**Chapter Six**

*Having Some Frightful Fun*

“You must be mistaken.” Michael said. “Diana doesn’t know this person.”
Mr. Jackson, it’s not my place to get involved in your personal life. However, it is only fair I warn you that Mr. Garivey has been keeping tabs on your fiancé since the launch of her business.”
“Thank you for informing me.” Michael said as he walked towards the conference door. “Have a good day, Mr. Ellis.”
“You as well, Mr. Jackson. See you in 30 days.”

“Michael is going to love this!” Mac said as he and the gang decorated the entire main house. “I know he will freak out when he walks through the surprise traps I’ve set up around the house.”
“I guess starring in Home Alone came in handy for you.” Jasmine said as she and Marie hung a string of bats across the living room fireplace.

“That was definitely a fun project.”
“Will there be a part 3?” I asked taping pumpkins and witches to the walls and windows.

“Yes but I won’t be in it.”
“How does that work?” Marie asked. “You’re the reason that movie became a hit.”

Mac smiled and blushed.

“Thank you but I didn’t want to be a part of it anymore so I turned it down. The part went to Alex Linz and it’s being released in December like the first two were for Christmas.”

“Well, it won’t be the same without you!” Kai said as she entered the living room with huge bags of candy. “Here are the treats for the goody bags. DON’T eat them all yourself!”

As soon as Kai turned her back, I grabbed a small Kit Kat bar and opened it.

“HEY!” Jasmine yelled.

“I’m an exception!” I explained. “I’m eating for two now.”
“Or three.” Marie said gently poking my stomach.

“OH MY GOD! AM I THAT HUGE?”

“NO!!” Everyone yelled in unison. “It was a joke, Ana.”

“You have the pregnancy glow, Ms. Dean.” Beverly said as she made her way into the living room with a large punch bowl filled with juice and floating eyeballs.

“Thank you all so much. I’m just glad the wedding will take place AFTER she gets here.”
“Have you thought of a name?” Mac asked.

“Not really. We still have time. Any suggestions?”
“Jasmine!”
“Marie!”
“Beverly!”

“Kai!”

“I think little Jacksonella is going to have multiple names.” Mac said laughing.

“Jacksonella? That’s an interesting one.” Kai said.

“EW, NO WAY!” Marie yelled.

“That name sounds like food poisoning.” Jasmine said.
“That’s SALMONELLA!” Beverly said as she and the others burst out laughing.

“Goes to show how smart Jasmine is.” Mac said snickering.

“HEY!” Jasmine yelled. “I’m smarter than you!”
“Wanna bet?”
“Name your price, Culkin.”
“Let’s play who knows Michael.”
“I’ll kick both of your asses!” Marie said proudly.

“We’ll see.” Mac said.

“You’re on!” Jasmine yelled.

“You all don’t stand a chance.” Kai said. “I’m his personal chef.”
“I’m his maid.” Beverly said. “Count me in too.”
“None of you will beat me!” I said sitting on the couch joining the others.

Marie and Jasmine laughed so hard they almost fell over.

“What’s so funny?”
“Ana, you always HATED Michael.”
“I DID NOT!”
“Oh really?” Marie said eyeing Jasmine cleverly.

The two of them started to imitate my past behavior about my future husband.

“He’s gay!”
“He’s weird!”
“He looks and sounds like a girl!”
“He’s so overrated.”

“What do you all see in him?”
“I’ve heard better!”

“Sliding across a floor isn’t dancing!”

“Whoa.” Mac said. “You really hated him THAT much?”
“NO!”

“YES!” Jasmine and Marie yelled in unison. “Ana was never Michael’s fan. It wasn’t until that day at the museum that her feelings changed within seconds of seeing him in person.”
“Museum?” Mac asked.

“You don’t know how they met?” Jasmine asked.
“Nope. Mike never told me.”
“IT’S TIME TO PLAY THE GAME NOW!” I said trying to change the subject.

“NO WAY.” Marie said. “Let me break it down for him…”

I rolled my eyes and blushed as Jasmine and Marie explained mine and Michael’s love story to the young actor. Mac ooed and aahed as the girls explained everything from Michael’s first eye contact with me to our reunion five years later at TSG. Bev and Kai swooned and listened attentively to every word the girls were saying not wanting to miss a thing as they didn’t leave out a single detail.

