

# Ruff

AMARIS RICCI

# FLUFF

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## Chapter ONE

Fallon was standing on a private cruise hosted by one of her friends. She was bored to tears and she decided she needed a stiff drink. She had just broken up with her last boyfriend when she found out he was not only cheating on her but he was married with four children all under the age of 8 and none of them were from his wife of 10 years.

Since she walked onto the yacht, four men asked her to dance and she refused each one. She goes to the bar and asks the bartender to surprise her. Before he could even start mixing up something, a tall dark, sexy muscular piece of meat sits down next to her and orders a drink for her.

"What she really needs is a shot of White Russian, more Russian than white."

The bartender didn't ask her if she agreed, he simply smiled, mixed it, put it on a napkin and pushed it towards her.

"Thank you."

"Don't thank me yet. Drink up let's dance."

Intrigued by this man who seemed to know what she needed. She shot the entire drink and got up to dance.

Fallon dances with the young man all night, several times he had to leave and go somewhere but he always came back to dance with her.

When the cruise was over, she looked for the man but she didn't see him. She walked off the boat and made her way to her SUV.

For the first time in ages, Fallon went out and there was no pressure to be anybody's woman, partner, fun friend or girlfriend. She enjoyed herself and she had no regrets. She also knew she would never see the stranger again.

The next day while sitting in her office, her secretary buzzed and said someone was out there to see her. She said send them in. She was checking her diary to see if she missed an appointment but she had nothing scheduled for that time.

The door opens and standing there is her stranger.

She sits back in her chair and smiles.

"Well hello."

"Hello Fallon."

"You have been checking up on me."

"Well anyone acting so bored on my yacht would usually stand out."

"Ah, all those disappearances make sense now."

"Couldn't be helped."

"I enjoyed myself thank you."

"Only after I showed up, I was not going to let you turn down anymore men, it was depressing to watch. My crew bet you would do the same to me."

"How much did you win?"

"\$500 and they paid for your drink."

Fallon laughed.

"Glad to see you had fun at my expense." Fallon retorted, wondering what he would need the money for.

"I gave the money to a charity in case you were curious."

"Can you read my mind?"

"Minds like yours are seldom easily read but somehow I see the way yours works. Would you like to have lunch with me?"

"Would you like to tell me who I am having lunch with?"

"Maximé Haines at your service mam."

"Why does that name sound so familiar?"

"I'm hurt." He puts his hand over his heart.

"Now I feel foolish."

"Ahh don't, not everyone knows my face and I sorta' like it that way. I own a fleet of yachts - Haines Cruises."

"Oh." She smiled.

"Why are you here Maxímé?"

"Didn't I just invited you to lunch?"

"Oh."

"Well, are you coming?"

"Okay." She picks up her bag and leaves her office.

"Penny, be back in about an hour."

Penny nods and blushes when Maxímé smiles at her.

Maxímé decides they will take his vehicle 'cause hers is too small.

"I drive a Honda Civic RV, I don't need anything bigger."

"Well I do."

When he presses the remote, the lights on a 2013 Chevrolet Suburban flickers on.

"What do you do in your spare time transport dead bodies? Good gosh that thing is huge."

"Ha ha, hop up." He helps her into the mountain of a vehicle and closes the door.

"Comfy?"

"God I could live in here."

"You should see my house."

"I can just imagine."

"Stick around, you might see it soon."

"Where would you like to eat?" He asks as they pull out from the parking lot.

"Surprise me."

"That I shall do."

"So Maxímé, are you going to tell me why you have chosen to check up on me and take me to lunch?"

"Is there something wrong with you?"

"Um other than my weight no."

"Is your weight a problem to you?"

"Yes it is actually."

"Well do something about it then." He half whispers in her direction.

Fallon said nothing.

## **Chapter TWO**

Maxímé pulls up outside a nice little food place called Max Subs. He gets out and opens the door for Fallon to get out. She gets out and fixes her clothes and tucks her bag under her arm. They walk through the mall and head to the stairs. When they get to the top Fallon looks for a seat. Seeing a vacant one, she points to it.

"Go get our seats, what would you like?"

"Surprise me. Here take this." He hands her a card.

"I can afford to pay for lunch Maxímé."

"I asked you out, I'm paying."

"Are we going to have this argument now?"

"I am not arguing honey, take the card and go buy us lunch."

Just then his cellphone rang, he took the call without another word.

Five minutes later, Fallon came back looking like she lost her puppy.

Maxímé looked up and ended the call.

"What's wrong Fallon?"

"There were some girls in the line behind me and they spoke about me as if I couldn't hear them. They said I was fat and I should be in a salad bar and there were no chairs in there big enough to hold me." She was almost in tears.

"What the fuck? Come with me." He got up and held out his hand, she took it and followed him back into the shop.

When he stepped through the door with Fallon in tow, he stood in line holding her hand. The two girls were at the counter and when they turned to wait on their order they saw Fallon and Maxímé.

One of them dropped a very nasty comment that made Maxímé switch on.

