**Chapter Two**

*The Tainted Discovery*

Jasmine and Marie quickly changed into their ‘Michaelesque’ styled wardrobes. Marie wore a shirt with the Pop star’s iconic toe stand and sparkly socks and Jasmine wore a fedora, penny loafers and black pants with a white stripe going down each leg. I couldn’t help but giggle seeing my two best friends dressed as their idol.

“You two are something else.” I said smiling at them. “Marie, where’s your camera?”
“Right here!” She said pulling it out of her purse.
“Marie, it’ll be dark in a few hours. I don’t think we’ll get to see that much tonight.”
“Who cares? Even if they turn out crappy we’ll still have the memories!”
“Good point!” Jasmine said excitedly. “I wonder if Michael will let us stay over!”
“YEEEAAAH!!” Marie yelled jumping up and down like a child.

“I don’t think so!”

“Why not, Ana?”
“He didn’t mention it on the phone and he must still be really exhausted from the trip and briefing session.”
“I’m sure he won’t say no if we told him we wanted to stay.” Jasmine explained. “Besides, we don’t go back to work until Monday. That’s three days away.”
“Ask him, Ana! PLEEEEEASE?!” Marie begged as she got on her knees and folded her hands in front of me.

I sighed. Seeing their puppy dog faces weakened me. I knew I had no choice but to make my two favorite people (not including my fiancé) happy.

“I’ll ask him BUT if he says no or has something important to do, I’m NOT going to push him into saying yes!”

“It’s a deal!” Marie said as she stood up from Jasmine’s carpeted living room floor. “Call him NOW!”

“Okay, okay!”

“HERE!” Jasmine yelled giving me her cordless phone. “You can use this!”
“You two sure don’t waste any time!”
“NOPE! Come on, Marie. Let’s go pack some stuff!”

“Um, I don’t think we can all share your bras and underwear, Jas!” Marie said with an awkward look on her face.

“Don’t worry about that stuff. Michael has a bunch of women’s clothing at Neverland.” I explained as I recalled my first trip to the magical dwelling. “His sisters keep tons and tons of items there and most of it is brand new with tags still on them. I know Michael won’t mind if we use some of their things. He’ll find a way to replace them if he needs to. Just pack what you need and hurry!”

Feeling more excited than ever, the girls ran into Jasmine’s room to pack a few pairs of clothes, socks and Jasmine’s cell phone charger. After leaving a note for David on the kitchen table, I called Michael and asked if we could stay the night and he happily insisted on us staying. The girls jumped up and down again and ran around in circles acting like they had just won the lottery. Michael giggled hearing their reactions and said he’d make sure his staff had one of his guest cottages ready for his overnight guests. He also mentioned Javon had already left and would be arriving at the house with the next thirty minutes.

“Javon’s on his way, girls!” I said trying to get their attention from Jasmine’s bedroom.

Within seconds, Marie and Jasmine both came out of the bedroom with two small shoulder bags full of clothes, accessories and toiletries. Thinking ahead, Jasmine walked over to me with a large plastic bottle with a pink colored gel type substance inside.

“You’re going to need this.” She said as I took the unlabeled canister from her.

After closely examining its contents, I gasped and threw the bottle at her head watching her duck down and laugh hysterically.

“JASMINE! YOU ARE SO GROSS!”

“WHAT?” She asked as if she had just given me something honorable. “It’s just lubricant, Ana!
“I KNOW WHAT IT IS!” I yelled as I glanced at Marie who was on the floor holding her stomach as she laughed as hard as she possibly could.

“You are terrible! We do not need that stuff.”
“You’re right.” Jasmine said. “It would be a pain to wipe it off the toilet seat anyway!”
“JASMINE!!”

I chased her around her kitchen and dining room before stopping to catch my breath. My energy levels were still shot and my jet leg hadn’t fully subsided.

“Ana, are you alright?” Marie asked coming over to me on the couch.
“I’m fine. I just got the wind knocked out of me.”
“I’m pretty fast on my feet.” Jasmine said as she took a seat next to Marie and I.

“Yes, you are! And don’t you EVER give me that disgusting stuff ever again!”
“I was only kidding, Ana.”

“Yeah, yeah I know.”

Cameron smirked devilishly as he read the details of his recent background check requests. He ran his thumb across his bottom lip a few times and stared at the matted pages in front of him. He then opened one of his desk drawers and pulled out Diana’s background check from an unmarked file that Rick had processed for him while she was away in Europe. As he placed all three documents on his desk, he read each description carefully and tried his hardest to come up with a plan to convince the CEO of TSG to merge her business with his.

After thinking and preparing notes for over an hour, his desk phone rang startling him half to death.

“Garivey.”
“Cam, I got some news.”
“Not now, Rick.”
“Trust me, you want to see this.”
“What is it?”
“I’m faxing it over right now.”

