



A YOUNG ADULT  
**URBAN**  
ROMANCE

**Tina Mag**



**I See You**

**A Belonging Series Novel**

# I SEE YOU

*Tina Mag*

© Copyright 2017 Tina Mag

This is an authorized free edition from [www.obooko.com](http://www.obooko.com)

Although you do not have to pay for this book, the author's intellectual property rights remain fully protected by international Copyright law. You are licensed to use this digital copy strictly for your personal enjoyment only. This edition must not be hosted or redistributed on other websites without the author's written permission nor offered for sale in any form. If you paid for this book, or to gain access to it, we suggest you demand an immediate refund and report the transaction to the author.

## **Table of Contents**

Dedications

Prologue

Chapter 1: Just get to the point already

Chapter 2: What are you wearing?

Chapter 3: Look who decided to show up

Chapter 4: Don't forget the 7 B's

Chapter 5: Please help me

Chapter 6: Are you busy at the moment?

Chapter 7: Where are you?

Chapter 8: How do you mean

Chapter 9: Are you ready to make history?

Chapter 10: I'm proud of you

Chapter 11: No way

Chapter 12: I'm sorry

Chapter 13: He's a Ward!?

Chapter 14: I promise

Chapter 15: Oh My Gosh

Chapter 16: Watch your tone

Chapter 17: Are you okay?

Chapter 18: Like what you see?

Chapter 19: Do you know what this means?

Chapter 20: I have a gift for you

Chapter 21: It's just a card.

Chapter 22: Are you guys a couple?

Chapter 23: I have a surprise for you

Chapter 24: I love you

Chapter 25: I'm here for the sermon

Chapter 26: Principal Fox's office

Chapter 27: Ladies

Chapter 28: Shh...Tell me everything

Chapter 29: What!?

Chapter 30: Xavier

Thank You

About the Author

Next in the Belonging Series

## **Dedications**

This book is dedicated to all my fans on wattpad. I hope that the words in this book will inspire you to go out there and simply be true to yourselves because there's more to you than meets the eye.

## Prologue

“Our deepest fear is not that we’re inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.

It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous? Actually, who are you not to be?

You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won’t feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do.

We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us.”

It is these soothing words of Mari Ashley Williamson that have always reminded me of the most important things in life, but all is fair in love and war, and those words became the very definition of my life when I met Xavier Ward.

Our relationship was never supposed to have been forever, but the many twists, and turns in our union opened my eyes to things that many thought taboo.

It is not the people we know who shape our lives, but the ones we don’t, the ones who are indirectly associated to us that have the greatest impact in our lives, and I learned this very fact through my journey of self discovery.

I realised through these events that there is more to life than just living, that true and honest happiness does exist, and that when we open ourselves up to others we unknowingly allow them to do the same.

I learned to love, and I learned to hate, but most importantly, I learned to forgive because without forgiveness there can never be healing.

I met my soul mate through this journey, and a pillar more solid than a rock. I used to be a sceptic, but I now know that God is everywhere, and is in everything.

That nothing can touch you when His favour falls on you and that when He says YES, no one can say no.

My name is Melissa Hue Albert, and this is my story.

## Chapter 1: Just get to the point already

“Did you hear?” My best friend Julissa shrieked as we made our way to our math class.

“Hear what?” I asked.

Don’t get me wrong, I don’t have a problem with Jules, and her constant gossiping trends, but it always hurt me to see her get too excited about things that hardly ever concerned us.

All it ever did was just remind us that we were still in the lower class of the popularity ladder at Hillbrow High, and it hurt.

“Maddox Frost” Jules whispered as we took our usual seats at the back of the classroom.

Let’s get this out in the open, not many things interested me at Hillbrow, but Maddox Frost was an exception.

Yes I had a tiny crush on him, and Jules knew all about it so you can only imagine how often she teased me about it.

“I’m listening” I wasn’t going to say anything, but it was Maddox Frost for crying out loud.

Jules giggled as she shook her head in my direction. She wanted to say a lot, but she didn’t have to because it was obvious that I was a goner, literally.

For those of you that didn’t know, Maddox Frost is the Captain of our School’s baseball team which meant that he was obviously well known for his physique, and handsome face.

“I accidentally bumped into him this morning, and you won’t believe what he told me?” She squealed.

“What?”

“He asked about you?” She whispered literally making my heart stop.

Joy washed over my face as I thought about Jules’ words. Maddox Frost had asked about me!

I had no idea that he even knew my name...This was the most incredible day of my life.

“No way” I exclaimed.

“Yes way, and that’s not even the best part yet.” Jules stated as I got even closer toward her.

“What!?” I all, but screamed before placing my hand over my mouth when I saw that everyone in class was looking over at me.

As if I wanted all that attention...

I was a master at blending-in, a pro when it came to camouflage, and I wanted to keep those standings high.

So let me break it down for you'll that don't already know. Julissa and I were considered nerds here at Hillbrow High since we both wore round dorky glasses, but that wasn't because we couldn't afford contacts...

We really liked wearing glasses and nothing screamed out vintage like a good old platted skirt which was another reason why our social standings weren't that great when it came to our High School.

Aside from the fact that we both liked everything in-between National Geographics, and TLC, Jules, and I were quite polar opposite, but people always begged to differ given that Jules and I looked nearly identical.

We were hippies at heart, and could never hurt anyone unless of course they pushed us to the very apex of our sanity.

It had never happened before, but High School was High School and kids were kids.

Every time I saw Jules, I just couldn't not help, but think of my father who had the exact same shade of light brown eyes that Jules had, and her soft raven locks.

I on the other hand had baby blue eyes and honey blond hair that was a pain to maintain...Literally.

The strangest thing about Jules and I was that we had exactly the same body size and height, and our skin complexions were pretty much the same...We were the closest thing to identical twins in Hillbrow, and it just fascinated us.

All in all, this was a sure sign form above that we were meant to be friends and besties we were.

"Class is about to start so you better spill the beans before I force them out of you" I groaned. I needed to know what Maddox had said and I needed to know now.

"Please, you know very well that you wouldn't be able to get a thing out of me even if you paid me"

"Jules" I begged.

"Fine...He invited us to his party tonight" She whispered making me gasp.

Tiny little red hearts were running in and out of my head as Mr Gilbert entered the classroom and started the lesson.

Not only was this my first invitation to a party at Hillbrow, but Maddox was the one who had invited me.

"Yes!" I shouted. I didn't even realise that I had stood up until all my classmates started laughing at me.

I pushed my glasses up, and took a seat making sure to avoid any and all eye contact with a very surprised Mr. Gilbert who looked like he wanted to send me to the principal's office.

Not even that accident was enough to kill my vibe. Today was my day, and I was going to own it.

I was finally going to get recognised by the guy of my dreams...This was simply utopia.

## **Chapter 2: What are you wearing?**

Finally, things were looking up for me at Hillbrow High. I wasn't the most popular girl at school, but I was finally starting to get noticed.

"I hope you're not over thinking things again." Jules warned as she fixed her hair.

There were only a couple of more minutes on the clock before we could finally get our party on, and I could not wait.

"I would never do such. I'm just excited, that's all" I was lying and Jules knew it, but she didn't say anything and I was grateful for it.

It was still hard to believe that Maddox and I would finally meet today so you can only imagine how overwhelmed I was when I thought about finally being able to touch him, even if it was his hand.

I was going to make history tonight and every one at Hillbrow High would never mess with me again!

I could not help, but smirk, tonight was going to be great.

"Stop smiling, and finish curling your hair." Jules warned.

She wanted me to forget all about Maddox, but I didn't, I just thought about him all the more.

"Would you stop smiling like that, did you forget to take your pills again?" She asked making me blush.

Not one of my happiest moments, I'll admit, but that didn't give Jules the right to tease me like that since my condition was serious.

"I did not forget to take them, and don't ever mention it again." I groaned.

Goodness the nerve of that girl!

"What are you wearing?" She asked as I applied my favourite pink pucker lip stick.

"My favourite attire of course."

It was the usual white, long sleeved shirt with a high-waist plat skirt, nothing too flashy or boring, but her eyes spoke volumes as I took off my robe to show her my master piece.

"Now that's the very definition of boring! Who wears plat to a house party? It's not the 80s, wear something revealing." Jules hollered as she shook her head.

Not only was she mean, but she was bossy to, why were we friends again?

Don't get me wrong, I loved Jules, but she could sometimes be a pain and I always tried to ignore her silly comments, but sometimes they got to me, and today was one of those days.

She wore flats all the time so of course I didn't see a problem with me wearing it to a party?

"I'm not changing. This is me and I'm proud of that fact." I stated.

I could see that she wanted to say a thing or two, but she kept quiet and I was grateful.

We were going to make history tonight at Maddox's party and in order for that to happen, Jules and I needed to be a team.

A smile crossed my face when I saw what Jules was wearing.

A navy pencil skirt and a white, long sleeved crop top.

"You look lovely." And she did.

I wasn't too crazy about the 6 inch heels she was wearing, but that was her thing and I wasn't going to take it away from her.

"Are you sure about those?" The concerned laced in her voice as she pointed at my pumps had me laughing as I wore my jewellery.

"I should be asking you that. These shoes are light and comfy and they won't be an obstacle if I end up having to run. You should think about that"

Jules ignore my comment while I grabbed my clutch bag and made my way to the kitchen.

It was a good thing that my parents were out on a date night or else they'd be asking me question after question and I did not have any answers.

Food was the only thing on my mind as I opened the fridge and poured myself a glass of orange juice.

I had no idea whether food was offered at parties or not since I'd never been to one so I had to be prepared for anything.

I took out a few muffins and ate my fill.

Jules was taking longer than expected to fix herself up, but with her you never knew. She was a Jaguar with the skin of a Leopard.

"I just realised that I didn't bring my bag, I'll be right back." She muttered as she entered the kitchen.

It was a good thing that Jules and I were neighbours or else she would have taken a whole year and then some to come back considering the size of her heels.

I didn't like taking photos, but my outfit had me taking out my phone and taking a few snaps before I pulled on my glasses and followed Jules outside to get inside our cab.

We arrived at the house party around 9 PM.

My palms were sweating, but I ignored that fact since I was officially going to meet Maddox tonight.

“You look like you’re about to have an anxiety attack, relax.” Jules whispered as the front door opened.

A guy I recognized to be Luke Westford smirk at Jules and I before he allowed us to enter the crowded compound.

The smell of alcohol and sweat assaulted my sensitive nose as Jules and I squeezed our way through the many pupils who were dancing in the lounge room.

It took me a few seconds to notice that Jules and Luke were still looking at each other.

When did Jules start noticing guys!?

I had to pinch her twice before she realised that staring at Luke had stopped her dead in her tracks, literally.

“What?” She shrieked.

“Jules we’re literally stuck between a rock and a hard place, keep walking.” I shouted.

The music was loud and by the time we got to the kitchen, I was pretty sure that I had lost a kilo or two.

Clearly I had been thinking about other things when I had associated fun with a house party.

The music was way too loud, the people were drunk...I was just surprised that the cops hadn’t arrived yet.

I thought that I had mastered the art of camouflage, but the snickering started not a minute longer after I pulled my hair up.

Jules had left me all alone to talk to Luke which left me open to all outside attacks and attacked I was.

Apparently my hot outfit wasn’t so hot and plat was as outdated as I was.

I wanted to run at that moment, but ended up bumping into someone.

“Ma...Maddox” I studded as I looked into his brown eyes.

“Do I know you?” His remark was rude, but I ignored that fact.

This was my chance and I was going to take it. I had waited 4 long years for this moment and nothing was going to mess it up.

“I’m Melissa, we have Maths an English together.”

I watched as he bit his lower lip before he started laughing like he had heard the joke of the year.

“You came?” The amount of alcohol that reeked from him had me taking a step back as I looked up at him.

“You asked me to come so I came.”

“Wow you’re even more naive then I thought.” He stated before he roughly took me by the hand and starting shouting for someone named Alex.

“What’s going on here?” I shouted.

Either I was hearing things or everything that I had perceived regarding this matter was totally off.

“You don’t know dolly? Alex and I made a bet that you’d pitch up if I invited you here. I heard that you had a crush on me, but I never thought that it was real.” Maddox stated before he started laughing again.

It was just then that I realised that the music was off, and that everyone had heard him.

“I’m glad that you like what you see, but come on dolly you and I aren’t compatible. I’m the beauty and you’re the beast.” He stated before the whole room was engulfed in laughter.

Tears fell down my face as Maddox’s words sunk in.

How could he be so mean? No one had ever said anything like that to me and to think that I actually had a crush on him...

“Hey, Hey Alex, pay up. Your girl came.” He slurred as I took off my glasses and ran for the door.

I didn’t even realise that there was a fight going on until I heard yelling getting louder and louder as I neared the exit.

“I can’t believe that you did this to me. How could you Candice” I heard a deep voice mutter.

“Xavier please, I’m sorry.” Candice begged.

“It’s over.” Xavier stated.

It wasn’t surprising that the ‘it’ couple of Hillbrow High was no more.

Candice Sweeny was the sort of female who valued money and status, nothing more.

Xavier Ward unfortunately had those traits and fell hard for the self professed, *Ms Perfect*.

I opened the door and nearly fell on the porch, but a pair of strong arms caught me just in time.

“I’m sorry.” Xavier stated before he took his arms off me and left the premises.

Jules showed up and engulfed me in a much needed hug as I cried on her shoulder.

I don’t even remember how we got home that night, but I was grateful that I had Jules’ support.

### Chapter 3: Look who decided to show up

I was a loser. No one dared to say it to my face, but it was obvious, and there was simply no hiding that fact as I walked through the crowded halls of Hillbrow High the following morning.

Not only had they **not** forgotten about the incident, but it was all over the school's webpage.

Had it not been for the fact that they weren't allowed to post any photos then I most certainly would have been in trouble.

It was Friday, my favourite day of the week, but today felt like a Monday, the kind that had cold weather, bad hair and traffic in the mix.

Everyone was whispering and snickering about the incident and it hurt.

Even students who were way, way lower in social standing than Jules and I were laughing as I quickly made my way to class.

And if things weren't already bad enough, everyone was already seated when I got to class including Maddox who normally entered the classroom a few minutes late was seated.

"Dolly come on, you can be my sidekick" Maddox's remark had everyone laughing as I simply ignored them all and took my seat at the back of the class.

Why did my day have to start out with this class?

Wasn't it enough that I was the subject of every topic at school?

"Let's quiet down now. There's just over two months left before your final exams and some of you are not studying. I've decided that we're going to do another oral presentation." Ms Baker stated making everyone sigh.

"You'll should be thanking me for this. Most of you can't even write a single sentence without making a mistake and you're in Grade 12 for crying out loud! I'm going to pair you up into teams of two and you had better get distinctions for this or else you're going to repeat this very same class again!"

Her words had everyone alert. No one wanted to repeat the entire grade because they had failed English so everyone started looking around for someone to partner with.

"I meant what I said, I'm the one who's going to assign partners today."

Everyone groaned at the thought of being paired up with someone they didn't like.

As if things couldn't get worse, Xavier walked into the classroom wearing the same clothes that he had worn the previous day.

His hair was a mess and he had bags, the size of snails under his eyes as he made his way towards his seat which was unfortunately beside mine.

I could not help, but feel sorry for him as it was very obvious that breaking up with his girlfriend of two years had a monumental impact in his life.

Not only did he look like he hadn't taken a shower, but the guy reeked of whisky, the kind that only someone of his pedigree could afford.

It was hard to believe that a guy like Xavier could be deceived by a girl like Candice given that Xavier was the most popular guy at school and he could have any girl he wanted.

He was not only the son of a billionaire, but he was the most wanted bachelor in Hillbrow right after his brother.

"As I was saying, you're going to have to do research on dictators. Adolf Hitler is off limits so don't even think about presenting on him."

Everyone sighed; including me as Adolf was the obvious pick which meant easy marks. Goodness Ms. B was giving me a headache on top of my heartache!

"The pairs are as follows; Kimberly and Jason, Julissa and Luke, Mark and Don, Alex and Lilly, Maddox and Teresa, Tanner and Ryan, Shaun and Rachael and last, but not least we have Melissa and Xavier.

I could not believe my luck as I looked over to my partner. Xavier didn't even look like he had heard anything...Why me?

The bell rang and everyone rushed out including Jules who looked very cosy with Luke Westford.

I on the other hand made my way to Ms Baker. I had no idea why she had paired me up with a guy who just so happened to look like he was on steroids.

"Ma'am please excuse my bluntness, but why did you pair me up with Xavier?"

I was an A student so getting paired up with someone who I knew would never do the work was just simply a pain.

"You and Xavier are a good match. He needs help and you're one of the top students here so you can help him. I know that you wanted to be paired up with Jules, but the two of you are my top students and it wouldn't be fair to the others if I paired the two of you together."

I nodded my head in understanding and played it cool as I went to my next class, but deep inside I was fuming.

I wanted to scream, I wanted the war in Syria to stop and I wanted to be noticed.

I wanted people here to look at me with respect and I wanted Candice Sweeny and Maddox Frost to be at the very bottom of the social ladder here at school.

I understood Ms. Bakers point, but that didn't mean that I accepted it.

By lunch time, I was still the hot topic on everyone's lips.

I wanted to curl up into a ball and die, but of course I didn't. Jules tried to cheer me up, but every time I thought about Maddox, I wanted nothing more than to cry in my father's lap.

How could someone so handsome be so cruel? It was as if his beauty had gotten to his head.

“This will pass, I promise you.” Jules simply did not understand what had happened to me.

It wasn't going to pass, not with all the drama that was going on with Xavier and Candice.

By the time I got home, I was mentally exhausted and wanted nothing more to do with school, but I needed to do research for my English presentation and the very thought of my assigned partner had me going back to the kitchen to grab a much needed glass of juice.

“You look like you're carrying the weight of the world on your shoulders.” My father Joshua muttered making me sigh.

It was days like these that clearly darken his normally light brown eyes that were an exact replica of Jules. They looked very much alike and the fact that my father was mixed race had nothing to do with.

“I've committed social suicide and I don't even know if I'll ever be able to recover from this.” I was not exaggerating, just simply telling it like it was.

“You're my daughter Mel, there's nothing like social suicide when it comes to our kind. I'm sure you'll recover.” He stated before he gave me a kiss on the head and left me all alone in the kitchen to sulk away.

Yes we had money, but what was the use of having it if people always viewed me as a pauper?

The fact that I had to ensure that I stood out of the papers, least anyone found out the truth about me also did not help my social ranking.

I was tired of living a double life, but it was either that or risk facing the possibility of being scrutinized for the rest of my life for being rich.

I wanted a normal life. I wanted to open a Facebook account and get tagged in photos like normal people, but no.

*It's just too dangerous.* Those were my father's favourite words and I didn't approve of them.

“Don't let this get to you. Very soon things are going to change and everyone will love you, just like I love you.” My mother Lilly whispered as she engulfed me in a hug.

I cried my heart out as I listened to her soothing words, but I was still a loser and nothing could change that.

“How about we make some blueberry, and choc chip cookies?”

I nodded my head in agreement and that's how we spent the next couple of hours.

I still hadn't forgotten that I was a loser, but I was comforted knowing that I had my parents' and Jules' support.

## Chapter 4: Don't forget the 7 B's

I woke up with a smile on my face. It was Saturday, my new favourite day of the week.

There was no school today which meant that there would be no stress either.

I went to my adjoining bathroom and got ready for the day.

Jules and I were going to spend our morning doing some much needed shopping and then we would grab a bite at Urasawa as per our usual routine.

I was excited and could not wait to finally forget all about Maddox, at least for the weekend.

My cousin Cara was also coming over in the next coming two weeks so everything was just going to be great.

A knock at the door had me wrapping a towel around myself as I stepped outside the shower.

No one in my family knocked so this was weird.

I was surprised when I saw Jules the minute I opened the door.

“Are you high?” No one could fault me for asking because Jules never knocked.

“Honey please, I'm just here to ensure that you wear something classy.” She commented as she made her way to my wardrobe.

Not only was she bossy, but she was a pompous behind as well.

“Are you and Luke dating?” I was Jules' best friend which meant that I had a right to know.

“No we're not and I don't have to date someone in order to have a reason to wear good clothes.”

We both knew that she was lying, and the fact that she was blushing spoke volumes.

Either they were dating or they were getting too close to the whole dating game and I didn't approve.

“Don't forget the 7 B's.” I stated.

“Books before boys because boys bring babies, see. I remember.” She stated as she rolled her eyes at me.

“You look nice by the way.” And she did in a classy strapless white dress that ended just above her knees.

“Thank you, it's good to know that you have an eye for beautiful things.”

I shook my head at her before I looked at the dress that she had chosen for me.

“You're not serious are you?” She had chosen an exact replica of her dress in a solid deep red.

“I'm very serious.”

“I know that we look alike and all, but to wear the same clothes!? We’re way past 5.” I stated. Not only were we going to turn eighteen soon, but the thought of dressing the same had me biting my lower lip.

She took something out of her purse before she made her way towards me.

“Who said you could take off your towel.” she shrieked as I pulled it off me.

“I don’t want to see your white B-U-T-T!” She groaned as she handed me a tiny pink box.

“It’s nothing you haven’t seen before.”

Jules and I had grown up bathing together so I had no idea why she was exaggerating like this.

“Go and get dressed before I scream.” She stated before she sat by my bed and started applying some lip gloss.

Goodness the nerve of that girl!

I opened the box that she had given me and laughed when I saw what was inside. Only Jules could be this childish.

I got dressed before I went back to my bedroom.

“Contact lenses?”