“That’s SO romantic!” Bev said melting like wax.

“I agree. Mr. Jackson never told us about any of this!” Kai said.

“He’s a gentleman.” Marie explained. “Michael doesn’t like to talk openly about certain things.”
“She’s right.” I said. “I think he enjoys being a bit reclusive that way.”
“He’s always been like that.” Mac explained. “Mike has always been a man of few words and never really liked talking about his personal life but he never stops learning and never stops loving.”
“I agree.” Kai said. “Michael’s a very special soul. You must’ve had a spark in you that day at the museum, Ms. Dean.”
“Thank you but I don’t know what it was that attracted us to each other. All I remember is turning around and seeing him before my eyes and I was never the same after that.”

Just then, Michael burst through the main door.

“Diana, I need to talk to you upstairs, NOW!” Michael yelled as he marched up the grand staircase.

“Whoa.” Marie said. “He’s pissed.”
“I know. I’ll be back. STAY AWAY FROM OUR DOOR!”

“Darn!” Jasmine said.

“You’re married. Why are you such a perv?” Mac asked.

“Please let me know when you find out.” I said as I left the room.

“I’m not a perv! I just love romance.”
“Stop lying, Jas.” Marie said. “You’re a perv.”

I went upstairs to Michael’s bedroom and closed the door. His back was turned as he stood in front of his large white paneled bay window overlooking the snowcapped mountains and icy blue waters. I walked towards him and slipped my arm on his chest. His heartbeat was rapid and his breathing was staggered. I gently kissed his cheek and noticed his skin was warm. I realized in that moment that Michael was furious.

“What’s wrong baby?”

Silence.

“Michael…what is it?”

Silence.

“Did you have a bad day in court?”

A large vein appeared in Michael’s neck. I placed my hand over it and tried kissing him but he pulled away and tried to regain his composure. Michael’s temper was not something he showed often but when he did it was most likely because something very serious offended him.

“Diana…” He said turning around and facing me. “You know I don’t like secrets.”
“Michael, I’ve been trying to tell you—“
“I told you a long time ago I hate dishonesty.”
“I know that.”
“If you know then why did you lie to me?”
“LIE to you? When? How?”

“DON’T PLAY DUMB WITH ME!” He yelled making me cover my ears.

“Why are you shouting at me?”
“This is me being calm! Did you really think I wasn’t going to find out?”
“FIND OUT WHAT?”

“WHO IS CAMERON GARIVEY?”

I gasped.

“What? How did you even--”

“ANSWER ME.”

“Please don’t raise your voice.”
“Who is he, Diana?”
“The President and CEO of Capital Records.”
“That’s not what I meant – why did you meet him behind my back?”
“How do you know about this?”
“ANSWER ME.”

I sighed as Michael looked me in the eye with intense anger and fury. Once again, Jasmine was right – keeping Cameron a secret from Michael was definitely not a good idea.

“Baby, it’s not what you think.”
“Why did you see him, Diana?”
“It was his idea.”
“When did you see him?”
“The day after we came back from South Africa.”
“So this guy has been in the picture behind my back for almost a month?”
“NO, Michael. I only met him once.”
“How did he get in touch with you?”

“Erica.”
“Who?”
“The girl I introduced you to in Europe.”
“The fan?”
“She’s no fan, Michael.”
“She was Cameron’s ploy to get closer to you?”
“Exactly.”

Michael turned around and hit his bay window with his fist. Not wanting him to cause an injury, I took his hand away and kissed it linking his fingers with mine.

“Baby, don’t do that please. You will hurt yourself like you did in Europe.”
“What else happened with him?”
“He sent Erica overseas to trap me then left a phone message at our hotel that Marie gave me on the plane. Jasmine was the only one who had heard of him before and she told me he was this big shot CEO of Capital and that I should stay away from him.”
“Why didn’t you listen to her?”
“Because I thought he was just another whiny man angry at the fact that a woman was beating him at his own game. It wasn’t until I got to his office that I realized he had an ulterior motive in mind.”
“Why didn’t you tell me about him?”

“Michael, you know you had—“
“WHY, Diana?”
“Can you please stop cutting me off?
“Can you please stop hiding shit from me?”
“I wasn’t hiding this! I just didn’t want to cause you anymore stress.”
“You sneak around behind my back, arrange to see some guy who’s your career equal, don’t tell me about it and expect me not to be stressed? I had to run a trace on my phone records and found out from my legal representative about this guy wanting to see my future wife behind my back!”
“First of all – why did you trace your phone records?”

