

Chapter 51 – Justice For Juniper Novel Free Online by Tatiene Richard

Phineas nodded, “he did, and it took me a very long time to forgive him. I went to therapy for a long time to address the fact the man I worshipped as a hero was fallible. He made terrible choices and he’s really fucking lucky my mother is a saint. He put in the work though. He went to therapy too. He did individual, couples, and family therapy. He spent years working on himself and trying to figure out why he was so consumed with the fear of getting older.”

“Do you fear of getting older?” she asked as she felt him reaching past her for her bodywash.

“Nope. I want to grow old someday. I want to have gray hair though. I really don’t want to go bald. Beni would look good bald. Not me. I think I’d look like Dr. Evil.”

She giggled. “You want to grow old with gray hair?”

“I do. I want to get wrinkly and old with grandchildren I can spoil. I want a big family I can sit down to Thanksgiving dinner with and know that when I die, someday, in the far future, I’ve built a good life with a good woman and a good family.”

“Do you see Beni and Adil at that table?”

–

“Absolutely. Beni needs to be bald though. Adil can have a toupee.”

She giggled and then gasped when his hands were touching her shoulders, “what are you doing?”

“Just washing you off,” he said soothingly, “we’re almost done. Some of the puke was in your bra and I want to make sure you’re not crawling into your bed with vomit in your creases.

“You think my body has creases?”

“Everyone’s body has creases. Your body has these,” he boldly lifted her breasts up in his palms and her eyes shot open to look at him, “and under these things can get trapped. I would very much like for someday my tongue or my cock to be trapped under here.”

“Phineas!” she gasped as he grinned unrepentant at her.

“Your body is incredible, Juniper. Every single curve, line, twist of it, has consumed my every thought.”

“Phineas,” she whispered as he went back to washing her off, “can I ask you something?”

“You can ask me anything you like.”

“I wasn’t sure I wanted to keep trying for a baby because I kept failing at it.”

“You didn’t fail, Juniper. Your body wasn’t ready and Kyst’s sperm was the problem. We’re sticking with this theory.”

“I know but it felt like it was me since it happens to me, but I didn’t want to try again and Kyst insisted we try, and I was annoyed about it.”

“Okay.”

“But now that it’s gone, and my body is acting like it never even happened, I realize, I really kind of wish I had a baby. I didn’t know how much I wanted it until it was gone again.”

“I tell you what,” Phineas shut the water off and reached for a towel and wrapped it around her body, tucking it under her arms and then reached for a second one to towel off her hair, “when you are feeling better, when the world doesn’t feel so volatile and your heart isn’t so bruised, there will be three men at your beck and call to give you as many babies as you want. If it doesn’t work the natural way, we will adopt or steal one for you.”

“You can’t steal a baby, Phineas,” she felt tears stinging her at his sweetness. eyes

“I would for you.” He smiled softly. “We all would burn this world to the ground for you Juniper. I don’t think you understand the impact you have on us in such a brief period of time.”

“All three of you?”

“All three of us.” He swept her up, carried her to the bedroom, and set her on the side of the bed. He looked around, “we may need a bigger bed though but for now, this one will do.”

“You’re really all going to stay with me?”

“There is nowhere else any of us want to ever be.”

“I think,” she pouted prettily, “I could really use some cuddles.”

“Then cuddles it is.”

Juniper was wide eyed as Adil came back in and tossed a pair of pajama bottoms at Phineas, Adil not even batting an eyelash at the fact Phineas was standing in his soaking wet underwear. She was still in the towel Phineas wrapped her in.

Adil was wearing a pair of pj bottoms and was bare chested and like Phineas was covered in tattoos. His hair was wet, and he’d obviously showered at Beni’s condo.

“You’re drooling, baby girl,” he winked at her and then moved to the walk-in closet. “I’ll find her something to wear, Phineas if you wanted to get yourself dried off and changed. Beni is helping Suki get settled. She was arguing with him about her sleeping in her with Juniper and us sleeping in the guest room. She’s half-asleep though so he should be right in.”

“Sounds good.” Phineas looked at Juniper, “don’t move from there. We’ll get you settled into bed, okay?”

“Sure.” She swung her legs nervously. She watched them both walk away from her in different directions and felt her nervousness increasing. The alcohol was still in her system, but it wasn’t as bad as earlier. Her need to vomit was long gone but other needs were rising up.

Adil came back in with a grin on his face and one hand behind his back but the other handheld up a strappy red silk nightie.

“What is that?”

“We should put you in this.”

“Are you crazy?” she asked as he waved it at her like a flag in front of a bull.

“I’m teasing,” he laughed and tossed the night gown away and pulled out a tank top and shorts and held them out to her. “Can I help you put these on?”

“I’ve done this,” she blurted out worriedly. “I’ve never been naked in front of any man other than Kyst before and I was just naked in front of Phineas, and he touched my boobs.”

Chapter 52 – Justice For Juniper Novel Free Online by Tatiene Richard

“He touched your boobs?” Adil asked with a raised eyebrow and shot a quick glance in the direction of the bathroom. “What do you mean he touched your boobs?”

“I mean he washed me down from head to toe and then rinsed me off, but he lifted my boobs in his hand.”

“I literally lifted her breasts,” Phineas came back into the room, “she was mildly offended when I told her I needed to get the soap out of the creases, and I simply pointed out some of the creases I like most on her body.”

“Fair. Is that why you’re hard in those bottoms?” Adil lifted an eyebrow, and he worked the tank top over Juniper’s head before lowering the towel. He then squatted in front of her and pulled her shorts up and then removed the towel completely.

“I’m hard because she’s fucking gorgeous and I got to see her naked while I bathed her, but I was respectful.”

“You lifted her breasts.”

“Mostly respectful.”

“Adil are you mad at Phineas?” Juniper looked at him curiously.

“No baby girl, I’m not angry at Phineas. I’m jealous of Phineas.”

“Why?”

“He touched you and it’s something I very much want to do.”

“It is?”

“It is.”

“You can touch me.

The sound of choking coming from the door of the bedroom made three heads turn in the direction of Beni who was walking into a conversation which was growing increasingly risqué.

“Dare I ask what this conversation is about?”

“Phineas touched my boobs and Adil said he was jealous.”

“It’s really not as sexy as it sounds,” Phineas countered. “I literally lifted them while rinsing her body of soapy residue.”

“You did say things could get trapped in my creases and someday you hoped it would be your tongue or your cock.”

“Jesus Christ, Phineas,” Beni groaned as he punched the door frame.

“I wasn’t lying.” He looked at Adil, “did you bring him a change of clothes?”

