



Daddy's Little Duckling

(Ivory Mountain Daddies #1)

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Category: Romance

Description: Can he teach an emotionally scarred woman that she's loved for who she is, not who she thinks she should be?

At the age of twenty-one, Raelyn Andrews is already no stranger to how cruel the world can be to those who are different. Even those meant to love a person, no matter what, are not guaranteed to love someone with certain quirks. It's much safer to bury her differences, hide them away and not let anyone too close.

Emmett Benson has watched the caregiver at his grandmother's nursing home for a while now. She calls to the Daddy in him in ways he's never experienced. He's waited patiently for the perfect opportunity to talk to her. Now, he's done waiting. It's time to let Raelyn know what he's known from the first moment he saw her. She's his.

Raelyn's past has left her with insecurities, though, and she struggles with Sensory Processing Disorder and Anxiety. Emmett is determined that, through constant support and encouragement, he'll show her that the things her past has conditioned her to hate about herself are the things he loves most about her.

This book contains strong themes of Age Play. Age Play is a power exchange dynamic and falls under the BDSM umbrella. Though the characters in this story are over the age of 18, this book may contain things such as stuffies, pacifiers, and discipline. If this bothers you, please skip this story.

Total Pages (Source): 27

CHAPTER ONE

RAELYN

Raelyn spent the twenty-minute drive to work thinking about where she was at in life. A college dropout who suffered from a sensory processing disorder, Rae felt like a shell of the person she once was.

She used to be so full of life and loved to do all sorts of things, but life had a way of kicking her when she was already knocked down.

When she arrived at work, she sat in her car postponing going inside. Rae loved her job most of the time, but being a caregiver to dementia residents at a nursing home was harder than most people realized.

Ivory Mountain Nursing Home was a great place to work and the residents were some of the sweetest people she knew, but sometimes the upper management and fellow caregivers left much to be desired.

None of that mattered, though. She couldn't complain about the job because she would be in more debt than she already was without it .

Thinking about her empty fridge and bare cabinets motivated her to get out of the car, even though her body and mental state demanded she turn around and go home.

As Raelyn gathered the things she needed to take care of her assigned residents, her mind wandered to what she planned to do when she got home.

Not paying attention to where she was walking, she bumped right into something large, warm, and hard that smelled fantastic.

Bending down to pick up the linens that she dropped she blurted out “I am so sorry. I was off in outer space and wasn’t watching where I was walking!”

Looking up she was met by the most handsome man she had ever seen. “Little one, you should pay more attention when walking or you are going to fall and get hurt,” gruffed the man.

As he walked around her, he gave her one more lingering glance and continued down the hall.

Raelyn’s heart raced as she continued about her tasks. She couldn’t stop thinking about what the man said to her. There was no way he could know her secret.

She was careful to keep that part of her hidden, especially at work. The only person she had ever told from work was her best friend Olivia. There was no way he could have known.

She reasoned that he must have said that because she looked more like a nineteen-year-old rather than her real age of twenty-one.

She knew that most people confused her for being younger, so this man was probably no different. He looked to be older than her anyway, closer to forty if she had to guess.

Rae kept zoning out while trying to complete her daily tasks. All she kept picturing was the handsome man. Those dark caramel colored eyes, neatly trimmed facial hair, and muscles that made her melt, kept flashing through her mind.

As the day continued, Raelyn found herself looking around for another glimpse of the man, but she never saw him. By the time the end of her shift came, the memory of what he had said to her had long passed.

All she wanted to do now was go home, cuddle up with Bruce, her stuffed duckie, and watch her favorite movie, *The Little Mermaid*. She had the next day off and she couldn't wait to spend some much-needed time in Littlespace.

Rae slept in the next morning. It was a rare luxury for her to sleep past five in the morning. Her body was too used to waking up early for her shifts at the nursing home.

She figured that her body needed the extra rest, though she didn't believe the dark circles under her eyes would be fading anytime soon.

Getting up, Raelyn decided to put on her favorite Little outfit. It was made of the softest jersey material that she could find. Most other fabrics felt like razor blades across her skin.

It was a pretty soft yellow color and had Daddy's Little Duckling written across the front. She longed to have a Daddy to make that statement true.

She paired it with her favorite baby blue tutu that she had modified to fit her sensory issues and some white knee-high socks that had light blue bows on the back.

Skipping into the bathroom, Rae braided her hair into pigtails and tied them up with white sparkly bows.

She loved finding bows wherever she could and that was the one thing she allowed herself to splurge on. Finally ready for a day in Littlespace she skipped into the bedroom to grab Bruce so he could help make breakfast.

“What should we have for breakfast, Bruce?” She asked her companion as she opened the fridge.

Raelyn sighed and knew that today would be another day of oatmeal. She knew she should be grateful that oatmeal wasn’t an icky food for her, but she couldn’t help wishing she had some bacon and eggs or pancakes to eat instead.

Payday was in a few days, so hopefully after her bills she would be able to splurge a little on her favorite foods.

She was very mindful of her sensitivities with food, so when she found things she could handle, it usually quickly became a favorite for her. The list wasn’t a very long one, but she tried to add to it when she could.

Having SPD, Rae had struggled her whole life with food aversions. Something would be fine for a while, and then it could quickly flip and she would be back to square one with it. She had learned a long time ago to try and keep her safe foods list small.

Gathering her oatmeal and Bruce, Rae moved into the living room to build her fort that she would spend most of her day in.

This was one of her favorite things to do in LittleSpace. She also planned on having a tea party later with her dolls, if they could behave and play nice together, while watching a movie.

She pulled out all the spare blankets she kept under her bed and dragged the furniture around to help structure her fort. Every single piece of fabric that Rae owned was fabric that her sensitivities could handle or she took the time to modify them to fit her needs.

This included the blankets she used for the forts since she had to touch them to build

it and there was always the chance that once in Littlespace she would brush against them.

Rae learned that her SPD usually was worse when she was deep in Littlespace than it was when she wasn't. She was sure that if she talked to her old therapist about it, they would give her a long explanation of why that was the case, but she tried not to think about it too much.

After she had the fort set like she wanted it, Rae went and set up the T.V. and put the movie in that she wanted to watch today.

She often looked over the movie aisle at the consignment shops for different DVDs of movies and shows she used to watch growing up.

Rae had managed to find a DVD player one weekend at a second-hand store, so she went without dinner one night to make up for buying it.

She couldn't resist purchasing it since she knew that she would probably never be able to afford a new one and this one was such a good deal.

As lunchtime approached Raelyn's phone started to play the special ringtone she had set for when her job was calling her. She giggled for a moment at the sound of the Imperial March playing out of the speakers.

It always brought a small smile to her face before she remembered who was calling her. Grudgingly she picked up and tried to sound cheerful as she spoke to her scheduler, Amanda, on the other side.

"Raelyn, we had a call out tonight and we need you to come in," stated Amanda before Rae could even say hello.

“But I work tomorrow morning.” she tried to explain.

Nevertheless, the voice on the other side of the line bulldozed right over her words and took her response as a yes. After hanging up, Rae grabbed Bruce and hugged him tight.

“It will be okay. I can handle working tonight and then going in tomorrow morning.”

Bruce didn’t look convinced and honestly, Raelyn wasn’t too convinced herself.

Cleaning up her mess from earlier she got dressed in her favorite hunter-green scrubs, pulled her hair back into one long braid and left the white sparkly bow from earlier in it and headed in for her shift trying to remember that this would be an extra day on her paycheck and that it was worth it.

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CHAPTER TWO

EMMETT

Emmett didn't usually come to the nursing home to visit his grandma on Thursday evenings. He just had this feeling that he needed to go tonight and he didn't make it a habit to ignore his gut.

It had never led him wrong before and he didn't think that today was going to be the day that it might start.

He tried to save his visits for when he knew the cute aide who sometimes took care of his sweet Nannie Jean would be working. He had noticed her before, but she never seemed to be aware of her surroundings.

That always concerned him because Little girls needed to know what was going on around them, but there was nothing that he could do about that until she became his.

The last time he laid eyes on her was when she ran right into him. Little did she know he purposely stepped into her way just for a chance to talk to her.

He didn't think he could ever get her to speak to him under any other condition. She just seemed shy and reserved and Emmett would never want to do anything to make her uncomfortable.

Arriving at Ivory Mountain, Emmett made his way into Nan's room; she suffered from dementia and most of the time believed he was his dad.

She had no clue that her son had passed away four years ago, and it broke his heart a little each time she referred to him by his father's name.

The first few times that it happened Emmett had corrected her and reminded her that his father was gone, but as more time passed it became apparent that she wasn't ever going to remember and he accepted that.

He was proud of who his father was, so it wasn't horrible to be referred to as him and accepted the name as an honor.

Emmett was the CEO of Tech Port, a tech company he started from the ground up right after he graduated college.

Settling in to do some work on his laptop while sitting with Nan, Emmett tried to push the thoughts away of the sweet Little girl that he longed to see.

He didn't know for certain if she was a Little, but deep down in his Daddy heart, he just knew that she was the Little girl he had been searching for. She just tickled all of his Daddy senses.

“Good evening Mrs. Benson! I'm Raelyn and I will be the one helping you this evening.” said the angel voice Emmett would recognize anywhere.

Turning towards the door, he spotted the girl who had taken up residence in his mind for weeks now.

“Oh!” she exclaimed. “You're the gentleman that I ran into yesterday morning.”

Emmett couldn't help but smile at the girl. She was as adorable as she normally was. He loved the chance to see the smile on her face and he couldn't feel anything but happiness when she was around.

He truly had it bad for his Little girl, but when the heart knows what it wants, there was nothing that would change that feeling.

“I truly am sorry about that. I sometimes space out and it seems to happen at the worst times.”

Realizing that he still had yet to speak to her, he cleared his throat and said “It’s quite alright Little one. You’ll remember to do better next time, won’t you?”

Biting her lip, Raelyn nodded her head. Standing up Emmett made his way over to formally introduce himself.

He had to stop himself from pulling her lip from between her teeth when he reached her.

“My name is Emmett Benson. I’m Nannie Jean’s grandson.” he said as he held out his hand to her.

Raelyn smiled sweetly and put her hand in his. “Nice to meet you, Mr. Benson. I’m Raelyn, but my friends call me Rae.”

Emmett scoffed, “None of this Mr. Benson nonsense. That was my father. Please call me Emmett.” She blushed and nodded again before she started backing towards the door. Emmett longed to hear her call him Daddy but knew that it was too soon to be thinking those thoughts.

“Well, I should be going. I’ll be back later to check on Mrs. Jean.” Rae stated before she quickly dashed back out of the room.

Emmett let her go for now, but he knew that he would need to do whatever it took to put that sweet smile on her face again. Her smile was his new favorite thing.

Emmett was pleased to see his Little girl tonight even though he knew that it wasn't her normal day to work. He loved watching her as she worked .

He knew without a doubt that she loved her job and cared about the residents in her unit. It showed in all the extra care she showed by providing them care and bringing them small things that she knew would bring a smile to their faces.

Emmett knew it was a long shot that he would complete any of the work he had originally set out to do.

Trying to make good use of his time while he waited for his sweet girl to come back, Emmett settled in again and tried to make sense of the documents on his screen.

Even though it was wishful thinking to believe that he would be able to focus on anything besides Raelyn.

As he continued to fumble his way through the spreadsheets on his computer, Emmett watched the door hoping for a small glimpse of Rae. He knew that his girl was wandering through the halls taking care of all the residents assigned to her.

Two hours had passed before he finally decided that he needed to go home and prepare for his day tomorrow. There was an important meeting between the bigwigs and he needed to double-check the preparations of the material.

Looking around for Rae as he headed out, he couldn't help but feel disappointed that she was nowhere to be found. Sighing, Emmett left and resigned to himself that he wouldn't see his Little girl for several days.

He knew that she didn't usually work evening shifts, so he was hoping his girl would have her normal scheduled day tomorrow off. Emmett couldn't imagine working two shifts in a row like that. Little girls need plenty of sleep to keep their minds and body

functioning properly.

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CHAPTER THREE

RAELYN

By the time Rae had made it back to Mrs. Jean's room, Emmett had left. It was probably for the best that she didn't see him again. His energy seemed to put her at ease enough that she found it hard not to slip into Littlespace around him.

The last thing she would want is to reveal that part of herself to one of the hottest, most drool-worthy men she had ever seen. She kept picturing those dark caramel colored eyes in her mind.

It was like he could see past all of her walls when he looked into her eyes. It was a scary thought considering there were parts of her she was trying to keep at bay.

The only man who she was ever brave enough to tell about this side of her was her ex-boyfriend. He just couldn't understand why she wanted to behave like a child and was constantly telling her she needed to grow up.

He acted like her parents did when they found out one night. She had been slowly purchasing things for her Little. Nothing big, but small things that helped her fall into that mindset.

She had made the mistake of leaving her pacifier out one morning when she was running late for school. Rae's mom came into her room and saw it on the bed.

Getting home from school that day was like walking into a war zone. Her parents

yelled at her, called her all kinds of nasty things, and kicked her out a month before her eighteenth birthday.

Luckily, Raelyn was close to graduating, so she stayed with a friend who lived in Ivory Mountain, Arizona to finish. After that she had to figure out what to do next.

That friend and their family was sweet enough to let her stay there while she got her caregiver certificate, but eventually Rae dropped out of college and started working full time.

Ever since that night, she hasn't spoken to her parents. She knew it was for the best, but she left behind her younger siblings. The twin girls, Jessa and Destiny, were her closest friends.

Only separated by five years of age, they were always inseparable. Knowing her parents, they acted just as she assumed they would and cut them off from her. She keeps hoping that one day they can reconnect.

She longed for the relationship that they once had. It took a little while to get her feet under her after everything happened, but she figured it out.

It made her stronger in the end, but it's something she wishes had never happened. No child should feel that kind of hatred from their parents.

Raelyn got home that night later than she hoped. The night shift caregivers showed up to work almost forty-five minutes late, which meant that Rae had to stay until someone could relieve her .

She immediately crashed into bed with Bruce after she stripped out of the scrubs she wore that night and forgoing the shower she desperately wanted, but was too tired to take.

She knew that she should eat something since she didn't get a break at work, but she couldn't find the energy to get up and make another bowl of oatmeal.

Not that she felt like she could eat another bowl since she had been eating it for most of her meals over the last few days.

Setting her alarm for the next morning, Raelyn slipped her paci into her mouth and drifted off to sleep dreaming of one Mr. Emmett Benson being her Daddy.

Rae jolted awake when her alarm went off at five the next morning. Groggy, she dragged herself out of bed, hopped into the shower, and got ready for her shift.

She hated when she had to work back-to-back shifts like this, but she knew that beggars can't be choosy and that the money would be good to have on her paycheck.

Carrying Bruce into the kitchen, she quickly ate another bowl of oatmeal and then dashed out the door after giving the well-loved stuffie a goodbye kiss.

Walking into the nursing home, Raelyn got her assignment and headed to gather her linen for the morning. She noted that she had Mrs. Benson again today and secretly hoped that she might see Emmett again.

She didn't know how often he came in, but she doubted that he would be there today since he just visited his Nan last night.

Rae's morning was spent daydreaming in between providing care to her residents. Around lunch time she had hit a wall and was struggling to stay awake.

This usually happened when she worked too hard. Hoping it would help, she went and grabbed an energy drink from the break room and continued to push on.

As Raelyn was headed back up the hallway, she spotted Emmett walking towards her. She blushed and smiled when they made eye contact and tried to continue on her way.

“Little girl!” She heard Emmett growl at her.

She shouldn’t be as turned on by that sound as she was. Stopping, she turned and looked back at him, “Mr. Benson! It’s lovely to see you again.”

She hoped to keep this conversation short. Not because she didn’t want to talk to him, but because her defenses were already low and she could feel her Little on the surface.

Emmett stared at her. His eyebrows frowned and he looked quite unhappy about something. Worried that Rae had done something wrong, she fidgeted with the drink can in her hands waiting for him to respond.

“Didn’t you just work last night?”

“Yes, sir, I did. Yesterday was supposed to be my day off, but I got called in because someone else called out. Today was already my scheduled shift, so here I am! I promise your Nan is in good hands. I’ll take great care of her.”

Before waiting for Emmett’s response, Raelyn quickly turned and continued back down the hall before she could say or do anything embarrassing.

Rae dashed down the hallway to the nurses' station to catch her breath. She didn’t know what it was about that man, but everything about him called to her. Made her want to curl up in his lap and let Daddy deal with all of her problems.

Rae needed to stop calling Emmett ‘Daddy’ in her mind. He most likely doesn’t even

know what that is and if he did, she knows that he would never want to be her Daddy.

She already had settled in her mind that she would never find the Daddy for her. It was wishful thinking and she just needed to get over it.

Littles and Daddies or Mommies only exist in the books she devours in the little spare time she has. Even if they did exist, no Daddy would want her.

She was nothing special. Her blonde straight hair, dark green eyes, and curvy body wasn't something men did a double take at.

Her ex spent quite a bit of their relationship dropping hints to her that she could do to lose a few pounds. That she was lucky someone like him even found her attractive.

All of the comments he made reminded her of what her parents used to say and do to her. There had been many times that her mom would put her on a new fad diet in hopes that Rae would drop a couple pounds.

Her mom never liked that Rae was a size sixteen compared to her size two. It really weighed on her self-esteem growing up.

Finally, when she caught her breath and stopped the daydream of Emmett she slipped out of the nurses' station. Looking down the hall Rae was disappointed that Emmett wasn't still in the hallway.

Shaking her head to clear it, Rae continued down the hallway and slipped into her next resident's room. She still had a full schedule ahead of her and if she wanted to make her lunch on time, she needed to get to work and stop messing around.