"He must be her toy boy 'cause no one could ever love someone her size."

Maxímé turned and looked directly at the one who spoke.

"Excuse me, how much did your order come to?"

"\$30 exact why?"

Maxímé pulled a roll of money from his pocket and handed her \$30.

"You are NEVER to come in here again or the cops will be called, now take your friend and get out."

"Who are you to tell me to leave? It's not my fault she is so huge."

"First of all I own this damned place and huge or not she is MY woman, now get out."

The girl took the money and left. Fallon stood rooted to the floor.

Maxímé looking all smug with himself walked back to Fallon took her hand and kissed it.

"Do you really own this place?" She whispered.

"No, but my mother does." He smiled.

"Oh Maxímé you are something else."

"I know." He looked at the cashier and grinned.

"Maxímé you dog, how could you embarrass the poor girl like that?"



"Sorry mum but she insulted my friend and you know we don't stand for that. Fallon this is my mother, Rosa Haines. Mum this is Fallon."

Fallon stuck out her hand and Rosa took it with a firm shake.

"Sorry about those two, I saw the card in your hand when you came to the counter but you left before I could deal with those two. I knew Max was around somewhere 'cause he is the only one who has that card."

It was only then Fallon looked at the card.

'Max Subs - Platinum Member'

"This is why you wanted to pay for lunch. I'm so embarrassed."

"My dear, my son does what he wants, whenever he wants, get used to it, I have. Now since I already did their orders, you can have them."

She took the card from Fallon and swiped it through a machine and handed it back. When Fallon handed it to Maxímé, he refused it.

"Keep it, anytime you are here, lunch is on me."

"Maxímé....."

"You two are holding up my line, go eat and tell me how it tastes."

Maxímé took the trays and went outside. The two girls were sitting outside and when they came out they were pointing at them. Maxímé looked as he was about to get up from his chair. He was fuming.

"Maxímé don't I have to deal with people like that every day, you can't fight my battles for me."

Maxímé looked at her and saw the frustration and pain in her eyes.

"Okay but anytime I am around and anyone insults you, I won't stand for it."

"Thank you."



They sat and talked and ate. Pretty soon the hour was up and Fallon had to go back to work.

He dropped her off and asked if he could take her to dinner.

"Maximé, I would rather stay home and watch a movie."

"Can I surprise you?"

"It's all you have been doing since we met."

"Then let me. Have dinner with me."

"Okay. Dress code?"

"Sandals, a nice dress like what you wore to the cruise."

"Okay."

"Pick you up at 7:30." He kissed her on the cheek and left.

Fallon touched her cheek and watched as he drove away.

"Oh Max what are you up to?"

She turned and went back to work.

### **Chapter THREE**

Running your own company is quite a task but Fallon was a professional. She provided VIP setups for events. She had over 500 clients and she never had a complaint. She decided to leave work a bit early and prepare for her date. She found a nice long black cotton dress that accentuated her bust and pair of red wedge sandals. She picked up her red bag and transferred everything she needed from her work bag.

It was only when she looked at her watch she realised she had not given Max her address. Then she realised she didn't have a number for him either.

"This is going to be a disaster."

She went to the foyer to find a phone book. Just when she opened the pages, the familiar sound of a Suburban pulled into her drive way.

"Oh ho."

She snatched up her bag, slipped on her shoes and made her way to the door. She opened it just as Max was about to knock.

"You look beautiful Fallon. Shall we?" He held out his arm. She took it and they made their way to the SUV.

"Do you like Chinese?"

"Yes I do."

"Great." He picked up his cell phone and punched in a number

"Can I have ....." He looked at Fallon and spoke again.

"Chicken chow mein, Pork chow mein, chop suey and white rice. Yes all full portions, I will be there to pick it up in 10 minutes. Maxímé Haines"

He pulled into the gas station, gets out.

"Be right back sweetie."

He came back with a bottle in a bag and put it in the back seat. Got in and drove off. He drove into the Chinese Restaurant and parked.

"Be right back sweetie."

Fallon just sat and said nothing.

He came back again, puts the food in the back seat, got in and drove off.

"You are very quiet Fallon, is there something wrong?"

"Why are you doing this Maxímé?"

"Okay let's get something straight. I saw you turn down four of the sexiest men on my boat. Either you are a lesbian or every man you have ever been with has hurt you so deeply you carry it in your heart like valve that doesn't shut off. I am here to be your friend, nothing more. You need a friend not someone who will come into your life and treat you like the other men. Is that so hard to understand Fallon? You are a beautiful, intelligent woman and yes I can see right through you. You are overweight and extremely self-conscious. I have no idea what got you to that point but the most important person who has a problem with the way you look is *you*. Those two girls brought you to tears, yet you can create a fantastic VIP section for the most exclusive parties in Barbados. I liked you from the time I saw you. I am not here to hurt, trick, manipulate or use you, so get that through your head right now. Am I understood?"

"I'm sorry I....."

