

# The Unlikely Reunion

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## A Guide to the Characters

**Ron Merlot:** Owner and operator of AZOutback Consulting, a computer and network services company. Ron builds and installs computer networks and systems for BDSM Suppliers in the Phoenix and Las Vegas markets. Ron also builds an occasional website on the side.

**Laura (Merlot) Meyers:** Ron's older sister and business partner. Laura lives on the eastern outskirts of Las Vegas. Her job is to ensure the computers talk to each other and the main server. When it comes to hardware she is clueless, she wouldn't know a USB Port from a ZIP Disk. Gets quite sexually crazy when drunk.

**Lynette Myers aka 'Miss Kitty':** Laura's high school sweetheart and works as a performer and sometimes waitress at various Vegas area clubs.

**Martina Frosh:** Ron's first wife. Martina is a couple French Fries short of Happy Meal but has a killer body, which she devotes all of her free time to maintaining. Of course that is when she is not having a wild night out with her girl friends at the local clubs.

**Sara Rae:** Ron's current wife. Sara was the former maid/salve for the Merlot's until Martina's *Unlikely Affair* with Ron's sister.

**Maya Rae:** Sara's younger *big* sister. Used to live in Frisco, Texas. She moved in with the Merlot's while she works on getting her Masters

**Marc Frosh:** Ron's best friend and Martina's boss and now husband. Conciser Manager for a local resort near the Merlot's and has very close circle of clients. Marc can get you a good deal on almost everything, as he always "knows someone, who knows someone" or else they owe him a favor.

**Gary Zinfandel:** Ron's best client and owner of ACME BDSM. Based out of Las Vegas, but with a "satellite office" in Phoenix, ACME BDSM specializes in high quality, custom-made bondage supplies and equipment at low price and fast. He has built and provided equipment and "toys" for both Ron and Laura's playrooms. Gary also has a close circle of clients in the BDSM community and is constantly giving Ron new client referrals.

**Bunny Zinfandel-Gris :** Gary's wife, a craftswoman of custom-made leather body harnesses. They met at a convention in Henderson a few years back.

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**Bambi Gris:** Bunny's sister and business partner. While she does make some of the harnesses herself, Bambi is more a model than a craftswoman.

**Andy McGrawl:** Former owner of a chain of computer stores in the Tucson metro area, recently opened stores in Fountain Hills and North Scottsdale.

**Lindsay McGrawl-Sauvignon:** Andy's bi-sexual wife. Model/sales associate at the Budget Holstein North.

**Anna Adela aka 'Peaches':** Former caretaker of the Whitewater Ranch, now Maya's live-in girlfriend.

**Linda Holstein:** Owner of Budget Holstein Leather Works, better known as Budget Holstein and co-owner of Corona de las Estrella's. She was Ron and Laura's very first client, specializing in leather S&M outfits, shoes and specialty items such as high end corsets and lingerie.

**Olivia Esmeralda** – Kayré's best friend from high school and co-owner of Corona de las Estrella's.

**Kayré Holstein:** Linda's daughter and business partner.

**Kacie O'Neill:** Kayré's partner.

*The Unlikely Reunion* is several years after *The Unlikely Gift*. A lot has happened over the last several years with Ron and the rest of the family. A series of chain of events will lead to *The Unlikely Reunion* of people and places from everyone's past.

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## **Chapter 1: A Lot Has Happened...**

Over the past few years lots had happened. In mid 2015, Maya completed her Pharmacy Tech Masters program at ASU. During the same time Peaches was taking management and business administration classes at the local community college then eventually at ASU with a scholarship. Maya had landed an internship at Banner Greyhawk hospital in Scottsdale and upon getting her Masters she was offered a full time permanent position. She gave her notice to Vinnie's, however Diane had news of her own, "I am stepping down as manager. With you leaving I can go back to doing deliveries and making pizzas again. I am just tired of managing and will enjoy not having so much responsibility."

Maya asked, "So who is going to take over as manager?"

Right about that time Peaches coming walking in and Diane replies, "Our new manager just walked in."

Maya laughed and turned to Diane, "So you had this planned all along!"

Peaches explained, "Diane knew this day comes and she one who encouraged me to go to school and get scholarships. Once I got to University it was for me to keep you out of trouble!"

Later that evening I was reviewing my emails and had a new message from the Desert Oasis Community Association:

*Dear Desert Oasis Residents,*

*The economic downturn aka The Great Recession had a hard impact on our community. Sadly about 2/3 of our community properties ended of being foreclosed or went through a short-sale process. We have seen a steady recovery over the past year and half now. Most of the previously foreclosed properties have been resold and are now occupied generating revenue from impact fees as well as monthly community dues. As we mentioned prior we did not want to have to do a special assessment to generate operating capital. We are pleased to announce there were no special assessments, nor will be having any in the future. Now that we are bringing in steady capital we are going to be investing in some upcoming projects. This will include the future Village at Thirsty Cactus. We will be refurbishing the community walls, replanting common area landscaping and several other projects through out the communities.*

*We also have good news from Adobe Dwellings, they are going to having a grand reopening of the Foothills Condo project later this month. Adobe Dwellings will be sending out more information as we get closer.*

*We appreciate your patience and loyalty during these past few difficult years.*

*The Desert Oasis Community Association.*

Maya returned later that evening to find Wynn dusting in a purple latex dress and ballet boots while locked in a rigid fiddle and gagged. Maya had thought I had done this to Wynn to punish her but then she noticed the locking pin for the fiddle was inserted "upside down" with the lock being on top. Maya walked over and removed Wynn's ball gag and asked, "Did you do this to yourself?"

Wynn laughed, "Yes, yes I did. How could you tell?"

Maya explained, "The locking pin is 'upside down', which means you were able to lock yourself into the fiddle. I've done that on many occasions when I had to watch many of my online lectures. It would keep me from messing around on the Internet or with myself."

Wynn laughed, "Whatever works. But, what was stopping yourself from simply unlocking yourself?"

Maya replied, "That would require me to have to go all the way to the play loft and frankly it wasn't worth the hassle. So, why did you do this?"

Wynn giggled, "Adds a little variety to the chores and I was hoping with the gag in, people would leave me alone."

Maya laughed, "Okay, okay I got the message." Maya fastened the ball gag around Wynn's head and Wynn went about her dusting.

I walked in as Maya was putting the gag on Wynn and asked, "What are you doing to Wynn?!"

Maya told me as she pointed to the locking pin on the fiddle, "She did this to herself to give herself some variety. I was simply putting her gag back in as she requested. Anyway, I gave my notice at Vinnie's and something strange happened."

I joked, "Diane begged and pleaded for you not to leave?"

Maya giggled, "Not really. No, she told me she was stepping down as manager. She is going back to doing deliveries with Drew."

I replied, "Interesting, so who is going to replace her as manager?"

Maya replied with a straight face, "Peaches."

I questioned her, "Peaches?"

Maya explained, "Yeah, apparently it was Diane's idea to have her go to school for management and business administration."

I was surprised, "Wow, she sure has come a long way since we 'adopted her' many years ago."

Sara and Lindsay walked in the room. Sara was tired from being out on the road most of the day for The Budget Holstein North and didn't notice Wynn. However, Lindsay did, "Why is Wynn gagged and in a fiddle dusting?"

I told her, "Apparently she decided she wanted to add some variety to her chores, so she put on the ballet boots added the gag and then locked herself in the fiddle."

Lindsay had no idea, "Wait, you can lock yourself into one of those?"

Maya told her, "Yeah, it takes a little practice and coordination to get the fiddle closed then to slide the *fiddle* into the locking pin. Normally you slide the locking pin from the top into the fiddle and attach the padlock on the underside. In this case place the pin on a flat surface and guide the pin through the bottom. Once

the pin was in place it is easy to attach the paddock." She added jokingly, "Be sure you put the padlock keys in your bra for safe keeping."

Lindsay was getting excited and laughed, "Wow, that's cool...have to try that someday. Okay, whatever works!"

It took me a bit to process the last part of Maya's instructions..."Maya! Really?"

Maya joked, "Well, she wouldn't have to worry about getting out too easily. Besides if she were to jump and hop around the keys would eventually fall out anyway" She turned to Lindsay, "Okay, so don't put the keys in your bra, put them somewhere out-of-the-way but still accessible."

I added, "You know, Gary gave me a couple new electronic timer padlocks. Those would perfect with the fiddle. Have to figure out what I did with those."

Maya continued, "Anyway, this setup worked for me many time over the past couple years when I had to watch the online video lectures. I'd get a gag, fiddle and lock from the playroom. I would make sure I left the key in the playroom so it would not be so easy for me to release myself."

Lindsay asked, "Why?"

Maya explained, "The gag kept me from chatting and the fiddle would make it so I could not do anything on the computer during the lecture. It was a little awkward the first time Peaches saw me, but then learned that if she came home and saw me in the fiddle and gag to leave me alone until I was down watching the lecture."

Sara joked pointing to Wynn, "Great I am going to come home one night and find Lindsay this way....actually that wouldn't be a bad thing!"

Lindsay was getting giddy, "There you go giving me ideas again!"

Sara laughed, "Whatever! So anything else going on?"

I explained the email, "Well got an email from The Association. Long story short, now that they are getting a positive cash flow again they are going to be taking care of some much needed improvements and repairs. Also, Adobe Dwellings is going to resume construction on The Foothills Condos. Also mentioned something about Village at Thirsty Cactus."

Wynn was trying to say something, but being gagged she was only mumbling. Maya undid the gag and Wynn explained, "Heard about Village at Thirsty Cactus. Supposed to be a mixed use development anchored by Sprouts. Similar concept to the market district over at DC Ranch, but on a much smaller scale. Not sure

how many PAD buildings there are going to be, that seems to be a sticking point with the zoning committee.”

I asked, “Where is this going to be?”

Wynn replied, “West side of Pima Highway. They are going to demolish the interchange and build a traffic circle instead. That is all I know. You can gag me now as I still need to finish dusting.”

Maya placed the gag back in Wynn's mouth and then asked, “When are they going to start on the condos again, Peaches and I will likely buy one?”

I told her, “They said later this month.”

Maya announced, “Okay good to know. Anyway, I am going to be bed going to be starting my first day as an official employee of Banner Greyhawk tomorrow! Peaches should be home a little later.”

Maya left heading towards the stairs, but first she slapped Wynn on the ass as she walked by and pointed to a low shelf, “You missed a spot!”

Sara was in a bit of shock, “Didn't see that coming!”

Lindsay joked, “What her slapping Wynn on the ass?”

Sara gave Lindsay a dirty look, “No silly! Maya and Peaches moving out.”

I explained, “I was always under the impression her staying with us was temporary kinda like Andy and Lindsay. But, with the economic downturn during these last few years it would be very difficult.”

Lindsay asked nervously, “Are you expecting us to leave anytime soon? Because we really don't have the money right now.”

I told her, “No, you guys can stay as long as you like. Besides, I don't think Sara would be able to handle you leaving.”

Sara did her patented 'Valley Girl', “Whatever!”

I was curious though, “Not that it really is any business of mine, but why don't you guys have the money right now?”

Not expecting her to answer I had taken a drink of my tea and nearly choked when she explained, “We bought back the Fountain Hills store...you okay Ron?”

After recovering, “Yeah..I think so. I don't get it, with all the heartache and

drama with that store why would you buy it back?"

Andy just happened to be walking in, "LINDSAY! I thought we agreed I would tell him!"

Lindsay scowled, "Well, he asked. You can tell him why."

Andy laughed, "Fine! Anyway, simply put it was the best performing store we had. We're going to have Dundee do some minor improvements to make the space work...." He saw Wynn, "Um...why is Wynn dusting in a fiddle and gag?"

Lindsay simply replied, "Plus ballet boots too. She wants to add variety to her job, apparently she got the idea from Maya."

Andy replied, "Um okay sure." He turned his attention to me, "Are we in the way here?"

I laughed, "For the hundredth time, no!" I explained, "So before you came in, I was explaining Adobe Dwellings was going to resume building and selling the Foothills Condos to which Maya announced that her and Peaches would likely get one. Sara was a bit taken aback and I had told her I knew this time would come as I had known their living situation her was temporary. Lindsay became concerned I was expecting y'all to leave as well now that the economy has improved."

Andy asked, "Well, were you."

I assured them, "No, you can stay here as long as you need and as I had joked, I didn't think Sara and Lindsay could bear to be separated from each other."

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A couple months prior, Lizzie came rolling into town on her bike. She usually came out once a month or so and would stay with Maya and Peaches. Usually, they would join the Zinfandel's on a weekend ride. It was odd the first time I saw Peaches on the back of Maya's bike. I had joked, "Peaches, when you are going to get yourself a Harley?"

Peaches replied, "Doubt that Ron, those cost more than I make in a year. Besides, this is fine!"

Gary stopped by before his ride and informed me, "Now that are things are improving Cristina is going to be reaching out to you soon about doing some much needed repairs and refreshes on her systems. I am thinking my office is going to be about due soon too."

Despite the economic downturn, I was flooded with work. I told him, "Okay, but I am about six-months out right now, I've got more business than I can handle. However, should I get a cancellation or two, I may be able to squeeze one or both of your projects in. However, Linda is ahead of you for her new Superstition store in Apache Junction/Gold Canyon."

Gary commented, "I didn't know she was opening a new store."

I told him, "Yeah, apparently they are getting a lot of business at both the Oro Valley and Scottsdale stores from that area. She says she already has employees and merchandise, just needs a store. I should know more in a couple months when we head down that way for 4<sup>th</sup> of July week."

Gary looked at his phone, "Wait it is already May? Yikes, what happened to this year? Gee, seems like it was just yesterday Bunny expanded her business."

I told him, "Because it was yesterday, although she's been talking about it since the beginning of this year. She had me build her an eCommerce site too."

Gary laughed, "Yep. Hey Claudette asked last time I saw her if I knew what was going on with Lost Dutchman Heights, you wouldn't happened to know?"

I replied, "Oh yeah, also known as Superstition Vistas which they said would be the size of Mesa, Tempe, Chandler and Gilbert combined. At this point nothing, the economic downturn just wiped out new home construction. I doubt anything is become of that for some time."

Gary concurred, "True, we've seen a lot of abandoned developments out by Queen Creek and Florence when we go on our rides."

I explained, "Even though the market is starting to improve, it is going to be a long while still. Give it a few more years and see what happens."

Gary announced, "Well, got go Ron the girls are waiting. Hey, since you got all that money, why don't you buy Peaches her own bike!"

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After our annual New Year's shin-dig, Zac Acme dropped by, "Hey Ron!"

I joked, "Coming back to see your old house!"

Zac laughed, "Yeah, I miss this place but it was way too big for us. Heck in a few months, my last daughter wraps up at ASU and is going to be moving to Goodyear with her brother. Anyway, just wanted to let you know that I am going back into business with Gary. Consulting that this is. Well, gotta go the Misses is

waiting.”

I thought to myself that was rather odd and almost reminded me of some of the interactions I have had with Gary in the past.

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Linda's Budget Holstein stores were still doing well. However, Pima County kept increasing the permit fees for businesses with 'Adult Oriented/Restricted Products' to the point she pulled the product line from the Oro Valley store. She was still selling those products at the Scottsdale location and would also at her forthcoming Superstition store. She did find a loophole in that customers from Pima County could order the adult/restricted products online. Kayré had setup a new merchant account when they started using Square at the Scottsdale location, the billing and shipping would be from the Scottsdale location not the Oro Valley store.

## **Chapter 2: Desert Foothills Re-Opening and New Wheels!**

A couple weeks after the initial email was another email from the Desert Oasis Community Association:

*Dear Desert Oasis Residents,*

*Adobe Dwellings, has announced they are going to having a grand reopening of the Foothills Condo project this weekend. They have advised us to expect a surge in construction related traffic at the Lone Mountain entry over the coming weeks. While we normally have tried to keep construction traffic out of the main community, the demolition trucks are over-height to use the Lone Mountain entry and therefore will be coming in through the Desert Oasis entrance and then heading south on Road Runner. There are a total of five structures Adobe Dwellings will be demolishing and they expect this to take about two weeks to complete.*

*We appreciate your patience and understating in this matter.*

*The Desert Oasis Community Association.*

I also had an email from Adobe Dwellings:

Dear Desert Foothills Oasis Resident...

As you may have been aware, due to the economic downturn over the past few years, we had to temporarily suspend development and sales of the Foothills Condos project. We have gained approval from the City of Scottsdale to resume construction and sales. We are still keeping the same footprint of the buildings each with 8 units. We will have 24 units for sale in

this phase. We have also slightly tweaked the floor plans. Due to lack of demand we will not be offering the previous 3-bedroom Plan C instead we are offering a larger version of the Plan B with the addition of a powder room. All our plans will be 2-Bedroom plans from the \$180's:

- Plan A: 1275 SQ Feet | 2 bedrooms | 1½ baths. 6 units with prices starting in the low \$180's
- Plan B: 1500 SQ Feet | 2 bedrooms | 2 baths. 10 units with prices starting in the mid \$180's
- Plan C: 1650 SQ Feet | 2 bedrooms | 2 ½ baths. 8 units with prices starting in the high \$180's.

All units will include:

- Major Appliances by Frigidaire
- Ceiling Fans in living, dining, bedrooms and patio/balconies.
- Solid Quartz Counter Tops in Kitchen. Marble in Baths
- Luxury Plank Vinyl (LPV) throughout
- 1½ Bathroom units will feature Roman Tubs
- 2 Bathroom units will feature Roman Tubs and walk-in shower
- Walk-in closets in all Bedrooms.
- Over-Sized Pantries
- 1-Car Detached Garage
- Mountain/Desert Views

Sales will begin in about three weeks once demolition of the incomplete structures is completed. As we did prior we will be offering incentives to current and former Desert Oasis Residents. This includes up to \$2000 off of closing costs and the opportunity to purchase 1-week prior to the official public opening.

Please note while we have made efforts to limit the amount of construction traffic within the existing community, given the height of the demolition trucks they are not able to use the Lone Mountain entrance. More information will be provided to you in regards to this matter from The Desert Oasis Community Association. Sales parking will still be restricted to outside of the community.

Should have you any questions, please contact Adobe Dwellings or the Desert Oasis Community Association Office.

I forwarded the email from Adobe Dwellings to Maya and Peaches. Maya was still adapting to her new job and seems like I hardly ever saw her or Peaches for that matter. Though Peaches would usually drop by around lunch time to feed and take Cream out. A few weeks later we would be making our annual trek down to Marana to get together with Laura and Miss Kitty as well as my mother and Blanche for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July week. Unlike the past few year Linda was actually going

to be in town during this time.

A couple weeks had passed since the email and Maya informed me, "So we were able to get a spec unit. They had originally thought they were going to have demolish two of the dwelling building along with the three garage buildings. As it turns out, this building was nearly completed before the downturn. They went in and did touch-ups, replaced the missing appliances and swapped out the water heater. They hadn't installed the HVAC system prior so we will be getting a new unit. Should be ready by the end of next month."

I asked, "What plan did you get?"

Maya informed me, "It was one of the original 'C' plans. There were four in that building."

I recalled, "Ah, so it was the three-bedroom like Kayré and Kacie?"

Maya advised, "Yep. We too are going to use the third bedroom as a 'guest room' mainly, for when Lizzie comes out once a month."

I told her, "Well that works!" I asked, "So how's the new job and how's Peaches taking it?"

Maya laughed, "Very, very busy. We are the only emergency hospital in the area. Peaches, seems to be doing well. She is putting in long hours as well at Vinnie's since she is a manager. Oh and she asked me to ask you if it was okay to sell the Hummer, as she would like to get something a bit newer and more fuel efficient."

It took me a minute to figure out that we had never signed the Hummer over to Maya or Peaches after Martina and I divorced, "Oh we never did change the title. I can take care of that and get Wynn to notarize it. Any ideas as to what she wants to get?"

Maya informed me, "She's been looking at the Nissan Rouge or Toyota RAV4. But might end up of getting a small 2-door Jeep instead."

I told her, "Hmm...I've always had good luck with Nissan and even Toyota for that matter. I've been looking at replacing the Jeep with a Nissan Murano, which is the next step up from the Rogue. I think it might be similar to the Toyota Highlander."

Maya asked, "How long have you had the Jeep?"

I replied, "I purchase the four-door Jeep Wrangler Unlimited when they first came out in 2007. I am getting close to 300K miles, so I figured I am about due for something new."

Maya was shocked, "300K miles?! Wow!"

I explained, "Yeah, well that is over eight-years. Used it for business a lot and we always take it down to Tucson, Marana and Tubac whenever we head out that way. It adds up, but also a lot of this miles were just 'in city' from going back and forth. Plus Vegas and even Chugwater!"

Maya had a look of disgust on her face when I mentioned 'Chugwater', "Ugh, don't remind me!"

I laughed and then reminded her, "I know, I know. But, good did come out of us going there and you staying there."

Maya smiled, "Yeah, Peaches! Wow, we've been together for over five years now."

Later that day I called Martina and asked if she come to the house after work. She informed me she could drop by the next night. The following evening after dinner Martina came by and being her witty and horny self told me, "If the misses is gone we could have a quickie!" She then reached for my crotch but as usual I was wearing CB-6000 which she soon discovered, "or not.."

I ignored her advances and told her, "Come with me to my office need you to sign something." Wynn was already waiting in my office with her notary kit. I retrieved the Hummer title out my safe and explained, "So when you and Marc left for Henderson a few years back when we divorced you kept the Jag and gave Maya The Hummer."

Martina confirmed, "Yeah, why?"

I continued, "We never had you do a transfer of ownership on The Hummer. Maya been paying the insurance and registration on it, but legally it is still in your name. Maya is working at her own job now and is getting her own car. She wants to give The Hummer to Peaches. Peaches wants to trade it in for something more fuel efficient and smaller. So, in order to do this you need to open the title."

Martina understood, "Okay, so we never put it in Maya's name. What do I need to do?"

Wynn walked over and instructed Martina, "Sign and date here, then I'll notarize the title and that is it."

Martina looked at the title, "Oh wow, this is in my maiden name: Morissete. Must have been before I got my license updated to Frosch."

I reminded her, "But, you bought it shortly after we married and moved into the Desert Oasis House."

Martina giggled, "Oh yeah! Never had a license with 'Merlot'. Was going to get it changed then we ended up divorcing." She signed the title and commented, "Well that was awkward!"

I laughed, "Yeah, know the feeling as anything legal I sign as *Francis Merlot*." Wynn had Martina sign her Notary book and then she stamped and signed the title. I paged Maya to my office. A couple minutes later she came in with Cream.