“I did,” he waved to the walk-in closet. “I left them in there for you.”

“Thanks. No touching her boobs.” He waved his fingers around the room at the other two men. “She’s drunk and cannot consent.”

“I’m not too drunk!” she protested.

“Juniper, I will carry you down the hall and put you in with Suki and lock the three of us in here without you if you can’t behave.”

“Beni!”

“He likes rules, sweetheart,” Phineas took her wet towels into the bathroom and came back carrying a hair dryer. “Let’s get your hair dried before bed. There is no way in hell you’re sleeping with me and wet hair all over my chest when you cuddle up on it.”

She blinked at the bold statement. “You think I’m going to sleep on your chest?”

“I know you will.”

“What if it’s Beni’s chest or Adil’s? Huh?”

“Someone gets very sassy when she’s intoxicated,” Phineas made eyes at Adil while Beni walked to the closet shaking his head.

“What? It’s a valid question.”

“Here’s the thing, sweetheart,” Phineas plugged the hairdryer into the wall and turned to face her, “when we were six, we decided amongst the three of us, who was going to be the leader of our team. Granted it was for the spelling bee, but they both decided I was the bossiest, so I was the boss. In middle school, we joined the swim team because we were skinny little rich boys with nothing better to do than swim and science fair. Adil always won science fair by the way, but we’re convinced his parents paid off the judges because my volcanoes were always superior.”

“Your volcano put tomato sauce on the roof of the gymnasium, and I bet if we went to the school today, it’s still there. Your eruption was catastrophic.”

Operation Sandcastle – Part I,

“Regardless,” Phineas made wide eyes at Adil, “on swim team I was the boss. I was the boss when in ninth grade we joined debate club. I was the boss when we were in eleventh grade when we decided to start up our own company for our senior year project and began planning it then. I was the boss when we backpacked around Europe the summer we graduated. I was the boss when we decided to insist we get a shared dorm room with only the three of us.” He shrugged, “I’m the boss.”

“It’s because he has more money than us,” Beni said as he came back into the room. “Well, that and he’s a natural born leader, taller than both of us by several inches figuratively and literally and most importantly, I was incredibly shy, nervous and terrified of my own shadow and even now when I go to court, I pretend I’m him so I can be bolder than my usual personality.”

“I’m the same,” Adil shrugged. “My parents wanted a cutthroat investor for a child and I’m more of a behind the scenes, sneaky son of a bitch. We were forced in tenth grade to be part of the drama team because we got caught doing something we shouldn’t have and while Phineas ended up the male lead in the production,”

“I got to kiss Joelle Peters,” he gave a happy smile at the memory as he turned the hair dryer to a low setting and began waving it over her hair.

“And I found out how much I love hiding in the shadows pulling strings to make my buddies look good.” Adil grinned.

Her eyes were focused on Beni as he moved within her line of sight and her breath caught. He was as muscular and toned as Phineas and Adil and he too was covered in tattoos. Her eyes drifted to the pajama bottoms and Suki’s earlier comment about him not wearing underwear reemerged in her brain. She needed to look elsewhere because he definitely wasn’t wearing anything, and it was clear his length was hanging down the inside of his thigh. Her eyes drifted to Phineas standing right in front of her and she realized his underwear were also not under his pjs. They flicked next to Adil and same thing. She was going to crawl into a bed with three men who were all commando

under their pajamas and all equally, devastatingly endowed. A crazy vision of her kneeled between them filled her brain and she almost smacked her own face to make it go away.

Chapter 53 – Justice For Juniper Novel Free Online by Tatiene Richard

“What did you learn in drama, Beni?” she cleared her throat as she tried not to look at their penises through their pants. If she were given a superpower, Juni was contemplating in this moment, she wanted x-ray vision.

“I learned I can’t sing. I have terrible stage fright unless Phineas talks me down from it and I also learned Phineas doesn’t always get his way.”

“Why?” she looked up at Phineas curiously.

“Because Joelle Peters had a college aged boyfriend who beat the shit out of me for asking to practice the kissing scene one too many times.” His smile held no remorse. “It was worth it because for all three nights of the show, she needed to kiss me while he watched from the audience, and I made it better every time.”

“She was in a relationship!” Juniper protested.

“I

“Ours was a performance for the arts.” He argued back. “I wasn’t trying to marry her. I only wanted to make it believable for the story.”

“Nasty,” she muttered.

“I was fifteen. Trust me, it wasn’t the nastiest thing I did.”

“No. Jerking off in our tent when you thought we were asleep might have been the nastiest thing you did that year.” Beni made a face as he crawled up on the bed to sit behind her. He leaned closer, “you smell better than you did.”

“Thank you.” She beamed at him and then looked at Phineas, “you jerked off with them in the same tent as you?”

“I was fifteen with raging hormones and there was a girl at the next campsite who wore a bikini far too small for her.”

“You could have done it in the woods when we weren’t around,” Beni griped.

“Or at least did it silently like I did,” Adil commented. “You groaned when you finished, and it haunted me for weeks.”

“You groaned?” she giggled at the comment from Adil.

“Loudly,” Beni shook his head in disgust.

“I hope you both stored that memory away for a long time because,” he shut the hair dryer off as he decided her hair was dry enough, “our girl here liked the idea we floated in front of

Kyst earlier. The one Suki planted in all of our heads like the best idea we’ve ever not had.”

“What idea?”

“A quartet, a quad, whatever the fuck we want to call it. The three of us and Juni. Forever.”

Beni and Adil both leaned together to look at Juniper.

Beni spoke first, “is this what you want?”

She shrugged wishing there were more alcohol in her system to answer the question as her bravery faded. “It’s so soon. It’s been a week or so since everything imploded but I do know I’m not ready to be pigeonholed into a relationship with one man ever again where I feel I need to limit myself in order to keep the peace. I want to explore all of who I am.”

“Then it’s a change for our plans,” Adil said quietly. “We were each intending to woo you for ourselves, to let you choose one of us. Now, we’re going to come at you like a team effort.” He looked at Phineas, “are you thinking what I’m thinking?”

“I think so. Beni?”

“If you’re both thinking of Operation Sandcastle, I’m in.”

“What is Operation Sandcastle?” Juniper asked seriously.

“That was when three sixteen-year-old boys asked their fathers each for startup money and were refused because one of our fathers said our plan was like building sandcastles on the beach. It looked pretty until the tide turned and wiped it all out.”

“We showed my dad.” Adil smirked. “Our sandcastle is still standing strong today.”

“What exactly are you talking about?”

“It was an idea we came up with in eleventh grade when we knew for our senior year project we’d need a business model. Three old men told us we couldn’t do it. We put our heads together and achieved the impossible; together. Sandcastle Resort.”