"Am I understood Fallon Danero?"

"Yes Maxímé, I understand."

"Good, here we are."

Fallon was concentrating on what Maxímé was saying, she didn't pay attention where they were going. He pulled up and parked. Got out and popped the trunk. He took out a small folding table and a table cloth. He tucked the cloth under his arm and went to set up the table. He went back to the SUV, took out an ice bucket filled with ice and the other things in the back seat. He walked over to the table and rested them on it.

It was only when he opened her door and got out, she realised they were on a cliff side over-looking Miami Beach on the south coast of the island and there was a lovely moonlight to complete the night. Maxímé lead her over to the setup, spread another cloth on the bench and motioned for her to sit down. He went back to the SUV and took out a small plastic box, locked up and went back to where Fallon was sitting.

"Would you care to serve Madame?"

"Why yes I would kind sir." She made a small bow.

She opened the box and found, two plates, forks, napkins and two glasses. Within about 5 minutes she had everything set up, food was on the plates and wine was in the glasses.

"A toast." Maxímé said. Fallon held up her glass to his.

"To new friends."

"Cheers."

They sat and ate and talked for ours. Fallon never laughed so much in her life. Maxímé glanced at his watch and realised it was later than he planned to be out.

"Ready to go home sweetie?"

"No, I could stay here all night, I don't know the last time I had so much fun. Thank you."

"It takes two. Come let's get packed up. I have a 6am cruise in the morning. I should get you to do some work for me sometime. I have never had any one of the boats decorated."

"That would be a challenge and a first. Whenever you are ready."

"Send me your rates, I will look into it and see how I can incorporate it into the fees."

They packed up and loaded everything into the SUV. Maxímé looked for a bin and threw the garbage into it.

Driving along the south coast road, Maxímé talked about his business and they threw around ideas for the VIP decor aspect.

When they pulled up to her house it hit her.

"How do you know where I live?"

"I asked your very best friend, she is such a wimp."

"Why am I not surprised? Thanks again for tonight Maxímé, I really enjoyed myself."

"It was my pleasure." He walked her to the door and kissed her on the cheek.

She went inside and locked the door, and watched him leave through the window.

Fallon never slept better.

## **Chapter FOUR**

Over the next few months, Fallon and Maxímé become the best of friends. He incorporated her VIP Decor into the options he offered and all of the packages increased bookings by over 20%.

Fallon had a problem, she was falling in love with Maxímé. She knew he didn't feel the same way since he never made any intimate suggestions or touched her in any way.

Every cruise she decorates for, she is the guest of honour. Maxímé introduces her to all his friends and clients. One person made the mistake and commented on her weight and blatantly said the boat sinking because she was on it. Max went into a rage.

"Captain, call Trevor and ask him to pick up a passenger please. Sir, you will be returned to the dock and never set foot on any of my vessels again. I will not allow you or anyone to insult my friends."

People were stunned. Why was he defending this woman if she was just his friend? The crew loved her, she was fun to be around, and the majority of

Maxímé's friends knew not to mention her size. He was a force when he got pissed.

Maxímé was 35 and having a rough childhood he made up in his mind that he was going to do something with his life. His mother worked as a General Manager for a hotel in St. James and all the money she saved, she gave him to buy his first boat. He made a deal with the hotel to add him on their list of activities and the business took off from there. Many times people mistook him for one of the crew since he wore the same uniform except on the night cruises. He never looked down on anyone and the guys respected him. He was fair in his wages and the perks were quite acceptable. He would shut down the line for two weeks giving everyone a vacation. You got an off day every six days and you got staff insurance. You were allowed to bring a friend once a month and you could have food and drinks free. Everyone adhered to Maxímé's rules and no one over stepped their boundaries. If and when they did, Maxímé would never reprimand them in front of the other crew members.

During the year after they met Maxímé and Fallon were inseparable, they spent lunches, dinners, parties, picnics everything together. Birthdays were spent with breakfasts, and gifts. Fallon had grown to love Maxímé as if he were her husband, the only problem was that she wanted more. She was getting restless. She decided to take the chance and make a move on Maxímé and hope she doesn't destroy what they have.

"Hey sweetie, I have a function to attend wanna' go with me?"

"Sure, when, where and what time?"

"Mom's house, she is celebrating her birthday, it's this Saturday."

"I have to go shopping for a dress."

"Um, I already bought you one, and everything else to go with it."

"Maxímé....."

"Sorry I couldn't help it, I saw it and I thought of you, will you at least take a look at it?"

"Okay bring it over."

The doorbell rang.

Fallon opened the door and Maxímé was standing there grinning.

"You dog, come on in."

When Fallon unzipped the dress bag she put her hand to her cheek.

"Oh my GOD Max, this is a..... a....."

"Yes?"

"A Jessni Women's A-Line Embroidery & Silver Thread Delicate Beading Long Dress." She inhaled.

Maxímé laughed.

"You like it?"

"Since when do you pay attention to what I'm saying? Wait! Where were you when I saw this dress?"