Martina saw Cream, "She's gotten so big!"

Maya laughed, "Yeah and luckily this is big as she'll get too."

I handed her the title for The Hummer, "Martina has signed and Wynn has notarized the title. Y'all can now sell or trade in The Hummer."

Maya took the title and told Martina, "Thanks. Peaches has found a white 1980 Jeep CJ-7 in great shape."

I was surprised that Martina got the reference before I did, "What is with y'all and Daisy Duke cars?"

Maya joked as she walked out the room with Peaches, "Haven't a clue what y'all talkin' about!"

### **Chapter 3: An Unlikely Return**

A long, long time ago in a house not so far away, I had setup an alert on the real estate site Zillow for any new home listing in the Desert Oasis community. One morning I received one such alert email for a new listing on Fairy Duster Court. There were only four houses on that street; Lot 13, our old house; Lot 12, The Zinfandel's, Lot 14 which was where The McGrawl's were going to have their house built along with Lot 15, The Chan's. Looking at the address I was under the impression it was the Chan's on Lot 15, but once I looked at the listing and saw the photos I discovered it was Lot 14. I was wondering if The McGrawl's would want to buy the house, but then I recalled they had invested most of their money back in the Fountain Hills store. A few days later Wynn paged me, "Zac Acme holding for you on the house line."

I picked up the house line, "Howdy Zac, what's going on?"

Zac explained, "Aimee and I are looking at buying the house on Lot 14."

I informed him, "That was the house Andy and Lindsay were having built, which

they backed out of when we got back from Chugwater. I saw that went for sale a couple days ago."

Zac asked, "Were they wanting to buy it back?"

I replied, "No, they ended up putting a lot of money into buying back their Fountain Hills store they sold a few years back. Why the interest though?"

Zac told me, "Well, now that our daughter has wrapped up with school she is going to move to Goodyear and stay with her brother...the one that went to UofA. Anyway, this place is just a bit big for us."

I thought about that last part and kinda knew what he meant now that Maya, Peaches and Cream had moved out. "Yeah, I know the feeling. With Maya and Peaches gone now, this place seems huge for the five of us."

Zac asked, "Did you want to buy back your old house?"

I was stunned, "Well...wow...always liked that house, mainly because it was the first place I ended up getting after leaving Laura behind in Vegas. What all have you done with it since we sold it to you?"

Zac explained, "Upstairs nothing, we did redo the Great Room, Dining Room and Kitchen. Why don't you come over and take a look."

I checked my schedule, I had nothing planned, "Yeah, I think I'll go do that. Can be there in about 10-minutes."

Zac confirmed, "Okay, sounds good."

I headed downstairs and as I passed Wynn in the kitchen I informed her, "Going to see a man about a house."

Wynn laughed, "Don't you mean *horse*?"

I replied with a straight face as I left, "Nope, house."

I arrived at the old house. Zac met me at the front door, "He-ya Ron come on in." Upon walking in, I noticed the grand foyer was untouched, but once we went into the Great Room I noticed some changes. Zac explained, "So when we remodeled the space we swapped the Great Room and Dining Room. We also moved the breakfast bar to face the dining room."

I looked around and then noticed a big change, "Wow, the fireplace is gone!"

Zac replied, "Yeah, we took that out as that is the new entry into the kitchen. We

also added a walk-in pantry in the kitchen where the nook used to be.”

I replied, “Works better, was kind of redundant to have both a nook and dining room.”

Zac asked, “So are Andy and Lindsay still going to be stay with you?”

I reminded him, “Yeah, as they are rather low on money right now.”

Zac did a face palm, “Oh yes, you mentioned that already. So where were they here?”

I told him, “The king suite which was the big suite next to Maya and Peaches' old room.”

Zac smiled, “Okay then, I have an idea.” I looked at him oddly, “It will make more sense when we are upstairs.” I followed Zac up the stairs to where the King Suite and Maya's old room (my old office) were, “Okay, so I was thinking you could do a couple things here. Maya's old room was where my son stayed when he came to visit us and I was thinking you could re-position the door...to face the door of the King Suite.”

While it had been a few years since I had been in here, I knew the layout of the house well, “Wait a minute...the doors to the King suite had faced the stairs.”

Zac remembered, “Oh yeah, forgot we had changed that. You had a hallway once you walked into the room with where the master bath was. We decided we could better use the space by changing where the entrance to the suite is.”

I laughed, “Yeah, that was a very odd design, one of many. Okay, but if I recall correctly...” I knocked on the wall, “There is a closet here.”

Zac confirmed, “Yeah an extra long closet at that. So if you were to make it their office they wouldn't need such a huge closet.”

I asked, “I don't know about that, have you seen how much clothes Andy has?”

Zac laughed, “Aimee says the same about me!”

I explained, “But seriously, yeah that could work. So that would leave me the Queen Suite and the old Presentation Room. So if my mother and Blanche and/or Laura and Miss Kitty would come to visit, I would still be fine. Would have to get Dundee over here and draw up some plans. Did you make any changes to the library/office?”

Zac replied, “I don't believe so, but let's take a look.”

We headed back downstairs and entered a rather barren library. I joked, "Not much in here!"

Zac replied, "Well, I didn't have the vast collection of stuff like you did."

I informed him, "That 'vast collection' has been sitting in boxes in the garage since we moved into your old house. I looked out the window and saw the wash, "Oh wow, I always loved that view. The trees have gotten so big since I was last here."

Zac reminded me, "The view is even better in the office."

We walked into my old office, now Zac's office and was amazed, "Yeah they sure are. You know I really loved this setup, ironically it wasn't even something I was going to do. Dundee had drawn up this plan, but I hadn't really given thought to doing something so drastic down here. It was Sara who showed me the plan and I liked the idea of having the library as a presentation/reception area. Dundee went above and beyond what I had expected out of this area." I sat down and looked around, "Boy I sure miss this. This would work perfect for the five of us. Heck, it was originally just Sara, Martina and I. Yeah, like I said let me have Dundee draw up some plans and then I will present them to the family."

Zac assured me, "Take your time, I don't need to sell right-away and even such the folks on Lot 14 are needing 45-days to close." I took several pictures and forward the info over to Dundee.

A couple weeks later Dundee forwarded me the plans, I saved them to the house network drive along with the photos. That evening once Sara, Andy and Lindsay had returned I announced, "House meeting in Great Room."

I headed downstairs and fired up the TV switching to the attached PC. Everyone had gathered, "Good evening. Okay, so let me explain a couple things. In case you were not aware about two-weeks ago Lot 14 over in Desert Oasis went on the market."

Lindsay asked, "Lot 14, why does that sound familiar?"

Andy replied, "Because that was the lot we were going to have the house built on." Turning his attention to me, "What did you buy it?"

I laughed, "Nope. Besides it would have been too small for the five of us."

Wynn commented, "As this place is too big for the five of us."

I continued, "Yeah! So, Zac Acme is going to buy that house as his daughter has

moved out to live in Goodyear with her brother. Zac and Aimee wanted something a little smaller. Which means he is going to be selling our old house."

Andy being a smart-ass, "So you going to buy it?"

I replied, "May be, that is why we are gathered here tonight. So the Acme's did make some changes as you can see here." I started the slide show. "Okay, so the nook is gone and the kitchen has been remodeled with a new breakfast bar as well as a walk-in pantry. Turning to the other side, he swapped the dining and living rooms."

Wynn was the first to notice, "Hey wait, didn't there used to be a fireplace in the kitchen?"

Andy commented, "Yeah, in the nook and dining room."

I confirmed, "Yep they took that out as that is the new entry into the kitchen. We never used it that much and it was a odd use of the space."

The next photos were the library and office Lindsay commented, "So empty!"

I reminded her, "Yeah and oddly enough most of what I had in there is still in boxes over in the garages here. Otherwise nothing in there has changed. Okay, lets see what is next." The photo of the top of the spiral stairs came next, "Anyone notice anything different here?"

Andy pointed out, "Yeah the doors to our old room are in a different place now."

Lindsay replied, "Oh yeah, they used to face the stairs."

I explained, "So they removed that 'hallway' that used to run along the wall of your bathroom. They felt it was better use of space having a niche in the hall." I switched over to Dundee's drawings, "Okay, so I had Dundee draw this up. This is what Maya's old room, which was my old office currently looks like. What is being purposed is shrinking the closet in order to accommodate moving the door so it faces that of the King Suite. This can be your home office, which is why we could get away with shrinking the closet in there. Otherwise, the rest of the house is pretty much unchanged."

Sara commented, "Do kinda miss that house, it has so much 'history' for us."

I laughed and joked, "Oh like our Unlikely Affair?"

Sara giggled, "Or where Martina and Laura tried to take advantage of me!"

Lindsay laughed, "Yeah! We had a lot of fun in that house too. Not that this place

has been all that bad. Just not the same.”

I explained, “I know what you mean Lindsay. For all of us, it was a new beginning, a fresh start if you would. Wynn is right though, now that Maya, Peaches and even Cream are gone this is a bit big for us. The downside for you, Andy and Lindsay is losing your cottage.”

Lindsay commented, “We really only used it for sleeping. Most of the time we are in the main house. Even when I worked from home, I was usually out on the cabana or in the Great Room here as it was so lonely over there in the cottage.”

Andy laughed, “Yeah, that is true. When we first moved here I thought we'd be using it more, but we were so use to being with the rest of the 'family' in the main house.”

Sara asked, “So have you already bought this?”

I told her, “No, not yet. I wanted to get everyone's thoughts.”

Wynn told me, “Don't really matter to me one way or another, but as I said this place is so huge now with them gone. Especially since Maya took her piano with her.”

Lindsay replied, “I know it just so empty in there now. I liked the pool over there better too, don't know why. I really wouldn't mind moving back there, how about you Andy?”

Andy explained, “Yeah, I agree. I'll be a lot closer to the kitchen there too!”

I concluded, “I guess that is going to be a 'yes'. We are still looking at a least two-months as need to wait for The Acme's to close escrow for Lot 14 and then once we close escrow I will need to get Dundee in there to do his thing. I will say this though, give y'all some time to thin out stuff. I am also going to have Dundee expand the playroom by shrinking from 3-car to 2-car garage.”

#### **Chapter 4: Linda and Village at Thirsty Cactus and Superstition Mountain**

It was now the 4<sup>th</sup> of July week and we made our annual trip down to southern Arizona. We made it over to The Holstein Ranch in record time and were greeted by Olivia, “Welcome! Linda is out getting food, should be back later on. Come on in to the main house Lizzie is already here.”

Maya was a bit surprised to find out Lizzie was going to be there. She walked into the main house and asked, “Lizzie what you doing here?”

Lizzie replied, “Linda invited me. Remember, she was one of the first 'guests' of

The Moon Goddess when we first opened.”

A few moments Linda came into the house and asked, “I have enough food to feed an army...or at least Andy. Anyway, can I get some help unloading?” Most everyone headed out to help Linda unload. Once we were back in the house Linda told me, “Ron, after dinner I need to discuss quite a few things with you as do the McGrawl's.”

I figured this would have to do with her future Superstition/Gold Canyon store, but the way she worded the last part seemed odd, however Linda had a “unique” way with words. I told her, “Okay, I think we can do that.”

It was a nice evening and everyone had headed outside to either play horseshoes or to chat with each other. Linda found me with the McGrawl's, “Okay, so...not sure where to start...um....okay...let me ask you this; are you familiar with an upcoming project up in your area called The Village at Thirsty Cactus?”

I replied, “Yes, somewhat. I know that it is mixed-use commercial and residential. I know the development is anchored by Sprouts and there are supposed to be several PADs. Similar to, but smaller scale of DC Ranch. Really don't know much else though.”

Linda threw it out, “Are you aware I am a major stakeholder in this project?” I looked at her blankly, “Okay...I'll take that as a 'no'. Alright then, well let me 'disclose' some other items as required by law: Marc Frosh is acting as my agent; I've sold The Ranch, but am currently leasing it from the new owner until December of next year. I've also sold my stake of The Budget Holstein, but will remain as acting interim assistant manager while I am still out here. Laura and Lynette Myers will take over as owners.”

Sara choked on her beer when she heard that, “Wait Ron's sister and Miss Kitty bought your store?”

I replied, “Sounds like it.” I had noticed earlier, but I had not seen either of them around since we had arrived, “Hey, where are those two anyway?”

Linda explained, “Yes, it was actually Lynette who talked Laura into being co-owner. She wanted to take on a new venture. My understanding Laura is going to be a silent partner. They should be out later this week as Laura is wrapping up a project. Now where was I? Oh yeah...Olivia and I have sold Corona de las Estrellas...however we are retaining the rights to the name. The new owner will need to either rename it back to The Oro Valley Cantina or give it a new name of their choosing by this time next year.”

I was a bit shocked, “Well, that is a lot to process. So, why are you leasing until the end of next year?”

Linda explained, "I am taking a gamble on the timing here, but I expect the Scottsdale Planning commission should approve the final layout at their meeting later this month or next. Sprouts is ready to start breaking ground and building. I am going to be purchasing three of the PAD buildings. Two are mixed commercial/residential and one is a restaurant PAD, which will be the new home of Corona de las Estrellas."

Still in shock, "Interesting, so where are you going?"

Linda continued, "So the first and larger PAD building is going to be the new home of *The Budget Holstein*."

I asked, "North?"

Linda laughed, "No, I will drop the 'North' it will be 'at Thirsty Cactus'. Where as the Gold Canyon location will be 'at Superstition Mountain'. The store which the Meyer's are taking over will be 'of Oro Valley' "

Lindsay added, "Since we've added the Steam Punk line and extended the selection of the 'adult' items we are running out of room. Even after the remodel and the tweaking Dundee did a while back."

Kayré also added, "You forgot Jason's shoe line as well."

I asked, "How big is this building?"

Linda explained, "Footprint wise, the same as the Oro Valley location, but three levels. The ground level is split with garage in the rear and retail in the front. The second level is split as well with the 'living area' of the residence in the rear and retail as well in the front. The third level is the rest of the residence with a huge balcony."

Kacie had joined us and told us, "Linda is going to take over the mortgage on the condo as she will move in there with Olivia."

Kayré added, "We will move into the residence above the store."

Sara asked, "So what's the third building for?"

Lindsay was all excited and turned to Andy, "Can I tell them? Can I tell them?"

Andy sighed in defeat, "Sure, Lindsay..."

Lindsay explained, "It will be the new home of PC's and Things!"

I joked, "So repurchasing the Fountain Hills store wasn't enough you want to open a fourth store!"

Andy replied, "Oh hell no! This is going to replace the Far North Scottsdale location as we too are out growing that location. Plus our lease is up in another year."

I asked, "Is this building the same configuration?"

Linda informed us, "Yes, but about half the size."

Sara asked Lindsay nervously, "So does that mean you two will be occupying the residence there too?"

Andy's reply relaxed Sara, "No, we can not afford to do that, plus we would like some separation between our personal and professional lives as well."

Linda explained, "Lizzie will actually be leasing the residence in that building. She is going to be the new bartender/hostess at Corona de las Estrellas."

I asked, "Do you know what else is going into that development?"

Linda replied, "I know that a 'Salon Suites' venture is looking at the building next the Budget Holstein. Also heard rumors Starbucks is interested in opening a coffee house in there too."

Sara asked, "Isn't there already one across the street in the Safeway?"

I explained, "Yeah, but it serves a different demographic and is limited to customers who are already in the store. I can understand why they would want a stand-alone. Patio, for one thing..."

Linda corrected me, "...balcony actually as much like the Corona de las Estrellas building, most of the top floor would be balcony/roof top patio..."

I continued, "...plus people driving by or using the app are more likely to stop at a stand-alone location than go inside a supermarket."

Sara thought about that for a moment, "Yeah the does make sense in a way."

I turned my attention back to Linda and her daughter, "Okay Linda and/or Kayré, what are the plans for the 'Superstition' store?"

Kacie explained, "I am in the process of getting the leased negotiated and hope to sign by the end of this month. Hoping to open by late-September. Will that work for your crew?"

I told her, "Not really sure at this point as will depend on how involved this project is going to be. We can discuss this further once you sign your lease and know when you want to occupy."

Later that evening Zac called, "Hey Ron, we closed escrow on the house on Lot 14. We're you still wanting to purchase your old house back?"

At this point there was really no reason to be concerned with making this purchase. I would be getting more from selling Zac's old house than what it would cost to purchase our old house back. We already past the two-year mark so Capital Gains taxes wouldn't apply. Further with the upcoming projects for Linda's Superstition Mountain store as well as the forthcoming projects with Thirsty Cactus and I had more business now then I could handle, so financially felt safe doing this. I told Zac, "Yeah, let me get in contact with Marc and we'll open up an Escrow account..."

As fate, luck or whatever happened to be Marc walked in, "Hey Linda sorry got stuck in horrific traffic outside of Phoenix."

I told Zac, "Well Marc, just happen to pop-in so you should be hearing something from us soon." I hung up with Zac and walked over to Marc, "Hey, just the guy I wanted to see."

Marc replied, "Oh hey Ron. So I assume Linda has filled you in on her grand plans?"

I explained, "That she did. Not what I needed to talk to you about though. Need your assistance with a real estate transaction or two."

Marc joked, "Okay, let me take off my developer hat and put on my Realtor hat! So, what do you need?"

I told Marc, "So, I am buying back our old house in Desert Oasis. Zac bought the house on Lot 14."

Marc replied, "Cool getting the band back together! Are the McGrawl's still staying with you?"

I replied, "Yeah, otherwise it wouldn't really be useful for use to have that giant house and Wynn. Plus they're a little short on cash right now too."

Marc laughed, "Martina is going to love this...she loved the pool at that house."

I reminded him, "Ah yes. She and her one piece bikini. You know, technically it is *her* pool as she paid for it, the Cabana and bought me the grill with her 'Google

Money'."

Marc remembered, "Amazing, she actually listened to me and bought the stock at the IPO. So, what is your time line and what are you doing with Zac's old house?"

I informed Marc, "Well, there is some work I want to have done at the Desert Oasis house to accommodate the McGrawl's home office. But, I can't do that until I take ownership. As far as Zac's old house, I will sell that once we get moved out of there and back into the Desert Oasis house."

Marc inquired, "So I am guessing you have the funds to purchase the Desert Oasis house for cash?"

I laughed, "How rich do you think I am? Of course once Martina and I divorced..."

Marc joked, "She took you for everything you had?"

I reminded him, "Other than the Jag, she wanted nothing else. She gave the Hummer to Maya. No, she pretty much paid her own way. The money is a little tied up right now in CD's but should be able to cash those out shortly. Sara's likely got a bunch of money stashed away. Her checks from Budget Holstein are direct deposited and she rarely spends money. I think the last thing she bought was Maya's Piano a couple years back. Oh and she gets the Road Runner detailed every month. So anyway, I should be able to do 20% down to start the Escrow account and then the rest once I do a balloon loan. I just won't be able to do anything until we get back."

Sara walked into the kitchen and saw Marc and myself, "Ron, you know he's a bad influence and you shouldn't be hanging around him! Anyway, what's going on?"

I filled Sara in on the latest, "Well, I guess I am trouble as he is acting our Realtor so...anyway Zac called and informed me they closed escrow on Lot 14. I confirmed with him I am going to buy back our old house. I was just going over the financial logistics with Marc. Roughly, how much do you think you have in the bank currently?"

Sara asked, "Liquid or total?"

I replied, "Liquid."

Sara checked her phone, "Well, looks like...oh wow it has been a while since I checked my balance. Oh...um \$150,000. Looks like another \$50,000 in CD's."

Marc laughed, "Geez, how much does Linda pay you?!"

Sara giggled, "Well...there are the 'tips' and commissions...and technically it is

Kayré who pays me. Some of that too is from the modeling gigs I do from time to time. To be honest I don't really spend money. Ron and Wynn provide nearly everything. Other than getting the Road Runner detailed and occasionally going shopping, dining and movies with Lindsay and Maya. I don't even recall the last big purchase I made."

I reminded her, "Probably Maya's piano a couple years back."

Sara recalled, "Yeah. But even that wasn't that much as Tony Orlando ended up giving it to me, just needed to pay the shipping to have it moved back to Arizona."

I asked Sara, "Will you be able to loan me some money like you did last time I bought the house? Once I sell the Acme's old house I'll be able to pay you back."

Sara replied, "Yeah, no problem."

I asked her, "Seen Lindsay around?"

Sara told me, "Yeah her and Kacie were in Olivia's building."

The next couple days we hung around at The Ranch and would go out for lunch and/or dinner. The next day Laura called, "Hey Ron, so I am going to be off the next few days and Miss Kitty will be as well for a couple of those. Would you, Sara and Maya be able to come by later today; Mother and Blanche will be here as well?"

I informed her, "Shouldn't be an issue as not much going on over here for once. Do you want to meet at the house or somewhere for lunch?"

Laura told me, "Let's me at the house and we can do lunch over at the resort."

I looked at the time, "Okay, I think we can be out there in about an hour if that works?"

Laura confirmed, "Yeah mother and Blanche are already on their way up."

I got off the phone and looked around the Ranch for Sara and Maya. Kacie saw me and asked, "Looking for Linda? She's at the store."

I told her, "No, Sara and Maya actually."

Kacie explained, "I think they are over in the yard by Olivia's building."

I replied, "Ah okay...thanks." I headed outside and across the yard and saw Sara, Lindsay, Maya chatting with Olivia at picnic table under a palo verde tree.

Olivia saw me, "Hello Ron. Did you need them?"

I told her, "Just Sara and Maya." We headed back into the house and explained, "Laura is requesting we join her and Miss Kitty along with my mother and Blanche for lunch. We will meet at Laura's place first." It took us about half hour to get over to Laura's house.

Sophie greeted us at the door, "Ah, I've been expecting you!"

I told her, "That's good knowing Laura's tendency not tell you things."

Sophie laughed, "Yeah, she's better now...mostly. They are all out back."

We walked out on to the back patio and Laura saw us, "Oh good y'all are here. We have some news?"

Maya asked, "You and Miss Kitty?"

Sara commented, "We know about you two taking over the Oro Valley Budget Holstein."

Miss Kitty commented, "We have other news, and no one else knows about this. Well except Lorena and Blanche."

Laura asked, "Do you remember a few years ago we had just moved in at the house and we all were out here talking that evening."

I replied, "I have no idea, heck I can't even remember the conversation Sara and I had this morning over breakfast."

Maya joked, "Ron's getting old."

Sara reminded her, "Hey, I am almost the same age he is and you are only 3-years younger than I am. Honestly though Laura, I can't recall either. Been a hectic few years."