Her eyes widened as she thought of the exclusive resort where the rich and famous went to play in Niagara-On-The-Lake.

“We made the impossible happen by the time we were eighteen by securing all the investments and doing a lot of the heavy work ourselves. We renovated many of those rooms on our own. We put in blood, sweat, tears and equity and eventually paid back all our investors. It remains one of our best investments to date. You see Juniper, even as teenage boys there was nothing we couldn’t

accomplish together. If you want an experimental life of love and happiness, then we're going to give you the same dedication and drive we did back then." Beni said seriously.

"Except," Phineas grinned cockily, "we're not eighteen-year-old boys anymore Juniper. We're grown-thirty-five-year-old men and we are far better at team work now than we ever were."

Juniper's eyes were rounded as Beni pulled her backwards and Adil pulled the bedding back while Phineas shoved a pillow under her head and they did it as if they'd been practicing this move all their lives. True to his word, Phineas moved so his bicep was under her pillow and her head was against his chest. and his arm was around her waist. Adil was on the other side of him, and Beni was on the other side of her. Beni's hand was on her hip and Adil stretched his arm out across Phineas' chest to rest his hand on her shoulder.

"You've never done this before?" she asked quietly, unsure who would answer but unsurprised when they all offered their denials.

"Never.

"Not even once."

"No way."

"Then why now?" she asked curiously as Phineas' hand played with the hair at the base of her scalp, massaging her slowly. Her eyes were growing heavier. The warmth of the bodies surrounding her, the alcohol in her system and the way he was touching her, making her sleepy. Despite the novelty, this felt comfortable and exactly what she needed to unwind after the day she'd spent. The two confrontations with the cheaters felt like distant memories as she was cuddled up in their arms. 1)

"Because for the right woman, a man will do anything."

Chapter 54 – Justice For Juniper Novel Free Online by Tatienne Richard

Phineas' quiet declaration was punctuated by nods of agreement from the other two men.

"But how do you know I'm the right woman?"

The quiet question made the three men exchange glances and then Phineas spoke softly, tilting her chin so she was forced to look into his blue eyes.

"I know you are the right woman because I am the most decisive man I know. When I see something I want, I go for it. In this case, you were taken and for the first time in my life, ever, Juniper, what I wanted was not mine to go after. Now, I admit, this makes me seem like I'm simply a possessive fucker and I can be, but it was more than a denial of what I wanted. I felt, he inhaled sharply as if uncertain about what he was going to reveal, "a deep sadness I've not experienced before. It felt like I'd lost something incredibly special before I even got to experience all of it. The

worst sense of loss I cannot describe and all I experienced of you to date was a photograph and a couple video clips. You hit me here,” he tapped the chest next to her cheek, “hard and fast like a punch from a prize fighter. Meeting you in-person the first morning in my office, I was a total cock to you because it pissed me off you were defending Kyst like he was some kind of saint and not even giving me a second look. I wanted you to look at me and admit you felt the same zing of connection I was sure we were sharing. It pissed me off it was one-sided. I don’t know if you noticed but the minute I let you into the office I moved to my desk. The hardon I was sporting nearly lifted my desk three inches off the floor.”

Beni and Adil groaned at the comment.

“You were doing so good, man,” Beni sighed loudly. “Right up until the last words from your mouth,” he shook his head.

“Yeah but did you feel it?” he looked at Beni who was curled up behind Juniper. “Tell me you didn’t feel the little twitch of her body as she wriggled at the notion of my cock being hard for her. Tell me when she boldly looked at our cocks while we were standing in front of her getting her ready for bed, you didn’t see the way she licked her lips like she was dreaming of licking all three of us down to the rool.”

“Yeah but man,” Adil complained as he stroked Juniper’s shoulder, “you don’t need to make her uncomfortable.”

“Juniper, sweetheart,” Phineas questioned seriously, “does it make you uncomfortable when I mention my cock getting hard for you? Tell the truth.”

The command in his voice, the way it deepened into a gravelly tone made her bite her bottom lip and she shook her head.

“Words, Juniper.”

“No. It doesn’t make me uncomfortable, at least not in a bad way.”

“In what kind of way are you uncomfortable?”

“In the kind of way where I’m very aware of you as a man.” She shifted her hips awkwardly.

“Are your panties wet?”

“Phineas!” Beni hissed, “she’s still intoxicated. Don’t get her in a compromising situation.”

“I’m not drunk,” Phineas said smugly. “I’m not going to touch her more than her hair now we’re in bed. I simply want to know if when I speak frankly if it makes her uncomfortable in a bad or good way. Wet panties is good. Vagina clenching shut and drying up like the Sahara is bad.”

“It’s the former,” she admitted and then giggled nervously. She looked over her shoulder at Beni, “I trust you all to keep me safe and protected. I admit I’m feeling a bit like I’m a bad judge of character right now, but my heart tells me it’s not wrong in this. I feel safe and I can be myself with you, all of you, even with Phineas’ blunt talk and Adil’s jokes and your worries. I don’t need to

pretend. So yes, I'm turned on by the notion of the three of you being with me but I'm also very nervous and scared of being hurt again."

"We won't hurt you," Adil raised his hand from her shoulder to cup her cheek. "You are far too precious for us to ever hurt, baby girl."

"Do you mean it?"

"Absolutely."

"Can I ask for something then?"

"You can ask us for anything," Beni kissed the shoulder Adil released.

"Good. I want good night kisses from each of you."

"I don't know if it's a good idea," Beni said worriedly.

"I do," Adil said excitedly and rubbed his hands together. "Let me go first. Then I can watch Beni try to deny he wants to kiss you while Phineas dominates the fuck out of you."

"I won't dominate the fuck out of her," Phineas' grip tightened on her, "at least not tonight. I think we should set a timeline. Let's say between us, no intercourse until her divorce comes through."

"What?" she sat up in the bed, "why? I have needs!"

Three sets of varied colored eyes turned to look at her curiously.

She twisted the bedsheets in her fists as she realized what she blurted out, "he's going to fight it! We don't have a prenup or any fancy schmancy things you rich people do! I checked online. It could take a year. You want me to not have sex for a year?"

Beni laughed and brushed her hair off her flushed face, "sunshine, do you really think I'd let it drag on so long? There is no way in hell Phineas would not be riding my ass all the way to the courthouse to fight in front of a judge before he'd let that happen."

"I'm just saying," she let her voice trail off as Phineas pulled her back down to snuggle against him.

"We are aware of your needs, sweetheart," he chuckled, his chest rising and falling under her cheek as he did.

