Chapter Seven

*Partying, Pranks & Pampering*

**To my beloved readers:**

*This chapter is definitely out of the norm for me. I decided to add a new twist to make you smile and provide a little bit of insight as to what Halloween would have been like with Michael at Neverland. One of the surprise guests in this chapter was not alive during this time but I wrote them in to add some humor and excitement. I hope you all enjoy reading this as you experience something completely new and adventurous with the gang during this incredibly fun and festive holiday.* ☺

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“This is cool!” Mac said as he and Michael went to his dance studio in a golf cart several feet away from the main house. “I remember you using all of this equipment while you were creating Dangerous.”

“I can’t believe that was five years ago.” Michael said as he looked at his workroom lined with mirrored walls and laminated floors. “It’s good to be back in here again.”  
“Can we use the synthesizers?” Mac asked wanting to push the buttons on the audio panels.

“Not yet!” Michael said pushing his friend’s hand away. “We have to wait for someone.”   
“Who?”  
“You’ll see when he gets here.”

“How did you get my number?”  
“That’s not important.”

“What can I do for you, Joseph?”  
“You can stay the hell away from my son.”

I rolled my eyes trying my hardest to stay polite to my future father in law.

“I’ve told you before, I am not going anywhere unless your son is with me.”  
“I will die before I let you ruin his life any more than you already have.”

“The only person responsible for his ruin is YOU, Joseph.”  
“You really DO enjoy playing with fire, don’t you?”  
“It’s what I do best.”

Joseph grumbled angrily under his breath. His son’s fiancé clearly was not getting his message.

“My son will never marry a deceiving piece of trash.”  
“He did once before and learned his lesson. I am not what you think I am, Joseph. In time you will realize that.”

“That demon child you have growing inside of you will never see the light of day.”

“Michael will never allow you to harm me or his child.”  
“I will make you prove that it’s his if it’s the last thing I do, Diana.”  
“I look forward to passing every DNA test that you throw at me, Joseph.”  
“You are one smart mouthed bitch.”  
“That is a compliment coming from you. If you ever want to see your son again, do yourself a favor and don’t call me. I know Michael won’t hesitate to choose his new family over his sorry excuse for a father. Good bye, Joseph.”

“What can I do for you, Mr. Garivey?” Lisa asked as she sat across from Cameron at his large, glass conference table.

“Thank you for agreeing to meet with me, Ms. Presley. First I’d like to offer my deepest sympathy for the litigation that you are in with your ex-husband.”  
“What do you want?” The daughter of Elvis asked again.

“I’ll get right to it. Ms. Presley, your ex-husband is now engaged to a woman who is well above me in my own line of work. I need you to help me take her down.”  
“I’m not interested.”

“But you will be.”

Lisa Marie rolled her eyes and stood up wanting to leave the room but Cameron rose up and blocked the doorway making it impossible for her to leave.

“Ms. Presley, I suggest you hear me out before you decide to walk away.”  
“I’ve been through enough these past few months. I’m done playing games to win Michael’s heart. I suggest you get out of my way before I go through you.”  
“Mr. Jackson’s legal representative is an acquaintance of mine, Ms. Presley.”   
“And?”  
“There is more to Diana Dean than you think.”  
“I don’t care. You’re wasting my time.”

“I am prepared to offer you $5 million dollars for your assistance, Ms. Presley.”

Lisa Marie gasped. She knew money was no object for obvious reasons. As tempting as Cameron’s offer was, she still didn’t agree to help the CEO and asked him to move away from the door so she could leave. Thinking ahead, Cameron knew money might not speak loud enough to convince Lisa Marie to be on his side so he tried a different tactic hoping Michael’s ex-wife would change her mind.

“Ms. Presley, if you join forces with me, I guarantee you that I can clear yours and Mr. Vogel’s criminal records permanently.”

“And how can a CEO of a music company do that?”  
“As I mentioned before – Mr. Rick Ellis is a very good associate of mine. I will see to it that Mr. Jackson loses his own case and allows you both to walk away with a clean slate.”  
“And what exactly do you hope to gain out of all this?”  
“A chance to take what’s rightfully mine – Ms. Dean and her business.”

“Mr. Garivey, a reporter from the LA Times is here to see you.” An assistant said on the conference intercom.

“Send them to my office.” Cameron responded pressing a button on the wall near the entrance doors. “Please excuse me for a moment, Ms. Presley.”

Lisa Marie watched Cameron leave the room and sat down again at the conference table. She turned her head and glanced out of the oversized high rise windows tapping her fingers against the thick slab of beveled glass beneath her hands wondering if she should take another risk of getting back at Michael for everything she was going through. She knew her relationship with the King of Pop was over but that didn’t mean she could not seek revenge on the person he loved and cherished the most – his pregnant fiancé.

Cameron walked across the hall towards his office and pushed through his large double doors. Two reporters dressed in black suits and ties stood up from their chairs and shook hands with the handsome CEO before taking their seats again and waited for Cameron to speak.

“Do you two have what I need?” He asked raising his brow to the light and dark skinned men.