"Oh around and about."

"You sneak. I love you so much, thank you! What's in the bag?"

"Everything else you need."

Fallon sat down and began to cry.

"Honey what's wrong?"

"Nothing and everything. I'm so confused."

"Tell me sweetie, let's see if ole Max can fix it."

"Nothing Maxímé, just nothing. Are you hungry? I have spumoni ice cream and Kahlua cheese cake with Baileys sauce."

"Oh god yer' gonna fatten me. I'll get the spoons, you get the bowls."



They sat and did their usual business first, fun after talks. They watched a movie and Fallon fell asleep with her head on Maxíme's lap. He brushed a lock of hair from her forehead and all of a sudden, he had an erection.

He eased her head from his leg and in a flash made haste through the front door. He closed it quietly and made sure it was locked. Got into his SUV and drove like a bat outta hell all the way home.

When Fallon woke up the next morning, she found herself on the couch and alone. She didn't see Max that day but he called to remind her of the birthday party that night. She told him she didn't forget and asked if he wanted to go to lunch. He declined and said he had some business to take care of.

"I will pick you up at 7, I have to help mom with somethings so you may be alone for a while."

"No problem, see you tonight."

When Fallon opened the door for Maxíme, he actually stepped back.

"You look even more beautiful than ever sweetie."

"Oh Max you don't look to bad yourself." Max was wearing a silver grey Armani suit and boy did he look like something to chew on.

They got into the SUV and make their way to Rosa's house.

## Chapter FIVE

Now hearing the name Rosa, one would think Spanish, Mexican or Puerto Rican. Rosa was born in Jamaica and her parents had been on vacation and decided to stay a bit longer and Rosa decided she was going to be born no matter where they were. The doctor who delivered her was called Rosamund, so they just shortened it.

Rosa's home looked like a Hacienda but when you got inside it looked like you stepped into Jamaica. Lots of reds, greens and yellows and blacks. It was warm and welcoming and Rosa was the perfect host.

Maxímé took Fallon inside and immediately people started to talk. Although Fallon paid no attention Maxímé was boiling inside. Since when do they get to insult his woman?

'Wait, what? Since when did he think of her as his woman?' He shook the thought off and kept a watchful eye on her while he was helping out his mother with a few minor tasks. At one point Maxímé heard voices raised and he rushed out to see what was going on.

Two women had cornered Fallon and as Barbadians would say they were 'carrying her in scruffy'. They were telling her she was fat and unshapely and she should never have come with such a hunk as Maxímé. It had all started when the women saw them come in and decided they would get rid of her so they could have a threesome with him that night. The first one bounced Fallon, spilled drink on her dress and didn't say sorry.

"Aren't you going to apologise?"

"For what, the dress doesn't look good on you any way you fat bitch, go home and eat yourself to death and leave Maxímé to someone who can appreciate a man like him."

"This has nothing to do with Maxímé, you spilled drink on MY dress."

The other woman chimed in.

"You are an embarrassment to women, go home to your pig pen. I'm sure the mud hole you live in is more comfortable than that dress."

"ENOUGH! I don't need you two to tell me how fat I am, I really don't care what you think. This is Rosa's house and Maxímé invited me, now leave me ALONE!"

"Yes I totally agree, this is my mother's house and you two are leaving. You are the disgrace to women and should never be allowed out in public." He motioned to security and they quickly came and escorted the ladies out.

When Maxímé looked around Fallon was gone. A few people pointed in the direction where she went and whispered their apologies for the women's behaviour.

Maxímé ran outside and searched the ground for about five minutes. He stopped in the garden and called out for her.

"Fallon honey where are you?"

"I'm here Maxímé." She whispered. She was sitting on a bench behind a sculptured hedge. He walked around and knelt before her. He took out a handkerchief and wiped her tears.

"Oh honey I am so sorry, I should have stayed with you."

"It's my fault for thinking I could live up to what people think a woman should look like. This hurts so bad Max. I have never went through so much of this in my life and now that we spend so much time together I feel as if I am bringing you down."

"Fallon, I told you before, what people think doesn't matter to me, I love spending time with you, try to forget them. They mean nothing to me and you mean everything."

"Then why haven't you touched me Maxímé? We have been all over this island together, I've spent more time with you in a year than I spent with any of my

previous partners. If you care about me so much and I mean everything to you then why won't you touch me?"

She leaned forward to kiss him and Maxímé not only recoiled but he got up and was angry.

"I'm taking you home. Be at the car when I get back." Maxímé went inside, told his mother he would be back Fallon wasn't feeling well.

"I understand sweetie, she is such a precious girl, and you should marry her so she can make an honest woman of you. Go now she must be so hurt. You don't have to come back soon, I can handle things here for a while." She kissed him on the jaw and went back to her guests many of whom agreed with the way Maxímé handled the two women.