She let her hand reach out and touch his pees, "you have a good chest."

"Yes and before you start looking for all the other parts of me which are good," he snickered, "let's give you your goodnight kisses and then go to sleep. Tomorrow is a workday for three of us and it's already well after three. Let's get some rest."

She nodded and then gasped when Phineas rolled her, so she was on the other side of him, straight into Adil's arms. She looked at him wide-eyed as he grinned at her.

“Hi beautiful. You ready for your goodnight kiss?”

She nodded once and then his lips were on hers. Just like in the club, he started out gently, carefully, as if she were fragile and special. His lips swept over hers tenderly until the little moan at the back of her throat was caught and then he deepened the kiss. He was hungry and demanding as he pulled her closer to his body. She didn't need to look down to know his pants were likely tented. The way his fingers gripped her face told her all she needed to know.

“Holy fuck that's hot,” Beni's comment was barely audible.

Phineas' made her shiver.

“Imagine kissing her like that while one of us fucks her hard.”

Chapter 55 – Justice For Juniper Novel Free Online by Tatienna Richard

Adil broke the kiss and gave Phineas a glare, “always too far with you.”

“I was going to say imagine one of us fucking her ass and the other her pussy while the other kisses her like that, but I censored myself.”

“I don't know if you're actually capable of censoring,” she giggled as she turned to face Phineas.

“Kiss Phineas next because if you kiss him last, we're all going to be jerking off in this bed after you pass out,” Adil grunted, “and I don't know if I'm comfortable yet sleeping in crusty sheets.”

“Now whose going too far?” Phineas snorted. “Come here, beautiful, it's my turn.” He tugged her so she was laying astride him and his erection poked into her belly. “Ignore him. He's not in agreement with waiting until you are divorced. He can be controlled by the bigger head.”

“I don't know,” she looked downwards, “that one feels pretty big.”

“Beni's bigger than both of us.” Phineas smirked, “but Adil and I won't leave you wanting. I'm sure.”

“I'm absolutely sure,” Adil chuckled as he adjusted himself closer, “Kiss her Phineas. I like the little moon she makes. I'm hard as a fucking, rock right now,”

“Same,” Keni muttered half under his breath. When she shot him a sideways glance, Beni groaned, “oh fuck that naughty little smirky side eye is going to make me cum in my pants.”

Phineas pulled her so she was over him and he kissed her before she could respond to Beni. It was hot, hungry, and demanding. When she gasped at the ferocity of his kiss, she gasped and his tongue immediately took advantage, plundering her mouth hotly. Her fingers scraped his shoulders as she clung to him, and she whimpered and wriggled her lower half against his erection. He startled her with a slap to her backside.

“Behave, sweetheart, no grinding on my dick when we’re trying to unwind.”

“You’re the one kissing me like a starving maniac,” she snapped and then yelped when he smacked her again. “Ouch.”

“See that?” Adil asked Beni. “She wanted a second smack because she liked it, and she pushed him to it.”

“No, I didn’t.” en you didn’t do the little “No?” Beni asked with a grin. “So, then you didn’t do the little butt wiggle we both saw before you snapped back at him?”

She pouted, “are you going to kiss me goodnight Beni or am I on trial?”

“The only thing I’m trying tonight sunshine, are those lips,” he crooked his finger at her, “come here.” Beni pulled her off Phineas’ body and curled her in his arms next to her, “you’re beautiful.” He ran his knuckles over her cheek softly, “so damn beautiful. Your cheeks are flushed, and your lips look like you’ve been kissed, and you look so sweet begging for one more kiss before you go to sleep.”

If it mattered to him the other two were listening to every word of his, it wasn’t evident. What was evident was the care he put into the kiss as his mouth slid across hers, a perfect blend of Adil’s gentleness and Phineas’ hunger, his tongue tasting what his friends already did before him. When he finally broke the kiss she was panting in his arms and he rolled her sideways resting her cheek on Phineas’ chest and then curled up bentad her.

“Sleep now Juniper,” Phineas whispered.

She was realizing as her eyes fluttered closed, there wasn’t much in the form of commands from Phineas she could disobey.

Juniper woke feeling squished and her mattress lumpy and hard.

Somehow, through the night, she managed to get herself to lay completely on top of Phineas. It explained the hard and lumpy but the heavy was the surprise. Adil’s leg was thrown over her and Beni’s arms were wrapped around both her and Phineas. They were in some kind of pile-up, with Phineas being the bottom and the rest all wrapped around and on him.

Quiet mumbling made her squeeze her eyes shut. The alcohol was long gone from her system and embarrassment at some of the things she’d said and done the night before while her inhibitions were down now running rampant through her brain.

“We’ll need to sit down and really discuss ground rules.”

Beni’s voice, sleepy yet serious as he stretched his body closer around her atop Phineas.

“Mm,” Phineas grunted quietly. “I want rule number one for her to always sleep like this.”

“Did you pull her there?” Adil asked flexing his feet against her calf.

“Nope. She climbed me about half an hour after we all fell asleep. Crawled right on top of me, snuggled in, tucked her hands under her chin, and started snoring. Cutest fucking thing

I’ve ever seen.”

“I swear she’s half cat,” Adil agreed. “You know those little kittens who like to sleep next to a heartbeat. She simply curls up there all warm and content.”

“Yesterday was a hard day for her,” Phineas said quietly. “She did her therapy homework by forcing herself to go out alone. She then was confronted by Denise and then Kyst. She was seeking comfort and needed to be held. I’m glad we stayed.”

“Me too.” Beni said softly as he stroked her back gently. “I’ve never been one for physical altercations, but holy fuck did I ever want to beat the fuck out of Kyst last night. Did you hear his bullshit? You’re my wife,” he mocked Kyst’s voice. “Winy pathetic motherfucker. He didn’t seem to remember he had a wife when he was putting his dick in your wife, Phineas.”

“Don’t call her my wife,” Phineas sighed. “I hate her. I hated her a few weeks before the wedding and my grandfather insisted it was cold feet because I didn’t want to be tied down. The fucking wedding fiasco proved to me she was nuts. The stealing the morning after confirmed she was not anything like she ever portrayed to her parents and grandfather, especially her grandfather. The last year has been the most miserable of my life.” His lips pressed against the top of Juniper’s head. “I can’t believe I get to hold her in my arms after the hell of the last little while.”

“Not that I’m saying I want anything sexual with either of you,” Adil cleared his throat, “because the notion of fucking or being fucked by either of you makes me want to blow chunks but I like this.”

“This?”