“It was very tough.” The light skinned man said. “His security is no joke. But we did manage to get a few photos.”

The dark skinned man removed several photographs from a large brown envelope and placed them on Cameron’s desk. As he examined each one carefully, the CEO scoffed as the photos were not interesting or important enough to use against Michael or Diana.

“What the hell am I supposed to do with these?” Cameron asked. “The whole world knows she’s pregnant with a girl and everyone knows Michael is the father.”  
“Like I said…” The light skinned reporter said. “We couldn’t get past security. There’s no way anyone can just walk through those gates of his without his patrolling officers knowing.”  
“THEN COME UP WITH SOMETHING ELSE!” Cameron yelled standing up from his chair. “I DIDN’T PAY YOUR EMPLOYER ALL THAT MONEY FOR A FEW PICTURES OF THAT WEIRDO AND HIS FIANCE’S SONOGRAM! GET ME SOMETHING ELSE BY TOMORROW!”

“Mr. Garivey—“  
“Good day, gentleman.”

Cameron walked out of his office and headed back to his boardroom. To his surprise, Lisa Marie was gone. Cameron then asked Erica where she went and Erica informed her boss that Lisa Marie said to tell him she was not interested in working with him. Frustrated, Cameron threw an office phone across the room and asked not to be disturbed for the rest of the day. He waited for Jon’s reporters to leave his building before going back to his office and sulking with his head down on his desk. His plans were slowly dissolving and he had no idea what else to do or say to turn things around in his favor.

Jasmine went home to make sure her favorite men were getting dressed for the big Halloween party at Neverland. To her surprise, she came home and found David dressed in his work uniform.

“David, don’t tell me you got called in today!”  
“I did, sweetie. I’m sorry.”  
“Where’s squirt?”  
“At my parent’s place. Since you wanted to surprise him about Neverland, I didn’t tell him that you were going to take him there and he got really excited to spend Halloween with the neighborhood kids at mom and dad’s.”  
“Darn. I guess it’ll be ok if he stays there then. How did he look in his costume?”  
“Take a look and see for yourself.”

David took several photos of his little man dressed in a Spiderman costume and showed it to his wife. Jasmine smiled brightly seeing her bundle of joy looking so festive. After seeing David off, Jasmine called her in laws saying she would pick up the little boy but they insisted on keeping him since he was having a blast eating candies and being around all of the other children in the neighborhood. David’s mother insisted the little boy spend the night at his grandparents’ house so that Jasmine could enjoy herself and not worry about her family. Knowing David would be okay with it, Jasmine took her mother in law up on her gracious offer and danced all the way to her bedroom wanting to put on her costume and head back to Michael’s home.

As she made her way inside her room, the door slammed shut behind her and a masked man grabbed Jasmine and covered her mouth so she wouldn’t scream. A knife was placed to her neck and all Jasmine could do was close her eyes and stay as calm as possible. A muffled voice came through the mask and directly into Jasmine’s ear making her entire body quiver with fear.

“How long are you going to keep doing it for her? That bitch’s secret is no longer a secret. You have been warned, Jasmine. Tell Michael the truth before the media does.”

The masked man then pushed Jasmine on top of her bed and ran out of the house leaving the door open behind him. Jasmine took deep breaths and held herself on her bed trying to absorb what had just happened to her. The man was right – Diana’s secret was no longer a secret. She needed to talk to her best friend. She needed to warn her. She needed the truth to set her free.

“Mr. Jackson, your two guests have arrived at the gate.” Javon said making his way into the studio.   
“Send them in please.”  
“Can I at least know who they are NOW?” Mac asked anxiously.

“You can wait two more minutes.” Michael replied as he checked all of the seats in the studio before sitting down.

“Being cautious this time?” Mac asked smirking.

“I have to be whenever you’re around.”

Mac giggled deviously.

“You won’t get me again, little boy.” Michael said sitting in his studio chair next to his audio soundboards. “I’m the one who taught you what you know.”  
“Right, Mike.” Mac said trying not to laugh.

Seconds later, the studio doors opened and Javon escorted Michael’s surprise guests inside his booth. Michael thanked his employee and politely asked him to turn the outside studio panel on informing everyone at the main house that he was now in studio mode and could not be disturbed.

“OH MY GOD!” Mac yelled seeing Michael’s guests.

“Well, well.” One of them said. “Little Kevin is all grown up now.”   
“He certainly is.” The other guest said.

“I can’t believe this.” Mac said. “You two—“  
“Mac…” Michael said. “Meet the other genius minds behind Thriller: Quincy Jones and Vincent Price.”

Mac shook their hands and tried his best not to act like a crazy, obsessed fan. He couldn’t believe he was standing in the same room as the original masters behind Michael’s success and creativity. He stood in the background and observed the three geniuses as they created a wonderful mixture of Halloween themed music to play at their upcoming party. Michael asked Mac to join them and all four came up with a wonderfully completed CD of brilliant ideas and clever ways to scare all of the guests by coming up with an assortment of realistic sounds and eerie backgrounds guaranteed to frighten everyone at the magical estate Michael called Neverland.

