

Always and Forever

Actual 1/2 size of body form

Rebeca

Always and Forever



Rebeca

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Chapter One

“Rebeca!” someone called. When she turned around, she saw Spencer Davenport, her dead sister’s fiancée, walking towards her. “Hey,” she called. “What’s up?” she asked when he finally caught up to her. He looked around and then at her. Her eyes sparkled like sapphires.

“Well, I’m actually going to the cemetery. What about you?” She punched him playfully on the shoulder. “You just read my mind, buster,” she replied. Side by side, they walked to the cemetery.

When they got there, she shook her head. “This was a mistake. We should get going.” Spencer grabbed her arm.

“What? Why?” he asked. His question startled her.

“I-I have to go.” Zooming out of the cemetery, she bumped into Carlos. *Oh my God. It’s you!* her mind screamed.

“What are doing here?” she asked, calmed.

“I came to see you.” he replied sweetly.

“Well, you already saw me.” she hissed violently. Her emotions boiled with anger at the sight of him. She started to storm off but he caught her arm.

“What do you want from me?” she asked, pulling away.

He looked at her with interest. “I, um, want to take you out to dinner. Would you be interested?”

“I’m sorry, but I don’t date criminals.” she replied flatly.

He looked shocked. “Rebeca, I--” He leaned over to touch her but she scooted away. “Rebeca, please try to understand. I--”

“Why’d you do it?” she asked. *Why?* Without an answer, she fled.



After a while, once she got home, she went to her room, closed her door, and wept on her bed. Soon, she heard a knock on her bedroom door. “Come in,” she said, choking back tears. Spencer entered, smiling. Rebeca smiled back weakly.

He suddenly stopped smiling. “Hey, what’s wrong?” he asked, concerned.

She sniffed back tears and wiped her eyes and blew her nose with a tissue. “I don’t know Spencer, I just have mixed emotions. I don’t know what to think anymore.”

“What do you feel?” he asked, walking towards her.

“I don’t know how to explain it to you.” He sat next to her on her bed.

“Try,” he encouraged, holding on to her hand. “It’ll help”

She breathed deeply. “I just feel neglected.”

“What do you mean by neglected?” he asked.

Rebeca couldn't answer. His question swayed in her mind, making her dizzy. "Are you all right?" he asked.

She quickly shook her head to get rid of the memories. "Um, yeah I'm fine."

"Are you sure?"

"Yeah, I-I'm fine."

"Then, what's the matter?"

Swept with emotion, she kissed him long and hard. He broke the kiss. "I-I'm sorry," she replied apologetically. She automatically moved to her desk, on the other side of her room. She sighed heavily and started crying.

"What's wrong?" he asked, worried.

He lifted her chin with his forefinger. "The doctors found out that I have heart cancer. I'm going to the hospital." Tears sprang into her eyes and slid down her cheeks, making her cry.

Chapter Two

"How?" Spencer was dumbstruck. "You're doing so well" She suddenly looked pale, like she'd just seen a ghost. She zoomed down the stairs, out the door, and into the city. Spencer followed like as fast as he could but he soon lost her.

Where'd you run off to? he wondered. Soon enough, he found Rebeca standing in front of a graveyard. When she saw Spencer coming towards her, she disappeared behind a few trees.

But before she could, out of nowhere, Carlos came flying towards her. Grasping Rebeca by her throat, he pushed her against a tree and looked her sternly in the eye. "What do you want from me?" she wheezed.

"Same thing that I got from your sister when I killed her. Her *blood*." As fast as he could, Spencer zoomed over to her and pushed Carlos away from her. Suddenly, a hand grabbed Carlos by his neck, knocking Spencer out of the way, touched Carlos pressure point, killing him, and fled the scene.

Who was that? Rebeca wondered. The girl walked over and introduced herself. "Hi, I'm Hannah Suarez." The girl looked exactly like her, and had beautiful curves, just like her, but she was pale and Rebeca was tan. "Wait, but you can't be my sister. My sister's dead."

"I AM your sister. Look."

Hannah lifted up her right hand and showed her a ring that had an emerald on it. Rebeca, then, felt a weird sensation up her spine. She quickly grabbed hold of her necklace that held the exact same ring.

"But, how are you alive?" her sister asked. "I saw your tombstone and your coffin. You were dead."

Hannah held up her hand. "I escaped."

"How?"

"I'll explain later. I have to go." Suddenly, she heard a familiar voice.

"What are you doing here?" he asked. Without looking at him and answering, she vanished.



Once she could catch her breath, hoping that no one saw her. *Oh thank God, no one was following me*, she thought silently. Looking down at her hand, she closed her eyes, and breathing deeply, she murmured softly, "Spencer,

I'm sorry. Please forgive me." And dropping the ring, she cried and whispered, "I love you."

As she turned the corner, she accidentally bumped into Edward Black, her major crush at school. His books hit the concrete. Hannah felt her cheeks grow bright pink. "I-I'm so sorry. I didn't look where I was going."

"It's all right. This happens all the time." As they both bent down to pick up his books, their hands brushed against each other and Hannah suddenly looked away. When they finished picking up his books, he thanked her, and then added, "Hey, would you, maybe, like to go out sometime?"

She quickly answered, "Um, sure. What'd you have in mind?"

"Well, I was thinking somewhere quiet. Like a hike. Do you like hikes?"

"Yeah. I even climb trees," she added dumbly.

"Cool. So, is it OK if we go like around the evening? Say around 6:30?"

"Sure."

"OK, then. I'll call you tonight."

"OK." He kissed her softly on the cheek, sending shivers down her spine.

Her watch beeped, signaling her that she had to get home. "I have to go."

"OK, sure. No problem, but just to let you know, the date is on Saturday, OK?"

"OK. I won't forget." And sped home, without looking back.

Chapter Three

As soon as she parked her car in the driveway, she turned off the engine, and sighed, “What now? I can’t just barge in on her. She’s probably scared out of her mind.”



Meanwhile . . .

“How could she do this to me?” Rebeca sobbed. Spencer was there, stroking her hair.

“It’s OK” He cupped her face in his warm hands.

Suddenly, the doorbell rang and Spencer got up to answer it. When he saw Hannah, he demanded, “What do you want?”

“I want to talk to you,” she answered, calmly, careful not to aggravate him. He nodded in understanding and walked toward her, closing the door behind him.

“Listen, I just wanted to say I’m sorry.” She sighed deeply. “I should have told you both but--” He put his hand up, shushing her.

“Cool it,” he said. “What are you doing here, anyway?” he asked, his gaze suddenly serious.

“Well, I wanted to see and check on Rebeca, but I guess that’s out of the question.” When Rebeca heard her name, she came to the door.

“What’s wrong?” she asked. When she saw her sister, she left and went to her room.

“Guess she’s still mad, huh?”

“Yes. She’s been heartbroken.”

“And she hates me?”

“Of course she does. What you did was unforgivable.” Looking at her seriously, he asked, “OK, Hannah, why are you really here?”

“I just want to see my sister.”

“Like I’ve said, she wants nothing to do with you and neither do I.”

“Why do you hate me? I never did anything to hurt you. Or in this case, Rebeca.”

“You deliberately hurt her feelings.”

“How?”

“Well, she thinks that you’re dead, for one.”

“How?” she asked again.

He sighed deeply to keep from yelling at her. “She thinks that you’re a ghost and that you’re dead.”

“I’m not dead.”

“Well, she’s scared.” Grabbing her by the hand, he whispered, “Get out.”

“Gladly.” She started to pull away. “I’m sorry,” she whispered. Getting into her car, she drove off to her house.

Once she got away from Spencer, she stood in her driveway, thinking about what he had said. *What did he mean?* she asked herself. Suddenly, she felt something tug at her pant leg. When she looked, she found her dog, Chloe, looking at her, begging her for food. “Sorry, Chloe, but I don’t have food for you,” she said to the sad looking Chihuahua.

“Actually, I wasn’t thinking about food. You’re sad.”

She looked at her dog, wide-eyed, and saw that she could talk. “You can talk?”

“Uh, yeah. I could talk ever since I was found and adopted by you and Spencer.”

“Who’s Edward?” the dog asked. *Edward!!!* As soon as she heard that name, she fled in her car to see him. “You coming, Chloe?”

“No, it’s OK. You go ahead. I have to go inside, anyway, and go to sleep.” The little dog, then, went inside and went to bed.

“Well, OK.” She then rushed to Edward’s house. *Where are you?* she asked while she got out of the car.

“Hey, what are you doing here?” a familiar voice said. Somehow, she got goose bumps thinking it was Spencer.

“Spencer--” She stopped at mid-sentence because someone turned her around. “Edward?”

“Yeah, it’s me. What are you doing here?” he chuckled.

“I don’t know, I got lost.”

“Really?” He smiled his crooked smile, leaving her breathless.

“OK, the truth is that I needed to talk to you.”

“OK. Sure, what is it?”

“My ex-fiancée.”

“What about him?”

“He hates me and I don’t know what to do anymore.”

“Well, then if he hates you, what happened?”

“It’s a long story.” she answered.

“Tell me. I have time.”

“You sure?”

“Yeah, why not?”

“OK, then.”

Chapter Four

“Wow. That’s harsh. I like that.”

“What do you mean you like it?” she asked, curious.

He chuckled. “I mean that I like you. I’ve liked you ever since I went to school. I just never told you, because I didn’t want to feel like an idiot in front of my friends.”

“You’re not an idiot.” she said to him as he softly stroked her hair.

“Come with me. I want to take you somewhere.”

“Where?”

“Come and you’ll see. You’ll probably even remember it.” He held out his hand to her and she welcomed him by taking it.

“OK. Where are we going?” she asked, suspicious.

“Shh. . . We’re here.”

“Where are we?”

“Same place where we used to hang out as kids.”

“You remember this place?”

“Yeah. Look.” There on the playground swings were two teens that looked like Hannah and Edward when they were younger.

“Wait a minute. Did we just go back in time?”

“Yeah, that’s kind of what I wanted to show you. I wanted to show you’re childhood since you had your stroke a while back and you don’t remember. Do you remember now?”

“Wow. This is amazing!!” she exclaimed. “But . . .”

“But what?”

“I don’t remember any of this. At all.”

“So you don’t remember me?”

“Yeah, of course, I remember you.”

“Then how come you don’t remember this?” he asked as he reached for her hand and showed her a little ring that she had on her middle finger. “Do you remember this?” he asked again.

“Oh my god,” she answered, astounded. “This was the ring that you gave me a few years ago. Yeah, now I remember.”

“I also wanted to give you something now. Do you know what it is?”

“No, what?”

“This.” And gave her a small black box that held a small crystal heart necklace.

“Oh my goodness, Edward. It’s beautiful.” On the crystal, were engraved the words “*I love you.*”

“Well, I just wanted to show you how worthwhile you are to me.”

“Aw . . . you really think that I’m worthwhile to you?”

“Yeah, of course.”

“That’s so sweet of you.”

“You know what else is sweet?”

“What’s that?”

“This.” And kissed her sweet and softly like a million rose petals falling down a waterfall.

“Wow.”

“What?” he asked.

“Nothing, nothing.”

“You sure?” he asked, smiling his crooked smile. “You liked the kiss, didn’t you?”

“Um, yeah. How did you know?” she asked, blushing.

“Don’t blush; I kind of enjoyed it, too.” And kissed her again.

A smile appeared on her face and she kissed his cheek. “Thanks for the flashback. I really enjoyed it.”

“You’re welcome. So, ready for our date tonight?”

“Yeah, but I thought today was Tuesday.”

“I went a few days into the future. I couldn’t help it.”

“What?”

“Nothing, nothing. Come on.”

“Where? I don’t have the right clothes.”

“You do now.” he said, smiling his crooked smile.

Looking down, she said, amazed, “Wow, that’s weird. I thought I had a dress on for school.”

“Which looked beautiful on you, by the way,” he added. Hannah blushed, her cheeks turning bright pink.

“Oh, come on,” she said. “That’s not true.”

“Sure, it is. How come you say it’s not?”

“Because . . . it’s just not.”

“Really? You really believe that?”

Well, I’m not beautiful in my perspective.”

“I don’t believe that.”

“Really?”

“Yes, really. You’re beautiful. You’re stunning. You’re radiant. My heart races when I see you.”

“Aww . . . you’re so sweet.”

“Yeah, I get that a lot.”

“So, anyway, where are we going?”

“I’ll show you.”

“Well, no more surprises. Please,” she begged. “I don’t want to be any more surprised than I have been today.”

“OK, OK. As you command, Your Highness.” He bowed toward her and did a curtsy.

“Oh my goodness, Edward. That’s kind of funny,” she said, laughing. As he got up, he looked into her eyes and kissed her cheek.

“I love you,” he whispered.

“Me too.” she echoed.

“Kiss me, and I’ll be yours.”

“Forever?”

“Forever.” Hannah, then, kissed Edward with all the love she had for him.

“Do you want to go back?” he asked.

“Go where?”

“You’ll see.”

“OK.”

Chapter Five

As quick as lightning, he zipped toward a beautiful landscape that uncovered a gorgeous waterfall. “Here we are,” he responded.

“Wow. This is beautiful,” she answered astonished. “How’d you find this place?”

“I thought about you when I found this place back during our freshman year in high school.”

Suddenly, she started feeling a headache as strong as a horse trampling her chest.

“What’s wrong?” he asked. “I’ll take you to the hospital. My dad’s a doctor.”

“Is your dad a neurosurgeon?”

“Of course. He’s seen these types of operations before. Let’s go before it gets worse.” With a flick of a wrist, he was at the Memorial Hospital within seconds.

“What happened? Who is she?” his father asked.