Cameron grunted in frustration as he hung up on his friend and waited for the fax to arrive. As the machine began transmission, the handsome CEO stared at a picture of Diana he kept hidden in his briefcase wondering why she chose the man she did to spend her life with when in reality she could be ANYONE’S wife?

*“What the hell does she see in him?”* He asked himself shaking his head in confusion.

After staring at her picture for more than ten minutes, Cameron’s fax machine started beeping. He walked over to the electrical appliance and waited patiently for Rick’s unknown document to arrive. His eyes widened as he read the bold print at the top of the page:

***STRICTLY CLASSIFIED***

***DIANA ELIZABETH DEAN / JASMINE CHRISTINA AVERSON***

Cameron couldn’t believe what his associate had just sent him. He ran to the phone and called Rick thanking him endlessly for the top secret information. After reading all of the content on each page, Cameron instantly came up with a brilliant plan. A plan that would make Diana Dean reconsider her decision about her business. A plan she couldn’t refuse if she wanted her secret to remain closeted. The charming CEO packed his things and headed home for the evening. He couldn’t wait to hear from Diana once she reviewed his financial statistics.

“Welcome to Neverland!” Javon said as he opened the SUV doors for the girls. “The boss is expecting you. Please, go right in.”
“Thank you, Javon.” Marie said taking his hand as she stepped out of the vehicle. “You are too kind.”
“The pleasure’s all mine, Miss Marie.” Javon replied kissing the back of her hand.

In that moment, Marie tearfully remembered Chris. He too would address her as Miss Marie and frequently kissed the back of her hand. After helping Jasmine out of the vehicle, the three of us walked across a stone lined path filled with multi-colored lights leading all the way towards the main house. Seconds later, Michael opened the main entrance door and ran towards us wrapping his arms around me as if he hadn’t seen me in years.

“My sweet girl…” He whispered in my ear as he kissed the side of my face. “I’ve missed you.”
“It hasn’t been THAT long since you’ve seen me.”
“It’s been more than 24 hours!”
“Michael, you are so sweet and silly.”

“AHEM!” Marie said deliberately clearing her throat. “It’s nice to see you too!”
“Yeah, what about US? YOUR FANS??” Jasmine said placing her hands on her hips.

“I’m sorry.” Michael said smiling brightly as he let go of me. “I missed you girls too.”

He hugged them both and led us inside his house introducing us to many of his staff members. Kai came over and hugged me in the most loving way as she recalled my first visit to Michael’s enchanted home.

“Welcome back.” She said smiling beautifully. “It’s so nice to see you here with Michael again. He was a complete wreck without you.”

“SHHH! Kai don’t tell her that!” Michael said hiding his flushed cheeks.
“We both were incomplete without each other. I’m very happy that fate reunited us again. I’d like you to meet my two best friends – Jasmine and Marie.”

The girls shook Kai’s hand and complimented her on her perfect figure, flawless skin and gorgeous hair. Kai explained she was on a very strict diet and always made sure her features were perfect. Being Michael’s personal chef definitely kept on her on her toes and Kai always made her sure looked and felt her best so that her boss would be proud to call her his employee. Javon kindly put our bags in the cottage. Michael explained that he’d be sharing his room with me while the girls had their own cottage but could stay wherever they wanted in the main house. He then came behind me and wrapped his arms around my waist.

“It’s time to bake a cupcake.” He whispered smiling against my ear.
“You have to punish me first.”
“I haven’t forgotten.”

“Michael, can we see Bubbles?” Marie asked as she and Jasmine looked around the foyer.

“Sure. I just have to find him.”

“I think he’s asleep, sir.” Kai said as she came in the room with a large bowl of popcorn. “I saw him in his bed about an hour ago.”
“Bubbles has his OWN BED?” Jasmine asked shocked out of her mind.
“Of course. Sometimes he sleeps with me too.”
“He can’t do that after we’re married, Michael.”
“Good luck telling him that.”

We all laughed as we made our way into Michael’s living room. Jasmine and Marie were fascinated as they studied the luxurious room admiring all of the beautiful artwork and books all strategically placed throughout the entire home. A few more staff members came and introduced themselves making us feel a lot more relaxed and comfortable. Beverly was shy and hid behind the others. Michael noticed and immediately called out to her.

“Why are you hiding, Bev?”
“I’m very shy, sir.”
“Why?”
“I don’t know what to say.”

Wanting to ease the adorable maid’s apprehension, I stood up from Michael’s black leather couch and introduced myself to her. She shook my hand and completely turned red. The girls immediately followed and shook the adorable maid’s hand saying she was a beautiful person and had no reason to feel uncomfortable around any of us. To my surprise, Beverly revealed the unexpected reason for her shyness.

“Mr. Jackson was right – you three really ARE beautiful.” She said trying to hide her rosy cheeks.
“Thank you but Diana is the most beautiful of all.” Jasmine said.

“Inside AND out.” Marie added nudging my shoulder playfully.

“I agree!” Michael said coming over and kissing my forehead.