“Well, that was fun!” Marie said as she and the others walked inside the main house. “We’ve been living in LA for five years and I never noticed so many people dressing up in public on this day before!”  
“This is Santa Barbara.” I explained as I made my way into the foyer from the kitchen. “It’s not the same as our area.”

“Where is the man of the house?” Kai asked helping Bev with her bags of treats and more decorations.

“In the studio. The lights are on so he can’t be bothered.”  
“Unless it’s you I’m sure.” Bev said smirking.

“How are you feeling Diana?” Katherine asked making her way down the grand staircase from Michael’s room.

“I’m fine, Mrs. J. Did you have a good nap?”  
“Yes. Michael’s home is always peaceful enough to sleep for weeks at a time.”  
“Very true.”

“Ms. Dean?” Bill said coming into the main house from outside. “It’s ready.”  
“Thank you, Bill.” I replied as he left the house to continue his patrols.   
“What’s ready?” Bev asked.

“My surprise for Michael.”  
“OO what is it?” Marie asked.

“You all have to wait and see.”

“It’s time for Mr. Jackson’s protein smoothie.” Kai said picking up her bags. “I’ll be in the kitchen preparing snacks for everyone if you all need me.”  
“Has Mac eaten yet?” Marie asked.   
“Concerned about little Kevin, are we?” Bev teased making Marie blush.   
“Noooo…”She replied hiding her face in her hands.   
“Marie, you are so cute.” I replied.

“I’ll have some snacks ready for you all in just a little while.” Kai explained. “My special Halloween feast will blow you away.” She said as she headed straight to the kitchen to assist the chefs.

“Why don’t I help with the decorations?” Katherine asked shocking all of us.

“Are you sure, Mrs. J? Marie asked.   
“Of course.” She replied. “They’re just decorations. I’m sure my son will be happy to know I made a little effort to help celebrate this day with his new family and friends.”  
“You’re the best.” I said hugging my future mother in law. “I can’t wait to be a part of your family.”

“I can’t wait for that day either, dear.” She said kissing my forehead.

“Well, looks like our job here is done.” Vincent said taking off his headphones. “What do you all think?”  
“I love it!” Mac said.   
“Me too.” Quincy replied.   
“Then it’s set.” Michael said. “I like it too.”

Everyone looked at Michael as if they had just seen a ghost.

“YOU like it?” Everyone asked in unison.

“Yes. Why?”  
“Mike, you NEVER like anything!” Quincy said.   
“That’s not true!”  
“PFFFT!” Mac said. “How many times did you record Billie Jean before you were actually satisfied with it, Mike?”

“ONE!”

“That’s because I gave him a cardboard pipe to sing through.” Quincy said.   
“You sang Billie Jean in one take through a pipe?” Vincent asked amazed.

“Yes. I wanted to alter my vocals to match the bass line that worked well with the tempo.”  
“In other words, he wanted to sound different.” Quincy said smiling.

“I never knew about that.” Mac said. “And how many takes was Thriller?”  
“Oh Lord…” Quincy said rolling his eyes.   
“OOOOKAY…” Vincent said. “That’s enough for today!”

Michael giggled.   
  
“Am I really that difficult to work with?” He asked sweetly.   
“YOU? DIFFICULT? NAAAAH!” Quincy said sounding as sarcastic as possible. “You’re just Michael Jackson. The obsessive, compulsive perfectionist who loves to drive everyone crazy.”

Mac laughed as Michael playfully shoved each of his friend’s arms.

“We’re all one big family when it comes to that album.” Michael explained. “I never would have become who I am today if it wasn’t for you two.”   
“Yeah, yeah cut the lovey dovey stuff.” Vincent said. “We know you’re too humble to take most of the credit, even though you deserve it.”  
“AHEM. So do I.” Quincy said.

“Oh yeah, you’re alright, Q.” Vincent said jokingly.

“I need to rehearse my routine now.” Michael said. “I’ll be in the dance studio for the next few hours.”   
“Hours?” Quincy asked. “Mike, you really don’t need to--  
“Yes, I do.” Michael said. “I haven’t danced since my last concert in Durban two weeks ago. I’m out of shape.”

“The only thing you’re out of is your damn mind!” Vincent said. “You’re in the best shape of your life and it’s all because of that fiancé of yours.”  
“I agree.” Mac said. “You’re looking and feeling really good these days.”

“Alright, enough with the compliments.” Quincy said. “The man needs to perfect his perfection.”  
“I hope you two brought costumes.” Mac said to the two gentlemen.

“Costumes?” They both asked looking at each other.

“For the party!”   
“We didn’t know we had to dress up!” Vincent said.   
“It’s a HALLOWEEN party!” Michael replied,   
“WE KNOW!” They both said laughing. “We’ll be ready. You just make sure you are.”  
“The only way for me to be is if you all leave me to my work.”

“We’ll be in the main house, Mike.” Vincent said. “I can’t wait to meet the lady in your life.”  
“She’s wonderful.” Mac said. “Her friends are great too. I still don’t know what she sees in Applehead over here.”