In that moment, Michael felt like a hypocrite. He too had been hiding something from his future wife and although he had the best intentions, he had no right to get angry at his fiancé for making the same mistake he did.

“I’ve been getting mysterious phone calls about you, Diana.”
“About ME?”

“Yes. Someone has been calling and warning me about you.”
“In what way?”
“Saying that you have a secret.”
“AND YOU’RE MAD AT ME FOR NOT TELLING YOU ABOUT CAMERON?”

“Diana, this is different.”
“HOW?”

“The calls were made directly to my home completely beyond my control. This guy came to YOU, you agreed to see him AND you did it behind my back.”

“Like you saw Lisa Marie behind mine in Europe?”
“Diana, that’s not the same thing and you know it.”
“How is it not?”
“I was trying to GET RID OF HER!”
“MICHAEL, THERE IS NOTHING GOING ON BETWEEN—“

A knock at the door from Mac and Marie made Michael scoff.

“Come in.” He said irritated.

“We’re sorry to interrupt but John and Waleed are here and they need to talk to you, Michael.”
“Please tell them to wait in my office.”

“Is everything ok?” Mac asked seeing the tension in his friend’s eyes.

“We’re fine.” I said. “We just need to be alone.”
“I’ll tell them.” Marie said as she closed the door.

“Michael, I’m sorry I didn’t tell you right away but you have to understand my reason was you.”
“How long have you been talking to this guy?”
“I only saw him that one time. He’s been wanting to merge Capital with TSG and I told him I’d review his financials and get back to him.”
“You’re taking his offer seriously?”
“I haven’t decided yet. With the baby and wedding coming up I don’t think it’s going to happen but Cameron doesn’t like taking no for an answer.”

Michael grew more and more frustrated about the fact that I didn’t tell him about Cameron in the beginning.

“How do you even know about him?”
“He’s associated with my legal mediator.”
“DOES CAMERON KNOW THAT?”

“Of course not. The phone records traced my mediator’s office number. I asked him about it and he told me about this guy and that you had recently gone to see him.”

“Michael, believe me. It wasn’t—“
“I also got a note from this guy taped to my front gate.”
“I know. I saw it on the table.”
“Why didn’t you say anything?”
“For the same reason you didn’t.”

Michael sighed as he turned around and faced his bay window again.

“Michael, I’m sorry. You know I wouldn’t do anything to hurt you on purpose.”
“Do you like this guy?”
“WHAT?”
“You heard me.”
“I can’t believe you’re asking me that.”
“Answer me, Diana.”

“OF COURSE NOT!”

“Why did you hide him from me then?”
“Are you serious? I told you I didn’t want to overwhelm you. I knew how upset you were about the arbitration.”

Michael then turned around and faced me pulling me closer towards him.

“No one else can ever have you, Diana.”
“Michael…”
“NO ONE.”
“I don’t want anyone else. You are my fiancé and the father of my child. Why would I want anyone else?”
“You’re mine, Diana. MINE.”

“Always.”
“Promise?”
“Yes, Michael. I promise.”

He then kissed me passionately placing his tongue in my mouth. In that moment, I sensed Michael’s jealousy and insecurity. I eased into his kiss and placed his right hand on my most sensitive area assuring him that no one else would ever be anywhere near there but him. He gasped gently into my mouth as I slipped his fingers through the small opening of my pants.

“It’s yours baby.”
“I want it now.”
“NO, Michael.”
“I’ll be quick.”
“I don’t want you to be.”
“Then I won’t be.”
“But, the guys are waiting for you—“
“They can keep waiting.” He said as he unbuttoned his shirt.

“I have to help the others decorate, Michael. We can’t just—“
“Diana, you think too much.”
“Please, not now. Go see Waleed and John first. I’ll meet you back here in an hour.”
“Really?” Michael asked smiling brightly.

“Yes. I’ll help decorate and come back.”
“I have the perfect idea.”
“And what might that be?”
“You’ll find out.” Michael replied biting his bottom lip. “It’s going to feel so good. I promise you.”

“I can’t wait to find out what you have in mind.”

“Everything ok?” Jasmine asked as I made my way into the living room.