“I came here as fast as I could. Long story short she has a VP shunt and it’s not working. She needs an operation, now!! Dad, please!!!”

“OK, OK. Fine.” Wayne answered, frustrated. “Who is she?”

“She’s my girlfriend.”

“Any siblings?”

“Yeah. Rebeca Suarez. We have gym together.”

“Married?”

“No. But she did have an ex-fiancée.”

“Oh, OK. Well, let’s bring her into the operating room.”

“OK. How long will it take?” Edward asked.

“90 minutes or more.”

“OK.”

“Well, I better hurry.”

“Well, OK. Go.” Wayne, then, left to go and perform the surgery.



90 minutes later . . .

“Is she OK?” her sister asked, barging in.

“Yes, yeah, my-my father was the one who gave her the surgery,” Edward said over the phone. “OK, bye.” He hung up.

“Who are you?” Spencer asked.

“I’m Edward Black. Hannah’s boyfriend.”

“Wait, are you by any chance related to Wayne Black?” Rebeca asked.

“He’s my father.”

“Oh my goodness!! You’re a lifesaver.” She hugged him.

“Wait, did you say that your father performed the operation?” Spencer asked.

Suddenly, the doctor burst into the room. “Hi, I’m her sister.” She shook the doctor’s hand. “Is she OK?”

“Yes, although during the operation we had a few problems, but she’s fine.”

“Wait, what do you mean problems?” Edward asked, worried.

“She had another stroke,” Wayne explained to his son.

“Wait, but if she had another stroke, then will she remember any of us?” Spencer asked.

“Yes.”

“That’s a relief,” Rebeca answered.

“Can we see her?” Spencer asked.

“Yes, but one at a time. We recently put her in a stable state and she’s still very feeble, so you need to be very subtle and quiet when you enter the room.”

“OK.” they replied.

Once, they were inside Hannah’s room, the doctor replied, “The anesthesia will wear off in no time.” He left, closing the door, silently behind him.

“Who would go first?” Rebeca added, breaking the silence.

“I could. I mean, if both of you wouldn’t bother.” Edward answered.

“Oh, of course. It wouldn’t bother us at all,” she answered. Both Spencer and Rebeca stepped out of the room.

Slowly, Hannah started to wear off from the anesthesia and saw Edward.
“Hi.”

“Hi.” He smiled at her.

“Where am I?”

“You’re in the hospital.”

“Why?” she asked, confused.

“Well, you had that huge headache and my dad fixed it, but . . .” His sentence trailed off as he thought of what had happened and what he’d been told.

“What is it? What’s wrong?”

“You had another stroke.” he answered, holding her hand.

Chapter Six

“What? You mean that I have to go through therapy all over again? Square one, all over again. I--”

Edward, instead of yelling at her, kissed her. “Actually, I can make all of that go away.”

“You can? How?”

“I have some things that you don’t know about.”

“Like what?”

“Heat vision, super speed, super strength, and super intelligence.”

“So what you’re saying is that you’re bionic?”

“Yeah, pretty much. Why?”

“I actually know two bionic people, two vampires, and a werewolf.”

“Oh, cool, are they here?”

“Yeah, let me just call them.”

“OK, sure.”

“Hey, Jacob, Lilly. Come on out!!” she called out. Suddenly, Jacob and Lilly Dallas came rushing to her room.

“Hey, what’s up?” Lilly asked.

“Is this the guy you were telling us about?” Jacob asked.

“Lilly. Jacob. Meet my boyfriend, Edward.”

“Hey, what’s up?” Edward asked.

“Well,” Jacob answered. “My wife, Lilly, is pregnant.”

“Oh, congrats, what is it, boy or a girl?” Hannah asked.

“It’s a girl,” Jacob replied, anxious. “I can’t believe it.”

“Aw . . .” both girls said, sighing emotionally.

“How many months?” Edward asked.

“8. I’m actually due in a few weeks, though.” Lilly explained. Suddenly, she felt a bump. “Um, babe?” she asked, alarmed.

“Yeah. Wait, don’t tell me. Is it the baby?”

“Yes.” she said, crying.

“Hey, don’t cry, OK? That’ll just make it worse.” Hannah explained.

“Hold her, OK?” Jacob said. “I’m going to get Dr. Granger.”

“OK, sure. No problem.” Edward answered. Jacob left to find Dr. Granger.

“I really hope he comes soon. I can’t stand having the baby without him.”

“I’m sure he’s coming,” Hannah replied, holding Lilly’s hand. “Just relax. Everything will be fine.”

“OK,” she replied. Soothing her thoughts, in came Katherine and Alex.

“Oh, good, you’re here. How’re the girls?” Lilly asked.

“They’re great. I just left them with Alex’s mom.” Katherine said to her sister.

“How is she?” she asked, her voice shaking.

“Not good,” Alex answered, shaking his head. “She’s dying.” Looking toward Hannah, he smiled and said, “Oh, hey. What are you doing here?”

“I had a head surgery for a VP shunt. Turns out I had a stroke during the procedure.”

“OK, I’m here,” Jacob replied with relief. Along with Dr. Granger were 2 more doctors.

“Hey. Are you Alex Vazquez?” Edward asked.

“Yes. And that’s my wife and my sister in law is the one next to her. That’s her husband next to her.”

“How’d you know that I was going to ask that?”

“I’m a mind-reading vampire.”

“No kidding!!! I’m bionic,” he said with enthusiasm.

“Oh, cool. What can you do?”

“I have heat vision, super strength, super speed, and super intelligence.”

“Nice!! Well, we should go. Hannah shouldn’t be around a lot of people.”

“OK, sounds good. See you around.”

“OK. See you.”

Alex closed the door silently behind him. “Who was that? Was that Alex?” Hannah asked.

“Yeah. So, um, how are you feeling?”

“Horrible. I mean, I’ve been better. It’s not the first time I’ve had this problem.”

“Well, I’m going to go. Rebeca and Spencer want to see you.”

“Wait!!” she called. Edward then turned around.

“What?”

“Will you stay? Please?” And she looked at him with puppy dog eyes. He couldn’t resist.

“OK. You got me. OK, fine. I’ll stay. Just let me ask my father if I can.”

“OK. Sure.”

“Thanks.”

“Don’t leave for too long.” Once he was allowed to stay with her, he stayed the night.

Chapter Seven

“Hey, Hannah.” Rebeca surprisingly said the next morning. She was standing next to her bed, along with Spencer.

“Hey, what are you two doing in here?” she asked.

“What, you don’t want us here?” Spencer asked.

“Of course, I do.”

“Well, Spencer and I wanted to see you.”

“Aren’t you mad?”

“Mad why? My baby sister is in the hospital.”

“Because of me coming back from the ‘dead’”

“Spencer explained,” she answered. “How’d you escape?”

“I had some help.”

“Who? You were alone.” Spencer answered, perplexed.

“I have friends and they helped. Hey, do you want to meet them?”

“Sure.” Rebeca and Spencer answered in unison.

“OK,” she answered. “Hey, guys. Come on out,” she called out. And out came Lilly, Jacob, Katherine, and Alex.

“Who are these guys?” Rebeca asked.

“You don’t remember them, Becca?” Hannah asked her sister. She shook her head ‘no’.

“These are Lilly, Jacob and Katherine and Alex.”

Her heart shattered at the sight of Jacob. *Oh, my god.* “I, um, I have to go.” Rebeca suddenly dashed out of the room, Spencer right behind her.

“Hey, hey. What’s the matter?” Spencer asked, mesmerized, catching up to her.

She stopped and looked at him. “I don’t want to talk about it,” she answered, scared.

“Baby, what’s wrong?”

“I don’t know. When I saw Jacob, I just ran out.”

“Why?”

“It’s a long story.”

He looked around and smiled at her. “Well, I have time.”

“You sure? I don’t want to be a bother.”

“Hey, you’re my girlfriend, you can tell me anything. Now, what is it?”

“I-I . . . When I saw Jacob I just remembered about something that happened between us.”

“What’d you remember?”

She sighed deeply and tried to conceal her thoughts. “I’d rather not talk about it.”

“Really? You look like you need to talk.”

“Really, I-I’m fine.” she stammered.

“No you’re not.” someone said. It was Jacob. He was standing right next to him.

“I-I have to go.” she stammered. She immediately exited the hospital, ignited her car and headed home. “What’s wrong with me?” she asked herself, tears running down her cheeks.

She stopped in front of her house, turned off the engine, got out and went inside. Her mother stopped her. “Hey, what’s wrong?” her mother asked. “You seem stressed.”

“I don’t want to talk about it,” Rebeca said, moving away from her.

“You sure? You seem like you need to talk.”

“I’m sure, Mom. The last thing that I need is for someone to lecture me.” And she escalated up the stairs and went into her room, closing the door

behind her. *What's wrong with me?* she thought to herself as she lied down on her bed, looking up at the ceiling.

"I think I can answer that." someone answered as if they were reading her mind.

"Spencer, I--" She stopped at mid-sentence because she sensed someone was in the room. "Who's in here?"

"You know who."

"Jacob?"

"Yes."

"What do you want?"

"Same thing that I had when we were in school together—you."

"Why? You're married and to my best friend."

"So? That can't change how I feel about you."

"Well, it has changed how I feel about you." And jumped out of the room, through a window and onto a tree.

"How'd you do that?"

"Gymnastics."

"Can you guess what I am?" he asked.

"Why should I care?" she asked, annoyed with herself for letting him inside.

"I'm a vampire."

Chills ran down her spine when he said that. "Wait, are you going to suck my blood now?" she asked. He jumped on the tree, where Rebeca was.

"Um, no. Why would I?"

"Nothing."

"No, no. Tell me."

"What do you want me to say? That I've loved you ever since freshman year and that I'm mad at Lilly for marrying you?" She immediately covered

her mouth thinking about what she'd just said. "I-I didn't mean it," she said fast to cover up the truth.

"Really? You didn't mean it?" he asked, coming toward her.

"No, I didn't." His face was inches from her, thinking that he might kiss her. "Why do you want me?" she asked, looking down.

"Because you're beautiful," he said, raising her face with his finger. A tear ran down her cheek and he wiped it with his thumb.

"I can't, Jacob." And jumped down from the tree. "I-I have to go." And rushed toward her thinking spot. *Why would Jacob want me if he's married to Lilly?* she asked herself. Suddenly, someone was behind her. "Who's there?" she asked.

"It's me."

She got goose bumps thinking it was Jacob. "Spencer, what are you doing here?" she asked, sniffing back tears as she looked at him.

"I should ask you the same question."

"I can't help to think that I'm in love with Jacob."

"Wait, what?!?"

Chapter Eight

“Yes, I’m in love with my best friend’s husband.” She started sobbing silently as she covered her face.

“How?? You don’t even know him,” he replied, sitting next to her.

“I’ve known him since 8th grade.”

“Wow. So you guys go way back.”

“Yeah, um, anyway we went out for a year and then I found that he was cheating on me while we were dating. And he also raped me one time while I was on my way home from school.”

“Whoa.”

“Yeah, that’s why I ran out when he saw me.”

“I can imagine.”

She changed the subject. “How’s Hannah doing?”

“She’s better. Edward and his father are taking care of her.”

“Well, then she’s in good hands.”

“Wait, but if he’s been doing those things to you, then why do you have feelings for him?”

“I don’t know. And I told him the entire truth.”

“Well, that’s really all you. You let the truth slip out sometimes.”

“That’s true, but . . .”

“But what?”

“I want him, but I can’t break Lilly’s heart. She’s my best friend and Jacob’s wife.”

“Well, then don’t. Do you love him?”

“Part of me does, but the other half of me hates him for what he did to me.”

“Then, why don’t you turn him into the police?”

“He has a lot of money and a lot of lawyers.”

“Well, then, file a complaint.”

“How? I can’t just file a complaint. He follows me everywhere. I just have to move to another country, I guess. But he always has someone on my back. Besides, if I tell Lilly or anyone else, he’ll kill me.”

“Not if he goes through me first. I might be a human, but I’m a human-vampire. I also have bionics, so he’s not going to get you. I’ll make sure of that.”

“Really? Oh, thank you, Spencer!!!!” She kissed him on the cheek. “You’re a lifesaver.”

“You’re welcome. Hey, but didn’t you tell him that you don’t love him and that you’re with me?”

“Yes, I did. But he doesn’t care. He’s still in love with me, despite him marrying Lilly.”

“Does she know?”

“Know what?”

“That he did all of those things to you in 8th grade.”

“No, she doesn’t. He covered it up.”

“Well, would she want to?”

“Even if she would, I wouldn’t be able to talk to her.”

“Why not?”

“He watches me like a hawk.”

“You know what?”

“What?”

“Both me and Edward can take care of you while you’re talking to her. I promise that you’ll be in good hands.”

“How can you promise me that?”

“Come here.” She did. “This was my mother’s. I want you to have it.”

“What is it?” Suddenly, Jacob appeared and tried to punch Rebeca, but Spencer stopped him.

“You really shouldn’t have done that.” he replied.

“How’d you do that?” Jacob asked.

“Like Edward, I’m bionic, and a vampire.” Like a pin, he struck Jacob against a wall. “I’m also a werewolf. So if you ever try to hurt my girl again, I will kill you.” He started to twist Jacob’s arm as if he were to break it with a snap.

“Stop, Spencer, stop!!!” Rebeca yelled out. When he heard her, he started to storm off. “Hey, Spencer, wait. I just didn’t want you to break his arm.” She was in front of him in a matter of minutes. “Hey, will you take me home?” she asked.

“Sure,” he whispered. They walked to her house in silence until they got there. “Hey, um, I think we should talk,” he answered, breaking the silence and looking at her.

