

Days passed in a whirl of emotions as they had since Maddie's return from Chicago. Once again all their good intentions of staying away from one another was forgotten as soon as they laid eyes on one another. Their breakfasts, lunches and dinners together continued. Maddie was hurt over David's behavior with Walter the previous night but did her best to hide her hurt. David was angry over the whole mess Maddie had made but he did his best to hide his anger. Despite these feelings they still were attracted to each other like a moth to a flame. But who would burn up first?

Time was passing by very quickly. Maddie not only had the office on her mind but she was doing her best to prepare for the baby who would be making an appearance in a few short months. On the way home from visiting a client at his office Maddie asked David to stop off at "Beau Bébé" Maddie's favorite baby boutique. The store had called to tell her the baby clothes she had ordered had been delivered and she could pick them up anytime. Maddie didn't think anything of it as she and David walked into the upscale boutique. David whistled. "Wow, only the best for Sam Jr."

Maddie threw David a dirty look. "Stop calling the baby Sam Jr." Her attention was turned to the cute outfits and baby shoes so she didn't even notice David's silence or discomfort. "Isn't this adorable?" Maddie showed David a pair of tiny baby sneakers. He didn't answer. As she looked around the store oohing and ahing over baby toys, clothes and furniture David had a sudden urge to break something. Didn't she realize how hurt he was that she wasn't allowing him to be a part of the baby's life? He wasn't good enough to build a life and raise a child with so instead she put her bet on a stranger she met on a train. If that wasn't a slap in the face he couldn't imagine what was. Instead of starting a fight in the store or doing and saying something he would regret David told Maddie he would wait in the car.

Maddie couldn't imagine why David was so cold and silent as they were driving back to the office. What had she done? She had tried to make conversation with him but he had pointedly ignored her. Maddie swore that David's mood swings were just as bad as her pregnancy driven hormonal ones. The rest of the day David had avoided her. Maddie went home with a heavy heart.

The next morning Maddie was tired; she was resting on her sofa trying not to think about David or what had been going on between them for the last month. She leaned her head back on the throw pillows she had placed behind her head. She had never been more confused in her entire life. She had believed that marrying Walter would have put an end to her relationship and confusion about David but it had on-

ly made things worse. It seems she and David had picked up their physical relationship where they had left off before she had escaped to Chicago but now she had a husband and a pregnancy to contend with. Also, David seemed aloof toward her except when they were in the throes of passion and those throes were hotter and more intense than the month they had been together before she left for the windy city. Maddie knew what she and David were doing was wrong but she seemed powerless to stop it. She was addicted to David Addison. He could turn her on completely with just a look; even the way he said her name caused her heart to race and her blood to pound through her body. She loved him and that was the worst part since she had no clue if he still was in love with her. He hadn't said a word about how he really felt about her since she'd been back home.

Maddie knew how much David desired her sexually but she wished all her heart that he would tell her he loved her. She wanted David to tell her to end her crazy marriage to Walter but he remained silent. Maddie began to talk to the baby in her womb. "I feel so confused. I really missed having lunch with David today. We have been spending so much time together I forget I am married to another man. I still don't understand why David got so angry at me when we were in the baby store yesterday. That man is surely an enigma." Maddie sighed deeply. "I love you baby." Maddie patted her stomach affectionately. "I really wish you were David's baby. I don't know what I should do. Should I ask David if he wants me to leave Walter?" She sighed deeply. "But what will I do if he says no?"

David was probably happy she was already married; that let him off the hook. She shook her head as she rose to close the door so she could catch a cat nap. She wasn't sleeping well at night and she was exhausted during the day.

As she got up to close the door, Maddie heard Bert and a couple of the other employees coming back from lunch. They were laughing and joking very loudly and it peaked Maddie's curiosity when she heard David's name being bandied about. She hid behind the open door to hear what they were saying.

"How could you resist that invitation Bert? Are you nuts?" Maddie heard Jorgenson ask Viola.

"No I am not nuts. Agnes and I were just beginning our love story and I didn't want to do anything that may have put a crimp in our happy ending."

Agnes must be at lunch Maddie surmised as she continued listening in on the boys.

"Well guess Mr. Addison didn't feel the same way." Smittie snickered.

"Whoa with a babe like that blonde giving you a free ride to paradise how could you resist?" Jorgenson chuckled lewdly. "Mr. Addison sure gets around."

"Yeah but wasn't he with Miss Hayes at that time?" Smittie asked curious. "Wasn't that when we found out she was going to have a baby?"

"It wasn't like that!" Bert snapped eager to champion his hero. "Mr. Addison thought it was over between them. Remember Miss Hayes left him to go to Chicago. He was very upset. She never called. She never wrote. He didn't know if she was ever coming back home to him."

"Yeah, he was real upset." O'Reilly laughed. "What was she gone all of two weeks before he dipped his wick in another candle."