Maya recalled, "Oh yeah I remember that night, Peaches was all worried Laura was going to steal Cream. But as far as what we were talking about no clue."

Lorena asked, "Cream?"

Miss Kitty laughed, "Peaches' dog." She turned to Laura, "See I told you they wouldn't remember. Just tell them already!"

Laura sighed, "Okay fine! So, that night Miss Kitty and I along with Mother and

Blanche said that once Arizona legalized same-sex marriages..."

It was starting to come back to me now, "Oh yeah okay. I wasn't aware they had. Hell, we can't even get recreational pot legalized. Not that I use that stuff..."

Maya explained, "Well technically you are correct, Arizona never legalized same-sex marriage. However, in 2015 the federal level there is a Supreme Court ruling which says that every state must recognize the marriage, regardless of what state it was performed."

Blanche joked, "She should be a lawyer."

Maya cringed, "I don't think so, Blanche."

I asked, "Okay, so that is the reason you wanted us to come out then. Do you have a date in mind yet?"

Miss Kitty explained, "Well it depends on what works for you three."

Laura explained, "Sara if it is alright with you, would be my Maid of Honor? I would have had Laura, but since we are all getting married at the same time..."

Sara told her, 'Sure, I'd be honored."

Blanche asked, "Maya, would be you my maid of Honor?"

Maya was a bit taken aback, "Um...yeah I can do that."

Miss Kitty told us, "Linda is going to be mine. You'll never guess who Laura choose."

Maya joked, "Martina."

Sara replied, "As if!"

Laura just started laughing and I realized that she was serious, "Oh shit! It is Martina isn't it?"

Maya responded, "Seriously?! After what you two did to Ron and Sara?"

I wasn't sure where this was heading but I decided I need to get control of this quickly, "I have no problem. Look at this way Maya; if it weren't for Laura and Martina's affair, Sara and I wouldn't have married. As I have said many times, Martina and I were never meant to be. We were young and foolish. I am surprised though you didn't have Sophie"

Laura laughed, "She'd probably end up killing me or going insane when I become Bridezilla! No, she'll be a bride's maid."

Maya realized how this was sounding, "Oh sorry. I am not upset. May be surprised that is all. If if not too much trouble Blanche, would be okay if Peaches was a bride's maid? I don't want to leave her out."

Sara replied, "Yeah, Lorena I kind of feel the same way about Lindsay too."

Both Lorena and Blanche had no issues. I asked, "So when and where?"

Miss Kitty told us, "Since this should be fairly small compared to yours we are considering having it here in our yard."

I explained, "Got to remember, the bulk of the guests were for the Zinfandel's. Had it been Sara and, would not have been anything fancy or lavish. Like I said, Martina and I went through a drive-thru UFO chapel and were married by an Ordained Alien. Hmm, I wonder if the rent-a-preacher Gary hired is still around?"

Laura told us, "Gary is an ordained minister and he will perform our ceremonies. Olivia will cater and knows event coordinators who can take care of the rest."

Lorena added, "We are thinking around Thanksgiving when it is a little cooler."

I asked for clarification, "Thanksgiving this year?"

Laura replied, "Yeah. Y'all were going to be out here anyway right?"

I explained, "Yeah and that is fine. I just wanted to make sure, because if it was next year Linda and Olivia won't be out here anymore."

Apparently Laura never mentioned this to my mother or Blanche. Lorena asked, "Why wont they?"

I looked at Laura, "Okay...I take it then you haven't told them."

Laura replied, "Oh, I knew there was something else I meant to tell them. So yeah, the reason why Miss Kitty and I are taking over ownership of the Oro Valley Budget Holstein is because Linda is moving to Scottsdale next year to head-up the Thirsty Cactus location over by Ron's old house..."

I added, "Well, former old house as I am buying it back from Zac. He is buying the house on Lot 14. Should be happening in the next couple months. I think we should be fine. Maya what do you think?"

Maya told me, "I don't see a reason why I can't, I don't even think I have enough

seniority to even be able to work that week anyway.”

Miss Kitty laughed, “Interesting, usually it is the other way around.”

Maya explained, “Same reason I don't work weekends. The higher seniority people want those days and the holiday weeks because of the extra pay. Peaches is the manager so she can take off anytime she wants.”

I asked Laura, “Have you talked to Martina yet?”

Laura replied, “Yes, I told her I wanted her to be my Maid of Honor. She wasn't sure how you were going to take it though.”

I told her, “Let me call her real quick as I think she would be the only one that could have a scheduling issue. Lindsay would be fine as we would be out here anyway.”

I called Martina, “Oh Ron, how unexpected.”

I explained, “So Laura tells me she wants you to be her maid of honor?”

Martina got nervous, “Yeah...that okay with you?”

I laughed, “What difference does it make? As I told Laura doesn't bother me. The only thing I need to know is if you will be free around Thanksgiving as apparently that is when Laura and them plan on doing this.”

Martina seemed relieved, “Ah okay. Yeah Marc and I can get the time off.”

I told her, “Okay then...well I'll have Laura get back to you with an exact date once we confirm with everyone else.”

Maya had conferred with Peaches while Sara with Lindsay and it seemed everyone was going to be okay with that week. Lorena asked, “Ron do you have a preference or suggestion?”

I told them, “I think for best results we should plan on doing it that Tuesday. We won't be out here until the Sunday before, so give us a day to get ready. Otherwise it just going to be too crazy trying to do it any other day of that week.”

Laura understood, “Yeah, I agree with Ron and especially since the bulk of everyone will be coming down from Phoenix.”

## **Chapter 5: The Great House Shuffle Revisited and A Practice Run**

Once we returned to Scottsdale, Sara and I each wired money into the Escrow

account for our original house. A couple days later Marc called, "Hey, when you have chance can you stop over at my condo? Need for you to sign the closing documents for The Desert Oasis house."

I asked, "When are you going to be home?"

Marc told me, "Martina is already over there and I should be home in the next half hour. If you want to head over, Martina can go over everything with you."

I told him. "Okay sounds good, I'll head over shortly." After I got off the phone, I went to find Wynn. Once again she was in a catsuit, ballet boots, gagged and locked herself in the fiddle. I told her, "I am going over to see Martina to sign the closing docs for the house. You know, I really should have you try out one of those timer padlocks. It will be easier as you won't have to maneuver getting the key into the lock and plus you won't be able to let yourself out until the time is up. I'll try to find those when I get back. See you later." Wynn just nodded and grunted as I left.

I arrived at The Frosh's condo and Martina let me in. She told me, "Yeah, Marc said you would be by to sign the docs. I can't believe you are buying back our old house. Kinda thought you wouldn't want to relive all the 'history' with your sister and myself."

I objected, "Hey we all had some good times in that house. Besides, Sara and Maya got back at you two, though I think you were too drunk off your ass to even remember!"

Martina laughed, "Oh god, yeah! Laura told me about that...you're right I was too drunk to remember. So when y'all move back in, you going to let Marc and I visit? I do miss the pool."

I told her, "Of course. Besides you paid for that pool and the Cabana and my grill, so it is only fair."

Martina shoved a mountain of paperwork in front of me, "Whatever you have questions about Marc will be able to answer when he gets here."

I looked through the paperwork, "Yeah, looks fairly familiar. Did you need make copy my drivers license?"

Martian replied, "Oh yeah, I knew there was something I needed to do as well."

Twenty-minutes later Marc came in, "Hey Ron. Everything look good?"

I told him, "Yeah, just a pain-in-the ass to remember to sign everything as *Francis Merlot*."

Martina laughed, "Francis, forgot about that."

A short time later we had all the documents signed. Marc informed me, "Your lender has already funded the loan, so we will go ahead and release the funds and get this recorded. See me this time tomorrow."

I thanked Marc and headed back to the house. Wynn was in the kitchen back in her regular uniform and that is when I remembered, "Say how much time before dinner?"

Wynn told me, "Waiting on Sara and McGrawl's, they should be getting off work soon. Why?"

I reminded her, "Oh, I need to find those locks. Okay."

I headed over to my office and started looking around in the closet. Found several items that Gary had given me that I had totally forgotten about including a wireless/rechargeable double headed vibrator. One end would be inserted into the vagina while the other end would be on the outside with the vibrating nub on the clit. Also came across a portable timed key safe. Upon digging some more finally found the locks still in the original packaging. Upon opening up the package I discovered a USB charging cable along with the directions for use. The timer could be set for anywhere between 1 minute and 99 hours. A long while back I had bought a USB charging station, mainly to be able to charge my phone, tablet and camera without having to tie up three outlets or having to use my PC. I plugged in both locks, along with the vibrator and allowed them to charge. I looked over at the clock and saw still had a little time before everyone would be coming home. I gave Dundee a call, "Hey Mick. So, I should be closing on the Desert Oasis house tomorrow. When you free to do an actual walk through?"

Dundee checked his schedule, "Okay, tomorrow is Thursday...um Friday is booked...Saturday...yeah Saturday morning I am open if that works?"

I checked my calendar, "Hmm...let me see here...yeah nothing really going on. How's eight?"

Dundee penciled me in, "Works for me."

I headed back to the kitchen to find Sara and Lindsay walking in. Lindsay saw me, "Oh hey Ron, looking for Andy he went over to the cottage to change."

A few minutes later Andy appeared and I informed everyone, "Signed the closing documents for the old house today. Should be mine and Sara's again by this time tomorrow."

Andy asked, "How long do we have before we need to be out?"

I reminded him, "Haven't put this house on the market yet. Plus, until I meet with Dundee on Saturday morning I won't know how long it will take for him to make the upgrades. Ideally, I would like to do this within 30-days, but I doubt that is going to be realistic...though 60 to 90 days likely will be more so."

Sara was confused, "Why 30-days?"

I told her, "It is nature of this loan, it does not compound interest daily, rather monthly. So it doesn't matter if I were to pay it off on day 31 or day 60 the pay off would be the same. Of course, I need to be able to sell this house first before I could pay off the loan so looking at 3-4 months worth of interest. Not that it much matters it is a fairly small loan. I owe more to you than the bank."

Andy commented, "So you said you are meeting with Dundee on Saturday?"

I replied, "Yeah, around eight. Why, you want to join me?"

Andy seemed relived, "Yeah and Lindsay too, if you don't mind."

I reminded him, "It is just as much y'all's house as it is Sara and I plus Wynn. If it weren't for your two we'd likely would have done a condo...but that would have meant letting Wynn go and really don't want to do that, she is family...as are you two. Besides there would be no way Lindsay and Sara could be apart from each other for such long period of time."

The next night Lindsay arrived home. Since it was Friday and the middle of the month Andy would be staying late to close out that sale period. Sara was staying late as well working with Kacie to get an inventory count for the Far North Scottsdale store. She saw Wynn in the kitchen and asked, "Where's Ron?"

Wynn explained, "He is over with Marc and Martina at our old house wrapping up the closing. He said he was going to be there a while as he wanted to take a good walk-through and see if there was anything else that Dundee would need to do. So, it is just you and me for dinner. I have a pizza arriving shortly."

Lindsay replied, "Okay. I'll head over to the cottage and change into something cooler." She returned a few minutes later in shorts, t-shirt along with black stockings and six-inch high heel sandals. The door bell rang and she happened to right by the front door. She opened the door was surprised to see Drew, "Wow. Drew haven't seen you in so long."

Drew laughed, "Well, this is awkward!"

Lindsay asked confused, "How so?"

Drew told her, "Delivering to y'all at this address."

Lindsay laughed, "Oh well, it is just for another month. Ron bought back his old house and we will all be moving over there soon."

Drew laughed, "Good, that will make things a lot easier. Anyway here's your pizza Madam....'Lee'?"

Lindsay giggled, "Yeah, Wynn ordered the pizza."

Drew understood, "Ah okay, that makes since. Anyway, need to get back to the shop before Peaches call out the search party for me."

Lindsay took the pizza from Drew as he left and headed into the dining room. She sat down at the table with Wynn, "Damn, this place is way too empty and big!"

Wynn laughed, "I know I clean it top-to-bottom! Yeah, with Maya and Peaches gone it just feels so huge. It is good we are going back to the old house."

The two made small talk as they ate. Lindsay finally asked, "So how do you get yourself into the fiddle and for that matter lock it?"

Wynn told her, "I'll show you after we are done here. Go up to the play-loft and grab a couple fiddles along with padlocks." After the girls finished the pizza, Wynn went outside to dispose of the box and plates while Lindsay went to the play-loft toy closet to find the fiddles and locks. She returned to find Wynn sitting on the sectional in the very much empty great room. Wynn picked up one of the fiddles and explained, "Okay so first remove the pin and set it over here on the table." Lindsay pulled out the locking pin, placing it on the side table. Wynn continued, "Now, open up the fiddle and lift it over your head and put it around your neck." Lindsay was still standing and did as Wynn told her. Wynn advised, "The next part is going to be a bit easier if you are sitting. So, put your left wrist in and close the loop. With your right hand start pushing the fiddle close, leaving enough room for you to get your right wrist into the loop. You will be able to partially close the loop with your fingers." Lindsay struggled a bit, Wynn reminded her, "It takes some practice, I had a hell of a time the first couple attempts." Lindsay found the perfect spot that she could get her wrist in and start closing the loop. "Okay, now spread your legs enough that you can bow down so the fiddle is between your knees. Then with your knees, push the fiddle closed." Lindsay did as Wynn instructed and actually found that part to be easier. She heard a snap and Wynn informed her, "As long as you don't pull your wrists apart the fiddle will remain closed. The next part is a little tricky as need to find something at the right height to set the locking pin on top of. Go ahead and stand up." Wynn picked up the locking pin and handed it to Lindsay, "Okay, try placing this with the head down on the corner edge of this end table. Now, go ahead and bend forward as if you were

going to kneel. As you get closer to the top of the pin, you will need move a little to align the hole with the pin. Once you get the alignment right, the pin should slide right in. Once it is in, use your left hand to hold it in place." It took Lindsay several attempts and almost 10-minutes to get the pin lined up. As she knelt down further she let out a giggle as the pin slid into place.

Wynn commented, "Not bad. The more you do it, the easier it gets. Now, remember to hold on to the pin with your left hand. With your right hand grab the lock and slide the hasp into the hole. This part should be fairly easy. Once you have the lock in place you can let go of the pin." Lindsay picked up the lock and got it hooked in on the first attempt. Wynn laughed, "Okay, the final and fun part, closing the lock. You can use both your hands now so it shouldn't be too difficult." Lindsay positioned the lock body and was able to push it closed. Wynn stood up and walked over to Lindsay while tugging on the lock, "Well there you go, you now have locked yourself into a ridged fiddle!"

Lindsay was excited, "Wow, this is so neat! Okay, how do I get out?"

Wynn pointed to the key on the table, "Well, you need the key and it is just a matter of getting the key aligned to the key hole. Seeing as you've done many escape challenges in the past that should be easy for you."

Lindsay let out a nervous laugh, "We'll see about that." She picked up the key and within a few seconds had the lock opened."

Wynn was impressed, "Not bad! Okay, couple different ways to get the lock out the pin you can try to push it out with our fingers and/or turn to one side quickly so the momentum will force it out. Just make sure there is nothing near by that could be damaged if the lock goes flying." Lindsay was able to push the lock out with her fingers and simply leaned to one side so the lock would safely land on the floor. "The pin may come right out; you may need to shake the fiddle to loosen it; or just bang the pin on the underside of the table or the bar. It really depends on the fiddle, I've had some the pin slides right out as soon as the lock is removed where as others I've had to shake and bang it loose." Lindsay shook her arms and the pin dropped to the floor as the fiddle came open. "That works! If you want to practice some more you can."

Lindsay removed the fiddle from herself and told Wynn, "Yeah let me go pee and I'll try this again." A few minutes later Lindsay returned and repeated the process. This time around she had herself locked in the fiddle in less than five minutes. "That seemed to go much easier this time!"

Wynn commented, "Yeah, it is much easier once you know what your are doing."

## **Chapter 8: The Walk Through and That Ain't Right!**

The next morning The McGrawl's and I met Dundee back at The Desert Oasis house. I informed Dundee, "So Mick, there are some things I discovered last night when I walked through the house I will want to address with you."

Dundee replied, "Sure. I figured there would be. Glad to see your brought the McGrawl's, it will be easier for me to go over what we will do with their office."

We walked into the house from the front door through the grand foyer. A chill ran down Lindsay's spine as she walked by the downstairs powder room as the memories of that night a few years ago flashed back. Andy laughed, "You okay?"

Lindsay took a deep breath, "Sorry, I didn't know this would happen. I'll be fine...I think we will head upstairs and look around."

Her and Andy went up the stairs as Dundee and I headed to the library and my office. He asked, "What was that?"

I had long forgotten about the events of that night, but apparently it still haunted Lindsay, "Ah yeah...um...so several years ago...I don't even remember what lead up to it..from what I recall I was trying to get Lindsay and Sara to explain why they were mad at each other. I had Wynn standing behind them between them and the doors. I think Lindsay was drunk and didn't realize what she was doing. Anyway, she got up, charged Wynn and they both ended up going through the doors. Wynn was out cold when she hit the floor. Lindsay was cut pretty bad and I guess she stumbled her way into that powder room. Sara heard the commotion and by the time she got here, Lindsay was already in the bathroom. She saw Wynn and I told her to call EMS. Well, the way Sara described the incident to the operator, they sent police as well. Wynn had come to by the time the police arrived. One officer was talking to Wynn, Sara and I, while the other went to find Lindsay. We didn't know where she went, but she left a trail a blood which the officer followed to the powder room. She was rather surprised to see a police officer when she opened the door. Wynn declined to press charges, but Lindsay 'sobered up' overnight in jail."

Dundee commented, "Okay, that explains why this door set was replaced. I had just assumed Zac had replaced it one point. Did you install it yourself?"

I explained, "Gary helped me. Anyway since we are in here, look like a couple shelves have bowed and some of the cabinet doors are not aligned correctly."

Dundee took a few photos, "Yeah, no biggie to replace the shelves and doors either need to adjust or replace the hinges. Anything else down here?"

I told Dundee to follow me and we headed into the kitchen to the laundry room, "The interior door here likely needs to be planed."

Dundee attempted to close the door, but it would not fully shut. "Hmm, let me see..." He stood back and looked at the door, "Yeah, I'll just replace it, too much hassle to try to plane it. Not even sure if that would help it is so warped. Guessing they never closed it when they were using the machines or else they weren't using..." I turned on the vent fan and it sounded as if a jet was getting ready to take off. Dundee shut off the fan "...or it does not work very well. Okay, I'll add exhaust fan to the list."

I told him, "Okay, I think that is everything down here. Take look at the master bath, looks like the Anozira tub may have had a leak at one time, though I didn't find any evidence below. I'll go check on The McGrawl's."

Dundee and I headed upstairs and while Dundee went to check the bath tub I headed over to the King Suite. I walked in and yelled out, "Andy? Lindsay?"

Lindsay yelled back, "Yeah! Let me come out the closet!"

I laughed, "So my suspicions were true!"

Lindsay was confused at first, "About what?" Then it dawned on her, "As if! You knew I was bi when we met! Anyway Andy is over in the other room." She noticed Dundee wasn't with me, "Dundee still around?"

I told her, "Yeah, he's checking to see if the tub in the master bath is still leaking. Okay, let's go over to your office."

Lindsay and I walked in and Andy saw us, "Oh good, Ron may be you can explain what Dundee wants to do here, for some reason I can't wrap my head around it."

I showed him, "We are going to have him shrink the closet about four feet from this wall. Then we will have him move the doors here so they will be facing the doors to your room instead of the hallway. That way he can build a corner desk that will fit between the wall and French doors to the balcony."

Dundee walked in, "Yeah so as Ron was saying...hey were you going to keep this carpeting in here?"

Lindsay looked at it and commented, "Looks like the moon."

Dundee laughed, "Yeah...it does actually."

Lindsay added, "One small step for..."

I had noticed last night when I had done the walk though that a lot of the flooring of the upper floor had seen better days. The house was nearing 15-years old and seen it fair share of abuse between Zac's kids' and their parties as well as the

girls' heels. I explained, "You know, I've been tossing around the idea of just replacing all the flooring throughout. Seems the wood-plank laminate is popular these days."

Dundee told me, "It is. You get the look, feel and durability of hardwood floors without all the hassles and upkeep associated with hardwood floors. I don't do floors myself, but I do have sub that does."

I remembered, "Oh yeah, I remember that from the other house. What about the wood look tile?"

Dundee explained, "Expensive, both in terms of the product itself as well as installation. Also, a pain to keep clean if you have light colored grout."

I told him, "Yeah have your guy get in touch with me for a quote. It would only be the upstairs as downstairs is the travertine tile."

Dundee pulled out his phone and made a note, "Yeah downstairs looks good. Could use a deep cleaning to help bring back the shine, but otherwise nothing else needed to do. So...if we are going to take the carpet out of here anyway then you don't mind if I use this industrial Sharpie to make it more visual?"

I laughed as he pulled out his Sharpie, "Not at all."

Dundee continued, "Well first, let's mark on the wall where the closet is going to end. Now, let me mark on the floor over here where your new doors will be. Okay, so in this corner we are going to put in large L-Desk that both of you can share...you two can share right?"

Andy laughed, "I don't know 'share and Lindsay' are about as common as..."

I had to say it, "Martina and work?"

Lindsay laughed so hard, "So true! Anyway, I don't know if Andy will be using this office as much as I will."

Andy explained, "She's right, most of the time I'll be at one of the stores. But yes, if the desk is going to be that large I do believe we can share it when needed."

Dundee continued, "So as I recall from when we had this setup before you had a sectional with a chaise along this wall."

Lindsay was trying to recall, "Guess so, been too long for me to recall."

I told them, "Yeah, Sara used it a lot."

Dundee asked, "So do you want do that or perhaps we could do like Ron's office and build some shelves along this wall. There is still plenty of room to have a couple swivel recliners and a chaise lounge."

Andy was intrigued, "Oh cool..I could display my collection of old computers and parts. Can you make the shelves taller?"

Dundee informed him, "I can design this so the shelves are adjustable and you could remove every-other. The middle shelf would be fixed for structural rigidity."

Lindsay was concerned, "Would we be able to afford this?"

I told them, "Don't worry about that, I'll cover this. It will add overall value to the house so I see it as money well spent." Dundee informed us he would draw up some plans for review in the next couple days.