“Yeah, I know, Jacob is crazy. And this is my last year of high school. Who knows where you’ll be in 3 months.”

“Exactly,” he answered, looking around.

“OK, then.” She held out her hand and he shook it. “Your hand’s really warm,” she replied to the warm feeling of her skin against his. She started feeling this weird sensation to kiss him.

He stepped forward. “All I think about is you,” he whispered to her, stroking her hair.

“All I think about is you too,” she whispered back. Then, he kissed her.

“Do you want to go?” he asked in her ear.

“Go where?” she asked to him.

“You’ll see. Get on my back and we’ll be there in a flash.”

“OK, but you sure that’s safe? I mean, I don’t want to get on your back and fall off on our way over there.”

“Don’t worry. I’ll hold you tight, like a baby.”

“OK.” She hopped onto his back and took her where he’d promised. True to his word, she got there without a scratch.

“Here we are.”

“Wow, this is beautiful, Spencer.” They were standing under a waterfall. A tear dropped from her eye. “Thank you,” she whispered.

“Hey, do you remember down at the beach when I tried to give you something?”

“Yeah, why?”

“Well, I still have it. Do you still want it?” She nodded her head ‘yes’, afraid to speak. Suddenly, she had a burning sensation in her chest. She screamed. “Hey, hey, what’s wrong?” he asked, panicked.

She couldn’t answer. All that she could feel was the burning pain inside her chest. He quickly called Edward.

He answered. “Hello?” he asked.

“Hey, Edward. Where are you?”

“In Hannah’s room. Why?”

“Can you get your father? It’s an emergency. Rebeca’s having a heart attack.”

“OK, I’ll go tell him.”

“OK, hurry.” Edward hurried to his father and told him everything and Wayne went where Spencer and Rebeca were located.

He got there in seconds. “OK, I’m here.” Spencer looked at him with gratitude.

“Oh, great, you’re here,” he replied. “She’s having a heart attack.”

“I know. Let’s get her to the hospital before it gets worse.” Wayne answered. They got to there in a dash.

“Where are you taking her?” he asked, panicked.

“We’re going to give her a few x-rays.”

“OK. Sure. I’m going to go see Hannah and Edward. Call me after. I want to see her.”

He then whispered to Rebeca, “Hey, baby, the doctor’s going to take you down for a chest x-ray. OK? I’ll see you in a few.”

“OK,” she whispered quietly. “I love you.”

He, then, kissed her forehead and whispered to her, “I love you, too.”

Looking at the doctor, he said, “Take care of her.”

“I’ll treat her like one of my own.” he guaranteed Spencer. He, then, wheeled her down to an x-ray room.

Chapter Nine

“Hi, honey.” someone said.

Rebeca opened her eyes only to see she was in a light room and Spencer sitting next to her bed. “Hi, yourself. Aren’t you supposed to be at school?” she wheezed, without any voice left inside her.

“Shh . . .” he answered, putting his finger to her lips. “Yes, I skipped school. But I had good reason to come,” he whispered.

“Why is that?” she asked, smile on her face.

“You.”

“Me?” she asked, surprised.

“Yes, you.”

“Why’d you want to see me?”

“You’re silly.” he chuckled. “I came because you’re sick.”

“What happened?”

“You had a heart attack and had a chest x-ray done.”

“Really?”

“Yes.”

“Wow. Anyway, how’s my sister? I haven’t seen her in two weeks.”

“Oh, she’s good. If you want, I can bring her in.”

“No, no. I-It’s OK. I need to rest anyway.”

“OK, no problem. I’ll be home if you need me.” He headed toward the door.

“Spencer, wait.” He turned around. “Please stay. I need you here. I know that you skipped school to be with me, but I . . .” She couldn’t finish. Her heart rate was speeding toward high.

Spencer opened the door and called a nurse. “Hey, Karina!!” She turned around and looked toward the doorway.

“Yes?” she asked. She looked at Rebeca and her heart rate and called Wayne.

“What happened?” he asked.

“Look at the heart rate on Rebeca’s monitor,” Spencer answered.

Looking at her heart rate, he injected a medicine that slowed it down. “This will place her heart rate back to normal.”

“What happens if it doesn’t go back to normal?” Spencer asked, frightened.

“Sadly, it means her heart doesn’t function correctly and we’ll have to operate,” Wayne answered sadly.

“But she’ll be fine,” Karina assured Spencer. “Don’t worry about it too much.”

“I hope so.” he answered nervously.

“She’ll be fine,” Wayne reassured Spencer.

“Well, if you say so.” he answered bluntly.

“Of course. We’re professionals. You don’t have to worry about anything.” Karina replied confidently.

“OK, well thanks. She’s a very special woman in my life.”

“I know,” Wayne remarked.

“Who is she?” Karina asked.

“My girlfriend,” Spencer commented.

“Nice.” she acknowledged. “How long have you known her?”

“A month.”

“And you’re already going out?” Wayne asked.

“Yes.”

“Well, we should go. We have other patients.” Karina said.

“OK. Bye.” Rebeca opened her eyes. “Hi.” He smiled at her, kissed her forehead and sat down next to her.

“What happened?”

Chapter Ten

“You . . . kind of had a speeding heart rate. But Wayne put a stop to it by injecting a medicine that would help with it.”

“What’s wrong with my heart?” she asked, worried.

“I’m not sure, but he’s going to find out and tell us in a few weeks.”

“Will that mean that I won’t be able to wear white and walk down the aisle?”

“To be honest, babe. I think so. You will be able to wear white and walk down the aisle. Why do you ask?”

“No reason.”

“Really?” he asked

“Spencer, really. I’m sure.”

“OK. If you’re sure, I won’t ask anymore.”

“Actually, I--” She stopped for a second to think of what to say.

“Hey, sis. What’s up?” Hannah asked from the doorway.

Rebeca looked up and smiled. “Hey, yourself. I’m actually fine. Well, until I had that heart rate problem a few minutes ago. I see you’re better and walking.”

“Yeah. How’d you get that heart problem?”

“Um, I’m not sure. I was just talking to Spencer and it just happened.”

“Oh. Anyway, I have great news.”

“Shoot. We can’t wait to hear it.” Spencer said.

“I’m engaged!!!”

“Engaged?” Rebeca asked. “You’re only 17.”

“So? I love Edward.”

“But does he love you?” her sister asked Hannah

“If he didn’t love me, would he have given me an engagement ring?”

“Hey, babe. What’s up?” a voice asked. It was Edward. He wrapped his arms around her waist and kissed her neck.

“Hey, Edward. Quick question.” Spencer asked.

“Sure. What is it?” Edward asked, looking up at him.

Chapter Eleven

“I need to talk with Lilly about Jacob but I can’t with him watching my every move,” Rebeca replied.

“OK, and?” Edward answered, wondering.

“She needs to get in there and, since we’re bionic, we can help protect her from him. Would you do that?” Spencer answered.

“Sure, but . . . he’s a vampire. We can’t beat him.”

“Of course, we can. Why can’t we?”

“Well, because he’s stronger than us, and if we beat him, he’ll beat us for sure.”

“We can beat him. We’re two against one.”

“Well, yeah. But he has super strength, and we have super speed.”

“That’s not true. Wait,” He looked toward Rebeca. “Can you find out his weakness?”

“Sure thing.” But she couldn’t find it. “I-I can’t find it.”

“Why? It’s always been there. What happened?”

“I deleted it.” someone said. It was Jacob.

“Jacob? What are you doing here?” Rebeca asked.

“To take back what’s rightfully mine. You.”

“Why do you want me?”

“Because I love you.”

“How do you know that? You broke up with her.” Spencer said.

“Really? Because I love Spencer. Not you.”

“That’s not what you told me,” Spencer whispered into her ear.

“Now you bring it up?” she whispered back.

“What’s wrong with you?” Edward asked. “She doesn’t love you. OK?”

“Actually, I do. It’s just that he did very bad stuff to me and it’s been haunting me.”

“Well, you could’ve told me instead,” Hannah said. “Why didn’t you?”

“I didn’t want to be the center of attention,” she told her sister. “But I didn’t want to hurt Lilly. She’s my best friend. Why can’t we just be friends?” she asked Jacob.

“I don’t want to be just friends, OK? I love you. That’s it.”

“Why can’t you accept that? I mean, OK, fine. I love you. But I love Spencer more.”

“Well, I think there’s a way you can have both,” Hannah answered. She winked toward her sister.

“Oh, no. No, no, no. I know that look. I’m not going to clone myself.”

“Why not? It won’t be painful. I promise.” She looked at her with puppy dog eyes.

“OK. Fine. I’ll do it.” she answered angrily. “Anything else you want?” she asked Jacob.

“Well, no.”

“Wait, I just found it,” Edward answered.

“Found what?” Jacob asked.

“You’re weakness.”

“What is it?” Spencer asked.

“Fire.”

“Well, I have lasers in my eyes. That’ll work.”

“What are you guys talking about?” He chuckled. “That’s not really my weakness.”

“Well, what is?” Rebeca asked, terrified.

“I don’t have one. I’m immortal.”

“Oh.” she answered.

“So, will you just do this little tiny favor for me?”

“Why should I? You did horrible things to me back in 8th grade.”

“Like what?” Edward asked.

“Well, for instance, he cheated on me when we were going out. He, also, raped me.”

“Ooh,” he answered, disgusted. “Why would you do such a thing, Jacob?”

“I don’t know. I guess I just wanted her so much that my conscious took over.”

“Why would you do that? You could’ve just broken up with Lilly and gone out with me instead.”

“Well, I didn’t love you back then. I loved Lilly.”

“Well, that’s irrelevant.”

“Why do you say that, babe?” Spencer asked, still standing next to her bed.

“I don’t know what you’re thinking, but I want you, Rebeca,” Jacob answered to Rebeca.

“You’re not going to get her, Jacob.”

“Who said that?” Jacob asked.

“Your wife.” Jacob turned around. “Did you forget that I have bionic hearing? I heard you. And what do I hear? You love her, don’t you?”

Jacob couldn’t answer. Rebeca responded, “Actually, he does. He, also, did horrible things to me back in eighth grade, before he met you.” Lilly was speechless. She turned toward Jacob.

“Is that true, Jacob?”

He breathed in deeply to keep from yelling at her. “Yes. But I--”

“You what?” She turned toward Rebeca. “I have to go.” She, then, left, tears in her eyes, without any explanation.

“What just happened?” Edward and Hannah asked.

“I-I have to fix this.” Jacob stammered, walking toward the door. He slipped through the exit and raced toward her sister-in-law for help.

Chapter Twelve

“Katherine!!!” Jacob called. Lilly was with her and Alex. Lilly was holding the baby. When she saw Jacob walking toward them, she left with the baby. *What does he want?*, she asked herself. She told Catalina to take the baby and hide her from Jacob.

“I need to get out of here and away from Jacob, but I don’t want to hurt the baby. Take care of her.” She had tears in her eyes, ready to flee.

“Where are you going?” Catalina asked. “Alex told me everything.”

“Hey, beautiful. How are you?” Robert asked.

She turned around and smiled at him. “I’m good. How are you?” She turned toward Lilly and introduced Robert. “Lilly, this is my husband, Robert.”

“Nice.” she acknowledged. “How long have you guys been married?”

“2 years,” Robert answered.

“That’s nice.” She sniffed back tears. “Um, hey. This is Hadassah’s feeding schedule.”

“How long will you be gone?” Catalina asked.

“As long as it takes. I just want you and Robert to take care of my daughter.”

“Lilly?” someone asked. She got goose bumps thinking it was Jacob.

“Go away, Jacob,” she answered, angry, not looking at him.

“It’s not Jacob. It’s Rebeca.”

She turned around. “Oh, hey.” She dried up her tears. “Where’s Hannah?”

“She left with Edward and Spencer.”

“Oh, OK.”

“Listen, I know that we’ve been friends for a long time. So, I’m just going to come out and say it. Jacob loves me and I love him.”

“Well, why didn’t you tell me sooner?”

“I didn’t want to ruin your marriage. Besides, I also love Spencer.”

“Well, don’t worry about it. I’m not mad you. I’m mad at Jacob, so I’m running away.”

“Why? You’re leaving your most prized possession.”

“Yes, I know. But I have no choice.”

“Well, how about you stay with Spencer and me? You don’t have to run away. Running away never solves anything.”

“I don’t want him to find me.”

“You know, I have an invisibility cloak Spencer’s dad gave me. You can use that.”

“Where is it?”

“I’ll show you. It’s downstairs in the lab.”

“You have a lab? How?”

“It was Spencer’s father, since Spencer’s bionic.”

“Wow!! He’s like me and my sister.”

“So? Then, are you going to stay?? Please say yes. I can’t stand to see you leave without your daughter.”

She breathed in deeply and answered. “Yes. I’ll stay. I guess running away is a bad idea. But I don’t want Hadassah with me in case he finds me. He’ll take her away and have me locked up.”

“Deal,” Rebeca answered. “You know I’ve always wanted a daughter named Hadassah. What does it mean?”

“It means Myrtle.”

“Like a flower, right?”

“Yeah, so if you think about it, she is a flower.”

“Yes, she is. A very beautiful flower. Can I go see her? I never had the chance to meet her.

“Sure.” She turned toward Catalina, who was talking to her husband. “Hey, Cat. Can you take us to see my daughter? Rebeca wants to meet her.”

“Sure thing, Lilly.” She turned toward Robert. “Hey, babe. Where’s Pediatrics?”

“I’ll take you.” He looked at the women. “Who are you girls going to see?”

“My daughter,” Lilly answered.

“Cool.” He, then, took them down to Pediatrics, but Hadassah wasn’t in her room.