“Hey!” Michael said shyly. “I’m not that bad, am I?”  
“No, you’re worse.” Quincy joked. “Just kidding. See you in the house later.”

As everyone stood up to leave the studio, Michael suddenly felt a cold sensation. He looked down and gasped loudly seeing a large rubber spider on the back of his hand.

“MAC!”

“Gotcha!” He said as he darted out the door with Michael charging after him.

“Um, what do we do now?” Vincent asked.   
“I say we go meet Diana.” Quincy replied as they both chuckled and followed Mac and Michael outside.

Jasmine arrived back at Neverland with her costume and accessories in her bag. She had no idea how to tell Diana about the mystery person who held her at knife point at her house but knew she had to be informed. As she made her way into the main house, her feelings of anxiety immediately turned to happiness once she laid eyes on the two new faces sitting in the living room with the rest of the gang.

“This is Jasmine.” I said introducing her to Quincy and Vincent. “My other best friend, right hand and business assistant. I’m sure she knows who you two are.”  
“I am so honored to meet you both.” Jasmine said shaking both men’s hands. “I can’t believe you’re really here.”  
“We get that a lot.” Quincy joked.

Kai came into the living room and said snacks were being served in the dining area. The entire gang headed towards the grand table and Jasmine pulled my arm saying she needed to talk to me. Once everyone left the living room, Jasmine explained the knife point incident and warned me that things could get more serious and someone could possibly go after Marie next seeing as Michael and Jasmine had now been affected. I asked Jasmine if her family would be joining us and she mentioned David having to work. Without him, telling Michael my secret would be pointless. Jasmine and I both agreed to set a time to tell both Michael and Marie the truth once Mac and the other guests left Neverland. Jasmine also said she would inform her husband about the situation and come to an agreement as to when the best time would be to reveal the truth.

“I’m sorry, Jas.” I said hugging her. “I’m so relieved to know that you weren’t badly hurt.”  
“It’s ok.” Jasmine said. “I’m just glad the guys weren’t there when it happened. David would have gone through the roof and I wouldn’t want little man to see something like that happening at his age.”  
“I know. How did he even get in?”  
“I have no idea. But once I tell David he’ll definitely be calling the alarm company. But let’s forget about that for now and focus on tonight’s party. Do you have the guest list confirmed?”  
“Yes. Can you please go with Javon to the airport?”  
“Sure. What for?”  
“To pick up my surprise guest.”  
“They’re flying here?”  
“They most certainly are.”

“You’re not going to tell me who it is, are you?”  
“NOPE. Their flights lands in an hour. See you back here by five.”

“You’re so good to him, Diana.”  
“I’m trying to be.”  
“You two deserve each other.”  
“Thanks, Jas.”

“Your reporters are useless.” Cameron said as he barged into Jon’s office. “What am I supposed to do with her sonogram and a picture of that freak with his arm wrapped around her?”  
“Cam, I tried to tell you…” Jon explained. “Michael Jackson isn’t someone you can easily get access to.”  
“I DON’T CARE!” Cameron yelled pounding his fists into Jon’s office desk. “I paid you a lot of money to do a job and I expect that job to be done. I don’t care how, I don’t care who, GET ME SOMETHING GOOD ON HIM.”  
“Cam, you’re starting to scare me. Why are you so persistent on destroying him?”  
“Because I want something he has.”  
“You really think you can get it this way?”  
“There is NO OTHER WAY for me to get it, Jon.”

Jon stood up from his chair and walked over to Cameron. He put his hand on his shoulder trying his hardest to comfort his associate.

“Cam, I’ve known you for a very long time. You have never been so spiteful in your entire life. What you’re doing and feeling is very unhealthy. Why don’t you just accept the fact that Diana—“  
“NO!” Cameron yelled shoving Jon into the wall behind him. “I WILL NEVER ACCEPT DEFEAT! I was the top CEO in music history until she came around. Not only do I want to take her down but I will not allow her to marry some freak who can’t do anything for her but slide across a damn floor. She deserves to be with ME and WE deserve to be happy together by combining our business and being one big profitable family. I will NOT let her take that away from me, especially since I’ve worked so damn hard to be who and where I am today. Your reporters are shit. You have 24 hours to return my money or I will see to it that you never work for any newspaper on this entire planet ever again!”

Cameron then let go of Jon and dropped him to the floor. He then bolted out of Jon’s office slamming the door behind him. Jon held his neck for dear life and coughed excessively trying to regain his strength. He had never seen Cameron behave in such a way before. In that moment, he sighed deeply to himself and closed his eyes hoping that whatever the CEO was planning would fall through – for his sake and for Michael and Diana’s.

