

Its nearly 3 PM when I hear a car door close. I look out to see Joe. Jon pulls in right behind him getting out of his truck. They begin walking up to the house together talking. I know in my heart their friendship could be completely ruined once I tell them everything. I'm scared to death. Then there's a knock.

*'Here goes nothing,'* I think taking a deep breath and opening the door. "Hey guys. Have a seat in the kitchen please. Its urgent."

They look puzzled and concerned as they go in the kitchen to sit down. I shut the door behind them walking in the kitchen a few seconds later. I sit down with tears in my eyes.

"Missiey, what is it? Why do you need both of us here?" Jon asks.

"Yeah. What's so urgent?" Joe questions.

I look up, tears streaming down my cheeks as I answer. "I understand if you get mad at me, but you both need to know...", I begin my head falling into my hands, "I'm pregnant. And one of you is the father."

At first, they seem excited. That quickly gets replaced with confusion and anger. "Hold on. What do you mean *one of us*?" Jon asks.

"The baby's mine. Right?" Joe asks.

I start to cry uncontrollably. Joe goes to stand by the window while Jon comes over wrapping his arm around me. "I don't care who the father is. I want to be with you and raise the baby together. I really hope the baby is mine," Jon says kissing my cheek

"I don't know how to explain your question in an answer, Jon."

"Try sweetie. For me."

"OK," I begin taking a deep breath. "The night Joe and I went on a walk, he pulled me into an alley by Starbucks and we had sex. Two days later, you and I slept together after leaving the charity event. That's what I mean by *'one of you'*." I put my head on Jon's shoulder crying harder now.

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### Joe

I stand at the window staring out of it. My mind racing. I think about the moment we had and how amazing she was and felt. The the end of what she said hits me.

*'How could Jon do this to me?! What the hell was he thinking sleeping with her two days later?! I want the baby to be mine with her!'* I think angrily until the end.

I finally turn to face the two of them, but can't speak so I go back to looking out the window then speak. "How could you, Jon? What the hell were you thinking sleeping with her?!" I ask angrily.

"I could ask you the same thing, Joe. Why would you sleep with her the night we met her?! The baby is mine," Jon tells me harshly.

I try to bite my tongue but its extremely difficult. "I don't think so. The baby is mine! Where do you get off criticizing me when you slept with her two days later?!" I say practically yelling. I go quiet after yelling at Jon and stare out the window again.

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### Jon

Trying to comfort her proves to be difficult. With my arm wrapped around her shoulders, I rub her arm. She lays her head on my shoulder sobbing. I kiss the top of her head making decisions as my mind races.

Joe and I begin fighting derailing me. I still can't believe he was with her the very same night we met her. It completely enrages me. I can't hold back for long.

"Joe, how could you be such an inconsiderate jackass?! I wonder what Donnie would say about this? About you?" I say harshly.

"I'm inconsiderate?! Look at yourself! Who knows what Donnie would think! He'd probably be mad as hell at you!" Joe screams at me.

The fighting continues between Joe and myself for a little longer then Missiey raises her head to speak.

"Stop fighting! I can't take any more! Donnie all ready knows the situation. He hopes its Jon's. I just want the baby to be healthy," she tells us firmly still crying.

"You're right. I'll be here for you through it all. I promise," I tell her coming home.

"I'll be here for you, too. Can't have Jon showing me up. I want to be with you in matter what," Joe says.

"I want to be with her. I won't let you hurt her. You've always been a player and that's all," I tell Joe.

"Why the *fuck* would you say that?! What the hell....?!" Joe begins when I cut him off.

"Because its true! I'm trying to calm her down, but the fighting has to stop," I say intensely.

I put all of my attention back on her, and Joe finally chills out sitting on the other side next to her.

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### Missiey

As I sit sobbing on Jon's shoulder, the fighting finally stops and Joe sits on my other side. He puts his hand on my knee trying to comfort me. Jon begins rubbing my back as I finally realize they have two things in common.

1) They both *want* to be the dad, and; 2) They both want to be with me no matter what. I decide I have to say something.

"Look guys, I appreciate that you both are willing to be here for me during the pregnancy. I like both of you, but right now I don't want to be with anyone. At least not right away, or until I can figure things out. We are all going to have to be around each other which means you two have to get along in front of me."

Its hard enough dealing with the fact I'm pregnant, and that the dad is either Joe or Jon, but I *cannot* take any fighting. My emotions are all over the place and I can't control them. Out of frustration, I very quickly get up from the table and go in the living room to sit on the couch. I immediately begin crying again.