“You need to forget about Maddox and the only way in which that is going to happen is if you change your look and find a man.” She stated, like her word was law.

“Does this mean that I need to apply makeup too?” I asked since I hated makeup and Jules knew it too.

“I know that you’re going to argue with me, but girl you need to wear heels. Today is the perfect day to start practising.” She added as she pulled out a pair of gold, studded 6 inch heels.

“Jules you know that I can’t.”

“Yes you can” She interrupted.

“It’s just like wearing flats, but on a higher level.” She said as she helped me wear the heels.

I had no idea why we had to dress so fancy to go shopping, but Jules was Jules and nothing ever got in her way.

“Wow, now this is what I’m talking about.” She whistled as I looked at myself in the vanity mirror.

“You can definitely say that again. I look cheaper than a two dollar hooker!” I exclaimed and I did.

The dress was too tight and my chest was out on display for everyone to see.

“Mel you and I both know that those boobs can hook any guy in. You can wear a blazer over that dress since you’re so self conscious, but I won’t allow you to change.”

I was angry, but I wasn't going to fight Jules over a dress and she was definitely right about my boobs, it was about time they started working for me.

"You're right, it's high time these babies started doing their job." I murmured as I pointed at my chest.

"Good, now let's get out of there and go and have some fun." She stated as she grabbed her bag.

I took my clutch and followed after her.

Guys were staring at us as Jules and I walked from store to store, and we made sure to soak up all the attention faster than SpongeBob ever could.

None of them would have ever believed that we were nerds and that was the beauty of it all.

Life was way too short for labels and regrets and Jules and I made sure to enjoy all the attention.

We shopped and shopped and shopped, and when my feet finally started aching and my hands were sore, we shopped some more.

By the time we got to Urasawa, I was exhausted! Jules took the liberty of ordering us some Beef tartar with Russian caviar, and I was thankful.

As quickly as the plates came, they were just as quickly returned, empty of course since this was our favourite restaurant and we always made sure to leave a good impression.

I was surprised when she ordered sesame ice cream with 24 kt gold paired with matcha green tea for dessert since Jules never had the neck for ice cream, but my BFF was always full of surprises.

"I don't want you to panic or anything, but Xavier is here." Jules whispered.

I turned and indeed Xavier was there, with his father Roberto Ward.

I might not have been paying attention to him at school, but everyone knew who Xavier Ward was and the fact that he was a millionaire at 18 didn't go unnoticed by all the females in Hillbrow.

I don't know what it was, but it felt like he could almost feel my eyes on him as he turned and made eye contact with me.

I obviously looked away as quickly as I could since staring was so not hot.

Thank goodness he was clean and the bags that had swallowed his eyes the previous day were nearly gone.

I wasn't that into fashion, but cleanliness was next to godliness.

"Why are you blushing? I thought that he wasn't your cup of tea." Jules teased as I ate my ice cream.

"He caught me staring, I obviously had to look away." And look away I did. I wasn't going to give the guy a chance at making fun of me.

"Honey I don't know what is wrong with you. That guy is sexy; he has sex written all over him."

“Jules!” I scolded as I looked over to see if anyone had heard her.

“Every time I look at him I just think about doing it with someone I mean look at him, look at that body.” She stated.

I took another look at Xavier and I could understand what Jules was saying. Xavier did have a very handsome face and his body was attractive if you were into that whole body building kind, but he still wasn’t my cup of tea.

“If you still think I’m crazy then look around this place.”

I took a look and I was utterly surprised to find that all the females, whether in their 50s or 20s, were all looking at him like a meal.

“Thank goodness I’m not brainwashed. The last thing I want is to be attracted to a guy who’s on steroids.” I stated as I looked up at a gaping Jules.

“What’s wrong?” I had no idea why she was suddenly so quiet.

"Good afternoon ladies." Xavier greeted.

I knew instantly that it was him because there was no guy in Hillbrow with that raspy, deep voice of his. It commanded attention and Jules and I did not hesitate to give it to him.

"Hi" we greeted in unison.

Goodness, all I could do was hope that he hadn’t heard my last statement because there was no telling what would happen if he had.

"I'm sorry to interrupt your lunch, but Melissa can I talk to you in private?" Xavier asked making me gape.

I knew then and there that he had heard me. Oh goodness, what had I gotten myself into!?

## **Chapter 5: Please help me**

"Mel" Xavier stated making me look up at him.

No one outside my family ever called me Mel so I obviously taken aback when I heard Xavier calling me in that raspy voice of his.

"Yes?" I asked as I swallowed the lump in my throat.

"Take a walk with me"

I had no idea whether to scream or run...Was he being for real?

I looked over at Jules for some assistance, but the fact that she was blushing told me that she wasn’t going to be of any help to me.

"It's okay Mel you can go" Jules muttered making me gape.

I threw her a death glare before I stood from my seat and nearly fell, but Xavier caught me yet again, in his strong arms.

I was angry of course that I wasn't used to these heels, but Jules could be very persuasive at times and her antics had really gotten me into trouble now.

Xavier and I made our way to the front door of the restaurant. I wanted to run more than anything, but I knew very well that Jules would kill me if I did.

"You might not have expected this, but I need you Melissa, I need your help" He muttered.

Never in my entire life have I ever heard of a guy of such an impeccable lineage as Xavier's ask for help.

Something fishy was definitely going on here and I didn't like it.

"I'm listening" I replied as we walked down the street.

Thankfully I was wearing these killer heels or else I would not have been able to look Xavier in the eye.

The guy must have been at least 6 foot 6, I didn't have the slightest clue as to whom he took after, but it definitely wasn't his father.

"I can't continue going on like this Mel. I'm so close to reaching my breaking point that it has my father wanting me to see a therapist."

I personally did not believe that it was a bad idea, but I most certainly wasn't going to tell a guy who was twice my size anything of that sort least he hurt me.

I nodded my head in understanding, and motioned for him to continue.

"Candice has been cheating on me for the past five months...with my older brother." He whispered.

If it wasn't for my exceptional hearing then I would have missed his last statement.

I had no idea why it had taken him so long to find out; I mean seriously, the entire community knew about the affair. How could he have not seen it?

"When I heard about what Alex and Maddox did to you I thought that maybe you and I could be partners in crime and get our well deserved revenge." He muttered gently gripping my hand to stop me.

"You mean like...murder?" I asked, looking around to see if someone was watching.

His deep, loud laugh shuttled me.

I wasn't expecting to hear him laugh so I was shocked to hear that he could actually laugh.

"Did I say something wrong?" I asked.

"No... You're just so..."

"So what?" I asked.

"Maybe I'll tell you some other time."

I nodded my head in acknowledgement before I looked up at him.

His light grey-blue eyes were twinkling with mystery, and something that had me biting my lower lip as he ran his hand through his light blonde curls.

He was dangerous, and I could feel it, but I had to hear him out before I disappeared.

"I need you to be my girlfriend." He stated making me gape.

"Excuse me?" I inquired not sure if I had heard him correctly.

"I need you to be my girlfriend...only for a while" he repeated.

"Why?" There were so many girls that he could have asked, Jules was one of those girls and I knew that she would gladly say yes.

"I need my revenge Mel and you're the only girl that can help me pull it off. I've researched everyone; you're the only one who can pull this off."

I don't know if it was the weather, Xavier or just my reflex action finally kicking into place, but I took my change and ran.

Xavier pulled me into his hard chest before I could even take the second step and warped his arms around my waist.

"I'm not letting you run away from me...I need you too much" He whispered as I struggled to get lose from his death grip.

"Let me go or else I'll scream"

"Mel we both know that you won't do that" He stated.

I tried pulling his large arms away from my waist, but Xavier pushed me even closer to him.

"I'm going to kiss you if you don't stop struggling"

His words had me going limp in his arms as I looked up at him.

"I hate you" I stated as he smirked at me.

My heart my beating faster than a drum and the adrenalin rushing through my blood was intoxicating.

Xavier shocked me when he gently placed me back on the ground and stared at me.

"Mel I need you. I know that I'm not exactly your type, hack I'm nobodies type, but I need you...please help me."

Even I knew that a guy like Xavier never begged and the fact that he was here with me, begging for my help was enough to wound his ego for a lifetime.

"Can I at least think about it?" I asked.

I wanted to say no out right, but I just could not bring myself to tell him face to face, what if he tried something? I just could not risk it.

"Of course...I'll call you tomorrow" He stated.

"You don't have my number."

"Not yet, but I will" He smirked.

I shook my head as he smiled at me.

Maybe things were starting to look up for me, but Xavier was a strange guy, and I was afraid of him.

I had no idea why he had approached me, but maybe, just maybe this was the sign that I had been waiting for, and taking this chance with him might just be the thing I needed to get Maddox out of my system for good.

## **Chapter 6: Are you busy at the moment?**

"He said what!" Jules shrieked.

Damn this girl really knew how to make noise.

"Calm down" I muttered, taking a seat besides her on the bed.

"I told him that I wanted to think it over obviously, I mean why would he ask for my help?" I continued, ignoring her last episode.

"You're so lucky." She whispered.

"I don't think so."

What did luck have to do with it anyway?

I was probably the only girl he could convince to carry out his evil plan that had to be the only reason as to why he would ask me because no one in their right mind would even consider it.

"Xavier Ward is the most popular guy at school, he's the Captain of our unbeatable football team, hack he's the reason we're unbeaten. He's sexy and tall, and an heir to an empire, what more can a girl ask for?" She stated like it explained everything.

Goodness yes, the guy had money and a nice face, but that didn't mean that he could have everything he wanted. Money wasn't everything, and Jules and I were perfect examples of that.

"If you ask me, associating with the likes of Xavier Ward is simply bad news. The guy looks like he's on steroid I mean seriously, who could get a rear like that from pure hard work and sweat!? He's trouble, and I can smell trouble a mile away"

"OMG, you like him" Jules teased.

"I don't."

Xavier wasn't my cup of tea and he would never be simply because we were in two different classes that could never ever be categorised as one.

"Whatever, so what are you going to wear?" She asked looking through her closet.

Clearly being in her bedroom wasn't enough to make her see reason.

Picking out clothes for me wasn't going to make me change my mind about Xavier.

"It's your closet so you choose" It's not I had a choice, she still would have chosen for me even if I had said no.

She nodded her head in agreement, and started looking through her closet for an outfit that I could wear.

I made my way to her bathroom in the mean time, and turned on the shower head.

Maybe sleeping over here wasn't such a good idea.

Urgh who was I kidding, this girl was crueller than Cruella de Vil!

"You've been in there for an hour, get out" She hollered, interrupting my train of thought.

I wrapped a towel around myself and made my way back to Jules' bedroom.

"Are you going to church with me?" I stated.

I had no idea why I was even asking her since we hardly ever missed our Sunday Sermons.

Today was going to be even better since we had a guest speaker who was a pastor in England. I couldn't miss this service and neither was Jules.

I was surprised when Jules decided that I shouldn't wear any make-up today since everyone knew that Jules like make-up more than people.

She tied my long hair into a messy bun just like she did hers, and applied our signature pink pucker lipstick.

Why we had to have the same hairstyle was an enigma, but you know Jules, and the last thing I wanted was to argue with her with my questions.

She handed me a black, high-waist pencil skirt and a yellow bustier crop top which had me gaping in her direction.

"Don't you think that this is a bit too much for church?" I asked.

"Nonsense...you're going to meet Mr. Sexy during the course of this day so everyone will understand, including Pastor Morrison."

I wanted to complain since she was wearing a decent black maxi dress and a white blazer, but she won't let me.

Why couldn't she dress me like that?

She made sure that I was wearing heels and switched my round dorky glasses with a pair of designer shades.

I grabbed her other black blazer and ran as fast as I could in my heels towards the car so that she wouldn't try to lecture me again.

I could wear many things, but I was most definitely not going to look cheap at church, never.

We arrived there in no time and nearly all the seats were taken when Jules and I took our usual seats.

Do you know that saying; *Church is church*? Well, today that phrase was not on my lips.

Most Christians think that you get baptised, and continue going to church, and that God will bless you in your life, but there's more to it than that.

Never in my life had a church service touched me like that one. I felt peace beyond understanding and warmth, true warmth, much like the kind a new mom gives to her tiny infant.

I was singing my heart out and for the first time in my life, I really meant it.

I made sure to meet Pastor McNamara who was visiting our church today, and I tell you, something happened when he prayed for me.

Words are too limited to describe what I felt, but by the time I went outside to look for Jules, I could feel that everything was different.

The McCormick boys, Jason and Joel who usually teased Jules and I were nowhere to be seen today and I was grateful.

Those two boys were the stuff of horrors for all the females at Hillbrow so of course we celebrated when they didn't show up.

"Should we head home or would you like us to take a stroll?" Jules asked.

"Let's take a stroll; I want to get some ice cream."

I desperately wanted to take off my shoes, but that was unlikely since Jules was right next to me.

She made it her job to ensure that I was wearing heels at all times, and I had no idea why.

I wanted to tell her about the spiritual revival I had just experienced, but I didn't know what to say so I kept quiet.

"I have a secret to tell you" She murmured interrupting my train of thought.

Jules never kept secrets from me so this was a first.

"Go ahead, I'm listening."

"Luke and I are friends" She stated.

"Really?" I questioned, not quite believing her.

"Yes. We talked at Maddox's party and..."

"And what?"

"We talked some more" She muttered laughing at my facial expression.

"So you' guys are just friends?" I asked, wanting to ensure that I had heard her correctly.

"Yes" She continued.

I wanted Jules to be happy, but the thought of her being with Luke just did not sit well with me.

I needed to do a back ground check on that guy as soon as I could because no one in my books could ever deserve a girl like Jules.

My phone rang then startling me as I took it out of my purse.

I had no idea who the caller ID belonged so I didn't answer it.

I wasn't paranoid or anything just overly cautious, but Jules didn't agree. She shook her head at me and answered my phone.

"Julissa on the line, how may I help you?" She responded making me laugh.

A huge smile suddenly appeared on her face before she handed me back the phone.

*It's him.* She mouthed making me groan.

I took the phone from her hand and took a deep breath before I placed the phone on my ear.

## **Chapter 7: Where are you?**

"Hello" I greeted.

The truth was that I wished that Xavier hadn't called, but one could never control such things.

"Hi Mel...Its Xavier"

Somehow I'd expected him to call a lot later in the evening, but already Xavier was proving to be a not so obvious guy.

"Are you busy?"

"Not really" I responded which was partially true.

"Where are you?"

Hopefully he wasn't planning on having me kidnapped so that he could brainwash me because that would make me angry.

"I'm close to Lee's Ice Cream Haven" I mentioned looking over at the nearest store.

"Okay...Patrick will be there in about five minutes to pick you up okay" His reply sounded like an order and I didn't like it one bit, but I didn't voice my opinion.

"Okay" I replied since I had no other choice.

It was either this or risk having him come to my house which was an absolute no-go until I knew what his plan entailed.

True to his word, his driver, Patrick was there to pick me up in exactly five minutes making me groan.

I had explained everything to Jules so she was absolutely okay with me going off with a total stranger who could potentially kidnap me.

Patrick turned out to be a very cool guy.

We conversed while he drove us to where ever it was that we were going.

I was a bit nervous about giving Xavier my answer simply because I had never been in such a situation before.

I was trapped between a rock and a hard place and either direction I chose would end up with lots of burns and bruises...Literally.

"We're here" Patrick hollered gaining my attention.

"The old Benson Mansion" I muttered, shocked.

"Yes, this is the residence of the Ward Clan" Patrick muttered making me laugh. He pressed a few keys on the outside keypad before the gate opened.

It was both shock and a surprise that Xavier lived here since the old Benson Mansion was the grandest Mansion in all of Hillbrow, but everyone thought that it was abandoned.

The exterior was still in good shape considering that the structure had survived over 400 years, and come to think of it looked like a true Victorian Mansion.

Patrick led me inside after parking the car and I must say that the interior did not disappoint. Anything and everything Victorian could be found everywhere around the home. This was truly architecture redefined.

Patrick escorted me to Xavier's room before he left me at the door.

I had no idea as to why he hadn't just called Xavier down stairs since that would have made things a lot easier, but I didn't question him.

I knocked a couple of times, but got no reply. I quietly opened the door, hoping that Xavier wouldn't mind my intrusion, and stepped inside the bedroom.

Everything inside was either white or gold.

The floors were pure white marble and the view outside the large open windows just took my breath away.

The windows overlooked the breath-taking, beautiful garden outside which was adorned with multitudes of different flora, but even that didn't compare to the custom made bed that was right in the centre of the room.

It had a custom made mahogany headboard that was covered in intricate designs that looked Mayan, but it was white silk that was draped over the bed that had biting my lower lip as I took off my heel.

"Wow" I groaned as I ran my hand over soft, silk covered cushions.

I found myself climbing onto the bed before throwing myself onto the pillows.

I had no idea where I could find a bed like this, but I wanted one.

"Mel" I heard a voice call making me gape.

I didn't even have to look around to know that it was Xavier.

I quickly got off the bed and nearly fell; luckily Xavier caught me in his arms and saved me from totally embarrassing myself.

Goodness, why did I have to be such a klutz!?

I pulled my hair out of my face and swallowed the large lump in my throat when I realized that Xavier wasn't wearing a shirt, let alone any pants.

I wasn't going to look, but my eyes fell down to the white towel that was wrapped way too low around his waist.

Clearly I was human, and my body made a point of confirming it since I still had my arms around Xavier's wet abs.

He was way too buff for my liking, but goodness the guy was very easy on the eyes.

Everything suddenly seemed to get hot when I followed Xavier's eyes.

"My eyes are up here" I stated as gently tilted Xavier's head.

Xavier didn't say a thing as continued to stare at my cleavage before he looked into my eyes.

"I know"

I didn't say a thing as I continued to stare at him.

"What do they call this?" He asked as his hands slow slid up my waist until it stopped at the hem of my top.

"It's a bustier crop top" I responded.

"Bustier ha? Let me put on some clothes, and then we can talk" He stated

I nodded my head and reluctantly watched as he made his way to the closet. Luckily he hadn't scolded me about lying on his bed or else I would have fainted.

I made sure that my blazer was closed up before I pulled my hair up again.

Fear suddenly gripped my standing form as I thought about the type of conversation Xavier was planning to talk to me about...

Maybe this wasn't such a good idea, maybe I should make a run for it before Xavier noticed, but could I really live with the uncertainty of never knowing? Could I really live with myself for hurting him?

I wanted to chicken out which was understandable, but something told me to stay and stay I did.

It was pretty obvious that Xavier was barely holding on. I didn't want to be the person responsible for his complete collapse so I took a sit on the very soft bed again and made myself comfortable...really comfortable.

I took the remote and switched on the TV.

I smile crossed my face when I saw that Xavier had been watching Chowder...Wow, clearly I wasn't the only one who was into cartoons.

Hopefully this revenge thing of his was short, and quick or else I would make it a habit to visit him often just for this bed...not that I would do it, but still...

Xavier returned in a pair of dark blue denim jeans that hugged him in all the right places and I must admit...He looked good for a guy his size.

He had paired up his jeans with a white T-shirt and some combat boots.

His soft blond curls were semi-dry, but it still suited him, luckily he had walked in while I was fixing the bed or else I would have been in trouble.

"Come with me" He muttered as he offered me his hand.

I took it without hesitation since I didn't know my way around the place, and he led me back to the kitchen where a single blueberry cheese cake ice cream bowl was just waiting for someone to devour it...Yum

"You look beautiful, as always" he muttered making me giggle.

I didn't giggle, especially in front of boys so this was a bit of a surprise to me.

Maybe it had something to do with the fact that I'd never been complemented by a guy before, but I just shrugged it off.

"Thank you"

I took the seat nearest to the ice cream bowl and looked over at Xavier.

"You can help yourself...it's all yours." He stated as he took a seat beside me.

"Good, I was going to eat it anyway" I stated before I took a mouthful...

"Mmm...This is so good." I moaned as I took another spoon full.

"I'm glad you like it." He smiled before he took another spoon and joined me.

I didn't mind sharing so I was okay with him helping himself to my dessert.

"Have you thought about my proposal?" He asked making me halt my spoon mid air.

"Yes" I replied before I ate some more ice cream.

"And" Xavier encouraged.

"Why me? I mean seriously, you can have any girl you want...Why did you pick me?" That question had been bothering me a lot...

"I want you. I know that you think that I didn't know you until that night at Maddox's party, but you're wrong. We have four classes together and I know that you and Jules are the top students at Hillbrow."

Okay so he knew a few things about me, but that still did not answer my question.

"Only you can help me with this Mel, please trust me when I say that this will only work with you."

It was so hard to take his word for it since I didn't even know him, but this was my chance to teach Maddox a thing or two about respect and I didn't want the opportunity to pass me by.

"I accept, but I need to know something first." I replied.

The smile on his face didn't go unnoticed, but I didn't pay it any heed.

"What do you want to know?" He asked looking up at me.

I placed my spoon down and looked up at him with all the seriousness I could muster.

"Are you on drugs?" I asked hoping that he answered me truthfully.

His only reply was a deep loud laugh that had me gaping at him.

I didn't find the question funny in the least, but he clearly did for he continued to laugh at me for the next two minutes before he managed to contain himself.

"I'm not on drugs." He murmured before he laughed again.

"Thank goodness, the last thing I need is a drug addicted boyfriend!" I muttered.

"But please...don't use steroids okay" I stated earning another laugh from him.

"Mel I'm not on anything okay...What made you think that I was using?" He asked.

"Well I thought that since you were so big that you, that you were on something" I muttered, my cheeks heating up a bit.