**LATER THAT EVENING**

In just a matter of hours, Michael’s beloved home went from “Neverland” to “Spookyland.” Diana had put together a guest list with several dozen children from a few local schools, hospitals and orphanages to gather and enjoy themselves at the amusement park, movie theatre and certain areas of the zoo. Michael’s “Thriller” and “Ghosts” short films were playing on repeat in the theatre in between cartoons and each section of the main house was filled with scary ghosts, goblins, ghouls, spider webs and witches. Lifelike corpses were laid out on each floor of the house and on the couches in the living room. Every window in the house looked broken and dramatic, eerie sounds and door creaks were heard throughout the entire house from Michael’s surround sound system with the CD playing that the four geniuses created in Michael’s studio earlier. Lastly, Michael’s dance floor where he would be performing was also set up in a spectacular way guaranteed to wow everyone who saw it.

As the young guests started to arrive, Javon made sure the children were protected at all times and patrols were done by more than 50 security guards across the entire ranch. The holiday feast was being plated onto dishware and the large punchbowl filled with edible eyeballs was a big scream with the adults. It was definitely Halloween at Neverland and not one person needed to be reminded of it. As the gang announced their entrance into the living room, Katherine smiled and admired everyone’s creativity as she sat on the couch eager to see their frightening styles.

“WOW!” Katherine said to Marie as she entered the room wearing a witch’s costume. “You look bewitching!”  
“Thanks.” She replied. “Where’s everyone else?”

“I’m here!” Bev said coming into the room dressed as the grim reaper. “Pretty cool huh?”  
“Very griming.” Katherine joked.

“What about me?” Mac asked coming in wearing Michael’s red and black “Thriller” outfit complete with werewolf mask.

“That looks awfully familiar.” Katherine said smiling. “Michael will be so happy.”

“Thanks. I hope so. I wanted to remind him that he’s still the King of scare.”

“You definitely are thrilling.” Marie joked.   
“You look beautiful, Rie Rie.” Mac whispered kissing her cheek making Marie blush.   
“Thank you, Mr. Werewolf.”  
“Now is the time…for you and I to cuddle close together…” he sang in her ear as he gently grabbed her waist and hugged her lovingly.

“Happy Halloween!” Jasmine yelled walking in dressed as Edward Scissorhands.

“JAS!” Mac yelled. “Great costume! I love that movie!”

“Me too. You like?”  
“Yes!” Everyone said together.

“How did you get those blades on your hands, dear? Are they real?” Katherine asked looking completely stunned.

“It’s a secret.” Jasmine said. “I just hope I don’t have to go to the bathroom or scratch my nose.”

“If you do, I’ll be glad to help.” David said walking into the room dressed as Frankenstein.

“OH MY GOD! DAVID!” Jasmine yelled running into her husband’s arms. “I thought you had to work.”  
“Another one of my brilliant pranks!” Mac said. “Gotcha!”   
“How? When?” Jasmine asked running towards Mac and hugging him tightly.

“I asked Marie for your house number and David answered. I told him who I was and we both decided to trick you into believing he couldn’t be here and then surprise you by showing up.”  
“Mac, you’re so sweet.” Jasmine said hugging him again. “Thank you so much. I owe you one.”  
“Just make sure Diana stays with Mike.” Mac whispered in her ear. “I want to see him happy and smiling forever.”  
“It’s a deal.”

Jasmine then introduced David to everyone in the room. He was especially excited to meet Katherine and couldn’t help but ask Marie to take a picture of them. While everyone was chatting away and admiring each other’s supernatural wardrobes, Kai entered the room surprising everyone with her costume.

“I hope this doesn’t offend Mr. Jackson.” She said.

“Why would it?” Jasmine asked. “You look great.”

“I don’t want him to be reminded of Mr. Sneddon.”  
“Don’t worry about that.” Katherine said. “Michael will smile and thank you for it.”

With everyone in the room fully dressed and ready to party, the only two people missing were the bride and groom to be. Jasmine explained Diana was in one of Michael’s cottage houses getting dressed since she didn’t want anyone to spy on her and Michael had barricaded himself in his room wanting complete privacy while he and Karen Faye brought his festive ensemble to life. It wasn’t long before other adult guests entered the main house with their costumes.

“BOO!” Quincy said as he came in with a ghost mask on and a shirt that said ‘is it scary?’ in reference to one of Michael’s songs.

“Double boo!” Vincent said coming from behind him dressed as a zombie with blood dripping from the right side of his mouth.

“Wow!” Katherine said. “Not one person is dressed in human form. All of you are spirits, dead people, or man-made inventions.”  
“I think that also includes me…” Diana said entering the room blowing everyone away with her stunning black dress and long, straight black wig.

“Michael, be still.” Karen said helping her friend and client put his makeup and costume on. “I can’t pin your blazer from the back if you keep shifting around.”  
“I’m sorry.” Michael said trying not to laugh. “I just get nervous when I’m around sharp objects.”  
“I promise I won’t hurt you if you stay in one place.”  
“I’ll try.”

“YO GOLDY!” Bill yelled as he knocked on Michael’s bedroom door. “We’re all waiting for you!”  
“He’ll be down soon!” Karen yelled back. “He still calls you those cheesy nick names?”  
“Yes.” Michael said cutely. “I don’t mind. It makes me laugh.”

“Well, I’m all done.”

Michael stood in front of his full length mirror and was amazed at how different he looked. Disguises had always been an integral part of his life ever since he was a little boy but this costume really made him look different. Karen did a fabulous job on the Pop star and he thanked her for making him look like someone he had never tried to portray before.