CHAPTER FOUR

EMMETT

Shaking his head and muttering to himself as he walked down the hallway, Emmett made his way into Nan's room. He didn't like the look of those dark circles under Rae's eyes.

They seemed to be worse than they usually were. The dark purple marks didn't belong under his Little one's eyes and it hurt his heart to see them there. Let's not forget that he spotted the energy drink in her hands.

If she was his, he wouldn't allow her to drink those unhealthy things. They were full of sugar and bad for her heart. There were much better and healthier ways to have an energy boost that wouldn't stop her heart beating in her chest.

She wouldn't need energy drinks anyway cause he would be making sure that she got plenty of sleep at night and would lay her down for a nap on her days off to help balance the lack of sleep she got on the days she worked.

She also wouldn't be working back-to-back shifts like this if he was her Daddy.

Emmett had planned on moving slowly with Raelyn and taking the time to get to know her, but seeing her in this state just proves that she needs a Daddy and he wasn't going to let anyone else step up to the job. Rae was his and it was time that she knew that.

With those thoughts in mind, Emmett worked out a plan to ask her out for dinner and set out to come up with the best date possible.

He wanted it to be one that would appeal to both her Big and Little sides.

After seeing her today he was even more certain that she had both and that made his Daddy heart soar.

Pulling out his laptop and settling in for the afternoon, Emmett waited for his Little girl to make her way back around to his Nan's room. He started looking up restaurants that he thought Raelyn might like.

Deciding on one not too far from the nursing home, he shifted gears and picked out an arcade that was nearby. He didn't know of any Little girls or Little boys that could resist the excitement of an arcade and hoped that Rae would enjoy it too.

After a few hours, he finally heard a timid knock at the door and turned to greet the person walking in. Unable to stop the smile from forming from his face, he took in the darling girl standing in front of him.

"I was just stopping by to make sure Mrs. Jean was okay and that no one needed anything." she softly spoke.

"Nannie Jean is doing just fine, but I require some assistance if you wouldn't mind."

Walking further into the room,

"Oh absolutely, what is it I could help you with?"

Emmett quickly answered her "I found this restaurant right down the road from here that seems to have some pretty great reviews, but I would hate to go visit all on my

own. Would you be so kind as to accompany me to dinner?”

His question must have caught her off guard as she blankly stared at him before giving him an answer. Just not the one that he longed for .

“Oh you wouldn’t want to take me to dinner, I’m sure that there is someone much more in your league that you could take.”

Growling at her response, “I can assure you that the only one I want to go to dinner with is standing right in front of me.”

Raelyn seemed to take a moment before responding to him.

“Well I would love to go with you, but I don’t get off from work until six tonight. After the long two days I have had, I would like to go home and relax.”

Emmett nodded and said, “Tomorrow night maybe we can go then.” Rae smiled again and shook her head.

“I work tomorrow until six again. I’m sorry, maybe another time.”

Emmett didn’t like the sound of her working another day when it was apparent that she needed the time off. At this point, there was nothing he could do about that.

He wasn’t her Daddy yet, even though every cell in his body knew that she was his. Nodding his head, he agreed with her.

“My next day off is Sunday. If you are still interested, I would be free to go then.”

Longing for the chance to spend time with her, Emmett agreed and they set the date for Sunday afternoon.

“Let me give you my cell and work numbers so that way you can get in touch with me should something come up,” Emmett said.

Pulling out his business card, Emmett wrote down his cell phone number on the back and handed it to her. Smiling, Raelyn accepted the card and he watched her slip it into her scrub pocket for safekeeping.

Wishing him a good rest of the night, Emmett watched as his Little girl turned and walked away. Suddenly Sunday afternoon couldn't get here fast enough.

CHAPTER FIVE

RAELYN

Raelyn usually loved to work her Saturday shifts. This was the only day of the week that she got to work with her best friend Olivia. She met Olivia not too long after she started working at Ivory Mountain.

They quickly became best friends and loved to line up their weekend shifts to be able to work together. It made the day go by faster when there was someone that made the day better and the shift more fun.

They also spent a lot of time outside of work together. Olivia was the first friend she ever felt comfortable enough to tell about her Little side.

It helped that Olivia was also a Little, so they tended to spend most of their time together in Littlespace having tea parties, watching movies, and doing all kinds of crafts together.

Rae needed to talk to someone about her weekend plans with Emmett. She knew that Olivia would be the perfect person to ease her fears about the date.

Emmett told her that they would be going somewhere special first before going to dinner, but he wanted to make it a surprise for her.

Raelyn usually loved surprises, but this time she was feeling anxious about what he had planned. She knew that she sometimes got overstimulated when in new

environments.

It also didn't help that Rae was stressing about what she was going to eat at the restaurant that Emmett picked out for them.

He didn't tell her the name of the restaurant, so she couldn't even plan ahead and look at the menu to find items that would fit her needs.

She had a small list of safe foods that usually made it easy to deal with her sensory issues, but not every restaurant carried food she was okay eating. Even when they did she never knew when a once-safe food would turn icky.

Olivia and Rae tried to help each other in patient care to maximize the amount of time they got to chat. It also was always nice to have a second set of hands to get residents dressed and transferred to their wheelchairs.

Making their way down their assignment lists, the girls chatted about everything that had gone on during the week and what their plans were for the weekend. Raelyn knew that she couldn't mention anything to Olivia right now about her date with Emmett.

That conversation would need total focus. By the time their lunch break finally came, Rae was bursting at the seams to tell Olivia about her conversation with Emmett. She didn't know how much longer she could keep it to herself, she needed to get it out.

Taking their lunch break, Raelyn spilled all the details about what had happened over the last few days to Olivia. She explained to her about how Emmett wanted to take her to a surprise before dinner .

Rae knew that she would understand where her anxiety was coming from since Olivia doesn't usually step out of her comfort zone either. Rae watched as Olivia sat and not

so patiently waited for her to get done talking.

“Oh my goodness! I am so glad that he finally asked you out! I never thought that he would do it.” exclaimed Olivia.

Confused by what she was talking about, Rae scrunched up her nose at Olivia’s outburst.

“What do you mean he finally asked me out? I had never seen him before Wednesday morning when I walked right into him.”

Olivia giggled until she realized that Rae was being serious.

“That man has been coming to visit his Nan only on the days that you are working for a few months now. I’m really surprised that it took him this long before he finally made a move..” she went on to explain.

Raelyn didn’t know how to process that information. She blushed at the thought that a man as handsome as he had noticed her and wanted to be around her when she was working, but she couldn’t believe that all those times she had been daydreaming and never noticed that he was there.

“If you knew that Emmett was coming only on my work days, why didn’t you tell me?” Rae asked her after a short pause.

“Well, I didn’t want to bring up that he was smitten with you for fear that you would run the other way. We both know that you don’t do well with attention from men, but with a man as handsome as Emmett I knew that you would make every attempt to avoid him.”

Rae knew that Olivia wasn’t wrong. After the jerk that she dated before, Raelyn had

sworn off men for a while. She never wanted to get hurt like that again, but even more so, she never wanted to expose her Little again to someone who could harm her.

She knew that opening up to Emmett put her at that risk, but every part of her knew that he was a good man and would never purposely do her harm.

“I understand why you kept that information to yourself. You’re right to think that I would have run in the other direction. I still can’t believe that Emmett wants me. I mean look at me. I’m not anything special.”

Olivia shook her head. She was constantly reminding Rae that she was a beautiful and kind girl. One day she would find her Daddy who would see all the perfect qualities that Raelyn had and he would snatch her up and never let her go.

Promising Olivia that she would call her that night and spill all the details of her date with Emmett, they switched the conversation to one a little less heavy to wrap up the last few minutes of their lunch break.

They had plenty of time on the shift to continue to chat, but they both still had lots of work to get done. It always seemed like the work never stopped, but Rae didn’t mind.

The more that she did during the day the faster the shift seemed to move. Plus, if she sat down for too long Rae knew that she would struggle to find the energy to continue to work.

All of the hours she had been working lately were slowly catching up with her. She knew that when she got home, Rae was going to crash hard.

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CHAPTER SIX

RAELYN

Finally home for the night, Raelyn sent Emmett a text message after crawling into bed with her paci and Bruce.

They had been texting ever since he gave her his number.

She loved that he checked in with her and asked her about her day.

She couldn't help but feel giddy every time his name flashed across her phone.

It was probably wishful thinking, but she couldn't resist changing his name to Daddy Emmett.

Raelyn: I'm finally home and in bed. I can't wait for tomorrow to come!

She turned her phone over and tried to be patient waiting for him to respond.

"Bruce I don't know what it is about Emmett, but I like him."

Bruce looked at her in agreement.

"I know you want to meet him to make sure he is safe, but what if he doesn't want that side of me? I can't let my Little get hurt like that again. "

Bruce scoffed in disagreement, but the pinging of her phone cut off any further argument that he had.

Emmett: Me too Little girl. I am so excited for what I have planned for you.

Emmett: What's your plan for tomorrow morning before we meet?

Raelyn: I'm going grocery shopping first thing in the morning.

She hated going grocery shopping. Rae tried to go when the store first opened. There were always fewer people and environmental stimulations that could overwhelm her.

It was easier and she could quickly grab her safe foods and then get home for Little time. The more time she got to spend in Littlespace on her days off the better she felt during the week when there was less time for her to relax.

Rae had a horrible experience once when she was shopping later in the afternoon. She knew better than to shop after work because she usually was already at her limit for outside stimulation, but she had hoped that it would be a quick trip as she only needed to grab a handful of items.

What should have been fast ended up taking forty-five minutes because Rae had spent it in the bathroom fighting through a panic attack.

She was standing in the frozen meal section trying to pick which meal she wanted when there had been a huge banging noise a few aisles over and it immediately triggered the attack.

Given how tired she was from working it made sense that it happened, but that didn't mean that Rae didn't want to avoid it again, if possible. The morning shoppers are usually elderly and the store has a somber feel to it .

Rae loved shopping in the mornings so much more and so when there was a chance to do it, she would always pick that. Grabbing her phone once more when she heard the alert that another message from Emmett came through.

Emmett: Darling girl, would you be willing to let me crash your morning shopping tomorrow?

Emmett: We can grab breakfast before we go. I would love to spend the whole day with you.

Raelyn paused to think about her answer before she responded. She did want to spend as much time as possible with Emmett, but did she feel like she could handle a whole day with him without slipping into Littlespace? Deciding to hope for the best, she replied to his text.

Raelyn: I would love that! We can meet at the breakfast place around the corner from me.

Emmett: How about you send me your address and I'll come pick you up?

Emmett: I promise you are safe with me

Rae didn't doubt that she would be safe with him. She sent him her address and they settled on him picking her up at eight tomorrow morning.

Emmett: Now be a good girl and go to bed. I don't want you to be tired and cranky tomorrow.

Raelyn: Yes, Sir! Goodnight and sweet dreams.

Raelyn clenched her legs together at Emmett's text. Her heart raced at the thought of

being Emmett's good girl and all she wanted to do was please him.

Turning her phone off and putting her paci in her mouth, Rae closed her eyes and drifted asleep. She dreamed of all the wonderful things that her Daddy had planned, even though it was wishful thinking he would be hers.

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CHAPTER SEVEN

EMMETT

Emmett couldn't stop reading over his conversation with his sweet babygirl. He felt like a teenager having his first real crush all over again.

He only wished that she would call him Daddy instead of Sir. Soon, Emmett reminded himself.

Walking to the closet, he began picking out the clothes he wanted to wear for the date tomorrow. Settling on a dark grey henley shirt and a pair of dark wash jeans, Emmett laid everything out on the counter in the closet and headed back towards the bedroom.

He was interrupted by the rubbing of something across his legs. Looking down he smiled at the orange furball that was currently weaving herself around him while he walked. Leaning down to pick up his darling cat, Emmett brushed his fingers through her fur.

“What is it, Lola girl? Are you hungry?”

Lola let out the cutest meow and brushed her head against his chin letting out a soft purr. Emmett carried her into the kitchen, placing her on the floor before getting started on making her dinner.

Miles loved to call him an old cat lady because Emmett went the extra mile with the

care he provided to Lola. He never imagined that he would own a cat, but a few months ago he heard the saddest meow coming from the alleyway beside his building.

Deciding to investigate even though it was pouring down raining, his heart broke at finding the little fuzzball abandoned in a box. There was no way that Emmett was taking her to the pound, so that day he officially became a cat dad and he embraced it fully.

One vet trip later and Emmett was able to say that he was a proud owner of an orange maine coon that was about six months old. Given the circumstances that she was found in, Lola was in pretty good health minus the small respiratory infection she had developed from being left in the rain.

A week's worth of antibiotics cured that and he had a rambunctious house mate that demanded attention all the time. Emmett spent the next few weeks researching all the information he could find on owning a cat, specifically a maine coon.

He quickly learned that his small furball wouldn't stay small forever, instead she would grow to be quite big, but he was looking forward to watching it happen. Which is where the ribbing from Miles comes from. Lola was a bit spoiled, but he found it hard to resist spoiling the little thing.

Plus, since Lola came into his life he didn't feel so lonely while he was waiting on finding his Little girl. Now that he knew that Raelyn was it for him, he hoped that she wasn't allergic to cats and that the two of them would become best friends.

He fully believes that his babygirl would love having someone to play and cuddle with and he was going to enjoy spoiling both of his girls.

Emmett set the bowl of gourmet food on the placemat and scratched behind Lola's

ears and headed back into the living room. He knew that he should go to bed now, but he couldn't resist watching one episode of 911:Lonestar.

He stumbled across this show a few weeks ago and binged watched it. A new episode came out this week and he didn't want to get behind.

An hour later, he headed to bed after mapping out how far Rae lived from him and setting his alarm for the morning. Emmett thought about his plans for tomorrow one last time before he closed his eyes.

He wanted to be well-rested for the time he would be spending with his Little girl. The excitement he had was uncontainable and he had no doubt that it was going to be difficult for him to fall asleep.

Waking up with his alarm the next morning, Emmett showered for the day. He took a few extra minutes to trim the scruff on his face and apply his favorite cologne.

Finally feeling ready for his day with Raelyn, he made his way to his truck and started driving towards his baby's house. He realized that she only lived ten minutes from him.

Leaving with plenty of time, he stopped by the local floral shop and picked out a beautiful arrangement of sunflowers to bring to Rae.

Pulling in, Emmett wasn't too happy with the neighborhood she lived in. While the neighborhood wasn't the best of those around he was pleased to see that the building she lived in had security measures in place to keep the occupants safe.

He knew that locks and alarms could only do so much, so he hoped that his Little girl took the extra step in maintaining her safety .

That didn't stop the group of men from lounging around the front entryway. Emmett knew that as soon as she would let him, he was going to move her into his house.

He had already begun setting up her nursery with everything he could think his girl would need.

Heading up and knocking on her door, he whistled while he waited for his angel to appear. Emmett wasn't prepared to see his sweet girl standing there looking as adorable as can be. She was a vision standing in front of him.

Dressed in the prettiest dress with her hair pulled back with light purple bows, he couldn't believe that this Little girl would be his and would call him Daddy.

Not wanting to waste any more time, Emmett gave his darling the flowers he picked up and walked inside her apartment. Looking around the entryway, he realized that he really couldn't call this an apartment. It looked more like a closet than a place where his baby should be staying.

CHAPTER EIGHT

RAELYN

After waking up this morning and showering like she always did, Rae and Bruce sat on her bed fretting over what she was going to wear for the day.

She didn't want to wear something that would give away her Little, but she also wanted to look pretty for Emmett, settling on a lavender cotton sundress that had white daisies printed along the bottom of it.

This was one of her favorite finds at the consignment shop and she was grateful that it didn't require any modifications to fit her sensory needs.

All the fretting Bruce and her did this morning, although it was mainly her that did the fretting, was worth it when she saw the look on Emmett's face for the first time.

"You darling girl look stunning. Every man around us today will be jealous of me because I will have a beautiful girl to accompany me."

She blushed at Emmett's words and smiled at him before stepping inside to grab a mason jar for the gorgeous flowers that he brought her. How he ever knew that sunflowers were her favorite she would never know, but she did a little happy dance inside at seeing them sit on her counter.

There was nothing like the smell of fresh flowers to brighten her day. Emmett followed her inside and Rae tried not to tense up at him seeing her space. It wasn't

much, but it was hers.

The one-bedroom apartment left more to be desired, but she tried her best to make it feel like home. Calling it an apartment felt generous. Rae had to be honest with herself, it was more of a shoebox than a place someone should be living.

How it was up to code she wouldn't know. Her's and the place beside her had originally been one massive apartment, but the building owner had decided to do some construction and split the once existing single apartment into two.

The thin wall between her and the neighbors didn't protect against any of the noise she heard from them. She knew quite a bit about her neighbors yet she had only met them once in person and that was on the day that she moved in.

She decorated the space with as much color as she could. She had hung twinkling lights all around to give it that magical feel and spent hours hunting around consignment shops for just the right stuff to add a little sparkle to the place.

Rae knew that she didn't have much, but she was grateful for the space that she did have. She knew what it was like to live on the streets and not have a place to lay her head at night.

Never wanting to be in that position again, Rae never took what she had for granted because it could always disappear in the blink of an eye.

Giving the flowers one last sniff, she turned to gather her yellow fuzzy backpack that held her phone, wallet, and keys she would need for today.

After locking up behind them, Rae slipped her arm into the crease of his arm. They headed out to his truck and made their way to the diner that she had told him about.

