

Done

Vanessa's p.o.v

The sun begins coming up. My kids slept all night. I got a couple of hours, but I couldn't stay asleep for long. I just keep thinking about what will happen when I arrive and when Eric and my parents find out that I left. They have always had me under their hooks. Using the kids or money against me, but I'd rather be broke and work my ass off to give my kids what they need than keep taking their shit. They announce our destination and I wake the kids up so they can begin getting ready to load off. Julian is a big help. He doesn't just grab his backpack, he also grabs his sister's bag. He makes sure his sisters don't play around or get lost in the middle of all of these people. I grab my bag and the wagon and tell them to follow me out. Once we get out, I open the wagon and they load on it with the bags and Julian grabs my hand and helps me pull the wagon. I have no idea where we are going yet, so we stop at a donut shop to get the kids something to eat. I take my time to Google hotels near me while they eat. I find something close by and after we eat we make our way back there. It is barely 7:30 am now, but luckily we were able to get booked into a room. I let the kids relax and play around and the first thing I do is call my sister, Verlene.

"Hello" she answers, sounding half asleep still. Shit, maybe I should have waited until later to call her. Too late now though.

"Verlene, I left Eric," I say. Quiet....She doesn't say anything. Even though my sister left years ago, we have always kept in touch. She always tells me to call or text her for anything. "I packed up the kids and left the house." I whisper. "You did? Finally. Where are you?" she asks me. "In a hotel in Boston. I left last night. We took the first train out." I tell her. "Send me the address, I will come to you right now. I will bring you guys here to my house." She tells me and I start crying. "No Verlene, I don't want to impose, you have your life." I tell her. "Nonsense, it is just my old man and my little girl and I in this big house. We would love for you all to stay here. A full house. Plus, our girls are the same age. Vanna will love having her cousins here." she tells me. "Only, if you are sure." I tell her. "Quick, send me the address, I will be there as soon as possible." she tells me and hangs up. I put the phone down and look at my kids and smile. I quickly send my sister my location and she responds with a happy face.

An hour later, there is a bang on my door. I check the peephole and see that it is my sister, so I open the door. I look at her and she looks so happy. She engulfs me in a hug and we hold each other for quite some time. "I'm glad you finally got away from them." she whispers in my ear and pulls back. "Fuck three kids and you still look this good." she says and whistles. "Isn't mama hot kids?" she asks them and they all nod and scream "Yes". "Auntie Verlene" Julian says and jumps on her. She walks all the way inside and I close and lock the door behind her. "Okay kids, watch some tv while auntie and I catch up really quick." I tell them and turn the tv on for them. At home they weren't able to watch tv or Eric would get upset and say that I was allowing their little minds to be corrupted. He would rip out and yell at everyone. We only had 1 tv in the whole house and we almost never got to turn it on. So for them right now, this is a treat and I can tell that they are super excited.

"Tell me everything." my sister says as we walk down the small hallway and into the restroom so the kids won't hear us. We keep the door open to keep an eye on them though and we talk in hushed voices. "He is having an affair with his assistant and who knows how many other women, but I know that his assistant is pregnant. I have proof too." I tell her that and everything else that has happened. I show her the pictures I took of his text messages. "Wow, he is an idiot and in some deep shit. Wait til dad finds out." she says and I laugh. "I'm sure he knows. He does work for dad after all. I won't be surprised if mom and dad take Eric's side and blame it all on me." I tell her and she shakes her head. "Oh sister, well the good thing is that you have proof. Vanessa, I need to know if you are 100 percent serious about this. About leaving him? I need to know before I involve myself that you are not going to go back to him when he comes looking for you or when mom and dad come looking for you, because you know they will." she tells me, allowing me to make all of the decisions for myself. "I'm done Verlene. I can't take it anymore. Mom expects me to raise my kids the way she raised us. She expects me to sit there while he cheats on me like she did with dad. I am not mom. I am not like her." I say and she nods and hugs me. "Nothing like her. You are strong and this proves it. You took your kids and left him. You aren't allowing him to walk all over you." she tells me, giving me the much needed reassurance. "The first thing we are going to do is get you to talk to the club's lawyer. We are going to send him divorce papers." she tells me. "Yes, I didn't even think of that. Verlene. He isn't going to give me the divorce so easily." I tell her. I begin to panic. "Calm down, we will figure it out," she says. "What if they try to take my babies away?" I am on the verge of tears now. "No-one will take them away. We won't allow it. We are going to get your life together, sister. I won't let them harm you or my nieces and nephew. You are under our protection now. Just tell me if there is something you love doing. Think about where you would like to work. I will get you a job. We will find you a house to live in. When they come for you, they won't have any reason to take those babies away." she tells me and I nod and hug her again. "Thank you Verlene. I don't know what I would do without you." I tell her. "Let's get out of here and go home. I am so ready for Vanna to get home now. She will be thrilled to see you all." she says. I nod and we walk out. We grab our bags and my phone begins ringing. I check it and it is Eric. "Wow, it is almost 10am and he is barely calling me." I scoff. I feel bad knowing he is barely realizing we aren't home anymore. I allow the call to go to voicemail and when we are loading the kids in the car I allow myself to listen to it. "Vanessa, what the fuck is the meaning of this? Beatrice means nothing to me. You better get your ass home. I am leaving for work and your ass better be here when I come back with my kids or else you will be sorry." he threatens me. I am sure I am shaking because Verlene rushes to me. She grabs my phone and listens to the voicemail. "Idiot is just burying himself in a deeper grave." she mumbles and helps me get in the car and we take off. The whole ride, my phone keeps ringing, but it is now my mother calling me. Looks like he already went to my parents with the news. This was quicker than what I expected.