“Okay, enough with the compliments please.” I said trying to hide my blushing face. “Thank you very much. You’re all very kind.”

As a special ‘welcome to Neverland’ treat, Kai made hot chocolate with marshmallows and rice krispy treats for everyone. Marie gasped as she saw the delicious treats being brought into the room. They were her most favorite treats in the entire world.

“I LOVE THESE!” Marie said stuffing her face with a huge piece and sipping her warm cocoa from a mug with Michael’s name on it.

“Me too!” Jasmine added as she grabbed a mug from the serving tray and sat on the couch.

“By the way-“Michael said as he and I sat next to each other with our cups on his reclining sofa. “I love what you two are wearing.”
“We felt the need to support you in your own home!” Marie said taking another treat.

“You girls are welcome to stay as long as you want to. Feel free to walk and look around at everything but the animals are caged up now for safety and sleeping reasons.”

“Awww, that’s crappy!” Jasmine said. “We can’t see them?”
“You can in the morning.” Michael said trying to sound positive.

“Yaay!” Marie yelled finishing her chewy dessert.

“Mr. Jackson, you have a phone call.” Beverly said poking her head into the living room.

“Thank you. I’ll take it in my office.”
“Everything ok, baby?”
“It’s most likely Elizabeth checking up on me making sure I arrived safely and to find out if I’ve rested and eaten.”
“Now THAT’S a good woman!” Jasmine said as she continued sipping her hot, chocolaty goodness.”
“HEY! I do that that too!” I yelled.

“We know, Ana.” Marie explained. “But Ms. Taylor is being a good friend. You’re going to be his wife one day and will do that forever.”
“Exactly.” Michael said. “She’s been checking on me since before we met. I won’t be long.”

When Michael left to answer his call, the girls and I finished our snacks and drinks and turned on the TV. Jasmine admired Michael’s books and gasped to herself as she saw a copy of J.M. Barrie’s “Peter Pan” it its original transcript format.

“LOOK, GIRLS!” She yelled trying to remove the book from a nearby shelf.
“JAS, NO!” I yelled running towards her. “Don’t touch Michael’s books without asking!”
“He won’t mind.”

“He might. His literature is VERY important to him and that’s a limited edition. Ask him first, please.”
“She’s right, Jas.” Marie said. “I wouldn’t touch those either. That book is very special to Michael.”
“Fine!” She said sitting back on the couch. “Where’s the remote?”

Marie handed it to her and she flipped through the channels. To our surprise, Michael had a global satellite with hundreds of channels from all over the world.

“Let’s watch a Disney movie!” Marie yelled.
“GREAT IDEA!”

“You two watch whatever you want.” I said standing up from the couch. “I’m going to take a bath and come back in a little while.”

“Ana, did Neverland look different when you first came here?” Jasmine asked.

I smiled as I recalled my first experience at Michael’s otherworldly estate.

“It pretty much looks the same.” I explained as I looked around the room. “There are some minor changes but overall, it’s exactly how I remember it.”
“Does Michael have a big bed?” Jasmine asked being her usual curious self.

“JAS!”

“What? I was just wondering.”
“You don’t need to know!” I said shaking my head as I made my way towards the living room doorway. “I’ll be back. Please let Michael know where I am.”
“Will do!” Marie said gluing her eyes to the large TV screen.

I stood in the doorway and watched the girls behaving like children as they watched ‘Beauty and the Beast’ and fought over the last rice krispy treat on the serving tray. It seemed like Michael’s dream of creating a world full of innocence, fun and magic had successfully come true. There was nothing that man couldn’t do – for himself AND for others. I laughed to myself feeling incredibly grateful as I realized how blessed I was to know and be engaged to such a phenomenal person.

Michael sat in his office chair and smiled brightly as he pressed the intercom button on his phone and spoke into his receiver.

“Hi, Elizabeth.”
“Guess again!”

Michael gasped loudly.

“OH MY GOD!”
“Missed me?”
“WHERE ARE YOU? HOW ARE YOU? WHY HAVENT YOU CALLED?”

“I’m in LA. I’m fine and you were on tour for five months.”
“You’re HERE in LA? COME OVER!”
“Are you sure it’s ok?”
“Of course! You can finally meet Diana and her friends. Pack some clothes – you’re staying over!”
“Thanks for asking me first.”
“I don’t need to ask. Get over here NOW!”
“Ok, ok. I’ll be there in an hour or so.”
“See you then.”

Michael smiled from ear to ear as he hung up his phone. He couldn’t believe the person who called was in town and on their way to see him and his new extended family. Memories of the past flashed through his mind as he giggled and shook his head in embarrassment. He hadn’t seen this person in a very long time. He was ecstatic and ran out of his study to tell his fiancé and fans the good news.

Kai brought more treats for the girls as they watched continued watching ‘Beauty and the Beast’ on Michael’s big screen TV.