When Maxímé got back to the car Fallon was crying her eyes out. He wanted to tell her everything but he didn't think she would understand. They said nothing on the way home and she cried all the way. When they pulled up at her house she didn't wait for him to open the door, she flew out and rushed inside. He got out and tried to get to the door before she closed it and he had to say for someone her size she was quick on her feet.

"Fallon honey, can I come in?"

"No Maxímé, I can't face you. Out of all the men in my life you have hurt me the worst, I guess all that caring doesn't add up to anything. Have a good night Maxímé."

"Honey, please let me explain." He got no answer. He decided he would take her out to lunch and explain everything.

He called and called, he showed up at her office and she refused to see him. Weeks turned into months and he gave up.

Fallon makes a life changing decision – to lose weight, get fit and then apologise to Maxíme. She figures he doesn't want a woman her size so she loses 125lbs, gets her hair done, new clothes, the works.

Even though his rejection still hurt, he had been the best friend she could ever ask for and she would try to patch up their relationship even if it meant he could not be intimate with her. She had never been to his house as they were always on the move or spent most time at her house but she knew where it was as he had shown her one day they drove past it.

She gets dressed in a pair of Levi jeans that accentuated her new figure. She was shapely before but now she was a bombshell at 200lbs even. She picked a yellow halter top, put her keys and her Cell phone in her bag, donned a pair of Pierre Dumas and went through the door, she even switched her car to a Mercedes SUV.

She pulled up at Maxíme's house and there were two vehicles parked, his suburban and she didn't recognise the other. The front door was slightly open and she knocked. Hearing no answer she pushed and went in.

## **Chapter SIX**

She hears raised voices coming from the kitchen and she begins to feel as if she should leave without telling him she was there but the conversation grabs her attention.

"What were you thinking Max, that she could be your front for the life you live?"

"She is the most genuine woman I know and she is wonderful person, I hurt her so bad Stefaun, she was my best friend."

"I thought I was your best friend Max?"

"It's different with you, you know that."

"At this point I don't know anything. You reject her, you reject me, what the fuck do you want Max? You need to figure that out before we go any further. I won't

wait another year for you to commit to me. I have plans and if you don't love me, then let me go."

Just then Stefaun spots Fallon in the doorway behind Maxíme.

"Shit."

Maxíme turns to see what Stefaun is referring to.

"Fallon?"

"Hi, I... the door was open, I knocked but you two obviously didn't hear me. Is this why you didn't want me? Because you're gay? I made a fool of myself and you hide the most important aspect of your life from me. You seem not to care how you hurt people." Fallon was trying hard to hold back the tears but apparently it wasn't working.

"Bitch don't coming up in here talking about things you don't know about."

"Stefaun, she is not one of your street friends, either respect her in and out of my house or forget you even know me, is that clear?"

"You are taking her side?"

"I am telling you, she is not at fault and I will not allow you to disrespect her. Now can you please leave? I need to explain things to her without interruption from you."

"WHAT?"

"Stefaun don't make me say it again, just go, I will talk to you later."

Stefaun, threw the glass he was holding at the adjacent wall and left in a huff. He screeched out of the driveway and into traffic.

"Honey, come, sit with me, I need to do this now." He holds out his hand and she walks past him and goes back into the living room and sits down in a one seater. He sits on the foot sofa opposite her.

"My mother has always been in my life but something happened to me when I was a child, the man who I thought loved me, was a sick bastard and he was also a dangerous man. He knew my mother was everything to me so he would threaten to kill her if I told. One day she and I were home alone and I started to tell her, he came in started an argument with her and broke her jaw bone. I lived in fear for six years. I don't have sex, I'm too afraid, hence the confusion. There was no penetration but he .....he used to make me give him oral. Six years I endured it but when I turned eighteen, I ran. Every day I would check the local news to see if he had killed my mother but about a year after I left, I saw on the news that he was killed in a drive by shooting. I packed up all my things and went back home. I told my mother everything. She cried for weeks and told me she was sorry she couldn't protect me from him. We never spoke about it again. For years I thought I was gay – I never had sex with a man and when Stefaun made an attempt, I refused, it didn't feel right."

"You refused me too Maxímé, you made me feel as if I repulsed you. I thought you didn't want me as your woman because I was too big."

"You think I refused to make love to you because of your size? Woman are you daft? I have never had those feelings for a woman and when I rejected Stefaun too, I realised I was in love with you. The night we had ice cream and cheesecake and you fell asleep on my lap, I moved a lock of hair from your face and I got so damned hard, I made a quick beeline for the door."

"Then why didn't you come back, why haven't you made any attempt to make love to me?"

"I thought I was gay. SHIT! A man can love a woman without trying to crawl up her panties can't he? You have my love, always did but you needed to love you."

"You haven't commented on the changes."

"Is this what *you* wanted or did you do it to see if I would change my mind?"

"Both!"

"Jesus Fallon, don't you realise, your weight never bothered *me*, it bothered *you*. I am not some shallow man looking for the doll shaped woman, hell I never even



looked at women until I walked up to you on the boat. My life got screwed up by one man and I screwed up the rest."