Dundee and us parted ways. Andy, Lindsay and I returned to the main house. I headed to my office and shoveled through my email. Much to my surprise I had an email from Linda...well actually it was Kacie informing me that Linda would be signing the lease on the Superstition location sometime next week and if my schedule permitted to review the layout the following weekend. The next couple days were fairly quiet, which has become the new normal since Maya and Peaches had left. Tuesday evening Dundee called me and asked if he could gain entry into the Desert Oasis house as he needed to re-check some of his measurements. I informed him I could meet him over there and in the future I will put a contractor's lock-box on the backdoor. Now, of course that would require me to remember where I had put said lock-box. I checked my safe and found one in there along with the new set of keys for the Desert Oasis house. I realized I hadn't checked to see if my old safe was still there, or even the hidden room off the Library. I am not even sure if Zac had known about the room. I passed Wynn on the way out and told her, "Going to meet Dundee at the Desert Oasis house, needs to check some of his measurements."

A few minutes later I arrived at the house and Dundee was already waiting for me at the backdoor. I attached the lock-box to do the backdoor and gave Dundee the code to retrieve the key. I told him, "If the gates are closed it is the same code. Okay, I'll meet you up there I need to check a couple things in my old office."

Dundee told me, "Sounds good, shouldn't take me too long." He headed up stairs while I went check on my office. I found where my wall safe was and discovered Zac had taken it with him. Next I headed to the library and discovered the secret room was indeed still there. I also noticed the old PC I had been using for the camera system was still there. That would be something I likely be replacing.

I headed upstairs and found Dundee making notes. I told him, "So, I am going to

need a new wall safe. Either Zac took the old one or someone stole it."

Dundee noted, "Okay, I have a couple extras. I was going to be installing one in the McGrawl's office. Okay, I am done here and should have the plans for them to review tomorrow night." The next evening Dundee stopped by and met with us He presented the plans, "Okay, so besides shrinking the closet and moving the main doors I would add a wall of shelves along the outside eastern wall. This will also include a built-in wall safe. As you had requested, the shelves are adjustable or can be removed. There are a couple design variations you can choose from. Go ahead and look those over." He handed the plans to Andy and Lindsay. "Now, Ron I got my floor guy out there earlier today and he agrees that the carpet really, really needs to go."

I reminded him, "Yeah, it is the original from when the house built almost 15-years ago."

Dundee continued, "Now the downstairs tile looks great. Based on the finishes already in the house he has picked three different laminate plank products he feel would work. There is very little price difference between the three and quality wise they are all equal. It will come down to more what you feel will work for you." He handed me the samples. "Okay, now the playroom expansion. That is going to be a little tricky. I was wondering about the wall between the two garages and so I called out my engineer. We looked at it this morning and as I expected that wall is load-bearing. Furthermore, when we pulled back the drywall, we found that the plumbing for the downstairs suite goes through that wall."

I told him, "Yeah not surprised. So, what can we do?"

Dundee asked, "Well, there are some options. Since everything is empty now, how about we redo everything down there? This would include re-configuring your shop."

I replied, "Yeah, things have been kind of Hodge-podge together down there over the years. Knowing you, I assumed you already have a grand plan drawn up!"

Dundee laughed, "You've gotten to know me well. So here is what I purpose. We gut the entire existing playroom space including the storage, powder room and dressing rooms. Downside though is you will lose some storage space for your shop. Oh and I've noticed several holes in the concert down there."

I explained, "That was more storage space then I needed over there anyway, plus still have the storage in the other garage across the driveway. When Gary first installed a lot of the playroom equipment he had bolted it down into the concrete. Well, since we couldn't do that at this house he modified most of the equipment to add extra weight or stability."

Dundee understood, "Ah okay. So, I would suggest first off patching the concrete, of course we are going to ripping up a lot to run the new plumbing. Afterwards though we can do an epoxy seal or even a stain. As far as your shop goes, it will be shrunk and we would build a new entrance. Did you still want a solid door, or do a glass door?"

I thought for a moment, "Glass door would add a touch of class. Though honestly, don't use it that often."

Dundee told me, "While I know money is really not an issue here, it would be cheaper doing a glass door as I can buy those in bulk. I would suggest putting a set of double frosted glass doors at the foot of the stairs. Remember, with the change over this now going to be the main entrance to your playroom, so you have some separation. While we could take out the existing wall and put a header beam in, it may work better leaving the wall because of all the plumbing, but having doors on each end. This would lead into hallway running parallel with the wall. On the opposite side we will build a new interior wall narrowing the garage from 3-car to 2-car. On this side of the new wall we would build off a couple powder rooms, four dressing rooms and a large storage closet with double glass doors."

Lindsay commented, "Sounds similar to what we have at this house."

Dundee confirmed, "Yeah a very similar design. This would also be a good time to consider redoing the HVAC system down there."

I laughed, "Yeah, another Hodge-podge mess."

Dundee continued, "So we would install a ductless heat-pump in the main area and a smaller system in the adjacent 'room'. Since your garage ceilings are 10-foot tall, we would make the walls between the dressing rooms about 8-foot tall to allow for air circulation. We would install louvered transoms above the door for the powder rooms for the same purpose. We will also installed a couple ceiling fans in the main playroom as well. Thoughts, concerns?"

I asked the big question, "Well the main thing, how long?"

Dundee laughed, "For most people 'how much?' is the big question! If we can get all the permits pulled in timely manner, I believe we could started towards the end of next week. It is not really that complicated of a job, other than the concrete repair and demo. There is rerouting of some plumbing and electrical, but again nothing major. I'd would say about a week and half tops. There are some other details to work out later, but if you want to start I can file the permits first thing in the morning. In the meantime, we could start on the McGrawl's office right-away. There is nothing that requires permits to be pulled. The demo is so

minor, but that would be covered under our general demo permit anyway.”

I told him, “Hey I've been impressed with everything you've done. The Office/Library was beyond anything that I was expecting. So, yeah whatever you need from us let me know.”

## **Chapter 9: Lindsay versus Her Curiosity**

It was one of those rare days Lindsay got done with her work at the store early. She thought about having some fun with Sara tonight. She found Sara and asked, “Hey you want to have some fun tonight?”

Sara had been having a particularity difficult day dealing with an 'overly picky' customer and really could use a release, “Sure honey! What did you have in mind?”

Lindsay had an idea of what she was going to do as it involved putting herself in the fiddle, but she wasn't sure what else she was going to do, “It is a surprise. I'll be waiting for you in the High Infidelity Suite.”

Sara looked at her lost, “The what? Oh wait, you mean The Copper Queen Suite.” Lindsay smiled and nodded, “Ah okay, yeah Ron gave it that name something to do with REO Speedwagon...I should be home normal time but likely will want to eat and freshen up when I do get home.”

Lindsay told her, “Okay. You might want to dust off your Black Widow corset...”

Sara blushed, “Oh my! It has been a long, long time since I have worn that. Hopefully I can still fit in it.” Her earlier customer walked back in, “Oh great she is back. Might want have a bottle of wine waiting for me too. Thank goodness I am off tomorrow, after what I've been through today. I'll see you tonight..try not to get yourself into too much trouble.” Lindsay gave Sara a 'who me' look. Sara turning her attention back to the customer, “Ah Miss Bordeaux you've returned...”

I had ended up buying another USB charger and placed it in the Copper Queen Suite. I had the locks and the vibrator setup on this charger on a small but tall table in the corner by the closet. The bottom shelf of the table had the portable timer key lock box. Wynn had tried out one the locks earlier in the week during her weekly 'bondage dusting session'. Overall, she found it easy to use compared to a traditional padlock. The only issue she ran into was the dusting took a lot less time than she had set the timer on the lock for and was stuck in the fiddle, gag and ballet boots until the time was up.

Lindsay headed back to the house and saw Wynn in the pantry taking inventory. Lindsay rummaged through the fridge and found a bottle of Lime flavored Sparking Water. Wynn saw Lindsay, “Home earlier today madam Sauvignon?”

Lindsay giggled from being called by her maiden name, "Does sound better than McGrawl, but I wasn't not going to marry him because of his name. But, seriously yes...got done with what I needed to get done today and didn't really feel like starting anything else. Sara and I are going to have some fun tonight in the High Infidelity Suite. I know I am going to do my black widow corset with black fishnets and ballet boots. I thinking too I am going to lock myself in the fiddle."

Hearing Lindsay mention 'fiddle' reminded her, "Oh so Ron put some new toys in there including the timer lock which you can use for the fiddle."

Lindsay asked, "How long should I set it for?"

Wynn laughed, "Well that depends on how long you want to be in it. You could set it just long enough to keep yourself locked up until Sara gets in there or may be longer."

Lindsay giggled at the thought, "Hmm...yeah she would be *forced* to be give me extra attention, not that she wouldn't anyway...okay. Well, I need to go freshen up and eat."

Wynn asked, "Anything you need?"

Lindsay replied, "Yeah, may be come over to the cottage in about an hour, I might need help getting into my Black Widow corset."

Wynn smiled, "Okay. What about the room?"

Lindsay recalled the conversation her and Sara had before they left, "Oh yeah...hmm she is off tomorrow and technically I don't need to be at the store until the afternoon anyway...hmm...ideas, House Mistress?"

Wynn had an idea, "Okay, so may be after you two are done with your fun you can restrain yourselves to the bed. I'll setup a two person magnetic lock restraint under the bedspread in which you can get yourselves into. Once you are done you will toss the magnetic key on the floor. Fife can release you two in the morning when she brings you breakfast. Maya and Peaches used the system when they completed their Chastity Belt challenge a couple years back."

Lindsay recalled, "Oh yeah, I remember that. Still can't believe Peaches made it through the entire challenge. Okay that would work."

Wynn asked, "Anything else, food and/or beverage wise?"

Lindsay remembered, "Oh yeah, Sara did mention something about needing a bottle of wine. She's been dealing with a challenging customer most of the day,

think it was a Miss Bordeaux.”

Wynn knew the lady from the times she subbed at The Budget Holstein, “Ah yeah Miss Bordeaux is a nice lady and a very big spender, but is very particular as to what she wants. I've worked with her a couple times. Her bark is worse than her bite.”

Lindsay headed back to the cottage. She wasn't very hungry so she just ate a couple fruit cereal bars. She went into the bathroom to start the tub filling and then headed into the closet to pick out her outfit. Tucked away in the corner was her Black Widow corset she grabbed it along with a pair of black ankle high ballet boots. She also found the long skirt Sara had bought her as well as a pair of fishnet stockings she grabbed those along with her belt. She took all the clothing and placed it in on the bed. She returned to the bath and added a little spa product to the tub. She stripped out her work clothes, depositing those in the hamper. She got into the tub, the warm water felt good and she really wanted to spend more time soaking, but knew she still needed to get dressed and get her self prepped for Sara. She got out of the tub grabbing a couple towels and headed to the bed. She had finished drying herself off and had put on her belt and stockings when Wynn knocked on the door, “Lindsay?”

Lindsay yelled, “Come on in, I'm somewhat decent.”

Wynn opened the door and commented, “That's debatable.” Lindsay protested and Wynn had noticed the ballet boots next to the bed and told Lindsay, “You better get into those ballet boots now, or you are going to have a really hard time once the corset is on.”

Lindsay replied, “Hmm...it has been a while since I've done this. Okay.” She sat down on the chair and put on the ballet boots. She stood up and teetered for a bit, but quickly got herself stabilized.

Wynn laughed, “Just like riding a bike! Okay, let's get you into this corset.” It took a good amount of work to get Lindsay laced into the corset, but once it was said and done Lindsay looked amazing. “That corset suits you so well.”

Lindsay admired herself in the full-length mirror, “Sure does. Okay, let me get this skirt on and I'll head over to the suite.” With a lot of effort she managed to get into the skirt. It is one thing to stand around in ballet boots, but a totally different thing to walk in them. Again she stumbled a little, but quickly remembered how to correctly walk in ballet boots, “Need to remember to take smaller steps.”

Wynn asked, “Need help getting to the house?”

Lindsay replied, “No, I should be okay, just been a long while since I walked in these things.” After a few minutes Lindsay and Wynn had made into the main

house. She told Wynn, "I am good from here."

Wynn smiled, "Okay have fun. Everything is setup in the room. There is a fiddle on the bed and the lock is on the table in the corner by the closet."

Lindsay tried to bow and almost fell over, "Whoa, note to self: don't try to bow when wearing ballet boots! Thanks Wynn." She slowly made her way to the room. Upon entering she saw wine bucket with a large hunk of ice inside along with a bottle of wine. There were a couple glasses next to the bucket along with a tray of cocktail sandwiches. Lindsay walked over to table in the corner and saw the locks. She studied and played with it for a couple minutes and had a good idea of how it worked. She then spotted the vibrator, "What is this?" She opened up the case and saw what it was, "Oh Kacie told me about these...hmm...too bad I am wearing my belt...wait" She reached up to her neck and realized she had the key to her belt on chain around her neck, "Oh yeah...hmm this could be interesting." She reached behind her and undid the clasp for the necklace, but the chain slipped through her fingers and fell to the floor. "Oh fuck! Well this is going to be a challenge." Bracing herself against the bed and wall, she knelt down to pick up her belt key. She then noticed the timer lock box, "Oh wow, I didn't know we had one of these! Cool." She placed the belt key on the bed along with the timer lock box. The wheels in her head were spinning, "Dang too bad I didn't bring a gag." She then remembered there was a small assortment of toys kept in the closet. She slid open the closet door and discovered there were a few gags to choose from. Lindsay being her submissive and kinky self chose the most dominating and restrictive, harness panel penis gag. There were four sets of straps that would buckle around her head and neck as well loop under her chin. All four buckles were lockable. She grabbed the gag and four mini-pad locks and placed them on the bed."

Sara walked in through the kitchen and saw Wynn, "Hey I'm home. Is Lindsay already in the suite?" Wynn nodded 'yes', "Hmm, I told her I wanted to freshen up and eat before we played."

Wynn told her, "She just got in there, and I am sure she is going to need some time to get herself 'prepped' for you. She planned on you two spending the night in the suite tonight since you're both off tomorrow. So you have time. Oh and there is a bottle of wine super chilling in the room."

Sara was getting giddy, "Okay goody!" She scurried up the stairs to take a quick soak and get herself dressed.

Meanwhile, back in the High Infidelity Suite; Lindsay removed her skirt and belt and set them on the bed. She decided while she was bottomless, it would be a good time to use the bathroom. With a little effort she managed to stand up and make her way to the bathroom. She returned back to the room and decided she should put herself in the gag first. It took her a couple minutes to remember how

all the straps went, but she had all four sets securely tightened and buckle. One by one she started putting padlock through each buckle and deposited the keys into the lock box. She set the timer on the lock box for two-hours. Next she took the vibrator out of the case and reached down to feel her pussy. She thought she was going to have to stimulate herself, but she was already plenty wet. She inserted the vibrator into her pussy and held on to it with her left hand as she played with the remote with her right. Lindsay went through the various vibration patterns and found one she really liked. She shut off the vibrator and set the remote on the bed. While still holding the vibrator in her pussy with her left hand she reached over with her right and grabbed her belt and removed the vaginal plug, leaving the anal plug still attached. Andy had installed the plug as way to punish her a while back, but she soon found she enjoyed the feeling of the ribbed plug locked in her ass. She added a little lube to her ass hole as well to the plug. She was able to close the belt attaching the front shield to the waistband even with the vibrator partially protruding from her pussy. She locked her belt and deposited the key into the lock box. With a little work she managed to get her skirt back on thus hiding her belt.

Sara had wrapped up in her bath and called Wynn up to the Master suite, "Wynn, I am going to need a hand to get into my Black Widow!"

Wynn came up and saw Sara in a mesh thong, black fishnet thigh highs and already wearing her ballet boots, "Good, you're in your boots already. I did this for Lindsay earlier." A couple minutes later Sara was encased her black-widow corset and Wynn gave one final tug n the laces, pulling in Sara's waist and tits even more.

Sara looked at herself in the mirror, "Dang, still fits like a glove. Now, let me get this skirt on and *try* to get down the stairs without killing myself."

Wynn laughed, "Yeah Lindsay wouldn't be very happy with you if that occurred. I'll help guide you down the stairs."

Lindsay saw herself in looking glass in the corner of the room and was getting turned on seeing herself in the tight corset, long skirt and ballet boots with fishnet stockings while gagged. Out of habit she went to rub her pussy and forgot she was belted. She quickly came back to reality and did a quick 'self check' through her head...'corset, ballet boots, vibrator, chastity belt with anal plug, gag locked...' All that was left was for her to get into the fiddle. Wynn told her she should be able to use the arm of the chair for the locking pin. She picked up the lock off the bed and thought for a moment as to how long to set it for. She wanted Sara to give her so extra attention and she really had no idea as to when Sara would be coming down. She set the lock for two-hours. As she went through the motions to put herself in to fiddle she ran into problems as she realized she was wearing a skirt. But then she remembered the skirt had high slits nearly up to her thighs on each side so all she needed to do was put the front panel of the

skirt between her legs. After she made the slight wardrobe adjustment she was able to get herself into the fiddle very quickly, the weeks of daily practice had paid off. However, inserting the locking pin was going to be different this time. She placed the pin on the arm of the chair as Wynn had instructed, but had concerns, "Seems kinda high..." She was not taking into account the six-inch ballet heels she was wearing and as she knelt down beside the chair she realized it would work, "...oh yeah the heels." Very carefully she lined up everything and leaned forward and knelt a little more. The locking pin slid right into place, "That was easy!" With her left hand she held on to the pin and turning herself around took the timer lock from the bed. She inserted the cable hasp through the hole in the locking pin. With a little fiddling she got the cable into the lock body. She pressed and held the start button until the lock beeped. There was 6-second run-off before it would lock and when the 6-seconds were up the lock beeped twice. She tugged at the lock and determined it was indeed locked and a lot more secure than she thought it would be. The final piece of the puzzle was to activate the vibrator and find the setting which she liked. She got the remote off the bed and started pushing the button. The vibrator came to life and Lindsay was getting hotter by the minute. She cycled through the various patterns until she came to her favorite. She placed the vibrator remote in the lock box along with her belt key and the keys to the locks on the gag. She placed the top on the box and pushed what she thought was the button to activate, but nothing was happening. She kept pushing the button and finally looked down to see what was going on. She had added another 20-minutes to the timer. She didn't feel like trying to fix it and figured another 20-minutes would be so bad...of course the vibrator under her belt was already getting to her. She pressed the correct button and watched as the run-down timer came to zero and the box locked itself.

Sara and Wynn had made it down the stairs about the time Lindsay had gotten herself into the fiddle. However Sara had to take a break as it had been so long since she'd worn this corset she was a bit winded from going down the stairs. Wynn gave her a bottle of sparkling water, "Here this should help." Sara took the bottle and drank about half the bottle.

She stood up and told Wynn, "Thanks, I should be good from here. Oh um...tomorrow morning?"

Wynn explained, "I setup the two person magnetic lock system on the bed. It is under the comforter and the magnetic key is on the night stand. The same system Peaches and Maya used the night they finished their challenge. Once you are fully locked in toss the key on the floor. My 'twin' will be in to bring you breakfast and release you."

Sara smiled, "Oh boy sounds like fun. Well, better go see what Lindsay has in store for me."

Lindsay meanwhile had set the lock box back on the table and with great

difficulties managed to get herself to the chair. She thought having the vibrator under her belt would be fun, but instead it was tormenting her. It just wasn't enough to put her over the edge, even when she looked at herself in the looking glass. Hopefully Sara would be able to 'help'. She had no idea how much time had passed, there wasn't a clock in the room and she really couldn't see the display on the lock. She should have looked at the lock box before she set it down. She fidgeted in the chair as the vibrator kept tormenting her. As she moved around some more the vibrator shifted slightly going deeper into her pussy and the other vibrating head found just the right spot on her clit. Lindsay screamed loudly but muffled as the first orgasm hit.

Sara walked down the hall to the suite, not really sure what to expect when she opened the door. She opened the door and at first didn't see Lindsay, "Hmm, maybe she's in the bathroom." She then heard the loud buzzing of the vibrator as she closed the door. She turned towards the sound and saw Lindsay in the chair almost crying. Sara let out a loud and evil laugh, "My! My! What do we have here? A submissive so eager to please her Mistress to the point of torturing herself!" Sara was going to remove the gag until she saw all the buckles were locked, "Eh...just as well...she does tend to talk too much. I've got to see what kind of vibrator you have under that skirt." She lifted the front panel of the skirt and revealed Lindsay's belt, "Oh my! You've got that under the belt." She glanced over at the time lock on the fiddle, "Hmm, a little over an hour before we can get your hands free. No bother, I'll just get your belt off." Sara looked at Lindsay's neck then around the room, "Um...where's the key to your belt?"

Lindsay tried to say something through the gag, but it came out too muffled. She then turned herself so the fiddle would point towards the table in the corner. Sara was confused, "What?" She looked towards where Lindsay was pointing herself and saw the box on the table, "Oh okay." She walked over and noticed the vibrator remote along with the keys for the gag and her belt inside. She also saw the time remaining, "Geez, two-hours how long did you set that thing for? Well then..." She spotted the wine and then the sandwiches, "...oh wine and food! Good, I haven't eaten anything since this morning." Sara uncorked the wine and poured herself a glass, "I was going to go to lunch when Miss Bordeaux returned." She ate the first sandwich and washed it down with the wine. "You know, as much of a pain she was, she did spend a couple thousand dollars, which means a nice commission." Sara took another sip of wine as Lindsay squirmed as the vibrator was bringing her to yet another orgasm. Sara joked, "You know this is quite entertaining...oh the things you will do for me! Anyway, she apologized when we were done for being so difficult. Now let's see, I can't get to your pussy, I can't kiss you...ah...but I can get to your tits. Can you stand?" Lindsay carefully leaned out the chair and with the help of Sara stood upright. Sara walked around behind Lindsay, "Okay I am going to unlace your corset...geez Wynn is a lot stronger than I thought she was." Sara slowly started unlacing the corset and it became loose enough she could open the busk. She placed the corset on the bed, "We'll get you back into that later...for now."

Sara again walked behind Lindsay and positioned her so Lindsay could see Sara and herself in the looking glass. Sara then reached around and started playing and massaging Lindsay's tits. While Lindsay loved the extra stimulation and attention plus the site of Sara molesting her while seeing herself in the gag and fiddle, she so wished she hadn't let her curiosity allow her to have locked the vibrator under her belt. Then she felt it coming, and this was unlike any she had ever felt before. The orgasm hit Lindsay hard, she screamed and her legs became jelly causing her to fall backwards. Fortunately, Sara was right behind Lindsay so she didn't fall backwards. Sara giggled, "Damn, how is it you're having more fun than I am!" She saw the display on the lock and the timer was down to 12-minutes. "You'll be out of that fiddle soon, but nothing I can do about your belt for another hour. Why did you set the lock box for so long? I suppose you wanted me to give you extra attention. Oh well, once we get you out of the fiddle there is some things you can do to me."