“Here you go, girls.” She said placing the large platter full of cookies, brownies, cake slices and fruits on the square shaped glass coffee table. “Enjoy.”
“Thank you, Kai!” The girl said stuffing their faces with sugary treats.

“Would you like some more hot cocoa?”
“Yes, please!” They both said smiling like twins.

“I’ll make a large pot and put it in a thermos for you.”

“You’re the best!” Jasmine said hugging the lovely chef. “Michael is so lucky to have you.”
“Oh no, Ms. Jasmine.” Kai said as she picked up the empty rice krispy tray from the table. “WE are lucky to have HIM him our lives. Mr. Jackson is a very special man.”
“Indeed!” I said as I ran my fingers through my damp hair. “He truly is one of a kind.”
“Ms. Dean, you look beautiful even without makeup.”
“You flatter me, Kai and please call me Diana.”
“I couldn’t possibly and it’s the truth. Enjoy your evening.” She said as she made her way out of the room.

Michael came back and told us a surprise guest was coming to visit. Marie and Jasmine both looked at each other wondering who it could be.

“Do we know this person?” I asked.

“I’d say so. You look beautiful.” He said kissing my nose and admiring Jasmine’s navy blue sundress covered in bright yellow sunflowers. “I love what you have on.”

I thanked him as we sat on the couch behind the girls who were both camped on the living room floor lying down with a large blanket and pillows. Wanting to know more about Michael’s guest, the girls and I questioned him hoping he’d at least give us a clue about who it was.

“It’s a surprise.”
“I should change then.”

“Don’t be silly, Diana.” He said pushing me gently against the couch. “You look amazing.”
“So do you.”

We both shared a brief kiss completely forgetting about how perverted Jasmine’s mind was.

“OOOOOOO!” She screamed as she turned her head and saw us openly showing affection to each other. “DO MORE! DO MORE!”

“Jasmine, you REALLY need to quit that.” Marie said. “You’ve seen enough.”
“So have YOU!” I added referring to their spying in Europe through the keyhole. “I’m still not over the fact that you two watched us.”
“It was no big deal.” Jasmine said flicking her hand in the air. “It was only for five seconds. I could’ve gone way longer.”
“I’m sure David would love to hear that.” Michael said trying hard not to laugh.

“OH MY GOD!” Jasmine yelled. “I totally forgot about him! I need to call home. They’re probably wondering where the heck we all are!”

“I left a note on your kitchen table for him.” I said reaching for my purse to check my cell phone for any missed calls. “He hasn’t called me.”

“Me neither.” Marie said looking down at her phone.

“I’ll be back!” Jasmine said as she stood up from the floor and headed outside to the main cottage where her purse and cell phone were.

“Please tell us who’s coming!” Marie asked.

“You’ll find out, bear.”
“I better go make myself look presentable.” Marie said as she stood up from the living room floor and headed towards the main entrance. “I’ll be back in a jiffy!”

“Marie, you’ve had way too much sugar.” I said looking at the half eaten serving platter on the table. “Remember what happened in Germany? You were so sugar high you thought you could fly!”
“Oh yeaaah! That was a fun day!” She said as she left the room saying she’d be back ‘in a jiffy’ again.

As soon as Marie left the house, Michael jumped on me ravaging my neck with his lips.

“FINALLY!” He yelled. “I thought those two would NEVER leave!”

“WHOA!” I yelled trying to contain myself. “What are you doing?”
“Having a quickie.”
“MICHAEL! We can’t do that on your couch!”
“Why not?”
“UM, YOUR STAFF? THE GIRLS WILL BE BACK ANY SECOND? YOU HAVE A GUEST ARRIVING!”

“We’ll be done before they all get back.”
“ARE YOU CRAZY?”
“YES, ABOUT YOU!”

He gently pulled me down on the couch and kissed my neck making me squeal. The sensation of my fiancé’s lips pressed against my skin made my inner senses go limp. In a matter of seconds, he had me incredibly weakened and completely helpless in his embrace. I tried resisting but Michael’s alluring cologne, beautiful face and silky smooth lips instantly hypnotized me. I wanted him just as badly as he wanted me and we both didn’t have a care in the world about who would see or hear us.

“Why don’t we take this to your room?” I whispered.
“Are you serious?”
“Try and stop me.”

Michael smiled and winked his right eye at me. Memories of our first encounter came to mind.

“You never did get that eye fixed.”
“Do I still need to?”
“Definitely not.”

He scooped me in his arms and carried me all the way up his beautiful grand staircase towards the master bedroom. Once we arrived at his door, Michael cleverly turned the knob with one hand with me still in his arms and asked me to close my eyes. He then gently placed my anxious body against the softest and smoothest silk bed sheets I had ever rested upon. Rose petals covered the entire wooden sleigh bed and several candles were lit flickering across the room.