"Mel I'm not on any sort of drug. This is all hard work and sweat." He muttered flexing his arms.

*What a show off.*

"So how exactly is all this going to work?" I asked gesturing between us.

It wasn't like there was an instruction manual on this sort of thing so I picked his brain a bit.

"Simple, we're going to get to know each other."

As if it was that simple. What did this guy take me for?

"That's what couples do. They get to know each other and that's what we're going to do." He continued making me gape.

## **Chapter 8: How do you mean**

"If this works, Candice won't win Prom, while Maddox and Alex will lose their status. All in all, it's a good plan, but what about your brother?" I asked.

"Leave him to me" Xavier stated.

I nodded my head before I got back to the ice cream. We both finished it in silence since I was utterly afraid to ask him personal questions lest I hit a soft spot and anger him.

The enormity of what was happening finally hit me.

"So we're... we're officially a couple now?" I asked standing up.

"Yes" He replied as he stood along with me.

His blue-grey eyes were full of mischief and joy, something they lacked a couple of days ago. At least he was getting better, but I still did not feel good about doing this.

"Don't worry about anything. Everything's going to be okay." His words did not sooth me one bit, but I faked a smile for him.

For one, I had no idea how I was going to tell my overly protective parents that not only did I know Xavier Ward, but that I was his girlfriend.

Secondly, I had zero experience with fake relationships, how was I going to make this work!?

"I'll pick you up for school first thing tomorrow okay"

I nodded my head at him before he led me to the front door.

We made our way to the garage where we had an unexpected encounter with Xavier's brother who looked a lot like him.

"What are you doing here Ronan" Xavier grunted, his hold on my hand increasing.

This told me that this was the older brother – the enemy.

"Don't act stupid Xavier, I live here" Ronan stated as he made his way to the door.

I could feel Xavier's anger rising so I did what any girl in my position would; I turned him around so that he was facing me and rested the palm of my hand against his smooth face.

"Don't let him get to you...you're better than this, I know you are" I stated.

Xavier was calming down and I could feel it, but he did not break our stare.

"Come, let's get out of here. I commented, and that seemed to pull him out of his staring state and back to reality.

Xavier opened the door for me, I didn't expect it, but what did you know, the guy was full of surprises, and so far, I was impressed.

We indulged ourselves in small talk as he drove me home.

Everything had gone better than expected.

I knew now that Ronan was a no go area and I knew that Xavier loved ice cream and enjoyed watching Chowder...

I had to learn his habits since we were an item now, but still...I was weird.

"I'm I going to be safe?" I had a right to know if this sort of thing could get me into trouble or not.

"How do you mean?"

"You're an heir to an empire so you can image the kind of things that people will say when they find out that we're together...I mean you just got out of a two year relationship"

I had no idea why he hadn't even thought about this.

This whole thing just screamed out 'facade' and I was sure that I wasn't the only one who was going to think that.

"I hadn't thought that far, but you have a point. Do you have a problem with me mentioning you in public?"

*Yes, because if a very smart journalist got a really good picture of me, and did a bit of digging around then my family secret could be exposed.*

This was the truth I was trying to avoid, but dating Xavier was putting not only my life, but my family's lives at stake.

"No, but I don't want my face in any newspapers or magazines...my father would kill me" It was the truth, well not the whole truth, but I had no idea if Xavier could be trusted yet.

"I see. I'll make sure that the media doesn't get involved"

"Good" At least that was cleared up or else I was going to be in very big trouble.

"Have you thought about what you're going to say to your parents?" I had no idea why he was asking me that question since I had just told him that my father would kill me.

"No...Is it a must that I tell them about us?" I mean seriously, it wasn't like Candice was going to run off to my parents and tell them that I was dating Xavier, or would she?

"They have to know. I don't want to jeopardise anything" He stated like it cleared up everything.

"You're killing me man"

Xavier laughed as he entered my estate.

"I own a house here" He stated

"Which one?" I asked.

Greenwood Estate was my company so I would know if someone like Xavier owned a house here.

"The last one over there with the man-made lake" He stated making me smirk.

Of course someone of his class would buy the biggest and most expensive house here...Goodness me, what had I gotten myself into!?

"Who sold you the house?"

Like I said, I literally owned Greenwood Estate and I most definitely did not remember giving Xavier a contract.

"Joshua Albert...You know him?"

*Yes, he's my father.*

"The name sounds familiar, but I don't remember a face" I lied.

Let's get this out in the open. My last name was Albert as in Albert Inc, but I went by Hue in order to protect my identity.

"My lawyer Ryan was the one who met with Joshua and hooked me up with this place." He continued.

It explained a lot...Maybe Xavier's lawyer had bought this place while I was on vacation because I could not remember meeting up with a Ryan.

"My house is the one over there with the blue roof."

Xavier parked outside my home, and stopped the car.

"I'll see you tomorrow morning" Xavier muttered.

"Okay"

I wasn't expecting him to hug me, but he did and it was strangely...warm.

"Thank you once again for agreeing to do this with me." He whispered before he gave me a quick kiss on the cheek.

I could feel my cheeks heating up as I stepped outside the car.

I waved at Xavier as he drove away and as strange as it sounds, I was kind of looking forward to seeing him again.

All I could think about as I stepped inside the house was that I needed to call Jules and tell her everything.

I found my Bible opened on my bed as I kicked off my shoes.

I took it in my hands and the verses that immediately popped up to me were verse 17 and 18 of 2 Corinthians 3.

The words did not relate to anything that I was currently dealing with or so I thought for when I fell asleep later that evening...I heard a voice of rushing waters saying, "FOLLOW ME".

## **Chapter 9: Are you ready to make history?**

I woke up around 2:00 AM, terrified of the voice I had just heard. I looked around the room to make extra sure that I was alone before I turned the lights on.

Fear suddenly gripped at me. I didn't know what to think of the voice I had heard, and as much as I tried to convince myself that it was nothing, I knew that I had heard the Lord's voice.

Perfection was the only word that could even come close to describing the voice I had heard and yet I still wondered...why me? I wasn't as dedicated to church as some people, and yet He chose me...

I desperately wanted to call Jules, but I didn't since I was afraid of what she would think.

My phone beeped startling me a bit as it was still too early for anyone I knew to be up yet.

Surprisingly it was a text from Xavier...

"*Are you up yet?*" It read.

"Yeah...can't sleep" I replied, well not after the dream that I had just had.

"*Same here...I hope you're not worried about today*"

"I am..." I replied.

*"Don't be...I'll be with you every step of the way"*

"Good to know, thanks" I responded.

*"Try to get some sleep...I'll be there in a few hours"*

"Okay, Good night, I mean morning" I replied before I got in a comfortable position and tried to think of positive thoughts.

I didn't even realise that I had overslept until my dad came to wake me up.

Apparently Xavier was already waiting for me and I was an hour late...a whole HOUR late!

I nearly had a heart attack, but I quickly recovered as I took a shower, dried my hair and curled it like Jules had taught me.

I pulled on a pair of white skinny jeans that showed off my curves over some undergarment and a turquoise semi see-through long sleeved blouse.

I applied some light make-up and of course my signature pink lipstick before I grabbed my bag and headed to the kitchen.

I had to make a quick U-turn when I realised that I was still bare foot.

Goodness, this day was just starting out great...

I grabbed a pair of Black and grey heels before I made my way back to the kitchen where I pulled on my heels in the corner before taking a deep breath and making my presence known.

"Morning Beautiful people" I muttered like I wasn't late, and that this was just another normal day.

"Hey Sweetie" My mom greeted as she gave me a kiss, in front of Xavier...the horror!

I gave my dad a huge before I made my way to Xavier who immediately stood and engulfed me in a hug.

"Are you okay? You look flushed" He muttered making me blush even further.

"Um...I'm fine" I replied hoping that he believed my white little lie.

As if seeing the kiss my mom had given me wasn't enough embarrassment, why did she have to do that to me?

"Um Mom, Dad...This is Xavier...My boyfriend" I stated.

My mom was beaming, but my dad...let's just say that he was slowly losing it.

This was my chance to leave, and I took it, I grabbed Xavier's hand and pulled him towards the door as quickly as I could.

I didn't even realise that I was holding my breath until I let it out the instant Xavier closed the door behind him.

"That went well" Xavier murmured.

"Yes, it did." I replied as we quickly made our way to his car. He opened the door for me; making me smile...maybe having him for a boyfriend wasn't a bad choice after all.

"I forgot to tell you...you look beautiful" he muttered as he closed his door.

"Thank you...you don't look half bad yourself" I muttered earning a laugh from him.

He was wearing a pair of dark denim jeans with a navy blue dress down shirt. It was nothing special, but I liked it.

"Your dad seems to like me" Xavier stated making me smile.

"Don't make me laugh"

I was still concerned about the whole drug thing, but maybe, just maybe...Xavier was telling the truth and I simply had a problem with the fact that he was built like a bus.

"You're thinking about me right" He muttered smiling at me.

"No" I responded rather too quickly for my liking.

"It's okay...I have that effect on many people." He smugly commented making me blush.

"Wait a minute...why are we stopping here?" I asked when Xavier parked his car outside McKinley Café.

"You haven't eaten anything Mel...I need to feed you."

*At least he has manners* I thought as he parked the car.

I watched as he got out of the car and made his way inside the crowded Cafe...Goodness that gut had a really good looking butt!

I tried to fan my cheeks, but I failed...miserably.

I may have been new to the whole dating thing, but even I knew that guys don't buy girls food just because their concerned about their well being, especially fake boyfriends.

Xavier was One in a Million, and maybe this would all work out in the end.

"Dig in." Xavier stated as he stepped back inside the car.

He handed me a bottle of orange juice and a pack of freshly baked muffins.

"Mmm...Thanks" I moaned as I eat my fill. I just hopped that Xavier didn't think ill of my table manners since I wasn't showing any.

We were officially an hour and 45 minutes late by the time we got to school. The school's front yard was empty which I was thankful for or else I would have fainted.

Xavier helped me out of the car before he wrapped his arm around my waist.

It would take some getting used to, but I was confident that we could pull this off.

"Are you ready to make history?" He murmured as he brushed my hair to the side.

"Ye-yes..." I stuttered since my stomach was doing a multitude of flips that had me biting my lower lip.

Xavier threw me his signature smirk before we made our way to the school's front door.

The halls were empty, and I was thankful, but it seemed that I had spoken too soon since the bell rang, flooding the halls with students in no less than a minute.

The incredulous stares and snickering did not go unnoticed by either me or Xavier.

People did not hesitate to make way for Xavier, and I as we walked side by side towards my locker.

Normally Jules and I would struggle not to get sandwiched between our fellow students, but today, the very same students who normally treated me badly were making way for me like I was the Queen of Hillbrow High.

Maybe it was my change of clothes or maybe my heels. I was suddenly the talk on everyone's lips again, but for a different reason this time.

"You're doing great" Xavier whispered into my ear making the girls around us swoon.

Everyone was staring, and I mean everyone (Including the over worked janitors and underpaid teachers).

When I saw Candice getting out of her English class with her noisy troop of girls, I placed my hand right over Xavier's where he had it wrapped around my waist.

I had no idea where I had gotten the confidence to do that, but I didn't hesitate to rub in the fact that Xavier Ward was walking alongside me.

As soon as Candice saw us, all the commotion seized. All the whispering and snickering stopped as everyone looked over in our direction.

"Xavier, who is this"? Candice asked looking at me like I was trash.

"Show some respect, this is my woman" Xavier growled making Candice jump.

"But Xavier, let's...."

"Let's nothing. Step aside, and let us through" Xavier commanded.

Candice wasn't used to Xavier behaving like this so she obeyed him and stepped aside.

"Good girl." I muttered as I passed through with Xavier by my side.

Everyone around us could not help, but laugh at the look of horror on Candice's face.

I simply smiled as Xavier led me to my locker.

"I'm proud of you" Xavier murmured as he wrapped both his arms around my waist.

"Thank you Mr. Ward...I think I'm getting the hang of this" I whispered...I would have wrapped my arms around his neck, but I did not want to make either of us uncomfortable.

Our moment was ruined when we heard the flash of camera's and snapping around us. Xavier hid my face in his chest as he led me away from all the commotion.

How was this even possible?

We had just gotten to school, and Xavier had assured me that I would be safe here.

How could they know about us so quickly?

What if they press had gotten a really clear picture of me?

If there was one thing I knew, it was that my father was going to kill me today.

"Xavier" I groaned as I rested my head on his chest.

"I'm getting us out of here...I promise."

Maybe accepting to be the girlfriend of the rich and famous Xavier Ward wasn't such a good idea, but only time would tell if I had made the biggest mistake of my life.

## **Chapter 10: I'm proud of you**

"Don't f\*ck with me Richard, who called the press!?" Xavier hollered making me jump.

We were both currently seated in Richard Fox's office, the school principal.

"Mr. Ward, please come down" Principal Fox murmured.

He had been trying this calm approach for a while now, but Xavier was unresponsive.

"You want me to calm down, calm down!?! I want to know who put my woman's life in danger!" He growled.

Principal Fox looked at my direction as if asking for assistance.

I wanted to scream my head off like Xavier since my secret could very well be exposed, but I didn't want to worry Xavier.

"Please come down you're scaring me" I muttered and he was, I had never seen him like this and the fact that he was built like a bus had me thinking that he could really hurt someone if he wanted to.

"I'm sorry...I'm just pissed" He stated looking over at me.

"I know, but Principal Fox clearly doesn't know anything. Let's get out here and get some fresh air okay. I'm sure that principal Fox will contact us when he hears anything" I muttered as I placed my hand over his.

I wasn't expecting it to work since I saw it being done in a movie once, but it did as Xavier nodded his head in approval.

"I promise to contact you when I hear anything Mr. Ward" Principal Fox reassuringly stated.

Xavier nodded his head before he helped me out of my seat.

"I'm proud of you" I muttered as we made our way outside Principal Fox's office.

"Your safety is my number one priority Mel...always" He stated making me smile.

"Xavier, who is this young lady you're with? Is she your new girlfriend? Are you guys dating?" Those were the types of questions we were bombarded with when we stepped outside the school's front door.

Xavier covered my face with his body again as we made our way to his car.

"Xavier! Xavier!" A woman shouted outside my window.

I was doing my very best to hide my face from all the flashing cameras, but it wasn't enough.

Xavier got us out of there as quickly as he could, but I was still concerned.

I could see that he was just about to explode so I rested my hand over his on the steering wheel and that strangely seemed to calm him down.

"Let's go to my place" I muttered.

I would normally rush to my parents' place at times like these, but today was different.

Luckily I had my own house. Yes, it was next door to my parents' house, but it was still mine and I knew very well that no one came there except for Jules.

"Your house in Greenwood?" He asked.

"Yeah" I responded.

"We're going to mine. I don't want to worry you about anything" He stated making me laugh.

"I can see that this is only going to get worse so I need to tell you something" I really didn't want to tell Xavier anything about my family, but the least I could do was tell him the truth regarding the Estate.

"You can tell me anything Mel"

"I own Greenwood Estate"

Xavier laughed for the longest of times before he looked over at me and smiled.

"That explains a lot" I had no idea what he was talking about, but I didn't waste my time on it.

This was our second day as a couple and already things were turning out for the worst.

"I'll call some people, and make sure that the press backs off"

I nodded my head at him as he entered the estate.

"It's a good thing I called Patrick or else we would have had to order in"

“You mean you don’t buy groceries?”

“No” He responded making me gape.

“I don’t know if you remember, but we have a paper together” I stated.

“I remember” He responded as he parked the car.

“Xavier I know that you’re not an idiot so why are you failing English?” I was being blunt and I was crossing the line, but Xavier could afford a private tutor so it didn’t make sense that he would fail.

“I’m sorry I know that I’m crossing the line” I could see that it was taking a lot out of him as he closed his eyes and placed his hands on his thighs.

“It’s okay you have a right to know.”

I gently took hold of his hand and looked into his dilated blue eyes.

“Do you remember the football game that the Lyons played against the Cheetahs last year?”

I wasn’t a football fan, but Jules had forced to go to the last games so that we could support the schools team.

“Yes”

“I fell in that game and I injured my head. It wasn’t a big thing until I realised that I has limited mobility in my left arm. It took a few months of physical therapy for me to recover from that, and I thought I was okay until I had to do a History paper and that’s when the problems started.”

“Then why don’t you stop? It’s not like you need a scholarship or anything.”

And he didn’t, he was rich so why was he still putting himself through all the torture.

“Mel I don’t want people to always associate me with my father. I want to be independent and make my own name”

“And you will, but you can’t possibly continue like this. What if you end up paralyzed, can you live with that?”

“Can we please stop talking about this. I’m tired, and I think we should go inside.” He stated as he got out of the car and opened the door for me.

I wanted to argue, but I didn’t push. This was a very sensitive topic and I did not want Xavier getting angry over such things.

I was his fake girlfriend after all so I had no right to give him personal advice.

## Chapter 11: No way

“Make yourself at home” Xavier encouraged as he made his way to the kitchen.

The living room had a gigantic plasma TV, a long L shaped white couch that could probably sit about 7 people and nothing else.

I wasn't surprised that the furniture was close to none since Xavier didn't even live so I made my way up stairs and smiled when I walked inside the master bedroom.

An exact replica of his bed at the Mansion filled most of the room and even though I tried to resist, I ended up taking off my heels and bouncing on top of the huge bed like a five year old.

It was soft and comfy so I just could not resist...

Xavier caught me in the act and the serious look I saw on his face had me looking down at my feet as I made my way towards him.

“My emotions got the better of me, please forgive me” I stated as I looked up into his blue-grey eyes.

“You don't have to apologize just make sure that you invite me over the next time you want to let loose” He stated making me gape.

“It's almost 11 PM, come and eat” He order as he left me all alone in his room.

That was a close call, but thankfully Xavier didn't mind my childish behaviour or else I would have seriously been in trouble.

I made my way back to the kitchen barefoot and sat beside Xavier by the kitchen counter.

“I'm not a good cook, but I don't think that my eyes are bad” He stated as he placed a plate full of eggs and bacon in front of me.

“What are your plans after you get your diploma?”

“Football” He responded. One would have thought that he would be over that whole thing by now, but no.

“I'm sure that there's something outside of football that you're interested in” I was pushing it, but I didn't have a choice.

I didn't want him to risk his life for a rough sport...It was stupid and I simply could not understand why he couldn't see that.

“I've always been interested in photography, but don't women like man who do that kind of stuff”

I could not laugh as I looked over at a blushing Xavier.

“Trust me, you don't need any help when it comes to that department” And he didn't, so why was he blushing?

“What about you?”

“Construction...I want to be a geotechnical engineer and if possible, a specialist in Mechanical and Electronic Engineering.”

“Wow, sounds like you’re a book worm”

“You’re not the first person to say that to me” I uttered.

“Ever thought about going into modelling?”

I had no idea why he would even mention it since I didn’t even fit in sample sizes.

“I’m too fat for modelling”

“Mel don’t make me laugh, these zero fat on your body” He stated like he knew every inch of my body.

“Xavier I can assure that there’s a lot going on underneath these clothes...I may look thin from the outside, but I assure you that you’d think twice if you saw me in a bikini”

I had no idea why I even mentioned a bikini since I had never worn one.

“I guess I’ll have to take your word for it.” He responded as he finished his food.

“Would you be offended if I asked you questions about your relationship with Candice?”

I was stepping over the line once again, but I was curious. Xavier was unlike any other guy I had ever met, and as his fake girlfriend, I needed to know.

“We’re in a relationship Mel, you can ask me anything” That was a big lie and Xavier knew it.

Yes he wanted me to be free around him, but even I could tell that football and his brother Ronan were off limits.

“Why did you date Candice? I mean you can have any girl you want, but you chose Candice.”

“I don’t know if you’ll believe me or not, but I’m very shy when it comes to the opposite sex”

His words had me gaping as I took another look at him because there was no way that a guy as handsome as Xavier could be shy around women.

“No way”

“Mel I’m serious. You can ask around and I promise you that everyone will tell you that I only ever dated Candice at Hillbrow”

Come to think of it, he wasn’t like Maddox who had a new girl every week and truth be told I’d never ever heard about Xavier being with another girl except for Candice.

“Why?” I mean if you could have anyone who fancied your eye, why would you chose a frog, literally?

“Candice was the only one who came and told me face to face that she was interested in me. Do you remember Lucile Van Gorge?”

“Looney Lucile?” I asked not even believing what I was hearing.

“Gosh I had a crush on that girl since pre-school” Xavier confessed before we both broke out in laughter.

“Wow, you’re such a freak Ward” I stated as I looked over at Xavier with a new found respect.

“Do you know that it took me a full four years to find out that she was bi?”

Goodness who were this guy’s friends, and why did they never tell him anything?

Everyone and I mean everyone knew that Lucile liked it both ways except for Xavier of course, which wasn’t surprising.

“Since we have time, I was thinking that we should start with our English paper and I have the perfect dictator in mind”

“Who?”

"Idi Amin" I responded.

"I've never heard of him" He complained, but that was the beauty of it all.

"We're going to get a big fat A+ I can promise you that"

"So tell me about this guy, who is he?"

“Idi Amin Dada born in Kampala Uganda was known for his brutal regime while in power from 1971 to 1979, he was the third President of Uganda whose rule was characterized by human rights abuse, political repression, ethnic persecution, nepotism and corruption among others. In 1977, when the Britain broke diplomatic relations with Uganda, Amin declared that he had defeated the British and added CBE-"Conqueror of the British Empire" to his already ridiculously long title.”

“Why haven’t I ever heard of this guy?”

