

David and Maddie were happy to find that the cafe and a couple of small shops on the avenue were open for business. The business owners knew tourists were stranded and they probably hoped to make a tidy sum off of them. Maddie noticed that one store next door to the hotel was advertising boots for sale. She pulled David into the shop. They bought boots, gloves, and scarves to combat the elements. Now, cozy and warm they traipsed across the snow mounds to reach the restaurant.

The conversation at lunch was strained and awkward. They spoke about the storm. They spoke about the agency but neither was willing to bring up what they wanted to talk about. *'I love you.'* *'Take me back.'* *'I need you.'* *'I can't live without you.'* These words were never spoken. Instead they plowed through a quiet lunch and returned to the hotel; hurt and distraught over the other's silence.

Maddie was staring at the window at the falling snow. She had to admit the street looked beautiful covered in snow. Everything was so still and silent. One of the things she missed about Chicago was the snow. She thought about a little green eyed boy playing in the snow and her eyes misted over. This may be a second chance for her. She prayed that if she was pregnant the baby would be born healthy. She looked over at David who was engrossed in some card game, bopping along to the music on his Walkman. She sat on the bed watching him. It was a while before David noticed Maddie scrutinizing him.

He whipped off his headphones. "Blondie, blonde whatcha looking at?" He gave her a crooked grin.

Maddie felt embarrassed that she had been caught watching him. She felt her face redden. "Just wondering what you are playing. I'm hopelessly bored."

David picked up his cards and headed to the bed. He flopped down opposite Maddie with his legs crossed in front of her mimicking her position. David began to shuffle the cards in his hands. "Want me to teach you how to *play...cards*. I mean cards." David smirked at her with laughter in his eyes.

Maddie ignored his innuendo. "Sure. What game are you playing?"

David stared into her eyes. "I don't know why don't you tell me."

Maddie started to get up from the bed. "Maybe this is not such a good idea."

David grabbed her arm. "Chill, Blondie. It was a joke." He told her.

Maddie sighed but remained on the bed. "Fine."

David dealt them each five cards then placed the deck on the bed between them. "This game is called Jacks or Better. The object is to get a hand that is at least a pair of Jacks or better."

Maddie was nodding her head.

"Do you know what hands beat a pair of Jacks?"

"A pair of Kings?" Maddie knew that...

"And..?" David prompted.

"Pairs of Queens and aces. Three of a kind. Four of a kind. A straight. A flush."

David stared at her. "You've played this game before."

Maddie laughed. "Maybe a little."

"Let me guess. Taught to you by the same guy who taught you how to play pool. Huh?"

"No flies on you."

David grinned. "Ya know no one ever told me what that means."

They both laughed.

"Okay card shark girl what would you like to play for?"

"Play for?"

"To make it interesting."

"Why don't we just play for fun?"

"We can play strip poker?" David suggested teasingly. He saw Maddie's dirty look and laughed. "Fine. Fun it is!"

Maddie picked up her five cards. David glanced at her studying the cards. His heart missed a beat. How can she get more and more beautiful each time I look at her? "How many cards you need?" David asked picking up the deck.

Maddie threw down on the bed her unwanted cards. "Three." She told David.

He dealt her three new cards, threw down two of his cards, dealt himself two more cards, placed the deck back on the bed and picked up his hand.

"Sooo, Blondie whatcha got?" He grinned his eyes sparkling.

Maddie caught her breath. David seemed to get more drop dead gorgeous each day. She tore her gaze away from him. "Three kings." She smirked. "And you?"

David pouted. "A pair of threes. You win."

Maddie giggled as she took the cards, shuffled them expertly and dealt a new hand. David laughed as he picked up his hand.

After several games, David no longer felt like laughing. He had lost every single hand.

Maddie saw his down cast expression. "Sore loser." She teased.

David looked hard at her. "Am not."

"Are too."

"Am not!"

"Are too!!!"

David started tickling Maddie. "No fair! You probably cheated!" He teased.