“Yes, all is good. Did you start the game yet?”
“We were waiting for you.” Kai said. “We were thinking of making teams but Mac said it would be better if we didn’t have any help and played individually.”
“Get ready to lose!” Mac said.

“Bring it!” Jasmine replied.

Javon entered the room with six little jingle bells and gave each of us one.

“I’ll be the scorekeeper and assistant judge. When you think you have the right answer, you will shake your bell. Whoever shakes first gets the first chance to answer. If you’re wrong, it goes to the next person who rang and so on until the right answer is said.”
“How will we know who’s right?” Marie asked.

“I’ve known Michael all his life.” Katherine said as she entered the room. “I’ll definitely let you know.”

Everyone stood up and greeted the Jackson matriarch as she sat on Michael’s leather couch next to Javon. Michael had invited his mother to join in the festivities of the holiday. Because of her religious faith, Katherine politely informed us she would not be wearing a costume or handing out candies to children but would love to see the surprise traps, her son’s movies and everyone else’s costumes.

“Sit here, dear.” She said tapping the seat next to her.

I did what she asked and she lovingly touched my baby bump smiling proudly.

“How is she doing?”
“Just fine. Hasn’t kicked me yet.”
“Hopefully in a few weeks.”
“I can show you my sonogram.”
“I’d love that.”

As I stood up to go to Michael’s office, Katherine insisted she would get it for me. Given its private location, I convinced her it was no problem for me to get it myself and left the living room.

“Hurry back!” Mac said.

“Michael, I really think you should take the plea bargain.” Waleed said as he and John sat in his leather bound chairs. “It’s the best way for you to move past this.”
“He’s right.” John said. “I don’t think dragging something like this to court is a good idea.”
“I don’t want those two to walk away from this.” Michael said trying to stay calm. “I want to see them both behind bars. It’s time Lisa Marie realized she can’t pay her way out of her mistakes.”
“It’s really not my place to say this...” John said. “But with a baby and a wedding on the way, I really think you should re-consider your decision.”
“I agree.” Waleed said. “It may not be what you want, but it is what you and Diana NEED.”

“I’ll talk to her about this. She’s really happy about Halloween. I don’t want this to affect her mood today.”

“When is she due?” Waleed asked.

“In about five months.”

“We’re happy for you, Michael.” John said. “You’ve wanted this for so long and Diana is a great woman.”
“She is. I love her to death.”

Michael smiled as the three men discussed the final details of the HIStory tour. The Pop star remembered his fiancé telling him that the disclosure papers were placed inside his safe by Javon since he was the only other person with Michael’s combination. As he turned his chair to stand up, Michael realized he was stuck to his seat.

“What the heck?” He said to himself trying to stand up.

“What’s wrong?” John asked.

“I can’t get up.”
“What do you mean you can’t get up?” Waleed asked sounding confused.

“MAC!” Michael yelled realizing his friend super glued his behind to his office seat as a Halloween prank.

“Michael?” It’s me.” Diana said as she knocked on the door.

“OH GOD.” Michael said to the men in his office. “She can’t know I’m stuck.”
“How are you going to hide it?” John asked trying his hardest not to burst out laughing.

“I’ll think of something. Waleed, let her in please.”

The Arabian prince couldn’t help but snicker then burst into laughter as he saw his business partner trying his hardest to get up from his chair. John too couldn’t hold himself back any longer as he laughed and pointed at his client.

“LET HER IN!” Michael yelled wanting the two men to stop making fun of him.

They both cleared their throats and tried to be professional as Michael’s future wife entered the room.

“HEY!” Michael yelled trying not to sound obvious.

“Um, are you ok?” I asked.

“Yeah, of course. I’m great. What’s going on?”
“I was just wondering if you all signed the papers yet.”

“Nope. We seem to be a little stuck.” John said snickering.

“John…” Michael said.

“We’re in a bit of a sticky situation.” Waleed added between laughs.

“Is there something wrong with the disclosure?” I asked confused.

“No, not at all.” Michael said. “We were just about to review them.”

Something was definitely not right. Michael seemed tense and very uncomfortable and John and Waleed couldn’t stop themselves from giggling like little girls.

“What’s going on?”

“Nothing, Diana. What did you need?”
“The envelope with the disclosure papers.”
“For what?”
“You’ll see. Can you please open your safe?”
“Yes, Michael.” John said. “I have a conference in two hours and I’m really pressed for time. Can you please get them so we can all sign and arrange to have the funds released?”
“We wouldn’t want anyone to feel cemented in their seats.” Waleed said making John laugh and giving him a high five.