“I don’t know, and that’s not even the best part yet. In addition to his many titles he also bestowed upon himself that title; ‘Lord of All the Beasts of the Earth and Fishes of the Sea’ as well as the ‘Last king of Scotland’.”

“Wow” Xavier remarked.

“He appeared at a royal Saudi Arabian funeral in a kilt and named 4 of his 43+ children Campbell, McLaren, McKenzie and McKintosh...There’s a film about him called that ‘Last King of Scotland’ and I think we should, get it”

“We’ll most definitely get it tomorrow...I can’t believe that I’ve never heard of this guy before” Xavier groaned.

We ended up spending the rest of the day getting to know each other before Xavier walked me home.

## Chapter 12: I'm sorry

The next two weeks passed by like a blur.

Xavier and I had gotten to know each other exceedingly well and we were officially friends now.

Jules was still seeing Luke undercover and I was starting to get annoyed with the fact that she hardly ever called me these days.

“Are you okay?” Xavier asked as he opened the door for me.

“I’m okay...Let’s go get that distinction we talked about” I encouraged as I stepped outside his car.

“Ms. Baker won’t believe her ears today” Xavier muttered as he gently pushed my hair to the side.

“No she won’t.” I stated as I followed Xavier inside the school building.

One would have thought that people would have gotten over the fact that Xavier and I were an item by now, but they still snickered and whispered, and they still treated us like the *crème de le crème* of the school.

“I’ve been meaning to ask you, what are your plans for tonight?” Xavier asked.

“I don’t have any plans for tonight”

“What do you think about going out on a date with me?” He asked making me gape.

My mouth must have hit the floor because Xavier started laughing as we entered our Maths classroom.

“I think that I would like that very much” I whispered as I looked down at the floor.

My cheeks must have been as red as a tomato, but Xavier didn’t say a thing as he gently tilted my head up and smiled at me.

“I’ll pick you up at 7”

I nodded my head at him before I took my sit.

The rest of the day passed so quickly that I didn’t even know what to do when the last bell rang.

Jules caught up with me in the crowded halls and surprising we didn’t get sandwiched between our fellow students.

Either they stepped aside or they made way as Jules and I made our way outside.

“Are you avoiding me?” I could hardly remember the last time Jules and I spent a day together and that was saying a lot considering that Jules and I were neighbours.

“I’m sorry, I’ve just been going through a lot and I didn’t want to bother you with my problems” Her response had me concerned.

“Jules you know very well that we don’t keep things from each other and I would never put our friendship in second place. You’re my priority” I stated as I entwined our hands.

She nodded her head at me before she pulled me in for a hug.

“I’ve missed you so much” She whispered.

“I’ve missed you too” And I had.

“So how are things between you and Luke?” I asked since she didn’t look like she was just going to spell the beans.

“We’re okay, everything is okay” She stated. I could see from the distant look in her eyes that things were far from okay, but I didn’t push.

At least she had finally admitted that they were more than friends even though she had said it indirectly.

“I saw you and Xavier looking cosy today...Are you guys hitting the sack?”

“Jules” I groaned as I looked over to see who had heard her.

“It’s okay if you guys are doing it, I just want to know if he’s treating you well.”

“He is, and he’s taking me out on a date tonight.” I blushed.

“Wow, that is such great news, what are you going to wear?”

I was so excited that I hadn’t even thought about that.

“I haven’t decided yet”

“Don’t worry about a thing, I’ll come over around 6 and help you get dressed.”

Her words had me smiling as Xavier came over and greeted her.

“Are you ready to go?” He asked as he wrapped an arm around my waist.

I nodded my head at him before I gave Jules another hug.

“We’ll talk later” I stated before I walked alongside Xavier to his car.

“I have absolutely no idea about what I’m going to tell my parents”

“I can always ask for their permission if you want”

As if I would allow that to happen. There was no way in hell; I was going to permit Xavier to speak to my parents on my behalf.

“No that’s okay, I’m just worried since my cousin Cara is coming over”

“I see. Would you like us to postpone?”

“No, it’s okay, I’m sure they’ll understand.”

Who was I kidding; my parents were not going to just let me go out with Xavier like that, especially my father. I had to think of something to get out of the dinner plans.

“Should I wear something formal or will jeans and a tee be okay?”

“Wear something formal. I’m going to wine and dine you tonight” He stated making me blush.

We entered the estate and I could not help, but smile as I saw my Cousin Cara’s car parked along the driveway.

Xavier parked his car, and came around to open the door for me.

I could not believe my eyes as Cara came out of the doo, and rushed over to me before she engulfed me in a hug.

She was still as pretty as ever with her slim figure and big baby blue eyes.

“My sweet Lovelace” she stated as she smiled at me.

I was shocked to hear Cara calling me by my other name since she knew how much I hated it. She was only two years older than me, but she had already made herself my aunt.

“Um...This is Xavier” I muttered as I looked over at a smiling Xavier.

“Wow, you are very handsome” Cara stated as she took her fill of Xavier’s physique.

“It nice to finally put a face to the name” Xavier muttered.

“I hope my Lovelace only said good things about me.” Cara stated before she spanked Xavier’s butt shocking him.

She was so forward when it came to her feelings that she hardly ever thought about others.

“Now that is a fine rear, Lovelace must be having a nice time touching these buns” She stated making me cough.

“Cara, Xavier has to go home now” I intervened.

“So soon? Why can’t he stay for some tea, I want to look at him so more” She groaned.

I pulled Xavier to the side before I looked up at his amused face.

“I’ll see you later”

He nodded his head at me before he placed a gentle kiss on my cheek.

“Bye Cara”

“Bye Baby” she responded making me shake my head as I led her inside the house.

### **Chapter 13: He’s a Ward!?**

“Wow, how did you get a guy like that?” Cara asked as I poured her a cup of green tea.

“I have my ways” I stated as I sat beside her.

“Whatever those ways are girl you need to hook a sister up because that man of yours is damn fine” She concluded.

“I mean seriously, did you see that rear?”

I had no idea whether to smile or to scream. Not only had she embarrassed me by spanking Xavier's butt like that, but she had called him Baby.

"He does have a nice butt"

"The two of you must be doing it like bunnies" Her words had me blushing as I looked by the window.

"Please don't tell me that you're still a virgin" She groaned as she gaped in my direction.

"Of course I am" The 7 B's we're always on my mind when I was with Xavier and I wasn't about to throw them out of the window for anyone.

"Sweetie you need to loosen up and live a little. That guy is fine and I can bet my Jimmy Choo shoes on it that he's a real beast in the sack. You need to good humping and I can assure you that your man can give it to you"

"Who needs a good humping?" My mother asked as she entered that room.

"Mrs. A...I was just telling your daughter that her man can ease all her problems."

Goodness this girl was just too much, but one couldn't pick they're family.

"Cara stop planting ideas in my daughters head."

"Mrs. A that Xavier has a really fine, hard rear...He's the kind of man we call the 'Panty dropper' Cara murmured making me cough.

My mother shook her head in her direction before she sat beside us.

"Um, mom is it okay if I go out tonight?" There was no better time than now to ask my mother since my dad was unavailable.

"Where are you going?"

"Xavier is taking me out?"

"Out where?"

"I don't know, but it's some place fancy."

"I bet it is." Cara stated as she smiled at me.

"What about our dinner plans?"

"Mrs. A let the girl live a little. Her man is taking her out tonight so let them go and explore new frontiers"

Not only was Cara pushing it, but if she didn't stop then my mother would most certainly say no.

"Your father does like this boy. He's too rich for his own good, and can you believe that he's a Ward? I really don't know about this"

"He's a Ward!?" Cara hollered as if it had started raining cats and dogs.

"Mom please. He's my boyfriend and you know very well that I'm responsible. Please don't let the fact that Xavier is a Ward cloud your judgment. He's a gentlemen, not like Simon."

"Oh so Simon is not a good match for you now?" My mom hollered like she could not believe her ears.

“Mom he tried to get in my pants the second the saw my boobs...That’s why we’re not an item.”

My mother could not believe it, but Cara on the other hand was very much interested in all the drama that was unfolding right in front of her very eyes.

“Fine, you can go out with that Ward boy, but you’d better be home by 12 or else your father will call the entire LAPD to search for you. And I want to know this guy better so you must invite him over for dinner sometime.”

“Thank you” I was beyond relieved when I made my way to my bedroom with Cara beside me.

“Where’s Jules, I miss that look-a-like of yours” She stated as we entered my room.

“She’ll be here soon.”

“I can’t believe that your boyfriend is a Ward...Wow” Cara whispered as she threw herself on my bed.

“I’m going to take a shower before Jules gets here so please don’t play with my knives” I warned looking over at my Emerson collection.

“I won’t” Cara responded before she started texting on her phone.

Clearly there was a whole lot going on behind the scenes, I mean why did Xavier’s being a Wade concern my parents so much?

There was something they weren’t telling me and I intended to find out.

I wasn’t surprised to find Jules and Cara chatting away as I emerged from the bathroom with a towel wrapped around my body.

“Finally I was starting to get worried” Jules stated as she hurriedly made her way to my closet and emerged with a heart shaped, strapless cream dress.

I was beautiful and the thought of seeing Xavier’s face when he saw me in it had me smiling as I made my way towards the dress.

“No touching.” Jules stated as she slapped my hand away.

“This is pure, velvet silk...You can just touch this” She continued. I could not help, but laugh when I saw that she was wearing gloves.

“How did you know that Xavier was taking me somewhere fancy?” I didn’t remember telling her so I was surprised.

Cara and Jules looked at each before they gaped at me like it was obvious.

“Xavier is a millionaire he’s not going to take you somewhere cheap. He has this thing called class” Jules’ words had me shaking my head as I looked over at the dress again.

“It’s almost 6:30 PM so you’d better get dressed” Cara warned.

It was five minutes to seven when I heard a knock on the door.

“He’s here” Cara smiled as she made her way down stairs to terrorize Xavier.

“You look beautiful.” Jules smiled.

“I’m so scared Jules, what if Xavier doesn’t like this kind of look?”

“Honey you’re wear a tight strapless, heart-shaped dress that ends just above the knee. You’re a full 36 C and this dress clearly shows off your impressive cleavage and that hot, round butt. Xavier is going to feel it when he sees you.”

Her words had me shaking my head as I took another look at myself in the mirror.

The dress looked incredible and it showed of my curves perfectly, but I was still afraid. This was my first proper date with Xavier and I didn’t want to make a bad impression.

“Stop worrying”

I took a much needed deep breath before I opened my bedroom door...

## **Chapter 14: I promise**

The look I show on Xavier’s face as I descended down the stairs had me biting my lower lip as I noted how handsome he looked in a classic black tux.

“Don’t forget to be home by 12” My dad warned as Xavier led me outside.

I nodded my head at him before I let Xavier close the door.

“Are you okay? You look like you’re about to faint” I stated as I arched my brow at Xavier.

Xavier licked his lips before he continued to stare at me.

“Xavier are you going to help me with the door or not?” I asked since he was still by the door.

“Yeah, sorry.”

We both got inside the car and I could not help, but feel uncomfortable as Xavier continued to stare at me.

“I can always go and change if you want.” Clearly he had a problem with the way I was dressed because all he was doing was starring.

“No, don’t...You look...You look incredible” He stated.

“Thank you. You don’t look bad yourself” The guy did not respond and when I noticed that he was looking at the girls, I had to do something.

“Xavier” I whispered as I slowly closed the distant between us and looked up into his dilated eyes.

The air between us seemed to thicken as I placed my hand against Xavier’s cheek making him look up at me.

“Yes” He responded, his breath laboured as he kept looking at my pouty lips.

“START-THE-CAR” I stated making sure to spell out every syllabus.

That woke him up from his staring stated and got him driving...

“I’m sorry about Cara...She’s a hand full that one”

“No need to apologize, I’ve dealt with girls like her before”

“I bet you have” And he must have considering that he was hot and rich too.

“Your father doesn’t like me, does he?” It was more of a statement than a question.

“He does not think that there’s a man out there whose worthy of having me.”

“I can see why” Xavier’s responses had me looking over at him. He was definitely different from all the other men I knew and that was saying something.

I could not believe my eyes when Xavier parked right outside Duke’s. It was the most expensive restaurant in Hillbrow which was situated on the 100<sup>th</sup> floor of Palace Rosenberg.

“Xavier this is...Wow”

I could not believe my eyes as looked up at him.

“Only the best for my girl” He stated as he entwined our hands before we made our way inside.

“Mr Wade, what an honour a butler stated as we enter the grand entrance hall.

“This is Melissa Hue, my woman” Xavier stated.

“Ms. Hue, it’s an honour” The butler stated as he led us to the elevator.

“What are you looking at?” Xavier was looking at me and the elevator wasn’t going as fast as I wanted it to.

“A beautiful woman” He stated making me look up at him.

“Is that all you see?”

“No, I see a very strong and powerful woman, one who has taught herself to be tough. I also see a very curious woman whose afraid of being hurt and does not want to let people know her, the real her.”

“You better stop watching soap operas” I warned as Xavier laugh. The thing was that he had been spot on about everything, but I did not want him to know that.

A gasp came out of my mouth when my hair fell down in waves behind my back.

“I like you hair down” Xavier stated as he placed my hair pin in his pocket.

Goodness, why was the elevator going so slow?

“Don’t be afraid of me Mel”

“I’m not afraid” I responded as Xavier closed the distance between us.

“You can’t lie to me”

“I’m not” I was saying one thing, but my emotions were saying another. I had no idea what I was afraid of, but I wasn’t ready to deal with it.

“I would never hurt you” He stated as he pushed a few strands of loose her behind my ear.

I wanted to believe him, but I could not shake this feeling in the pit of my stomach.

“You promise?”

“I promise” He replied as the elevator finally came to a complete halt.

I could not believe my eyes when we entered the restaurant the setting was Victorian and the place smelled incredible.

There were about twenty tables all in all and Xavier had gotten us closets one to the huge open windows that overlooked the whole of Hillbrow.

A smile crossed my face as Xavier helped me sit before he took his seat and smiled at me.

“Good evening Sir, Madam, May I please take your orders.” A waiter muttered breaking our stare.

“We’re have you special and please bring us a bottle of Dom Perignon 2003 Rosé” Xavier stated. The waiter took a bow before he disappeared to the kitchen.

“I hope I don’t offend you, but my father wants to meet you”

I had no words...Why would Xavier’s father want to meet me?

“Um...You told him about me?”

“ I did”

“Are you sure that he said he wanted to meet me?”

“Mel I would know if he hadn’t. Don’t panic, he didn’t ask to meet you tonight”

Xavier’s words had me taking a hug deep breath...That was close.

“So you think you can come for dinner sometime?”

“Yeah, but I need to inform my parents first.”

“That’s obvious, I wouldn’t want your father to hit him”

“He would never do that”

“Are you sure?” Xavier teased as a plate of Richmond Oysters was placed on out table.

“Maybe he would, but he isn’t a violent man”

“I hope you’re hungry” Xavier murmured before took a shell and slurped.

The evening went by quickly after we had our Oysters and by the time we had desert I was tired.

“Let’s finish this chocolate-caramel tart”

I nodded my head at Xavier before I moaned when I took my first bite.

“Are you trying to kill me with all this sweetness?” I asked.

“Yes”

Xavier was a breath of fresh air and I could not believe the time when we got back to his car. It was almost eleven which gave us enough time to get back home.

“Mel” Xavier whispered.

I looked up and could not believe that I had fallen asleep on his shoulder.

“Hey, we’re home” He stated.

I looked around and could not help, but blush when I realised that I had literally fallen asleep.

“I’m sorry” I whispered.

“It’s okay, your bodies not used to being up this late.”

“But you look fine” And he did. It looked like he could go on for another hour or so.

“That’s because I usually study until 11:45 in the evening”

“I had so much fun today and you really spoiled me...Thank you”

The smile I saw on Xavier’s face had me biting my lower lip as I looked into his baby blue eyes.

“I’m glad you had fun tonight, I enjoyed your company immensely”

I watched as he walked all the way around to open the door for me.

“Go upstairs and get into bed, I’ll call you in the morning” Xavier ordered.

“Thank you again for tonight”

“It’s my duty to make sure that your always happy” He stated as he pulled me into his arms.

A light blush hit my face when Xavier kissed my cheek.

“If you keep this up then you’ll leave me with no other choice, but to reward you” I warned.

“What kind of rewards are we talking about here?” Xavier asked.

“That’s for me to know and for you to find out” I responded as slipped out of his hands and got inside the house.

## **Chapter 15: Oh My Gosh**

“Are you ready?” Jules asked as I braided my hair to the side.

“I’m almost done. I can’t believe that it’s already Sunday”

I had spent most my Saturday with Jules and Cara and I was excited about the huge family lunch that we were going to have this afternoon.

“Let’s get going...I can already hear Pastor Morrison’s voice warning me about being late” Cara noted as she pulled on her heels.

“Whose car are we taking?”

“Mine.” Jules stated as she grabbed her clutch.

“Why don’t we take Mel’s car?” Cara asked.

“I drive a gold Lexus LFA...Don’t you think that it’s a bit too flashy?”

That was why I hardly ever drove it anywhere.

“All the more reason to drive it or else it will rust” Cara warned.

We all made our way to Jules' red Jeep Renegade and made our way to church.

We arrived 10 minutes before the service and it was obvious from the stares that people could not believe that we had arrived on time.

"This is going to be a great day, I can feel it" Cara's words had both Jules and I looking up at her, what was this girl planning?

"Oh My Gosh" Jules muttered.

"What is it?"

"I don't know what kind of powers you have, but you need to share" She continued confusing me even more.

I turned around and could not believe my eyes as I saw Xavier walking towards us in a navy suit.

"Wow, he really came" Cara whispered making both Jules and I stare at her.

"I'll explain everything later" She stated as I felt a pair of strong arms around my waist.

"Hi" Xavier greeted making me blush.

I turned around and could not help, but note how everyone was looking at us.

"Hi" I responded.

"Ladies" Xavier greeted and you know Jules and Cara, they swooned.

"What are you doing here?" I knew very well that Xavier was not a Christian let alone Religious so seeing him there just smelted my heart.

"I'm your boyfriend" He stated like that was suppose to explain everything.

"Ward" My father greeted as he literally stepped between Xavier and I...How could I have forgotten that my parents were right over there!?

"Mr. Hue...Good Morning" Xavier greeted.

"I had no idea that your Christian"

"I'm not, I'm just here to support Melissa"

My father wasn't pleased when he heard those words coming out of Xavier's mouth, but even knew that it took a lot for rich people to even set foot in a church so he did not push the matter forward.

"Did Melissa invite you over for lunch?" My father asked.

"No Sir"

"You should come" He stated shocking both Xavier and I.

Wow...Did your father just invite me over for lunch?" Xavier asked as we entered the church.

"Yes he did" Even Jules and Cara were whispering about it as we got inside the Church.

When the service was over, I could not help, but smile as we got inside Xavier's car.

"Xavier do you think that maybe we're taking this a bit too far?"

"How do you mean?"

“We’re in this relationship for revenge...What happens after we get our revenge?”

It seemed like we were spending a lot of time and energy into something that wasn’t even going to last.

“I haven’t even thought that far. We’ll cross that bridge when we get to it.”

He was avoiding my question, but I could not blame him since we had already crossed the line.

“I forgot to tell you that you look lovely” he stated breaking the ice.

I was wearing a simple white knee-high pencil skirt and a baby blue silk blouse with a pair of white heels and that was it.

“I think that you look very handsome...You really looked good on Friday, but today you look very handsome.”

“You should stop giving me compliments or else I’ll blush” His words had me laughing as looked at his twinkling eyes.

We arrived at my house in no time and I must say that I was looking forward to hearing what Jules’ parents would say when they found out that I was dating a Ward.

“Are there going to be a lot of people?” I could not help, but smile as I noted how worried Xavier suddenly became when we got out of the car.

“Just my parents, Jules parents, Cara, Jules and me”

“Have you thought about what I said on Saturday night?”

“You mean about the invitation?”

“Yes”

The truth was that I hadn’t thought about it, but I didn’t want to give Xavier the impression that I wasn’t interested in meeting his father so I nodded my head as we entered the house.

Luckily Jules and Cara were the only ones who had arrived.

“Finally, Mel come and help Jules in the kitchen” Cara stated as she took hold of Xavier’s hand and led him to the lounge.

“You two are getting pretty close” Jules commented as I washed my hands by the sink.

“That’s what I’m afraid of...This is supposed to be a fake relationship, but were getting our families involved.”

“Why do you worry so much? Xavier is into you”

Jules words had me looking at the lounge were Cara was interrogating Xavier.

“No he isn’t”

“Mel the guy worships the very ground you walk on. Everyone was talking about the two of you today”

“Jules his not even over Candice yet”

Xavier and I had only known each other for over a month and yes we were close, but not that close.

“And how would you know? That guy likes you and I think you like him too”

“I do not” Why would Jules accuse me of such?

“Then what are you afraid of if you don’t like him ha? You’re afraid of loving him”

Our parents walked through the door and Jules’ parents made quick work of introducing themselves to Xavier before they started with the question.

I could see how uncomfortable Xavier was so I placed the last dishes on the large dining table before I called everyone for lunch.

“I hear that you’re the best quarterback the Lyons have ever had. Are you thinking about going pro after College?” My father asked as I dished up for Xavier.

“That’s what I would like to do, but my father wants me to join the family business”

“That’s understandable”

“So, I take it that this thing between you and Mel serious since you’ve involved your families right?” Cara asked making me take another a gulp of my wine.

I found that could not help, but blush when Xavier looked over at me before he looked Cara right in the eyes.