Bert was getting upset. "You men have it all wrong!" He sputtered.

Jorgenson snorted. "Yeah whatever but hey I'd like to dip my wick her way. And her friend too. Whoa Bert you are a saint!"

"No, just a man in love! And anyway Mr. Addison found out about the baby *after* this happened."

Jorgenson chuckled. "Maybe the babes are still in the restaurant. We should invite them up here. Maybe Mr. Addison misses his Rita."

"Stop that! I would have never mentioned anything to you Neanderthals if Genevieve and Rita didn't come over to our table to say hello!" Bert was beside himself.

The guys continued laughing and ignored Bert.

Maddie couldn't believe what she was hearing. David was with another woman only two weeks after she left town? She had been right about him all along. He could never keep his pants zipped; he could never be faithful! Sherri and now this other woman! How many women had he been with when she was away and maybe carrying his child? Maddie was furious! And here she was allowing him to have his way with her over and over again. She wouldn't let that man touch her again in a thousand years! No a million!

Maddie couldn't even think about napping anymore. She was too wound up! David said he was going to get a haircut but was it the truth? Maybe he was meeting one of his women for some afternoon delight! And why should she care? She was a happily married woman! Sure, sure keep trying to convince yourself you are happy with Walter a little voice whispered into her ear; a man you won't even share a bed with. A man who bores you to tears! Maddie pushed those errant thoughts out of her head as she paced around her office like a trapped animal. A few minutes later she heard the front door open and David greeting the staff. Maddie flew behind her desk and tried to look busy. Sure enough David knocked twice and waltzed into her office without a care in the world. Maddie knew when she saw his smug face she was capable of murder.

While David was getting his haircut he realized he was acting like a jerk. He knew deep down that Maddie didn't take him into the baby store to hurt him; he was just so jealous that he wasn't part of her pregnancy that he saw red. Why should a stranger take part in the most important time of Maddie's life? Maybe he should ask her to leave Walter. But what if she said no? David felt he needed to make things up to her when he got back to the office.

"Hey Blondie Blonde." David threw her a half grin closing the door behind him. "Get those pumps on I came back to take you and the little dividend to lunch." David was surprised when Maddie didn't look up but kept writing notes on a yellow pad.

"Yoo hoo!" David cupped his hand over his mouth. "Yoo hoo. Maddie!"

"What is it you want Addison?" She asked trying to swallow her hurt and jealousy. Maddie looked his way noticing how handsome he looked with his new haircut. She pushed that thought away.

"Besides your luscious body next to mine." He quipped raising his eyebrows. "How bout a burger? A salad? Some soup. My nuts."

"I'm not hungry."

"Maddie. Maddie. Maddie. You're eating for two now. You can't skip meals. It's not good for the bambina; bambino." David perched on the edge of her desk.

Maddie was in no mood to eat lunch or even be in the same mile radius of the green eyed man who was smugly waiting for her to join him. "Go away David. I'm busy." She waved to the papers covering her desk.

David got off her desk and walked around until he was behind her. He put his hands on her shoulders and began to massage them. Maddie tried to shrug his hands off of her but David was too quick as his hands traveled down and cupped her breasts. He bent over to kiss her neck as his hands squeezed her swollen breasts. He couldn't keep his hands off of her. He felt the same or maybe more raw passion for her than he did before she left for Chicago. He wanted to make love to her over and over and even then he still wasn't fully satisfied. She was like a drug. And he needed a fix right now.

"Hey maybe we can hold off on lunch for a few. We can have dessert first then go out for the entre." David licked his lips.

Maddie stood up and moved away from David. She turned to face him her blue eyes throwing death rays his way.

David was stunned by the look in her eyes. He thought they had been getting along for the past couple of weeks. David was sure it was just a matter of time before Maddie caved and admitted her marrying Wally was a dumb move and had her marriage to Wally annulled. He stared at her with confusion. "What's the matter babe?"

"Don't you dare call me babe!"

"A little hormonal are we? I think you need my help to relieve some of your stress and help you um relax. Come on let my velvet hands take care of you." David reached out to her and she slapped his hands away. David raised an eyebrow. "Hey! I know we both don't mind when it gets a bit rough when we are together but this is not my kind of fun foreplay. What gives? "

"What gives? What gives? I hate you David Addison." Maddie shouted in fury.

David was used to Maddie's mercurial mood changes but he couldn't imagine why she was so angry at him this time. "Maddie what's wrong? Did something happen while I was out? Maybe you should calm down. It's not good for the baby."

"How could you?" She sputtered.

"How could I what?"

"I trusted you. Boy what a big mistake that was. I'm such an idiot! I was right to leave for Chicago and I should have stayed there!" She was pacing in front of him.

David reached out and grabbed her arm. "What the hell are you going on about? You know damn well you belong here not in Chicago." David touched her face.