“I feel she’s the thing which connects us and makes us the family the three of us always swore we were. Look how good the three of us fit together. It’s like one of those weird little puzzle boxes with all the pieces and parts which look like they belong together but without the one little key piece in the middle, it simply doesn’t stay together. Now, we fit. We fit together like we’re meant to be together. She’s the key holding our puzzle together.”

“What you’re saying Adil,” Beni’s voice took a teasing quality. “is you’ve always dreamed of sleeping wrapped around Phineas while I am wrapped around you?”

“Fuck off,” Adil laughed lowly. “We all know we’ve slept like this a million fucking times when our fathers would drag us camping. They used to laugh at us because we’d zip our sleeping bags together and then throw the extra one on top because it was far warmer. I swear they bought us the cheap ass bags and left us to freeze while they bought sub thermal ones for themselves, cheap fuckers.”

Beni laughed at Adil’s griping. “Remember the time we found out your father was shoving hot water bottles in his sleeping bag and refused to give us one?”

Adil grunted, “Adil, you need to toughen up. When you’re a grown man and can afford luxuries on your own, you can buy them.” His voice was edgy, “he still is a condescending prick. He is not going to understand our little quad.”

“No, he won’t,” Phineas said quietly. “My mother will. My father is going to call some bullshit though.”

“My parents will understand.” Beni’s hand was tracing little patterns on Juniper’s neck. “My mother was surprised when we sold our college apartment, and each bought our own places. She said she thought we’d be co-dependent forever.”

Chapter 56 – Justice For Juniper Novel Free Online by Tatiene Richard

“Let’s be real though,” Adil said seriously, “we’ve never gone a full week without crashing the three of us in one or the other’s apartments. My mother once told my father I’d never get married because I’m married to my best friends. I was pissed off at the time because she was alleging we were gay, and we’re not, not that I’m homophobic but it was her tone, you know? I was never good enough for them.”

“Because you were quieter,” Phineas said seriously. “They wanted an outgoing, loud child like they both are. Your father walks into a room and everyone notices because he brings the party. He’s the consummate networker and he loves the rush of making a dollar. He loves noise and crowds, and your mom is the same. They love you, Adil. They really do but they never understood you because while for us and anyone we know, you are the funniest and most fun guy in the room every single time, you do it in a way that’s not loud. Your father always reminds me of Jim Carrey in the Mask, when he wears the mask. It’s like a persona he puts on. You’re real and authentic.”

“Aw, he loves me, Beni. He really loves me.”

His words made Juniper’s lips twist against Phineas’ chest, and he immediately noticed.

“Good morning, sweetheart,” his chest rumbled under her cheek.

“Good morning,” she whispered back, keeping her eyes shut. “What time is it?”

“Nearly seven,” he answered. “We’re usually up and at the gym by now but this morning we’re being lazy and enjoying the cuddles.”

She felt warm lips against her forehead, and she opened her eyes to find Beni’s hazel ones looking straight at her.

“Good morning sunshine. How is your head?”

“I think I’ll know more when I get up. My mouth feels gross though.”

“Yeah. The bit of mouthwash you rinsed with when I pulled off to the side of the road is probably not doing much for you. The three of us realized as soon as you fell asleep we all completely forgot our bedtime routines in our excitement to get in with you.”

“Yup,” Adil adjusted his leg and inched closer, “I didn’t even wear my retainer to bed.”

Her head turned to look at him, “you wear a retainer?”

“I had braces twice, Juniper. It took two damn tries to get these teeth to not be all pointing in different directions. I own two retainers, and I keep one in my go bag and one at my condo. This smile cost nearly thirty grand according to my parents.”

“Did you have braces?” she asked Phineas.

“Nah. I came out of the womb perfect.”

Beni groaned, “he’s a lying sack of shit with his perfect. He didn’t need braces, but his glasses were magnifying lenses stuck in frames and his back-acne was so bad in middle school he refused to take off his t-shirt. He was also fat in elementary school.”

She lifted her head up to look at Phineas. “You were fat?”

“No. I was chunky. My grandma liked to show her love with cookies.”

“He would eat the whole damn tin on his own in one sitting,” Beni laughed.

“But you said you were skinny nerds!” she glared at him.

“Once puberty hit, I gained six full inches in height one summer. We rode bikes every day and we hiked and camped the entire summer. I grew the little peach fuzz moustache and thought I was very sexy.”

“You did get skinny that summer. You were still blind, and it was when the back-ne hit.”

“I kind of want to see photos of you as kids.”

“We can do that,” Beni laughed. “My mother loves to scrapbook. She made us each a scrapbook when we graduated high school. Mine is in my condo. Maybe tonight the four of us could have dinner together and I’ll bring the book over.”

“I’d like that.” She smiled suddenly, “this feels nice.”

“I agree, it does feel nice,” Phineas nodded. “You didn’t ask if Beni had braces.”

“Did you?”

“Yes but only once, unlike Adil. I had braces, glasses which I still wear and for all of high school,” he grinned at her. “! Had a goatee.”

“You did not.” She cupped her hand over her mouth to stifle the giggle. “Really?”

“Yeah. Phineas can grow a full beard in a week. Adil can barely get a moustache started. I’m right in the middle.”

“I like how the three of you have known each other forever but I’m worried I’m going to be the odd one out.”

“We will never let that happen, Juniper,” Phineas said seriously. “We might have tons of old stories to tell but you are going to be what helps us break out of our habits and develop wonderful new and exotic memories.”

“I’ve never even been on a date with one guy other than Kyst and tonight the three of you want to have dinner?”

“Yes. We will share more about who we are and what we are like.”

“You don’t have to do this,” she blurted out. “I know it was Suki who put this idea in all of our heads, and I don’t want anyone to feel pressured.”

“Actually,” Beni gave a laugh, “if any of us stepped back from our feelings for more than thirty seconds, we all would have seen right away this is exactly what we should have come up with on our own the minute you fell apart in Phineas’ office. He is the one who scooped you up off the floor but all three of us wanted to be wrapped around you, Juniper. From the hop, it’s been all of us working together to find a way to make you smile again. It started as a let the best man win but we should have known, we do our best work, when we work together. We are going to spend a lifetime making you forget everything you’ve been through. All of this shit with Kyst and Denise will someday be nothing more than a footnote in our origin story. Us, we’ll still be going strong while they are nothing but fleeting memories.”

“How do you know?”