“Diana, you look beautiful.” Katherine said admiring her future daughter in law’s costume.

“Michael will definitely go crazy.” Mac said giving me a hug.

“Always the pretty one, Ana.” Marie said as she too gave me a hug.

“You know we’re all lost for words.” Jasmine said pointing to herself, David, Kai and Bev.

“Thanks guys. I hope Michael likes it too.”   
“He will.” Katherine said “I know my son.”  
“Speak of the devil…” Karen said. “No pun intended.”

Everyone laughed as Michael made his way into the living room. I couldn’t help but gasp and widen my eyes when I saw him dressed in his outfit.

“Seriously?” I asked in complete shock. “I can’t believe this.”

“Did you two plan this?” Mac asked turning his head from Michael to me.

“NO! I had no idea what he was going to wear.”  
“Great minds think alike.” Michael said as he made his way towards me. “You look absolutely gorgeous. I guess we truly ARE meant to be husband and wife, Morticia.”

“Thank you and I agree, Gomez.”

We kissed briefly and like always, Jasmine got excited wanting to see more. Knowing we had an audience, Michael and I pulled away from each other out of respect for Katherine’s presence in the room. It wasn’t long before the entire gang took photos with Marie’s camera and headed outside in different directions to spend time with the children. Karen wanted to stay for the party but said she had other plans already and wished us all a fun filled evening before exiting the main house. As everyone else left the room, Michael pulled me towards him and whispered in my ear.

“You are so beautiful.”  
“Thank you, baby.”  
“I can’t wait to take your dress off.”  
“I was just thinking the same thing.”  
“I want you now, girl.”  
“I want you more.”

As things started to get heated between us, Javon walked through the main door with Michael’s surprise guest who was also dressed up as a beautiful princess in a stunning Cinderella type ball gown.

“SURPRISE!” Javon yelled. “HER ROYAL HIGHNESS HAS ARRIVED.”

“OH MY GOD.” Michael screamed.   
“Happy Halloween, Moonwalker.” I said kissing his ‘Gomezly’ cheek.   
“How did you get here?” Michael asked hugging his newly arrived visitor. “I love your costume!”

“Another successful prank!” Mac said peering his werewolf head into the main entrance doorframe. “Javon hooked me up with her contact information. Diana and I invited her as a surprise.”  
“Mac…”

“Gotcha again!”

“Wonderfully executed if I must say so myself!” Jasmine said as she came into the foyer and gave Mac a high five.

“You knew about this?” Michael asked.   
“We all did.” I admitted. “I sent Jas to the airport because I knew you would get suspicious of me if I had gone to pick her up myself.”

“Diana…”  
“I love you too.”

Michael hugged Mac and everyone else in the room. He tried his hardest not to cry but a single tear fell from his eye and landed halfway down his cheek smearing the face paint Karen had put on him.

“Now, now none of that.” Michael’s guest said wiping his face and fixing his slightly disfigured makeup. “We need Gomez to look his best.”

“I’m very happy to see you.” Michael said as he pulled himself together. “It’s been so long. You are just as beautiful as I remember. How long are you in town for?”  
“Just a few days. My duties never end but I knew I was due to visit you.”  
“Yes, you were. I’m so glad you’re here.”

“And I, Michael.”

“I’m sure I don’t need to formally introduce you.”  
“You don’t but I know you will anyway.”  
“Of course. Everyone, this is my good friend Princess Stephanie of Monaco.”

Everyone shook the beautiful Royal’s hand and introduced themselves to her. Javon kindly placed her luggage inside Michael’s luxury guest cottage and informed the beautiful princess that her bedroom was fully prepared for her stay. Once seated in the living room, the doorbell rang and several children came to the door dressed in elaborate costumes with their bags and baskets in front of them. The entire gang stood by and watched each child making sure they were safe and would get lots of candy. Michael greeted them all and Marie took several pictures with her camera. After seeing the new addition to the gang, Kai and Bev immediately went into employee mode greeting the Royal woman courteously.

“It’s an honor to meet you, ma’am.” Kai said bowing and shaking Stephanie’s hand.

“For me as well.” Bev added. “You are very beautiful.”

“Thank you but no need to be so formal.” She said feeling humbled by their words. “I’m not in my reign at the moment.”  
“My staff will always be kind to you and every other guest that comes to my home.” Michael said proudly. “They’ve all been trained very well.”

Mac and Marie were on candy duty sitting by the door while the kitchen staff announced that dinner was ready. Quincy, Vincent, Katherine and Stephanie were enjoying themselves having multiple discussions about anything and everything. Michael made frequent trips around his entire property checking on all the children and animals’ making sure everything was perfect and nothing and no one was harmed or left out. Javon informed his employer that the entire perimeter was secure and each guard was patrolling the grounds every five minutes. For the first time in months, Michael felt content knowing the people at his home were ok and truly enjoying themselves.