“Oh god.” Michael said. “Diana, can you please page Javon for me?”
“Why?”
“I can’t open my safe.”
“You forgot your combination?”
“Not exactly.” John said.

“He’s stuck.”
“On what?”
“His seat.” John and Waleed both said as they fell out of their chairs laughing on the office floor.

“WHAT?” I yelled.

“It’s true.” Michael said. “Mac put super glue on my office chair.”

In that moment, I too could not help but laugh hysterically.

“DIANA!”

“I’m sorry, baby.” I said between giggles. “I’m not laughing AT you.”
“YES, YOU ARE!”

“You have to admit, that was a really good prank.”
“I’m going to get him back.” Michael explained. “He does this to me all the time whenever he comes to Neverland. I should have known he’d pull something like this on me for Halloween.”

“It’s ok. I’m sure Bev can get you off that chair.”
“They’ll have to cut your pants off.” Waleed said regaining himself from the floor.

“MY PANTS? I CAN’T LOSE MY PANTS!”

“You won’t.” I explained. “He’s just making fun of you.”
“Really, Michael.” John explained. “I have to go across town for a very important meeting. I need to sign those papers now so that everything is done and finalized by this evening.”
“I’ll call Javon.” I said walking over to the desk phone.

“What is taking Diana so long?” Jasmine asked.

“I have no idea.” Marie said.

“I hope she isn’t stuck too.” Mac said under his breath.

“I’ll go check on her.” Katherine said.

“No, Mrs. Jackson.” Javon said. “He just paged me to his office. I’ll be back shortly.”

Mac then burst out laughing making the others look incredibly confused.

“HE FELL FOR IT!” He yelled.

“Who fell for what?” Kai asked.

Mac explained what he did to Michael’s chair and everyone charged out of the living room towards Michael’s study to see him stuck in his chair. Katherine laughed to herself and shook her head as she messed up Mac’s hair.

“Always the little prankster.” She said.

“Yes, ma’am.” Mac replied running out of the living room.

I opened the study door thinking Javon was coming and to my surprise, the entire gang including Kai and Bev burst through the door and laughed uncontrollably seeing the Pop star stuck to his expensive office chair. Michael had never been so embarrassed in his life. He shook his head and giggled looking directly at his teen friend.

“I’m going to get you back for this.”
“Remember what I told you before?” Mac asked. “YOU’RE the King of Pop. I’M the King of pranks!”

“Ok, ok.” I said trying to relieve everyone’s fun. “Enough is enough. Everyone out.”

Marie took a picture before leaving the room and the others got one more laugh in before leaving. Javon opened the safe and removed the envelope with the disclosure documents and handed it to his boss. Wanting him to see the surprise inside, I smiled brightly as Michael took the envelope from his driver and politely asked for privacy. Bev informed her boss that the only safe way to remove Michael from his chair would be to cut through his pants. Not wanting to ruin his chair or iconic clothing, Michael insisted on using another technique to get him off.

“We’ll figure that out later.” I said wanting him to see the sonogram. “Open the envelope, please.”

As soon as Michael opened the inner seal, he tilted the envelope sideways making the sonogram photo fall face down into his lap. As he placed the envelope on the table, he turned the picture over and looked at me with his eyes widened.

“Is this…” He asked.
“That’s your daughter, Michael.”

John and Waleed came over to Michael’s desk and saw the photo of our tiny life form. They both shook Michael’s hand and congratulated us. Once the documents were presented to everyone in the room, all terms and conditions were fully agreed upon and each contract was signed making the HIStory tour officially over and financially disclosed. Michael became emotional seeing his daughter’s photo and successful tour come to an end. I sat on his lap and held his hand informing him that while a previous chapter in his book of life was closing, another one was just beginning.

“I must go now.” John said handing the documents back to Michael and I. “I’ll see you all later.”
“Are you coming tonight, John?” I asked.

“I will do my best.”
“Me too.” Waleed said. “Much like a king, a prince’s responsibilities never end.”

Michael smiled and giggled to himself. He knew his business partner was referring to his “King of Pop” title.

“I hope you get off that chair safely.” John said as he and Waleed laughed one more time on their way out of the office.