Maddie snapped her head away from David's hand. She couldn't bear to have him near her. "Why do I belong here?" She was staring into his eyes. "You seem to do very well without me."

David was frustrated. "What are you talking about?"

"I wasn't even gone two weeks David! How could you??"

David couldn't imagine what Maddie was saying and then it came to him. Shit. Well, too bad, he thought as his temper rose. She had some nerve questioning him; *Mrs. Meet a stranger and marry him Bishop*. David smirked. "Well, gee let me think." David put his fingers up to the side of his head like he was deep in thought.

"Where did you meet her?" Why was she asking him that question? Why did that matter?

"What's the difference?" David was wondering how Maddie found out about his one night stand with Rita. He was sure Bert wouldn't have mentioned it. "And how do you know about her?"

"Rita. Can't you say her name?"

"Sure I can." David raised a mocking eyebrow. "Rita."

"Seems your lady love was having lunch in the same place as Bert and some of the other guys and Bert was telling him of your little adventure. How nice of you to make a fool of me in front of my employees!"

David laughed evilly. "Me make a fool of you? Are you crazy lady? I'm not the one who ran away in the middle of the night for Chicago. I'm not the one who used my guts for a mop waiting for you to come home for almost five months and I'm

not the one who came back married. No, I made no fool of you!" David was glaring at her with green lightning bolts. "And anyway, it's really none of your God-damn business babe."

"Stop calling me babe. I'm not your babe. You rotten lousy, lying sex crazed jerk. I knew you'd end up cheating on me but two weeks after I left? Couldn't keep your pants zipped for more than two weeks huh. I was so right about you!"

"Whoa whoa wait a sec here. I didn't cheat on you. Not by a long shot. You left me. Remember that little plot point."

"So David how many was it? Is it? A different woman every night?"

"Hey babe what can I say I'm a sex crazed jerk right?" David threw her words back in her face. "And hate to say it but if I have a different woman every night of the week it really has nothing to do with you."

"So then what is going on with us? Why are you with me?"

"*Us*? There is no us. I thought we were both on the same wave length." He was lying through his teeth but he couldn't stop the words he knew would wound her. "Just scratching an itch. Playing around. Having fun."

Maddie was hurt and enraged. "So you and me? Is just fun?"

David sneered. "Well not all fun." His gaze traveled over her body slowly. "What can I say variety is the spice of life sweetheart. And I never had a pregnant woman in my bed before."

"You swine!" Maddie screeched at him. "Get out of my office!"

"Calm down Maddie." David lowered his voice a soothing timbre. "And I know how hormonal pregnant women are. Maybe I was just feeling bad for you honey. I mean being all horny and all and with Wally just interested in knitting and not satisfying your urges. I mean we're friends, pals. I felt it was my duty to keep you satisfied. God knows how much crankier and bitchier you would be around here if I didn't um help you out every now and then." David's smirk slid up his face. "It was a dirty job but someone had to do it."

Maddie saw the amusement in his eyes and had the urge to strangle him with his tie. "I hate you David Addison! I can't believe I was dumb enough to ever have let you near me. I thought maybe you cared about someone other than yourself. Something other than your dick. But I was wrong. Thanks for opening my eyes."

"You're welcome."

"I always knew you were a player but I never thought you would turn out to be an asshole too."

"Yeah well I always knew you were a bitch but I never knew you would turn out to be an adulterer."

"I'm not an adulterer."

"Honey there's a ring on *your* finger." David held up his left hand. "See no ring on mine. And no ring on my dick either." David knew he was being hurtful and crude but he couldn't stop.

Maddie felt her tears run down her face. She hated to cry in front of David but she couldn't hold her hurt and anger in any longer. "You really are a screwed-up mess!" She wanted to hurt him as much as he was hurting her. "You are disgusting. Don't ever touch me again!"

David saw the tears on Maddie's face and for a second he was about to take her in his arms and comfort her but then he remembered what she had done to him; how she had hurt him. Who dried his tears when she was away? Who comforted him when she told him she was married and that the baby wasn't his? Not Maddie. He hardened his heart toward her.

"Don't worry Maddie I won't touch you again. You know what I've had enough of you making me out to be bad guy all the time. You tried to turn this all around on me. Well now it's my turn to leave and see how you like it but before I do I just want to remind you I did not start any of this. **You** started it and now **I'm** finishing it. We're over and done!"

"Good! Over and done! Forever. I'm so glad the baby isn't yours." Maddie regretted the words as soon as they left her mouth. She saw the look in his eyes. Why were they hurting each other so badly?

This woman truly was a cruel bitch David thought. "Yeah so am I." David stormed out of the office slamming the door behind him so forcefully that the pictures flew off the walls. He left Maddie staring after him with tears dripping off her face.