Dahlia's Diner was a local favorite in her town. It was owned by the sweetest lady who always took care of those around her. She seemed to be the so-called mom of the folks who came into the diner.

Anytime Rae got the opportunity to visit, which wasn't very often, it always seemed like the owner went out of her way to take care of her. She loved that since she didn't have anyone else around looking out for her.

Raelyn normally couldn't afford to go out for meals since she stayed on a tight budget, but she was going to splurge today and worry about any problems it caused later.

Sliding into the booth she picked up her menu and started reading over the choices that the diner offered that she could eat without breaking her budget too much while also still sticking to food that she knew was safe.

"What would you folks like to start with to drink?" the waitress that had approached asked.

"I'll have a glass of water please," replied Rae.

Emmett paused and looked at her before asking "Are you sure that's the only thing you would like?"

Raelyn looked away from his inquiring eyes, because she knew that her face would betray that she didn't want the water, but picked it cause she knew that it didn't cost anything. She couldn't stand the taste of water and never drank it if she had other options.

Water never tasted the same every single time that she would have it and that drove her sensory issues crazy. It never made sense to her why it was different each time.

It was like Emmett knew she was lying about picking it.

“I’ll have a glass of apple juice and a coffee and can we also get a glass of chocolate milk for her?” he told the waitress.

Rae looked up in surprise and then grinned. She didn’t know how he knew she wanted the chocolate milk, but she wasn’t going to try and change his mind.

“If you’re ready to order I can go ahead and get that as well.” the waitress said.

Emmett asked for a stack of pancakes with bacon and sausage while Rae ordered a cheese omelet. She hoped that eggs would still be safe to eat since that was the cheapest thing she could afford off the menu.

The waitress slipped away to put in their orders and grab their drinks, leaving the couple in comfortable silence.

“How long have you worked at the nursing home?” Emmett asked her a few moments later, breaking the silence that they had fallen into.

Before she could answer, the waitress brought over their drinks and food, and confirmed they didn’t need anything else before slipping away to tend to her other tables.

Rae smiled at Emmett and answered, “I’ve been at Ivory Mountain Nursing Home for almost two years now, but I have been a caregiver for six years.”

Before she could dig into her food, Emmett pulled her plate across the table and started cutting up her omelet into smaller pieces for her and set it back in front of her.

“Wouldn’t want you to choke on any big pieces, darling.”

Blushing, Rae picked up her fork and placed a bite into her mouth. She knew instantly that she had been betrayed by the eggs. What was once a safe food, she could no longer handle the texture.

Not wanting to be rude and seem ungrateful, she tried to push through and eat the bite she took. She hoped that she was able to play off her issues without Emmett knowing, but she should have known that nothing would get past his watchful eye.

CHAPTER NINE

EMMETT

He knew something was wrong with his baby the moment she placed that bite of egg into her mouth. “What is it? Is it too hot?” he asked. Emmett watched her shake her head but could see that there was something wrong.

Puzzled and not sure what was going on, he waited until she finally swallowed the food and watched as she drank half the glass of chocolate milk that was in front of her.

“If it isn’t too hot, then what is the issue with it babygirl? I promise you can tell me.”

He could tell that Raelyn wasn’t going to give up what was going on as he continued to watch her torture herself bite after bite. Setting down his fork and pushing his plate to the side, he placed his hand over hers asking once again

“What’s going on Duckling? I can’t stand to see you struggling with something that I am sure I could fix.”

He didn’t think that she was going to answer him until he watched her eyes fill with tears and she blurted out

“These are normally on my safe food list. I can eat them without any problems, but they betrayed me.”

Emmet didn't fully understand what she was talking about, but he knew that it broke his heart to watch her cry.

Discarding the offending omelet onto a nearby table, he slid into her side of the booth and pulled her in close.

"I'm not understanding, beautiful. If you didn't like it, why did you order it in the first place?"

She shook her head at him explaining "I have SPD and part of my disorder is food sensitivities. Most days are good because I know what foods are safe for me and what aren't."

"SPD? I don't think I've heard of that before."

"Sensory processing disorder, SPD, is when someone's brain has struggles processing certain sensory signals. These can be sight, sound, smell, texture, or taste."

Emmett was slowly starting to understand what she was saying.

"Every once in a while, a food that was once safe for me to have turns yucky and it comes off of my safe list." she continued.

Now knowing what the problem is, Emmett was going to fix it, but first, he had to explain to her that she's not allowed to cause harm to herself for things that are within her control.

"Eyes on me please, Little bit. I want to make sure you understand what I am going to tell you." He waited until he had her full attention.

"Next time this happens you are to stop eating the offending food immediately. Do

not force yourself to continue to eat it knowing that it is triggering for you.” Emmett said in his deep Dom voice.

Rae’s eyes widened and she shivered at his tone.

“I just didn’t want you to think I was being ungrateful.” Rae timidly said .

Shaking his head, “I would never think that you are being ungrateful, Little Duckling.”

This was the first time that he had ever used this voice on her and he was pleased with how she reacted. It just further helped confirm his suspicions that she was a submissive and possibly a Little.

“You are not to cause intentional harm to yourself. Do you understand what I am saying?”

She nodded her head at him.

“No, Little Duckling, I need a verbal response from you.”

“Yes, Sir,” Rae whispered back to him.

Pleased that she understood his rule, he pulled his plate towards them and started cutting up his pancakes to share with her. He hoped that this food was also something she could have.

Emmett knew that he would have to continue to watch his Little girl closer in the future to help her avoid triggering foods that might cause her harm.

He also made a mental note to do some additional research to better help his darling

girl with her issues. Emmett didn't plan on allowing anything to cause harm to his Little girl and that included her mind and body.

CHAPTER TEN

RAELYN

R aelyn

After the hiccup of the eggs choosing violence, their breakfast went smoothly. Emmett fed her bites of his pancakes until she shook her head and didn't want another bite. She thought it was sweet that he wanted to share his food with her even though he didn't have to.

The waitress came by and dropped off the check not long after they were done eating. Rae turned and grabbed her wallet from her backpack to pay for her portion of the meal.

"What do you think you're doing, Duckling?" Emmett spoke in a low tone of voice. Raelyn paused trying to think of a way to answer his question.

"Oh, ummmm, well I was getting out money to pay for my food."

The scowl that formed across his face was immediate. She knew then that she hadn't given him the answer he was wanting and she wanted to take back her words.

"Anytime I take you out on a date, I will pay," Emmett stated to her while placing his card on the table for the waitress to pick up.

Rae didn't know how to respond to that. She wasn't used to people wanting to pay

her way. Once she was old enough to work, her parents no longer purchased things for her or paid for her food if they went out together.

There were many times that she went without because they didn't want to help and she didn't have the extra money to cover what she needed.

Her ex wasn't any better. He told her from their first date that they would always split bills fifty-fifty, though more times than not it seemed like he never actually paid anything and she was always the one who had to pick up his slack.

"You don't have to pay my way when we are together. I don't mind paying for my half of the things, especially since I didn't eat what I had ordered."

She didn't think that the scowl on Emmett's face could get worse. "I should just pay for the whole thing since I ended up eating half of your breakfast anyway."

Rae glanced away and started to pick at the skin around her nails.

It was a nervous habit that she had and during times of stress, she reverted to it though she has been trying to do better about not destroying the skin.

She finally got them healed up a few days ago and this was going to be a huge setback for her.

"Eyes on me, Raelyn. I want to make sure I have your full attention." She looked up and waited for his next words.

"When I tell you that I will be doing something, I one hundred percent mean what I say. I don't just say things to make me feel better about myself. You will never pay for anything when you are with me. Do I make myself clear?"

Rae nodded her head before remembering that he wanted verbal answers when answering a question. “Yes, Sir. I won’t push the issue again. ”

Emmett gave her a flash of the gorgeous smile that she had grown to love and seemed pleased with her response. He signed the check, helped her out of the booth, and out of the diner.

Walking back to his truck, Emmett opened the door for her before lifting her into the truck. He grinned at the surprised look on her face.

Leaning over and buckling her up, Rae couldn’t stop the small gasp from coming out when Emmett’s arm brushed across her chest.

“Got to keep my Little girl safe,” Emmett stated before smiling at her and closing the door to head to his side.

Raelyn watched as he slid into his seat and cranked the truck. Giving him the directions that he asked for, she sat back content as he pulled away from the dinner and started heading towards her favorite grocery store.

Glancing over at him she noticed that Emmett held his hand palm up between them. Sliding her hand into his, she couldn’t stop the blush that crept across her cheeks as she watched him lift their hands to his mouth and kiss her before settling them in his lap.

“Are you sure you want to do this with me?” she asked a little while later as they sat in the parking lot of the grocery store she frequented. Her anxiety was already a little elevated after the issue with the eggs, but nothing that she didn’t think that she couldn’t handle.

“There’s no place else I would rather be.” he replied before sliding out and heading

around to help her before they headed inside to shop.

A little while later, after they had spent time unloading all the groceries that she had purchased for the week, Rae and Emmett settled in to have a quick lunch.

“Can you tell me now where we are going?”

She heard Emmett chuckle before shaking his head. “Little One, I do believe that you will be happier if it remains a surprise.”

Sighing and finishing her sandwich, Rae cleaned up the small mess from lunch before Emmett slid her coat back on her arms and they headed out the door to her next surprise.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

RAELYN

Rae tried hard to contain her excitement when Emmett's truck pulled into the arcade parking lot. It had been years since she had done something like this.

Growing up that was the one thing that her parents did for all the kids. Up until they were thirteen years old, the family would go to the local arcade and celebrate. It was some of the best memories that she had from her childhood.

Grinning up at him, Raelyn reached for the door handle, stopping when she heard Emmett's deep voice speak.

"Little girl, I will come around and help you out."

She tried to wait patiently while he made his way around the truck to her side. Once Emmett opened the door and helped her out, Rae turned to dash across the parking lot. A hand shot out and grabbed her, spinning her till she was pressed against his hard and deliciously smelling chest.

"I understand you are excited and can't wait to go inside to play, but if you try to dart across a parking lot again I won't hesitate to spank your cute little butt."

Her eyes widened at Emmett's words. She couldn't believe that he just threatened to spank her. "I'm sorry Sir. I just can't wait to see all the fun games they have. I wasn't thinking." Rae replied sorrowfully.

Emmett leaned down and pressed a chaste kiss on her forehead before taking her hand and leading them inside.

After loading up a prepaid card with money for games, Emmett let Rae drag him all around the arcade before settling on which game she wanted to play first.

Stepping up to the skee ball machine, Emmett swiped the card before stepping back to let her play. Rae picked up the heavy ball and rolled it down the ramp.

She watched as the ball barely made it over the top before falling into the ten-point spot. Trying not to be discouraged, Raelyn picked up another ball and rolled it down the ramp as hard as she could. Frustrated that it too fell into the ten-point spot, she stomped her foot and began to pout.

She felt a presence behind her before she felt his hands slide around her, “Here Little darling, let me help you.”

Picking up the next ball, Emmett wrapped his hands around hers. Swinging back and releasing the ball, Rae jumped up and celebrated when the ball sank into the fifty-point spot.

Raelyn spun around and wrapped her arms around Emmett. Glancing up, she couldn’t help but blush at the look of adoration she saw in his eyes.

They continued to move around the arcade playing games. The place was filling up with more people and Rae could feel herself starting to get overwhelmed.

Not wanting to alert Emmett that anything was wrong, she pushed the feelings down and pretended that nothing was wrong. As they were finishing up their next game, the kid beside her decided to throw a fit and start screaming when their parents told them it was time to leave.

Raelyn felt her heart start to race and she knew that the panic attack she had been trying to avoid was quickly approaching. Turning and dashing away to the bathroom to be alone she could barely hear the yelling from Emmett as the door shut behind her.

Sinking to the floor near the sink, Rae wrapped her arms around her legs and hoped that this attack wouldn't be as bad as her last one.

For as long as Rae could remember she had suffered from panic attacks. The therapists that her family took her to said that she would one day outgrow them.

When she was diagnosed with her sensory disorder that changed. She knew that the panic attacks would always be a part of her life, so she worked with the therapist to figure out coping mechanisms that helped her ease from them faster.

Since being kicked out of her parent's house, Rae hasn't been to therapy and most of the tricks she learned when younger didn't help as much.

Beginning to count back from one hundred, Raelyn started rocking back and forth. She tried to focus on things around her that could help ground her senses.

That was proving to be difficult as her vision began to blur. Rae just knew that this attack would be a bad one, probably even one of her worse ones yet.

CHAPTER TWELVE

EMMETT

He had no clue what just happened to his babygirl, but he was going to find out. Everything was going well and he could tell she was having a great time.

When the kid beside them started screaming, Rae dashed away and wouldn't stop when he called out to her. Quickly making his way towards the restrooms, he decided to see if she would come back out in a few minutes.

Glancing down at his watch Emmett noted that five minutes had passed and Raelyn had yet to emerge from the bathroom.

He knew that something was seriously wrong and he didn't care about the consequences he would face by going into the ladies' bathroom.

Emmett was more concerned about his darling than anything anyone had to say to him. Opening up the door and announcing that he was coming in, Emmett walked upon a scene that broke his heart.

Right away Emmett could tell that Rae was having a panic attack. He was raised by a mother who frequently had them while he was growing up.

Many of his childhood memories consisted of him coaching his mom through her attacks. Quickly walking over, he sat on the floor beside Rae.

“Hi, Little Duckling. I need you to try and focus on my voice.”

It didn't seem as if she heard him, but not being swayed by her lack of response Emmett pushed on.

“I'm going to pick you up, Little one, and help you sit on my lap. I promise that I am going to be here. You aren't alone.” The little whimpers that she let out crushed him.

Slowly reaching out so he didn't scare her, Emmett placed his hands around her waist and guided her to sit and cuddle against him.

Pleased that she didn't pull away and that he didn't trigger the panic attack to get worse, Emmett wrapped his arms around Rae and hugged her tightly.

He understood that deep pressure therapy would help ease the attack quicker.

“Daddy is here, Little Duckling. It's going to be okay.”

Emmett continued to hold her and whisper to her that Daddy was here and wasn't going anywhere.

Slowly her shaking eased and the whimpering that was slowly breaking his heart quieted down. He could tell that she was regaining her presence in reality.

Nevertheless, Emmett didn't stop his sweet words of encouragement.

“Daddy?” he heard Rae whisper to him.

“Yes sweet girl, Daddy is right here.” Pleased that she didn't look disgusted at his words, Emmett mentally filed away that information for later when Rae was feeling back to normal.

“I’m sorry I freaked out.” he heard her timidly say. Needing a little more information from her, Emmett began asking questions about what happened.

“Sweet girl, Daddy needs to know what went wrong. I can’t help you if I don’t understand.”

He watched a blush slowly etch its way across her face before she answered. “I get easily overwhelmed at times. It’s part of the processing disorder that I told you about at breakfast.”

Not wanting to rush her, he patiently waited for her to continue explaining. “I could feel myself getting overwhelmed by all the stimulation around me. I didn’t want to stop playing though, so I just pushed it down and tried to ignore it.”

Halting the growl that was forming in his chest, he squeezed her a little tighter and listened for her next words.

“The little kid beside us had a meltdown about leaving. The screaming was the final straw and it triggered my attack. I didn’t want you to see me like that, so I ran away in here to try to self-regulate. As you can tell, I didn’t do such a good job.”

Emmett kissed her head, “Oh, Little bit. I wish you would have spoken up about how you were feeling. Daddy always wants to help when his Little girl is struggling with something.”

The couple fell into a comfortable silence as Raelyn continued to come back to reality. He felt her hand slightly push against his chest before he saw her adorable green eyes look at him.

“You keep calling yourself Daddy.”

Emmett couldn't help the small smile that graced his face. "Yes, my darling Duckling. I don't have any doubt that I'm your Daddy, just like I don't have any doubt that you are the Little girl that I have been waiting for."

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

RAELYN

R aelyn could feel her heart race like a wild horse and she knew that it wasn't because of the panic attack she just suffered. Staring at him with doe eyes, she was trying to process what he was telling her.

"I don't know what you're talking about. I'm not a Little girl." She denied, looking away before her eyes could betray the lie she had just spoken. Emmett's face showed many emotions before it settled on one of disapproval.

"Don't lie to Daddy, Little bit. That's a naughty thing to do."

Feeling chastised, Rae bit her lip and nodded at him.

"This isn't the appropriate time or place to discuss this, but we will have this conversation."

"Yes, Sir"

Feeling more like herself, Rae pushed against his chest to move off of Emmett's lap.

The squeeze that she felt around her waist halted her efforts. Settling down, she looked up at him with a question in her eyes.

"I want to make sure you are okay from that attack. Plus, I like holding you in my

arms so why don't you appease an old man and just continue to cuddle here with me for a few more minutes."

Raelyn grinned and cuddled back against his chest. She didn't want to leave the warmth of his arms anyway. After several minutes had passed, Emmett stood holding Rae in her arms.

She let out a gasp and squirmed to get out of his arms. She was way too heavy for him to lift her like that. Not prepared for the swat that she felt across her bottom, Rae paused her movement.

"Stop squirming around, Little Duckling. Daddy doesn't want to drop you." Settling down, she laid her head on his chest letting Emmett deal with everything.

Rae had earned a fair number of tickets playing the arcade games. Stopping at the ticket booth on the way out, Emmett let her down to pick out her prizes.

She had no clue what to pick until she spotted the cutest green frog hiding among the stuffies.

Knowing that the stuffed frog was meant to be hers, she pointed to it for Emmett to grab and bring to the counter. After paying for the frog with her tickets, they headed to the truck.

"Does the froggy have a name, Little bit?" Emmett inquired.