“Michael…”
“Look familiar?”
“This is just like our first time in New York.”
“I wanted to recapture that special moment again.”
“You are the sweetest man in the world. I truly don’t deserve you.”
“Don’t say that. We deserve each other. A love like ours is so rare, Diana.
“I love you, Michael.”
“I love you more, Diana.”

Michael slowly removed my dress as well as his own clothing and placed them on his hardwood floor beside his bed. Feeling his supple, tender skin against mine made me yearn for him in desperation. Knowing we were pressed for time, Michael smiled and giggled under his breath as he closed his eyes and made his way into my now completely saturated frame.

“Oh god…” He whispered as he pushed deeper inside of me. “You still feel just as amazing as you did the first time we made love.”
“So do you. Keep going, baby. Harder.”

He linked his hands with mine as we both became one on top of his bed. My body quickly gave into every physical emotion as Michael moaned my name and kissed my upper body from my forehead to the bottom of my chest. As we both came close to finishing, Michael suddenly pulled out making me squirm in frustration.

“WHY DID YOU DO THAT?”

“I’m punishing you.”
“Oh, Michael that’s SO mean!”
“I know it is.”

I begged and pleaded for him to finish what he started but he refused saying he wanted to get back at me for saying I wouldn’t marry him right away.

“You know I was kidding!”
“Yes, so?”
“SO, PLEASE CONINTUE!”

Michael giggled as he made his way back inside. Every time I would reach my peak, Michael would deliberately pull himself out of me every single time making me growl and whimper in agony.

“PLEASEEEEEE don’t do that, Michael.”
“You’ll marry me?”
“YES!”

“Soon?”
“YES!”

“You promise?”
“YES! YES! YES!”

“Good girl.”

He gently placed two of his luscious fingers inside me making sure I was ‘ready’ for our big finish.

“I love your rain filled galaxy.” He said as he moved his fingers in circles. “You are so good to me, Diana.”
“You deserve it.” I said as my entire body tingled from the feel of Michael’s large and lovely fingers.

Knowing I was seconds away from climaxing, Michael quickly crawled inside of me again and nibbled on my right ear lobe making me scream against his mouth as he pressed it directly on top of mine.

“I want to do this again later tonight.” He said as he quickly pumped himself in and out of me.
“I do too.”
“I want to conceive so badly with you, Diana.”
“Me too. Over and over again.”

After a few seconds, Michael screeched in my ear telling me he was just about to finish. At the sound of the doorbell, Michael and I both came at the same time and exhaled deeply as he fell against me with clammy skin and wet hair.

“Thank you so much.” He said as he kissed my fully perspired lips. “You always give me so much pleasure.”
“You do the same for me, Michael. I love you.”
“I love you more.”

After a brief make out session, Michael helped me stand and said I could shower in his bathroom. A knock at his bedroom door from Kai saying his guest had arrived had Michael smiling as if he were a child opening presents on Christmas Eve. Michael thanked Kai without opening the door and politely asked her to keep the girls in the cottage house for now so they didn’t see his surprise visitor.

“I’ll be very quick.” I said kissing my future’s husband’s lips. “Will you stay here and wait for me?”
“I’ll go use the bathroom down the hall.” Michael explained as he put on a white cotton robe. “I’ll change in the other room as well. Come to the living room when you’re finished.”

I smiled and shook my head as I gathered mine and his clothes from the floor. Michael took his clothing and kneeled down in front of me kissing my tattoo with his quoted words under my chest.

“Thank you for always being so faithful to me.” He said as his eyes began to mist. “I will never let you get away again. I can’t wait to make you my wife, Diana.”
“Michael, that’s so sweet.” I said wiping his tears. “I can’t wait to make you my husband too.”

After a brief kiss, he quickly ran out of the room leaving me to freshen up. As I made my way to the bathroom, I jumped inside his white marble lined bathtub and turned on the gold plated faucet as each bead of water trickled down my body washing away any and all impurities embedded on my skin.

Michael wore his signature black pants, penny loafers and red shirt with a black armband after taking a quick shower. He ran his hands through his hair and placed a few curls to rest against the right side of his cherubic face. As he made his way downstairs, Michael noticed his guest had his back turned from the staircase. Wanting to surprise them, he quietly approached them from behind. To Michael’s surprise, his guest saw Michael’s reflection from a nearby window and quickly moved aside making the King of Pop hit his head against the main entrance door.

“HEY!” Michael yelled as he wiggled his nose. “That wasn’t funny.”
“You’re right – it was HILARIOUS!” His guest said as the two of them shared a loving hug.

“It’s good to see you again, Mike.”

“You too. Wait till you meet the girls!”
“GIRLS?”

“Calm down…” Michael said trying to remove thoughts of excitement from his guest’s head. “They are not your type.”
“And how do you know that?”
Well, first of all – one of them is engaged to ME. Secondly, one is married and the other is too old for you.”
“OOO AN OLDER CHICK? I LIKE!!”
“Stop it. You are way too young to be thinking and talking like that.”
“Yeah, yeah. So where are they?”
“I want to surprise them. Wait in my office. I’ll bring them to the living room then come and get you.”