Maddie felt like she couldn't breathe. She sat down on the couch and let the dam open as she sobbed into the throw pillows. David was right. It was her fault. She started it all with the pacts and how she treated him during that month. How could she explain to him that she was full of fear and insecurities about him and her out of control feelings? He would never have understood. She not only wanted him but needed him and that is what she couldn't stand. She knew he wanted her but did he need her? And she knew he loved her but how deep, for how long? Did she love him more than he loved her? Would he stay with her forever or leave her for the next flavor of the month? How could she have asked him these questions? How could he have answered? No one can see the future. So instead she ran; married another man and hurt David deeply even though he would not admit it. But now learning about Rita; maybe it was for the best that he wasn't the father of her baby. He wasn't ready to settle down with one woman. She would learn to love Walter; he was a good man. He wouldn't hurt her or cheat on her or make her crazy and unsure. She also thought sadly he would never excite her, make her blood boil or drive her out of her mind with passion but she would have to settle for all the good things he had to offer. David needed to live his own life not a life tied down to a woman who hurt him and was having another man's child. She put her hand over her stomach. She had to pull herself together for her child. A child that soon would be here. A child she wished with all her heart was David's no matter what she said to him. Maybe then they would have had a chance to be happy and a real family. God what a mess I've made.

When David slammed out of Maddie office in fury the whole office stopped and stared at him. He knew the office had heard the shouting between him and Maddie. He was dead tired of all the bullshit. There was a bottle of tequila with his name on it and tonight he was going to find it.

"Agnes I'm going for the day. If anyone calls for me tell them you don't know where I went and you don't know when I'll be back."

"Yes Mr. Addison." Agnes nodded .

David slammed out of the office. He walked down the hallway to the elevators. He pushed the buttons furiously . He needed to get far away from her. Maybe he should leave and go to Philly. He mentally shook his head. No, he wouldn't give

her the satisfaction. Maybe Maddie would decide to stay home with the baby. He didn't know how he could see her everyday knowing she was married to another man. Sooner or later she would have to consummate her marriage to Wally and that would just kill him. He had been ready to marry Maddie even not knowing for sure who the baby's father was but Maddie would rather marry a stranger and have him help her raise the child before she let him do it. Sometimes he couldn't believe this was actually happening. At times when he woke up in the morning he thought maybe it was a nightmare and Maddie was still in Chicago. David tossed aside these agonizing thoughts as he headed out in search of oblivion in a bottle of tequila.

Agnes was worried about Miss Hayes. All this fighting and aggravation couldn't be good for the baby she thought as she knocked on Maddie's office door.

Maddie was wiping her tears aside as she heard a knock at her office door. She really didn't feel like talking to anyone. "Who is it?" Maddie knew the whole office must have heard their fight and she felt embarrassed and annoyed. She hated David Addison!

"It's me. Agnes DiPesto. Your receptionist."

"I know who you are Agnes." Maddie snapped. "Come in."

Agnes saw Maddie sitting on the couch. Maddie smiled up at her but Agnes saw the smile wasn't in her eyes.

"Are you ok Miss Hayes?" Agnes knew she wasn't.

"I'm fine Agnes really."

"Miss Hayes I know you aren't fine and the way Mr. Addison left the office he isn't fine either."

Maddie couldn't help it once Agnes mentioned David she felt tears threatening to fall again. She stoically held them back. "Don't worry about us Agnes."

Agnes sat down next to Maddie on the couch. "I know this isn't my business and you know how I hate to butt in but things seem to be spiraling out of control with you and Mr. Addison. I mean you are married to Mr. Bishop and he is dating but everyone can see you still want to be together."

Maddie shook her head. "No, no Agnes believe me." Maddie wiped her eyes with a tissue. "We don't want to be anywhere near one another!"

"When are you going to stop lying to yourself Miss Hayes!"

"Well be that as it may. Mr. Addison is through with me. We said some pretty awful things to each other." Maddie stopped and took a deep breath. "I said something he may never forgive me for."

"Miss Hayes, I'm sure Mr. Addison realizes that sometimes we say things in anger we don't really mean." Agnes stared into Maddie's eyes. "But he may not get over your marriage to Mr. Bishop. Are you still happy with the fake white stuff? Maybe it's time for real milk?" Agnes hoped she wasn't going over the line.

Maddie just sat and looked at Agnes. She wasn't sure what to say.

"Why are you pretending to everyone you are happy?"

"I am happy! I'm happily married Agnes."

"If you say so Miss Hayes. I just hope the milk doesn't go sour before you decide you want a glass." Agnes stood up. "Well, is there anything I can do for you? Do you want me to get something for you maybe some food or something to drink? A nice tall glass of milk maybe?"

Maddie shook her head. "I'm fine." Maddie looked at her watch. "Walter will be here soon to take me to my doctor's appointment." Maddie stood up. "I better freshen up." Suddenly a smile appeared on Maddie's face. "Tonight I get to see if it is a boy or a girl. I'm really excited!"

