



Part Six:

“What’s wrong?” I asked, my eyes wide with concern. It scared me to see him like that. I never wanted to see anyone that distressed. I would do anything to make him smile again like he was just a few minutes before.

Edward shook his head, and without another word, he picked me up in his muscular arms. It surprised me. “Don’t worry. I only need to talk to you about some things. I didn’t want to do this, but seeing as it will come up, I’d rather you know from me before you hear it from crude Emmett or big-mouthed Jasper. That moron,” he mumbled under his breath. “I just don’t want you to think I’m keeping anything from you,” he told me finally as he carried me up the stairs. “It’s kind of important. I guess, anyway. You might think it is.”

“Nothing can be that bad,” I reassured him, stroking his cheek gently.

Smiling, he leaned his face into my hand. “But some stupid things can control your life for years and apparently make you blind to everything else,” he commented the very last part angrily to himself.

I didn’t know how to respond, so I stayed silent until we got to his room. He placed me gently on the couch and sat on his knees in front of me. Rubbing my calf, he looked down at the carpet. He didn’t know where to start, nor did he want to, so I opened the line of questioning. I had a few of them floating through my head.

“Who’s Tanya?”

Laughing mirthlessly, he glanced up at the ceiling. It caused his neck to strain, the muscles and tendons standing out. “That’s a bigger question than you know. I’m not sure I ever really knew her.”

“Did she hurt you? Because if she did, I’ll-”

Leaning forward, he twisted his fingers into my hair then kissed me deeply. He surprised me for the second time in only a few minutes. I returned it, my hands on the couch just trying to keep myself from falling over.

“You’re sweet. But you don’t have to say that,” he promised as he pulled away.

“I don’t want you to be in pain,” I professed with a slight pout, my eyes gazing into his. They were a deep dark green, and several emotions danced in them. I could see his frustration and sadness. I wanted to clear those feelings away. He was too beautiful for that. Then something else lit up in them. Hope.

“I don’t think I will be anymore.” He blushed as he looked down at the carpet again. It was cute to see him shy like that. “I have to tell you that last night was the first evening in a long time I haven’t felt... angry. At everyone and everything. It was so nice.”

“What did she do to you?” I pressed, my eyebrows knitting together at his cryptic answers.

He picked at the invisible fuzz on the carpet. I could tell he was thinking about what to say carefully. I gave him time. He needed to sort it all out for himself. No matter how much I wanted to rush him, I would give him what he required. If I pushed, I probably wouldn’t get the answers I craved.

“Alright, well... You know how we lived in Alaska before we moved here?” Edward began while still picking at the carpet. It looked as if it had been vacuumed recently, and it was perfect. Yet, he found something interesting and worth fiddling with.

“Yeah. Like five years ago? It makes so much sense you people don’t notice the cold,” I muttered the last part under my breath. It was a trait I was a little jealous of.

He smiled slightly at the comment but sighed, his face changing as he continued. “I was fourteen, and I had already been ‘dating’ Tanya for a year. Well, as much as you can date at thirteen,” he grinned again, almost wistfully. “I was pretty brokenhearted about it, but she

convinced me we could have a long-distance relationship. Our parents were friends, so they visited. Plus, online and phone calls...”

“How did that work out?” It was obvious he wanted to talk about it but didn’t know how to do so. He just didn’t know where to go. He needed some extra encouragement.

“Good, surprisingly. It got even better, I thought, once we got our driver’s licenses. The visits increased. Me to her, her to me, or meeting in the middle. But Tanya always pushed me for more.”

“What do you mean, ‘pushed’ you?”

“To be honest, I’m not normally so comfortable with the physical aspect of relationships.” Yeah, right, I thought automatically. After the evening before and the morning, it was hard to believe. But then, he blushed scarlet, and every sarcastic notion I had left my mind. He was telling the truth and exposing a part of himself to me.

“If you didn’t feel comfortable with what we did last night, then we-” I started, but he cut me off quickly.

“No! No,” he sighed once more. “I’ve never been so drawn to someone before, even Tanya. I mean, I was attracted to her, but this just feels different.”

Blushing, I looked away. “So, what happened?” I knew what he meant about attraction, and it made me pink to think he felt the same way about me.

“Earlier this summer, I asked her to marry me,” he whispered.

“Oh,” I gasped, startled. “Did she say ‘no’?”

“No.”

A moment passed. Finally, I blinked. “She said... ‘yes’?”

“Right off. Well, as I said before, I haven’t always been comfortable with... that sort of thing. Until that point, I had put off having sex with her. I wanted to wait until marriage, which pissed her off. But we were both so young. That was the only thing we ever really fought about. I just had this stupid image in my head of the white dress and making love for the first time. We had done pretty much everything else anyway, though. After she accepted, we kissed and kissed... Then she told me she wanted us to make love.”