“Because I know the three of us,” Beni said simply. “When we were five, we made a pact to be best friends forever. There is no breaking us apart. There isn’t a fight we haven’t ever gotten into we didn’t solve. There isn’t a problem we haven’t tackled together. We are a well-oiled machine, and we always have been. This feels like an extension of what we are meant to be. It simply took the right woman, to walk into our lives to make us realize it, Juniper.” cog

“And you,” Adil tapped her nose playfully, “are the which makes this machine turn the way it is supposed to. Now,” he yanked her off Phineas who protested the sudden absence of her warmth, “it’s time to start the day. I have a surprise coming for you and we need to get up!”

“A surprise?” She looked around the room and the other two men gave shrugs. She looked back to Adil, who put her on her feet.

Chapter 57 – Justice For Juniper Novel Free Online by Tatienna Richard

“You can have first crack at the bathroom, baby girl and then the three of us will crash it. You better get moving.”

“The three of you will use the bathroom together?”

“Eventually,” Adil smirked, “four of us will share the bathroom together. I’m really looking forward to shared showers.”

Those words chased her all the way behind the closed bathroom door.

Juniper entered the kitchen nervously and found Suki standing next to the coffee maker looking pale and in pain.

“Are you okay?”

“My head hurts so bad.” Suki whimpered.

“What happened?”

“I haven’t partied like we did last night in a long time,” she muttered. “Dumbass from England was always wanting me to have a drink with him on our video calls and you and your ex-dumbass were trying for a baby. I wasn’t going out. I’m paying for it today. I need coffee, something greasy and for the thousand-piece orchestra playing in my head to piss off.” Sae shot Juniper a sideways glance, “you don’t look too rough.”

“I puked and expelled the poison last night.”

“Oh my god, I forgot you puked!” Suki exclaimed excitedly and then grabbed the side of her head. “All over Adil and Beni’s back seat.”

“I will never forget it as long as I live.” She moved closer to Suki, “Phineas put me in the shower and cleaned me up.”

“Naked?”

“I was naked. He was in his briefs.”

“Did he look good?”

“He looks really good. They all look good. They all slept cuddled up with me and all bare chested. They have tattoos, Suki and muscles. So many muscles.”

“Do they have those v things?”

“They do,” she bit her bottom lip and then sighed, “they also slept in their pajama bottoms, but they weren’t contained under them if you know what I mean.”

“Oh!” Suki squealed forgetting she was in pain and bounced excitedly, “tell me you copped a feel? I know that Beni is packing. I saw that trunk trouser bouncing when he came around the car last night more than once. It’s down to here,” she smacked her knee.

“It’s not that long,” she slapped at Suki as she struggled not to laugh at her friend’s comment. “All three of them seem to be around the same size, I think. I did not feel anyone up though, I slept right on top of Phineas and there was definitely morning wood happening and I think,” she put one hand at her crotch and the other just below her belly button, “like he might rearrange organs if he goes too rough.”

“Are you thinking of letting him try?”

She nodded vigorously, “how can I not, Suki? Kyst cheated. He tried someone else and all I think about, constantly, twenty-four hours, seven days a week since it happened, is how I took my vows from the time we were teenagers and pledged to be each other’s only and obeyed them. Did he actually think I was never hit on or never had other opportunities? I’m not ugly, Suki.”

“You’re gorgeous,” she interjected.

“I know!” she slapped her hand on the counter, “I’ve had men hit on me. I’ve been propositioned. Hell, my college professor slipped me his number more than once! A guy who works in my building sent me flowers once even after I told him I was married. I got out of a speeding ticket once because the cop couldn’t stop staring at my boobs. I could have had so many dicks, Suki.”

“You definitely could have.”

“But I didn’t. I behaved because I took my vows seriously. One chick hits on him and he can’t control himself? I can’t help it, Suki.”

“What?”

“I don’t believe she was the first.”

Suki pulled her head back in surprise. “What?”

“She’s the first one caught. She might be the first one he brought to our apartment but,” she shook her head angrily, “you saw her yesterday, Suki. You saw what she looks like. She is nothing like me. Nothing. She is high-end and expensive looking.”

“For a whore.”

“Suki,” she shook her head at the comment from her friend who was pouring her coffee haphazardly into a mug.

“I’m just saying, she’s worthy of the insult. She fucked a married man. Whore.”

“It’s an insult to sex workers,” Juniper muttered as she reached for her own cup of coffee. “Regardless, I only mean, she’s everything he aspired to be, Suki. The whole reason he became a lawyer was for the money and the prestige. He’s always liked acting like he was fancy, Suki. Anniversaries and birthdays are always at expensive restaurants where he liked to pretend we

were wealthy. If I didn't keep us on a tight budget, strictly monitoring our income and our expenditures he would be living so far beyond his means it's ridiculous. She represented everything he ever wanted."

"Okay, but this doesn't mean he's cheated before."

"No, but if you think about it, remember the woman from Montreal he needed to go back and forth with because she was selling her condo here in Toronto worth ten million dollars and buying the one in Montreal? He was doing all kinds of research for her and going the extra mile. You joked about her being responsible for more of his billable hours in the month than the rest of his clients combined together

"Yes. I remember her."

"She looked a lot like Denise."

"Yeah but just because she looked like her doesn't mean she slept with your husband.

"It's true. She might not have but she may have and if that's the case, why am I hesitating to move on with my life when he didn't value what we had?" She twisted her lips. I'm not wasting another day staying loyal to a man who didn't deserve it. He got to explore his other sides and indulge in all the things he ever fantasized about. I'm going to do the same."

"I want you to test the waters of your sexuality, Juni. I'm all for it, but don't do it out of revenge against Kyst. Do it for you."

Chapter 58 – Justice For Juniper Novel Free Online by Tatiene Richard

"I'm not doing it out revenge, Suki. Just because I spent my life committed to being with one man didn't mean I didn't have fantasies or thoughts or imagined other men. I simply didn't act on those thoughts. Now. I have three very hot men who want to be in a relationship with me. Why the fuck should I hold back simply because a week ago I was committed."

"Ooh, I like where this conversation is going." responsible for more of his billable hours in the month than the rest of his clients combined together."

"Yes. I remember her."

"She looked a lot like Denise."

"Yeah but just because she looked like her doesn't mean she slept with your husband."

"It's true. She might not have but she may have and if that's the case, why am I hesitating to move on with my life when he didn't value what we had?" She twisted her lips, "I'm not wasting another day staying loyal to a man who didn't deserve it. He got to explore his other sides and indulge in all the things he ever fantasized about. I'm going to do the same."

“I want you to test the waters of your sexuality, Juni. I’m all for it, but don’t do it out of revenge against Kyst. Do it for you.”

“I’m not doing it out revenge, Suki. Just because I spent my life committed to being with one man didn’t mean I didn’t have fantasies or thoughts or imagined other men. I simply didn’t act on those thoughts. Now. I have three very hot men who want to be in a relationship with me. Why the fuck should I hold back simply because a week ago I was committed.”