Chapter Thirteen

“Where is she? She was right here when I brought her.” Catalina started to get a vision and gasped. “Oh no,” she said, holding on to Robert.

“What is it?” Lilly asked.

“She-” She couldn’t finish. She was too depressed from what she saw.

“What is it? Tell me. I can handle it.” she answered, tears in her eyes.

“She’s dead,” Catalina whispered to herself.

“Wait, what? She’s dead??” Lilly quavered. Her mouth spat out the words like foam.

“Yes. She is. But how?”

“Jacob,” Rebeca whispered. She left and ran to Edward’s house. She barged inside, scared.

“Hey, sis,” Hannah said, surprised. Rebeca looked like she was going to throw up. “Hey, what’s wrong?” Rebeca threw up in a nearby garbage can. Edward and Hannah came over to help her.

“Hey, hey, hey, what’s wrong?” Edward asked, panicked.

“It’s Hadassah, Lilly’s daughter,” Rebeca answered.

“What happened to her?” Hannah asked.

“She’s dead.”

“Wait, then, why didn’t you tell us in the first place?” Edward asked.

“She starts throwing up when she’s scared,” Hannah explained.

“Well, then, that’s not good. Who killed her?”

“Jacob Dallas. Lilly’s husband.” Rebeca answered.

“Whoa. I didn’t see that coming.” Hannah and Edward replied.

“Me neither. He seemed so nice, until that ‘incident’ that happened.”

“Oh right,” Hannah answered, scared of Jacob all of a sudden.

Edward felt Hannah tense up and he wrapped his arms around her.

“Hey, but if you guys came home together, then where’s Spencer?”

“He’s not here. We haven’t seen him since we came home.”

“I’m going to call him.” She dialed Spencer’s number and someone answered it. “Hello?” she asked.

“Hello, sweetie,” Jacob answered.

“What do you want?”

“You.”

“Again with me? What’s wrong with you?”

“You.”

“What do I have to do with you? What did I ever do to you?”

"Nothing, really."

"So?"

“So if you ever want to see your boyfriend again, you have to do something for me.”

Scared of Spencer getting killing, she quickly answered, “Sure, what do you want from me?”

Chapter Fourteen

“To have a child.”

“So you killed your daughter to get to me just so you can have a child with me?”

“Yeah. But so what?”

Hannah grabbed the phone from her sister. “She’s not going to do that.”

“OK, you asked for it.” They heard a gunshot from the other end of the phone and Rebeca’s eyes started watering, making her cry.

“Great. Thanks a lot, Hannah. Now my boyfriend’s dead.”

“Hey, what’d you want me to do? Let you go through with it?”

“Yes. I’m never going to see Spencer again, thanks to you.”

“Sure you are.”

“How? He’s dead.”

“There are some things that you don’t know about me.”

“You’re my sister for God’s sake.”

“Yeah, but I’m also a human-vampire.”

“How? We’ve been sisters forever and never seen you act like a vampire. Besides, vampires are a myth.”

“No, they’re not. Here I’ll show you.”

“OK.” Hannah, suddenly, ran from where she was standing to the backyard and back again.

“How’d do that?” she asked amazed.

“Super speed. Something vampires and bionic people are able to do.”

“Well, Spencer was bionic.”

“Oh, one more thing.”

“What’s that?”

“He’s not dead.”

“Spencer’s not dead? That’s crazy. I heard a gunshot.”

“Yeah, but the gun wasn’t pointed at Spencer.”

“Then, why didn’t I hear anything?”

“We, as vampires, have a distinct ear, compared to humans.”

“But you’re a human-vampire. You can’t have every ability.”

“Yeah, I can. Human-vampires are also referred to as bionic, like someone you know.” Spencer came out from behind Rebeca.

“Spencer?” she asked, surprised. She looked back at her sister and Edward.

“But I heard a gunshot. And I didn’t see him anywhere around the house.”

“No, he didn’t shoot me,” he whispered into her ear. “He shot a hologram of me.”

“Huh?” she asked, confused.

“Oh yeah, right. I forgot to tell you. We can make holograms of ourselves from recent pictures that we’ve taken.”

“Lucky.” she answered, looking down.

“Hey. What’s wrong?” Spencer looked at Rebeca and stroked her cheek with his thumb. She ran upstairs to her room and slammed the door.

“What’s wrong with her?” Spencer asked Hannah.

“I’ll go talk to her.” Hannah super speeded to her sister. “Rebeca?” she whispered. The door was open and Rebeca was crying on her bed. “Can we talk?”

“Hannah, just go away. I just want Spencer, OK?” Rebeca said, tears raining down her cheeks.

“OK.” Hannah went down and told Spencer that Rebeca wanted to see him.

“Rebeca?” Spencer asked.

She looked up to look at Spencer. “Yeah. What is it?”

“Hannah said you wanted to see me.”

“Um, yeah. I-I just wanted you to keep me company. Well, that is if you don’t want to.”

“OK. Sure thing, babe.” He went to her and wrapped his arms around her.

“So?” he asked her. “What do you want to talk about?”

“Um, us. If that’s what you want.”

“Well, sure. What about us?”

“Look. I love you. A lot. But--”

“What? Are you breaking up with me?”

“No. Nothing like that. But I can’t be with you anymore. I just don’t want Jacob to find me, OK? It’ll be temporary. Just for a while.”

“Why would you do that?”

“I don’t him to find me.”

“But you’re safe with me.” he argued.

She kissed him on his lips and whispered, “Please? I know what I’m doing.”

“OK.” he answered, annoyed with himself for arguing with her.

“Thanks. I-I guess I’m just scared that he’s going to find me.”

He kissed her neck and wrapped his arms tighter around her waist. “That’s why I said that you’re safe with me, OK?”

“OK, but do you really think that you can go through with it?”

“Of course. Edward, Hannah and I are all bionic.”

“Yeah. I know. I wish I was bionic. If I was bionic, we’d be unstoppable.”

“Well, yeah. But we’d have to do a few adjustments.”

“What do you mean?”

“Hold that thought, sweetie.” Spencer went to Hannah and Edward and told them everything. Rebeca was called by her sister.

“Well, that’s easy,” she said to Edward. She looked toward Rebeca. “Hey, Rebeca, so when we talk about bionics, we typically talk about hardware that’s added to the human body to make it stronger or more capable. By taking living human cells from the body and adding them to external devices, scientists think they can make big improvements in medical research. We’re still talking about the merging of humans and hardware, but that merging is taking place on gadgets in the lab?”

“Yeah. And one particularly exciting example of this is called organ-on-a-chip technology. An organ on a chip is an attempt to mimic the essential functions of a human organ, like the heart or the lungs, on a chip of silicone rubber that’s smaller than your thumb.” Spencer explained to Rebeca.

“So?” Rebeca asked. She wanted more.

“Technically, it’s like taking a biology textbook diagram and bringing it to life. Creating life on a chip.” Hannah explained to her sister.

“Nice. So how can I become bionic?”

“Let’s go to the house and down to the lab,” Spencer said to Rebeca.

“OK,” Rebeca replied.

“Wait, are you sure you want to do this?” Hannah asked her sister.

“Yes. If that means that Jacob dies, then yes.”

“OK.” Hannah seemed doubtful. She had torn down her cheeks.

Edward looked at her and came where she was, Spencer and Rebeca ahead of them. “Hey, what’s wrong? I thought that you wanted your sister to become bionic.”

“Um, yeah. But that means that I’m going to lose her forever.”

Chapter Fifteen

“What do you mean? I mean, we became bionic and the government never took us away.”

“I know, but it’s different this time.” She sighed deeply and started crying softly into Edward’s shoulder.

“Hey, it’ll be OK. Trust me. Can you do that?”

She sniffed back tears and wiped her eyes with a napkin. “Um, yeah. I guess I can.”

“Besides, what’s so different about it?”

“When I became bionic, my parents hid the lab. But when the Feds found it, they found my capsule and everything in it. They took my parents away and I had to run away so they wouldn’t find me and do experiments on me.”

“So? What does this have to do with your sister?”

“A few days later, when Rebeca was born, I told Rebeca that it was a laboratory for bionic people and when she saw that she wasn’t bionic, she went crazy. But when we turned 17, I decided, ‘What the heck?’ but then, I remembered what happened to my parents. They’re dead, Edward. I don’t want my sister dead too. She’s the only family I have left.”

Edward hugged Hannah and whispered in her ear, “I won’t let that happen, OK? I love you and your sister.”

She wiped her eyes with Edwards’s shirt. “OK,” she answered, reluctantly. Edward kissed her lips and, with that, they went to her house. “Rebeca?” she called. They heard a clatter and gunshot.

They ran toward the lab, and they found Rebeca and Spencer dead. *Who did this?* Edward asked. "I'll be right back, hon. OK?"

"Where are you going?"

"To find out who did this."

"You're going to get yourself killed."

"Well, then, if you're so concerned about me, then come."

"OK. I'll stay, then if you don't want to be with me."

"OK. OK, babe. Come on. Come with me." He held out his hand but she didn't take it. She didn't look at him. "Hey, what's wrong?"

"Um, nothing's wrong." She silently started crying and ran out of the lab. Edward ran after her, scared of losing her. He soon caught up with her.

"Hey, hey, hey. What's wrong?" He calmed her down by making her look into his soulful brown eyes. She didn't look for a long time.

"My sister's and her boyfriend are dead. You said that wouldn't happen."

"OK. OK. But--"

"Stop it, Edward. OK? I have to go." Hannah then ran to her thinking spot. *Why did I ever get involved with Edward? Rebeca was right. She's always right about everything.*

"Hannah? Are you up there?" someone asked. It sounded like Rebeca.

It can't be Rebeca. Hannah thought. *She's dead.*

"Hannah?" they asked again. Someone sat next to her. "Hannah, it's me. Your sister."

"Rebeca?" she asked. Her eyes started watering. She looked to her left and saw her sister.

"Yes, it's me." she chuckled. "I'm not dead."

"I tried telling her that," Edward answered.

"I told you I had it under control." she replied toward Spencer.

"That's right." Spencer came next to Rebeca.

“But how? You guys were dead.”

“Turns out that you don’t need bionics to become a hero. I had a bullet proof vest on under my shirt.”

“But there was blood all over you.” Rebeca had a packet of fake blood in her hand.

“Fake blood,” Spencer said.

“And guess the best part,” Edward whispered into Hannah’s ear. “We caught him.”

“You caught Jacob?” Hannah asked.

“I thought you couldn’t do it. But you did it.” Spencer whispered into Rebeca’s ear.

“I know. I can read the future, you know.”

Spencer smiled a crooked smile, leaving her breathless. “I love you,” he said to her.

“Me too.”

“Hey, wait,” Hannah said, breaking the silence in her head. “Then, if Jacob’s going to jail, then where’s Lilly?”

“She’s with Catalina and Robert,” Edward answered.

“What about Katherine and Alex?” Rebeca asked. “I haven’t seen them for a few weeks.”

“Right here,” Katherine answered. She was standing in front of her, along with Alex and Hadassah.

“Wait, I thought she was dead,” Hannah said to Katherine, looking at her.

“No, he didn’t kill her. He wouldn’t kill his daughter at all.”

“Then, why did Rebeca say that he killed his daughter to get to her?” she asked.

“I really don’t know.” She looked at Rebeca to see if she had the answers.

“I-I can’t answer that.” She ran toward to her room, at Hannah’s house in the forest.

They followed behind her. “Rebeca!!” Spencer called. She didn’t stop. She kept going until she fell and scraped her leg. She yelled in pain and hit her head on a tree stump.

Chapter Sixteen

A few days later . . .

“Rebeca? Wake up, honey. It’s me, Spencer.” Struggling to open her eyes, she tried to find the voice. *Where am I? What am I doing here?*

“Hi. Are you OK?” he asked. He seemed different. *What happened to you?*

“I-I think so. What happened to me?” she asked, her eyes open.

“You had a concussion and scraped your leg. The doctors had to amputate your leg, so congratulations babe. You’re bionic now.”

“I’m bionic?” she asked, surprised. “Wow.”

He took her face into his rough and warm hands. “Yes, honey,” he whispered. “You are.”

“I love you.”

“I love you, Rebeca. I love you so much.” He kissed her with all the love that he had for her.

“So? Where are Edward and Hannah?”

“They’re on their way now. I just got off the phone with Edward.”

“That’s nice.”

“Yeah.”

“So? What are you thinking about?”

“You.” She groaned with pain. “Hey, what’s wrong?” he asked.

“Nothing. Nothing,” she said.

He kissed her with nothing else left to say. He whispered to her ear, “I love you so much, Becca.”

“I love you, too, Spence.”

“Will you do something for me then?” he asked.

“Anything.”

He breathed deeply. “Will you marry me?”

She smiled. “Yes,” she whispered. They kissed.

“I love you.” he said.

“I know. I love you, too.”

The door opened and in popped Hannah and Edward. “Hey, guys,” Edward said.

“Hey,” Rebeca replied. “Guess what?”

“What is it?” Hannah asked.

“I just asked Rebeca to marry me.” Spencer happily answered.

“But, I want to get married at 22. Not now. I’m too young.”

“OK, babe. Whatever you want.” Spencer said. He kissed her cheek and smiled at her.

“So? Why’d you get engaged so early?” Edward asked.

“You love each other and, now that Jacob is taken care of, I think you can get married,” Hannah answered.

“Well, yeah. But I really want to get married in my early 20’s. If we get married now, we’re could have problems. I don’t want that. Do you?” she asked Spencer.

“No. So I’ll wait. I love you too much to not wait.”

“I love you,” she said. She kissed him. “See, now that’s my macho man talking.”