“What did you do?”

"I said no, at first, but then she told me we were going to be married, and a piece of paper didn't matter. We loved each other, or at least I thought we did. So, I just gave in. I mean, I loved her so much. I wanted to make her happy, and I didn't want to squabble that night. But I was stupid and blind. Obviously, if I had observed the world around me, I would have seen what I was missing," he smiled, massaging my good foot.

"So, what happened next?"

Considering it, he tilted his head to the side. "We had sex. I would have called it making love at the time. Not anymore. And I enjoyed it. After all, I am a man. But I realized something was off then."

"What do you mean?" I pushed as I got wrapped up in his story.

"I expected her to be uncomfortable or nervous the first time. We had been together since we were thirteen! We were both virgins. But she wasn't." He refused to meet my eyes. It almost seemed as if he felt guilty for thinking that way. "And there wasn't any... blood or anything."

I flushed slightly. "Well, you know there are things that can happen to a girl that would, um..." I stopped, not sure how to go on. "Or she could have done something alone."

"That's what she said, too. And I believed her. I don't anymore, but at the time, I did. Anyway, we were going to college together. We were going to get an apartment. We made all these plans. Just one more summer, and we'd be together for the rest of our lives. Or so I thought."

"I guess it didn't work out that way," I replied sarcastically.

He chuckled without humor again. "Yeah. You could say that. Well, Tanya worked during the summer, and I did this camp counselor thing, so we didn't have a lot of time together. But every moment we talked... It was about weddings and our future. I thought everything was fantastic. It was a couple of weeks before school started, and the camp was over, so I decided to visit her to maybe help her pack. I just wanted to surprise her. So I went up there on a Sunday and went straight to her sister's place, where she lived. She never worked on Sundays, so I figured she was home. She didn't answer the door, so I called her phone. No answer, but I could hear it ring on the other side of the door. I knocked again. No answer again. I freaked. She took her cell everywhere."

"This isn't going to end well," I whispered to myself. "Please tell me you found her dead," I said, already knowing that wasn't the way it probably happened. This would have started off as a sadder story, and not about how he got tricked into losing his v-card before he was ready.

He laughed. "No. That crazy bitch is still very much alive."

"Did you find her with another man?" I went to the option I hoped it wasn't.

"Yeah. I found her on her knees, bare ass naked, getting drilled by her... brother-in-law," he stated quickly in disgust.

"Oh, no!" I yelled. "Poor you! And her sister! How could she do that to both of you?" I demanded. I was furious at this stupid girl I had never met before, and I hated her for what she did to him. She commanded his heart for a long time, and she stomped on it like it was nothing. And what kind of cheap tramp cheats on her boyfriend with her sister's husband?

"She was filming it," he uttered.

"What?"

"Her sister was filming it," he repeated louder.

"Oh, that's messed up!" I insisted in revulsion.

"No, messed up is when Tanya asked me to join them while still getting it from behind. Didn't even slow down." His expression was blank, and his eyes hollow.

"Why aren't you into guys now?" I inquired sarcastically. "How do you trust a woman after that?"

He laughed again, laying his head on my knees. "I was wondering that myself. But then I met you. You are the first girl I've noticed in a long time."

"So, your choices are gay or me? That's nice," I stated dryly.

"No! I see you, and I want to kiss you. And I want to know every thought in your head. I-" Pausing, he looked up at me ruefully. "I want to finish breakfast."

Flushing wildly, I tingled at the image. But I had to get control of myself. Clearing my throat, I peered down at my lap. I couldn't gaze into his eyes a second longer without jumping him.

"Why me, though?"

"I... I-I can't explain it. You make me comfortable. Honestly, I'm relaxed around you. And I don't relax- ever. Even I realize I'm kind of an anal jerkwad. But as soon as I was alone with

you, I melted. I don't know any other way to describe it," Edward concluded softly, lifting my chin with his finger.

"I was the complete opposite. I was so nervous," I paused, taking a deep breath before I shook my head. "I've had this massive crush since last year, and there I was, sitting right next to you. Just trying not to stare too much."

"What about now?" He asked as he gazed at me from under his eyelashes. "Do you still have a crush?"

Leaning forward, I captured his lips. He rose some, going between my legs. His fingers wound into my hair, tugging me closer. I pulled away slightly. "Yes, and I'm still nervous."

"Could have fooled me," he responded before attacking my mouth. Moaning, I scooted to the edge of the sofa. His hands wrapped around me, pulling me so that every part of me was pressed against him.

"It's just that you make me feel so confident when you do that. When you kiss me."

His lips smashed into mine again, his large palm dragging down my back. He gripped my bottom firmly, giving it a squeeze. I groaned into his mouth. Edward licked my upper lip, sucking it between his gently. I was so into it that the loud knock caught me off guard.