With no hesitation, Rae replied "Riget!" earning a smile from Emmett. Buckled up and settled into the truck, Emmett navigated the way back to Rae's house.

She was disappointed that their day was soon ending, but knew that it was best, especially after the panic attack.

Arriving back to her place, Emmett walked around and helped her down before accompanying her to the door. Opening her mouth to invite him in, Emmett placed a finger over her lips before she spoke.

“As much as I would love to come inside with you, you have had a long day and need to be awake tomorrow early.”

Pouting a little, Rae agreed with him. Feeling the brush of his lips against her forehead, she wished him a good night before heading inside her apartment.

“Lock the door, Raelyn.”

Giggling, she reached over and locked the door listening to the sound of his footsteps retreating down the hall.

With Rigel in hand, Rae skipped to her bed and bounced down introducing Bruce to what would be his new best friend.

“Bruce, you wouldn’t believe the day I had! Emmett is a Daddy! Can you believe that?” Rolling her eyes at the exasperation on Bruce’s face,

“I know, I know. I should have believed you. He thinks that I’m the Little girl he has been waiting for, but I don’t think he means that.”

Rae knew that there was no way that Emmett could want her to be his Little. With a yawn, she changed for bed and settled under the covers with her stuffies. As she was dozing, she heard the ding from her phone.

Emmett: Sweet dreams my girl. I had the best time today and I can’t wait to see you again. We have much to discuss.

Kicking her feet and grinning, Rae replied.

Raelyn: Me too! Thank you for everything you did today. Goodnight and sweet dreams.

Emmett: Goodnight, babygirl

With the thought of Emmett in mind and the possibilities that may come, Raelyn drifted to sleep.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

RAELYN

Several days have passed since Rae laid eyes on or spoke to Emmett and she was starting to believe that everything that he said during their date was just a story.

Trying to focus on the rest of her residents, she drifted into a room before realizing where she was going.

“Hey, Little girl”

Raelyn heard from the growly voice that she knew well. Whipping her head toward the noise, she couldn’t believe that Emmett was sitting in front of her. Not caring to hear what he had to say to her, Rae turned to walk back out.

“Don’t move,” Emmett growled at her.

Raelyn grumbled that her feet decided to listen to his command even though she wanted nothing more than to keep walking away.

Feeling his presence behind her before his hands on her shoulders, Emmett turned her towards him. Rae kept her eyes down, not wanting him to see the hurt in her eyes.

“What’s going on, darling? Why did you try to walk away? ”

Refusing to answer she shook her head and tried to walk away again.

“It isn’t nice to ignore Daddy when he is trying to talk with you.”

Snapping her eyes to his, Rae raised her eyebrow at what he had to say.

“You aren’t my Daddy because any Daddy of mine wouldn’t avoid me for days.”

Rae fought the smile coming to her face at the look of shock that graced Emmett’s face at the brazen attitude she had given him.

“First, while Daddy is okay with sass from his Little girl, a disrespectful attitude will not be tolerated.” Barely refraining from rolling her eyes, she continued to hear out what he had to say.

“Second, I wasn’t avoiding you, my Duckling. I have been swamped with work. We let go several people in the finance office, so everyone left behind had to help pick up the slack. I am not one for leaving my team while they are struggling.”

Feeling the attitude drain from her body, Rae realized that she was wrong about Emmett. She felt bad about what she said and thought about him.

“Oh. I didn’t know. I just assumed that you didn’t want me. That everything you had spoken to me about on Sunday was just a joke. I was scared of getting hurt again after I let you in.”

Raelyn accepted the hug that Emmett pulled her into, relaxing and finally feeling a sense of peace for the first time in days. She didn’t realize how worked up she had gotten over this whole thing.

Feeling the tension draining from her body was a welcomed feeling. She knew that in the future she was going to have to talk to Emmett about what she was feeling and words were always something that she struggled with, but that was a problem for a

later date.

Right now she just wanted to enjoy the few minutes she had wrapped in his arms.

“I’m sorry that I upset you, babygirl. That was never my intent.”

Rae didn’t want to move away from his embrace, so she nodded to his statement.

Emmett pulled away and looked down at her.

“Can I pick you up tonight after work? I think it’s time we had that discussion I told you we would be having.”

Rae nodded yes before remembering that she had to work another twelve-hour shift tomorrow.

“I can’t, I’m sorry. I work tomorrow, too.”

She wanted nothing more than to spend time with Emmett, but she couldn’t neglect her duties and the assigned shifts that she had. She would feel terrible to leave all her coworkers without help by not being there.

“When is your next day off?”

Pausing to think about her schedule, “I have Friday off. I don’t work again until Sunday morning.”

“I will be here Thursday to visit Nannie Jean. I’ll stay till you get off work and then you can follow me to my home. Pack a bag for my house and we can plan to spend the following days together.”

Excitement bubbled out of her!

“Yes! I would love to spend the weekend with you.”

Emmett chuckled at her antics. Rae needed to get back to her duties, but before she could slip away she felt the softest kiss on her forehead before slipping out the door.

She couldn't wait for Thursday to get here. For once she had something to look forward to.

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

EMMETT

Over the last couple of days, Emmett spent his free time working on Raelyn's nursery. The room was slowly starting to come together and he couldn't wait to see her reaction.

He had placed a big order online from a boutique that specialized in Little things. From clothes to diapers, Emmett made sure to buy a little bit of everything for his Little Duckling.

He wasn't sure exactly what age her Little might be, but he wanted to be prepared for anything.

Doing one last sweep around the room, Emmett headed into the kitchen to double check that his fridge had everything he needed for this weekend.

He had spent a great deal of time since their date researching the sensory processing disorder that his babygirl had.

Emmett had never heard of the disorder before, but all his research revealed a lot to him. He understood that everyone had different triggers, but he found some helpful lists that gave the most common foods that could be triggering to people.

He planned the menu for this weekend avoiding those and hoped that it would all be okay. Emmett could assume that food wasn't the only sensory thing that could be

triggering for Rae.

Along with the list of foods, most websites also listed different fabrics, noises, and smells that could potentially be triggering for someone.

He bookmarked the websites into his favorites so that he could reference them at a later date if he needed to. It never hurt to be prepared for whatever he might come across when it came to her disorder.

Heading to Ivory Mountain Emmett was nervous. Even though he was eager to see his Little Duckling he knew that at the end of tonight they would need to have a very important discussion.

One that could change everything for him. He had no doubt that Raelyn was his, he just needed to make sure she realized the same thing. Emmett didn't want to accept anything less.

“Hey Nannie Jean!” Emmett said as he walked into her room.

He loved seeing the smile that graced her face each time she saw him, even though she wasn't actually seeing him. Emmett settled in the recliner ready to tackle more spreadsheets.

He wanted to complete as much as he could now, so that he had his weekend free to spend the time with Rae.

He is hoping that maybe he could even coach her Little to come out and play with him. Emmett knew that showing that part would take a great deal of trust, so if it happened he would cherish that moment and wouldn't take advantage of the trust she was showing him .

A timed knock at the door had him turning to see who might be there. Standing just in the doorway was his darling girl.

Dressed in baby blue scrubs today with a pretty white sparkly bow in her hair, Emmett couldn't look away. Grinning, he beckoned her into the room.

Raelyn made her way over to him, stopping to stand in front of the chair he was currently inhabiting. Pulling her between his legs, he looked up at her.

“There's my pretty girl!”

The blush that bloomed across her cheeks and the grin that she gave him made his heart race just a little bit faster.

“Hi Emmett.”

Tugging her down to his level, he pressed a kiss on her cheek before letting her put a little distance between them.

“Did you pack everything you will need for the next few days?”

“I did. It's all in my car. Are you sure you want me to come over?”

Tilting his head and slightly raising his eyebrows, Emmett gave her a puzzled look. Did she really think that he would invite her to his home if he didn't actually want her there.

He wanted to be able to spend all the time that he could with her. Emmett knew that he would be spending a lot of time reminding her that he didn't say or do anything that he didn't mean.

“I want nothing more than for you to be at my house this weekend.”

Rae nodded her head before blowing him a kiss, stepping away from him and slipping out of the room.

Emmett spent the rest of his time with Nannie Jean, unsuccessfully keeping himself from watching the clock and counting the minutes until he got to take his Little girl home .

He couldn't wait to see how this evening and weekend would go. Emmett only hoped that Rae felt the same things that he did because it would crush him to have to let her walk away.

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

RAELYN

The closer it got to the end of her shift, Rae started to feel all sorts of emotions, ranging from excitement to uneasiness, imagining what Emmett might expect from her.

She had been trying to shake the nerves all night long with no success. She knew that she shouldn't worry because Emmett didn't seem like the kind of man that would expect something from her.

He wasn't anything like the boys she had talked to and dated before. She called them boys because Emmett was the definition of a gentleman, where those boys were horrible and didn't know how to treat a woman right.

Grabbing her things from her locker, she skipped outside the employee entrance looking around for Emmett. When she saw him leaning against his truck, she couldn't help the grin that crossed her face.

Raelyn bounced on her toes giggling before skipping towards where he was standing. She tried her hardest to contain the excitement she was feeling, but she knew that she hadn't succeeded in her efforts because she noticed Emmett grin and slightly shake his head at her antics.

Oops, guess she wasn't the best at keeping her emotions at bay. She hoped that that wouldn't be a problem in the future because sometimes a girl needed to keep her

thoughts and feelings to herself.

“All ready to go, Little one?”

Nodding her head, she skipped to her car and climbed in. She waited for Emmett to pull out before following close behind him. They didn’t seem to drive for very long before they turned down a long dirt road.

Parking her car beside his truck, her door opened before she even had a chance to unbuckle her seat belt. Emmett leaned over her and clicked the buckle before holding out his hand to her.

“Where’s your bag, darling?”

She turned to grab her overnight bag before handing it over to Emmett. Sliding her hand into his, she followed him inside.

Emmett led her through the house giving her a small tour of the place before stopping at a guest room to put her things down. Rae couldn’t decide if she wanted to stay in the guest room, but wasn’t going to push her luck.

She was just happy to be here. She noticed that there was one door that he didn’t open or mention. It was beside the master bedroom and she was curious to know what was in it.

Walking into the living room she noticed something furry sitting on the back of the couch that she must have overlooked when they first walked by.

“OH MY GOODNESS, YOU HAVE A KITTY!” Rae exclaimed, bouncing on the balls of her feet.

She heard Emmett chuckle before moving to introduce them.

“Raelyn, this is Lola. She's an eight month old maine coon that I rescued about two months ago from a box in the alleyway behind my office.”

Rae had always wanted a cat growing up, but her mom was deathly allergic to them so they were never allowed to have one.

When she finally moved into her own space, the apartment that she rented had no pets allowed. That was probably for the best since Rae knew that she didn't have the spare money to own a cat.

They were expensive and she refused to have something that she couldn't take care of in the proper way it needed.

So she resigned herself to the fact that she would most likely never have the opportunity to own one and she was okay with that.

“Hi Lola! I'm so excited to meet you!” Rae said as she slowly settled on the couch beside her.

Lola raised her head to look at Rae. She studied her for a second before stretching and moving towards Rae for some cuddles.

Petting the pretty furball, Rae couldn't help but know that they were going to become the best of friends. She turned to look at Emmett and loved the look of contentment she saw in his eyes. She knew that he was thinking the same thing as her.

“Before we move any farther, there is a serious conversation we need to have, Little girl. I won't push you to talk about things you're not ready to talk about, but we do need to talk.”

“I understand. I want to talk about it all, but I will admit that I am kind of nervous about everything.”

“There’s nothing that you need to be worried about, babygirl. I promise that I won’t force you to talk or explain anything to me that you don’t feel comfortable doing.”

Emmett settled in on the couch and pulled her to sit on the spot beside him. She was so grateful that Lola stayed in her lap.

Running her fingers through the cat’s fur helped ease her anxiety and the sweet furball didn’t seem to want to be anywhere else.

“I’ll start, Little girl. If at any time you want to stop this conversation, you can say so.”

Rae nodded her head and waited for Emmett to continue.

“On our date I mentioned that I was a Daddy to you. Do you know what that means?”

Raelyn considered lying to him. She doesn’t tell anyone about that part of herself, but she knew that she would never find a Daddy to call her own if she never put herself out there and took the risk.

“Yes, I know what a Daddy is. I’ve read books about it. I started reading them in high school.”

Emmett grinned at her and she couldn’t help but feel slightly woeful. She knew that she should tell him about all the trauma that surrounds that time of her life.

It would be important information for him to know. She just couldn’t bring herself to weigh down the night by bringing up the trauma that she had gone through and spoil

the calm atmosphere that they had formed.

Deciding that she wanted to wait, Rae pushed aside the thoughts that were brought up and put a smile on her face to hide what was going on in her head.

“I know this is new and we barely know each other, but Rae I know that you are meant to be my Little girl.”

“There’s no way that you could know that. You don’t know me well enough.”

“My gut tells me that you’re mine and I don’t make it a habit to ignore what my gut says.”

Rae couldn’t argue with his statement. She too knew that deep down inside that Emmett was meant to be her Daddy.

He was meant to be hers and for once she was ready to take her life into her own hands and make the choice that she wanted without worrying about what could happen if it went wrong.

“I knew there was something different about you when we first met.” Rae replied to him.

“I know that we are just getting to know each other, but communication is very important in any relationship, especially one that has a power exchange. I would love to sit and talk about things that you like and dislike, but we can table that until tomorrow if you don’t feel like you are up to it right now. ”

Rae thought about his statement for a few minutes. While she was tired and could fall asleep as soon as her head hit the pillow, she knew that if they put off the entire conversation she would just continue to stress about it all. It was better if they went

ahead and talked over some of it tonight.

“I don’t want to wait. I would rather have it tonight, if that’s okay with you.”

“That’s more than okay. I took the liberty of printing out my list of soft and hard limits so that you would be able to see everything that I am okay with as a Daddy.”

Rae’s eyes opened wide. She had been in a few kinky relationships before, but none of them had ever taken the time to write out their limits.

They had just gone with the flow of things and hoped for the best. Maybe that was why none of them worked out longer than a few weeks with the exception of one of them.

“I won’t sit here and read over everything with you, but you can take this copy and when you are ready you can read it.

I also printed out a blank one for you that I would love for you to fill out so that I have a better idea of how to take care of you.

The last thing I want is to cause you harm in any way. ”

She loved that he was thinking of her desires and feelings. Accepting the papers he handed her, she quickly glanced over the blank one and noticed that it was the standard limits list .

She had filled out a similar one before online when she had joined a kink friendly dating site. Her account there didn’t last long before she started getting overwhelmed and a little freaked out, but she kept her list that she had completed so that would make this process a whole lot easier.

“One last thing I want to talk with you about tonight, before this goes any further, is a safe word. While we will probably never do extremely intense scenes, I want you to know that you have a way to stop everything that is happening with no repercussions. This can be anything from a conversation to a punishment. Your physical and mental health is my top priority.”

This was something else that she was familiar with because it was always present in the books that she read.

Rae knew that it was important to talk about and have a safe word in place just in case there was ever a need to use it.

“I have read about safe words in my books, so I know how they work. Most of the books I read use the stoplight system – green for everything is okay, yellow for things need to slow down and we need to talk, and red for everything needs to stop immediately.”

“That’s right, Little one. I personally prefer the stoplight system because it is easy and recognized no matter where you go, but if you have a safe word you would rather use I am okay with that as well.”

“No, Sir. The stoplight system is perfectly fine with me. I would worry that I would forget the word I was supposed to use, so the colors would be the easiest for me.”

Emmett nodded his head at her response, blew out a breath, and smiled at her.

“First, I want to know that you are okay with our conversation. Second, do I have your consent to the idea of me being your Daddy? ”

Rae nodded her head at his inquiry.

“Do you have any other questions or concerns you want to go over tonight? If not, I would love to show you something else.”

Rae shook her head at his question.

“Remember, I need you to give me the words sweetheart.”

“Yes, Sir. I’m okay with that. I can’t think of any triggers or concerns that we need to discuss at this moment, but I would like the opportunity to review your limits list with a clear and rested mind and provide you with mine.

Can we revisit this conversation in a few days once we have read over everything and have a discussion? ”

“We can definitely do that and I am very proud of you for seeing your limits currently and expressing those instead of continuing. Sir is fine for now, but one day soon I hope you will call me Daddy. Now come, let me show you a surprise I have for you.”

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

EMMETT

Emmett couldn't believe that he had Rae at his home. It was even harder to believe that she wanted to be his. Grinning at his Little girl, he helped her to standing before leading them down the hallway with Lola following on their heels.

Yep, just like he figured Lola and Rae would be attached at the hip. Emmett had slowly been building the nursery for his future Little girl.

When he found Rae and decided that she would be his, he slowly started to add more things that he thought she would like. Emmett paused at the door before stepping to the side to let Rae walk in first.

He didn't show her this room on their tour when they first got home, but that was because he didn't know how the conversation they needed to have would go.

The small gasp that he heard fall from her lips eased any concern he had left about Rae being a Little.

He stood at the doorway and watched as his Little Duckling stood amazed in the center of the room looking around .

Emmett admired what he had done to the nursery and loved getting to see it through her eyes.

From the pale yellow walls with twinkle lights strung around the ceiling to the furniture that he had custom built for his future Little, Emmett hoped that Rae loved it as much as he did.

“Can I go explore?”

“Of course, Little one, it’s all yours after all.”

Emmett watched Rae start at the crib running her hands across the white oak before leaning down and touching the bedding below.

He watched her reaction to the bedding closely. The research that Emmett had done on Rae’s processing disorder mentioned textures of fabric could be a serious trigger for some people.