Hannah and Edward smiled and said, “Well, we should go. Hannah has to go pick up Lilly and Hadassah and I have to go pick up Katherine and Alex and their daughters. They’re so adorable. They really want to see you.”

“OK. Sure.” Rebeca said. “See you guys later.”

“Sure thing, sis,” Hannah replied.

“See you guys in a few,” Spencer said.

“Well, actually, it’s getting late. We’ll probably see you tomorrow first thing in the morning.” Edward replied.

“OK. Sure thing. Bye.”

“Bye.” Hannah and Edward, then, left, closing the door silently behind them.

Spencer looked toward Rebeca. “Do you love me?” he asked.

Rebeca kissed him, giving him an answer. “Yes, I do.”

“Will you love me forever?”

“Yes, well, until I die.”

“Bionic people live forever, honey. We don’t die.”

“Well, that’s amazing. But--” Her sentence trailed off by thinking about Robert and Catalina.

“What is it?”

“What about Robert and Catalina? They’re my friends. Catalina is Alex’s sister.”

“Well, I don’t know about them. Isn’t Catalina a werewolf?”

“Yeah, but what about Robert?”

“What about him?”

She looked away, not looking at him. “I-I can’t answer that.”

“Wait; don’t tell me that you like him, too. Do you?”

“No, I-I don’t. He’s just a good friend. Why did you think that I like him?”

“No reason. It’s just that I’m jealous, baby, OK?”

“I noticed.”

“I just don’t want to lose you.”

“Me either. I love you.”

“I love you, too.” He kissed her lips.

They stared at each other for a long time and Rebeca smiled at him with a huge smile on her face. “So? What are you thinking about?”

He took her face in his hands, bringing himself closer to her. “You,” he answered, kissing her forehead. “Te amo,” he said in Spanish.

“I didn’t know that you spoke Spanish.”

“I don’t, it’s a special ability to speak every language in the world.”

“Do I have any abilities?”

“Let’s find out,” he whispered into her ear. “Hey, guys. Come on out,” he called.

Chapter Seventeen

Out came Lilly, her daughter, Katherine, and Alex and their daughters.
“Hey, Becca.”

“Hey guys, how are you?”

“We’re good. Look who’s here.”

“Who?” Hadassah came toward Rebeca and gave her a hug.

“Hi, do you recognize me?” Hadassah asked.

“No.” Suddenly, a flashback came to her. Lilly was holding the baby and running away from Jacob, giving Catalina the baby. She asked for Catalina to take care of her while she was running for her life. She came back to the present and shook her head, getting rid of the flashback, refreshing her memory.

“Rebeca? Now do you remember?” Spencer asked, standing next to her bed and holding her hand.

She looked at Hadassah. “Yeah, you’re Hadassah, Lilly’s daughter,” she said.

“Now you know you’re new ability. It’s looking into the past with vivid images and voices. Congratulations honey. You have flashback ability. A lot of bionic people and vampires don’t have that ability.”

“Really? I thought Katherine had that ability.” Rebeca said, surprised.

“No, I have the ability to look into the future.” she corrected.

“Wow,” Rebeca replied, astonished.

“I have the ability to read minds,” Alex answered.

“And I have the ability to be in two places at once.”

“I have the ability to super speed,” Hadassah said in a high voice, scared for some reason. She cuddled near her mother, putting her arms around Lilly.

“What’s wrong, baby?” Lilly asked her daughter.

“I’m sensing something. I wish he wouldn’t be here.”

“Is it Jacob?” Katherine asked. She put her arms around Alex and around her daughters. “Hey, Becky. These are my daughters, Jasmine, and Rachel.”

“Aww, how old are they?”

“I’m 7 and she’s the same age. We’re twins.” Rachel said.

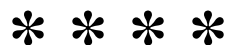
“Aww, that’s sweet.”

“Go over and give her a hug,” Katherine whispered in her ear.

“OK.” Taking her sister’s hand, they went to Rebeca and gave her a kiss on the cheek and hugged her.

“Thanks, girls,” Rebeca whispered.

“Shh . . . he’s coming.”



“Oh no,” Hannah said, scared. She grabbed ahold of Edward and he held her protectively, like a baby.

“What’s wrong?” he asked, holding her tighter, protecting her.

“It’s Jacob. He escaped from jail and he’s on his way to take Rebeca away.”

“Does she know?”

“I don’t know. Let me call her.” She called Rebeca by her GPS placement on her neck, to be able to find.

“Hey, sis,” Rebeca said. “Um, where are you?”

“I’m on my way with Edward.”

“OK. Hurry.” her sister exasperated. She was breathing hard like her lungs were about to explode.

Hannah and Edward sped toward the hospital. “Hey, we’re here.” Edward exasperated. The clique was tied up and Rebeca was nowhere to be found.

“Where is she?” Hannah asked. “Where’s my sister?”

“She was here, but Jacob took her before we had the chance to protect her.”

“Where is she now?” Lilly asked. The girls woke up, without knowing anything.

“What happened?” Hadassah asked her mother. Lilly couldn’t tell her. She couldn’t help but think about hurting herself and the rest of the family if she told her.

“You’re father happened.” her aunt Katherine replied. She looked at Hannah and Edward. “We don’t have much time. I-I’ll stay with the girls while you guys try and find him, OK?”

“I’m not going to him again. He’s an arrogant little asshole. No way.”

“Fine. I’ll go and you can stay. Just take care of my girls.”

“Don’t worry. I will take care of them, along with Hadassah.”

“Wait,” Hadassah said, shyly. “What if I use that technique that Aunt Katherine showed me? You know, the one where I use the puppy dog eyes to get what I want? I can turn into a dog if you want me to.”

“Oh yeah.” her mother said. “I didn’t think of that one.”

Chapter Eighteen

“What am I doing here, Jacob?” Rebeca asked. She was handcuffed to a chair in his dark basement. He didn’t answer. “Jacob, answer me!!!” she yelled. Still he didn’t answer. She stared at him with rage. *What’s wrong with you, asshole?*

“Just kiss me and you’re free to go.” Jacob was kneeling next her and stroking her hair.

“After what you did to me? Never!!” she yelled and snarled at him. She tried to bite him, but he was too fast. “Why can’t you just forget me? You’re married, for goodness sake. And still you try to get to me. What is it that you want from me?” She smiled and whispered, “I loved you, but you’ve gone too far this time.”

“But you love me, right?”

“No, I loved you and perhaps you haven’t noticed, but I’m engaged.”

“Oh congratulations, but I’m still in love with you.”

“Well, that’s different now. I won’t kiss you. We had something. But it’s over. Besides, I love Spencer and he loves me.”

“Well, why not just one kiss? That’s all I’m asking,” he asked, his face inches from hers.

“Oh sure, like I’m going to fall for that again.”

“You sure that I’m lying to you?”

“Of course. You’re nothing but a conniving dirty little cheat.”

“I’m not that bad of a guy, trust me.”

“Why should I trust you? You raped me in 8th grade.”

“That was 5 years ago, Rebeca. I’ve changed.”

“Oh sure, by taking me from the hospital, and bringing me here and handcuffing me to a chair. Yeah, I think that you’ve changed a lot,” she answered sarcastically.

“Why are you making this so difficult?” he asked. “I love you. Why can’t you just accept that?”

“Because we broke up, you broke up with me. I found Spencer and you found Lilly. And I can even still remember when she was ‘dying’ and a certain someone, didn’t want her gone, so he bit her and turned her into a vampire. Remind you of someone?”

He shook his head ‘no’. She laughed. “It’s you.”

“Yeah, well, if I really loved Lilly, then I wouldn’t have done this. But I love you. How many times do I have to say it for you to understand?”

“None. Because part of me loves you, too.”

“Then, kiss me and everything will be the way that it was.”

“What? You mean when we were going out?”

“Well, yeah. Or are you too scared?”

“I’m not scared, but part of me still hates and detests you from doing those things to me.”

He sighed and chuckled softly, “Then, why are you making this so difficult? All I want is you. That’s the only thing that I want.”

“Excuse me? But I don’t, OK? I hate you.”

Suddenly, he heard a crash from the living room. “What was that?” he asked.

“Probably my sister and my fiancée coming for me.”

“Well, I can take them.”

“No, you can’t Jacob.” someone said. The door was open but Jacob couldn’t see them, but Rebeca could. It was Hannah.

Thank goodness you're here. Rebeca thought. *I was getting worried.*

"Let her go," she growled. "Or there are going to be problems."

"Oh, yeah? What are you going to do to me?"

"I'll kill you."

"Not if I kill Rebeca first."

"You wouldn't." she snarled. He grabbed Rebeca by her hair and put a knife to her throat, threatening Hannah.

"I just wanted her for myself but no. She had to go to Spencer. What's wrong with you people?"

"Look, Jacob, you don't have to do this."

"Yes, I do. Unless Rebeca agrees to kiss me." Rebeca looked toward her sister, looking for an answer. Hannah answered, "OK. She'll do it."

What? Rebeca thought. *What are you doing?*

You'll see, her sister explained. *You'll never have to see him again.*

Really? How? she asked. Jacob let go of her hair. Rebeca looked sad and depressed. "What's wrong?" Jacob leaned over to touch her but she scooted away. Rebeca suddenly fell to the floor. Hannah looked at Jacob.

"What did you do?" she asked. "Are you insane?" she screamed. Spencer came into the basement. "What's wrong?" he asked. He looked toward Rebeca, who was lying on the floor, and then toward Jacob.

"What's wrong with you? What are you, a deranged maniac?" He looked toward Rebeca, then toward Hannah. "We need to take her to the hospital. Lilly will know what to do."

"OK." She went out to the others and told them everything, while Jacob took Spencer and, pushing him against a wall, starting fighting.

"You may have bionics, but you can't stop me from having Rebeca. We loved each other."

"That's not what she told me. She hates you."

"So? I love her."

“But she doesn’t love you, she loves me.”

“Really? I don’t think so.” He grabbed Jacob and got him into a headlock.

Rotate my body, use my shoulder and place my arm in front of his body. Place my leg behind both of his legs. Fall backward and trip him over my leg. Push him off the ground and fight. Jacob thought. “OK. You asked for it.” He rotated his body, used his shoulder and placed his arm in front of his body, placing his leg behind Spencer’s legs and falling backward, tripped him. Rebeca opened her eyes and yelled out Spencer’s name.

Chapter Nineteen

She screamed in pain and her sister came to her. “Hey, hey, hey. What’s wrong?”

She looked toward her sister and removed her hand from her stomach. “Oh my God,” Hannah whispered under her breath. “Edward! Katherine! Alex!” she yelled. Edward looked at Hannah.

“Yeah? What wrong?” he asked.

“It’s Rebeca. She’s bleeding.” Rebeca groaned with pain. Spencer punched Jacob in the stomach and went to Rebeca.

“She’s what? How? I didn’t see Jacob go anywhere near Rebeca’s stomach. Did you?” Hannah shook her head ‘no’.

“Well, we have to take her to the hospital,” Edward said. “We can’t just leave her here. If we leave her, she can die.”

“Well, then, let’s go. I can’t stand this anymore.” Hannah replied. “I’ll stay with her.” As fast as lightning strikes, Katherine and Alex got to the hospital, but nobody was there except for Lilly and the girls. The girls, Jasmine, and Rachel ran to their mother. Their eyes were watery and running down their cheeks.

“Hey, hey, hey.” their mother soothed. “What’s wrong?” Alex came by his wife and daughters. He noticed that Rachel’s hand was bleeding.

“What’s happened?” He kneeled next to his daughter and looked toward her hand.

“I got cut,” she said in a low voice, afraid of getting yelled at. She slowly started crying.

“Hey, it’s OK. I can fix this. You probably don’t know this about me, but I’m a doctor.”

She sniffed back tears. “You are? Mom never told us that.”

“Well, that’s because I’m so busy with you and your sister that it slips my mind.”

“That’s true. And I have to help her because your dad is away a lot.”

“Why?” Jasmine asked.

“Well, he’s a doctor, so he has a lot of patients.” her mother replied.

“Remember when I met you as a patient?” Alex asked, putting his arm around her waist.

“Oh yeah.” She sighed emotionally as she hugged him. She wrapped her arms around his waist. “I’ll never forget that day.” She looked at her sister and smiled.

“Come here, girls.” their aunt Lilly said. They did and sat down with their cousin, Hadassah.

“What is it, Aunt Lilly?” Rachel asked.

“Just sit with me,” Lilly said. “Come on Katie, for old times’ sake. You never told your daughters how you both met.”

“OK. Sure.” Katherine said. They sat down, Katherine next to Alex.

“Tell us.” the girls said in unison.

“What happened?” Hadassah asked.

“You girls weren’t born yet, but when I was in the hospital, it was in this very room. I had leukemia. It’s a type of cancer.” she said while looking at her daughters. “Anyway, your father worked here as a male nurse.”

“So I went to her room and just sat with her day after day until the day they released her. So I asked her out to dinner.” Alex said, hugging her tightly.

“No, no. Wait. What about Sam?” Lilly asked. “Sam was your mother’s boyfriend at the time,” she explained to the girls.

“Hey, he broke up with me, remember?” Katherine answered.

“Oh hey, what became of him?”

“I don’t even know,” Lilly said. “I think he’s a doctor or something.”

“Did you just say, doctor?” Alex asked.

“What kind? I mean, I’m a doctor too but I’m a cancer specialist.”

“Why do you ask? It’s Rebeca, isn’t it?”

“Yeah, she’s at your house right now, in the basement.”

“Well, let’s go now!!!!”

“Wait, what about Jacob?”

“Let me call Spencer and ask.” Katherine picked up her phone and dialed his number. “Hey, Spencer, are you still at Lilly’s house?”

“Yeah, why?”