They put their focus on me when they hear me crying. Jon speaks first. "Joe, our behavior and fighting have to stop. She needs us. She's really scared, upset and in an extremely delicate state. We have to be here for her..... and the baby. It does belong to one of us. Truce?" Jon extends his hand waiting for Joe.

He finally takes it. "You're right. She needs us. I don't want to stay mad at you, but it was one hell of a shock. We need to check on her." Jon agrees and they walk in the living room sitting on either side of me.

"Its gonna be okay, Missiey," they tell me. "We're putting our differences aside so we can be here for you. And the baby. As you said, the baby belongs to one of us. If you decide that you want to be with one of us, just say the word and we'll be here."

The tears lighten as both Jon and Joe wrap an arm around me. "Thank you both. And I will. If you two want to stay tonight, you can. We have a lot to discuss. Like doctor appointments, ultrasounds, if and when you guys want to stay with me. You can't just get upset with each other when I lay down. I have to lay on the side that's most comfortable for me. Promise me," I say.

They look at each other then at me. "We promise." They give each other a slightly disgusted look then look at me. I'm so tired I can hardly stay awake. I decide to lay down across both of them.

"Guys, I'm exhausted. Don't be shocked if I have to switch positions after a while," I say. I start off with my head on Joe's lap and part of my legs on Jon's lap. Joe rubs then side of my head while Jon rubs my calves and feet. It doesn't take long until I fall asleep.

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### Jon

I watch her sleeping peacefully. '*She's so precious,*' I think. Her legs begin to get cold. I feel around on the back of the couch til I find a blanket. I grab it and cover her up.

Joe looks over at me curious. "What are you doing?" He whispers.

"Covering her up. Her legs are cold," I say.

Joe feels her arms and realizes they're chilled as well. Just as we start to cover up her arms, she begins to stir. She wakes up just enough to change positions. She turns to lay her head on my lap, and her legs and feet on Joe's.

"Are you staying tonight, Joe?" I ask.

"Probably. You?" He asks.

"Definitely. She needs us. To make things easier for her, sometimes we both stay with her, and sometimes only one of us. Both of us need to be at *all* appointments though."

"I think all that's fair. We should run it by her. See what she thinks, you know," Joe tells me. I agree.

After sleeping for nearly three hours, she wakes up. It takes her a few minutes to sit up and speak, but we remain patient with her. Joe and I stay calm for her. No arguing. No fighting. Nothing. All of a sudden she looks at both of us then speaks.

"Hey you two. Have you come to any kind of agreement on anything?" She asks trying to wake up.

"Yeah we did sweetie," I begin, "If its okay with you, both of us will be at all doctor appointments, and sometimes both of us will stay with you, sometimes one of us. We plan to take full care of and responsibility for you and the baby. What do you think?"

"Does it include ultrasound appointments?" She asks.

I look at Joe and he nods. "Yes it does. We are both staying tonight. If that's okay. At any time, at your request, one or both of us will stay with you. Just ask or say the word," I tell her sweetly.

"Thank you. Both of you. This will give me the chance to get to know you both better. What about the last four weeks of the pregnancy? Will you both stay with me?" She asks.

"Of course. Anything you want. We'll even take you and pick you up from work if you want us too."

She smiles serenely, lays her head on me while also putting a hand on Joe and says, "OK, thanks. My first appointment is next Tuesday at 1:30. If possible, can we all ride together?" A small tear runs down her cheek. I wipe it away kissing her cheek lightly and Joe kisses her hand gently.

"Yeah sweetie. Not a problem," I say lovingly.

"I'll be at the appointment, I just don't know if I'll be able to ride with you guys. Write down the address in case I can't. If I can, though, where are we meeting at?" Joe informs us.

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### Missiey

I write down the address for Joe and hand it to him. "Here you go. If you can ride with us, meet us at my work at 12:30. Its called Oasis Day Spa," I say.

"Okay. I promise I'll be there sweetie. When you're ready to start shopping for the baby, let us know. We'll go with you," Joe says.

"I will. Thanks. Those trips will be individual so there's no fighting over anything. I plan on shopping after I get into my second trimester and I know what it is," I say.

"What are you hoping for hon?" Jon asks gently.

I smile tenderly then reply. "I don't care as long as its healthy. I'll be happy either way. I just wanna know how to prepare."

They understand completely. Joe wraps an arm around me while Jon puts his hand on my leg and his other hand over mine holding it tight. I begin to feel a little better and smile slightly. I'm still scared about a few things. Mainly who was *really* going to stick with me through the pregnancy, who *really* will make a great father, and who really *truly* cares about me....and the baby.

Just then, Jon interrupts my thoughts. "How are we doing sleeping arrangements tonight?"