“We’re serious”

“That’s good to know because I won’t allow anyone to take advantage of my daughter” My father warned.

What was wrong Cara!?! I mean seriously, why would she mention such things in front of my father?

“We’ll I’m happy. I mean just look at the two of them, they’re going to make some really good looking babies” Cara continued which result in Xavier nearly spilling his drink.

“Um, what a lovely service we had today” I interjected trying to draw everyone away from the serious topic of babies and careers.

“It was...Goodness I can’t believe that you’re not Christian” Cara commented making both Jules and I groan.

“Mel is a nun and the only way that cookie is ever going to get out of the...”

I could not help, but drop my wine glass on top on Xavier’s shirt.

“Oh goodness, I’m so sorry” I made a show of getting a few paper towels and patting Xavier’s shirt as I gave Cara a look that could scare ghosts.

Why couldn’t she just keep quiet!?

“Mel please show Xavier to the bathroom and help him clean up” My mother stated.

I immediately stood with Xavier right behind me and made my way to my bedroom.

"I'm sorry about that" I was embarrassed and my flushed face showed it.

"Don't worry about me, I'm just surprised that no one has said anything yet" He commented, but I wasn't because I knew every well that everyone wanted to know why Xavier wasn't a Christian, but I didn't say a thing as I opened my bedroom door.

"Pretty cool ha?" I muttered as I made my way to my adjoining closet.

"Impressive is more like it" He mumbled looking all around my sanctuary.

It was a true skateboarder's dream.

My bedroom walls were decorated in different kinds of skateboards, the walls were painted blue while my floor was entirely made of glass over looking my sneaker collection right underneath.

The best part of it, well my favourite part was my Emerson Knife collection. I had everything from the CQC-13, Bulldog, the N-SAR and the Commander...all the way to the Gentleman Jim.

The Phantom Super Karambit was my favourite of course...don't ask me why.

"I better be careful from now on or else I might find one of these babies embedded in my chest" Xavier teased as he smiled at me.

"You said it, not me" I responded as I placed a plain white t-shirt over my bed.

"Take off your shirt"

"What?" Xavier asked as if he could not believe what I had just said.

"You need to get out of the wet shirt before you catch a cold" I stated as I helped him take of his jacket.

"Oh, I thought you wanted all this solid muscle to yourself" He whispered making me blush.

"Um...I'll be outside if you need anything." I stated as I rushed over to the door.

I did not have to wait long as Xavier emerged from my bedroom.

"Does it fit you well?"

It was my Cousin Tanner's shirt and he was around Xavier's size, but he didn't have the kind of muscles that Xavier had.

"It's a bit tight, but it's okay. Thank you" He stated as we made our way back to the dining table.

It seemed to take forever before lunch ended, but I was relieved when it finally came to an end.

"I'll see you tomorrow morning" Xavier stated as he made his way to his car.

"You better tap that soon before someone else tries to take your man" Those were Cara's last words to me as she also took off and made her way back to Summerville.

## Chapter 16: Watch your tone

Growing up is hard and so is discovering that everything in your life is nothing more than a big fat lie.

"Are you ready to go?" Xavier asked.

I was late again, but I had managed to eat some cereal before I kissed my parents and followed him outside.

"You look stunning, as always" He muttered as he ran his hand through his hair. I was getting long by the day and surprising I like it.

"I'm just wearing a blue maxi dress, nothing special"

"Well you make it look special" He commented making me blush.

"Please stop teasing me" It was Monday and you'll know how I felt about this day...

"Do you know Prestige Hall"

"Who doesn't?" It was a yearly event that honoured the best athletes from Hillbrow.

"I've been invited to attend the ceremony this year" He stated making me smile.

"That is incredible Xavier, I'm so happy for you" I could not help, but reach over and place a kiss on his cheek.

"I have a plus one listed on my card and I would really like it if you came with me."

His words had me looking up at him like he was crazy.

Not only was the event three days long, but it started this very week and my parents would NEVER allow me to go with a sexy, rich boyfriend to Palm Beach to make out for three days straight.

It was called the 'shank haven' for a reason!

"I don't know...its short notice" I stated.

Xavier nodded his head in understanding he parked his car.

We were late for school, but I need to see Jules.

She had promise to talk to me about Luke, but we hadn't gotten a chance to do so.

"I'm going to look for Jules, don't do anything I wouldn't" I warned a laughing Xavier before I entered the school halls.

We had a free period, thank goodness or else I would have gotten a detention slip, again.

I found Jules in the Library.

I didn't have to guess that things were bad since I could see that she was in tears.

"It's a lie...it's all a lie Mel" She whimpered as I sat beside her.

"I don't understand" I murmured.

She hastily took out a picture from her denim pocket and it made me nearly fall off my chair.

"All this time...they lied to us" She murmured.

The picture I was holding in my hand ripped through my heart over and over again.

I helped Jules up as we made our way towards the parking lot. What I needed were answers and I knew just where to get them regarding this photo.

My parents were surprised when Jules and I showed up.

"Explain this" I murmured handing Joshua the incriminating picture.

"Honey this is all just...."

"A misunderstanding, a fling, a lie!?" I asked. The tears I had tried so hard to control were now freely flowing down my face.

"Sweetie please...let's sit down and talk about this" My dad murmured. "No...I just want to know the truth. We want to know the truth" I murmured holding on to Jules' hand. "Okay then" my dad whispered before he took out his phone.

Not even a minute later, Jules' parents showed up.

"I know that I haven't been that open with you about your mother sweetie, but I thought...we thought that it was for the best" Josh stated looking over at Jules' mom Ashley.

"I'm so sorry Honey" Ashley murmured looking at Jules with pain in her eyes.

"It's true, your twins and Ashley and I are your really parents" Josh continued making me gape.

He not even realise how sick that sounded?

Jules and I had grown up together as neighbour while in actual fact we were sister, twins for goodness sake and not one had they decided to tell us that we were more than neighbours.

Now all the joint parties and vacations made sense, what was wrong with these people!?

"Why didn't you say anything?"

"We wanted you, Ashley wanted to tell you guys so badly, but I was afraid that you'd hate us once you found out."

My father's words did nothing, but anger me even more.

"Mel I have always loved you and you know that. I can promise you that we never ever meant to hurt the two of you it's just that everything happened so suddenly and Josh and I were married at the time...It just all got out of hand" Ashley's just did not make sense.

"Ashley and I were married and then we had you guys and we realised that we wanted different things in life."

"What do you mean by that?" Jules asked.

“Ashley was ready for the family scene, but I wasn’t and that’s when we met Lilly and Bryan. We were at a work function we clicked.”

“So you’re saying that you were married to Ashley and that Brain was married to Lilly?” I could not believe what I was hearing.

“Yes.” Josh responded making me shake my head.

“So you’ll decided to change partners”

“Yes” How sick was that!?

“You don’t even look shameful...I am so disgusted right now that the thought of being here with you all...It just sickens me, you all sicken me” I hollered.

“Watch your tone” Josh warned, but I was way passed gone.

“I’m going to have dinner with Xavier and his family tonight and then I’m going to come back here and get all my stuff. I’m moving out”

“Mel please be reasonable, we didn’t plan this, please don’t hurt us by making such a rash decision.” Lily stated.

“I’m done” I stated as I grabbed my purse and left.

I too out my phone and called the one person I knew I could count on.

“Xavier”

“Yes” He responded.

“I need you, please come and pick me up by my house”

“I’m on my way”

I didn’t even wait five minutes before he helped me get inside the car and cry on his shoulders.

## **Chapter 17: Are you okay?**

"Lord I know that I always pray the same prayer and ask for the same old things, but today Lord I'm broken, I'm so distort. Why me Lord? Why now...Jules forgives so easily, why can't I? I'm trying, but the pain is too much. How can I possibly forgive them for this? Lord please help me, please save my soul and help."

That was the prayer I cried out as I sat on Xavier's couch. He was still parking the car in the garage.

Everything was just a mess and I didn't know whether my parents and I's relationship would ever be the same again.

"Come here" Xavier whispered as I broke down again.

I ran into his arms and cried my heart out against his chest.

"I just can't believe that they kept it from us...for so long" I muttered as I gained a bit of composure over myself.

"What your parents did was unfair, but they still love you Mel...I can tell. They love both you and Jules and I don't think that it was never their intention to hurt the both you." He muttered.

It amazed me how wise he was when he couldn't even manage to keep his grades up, maybe school wasn't the issue here and football was the problem, but now wasn't the time to talk about all that.

"You think so?" I asked looking up at him.

"I know so. Now I want you to get some rest..." He stated making me sigh.

"Don't forget to wake me up on time so that we can go over to your house for diner"

"I won't" He responded.

I was tired anyway, so I decided not to argue and rest for a while.

I didn't even realize that I had over slept until I felt Xavier lightly shake my shoulder.

"Mel...it's time to get up" He whispered making me smile.

"It's nearly six in the evening so why don't you take a quick shower while I start the car?"

"Okay"

The water did an amazing job of soothing my aching muscles. My head felt clearer now and I was thankful for that.

I didn't know what I was going to do yet regarding my parents, but I knew that the situation would remedy itself somehow.

I wrapped a towel around myself as I made my way back to the bedroom.

I accidently tripped and pumped head first with a brick wall, or so I thought before I realized that it was Xavier.

"Ouch" I groaned as I rubbed the side of my head.

"Are you okay? You need to stop being so clumsy" He grunted making me roll my eyes at him.

"Don't roll your eyes at me woman...I mean it" He stated making me bite my lower lip.

"What are you going to do if I don't?" I asked hoping to get a reaction from him.

I couldn't help, but gasp when he pulled me by my waist to his chest.

"If you ever roll your eyes at me again then I'll have no choice, but to kiss you" He responded making my heart beat a little bit faster.

I didn't know what it was, but a strange euphoric feeling went through my body as I looked into Xavier's determined eyes.

"I...I...it's your fault anyway. I told you to keep off of those drugs, but you wouldn't listen" I reasoned, my cheeks heating up a bit.

"Women...get dressed and meet me outside in 5 before I make good on my promise" He stated before he left.

I could not help, but stare at his butt as he closed the door behind him...Goodness that rear was still in shape!

We arrived at Xavier's home just in the nick of time.

"I can't believe that it's raining so much"

"Neither can I, this has to be the biggest storm that Hillbrow's had in the past six years"

"I don't think we'll be able to drive back in this storm" Xavier continued making me gape at him.

"What? I don't control the weather" He teased as he opened the front door for us.

"Are you ready to meet my family?" He asked as we made our way through the halls.

"Yes" I replied. I wasn't ready, but I couldn't chicken out now.

Xavier entwined our hands as we entered the kitchen and I don't know why, but everyone turned and looked at me as Xavier led me to an empty chair.

"Everyone this is my woman Melissa, Mel this is my family" Xavier murmured as he opened the chair for me.

"Good evening" I greeted as I sat down. I got a few nods and a single hello in return.

I was more than surprised when I saw that Candice was sited next to Ronan, clearly this girl had no shame and her ignorance knew no bounds.

"This is my father Roberto Ward and his newest toy Helena and you remember Ronan, my lovely brother and the door mat better known as Candice" The sarcasm in Xavier's statement had me taking a large gulp of my water...Who knew that he could talk like that!?

"Don't talk about Helena like that" His father warned.

"At least you remembered her name" Xavier responded as he took a seat beside me.

"Shut up boy before I do something I might regret" His father growled.

I grabbed Xavier's hand under the table and entwined it with mine.

I knew that every family had its problems, but not like this. This was just bonkers and we hadn't even eaten yet.

"Your bimbo looks nothing like your usual type" His brother Ronan muttered as Xavier and I were served our first meal.

"How would you know what my usual type is when you're always after my leftovers" Xavier muttered making me choke.

"Are you okay?" He asked as I took a sip of water.

I nodded my head at him and tried to relax, but it was hard.

We all heard the door bell ring and soon afterward, a very beautiful tall woman walked into the room and made her way to Roberto.

"Baby" She muttered as she took a seat on his lap.

Helena looked appalled and got up from her chair.

"Roberto, who is this?" She asked.

"My pick for the night" He stated kissing the woman who was sitting on his lap.

"How could you? I thought we had something" Helena commented as she placed her napkin on the table.

"What's your name again?" Roberto asked as he looked up at her.

Helena didn't waste any more time as she headed for the door...I quietly ate my food wanting this dinner to end as soon as possible.

"I remember you...You were in the paper with Xavier" The woman stated looking down at me.

I nodded my head at her before I focused on my plate.

"No one recognised you so I take you that you're middle class?" She asked, more like stated.

Xavier stood up, ready to stand up for me, but I placed my hand on top of his.

"I'm okay and so is my family" I replied.

"Mm...Definitely middle class" She stated making everyone laugh except Xavier and I.

Roberto took that as his queue to speak.

"I see that my two sons have decided on the women they would like to stand by their side so this is a great time for me to announce that I'm cutting the both of you off effective, immediately" Roberto stated.

The fighting started then and everyone was talking over the other.

I guess it's what happens when you grow up in money without any worries and then it's suddenly taken away from you.

"One of you is going to take over the Ward Empire and who that is depends on how you handle yourselves from this day fourth. You both have supportive women behind who have money, well one woman so there shouldn't be any problems." Roberto concluded.

Candice kept throwing me evil smirks as if it were already guaranteed that Ronan had won while the boys fought and argued like there was no tomorrow.

## Chapter 18: Like what you see?

“Mom I’m fine” I repeated. It was nearly 9 PM in the evening and was still at Xavier’s place due to the storm.

“Have you forgiven us?” She asked.

“Mom please, let’s not talk about that” I had no idea why I had even called her.

“Your father and I didn’t mean to lie, I promise that we’ll explain everything once you get home tomorrow” She continued.

“Mom I meant what I said...I’m moving out”

“Mel please, can’t we just talk about this tomorrow? I mean your birthday’s this weekend please”

“Mom I just called to let you know that I’m sleeping over at Xavier’s since we can’t come out in this storm.” I stated before I ended the call.

“What did she say?” Xavier asked as I emerged from the bedroom.

“She wants me to come back home.”

“I take it you’re not ready?” He asked.

“No...”

“Let me change and then we’ll talk about this whole thing with your father” I stated as I took the bag Jules and packed for me and made my way back to the bedroom.

I tried to find something decent to wear, but came out short.

“Could you please borrow me one of your shirt?”

Xavier handed me a white shirt of his before he left the bedroom to give me some much needed privacy.

I took off my clothes before I wore the shirt that Xavier had given me.

It was a good think that nearly reached my knees or else I would have been in serious trouble considering that I wasn’t even wearing a bra.

I found Xavier lying on the bed in just a pair of blue boxers.

He wasn’t my type, but the man was dangerously handsome.

I could not help, but bite my lower lip as I joined him on the bed and looked at his abs.

“Like what you see?” He teased as sat up.

I could feel my cheeks heating up a bit as I looked up at him.

“I do” I whispered before I laughed when I saw him gaping like he could not believe that I had responded.

“I want to ask you something about Candice?” I had no idea where I was suddenly getting all this confidence, but I was tired of holding myself back.

Xavier nodded his head encouragingly as I bit my lower lip.

“Are you over her?”

“I am...Why are you asking?”

“I don’t want to be in a fake relationship anymore” I stated as I looked up at him.

Xavier didn’t say anything for a while as he just stared at me.

“What do you want?” He asked.

“I want...I want a real relationship...With you” I stated.

“You know what I want?” He asked. I shook my head at him as I waited for him to tell me, but Xavier closed the distance between us and captured my lips with his own...

Our lips were moving in sync as Xavier pulled me atop him making me straddle him.

I found that I could not help, but moan when Xavier deepened the kiss making me pull at his hair as he took the lead and left me breathless.

This was my first kiss and it felt incredible.

“You’re not the only one who wants a real relationship” He stated before he kissed me again making me wrap my arms around his thick neck.

“Xavier” I moaned as he bit my lower lip making me gasp before he thrust his tongue inside my mouth.

Goodness I was already getting hot so I did the only rational thing I could think of and broke the kiss.

“I need to tell you something”

We were both out of breath as Xavier smiled at me.

“You can tell me anything” He encouraged.

“My last name is not Hue, its Albert” It was a secret that my family had paid a lot of money to keep under-wraps so that Jules and I could have a normal life.

“I don’t understand”

“My father’s full name is Joshua Gregory Albert”

“No way” Xavier stated as he started laughing.

“What’s so funny?” I asked

“As funny as it sounds I’m not surprised. One wonder your father doesn’t like the fact that I’m a Ward”

“So you forgive me for lying all this time?” I asked as I bit my lower lip.

“Of course I forgive you.”

It was then that I remember that I was still straddling him and seeing Xavier’s chest, rise and fall had me slowly sliding my hands down his sculpted chest to his hard, washboard abs.

Goodness he was so hot that I had to stop myself from letting my hands travel all the way down.

“I would never push you into doing something you’re not ready for” He stated.

“I know” I responded as I looked up at him.

“Saturday is Jules birthday which means that it’s also my birthday and I was think about throwing a party at my house”

“Wow, do you parents know about this?”

“No, but I want to throw a house party and give Jules something she’s never had before” I stated.

“You know that huge Lake house that’s close to Palm Beach?”

“Yeah”

“I own it and I was thinking of having the party there.”

“Are you sure? I mean it’s good that you want to do something this big for your sister, but your parents will most probably have something planed for Jules and you”

Xavier’s words had me getting off him as I climbed inside the bed covers.

“Can we please not talk about my parents?”

“Fine” Xavier responded as he also got inside the bed covers.

“Have you thought about your father’s words?” I asked as I looked into his light blue-grey eyes.

“Yes and I don’t know if I can handle it”

“What do you mean?” It wasn’t like his father would put them out on the street or anything like that...

“I have about 20 million to my name right now and I don’t know if it’s going to be enough to last me the whole year”

His words had me laughing until I realised that he was serious.

“Xavier people work all their whole lives and don’t even come close to making 20 million. What kind of expenses do you have that make you think that 20 million is not a lot of money?” I asked.

“My car for starters”

“Then get a cheaper and more eco-friendly car” I suggested.

“See...20 Million is not enough” I could not help, but laugh as I switched off the lights.

“Get some sleep...We’ll talk about this in the morning” And sleep is exactly what we did...

## Chapter 19: Do you know what this means?

I could not help, but groan when I woke up to find that it was still raining.

It was still a bit too early for school, but I decided to take a much needed shower, making sure not to wake Xavier as I made my way to the bathroom.

I found a new tooth brush which I used and made sure to use mouth wash afterwards since I intended to kiss Xavier a lot today.

A light blush hit my cheeks as I remember last night's kiss.

Not only was Xavier hot, but he really knew how to kiss and I would make sure that he kissed me every day.

The shower did elevate my mood a bit as I got dressed in a pair of black skinny jeans, a long sleeved red shirt and a pair of white adidas Missy Elliot Rhythm Lo sneakers.

I made sure to pull my hair up in a ponytail before I made my way back to the bedroom where I found Xavier still sleeping.

"Hey" I whispered as I gently tugged at his shoulder.

"Mm"

"It's time to wake up"

I could not help, but smile as I watched Xavier yawn before he started stretching.

"Morning" He greeted when he got a proper look at me.

"Morning Mr. Ward"

"You look lovely"

"Why thank you...Go freshen up while I go downstairs and make us some breakfast"

"Okay" I watched as he made his way to the bathroom...Lord have mercy. That butt was going to be the death of me.

I was relieved when I found the kitchen empty. It was almost seven which meant that the kitchen staff would be here in a bit and that left me with just enough time to make Xavier a proper breakfast.

I opened the fridge and was delighted to find all the ingredients that I was looking for.

It me about 15 minutes to make two grilled spinach, feta and egg wraps before I made the healthy smoothies and made my way back to Xavier's room with the tray in hand.

"I hope you're hungry" I stated as I closed the door behind me.

Xavier quietly made his way towards me in a pair of black jeans and nothing more.

"Xavier" I gasped as he pulled me into his arms before he kissed me like it was for the very last time.

I found myself breathless when he finally broke the kiss and smiled at me.

“I’m famished” He stated as he led the way to the neatly made bed.

“Mm...This is really good”

A large smile graced my face when I saw him eating every last bit of his wrap.

I ate alongside him, making sure that he drank his smoothie before I ordered him to put a shirt on.

“Come here” He stated as few minutes later.

I could not believe my eyes when he took out his football jacket and handed it to me.

“It’s still raining outside and I don’t want you to get cold”

I tried to hide my smile, but I couldn’t as I wore the navy and gold jacket.

“Do you know what this mean?”

Footballers at Hillbrow never ever gave their girlfriends their team jackets unless they wanted everyone to know that they were taken and not just by anyone, but by a woman they deemed worthy to be alongside them for the long haul.

“I want everyone you know that it’s you Baby...No one else” He stated.

I started jumping around before I stood on my tippy toes and showed Xavier just how happy I was.

“I’m very serious about us and I don’t want you to ever doubt this” I nodded my head at him as I continued to smile.

The whispered started the second I got out of Xavier’s car.

Everyone could not believe that I had stolen the heart of the Captain of our football team.

“Oh I forgot to tell you. Patrick placed a surprise for you in your bag.

I opened my bag and laughed when I saw the pink flyers that had both Jules and my face on them.

The words “Join Us for Our Super Hero 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party!” were written at the top and the invitations had an address and RSVP number.

“Wow; when did you do this?” I don’t remember him talking to Patrick last night so this was a total surprise.

“I woke up in the early hours of the morning and had a nice chat with Patrick.”