I checked the theatre several times making sure all of the children were okay and that no one was feeling sick or tired. Michael made sure the concession stand was full of candy and treats and the guards were monitoring the youngsters at all times. As we both made our way back to the main house, Michael grabbed me and pushed me into the women’s bathroom locking the door behind him.

“Baby, what are you doing?”  
“I love you so much, girl.”  
“I love you too.”  
“You are so wonderful. How did you do all of this?”  
“I had help. Mac, Marie, Javon, Jas – they all had a hand in it too.”  
“You are so beautiful, Diana.”  
“You mean Morticia.”  
  
Michael giggled adorably.

“Right. You really look stunning in that dress.”  
“Thank you. I wanted to look slimmer and Jasmine said black would do the trick.”  
“You don’t have to hide your baby bump.”  
“I know, but I didn’t want to steal the spotlight from you either.”  
“Always thinking of me.”  
“I try to.”

We kissed passionately trying our hardest not to ruin our makeup. Michael was instantly turned on and begged to go further but I knew it wasn’t the right time or place or do anything erotic especially since there were young children directly across the hall from us. Michael thanked me constantly for being his fiancé and couldn’t wait to get married. I smiled knowing how happy he was and hoped he would always have a sincere smile on his face.

“Ugh, I am so full.” Mac said as everyone ate Kai’s delicious Halloween themed meal. “I am never eating again.”  
“You and me both.” Quincy said growling as he clutched his stomach.

“You two are sissies!” Vincent said. “I could eat another ten plates and still have room for more.”  
“Not everyone is as old as you Vince.” Quincy said.

“You sure do look older than I do.”  
“Being talented will do that to you. But what would you know about that?”  
“Hey!” Michael said. “You two are such bully’s!   
“It’s out of love.” Vince said. “But truth be told, Thriller would have sold A LOT more albums if you had me produce it for you, Mike.”

“Thriller is the biggest selling album in music history.” Quincy said proudly. “How can you top that?”  
“It took a year to get that rank.” Vince said. “If it were me, I would’ve had that rank after a month!”

Michael laughed as he heard his two favorite musical protégé’s debate over who was better than whom. The ladies made themselves comfortable in Michael’s home theatre room watching Stephen King movies and eating tons of lollipops and mini chocolate bars. Mac and Marie were still on candy duty and the entire property staff made sure everything was running smoothly and according to plan.

“Michael…” Katherine said. “When are you going to dance?”  
“MICHAEL WILL DANCE?” Stephanie asked amazed.

The Pop star giggled to himself and looked down feeling embarrassed.

“Yes. My soon to be husband is going to dance the night away for us as a special Halloween treat.”  
“When? When?” Everyone asked.   
“Close to midnight. Before all the children leave.”  
“Close to midnight?” Mac asked. “YOU’RE PERFORMING THRILLER!”

“I never said that.”

“You didn’t have to!” David said. “Jas, get the video camera. We need to capture this on film.”  
“One step ahead of you!” Jasmine said reaching behind the leather sofa. “Already got it. Fully charged and ready for action!”  
“Just like me.” Michael whispered in my ear.

“You are so bad!”

“Gomez is feeling naughty, Morticia.”  
“He has to wait. And trust me, it’ll be worth it.”

“That’s my sexy Liberian girl.”  
“Oh, Michael.” I said kissing his cheek and whispering in his ear. “Trust me, baby. You haven’t seen ANYTHING yet.”

“Sorry I’m late!” John said entering the room wearing a gargoyle costume. “Whoa. This is one heck of a party!”

“JOHN!” Quincy said. “How wonderful it is to see you!”

“Quincy? Vincent? Katherine? Macaulay? Oh my Lord!” John said seeing the Princess of Monaco. “It’s an honor your Highness.”

She laughed and greeted Michael’s attorney with grace and poise.

“Your costume is stunning, dear.” Katherine said admiring the Royal’s gown and glitter encrusted blue, silver and gold embroidered masquerade mask. “Perfectly suited for a princess.”

“Thank you, Mrs. Jackson.”

All of Michael’s guests were having the time of their lives. The eyeball punch was a hit and the kitchen staff worked around the clock making sure the bowl was filled to the rim and everyone was stuffed full of food, treats and plenty of love. Not one person wanted to leave and once dinner had been cleared, Michael’s large, antique wooden grandfather clock in his foyer became the center of attention. When the clock struck almost midnight, Michael agreed to take center stage in his dance studio hoping to cast a spell and wow everyone with his surprise performance.

“Is everyone having a good time?” Michael asked as he entered his theatre full of children from all sizes, shapes, colors and ethnic backgrounds.

“YES!” They yelled in unison.

“I have a special surprise for you.” Michael said as I watched him stand on the theatre stage in front of his massive movie screen. “How would you like to see me dance?”  
“YAAAAY!” The children yelled loudly.

“Let’s all go to the dance studio now and you can come back in here afterwards, ok?”

Without answering, the children jumped out of their seats and followed Michael’s guards outside the theatre. Because some of the children were sick and frail, Michael made sure there were enough golf carts for all of the children to travel in so no one would have to walk very far. Seeing him with children brought out a whole new side of him. One that I felt proud of and couldn’t wait to see again after the birth of our daughter.

