

Chapter One

I start this story by going back a year to last years cruise and how that ended for me. Yeah I got to meet Joe after 24 years of following the guys. Nkotb were an amazing group of guys who looked after their fans very well. Anyway last year I was a cruise virgin, also to travel alone had been a first also for me. I met a really cool friend last year from New Zealand , and we had formed a pretty cool and close friendship. Sacha had also decided to join me again on the cruise this year.

But last year like I said I got to meet Joe for the first time and yes their had been some sort of chemistry there between us. But did I follow my fantasy and do the deed, no I didn't . I respected his marriage and my own. But since that cruise last year things had changed for me. I was now single my marriage had ended, my ex had found someone else and moved in with her. That hurts and everyday I think of all those years I had loved him, now he loved someone else. My parents had booked this years cruise for me has a way to chill and get some me time. I had struggled to eat during those days of our break up, man I had struggled to even function.

I had lost 7 stone since last year and exercise became my salvation. Would Joe recognise me this year and would he still have those feelings he had for me. He kept in touch with me through twitter and facebook and knew I had been through the mill. He encouraged me to take the cruise again this year and said that he would be looking out for me. He had been there for me has had all the guys and the BHs sisters I had met last year. I was looking forward to meeting up with them all again this year.

Myself and Sasha waited in the que to get on board, we had been in Miami a couple of days just chilling and getting very excited for this cruise. We also had planned to stay a couple of extra days after the cruise before we both headed back home.

"I can't believe we've made it here again Toni, I'm so excited"

"I know and for the next week Sacha we leave our lives behind us and have some fun".

"You needed this Toni and I'm so glad you chose me to come with you"

I hugged her and felt a lump in my throat, she had been the support I had needed and this was my way of thanking her.

"Do you think the guys will remember us from last year, cause the new you is unrecognisable"

"I sure hope so, Joe said he was gonna look out for us, but I can't see it, there's over 2000 women on this cruise" hoping that Joe could hold his word and at least say hello.

On their balcony on the top deck the guys looked down into the crowd of women waiting to board the carnival. "There's some real beauties coming on board this year" Donnie said looking down into the sea of women. "Yeah where you looking man all I see his thousands of heads from up here" Joe said looking down, he was looking for one girl right now who he had met last year, but it was going to be an impossible task. He'd requested a ships manifest to look up the name of

the girl to see if she had decided to come this year and had found her on there. He also knew her room number so if all else fails and he doesn't spot her, he could at least drop by her room. "Hey Donnie ain't that the girl from New Zealand down there, the one you took quiet a shine too" Jordan replied pointing to the 2 girls in little hot shorts and bikini tops. Joe followed Jordan's finger and was hit with a force so strong it took his breath. He smiled man she had changed but she looked hot, wow what a difference a year had made. They were both deep in conversation, laughing and joking while waiting. "Oh man, she looks hotter than last year, I swear I'm gonna make her mine this cruise" Donnie replied with a grin so wide. Yes she had decided to come back to him and this year he wasn't gonna let her go, without him showing her the best time she's ever had. "Can you even remember her name man, last year was such a blur to me" Jordan replied. "It's Sacha and I do believe that girl next to her is Toni, and wow has she changed she's a lot slimmer this year" Donnie replied. "I've been tweeting Toni a lot over the year and she's had it rough I'm glad she made it back "Donnie replied. "she's been working out a lot I know that" Danny replied. He whistled "boy she's done good". "guys I am so up for this cruise, can't wait to get this boat moving" Donnie replied jumping around.

The screams erupted from the port . I looked up onto the ship and noticed the guys looking down at the crowd. "Oh my god, Donnie looks so hot" Sacha said squeezing my arm. But I was fixed on one set of eyes and they were so blue and looking directly at me. I blushed and looked away, it felt has if he could see right into my soul. "Oh Toni, you got their attention , can't you feel them staring at us? Sasha replied looking back up. She decided to wave.