Unfortunately for Lindsay her bladder was getting the best of her and she would be able to at least go to the bathroom once she was out of the fiddle. An eternity later for Lindsay, but more like 10-minutes the lock on the fiddle started beeping. Sara was going to remove the lock, but Lindsay already pulled the cable out and tossed the lock on the bed. She then shook the fiddle causing locking pin to fall to the floor allowing her to pull the fiddle open and remove it from her neck and wrists. She tossed it on the bed. Sara laughed, "Dang, you're really good at getting out of that." Lindsay rubbed her wrists and ran (as best as she could in the ballet boots and the long skirt) into the bathroom. She adjusted her skirt and sat down and sighed of relief as she started to purge her overly full bladder. Lindsay finished and after washing her hands exited the bathroom heading over to the lock box. Her heart sank as she saw there was still over 45-minutes left. Sara walked over behind Lindsay and wrapped her arms around her. "Nothing, we can do about that for now, but hey your hands are free now." She reached up again and started massaging Lindsay's tits and then without warning pinched both of Lindsay's nipples. Lindsay jumped backwards and Sara laughed, "A little something Peaches taught me. Now, lets get over to bed. You're hands are free so you can massage my pussy and clit."

Sara removed her skirt and thong hoping on to the bed. She felt the restraints underneath the bedspread, "What the?" Lindsay had seen the magnetic key earlier on the nightstand. While Sara was distracted and lifting the bedspread, Lindsay grabbed the key and stuck it to the waistband of her belt. Sara revealed the restraint system and recalled, "Oh yeah, Wynn did mention this earlier." Lindsay had her moment and pounced, pushing Sara onto the bed and herself on top of Sara. "Whoa Lindsay! Easy girl!" She quickly assessed the situation and concluded what Lindsay's plans were, "Well I suppose it is only fair since you've been restrained for so long and I do like me a good bondage massage. Now, where's the magnetic key Wynn mentioned?" Lindsay pulled the key off the waistband of her belt and showed it to Sara. "Okay, you want me to get myself

into this or do you want to put me in this?" Lindsay handed Sara the key figuring she had used the system more often and knew what she was doing. A few minutes later Sara had strapped herself to the bed and as she handed the key back to Lindsay and confessed, "I'm probably going to regret doing this, but here's the key." Lindsay took the key and stuck it on the waistband on the rear of her belt.

Lindsay removed Sara's ballet boots then started at the foot of the bed massaging Sara's feet and calves. An evil idea popped into her head as she remembered someone may be Maya or Peaches had tormented her with a peacock feather. She was certain she saw one in the closet earlier. She walked back to the closet and scanned the shelves. Meanwhile Sara was wondering what she was up to, "What are you doing?" Lindsay found the feather and turned around showing it to Sara, "Oh fuck! I really regret now giving you that key." Lindsay started with the feather on Sara's feet and then moved up her legs to her thighs. She ever so gently brushed the feather against the tip of Sara's clit. Sara let out a yelp, "Oh shit!" Lindsay began getting more aggressive with the feather on Sara's clit, "Oh fuck yeah! I'm going to cum!" Lindsay immediately jumped back and Sara screamed, "Oh you bitch!" Lindsay hadn't realized how turned on she was getting and when she jumped back the vibrator shifted back on her clit. She could feel what was coming and laid down on the bed next to Sara grabbing her arm as to hold on for dear life. Sara asked, "You okay." She then saw Lindsay's body shake and shudder and felt Lindsay's grip tightened. Lindsay let out yet another loud but muffled scream as the orgasm washed over her. Lindsay loosened her grip on Sara while slowly and carefully picking herself up off the bed. Sara laughed, "Good god girl, what the hell do you have in you!?" Lindsay was about to make her way to the lock box to check the time when that "feeling returned". She froze in her tracks and braced herself between the wall and bed. That orgasm was not as powerful as the last, but still enough to make her nearly fall. She finally made it to the lock box and saw the timer was displaying all zero's. She removed the top and found the remote for the vibrator shutting it off. She then got her belt key out and after taking her skirt off, she unlocked and removed her belt tossing it on the foot of the bed. Finally she removed the vibrator from within her pussy and decided while she was up to use the bathroom again.

A couple minutes later Lindsay reemerged without her ballet boots, but still in the gag. She walked over to her belt at the foot of the bed and removed the magnetic key from the waistband and tossed the belt back on the bed. Sara was thinking Lindsay was going to release her, but instead Lindsay walked over to "her side" of the bed and got on the bed and started restraining herself to the bed. Sara watched as Lindsay had herself almost fully restrained to the bed except for her upper body. Lindsay leaned over and undid Sara's right wrist. Lindsay laid down and secured her upper body and right wrist. She set the key between them then reached over with her left hand and started massaging Sara's pussy. Sara responded, "That feels so good! Why didn't you remove the gag? Of course you can't answer, so why I am asking?" Lindsay was in love with the gag and found

sucking on the penis really turned her on. Sara reached over and started massaging Lindsay's pussy. This continued on for about a half-hour until Sara eventually fell asleep. All from the combination of the wine, the tiring day and just the overall being relaxed by Lindsay massaging her pussy. Lindsay released herself from the bed and then picked up Sara's right arm, putting it back into the restraint. Once again headed to the bathroom. After she was done she came out and finally removed the gag. She walked over to the dresser and picked up the bottle of wine, much to her surprise it was still cold. She poured herself a glass and ate a couple of the sandwiches. As she was sitting in the chair she looked at Sara so peacefully asleep and restrained in her Black-Widow corset and stockings. She kind of regretted allowing Sara to remove her from her Black Widow corset. Lindsay knew she could get it back on, but likely not laced as tightly as she would have desired. She recalled watching Peaches one day lacing herself into a corset by looping the cords around doorknobs on both sides of a door and pulling herself away from the door as she adjusted the lacing.

Lindsay figured she could give that shot and see if she too could do it. She got her black-widow back on and positioned above her tits. She started self lacing herself and got to a point where she could not pull the laces any tighter on her own. She walked over to the bathroom door and placed one loop from each end of the laces over the doors knobs and began to pull. Lindsay was amazed as she felt the corset getting tighter. She stepped back adjusted the laces a little and again walked away from the door allowing the laces to be pulled in even tighter. She figured one more time should do the trick. Once again walked backwards, adjusted the lacing and then pulled forward. The corset laces tightened even more. "Perfect! That worked well." She removed the loops from the door knobs and tied the laces around her back. She walked back over to the dresser and finished her glass of wine. She looked around the suite and saw her belt on the foot of the bed. She really didn't feel like cleaning it and there was no reason to put it back on as with the way her and Sara were going to be restrained on the bed, they could not touch each other much less themselves. Lindsay picked up her belt and placed it in the chair along with their ballet boots, skirts and Sara's thong. Lindsay got back on the bed and started restraining her lower body. Before she moved on to her upper body she leaned over and kissed Sara, "Thank you. Good night dear." The restraint system was setup so that the wrist loop locked on the opposite side. Lindsay turned off the light and got her upper body strapped in and then placed her right wrist into the loop. With her left hand she tugged on the strap until the loop was snug around her right wrist and set the magnetic lock on the pin. With her left hand still free she reached over and placed the key on her right side next to her hand. Lindsay then placed her left wrist into the loop and with her right hand slowly began tugging at the strap. Finally she had the loop snug enough against her left wrist she placed the strap through the pin and inserted the magnetic lock. Before she "tossed" the key she pulled on both her wrists, they were firmly restrained to the bed. Lindsay tossed the key on to the floor and feel asleep shortly thereafter restrained to the bed with Sara.

Both girls slept through the entire night. Around seven that morning Wynn aka Fife came in with breakfast. In her French accent she let out a giggle then greeted the girls', "Morning! I have breakfast."

Sara had forgotten about the events of last night and tried to stretch, "Oh fuck, damn Lindsay strapped me to the bed again."

Lindsay made her presence known, "Hey! I'm right here with you and strapped to the bed as well."

Sara laughed, "Well, I suppose this ain't that bad of a way to wake up."

Wynn asked, "Any idea where the key landed?"

Lindsay replied, "No clue, it was dark when I tossed it."

Wynn replied, "Yeah had a feeling that might happen. Same thing happened with Peaches and Maya, luckily this time I brought a spare. I am going to completely undo you two and leave the key. When you're done with breakfast, just place the dirty dishes outside the door." She reached under her skirt and removed another magnetic key she had stuck to her armor. She fully released Sara and Lindsay then placed the magnetic key on the nightstand next to Sara. She placed Sara's tray of food on the bed. She then walked over to the other side of the bed and placed Lindsay's on the bed. As she was walking towards the door Wynn felt something hit the metal heel of her boot. She looked down and it was the other magnetic key. She removed it from her boot and then reached under her skirt and stuck it to her armor then left the room.

As the girls ate breakfast and Lindsay asked, "So what you want to do after breakfast?"

Sara looked at Lindsay, "What did we do last night...well besides you tormenting yourself. I kind of feel asleep after you strapped me down and was rubbing my pussy." She noticed Lindsay back in her corset, "Did you have Wynn put you back in your corset?"

Lindsay explained, "Nope. I remember either Maya or Peaches showing me how to tight-lace your own corset using door knobs."

Sara recalled, "Had to be Maya, she was always determined to do everything for herself. Though, she got a lot better after her stay at the Moon Goddess." Lindsay had finished her breakfast and set the tray on the floor. Sara finished hers' a couple minutes later and told her, "Go ahead and set these outside the door." While Lindsay had stepped out Sara quickly grabbed the magnetic key and stuffed it down her corset. When Lindsay had returned, "Well let's see, I have some unfinished business with you and that feather of yours." Before Lindsay knew

what was happening Sara had rolled on top of her and started getting Lindsay restrained to the bed. Sara laughed as she was strapping down Lindsay, "You really surprised me last night when you pounced on me, haven't seen that from you in a long time."

Lindsay apologized, "Sorry, was a bit worked up from the vibrator."

Sara assured her, "No, no, no, no...don't be sorry, it was a nice change to see in you. That was one hell of a vibrator you had, got to try it some time." Sara had Lindsay almost fully restrained, "You're always so submissive...nice to see you take charge once in a while."

Lindsay still apologizing, "Just my nature I guess...you're always the dominate one."

Sara laughed, "Me dominate?! Oh boy, you've haven't been around Maya much have you?"

Lindsay recalled some of the things Maya had done, "You mean like with her blackmailing Peaches into the Chastity Belt challenge...."

Sara joked, "Hey we've never found proof of such, but between you and me I don't see how she got Peaches to agree otherwise."

Lindsay added, "Then her and Bambi oh..." Lindsay had forgotten that this was still a taboo topic.

Sara was trying not to get angry with Lindsay, "Yeah..that didn't end so well. Thankfully Peaches came along and almost 'tamed' Maya. Anyway let me find a blindfold for you."

Lindsay asked, "Why would you want to blindfold me?"

Sara got up and headed to the closet and replied, "May be I should put that gag back in you too?"

While Sara was joking, Lindsay was serious, "Oh! Yes please!"

Sara turned around and looked at Lindsay, "Seriously?"

Lindsay confessed, "I really, really like that gag. Having the fake cock shoved into my mouth makes me horny, especially when I am sucking on it."

Sara laughed, "Very well then, you're wish is my command! But, I am not going to do the locks, you can't reach it anyway." She found a satin blindfold in the closet and picked up the gag out the chair. She reached over and told Lindsay,

"Open wide!" She stuffed the penis into Lindsay's mouth and went about fastening all the straps, "Lordy it is going to take me all morning just to get this thing strapped on to you." Sara finished with the gag and then placed the blindfold on Lindsay's head. Sara looked over at Lindsay strapped to the bed, blindfolded and gagged in her Black Widow corset and fishnets "Nice! Okay, now let's get down to business shall we?!" Lindsay laid there in suspense wondering when Sara was going to start on her with the feather. Sara finally broke the silence, "Hmm...what happened to that feather, Lindsay?" Lindsay grunted and Sara slapped her forehead, "and why I am asking you? You can't answer me. Okay, we let me look around over by the foot of the bed, we had seemed to have piled everything over there last night." She looked around and finally under the bed. She was about to say something, but decided in this case 'actions would speak louder than words'. Sara gently tickled the bottom of Lindsay's left foot with the feather and then moved over to her right. She decided to give Lindsay a taste of her own medicine, payback if you would from the night before. Sara slowly worked the feather up Lindsay's legs. She reached Lindsay's thighs and was getting more aggressive. She then moved up to Lindsay pussy and clit, again started slowly then kicked it up a notch. Sara could see Lindsay was tensing up as if she was going to cum and like Lindsay did, quickly stopped with the feather on Lindsay's clit. Lindsay groaned with frustration through the gag.

Sara laughed, "Now you know how I felt! But hey I was surprised and flattered you did that to me. Now, I won't deny what you seek, simply because it will give me great pleasure to do this.." With that Sara resumed an aggressive attack on Lindsay's clit and had Lindsay cumming shortly. Sara asked in her dominatrix voice, "You want cum so more...of course you do, not like you have a choice in the matter." Lindsay was getting a little worried about that last statement, but too busy preparing for her next orgasm. This continued for another 15 or 20 minutes and Lindsay was getting worn out and really had enough. She was starting to panic as she had no way to stop or tell Sara she had enough. She felt another orgasm building and was really trying hard to resist it. Sara took notice to change in Lindsay's body reaction, "Okay..I think I am getting little too carried away her, let me stop." She placed the feather on the dresser and then reached over to unfasten the gag, "You doing okay?"

Lindsay was breathing heavily, "Yes...yeah. That...that was wow intense. Don't think I could take much more of that."

Sara sat down next to Lindsay, "Sorry, it has been a long time since we had played...kind of have forgotten your limits." Lindsay tried to grab Sara's arm but since her wrists were restrained. Sara noticed, "Oh let me undo those for you." Sara reached over and undid Lindsay's wrists. Once she had both her wrists free she grabbed Sara and pulled her on top of her, "Lindsay! Geez your feisty!"

Lindsay pulled Sara's head towards her, "You talk too much!"

Sara protested, "Me? I talk too.." Lindsay started kissing Sara deeply and with her right hand made her way between them and started rubbing Sara's pussy. "Oh...Lindsay.. you shouldn't have...two can play this game!" Sara reached over and started rubbing Lindsay's pussy aggressively while still kissing her. Lindsay was getting the upper hand on Sara and was able to get her to cum and hard. "Oh fuck Lindsay! Shit..." Sara screamed loudly and then passed out on top of Lindsay.

Lindsay knew this was only temporary, but was trying to get Sara off of her by rocking her side-to-side hoping to push her to the empty side of the bed. She managed to get Sara to roll off from on top of her on to the empty side of the bed, but then Sara's momentum carried over the side of the bed where she landed on the floor. Lindsay reacted, "Ah shit! You all right Sara?"

Hitting the floor was enough to get Sara to come to, "Ow! How'd I end up on the floor?"

Lindsay replied meekly, "I sort of pushed you off the bed...I was just trying to get you off of me. Sorry!"

Sara picked herself up off the floor rubbing her elbow, "Well that's going to leave a mark! Nah, you're fine. Let me get you out those restraints as I am sure you will need to pee."

## **Chapter 10: When it Absolutely, Positively Must Fail**

Thursday afternoon Marc called me, "Hey Ron. Say sorry for the short notice, but Linda and I need to go to Idaho to meet with the developers of Thirsty Cactus. We'll be gone for a few days."

I knew what was coming, "Let me guess, you need me to babysit Martina?"

Marc laughed, "Am I that predictable? Would not be too much trouble now?"

I assured him, "Nope it is fine. Her and Wynn can have fun together and she can keep Lindsay company. Lindsay is still not used to Maya and Peaches being gone, not that any of us really are. When?"

Marc told me, "I can have her over later today."

I told him, "Okay I'll let Wynn know."

I had just hung up with Marc when Wynn came into my office with the Bat Phone, "Gary on the Bat Phone!"

I took the bat phone from her, "What's going on?"

Gary asked, "Can you get to my site?"

I pulled up his website, but I don't think that was what he was asking, "If you mean your website yes, but I am guessing you mean your CRM site?"

Gary told me, "Yeah. Cristina said she can't get to it and I am not either."

I attempted to access from my office computer but could not, "Hmm...may be it is not accepting proxy connections? Oh..no..that wouldn't make sense if Cristina can't get to it either. Let me try my laptop that is on the same WAN." Again no luck, this was getting rather odd, "Hmm...that didn't work and I can't RDC into the server either. Let me try to ping the sever and work my way backwards." I tried pinging the sever, "Request timed out. Well, I kind of expected that. Let me try your gateway router...ah okay, I am getting a response that's good means the network is running. Okay, let me remote into the router and see if I can console into the server that way. Oh jeez, I forgot I need to use my super-admin login...okay I am in the router. Just for kicks let me try pinging the server from here and see what happens. 'No reply'. Interesting and I doubt then I can console into the sever then. Um, is Cristina still at the office?"

Gary replied, "No she left already, why?"

I told him, "I was going to have her check to make sure the sever was running. But then there should be no reason for it not to be running except for a power failure."

Gary reminded me, "Yeah, but we have power to the building and isn't the sever on a UPS?"

I explained, "Well, the UPS along with Power Chute is designed to allow the sever to properly shut-down without data loss before the battery of the UPS is fully depleted. Now, ever had a car battery die on you?"

Gary replied, "Yeah."

I continued, "Same principle, it won't die while the car is running. However, it fails when you try to start the car due to the large load and demand that is put on it at the time. Same thing applies to a PC or server power supply, it will continue to function until you shut down and then try to start up again. Now, I don't know for sure if that is the issue. Unfortunately, it is something we are going to have to physically be there to diagnose."

Gary panicked, "Great, when it Absolutely, Positively Must Fail it would be when we are getting ready for new product launch next week."

I thought, "Wasn't that similar to Federal Express' old slogan. Yeah...'When it absolutely, positively must be there overnight!"

Gary laughed, "Wow long time ago. Back before they abbreviated their name to FedEx. Um, when can we get out there? I'd really like to be out there tonight so if we do need to replace the sever we have some time."

I told him, "Let me get on the horn with Andy and see what we can work out. I'll call you back."

Just got off the phone with Gary when Wynn announced, "Kacie on the house phone."

I picked up the house phone, "What's going on madam O'Neil or did you take Kayré's sir name?"

Kacie laughed, "No, we kept our names. Hey is Sara over there?"

Thought that was a rather odd question, "No...Isn't she with your partner?"

Kacie realized her error, "Oh yeah, that make sense. Um anyway, let Sara know that I am going to give her the weekend off. I feel bad about dumping Miss Bordeaux on her the other day. Though she did manage to get a \$2300 sale out of her. You know there was one other thing..." I was really wanting to get a hold of Andy to find out what we could do about Gary. "...Oh yeah, um. This weekend, The Superstition store we need to wait as Linda is going to be gone."

I had forgotten about the walk-thru at Linda's new store was this weekend, in fact I had thought it was the next weekend. Nonetheless, this worked well, "Yeah, Marc told me they were going to be in Idaho. Okay well, I'll let Sara know when I see her."

Was about to call Andy when I heard what I thought was Kayré and then Sara, "Ron, you here?"

I yelled out, "Yeah in my office. Come on in here...actually both of you." Sara and Kayré walked in and I told them, "Kacie just called asking for you Sara. Anyway she says she's giving you the weekend off. Something about a Miss Bordeaux she pawned off to you the other day?"

Kayré laughed, "Oh Miss Bordeaux, yeah I could totally see Kacie doing that. Not that she should. I am sorry Sara, Kacie should have known better than to do that to you. I'll have a little chat with her. Oh, you know what? The real reason she wants to work this weekend is because I am working this weekend since mother is going to be out-of-town with Marc. Let me use the loo and we can head back to the store." Kayré walked out of my office.

Before Sara ran off I told her, "Um okay, so Martina is going to be with us for a few days since Linda and Marc are going to be gone. I think I am going to have to head to Vegas tonight, something wrong with the sever at Cristina's office and I can't do anything from here. Was going to call Andy when Kacie called and then you two showed up."

Sara asked, "Does that mean that Bambi and Bunny would be here as well?"

I told her, "I'd assume so. Normally Gary would send them here if they are home."

Sara was getting excited, "Oh boy a Girls' Night In! May be I should invite Maya and Peaches over and we can really have some fun. Hey, do we have more of those timer locks?"

I replied, "No, Gary only gave me two, but he might have more. I can ask him when I call him back after I talk to Andy..."

Sara got picture, "Okay then..."

Kayré was yelling down the hall, "Senora Merlot, ¿Dónde estás!" Sara left my office then the building.

I tried Andy on his cell, "PC's and Things...Andy."

I relayed the info to Andy, "Hey I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but sounds like we need to head to Vegas tonight. Someting is array with Cristina's server and I can't do anything from here."

Andy asked, "Can't it wait until morning?"

I informed him, "If it were my call, yes. However, Gary wants us there tonight so we can try to fix it before the new product launch this weekend."

Andy sighed, "Okay, give me an hour and I'll break the news to Lindsay."

I assured him, "I don't think she'll be that upset. Sara has the weekend off, Martina is staying with us as Marc and Linda are going to Idaho..."

Andy asked, "So that mens were not doing the walk through on her Superstition store then?"

I confirmed, "Yeah though I thought it was next weekend, but I never quite sure with Kacie. As I was saying, since Gary is going with us he'll likely send his Girls' over and Sara wants to invite Maya and Peaches over for the weekend too."

Andy seemed relived, "Well good, at least she won't be lonely and we get to miss out on all the chaos!"

I laughed, "Yeah. Okay I'll give Gary a call back and tell him 90-minutes." I called Gary back on the Bat Phone, "Wheels up in 90-minutes...well not up since we ain't flying...unless you know someone who can fly us out there."

Gary told me, "Not really....oh wait yeah I do. Good idea Ron. Okay if I bring Bunny and Bambi over?"

I told him, "Fine by me, make sure they have their keys. Sara already has big party plans for this weekend with your Grils' and Martina. She wants to have Maya and Peaches come out too."

Gary laughed "Good, they can have lots of fun together..."

I remebered Sara asking me about the locks, "Hey do you have more of those timer locks?"

Gary told me. "Got a case full of them why?"

I explained, "Sara was asking for me. Send a few over along wih the bill with Bunny and Bambi."

I was getting my 'to-go' bag packed when Wynn announced, "Martina has arrived."

I headed over to the Great Room to meet her. This was the first time she had been to the house since Peaches and Maya had left. She walked into the Great Room and noticed the big empty space, "Hey Ron, hate to tell you this, but someone stole your paino!"