“Having fun?” I asked as we both walked towards our golf cart.

“You have no idea.”  
“I’m glad. You really deserve it.”

Just as Michael was about to drive away, an adorable little brunette haired girl was sitting on a nearby bench looking out towards the amusement park were a few children were riding on the carousel.

“Baby, wait.” I said putting his hand over the steering wheel.   
“What is it?”

“That little girl over there is sitting all by herself. She might be sick.”

Without answering, Michael jumped out of the golf cart and ran towards the little girl. I followed behind and Michael kneeled down in front of the little girl and smiled at her.

“Hi, sweetheart.”  
“Hi, Mr. Jackson.”  
“You can call me Michael. What’s your name?”

“Abby.”

Are you feeling okay, Abby?”  
“I’m a little dizzy.”

Michael looked at me with hurt in his eyes. How could a precious little angel feel ill at a magical place like Neverland?

“I’m sorry, sweetie. Do you want to lie down?”  
“No. I can’t leave my baby sister Beth alone. She’s on the carousel.”

“Which one is she?” I asked sitting next to the cherubic little girl.

“That one there.”

Abby pointed to a smaller, curly brunette haired girl who was riding the carousel with one of Michael’s guards. Feeling helpless, Michael tried his hardest to appear strong even though he was so sensitive about the young girl’s discomfort in his home.

“Have you been feeling this way all night?” Michael asked gently placing her hair behind her cherubic little ear.

“No, it only happens sometimes. I want to go on the rides but I can’t.”  
“I’m sorry, Abby.” I said hugging the brave little soul. “I’m sure we can help make you feel better. Can you tell me if anything hurts?”

“My ears.”  
“Your ears hurt?” Michael asked trying to understand the little girl’s symptoms.

“It’s hard for me to hear people and sometimes I get really sick in the bathroom.”

“Oh, sweetie…” I said holding the little girl tightly in my arms. “I’m sorry you feel that way. You can lie down for a little while and I’ll make sure Beth is ok.”  
“Can I please sleep in Michael’s bed?”   
“Of course you can.” Michael replied kissing Abby’s forehead. “I’ll take you there and tuck you in myself, ok?”  
“Thank you.”

“You’re welcome, angel.”

Michael stood up and I gestured him towards the golf cart. We asked Abby to stay seated on the bench for a minute while Michael and I spoke privately.

“Michael, I think she suffers from vertigo.”  
“What’s that? Something serious?”  
“It’s a specific kind of dizziness that can affect a person’s hearing. It can also cause nausea and vomiting which is what she said happens to her in the bathroom.”  
“So what do we do?”

“She needs to keep her head elevated. Lying down is probably the best thing for her right now.”

“I won’t dance until I know she feels better, Diana. I can’t do it without her.”  
“You’re so sweet. Hopefully she’ll be ok after she gets some rest.”

Michael picked up the little girl in his arms and wanted to spin her but didn’t due to her dizziness. He kissed her cheek and told her she was beautiful before placing her gently inside the golf cart. The three of us drove closer towards the carousel and Abby pointed out which girl was her baby sister.

“Hi, sweetie.” I said to the little bundle of joy. “What’s your name?”  
“Beth.”  
“I’m Diana. Do you know who he is?”

I pointed to Michael who was sitting in the cart with Abby. Beth shook her head yes and jumped into my arms wanting to be held.

“Thank you for the rides.” She said hugging me like a teddy bear. “I love you.”  
“I love you and Abby more, Beth.”

After placing both girls in the golf cart, Michael informed his guards to keep all of the children in the theatre for now. Once back inside, he explained to his young audience that he was still preparing his routine and needed more time before performing. The children understood and happily continued watching cartoons and several Halloween themed movies suitable for children. After arriving at the main house and feeling extremely concerned for her health, Michael scooped Abby into his arms and I walked behind him with Beth. Mac and Marie saw us approaching the door and immediately opened it thinking something serious happened to the little girl.

“Oh my god, is she alright?” Mac asked.   
“She’s fine.” Michael explained as he gently put the little one down. “Abby’s a very strong girl. I’m taking her upstairs to my room.”

“Hi, Abby. I’m Marie.”

“Hi.”

“And this little girl is Abby’s baby sister Beth.”  
“Hi, Beth.”  
“Hi, Kevin.”

Marie snickered as Mac kissed both girls on their foreheads. A few of the others came into the foyer wondering what was going on and I informed them discreetly about Abby’s condition. Katherine graciously kept Beth by her side and made sure she had plenty of treats to make her happy. Michael and I sped up to his room and tucked Abby into the bed and Michael sang her a lullaby as she slowly drifted to sleep.

“You’re going to be an incredible father.” I said to Michael as he and I held each other watching the little angel sleep comfortably in our bed.

“I hope so. I never want my child to be sick. I hope Abby feels better soon.”  
“I think she will. She has mine and your prayers.”  
“I love you, Diana.” Michael said as he placed his hand on my stomach.   
“I love you too, Michael.”