said. 'At home ... '

With that, Joshua skated back into the position and took a moment to take in the sights and sounds before the buzzer signaled the start of the second third.

This is everything I knew it could be and more.

I'm going to work to become the player I was born to be.

With my Daddy by my side, anything is possible.

So far, everything in Joshua's debut had gone to plan.

And if Joshua could play a part in seeing the Ice Bears home to a convincing first victory of the season, Joshua had a feeling that he and Alex would be celebrating together long into the night... long *and* hard.

Chapter 20

Alex

The second third of the game versus The Titans soon became the third. The game was close, arguably closer than it should have been given the Ice Bears early dominance.

Alex had just been denied by The Titans goalie and he needed every drop of his ice cool temperament to not lose his composure.

Another chance will come.

Trust the process. Trust the play.

We're winning this game no matter what ...

The scores were tied at five goals each and even the passionate Ice Bears fans were getting restless as The Titans appeared to have the momentum on their side.

Alex had been in professional hockey long enough to know that while it wasn't necessarily the end of the world to start the season with a loss, it was still far from ideal. And it was this experience that Alex was banking on using to help give the team the first win of the season.

'Keep going, we've got this,' Alex hollered. 'Chase, make sure you track back ready to sprint on the counter. I'll be available if you draw the defenseman and need to make the pass.'

'Got it,' Chase said, a look of quiet determination on his face.

Jack had been taken off with a slight pull on his hamstring, which meant that the attacking onus was squarely on Chase and Alex at this point. Alex knew that with his new contract signed and sealed, this would be a great time to repay the faith that the Doni family had shown in him.

Taking on responsibility was easy for Alex, the burden of carrying the team as the most senior offensive player something that he was more than comfortable with.

However Alex wanted to ensure that Joshua was okay too.

'Josh, you good?' Alex said, noticing that the boy had a slightly worried look on his face.

'I'm good, I just need to stick to Coach's plays,' Joshua replied, a brief pause in play allowing them to exchange more than the usual one or two words of encouragement.

'Yes, but trust your instincts too,' Alex replied, skating over toward Josh. 'Coach is an expert, and he gets things right ninety-nine times out of a hundred. But it's you who's on the ice. And if you see something that you think can swing this game back in our favor, then make that call.'

'Alex' is right,' Connor said. 'And if you fuck up, you fuck up. But I've got your back, Joshua. I've seen and heard enough about you now to know that I'll happily call you my fellow defenseman. Now enough talk, we've got a damn game to win.'

With that, the three players touched sticks and got back into the action.

The clock was ticking and there wasn't long before the final buzzer. The last thing that Alex wanted was for the game to enter into overtime and then a potential shootout.

This needs to end before the buzzer.

We'll have one shot.

And I might be the one who has to take it ...

Play resumed and The Titans were immediately on the attack. The puck flew down the ice and in a moment of split-second decision making, Alex watched Joshua tuck inside and take a narrower position.

'The boy's taking a risk...' Alex said, watching and ready to take advantage if the puck broke toward him on the counter. 'And that risk might just...'

In a flash, Joshua intercepted the puck and made a perfect pass up the ice toward Chase. Alex knew that Chase would draw the opposition defensemen to him in what was likely the final play of the game.

Then with flair and his youthful exuberance, Chase dropped his shoulder and played a disguised pass to Alex who was now free and zoning in on the Titan's goalie.

'Just you and me, my man,' Alex said, his voice cold as he bore down on the goalie and without a second thought slashed the puck into the back of the net just before the buzzer sounded.

The arena erupted into cheers as the Ice Bears sealed their first win of the season. Alex and the rest of the players skated into a huddle and were soon joined by the rest of the squad, plus Coach Tremaine too.

'You had me worried, you sonsofbitches,' Tremaine said, barking out his words but clearly happy to have taken the win too. 'That will stand you in good stead for the rest of the season. But we've got plenty to work on, don't think that we don't.'