He didn’t know if that was a trigger for her, but Emmett made it his mission after that discovery to find the softest fabric for her room and clothes.

He wouldn’t allow his Little girl to suffer because he had something in her safe space that could possibly be a trigger to her.

“Is that okay, sweetheart?”

Rae turned and graced him with a big grin before he heard her reply,

“It is! It is! There was no yucky feelings at all. That has to be the softest bedding I have ever felt!”

Emmett watched as she continued her way around the room glancing at the changing table in the corner.

The table was the same white oak shade as the bed and was outfitted with everything he might need for his Little girl, no matter what age she might be.

Her gaze lingered on the pull ups below and a blush swept its way across her face before continuing on. He made note of her reaction, but didn't say anything.

Emmett watched Rae drop to her knees in front of the toy box before looking back at him as if she was seeking permission to explore inside.

He left his place at the door and settled in the rocking chair that was big enough for two and nodded his head slightly at her, giving her permission to open and look inside at all the toys that he had purchased.

He listened to her squeal as she started to pull out the toys from the box one by one. Emmett might have gone slightly overboard when he was purchasing things for her room, but listening and seeing the joy that crossed her face made it all worth it.

It's not like he didn't have the money to spoil his Little girl and he couldn't think of a better way to spend it. He smiled at the image she made sitting in the middle of the rug surrounded by stuffies, puzzles, coloring books, art supplies, and dolls.

It was as if she had no idea where to begin playing with the toys and couldn't decide what to do first.

"Little Duckling, how about we pick out one thing to do together for a bit before settling you in for bed. It's been a long day and you need rest after working the past couple of days.

" Looking around at the choices, he watched Rae contemplate which she wanted to choose before settling on a book for him to read.

“Can I keep a stuffie, too?”

“Of course, sweetheart! All the stuffies need love.”

He watched her quickly pick up the elephant, that she promptly named Ellie, and gently place the rest of the toys back into her box for a later day.

Pulling her to him, Emmett settled her on his lap in the rocking chair and glanced at the book she picked out. Grinning, he leaned back and began reading to her *The Ugly Duckling*.

Before long he looked down at his baby and watched her as she was sucking her thumb and rubbing the ear of the elephant against her cheek.

Moving carefully, Emmett stood and brought Rae to the bedroom where he placed her bag earlier. He debated for a second leaving her in her work clothes, but figured she would be more comfortable in something else.

Emmett grabbed one of his shirts from his bedroom before coming back and quickly changing Raelyn into it. He couldn't help but feel a sense of contentment at his darling girl being in his home and wearing his clothes.

Leaving the ensuite light on and door cracked, Emmett headed to bed after setting his alarm early enough to make sure he woke up before his Little Duckling to make breakfast for her.

He hoped that he might be able to see a little bit more of her Little tomorrow and he couldn't wait for it.

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

RAELYN

Stretching Rae knew something was different immediately once she started to wake. This wasn't her normal blanket. The blanket at home wasn't the greatest and she always woke up and had to shower first thing because the material of it always made her skin crawl.

The urge to do that was absent this morning. The sheets and blanket that caressed along her body felt as smooth as butter and she didn't want to move. The urge from her bladder was proving to be a problem she couldn't ignore for much longer.

Forcing herself to leave the comfort of the heavenly bed that she slept in last night, Rae slipped into the ensuite and used the potty before washing her hands and looking at herself in the mirror.

Puzzled, she didn't know where the shirt came from that she was wearing since she knows that isn't what she brought to sleep in, but the smell of it could only mean one thing.

It was Emmett's and he must have dressed her in it before putting her to bed. A blush crept across her cheeks at the thought that he saw her in such a state.

She really hoped that she didn't do anything embarrassing. Rae knew that she had a habit of sucking her thumb in her sleep.

That was why she had her paci. It was so much better for her to suck on instead of her thumb and she had been using it for years.

The nipple on it had been replaced multiple times because when she was stressed she would chew. The chewing led to the nipple being popped and then she would have to use it in its deflated state until she could save up the money to replace it.

There had been a time she went six months with the nipple being popped because there never seemed to be enough money for her to buy a new one.

That had been a very trying time and Rae had suffered from many jaw aches and headaches because the paci no longer fit in her mouth like it was supposed to.

Not wanting to waste any more time away from her Daddy, Rae slipped out of the room in search of him. Following the smell in the air, she found him in the kitchen.

Her eyes bugged out and jaw dropped at the sight of him standing at the stove without a shirt on. There wasn't an ounce of fat on that man's body and for a brief second she felt a sense of dread rush upon her.

How he could ever be okay with someone like her, she would never understand. Rae wasn't anything special.

"Good morning, Emmett!"

Emmett turned towards her at the announcement of her presence. Grinning, he walked over and dropped a sweet kiss on her lips before moving back towards what he was working on at the stove .

"Good morning, my precious girl. Did you sleep alright last night?"

“I did! I didn’t want to leave the cloud of a bed that I slept in. It was heavenly and the blankets on it are to die for.”

Rae spotted Lola sitting on the floor of the kitchen and made her way over to give the kitty a few scratches behind the ear.

She was quickly becoming attached to the little furball and loved to pet her. She noticed that her anxiety wasn’t as bad when she could run her fingers through Lola’s fur.

“I am so glad that you had a good night's rest. Breakfast is almost done. Why don’t you go wash up and then come sit down at the bar.”

Rae did as she was told and moments after settling down, Emmett placed a plate of pancakes in front of her and a sippy cup, before settling down at the bar with his own.

They weren’t just any pancakes though. These were in the shape of a flower and were plated on a duck shaped plate.

It reminded her of the animal plates she always saw on the infomercials growing up, but never had the privilege of owning.

Her parents always told her that they were pointless and eventually grew tired of her asking about them.

Grabbing the childlike fork with cartoon ducks printed along the handle of it that he had placed beside her, Rae dug into the pancakes like she hadn’t had a meal in four days.

The pancakes tasted amazing and nothing like the store bought mix that she sometimes was able to splurge on.

Raelyn grabbed the sippy cup, only hesitating for a minute before tipping it back and taking a big swallow.

“YUCKIE!”

Startled, Emmett looked at her perplexed while he waited for her to finish swallowing the drink before asking her “What’s wrong, sweetheart? ”

“It’s milk. Milk is yuckie and I don’t like it at all.” She paused for a second, “Well, I don’t like plain milk, but chocolate milk or even better strawberry milk is amazing.”

She didn’t think that the laugh that bubbled out of his chest was funny. Who liked plain milk? It was truly an abomination to the world and should be banned from all countries.

Well maybe Lola did, but she was a cat so of course she would prefer plain milk. Placing the offending cup to the side, Rae side-eyed Emmett before continuing to eat her pancakes, as if her world wasn’t just turned upside down by the offending beverage.

“Plain milk is very healthy for you, Little girl. You will drink it often to grow big and strong.”

Rae scoffed at his remark before rolling her eyes. Emmett had a rude awakening coming if he thought that she would ever willingly drink plain milk. She might do a lot of things, but that will not be one of them.

“I will allow the chocolate milk this morning since there wasn’t prior conversation about your apparent distaste for plain milk, but listen to me well. This will not be a common occurrence. Chocolate or strawberry milk will be saved as a treat for good Little girls who listen to their Daddy.”

She watched Emmett move across to the cabinet and saw him pull down a container of chocolate milk mix and scoop a few small spoonfuls into her sippy before replacing the cap and shaking it to make sure it was all dispersed in the sippy.

Rae took the sippy he held out to her and took a big swallow of the nectar of the gods.

“Ahh, so much better.”

Rae watched Emmett battle the grin that snuck its way across his face at her dramatics. She had a right to be dramatic. Honestly, no sane person likes plain milk and Rae had always said that she could be a tad bit crazy .

“Alright Little Duckling, what would you like to do today? We can go out and play at the local park or we can stay in and play with the toys you found inside the toy box last night.”

Rae didn't really feel like sharing Emmett with the outside world right now and she never let her Little side out in public because there was too much that could go wrong.

Pointing down the hallway to where she knew her nursery was, she waited until she knew that Emmett understood what she wanted before getting up and dashing down the hall.

“No running in the house Little girl!!”

Slowing her steps, Raelyn turned around and gave him a cheeky smile before continuing towards the nursery. She couldn't help but stop at the changing table again to stare at all that was there.

She had never used pull ups before, but the interest was always there. Rae had never

been brave enough to purchase any for herself and she didn't know if she could ask Emmett to fulfill that fantasy for her.

Raelyn was still standing and staring at the table in a trance when she felt Emmett's hands brush down her arms. Too lost in the thoughts swirling around in her mind, she hadn't heard him walk into the room.

"Are you interested, Little one?"

"Umm...."

She couldn't bring herself to voice what was in her head. She didn't want him to feel like he had to do something like that with her if he didn't want to.

During her quick glance at his limits list last night she knew that this wasn't a hard limit for him and that he would be willing to explore it with her.

"Before you try to come up with some kind of lie that I can see you formulating in your mind right now, you know that I would never ask you if I wasn't interested in doing it with you.

I bought the stuff because I didn't know what age your Little might be.

It would be a pleasure to take care of you in that way sweetheart, but I understand if you don't trust me enough yet to test the waters. "

"I trust you Emmett. I just didn't want you to feel pressured to do anything you didn't want to do. If it's okay, I would love to try that with you."

Emmett spun her around before lifting her and lying her down and securing her with a strap across her belly. Suddenly a wave of embarrassment washed over Rae, but

before she could continue to focus on it she felt something soft be placed in her hands.

Looking down she grinned at the sloth stuffie that Emmett had given her. It was like he knew exactly what she needed at that moment.

Rae preoccupied her mind by talking to the stuffie, who she decided was named Bitsy, and tried not to focus on the movement she could feel Emmett making across the room.

She felt something be placed beside her before feeling the shirt she was wearing slipping off her body. Emmett didn't pause or ponder at all during the task of changing her.

He simply slipped her panties down and replaced them with a pull up before sliding a pair of light pink leggings, with a tutu attached to them, up and settling them in place on her waist.

Emmett unbuckled her and sat her up before slipping a lavender colored shirt over her head. Looking down she grinned at the pretty sun wearing sunglasses on the front with the words Daddy's sunshine written below it before running her hands down the material.

Once again, Emmett managed to amaze her again by finding something that didn't make her want to peel the skin from her body.

Skipping over to the toy box, after Emmett helped her off the changing table, she slid to her knees and started pulling out the toys she wanted to play with first.

CHAPTER NINETEEN

EMMETT

Emmett loved seeing Rae slip into Littlespace. It came to her so naturally and he was thrilled that she trusted him enough to let her out.

They had been playing in the nursery for several hours now. From playing with the building blocks to coloring in her coloring books, Rae had bounced around from activity to activity.

They were currently playing tea party with her stuffies, she had finally introduced him to her well loved stuffed duck named Bruce. Rae had found the princess crowns and wands and Emmett was currently rocking a sparkly green crown and was sipping imaginary tea.

Rae instructed him that he even had to have his pinky raised like a refined gentleman or he wouldn't be allowed to participate any longer.

Engrossed in playing with his Little girl, Emmett never heard his front door open and the footsteps come down the hallway until it was too late.

“Emmett! Where you at man? ”

Recognizing the voice of his best friend Miles, Emmett immediately knew that this wasn't going to end well. Miles knew he was a Daddy, he himself was one too.

That was actually how the two of them bonded during college. Neither of them could hide their Daddy tendencies and instead of just tiptoeing around it all, they talked it out and realized they were more alike than they originally thought.

From there on their friendship was great and once they graduated, Miles was there every step of the way while Emmett worked to get Tech Port off the ground. Now he acts as his CFO and right hand man.

Before he could stop Miles from entering, he heard the gasp of his Little girl and before he knew she had run and hid in the closet, escaping from the intrusion of his best friend.

“Oh crap, I am so sorry. I didn’t know that you had someone here.”

“It’s okay man, just please can you go into the living room and wait for us. I need to calm my Little girl.”

“Little girl?”

“Yeah Miles, I found the Little I have been looking for. Unfortunately, she is now hiding scared. I would love for you to meet, but she comes first and right now I need to get to her.”

Emmett watched as Miles nodded and backed out of the room closing the door behind him. Turning towards the closet, Emmett slowly approached the door as if he would approach a frightened and hurt animal.

“Little Duckling? It’s Daddy. I need you to come out, my girl. You’re safe here I promise. Daddy would never let anything harm you.”

Emmett waited a breath for any signs of a response. Hearing none, he settled on the

ground beside the open door and just waited. He knew that she was frightened.

Someone she didn't know just walked in on her in one of her most vulnerable states. Emmett didn't know how long they sat there in silence just waiting.

He refused to rush her, he knew that he would do more harm than good by forcing her to come out of the hiding space that she was in. Until she felt safe enough to come to him, Emmett would continue to wait.

He knew Miles wouldn't be leaving anytime soon. Especially knowing that he upset a Little girl and not just any Little girl, but the one of his best friend.

Knowing Miles he was beating himself up over the whole situation, though it wasn't anyone's fault.

Finally, Emmett started hearing movement in the closet before he watched his sweet girl crawl out and into his lap. She was still shaking, but they were making progress towards fixing this whole situation.

Emmett wrapped his arms around her and just rocked them back and forth while humming lullabies.

“Daddy?”

Emmett's heart soared at the sound of that name falling from her lips.

“Yes, Little Duckling, it's Daddy. I'm right here.”

More time passed while he waited for Rae to continue to come back down to earth. He felt her take a deep breath finally relaxing into him.

He waited another few minutes before he finally spoke up and broached the topic that he knew was racing in her mind.

“Sweetheart, can you tell me what’s going on in your head right now? Talk to Daddy, so I can know what is going on and how I can help you.”

“Who was that man, Daddy?”

“That man is my best friend and right hand man, Miles. He is no one you need to be afraid of, babygirl. You can be your authentic self around him. Miles is a Daddy, too, and so he wouldn’t ever judge you.”

Emmett waited for his words to sink in before continuing on.

“I would love for you to meet him, darling, but only if you are okay to do that right now. If you don’t feel comfortable, I will ask him to leave and we can set up a date later for you two to meet.

“That’s okay Daddy. I can meet him, but only if you promise to stay by my side the entire time.”

“There is no other place I would rather be. Now, how about you head into the bedroom and change into something you are more comfortable in and then you can meet us in the living room.”

Rae nodded her head and got up to do as he said. Before Emmett let her slip away, he pressed a kiss upon her forehead and let her go.

Taking a deep breath he turned towards the living room to go and face the man he called his best friend. Emmett knew he had a lot of explaining to do.

CHAPTER TWENTY

RAELYN

Rae slipped inside the spare bedroom she stayed in last night. How embarrassing it was to be walked in on by his best friend while she was deep in Littlespace.

To make matters worse she could still feel her Little near the surface. There was no way she would let her out right now. She can't risk being an embarrassment to Emmett.

She didn't care that Daddy said that Miles was a Daddy, as well. She paused and grinned at that name. She had called him Daddy and it felt right.

Rae took a deep breath and turned towards her overnight bag that was on the dresser.

Pulling out the oversized orange shirt and black leggings that she brought for her to wear today, she changed and headed into the bathroom to remove the pigtails that Daddy had put her hair into after he got her dressed before pulling her hair into a half up ponytail and securing it with an orange striped bow.

Splashing some water on her face, she looked at herself in the mirror.

"You can do this Raelyn. There's nothing to be worried about. I'm sure Miles is a good guy and you know that Daddy wouldn't let him anywhere around you if he wasn't safe."

She grinned at calling Emmett Daddy. Rae didn't mean to, but it felt right. She had been referring to him as Daddy in her head long before now and it was only a matter of time before she voiced that name out loud.

“Alright Rae, pull up your big girl panties and go out there. Stop hiding in this bathroom like a scaredy cat and just get it over with.”

Slipping out and quietly padding down the hallway, she stopped at the entrance of the living room. She could hear a quiet conversation being had between Daddy and Miles.

Rae could only imagine what was being said. Daddy was probably trying to convince Miles that she wasn't a freak.

He said that Miles was a Daddy, too, and would understand, but you can never know for certain how someone feels about things until they are presented with it at that moment.

That's when the true feelings of someone are revealed. She knew that first hand.

Rae shifted her stance and the floor creaked. Holding her breath she waited for the conversation to continue. Sadly, she should've known that wasn't going to be the case.

“Little Duckling, come out here and stop hiding in the hallway.”

Grumbling, Raelyn took one last deep breath before heading into the living room to face the music. She noticed that Daddy was sitting on the couch while Miles stopped his pacing in front of the fireplace.

She could tell that this whole situation was causing him stress, though she didn't

know why. It's not like he was the one in a vulnerable state that was walked in on unannounced.

Lola was perched on the cat tree in the corner just watching the whole scene unfold. Raelyn walked over and picked her up.

Daddy held out his arms and beckoned her over to him. Sitting down beside him and placing Lola in her lap, Rae didn't even have a chance to get comfortable before she felt herself being moved and placed in Daddy's lap.

She didn't want to admit it, but that motion helped ease her anxiety just a little bit and paired with running her hands through Lola's fur, she knew that she would be okay.

"Raelyn, I would like you to meet my best friend, Miles."

Rae gave a small wave to Miles before turning and hiding her face in Daddy's shoulder.

"Hi, sweet girl. I am so glad for the opportunity to meet you."

Rae peeked at him waiting to see if he was going to continue. She had no intentions of saying anything unless she had to and she should have known that her Daddy wasn't going to let her get away with that.

"Rae, wouldn't you like to say something to Miles?"