“Thank you” I could not help, but pull him in for a kiss that had the whole student body whistling and clapping in approval.

“May I hand them out now?” I asked as I looked into his mischievous eyes.

“You don’t need to ask for my permission, I’m with you either way”

Even though I was shy and still a bit self conscious about myself, I made my way to the masses and started distributing those flyers with the kind of enthusiasm that demanded positive reactions.

“Wow, I can’t believe that Melissa Hue is inviting us to her party!” Jenna Fox hollered as she looked over to her friends.

“So will you guys come?” I asked as I handed them they invitations.

“We wouldn’t miss this for the world...We’ll definitely RSVP”

I could not help, but smile as I made my way to another group of students.

“I hope you don’t mind if we take a picture with you?” One of the girls asked.

“Of course not” I stated as we all grouped together and a few photos of us were taken.

“So I’ll see you guys at the party?”

“Yes” They responded.

Everything was going fantastic until I literally bumped into Candice Sweeny.

“I don’t know what you think you’re doing, but you’re not going to take my grown away from me” She stated.

“What are you talking?” This party was for my sister, nothing else.

“Don’t act stupid with me. We both know that you’re throwing this party so that everyone can vote for you to be Prom Queen” She stated.

“Get over yourself, this is not about prom” I stated

“I even see that Xavier has given you his jacket...You know he’s only using you” She continued.

“I’ll take my chances” And I meant those words. Xavier was different from the rest of the guys that I had met and I was sticking with him no matter what.

“Don’t say I didn’t warn you when he take your virginity and goes for someone untainted” Her words had me seeing flames, but I took a deep breath before I looked Candice in the eye.

“Xavier is my man and this little show your making just proves what a pompous little swine you are. Back off before I teach you a lesson you’ll never forget.” I stated before I left her hanging with her troop of wolves.

“I’ll get you for this” She hollered. I didn’t even pay her any kind of attention as I made my way to class.

I had no idea why Candice always made everything about her. This party was for Jules and I was not going to let a doorknob like Candice make me fume. If she wanted a war then she was most definitely going to get a war.

## Chapter 20: I have a gift for you

“I don’t understand, what do you mean when you say that you’ll be at the Light house” My father as I took a deep breath and looked over at Jules.

“I’m throwing a house party”

“You’re what!?” My mother hollered.

“What has gotten into you?” I had no idea what my father meant by that question, but I didn’t waste my time trying to explain.

“Honey are you doing this because you want to punish us?” My mother asked as she came and sat beside me.

“No, I’m angry that the both of you for lying to me, but this is about Jules and I. We can have lunch here with you guys, but we’re having that house party”

“I knew that Ward boy was trouble the minutes he stepped through my door. Look at what he had done to us, to us.”

“Xavier has nothing to do with this.” I stated as I took a deep breath.

“I also wanted to inform you guys that I’m to Prestige Hall with Xavier tomorrow and I won’t be back until Friday”

“You’re not going anywhere” My father stated.

“Josh please come down” My mother begged.

“Honey where is all this coming from? I don’t know if this is a phase or what, but I don’t like it. Mel honey this is not like you”

“I’m going to pack my stuff” I stated as I got up and made my way to my room.

I could hear my parents questioning Jules about all these things as I pulled some clothes out of my closet.

I had no idea why they were being so hard on me.

Yes I didn’t usually throw parties and I was always the good girl, but I also wanted to have fun, I also wanted to let loose a bit and live.

“If you get out of that door right now then don’t bother coming back here again” My father stated.

“Josh what are you saying, this is our daughters home and I will not allow you to say such words to her” My mother hollered.

“I’m tired of this attitude of yours and I meant what I said...Don’t bother coming back”

“Jules I’ll call you later” I stated before I left and made my way to the garage where I placed all my bags in my car before I drove to Xavier’s house which was a solid five minute drive.

“Hey” Xavier greeted as I entered the house.

“Hi” I greeted as I gave him a quick kiss.

“What’s wrong?” He asked as we sat down.

“Xavier I need you to promise me that you won’t break my heart”

“Mel where is this coming from?”

“Please, I need to hear you say it...Please”

“I would never internationally hurt you...I promise” He stated as he pulled me on top of his lap.

I could nothing, but hold on to him as he wrapped his arms around me and held me close to him.

What was I going to do? How did my life get so complicated?

I didn't even realise that I had fallen asleep until I heard Xavier calling me.

“Go freshen...We're going out” I nodded at him before I went upstairs and did his bidding.

The sun was just going down and pain ripped through my chest when I remember the fight that I had with my parents.

My phone rang as I got out of the shower and a smiled crossed my face when I saw the caller ID.

“Jules” I greeted as I wrapped a towel around myself.

“Mel what happened today? I thought you said you didn't want to go to Prestige Hall”

“I didn't, but I changed my mind”

“Our parents are so furious right now and they just told me that I can go with Luke so that I can keep watch over you”

“I don't know what happened today...Please pray for me”

“Will, be safe” I ended the call and got dressed in a pair of white skinny jeans and a pink t-shirt, luckily it had stopped raining, but it was a bit chilly so I decided to grab a coat before I made my way to the lounge.

“Are you ready?”

“Yes”

I had no idea where Xavier was taking me, but the last place I expected was the mall.

“I can't believe that they already have the Christmas decoration on already” It was early October and most of the stores we passed were already well decorated.

“They just want people to get into the Christmas spirit that's all” Xavier stated as he entwined our hands.

“Where are you taking me?” It was Tuesday for crying out loud so I wanted to know where he was taking me.

“We're going to watch a movie and then I'm going to buy us a pizza” He stated making me laugh.

Xavier bought out tickets and I could not help, but laugh when I saw that we were going to watch the latest Jumangi.

“I forgot to tell me” I muttered as we took out seats...

“I would love to go to Prestige Hall with you if the offer is still on the table” I stated as I looked up at him.

“You just made me the happiest man today” He stated before he pulled me in for a kiss.

The movie started and I found myself enjoying it. Nothing beats the original, but it was still fun to see Kevin Hart and Dwayne Johnson.

“Did you enjoy the movie?”

“Yes” I responded as Xavier led us out of the cinema.

It was nearly 9 PM so Xavier made quick work of getting us back to his place in no time.

I was famished so I poured us a glass of juice while Xavier started piling out plates with food.

“I have a gift for you” He stated.

“What is it?” Xavier didn’t strike me as the kind of guy who bought things for his girlfriend, but I was surprised when he went up stairs and came back with blue, square shaped velvet box.

I opened it and could not help, but gasp when I saw what was inside.

“Xavier this is so beautiful”

I could not believe my eyes as I took another look at the 3 Carat Bezel Solitaire Diamond necklace with the matching earrings.

“Thank you Baby” I stated as I got off my chair and gave Xavier a kiss that left the both of us breathless...

“I’m going to spoil you rotten” He stated before he pulled me over his lap and fed me some pizza.

“Do you mind if I stay here with you tonight?” The simple truth was that I didn’t want to sleep alone in my big house.

“I don’t mind, but won’t your parents have a problem with you staying over?”

“I already talked to them and they’re okay with it” I lied as I fed Xavier so pizza.

“Okay then”

We spent the rest of the evening getting to know each other before got some much needed sleep.

## Chapter 21: It's just a card.

Palm Beach was the place to be and Jules and I didn't waste any time as we made our way to local stores to get some new swim suites.

"Did you tell Xavier about the fight you had with our parents?" Jules asked as we entered our first store.

"No...I don't even want to talk about that"

How could my father just banish me like that? Was it so wrong to want to have a life?

"How are things between you and Xavier?"

"Okay...I'm just glad that we're not in a fake relationship anymore"

"You know he misses you"

"Who?" What was Jules talking about?

"Josh, your father, our father" She stated.

"No he doesn't. If he missed me then he would have called me" I stated as I picked a pink and black bikini.

"Mel I'm telling you"

"Jules please...I want to forget about everything at home and focus on having fun"

I was being rude, but I was tired of thinking about a family that clearly did not want me. All my parents wanted, was to control me and nothing more.

"So tell me, are you and Xavier going to do the deed?"

I rolled my eyes at her as I picked out a white maxi dress.

"The 7 B's remember" I stated as we made our way to an empty teller.

"Mel come on, everyone can see that Xavier wants you"

"What's that suppose to mean? We're already an item"

"Mel I'm talking about sex. Xavier is a very virile man"

I could not help, but blush as I looked over in her direction.

"Did you and Luke do the deed?" I asked.

"No, but we're going to do it soon"

Her words had me gaping in her direction.

"Are you sure that you're ready for the emotionally baggage that's going to come with this?"

"I am. I love him and last night he professed his love to me" She blushed.

I could not help, but smile as I pulled Jules in for a hug.

"Wow...I hope you guys grow old together and make lots of pretty babies"

"Mel" She scolded as I paid for our items.

"Wow, is that Xavier's card?"

"It is, why?" What was so special about a card anyway?

“Mel your rich boyfriend has given you his limitless card...Wow he must love you to trust you with that express card” Jules concluded making me shake my head.

“It’s just a card”

“No it isn’t and you know it” she defended as we shopped some more.

By the time we got back to my room, I could not help, but groan. It was ready time for the pool party and Jules and I weren’t even ready.

“Did you check the line up for tomorrow’s events?” I asked as we got dressed in our bikinis.

“Yes, we have breakfast at 8:00h then it’s the HIV/AIDS & TB Awareness campaign which will be followed by the Mentorship workshop and then we have lunch at 13:00h and then the Award ceremony at 6:00h...You didn’t hear from me, but I can promise you that Xavier won’t win a sponsorship tomorrow because he has been short listed for the Princeton Scholarship Program”

I wanted to be happy for Xavier, but I couldn’t, not when I worried every time he was out there in the field.

“I also found out that if he survives the whole 48 minutes on the field then he will most definitely get sponsored”

“That’s great” I lied as I pulled my hair up in a bun.

“Mel what’s wrong?”

“Please don’t tell anyone what I’m about to tell you” I stated. I had promised Xavier that I wouldn’t tell, but Jules was my sister for crying out loud so of course I couldn’t help myself.

“If Xavier gets another hard knock...Jules’ chances are high that he could cause irrefutable damage to his brain”

Jules gasped as I nodded my head at her.

“That’s why he can’t keep his grades up. Xavier wakes up every day in the early hours of the day to go over work that shouldn’t even take him a few minutes to grasp...I’ve told him to stop, but he won’t listen to me”

“Wow, I had no idea that he was injured...I’m speechless”

We finished getting dressed before we got out of the room.

“Are you sure you want to go out there in just a bikini?” Jules asked as her eyes roamed over my body.

“What’s the big deal? Every female out there is going to be wearing one” I stated.

“Yes, but all those females are an average 32A and you’re a full 36C. Everyone is going to be wondering if you’ve gone under the knife” She stated making me laugh.

“Jules you’re also a 36C and you’re wearing a bikini” I stated.

“True, but I’m wearing a cover up on top”

“Jules is 7:00 in the evening, no one’s going to care” I stated as we made our way to the party.

Turns out I was very wrong.

Yes most of the females were wearing bikini only, but none of them had my kind of cleavage or curves and that brought on a lot of attention that had me wanting to run for the door, but Jules wouldn’t let.

She made her way to Luke and left me to all the stares that I had brought onto myself.

“Wow dolly, now this is a body” Maddox stated as he looked at my body like a piece of meat.

I didn’t even waste my time talking, I pushed him aside and started walking, but he grabbed my hand and pulled me back.

“Do you know who I am!?” He hollered as if I had no right to reject him.

“Hey Everyone” I hollered getting the attention of the students there. I was tired of Maddox’s harassment and I was up to here with his lack of respect for women.

“This guy right here does not know who he is so if anyone can be of assistance to him please don’t hesitate to inform him” I shouted.

Everyone laughed at Maddox as I made my way to Xavier who was inside the pool.

The DJ played the music again and the stares multiplied if that was even possible.

Xavier ushered me inside the pool before he wrapped his arms around my waist.

“That my girl” He teased as I smiled him

”You’re proud of me?” I asked as I wrapped my arms around my neck.

“You know I am” He responded as he took out my hair band making my hair fall down in waves.

“You look sexy in that bikini” He whispered as he nipped my ear making me blush.

“Hey Xavier...Why don’t you put us all out of our misery and kiss Melissa” The DJ shouted. All the people around us started shouting their approval making both Xavier and I laugh.

“What do you think, should we put them out of their misery?” Xavier asked as he pulled me even closer to him.

“I think we should” I stated before I kissed Xavier.

Sparks were flying between Xavier and I broke the kiss.

“Let’s get out of here and get some food” I stated.

“Are you sure about that?”

“What do you mean by that?” I asked.

Xavier didn't say anything as he pulled me against his body so that I could feel just how hard he already was.

I could not help, but blush as he started laughing at me.

We were in the pool for crying out loud and the thought of all the stares that we were going to get once we got out had me thinking twice about getting out of the water.

"Are you hungry?" Xavier asked.

"Yes" I wanted to lie, but I hadn't eaten since morning and I was starved for some much needed nutrition.

"Let's get out of here then" He stated.

Everyone and I mean everyone watched as we got out of the water. Xavier didn't even seem embarrassed as carried me in his arms and led me away from all the whistling and clapping.

"Why are they doing that?" I asked.

"Do you really want to know?" He asked.

"Yes"

"They think we're going to do the deed" He stated making me blush even further as I buried my head in his chest.

"Oh Mel, you always know how to make me smile" He stated as he laughed the whole way to our room.

## **Chapter 22: Are you guys a couple?**

"Morning" Xavier greeted as he entered our room with a plate full of goodies.

"Morning" I responded as I made my way toward him.

"Thank you for breakfast" I could not help, but pull him in for a kiss before I made my way back to the bathroom where I finished getting dressed.

My hair was still wet from the shower I had just taken so I pulled it up into a messy bun before I had breakfast with Xavier on the bed.

"The Awareness Campaign starts in a few minutes, do you want to go or do you want to do a bit of sightseeing?"

I wanted to go sightseeing, but I wanted us to attend the mentorship workshop and that was not going to happen if we went sightseeing.

"We should go to that Campaign...We might learn something new" I lied. Everyone knew what HIV/AIDS was about...It was going to be a bore, but I wanted to go that workshop for Xavier's sake.

“I know you said that you did not want us to talk about Football, but I was thinking that maybe you should think about coaching”

“Mel we talked about this” Xavier was getting upset, but I couldn’t stop myself.

“Xavier this is your life we’re talking about, I can’t just look away.”

“Please let’s not do this here” He got up from the bed and made his way to the door, but I reached it before him and stood in front of it.

“Please Baby, please just think about it” I begged.

“Mel you know how I feel about this”

Why couldn’t he just understand the danger involved with a sport like Football?

“My father coaches the kids at our Estates and he’s been thinking about retiring, but he hasn’t found another coach yet...I can talk to him and you can take over right after our finals”

“Mel” Xavier groaned.

“Just think about it, that’s all I’m asking”

“Okay” He agreed before we made our way to Hall 5 where the Campaign was being held.

I wasn’t surprised when Xavier and I found about 10 students there...

We were there for nearly an hour and I was relieved when it was finally over, but one of the personnel approached Xavier and I just as we were about to leave.

“Are you guys a couple?” The female asked.

“Yes” Xavier responded.

“We have a testing station available and we would like it very much if you guys could give us another 30 minutes of your time.

I wanted to say no, but the female was so enthusiastic that Xavier and I went to one of the booths and had them pick our fingers.

We both got counselled together and for the first time since we started dating I realised that Jules was right. Xavier was a virile man and I on the other hand was a nun.

“We have a lot of couples come in here, but they never want to get tested together.” The lady continued.

“Would you look at that, you’re both HIV negative.” She stated as she handed us our certificates and T-shirts. Maybe this way their way of getting more people to test and know their status, but no one wanted to talk about HIV, especially teenagers.

“Thank you for everything” I muttered as Xavier and I stood.

“Please wait” she stated as she rushed out and came back with a few packets of condoms.

“Remember to play it safe and enjoy yourselves.” She stated as she handed Xavier the condoms.

To say that I was embarrassed would have been an understatement.

Xavier on the other hand laughed all the way to hall 26 where the workshop was being held.

We listened to the speaker and by the time that workshop was over, I was certain that Xavier was thinking about the talk we had earlier.

“Let me take you out for lunch, my treat” I stated as we made our way back to our room.

“Mel as long as you’re my woman, I’ll never let you pay for anything” Xavier stated as he closed the door behind him.

“And why is that?” It wasn’t like money was an issue.

“Mel it’s my duty to protect you, to provide for you and to profess about you” He stated making me blush.

“Mm...Since that’s the case then you’d better give me a kiss because it’s been too long since I got a taste of those lips” I moaned.

Xavier didn’t waste time as he pushed me up against the wall and did my bidding.

“I love you” Xavier was we broke the kiss.

“Baby” I muttered as I pulled him in for another kiss.

I hadn’t expected to hear those words from him since he was always so reserved, but Xavier was full of surprises.

Yes I had feeling for Xavier, but I wasn’t at a stage where I could say that I loved him.

“Let’s go get that lunch” I stated as I broke the kiss.

The view from Palm Beach was just breath-taking. The mass Palm trees that adorned most of the area only added to the beauty of the place.

I found myself laughing when I Xavier ordered a seafood platter when we arrived at a local restaurant.

How one person could like sea food this much was an absolute mystery to me.

“So, have you gotten a costume for my birthday party? “ I asked as I started eating my prawns.

“Not...Hack I haven’t even decided what I’m going to be”

“I was thinking that you should dress up as Superman and I’ll be Elektra” I stated.

“Wow...Elektra” Xavier stated as his eyes roamed over my body making me blush.

“Jules and Luke are going to be Cyclops and Jean so we can’t copy them because it would just be weird” I stated as Xavier laughed.

“So you want me to be your Superman?”

“You already are” I whispered as I bit my lower lip.

We spent the next three hours trying to find suitable costumes for my party and then I made our way back to our room where we freshened up before we made our way to the Award Ceremony.

Jules looked incredible in a red, deep V-Neck long sleeved dress that ended just above her knees.

I had no idea why I had allowed her to make me wear an exact replica of her dress in navy, but you know that Jules always gets her way.

Xavier was handsome as always and I could not find a single fault in his metallic grey tux.

Top male and female sport students were called one by one to receive their certificates and those that were truly gifted, scholarships.

My heart nearly popped out of my chest when I heard Xavier's name being called. He was given his certificates and I know that it was fair to my man, but I was happy when he didn't get a sponsorship.

I did not want him to go pro and risk losing his life for a sport. It wasn't worth it and although it meant everything to him...It was better this.

"I'm so proud of you" I whispered as he came back and sat beside me.

I wasn't going to tell him about the Princeton Scholarship or else he would most definitely try to outdo himself on Friday and I just could not take that chance.

The Ceremony continued for another hour before dinner was served and then Xavier and I went back to our room where we spent the rest of the evening watching movies.

## **Chapter 23: I have a surprise for you**

It was Friday and I was still tired as Xavier and I packed our clothes.

"I know that you're disappointed about not getting a Sponsor, but I want you to know that I am so very proud of you. You're my hero" I stated as I pulled Xavier in for a kiss.

"I've been thinking about what you said...About coaching"

"Yes" I encouraged.

"I think that..."

A knock on the door had both Xavier and I looking in its direction.

"Come in" Xavier hollered.

"Morning beautiful people." Jules greeted as she entered the room.

"Hi Julissa"

"Xavier please don't get formal with me...I'm still young" She stated.

“Do you mind if I go with Jules?”

“No, It’s okay” Xavier stated before he gave me a kiss.

“I’ll see you at school” I stated before I gave him another kiss.

Xavier left soon afterwards leaving me with my bossy sister who helped me pack.

“I’m going to do the deed with Xavier tonight”

“Wow, does he know?” Jules as I pulled on some shoes before I left the room.

“No, I want it to be a surprise”

“Then we’d better get some lingerie” She smirked as we made our way to her car.

“I hope you’re going to give me free reign” She stated as we got inside her car.

“Of course as long as very thing you pick decent” I stated.

“Now how is that free reign?”

“Jules we both know that ‘close to nothing’ is your middle name when it comes to lingerie” I stated.

“Come on Mel...Xavier will love close to nothing”

I shook my head at her as she drove. Wearing lingerie didn’t mean that I had to look cheap.

“Have you found a costume for tomorrow?” I asked, changing the subject.

“Yes...You remember Uncle Ethan’s wife Kim?”

“Yes”

“She hooked me up with an exact replica of Jean’s costume in X-Men Last Stand...How cool is that?”

“That great news...Hopefully I can find a costume that looks exactly like Elektra’s by tomorrow”

They day went by quicker than expect and by the time Jules and were done shopping, it was nearly 19:00h which meant that the game was about to start.

We were both starving, but decided to get takeaways and eat when we got there.

“You still have Xavier’s jacket?” Jules asked as she parked the car.

“Yeah it’s at the back”

“Wear it. I want everyone to know that my sister is dating Xavier Ward” She stated making me laugh.

We both could not believe that they game had started, but we caught up quickly when we saw that the Lyons were up by 4 points.

The perks of dating the captain meant that Jules and I found two seats in the front row with our names on it

“Wow, I wish Luke was a footballer” Jules groaned as she took a bit of her burger.

It was starting to get chilly, luckily I had Xavier’s Jacket on and Jules was wearing Luke’s Baseball Jacket so we were both covered...Literally.

“Go Lyons!” Jules shouted making me gap at her.

“What? Your man is on that team?” She reasoned as I shook my head.

The game started to intensify in the last 10 minutes; the score was 18 to the Wolves and 14 to the Lyons.