I laughed, "Actually it was Maya and Saras'. Maya took it with her when her and Peaches moved out last month. Still have no idea how they got into their condo..."

Martina suggested, "Very carefully!?"

I replied, "I suppose so."

Martina sighed, "I really liked Peaches, kinda miss seeing her."

I told her, "Um, yeah I think Sara is going to invite Maya and Peaches over for the weekend. Gary, Andy and I need to head to Vegas as he having some issues at that store."

Martina commented, "Again? Seems like he's always having problems with that store."

I reminded her, "That was the original location in downtown. Cristina ended up buying a store about...um...want to say about 4-years ago out by where Larua used to live...Henderson I beleive. That store has been relatively trobule free...until now...and the weekend before a big product launch."

Martina laughed, "Murphey's law. Okay so Maya and Peaches along with Lindsay and Sara...of course my BFF Wynn!"

I told her, "Buny and Bambi should be over soon too."

Martina giggled with excitment, "Wow, been a long time since we've all been together."

I thought back and was hard to recall, "I know. With everything that has been going on for the past few years it has been hard. That too and moving to this house."

Martina replied, "Yeah...this house is okay, but it just doesn't feel like home. We've had some fun times here though like when Wynn and I 'relaxed' together."

I told her, "I think things will be better when we get back to the old house. We'll be a lot closer to you as well as Maya and Peaches. Of course Gary will be next door."

Martian asked, "What about Andy and Lindsay?"

I reminded her, "They're staying. I doubt they will leave anytime soon. Works well for all of us. I get to keep Wynn and I don't have to worry about not having enough money coming in to cover expenses. I own the house and all the cars so it is just montly hosuehould and business expenses. Of course at this point I have more jobs than I can handle."

Martina joked, "What you like two months out"

I told her, "More like six to seven. "

Martina was shocked, "Seriously!?"

I added, "Yeah, it is insane. Plus, I have Linda with her new Superstition Mountain store. Then I have the huge project next year when they start developing Thirsty Cactus as will be doing new store for Linda, The McGrawl's and the resturant for Olivia and Lizzie."

Seems Martina had never met Lizzie, "Who?"

I explained, "Oh Lizzie...ummm...Cooper. Interesting lady, tall very slender and quiet, but kinky blonde. She knows who you are, may have seen you at a club one time or another. She's the one that referred Peaches and I to the jeweler where she got the collar and I picked up the bear claw bracelet. So she is the unofficial assistant manager at The Moon Goddess. Linda and her go way back as Linda was one of the first 'guets' at the Moon Goddess way back when Hal and Olivia's mother died. Anyway, her and Maya became really good friends and she is usually up this was about once every month or so to spend the weekend with Maya and Peaches. They'll usually go riding on their Harley's. She's going to be relocating up this way, in fact I think she is going to be in the residence above the McGrawl's store. Her and Olivia are going to be running the new Corona de la Estrellas together."

Martina recalled, "Okay, yeah I do recall Maya mentioning her a couple times."

Bunny and Bambi had walked in. Bambi was chatting with Wynn while Bunny came into the Great Room. She saw the big empty space, "Wow, Gary was right it is so empty without Maya's piano in here." She saw Martina and came over to hug her, "Good gosh it has been a long time since we've been together."

I told her, "Yeah and I get to be far away when y'all are having your wild Girls' Night In! Oh, um Sara was going to see if Maya and Peaches could come out for the weekend too."

Bambi had walked in mid conversation, "Did you say Maya was coming?"

I explained, "Sara was going to invite them out for the weekend, not sure yet."

Gary walked in, "You guys almost ready? The helicopter leaves in 45-minutes."

I told him, "Haven't seen Andy yet, let me go over to the Cottage and see if he's over there."

Gary told me, "Okay. Oh I brought over half dozen more of those locks. I left them in the kitchen."

I replied, "Ah okay great. Um...let Wynn know she's the House Mistress." Andy happened to walk in from the Cabana, "Ah good Mister McGrawl has decided to join us!"

Andy joked, "Not like I had much of a choice. I did let Lindsay know we'd be gone, though I didn't know for how long."

Gary explained, "Hopefully not long as I really rather be at the Deer Valley location come Monday and not stuck in Henderson. Anyway we need to get over to my Deer Valley office so my buddy can take us over in his executive helicopter. Cristina will meet us at the heliport in Henderson and take us over to the store."

Wynn came over and asked, "Before you leave, where should I put everyone?"

I told her, "Well, I am assuming Martina is going to be staying with you. Um, Bambi and Bunny we can either put in the Cholla or the room next to Maya's old room. Lindsay and Sara will likely stay down in the High Infinitely Suite..."

Bambi asked, "High Infidelity as in the album by REO Speedwagon?"

I laughed, "Finally, someone else who knows what I am talking about! Yeah, so one night Lindsay had put on a CD before her and Sara did their thing down there. Somehow that album art came to mind when Sara described the incident. So I started calling it the High Infidelity Suite! Anyway if Maya and Peaches come this weekend they can stay in their old room. I need to get going. To the Batmobile!...well The Cruiser actually." Gary, Andy and I headed over to Gary's office at the Deer Valley Airpark so we take the chartered helicopter over to Henderson. I had to ask, "How did you find a helicopter to take us?"

Gary had a snide remark, "I work in an Airpark...okay...actually the guy is a couple buildings down, he's bought from me off and on since I moved in. He knew that my main operations were outside of Vegas and had told me if I ever needed to get out there quickly to let him know. So I called in the favor."

Lindsay and Sara had returned about an hour after we had left. Lindsay had gone over to the cottage to change. She passed Bunny and Bambi along with Martina out by the pool. She noticed Martina was wearing a bikini top, "MARTINA! What's wrong with you?"

Martina nearly jumped out of her skin, "What? What! What?"

Lindsay smiled, "You're wearing a bikini top..."

Bambi added, "and bottom too!"

Bunny laughed, "Yeah, that ain't right!"

Martina laughed, "Sorry, I am so used to having to be modest when I use the pool at the condos. I wanted to wear my 'Metal Bikini' out there but Marc didn't think it was a good idea."

Bunny recalled, "Yeah forgot Gary had made you a Chasity Bra."

Lindsay informed everyone, "Let me go change and I'll come join you."

Sara walked into the kitchen and looked out to the Cabana, "Ah cool I see Martina here as well as Bunny and Bambi. So anyway, um Maya and Peaches can't make it until tomorrow night. So, what are we doing for dinner?"

Wynn told her, "I suppose we can call up Peaches and see what she can do for us. Tomorrow, I can head over to the market and we can grill. Also, will make sure I restock the wine fridge."

A couple hours later Drew was at the front door and once again Lindsay answered the door. Drew looked at her and commented, "Wasn't I just here a couple nights ago? Yet, this is still just as awkward."

Lindsay laughed and told Drew, "Oh shut up and hand me those pizzas and I'll give you some money and we will pretend this never happened."

Drew handed Lindsay the pizzas and she handed him a wad of 20's, he took the money and told her, "If anyone asks, I was never here!" He walked away and hopped into his Big Foot truck driving off into the sunset.

Lindsay placed the pizzas on the table in The Great Room and then walked out to the Cabana, "Food is here."

Martian, Bunny and Bambi walked in. After cleaning up they sat down at the table. Lindsay looked around, "Geez, this place is so big. Even with the six of us here."

Sara reminded her, "Couple more weeks and we'll be back at the other house."

Bunny commented, "And a lot closer to us too."

Since most everyone had to work the next day, no one really wanted to do a big play session that evening. Martina wanted to get back into the pool and headed out to the Cabana. Bambi told us, "Think I'll join her as well. Don't really feel like doing anything over-the-top tonight."

Bunny agreed, "Yeah, it is a work night. But..tomorrow..well that's a different story." As everyone headed outside Bunny turned to Wynn, "Well House Mistress what do you have planed for us tomorrow night?"

Wynn sat down in a lounge chair and laughed, "Hadn't really thought about it yet."

Martina suggested, "How about we 'relax'?"

Sara and Lindsay were getting giddy, but Bambi and Bunny were rather confused. Bambi concluded, "I take it 'relax' means something very different to y'all?"

Wynn laughed, "Yeah I am sure it does. Okay, so we've adapted it a little over the past couple years...but basically you and your partner (of my choice) are strapped down to a bed in a leotard, catsuit or unitard with tights. You'll each be wearing a forced orgasm belt with a Hitachi on a timer. You can choose to be blindfolded and/or gagged. You will spend the night that way. Typically we did it for four hours, because that was the limitation of the ice-timers, but now that we have these electronic time locks, we could go longer."

Bambi recalled, "Ah okay...I think Maya mentioned something about that once. Sounds intriguing."

Sara got a phone call and stepped back into the house to answer her call. She returned a couple minutes later and asked Wynn, "Is it okay if Maya and Peaches bring Lizzie along tomorrow night?"

Wynn commented, "Don't see why not. I suppose she can stay with Maya and Peaches." Sara returned to the house to wrap up her call. She returned a while later and told everyone, "Okay, they'll bring her over. Maya also mentioned Peaches had something to show us too."

## **Chapter 11: The 'Red Light of Death' and It Didn't Seem So Bad Back Then**

Meanwhile we had just arrived at Gary's office and saw a large Sikorsky helicopter parked next to his building. A gentlemen around Gary's age came over, "You guys ready?"

Gary told him, "Just about, let us get our bags. Thanks for doing this on such short notice Geoffrey."

He laughed, "Hey you've always given me everything I bought at cost and even more 'free samples' for Norah so we'd be fine returnin' the favor. Just set your bags inside the door and find a seat Norah will take care of stowing them before we take off."

We walked into the helicopter and was amazed by the size, "Damn this thing is huge."

Norah walked over dressed in a flight attendant uniform consisting of a white blouse, white skirt and black stockings and high heels, "This is one of our larger helicopters which accommodates up to 10-people."

Gary commented, "Think Laura would have a problem with this?"

I joked, "No, but if we ever brought her on board one of these, she'd never set foot on a leer jet again!"

We took our seats and Geoffrey came over, "Allow me to introduce myself Geoffrey Dylan and my wife Norah. We are in the executive charter helicopter business. Basically an air-taxi service for those with lots of money. Been doing this for 20+ years. I was the first to have a building in this section of the Airpark and made it a point to get to know all my "neighbors'." He laughed and turned to Gary, "Of course you were a bit secretive first about what you did."

Gary laughed, "Well, some people have issues with adult-oriented businesses. As I seem to recall it was Norah who discovered my little secret."

Norah commented, "True, happened to be doing an after lunch walk and saw the ACME name and decided to check it out. Of course I had to come back that evening with Geoffrey."

Geoffrey turned his attention to Andy and I, "So Andy and Ron, Gary tells me you are in the computer business."

I explained, "Yeah. Andy sells them and I fix them!"

Andy laughed, "That's a simplistic way of putting it! I have a chain of computer stores, mostly catering to the consumer and SOHO markets. My wife and I had started out in Tucson and for whatever crazy reason we decided to open a store up in Fountain Hills a few years back. A royal pain the ass was that store..."

I had to rub it in, "...and yet you two just bought back that store."

Andy joked, "Well, we have a good manager there now and that makes a huge difference."

I added, "True, it does help not having a manager that literally cleans out his office taking everything that wasn't bolted down we he leaves."

Gary laughed, "Forgot about that one. Then you had the other one that Lindsay kicked in the family jewels."

I corrected him, "Technically, she 'kneed' him there. That was right after Glen Campbell had been arrested for doing the same thing to a cop when we was pulled over for a DUI."

Andy explained, "In her defense, he was coming on to her inappropriately. He didn't know she was my wife, but still that was not an excuse for his behavior. He threatened to press charges until I reminded him that his little performance...and

some others which we had complaints about...we had on security footage."

I explained in more detail my business, "So many, many years ago my sister, Laura and I started a business doing computer installs, upgrades repairs for businesses in the Vegas area. Laura finished school and I decided to come back to Arizona with Martina and she wanted to..."

Norah asked, "Martina? As in 'Lady in Pink' Martina Frosch."

I told her, "Yeah, that's the one. We were married for a couple years..."

Gary joked, "Until she had that affair with your sister!"

Norah laughed, "Your sister?!"

I explained, "Yeah, somehow or another her and Laura hooked up. I was heading out to Vegas to meet with Gary and we had a bad storm outside of Phoenix caused a massive pile-up on the both sides of I-10. I decided I'd turn around and head home. Found a Gold rental Cadillac parked outside and heard Martina as soon I walked into the house. Found them doing 'the wild thing' in one of the spare bedrooms. This was when Martina was as she described her occupation, "a connoisseur of clubs'.. Before she started working at The Boulders...in fact she was at..oh what was that place called out in PV?"

Gary replied, "Valley Shadows?"

I continued, "Yeah, that was it. Marc had been working there since the beginning and he got her the job there. When that resort closed they transferred those two to their sister property in Henderson. I don't they even believe they lasted two-months there before they got fed up, quit and came back to the Valley."

Norah commented, "If it is the place I am thinking of it would be like going from the Ritz to a Motel 6, nowhere near the same level as Valley Shadow was. Honestly they should have never closed Valley Shadows, yes it was an older resort but that was a made it so unique and one of the nicest in the area. The owner got greedy and made what many said was a shady deal with a real estate investor. Any way you were saying..."

I had to think where I was, "Um..oh yeah. So Martina and I ended up in Scottsdale and Gary followed shortly. Laura stayed in Henderson for quite a while before she relocated to Marana when she got the IT Admin job at the Ritz. We did work in the Vegas, Phoenix and Tucson metro areas. Tucson was mainly because of Linda had her main store down there ."

Norah once again, "Sorry..Linda...Holstein?"

I told her, "Yeah, she's a major client of mine. In fact that is how I met Andy. Sara, my current wife and I happened to be staying at the same hotel out in Oro Valley. Lindsay approached Sara and the rest is history."

Geoffrey commented, "Hmm, seems we have a common circle of clients...in fact we just charted a flight for Miss Holstein and Mister Frosch to Idaho."

I explained, "Yeah, they have a meeting with the developers of Village at Thirsty Cactus."

Couple hours later we landed in Henderson and Norah went to retrieve our bags. Gary told Geoffrey, "We should be heading back early Sunday afternoon, unless something major has gone wrong."

Norah assured us, "No problem, give us a call when you are ready. We're going to be at our daughters' house and they're only a few minutes away."

Cristina was waiting for us when we arrived, "Y'all made it out here quick. Sorry to drag you guys out here, but we have a big launch on Monday." We headed to her office and made our way into the server room.

As we walked in I commented, "You know these HP Proliants are almost bullet proof and it is very rare to have issues with these." We made it to the rack and I saw a blinking red light, "Oh great, the 'red light of death'. Well, it is getting power. Let's see if it will start up." I pushed the power button and nothing happened the red light just kept blinking. "Okay, still could be the power supply, at least that is quick swappable." I opened up my case of server parts and found a power supply. I walked around the back of the unit, disconnected the power cord from the power supply and then pressed in the release lever and pulled out the power supply. I slid in the new power supply and connected the AC power cord again. I went around to the front of the unit and noticed the status LED was now a solid amber. Pointing to the light, "That's a good sign, it is in standby mode." I pressed the power button and the server came to life very loudly.

Cristina yelled, "Normally that loud?"

I told her, "Yeah, during the initial start-up, but it should get quieter soon...however." I had been around these servers so much I knew the 'normal' pitch of the fans and when this should occur.

Gary asked nervously, "However?"

I explained, "The fan speed pitch isn't right. One of the fans has failed and the others are running at higher RPM to compensate..." The server gave two short beeps then shut down and the status light returned to a blinking red.

Gary was getting nervous, "That wasn't good."

I assured him, "That's normal, a safety mechanism to prevent the sever from over-heating. Need to connect a monitor to the sever so I can watch to boot-up. It does a self-test diagnostics when it first boots and should tell me which fan or fans have failed."

Cristina asked, "Any preference as to what type of monitor?"

I explained, "Doesn't much matter just needs an analog VGA input."

Gary told her, "I've got one in my office that I am not using once Andy hooked me up with those 27-inch monitors." As Cristina went to get the monitor he asked, "So how difficult will this be to fix?"

I explained, "The most difficult part is going to be uncabling the server and removing it from the rack so I can get the top cover off. The fan just pops-out and has a small 6-pin connector to the main board. Problem is, I don't have any of those with me. While it is an older server they are still very popular and parts are very easy to come by. I'll check my suppliers, but I should be able to get something over to us tomorrow."

Cristina returned with the monitor and a VGA cable, "Anything else you need?"

I was going to tell her a power cord, but I had one of those in my parts case, "Nope this will work." I connected the monitor as well as a small USB keyboard with built-in trackball and tried to power on the sever but nothing happened, "Oh okay, I need to clear the cache by discharging the capacitor." I unplugged the AC power from the server and pushed the power button for a couple seconds the status LED flashed Amber for a second then went dark. I plugged the AC power cord back in and pushed the button again. This time the server started booting. I watched the sequence and was able to catch it before the server shut down, "Okay Fan 4 failed."

Cristina laughed, "You were able to see that?"

I reminded her, "I've worked on these server for so long I know the POST and Boot sequences so I knew when to expect the diagnostic messages. Okay, let me get my laptop out and see what I can find. HP DL-160 Gen6 system fan. Okay, Amazon has them and since I am Prime I can get it same day, except we are pass the cut-off so it would be tomorrow morning. I'll order three, have a couple spares on hand just in case. Like I said these things are so solid. Never worked with the Gen 7 and the Gen 8 were not too bad. The Gen 9 has been a major disappointment and HP has had a lot of issues with those. Hmm...speaking of which I should likely replace the SAS Capacitor/Battery while I am here. They tend to swell up, yet still function. The Gen 9's I have worked on for a client,

those started failing about six-months in. I'll order a couple of those as well."

Gary asked, "So we should be up and running sometime tomorrow?"

I explained, "If that is all it is, which appears to be since the server is POSTING and the RAM is testing good." I got packed up and asked, "So um where are Andy and I going to be staying."

Gary replied, "I know Andy needs a hotel, thought you would stay with your sister."

Cristina asked, "Isn't his sister in Tucson now?"

Gary realized his error, "Geez yea. In fact you mentioned that on the flight over. Okay um..yeah Cristina can you get them taken care of. We'll meet somewhere later to be determined for breakfast in the morning."

Cristina returned a few minutes later with hard copies of reservation confirmations for a local resort, "Here you two go. Address and map are on the confirmation."

I reminded them, "We don't have a car."

Gary told me, "True, you can use my Eldorado and I'll just hitch a ride with Cristina."

Andy asked, "Didn't they stop making those back in 2002?"

Gary explained, "Yeah after 50-years. However, I have an '85 and I tell you that is best damn car I have ever owned."

He handed me the keys and we walked out back to the covered parking. I saw the car and commented, "Damn, that makes Martina's Hummer look small." It was a white 2-door convertible model that were used in TV shows by the stereotypical Oil Baron or Cattle Rancher.

Gary just laughed, "Yeah the good old days when you had a big car like this showed people you had lots of money."

I opened the door as was shocked to see it was in pristine condition, "Wow, did you ever drive this thing!" I saw odometer. "88-Thousand miles on a car that is 30-years old!"

Cristina added, "That's all in-town mileage too!" I started up the car and the V8 roared to life. "Purrs just like a kitten."

I remarked, "More like a tiger!"

Gary just laughed, "Yeah, but man you're going to be spoiled driving this car."

Andy and I hopped in and made our way to the resort. Of course, it had to be in Vegas, which meant taking the highway between Henderson and Vegas. Once I got to highway speeds, I was amazed at how smooth the ride was and even how smooth the engine sounded. Andy joked, "Think he notice if we took this back to Scottsdale with us?"

I laughed, "I know, seriously I am in love with this car. Can't believe it is over 30-years old."

Meanwhile back at the house Martina had made Mojitos and was chatting with Bunny, "So I heard it from a friend you've started your own business?"

Bunny explained, "Sort of. Been crafting custom leather harnesses for years and selling them for Gary's clients."

Bambi added, "I've been telling her she should start her own eCommerce site."

Bunny laughed, "I approached Gary about it months ago and he kept telling me he'd talk to Ron. Finally, I just talked to Ron myself and he built me the site in a couple days."

Later in the evening they decided it would be a good idea to retire for the night. Bambi asked, "Can you show us to our room please?"

Wynn lead them upstairs to the Cholla room. She opened the door and commented, "Wow been a long time since we've used this room. Let me make sure there are fresh towels in the bathroom." She walked in ahead of Bambi and Bunny to the attached bathroom. Wynn looked around, "Ah okay there are plenty of towels."

Bambi saw the crescent tub, "What the fuck is that tub?"

Bunny couldn't see it from where she was and walked in to the bathroom, "Oh man flash back to the 70's! Heck this whole room is like a time capsule from the 70's."

Bambi added, "Yeah the avocado green paint is just like our parent's house!"

Wynn giggled, "I never understood why this bathroom was never redone when they did the rest of the house."

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Andy and I made it out to the resort and checked in. We headed downstairs to the hotel cafe for some dinner. Andy commented after we ordered, "You know when I went to work this morning, would not have expected you and I to be having dinner here."

I told him, "Same. Everything hit me at once. Marc calling me to tell me he was bringing Martina as he and Linda were going to Idaho. Then Gary calls me on the bat phone all in a panic. I was going to call you next when Kacie called looking for Sara. Then Kayré and Sara stopped by the house on their way back to the store. Never a dull moment, though sometimes I wish there was."

Andy laughed, "Yeah, I know the feeling. Juggling three stores with Lindsay and she works part-time at the Budget Holstein too. I am getting too old for this Ron!"

I joked, "You're younger than I am. So wait how many stores did you have in Tucson?"

Andy recalled, "Catallina Foothills, Casa Adobes, Tanque Verde and one in downtown."

I replied, "With Fountain Hills that makes five store and the lounge."

Andy sighed, "Ah yes, The Pussy Cat Lounge. Man those were the days. Sometimes I wonder what the hell I am doing."

I asked, "What do you mean?"

Andy explained, "I mean we had all these stores so Lindsay and I could have a good life, but yet our life *is* the stores. Every time I think we are going to finally get to a point were Lindsay and I can get our own place, we go out and buy another store. I have no idea why we bought back the Fountain Hills store. We sold it because it was so close to Rio Verde, but yet it always performed better than Rio Verde."

I told him, "Well first off...and don't take this the wrong way...I don't expect you guys to move out. Nor would I want you to either. Lindsay and Sara are so attached to each other, plus this give me justification to keep Wynn."