She rolled her eyes at Daddy, unprepared for the smack that came across her backside. Gasping, she sat up and glared at Daddy. How rude of him to spank her, even worse how rude of him to spank her in front of Miles!

"Daddy! What was that for?"

Eyes bulging out, Rae slapped a hand over her mouth. She couldn't believe that she was dumb enough to call Emmett Daddy in front of Miles.

She watched the grin form on Daddy's face and the slight shake of his shoulders told her that he found her funny.

Just like this morning, she had no idea why he was laughing, because this wasn't a funny situation. It was so embarrassing.

She felt Daddy pull her hands from her mouth before saying "It's okay, Little one. I told you, Miles is a Daddy, too. He isn't going to bat an eye at me spanking you and especially not at you calling me Daddy in front of him."

Raelyn took another deep breath before grumbling at her Daddy again.

"Uh, that doesn't explain why you spanked me. That wasn't nice, mister."

"Do you want to try that statement again? Because Daddy knows that his Little girl wouldn't dare speak to him in such a naughty way. There is sass and there is attitude and right now Little Duckling you are riding a very fine line between the two."

"I'm sorry Daddy. Can you please tell me why I got popped? I didn't do anything wrong."

"Is it nice to roll your eyes at Daddy, Raelyn Jane?"

Feeling chastised, Rae casted her eyes to her lap and began to fiddle with her fingers.

"No, Sir," she mumbled so quietly that a mouse couldn't have even heard her.

"What was that?"

“No, Sir, it’s not nice.”

She felt Daddy grasp her chin before he raised it to look in her eyes. “Next time you will think twice about rolling your eyes at Daddy or the pop that you just got will look like nothing compared to the spanking that you will receive.”

Nodding her head quickly, Rae turned and looked at Miles. She expected to see a look of disgust on his face, but what she found wasn’t what she thought she would have seen. Miles looked at them with longing as if he was jealous of what just occurred.

“Raelyn, I am so sorry for walking in unannounced today. It has never been a problem before when I showed up to see Emmett and I didn’t even think twice about coming inside.”

Rae could tell that this whole situation really upset him. She didn’t want him to be sad about it. It’s not like he could have known that she was here, let alone that she was playing in Littlespace.

“It’s okay Mr. Miles. You couldn’t have known and I can tell that you wouldn’t ever want to do anything to upset me.”

Miles graced her with a megawatt smile and she couldn’t help but grin back at him.

“What’s this Mr. Miles business? You can call me Miles or Uncle M if you’re in Littlespace.”

“Okay, Miles. I would like that.”

Rae didn’t think that she would ever recover from the embarrassment from this morning, but the more that Miles hung out around the house that afternoon the more

that she felt comfortable around him.

It was interesting to see Daddy and Miles interacting together. She could tell that the two men had a close relationship. It made her think of her relationship with Olivia.

Rae couldn't help the grin that snuck its way onto her face when the thought of Olivia and Miles popped in her head. She just knew that they would be perfect together, but now she had to find some way to make that happen.

She wanted her best friend to have a Daddy to call her own and she was going to find a way to make that happen.

“What's got you smiling over there, Little bit?”

“Oh nothing, Daddy. I'm just really happy to be here.”

Rae knew that she couldn't mention anything to Daddy about her idea of playing matchmaker. She knew that he wouldn't approve of it.

It was going to be all up to her to make that happen. Whatever consequences that she faced afterwards would totally be worth it if it meant that their best friends would be happy together .

She pushed the thoughts from her mind, for now she didn't want Daddy to continue to ask anymore questions.

Miles stayed for dinner that evening and Daddy ordered pizza for them all. Daddy didn't think that pineapples belonged on pizza, but Rae already knew that sometimes Daddy could have poor judgment.

That's why she had gotten plain milk this morning. She shivered at the thought of that

and pushed the memory from her mind.

Miles, though, loved pineapple on his pizza and between the two of them, they convinced Daddy to buy one. Of course he still ordered just a plain pepperoni pizza for himself, but he did try one piece of their pizza.

Baby steps were being made and Rae knew that one day she would eventually convince him that her way of thinking was the best.

She knew that it would work in her favor because then she wouldn't have to ever worry about plain milk.

As the night grew near, Miles left which left them sitting in the living room snuggled up on the couch just enjoying each other's company with Lola curled up at their feet.

Rae wasn't ready for this night to end, but she knew that tomorrow she had to return back to work. She was just trying to soak up the last few minutes she could with Daddy before she went to pack her bag and head back to her cold and lonely apartment.

"Little Duckling I know that you work tomorrow, but would you be willing to stay here one more night? Daddy can make sure that you are awake in plenty of time to go to work."

Not wanting this night to end, Rae nodded her head and settled back down against his chest.

"If you want to still stay in the spare room or even in the nursery that is okay, but Daddy would love nothing more than to hold his Little girl in his arms tonight."

She felt all warm inside and knew that she wanted to sleep in his bed too.

“That’s exactly what I want as well, Daddy. No better place to be than in your arms.”

Emmett stood up and pulled her into his arms. He carried her into his room and she felt at home.

It was an unusual feeling for her because she never felt like she belonged anywhere, but now she knew that she just hadn’t found the right spot yet.

Daddy helped her change into another one of his shirts before pulling the covers back and helping her settle in. Giving her a quick kiss, he turned to make sure everything was locked up.

Rae tried to fight the sleep that was pulling her under, but she was no match for it. She felt the bed dip behind her and then the warm arms of her Daddy pulling her towards him.

Sighing, Rae drifted off into dreamland knowing that all was right in the world, well at least in her world.

CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE

RAELYN

The past few weeks have been nothing but a dream. Raelyn couldn't believe that everything had been going well with Daddy.

They spent as much time as possible together. Sometimes they would stay at her house, but most of the time Daddy would bring her home to his house.

She loved those days because she got to play in her nursery with Lola and that was her favorite thing to do. A few days ago, Rae built a fort that her and Lola curled up inside of it refusing to come out and no Daddies were allowed in there.

It seemed like everyday Daddy was bringing home another toy for her. Sometimes it was a stuffie, other times it was board games, or a new coloring book.

The board games he brought home were perfect when Uncle M came over cause they all got to play together.

Those were the best nights because Uncle M always convinced Daddy that they should have pizza for dinner and then he would sneak her candy when Daddy wasn't looking.

That was a secret between the two of them and she loved it .

Rae spent so much more time at Emmett's than her own, that she had started to call it

home. Most of her stuff slowly started making its way there.

Bruce had a permanent place in her crib at Emmett's house. He loved having sleeping overs with Ridget, Bitsy, and Ellie. They always seemed to find trouble to get into and she was constantly having to put them in time out.

The job of a stuffie mom could be hard at times, but someone had to do it and she was always up for the task.

Rae didn't have to work today so instead of just spending the day at home waiting on Emmett to get home, he gave her a key and told her to just spend the day at his house that way she would be there when he got home from the office.

She was currently laying on the floor of her nursery with Lola curled up beside her coloring a picture in the new princess coloring book Daddy brought home a few days ago.

"Little one, where are you?"

Springing up, Rae took off down the hallway, looking for Emmett. "Daddy!! Your home!" she yelled before jumping into his waiting arms.

"Raelyn Jane! I know that my Little girl wasn't running down the hallway." Rae shook her head quickly. Daddy was constantly reminding her that she wasn't supposed to run in the house. It wasn't her fault that sometimes her feet didn't listen.

Last time she got into trouble for running, Daddy had made her stand in the corner for a whole five minutes. That was the hardest thing she had ever done.

Her timer got restarted three different times because she wouldn't stand still. She learned that day that Daddy doesn't play around when he tells her to stand still and be

quiet.

“Raelyn...what did Daddy tell you would happen if you ran in the house again?”

Rae’s lip trembled ‘cause she knew what his question meant. There was no way that she was going to get out of the punishment that she knew she had coming.

“Um, I don’t think I remember. I’m pretty sure you said that it was okay. Yeah...that’s it. You said that it was fine.”

“I think that you need a trip to the corner to think about what we talked about because we both know that Daddy wouldn’t have said that it was okay.”

“But!”

“No buts, Little one. Off you go. You know what to do. While you’re there, I want you to think about the question I asked you. You can come back out when I call for you.”

Rae begrudgingly made her way over to what has now been deemed her naughty corner and assumed the position that Daddy required of her.

She hated that part because he made her stick her nose all the way against the wall and place her hands behind her back.

Everytime she moved, Daddy would restart her timer and then she had to stand there for even longer. Rae was convinced that it was a cruel and unusual punishment.

Rae didn’t want to think about his question. She knew that she was in trouble and all she wanted to do was pretend like it never happened.

She should have known that Emmett wasn't going to let it slide and now she was going to be in even bigger trouble for trying to avoid the question that was asked. Rae didn't know how long she stood there before she heard Daddy call her name.

It felt like ages though, so it must have been forever. She turned and walked over to where he was sitting on the couch and stood between his legs.

"Now, would you like to answer Daddy's question correctly?"

Rae played with her fingers, refusing to look at him. She felt him grasp her hands before she had a chance to bring her fingers to her mouth to chew at the skin.

"We can continue to wait here until you answer my question. I have nowhere else to be tonight besides here with my Little girl."

Rae mumbled a response to him.

"Raelyn, you know better than that. Speak up so Daddy can hear you."

"You said that next time I ran in the house I would get a spanking, but Daddy I don't want a spanking."

"I understand that you don't want a spanking, but making red choices means that there will be consequences to follow them. I wouldn't be a very good Daddy if I didn't follow up on what I said would happen now would I?"

Rae shook her head at him and took a deep breath. This would be the first time she got a true spanking and Rae couldn't help but feel nervous.

Daddy had popped her bottom a few times, but never something serious. Those were usually just attention getters and they always got her attention.

“I know that this is your first real spanking, so Daddy promises to be easy, but I also need to make sure you understand just how important it is to me that you listen to that rule. I don’t want my Little Duckling to fall and get hurt.”

“I know, Daddy. I’m sorry.

“Daddy knows, babygirl, and once your spanking is over with, all will be forgiven and the slate will be wiped clean. Since this is your first spanking, you can leave your panties on, but next time you go over my lap it will be for a bare bottom spanking. Now over my lap you go.”

Rae felt Daddy drag her pants down her legs and lift her feet to pull them off completely. He shifted her around and laid her across his lap in the position he wanted her in. She felt a little off balance and could barely reach the floor with her hands and feet.

“It’s to the count of twenty, Little one. I won’t have you count them this time, but know that next time you are over my lap, that will be a requirement. Tell me what your safe word is Raelyn.”

“Red, Daddy.” she stated.

Rae didn’t have time to react before she felt his hand land across her bottom. The immediate burn that she felt was unbearable and tears immediately formed in her eyes.

SMACK!

Daddy didn’t give her time to think about what was going on before he started landing more spankings on her poor bottom.

Kicking her feet to get away, she felt Emmett shift her to pin her legs under his. Daddy didn't stop at her bottom, though.

She could feel the spankings land across her sit spots to the top of her thighs. Rae knew that she was never going to sit the same again.

SMACK...SMACK...SMACK...

Rae couldn't stop the tears that were freely falling now. She knew that she would never do anything to land her in this position again.

As soon as it started, the spanking came to an end. Daddy shifted her to an upright position and Rae hissed when her bottom made contact with the fabric of his dress pants.

"Shhh, Little girl. It's all over with. Daddy is done and all is forgiven."

Rae cried for several more minutes before the tears slowly stopped and hiccups replaced them.

"I'm sorry, Daddy, that I was a bad girl. I won't do anything ever again that will lead to another spanking."

"Raelyn, you're never a bad girl. You are Daddy's good girl who sometimes makes naughty choices, but Daddy loves you enough to make sure that he helps you make the green choices you know to make and I will punish you when you don't."

She felt her heart race in her chest. There is no way that Daddy just said that he loved her. Especially right after giving her a spanking. It was too soon, they barely knew each other.

“You...you...you love me?” Rae stuttered out.

“I didn’t intend on telling you for the first time after giving you your first spanking, but it doesn’t change the words or the meaning behind them. I do love you, Little girl. I love you so much.”

“You don’t think it’s too soon?”

“No baby, I don’t think it’s too soon at all. When you know, you know.”

“I love you too, Daddy. I know that people will think it’s too soon and that I could never know that just yet, but I do. I think I have loved you for a long time.”

Rae snuggled into his chest and listened to the sound of his heart beating. She slowly began to drift to sleep.

She felt herself being lifted and being carried down the hallway before being laid down on Daddy’s bed. Daddy stripped her out of her shirt and replaced it with one of his before placing Bruce in her arms and covering her up. Rae drifted away with a kiss to her forehead.

CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO

EMMETT

Emmett didn't expect his night to go like it did. He had planned on coming home from work to Rae and spending the evening playing with her in the nursery.

Never did he think that his Little girl would end up over his lap tonight, but Emmett knew that he couldn't go back on his word. She had been warned several times before tonight to not run in the house.

He knew that she was excited to see him after he had been gone all day, but that still wasn't an excuse for her to run in the house.

Emmett made his way into the kitchen to pour himself a glass of scotch before settling on the couch. Lola jumped up and meowed at him before bumping her head against his hand that held his glass.

He gave her what she wanted and scratched behind her ears before she turned and jumped up on the cat tree in the corner. Raelyn has the next day off of work and he plans to spend the whole time focused on her.

It's not often that he doesn't go into the office, but any time Emmett can get with Rae, he plans on taking it.

Shooting Miles a text to let him know what the plan would be for tomorrow, he finished the last of his scotch and headed to go snuggle in bed with his darling girl.

Emmett felt something lightly brushing across his chest as he awoke. Peeking his eyes open, he looked down at Rae running her fingers gently through the chest hair he had. She was a sight to see.

Dressed in his shirt, Bruce tucked beneath her arm, and her thumb in her mouth she was absolutely adorable. He really needed to get her a paci because sucking her thumb wasn't good for her teeth.

That was something they had yet to explore together. He noticed that she was still asleep which meant that he had time to slip out and prepare their breakfast and lay out the things he thinks that they might need for their day today.

Sliding out of bed, he watched his Little girl scrunch her nose at the sudden loss of his body before she settled back down.

He put on a pair of pajama pants and headed into the nursery to pick out Raelyn's clothes for the day.

Picking out clothes that would hopefully help her ease into a deeper Littlespace, Emmett settled on a soft pink onesie that snaps between the legs and a dark pink ruffled skirt with built in bloomers setting those beside the pull-up he had grabbed moments before.

To finish out the outfit, he grabbed a new paci that was light blue and had a star on the front and attached it to a pink paci clip so that he would be able to secure it onto her clothes for later.

Making his way into the kitchen, he gathered all the things he would need to make for their breakfast of grits with bacon and sausage.

Emmett had been slowly introducing new textures to her diet trying to figure out what

worked and what didn't. After finishing up the meal he grabbed a sippy cup and filled it with milk before heading down the hallway to wake his girl up.

He wasn't surprised to see that she was already starting to wake up. It was adorable to watch her when she first opened her eyes. With her hair going in all directions and pillow marks on her face, she was still a vision.

"Good morning, my Little Duckling!"

Rae graced him with the sweetest smile and crawled to where he stood at the end of the bed. Holding her hands up, Emmett bent down and lifted her to his hip dropping a quick kiss on her lips.

"I have a whole day planned for you and breakfast is already made. Would you like to get dressed first or go eat?"

She seemed to take a moment before responding "Dressed please."

Making a quick stop in the bathroom, he carried her over to the toilet pulling down her panties and placing her down to go potty.

He tried to move fast because he knew that if they lingered on the task Rae would start to panic. There had only been a few times that he had helped her with this task.

They had a discussion about how much he wanted to help her and this was something that she was interested in but had been scared to admit to him. Hearing her finish pottying he stood her up and wiped her before pulling her panties back into place .

After they finished washing their hands, Emmett grabbed her toothbrush and got it ready to help her. It made his heart happy that she allowed him to help with such simple tasks.

Dropping a kiss to her lips once everything was done, he picked his Little girl back up into his arms and headed out of the bathroom.

Emmett carried her into the nursery and laid her down on the changing table before securing her to it. The past few times she had been on the table had become easier and easier.

Emmett could tell that she was becoming more comfortable with lying here letting him do all the work to get her ready. He stripped his shirt off her and replaced her panties with the pull up before sliding the onesie over her head and snapping it between her legs.

This was the first time he had dressed her in something like this so Emmett made sure to watch her face for any signs of discomfort or distress. The last thing he wanted to do is cause those feelings in Rae.

After slipping the skirt up and settling it in place on her hips, Emmett sat Rae up and kissed her nose before grabbing the hair brush he kept on the shelf above the changing table and attempted to wrangle her hair into some sort of style.

With hair pulled into braided pigtails that he secured with pink bows, he grabbed the paci he had been keeping out of her line of sight and clipped it to her onesie. Immediately, Raelyn's eyes widened at the sight of the paci.

"If you don't want to use it, we don't have to. I just wanted you to have the option of trying one out if that was something you wanted to do. Plus you tend to suck your thumb at night and this would be a great way to replace that habit."

"Daddy, I don't need to try it out. I have a paci already at home that I use."

He watched the blush spread across her cheeks at her statement. He didn't want her to

feel embarrassed, but he was a little confused as to why she had a paci, but never brought it with her when she spent the night.

“Little girl. Why haven’t you been bringing that with you when you come over?”

“You already have done so many new things with me Daddy. I didn’t want to add something else. Plus, I know that having a paci can sometimes make me feel a lot younger than I normally would go.”

Popping the paci into her mouth Emmett replied “Well, now you will have one here, but I think we need to start moving more of your things here so that you can feel more at home.”