Max got up and started pacing the floor.

"Stefaun doesn't know I was molested, only you and my mother know."

"That was hard for you to admit wasn't it?"

"Yes and what's even harder is that I'm still a virgin. I've never penetrated anyone or had it done to me, I was too scared. I've never kissed a man or woman either. Which is where all the confusion comes in. I'm tainted Fallon but I have never loved anyone like this. I am so scared I will fall short of your expectations. If you don't want me after knowing, I understand."

"Are you going to see Stefaun again?"

"With the way I know I feel about you now? Not a chance. He will have to understand."

"Can we go to my house?"

"Honey, before you leave here with me I need you to be sure."

"I am sure, I can finally say I am making the right decision about someone I truly love. I got to know you and now that I know what went on, I am even more positive. Let's go."

They take both vehicles. When they pull up. Maxímé is nervous. He sits in the vehicle and watches as the woman he is about to make love to, walks up to her house.

She looks back and gives him an 'it's going to be okay look' and she goes inside and leaves the door open.

Maxímé locks up and goes inside.

Fallon is standing at her bedroom door waiting for him.

"Last chance to....."

Maxímé walks right up to her and kisses her full on the lips. Fallon loses her balance and she falls back against the wall. Maxímé falls forward onto her and keeps on kissing. He is hungry. Ten minutes later Maxímé is still lip locked onto Fallon. She pushes against his chest gently.

"God Max, you got me burning up, come."

## **Chapter SEVEN**

She pulled away and opened the bedroom door. Without wasting any time, they both strip in record time.

"You are so beautiful Fallon, let me love you now."

"I thought you didn't know what to do."

"I don't you will show and tell me."

"First of all let me look at you." She rolled onto her side and stared at Maxímé. She ran her hands all over his body, feeling every muscle twitch under her fingers. Maxímé groaned and his erection bounced against her leg. She touched it and held it in her hand.

"Oh Max you are perfect."

"Only for you honey."

Max leans forward and starts to caress Fallon, her breasts are full and for the first time Max realises he had never paid much attention to them before and now he has them within reach he will make the most of it.

"I want to touch you honey."

"Okay."

Max gets up and rolls over onto her. He kisses her neck while his hands roam her body, he hesitates when he reaches her womanhood. She senses it and takes his hand and moves it towards her. Maxímé groans again, she feels like velvet under his hands.

"Can I taste you?"

"Maxímé, you don't have to do everything the first time." She giggled.

"I'll take that as a yes." He dips his head and sticks out his tongue.

"Wait, do that again but do it slowly." When he did it Fallon almost leapt off the bed.

For the next half hour or so they learned each other's bodies. The next step seemed to have both of them so nervous, neither of them wanted to be the first to make a move.

"Maxímé?"

"Yes honey."

"I need you now."

"Oh God, I was waiting on you to say that."

Maxímé towered over Fallon and he was magnificent in her eyes. His erection was so painful, needing release and he thought he would hurt her in some way.

"Here let me." She took him in her hand and guided him into her slowly.

"Sweet Jesus." Maxímé gritted through his teeth.

"Max?"

"Honey."

"You have to move."

"I can't, I think I'm going to burst."

"That's okay, I'm not going anywhere." She hooked her arm under one knee and place her other hand on his butt and pulled him deeper into her.

"Fallon, I can't.... shit.... wait, no....." Maxímé was so excited he didn't last more than a minute. Fallon took that as a compliment. She caressed his back and whispered words of love. His body trembled as he rested his head on her shoulder.

"I'm sorry honey, I didn't mean for it to end so quickly."

"Maxímé my love, it's okay, just the feel of you inside me is worth more than you will ever imagine."

"I love you so much, how after the way I treated you, you are still so understanding?"

"When you have found the kind of love I have been searching for you are willing to work through the pain. I could have decided not to come after you and I never would have known anything and we wouldn't be here."

"I think I'm getting hard again."

"I realised."

"Thank you for loving me Fallon, you have given me your love when I didn't even know what that was and if you keep moving your hips like that, this will be over again soon."

"Oh we got all night."

Maxímé moved inside her, feeling her body respond to his. She was as hot for him as he was for her.

Several hours later, Maxímé and Fallon lay wrapped up in each other with a cool breeze blowing through the window.

"Fallon."

"Mm?"

"That was wonderful."

"Mm."

"Can we do it again?"

"When tomorrow?"

"Now."

"Sure."

"God Max, I think you've killed me. Aren't you even a little bit tired?"

"No and being inside you is driving me insane. Just lay there, let me do all the work."

"Like I could do anything, else..... Oh my yes!"

For the next few months, Maxímé makes love to Fallon every chance he gets and she welcomes him each time. He can't get enough of her. She teaches him everything she knows and he in turn does everything she asks. They make love in

every room in her house, his house, both cars, her office, his office, his own personal yacht.

Fallon wakes up next to Maxímé one morning at his house and the love she feels in her heart makes her smile. Knowing that the baby she has growing inside her belongs to the man she loves, makes her feel even more wonderful.