Jasmine and Marie waited anxiously in the guest house pacing back and forth wondering who the surprise guest was and what was taking so long for them to be allowed back in the main house. Marie added a few strokes of pink to her cheeks with Jasmine’s makeup brush while Jasmine continued pacing trying to figure out who the surprise person was. A few seconds later, there was a knock at the cottage door.

“FINALLY!” Jasmine yelled as she ran for the door and saw Michael standing outside.

“Oh, it’s just you.” Both girls said feeling disappointed.

“Gee, thanks!”

“You know we love you, Michael.” Marie explained. “We’re just anxious to meet your guest!”
“He’s excited to meet you three too.”
“HE?” Jasmine asked.

“You’re MARRIED, tea flower.”
“Hey, a girl can be curious can’t she?”
“Not when you have a husband and son at home. Did you get a hold of them?”
“Yes. Little man was sad that he couldn’t be here. I told him I’ll bring him the next time we come back.”
“I can send Javon to pick them up.”
“I thought of that but David has to work tomorrow and I didn’t want to hassle your driver to drive an hour each way just to get the squirt. I’ll be sure to bring him on our next visit.”

“Enough chit chat!” Marie said as she dragged everyone outside of the cottage house. “Let’s go meet this guest of yours NOW!”

“Ok…” Michael said giggling. “You two look adorable. I love your fedora.”
“Thank you. My idol wears these too.”
“Does he?” Michael asked as if he didn’t know who his friend and fan was referring to.

“Yes. Mr. Chaplin was definitely a man of style.”
“HEY!” Michael yelled as he tickled his fiancé’s best friend. “I thought you were talking about ME!”

“I WAS, SILLY!” Jasmine replied tickling her Pop star friend back.
“You know how much we love and adore your style, Michael.”

He blushed and bit his bottom lip giggling to himself shyly.

“Thank you, girls.”

Michael’s guest waited patiently in his office as he gathered his three favorite women together in the living room. I felt extremely jittery about meeting this surprise guest. As the girls sat on the sofa next to me, Michael left to get his visitor and introduce them to his overnight patrons.

“Did he tell you who this person is?” Marie asked.

“Nope. You two?”
“Not a word.” Jasmine said.

“Please close your eyes, girls!” Michael yelled from the across the foyer.

We did as he asked and heard two sets of footprints approaching the living room. Marie squealed childishly and Jasmine tried her hardest not to open her eyes and peek at the mystery person. Michael then entered the room with his guest standing directly behind him.

“Open your eyes, girls.”

He stood at the living room doorway smiling brightly.

“I’d like you meet one of my dearest friends in the world…”

Michael stepped away from the doorframe revealing the person standing behind him.

“AAAAAAAAH!” Marie yelled as she put her hands on her cheeks imitating the famous actor’s iconic pose from his most popular movie.

“Like I haven’t seen that reaction before…” Michael’s guest said smiling and making his way towards us.

“MACAULAY CULKIN!!!” Jasmine yelled. “I am such a big fan! You are an amazing actor!”
“Thank you.” He said smiling humbly and shaking our hands.

“Mac, this is my fiancé Diana Dean.” Michael said standing next to me proudly.
“Whoa…” Mac said under his breath. “SHE’S with YOU?”
“What’s wrong with that?”
“She’s beautiful. What does she want with a bonehead like you?”
“HEY!” Marie yelled. “That’s not nice.”
“Marie is Michael’s biggest fan and defender. She will support him until her last breath so be careful what you say about him while in her presence.” Jasmine warned.
“One of the things I love most about her.” Michael said kissing his fan’s forehead.

“Seriously though, you are one lucky man.” Mac said playfully shoving his friend’s arm. “It’s very nice to finally meet you, Diana. Michael never used to shut up about you.”
“Mac…” Michael said trying his hide his rosy cheeks. “Don’t tell her that.”
“It’s TRUE!”

“Why don’t we all take a seat?” Jasmine said as she and Marie sat on the couch making room for the others.

Mac, Michael and I all sat next to each other with the girls on my right side. We couldn’t decide what to watch on TV so Michael suggested we play a game. Marie insisted on Monopoly, Jasmine wanted to play Scrabble and Mac wanted to play drawing charades. After arguing for more than ten minutes, I suggested we do everything since the night was young and none of us were tired. Michael asked Kai to bring his easel from his drawing room with a large pad of paper and helped her bring into the living room.

“Are you staying over?” Marie asked Mac as he helped set up the drawing board.

“I was asked to.”
“Yaay!” Jasmine yelled like a child. “We can have a slumber party!”
“We used to have those all the time, remember Mike?”
“Yes, those were the days…”

“Don’t worry.” I said placing my arm around my fiancé. “We can now create new memories like that.”
“I hope so.”

“We will. I promise.”