“Ooh, I like where this conversation is going.”

The comment from the space between the hallway to the bedrooms and the kitchen made the two women swing their eyes to the man lounging in the doorway.

“Oh, Juni,” Suki sputtered at Adil, “you slept next to that all night and didn’t grope it even once?” her eyes were trained on his waist.

Adil put his hands over his crotch, “Suki! Behave.”

“If you don’t want a girl to look, don’t come out here swinging it around in loose fitting cotton pants!”

Juniper chuckled at Suki’s words and Adil held his hand out to Juniper.

“Come here and protect me from your pervy friend.”

“She’s not pervy, merely observant.” She didn’t hesitate though to move into his arms.

“I was listening to you for a minute. You think he cheated on you. before?”

“Maybe?”

“How much do you want to know?”

“Do you have proof of it happening already?”

“Nope. If you want it though, I can put my entire team on it to find out everything you want to know. If he has secrets, I can expose them. How deep do you want me to dig, Juniper?”

“I want you to dig until you come out the other side, Adil. I need to know for my peace of mind.”

“Okay. I’ll get it done,” he kissed her forehead and hugged her to his chest. “Phineas is taking the world’s coldest shower because I put some very filthy thoughts into his head about the three of us and Beni is rifling through your wardrobe because he wants to pick your clothing out for today. I am going to go meet my PA downstairs who is bringing me a change of clothes and your surprise. I think Phineas’ PA is supposed to show up sometime this morning as well with clothing for him so he can go to work from here.”

“You all have a PA?” she questioned quietly.

“Beni has an administrative assistant but both Phineas and I have both personal and administrative assistants because our lives are stupid busy. I am terrible for getting somewhere and realizing I forgot something, and I needed someone who would run my errands or pick up my dry cleaning or fix my schedules. Phineas runs so many businesses, some of it on our behalf, he needs someone for both his private and business matters.”

“Are they pretty?”

“Yup.” He lifted her up suddenly and forced her legs around his waist, “very pretty. I don’t hire ugly people. Pretty people get admitted into places casier than ugly people and if I need to get into a building, sometimes it’s easier to send a woman to get me in. I know he hurt you, but you’re going to need to trust us when we say we don’t shit where we eat, Juniper and we’re loyal to you. Only to you. Remember this.”

“I will.” She tried not to focus on the way his hands were squeezing her ass.

“You two are sexy as fuck,” Suki blurted out. “I want to be sexy with someone.”

“Yeah we are,” Adil grinned at her over Juniper’s shoulder, and he carried Juniper to the counter and set her down. “How are you at cooking breakfast?”

“You want me to cook breakfast?”

“Yes. I want you to cook food for me.”

“No, you don’t,” Suki snorted. “She can cook but it’s not great. Kyst did all the cooking for her.”

“And my mom did too. I make a mean peanut butter on toast.”

“Phineas!” Adil yelled loudly and both women pulled their heads back in surprise. “Juniper isn’t a good cook. You’re on breakfast duty.”

“Fine but you’re cleaning up!” he yelled back from the bedroom.

“Perfect.” He kissed Juniper’s mouth. “Now, I have to go meet Veronica.”

“You don’t have a shirt on.”

“I’m bringing her up to meet you,” Adil commented.

“I just woke up.” She looked down in horror at the pajamas she was still wearing.

“If you change those clothes I will get Phineas to spank your ass.” Adil warned her. “Drink some coffee and I’ll be right back with Veronica and your surprise. I’ll take your surprise home with me if you don’t behave.”

Chapter 59 – Justice For Juniper Novel Free Online by Tatiene Richard

“Fine.”

She was still pouting a few minutes later when Phineas and Beni came into the space, both pausing to place kisses on her mouth.

“I love this for you!” Suki exclaimed excitedly. “All the kisses for Juni.”

“Glad you like it, Suki but do you remember what you asked me before I tucked you in last night and you passed out?” Beni tugged her ponytail as he reached into the fridge and pulled out a carton of eggs and passed them to Phineas.

“No.” she frowned. “I don’t remember much after you making me change into my night gown while you kept your back turned. I slept in it backwards by the way.”

“Yeah, not my problem but you asked me to all Frank and set tonight. You have a date tonight at six. You

?? up dinner for told him to take you to his favorite restaurant, one he would cat at alone if he was hungry, so you could see who he really is and not who he pretends to be.”

“Oh shit,” Suki made wide eyes at Juniper, “now I remember why my head hurts so bad. I was making bad decisions before bed.”

Juniper giggled from her perch as Suki flung herself into a chair.

“I’m back,” Adil called out entering the space with a woman who was carrying a bunch of bags and Adil was carrying one little crate.

“What the fuck did you do?” Phineas questioned furiously. “Tell me you did not.”

“I did!” Adil grinned.

Her eyes were trained on Veronica who was stunningly beautiful, and they barely moved to look at Adil. “What?”

“Veronica, say hi to my girl Juniper.”

“Whatever you’re thinking, don’t. My mother and his mother are cousins.” She shoved Adil, “idiot. You could simply tell her we’re related. She just got cheated on. She needs reassurance not testing.”

“I like her,” Suki said with a grin. “What’s in the crate?”

A tiny meow came from the crate and Juniper slipped off the counter, her eyes watering as she realized what Adil had done.

“You bought her a cat?” Beni choked out.

“Suki, he brought me a cat.” Juniper wiped the tears off her cheeks as she knelt in front of the crate and stuck her fingers into the cage. She looked up at Adil and sniffed, “thank you. I love him.”

Phineas gave a wicked smirk, “as part of his gift, Adil promised you to ever to do the cat box for you every day. No need for touch litter in your life.”

As Adil groaned and everyone else laughed, Juniper decided this day was starting off to be the best one she’d ever had. Thinking of their date planned for later, she couldn’t wait to see how it ended.

Juniper was kneeled in front of the crate, and she slowly pulled it out and then looked at Adil in shock. “How did you know?”

Yesterday, your driver sent some photos to Phineas. I asked Veronica to go to the café and find out all the details about your favorite kitty. We arranged for you to have her.”

“She’s so pretty,” Juniper sniffed as she held the mewling kitten against her chin. “I love her so much.” A sob bubbled out of her chest. “I always wanted a kitten when I was a little girl.” She looked at Suki, “Suki, I have a kitten!”

“That’s the one I scared off about six times yesterday and she kept coming back to get on your lap.” Suki smiled at her. She shoved Adil playfully, “this is cule.”

“I’m good, right?”

“You won me over,” Suki smiled at him.