"Did not!" Maddie felt David tickling her side.

"Did too!" His other hand tickled her belly.

Maddie was trying to escape David's tickling fingers. She was laughing so hard she couldn't catch her breath. "Stop!" She fell back on the bed with David over her. She felt his weight on her body.

David found himself on top of Maddie on the bed. His hands began to caress instead of tickle as his mouth sought out her tongue. Next thing he knew he was lying on the floor.

Initially, when Maddie felt David's caresses she found herself melting into the mattress but then she remembered Annie and all the crap between them. She forcefully pushed him off of her.

David stood up looking at her with a mixture of hurt, confusion and anger on his face. "Whadja do that for?"

"What were you doing Addison? What would your *girlfriend* say?"

"Last time I checked I was single. Oh but how could I forget about your mad passionate affair with Frenchy!"

They glared at one another.

"Oh sorry I guess you only screw two men at a time when one is a space-man."

"You low down dirty..."

David urged her on. "Yeah go ahead. Don't like the truth."

"Lying, cheating, vile, vulgar sex maniac."

"Yeah that's me. Oh sex maniac? *Now* you're complaining?"

"I loathe you! You crude lewd sex fiend!"

"Yeah yeah. I know exactly what you think of me. You've spent enough time telling me!" David was furious and hurt; a dangerous situation. "Well now you must be thrilled. You snagged yourself a rich, successful guy and this one actually seems to have a personality." He sneered at her. "Too bad you don't."

"What did you say???" She had murder in her eyes.

He stared back equally filled with rage. "Nothing. I'm through fighting with you. You are making me miserable!"

"I'm making you miserable? You've done nothing but make me miserable from the day I met you. I should have closed the agency that day!"

"Yeah! You should have. Would have saved me almost six fucking years of misery!"

"I hate you!" Maddie screamed. She wanted to kill him. "I cannot bear to be in the same room with you! You make me sick!"

"Believe me. You don't make me feel like dancing the cha cha either." David's eyes were emitting green lasers. "When we get back I'm gonna sell my half of Blue Moon and get the hell away from you!" He waved his hand in the air.

"No! I will sell my half. I want nothing to do with that place or you!"

"Fine then you can go and live in France with lover boy!"

"Fine!" She yelled then her voice lowered dangerously. "And maybe I will go with Pierre. At least he is a real man!"

"Good! Glad you're happy." David felt a smirk covering his face. "I always knew you were a cold bitch. Just never pegged you as a slut too."

"You...You..." Enraged and hurt Maddie picked up a statue of the Eiffel Tower which was lying on the night table. She pegged it at David. He tried to move out of the way but the statue grazed his cheek leaving a bloody welt. His hand instinctively went to his cheek.

Maddie was sickened by what she had just done. Her hands flew to her mouth in shock. She moved toward him; he backed away not knowing if she was hoping to finish the job. "David." Her voice was plaintive, so soft he could barely hear it although she was standing right in front of him. Her hand reached up to touch his cheek. She saw David flinch and felt tears pool in her eyes. "David. I'm so sorry."

David looked down at her; his eyes full of hurt and doubt. "Seems like we played this song before." He touched the bloody welt shaking his head. He turned to walk away but felt Maddie grab his arm.

"Forgive me?" Maddie's fingers gently touched his face. David couldn't resist her nearness. He grasped her hand pulling her against him as he bent his head covering her mouth with his.

At first Maddie welcomed his kiss but suddenly thoughts of Annie and so many past hurts flew into her head. She jerked her head away from his kiss as her fists pummeled his chest. "Stop!" She cried her eyes blazing with hurt and fury. "Why??? How could you go with my cousin? How could you hurt me like that after...Paris...after everything?"

David took hold of her hands and held them against her chest. "You must be kidding me?? Miss Pierre's girlfriend. You fell into his bed quick enough. Guess you finally found what you wanted."

"At least he isn't your cousin! And you stupid jerk I never slept with that man. I thought you knew me better than that."

David felt relieved. "You didn't. But I thought you said..."