After three hours of playing board games, charades and a pillow fight, the girls were starting to get sleepy. Kai brought in blankets and pillows for all of us as we made ourselves comfortable on the living room floor. After Michael’s entire staff went to bed, Kai said we’d all have to be up early since she and the other chefs were planning on making a special breakfast for everyone. Jasmine called the boys to wish them goodnight and Marie could not take her eyes off Mac. For some reason, it seemed like the two of them were getting a little too ‘friendly’ with each other making me feel overly suspicious of him.

“I guess it’s time to turn in.” Michael said eyeing me as if he couldn’t wait to get me in his bed again.
“I agree.”

“I’m not tired yet.” Marie said.
“Me neither.” Mac said. “Is it ok if we take a walk around the park?”
“Sure.” Michael said. “Just don’t go near the sanctuary.”

“Well, I’m beat.” Jasmine said stretching her arms. “I’ll see you in the guest house, Marie. Goodnight all.”

Michael walked her to the front door and waited until she arrived at the cottage house. The thought of his friend being alone with Marie made him uncomfortable. Michael asked me to wait for him upstairs while he had a quick chat with his friend alone. Marie ran to the cottage house to grab a sweater and told Mac she’d meet him outside the front door. As I made my way up the stairs, I wished Marie and the young movie star goodnight and went to Michael’s room to change and lie down.

“Behave.” Michael said to Mac as he waited for Marie to come back. “She is too old for you.”
“Age is just a number, Mike.”
“Not when you’re 17 and she’s 30.”
“I’m not into her that way. She just seems really cool.”

“She is, but she’s also a bit vulnerable right now.”

“How so?”

Michael explained Marie’s brief friendship with Gerwin and his involvement with Lisa Marie’s sabotage in Germany. Mac insisted that he only wanted to be friends with Marie and the Pop star had nothing to worry about. Putting his trust in his young friend, Michael believed him and waited until Marie returned with her sweater and camera. She politely asked Michael to take a picture of the two and he happily agreed. Mac then took a picture of his new friend and Michael together and everyone agreed to take a group photo in the morning.

“I need to get upstairs. My fiancé is waiting for me.”

“Goodnight, Michael.” Marie said hugging her idol. “Thank you for letting all of us stay here.”
“It’s my pleasure. Don’t forget we have to be up early. Enjoy your evening.”

Mac shook his head and the two of them left for their walk. Michael observed them as they walked down the stone lined path towards the amusement park and smiled to himself thinking how Mac would make a great friend to Marie. Being the only single one and previously having her heart broken, Michael knew Mac’s sincerity, sense of humor and wonderful personality would make his favorite fan forget about what happened in Europe. He also hoped in that moment the two of them could stay friends for a long time. Especially since Marie was a fan of Mac’s movies and both were born and raised in New York. When the two of them were no longer visible, Michael quickly ran to the cottage house to check on Jasmine making sure she was okay and comfortable before walking back to the main house and into his master bedroom to be with his future wife. As he entered his room, Michael noticed his bride to be lying on his bed reading his book titled ‘Dancing the Dream.’ He giggled and blushed as he quickly changed into his sleepwear and joined his fiancé in his beautiful sleigh bed.

“Michael, your poems are beautiful.”
“Thank you.”
“I love how you always think positively about everything and never stop wanting to help others.”

“It’s our job, Diana. The world needs to be loved. Without it, there is nothing to appreciate.”
“Very true.”

I then placed his book carefully on his night stand near the bed. Michael noticed my bare arms as I reached over and realized I wasn’t wearing anything under his blanket. He giggled like a child as he ran his large, soft hands up and down my entire nude body. He bit his lip gently and kissed my neck working his way down to my chest and placing his entire mouth around my navel.

“You are so sexy…” He whispered between butterfly kisses. “I love the way you taste and feel…”

As he kissed my entire torso, Michael pushed his mouth slightly against my lower half then gasped as he placed his hands on my stomach.

“What is it?” I asked with confusion in my tone.
“Diana…your body feels different.”
“What do you mean?”
“Right here…” He gently pressed down on my stomach. “I’ve never felt this before. Not even earlier today.”

“Do you think I’ve gained weight?”

“I think you have.”
“It must be from all the rich, delicious food and pastries we ate in Europe.”

Michael laughed remembering the huge cuisines we devoured throughout the entire HIStory tour.

“But you don’t look like you’ve gained. I think it might be something else.”
“I haven’t noticed and the girls didn’t say anything either. I’ll visit my doctor next week.”
“Does anything hurt?”

“No. I feel fine. Let’s forget about it for now. Please continue what you were doing.”

“Diana, I’m really concerned.”
“Don’t be, Michael. I’m fine.”
“But what if—“
“SHHH! Don’t stop what you were doing. It felt amazing. Please continue.”

He still hesitated and could not shake his feeling of worry. I did my best to assure him I was alright but he was convinced something was happening to me without my knowledge. I knew the best thing to do would be to distract him in a way that would stimulate his mind as well as his desirable body.