"Maxímé."

"Yes honey."

"I need to tell you something."

"What's that?"

"I'm pregnant."

"What?"

"Six weeks, I found out yesterday."

"You can't be pregnant."

"Maxímé, we have been making love for three months without protection, it was bound to happen."

"You can't be pregnant for me."

"Max?"

"My father molested me Fallon, my own flesh and blood. What if I am the same way? What if there is something wrong with me, I can't risk harming someone so innocent."

"Don't you want our baby Maxímé!"

"I can't be a father, I'm tainted!"

"You didn't know you were tainted when you were making love to me for the last three months! Am I tainted as well?"

"Never. You are the most precious thing in my life."

"Well now I have a part of you growing inside me. You told me you loved me don't back out on me now, please."

"I can't be a father!" Max reiterated.

"Well then that's it for us. I won't get rid of our baby. You will never see me again. Have a good life Maxímé."

Fallon got up from the bed in tears, put on her clothes and left.

## Chapter EIGHT

Seven months later Fallon gets a phone call that Max is in the hospital and he asked for her. When she arrives Max is near death. Hi ex-partner had gone back to his house one day and begged him to come back to him. Max said no and Stefaun stabbed him three times, one for each year they had been together.

“Honey, Stefaun is coming after you. I can't protect you but you need to take care of our baby. I left everything in my will for you but you need to run and don't come back until he is caught.”

He coughed up blood and Fallon ran to get the nurse. When they got back, Max was gone. She called his mother, told her about the baby and then she spoke with his attorney. Maxímé Haines was cremated right after the autopsy per his instructions. Fallon was determined to make Stefaun pay. After Maxímé's will was read, she sells her house and moves into his. She had a cleaning crew pack all his stuff up into the basement and cleaned it from top to bottom. She had told the police Max said it was Stefaun, what they didn't know is that Maxímés house had hidden security cameras. Fallon knew Max had a secret room where he kept the computers and his attorney had given her a box with all his documents and all his keys. She opened the room and no doubt when she checked the footage, there was Max and Stefaun arguing. Stefaun pushed Max to the floor and that's when he stabbed him and left. Max managed to get his cell from his pants and call for an ambulance. She saw Max look directly at a camera and mouthed something. He had taught her how to get rid of ambient sounds and when she heard what he said she sat and cried for hours.

“I love you both.”

Fallon copied the file onto five flash drives. One she sent to her parents, one to both Max and her attorneys. One to her safe deposit box and one to Stefaun. She knew he would freak out and come looking for her and she was ready. She reset the cameras went to Max's desk, pulled out the bottom drawer and pushed a blue button. A wall next to the desk clicked and she pulled it open to reveal the safe. She put the combination in and took out Max's gun. She knew how to get the gun into the living room without being seen by the cameras. Just then the phone rang and when she answered it Stefaun was ranting and raving about how he was going

to kill her. She hung up and called the police. They said until he came over there was nothing they could do.

Fallon called her parents and she called the attorneys to update them. She stayed within full view of the cameras. While sitting down in Max's favourite chair, she heard glass shatter in the kitchen. She couldn't run but she grabbed her bag and tried to get to the front door. Stefaun grabbed her from behind and threw her to the floor.

“You bitch! Who the fuck do you think you are? Getting pregnant for my gay lover. Yes, he told you he never had sex but he did it with me almost every night and I have AIDS now and I plan to share.”

Fallon screamed as Stefaun kicked her in the ribs. He tore at her dress and frantically tried to rip her panties off.

“Stop, you'll hurt the baby!”

“I don't give a fuck about your bastard baby. You took Max from me and I am taking everything from you!”

Fallon realised her bag was within reach but she had to wait at the right moment to get it. Stefaun had calmed down a bit and was fumbling with his pants while holding her throat with the other hand. When he got his penis out, Fallon let out a laugh.

“No wonder Max left you.”

Stefaun slapped her, “SHUT UP!”

Stefaun grabbed his limp penis and jerked it furiously but nothing. He started to cry and Fallon laughed again. This time Stefaun ripped what was left of her panties off and shoved a few fingers inside her. She made no sound. Stefaun pulled out his fingers and tried to flip her over and she knew what he was going to do. She tried to crawl towards the bag and he kicked her again. The pain was too much and she was losing consciousness. Just as she managed to get her hand inside her bag she heard voices, then a gunshot and Stefaun fell on top of her.

Two weeks later, Fallon awoke in the hospital with tubes, IV's and machines. Her hand automatically went to her belly it was empty. Fallon let a scream that brought everyone running.



“Calm down Fallon, the baby is fine. A bit tiny but he is a fighter. Would you like to go see him?” The doctor said softly.

“Him? A boy, we have a boy. Where is Max?”

The doctors quickly assess Fallon has amnesia.

“Fallon, Max was killed almost a month ago by Stefaun who tried to kill you but the police shot him.”

Fallon fainted and when she came to her parents were standing at either side of her bed.