Maddie looked at him her blue eyes deep pools staring at him. "No. I never said anything about sleeping with Pierre. You assumed. You are the one always thinking with your zipper." She glared at him. "What does it matter you slept with Annie!"

David shook his head. "I never touched her. We kissed that's all. I wouldn't do your cousin!"

"She told me you were a wild man in bed!" Maddie threw at him.

‘Yeah and she told me that Pierre slept over in your bed!’ He threw back.

"*She lied!*" They both said together.

"***What did you say?***" They both asked together. They smiled at each other and laughed.

But Maddie became serious again. "What did you just say David?"

"I said she lied I never laid a finger on her. Ok maybe my lips but that's all. A few kisses that meant nothing to me."

"Pierre never slept at my house! He left right after you did that night. She lied to you too. I never let Pierre touch me. A few kisses that meant nothing to me either."

David smiled at Maddie again. "Glad to hear that." He went over to her. "So what are we doing here Maddie?" He ran his hands through his hair. "You confuse me." He told her simply.

"I confuse you?" She was still angry at him for hurts he had inflicted in the past. David was the type to yell and then it was over but Maddie kept her hurt and anger bottled inside.

David saw the hurt and anger in her eyes. He knew if they left this room without airing their feelings there would be no hope of a future for them. David sat on the couch and pulled Maddie down next to him. He ached to take her in his arms. But he knew it wasn't the time to try. David reached over and brushed a tendril of hair off Maddie's forehead. "What is it baby?" David asked quietly. She didn't say anything. "I think we finally need to talk Maddie. Really talk."

Maddie took a deep breath. "David why did you ask me to go to Paris with you?" Maddie had wanted to ask him that question for a while. Actually from the moment he asked her to go with him.

David shrugged. "As soon as I found out about it I couldn't think of taking anyone else but you. I thought maybe you needed to get away. Hell, I needed to get away. I missed you and I was hoping you missed me. And I thought

what better place than Paris to help us hopefully find each other again." David rested his head against the back of the couch. "I thought maybe we could talk and make things right between us. I thought we would maybe be able to talk and open up to each other without the distractions of work and our lives in LA. But instead we made things worse." He turned his head to look at her. "I'm sorry I couldn't keep my hands off of you."

"Well it wasn't entirely your fault I'm the one who started it that first night. Maybe I was hoping sex would bring us closer but it just blew up in our faces."

David stared into her eyes. "You were so happy when we first got to Paris. I saw real happiness in your eyes something I hadn't seen in a very long time." David took her hand in his and began to play with her fingers. "For a while it seemed things were going our way but maybe we should have talked more before we made love."

Maddie looked down at their entwined hands. She shook her head. "Talk? No we didn't talk. How about if we start talking now!" She told him simply. She needed to get a few things off her chest.

David nodded.

Maddie threw blue lasers at him. "At the party you made it perfectly clear that you had no interest in a relationship with me. You said we weren't a couple. You said we were pals."

David looked at her stunned. "Are you joking? You are the one who told me we were friends; umm oh wait pals. Didn't you tell me that?"

Maddie nodded.

"Why Maddie?"

She shrugged.

"I need to know if you really meant it. Why did you tell me that? Do you know how that hurt me?" He cupped her chin tilting her face up to his. "Do you?"

Maddie shook her head. "I'm sorry David." She pulled away. "I was expecting, no I was hoping you would tell me that we weren't pals; that we were so much more. But you didn't. Why?"

David ran his hands through his hair. "Why? Why" Maddie why play these games with me? I love you. Why would I want to be pals with the woman I am madly in love with?"

"So why did you say we weren't a couple?" She stared hard at him.

David shrugged. "I don't know. I saw you with Pierre and I guess I felt hurt and jealous. I figured Pierre was the kinda guy you always wanted. I didn't think you wanted me. He stared back at her. "Do you want me?"

Maddie ignored his question. "And how dare you say you love me now!"

"What are you saying? I do love you Maddie. I never stopped loving you."