“Well, because we found a doctor that could help us.”

“OK, who?”

“He’s a friend of mine, named Sam Palacio.”

“Well, OK. Hurry, please. She’s dying.”

“OK, OK. We’ll be right there. Oh wait, Spencer, one more thing.”

“Sure, ask away.”

“Is Jacob there?”

“Um, yeah, why?” Katherine looked toward her sister and niece and mouthed, *He’s there*. Lilly took her daughter into her arms and held her protectively. She shook her head signaling to her sister that she wasn’t going.

“Well, thanks anyway.” she said to Spencer.

“OK. Sure. No problem. Bye.”

“Bye.” She hung up. “We need to go, she’s dying. Now!!!” she said to Alex. They got up and went to the door. “Lilly needs to stay here. I don’t want the girls to get hurt.”

“Yeah,” Alex said. He kissed the girls foreheads. “We’ll be back before you know it,” he whispered into their ears.

“OK, thanks, Daddy,” Jasmine said to Alex. He looked at Rachel.

“Hey, pumpkin how’s the hand? Better?”

“Yeah. Thanks. You’re the best, Dad.” He kissed her forehead again.

“I love you both and so does your mother.”

“OK, then. Go.” Jasmine whispered to her father. Alex walked to the front door, but then Rachel said, “Hey, Daddy?”

“Yeah, baby?”

“Be careful. He’s dangerous.”

“OK. Thanks, honey pie.” He, then, left and followed his wife.

Chapter Twenty

As soon as they got to the house, Rebeca was almost without blood. “Oh good, you’re here. What took you so long?” Hannah asked.

“Sorry, we just saw our daughters and got off track, but we’re here now.”

“Well, good. I was getting worried.” Spencer said.

“Guys, this is Dr. Sam Palacio. He’s going to help Rebeca by taking her to the hospital and give her blood transfusions.”

“No, don’t.” her sister yelled.

“Why not?”

“I’m her sister and I said no.”

“Why, though?”

“I don’t want her to die, but I’m not giving her blood,” she yelled. She looked at the doctor and asked, “Can’t there be any other way?”

“Well, yeah, there is the cell saver.” She looked toward Spencer and Rebeca, who was struggling to keep her eyes open.

“Let’s do it,” Spencer said. He looked toward Rebeca and kissed her forehead.

“Will the procedure take long?” Katherine asked.

“Well, no. She’ll just be in a room with the machine on.”

“How many days with the machine?” Spencer asked.

“Well, I’d say about a week to two weeks.”

“Well, we’re going to take her to the hospital,” Hannah said. “We’re wasting time.”

“Yeah, sorry,” Sam said.

“You don’t have to be sorry.”

“Hey, where’s Edward?” Katherine asked.

“He went to the police department and turned Jacob in.”

“Well, are you sure that that’ll help? I mean, he escaped jail last time.” Alex asked.

“He’s sure. They put him in a remote facility.”

“Well, that’s good.” They loaded Rebeca into the ambulance and headed toward the hospital. Hannah and Spencer were inside the ambulance with Rebeca, Alex and Katherine behind in their own car.

Rebeca, you’re going to be fine, OK? her mind said. She looked toward her fiancée and grabbed his hand, squeezing it. “I love you both,” she whispered. They finally got to the hospital. “Hey, baby,” Edward said, as soon as he opened the ambulance door and helped her down by grabbing her waist.

“Hey, Spencer. Jacob’s finally out of our lives. He’s in going to a level five maximum-security prison. So, don’t worry. We’re in good hands. He’s flying to Illinois as we speak.”

“Illinois?” Hannah asked.

“That’s too far away,” Spencer said. “But at least he’s out of our hair.”

“Yeah. For good.”

“So?” Hannah asked. She took Edward’s hand and said, “Come on. I want to take you somewhere.”

“Your sister’s in the hospital. We can’t just leave her.”

“Oh, come on,” she whined. “We never have time for us. Can’t we just go and have fun for a few hours?”

Seeing it was getting dark, he looked at her, winked, smiled and whispered, "OK. Sure, whatever you want."

"Thanks, babe. I love you so much. You'll never forget this."

"OK. So where are we going?"

"You'll see. Somewhere away from here."

"OK." Without saying anything, he went to Spencer, and asked, "Hey, bro. Can you do me a favor?"

"Sure name it."

"Set a date for Hillsborough Courthouse for Hannah and me."

"Sure, but why?"

"I need to legalize the marriage. We got married but we had a secret wedding."

"Oh, really?"

"Yeah. I mean, look at her. She thinks that we're actually married."

"Well, why don't you tell her the truth?"

"Are you crazy?"

"Hey, she's your wife. Besides, I have to help with Rebeca. I have to go." He then went inside to help Dr. Palacio, Katherine and Alex were with him.

"What's wrong?" Katherine asked. They entered the hospital.

"Oh, it's just that Edward and Hannah aren't really married and Edward asked me to make an appointment for them at the Hillsborough Courthouse."

"Ouch," Alex said. "So what now?"

"Well, he said that they're going to legalize it. So then, I told Edward to tell Hannah the truth and that if he didn't that he could break her heart."

"So he's going to do it?" he asked.

"I guess. If he doesn't, he could go to jail. Look at what I looked up on my phone. It says: That wedding will not be recognized as legal or official for

civil purposes. They will need to purchase a marriage license and have another ceremony within the validity dates of the license, and for civil purposes, this date will be they're official wedding date."

"So they need to have another wedding?"

"Yeah."

"So, we should tell him," Katherine said.

"Well, I'm going to go see Rebeca. You guys go ahead. I'll catch up." Spencer said.

"Well, OK. Come on, babe." Alex said, taking her hand.

Chapter Twenty-One

As soon as they left, Spencer went to the 5th floor to see Rebeca in ICU. "What is she doing there?" Spencer whispered to himself. He went to a nearby nurse and asked, "Excuse me?"

The nurse looked up. "Yes?"

"Where's Karina?"

"She's gone. She went with Catalina and her husband to Bora Bora."

"Why? I need someone to take care of my fiancée."

"Well, I could take care of her. There's no one here, anyway."

"Where's Dr. Granger?"

"I'm not sure, let me check." She grabbed the wall phone and dialed Dr. Granger's number but no one answered. "Hmm . . . the phone must be jammed," she said. "I'll be right back, stay with your girl, I'll be right back."

"OK." He raced to Rebeca's room, but as soon as he got there, he found Jacob and the girls' dead, except for Rebeca. Jacob was right next to Rebeca, stroking her hair.

"Don't you lay a hand on her!!!" Spencer yelled. He was ready to attack but Rebeca looked at him, her eyes saying, "*Don't do it. Just let him take me*"

Rebeca, what are you doing? Spencer asked, thinking.

I'm just doing what's better for us, both you and me. If I stay with you, he's just going to try to get to me every chance he gets.

"Why would you kill your own wife and daughter? You're being paranoid."

"Because I love her, and she loves me."

"No, I hate you," Rebeca said. "Jacob, why are doing this?"

"Because you're my obsession."

"You're insane!!"

"Insanely crazy about you."

"That's it!!!" Spencer yelled. He couldn't take it anymore. "You're going to die." He ran toward Jacob and pushed him against a mirror, scarring his back and spine. Jacob pushed Spencer so hard that he pushed Rebeca out of her bed and off the cell saver, spilling blood everywhere.

"What did you do?" Rebeca suddenly started shaking violently. He quickly grabbed his phone and dialed Katherine's number.

"Hello?" she asked.

"Hey, it's me. Where are you?"

"I'm with Alex, Edward, and Hannah. Why?"

"It's Rebeca. She's turning into a vampire."

"OK. We'll be right there."

"OK. Hurry." They were there in a split second. Katherine saw everything. Lilly and the girls dead and Rebeca lying on the floor, trembling violently.

"What happened?" Katherine screeched. Alex came next to her and asked what was wrong. "That's what's wrong." She pointed to the dead girls. Alex looked toward Jacob, rage in his eyes.

"Why would do this, Jacob?" Alex asked, snarling. "I thought you nice and cool. Not to mention that you were sweet with Lilly." He looked toward Rebeca, who was still trembling and shaking. "But I guess I was wrong." He went to Spencer's and said, "She's losing too much blood. You have to."

"Bite her? Never. What's my other option?"

“Katherine, grab my belt.” She did. “Now tie it above my hands. Now, go.” Katherine then went to help Hannah and Edward.

“Alex, what’s my other option?” Spencer asked louder.

“You’ll let the change happen,” Alex said. “Now, you have to bite her from letting the change happen.”

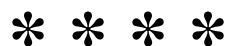
“You know I won’t be able to stop.”

“You’ll find the will to stop.” Spencer looked toward Rebeca.

“I’ll make it go away, Rebeca. I promise.” Then Spencer bit her to suck out the venom.

“Spencer, stop. The blood clean. You’re killing her.” But Spencer couldn’t stop. Rebeca couldn’t see anything. She was slowly drifting into a deep sleep.

As soon as Hannah and Edward helped Spencer, they took Rebeca to another hospital bedroom.



“Hey, what happened?” Rebeca asked when she finally woke up. Spencer was there, along with Hannah, Edward, Alex and Katherine.

“You fell down the stairs into a window,” Hannah said. Rebeca looked at her sister, mystified.

“Rebeca, baby, do you remember any of that?” Spencer asked.

“No. In fact, I don’t even know who I am anymore.” Rebeca said, looking at Spencer.

“You don’t?” Edward asked.

“No. What happened to me?” Someone opened the door and came inside the room.

“Hey, guys. I’m back.” Karina said. “What happened?”

“Rebeca was attacked,” Alex said. “Where’s Catalina and Robert?” he asked, changing the subject.

“Oh, um, they wanted to stay a little while longer. They love it there. Look.” She showed them the pictures.

“Wow.” they all exclaimed.

“Where is this place?” Hannah asked. “It’s beautiful.”

“We can all go,” Spencer said. “Hey, Karina, do you know anything about amnesia?”

“Yeah. There are 16 types of amnesia. Anterograde amnesia refers to the inability to create new memories due to brain damage. Retrograde amnesia refers to the inability to recall memories before the onset of amnesia. Post-traumatic amnesia is generally due to a head injury, an example would be a fall or a knock on the head. Dissociative amnesia results from a psychological cause as opposed to direct damage to the brain caused by head injury, physical trauma or disease, which is known as organic amnesia. It can include a repressed memory which refers to the inability to recall information, usually about stressful or traumatic events in persons' lives, such as a violent attack or disaster. Dissociative fugue is also known as fugue state. Posthypnotic amnesia occurs when events during hypnosis are forgotten, or where past memories are unable to be recalled. Now, there’s lacunar amnesia which is the loss of memory about one specific event. Childhood amnesia is the common inability to remember events from one's own childhood.”

“Or,” Alex continued. “Transient global amnesia is a well-described medical and clinical phenomenon. Source amnesia is the inability to remember where, when or how previously learned information has been acquired while retaining the factual knowledge. Korsakoff's syndrome can result from long-term alcoholism or malnutrition. Drug-induced amnesia is intentionally caused by injection of an amnesiac drug to help a patient forget surgery or medical procedures, particularly those not performed under full anesthesia, or likely to be particularly traumatic. Prosopamnesia is the inability to recognize or remember faces, even in the presence of intact facial recognition capabilities. Situation-Specific amnesia can arise in a variety of circumstances resulting in PTSD. An example of this would be committing an offense or child sexual abuse.”

“Another form of amnesia would be transient epileptic amnesia. It’s a rare and unrecognized form of temporal lobe epilepsy, which is typically an episodic isolated memory loss.” Karina said.

“So, what, she has lacunar amnesia?” Spencer asked.

“Yeah. I mean, for one, she can’t remember the event.” Alex said.

“So? How can we fix it?” Hannah asked.

“Well, lacunar amnesia is the loss of memory about one specific event. It’s a type of amnesia that leaves a gap in the record of memory.” Karina said to her.

“So, we have to tell her and recreate the memory for her to remember?” Katherine asked.

“Yes, but if she doesn’t remember who she is, well, that’s normal.”

“Yeah, when I had my stroke, I couldn’t remember who I was at all.”

“Yeah, it’s true,” Edward said. “I was with her the entire time.”

“I can’t believe you guys are married now. It feels like just yesterday we were just 17 years old.” Rebeca said.

“Yeah, I know. Now, we’re 23.”

“Times flies if you ask me,” Spencer said. “Oh, I almost forgot.” He got out the black box and got down on one knee. “Rebeca?” She looked towards him.

“Yes?” she asked. He opened the box.

“Will you marry me?” he asked. A tear slipped down her cheek, making her cry.

“Yes. I would love to,” she said. He then got up on his feet and put the ring on her finger. “I love you,” he whispered into her ear. Hannah looked toward Edward and signaled to him that had to go.

“Hey, we have to go. But I promise that we’ll be here first thing in the morning.” Hannah said to her sister.

“OK, no problem sis. Love you.”

“I love you, too.” And they left closing the door behind them.

Katherine was sitting down in a nearby chair and was staring into space.

“Hey, Kate what’s wrong?” Her question brought Katherine back to the present. She shook her head.

“Um, nothing. Nothing’s wrong.”

Alex chuckled and knelt down next to her. “You know that I can read your mind, remember?”

She breathed in deeply and said, “Well, yeah, but . . . OK, smart guy. If you can read my mind, then read it.”

“You’re thinking about our girls, about Hadassah, about Lilly, and about why Jacob killed them.”

“Yeah. I am,” she said, holding back tears. She looked toward Rebeca and Spencer. “I have to go.” She left, leaving Alex behind and he caught up to her.