The players slapped their hockey sticks down on the ice and then raised them to the ceiling. Alex knew that they had only just sneaked home on the final play of the game, but a win was a win. The only way from here was up, and while Coach Tremaine was right that there were plenty more challenges ahead, Alex felt confident that the team was ready to meet whatever came its way.

'I need a word with you,' Alex said, leaning over and whispering into Joshua's ear as the players skated off the ice to rapturous applause from their loyal fans. 'It's about that final play you made...'

'D-d-did I make a mistake?' Joshua said, a hint of nervousness in his voice.

'Just wait and see,' Alex smiled, patting Joshua on the shoulder and skating ahead.

Alex knew that without Joshua's intervention, the win wouldn't have been possible. And it was time to give the boy a reward that he would never, ever forget...

* * *

The Ice Bears squad were all in various stages of undress as the celebratory mood in the locker room saw the stereo pumping out the beats, sports recovery drinks being consumed, and plenty of naked flesh on display.

But as far as Alex was concerned, he only had eyes for one naked body...

Psst, over here,' Alex said, subtly getting Joshua's attention. 'Here, over by the door.'

Alex was naked barring his black jockstrap and as he watched Joshua scurry over toward the door, Alex felt his cock hardening at the sight of Joshua's slender but strong body – especially the sight of Joshua's semi-hard cock swinging from side to side as he ran toward him.

'Get inside,' Alex said, holding the door to the store cupboard open for long enough to allow Joshua to enter before quickly shutting it. 'Now turn around and put your hands on the wall. And that's an order.'

'Yes, Daddy,' Joshua said, a look of shock on his face as he promptly did exactly as his Daddy commanded. 'What are you going to do to me?'

'I'm going to fill that little ass of yours with my long, thick cock,' Alex grunted, pulling his jockstrap down and squirting a long splash of lube over his throbbing dick head and shaft. 'And you're going to take every inch and show me that you can take things into overtime...'

Alex could feel an animalistic side coming over him.

While Alex was an ice-cold killer on the ice, and sometimes off it too, he was learning that it was okay to let loose when the occasion called for it. And this very much seemed like that kind of moment.

'Daddy!' Joshua gasped as Alex kicked his legs open and then gripped onto his waist. 'Put it in me. I need you. I need you right now.'

With his thumpingly hard lubed dick perfectly primed, Alex thrust it deep inside Joshua's ass hole. Joshua gasped and let out a shocked moan. Alex could see Joshua gripping onto the wooden ledge on the wall, but it was clear that the boy was more than ready to be given his post-game fucking...

'Push back,' Alex grunted, thrusting his cock in and out of Joshua's willing hole. 'Make your Daddy cum, and do it quickly before the whole squad realizes we're in here and comes to watch the show.'

Joshua let out a thrilled gasp at the prospect of the other players discovering him in such a compromising position and this idea seemed to spur him on to bounce his perfect booty back onto Alex's cock about as hard and fast as was humanely possible. 'More, *more*,' Alex growled, his muscular upper legs tensing as he felt his balls tightening ahead of what was feeling like an orgasm he wouldn't forget in a hurry. 'Fucking give me everything, boy. Faster. Harder.'

Joshua didn't disappoint and bounced harder and faster until Alex let out a deep, long moan as he shot his seed deep inside Joshua.

With his dick still deeply implanted inside Joshua's stretched and filled butt, Alex reached around and grabbed Joshua's dick in one lube-covered hand and brought him to climax in what felt like less than ten seconds.

'Daddy, Daddy, I love you so much,' Joshua said, breathless and his legs visibly buckling as Alex drained every last drop out of his cock.

'And I love you boy,' Alex said, leaning in close and kissing Joshua's hot, sweaty neck. 'All we need to do now is work out how to get out of this damn cupboard without being seen...'

Alex and Joshua chuckled quietly together.

Alex might have signed the biggest contract of his career, but if *this* was the outcome after every game, his new super-high win bonus couldn't have been further from his mind!