"Really? That's news to me." Maddie pulled her hand away from his. "I told you I loved you the first night we made love in Paris and you said *nothing*. Nothing at all David."

David looked shocked. "What are you talking about? You never said anything to me."

"Yes I did. I told you I loved you and your answer was that you loved to fuck me."

David didn't know what to say. He never heard her say those words to him in Paris. "I didn't hear you say that. I'm sorry I was so crude. I wanted to say I loved you so many times over that weekend to you but I was too afraid. If I told you how I felt and you brought up a pact I would probably would have strangled you." He tried to laugh. "But really Maddie how could I know how you felt about me?"

"Do you imagine I am the type of woman who makes love with a pal? I am not the type of woman to sleep with someone without love. David I never stopped loving you." Maddie looked into his green eyes so full of hurt but she saw love too. Maddie shrugged. "Oh David we have made so many mistakes. Maybe we aren't meant to be together even if we love one another."

"What are you saying?"

Maddie had another item to get off her chest. "Where were you David?"

"What? Where? What?"

"After I lost the baby. Why did you avoid me?" Maddie had been holding that hurt and anger in for a very long time.

David shook his head. He wasn't expecting the conversation to take this turn. "I don't know." He ran his hand through his hair messing it up even more. "You said you didn't want my help." He looked at her. "I know that was no excuse. I was hurt and scared and didn't know what to do." David pulled Maddie into his lap, she welcomed his arms around her. He put his lips against her hair. "That was the biggest regret of my life. I should have been there for you. But I thought you didn't want me. I couldn't handle it. I couldn't even help myself with how I was feeling and I thought how could I help you? But I guess we could have helped each other together. Instead we both suffered alone."

Maddie felt the tears pour down her face. "I know I tried to push you away but I thought if you loved me and wanted me you would never have listened to me! I figured you didn't care about me. That maybe you hated me." She wiped the tears away with her hand. "I hated you for a while. I was so scared and hurt." She looked into his eyes. "And alone. How can I ever trust you won't abandon me again if something bad happens?"

David wiped away her tears with his fingers. "Sweetheart if anything bad happens again, which I hope it never does, I swear I will be right there beside you. And haven't we both learned from our mistakes? I know damn well I have. I would not make those same mistakes again. I promise you I will never leave you alone again. I love you Maddie Hayes." He kissed her eyes, her cheeks and finally her mouth. "I love you so much. Maybe we can start again right here; right now." He ran his hands up and down her back. "We have a second chance at Paris and with our love. Maybe that's why we are here again. Maddie I am so sorry for things I did; things I said. Things got a little out of control. I just hope I didn't hurt you . I never meant to hurt you , you do know that right? " He looked deep into her blue eyes .

Maddie nodded. "And I never meant to hurt you. I am so sorry if I made a fool out of you at your party. I was just so hurt and angry too."

David felt nervous. "So what do you think? Are we going to take this second chance or walk away from it for good this time?" He held his breath as he waited for her answer. Maddie was quiet. David touched her cheek. "What do you say Blondie?"

Maddie looked deeply into his green eyes. She smiled through her tears. "I want to David but I want to be sure."

"Well we have to learn to talk to each other and stop these childish games. I want you. You want me. We can make it work if we want. And boy do I want."

Maddie ran her hands through his mussed up hair. She smiled at him. "I do want you David." She bent her head to cover his mouth with hers. David returned her kisses with all the pent up love and devotion he felt inside. He wanted to make love to Maddie gently, adoring her body and showing her his love and commitment. He had to make sure that they made love with their hearts not only their bodies. He needed to hear her ask him.

Maddie wanted David to make love to her. She wanted to show him how much she loved him with her heart and her body. Maddie pulled away from David's kisses. "Make love to me David." She told him quietly.

"Are you sure Maddie? " He cupped her face in his hands.

Maddie leaned in and covered his face with gentle kisses. "I've never been surer of anything in my life. I love you David Addison."