Agnes smiled too. "Oh that is exciting Miss Hayes!" Agnes thought that Mr. Addison should be going to the doctor with her but she kept her mouth shut. "Are you wishing for a little boy or a little girl?" Agnes was curious.

Maddie thought of a little boy with green eyes and a crooked smile but knew that would never be. "As long as it is healthy Agnes. That's all that matters."

Agnes nodded as she made her way to the door.

"Thanks for being a good friend Agnes." Maddie went into the bath room.

Agnes shook her head and walked out of Maddie's office. There was nothing left for her to say.

The doctor was using the sonogram machine to make sure everything was ok with the baby. Maddie could see through the monitor the outline of her baby she thought with wonder. It looked so small but perfect. The doctor pointed out the baby's strong heartbeat as he ran the wand over her extended belly. "Seems to have all its fingers and toes and everything is where it should be." The doctor smiled at Maddie. "Do you want to know the sex of the baby?" He asked. Some parents didn't care to know the baby's sex they wanted to be surprised.

"Yes, sure of course!" Maddie exclaimed. She was excited.

Dr. Daniels smiled again. "Well, it looks like you two are having a baby boy."

"A boy!" Maddie was thrilled. "A little boy!"

Walter was smiling along with Maddie. He was happy Maddie was happy.

"Well everything looks great Maddie." Dr. Daniels said as he wrote some information down in Maddie's chart. "Why don't you get dressed and come into my office so we can talk."

"Ok sure" Maddie said as she looked over at Walter who was just standing there.

"I'll be waiting for you out there while you get dressed Maddie." Walter said nervously.

Maddie dressed and met Walter out in front of her doctor's office. Dr. Daniels came down the hall and asked them to have a seat.

"I was just going over some information and I know you completed you Lamaze classes. That's great. The closer we get now to your due date I will want to see you weekly but we still have some time for that."

"Yes that's fine. Am I ok working up till my due date? Is it safe for the baby?"

"Well I see no reason right now that you can't work till the end but most women do like a few weeks off to relax before their baby arrives. And at your age you might think of taking a break before the baby comes. Is it possible to take off a few weeks before you give birth?"

Maddie seemed to think it over. She hated to admit it even to herself but the agency seemed to have run very well with her gone for all those months. She knew David would keep the agency running while she was on maternity leave even though personally they were at odds with one another. "Yes, yes I have a partner."

The doctor smiled at Maddie. "Good then! So your due date should be June 25th. So think of taking off from maybe the first week of June."

Maddie's mouth dropped open. "June 25th? Are you sure?"

Dr. Daniels looked at Maddie and nodded. "Yes, I am sure. Why do you ask?"

Maddie's mouth couldn't form the words. "Um the doctor in Chicago told me my due date was June 10th."

The doctor shook his head. "No, maybe you misunderstood or that doctor made a mistake. June 10th isn't your due date."

Maddie all of a sudden felt the room closing in on her. Her voice got very shaky. "Oh Maddie really it's nothing to be concerned about. Most parents are glad to learn they have extra time on their hands to get ready for the baby. Now you have two extra weeks!" Maddie nodded. It finally sunk in. The doctor just confirmed David was the baby's father. Do wishes really come true?

Dr. Daniels stood up. The doctor saw the uncertainty on Maddie's face. He was confused. "Does it matter?"

Maddie shook her head. How could she explain that yes the due date mattered very much? The baby she was carrying was David's baby. *David's!* Not Sam's! Maddie felt a burst of happiness within her until she remembered the words she had flung at David earlier that day. She pushed that thought aside or she would break down in front of the doctor and Walter.

"Well I have to get to my next patient. If that's everything I'd like to see you in a month."

Maddie nodded but said nothing. Walter was staring at her. He understood why Maddie was at a loss for words. The baby was David's.

"Yes thank you Dr. Daniels." Walter stood and shook his hand.

"Maddie take care. Call me anytime if you have any questions." Dr. Daniels walked out on his way to another patient.

Maddie walked out of the office like a robot without acknowledging Walter. Walter just turned and followed her out.

They both silently got into the car. Maddie placed her hand over her stomach. She didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

Walter finally broke the silence. "You're having David's baby. Aren't you?"

Maddie nodded.

Walter sighed. "So what are you going to do now? You were so sure it wasn't his baby?"

Maddie shook her head. "I don't know."

"You have to tell him Maddie. It's not fair to keep it from him." He looked at her.

Maddie nodded. "I know."

Walter didn't know what else to say. "Are you hungry? Would you like to get a bite to eat?"

Maddie shook her head. "No thanks. I want to go home. I'm not hungry. Just very tired." Maddie couldn't get the fight with David out of her mind. She began to cry as Walter pulled into traffic.