Andy remembered that faithful night many, many years ago, "Oh man wow, I still remember Lindsay and Sara lifting their skirts up and showing off their belts to the two of us. You looked like you'd seen a ghost!"

I reminded him, "I think it was more because Sara had never done anything like that before when I was around."

Andy joked, "Lindsay does have a way of getting someone's kinky side to come out to play. But yet back then we were doing five stores and the club and it seemed easier than it is now."

I told him, "I guess as you said, you were younger then and it didn't seem as much of a burden."

Andy agreed. "Yeah, but we don't have the club and we only have three stores now...yet it still feels like it is draining us dry."

I joked, "You sold the wrong store."

Our food arrived and after the server left Andy commented, "Yeah, you know what we did! We've should dropped Rio Verde, hell we've should have never opened that store."

I was trying to lighten the mood, "Yeah, but Fountain Hills had so much drama."

Andy looked at me, "I'll take the drama over a damn store that is constantly in the red. I know Dunn has done everything he can to turn that store around, but it seems like all we are doing is rearranging the deck chairs on the Titanic!"

I told him, "Is bad location!"

Andy replied, "No shit! Lindsay dropped the ball on that one...okay no...that's not totally her fault. That shopping center just never took off like the developer had 'promised us'."

I advised him, "So sell it and cut your looses. Move Dunn over to Scottsdale. Max has mentioned to me a couple times he's has thought about leaving. He'd rather be a 9-5 technician and take a pay-cut than a manager that spends more time at the store than with his family. Hell, look at Dianne with Vinnie's she went back to doing deliveries when Peaches took over as manager."

Andy took a bite out his BLT and asked, "You're serious about Max? I had no idea. Shit I don't want to loose him. Dang Ron, wish you had said something sooner. I'll have to get everyone together on Monday and see what we can do. I should talk to Lindsay too."

We finished dinner and headed to our rooms. The next morning Andy and I met in the lobby. Gary had sent us a group text with directions to the secret location to meet for breakfast. During breakfast I received notification of the order status, "Okay the parts should be arriving before 11:00."

Andy figured it was late enough to call Lindsay, "Hey, where are you?"

Lindsay told him, "Still at the house going to be heading over to The Budget Holstein shortly. How goes it?"

Andy filled her in, "Not too bad. Ron seems to have it narrowed down to a couple failed parts. Replacements are supposed to be coming later this morning. If you got a few minutes can we talk about the stores?"

Lindsay really didn't want to discuss this now, but decided since Andy brought up the subject, "Yeah...okay. I'll likely regret asking this; what do you want to talk about?"

Andy asked her, "Remember 10-years ago we had four stores in Tucson and the Fountain Hills store, plus the club. Did it seem like then it was a drain or burden on us?"

Lindsay was quiet for a few seconds, "No, not really. It was so much fun. I remember when we signed the lease on Catalina Foothills how excited we were to get that location. It was dump and we had to put a lot of work into it, but we were um...back then..."

Andy suggested, "Younger?"

Lindsay laughed, "Yeah! But we also felt like we were making something of ourselves. We had nothing then, so we had nothing to loose. Now, it seems like we're constantly worried we are going to loose everything we have worked for. Is this about taking Fountain Hills back?"

Andy explained, "Sort of. So has Max said anything to you about leaving?"

Lindsay was dumbfounded, "No, but then I don't see him that much...why is he?"

Andy told her, "I don't know for sure. Apparently he has talked to Ron a couple times. He's told Ron he rather go back to being a tech then spend 12-hours plus a day at the store."

Lindsay wondered, "What we can we do?"

Andy explained, "Ron as our consultant and advisor, has suggested we sell Rio Verde even it means taking a loss and make Dunn Brooks the manager of the Scottsdale store. We could make Max tech manager, sort like Doyle is at Fountain Hills. That way he only works during the normal store hours."

Lindsay added, "Could we afford to take loss on Rio Verde.." She answered her own question, "I suppose it is better than losing Max. You know moving Max into tech would work very well, especially next year when we get the new Scottsdale store as we'll be doing lots of repairs there. I'll head over to Fountain Hills later

and bounce this off of Zina."

Andy told her, "Okay, sound good let me know if you need anything. I think we are supposed to be coming back sometime on Saturday from what Gary had said. Of course if Ron and I decide to steal...err buy Gary's Caddy we could be back sooner. Oh well got to go."

While I was waiting for the parts to arrive, I removed the cables from the server and pulled it out of the rack. Cristina commented as she walked by, "That looks heavy!"

I told her, "Actually the Gen 8 series is heavier. I'm used to it. You should see the PC's we use for store security video surveillance." I tried to removed the top cover and quickly remembered the 'hood lock screw' that HP had on the Gen 6 series, "Hey, you got a small Phillips screw driver and a flat head?" Cristina returned a short time later and handed me the screw drivers and I as removed the screw and used the flat-head to pop open the top cover. I commented, "Never really understood why HP did this. If the server is in a locked room or even in a rack...oh well." I removed the top cover and checked the SAS Capacitor/Battery pack, "Yeah just as I expected. I'll wait until the new one comes as I don't want to have to rebuild the array configuration. However, I can remove faulty fan #4."

Cristina noticed fan blank, "Why is that one different?"

I removed the blank, "Because it is just a blank to help keep the other fans in place. I am not really sure why they do this as even the later generations have the same setup. Actually I think the Gen8 there is no fan blank just and empty space. However, the fans are more firmly attached to the chassis. I do believe they went back to having the blank with the Gen9." Cristina's assistant brought an Amazon package over. Within in a couple minutes I had replaced the SAS Battery as well as the failed fan. I placed the cover upside down on the sever and explained, "Okay, before I put this back in the rack and reconnect all the cables I am going to make sure it works. I don't want to put the cover back on yet as it is pain to get back into place. In fact I am I going to need a rubber mallet." Cristina ran off to find a rubber mallet while I connected the monitor to the sever and powered it on.

Cristina returned with the mallet and yelled, "Sounds even louder now!"

I told her, "Because the top cover is not on all the way, plus we're right next to it. But, this sounds a lot better and should be going down in a few seconds." The sever quieted down considerably and did a double-beep but kept running. I looked at the monitor, "Ah, yeah it yelling at me because I replaced the SAS Battery, perfectly normal." A couple minutes later it booted up to a Windows Server 2012 login screen.

Cristina asked, "Should we be running a newer version?"

I explained, "I don't think the virtual machine software we use supports Sever 2016 yet. Or it might, but we would need to upgrade that as well. There is really no need as this point. Besides Microsoft is going to roll out Sever 2019 in October next year. May be then we'll consider upgrading."

Cristina laughed, "But next year is 2018!"

I told her, "Auto manufacturers do the same thing, they release the new model year months before the actual start of the year. Okay, let me log out of here, shut down and get this back on the rack." Half hour later everything was up and running again.

Earlier that morning at the Ranch House, everyone headed for work. Lindsay had stayed behind and talked to Wynn, "Ron is suggesting we close the Rio Verde store. He also warned us Max is considering leaving as he doesn't want to keep doing the long hours. Also, Ron suggested making him Tech Manager at the Scottsdale store so he only works normal hours. I am going to discuss this with Zina and see what she thinks."

Wynn commented, "I almost get the sense you two are getting burned out with the stores."

Lindsay replied, "Yeah it seems that way. It was funny as I told Andy, 10-years ago it was all exciting. Remember when we got Catalina Foothills?"

Wynn thought for a moment, "Catalina Foothills? Hmm...oh yea. I remember walking in there and my first response was 'What the fuck were y'all thinking!'"

Lindsay laughed, "Yeah. It was a dump, but with a lot of blood, sweat and tears Andy and I made it one of our best stores. Now, it seems like the stores are a burden. However, Ron is right we need to drop Rio Verde and just keep Fountain Hills and Scottsdale."

Wynn reminded her, "and that is why you brought Ron on as an semi-independent consultant and advisor. Well, I am going to be heading over to the market shortly."

Lindsay told her, "Yeah and I need to be heading out to the Budget Holstein shortly too." As Lindsay headed over to the garage she decided she would go out to the Fountain Hills store to talk to Zina in person. She arrived about half-hour before the store was to open. She let herself in the backdoor and saw Doyle, "Morning Doyle, is Zina here yet?"

Doyle told her, "Yeah she's over in her office."

Lindsay headed over to Zina's office. Zina saw her enter, "Misses Holstein, what brings you out here?"

Lindsay laughed, "Why so formal Miss del Rio? I just want to chat with you and bounce some ideas off of you."

Zina laughed, "This should be good. Okay, what's up Lindsay?"

Lindsay explained, "So Andy is in Vegas with Ron and Gary. I guess being away from the stores has given him a chance to think things over. Seems him and Ron talked over dinner last night and Ron has suggested we close the Rio Verde store."

Zina made a partial comment, "Well we shouldn't have...oh never mind."

Lindsay wanted to know, "Zina! Shouldn't have what? Please tell me."

Zina sighed, "We shouldn't have closed this store in favor of keeping Rio Verde. I know that store was your 'project', but you...pardon my French...seriously 'screwed the pooch' with that store."

Lindsay laughed, "Never knew that was French! You're right, I put too much faith into what the developer was telling me about that center."

Zina seemed relieved, "Okay, so what happens to Dunn?"

Lindsay explained, "He'll take over as manager at Scottsdale."

Zina replied, "Oh so the rumors are true Max is leaving?"

Lindsay replied nervously, "I hope not. We would make him tech manager like Doyle is here."

Zina told her, "Well you better talk to him sooner than later that is all I can say. As far as the rest of it goes, I think you two are on the right track. Now, if you excuse me I need to get ready to open up."

Lindsay bowed, "Quite alright, thank you for your time. We'll let you know."

Lindsay let herself out and got into her car. As she approached the exit to Shea Blvd, she noticed the Starbucks across the street and decided she needed a Frappuccino. Lindsay headed inside and placed her order after she picked up her order she sat out on the patio. She thought about the conversation she had with Zina and decided she should tell Andy. She called Andy, "So, I went over to Fountain Hills and talked to Zina. She supports what we are purposing. However,

she is under the impression that Max plans on leaving and told me specifically that we should talk to him 'sooner than later'."

Andy sighed, "Yeah, from what Ron has told me it sounds like he is very serious about leaving. I'd rather we wait until Monday when I back, but I think Zina is trying to tell you that he may be planning on leaving as soon as today. If you want to talk to him go ahead if you feel the same."

Lindsay told him, "Not really my area, but yeah."

Andy reminded her, "We're in a 50/50 partnership here and Max knows that as does Doyle, Dunn and Zina. So he knows what you are offering that I am on board. Hell, he can call me if he wants to confirm."

Lindsay took a deep breath and confirmed, "Okay, not what I meant. Anyway, I'm at the Starbucks across from the Fountain Hills store now. I'll head over to Scottsdale and have a chat with him." About a half hour later she was at the Scottsdale store. She walked in and saw Max with a customer. She walked towards the rear of the store and Max noticed her.

He walked over to Lindsay and told her, "Good you are here, I need to talk to you."

Lindsay's heart sank, "As do I. But, before you do anything rash listen to me first. Um can we head to the back though?"

Max told her, "Okay." They headed to the back of the store.

Lindsay was nervous, "So...um Andy and I would like to re-assign you to Tech Manager. You would only work during normal store hours and be responsible for the bench techs, but everything else would be the same."

Max joked, "So you going to manage the store then?"

Lindsay laughed, "Oh fuck no! We are going to close Rio Verde and move Dunn over here."

Max commented, "So just Fountain Hills and this store?"

Lindsay replied, "Yeah, kind of the way it was when Andy and I partnered with you and Doyle."

Max thought for a moment, "Ah I see. When would this be effective?"

Lindsay thought, "I still need to talk to Dunn, but I suppose Monday. Worse case scenario Andy manages the store until Dunn can take over."

Max told her, "You don't know how much I appreciate this opportunity, thank you Miss Sauvignon!"

Lindsay and Max headed back out to the main store. Lindsay was about to leave when Dunn walked in, "Oh good Misses McGraw! you are still here."

Max saw Dunn, "Hmm...just talking about you."

Dunn commented, "Ah so that's why my ears are ringing. So hey, um I know this is sudden, but Andy told me we have closed Rio Verde. He also said and I will be taking over as manager here?"

Max pointed to Lindsay, "Yeah, that what the boss lady says!"

Lindsay laughed, "Ugh...Please don't call me that! Except that I didn't know the he was going to close the store already."

Dunn explained, "Andy called me, told me not to open the store and take care of any loose ends. I told him there were no loose ends. So he told me to come here and talk to Lindsay or Max."

Max suggested, "Well I guess I should you around this store, since it will be yours on Monday."

Lindsay asked, "You two are okay with this?"

Max told her, "Let me put it to you this way, if you hadn't showed up this morning we could be having a much different conversation on Monday. Again, thank you."

Dunn added, "This store is a lot closer to Tess and I so it works better. Thank you as well."

Lindsay headed out and was proud of herself and for once happy. But also hoped she would never, ever have to do that again. She walked over to The Budget Holstein and as soon as she entered got an earful from Kacie, "Just where the hell have you been?"

Lindsay's mood quickly turned sour and she started to say something, "Listen you little bitch, you're..."

Kayré had been at the register and upon hearing Kacie, but not Lindsay's reaction she yelled out, "Kacie, our office now!" A few minutes later Kayré found Lindsay, "So, sorry about that. She knows better, just like she knows better than to pawn off Miss Bordeaux on to Sara. Honestly, I don't know what has gotten into that girl lately. We are working together this weekend so it will give me a chance to

have a long, long talk with her." She sensed Lindsay seemed troubled, "You okay?"

Lindsay told her, "I was until Kacie's outburst. But I am okay. I had to assume a management role today with our stores and while I did good, just don't ever want to have to it again."

Kayré hugged Lindsay, "Yeah, I know the feeling. It is frustrating and rewarding at the same time. Good for you. Don't let Kacie ruin your victory!"

## **Chapter 12: Girls' Night In!**

Later in the afternoon everyone started returning home. Wynn was out on the Cabana grilling dinner while Bambi, Bunny and Martina were around the pool. Lindsay walked out to the Cabana to head over to the cottage and saw Martina still wearing a pink bathing suit. She yelled out to Bambi and Bunny, "\$20 says that Martina will be out that suit before dinner!"

Wynn asked her, "So how did it go?"

Lindsay told her, "Well Andy closed the Rio Verde store this morning after I talked to him. It sounded as if I hadn't talked to Max today he would have left."

Wynn smiled, "Good for you, saving the day!"

Lindsay was still uneasy about everything, "I suppose to, just never want to have to do something like that again." She headed to the cottage to change.

Shortly thereafter Maya walked out on to the Cabana, "So this is where y'all hiding! Good to see everyone." She looked around for Sara and Lindsay, "Hmm, have my sister and Lindsay not returned home yet?"

Bambi told her, "Lindsay just got home. Went over to the cottage to change. Haven't seen Sara yet."

Martina noticed Peaches wasn't around, "Where's your partner?"

Maya laughed, "She'll be here shortly with Lizzie."

Lindsay walked out and saw Maya, "Hey, long time no see!"

Maya walked over and hugged Lindsay, "Yeah. You look well. Say is Sara on her way?"

Lindsay told her, "Yeah, she said she'd be leaving shortly when I left. Kayré wanted to talk to her real quick."

Sara walked in, "Maya!"

The two girls embraced. The sounds of multiple Harley's resonated across the cabana. Maya told them, "Peaches and Lizzie are here, come."

Everyone walked out to see Lizzie and Peaches standing next to their own Harley's. Maya explained, "So between my new job and Peaches' promotion at Vinnie's we are making very good money now and decided that Peaches should get her own bike. Especially once Lizzie is up here full time."

Bunny walked over, "Wow, looks just like Bambi's old one except the longer front fork."

Bambi explained, "Yeah they had a 'touring' model with a longer wheel base."

Wynn announced dinner and everyone headed into the dining room. As there were more people tonight Lindsay commented, "Doesn't seem as empty tonight."

Peaches looked around and noticed the big empty space where the piano used to be, "That room looks so empty."

Lindsay commented, "Yeah, with y'all's piano gone."

After dinner Wynn suggested, "Why don't we go around and introduce ourselves for Lizzie as well as tell others what we've been doing over the past few months."

Bunny was first, "Bunny Zinfandel. I am Gary's wife and I have my own leather body harness business."

Lizzie was intrigued, "Hmm...we need to chat later."

Bambi was next, "Bambi Griss. I'm Bunny's older sister, bookkeeper for Gary's business, Acme BDSM and part time model for my sister."

Lindsay, "Lindsay McGrawl-Sauvignon. Um Andy's wife. We own a couple computer stores here and I work part time at the Budget Holstein."

Lizzie commented, "You look familiar and I know Budget Holstein, but never saw you there."

Maya suggested, "May be from when she was in Tucson?"

Lindsay added, "Yeah, a few years ago Andy and I relocated from Tucson. We had a chain of computer stores down there too."

Lizzie was still struggling, "No, wouldn't have been at a computer store not the way I remembered you dressed."

Sara took a shot-in-the-dark, "They had a club as well outside of Tucson."

Lizzie smiled, "That's it. Pussy Cat Lounge. What happened with that, seemed like a busy place."

Lindsay replied, "We ran afoul with Pima County when we had an unrelated business deal go bad which we got caught in the middle."

Lizzie remarked, "Pity, I liked that place."

Sara, "Sara Merlot-Rae. I am Ron's wife and prior to that was the house keeper. I work at Scottsdale location of The Budget Holstein."

Maya, "Well y'all know who I am. So, I left Vinnie's about six-months ago when I started my full time position at Banner Grayhawk hospital pharmacy. Peaches and I ended up getting our own place not far from here."

Peaches, "So officially, I am known as Anna Adela-Cruz, but was given the nickname 'Peaches' years ago for my obsession with Peach margaritas. The name kind stuck. I did deliveries for Vinnie's, a pizza place not far from here. Got promoted to manager after Maya left and our old manager did not want to be manager anymore."

Lindsay commented, "I know the feeling."

Martina, "Oh geez well here goes! Martina Forsch. I am Ron's ex-wife and yes the rumors are true, I slept with his sister and wrecked our marriage. After Ron and I divorced, I hooked up and married Marc Frosch. We both work at The Boulders Resort. I am the Group Concierge Manager and Marc is the general Concierge Manager."

Lizzie commented, "We've crossed paths before. Don't think though it was at The Pussy Cat."

Martina blushed, "Well, in my younger years I was known as the 'Concourse of Cubs' and spent a lot of time down in Southern Arizona before I (sort of) settled down and married Ron."

Lizzie laughed, "Sounds about right. Okay, so about me. Lizzie Cooper. I'm a strange one, almost a gypsy of sorts. So unofficially I work as an assistant director at The Moon Goddess Resort. Now bear in mind that The Moon Goddess is not your typical resort as some might put it a kinky Mental Institution. That is where I met Maya and we hit it off right-away. Both of us came from a

dysfunctional family and abusive domestic relationships. I had a falling out with my late parents many, many, many years ago and would live months at a time with various friends. Kind of hung out with a bad crowd and got myself into some bad shit. One of my better friends got me into the Moon Goddess and I was able to turn my life around. I want to 'give back' plus it was a place for me to stay. Linda Holstein was one of the first 'guests' there and she has continued to support The Moon Goddess."

Wynn ended the introductions, "So, most all of you know me, but may not know my full story. Wynn-Song Lee, I became the Merlot's Housekeeper once Sara and Ron married. Also the bookkeeper for Ron's computer business. I worked with the McGrawl's for a while down in Tucson, they were the ones who refereed me to Ron and Sara. Graduate of a lesser known culinary school. I help out time-to-time at The Budget Holstein too."

Everyone headed into the Great Room and Wynn returned shortly with some wine for everyone. She explained, "Okay, so now that we got that out of the way let me explain about tonight's activities. We are going to "relax", but as like most kinky people our idea of relaxing is quite different from say Vanilla people. I have already determined who is going to partner with who and will go over that shortly. So, we will be wearing special attire, either a leotard or unitard along with thighs and a waist-cincher. Most of you did bring said attire with you. For those who have not, Ron has a wide selection that he has gotten as demonstration samples from various vendors he has worked with over the years. We have harnesses that will hold a Hitachi wand in just right the place. You will be wearing one of these while strapped spread eagle to the bed and each other. Now, in the past we used to use ice-timer locks which worked great except you never really knew how long it would last as the room temperature would affect how fast the ice melted. However, thanks to Gary we have new electronic timer padlocks that we can use. These will be attached to your wrist cuff attached to the bed post. So if you are on the right-side of the bed, your right wrist and the opposite for the left-side of the bed. Your 'outer" ankles will be attached to the bed post at the foot of the bed. In the center is a set of ankle or handcuffs that you will attach to your "inner" wrists/ankles. There will be two sets of cuff keys in each room on the nightstands on each side of the bed. Now, optional accessories include posture collar, gag, blindfold or even a full bondage hood. We have a wide assortment in Ron's presentation room. Oh and tomorrow we will be able to spend a considerable amount of time in the play loft. Martina..."

Martina wasn't expecting to be called out, "Um...Present?"

Wynn laughed, "Are you? Will you be able to assist me tomorrow morning with breakfast, perhaps your Spanish Omelet?"

Martina commented, "Yeah, I am guessing you already have all the ingredients then?"

Wynn confirmed, "Yes when I was out earlier. Okay, so we will likely do breakfast around 8:00 AM. The locks are preset for six-hours while the wands are on a timer for four-hours."

Bambi asked, "Why the difference?"

Martina explained, "Torment, once the wand shuts off you are going to want more, but you or your partner can not touch yourselves or each other. You can try to dry-hump the wand, but as I found out, that is not very effective."

Bambi wondered, "So you've done this before?"

Martina smiled, "Yeah, quite a while ago with Wynn. I believe the rest of the family was participating as well."

Wynn continued, "You can start whenever you want but by 11:00 PM. Just keep in mind once you push the 'lock' button and the 5-second run-down ends you are locked in until the 6-hours are up. The wand timers are setup for four-hours with a 10-minute delay once activated. Okay, so here are the assignments:"

- Wynn and Martina – Maid's Suite
- Bunny and Sara – Cholla Suite
- Bambi and Maya – Palo Verde Suite
- Lindsay, Lizzie and Peaches – Blue Agave Suite

Wynn explained, "Lizzie and Lindsay you two are slender enough to fit on the Alaskan King bed with Peaches. All the equipment is already setup in the room, so all you need to do is get into your outfits, attach the wand harnesses to yourself, activate the wand timer and then get yourselves strapped to the bed. Okay so, um all the clothing and equipment are in the room down here by Ron's office. Some come and make your selections." Wynn lead everyone to the presentation room and they alternated between the two closets making their selections. Wynn told everyone, "Couple more things, each suite has a bottle of wine and cocktail sandwiches. Y'all can head to you assigned rooms."