We were on the verge of losing, and everything depended on us getting that ball.

The air started tingling when Xavier caught the ball and he and Alex- a running back, started passing the ball back and forth between them while they were being chased by the defensive end.

Everyone stood up as Xavier passed the defensive end with the ball in this hand.

We all watched, on the edge of our seats as he neared the defence’s end zone and the screams resounded across the whole field as Xavier entered the end zone for a touchdown.

The referee blew the whistle indicating the end of the games.

People were screaming while others were crying as the score board was changed to 20-18, we had won and Xavier was the reason behind our win.

Everything was going great until the quarterback of the Wolves tackled Xavier from behind making him fall, head first to the ground.

My head nearly stopped as I rushed over to the where Xavier was lying on the ground.

“Please God, please safe him” I prayed as neared his still form.

All the players from either side were fighting now and the referee was trying to keep the peace to no avail.’

“Baby...Please wake up” I begged as I got on my knees and gently shook Xavier’s shoulder.

The paramedics showed up placed him on a stretcher.

“Ma’am please step aside” They instructed.

“Mel” Xavier whispered.

“I’m here Baby...Everything’s going to be okay” I was worried and relieved at the same time as the medics let me hold Xavier’s hand while they took him to the school clinic.

They made me wait outside the ER while they ran checked Xavier.

“Ms. Hue...Please come inside, he won’t let us touch him without you being present” A medic called.

I went over and held Xavier’s hand as they checked him for any fatal wounds.

“Everything looks fine, but we still need to take a scan of your brain activity Mr. Wade and that can’t be done here, so I’ll refer you to a hospital”

“So nothing’s broken?” I asked as I check every inch of Xavier’s body for damage.

“Everything’s in order, but I can’t guarantee that you won’t get any headache”

“I’ll give you some pills and then you have to go home and get some rest” The medic stated.

I took Xavier’s pills and helped him to his car.

“I don’t think I like being in the passenger seat” He stated as I drove us home.

He was trying to sway me from mentioning the accident, but I couldn’t just keep quiet.

“When I saw you fall, my heart stopped. I thought that you were going to...”

“This was my last game” He stated, interrupting me.

“You promise you?” I asked as we entered the estate.

“I promise” He responded.

“How does your head feel”

“Better”

I parked the car and led the way to the house.

“Go upstairs and take a shower while I make you something to eat” I ordered.

“Yes ma’am” Xavier responded as he went up stairs and did my bidding.

I prepared some chicken noodles for him and made sure to fill a glass with orange juice.

“Can’t a man have a beer?” He asked as he came around the counter and wrapped his arms around my waist.

“Not tonight, you scared me too much” I stated.

I was glad when I saw that he was wearing a pair of shorts and a shirt since Xavier wasn’t the type to wear a shirt in the house.

He was barefoot, but I couldn’t blame him for that.

“You promise that you won’t play again?”

“I promise Baby” He stated making me smile.

“I have a surprise for you” I whispered as I nipped at his neck.

“What kind of surprise? He asked as his eyes started to twinkle.

“Eat your food and you’ll see” I stated.

I took a much needed shower before I pulled my semi-dry hair in a bun. I was getting scared by the minute, but Jules’ words kept running through my head as I wore the seamless lace black tanga that I had bought.

Jules had been right; it really was a tong with a bigger waist band...

I took a deep breath before I wore the transparent black lacy babydoll I had also bought.

Luckily it had my boobs or else I wouldn’t have been able to wear it. I wore my black heels before I made my way back to the kitchen where I found Xavier drinking his juice.

“Like what you see?” I asked as I sashayed my way towards him.

“I most definitely like what I see” He groaned as he pulled me into his arms.

It had been so long since he last kissed me that I didn't even fight him. My body took over and I found myself kissing him with everything inside of me as my hands started pulling at his hair.

We eventually had to break the kiss and I couldn't help, but smile as I looked at Xavier.

I started pulling at his shirt, but Xavier stopped me.

"Are you sure?" He asked.

"Yes" I responded before I pulled him in for a kiss that had him taking off his shirt as he started teasing my neck.

"Baby" He groaned when he looked at my cleavage.

I could not help, but blush as he slipped the straps of my babydoll off.

The door bell rang making us look in its direction.

"Are you expecting anyone?" I asked. It was nearly 9 in the evening and Jules had promised not to interrupt us.

"Let me go check" Xavier stated as he made his way to the door.

I was getting a bit cold so I wrapped my gown around myself just as my father barged into the house.

"I knew that you'd do something this stupid...pack your bags, I'm taking you home with me" He stated.

Xavier came over to my side and entwined our hands.

"Mr. Albert..." Xavier tried to say, but my dad interrupted him.

"Don't say a word! I trusted you with my daughter and you want to defile her?" He groaned.

"Dad please." I begged.

"We can leave without your things" He warned.

I had no choice whether I wanted to or not. I knew that he would go as far as to carry me home if he had to.

I made my way the bedroom with Xavier right behind me.

"What's going on Mel?"

"That's not important right now. I'll call later tonight. I'm sorry" I stated as I pulled him in for a kiss.

My dad wasn't surprised when I returned without my lounge, he knew exactly what Xavier and I had done upstairs and the look on his face showed his disappointment.

I gave Xavier another kiss before I made my way to Xavier's car.

"Have you no shame?" You were ready to sleep with that boy and for what?" He asked.

"You even have the nerve to kiss him in front of me...What is wrong with you Melissa!?" He shouted.

Tears were falling down my face now. My father hardly ever shouted at me like this.

"Why can't you control yourself? You're acting cheap! Cheaper than a two dollar hooker." He continued.

"You had better snap out of this now or you won't like what I'll do to your and that stupid boy of yours" he warned.

"And just look at you...Urgh" he shouted as he threw his jacket at me.

"I'm sorry" I whispered as he threw me another disgusted look at me and started the car.

"Now you're lying. You're only sorry that you got caught" He stated.

## **Chapter 24: I love you**

"Just look at her" My father hollered as my mother covered her mouth in utter disbelief.

"Mel what is going on honey? I really don't understand any of this" She stated as she sat beside me.

"Mom I'm not a minor anymore" I responded.

"Were you really going to sleep with him?" My mother asked.

"Mom I don't want to talk about it"

"Of course you don't want to talk about it. If I hadn't walked into that house the moment I did then who knows, but would have happened!?"

My father was fuming and it wasn't without reason, but this was my life.

"I'm going to my room" I stated as I stood from the couch.

My parents didn't even try to stop me because they knew very well that there was nothing that they could do to stop me.

"Hi" I muttered. Luckily Xavier had answered my call or else I had no idea what I would have done.

"Hey" He responded.

"Are you okay?"

"I should be asking you that" He responded.

"I'm sorry about everything that happened"

"It's not your fault. Will I see you tomorrow?"

"Yes...I just wanted to hear your voice" I stated.

"I love you" Xavier stated making me smile.

"Don't let the bed bugs bite"

“Sleep well”

I ended the call just as Jules entered my room.

“I know that you don’t want to hear this, but your parents love you Mel”

“Jules please don’t do this.”

“Josh talks about you all the time. He tries to act so strong, but every time your mother mentions your name, he melts”

“I saw your missed calls...Why were you calling me?” I asked, changing the subject.

“I was trying to warn you about Josh”

“Thanks”

I went to my closet and got dressed before I made my way back to my bed.

“Mel you need to forgive them so that you can move on with your life” She stated.

I don’t even remember falling asleep, but I woke up to the sound of my mother’s voice singing ‘Happy Birthday’

“How did you sleep my angle?”

“Okay. Did you buy me a cake?” I asked as I got up.

“You know I did” She stated as she gave me a hug.

“Happy Birthday Mel”

“Thank you mom”

“Is dad awake?” Jules had been right, I needed to fix things.

“He’s drinking his Green Tea down stairs like he usually does on a Saturday”

“Let me freshen up and then I’ll come and talk to him” I stated.

“That’s my girl”

I got to the kitchen in record time, and for the first time since I started dating Xavier I noticed just how stressed my father really was.

He was usually so happy and vibrant that it was hard to tell his age, but now he had a tiny patch of white hair and his light brown eyes were filled with worry.

“Please forgive. I know that I have been rude latterly and that I hardly listen to anything you say these days, but you are my father and my love for you surpasses everything in my life” I stated.

“Will you stop seeing that boy?”He asked as he placed his newspaper on the table.

“No” I whispered as I looked down on the floor.

“Will you cancel that house party you have planed and stay home with us for your birthday?” He continued.

“No”

“Can you honestly promise me that you won’t open your legs for that Ward boy?”

“No” I whispered as tears fell down my face.

“Then we have nothing to talk about” He stated as he picked up his paper and started reading it again.

I couldn't say here...It was jail. No matter what I did, it was never going to be good enough for my father until I ended my relationship with Xavier and I couldn't.

Jules came over with her parents an hour later and my mother pampered us with gifts and cake.

My father didn't even look in my direction once and by the time Jules and I had to leave for the party, I had no hope that he would ever forgive me.

“Did you get your costume?” Jules asked as we entered her house.

“Yes” I wasn't even in the mood for talking since all I could think about was my father.

“Cheer up...We're going to see Xavier soon” Jules encouraged and it worked.

Jules wore her Jean Grey black X-Men suit, while I wore the red heart-shaped corset and tight red pants.

“Wow, look at that butt!” Jules groaned as she spanked my butt.

“Jules! Grow up” As I pulled on my boots.

“What am I going to do about my hair...I'm too blonde I groaned as Jules wore an auburn wig that closely resembled Jean's hairstyle.

“Don't worry, I borrowed one of my mom's auburn wig...It's in the left drawer” She stared.

“Thank goodness or else I would have been a very blonde Elektra” I stated as I wore the wig.

Jules applied some make up on my face and helped tie my wrists with red bands before we made our way to the car.

“Let me call David and check if everything's oaky” David was my father's PA who I told to help me with the whole party set-up at the Light House.

“Hi David...Is everything on point?”

“Darling you have nothing to worry about, just get here and see for yourself”

I ended the call and pulled my seatbelt on.

“Everything's okay”

“What if no one shows up?” Jules asked.

“Then we'll get to eat all that cake alone” I stated as Jules laughed.

It was almost 7 in the evening and already the house was packed with people.

“Happy Birthday” People muttered to Jules and I as we passed all around the house.

I was surprised to see all the gifts that had been bought.

“Those are just the ones that came now, the rest of the gifts are safely locked away in your office.” David stated.

“Thank you for everything” I stated as I gave him a hug.

“Darling it was a pleasure...We'll talk tomorrow” He stated before he left.

Jules made her way to Luke who didn't look too bad in his Cyclops suit. I was surprised when I saw that everyone had made an effort to dress up.

I could see a lot of Superman, but not Xavier. There were also a lot of Cat women and Batman's, even Spiderman and Hulk, but not an Elektra nor a Jean which made me smile.

“You look sexy as hell.” I did not even have to guess to know that it was Xavier speaking.

No one had that deep sultry voice of his and no one touched me the way he did.

I found myself smiling as I noted how sexy he looked in his black Superman body suit...Clerk Kent had nothing on my man.

“Haba haba” I uttered as I wrapped my arms around Xavier's neck.

“I'm glad you approve.” He whispered as he nipped my ear.

The DJ made sure that he played the music all night long as we dance and feasted.

Jules and I could not help, but blushed when everyone sang for us and we cut the cake.

Everything was going well, but there was just one more thing that needed to happen for everything to be complete.

“Come with me.” I whispered into Xavier's ear as I led him away from all the noise.

Luckily David had locked all the important rooms, just like I had told him or else people would have taken advantage.

I unlocked the master bedroom and got inside.

Xavier locked the door behind me and followed me to the bathroom.

“Are you going to watch or are you going to join me?” I asked as I took off my attire.

“Both” He responded as he quickly got out of his suit and joined me in the shower making me laugh.

I was blushing as Xavier entered the shower. Seeing him, all of him had me biting my lower lip as I slowly slid my hands over his wet, hard abs.

I had thought about this moment for a long time and now that it was about to happen, I just could not help, but feel nervous.

“You're the most beautiful woman I've ever seen.” He stated as he captured my lips with his own in slow, but firm kiss that had me moaning his name as pulled me against his naked body.

A squeal made its way to my mouth when I felt Xavier's lower part moving against my stomach.

I was mortified when Xavier laughed before he pushed my wet hair out of my face.

You're so innocent." He teased as I continued to stare at his lower part.

"Are you disappointed?" I found myself asking as I looked back up at him.

"Not in the least, you're everything and then some." He stated as his fingers slowly ran over the large swells of my chest.

My hands found their way around his thick neck as he Xavier pushed me against the wall and continued to torture me with his slow kisses.

I was finding it hard not to make any sounds as his hands started caressing my body.

"Are you sure?" He asked as he broke the kiss and looked into my eyes.

"Yes" I stated.

He carried me to the large bed where he caressed and teased every inch of my body before he made love to me.

## **Chapter 25: I'm here for the sermon**

I woke up to the sounds of Xavier's silent snores.

"Baby" I whispered as I ran my hand through his hair.

"Mm...Are you up already?" He asked as he opened his eyes.

"Yes" I responded.

"I have to punish you for getting up so early" He stated as he pulled me on top of him.

"What's my punishment?" I asked as I wrapped my arms around his neck.

Xavier didn't say a thing as he slowly led me down on his shaft making me gasp.

"Baby" I moaned as he filled me to the halt.

"What time is it?" He asked.

"Morning" I whispered.

"It's a good morning indeed" He corrected as we made love.

I could not believe that everyone had left when Xavier and I finally unlocked the door and made our way to the lounge.

"Finally, I thought that I was going to have to call both of you to get you out of that room" Jules stated as she cleaned the kitchen counters.

I could not help, but blush as I looked over at a smiling Xavier.

"You know?" I asked.

"Honey I could hear you and Xavier from a mile away...Goodness you guys really know how to make noise" Jules stated making Xavier laughed.

“I’ll see you guys in a while” Xavier stated as he pulled me in for a kiss.

I watched him leave the premises before helped Jules clean up.

“Why would you say that in front of Xavier?” I had no idea why she would embarrass me like that.

“I was just teasing that’s all”

“Where’s Luke?” I asked as I threw the last bit of bottles in the garbage bag.

“He left a while ago”

“So, how was it?” She asked making me blush.

“How was what?”

“Mel I wasn’t kidding when I said that you and Xavier know how to make noise” She stated.

“It was incredible” I whispered as my cheeks heated up.

“From the sounds you were making it had to be...I swear it sounded like something from animal planet” She continued making me throw an empty bottle of soda at her.

“I hope that you haven’t forgotten about Church today”

“I haven’t” I stated as started sweeping the lounge.

“Good, keep cleaning while I go to your room and check out the bed sheets” She stated making me gasp.

“What? I want to see those sheets” She innocently stated as she made her way to my room making me groan.

What was wrong with girl!?

Two hours later, and we were at Church.

My father didn’t even look in my direction while my mother blew Jules and I a few kisses.

I could hear people whispered, but I had no idea what they were whispering about until I saw Xavier making his way towards me in a stunning black and grey tux.

“Hey” He greeted Jules and I as he sat beside me.

“What are you doing here?” Everyone knew that that he wasn’t religious and I hadn’t even invited him this time.

“I’m here for the sermon” He stated making me smile.

I wanted nothing more than to go home when the service was over, but I knew very well what my father wanted and I couldn’t give it to him.

“Why don’t you and Xavier come home with us for lunch?” My mom asked.

Xavier was talking with Pastor Morrison who no doubt wanted him to become a full time member.

“I want to, but I don’t think dad will approve”

“Mel I’m your mother, what I say goes” She stated as a sad smile crossed my face.

“I don’t want to upset him...We’ll talk later” I stated as I gave my mother a hug.

“Why aren’t you coming? Josh invited Xavier the least time so he’ll be okay” Jules whined.

“That was before he caught us making out...He doesn’t want Xavier near me let alone in his house” I had no idea why Jules had forgotten so quickly, but I hadn’t.

“Okay...I’ll see you at school tomorrow” She stated.

“I hope I’m not the cause of all this division I see between you and your family”

Xavier had just returned and we were making our way to his car. ‘

“You’re not the cause” I reassuringly muttered.

“I forgot to tell you, my father invited us for lunch” Xavier stated.

“It’s okay we can go.”

“I didn’t even get a chance to give you your gift last night” He stated as he started the car.

“What is it?”

“I want to surprise you”

Jules words kept running over and over in my head as we neared Xavier’s home.

How had things gotten so bad between me and my father? We used to be inseparable and now this...

Why couldn’t he give Xavier a chance? He wasn’t all bad and I knew for a fact that he was nothing like his father Roberto

“Di forget to tell you that your beautiful today?” Xavier asked, interrupting my thoughts.

“You did”

“Well I guess I’m going to have to make it up to you ha?”

“Yes” I stated as I smiled at him.

I did not know what to expect since things hadn’t gone so well the last time I was here, but to my surprise I found Ronan and Robert in the lounge as Xavier and I walked through the door.

“Afternoon” I greeted as Xavier entwined our hands.

“Father, Ronan” Xavier greeted.

I could not help, but look up at him with a shocked expression...Maybe he and Ronan had patched things up.

“No need to be so formal, we’re all practically family now” Roberto stated as got up.

We entered the dining hall and were served our lunch.

“My sons, I’m that I tried to break your bond by making you go against each other”

Roberto muttered shocking me.

"I love you both and after thinking about this...I've decided that you're both going to get equal shares in the company"

"I'm glad that this competition is over" Ronan stated as he took a gulp of his drink.

"Same here, this gives me more time to spend with the woman I love" Xavier stated making me blush.

"So she's the one?" Roberto asked.

"Yes" I did not even hear a flicker of hesitation in Xavier's voice as he answered his father.

"Even though I don't approve, I won't get your way" Roberto was on a roll tonight and Xavier and I were shocked at his sudden change in attitude.

By the time we got to Xavier's room, I was tired.

It was raining...again which meant that we were stranded here, again and Xavier was enjoying every minute of it.

## **Chapter 26: Principal Fox's office**

"If it isn't little Ms Xavier" Candice murmured as she and her troop of wannabe's made their way towards me.

I was late for school- again, but that wasn't as important as the fact that I was all alone in the gloomy halls of Hillbrow High.

"What do you want Candice?" I groaned as I took my books out of my locker as quickly as I could.

"I want you to stay away from my man" Candice grunted before she painfully gripped a hand full of my hair.

I tried to get out of her grip, but she tightened her hold on my hair as she glared daggers at me.

"Xavier's mine honey so you had better leave him alone before I make you the laughing stock of this entire town" She warned before she loosened her hold on my hair and left me.

It was definitely days like these that made the last months of my schooling career seem like a lifetime away...

I had convinced Xavier to stop our plans for Candice and Maddox, but that girl needed to be taught a lesson, one she would never forget a winning Prom would get that done.

The day went by quickly and before I knew it, it was lunch time.

“Look sexy in that shirt” Xavier whispered as I placed my books in the locker.

“I can see what you’re trying to say, but it won’t work” I stated.

Everyone was either changing their books or going to the cafeteria...

“Are you sure we can’t bunk?” Xavier asked as he pulled me against his body.

“You can control yourself, right?” I asked as I looked at the bulge in front of his pants.

“I can’t...I feel like I’m going to cum in these pants” He groaned.

“I know a place we can go, but it’s not for the faint of heart” I teased.

“Where?” He’s eagerness had me smiling as I stood on my tippy toes and bit his earlobe.

“Principal Fox’s office” I whispered.

“You’re serious? Do you know what could happen if we get caught?”

“Every moment we spent here arguing is time wasted” I groaned.

Xavier complained all the way to the reception area, but I wasn’t having any of it.

“Mrs. Founders, is Principal Fox in his office?” I asked the receptionists.

“No dear, he’s in Summerville with the deputy for the Keelson Conference” She stated.

“Goodness, I can’t believe it’s nearly 12, I’ll wait for him in his office” I stated.

“It’s nearly 12!? Wow, I need to get out of here. Please lock up for me if Richard doesn’t show up before lunch is over ” She stated as she grabbed her phone and car keys.

“Will do” I stated.

“Wow, how did you know all that?” Xavier asked as we entered Principal Fox’s office.

“Mrs. Founders wants to get a boob job, her consultation is today” I started as I locked the door.

“Principal Fox will be back in 15 minutes, you’d better make this good” I stated as Xavier placed me on top of Principal Fox’s table.

“Baby 15 minutes is more than enough time for me to make you scream my name” He groaned as he started unbuckling his pants.

And true to his words, Xavier had me screaming his name in no time.

Three things were very obvious to me as we made our way back to class.

Firstly, I was the most popular girl at school. I had no idea how it had happened, but it was done.

Secondly, I was dating the hottest guy at school...Obviously and last, but not least even though these things out to have made me happy, they didn’t....

Jules came to greet me when the last bell of the day rang. He wanted me to come home, but we both knew that it wasn’t possible until I ended my relationship with Xavier, which I couldn’t do.

I took out my phone and decided to call my mother, but a text message pop up making me arc my brow. It was from an unknown sender and I never got messages from unknown senders so I opened it and read what it said.

Written in large letters was "2 Corinthians 2:10-11"

That was odd; I mean who would send me a Bible verse in the middle of the day on a Wednesday?

Xavier got us home in no time and I must say that I nearly screamed when I turned on the television which was on the Faith Network and the saw the words; "FOLLOW ME" written in bold letters on the screen.

The words that came afterwards were: "For God has made all people prisoners of disobedience, so that he might show mercy on them all. Romans 11: 32 "

I switched off the TV and made my way to Xavier's bedroom.