Finally they reached Maddie's house. Walter put the car in park and turned to her. "Are you ok? Why are you crying?" Walter thought he knew why she was crying. "The baby is healthy. You're healthy. You should be happy."

Maddie nodded. "Oh Walter. I'm so confused!"

Walter wasn't sure what to say. He got out of the car and ran around to the passenger side door and opened it for Maddie. She got out and walked to the house tears streaming down her face. Walter opened the door and Maddie walked past him and ran up the stairs. Walter stood at the bottom of the stairs looking up at her closed bedroom door. He realized what this meant. Things were over between him and Maddie. He admitted to himself he never had a chance with her. He didn't even know why he married her when she all out admitted she was in love with another man? And instead of him telling her she should try to work things out with David he had taken advantage of her vulnerability and indecision to try and make her his. And now it had blown up in his face. Well what did he expect? He got what he deserved. He didn't even feel any anger toward Maddie. He really did wish her the best. He had gambled and lost. She didn't love him and never would. Walter had an inkling things were never going to work out between them once he saw Maddie and David together at the restaurant that night. It was obvious by the way that the two of them got under each other's skin that they loved each other. He had had suspicions over the past few weeks that his wife and her partner were doing more than working together but he chose to ignore it hoping she would get David Addison out of her system. Now with the baby being David's he had no chance. They would forever be bonded together. David would have rights to see his child. Walter would be a third wheel if they stayed married. He couldn't see himself in that role. He had to do the right thing and set Maddie free. He couldn't stand between her and David. They belonged together.

If only Maddie believed what Walter believed. She couldn't sleep. She kept thinking of why she was so quick to believe the baby wasn't David's? If she had her head on straight she should have realized that even if her first conception date was correct it still could have been David's baby. She had slept with David only a couple of days after she was with Sam so why was she so sure to believe it was Sam's baby? Well, that point was now moot. There was no possible way the baby was Sam's. She put her pillow over her face. After everything she had done to David she was wondering how he would take this new development. She knew that David must have had inkling that the baby could possibly not be his but he still had been preparing to be there for it; for her but now after everything Maddie wasn't sure how he felt. Maybe he would want no part of her or the baby. If that was the case she would accept his decision; sell the agency and go back to Chicago to raise her child. Maddie finally fell asleep with that plan in her head.

Maddie woke up to 'You're Having My Baby' playing on the radio. She put the pillow back over her head and prepared to begin the day. She was exhausted both

physically and emotionally. Maddie sat up but was hesitant to get out of bed. If she just stayed in bed maybe she could hide for a while. But instead she put her feet on the floor and headed for the shower. She had run away and hid and wasted too much time already. She was a grown woman and had to face her problems head on. She felt faint at the thought of going to Blue Moon today and seeing David but she knew she had to tell him. Walter was right; David had to be told she was carrying his son. *David's son*. Suddenly, a deep joy ran through Maddie's body. Even though David might not choose to be there for her she would always have a part of him; his son.

Maddie stopped short when she walked down her stairs she saw the suitcases sitting in the middle of her living room. Walter walked in from the kitchen and stopped when he saw Maddie staring at the suitcases.

"Maddie."

"Walter what's going on? Why are your suitcases in the living room? Are you going on a business trip?"

"No Maddie. I'm not going on a business trip. I'm leaving. I think it's the best thing for us."

Maddie didn't know that to say. She knew he was right. She felt terrible about everything she had done to both David and Walter. She looked at Walter sadly. "I'm so sorry Walter."

Walter nodded. "I know you are. And don't be sorry. I knew what I was getting into when I married you. I knew you were in love with another man and despite how adamant you were against it I knew there was a possibility the baby was his."

Maddie pushed her hair behind her ears; she felt the tears behind her eyelids. "I don't know what to do. I've made such a mess of everything."

Walter smiled at her and took her in his arms. "There there Maddie. David loves you."

Maddie shook her head. "I'm not so sure about that but that doesn't matter right now. I'm just sorry if I hurt you. Will we have to get a divorce?"

Walter held her away from him so he could look in her eyes. “No, since um we haven’t consummated the marriage we are eligible to get annulment.” Walter snapped his fingers. “Like it never happened.” Walter kissed her cheek. “And I don’t regret one minute of our marriage that never happened. For a little while I could pretend I was the prince who won the heart of the beautiful princess.”

Maddie wiped the tears off her cheeks. “You are a prince Walter you just picked the wrong princess.” Maddie laughed ironically. “Or maybe I’m the witch in this unhappy fairy tale.”

“It can still be happily ever after for you Maddie. Talk to David. You owe it to the three of you.”

Maddie nodded. Walter hugged her tightly. They broke apart when they heard the beep of a car horn.

“That’s my cab.” Walter told her. “I’ll have my lawyer draw up the papers. I’ll bring them over tomorrow.”