“Come here, baby.” I said as I pulled him on top of me. “Nothing is wrong with me. If it was something serious I’d feel the effects of it. I don’t feel any pain and I’m almost certain it’s just my body feeling bloated from the long flight and all of the food we ate during the past five months.”

“I hope you’re right.”
“I know I am. Please don’t worry about it.”

I reached down and gently squeezed his firm manhood. Michael heaved against my mouth and kissed it wanting me to go further. As I continued stroking him, his grunts and moans were echoing constantly in my ears. I quickly guided him into me placing his hands on my hips and helping him bury himself deeper inside me making me scream and beg for more.

“This is so beautiful.” Marie said as she and Mac walked along the stone lined path towards the large carousel. “I can’t wait to see this tomorrow when it’s on and working.”
“It’s so much fun.” Mac said. “I used to go on this ride all the time when I first started coming here.”
“How did you and Michael meet?”
“His people got in touch with mine when he in the beginning stages of filming Black or White. I was so excited that he wanted to be friends with me. His agent offered me a half a million dollars to be in that video but I turned him down. I didn’t care about the money – I just wanted to meet Michael. It all felt so surreal back then.”
“I bet. I remember when we first heard from him too. It was a dream come true. I’ll never forget it.”
“Mike’s a special guy and he makes everyone around him feel special too.”

“Indeed.”

The two of them continued walking around the fun filled grounds admiring the beautiful water fountains, bronze plated statues, perfectly cut and shaped trees and the large floral clock near the center point of the property. Marie couldn’t stop clicking her camera as she glanced at every attraction before her eyes with complete amazement. Mac explained the history behind Neverland to Marie saying he purchased the property from golf course entrepreneur William Bone in 1988. After taking dozens of photos, Marie and Mac switched positions as they both took photos of each other at every corner they went to.

“That large lawn down there is where Mike and I used to have water fights five years ago.” Mac said pointing to a large patch of greenery in the distance.

“Don’t you wish you could go back and relive those precious moments again?”
“All the time. But things happen for a reason like in the story of Peter Pan when those kids returned home to their parents and grew up. The moral of the story is that growth is inevitable. Everyone has to move on and face reality eventually. I think that’s one thing Michael has a tough time dealing with.”
“Growing up?” Marie asked.

“Yeah. He still acts like a child majority of the time because he says he will never accept the fact that he’s an adult. I guess when you’re raised the way he was you become disturbed by the things you never had.”
“A childhood?”
“Exactly.”

The two of them sat under a large tree and watched the stars shining above them. Marie curled herself into a ball and asked if she could place her head on Mac’s shoulder. Without answering, he gently pushed her towards him and rested her head against him. They sat there for the longest time talking about so many different subjects. In Mac’s eyes, Marie was definitely friend material and he was happy to be with her in that moment.

“That felt amazing.” I said as Michael plopped his exhausted body on top of mine. “Thank you.”
“My pleasure.” Michael said taking deep breaths. “I’m going to shower now.”
“I’ll join you.”
“That could be dangerous.”
“Third time’s a charm, Mr. Jackson.”
“Someone is very procreative today.” He said helping me up from the bed.

“I just love being with you.”
“Me too.”
“So, what do you say?”

“Diana, I don’t think we should be so extreme until you know for sure that you’re alright.”
“There you go worrying about me again.”
“I have to. I want my wife to be healthy.”
“I am, Michael. Believe me.”
“There’s nothing wrong with being careful.”
“You’re right. We’ll stop then…for now.”

He giggled and kissed my forehead as he made his way into the bathroom. I put on Michael’s white robe as I waited for him to finish showering. I opened the door to his multi shelved, mirror lined walk in closet and stood in the middle of the room admiring all of his neatly organized, musky scented clothing. I ran my hands over each garment and couldn’t help but cry tears of happiness seeing his sparkly gloves, penny loafers and stripe lined pants. My tears instantly disappeared after seeing all of Michael’s shirts and formal blazers hung in order of color with each of their armband facing outwards.

Once Michael turned off the shower, I stepped out of his closet and closed the door making my way towards his large dresser near the bedroom door. I pulled out a casual, white shirt and placed it against a nearby chair waiting for my future husband to come out of the bathroom. As he opened the door, I immediately felt aroused seeing beads of water trickling down his celestial face and godly like raven dark hair.

“What?” He asked as I walked towards him.
“You are so unbelievably sexy.”
“Stop it.”
“I’m serious. I want you NOW.”
“I just took a shower, Diana.”
“I haven’t yet.”

“I know, but—“
“Shut up and do me, Moonwalker.”

Without answering, Michael smiled and attempted to carry me towards his giant marble lined bathtub. Eager to feel my physical craving for him, he slipped his right hand underneath my robe desperately wanting to tease my most sensitive area. Surprisingly, Michael felt an unfamiliar residue on his fingers and screamed as he showed me his red stained hand.