“See you all tonight hopefully.” Waleed said.

As the two of them left, Michael leaned over his desk to page Beverly when I reached over and grabbed his arm linking it with mine.

“What are you doing?”
“Calling Bev to help me.”
“Not yet, baby.”

I started unbuttoning his shirt and kissing his collarbone.

“Diana, no, we can’t do it here.”
“And why not?”
“I’m stuck!”
“That’s what makes it exciting.”
“Are you serious?”
“Of course. You are submissive to me.”
“I like the way you think, girl.”
“I learn from the best.”

Michael watched closely moaning to himself as he watched me undress. I sat in his lap facing him and slowly unzipped his pants. To no surprise, he was already ‘very excited’ to have me so close to him. I rubbed his firmness making him squeal and feel even more helpless than he was. Wanting to move things along, I reached into his clothing and pulled out his hard wood running my hands up and down each section not leaving a single place untouched.

“Diana, you’re so amazing.” He whispered in my ear. “I’m crazy about you.”
“I know. Me too.”

“I love your new body shape.”
“Really?”

“Yes. Seeing my child grow inside of you makes me feel happy.”
“I’m glad. It should.”
“Come here, girl.”

He pulled me towards him and kissed me desperately aching to go further. I strapped myself onto him and pushed his body into mine as he held the edge of his desk grinding his hips against me.

“Oh shit.” He said under his breath. “I never thought making love to you on my office chair would feel so good.”
“I did.”
“Really?”
“Why do you think I came in here?”
“Diana…you really are a genius.”
“Just like my husband.”

He pushed deeper and deeper into me trying to pleasure himself as much as he could. Knowing he was stuck to the seat didn’t change Michael’s ‘performance’ in any way. He grabbed onto my waist and continued driving himself roughly inside my favorite spot making me scream and holler for more.

John and Waleed both left through the main gates of Neverland in their cars. Unknown to anyone, John accidentally picked up Diana’s sonogram photo from the desk that was wedged between the disclosure documents. As he entered his vehicle, the sonogram fell from its side and landed on the ground near the entrance gate. As John and Waleed made their way out towards the main road exiting the property, the watchmen signaled each other giving the ok to close the gate behind the two cars. Three of Michael’s guards watched closely as the gates closed completely making sure no one entered without permission.

An unknown intruder had been hiding near the property gates waiting patiently to enter unnoticed. As the sonogram photo fell to the ground, the intruder saw it and immediately took a picture of it as soon as both cars drove out of the main entrance. Not wanting to be seen or recognized, the intruder quickly left the property smiling to themselves as they ran towards their vehicle parked across from the enchanted home and drove away speeding.

“What is taking them so long this time?” Katherine asked.

“I have no idea but we’re starting the game without them!” Jasmine said.

“We can’t do that.” Kai said “I’m sure they are going over the tour details one more time.”

“If that’s what you think.” Mac said.

“What do you mean?”
“Michael and Diana…in the office…alone?”

“I’LL BE RIGHT BACK!” Jasmine yelled as she bolted out of the living room.

“That was incredible.” I said as I kissed Michael’s forehead and quickly put my clothes back on. “Thank you.”
“Thank YOU, Diana.”
“My pleasure.” I replied helping him with his pants and shirt. “Now let’s get you off that chair.”

“ANA! Are you in there?” Jasmine yelled as she knocked on the door.

“You’re too late.” Michael said giggling as I let her in the office.

“DARN!”
“Can you please get Bev” I asked. “I’m sure she’ll know how to get him off that chair.”
“I think he’ll need to be cut out.”
“WHAT?” Michael yelled.

“Stop it, Jas. Please go get her.”

Jasmine laughed as she left to bring Michael’s maid. I couldn’t help but giggle as I saw my future husband stuck to his office chair squirming and shifting in all directions.

“Bev to the rescue!” She said holding a large pair of fabric scissors.

“DON’T CUT MY PANTS OFF!” Michael yelled.

“Baby, there’s no other way.”
“NO! NO! These are my trademark. I can’t lose them.”
“Michael, you own 50 million pairs of pants like that.”
“I know, but these are one of my favorites.”
“Ms. Dean, you will have to cut him out.” Bev said handing me the scissors.

“CAN I WATCH?” Jasmine asked.

“NO!” I yelled. “You two can go now. I will handle this.”