I found my Bible on my opened. I had no memory of ever even opening it, but the first words I saw were "Follow me" right at the end of Matthew 9:9. If I wasn't scared then I was now.

Xavier came into the room and wrapped his arms around me.

"Are you okay?"

"Yes" I lied as took another look at my bible.

"Um...You know that Friday's Prom right?" I asked as wrapped my arms around Xavier's neck.

"Yes"

"I still haven't gotten a dress yet so I was thinking that you could help me choose a dress"

"Okay, but I want to give you your birthday gift first" He stated.

He went down stairs and returned with a white envelop.

I took it from him and was shocked when I saw the two tickets to the Bahamas.

"Xavier" I whispered as I looked up at him.

"These tickets are valid for a whole year so you don't have to worry about us going now, we can go anytime you're ready" He stated.

I pulled him for a kiss and made him some sandwiches for lunch before he made our way to the mall.

## Chapter 27: Ladies

I woke up to the sound of a voice of rushing waters saying *''FOLLOW ME''*.

Goodness it was happening again and I realised then and there that I wasn't hearing or seeing things, this was serious, but who could possibly talk to about these things?

It was Friday and it was Prom.

Xavier was still asleep next to me. I made sure not to wake him as I made my way to the shower.

I cleaned the house, made breakfast and even managed to do the laundry before Xavier woke up, but I still could not get the voice out of my mind.

What was going on with me?

"I hope you're not worried about prom."

I could hear the worry in Xavier's voice as he wrapped his arms around me.

"No it's not Prom. Let's sit and have breakfast."

I was stalling, but what else could I do given that I couldn't even explain what was happening to me.

Jules came over an hour later, and I could tell from her broad smile that she wanted us to go shopping.

Xavier gave me his card before Jules and I hit the road.

"You've been quiet about your relationship with Luke."

I had no idea why she hadn't said anything to me, but I knew that she and Luke were very serious.

"We had a fight and I haven't heard from him in two days."

Jules' words had me gaping.

I wanted to bombard her with question, but I could see that she did not want to talk about it.

"I was thinking about dying my hair." I stated.

"Don't make me scream. You're not dying your hair." And just like that the old Jules was back. I had my sister back and it was good to see her shouting at me again.

We got to the mall in no time and it was packed, Jules and I weren't the only ones who were doing a bit of last minute shopping. It took a while, but we did find our dresses at a very high end boutique.

We ate some much needed burgers before we decided to hit the road again.

To tell you the truth, I wasn't looking forward to Prom.

Jules and I had never gotten dates and the fact that Candice was going to be there was just another reason why I didn't want to attend.

"Xavier will be waiting for you and if you don't show up then you know what's going to happen." Jules warned as she parked the car outside her house.

“Don’t you think it’s weird that we own houses right next to our parents’ homes?” I asked.

Every time we entered the Estate, we passed my parents’ house, then Jules’ home, my house and then Jules’ house right afterward. I hadn’t thought about it before, but it was weird.

“Mel we’re sisters, we’re allowed to be neighbours.” She stated like it explained everything, but the truth was that it was weird. Who in their right mind would want to live right next door to their parents?

Two hours later, we arrived at Hillbrow High.

It hit me then that this was going to be the last time we were all going to be together in one room before the finals and I really wasn’t looking forward to it.

I forgot all about my worries and insecurities the minute I saw Xavier in a tailor-made navy suit.

I had no idea how he knew that I’d be wearing a strapless, navy mermaid gown, but I was ecstatic when I saw how handsome he looked.

Jules was wearing an exact replica of my dress in red.

Don’t ask me why, but she liked it when we wore matching outfits.

I wanted to rush over to Xavier, but Jules and Luke had problems, and the worst of it all was that Luke was nowhere to be seen.

“It’s okay Mel, go to your man.”

“Jules we came here together, and I’m not living your side until...”

I didn’t get to finish my sentence as Luke entered the large open doors.

“Ladies.” He greeted as he took hold of Jules’ hand.

“Hi Luke, I’ll leave the two of you to it.” I stated as I made my way to a patiently waiting Xavier.

“You look beautiful.” He whispered as he wrapped his arms around my waist.

“You look quite handsome yourself.” And he did. I couldn’t find fault with his attire as we made our way to an open table.

Jules and Luke returned with a few drinks in hand as they sat beside Xavier and me.

I was glad when I saw Jules smiling because that could only mean that they had patched things up and even though I didn’t approve of Luke, my sister’s happiness was everything to me.

Jules had yet to tell me what they had fought about, but I wasn’t worried since everything seemed to be okay between the two of them.

The evening started off with Principal Fox’s speech, then came the Motivational speakers and finally it was dinner time.

The food was served and Xavier and I indulged ourselves in same talk as the evening progressed.

Our final exams were coming up in just over a week's time and I still had yet to study.

Yes I went through my work on a daily basis, but it wasn't enough. I needed to put in some effort, but that didn't seem likely since all I ever did these days was spend every waking moment of my time with Xavier.

"Mel" Xavier said, startling me.

"Yes?"

"They're about to announce the winners." He stated.

"What winners?" I asked.

It didn't take me long to figure out what Xavier was talking about as his name was called out.

It was no surprise that he was Prom King. He was the most popular guy at school and everyone liked him.

I smiled and clapped along with the others as a crown my placed on my boyfriend's head.

He looked so happy that I could not help, but blow him a kiss as he winked at me.

Thank goodness I had yet to see Maddox or else I would have lost it and that was the last thing I wanted to happen tonight.

Everyone settled down for the announcement of Prom Queen and I could not believe it when I heard my name being called.

Jules had to literally help me up the stage as I was still in shock.

"Smile Baby, this is our time." Xavier whispered as a crown was placed on my head.

I was just about to smile when I saw the horrific look on Candice's face.

She must have hated me more than before since all she did the rest of the evening was glare at me with daggers in her eyes.

"I'll be right back." I stated to Xavier as he continued to dance.

I quickly made my way to the bathroom were I splashed some water on my face.

My feet were aching, my throat was getting a bit sore and I felt claustrophobic.

I wasn't feeling well, but being here with Xavier was more important.

"You will pay for this."

I did not have to look at the door to know that it was Candice.

"You really want this crown then you can have it." I stated as I looked over at her.

"You steal me man and then you take my crown!? I will make you pay for this." She swore before she left the bathroom.

Xavier knew that something was wrong when he saw the stricken look on my face.

“What’s wrong?”

“Nothing, please let’s get out of here.” I lied.

I wasn’t going to tell him about Candice’s threat because it was probably not going to amount to anything, but the way in which she had threatened me had me worried.

We arrived at Xavier’s place in no time and I was thankful.

It was almost 23:00h and I was tired of everything.

I missed my parents and I wanted things to go back to normal, but that meant losing Xavier and I could not risk it.

I was trapped between a rock and a hard place and whichever path I chose would hurt me either way.

## **Chapter 28: Shh...Tell me everything**

Xavier and I were all about studying since we were close to righting our final paper.

My sickness had gotten worse over the days and Xavier and I had ended up having to visit my GP who took a few tests and prescribed me some antibiotics for my flu.

I wished I could say that thing between Xavier and I were great, but they weren’t.

He was distant these days and that is why we were always engrossed in our studies. I had tried talking to him over the past few days, but he hardly ever said anything these days.

It was as if I had a disease of some sort which he did not want to catch. We slept together, bathed together, went to school together, but the tension between us was as thick as steel...

Deep inside I wanted to run because this was not what I had signed up for when I agreed to this relationship.

Yes every relationship had its challenges, but I could I possibly find the solution to this problem when Xavier didn’t want to tell me anything?

“I’m going out with Jules...I’ll be back around 21:00h” I stated.

Xavier nodded his head without even looking at my direction as I left the house. It was nearly 18:00h and Jules was taking me out to the movies.

I went to the garage and got inside my car. Jules and I had agreed to meet at the mall since she and Luke had met over there for a cup of coffee.

I felt like a zombie when I met up with Jules, by a fast-food corner.

“You don’t look so good” Jules stated as she engulfed in a hug.

I was trying to be strong, but I found myself crying as I held onto Jules for dear life.

“Shh, tell me everything” She encouraged as we sat down.

I told her everything, from Candice’s threat to Xavier’s recent behaviour towards me.

“I have tried everything, but it’s like he’s trying to push me away” I continued.

Jules gave me some Kleenex and rubbed circles on my back as I confided in her.

“He hates me” There was no other reason why Xavier would treat me like this.

“Mel Xavier love you” Jules was trying to comfort me, but I could not stand being lied to.

“Jules he hasn’t touched me in 4 days!” I groaned.

“What do you mean?” Jules asked.

“Jules Xavier takes me about 6 times a day and now he doesn’t even seem to be affected when he sees me naked”

“6 times! Wow” Jules hollered making me blush, but it was not enough to make me forget about the past couple of days.

“Jules he doesn’t even kiss me these day...I don’t know what’s wrong with me” I whimpered.

“Honey these nothing wrong with you. Xavier is just being a jerk, maybe he doesn’t want to get flu or something”

“Jules we’ve been dating for over 3 months and I can assure you that me having flu, has never been a problem for him before”

“Could it be a family matter?” Jules asked.

I hadn’t even thought that far, but it was a possibly given his history with his brother.

“Maybe, but I can’t stop thinking that it’s something else” I continued.

“Ask him tonight when you get home...Let’s go watch that movie” The distraction didn’t sway me, but I followed Jules to the cinema.

We watched the 2 hour movie, but not even that could make me shake the bad feeling I had.

After some much convincing, Jules finally left and I made my way back to Xavier’s place. I had a spitting headache and my running nose did not help one bit as I drove through the lonely roads of Hillbrow.

It was getting a bit chilly and I could tell from the lack of stars that it was going to rain.

I wish I could say that I was looking forward to seeing Xavier, but he had been so quiet for the last 5 days that it had me scared.

I wasn't used to seeing him so reserved and the fact that he didn't say anything to me was the real concern.

A tear fell down my face when I entered my Estate. It was mid October, but my mother had already decorated the house for Christmas.

It was something she always did every year and Jules hated it, but she always came to help...My heart felt like it was going to break when I thought about my mother doing all those decorations alone...

I parked my car in Xavier's garage and entered the house.

## **Chapter 29: What!?**

"Xavier, what's wrong?" I asked as I looked up into his grey-blue eyes.

I had just entered the house and I was tried, but the look I saw on Xavier's face had me wanting me take cover.

"We're done" He stated.

"What do you meant by that?"

"Mel I'm tired" His words had me reaching for his hand, but he pulled it away.

"Xavier?" What was going on here?

"If this is some type of joke then I don't get it" What was he trying to do?

"I've decided that we should call it quits. I'm tired of your constant bickering and bossiness. I don't even know what I was thinking when I decided to date a controlling, manipulative loser like you"

"What!?" I whispered as I looked up at him.

"Why are you talking to me like this?" Xavier wasn't like this; this was not the Xavier Ward that I knew.

He was caring and loving; he wasn't the man that I was talking to now.

"You heard me. I want you to pack your things and get out of my house."

"Please don't do this to me, to us" I begged as I reached for his hands.

"Baby I love you" I whimpered as I entwined our hands. I had never said those words to anyone before...

"We can fix this, I'm sorry for everything I did to hurt you, please don't break my heart like this"

I had given up everything for this relationship and for it to end, without as little as an explanation was not what I had in mind when I gave up my family.

"Stop this whining" Xavier groaned as he pulled his hands away. His words had tears falling down my face as I looked up at him.

“Xavier I’m not well right. I tired, my head feels like it’s about to burst and you want me to leave? It’s 21:00h, where am I supposed to go at this hour?”

“I don’t know and I don’t care” Those very words I heard from him had me slapping him across the face.

“I gave up my family for you. I trusted you with my body and gave you my trust and this is how you treat me?”

“Tell me that you don’t love me, tell me that all those things you said to me the first time we made love were lies, tell me that you don’t really care about me?”

I waited for what seemed like a life time, but Xavier didn’t say anything.

“Xavier why are you hurting me like this, tell me what’s going on?” I asked as I reached for his hands again.

I was surprised when he didn’t pull away, but I recovered quickly and wrapped my arms around his neck.

“I love you” I could see how much my confession was affecting him as I slowly closed the distance between us and captured his lips with my own.

The kiss was demanding as it was hard. Xavier pulled me against his body and kissed me like his life depended on it.

One minute we were kissing and the next Xavier was by the door.

“Get out!” He hollered as he opened the door.

“No” I was crying, I was tired and I had a fever, there was no way in hell I was getting out of that door.

I watched unbelievably as Xavier carried me in his arms outside the house.

He tried to place me on the porch, but I held onto him as he tried to get me off him.

“I won’t let go” I screamed.

“Mel you’d better accept that this is over...Stop acting like a love struck teenager” He stated.

Those words had me halting my movements as Xavier placed me down.

“I am a love struck teenager who’s in love with you” I whispered as I looked up at him.

“I don’t love you. I was only using you so that I could sleep with you” He stated.

Tears fell down my face in abundance as Xavier closed and locked the door leaving me outside to the harsh and chilly weather.

My heart felt like it was breaking as I made my way home and as if things couldn’t get worse, it started to rain.

How could he say those things to me? I loved him so very much and yet that had not been enough to change his mind...

I knocked on the front door and waited.

I was done with boys and I was done with love. I had given Xavier my heart and he had given me a slap in return.

I tried to whip my tears, but they just would not stop falling as my father opened the door.

I fell down on my knees and looked at the face of the man whose heart I had shattered for a relationship that wasn't even worth it.

"I will never go against your word again. I will do everything you tell me to do and I will never speak of Xavier Ward again. Please forgive me" I whimpered.

My father carried me inside the house as I cried my heart out.

### **Chapter 30: Xavier**

"You should have seen him, he hates me." I sobbed.

Jules was rubbing circles around my back as I confided in her.

Xavier had broken my heart just as Candice had said he would, and I wanted so badly to hate him, but I couldn't.

"Honey there's more to this than meets the eye. I have personally seen how Xavier looks at you and I promise you that he loves you. I have no idea why he would say such things to you, but there's definitely more to this than his sudden outburst."

Jules' words had me shaking my head as I looked up at her. Why couldn't she just see this for what it was? Xavier and I were done and there was nothing I more to it than that.

"He doesn't love me. Jules he told me that he was using me, that he just wanted to sleep with me. He used me Jules." I whimpered as more tears fell down my face.

'Shh'' Jules whispered as she continued to comfort me.

"Our finals start in three days, why don't you take out all your frustrations on your books?"

Jules was right, only six days stood between me and my finals and I needed to study. I hadn't been studying since Xavier dumped me, but that had to change.

He had too much control over me, but not anymore, not after what he had said to me.

I took Jules' advice and studied like my life depended on it.

My parents were worried since I hardly ever left for school. Xavier was still on my mind, but my books took up most of my time.

To make matters worse, Xavier dropped off my clothes and car the following day, proving that he really didn't care about me.

No one except my family knew that Xavier and I weren't dating any more, but I knew for a fact that it would be obvious when everyone the minute I set foot at Hillbrow High and that's why I didn't go.

My studies were my life now, and I was strangely excited about writing my finals.

My mother and I spent most of the time decorating the rest of the house and baking and I started smiling again, but that didn't last when Xavier showed up three days before my first Exam.

"Melissa doesn't want to see you." I heard my mother muttered from the lounge.

The door closed just as my father emerged from his office.

"Who was that?"

"Xavier" My mother responded as she continued to mix dough.

"MELISSA!"

To say that I was startled would have been an understatement when I heard Xavier screaming my name out.

"Is that boy out of his mind?" My father groaned as he made his way to the door.

"What do you want?" I was thankful when my father didn't punch him since Xavier wasn't worth our time.

He had made it clear that I meant nothing to him, and I wanted to heal. I wanted to forget him and move on with my life.

"Please Mr. Albert I just want to talk to Mel for 5 minutes,"

"About what?"

"Please just tell her that I have the result with me, she'll understand."

I could not help, but stand when I heard those words.

My father looked at me for a response and I nodded my head at him.

I still had influenza, but I was getting better thanks to my mother's secret concoctions and her love.

Three had passed since I had last seen Xavier and even though he had hurt me beyond belief, I found that I still had the urge to touch him, to kiss him, to hold him as he entered through the kitchen door and made his way towards me.

Desire coursed through my body as he slowly made his way towards me. It was disgusting to even think about letting him touch me, but I wanted it more than anything.

"Hi" he stated as his hand tried to reach my face, but I managed to pull away.

"Hi" I responded as I took a seat again.

He handed me the envelope and I opened it.

I took a long look at the results before I looked up at Xavier.

“It’s just a bacterial infection. Thank you for giving me the results.” I stated.

Xavier nodded his head at me before he just continued to stare.

“You may leave now.”

I had no idea why he was pretending to care, but it hurt because I had given myself over to him and yet here we were.

He closed the door on his way out and that’s when the tears fell down my face like bullets.

“Sweetie, it’s okay.” My mother whispered as she pulled me in for a hug.

“It’s not. Everything is just one big mess, please forgive me.” I whimpered.

This was the end for Xavier and I which meant that I could not keep another secret from my parents.

“Mel what are you talking about?” My father asked as he sat beside me.

There was no doubt in my mind that he was going to kill me. I had been reckless and unruly when it came to Xavier and the consequences for those actions had caught up with me.

“Please promise me that you won’t get angry.” I begged.

“Tell me what’s going on!” He stated.

More tears fell down my face when I realised that there was simply no way to sugar-coat this truth.

“I’m pregnant.” I whispered.

My mother gasped while my father stared at me in utter disbelief as I handed him the test results.

END OF BOOK 1

## **Thank You**

If you enjoyed *I SEE YOU*, I would highly appreciate it if you would leave a review on obooko.com.

If you do leave a review, please let me know by sending an email to tinamagbooks@gmail.com so that I can thank you personally.

You can follow me on Twitter @Tina\_Magg

On Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/realtinamag>

On Wattpad at RealTinaMag

And on Goodreads at <https://www.goodreads.com/tinamag>

## **About the Author**

Augustina Mogomotsi, also known as Tina Mag is a born South African author and publisher. She is a second year student at the University of South Africa and is majoring in Mathematics and Computer Science. She plans on furthering her studies until she gets her doctorate in Mathematical Sciences. She loves writing and reading books of all genres and is a huge Andy McNab fan.

### Author Q&A about *I SEE YOU*

#### Why did you pick the name, I SEE YOU as the title for the book?

*This book is a glimpse into the lives of Melisa and Xavier' lives and they're union*

#### Was this supposed to have been a standalone book?

*Yes, originally I SEE YOU was meant to be a single novel, but it was too long, and my fans kept complaining about Jules not having her own story so I turned it into a trilogy.*

#### What is wrong with Candice Sweeny?

*Everyone has a story to tell and Candice is no exception. She didn't have the best of childhoods and the abuse she endured at the hands of her father, Thomas Sweeny is the cause of her erratic behaviour and possessive tendencies when it comes to men.*

*I would also just like to add that Candice won't have her own story (You'll see found out why in I NEED YOU).*

#### Wow, Jules and Mel are twins! WTF?

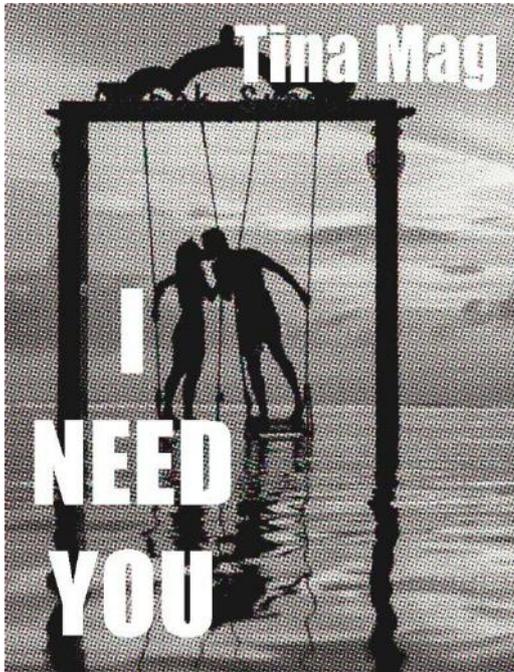
*Yes, they're biological twins. They might look alike, but they are very different and I NEED YOU will reveal rifts between the two of them that no one could have ever thought existed.*

#### Will Xavier and Mel get back together?

*You have to read I NEED YOU to find out.*

## Next in the Belonging Series:

I NEED YOU (Belonging Series, #2)



### Synopsis

Melissa is pregnant and Xavier doesn't know about the pregnancy.

We all know that the LORD has called Melissa to serve HIM, but Mel has been ignoring that calling. Things will change and Melissa will soon discovery that God had the power to show you who he is when you least expect it.

Sparks will fly when Jules confines in Luke who also has a secret that could shatter Jules' life in more ways than one.

Jules has never had her voice heard, but things will change when Melissa reveals the family secret to world.

Can Xavier and Melissa mend their relationship, or will Candice get everything that she has always hoped for?

I NEED YOU will put you on the edge of your seat. It's a novel that is filled with ample emotion and never ending twists.



This is an authorized free edition from  
[www.obooko.com](http://www.obooko.com)

Although you do not have to pay for this e-book, the author's intellectual property rights remain fully protected by international Copyright law. You are licensed to use this digital copy strictly for your personal enjoyment only: it must not be redistributed commercially or offered for sale in any form. If you paid for this free edition, or to gain access to it, we suggest you demand an immediate refund and report the transaction to the author.