"I love you more Maddie Hayes and that scares the hell out of me."

"Well maybe I love you more and that scares the hell out of me too." They laughed with one another and it felt great.

They leaned in to kiss tenderly a few more times.

David stood up and pulled Maddie into his arms leading her to the bed. He carefully laid her down on the soft mattress as he looked at her with eyes filled with love, tenderness, and adoration.

David undressed her slowly taking his time and covering every inch of her exposed skin with soft, tender kisses. He kept telling her much he loved her; how she was the only woman for him.

David felt Maddie's hands undressing him and his blood began to boil. "I love you so much." He whispered in her ear.

"I love you too David." Maddie answered back.

David's caresses were arousing her but knowing he loved her, wanted her for his own was causing her body to heat up to a fevered pitch. Maddie closed her eyes and let his hands, mouth and melted caramel voice bring her to peaks of ecstasy. No man had ever made her feel this way. Only David. Maddie couldn't hold in her moans of passion.

David heard Maddie's moans and felt his pulse quicken. He loved how he could arouse her so completely. David's velvet tongue meandered its way languidly over Maddie's body setting it on fire. He heard her calling out his name as his mouth reached her most intimate spot. Maddie was writhing with desire on the bed. He kissed and licked her there until she was screaming his name over and over as she reached her climax. David then began to stroke and kiss Maddie's thighs landing on the tattoo she had gotten all those weeks ago. He kissed and caressed the red heart with his name in it tenderly. "I love this Maddie. I hope that my name will be in your heart forever." He told her looking up at her with smoldering eyes.

Maddie was trying to come back to the real world after being rocked with multiple orgasms from David's fingers and mouth. Her voice was all breathy as she tried to form words. "Always David. Always." She reached out to him pulling him on top of her and covering his neck and chest with red hot kisses. "I love the tattoo David. I'm not sorry I got it. And I do love you David."

"Oh god I love you Maddie." David whispered as he gently pushed his length inside of her. He heard her gasp in his ear as he began to grind into her with slow circular motions that seemed to be driving her wild. He felt her legs wrap tightly around his waist. It pulled him in deeper. He could feel

her nails biting into his flesh leaving scratch marks all over his back. The slight pain actually felt wonderful as David made love to her with all his body, soul, and heart. He felt near to his release as he picked up the pace and came with a rush and a roar as he devoured her mouth with his own.

Maddie pillowed her head on David's chest enjoying the feel of his arms holding her tightly. She moved her head over his chest and heard him groan.

She looked up at him with a seductive smile that took his breath away. "We're not done here tonight cowboy." She promised.

David's green eyes sparkled down at her. "Done? No way baby I just got started." He told her as he flipped her back onto the mattress and began to make love to her again. Their lovemaking that night ran the gamut from slow and easy to hard and frenzied. They couldn't get enough of each other joining their bodies together over and over until they both collapsed completely spent into slumber out of sheer exhaustion.

David opened his eyes to find the sun streaming in through the window. His first thought was that the blizzard had finally stopped. He looked down at Maddie sleeping peacefully in his arms. He looked at her face it had a half-smile on her lips and his heart flipped. Wasn't this what he always wanted? To wake up after a night of lovemaking and find Maddie snuggled happily in his arms. He hoped that this wasn't a dream and actually pinched himself to be certain. The pinch hurt and he was thrilled. He was happy just to watch her sleeping as his hands played over her body. He kissed the top of her head and felt her coming awake.

"Hey sleepyhead." David crooned into her ear. "I love you." He never would get tired of saying those three magic words to Maddie.

Maddie was so happy to wake up snuggled into David's strong arms. Why did she fight this for so long? Why had she been so uncertain of him and his love. She finally realized how much and how deeply he loved her and it made her giddy with joy. She couldn't stop the huge grin that covered her face as she reached for his mouth for their good morning kiss. "Morning. I love you David." She whispered against his lips. Then she grew serious as blue eyes met his green. Maddie realized she needed to tell him the possibility of her being pregnant." David umm there is something that I want to talk to you about."