* * *

After a celebratory drink at *The Rocks*, both Alex and Joshua headed back to what was now *their* home.

'Don't worry, we've got enough space to make this a perfect Little home too,' Alex said, taking Joshua's denim jacket off. 'When I said I wanted you to move in with me, I truly meant I wanted this to be *our* space.' 'Does that mean I can hang my knives on the walls?' Joshua said, a mischievous look in his eyes.

'Steady on, don't push your luck,' Alex said, knowing that Joshua was only kidding. 'I don't know about you, but I'm beat. How about we head to bed and I'll read you and Slice a story and all three of us can crash out until the morning?'

'Yay!' Joshua said. 'And look... maybe we can wear these?'

Alex watched as Joshua opened his overnight bag and pulled out two sets of burgundy dragon-print MeUndies pajama bottoms.

'I think... I *love* them,' Alex said, the blue, green, and red fire breathing dragons on the pants looking undeniably cute and the figure-hugging fit being something that Alex couldn't wait to see wrapped around Joshua's body. 'And I'm also thinking that I need to set up a MeUndies subscription!'

'Woo-hoo!' Joshua said. 'We can always, always, *always* wear matching sets to bed! And briefs! And boxers!'

'I love the enthusiasm, boy,' Alex laughed. 'Come on, let's take these pajamas and haul our butts to bed. But first... let me say something.'

'Okay, Daddy,' Joshua said, a look of expectation on his face.

'I know we've moved quickly with our relationship,' Alex said. 'But I want you to know that I've never been so sure of anything in my life. I used to be afraid of showing emotion. I thought that this was the only way to be. And maybe that's why we always used to clash on the ice when you were at The Lynxes. You always showed so much passion, and I guess I couldn't handle it. But you've shown me a different way. It's an honor to be your Daddy, my darling boy.' Alex felt his eyes momentarily fill with emotion.

Every word he said to Joshua had come straight from the heart and it felt incredible to speak so honestly and openly.

'I love you too, Daddy,' Joshua replied. 'You've been incredible for me too. But I think I maybe need to be carried up to bed now. I want my story and snuggles...'

Alex chuckled and picked Joshua up in his arms and walked up the grand stairs toward the bedroom.

Life was good for Alex Rebrov.

A new season, a new contract, and a boy who would be his *Forever*.

Chapter 21

Joshua

The season progressed and headed toward the Christmas break with the Ice Bears in a strong position. While they hadn't won every game, they were certainly in a great position to be challenging for the playoffs in the weeks and months after the brief holiday break.

Joshua was continuing to settle into his on ice partnership with Connor Valley and the pair of them were getting media attention for their burgeoning partnership. A mix of grizzled experience and a youthful punk, innovative attitude was making them a combination to be feared.

And even Coach Tremaine was beginning to see the benefits of Joshua's unique thinking and tactical vision of the game. While coach Tremaine was still very much the man calling the plays, Joshua really appreciated it each and every time Tremaine asked him for his opinion and took the time to listen with an open mind.

'Hey, Daddy, I can't wait to meet everyone at *The Rocks*,' Joshua said. 'It's always so much fun when the Daddy bar opens up to Littles too!'

'Well just make sure you and your friends behave,' Alex growled. 'Because if you don't, you know that you'll be over my lap for six of the best on your bare butt.'

'Hehe, I know,' Joshua giggled, putting his black t-shirt on and tucking it into his smart black trousers. 'Are you sure I still look cool?'

'You look perfect,' Alex replied, handing Joshua his favorite pair of black boots. 'You'll always be a rebel at heart, but even rebels can dress smart sometimes. In fact, it's actually kind of rebellious for a rebel to rock a smart pair of trousers, right?'

'I don't get it,' Joshua giggled. 'Well, I think I might get it. But...'

'Don't worry about it,' Alex chuckled. 'All I'm saying is that you look great and you'll always be my rebellious baby boy. How does that sound?'