“Hey, hey, hey,” he said. “What’s wrong, babe?” He had her look into his soulful brown eyes. She didn’t answer. She just cried out all the sadness she had stored in her body, letting Alex read her mind. She stopped and controlled herself, letting herself breath and answer.

“I just can’t live without them. And Jacob is still loose killing people.”

“Well, I won’t let that happen, OK?”

“OK,” she whispered. He looked directly into her melancholy eyes.

“Let’s get out of here,” he said. He kissed her on her lips as he picked her up and carried her to the entrance of the hospital. As soon as they got to the car, she got into the passenger seat while her husband got into the driver’s seat.

She looked at him. “I love you.”

“I love you, too. Oh, hey, tonight’s our anniversary. Where do you want to go?”

She looked depressed all of a sudden. “I don’t know, actually. I forget with the girls and Rebeca.”

He looked at her with understanding and she started crying. To get her to stop crying, he kissed her softly and tenderly. She immediately stopped crying.

“What did you do that for?” she asked.

He smiled at her and kissed her again. “Because I love you,” he whispered into her ear.

“I love you too, babe,” she said. They sped to a beautiful and luxurious restaurant.

Chapter Twenty-Two

“Wow. That dinner was amazing. What’d you think, honey?” Alex asked. Katherine didn’t answer. Her mind was elsewhere. “Katherine?” he whispered into her ear.

“Alex, stop.” she giggled. She looked at him. “Do you love me?” she asked him.

“Of course. You’re the only one for me.”

“Then, let’s just do it. Let’s just have kids.” His expression said the opposite.

“Honey, I--”

She cut him off. "So you don't want to?"

"Of course I want to, but do you remember what happened when we had the twins?"

"Yeah."

"I almost lost you. I don't want to lose you again."

"I won't let that happen, OK?"

"How can you promise me that?"

"Close your eyes." He did and she kissed him deeply and tenderly. She opened her eyes to look at him. "I promise I won't let that happen."

"OK. I love you."

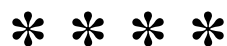
"I love you, too."

"Let's go."

"Go where?"

"To our room, silly. I want to show you something."

"Huh?" Instead of answering, he picked her up by her waist and took her to their room.



"Hey, babe. How was work?" Hannah asked her husband. He looked toward and seemed depressed. "Baby, what's wrong?" she asked.

"Can we go to the bedroom?" he asked.

"Sure, but why? We're the only ones here."

"Because of this." He kissed her lips and kissed her neck. "Come on. Please?"

"OK, OK. You caught me. OK, fine we can go." she laughed. "Just kiss me again," she said. He chuckled slightly and kissed her with all the love he had for her. As soon as he finished kissing her, they raced each other to the

bedroom. "OK. OK. You won." she panted. Edward was behind her and put his arms around her waist.

"Do you love me?" he asked in her ear.

"Of course I do."

"Then, let's do it."

"OK."



"Hey, honey. How're you feeling?" Spencer asked. Rebeca looked at him with tears in her eyes. "Hey, what's wrong?"

"Spencer, I--" She swallowed and said, crying, "The doctor found out that because of my blood, I have HIV." She started crying again, Spencer stroking her cheek and hair, whispering in her ear how much he loved her and that he would do anything for her.

"Hey, guys, we're back," Catalina said. Robert was with her. "Hey, what's wrong?" she asked.

Spencer looked up and said, "Rebeca has HIV."

"Wow. From what?" Robert asked.

"A blood transfusion," Spencer replied, holding on to Rebeca's hand.

"Hey, guys," Karina said. She looked at Catalina and Robert. "Hey, guys. You're back early."

"Well, I wanted to see you," Catalina said.

"Um, thanks, I guess." *Wow, she's changed*, she thought to herself. "Um, hey, Rebeca, Spencer." They looked up and saw that she was carrying a list.

"What's that?" Spencer asked.

"It's a list of pills that can help with the HIV, but it won't take it away, it'll just slow the process down."

"How long do I have if I don't take the pills?" Rebeca asked

“If you don’t take them, you have 3 years to live.”

“Well, what if I do?”

“Well, you have 3 years plus how long you take the pills, so it’s up to you how long.”

“Well, OK, fine. But I wanted to live with Spencer, married and have a daughter.”

“Well, that’s up to you. If you want to take the pills, then OK. But if you don’t, then it’s your loss. But you can take therapy.”

“What kind of therapy?” Spencer asked.

“Hold that thought, guys. I’m going to ask someone.”

“OK. Sure thing.” Robert and Catalina were outside talking.

“Hey, guys, do you know what type of therapy a person should take for HIV?” Karina asked them.

“No, I don’t. Sorry.”

“Me either. Sorry Karina.” Robert said.

“OK, well, wait, she could ask Dr. Granger,” Catalina said to her husband.

“Um, actually, he’s dead. So are Lilly and the girls. Jacob killed them before he was killed.”

“But who killed Jacob?” Catalina asked.

“Hannah, Edward, and Katherine. Alex and Spencer were with Rebeca.”

“But why would they kill Jacob?” Robert asked.

“Because Rebeca was being attacked by him, well, not attacked, she was raped in 8th grade.”

“Wow. But if she was raped, she could’ve turned him into the police.” Robert said.

“Actually, it gets worse.”

“How so?” Catalina asked.

“She went to go see her sister and Hannah introduced Alex, Katherine, Lilly and finally Jacob. When Rebeca and Jacob saw each other, he went crazy. Like he was in a different mind.”

“So, what you’re saying is that he was a sexual sadist?” Robert asked.

“I guess. Anyway, it doesn’t matter anymore. He’s dead.”

“Well, come on, tell us the rest,” Catalina said, anxious.

“Well, um, she left the room, Spencer, behind. Then, after that, she fled home and went to her room. When she saw who was there, she went to her thinking spot at the beach.”

“Anything else?” Robert asked.

“Oh my God. I totally forgot about Rebeca and Spencer.” Karina said. “I have to go.”

She went to Rebeca’s room to talk to them, but Rebeca was sound asleep, so she called Spencer. He wasn’t in the room.

“Hello? Spencer?”

“Yeah, Karina. What is it?”

“Um, nothing, nothing. Just needed to tell you about the pills that Rebeca has to take for HIV.”

“OK, sure. Tell me during dinner.” He hung up.

“What?” Karina said. Rebeca woke up.

“Hey, Karina. What’s wrong? You look like you just got off the phone with a stalker.”

“Um, yeah. I guess. Um, hey, Rebeca, do you know anything about players?”

“Yeah, why?”

“You’re fiancée, Spencer just asked me to dinner and he said that he just wants me there.”

“Really? OK, then, I’m going to call him to see what the heck’s going on.” She picked up her cell phone and called Spencer.

“Well, that’s good. How are you feeling?”

“Um, good.” Spencer picked up.

“Hey, babe. How’re you feeling?”

“Good, great. No need of you whatsoever.”

“Wait, babe, what are you talking about?”

“You want to take Karina out to dinner.”

“Yeah, to talk about your medication. What, you thought that I was going to cheat on you behind your back?”

“Of course I did.”

“I would never do that.”

“Hold on.” She put him on, Speaker. “You were saying?” she asked.

“I’d never go out with her or any other woman behind your back.”

“Then, why’d you say that you’d see me for dinner to talk about Rebeca’s medication?”

“Because I’m at work and don’t get out until after 4:30 p.m.” he said to Karina.

“Yeah, listen, babe, I wouldn’t harm you at all. Never.”

“Of course, you wouldn’t.”

“OK, then, if you wouldn’t hurt her, answer a quick question.”

“OK. Sure, go for it.”

“Why’d you hang up so quickly after you asked me out to dinner?”

“Because my boss was coming. He’d fire me if he saw me with my cell phone out during work.”

“Well, OK. That’s fine.” Karina said.

“Thanks, babe,” Rebeca said. She hung up.

“I guess I overreacted. Sorry.” Karina said.

“Oh, hey, it’s OK. I overreacted too.”

“Yeah, I guess.”

“But that was when Jacob was alive, though.”

“Well, he raped you, for crying out loud.”

“Yeah, I’ll never be able to forget that horrible voice. He was so horrible to me that I can still remember what he did to me. I even feel it at night too. What he did to me.”

Chapter Twenty-Three

“Wow, that’s horrible. You might need to see a psychologist.”

“Yeah, that’s what I’ve been thinking of doing.”

“Does Spencer know about what Jacob did to you?”

“Actually, I told him that he raped me, I just never told him what he did to me exactly or why he did.”

“Well, being honest in the sense of telling the truth isn’t the same thing as revealing every thought and feeling you’ve ever had. Couples should be frank and open with each other before making a lifelong commitment to marriage, but once the vows have been said it’s important to examine your motives and the intentions of the heart in determining how honest you should be. In fact, sometimes the loving thing to do is to keep your mouth shut.”

“That’s true.”

“To tell you the truth, Becky. I mean, I would tell him, just to not rile up his trust about why you never told him.”

“So, why don’t you have a boyfriend?”

“Because I don’t have time for one. I mean, I do, but I just don’t want one.”

“Why not? Having a boyfriend is the best thing that could ever happen to a girl.”

“Really? The last boyfriend that I had cheated on me with another girl, and I don’t want it to happen again. But I am talking to a guy.”

“Where does he live?”

“Mexico. The Yucatan.”

“Wow, that’s far away from here.”

“Exactly. That’s why I’m going to live there.”

“How? You work here. Besides, you have Catalina here.”

“So? I really don’t care that much anymore.”

“What don’t you care about anymore? You can tell me.”

She sighed deeply. “My life. I have nothing. Well, I have my parents and my brother but that doesn’t give me any excuse.”

“What are you talking about? You want to commit suicide? Karina, I don’t think you’re thinking. What about your family?”

“What? I don’t want to commit suicide. I just want to run away from this world, from everything.”

“Again, what about your parents? What are they going to think?”

“I don’t care about they think. They just make fun of me day after day and, frankly, I’m getting tired of it.”

“Well, can’t you tell them to knock it off?”

“Well, yes, I do, but they think of it as funny. But I don’t. I see that they don’t care at all. They just make fun of me every chance they get. Even my little brother. He’s turning 15 soon and he still makes fun of my disability even though it was a year ago. I had a stroke, like your sister.”

“Well, how about I talk to your family? See if I can see what’s going on?”

“You really think that they’ll listen to you?”

“I hope so. But your brother, phht. I can get him to talk. Heck, I have friends at the FBI that I can get to talk to your family. They study behavior.”

“OK, sure. That’ll work, I guess.”

She called up her friend Morgan. “Hey, Morgan.”

“Hey, what’s wrong? Don’t tell me that you have another serial case.”

“No, no, no. It’s nothing like that. It’s my friend Karina’s family. They make fun of her and she can’t get them to stop.”

“OK, I guess I get Reid over there. Where are you?”

“Florida. I’m in a hospital because I have HIV.”

“Whoa. Um, OK. Well, I guess I can get the whole team over there.”

“OK, thanks, Morgan.” She hung up.

“OK, so what did he say?”

“He said he’s going to send Reid, another BAU agent over. He’s coming with the whole team.”

“Who? Morgan?”

“Yeah.”

“Wow, that’s amazing to have friends like that to care about you. Especially your fiancée.”

“Yeah.”

“Well, I hope he’s coming.”

In the doorway, stood Spencer. “Karina? Hi, I’m Dr. Reid.” He looked at Rebeca. “Hey, Rebeca. What happened to you?”

“Um, blood transfusion. Long story.”

“Hey, guys,” Morgan said. He and the team came closer to where Rebeca was.

“Girl, what happened?” Emily asked.

“Blood transfusion. It’s a long story,” she said to Emily. “Um, guys, this is my friend Karina, the girl that I was telling you about.”

“Hi,” Karina said, shyly.

“Hi, I’m agent Aaron Hotchner, and this is agent Emily Harris, agent J.J, and agent Morgan.” He held out his hand and she took it.

“How are you?” she asked them.

“We’re great,” Emily said.

“So, how’d you get HIV in the first place?” J.J asked.

“She told me she doesn’t want to talk about it. She’d rather talk about Karina.” Spencer said.

“Hey, guys, what are you doing here?” Spencer, Rebeca’s fiancée, asked.

“Hey, babe,” she said to her fiancée. “Guys, you remember my fiancée Spencer?”

“Yeah.” J.J laughed. “Hey, to me, it looks like Spencer’s mad because Rebeca’s fiancée has the same name.”

“Um, no, no.”

“Hey, Karina, forget about dinner, we talk about Rebeca’s medicine right now.”

“OK, sure, that’ll work,” Rebeca said. “So, anyway guys, Karina has been having a few family problems. They’ve been making fun of her and she can’t make them stop. Can you help her?”

“Sure, what’s the problem?” Emily asked.

“Well, my brother has been making fun of me, too much, especially my dad and my cousin. He’s staying with us for 3 months. He came from Cuba a month ago.”

“And? Have they actually made physical contact with you in any way?” Aaron asked.

“Well, my dad, he actually gives me hugs and kisses me on the cheek. My brother doesn’t touch me at all. And my cousin, well, he basically does everything with my brother and sometimes, without me knowing, stays in my room to sleep, while I write my novels.”

“So? Then, if you can’t tell us anything, then we can’t do anything about it. Come on, guys.” Morgan said. He looked toward Rebeca. “I hope you get better, Rebeca.” They left and headed toward their hometown, Quantico, Virginia.

“Sorry, Kari. Listen, if it makes you feel any better, you can stay with us for a few days.”

Karina wiped her eyes with the back of her hand and looked at her. “Really? But the thing is that I’m only 18 and I can’t leave my parents.”

“Do you want to feel less affected by your parents bullying?” Spencer asked. “Or do you want to stay with us?”