"I have a king size bed we can all sleep in. I'll lay in the middle."

They shyly smile at me, fully irritated and disgusted its not just one of them in bed with me. As we're sitting there, something occurs to me that hasn't before, and I start to cry.

"What's wrong angel?" Jon asks sincerely.

"What if the baby doesn't like me? What if I suck at being a mom?" I reply almost whispering.

Jon grabs me hugging me tighter. "Aww. Don't worry. The baby will love you...and you will be a great mom. As I said earlier, I'm not leaving no matter what the outcome." He kisses the top of my head then checks the time. "Its nearly 10:30. Let's go to bed."

I nod, get up and get my rituals done putting on Mickey Mouse lounge pants, a t-shirt and go to bed. Joe lays on my right side and Jon on my left. When we're all situated, I curl up on Jon first this time. Joe gets as close as he can putting one hand on my thigh and laying a leg against mine. I lay my head on Jon's chest and fall asleep.

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### Joe

I watch her sleeping like a baby. After all she's been through today, she finally looks to be resting comfortably. *'She looks so delicate and serene. She's like an amazingly radiant angel,'* I begin thinking, *'I really need to step it up. Especially if the baby is mine.'*

Now that I have time to think, I realize Jon is right. I have been a player, never thinking twice about anything. I'll be here for her and the baby. I've never wanted to be with one woman so bad in my life. The night we met, I knew she was a special treasure. Now she's a special treasure carrying an extra special treasure.

I gently smile thinking about the baby. A few minutes later, I curl up to her back and fall asleep.

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### Missiey

The next morning I wake up around 8:45 to realize I'm curled up on Joe's chest and Jon curled up to my back. I quickly realize I need to go to the bathroom, and as soon as I start to move, Joe and Jon wake up.

"Good morning sweetie," they say.

"Morning guys. I just gotta run to the bathroom. I'll be right back. Promise," I tell them. They quickly let me up and I get in the bathroom just in time. I sit in there for a few minutes, and after I finally walk out, I go back and lay between them.

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### Jon

When she gets back in bed she lays flat on her back in between me and Joe. As I lean in to kiss her cheek, Joe does the same thing at the same time. It irritates me so much.

*'He needs to back off. Missiey and the baby are mine,'* I think.

I prop myself up on my elbow staring at her. I place my other on her belly then lean down and kiss it. She smiles softly and places her hand on my back rubbing it.

"This is going to be one beautiful baby. I can't wait to meet the little bundle of joy," I say.

"I can't wait to find out if its a girl or boy. Either way, this baby will be extremely talented," she tells us.

"How do you want to do the delivery room hon?" Joe asks.

"Both of you need to be in there with me. My goal is to do this completely natural. No epidural. Both of you will need to have some amazing distractions," she tells us.

I immediately start thinking about how I could distract her. I could kiss her, massage her, show her my baby and childhood pictures or even sing to her. Then I notice Joe being deep in thought.

"What do you want to do today?" I ask wondering.

"I don't know. If you two could get along, *maybe* we could go check out baby decor and furniture. Just to get some ideas you know," she suggests.

I look over at Joe. "I can get along with you for her. What do ya say, Joe?" I ask.

"For her, we can do this," he says.

"Thanks guys. Let's get a bite to eat and dressed, then we'll go," she says. We agree and head down to the kitchen.

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### Joe

I sit up on the bed just before heading to the kitchen. As she begins to walk off, I gently grab her hand and carefully bring her back to me. *'Thank god Jon's not in here right now,'* I think.

I wrap my arms around her, kiss her belly then look in her eyes. "You're an amazing woman. Just so you know, I've really thought about everything since you told us the news yesterday. I'm ready to be a father. I promise I'll step up and take care of the baby. I'm ready to give up my old life and be here," I tell her.

Her eyes go soft and smile widens. They are a beautiful milk chocolate. She wraps her arms around my neck and hugs me. She has a serene look as she speaks.

"Thank you. I really hope you're being honest with me, Joe. The baby deserves to have their biological father in their life. You'll have to prove it to me if the baby is yours," she says then gently kisses me.

"Whatever it takes. I swear," I tell her. She steps back and I start to stand up. I place my hands softly on her delicate face, and kiss her somewhat passionately. When I let up, I pull out my phone erasing every females number in it except Missiey's and my family. She watches me delete them.

As I delete the last name from my phone, she smiles hugging me tighter then looks at me. "Thank you. That's a really good start." She kisses my cheek and walks out of the room.

I walk out a few seconds later, get a bite to eat with her and Jon, and as soon as we're ready, we leave.