“Hurry back.” Jasmine said. “We still have to play the game, finish decorating and get in our costumes.”
“I’ll be quick.”

Once Bev and Jasmine left, I walked towards Michael and placed the scissors against the fabric that was stuck to the chair. Michael flinched and closed his eyes worried that I would hurt him and his beloved pants. I explained to him that everything would be alright and there was no other way to get him off the chair. After cutting through the pant legs and seams, Michael was finally freed but also ‘pant less’.

“You look so funny.” I said trying not to laugh.

“I’m going to kill Mac.”

“He’s a genius for doing that.”

“Please get me another pair of pants, Diana.”

“I will. Stay here. Unless you want everyone to see you in your boxers.”

“I’m sure Jasmine will enjoy it.”
“MICHAEL!”
“I’m kidding. Please hurry.”
“Be right back.”

“Well, look who’s a free man again!” Mac said as Michael and I entered the room.

“That wasn’t funny.” Michael said as he greeted his mother and playfully shoved Mac’s arm in his new wardrobe.

“Ok, let’s play!” Kai said excitedly.

“Why are you all sitting in groups with bells?” Michael asked.

I explained the game to him and he was flattered to be the subject of our entertainment. Javon sat next to Katherine and a large pile of small, folded papers were on the coffee table. Michael’s easel was used as a scoreboard and the prize for the winner was to be chosen by none other than Michael himself and would be kept a surprise until we knew who the winner was. Since everyone assumed I would lose, the first question to be read out loud was given to me.

“What is Michael’s most favorite color?”

Thinking it was black, Michael’s mother shook her head and said black was ONE of his favorites, but not his most favorite. Marie then rang her bell first.

“RED!”

“She’s right.” Michael said.

“That’s a point for Marie!” Javon said writing a number one next to her name on the easel.

“Oh, come on.” Mac said. “There has to be tougher ones then that!”

“Don’t worry, there are.” Katherine said. “I’ve written some really difficult questions for you all.”

Michael blushed and giggled to himself. He always wanted his living room full of guests enjoying themselves in his home. His dream of having loved ones near him was finally starting to come true and he couldn’t have been more grateful. In that moment, he closed his eyes and prayed that nothing and no would ever try to destroy his happiness ever again.

“Garivey.”
“Cam, it’s Jon. I got something for you.”
“Send it over.”
“I need to make sure it gets hand delivered. I’m sending one of my reporters to your office right now.”
“Perfect.”

“Mr. Garivey? Your 3pm appointment has arrived.” Erica said from her desk intercom.

“Take them to the board room, please.”

Cameron stood up from his office desk and stared outside his bay window. His ideas were not going according to plan and he needed another person to help take down the King of Pop and his future plans to be with Diana. He sighed in frustration as he turned towards his desk, gathered several documents and walked out of his office towards his board room. Waiting for him was someone he knew would help make his plan a complete success. Someone who had nothing but revenge on their mind. Someone who would do anything to see Michael and Diana fall apart just as badly as Cameron wanted them to.

“Good afternoon, Mr. Garivey.”
“Good afternoon, Ms. Presley.”

“Looks like we have a three way tie!” Javon said. “Mac, Marie and Kai.”

“WOW.” Katherine said. “I had no idea you all knew my son so well.”
“Of course those three would win.” I explained. “You two have known Michael the longest not including Mrs. J and Marie has always been his fan since she was a baby.”
“Don’t hate.” Mac said. “Jealousy is an ugly look on you.”
“So is your face!”
“HEY!” Marie said. “Be nice to my friend.”
“That was cold, Diana.” Michael said trying not to laugh.
“He can take it.”
“You’re so mean!” Jasmine said.
“He started it!”

“I love you all so much.” Michael said smiling and trying to kill the tension. “The fact that you all know so much about me makes me feel loved and appreciated. Thank you.”
“What a way to kill the hostility, Mike.” Mac said.

“I just want everyone to love each other just like mother told us to.”
“You are so sappy!” Jasmine said. “But we love that about you.”

“ANYWAYS!” Marie said. “So what does the winner get?”
“What would you three like to have?”

While the three winners huddled and discussed suggestions for prizes, Mac genuinely thought he had hurt my feelings and apologized to me for his comment. I informed him it was not a big deal and also apologized. Knowing that pranks were part of Mac’s personality, I told him that I truly enjoyed his company and that he was always welcome to Neverland with his friends and family at any time. I also told him the super glue was a great prank and he smiled saying that was just the beginning of his traps. After coming to a decision, Marie announced a prize that would surely make everyone happy.