David's belly clenched. She wouldn't. She couldn't. He just stared back into her eyes. "Okay. Umm what is it?" He stammered out.

Maddie didn't know how to tell him she may be carrying his baby so she just decided to say what she thought. She sat up and stared down at him. "David, for some reason when I'm with you I seem to lose all semblance of reality.."

David didn't like the sound of this. "What are you saying?" He snapped.

Maddie got annoyed. "Why are you yelling at me?" Maybe she shouldn't tell him till she was sure she thought.

David sat up next to her. "I'm not yelling. Just say what you have to say but I swear to God Maddie if it starts with a P and ends with a T I cannot be held responsible for my actions!"

Oh, no he thinks I am going to start in with that pact crap again. Won't he ever trust me? She half smiled at him. "How bout if it starts with a B and ends with a Y?"

At first David was confused then he started to understand. His eyes lit up. "Starts with a B and ends with a Y? Baby? A baby?"

Maddie nodded. "I am not 100% positive David but all the signs are there. It must have happened on the first trip here. And I was going to make an appointment to see my doctor but we got this call to go back to Paris. I mean I am almost sure I am but won't know till then." She looked into his eyes. He looked happy. "Are you happy?"

David pulled her into his arms. "Happy? Happy? Are you kidding me? I'm beyond happy." He kissed her tenderly. "I love you Maddie Hayes with my whole heart. And I love the baby too."

Maddie thought she would burst with happiness. "I love you David Addison with my whole heart too."

David was filled with joy to see the wide grin on her face and the contentment in her eyes as he kissed her passionately. A baby? They were probably going to have a baby! He was filled with such a deep love for this woman in his arms he thought he would explode.

He put his hands on her still flat stomach. She placed her hand on his. They leaned in towards each other to kiss.

Maddie pulled back from the kiss first. Her face clouded over. "David what if I'm not...."

David put his finger to her lips. "Shhh." He looked deep into her eyes. "Then we practice til we get it right." He smiled at her. "But I think that you are."

She looked at him. She knew she should listen to him. She knew in heart she was really pregnant.

"That's why you haven't been feeling good? You got sick yesterday when we were arguing. I thought I made you sick. I felt horrible."

She laughed at him. "Oh David. Yes that's probably why I've been feeling so sick lately and tired too."

David kept caressing her stomach. "I wasn't there last time for all this. I'm going to be there every second this time."

Maddie realized she was the reason he lost out last time. "I'm so sorry."

"Hey this is a happy occasion ok? I love you honey." He leaned down and captured her lips and slowly pushed her back on the bed and covered her body with his. They made slow love before they headed for the shower.

"Snow's stopped. I guess we should be heading home tomorrow once the airports open." David mentioned as he threw on his clothes. "That is unless you and I can let's say play a little hooky and stay on for an extra day or two." He looked at her. "How bout it?"

Maddie stopped brushing her hair and looked at him. "I don't know David we have been away for a few days." She saw the disappointment in his eyes. "And I guess another day or two won't make much of a difference; especially since we are going home with the new business."

David whooped with joy as he pulled her into his arms for a spontaneous dance of joy around the room. He picked her up and twirled her around a

few time in his arms. She laughed out loud at his giddiness. He put her down when he thought about the baby. "Hey do you feel ok? Sorry about that I guess I just got over excited."

"David it's fine. I'm fine. Ok. Let's check in with Agnes let her know we are staying here another day or two."

"I would love to see more of Paris with you baby. Hey let's go shopping. Let's go eat some more of the escar thingys."

Maddie shook her head at him. "Ok I don't know if my stomach can handle those escar thingys but we will see about getting you some." She giggled.

David captured Maddie lips kissing her over and over.

"Hey lover boy, if we don't stop we will never get out of this room."

"Hmm and that would be a bad thing?" David teased and kissed her again. He then looked at her face and laugh out loud this time. "Ok. Ok come on let's get moving. I seemed to have worked up an appetite."