Donnie couldn't believe his eyes, she was smiling and looking directly at him. Man he felt his stomach twist in knots, he hadn't felt this way since last year. He was stoked she had come again. He noticed Sacha whispering to Toni and she looked up and waved. Donnie felt his heart jump in his chest and waved back. The crowd went crazy screaming to them. So much for being discreet until the sail away party.

Joe was in a world of his own, man he felt his heart beating faster has he looked at her, they had done so well last year to resist each other he wasn't so confident he would be able to this year. He felt for her in a way that was new to him and he wanted to hug her so tight and help her forget the last year of her life.

We moved down the line getting closer to the entrance and I could feel myself getting more excited seeing Joe again in the flesh had given me a rush. I glanced back up again and they were still watching. "This cruise is gonna be so cool, I can't believe the guys have recognised us". Sacha kept taking sneaky looks up.

"I know, how the hell I'm I gonna resist those blues this year it killed me last year and I was happily married" I replied.

"I ain't resisting nothing this year I've held out on him a whole year and if I get the chance I ain't saying no this year babe" Sacha replied smiling at me.

Up on top deck Donnie got his phone out and called the front desk "when Toni and Sacha in room 6d check in up grade them to VIP for me and give them access all areas, yes I'm sure and don't screw it up man"

Joe looked at Donnie and said "how did you know what room their in man?"

"I looked on your ship manifest Joe I was hoping they would be sailing this year and I'm not gonna throw away an opportunity like that" he replied smiling. "I'm a free man but during this cruise I got my eye on one girl" he replied smiling. Man he would like to see their faces when they get that up grade.

We reached the desk and checked in. The guy behind reception smiled at them and said "you two are the lucky ones, we've upgraded you to VIP deck in a suite and here are your access all area passes. "There must be some mistake, we didn't book VIP "I said looking at the clerk. "no mistake Toni, you've been upgraded here's your key cards enjoy the trip" he said handing us the cards. "Can we ask who up graded us? Sacha asked. "It's not for me to say, if you'll move on the guys over there will take your bags and show you to your room". The guys came over and took our bags. I looked at Sasha in shock, she shook her head not having a clue who would of done this. We followed the guys to the lift and up to VIP. This part of the boat was amazing and I still couldn't think who would do this for us, I knew my parents didn't have the funds to upgrade or we would have booked it this way from the start. The guys showed us our room and I swiped the card and opened the door. It was gorgeous the living area was huge and each of us had a double and en suite. "Oh my freakin god babe this is beautiful" Sacha replied opening doors. I was in shock. We hugged each other and squealed like school girls. Jumping around and hugging each other. "This cruise is gonna be awesome Toni". We parted and picked our room and went to unpack. We each had a balcony in our bedrooms and I opened the door and stepped out. It looked out over the sea and Miami. I smiled. "Like the surprise then I take it from the squealing that's going on ". I jumped at the male voice and looked to my right. Donnie was stood on his balcony looking at me. Donnie was wearing a pink shirt and white linen trousers he looked hot, if I didn't like Joe so much I could easily go for Donnie. He smiled. "Did you do this? I asked. He nodded. "But why would you Donnie? I asked him. "I know you've had a shitty year and thought it would be a nice surprise for ya" he replied. I nodded and swallowed the lump which had risen in my throat. "Thanks Donnie it's very kind of you" I replied. I could here Sacha shouting from inside the room. "Who you talking to? I called back "it's Donnie" I replied and looked back into the cabin at Sasha she had halted in her spot and was using her arms to point out side. I nodded and laughed. Donnie looked at me and said "she don't believe ya right?" "Oh she does but I think she to scared to come out right Sacha?" I asked. "No I'm just busy un packing right now" she called out. Donnie laughed and looked at Toni "I'll catch her later, I will leave you to unpack, see ya on lido deck for sail off" he replied turning to go into his cabin. "Thanks again Donnie "I said heading inside.

"Oh my god is Donnie in the next room to us? Sasha asked. "Yeah why you so chicken to come out and say hi? I asked. "I'm letting him sweat it out a bit, seriously Toni did he do this?" She asked pointing to the room. I nodded and replied "he knew I had a shitty year and wanted to cheer me up ".she nodded and smiled. I went back into my room and unpacked my bags.