“Michael, the prize is for you to dance in front of everyone at tonight’s party.”
“Oh god…”
“Please, baby?” I whispered in his ear. “For cupcake?”

“That’s a wonderful prize.” Katherine said proudly. “I haven’t seen you moonwalk in a very long time.”

“Yeah, Mike. You lit up the stages in Europe. It’s now time to do it again in LA.” Mac said.

“Okay…” Michael said gently. “I’ll do it.”

“YAAY!” Jasmine yelled. “I have to run home and check on the men and make sure they’re ready for tonight. And I’ll be bringing the video camera too! See you all tonight in costumes!”

Michael walked his tea flower to the door and waved goodbye as she left.

“That game was really enjoyable.” Bev said. “I’m glad you made it out of your office chair safely, sir. Do I need to order a new one for you?”
“Yes, please.” Michael said. “Same style and charge it to Mac.”
“WHAT? That chair costs like a thousand dollars.”
“You’re right.” Michael said. “Order the latest edition and get two of them.”
“MIKE!”

They both threw the couch pillows at each other and everyone joined in for a massive pillow fight. Katherine stood from the couch and smiled as she picked up Marie’s camera from the coffee table and took pictures of her son’s euphoria and thanked God for the wonderful blessings bestowed upon her baby boy. She hoped nothing bad was lurking around the corner waiting to snatch away the happiness that she knew her seventh child deserved.

After turning the living room upside down, Marie looked at the time on her watch and realized there were only five hours left before the guests would be arriving for their party. Bev and all the other staff members helped clean up the living room while Mac and Marie made the goody bags and hung up the rest of the decorations around the entire house. Michael and I helped out in the kitchen. While everyone was tending to their duties, Bill marched into the main house looking terrified.

“SIR! I’m so glad you’re here.””
“What is it, Bill?” Michael asked as he ran towards us in the kitchen.

“I found this outside.” Bill said handing his boss a small square shaped paper. “It was on the ground near the main entrance gate. I have no idea how it got there.”

“MY SONOGRAM!” I yelled. “Thank you so much, Bill.”

He shook his head and informed us that he had all of the guards doing patrols and Javon immediately left to monitor the cameras. Michael wasn’t too worried since the photo was safely back in our hands and the world already knew about my pregnancy. As a precaution, Michael requested that all guards be on the lookout during tonight’s event and to make sure everyone dressed in costumes was thoroughly checked before entering his property. Bill shook his head in agreement and left to continue his safeguard duties.

“I’m going to put this back in the safe.” I said as Michael gave me the photo of our baby. “I don’t want this getting in the wrong hands.”
“But how did it get outside?” Michael asked.
“I think John may have accidentally taken it with the disclosure documents.”
“I hope you’re right.”

“Let’s not worry about it. What really matters is that we have it now.”

I showed the sonogram to Katherine and she was ecstatic. She kissed mine and Michael’s forehead and said she was more than happy for both of us. Michael then left to put the photo back in his safe. Once the house was fully decorated, Mac asked Michael when he returned to the living room if he could use his studio equipment to make a CD of scary sounds and effects to play in the main house. To no surprise, Michael said he invited a few guests of his own to celebrate Halloween at Neverland and one in particular would be more than delighted to help Mac with his creative idea. Mac and Michael then left to go to the studio where Michael said he would spend the next three hours perfecting his routine for his special Halloween dance prize while Marie, Kai and Bev left to get a few last minute treats and costume accessories.

With the entire house to myself, I reviewed all of Cameron’s financial documents one more time and came to a conclusion about the merge. I called his office to set up an appointment with him hoping my decision wouldn’t be one that I would regret. His secretary informed me Cameron was in a very important meeting and could not be interrupted. After leaving my cell number with his secretary, I hung up and turned on the TV hoping to see a holiday themed movie. The news of my pregnancy was still making headlines as well as Michael’s arbitration.

I shook my head in complete disgust seeing every news channel talk negatively about my fiancé. As I flipped through each channel, my cell phone suddenly rang. Thinking it was Cameron, I answered and gasped as I heard the one voice I was not expecting to hear.

“Diana, this is Joseph.”