Maddie nodded. When Walter left she leaned against the door with her head thrown back thinking of what she was going to say to David. She prayed Walter was right and there was still a chance of a happily ever after.

Maddie was nervous as she walked down the long hallway to Blue Moon. What was she going to say to David? How could she begin? Maddie was eager to tell him but she was fearful of his reaction. She sighed as she pushed open the door to the agency. She greeted Agnes and ran into her office. She felt cowardly but she had to pull herself together before she faced David. Maddie sat at her desk thinking of different ways to tell David but realized that she wouldn’t know what she would say until she faced him. She couldn’t rehearse this. Maddie felt her heart pounding in her chest as she opened the door to her office.

She approached Agnes slowly. Agnes smiled at Maddie. “Miss Hayes!”

“Miss Dipesto! Is Mr. Addison in?”

Agnes shook her head curls flying. “No, didn’t he tell you?”

“Tell me what?”

“Bert and him are tracking down a major lead in the Anselmo case. Bert told me they wouldn’t be in the office today.”

“Oh.” Damn David!

Maddie waited all day for David to show up at the office but he never did. Agnes had just left after asking her if she wanted anything to eat. Maddie had declined; she had no appetite today. She glanced at the clock on her desk. It was already half past six; he wasn’t coming in today. She felt her heart ache thinking he was with Sherri. Maddie wearily pushed herself to her feet. She was feeling all of her 6 months of pregnancy today. Maddie sighed deeply. Even though she didn’t love Walter, Maddie was not looking forward to going home to an empty house tonight. She would have to wait yet another day to tell David the news.

When Maddie got home she took a relaxing bubble bath hoping that it would help her sleep. It didn’t. She felt like a cat on a hot tin roof as she tossed and turned in the bed that suddenly felt much too big. After spending half the night lying in bed wide awake Maddie made a decision.

Next thing she knew, Maddie was pounding on David’s door. A sudden thought hit her that he might not be alone but she realized it was too late to leave when she heard David’s footsteps approaching the door. “Hold on! Hold on! I’m coming!” He called out.

David was dragged from his dream by the incessant pounding on his front door. He looked over at the clock and saw it was almost 3:00 am. He was angry to be awakened from his dream of Maddie. She had been kissing him and laughing. The dream was quickly fading away as David threw on a pair of sweats that were lying on the floor beside his bed and walked to the front door on bare feet. He looked through the peep hole. Maddie? David quickly threw the door open. “Is everything ok? The baby?”

“I’m fine. The baby is fine.” Maddie told him. She looked at him standing in front of her wearing a pair of tight sweatpants and nothing else and she felt tongue-tied and nervous.

David couldn’t imagine why Maddie was at his doorstep in the middle of the night. His thoughts wandered back to the last time she had showed up at his house in the middle of the night when she had snuck away from Sam. Now she was sneaking away from another man; this time her husband. That thought caused David’s jaw to

tighten. He folded his arms as his eyes bored into her. “What do you want Maddie. It’s late and I’m tired.”

Maddie felt uncomfortable with the way David’s eyes seemed to be reaching into her mind and soul. She averted her eyes. “I have something I need to tell you. Something important.”

“And it couldn’t wait til the morning?”

“No.” She said simply. “Do you think I can sit?” Maddie pointed to her swollen belly.

“Oh yeah sure. Sorry.” David pulled out the trunk they had sat on all those months ago. He watched Maddie sit and try to get comfortable while he remained standing.

He isn’t making things easy for me; Maddie thought unhappily but then after all the bitter words between them why should he? “Aren’t you going to sit David?”

He shook his head. “No, I’m fine. Just say what you have to say.”

Maddie kept her head down; she was playing with the hem of her raincoat. She plunged in. “Well, I went to the doctor the other night. Seems I have two more weeks to get ready for the baby.” Maddie looked up at David who was still just staring at her. He didn’t get what she was trying to tell him. “I was so happy when he told me that. I couldn’t wait to tell you but after the fight we had; the words we flung at each other I didn’t know how to tell you.” Maddie looked away. “Anyway,..”

What the hell was Maddie talking about? Did she come all the way over year to tell me that she had more time to get ready for the baby? Then it began to dawn on him what she was trying to say.

“He did another sonogram. He told me that my due date is June 25th not June 10th.” Maddie looked into his green eyes. “So that means that..”

“The baby is mine.”

“The baby is yours.”

They said together.

David flopped down on the trunk beside Maddie. “Wow.” A huge smile covered David’s face. “Wow.”

“Is that all you can say is wow?” Maddie snapped.

David was for once in his life speechless he just stared at her and then his eyes traveled to her swollen stomach. He put his hand on her belly. “Mine.”

Maddie covered his hand with hers. “It’s a boy.” Maddie told him. “I’m having your son.”

David shook his head. “My son.” He looked at Maddie with a look she couldn’t decipher. “I knew it was mine.”