Rae spit the paci out, “That sounds an awful lot like you want me to move in here, Daddy.”

“I would love to move you here. I love waking up with you in my arms and coming home to you playing in the nursery. Plus, Lola gets upset every time you go home and we don’t want her to continue to be upset.”

“Okay, Daddy. I don’t like being away from you anyways. My apartment never felt like home, but your home has from the start.”

Emmett grinned and pressed another kiss on her lips and held her paci back to her lips effectively tabling this conversation for another day.

He would form a plan to rope in Miles and a few of their other friends into helping him pack up her apartment and move everything here. Emmett didn’t want to waste any more time and wanted to move her in as quickly as he could.

Bringing her into the kitchen he settled her at the bar before reheating the breakfast

and setting it in front of her. Emmett made a mental note to see about getting a custom made highchair for Rae, it would keep her safe while she ate.

Watching her eat, Emmett shot off a quick reminder text to Miles about how he would be unavailable for the day unless it was an emergency. He barely held back the grin that tried to cross his face when he watched Rae pick up her sippy and take a big swallow of the plain milk he had given her.

Her nose scrunch was adorable every time he saw it. This was something else that they had been working on since the original fiasco over the plain milk.

He didn't think that she would ever be totally okay with drinking it, but they had worked out an agreement that she could have one glass of chocolate or strawberry milk after she had her first glass of plain.

It had been going well so far, but not until after she had gotten lines a couple times about throwing a fit when she didn't get her way.

Once she was done, he cleaned up the dishes and started the dishwasher before grabbing Rae and leading her down the hallway to the nursery.

Rae wasted no time speed walking over to the toy box before not so gracefully dropping onto her bottom to dig out whatever toy she wanted to play with today. Chuckling he made his way over to the rocking chair and settled in to watch her.

CHAPTER TWENTY-THREE

EMMETT

Emmett was in the kitchen making Rae a snack when he heard a phone ring in his room. Knowing that it wasn't his since the only person who would have called him was Miles, he knew that it had to be Rae's.

Grabbing the plate of sliced apples and peanut butter he headed to his room to grab her phone off the bedside table. Noticing that the contact listed her scheduler Amanda from work he figured it might be important for her to take it, though Emmett hated the idea of pulling her out of Littlespace.

Walking back into her nursery he set the snack plate beside her and handed her the phone. He immediately watched the dread cross her face when she noticed who was calling her. Emmett listened as she answered the call waiting to see what was going on.

"Hey Amanda, what's up?"

He couldn't hear what she replied, but from Rae's reaction he knew that he wasn't going to like where this was going.

"Amanda, I worked a sixteen hour shift yesterday and I'm already scheduled for a twelve hour shift tomorrow. I really don't think it's fair to ask me to come in on my one day off."

Emmett could feel his temper rising. It wasn't very often that something upset him enough that he could feel himself getting fired up, but this was his baby and he was starting to grow real tired of how they treated her.

It was clear that the job had no boundaries and would continue to steamroll over Rae because she was too nice to stand up for herself.

"No, I understand. You're short staffed and need the help. I can be there..."

Emmett didn't let her finish the statement before he pulled the phone from her grasp.

"Daddy, no. What are you doing?"

Giving her a look that had Rae's words dying on her lips, he cleared his throat before speaking to the voice on the other side.

"Hello? Rae? Did I lose you? This isn't funny, you need to be here within the next forty-five minutes for this shift."

"This is Emmett, Rae's boyfriend. Can you please explain what was so important that you called her on the one day off she has this week?"

"Oh, um. Hi Emmett. I'm Amanda, the scheduler at Ivory Mountain Nursing Home."

"I'm aware of who you are. You can answer my question now."

He could tell that he caught Amanda off guard. Emmett wouldn't normally be so curt with someone.

That wasn't who he was as a person and he knew that it was just as easy to make friends as it was enemies, but at this moment he didn't really care what Amanda

thought of him.

All he could think about was the Little girl who was sitting at his feet, biting her lip, and picking the skin around her nails. He needed to end this conversation quickly, so that he could work on calming her down. He could only imagine what was going on in her brain at this moment.

“We had a call out today and Rae has to come in and pick up the shift. We are short staffed.”

“Did you contact anyone else before calling Raelyn?”

“Well, no. She always comes in, so there hasn’t been a reason for me to ever call anyone else.”

Emmett grunted at her response. He knew that they used her and treated her poorly, but Emmett did realize just how far this place pushed the limits of being professional.

Raelyn isn’t the only caregiver that works at Ivory Mountain, so he didn’t understand why she was always the only one called.

“I’m sorry to inform you, but Raelyn will not be coming in to work tonight. This is her one day off this week before working several days in a row for you. I will not continue to let you walk over her like this. It is unprofessional and down right rude.”

He silenced the mummers coming from his Little Duckling with one movement of his finger.

Emmett knew that she wasn’t going to like this, but she had to understand that if someone didn’t put their foot down and put a stop to this treatment, they would continue to use her until she was burnt out and there was nothing left.

No one got to treat his Little girl that way and he would do everything in his power to stop it.

“Sir, you can’t speak to me like that. Raelyn is a grown adult and she can come in tonight and cover the shift.”

“Let me explain a little bit further about what's going to take place.” Emmett replied to Amanda.

“You are going to hang up the phone with me and call one of the many other aides that I know work at that facility. You will bring them in to cover the shift tonight that you are demanding that Raelyn cover. If you call her again about this, I will be going over your head to the owner of the company.”

“But...”

Emmett continued before Amanda could dig a deeper hole for herself. Emmett was just getting started and he had no problem using his connections at the nursing home.

He didn’t always like to point out that he was one of the big donors at the facility that his grandma lived at.

Emmett didn’t like to brag about the money that he was able to donate to help the facility that she lived in be the best that it could be, but he also wouldn’t hold back about it if that meant that Rae would finally start being treated like a human being and not like the robot that they are so desperately trying to create her into.

“Do you think he would love to hear from one of the biggest financial sponsors of the facility about how his girlfriend is being treated by some of the members of his staff? Because I can assure you, Mr. Hunter would gladly take my call and I’m sure he would love to hear about all of this.”

“Oh no, sir. That won’t be necessary. No need to contact Mr. Hunter. I will reach out to some of the other caregivers and see if we can’t figure out another way to fill the hole in the schedule. I hope you and Raelyn enjoy the rest of your evening. My apologies.”

“See that you do. Have a goodnight, Amanda. Goodbye.”

Emmett hung up the phone and took a deep breath before looking down at Raelyn. It broke his heart to see the tears rolling down her face.

“Oh, Little one. There’s no need to cry.”

He bent down to pick her up and settled them both in the rocker. He heard Rae’s sniffling reply, “I’m not crying because I’m sad. I’m crying because no one has ever stood up for me like that. I’ve never been important enough for someone to care.”

Emmett’s heart broke hearing that statement. Raelyn deserved to be treated and cherished like the amazing person she was.

No one should ever make her feel like she was anything less than that. She has a heart of gold and is unselfish to a fault. He just wished that she could see that too.

“Daddy will always be your rock when you need it, babygirl. I will always be standing in your corner and will spend everyday for the rest of my life showing you just how important you are.”

Raelyn turned and pressed a kiss on his lips. Sliding his hands into her hair he held her there for a few moments longer before pulling away and kissing her forehead. Emmett could tell that this emotional rollercoaster was taking a toll on her.

“I think someone needs to lay down in their crib for a nap. When you get up we can

plan to do something fun for dinner before getting you ready for an early bedtime.”

He could tell that Raelyn wanted to protest, but when the yawn crossed her face she nodded her head and settled in again against his chest.

“Daddy, can we just rock here for a moment? I’m not ready to leave your arms.”

Granting her wish, Emmett continued to rock them until he felt her body go slack in his arms.

Shifting her weight, he stood and walked her over to the crib and settled her inside, sliding Bruce into her arms and her paci between her lips.

Taking a moment to slide the side railing into place to secure her inside and making sure the baby monitor he had installed was turned on, Emmett turned off the light and clicked on the fairy lights and closed the door behind him allowing his Little girl to get the rest she so desperately needed.

CHAPTER TWENTY-FOUR

RAELYN

Several days had passed since the phone call with Amanda and Emmett occurred. The morning following what Rae was referring to as ‘The Incident’, she felt anxious walking into work.

She knew that Emmett dealt with the issue, but the fear of facing some kind of retaliation for what happened was a feeling she was struggling with.

There had been no hiccups at work though. No one gave her any looks, there were no whispers in the hallways, and Amanda was friendly with her for once. It was like Rae had stepped into a whole other world.

It was her next day off and Olivia had texted her the night before asking if they could meet up for coffee. She apparently had something important that she wanted to talk to Rae about.

Knowing Olivia, the important conversation could be about the deal she found the other day at the grocery store. She could be very dramatic at times and everything was important in her eyes, but Rae loved it.

They met up at the coffee shop near work since that was half way between both of them. Walking up to the counter, Rae placed her order with the barista.

She always ordered the same thing each time she went to a coffee shop. A vanilla

oatmilk latte with a blueberry scone was her absolute favorite and no matter where she went she knew that it would be a trusted thing to have.

Rae spotted Olivia sitting in the back of the coffee shop holding her own coffee cup with an apple turnover sitting beside the cup. Waving her hand and making her way over, Rae slid into the booth across from Olivia.

“Hi, my love! I’m so excited to spend this time with you today. I honestly needed a girls day, honestly, it’s been a rough few days.”

“Me too! I have so much to tell you.”

Before Rae could respond, she heard her name called across the shop. She went and grabbed her coffee and blueberry scone.

One thing she loved about this coffee shop was that they used porcelain coffee cups unlike the big chain places that were everywhere. The best thing about shopping local was the ability to support the little people, but also getting to experience little things that most of the time got overlooked.

“Okay, so what is it that was so important that you needed to tell me?”

“I may have met a guy. An insanely hot guy who is honestly probably so far out of my league, but I still can’t seem to shake the thoughts of him even though our interaction was over a week ago.”

Rae grinned. It wasn’t often that Olivia got worked up about a guy. Her history with men and relationships in general was shaky and Rae didn’t know a lot.

There was a lot about Olivia’s past that Rae didn’t know, but she did know that Olivia struggled a lot with feelings towards men in general. So if she was bringing up

this man he must have really left an impression on her.

Rae was kind of surprised that it took her over a week before Olivia mentioned him to her. They had seen each other multiple times over the course of the week at work. It wouldn't be the first time that they had that type of discussion while at work.

“EEEEEEK! That's so exciting! Tell me more.”

“So, I was coming home from work on Tuesday afternoon. For once I didn't have to work a twelve hour shift that I normally would work, so I had time to stop in at Target to grab a few things. I was walking out of the store when I walked directly into him. Not my proudest moment.”

Rae busted out laughing. It wasn't that long ago that she had done the same thing with Daddy.

Looking at how that ended for her, Rae could only hope that Olivia had the same fate. Bouncing up and down in the seat, she tried to stay patient for Olivia to continue the story. T

his was so exciting. Ever since finding Daddy, Rae wanted everyone to be just as happy.

“Unfortunately, we both know that I am not the most graceful person. There was no stopping the fall that was coming. I landed right on my bottom and let out a cry that I was not proud of. I heard the immediate response of the behemoth that bulldozed over me and then immediately I was lifted up into the air.”

The look of shock on Olivia's face was so funny. Rae could picture all of this in her head like a movie.

“I cannot believe that you literally walked into a man, but at the same time I can because we both know that neither of us are good at walking. We also always somehow end up having trouble find us.” Rae replied to Olivia.

“The only thing that sucks is that after he made sure I was okay, we parted ways. I didn’t even get his name!

He slipped into the crowd before I had a chance to stop him and ask.

This is why I don’t understand why I am still thinking about him over a week later.

I just can’t seem to get his eyes out of my mind.

They were so different from anything I had seen before in my life, Rae.

One of his eyes was a dark emerald green color while the other one was as blue as the ocean. ”

Rae’s eyes widened at that comment, but she schooled her face before Olivia could catch onto the thoughts that were running through her mind.

There was no way that it was who she thought it was, but she couldn’t help but get excited at the idea of Miles being the man that her best friend was currently fawning over.

It was rare for someone to have two different colored eyes. Rae researched it when she first met Miles because she hadn’t met anyone with that condition before.

Heterochromia only affected fewer than two hundred thousand people in the United States. She loved picking on Miles because she explained that he had to be half dog or cat because those were the animals that heterochromia affected the most.

Rae had a mission to complete now. She needed to find out if Miles was Olivia's mystery man and if he was it was up to her to play matchmaker. No one else was going to do it and it worked out perfectly that Rae was already trying to formulate a plan to get them together.

Keeping these thoughts to herself, Rae continued to listen to her best friend talk about this man before switching conversations.

Olivia had helped Rae unpack her things after she moved into Emmett's house a few weeks ago, but they had yet to be able to spend time at the house together just relaxing. Rae could really use a playdate with her best friend soon, so she brought up the idea to Olivia .

They planned a playdate for a few weeks from now trying to plan around both of their work schedules. She now had something to look forward to and hopefully Rae would know before then if Miles was the mystery man.

Knowing that Miles is a Daddy and that Olivia is a Little who desperately needs one, Rae hoped that she could be the one to help bring them together.

Rae's phone beeped in her bag with the tone that she had set for Daddy. Feeling excited she pulled out her phone and read the text before turning to Olivia and explaining that Daddy was headed home and was bringing her dinner.

Walking out, Rae gave Olivia a hug before heading to the car to make the drive home.

CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE

RAELYN

The day was finally here and Olivia would be at their house in just a few short hours. Rae woke up this morning bursting with excitement that she couldn't contain.

Daddy had helped her plan the whole day for their playdate and she was ready for it to get started. Rae had picked out all the best coloring books that she had.

There was a painting station set up at her table. Board games that all three of them could play together were sitting on the table in the kitchen.

Daddy had made a variety of snacks for them to eat during the day and planned out a delicious lunch of dino chicken nuggies and smiley face french fries. Everything was perfect, well almost perfect. Rae was still waiting for Olivia to get there.

Daddy had helped her get dressed this morning after giving her a bubble bath. She twirled around in the nursery watching the navy blue princess dress that Daddy surprised her with, as it twinkled in the fairy lights.

He had pulled her hair into two piggy-tails again before securing a tiara that matched her dress perfectly to her head .

She had a new sparkly green paci attached to a paci clip that was decorated in pink flowers that was the final touch to her outfit. It was perfect and she couldn't wait for Olivia to see it too.

The ringing of the door bell paused her mid spin. That sound could only mean one thing. Olivia was finally here and they could start their playdate!

Raelyn turned and took off down the hallway running to the door skidding to a stop just as Daddy opened it.

Daddy turned and gave her a look of disapproval that had the tiny jumps she was making come to a halt. He raised an eyebrow at her before turning to greet Olivia.

“Hi Olivia, it’s so good to see you again.”

“It’s good to see you again too, Emmett.”

“We are excited to have you here. Come in! You can go and put your things in Rae’s nursery down the hallway. If you could just give us a few minutes it seems like I need to have another conversation with my Little girl.”

Olivia came and gave Rae a big hug and whispered in her ear “I’m so glad to be here, but I am so sorry for your bottom because even I know what that look was he gave you and I didn’t even see it.”

Rae sighed and watched her head down the hallway before turning to look at Daddy. She knew she messed up by running down the hallway.

This wasn’t the first time Daddy had gotten onto her about it and her bottom tensed at what she knew was coming. Daddy had told her the next time he had to spank her for running down the hallway it would be bare bottom.

Rae had to figure out a way to talk her way out of this one. No way she wanted to get a spanking when this was supposed to be a fun day.

“Hi Daddy! ”

“Hi my darling girl. Do you want to explain why you were running in the house again?”

“Daaaaaddddyyyyy...I was just excited, is all. Olivia is here to play!”

Rae was really hoping that if she played the sweet and innocent part he would just let it go. She was willing to try anything at this point to save her bottom.

“I understand that you were excited, but you know the rules in this house. Care to tell me which rule you broke?”

Rae refused to answer. If she didn't say anything she couldn't get into trouble.

“I suggest that you answer my question, Little one.”

Still not budging, she continued to just stare over his shoulder at the wall. She was not going to give into what he wanted.

“Three.....two.....”

Before Daddy could say one Rae stomped her foot and shouted, “Ugh, fine Daddy. The rule is no running in the house.”

Rae's eyes widened at the look that crossed his face and she knew immediately that she messed up when he gave her the eyebrow raise.

“This is what you are going to do. Since my Little girl thinks it's okay to run in the house, ignore him when Daddy asks her a question, and stomps her foot and shouts at him she should also think it's okay that she will find herself standing in the corner

before going over my knee for a long and hard spanking. ”

Shaking her head, Rae quickly tried to back track. This was the opposite of what she wanted to happen.

Why didn't she just answer him the first time? She might could have gotten away with a smaller punishment, but noooo she had to sass too close to the sun and now her bottom was going to pay for it.

“I'm sorry, Daddy. I really didn't mean to. I'll be a good girl the rest of the day. No need to give me a punishment.”

“The time for apologies was before you decided to give Daddy attitude that your bottom now has to pay for. You have five minutes to find your way into the corner of our bedroom with your dress and pull-up off.”

“But...”

“No buts. You don't want to test me on this, Raelyn Jane. Now, go do as you were instructed to do while I go and talk to Olivia and explain why you can't come play at this moment.”

“Yes, Sir” Raelyn sighed.

She turned and headed into their bedroom and got into position. Waiting in the corner was horrible.

Every little sound made her jump. Finally, she heard the door open and the sound of Daddy walking inside. She didn't dare move though, she didn't want to add more time onto her timeout.