“I guess I can stay with you guys.”

“Great,” Spencer said. “So, if you want I’ll help you get settled.”

“OK, sure. That’s not going to be a problem at all.” Karina said.

“OK, then, let’s go,” Spencer said. He looked back toward Rebeca and winked, sending her a shiver down her spine. *I love you*, he mouthed toward

her, kissing her.

“I love you,” Rebeca said.

“We’ll see you soon,” Karina said.

“Bye, babe. See you in a little while.”

Chapter Twenty-Four

As soon as Karina and Spencer got to the house, he said, “OK, let me show you the guest bedroom.”

“What’s this?” Karina asked, looking at the pellets.

“Oh, that’s for me. I have to take those for everything, like for growth and stuff.” He chuckled. “Let’s get to the guest bedroom, now, shall we?”

“OK. Sure.” She followed him until she spotted a big scar on his back searing through his shirt. “Hey, Spencer?”

“Yeah?”

“What’s this scar on your back?”

“Oh, that’s a scar that I got a long ago. It doesn’t hurt anymore, anyway.”

“Can I look? It looks pretty bad.”

“I guess you can.”

“OK.” He took off his shirt and she gasped. “Oh my goodness, Spencer.”

“What? What is it?”

“You’re bleeding and it’s too much blood. Hold on, let me call Rebeca. Does she know anything about this?”

“Um, yeah. Why?”

“Well, this is serious. You might be entitled to having hypothalamic hamartoma. Do you know anyone in your family that has it?”

“Um, well, my mother had it. Why?”

“Well, let me call her and ask her, and then I can call Robert and Catalina to see if they know anything, OK?”

“OK.” She grabbed her phone and dialed Rebeca’s phone number. Rebeca picked up.

“Hey, what’s up? Are you enjoying your room?”

“Um, yeah, it’s-it’s great. Hey, quick question.”

“Sure, shoot.”

“Do you know anything about Spencer’s back scar? It needs medical attention.”

“Um, yeah, it’s a scar he got from Jacob when he tried to hurt me a long time ago. It’s been a few years now.”

“How long ago exactly?”

“4 years ago. Why do you ask?”

“Because he has that huge bruise and it requires medical attention, it’s bleeding. Is that,” she swallowed. “Normal?”

“Um, no. No, it’s not.”

“Well, what should I do?”

“Bring him to where I am and I’ll try to see what the problem is.”

“OK.” She hung up and looking at Spencer’s scar, she looked away.

“What’s wrong?” he asked, putting his shirt back on.

“Um, nothing. Um, Rebeca said that we should go to the hospital to see her.”

“Um, OK. But what about you? I mean, shouldn’t you get settled first?”

“I don’t care about that right now. Let’s go.”



“Hey, honey. Let me see the scar.” He stood in front of her and turned around. “Hey, Karina. Um, it’s kind of bad. Take him to the operating room. I’ll call Alex to check on him and Katherine, see if he can come over here.”

“Wait, baby, listen to me, I’m not dying but, just kiss me and all of this will be over.”



“Rebeca? Babe? Can you hear me?” Spencer asked. He was standing next to her bed, along with her parents and Hannah and Edward. She opened her eyes, looking into his gorgeous mahogany colored eyes.

“Hi,” she whispered. “What happened?”

He chuckled softly. “You had some dream, huh?”

“Um, what, what are you t-talking about?”

“You were in a coma, honey. We brought you to the hospital and you had a surgery.”

“Huh?”

“Hey, sis. You had that headache; the paramedics came and brought you here.”

Rebeca’s tongue felt heavy and groggy. “I-I still don’t understand.” She looked at her parents, then at her sister and Edward, then at Spencer, finally at herself. “I-I don’t even know who I am anymore.”

“You don’t?” her sister asked Rebeca. “Mom, I think she’s lost it.” She looked toward Edward and started crying into his shoulder.

“Hey, hey, hey. What’s wrong?” he asked in her ear.

“Edward, if she can’t remember who she is anymore, then what do I have to lose?”

“Well, you still have me and your parents, all right? Now, dry up those tears, hmm? You’re making me want to cry.”

“OK.” She laughed slightly. “I love you,” she whispered into his ear.

“Hey, Dan, we’re going to go,” he said to his father-in-law.

“OK. Sure, go ahead.”

Edward looked toward Rebeca. “See you later, Becca.”

“Bye Becky.” her sister said. She came next to her bed and kissed her forehead. “I love you, sis,” she whispered into her ear. She, then, left with her husband.

“Hey, Spencer? We’re going to go, too.” Selena, Rebeca’s mother, said.

“OK. Sure. See you both later.”

“Bye, honey,” Selena said to her daughter. They, then, left them alone in the room.

“So? All of this is real?” Rebeca asked Spencer.

“Of course it is, babe. What makes you think that it isn’t?”

“Well, I had this dream that Edward and Hannah were married, that you and I were engaged, my parents were dead, and that Jacob killed his wife and daughter and Katherine’s girls to get to me. You bit me to suck out venom from my arm and body.”

“What? Honey, well, part of your dream is real and part of it isn’t.”

“So what part is real?”

“Well, Hannah and Edward are married, and we are engaged. That’s real. The rest, your mind made up.”

“What do you mean?”

“Well, Lilly and Hadassah aren’t dead, and Jacob isn’t a sexual sadist.”

“Well, I also dreamt about you and me and Hannah and Edward being bionic.”

“Well, that’s not true. We can’t be bionic. Bionic people don’t exist.”

“What about Karina and Robert and Catalina?”

“They’re here.”

“So, anyway, in the end, you had a huge scar on your back, it was bleeding, and you told me to kiss you to make it go away.”

“Wow, well, look.” He lifted up his shirt and showed her his back. “Nothing, see?” He bent down, next to her and whispered, “I love you so much.”

“I love you, too. When are we getting married again?”

“Two months from today.”

“So what day is today and when did you propose?”

“A few weeks ago and today is February 2nd, 2024.” He chuckled, kissed her forehead, and then her lips.

“I love you, honey. I really do.” He laughed lightly and kissed her again.

“I love you too, babe. I love you so much.”

Chapter Twenty-Five

With that said, Rebeca was finally released from the hospital a few weeks later.

“Hey, honey,” Spencer said when she got home. They were at Hannah’s house. “How are you?” he asked, walking toward her and Hannah.

“I’m good, I guess. Well, I’m actually, not great. I feel horrible.” She looked toward her sister. “Hannah, can you leave me alone with Spencer for a moment?”

“Sure thing.” She gestured with her hand for Edward and her to leave. Once they left, Rebeca sighed, making her cry.

“Hey, honey, what’s wrong?”

“I just, I can’t do this.”

“You can’t do what?”

“I can’t marry you. Not like this. I mean, look at me. I’m hideous.”

He bent down next to her and cupped her face in his hands. “You’re not ugly, babe. You’re the most beautiful and intelligent girl that I’ve ever met.”

She stopped crying for a moment. “Really?”

“Of course. In fact, the first time that I saw you, I thought, ‘Wow, that’s the girl I’m going to marry someday.’ And here we are, engaged.”

She wiped her eyes and hugged him. “Wow, that’s what you really thought about me?”

“Mmm-hmm”

“Wow, but I mean, I can’t go like this. I can’t even walk without a walker.”

“Well, I can talk to Edward and see if his dad can do anything about it.”

“OK, well, I guess that’ll help me.”

“Of course it will. I’ll be right back.” He kissed her nose and left to call Edward.

Rebeca sat there thinking about the wedding and how it’ll be like. She closed her eyes and her mind left the present. *I can’t believe this isn’t real*, she thought to herself. *Wait, if this isn’t real, then what am I doing here?*

With that, Rebeca woke up and looked around the house. “Hey, sis. What’s wrong? You look like you just had a nightmare.”

“Um, no. I-I’m fine.” she stammered.

“Then what’s the problem? Couldn’t sleep?” Edward asked.

“Yeah, but it-it doesn’t matter.”

“Yes, it does. It’s Jacob, isn’t it?”

“Um, yeah, how-how’d you know?”

“I read minds.” He winked at her and she smiled weakly, trying to hide her feelings.

“Um, yeah, can one of you guys take me home, please? I’m getting antsy.”

“Um, OK, sure, sis. I’ll take you.”

“Well, OK. Sure, thanks.”

“You’re my sister. There’s nothing I wouldn’t do for you.” They went to the front door when Hannah turned around and, looking at the guys, she said, “I’ll be back, guys.”

“OK, no problem.” They left the guys by themselves.

“Wait, what did she mean by ‘antsy’?” Edward asked.

“I’m not sure, but I’m going to find out,” Spencer said. He left Edward alone and left to find Hannah. He soon found her and Rebeca walking home. “Rebeca?” he asked. Rebeca turned around but then disappeared. “Where’d she go?” he asked, worried.

“Oh, no, no, no,” Hannah answered, terrified.

“What? What is it?” he asked, even more worried.

She sighed heavily and spilled, “I asked Rebeca what the problem was, and she told me. Then, she said and I quote, ‘You can’t tell anybody about this. Not even Spencer. I don’t want to hurt him.’”

“So, what happened to her?”

“She turned into a vampire, but she doesn’t want to hurt you, so don’t try to find her.”

“Why not? She’s my fiancée.”

“Oh, one more thing. She told me that since she didn’t want to hurt you, she left this. Keep it.” she said. She went to him and left, dropping something in his hand. When he opened his hand, it was her engagement ring he gave her. He panicked.

“I have to find her,” he whispered. He went to Edward and told him everything.

“Well, go, then, if you want to find her. I’ll stay here with Hannah.”

“OK, thanks, man.”

“You’re welcome.” He, then, left to find Rebeca.



“Babe? Where are you?” he asked. He was on the phone with her.

“Spencer, don’t. Please, I’m begging you, don’t do this. I don’t want to hurt you. Please.”

“Baby, I don’t care what you look like, I just want to be with the woman that I love and cherish.”

“Really? Well, I want to be with you, too. But I-I can’t.”

“Honey, why can’t you? I want to, have to be with you.”

“Because vampires hurt humans, and I don’t want to hurt you. That’s why you’re, I guess, better off without me.”

“I doubt that.” He was standing in front of her with his phone on his ear. She looked away and was almost ready to flee when she heard something rustling in the bushes. She looked toward the bush that was making that noise. A tiger came out from the bushes and attacked Spencer. Rebeca, her instinct kicking in, attacked the tiger and killed it by ripping out its heart. Spencer looked at her with wide eyes. “Wow, you took out that animal like

it was nothing.” She almost ran away but she didn’t. She felt him grab her arm. “I love you, Rebeca. I’ve always loved you and I always will.”

“I don’t want to hurt you. I don’t want to get you into this mess.”

“What mess?” He chuckled. “You killed that animal like it was nothing.”

“Babe, you don’t understand. There are other vampires from where I’m from and they want to kill me. If they find out that you found out about me, the family is doomed. Dead. Finished.”

“Wait, then, what about Hannah and your parents?”

“They’re going to die, too.”

“We have to do something about this.”

“We can’t. If they even found out that you, Edward, and Hannah or my parents are humans, they’ll kill you, too.”

“Well, then, what can I do?”

“I can’t turn you into one. That’ll just make everything worse.”

“Wait, that’s it.” he said excitedly.

“What is?”

Chapter Twenty-Six

“Babe, you have too.”

“Do what? Turn you into one? No. I could die if you were turned into one.”

“No, no, no. Kiss me. This is just a dream, honey.”

“Huh?”

“Listen to him, Rebeca. You have too.” her sister said to her, coming to her from the house, behind the bushes.

“Please.” he pleaded. “I don’t want to hurt you.” The Volturi were running toward them, ready for the killing. Rebeca kissed him before they could get to them.



Rebeca woke up in a cold sweat. Spencer woke up by Rebeca’s scream and panting. “Hey, hey, what’s wrong?”

She wiped her face and looked at him. “I just had the most insane and weird dream.”

“What was it?”

She groaned and fell back onto the bed. She breathed deeply. “I dreamt that we were at the hospital, that I had a stroke and before that, that I was in a coma dreaming that we were all bionic, me, you, Edward and Hannah, that my parents had died and that Jacob had killed his wife, daughter and Katherine’s daughters to get to me because he was insanely in love with me, you attacked and killed him, and that you had me kiss you because you had a scar on your back that wouldn’t heal. And then, I woke up in the hospital. My parents, you and Hannah and Edward were there, and you were telling me that what I dreamt was just hallucinations and that the only thing that was real was that we were engaged and that Hannah and Edward were married. Then, um, I was let out of the hospital, Hannah was bringing me home and, um, I-I told Hannah to leave me alone with you for a minute to talk, and I told you that I couldn’t marry you, you asked why and I said that I just couldn’t, that I was ugly and hideous.” She breathed deeply to gain composure. “Then I told Hannah to take me home, so she did and then, on my way home, I told her a very dark secret from everyone: I was a vampire. Then, you came looking for me and Hannah told you that I told her that I didn’t want to marry you because I didn’t want to hurt you, so then you went to go and find me, until you did, and then, um, I told you that there were a group of vampires coming toward me to kill me and anyone who knew the secret. So, um, you told me to kiss you and that this was all a dream and, um, that’s when I woke up.”

“Wow, that’s a lot for a night.” He leaned in and kissed her forehead. “But it’s over now, so just go to sleep, all right? Do you want me to play you a lullaby on the piano to help you go to sleep?”

“No, it’s OK. I’ll be fine. How’s Jasmine?”

“She’s good, sleeping right now.” He leaned in and kissed her lips, wrapping his arms around her waist, protecting her. “I love you,” he whispered in her ear.

She whispered back, “I love you, too.” She fell asleep into her husband’s arms.