“I know I made a mess of things by going to Chicago and well everything that I did and I am really sorry David. I hope you choose to be a part of your son’s life but if you don’t I understand that too.”

David looked at her like she had three heads. “Are you kidding? That’s my kid. My son. There’s no way I won’t be part of his life. I love him already.” David patted her belly.

Maddie wished David would tell her he loved her too but he didn’t.

David ran his hands through his sleep tossed hair. “Does Walter know?”

Maddie nodded.

“And ??”

“He’s gone.”

“Gone?”

Maddie nodded again. “He told me he didn’t think it was working out between us and then when he found out well that you were the father of the baby he knew it was over.”

David was filled with a wild elation that the baby was his and that Walter was gone but still a big part of him was still angry at Maddie. She had treated him like a piece of crap and that was going to take some time to get over.

Maddie started to cry. "If I could turn back time I would do things differently. I am so sorry if I hurt you. I never meant to hurt you David. I love you. So much."

David stood up. "I never understood why you were so quick to believe I wasn't the father of the baby." He looked down at her with a frown covering his face. "I mean I felt like you were wishing it wasn't mine so I wouldn't be part of your life or the baby's life."

Maddie interrupted. "That's not true!" She cried.

"Well it sure looked that way to me. You're sorry you hurt me? Ha, you hurt me? That's a laugh. You fucking kicked me in my teeth and cut off my balls."

Maddie felt her tears start to fall. "I said I was sorry! What more can I do? I love you. I've always loved you."

"So why did you do all those terrible things?" David wanted to know.

Maddie shook her head as she wiped the tears off her face. "I was scared. So scared that I was just a fling for you then when I found out I was pregnant and I wasn't sure if it was yours I didn't know if you would want me." She pushed her hair back with her hand. "I guess I went crazy for a while."

"You guess?"

Maddie searched David's eyes. "Don't you love me anymore? Even just a little?" She was afraid of his answer but she had to know.

David sat down on the trunk with a groan. "Love you? Yes, I still love you. You know how hard I've tried *not* to love you? Nothing worked. You are carved on my heart but I don't have to like it. I don't like any of this. You hurt me deeply and just a sorry isn't going to do it this time Maddie." He reached over and pushed a lock of hair off her face. He looked at her sitting next to him on that stupid trunk and he couldn't help but take her into his arms. She was the mother of his child and the woman he was madly in love with but yet he was still so angry with her. She

had hurt him to the core of his manhood. “It’s gonna take time. I do love you but now I need to be able to trust you with my heart.”

Maddie wrapped her arms around him. “Make love to me David. I need you to love me.”

David hesitated but couldn’t resist the look in her eyes. He picked her up and carried her into his bedroom where he deposited her on the bed. He took off her coat and sneakers then lay down next to her.

Maddie kissed the pulse on his neck. “I was afraid you wouldn’t be alone when I reached your door.” She admitted as her lips traveled over his neck and down over his bare chest.

He was lost in what her lips were making him feel. His hands began to explore her body. “And what would you have done then my little minx?”

David felt her shrug. “I would have told you to make her leave.”

David laughed. “And you are so sure I would have listened to you?” He teased.

“Ssshhh no more talking?” Maddie’s lips beat a torrid path down the length of his body until she reached his manhood which was standing at full attention. Her lips and tongue began to work their magic causing David to shudder and groan as he felt her warm mouth around him. “Oh God Maddie!” David croaked out. He closed his eyes in ecstasy as he felt himself coming in what seemed like a never ending orgasm. He sighed deeply when it was over. He slowly opened one eye as a smirk covered his face. “Your turn babe.”

David pulled Maddie down on the bed next to him. He spooned Maddie from behind as his hands traveled languidly over her body. David covered her neck and shoulders with hot wet kisses with involved a lot of tongue. David felt his pulse quicken and his manhood rise to action when he heard Maddie’s moans of pleasure. Just hearing how hot he made her could turn him on in a heartbeat.

Maddie felt as if her body was a raging inferno as she pressed her backside against David’s hardness. She loved the way this position made her feel. She loved how his hands fondled her breasts and snaked between her legs causing her to squirm against him. And when she felt him push himself into her she thought she would burst with the orgasm that erupted from her loins.

After it was over Maddie snuggled into David's arms. She was exhausted and was asleep in minutes. David heard the even rhythm of her breathing and knew she had fallen asleep. He looked down at her and his wounded heart turned over. She was so damn beautiful, she loved him, she was having his son and she was peacefully sleeping in his arms so he should be the happiest guy on earth but while one side of his heart and mind were wild with joy the other half was still resentful and distrustful of the woman in his arms. David pushed the dark thoughts away as he kissed Maddie's head and snuggled into her inhaling the scent that plagued his thoughts and dreams for nearly four years. Soon he was asleep too.