"Hey, guys! Everything alright in there?" Alice questioned from behind the bedroom door.

Sighing heavily, he pulled away. "Yeah. What do you need?"

She poked her head in, glancing between us. "Awkwardness all done?"

"I suppose so." He looked at me questioningly, as if he was checking to make sure it was true.

"It is," I smiled, touching his stubble covered cheek.

"Aw, you guys are so cute!" My best friend giggled.

"Ally..." Edward trailed off in a warning tone.

I could see the anal thing he was talking about, but I could also tell how much his siblings and friends liked to provoke him.

She clicked her tongue and rolled her eyes dramatically. Then she set her sights on me again. “Anyway, I was thinking you should stay here until Monday morning, you know, to have Daddy around to keep an eye on your ankle.”

“I think that’s a good idea, but I don’t know if my Dad will go for it,” I replied, leaning back against the couch.

“Um, I already called him and told him what happened. He said yes,” she explained, trying unsuccessfully to act bashful. She knew that, like with most people, she had Charlie wrapped around her little finger.

“Ally!” Edward exclaimed, looking embarrassed. I wasn’t sure what for. This was a classic Alice-like behavior, and she did it all the time. “You can’t make decisions for people!”

“Do you not want her to stay for the rest of the weekend?” She placed both hands on her slender hips as she cocked one of them to the side. She knew exactly where to aim to fluster him completely. It was almost funny to see. She was too good at it. But she did it to everyone.

“Of course, I do! It’s just...” He trailed off. “I think- ugh!” He growled in frustration, finally turning his attention back to me. “So, would you like to stay in my room again?” He inquired with a charming grin, trying very hard to ignore his sister.

Biting my lip, I blushed as I nodded in response. His smile grew wider.

She decided it was time not only to annoy Edward but to make me blush too. “Okay, well, keep the noise down to a minimum. I am in the room underneath you, and I have to get my beauty rest. Oh, and if you’re going to be doing any of that, you need to pick up some condoms unless you keep them somewhere other than your nightstand, sock drawer, or bathroom,” she called as she danced towards the door. Playfully, she smiled over her shoulder for a moment to see his reaction. I could tell she got exactly what she wanted.

His face turned bright red as he glared at her. “What the hell!?! Do I need to kill Jasper?” He roared, then pinched the bridge of his nose with his thin fingertips. It surprised me he wasn’t mad that she was in his room, in his stuff, but that one of his best friends was banging her. Not that it was an enormous secret or anything. If he didn’t know, he was blind. After witnessing what they did in public the night before, it was easy to guess what they did in private.

“Would you rather us not use protection?”

“Get out!” He demanded, pointing towards the door. She grinned wickedly and pranced out, shutting it behind her. “Oh, my god,” he sighed, putting his hand on his forehead before rubbing it hard.

“So, awkwardness not done yet,” I giggled.

“I guess not,” he groaned, laying his face against my knees again. “I’m sorry.”

I shrugged. “I’m used to her.”

“Doesn’t make it right.”

He took a deep breath, blowing it out slowly. I took the lull in our quiet conversation to study his features. He was so handsome. He ran his fingers through his wild hair before looking up at me, his eyes growing curious.

“Edward...” I breathed, not sure what I was going to say next.

Grabbing his face, I kissed him forcefully. He moaned into my mouth, his arms going tight against my waist. Our tongues moved together while our hands explored each other’s chests. Finally, he lifted off the floor and pushed me back onto the couch before he laid down on top of me. All the while, he was careful of my foot.

My legs wrapped around him automatically, forcing his hips against mine. I could feel him stiffen against the center of my jeans. He groaned again softly at the contact, moving against me at a slow and steady rhythm.

Our kissing became more aggressive, as did our fondling and grinding. His hand slid under my shirt, and he massaged my breast through my thin bra. Whimpering loudly, I pulled my head back so I could gasp in some much-needed air. “I never want to rush you, but you should pick up some condoms. Just in case.”

“Just in case,” he agreed with a small nod, then lowered his mouth to my neck. He nipped and sucked gently, teasing me.

There was another loud pounding on the door. Edward growled again against my skin, ticking me in the process. It was hard not to giggle, even though I was annoyed too.

“What?!”

“Wanna watch a movie?” Emmett asked innocently as if he didn’t know what was going on. He and Rosalie were the worst of them all. If there were two teenagers behind a closed door, he, of all people, should have known what was happening. All the Cullens were oblivious.

Laying his head against my shoulder, he took a deep breath. “If we don’t leave this room soon, I’m going to take you.”

I whined as I bit my bottom lip. “So, no movie?”

He chuckled. “Come on. Let’s watch it with them, and afterward, we can go to your house and pick up some more clothes for later.”