“Mom, Dad?”

“Hi honey bun. We thought you'd never wake up.”

“How long was I out? Where's my baby?”

“Right here. He's doing quite well. We had to pump your milk for him. The doctors marvel that he's digesting it quite well and that's what seems to be aiding his growth.”

Fallon turned in the bed to see her son sleeping soundly. She reached out and touched his hand and he held onto her finger.

“I remember. Stefaun tried to kill me and my baby. He killed Maxímé. The only man who has ever loved me is gone. Our son will never see him. Oh mom.” Her mother held her and let her cry.

“He doesn't have a name yet!” Fallon exclaimed when she saw the tag on his small hand, it just said Danero.

“We were waiting for you honey.”

“GaigeMaxímé Haines.”

Her mother called the nurse to have the tag changed.

## **Chapter NINE**

Stefaun wasn't dead and his trial was scheduled for two weeks after Fallon took Gaige home. On the day of the trial, Stefaun came into the courtroom, yelling obscenities at Fallon. As the case went on Fallon recalled the attack. She left the stand and it was Stefaun's turn. Unfortunately Stefaun had a large trump card.

“Your honour, my client wishes to speak on his own behalf. He has had no coercion on my part and I have no control over what he says or does next.”

Stefaun pulls a little red book from his top pocket and after he calls the first two names, the court goes wild. His attorney bows his head, the judge bangs his gavel trying to maintain order and the names of the two people he called got up and left the courtroom.

It took ten minutes to calm the room down. Fallon had a blank look on her face and she kept calm. A figure sitting at the back of the courtroom managed to slip out in all the chaos.

What happened next was predictable to anyone who knew the effects of black mail. The jury deliberated for ten minutes and came back with a not-guilty verdict. Fallon got up and left. She knew Stefaun would come after her again. She would be ready this time, she was stronger and there was no baby in her belly. would not be a third time. Fallon went to her parents, collected Gaige and went home. She bathed, fed and put him in his crib next to her bed. She took her gun from the drawer, laid down on the bed and switched off the lights. She drifted off to sleep but the sound of a gunshot yanked her eyes wide.

She waited, then as she made her way to the living room, she saw two figures. One she was sure was Stefaun but the other one had his back turned.

“How could you hurt her Stefaun? She's my life. How could you want to take the life of an innocent child?”

“She took you from me.” Stefaun coughed up blood. He was bleeding from a wound in his lower abdomen.

“I was never yours to begin with. My father lured me into his twisted world. I never wanted to be gay, I just thought I was. You never even tried to help me, you just wanted a partner. You didn't even encourage me to try to make a future with Fallon. I hurt her more than you ever hurt me.”

“I just wanted you to love me Max.”

“I am your FRIEND! I loved you no matter who you were.”

“I'm sorry, tell her I'm sorry too.”

Stefaun started to slump.

“Hold on buddy, the ambulance is coming.”

“No thanks, I don't deserve to live. Bye my friend.” Stefaun exhaled one last time and hung his head.

“Maxímé?”

“Yes honey, it’s me.” He turned to face her.

“I’m sorry you lost a friend. I’m sorry I left you and I’m sorry about not understanding how you felt.”

“You did what you needed to do for our son. I love you so much Fallon, if you can forgive me, I promise to make you happy for the rest of your life. I had to make Stefaun think I was dead, I thought he would leave you alone but when I saw what happened at the trial, yes I was there, I knew he would come after you.”

“I forgave you a long time ago but our son needs both of us. If you won’t accept the responsibility of being a father, there is no way we can be together.”

Just then a siren interrupted their talk and quickly the house was filled with police. Fallon disappeared into the bedroom to check on Gaige. He was still asleep. The earplugs worked perfectly. She was asked to go down to the police station the next day to make a statement.

Maxímé rented an apartment nearby for the next week for them until the house was cleared for re-entry.

Max stayed away from Gaige for two days until Fallon couldn’t take it anymore. She picked up the baby, walked over to him and placed him in his arms. She picked up her bag and left the apartment.

Two hours later, Fallon pulled up to the apartment and she heard “Happy” by Pharrell Williams playing. She pushed the front door and her heart burst into a million pieces. Maxímé was holding their baby in his arms and was dancing. The tears on his face told her everything. She put her bag down, took off her shoes and danced right along with them. When the music stopped, they were both in tears.

“Will you marry us Fallon?”

“Us?”

“Gaige already has my last name, we don’t want you to be left out.”

“Oh he said that did he?”

“Oh he told me everything. So will you?”

Yes Maxímé, I will marry you.”

Five years later

“Oh Maxíme, I'm pregnant!”

“I know honey.” He continued reading his newspaper.

“Aren't you happy?”

“I was the one that got you pregnant didn't I?”

“Why you cheeky devil.”

“Come here. I love you Fallon Haines, I love our son and whoever comes after.”

“I hope we have a twin.”

Sure enough nine months later Caige and Saige came into the world screaming. Life was great.

The End.

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