“Come here, Raelyn.”

Walking to him, she stopped between his knees and looked down at her hands.

“Are you ready to explain to Daddy what’s going on in that pretty little head of yours because the Raelyn I know and love wouldn’t behave like I saw her do today.”

“I’m really sorry, Daddy. I was just so excited to have Olivia coming over for a playdate. I know I’m not supposed to run in the house. I also know better than to stomp my foot at you and shout. That was all very naughty behavior.”

“It was Little one, but that’s alright. When your spanking is over, all will be forgiven and you can still go have fun with your friend. Now, you know the drill. Over my knees, sweetheart.”

Rae turned and draped herself over Emmett’s knees and braced herself using her fingertips. She felt him pin her legs beneath his which was for the best since she usually started kicking.

“It’s to the count of thirty-five, babygirl. You will count them this time, understood?”

“Yes, Sir.”

SMACK!

Daddy didn’t hold back at all with this spanking and she knew that it was going to be very hard to sit for a while.

“One, Daddy.”

SMACK...SMACK...SMACK...

The tears started flowing down Rae's face as she tried to keep up with the count.

"Two, three, four, Daddy."

Over the next few minutes Daddy proceeded to give her a thorough spanking that had Raelyn crying and snot pouring out of her nose.

Finding it hard to catch her breath she struggled with the next few numbers.

"Twenty-eight, twenty-nine, and thirty, Daddy."

"I won't make you count the last ones darling, but these ones will be harder than the rest. I need to make sure you understand that I don't just give you rules for no reason.

You have the rule about running in the house because it's for your safety.

Daddy needs to also make sure you understand that stomping your foot and shouting at him isn't okay behavior for his Little girl. "

Rae didn't understand how the spansks could get any harder, but Daddy wasn't lying.

Those hurt way more than any of the other ones and her bottom was already sore. She was sure that she would have a red bottom for weeks after this.

SMACK...SMACK....SMACK...SMACK...SMACK ...

Letting out a whoosh of air, Rae felt herself being shifted and was gently placed onto Daddy's lap. There was no stopping the tears flowing down her face.

She didn't know how long they sat there while she cried, but she did know that she never stopped hearing Daddy whispering to her that she was a good girl and that he

loved her very much.

Once she finally calmed down, Rae looked up at Emmett and smiled.

“Are you ready to put your clothes back on and join Olivia. I’m sure she’s more than excited to have yall’s playdate.”

“I think so, Daddy. I’m sorry again for making red choices.”

“It’s okay, Little Duckling. Daddy loves you no matter what.”

“I love you, too, Daddy.”

Rae leaned in and kissed Emmett on the lips before allowing him to help her get back dressed in her pull-up and princess dress.

The material of the pull-up didn’t feel great against the tender skin of her bottom, but she knew that having to sit on her bottom was part of the punishment as a reminder to make better choices next time.

Heading into the playroom, Rae found Olivia sitting and playing with the dollhouse in the corner of the room. She walked over and gave Olivia a hug.

“I’m sorry for being naughty at the beginning of our playdate.”

‘It’s okay Rae. We all make red choices sometimes.’

Smiling, Rae picked up the dolls and started playing. Over the next few hours Rae and Olivia played their little hearts out.

They jumped from activity to activity. Played with dolls and had a tea party with their

stuffies. Coloring and painting pretty pictures to hang on the fridge. To end it all out, Daddy sat down and read them a couple stories from her Disney story book.

Daddy had brought them in snacks and made sure their sippy cups were full of water the whole time. The playdate couldn't have gone any smoother after the hiccup this morning with her punishment.

Olivia had left for the night and Rae was laying in bed with Daddy and Lola.

After Olivia had left, Daddy decided that she needed to have a bath to relax. He had explained that the warm water would help soothe her still tender bottom.

Running the water in the master bathroom, Rae watched as Emmett poured a cap full of bubble bath and dug out the bath toys from beneath the sink. Satisfied with the amount of water that filled the tub, he turned off the tap and turned to pick Raelyn up and place her in the bath.

They didn't talk as Daddy ran the wash cloth across her skin cleaning her from top to bottom. He took his time washing her hair and massaging her scalp.

After rinsing everything out of her hair, Daddy let her sit and play with her toys until the water got cold and her body was turning into a prune.

After her bath was done, Daddy dried her and dressed her in footie pjs that had rubber ducks all over it. Before he put her pull-up on her he rubbed a special cream on her bottom to help with any left over redness.

During the playdate, they had talked about the company party that Emmett's tech company was doing. It was supposed to be family friendly and Emmett knew that there would be a lot of kids around.

So he roped Rae and Olivia into helping him brainstorm ideas of family friendly activities that they could do.

Rae knew that this was the perfect opportunity to bring Olivia and Miles together, so she planned on using it to her advantage. Rae invited Olivia to come as the beginning of her master plan to get Miles and Olivia to meet again.

She couldn't wait to see it all happen. It was going to be amazing! They had chatted again about the mystery man that she ran into, but Rae found out that Olivia had still yet to find out more information about him.

Olivia had gone back to that same Target multiple times since then in hopes that she would run into him again, but hadn't had any luck. It really surprised Rae that she was doing so much to find out who this man was.

She had never seen Olivia put effort into finding a guy much less showing interest in wanting to possibly get with a man. It was interesting to see it happen and Rae couldn't wait to see it continue to develop.

CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX

RAELYN

A couple weeks have passed and it's finally the Saturday of the company party. Rae had been not so patiently waiting for this day. She had been slowly dropping hints to Miles about this Little that Rae wanted to introduce him to.

Not enough to give away that she was the mystery woman he has been thinking about and looking for since the last encounter, but just enough to keep him interested in meeting this woman. Rae couldn't wait to see his reaction to Olivia being there.

Over the past few weeks, Rae kept asking Emmett about Miles and how he was as a Daddy. She wanted to make sure that he would be a good Daddy for Olivia.

No one would hurt her best friend and if she could keep that from occurring then that's exactly what she planned to do. Emmett kept giving her strange looks everytime that she asks another question or mentions something else about Miles being lonely.

He seems like he is slowly catching on to her plan to play cupid, but he didn't mention it to her and she wasn't going to bring it up at all. She didn't want the punishment that she knew would follow, so the longer that she was able to postpone that the better she would be.

When planning the company party, there had been many different options of places to host the party, but eventually they settled on the local park.

There were plenty of areas to break off and mingle in small groups and all the kids that they knew would be there would have somewhere to go and play.

Rae and Olivia were of course excited to have the chance to play on the playground, as well. It wasn't often that they got to play together out in public without getting looks and hate for it.

Apparently grown adults playing on a playground is frowned upon and Rae believed that it was really because those people were just jealous.

There was no reason to not enjoy playing on the playground, even as an adult. Everyone should be able to do that no matter their age.

Having the company party at the park meant that Rae had a couple different places that she could get Miles and Olivia together.

Originally, she thought about just introducing them together, but that didn't seem like it was grand enough!

Rae wanted it to be special and so she continued to plot. Finally settling on a plan, Rae just had to put it into action.

“Raelyn, it's almost time to go! Are you ready?”

Spinning around one more time in the mirror, she smoothed down the dress that she was wearing. Daddy had surprised her with it earlier this week.

It was a pretty peach colored sundress with ruffles along the bottom.

It fit perfectly and was a soft cotton material.

It seemed like forever ago that they had the conversation about her processing disorder, but it still surprised her everytime Daddy took the extra time to find something that wouldn't harm her.

He always went the extra mile for her and she appreciated it so much. Rae always reminded him every chance that she could that she loved how he took care of her and didn't belittle the struggles she faced.

"I'm coming, Daddy! Just one second!"

Rae dashed into their bedroom and slipped into the closet to find her white converse. Jamming her feet into them as quickly as she could, she took off out of the room before remembering the last time that she ran in the house.

Not wanting a repeat of the last spanking she had gotten, Rae slowed her steps and met Daddy at the door.

"Okay Daddy, I'm ready now! I can't wait to meet everyone and spend some more time with Olivia."

Emmett grinned down at her and gave her a quick kiss before slipping a light cardigan on her shoulders. It was the beginning of fall and they were finally having fall temperatures.

Rae loved it! Her favorite time of year was fall. She loved watching the leaves change colors and of course everything pumpkin spice would finally be back into season.

They headed towards the park where a catering company had worked overtime to set everything up for them. Rae couldn't wait to see it all come together.

Emmett made sure to introduce her to everyone they spoke to. For once Rae felt

important and like she belonged somewhere.

Everyone was so kind and made her feel welcome and she loved that. She kept looking around for Olivia's car. She had texted earlier and said that she was running late.

"Hey there, Little bit" she heard from behind her before she felt a ruffle on her head.

"Uncle M! Don't do that. Daddy worked hard on my hair today and you are gonna ruin it." she growled at him.

"Okay, okay. I'm sorry, Little bit. I'll remember that for next time."

Rae gave him one last look before grinning, sweeping in, and giving him a big hug. No matter how much he annoyed her sometimes, she would never turn down one of his hugs. They were nothing like Daddy's hugs, but they were a close second.

"The party looks great, man. Everyone seems to be having a great time."

"Thanks! I couldn't have done it without Rae and her best friend, Olivia. They did most of the planning for it."

At the mention of Olivia's name Rae looked around again. Something didn't seem right since Rae knew that Olivia didn't live very far from here.

Checking her phone again for a message, she tried to push aside the nagging thoughts that something was wrong. There was no need to panic until she had a reason to.

"Daddy, can we plleeaassseeee go on the swings now? I've been waiting so patiently."

“Yes, Little girl, we can go on the swings.”

Rae took off running towards the swings and could hear the sound of Daddy’s laughter following behind her. Grabbing the first one she came to, Rae not so patiently waited for Emmett to finally step up behind her and start to push.

“Higher Daddy! I wanna touch the sky!”

“This is high enough. Wouldn’t want you to fall out and get hurt.”

Rae groaned. Sometimes he took this whole health and safety thing too far. There was no way that she was going to fall and get hurt with him right beside her.

He would never let that happen, but she wasn’t going to push the issue and risk getting lines or a time out .

She learned a few weeks ago that lines were not fun to do after getting a spanking after she got caught lying to Daddy about taking her nap one afternoon when she was off and he was in the office. The darn baby monitor gave her away and she was still plotting how to get rid of it.

The ringing of her cell phone caught her off guard. Everyone she knew that would have called her was here, except for Olivia.

Dread set in her stomach and she waited for Daddy to slow the swing down enough for her to get off and look at her phone. Olivia’s name flashed across the screen before it hung up. Quickly dialing her back, Rae tried to push back the thoughts in her mind.

“Hey Olivia! What’s going on?”

“Rae, I have a problem. Is there any way your Daddy can come help me change my tire?”

“Change your tire? What happened?”

“I was driving down Second Avenue when I heard a loud popping sound. I was able to guide my car into a parking lot, but of course I have no way of changing this tire by myself.”

“Okay, don’t worry. We will figure out a plan to get to you. Just hang tight.”

Telling Olivia bye, Rae turned to Daddy who had been patiently waiting on her to explain what was going on.

“Daddy, Olivia is stuck in a random parking lot with a blown tire. She wants you to come and help change it.”

“I can’t go help her myself since I can’t really leave the party, but Miles would be the perfect substitute. He worked in a mechanic shop throughout college and would be better suited to help her do that.”

Rae fought back the grin that was trying to sneak across her face. This wasn’t the way that she wanted them to meet, but it would have to do .

They headed over to where Miles was standing talking to another gentleman that Rae was introduced to but couldn’t remember his name.

“Hey man, there’s a slight problem that could use your expertise. Rae just got a call from her best friend, Olivia, that she’s stranded in a parking lot with a blown tire. Is there any way you can take Rae and go meet her and get the tire changed?”

“Of course. I would be happy to help.”

Daddy leaned down and pressed a kiss on her cheek.

“Come on, squirt, let's go help your friend.”

Rae grabbed Miles' hand and skipped alongside him towards his truck. His truck was just as big as Daddy's was and he had to help her into it. After buckling, Rae dug out her phone to shoot Olivia a quick text letting her know what was going on.

Raelyn: Hey, so Daddy couldn't come, but Miles and I are headed your way to help.

Olivia: Okay, I'm sitting in my car waiting for you. See you soon!

Pulling up her location on her phone, Rae gave Miles directions toward where Olivia was at. They were less than 10 minutes away from her, so it wouldn't take long.

As they were pulling up, Rae directed Miles to where Olivia's car was parked. She heard a growl come from the seat beside her, but decided to ignore it.

Rae knew that Olivia didn't have the best car and it probably deserved to go to the junkyard, but Rae's car isn't much better so she didn't feel right commenting on it.

She unbuckled her seatbelt and went to open the door before the clearing of a throat stopped her. She waited until Miles opened her door before giving him a look of exasperation. Jumping down, they walked over to Olivia's car just as she was getting out.

“You...it's you.” Olivia whispered

“Well, hi again, Little girl. I hoped that one day I would get to run into you again. I

have been beating myself up for weeks for not getting your name and number.”

Olivia continued to stare at Miles. She had been struck speechless and Rae tried not to giggle at her expense. Rae pulled Olivia to the side while Miles got to work on changing her tire.

“How do you know my mystery man?” Olivia whisper-shouted at Rae.

“Ummm, well you see, he is Emmett’s best friend.”

“What! You didn’t say anything!”

“After our first conversation at the coffee shop, I had a suspicion that he was the guy you ran into, but I couldn’t prove it. It wasn’t until I dragged hints out of him that I put it all together.”

“You still never said anything.”

“That’s ‘cause I was planning on putting y’all together at the party. I had this whole scheme planned out, but I guess it isn’t needed now. Seems like the universe decided it wanted to play matchmaker instead.”

Rae searched for any look of hurt on Olivia’s face. She didn’t want to hurt her friend and was worried that she might have by keeping this all a secret. She didn’t see any and was grateful for that.

“Alright ladies, tire is all changed and we are ready to head back to the party.”

Olivia looked like she was ready to bolt. Rae refused to let that happen.

“Okay, Uncle M! I’ll just ride back with Olivia. ”

“I’ll allow it only because I will be following right behind you. Don’t think that I didn’t hear your conversation though. We will be having a talk with your Daddy about all of this. I’m sure he would love to know exactly what his Little girl has been up to the past few weeks.”

Groaning, Rae turned and headed to get into the car. Just as she was closing the door she heard a low mummer from Miles.

“Go ahead and get in the car, Little Bunny. I’ll be right behind you and we will have plenty of time to talk later.”

Olivia slid into the driver seat and Rae watched the blush creep across her face. She didn’t plan for this to be the great matchmaking scheme, but she wasn’t upset about it either.

The greatest two people she knew in the world, besides Daddy of course, finally met again and she got to be front row seat to it all.

Totally worth the punishment she had coming after Miles told Daddy about what she had tried to do. Grinning, Rae settled back into the seat as they took off towards the party.

EMMETT

The past several months have been amazing with Rae. It wasn't always perfect, but he wouldn't trade any of it. Rae was the ray of sunshine that he had been waiting for and she had been well worth the wait.

Emmett knew that he wanted to spend the rest of his life with her. He wanted to wake up beside her everyday and go to sleep every night with her in his arms. Every moment in between would be icing on the cake.

He and Miles went shopping a couple of weeks ago for a ring. He knew that some would say that it was too soon, but when the heart knew what it wanted there was no reason to wait.

He had been waiting for the perfect moment to make that happen and he had yet to find it. Miles keeps telling him just to do it and the moment would make itself perfect, but Emmett wanted Rae to know that she was important to him.

The idea finally came to him last night and it would be amazing. Rae was off today and they had plans to have a date night in.

Emmett picked up the ring a few days ago and it had been burning a hole in his pocket. He had one custom made because he couldn't find the one that fit who Rae was as a person.

A one carat citrine stone sat surrounded by a halo of diamonds was the perfect representation of Rae. She was a bright spot in a sometimes cold and dark world and

made a mark in the lives of those around her.

While Rae was in the nursery having a tea party with Bruce, Bitsy, Ellie, and Rigel, Emmett kept an eye on the baby monitor to make sure he would know if she tried to leave while he was getting things set up.

Grabbing Lola he quickly worked to tie the ribbon around her neck with the ring secured to it. Adding a note as the final touch he gave the little minx a quick squeeze before sending her in the direction of the nursery.

Just like he had hoped, Lola pranced in like she always did when Rae was in there playing. He could always count on Lola being tucked away on her pillow while Raelyn played as if she was keeping a watchful eye on his Little girl.

“What’s that you got around your neck, sweet girl?”

Emmett stood just inside the doorway watching as his Little Duckling reached over to untie the note and ribbon from her neck.

To my darling Little girl,

These past few months have been nothing short of amazing with you in my life.

I have spent years dreaming of my perfect Little girl never believing that she was out there.

That was until I found you, my Rae of Sunshine on a cloudy day.

No words could ever explain the love that I have for you, but I hope to spend the rest of my life showing you.

Daddy loves you, sweetheart. So would you do me the honor of not only being my

Little girl, but my wife?

Rae whipped her head to where he was standing with tears flowing down her face. Walking over and pulling the ring off the ribbon bow, Emmett knelt down on one knee.

“Raelyn Jane, will you marry me?”

Raelyn nodded her head as a tearful grin crossed her face.

“I need to hear the words, Little girl.”

“Yes, Daddy. Yes, I’ll marry you!”

Sliding the ring on her finger, Emmett swept her up in his arms and pulled her in for a kiss. She would be his forever and he couldn’t wait to get forever started.

“I love you, my Little Duckling.”

“I love you, too, Daddy.”