Phineas’ cell phone ringing interrupted the conversation, and he smiled, “it’s likely my PA bringing my suit from my condo.” He lifted his phone and shrugged, “or it’s my mom.” He answered the phone, “hey Mom. What’s up?”

“Where are you?”

“At Juniper’s condo. We took her dancing last night and she and

Suki got pretty drunk, so we stayed with her. Why?”

“Maeve and I are on our way to see Juniper. Juniper wasn’t answering Maeve’s call, but she’s been getting some very abusive calls from Kyst and his mother since late last night. Maeve is worried about Juniper.”

Phineas’ face set in a hard mask of rage, “I need you to say that again, Mom because I think I heard you say Maeve has been getting abusive calls from Kyst and his mother.”

“It’s exactly what I said. Maeve is really upset.”

“Juniper’s phone is likely still in her bag from last night and might be dead. I’ll meet you downstairs. Let me know when you’re close.”

“We’re about three minutes out.”

“I’ll head down now.” He paused as a text came through, “my PA Janice is arriving now too with a change of clothing for me. See you in a couple of minutes.” He ended the call and then moved to squat next to Juniper, “look at me.” He wiped a tear off her cheek, “it’s going to be okay, sweetheart. I can see the worry and the anger on your face, and I want you to trust us. We’re going to handle this.”

“I wasn’t ready to tell my mother or yours for that matter we all shared a bed last night.” She said quietly.

“Well, we’re not getting much of a choice, but this is the least of my concerns. Do you want to know a secret, Juniper?”

“What?”

“I’m the world’s biggest mama’s boy and Beni and Adil are very close seconds. Our mothers could watch us murder someone right in front of them and they would defend us to the death. I swear, there is nothing my mother or their mothers would hear from our lips which would make them so angry or upset with us they’d not find a way to support us.” He kissed her forehead, “and your mama is exactly the same.”

Chapter 60 – Justice For Juniper Novel Free Online by Tatiene Richard

“I guess,” she hugged the kitten tight and rose from her spot on the floor. She kissed Phineas’ cheek, “go get my mama please.”

“On it.” he stroked the furry ears of the kitten and then dropped a kiss to her lips before heading for the door.

Veronica shook her head, “you really are going to date all three of these assholes? I’d rather eat lead coated in arsenic. I hope Janice is bringing coffee because I didn’t have enough time to stop.”

“I made coffee,” Suki pointed to the pot.

“Girl, it’s not going to be strong enough. I need a triple espresso to deal with these fools.”

“You hate your job,” Suki said matter-of-factly.

“No. I love my job when I can do my job. When I am forced to watch the three of them act like animals or to clean up their messes, it’s not as much fun. This chaos this morning with getting up at four-thirty, kittens, kitty litter, all three of them not dressed and hungover, is not my cup of tea.

I need copious amounts of caffeine. Also, I babysat the kitten last night and I am running on roughly two hours of sleep because she climbed my curtains.” She looked at Juniper, “good luck.”

Adil was rifling through a bag, “add yourself a bonus for cat sitting last night. I don’t mind. Also, Phineas is making breakfast.”

Veronica flung herself into a chair, “thank God. The man can cook.”

“He’s going to make stuffed French toast.”

“Yes!” Veronica sighed happily.

“What is a stuffed French toast?” Suki asked curiously.

“He makes this eggy dipped bread thing that he fills with strawberries and cream cheese.” Veronica said with a smile, “he could create world peace with it.”

“It sounds delicious.”

“It is delicious. I’m no longer angry I’m here so early,” Veronica looked at Juniper, “are you okay? You look like you’re ready to stick your head in the oven.”

“Veronica,” Adil’s hiss of her name was a sharp rebuke.

“Look at her. She is pale, her hands are shaking, and she is squeezing that kitten like it’s a life raft.”

“Baby girl,” Adil moved to Juniper, “talk to me. What’s wrong?”

“Why is he calling my mother and being harassing?”

“I don’t know but we’ll handle it. All of us together.”

She moved into his arms, and he cuddled her, “I am quickly moving from the sadness and anger to hatred. I never wanted to hate him, even when I knew what he did but I really hate this motherfucker.”

“You and me both,” Maeve’s voice called into the space as she entered the room ahead of Sandra and her face was set angrily. “I hate him for hurting you, but his mother is going to get my fist right into her snooty face.”

“Mama,” Juniper looked at her mother in confusion. “What is going on?”

“It’s what I need to ask you.” Her mother looked around the room. “What did you all get up to last night?”

“Suki came home from Europe yesterday and we went out to blow off steam. The guys came with us.”

Her mother looked at the kitten in her arms, “and what is this?”

“This is the kitten Adil got me. Part of my therapy was to spend time all alone, so I went to cat café and Adil saw how much I loved it there and he went and got the kitten and adopted her for me.”

“I went and got it,” Veronica snorted. “He simply paid me to do it and paid for everything.”

“She is very pretty,” Maeve said quietly and moved to scratch the kitten’s soft fur. “Did you name her yet?”

“No. She only just arrived.” Juniper looked at her mother, “what did he do, Mama?”

“Kyst called his mother and said you were drunk and acting out. He sent me a message saying you were drunk and being taken advantage of and that three men were taking you away while you were drunk and he was concerned you were being coerced into something inappropriate.”

Sandra cleared her throat, “Maeve wasn’t too concerned but then he and his mother threatened to call the police to report you were

“Asshole!” Suki cut Sandra off. “Seriously. He was going to call the cops?”

“It’s what he said. I wanted to get here before the cops showed up.”

“Can I borrow your phone, Mama?”

Her mother passed her the phone and Juniper noted the nearly fifty calls from both Kyst and Lois and the innumerable text messages. She scrolled through the messages growing increasingly angry as Phineas, Adil and Beni reading over her shoulder. She could feel the tension from them. She finally finished reading and she pressed the call back button and waited for the call to connect and for Kyst to answer.

“Maeve, thank you for calling me back.”

“Fuck you, you lying sack of shit. How dare you scare my mother to death with lies?”

“Juniper. Honey.”

“Don’t you dare call me honey. This the last time you and I are going to speak directly. After this call, I will be calling your mother, and I will be telling her the same thing I’m going to tell you now. At this very moment I am sober and wide awake. I am not under the influence of alcohol or drugs like you alleged to my mother. I do not need a police intervention. Hear me well, you worm. I filed for a divorce from you. I will get my divorce from you. The fact I needed to get an STD panel of tests done because you cheated on me without wearing a condom is more than enough reason for me to divorce you. I hate you. I hate you with every fiber of my being.”

“You don’t mean that.”