'It sounds perfect,' Joshua smiled.

'Now let's get this place locked up and we'll head over to *The Rocks*.'

As the pair of them walked through the lobby, they both stopped to take a look at Joshua's painting as it hung on the wall to the side of the front door.

It was the painting that Joshua had completed while on his playdate with Chase and Jax back in Mount Ledge. Jax had sent it over via courier and it was now taking pride of place in Joshua's home.

'Did you always know?' Alex said, smiling as he looked at the image. 'Me, you, Slice, and a pair of motorcycles. Oh and a ton of rainbows, lightning, and pucks. Pretty much the perfect vision.'

'I *think* I knew,' Joshua giggled, beaming with pride as he saw just how much Alex appreciated the painting. 'But I know *for sure* now.'

With that, the pair of them left for The Rocks.

With the holiday break looming, the drinks were sure to be flowing.

And Joshua was all about having some naughty fun with his Little friends in the so-called sophistication of their Daddy's whisky bar...

* * *

'Wooo-hoo!' Joshua exclaimed, sliding down the banister in the lobby of *The Rocks*, much to the disapproval of the burly looking doorman. *'Whoops*, sorry!'

Joshua landed at the feet of Chase, Jax, and Jax's friend Pip who was visiting for the weekend.

'I think we'd better find somewhere else to play,' Chase said, anxiously looking toward the doorman. 'That grump looks like he wants to blister our butts red-raw!'

The four Littles all giggled and scurried away into the corner of *The Rocks* that had been set up especially for the evening's fun.

'So, you guys, what are you doing this holiday?' Joshua asked. 'I think Daddy and me are going skiing!'

'Wow! That's awesome,' Pip said. 'I'll be going back home next week and staying there over the holiday. As Jax will confirm, dog walking goes on all year round and I've got plenty of furry friends who need their walkies.'

'I hear that!' Jax said, smiling as he slurped his fruit punch. 'I'll be back at Mount Ledge walking my dogs with... you know who.'

'Come on, we all know it's Bill!' Chase giggled, playfully grabbing Jax by the shoulders.

'Yeah, and at least you've got a Daddy!' Pip said, his emerald-green eyes momentarily looking a little sad. '*Hmmm*. Maybe Santa will bring me a Daddy if I wish hard enough?' 'He will, he will!' Joshua said, casting a look over toward Alex as he sipped his whisky with his friends and some other Daddies that he didn't recognize. 'I never thought I'd find a Daddy. And I definitely didn't think it would be my worst rival on the ice either. But I found Alex, and he's just the best Daddy a Little could dream of.'

'Naaaaw, too cute!' Chase said. 'Come on, let's go and make more mischief!'

With that, the four Littles went about their business – knowing full well that if they kept it up, their bottoms might be getting spanked late into the night of what was already turning into the most fun pre-holiday party ever...

* * *

'Daddy, who were those other Daddies you were talking with earlier?' Joshua asked, snuggling up to Alex in the back of the chauffeur driven SUV. 'They looked a bit scary...'

Joshua looked up to Alex and saw a smile on his Daddy's face.

'Well, yeah, I guess they are,' Alex replied. 'The Doni family are still at war with the Cardini's, and Antonio decided it might be an idea to reach out to the Mafia Daddies NYC for some assistance. Those men you saw tonight were some of the NYC family. They might look scary, but they're very much on our side. So don't you worry about it.'

'I'm not worried, I can look after myself,' Joshua said, yawning as he pretended to throw some of his infamous throwing knives. 'Swoosh! Swoosh!'

'That's my boy,' Alex said, gently stroking Joshua's hair. 'Don't ever change. You're perfect just the way you are.' And as he looked up toward the SUV's panoramic glass ceiling, Joshua saw nothing but the night sky.

It was time for Joshua to go to sleep until they arrived back home, safe in the knowledge that while he may have signed for a great team in the shape of the Ice Bears, the real perfect team was him and Alex – because together, they were pucking lethal.

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