Lindsay turned to Lizzie and Peaches, "So we three are together, should be fun!"

As they head up the stairs, Peaches told Lizzie pointing to Lindsay, "The quiet ones always kinky ones!"

Lizzie commented, "So true, to see her this way you would never know."

They walked in the room and Peaches looked around, "Hasn't changed. Do miss our big bed."

Lindsay looked over and saw the Alaskan King, "That's one big bed. I was wondering how all three of us would fit."

The girls' each poured themselves a glass of wine. Peaches and Lizzie sat on the love seat while Lindsay sat on an ottoman. Lizzie asked about Lindsay, "So what kinky secret does she have?"

Peaches replied, "Well, Maya says she likes to be spanked..."

Lindsay was surprised, "She said what?!"

Lizzie asked, "Is this true?" Lindsay shyly nodded 'yes'. Lizzie got up and rummaged through her bag, "Hmm..." She pulled out a black spanking paddle, "Say 'hello' to my little friend!"

Lindsay saw the paddle, "Oh my! Dang it Peaches!"

Peaches laughed, "Stop denying, you like!"

Lindsay stood up and sighed, "I suppose so...hey!"

Peaches grabbed Lindsay and put her face down over her knees, "I hold her, you spank her!"

Lindsay protested, "Peaches!"

Lizzie came over and whispered, "I'll be gentle...may be." She gave Lindsay's bottom a solid whack with the paddle. Lindsay moaned as Lizzie continued.

The wine and the spanking were having an erotic effect on Lindsay yelled out, "You're being too gentle with me. Spank me harder, like you mean it!"

Lizzie got more aggressive with Lindsay, but she was getting worn out, "Okay, I am going to stop now getting tired."

Lindsay giggled, "Shame was just getting into it!" Peaches set Lindsay back on her feet and she returned to her ottoman to finish her glass of wine.

Lizzie put her 'Little Friend' back in the bag and commented, "That was fun!" The girls chit-chatted for a couple hours and decided it was nearly time for them to get ready. Lindsay headed into the bathroom to change. She returned a couple minutes later with a white long-sleeve leotard, ivory fishnet tights and waist-cincher.

Peaches saw Lindsay and commented, "Angel!"

Lizzie laughed, "Yeah she does look like one in the all white and her blonde hair. Okay, I'll go change next."

Lizzie returned with a black sleeveless leotard with a sheer black body-stocking underneath and black waist-cincher.

Lindsay saw Lizzie, "Oh wow you look hot!"

Peaches went into the bathroom and returned a short time later in a mocha knee length long sleeve unitard with tan fishnets and black waist-cincher."

Lindsay commented, "Nice! Tan fishnets look good, better than black. Okay, so now we need to put on the Hitachi Harnesses." The girls got the harnesses strapped on and also put their accessories on the bed. All three had various blindfold and gags.

Lizzie saw Lindsay's gag, "Wholly shit! You are kinky!"

Lindsay laughed, "You seem surprised!"

Lizzie joked, "And here I thought Peaches and I were pushing it with the trainer ball gags. Okay, so who is going to be where?"

Lindsay reminded them, "Well someone will have to activate all the timers on the wands." Peaches told them she could and also turn off the lights. "Okay then Peaches will be on one end and I suppose Lizzie could be on the other with me in the middle."

Peaches commented, "Works for me!"

Lindsay got the bed and made her way to the center. Lizzie got on the bed to the left of Lindsay. She attached her wand into the harness and looked at all the cuffs and asked, "Okay, so how do we do this."

Lindsay had just finished getting her wand into the harness and explained, "Okay, let's start with your ankles. May I?" Lizzie nodded 'yes' and Lindsay attached the cuffs around Lizzie's ankles. She then cuffed her own ankles. She explained, "So your left wrist you will place the leather cuff. You will place the timer lock through the D-Ring and attach it to the ring on the bed post. You will press the big round button to activate the lock. We should put on our gags now, the blindfolds we can get on before we cuff our wrists together." Both Lizzie and Lindsay put on their gags, while Lindsay took longer but it gave a chance for Lizzie to get the leather cuff on her wrist and attach it to the bed post with the timer lock. Lizzie got the lock into place and pressed the button and waited. The lock beeped and she tried to pull her wrist away from the bed post but was secured. She laid down next to Lindsay who was fishing buckling last set of straps of the gag. Lindsay blindfolded herself and laid back spreading her arms. She felt for the handcuffs on her left

side and cuffed her left wrist. Lizzie took note as she placed the blindfold over her eyes and then laid back as well. She fumbled around with her right hand and found Lindsay's hand, but was having trouble finding the cuff. Lindsay felt Lizzie fumbling around and grabbed the cuff putting it around Lizzie's wrist. Lizzie let out a muffled 'thank you'.

Peaches had activated the three wand timers, while also putting on the wands on 'high'. She got on the bed next to Lindsay and attached her left and right ankles to the cuffs. Before she put on her gag she told them, "Hang on for ride!" Both Lizzie and Lindsay wondered what she meant. Peaches put on her gag and blindfold then reached over and turned off the bedside light. She cuffed her left wrist and connected her right to the bedpost. The three girls laid there cuffed together, blindfolded and gagged on the bed in silence waiting..." Shortly there was a series of three-clicks each a couple seconds apart as the wands came to life.

Lizzie had never done this before and had no idea what to expect. She certainly wasn't expecting Peaches to have set the wand to 'high'. She let out a muffled scream, "Peaches!" Peaches was giggling to herself and let the wand do its magic on her pussy. Lindsay had done this before, but on a medium setting. The 'high' setting came as a surprise to her, but she was enjoying it" A couple hours later all three girls were exhausted and end up falling asleep with the wands still going full blast.

In the next room over Bambi and Maya could hear the other three. Bambi commented, "Sounds like they are having fun!" Maya was too busy drinking her wine. Bambi joked, "You think that's such a good idea!"

Maya protested, "It just one glass! No, I do usually just have a single glass of wine at night. Anything more just doesn't appeal to me."

Bambi laughed, "I meant Wynn putting us together given our 'history'."

Maya knew that was not what she meant, "Yeah sure! Since you haven't done this before do you understand how this works?"

Bambi looked at the bed, "I think so seeing as how the bed is setup. So we are cuffed to the bed and each other with the wands on her crotches?"

Maya told her, "Yeah that about sums it up. I am going to go change."

Bambi took a sip of her wine, "Okay, see you in half hour!"

Maya put her hand up, "Whatever!" and headed into the bathroom. She returned in a red sleeveless leotard with red fishnets and black waist-cincher.

Bambi saw her, "La Diabla!"

Maya asked, "What?"

Bambi repeated herself, "La Diabla...Spanish for female devil."

Maya laughed, "Oh the all red...okay. I'll get things setup in here, you can go get ready." Maya set the wands on medium. While she was waiting for Bambi she put her harness on and then set her gag and blindfold on the beside table. She also put the leather cuff around her left wrist. Bambi returned in a camo leotard and tights with a camo-green waist-cincher and posture collar. Maya laughed, "You going hunting!"

Bambi replied, "Be vewy, vewy quiet. I'm hunting wabbits! It was a sample product line that Gary ended up not carrying."

Maya replied, "Hmm, I have no idea why he wouldn't want to sell camo leotard and tights."

Bambi responded, "I know, right! Well besides that fact they are not leather. Except this collar is real leather with a camo in-lay. Okay, what do I need to do now?"

Maya instructed her, "Put on the wand harness and get on the right-side of the bed. I'll get the wand timers started." Maya turned on the wand timers and Bambi had gotten the wand harness attached to herself. Maya continued, "Next, attach the wand and then your gag. When you've done that start cuffing your ankles. Your right wrist you will place the leather wrist cuff. It is easier to attach your outer hand with the lock to the bedpost with your other hand free. Make sure you press the big round button to activate the lock." Bambi watched as Maya attached the lock through the rings on the bed post and the wrist cuff.

Bambi commented, "Looks simple enough." She placed the cuff on her outer wrist then laid back and attached the lock through the rings. She pressed the button and after the 5-second run-down tugged against her restraint, "Neat. Not as messy as the old ice locks."

Maya added, "Or cold. Okay before you cuff your inner wrists put on your gag and blindfold." Maya saw those too were camo, "Hilarious! I don't know, I think Gary should've bought them. Market them as a 'Bondage Safari!'. Okay, now cuff your inner wrist and you are all set. I'll turn off the light, put on my gag and blindfold then cuff myself." Maya reached over and turned off the light then put on her gag and blindfold. She laid down next to Bambi was feeling around for the cuff. Without warning Bambi took matters into her own hands and cuffed Maya's wrist for her. A couple minutes later the wands kicked in and Bambi jumped and held on to Maya's hand. Maya hadn't been out of her belt for months so it took

sometime for her body to respond to the stimulation. Bambi on the other hand had already had a couple orgasms before Maya finally had her first. The two girls drifted off to sleep a couple hours later.

Sara walked into the Cholla Suite with Bunny, "Geez, I don't recall ever being in this room."

Bunny laughed and asked, "How long you two been here?"

Sara recalled, "A few years, but we never really use this room. I think Laura and Lynette do when they come out."

Bunny had never heard Miss Kitty's real name, "Who's Lynette?"

Sara replied, "Abigail's partner. Though she prefers Laura, but goes by 'Abby'."

Bunny was even more confused, "Why?"

Sara recalled, "I believe because there was already a Laura at that resort and she hates Abigail so they compromised on Abby. So Gary doing anything new?"

Bunny giggled, "How did you know?"

Sara replied, "Lucky guess. I know he always getting vendors want him to carry their items. Before I started working full-time at the Budget Holstein, he'd bring over samples for me to model."

Bunny laughed, "Yeah, we've gotten some interesting stuff. There was one that made everything you could think of in a camo pattern. I think Bambi brought that with her tonight. Anyway I do have a couple leather sensory deportation hoods." Bunny went to her bag to retrieve the hoods and handed one to Sara.

Sara took the hood from Bunny and was surprised by the weight, "Wow, this is heavy!"

Bunny told her, "Because it is real leather not that cheap imitation 'Made in China' stuff you see all over eBay now a days." She handed Sara a black knee high stocking, "You will want to put this on over your head, it acts as a liner making the hood go on easier and prevents your face from getting chaffed up."

Sara took the stocking and replied, "Well, we better change you can go ahead while I get the wands setup."

Bunny replied, "Okay, I shouldn't be long." She headed into the bathroom to change and returned a short time later wearing a metallic gold long-sleeve unitard with sheer black tights and black waist-cincher."

Sara saw Bunny's outfit, "Nice. Love the contrast of the black stockings with the gold. Okay, go ahead and get the Hitachi harness attached and once you are on the bed cuff your ankles. Since you are going to be on the left side of the bed put the leather cuff that is over on the nightstand on your left wrist. I'll be back." Bunny got the wand harness attached and then cuff her ankles to the bed. While she was waiting for Sara she put the wand into the harness then found and attached the leather cuff to her wrist."

Sara emerged in a sheer black-mesh leotard and was wearing floral pattern black body-stocking. Bunny joked, "Body-stocking looks familiar!"

Sara giggled, "It should, Gary brought some to us when he gave us the hogtie trainer."

Bunny recalled, "Oh yeah, forgot you guys had one of those."

Sara told her, "Yeah don't use it much though. Too much work."

Bunny laughed, "Yeah I know. I told Bambi I would be more than happy to put her in the hogtie trainer, but she would have stay in it for a couple hours."

Sara asked, "So how often does she use hers?"

Bunny told her, "Usually a couple times a week and she'll spend 2-3 hours in it, usually blindfolded and gagged."

Sara adjusted the timer on the wands setting it to a 20-minute delay as it would take a few minutes to get their hoods on. She jumped on the bed then joked, "How about you?"

Bunny laughed, "Not my cup of tea...now the bondage stand, that's a different story. I don't mind that, even being in ballet boots as I am not folded up like a pretzel. Bambi is more limber than I am too." Sara cuffed her ankles and put the leather cuff on her right wrist. Bunny told her, "Since I can easily put on and lace my own hood, I'll help you out with yours. Go ahead and put the stocking on over your head."

Sara told her, "Okay. I added extra time before the wands start to accommodate us getting in to the hoods. Once you have the hood on, you will cuff your right wrist to the cuffs between us and then use the timer lock to connect the D-Ring of your cuff to the ring on the bed post. You going to be able to do the timer lock?"

Bunny informed her, "Yeah, I use on them with the locking collar on the hood so I am familiar."

Sara had placed the stocking on her head and commented, "Didn't notice the hood had a locking collar. I like the idea of using the timer lock. Okay, I am ready."

Bunny picked up the hood for Sara and told her, "It is going to be a little tight/stiff so it will be a little rough to initially get over your head, but the stocking will help." Bunny placed the hood on top of Sara's head then began tugging the hood downward. With a little effort it slid down over Sara's head. "Okay, I am going to start tightening the laces now." Bunny quickly laced the hood and tucked the excess laces up inside the hood before fastening the collar.

Sara muffled commented, "Smells good!"

Bunny reminded her, "Real leather. Okay, you're all set. I'll watch you cuff yourself so I know what to do." Sara laid back and grabbed the timer lock placing it through the D-Ring of her cuff and the ring on the bed post. She set the lock and then felt with her left hand for the cuffs. She found the cuffs and cuffed her left wrist. Bunny took note, "Ah okay, so I should do my left wrist first as that works better two hands and then cuff my right." She placed the stocking over her head. Since her hood was 'broken-in' she was able to get it on and laced quickly. As she tucked the laces into the hood and fastened the collar she commented, "Feels odd not locking the collar!" She got her left wrist secured to the bed post and eventually found the cuffs between her and Sara, cuffing her right wrist. She grabbed Sara's hand hard when the wand kicked in, "OH FUCK! Sara what did you get me into!" Sara had only set Bunny's wand to medium, but had put her own on high. After a couple minutes Bunny got used to the wand, "Oh that feels so good!" Her first orgasm hit, "Oh my fucking lord! SHIT! Oh wow, this is awesome! Bambi has got to try this...oh wait she is with Maya."

Sara had done this many times had knew how to control the intensity of the wand by shifting her body position ever so slightly. She had several small orgasms over the course of next couple hours and decided it was time for her to relax for the night and get some sleep. She relaxed her body and shifted herself to get the maximum stimulation from the wand. About 10-minutes later Sara had a massive orgasm and was out for the night.

Downstairs Wynn and Martina walked into Wynn's suite. Martina commented, "Keep forgetting how big your room is. The condo we rented over in DC Ranch had a huge master like this, but it also came with a huge price tag!"

Wynn commented, "Never saw that condo or even your current one. How do you guys like it over there?"

Martina told her, "Actually it is quite nice, we liked the area at DC Ranch with the shops. But, the condo is a lot nicer and newer."

Wynn reminded her, "Thirsty Cactus is going to be a lot like DC Ranch. Boutique shops and restaurants all anchored by a Sprouts."

Martina recalled, "Yeah Ron mentioned something about the in regards to Linda. Andy and Lindsay and Olivia and the other girl?"

Wynn told her, "Lizzie. So Linda will move the Scottsdale store to that location and so are the McGrawl's. Olivia and her sold the restaurant they had over in Oro Valley. They are going to open one at Thirsty Cactus. I believe from what Linda has said Kayré and Kacie are going to have Linda take over the mortgage on their condo and they will live above The Budget Holstein. Lizzie is going to be over in the same building as The McGrawl's store."

Martina wondered, "So Linda closing the Tucson Budget Holstein?"

Wynn explained, "Not quite. She has transferred operations for the Oro Valley store to Ron's sister and her partner. Linda will operate the Scottsdale location with Kayré and Kacie. Have no idea how she is going to manage the new Superstition location."

Martina asked, "Where is that?"

Wynn explained, "It is out in Gold Canyon. If you go east on US 60 from Sky Harbor past Tempe, Mesa and Apache Junction it goes from a freeway to a divided highway before you come into Gold Canyon."

Martina knew what Wynn was talking about, "Oh okay, out by where the Renaissance Festival is held."

Wynn laughed, "I keep forgetting you would go out there. Ron has a picture of you with a Giant Turkey Leg in his office...right next to the one of you and Laura..."

Martina had not really been paying attention, "Wait...what picture of Laura and I?"

Wynn giggled, "Well no he doesn't have *that* picture in his office, at least not where most people can see it. Anyways, why don't we get ready to 'relax'!"

Martina replied, "I'll go change into my pink attire!" She headed into the bathroom to change and returned in the Hello Kitty bodysuit and pink fishnet tights. She joked, "I'd like to meet the vendor who tried to get Ron to carry thus stuff!"

Wynn told her, "Actually would've been Gary as that is where Ron got loft of the stuff that is in those closets. Okay let me go change. Go ahead and set the wands

to whatever speed you want and activate the times when I get out." She headed into the bathroom to change while Martina set both wands to 'high' and hoped on the bed to get into the Hitachi harness. Wynn returned in her purple sleeveless unitard and black bodystocking with purple waist-cincher.

Martina asked, "So how do we do this now without the ice timers?"

Wynn explained pointing to the bedpost, "So whichever side of the bed you are on will be the wrist you place the leather cuff on. You'll loop the lock through the D-Ring on the cuff and the ring attached to the bedpost.

Martina concluded, "So if I take the left side then put the leather cuff on my left wrist and then cuff my right with the regular handcuffs?"

Wynn was attaching her Hitachi harness confirmed, "Yep. But wait until you get your gag on before you start attaching yourself to the bed. I am going to activate the wand timers now. Oh and do the handcuff last as it is easier to the timer lock with two hands." Wynn jumped up on the right side of the bed and placed her purple oversize blindfold.

Martina then noticed Wynn was wearing a posture collar, "That collar doesn't look very comfortable!"

Wynn giggled, "Actually it is as I tend to contort my head and neck when I lay on my back."

Martina just laughed, "Okay. whatever you say." She put on her pink ballgag and then cuffed her ankles and then attached her left wrist to the bed post. Wynn already had her purple gag on and also cuffed her ankles. She attached her right wrist to the bedpost then adjusted her blindfold. Martina looked over and saw Wynn was already gagged and blindfolded. She placed the Hello Kitty blindfold over her eyes and laid down next to Wynn. From memory Martina took the handcuff and attached it around Wynn's wrist. Wynn jumped as she was not expecting this but knew what Martina was doing, she reciprocated by attaching the other handcuff around Martina's wrist. The Ladies in Pink and Purple laid there waiting in darkness and silence when the wands kicked in. Moments later the wands kicked in and the girls spent the next couple hours having the ride of their lives.

Much later Martina woke up and realized her left arm was now free, but otherwise she was still attached to the bed. The movements of Martian awoke Wynn as she removed her blindfold and gag she noticed the time, "4:30, still got a couple hours. You doing okay Martina?" Martina removed her blindfold, but really couldn't undo her gag with one hand. Wynn told her, "Give me a moment and I'll get your other hand free. If you reach over to the left you should feel a chain with the cuff keys attached." Wynn reached over to the table on her side of the bed

and grabbed the key. She reached over and released her left and Martina's right wrists, "There you go!"

Martina was now able to sit up and remove her gag, "Thanks. Need to use the bathroom. Do I use the same key for the ankle cuffs?" Wynn told her 'yes'. Martina released her ankles and then removed the wand harness from her body. While Martina was in the bathroom, Wynn undid her ankles and also removed her wand harness. She placed everything in the chair and climbed back into bed. Martina returned a short time later and also got back into bed. She was horny as hell and was making a lot of noise playing with herself. Wynn rolled over and gave Martina 'the look'. Martina complained, "So horny, can't get back to sleep."

Wynn laughed, "I can fix that." Before Martina could ask Wynn rolled over and kissed Martina deeply. Martina cummed and fell asleep almost instantly. Wynn giggled, "Still got it girl!"

A couple hours later Wynn's internal alarm clock kicked in. She got up and headed into the bathroom to change. Martina also woke up and remembered she had been 'volunteered' to help Wynn with breakfast. She got out of bed and looked through her bag for something to wear. She grabbed what was on top which happened to be a pink sleeveless dress. She found a pair of tan stockings and her high heeled sandals. Wynn came out the bathroom naked carrying her armor. Martina laughed, "Ron still makes you wear that thing?"

Wynn reminded her, "No, I still choose to wear it...especially with you around!"

Martina laughed, "Damn, I'm that bad!" She noticed her pink chastity belt and bra on then nearby chair, "Well, I suppose I should get back into mine as well since Peaches is around. Let me go change and then I'll help you out with breakfast." Martina headed into the bathroom to change.

Over the course of the next hour everyone begun to wake up and got themselves released from the beds. In the Blue Agave suite both Lizzie and Peaches had awoken and got themselves released and were fully dressed. Lindsay however, was still cuffed in the center of the bed. Lizzie asked Peaches, "You think anyone would miss her if we leave her here?"

Peaches playing along, "Her husband not home." Lindsay was starting to protest through her gag. "But, Sara would notice and don't want her hurt me." Lindsay heard Peaches comment, but wasn't sure sure if she was serious or joking. Peaches told Lizzie, "You do the left and I do right side." As Peaches undid the wrist cuff she reached over and pinched Lindsay's nipple. Lindsay let out a muffled yelp through the gag. After Lindsay was released Lizzie and Peaches left the room.

Lindsay decided she needed to protect herself from Peaches for the rest of the

day while she was visiting. She went back to the cottage to shower and change. While she was waiting for the shower to warm-up she looked around the closet for her armor. She hadn't really worn it much as usually she just wore her usual high-security belt. Andy actually never expected Lindsay to go through with getting herself pierced to able wear the armor. She picked up the armor and was surprised by the weight, "Heavier than I remembered!" After a quick shower Lindsay put on her stockings and ballet boots. It took her a couple attempts to coordinate herself to get into the armor. She leaned forward and got both her nipple piercings into the grooves and stood up while reaching behind to turn the lock. As the armor closed and tightened around her, Lindsay was becoming aroused from the feeling especially as the multi-tiered vaginal plug got pulled deeper into her pussy. Lindsay had gotten the armor all the way closed to the point lock spun freely. She pushed the lock into place and realized as she heard the click of it snapping shut she had no idea where the keys were. There was not much she could do about it now and put on a skirt and t-shirt. She walked back to the main house which was a challenge in of itself with the ballet boots, but also having the tiered vaginal plug in her pussy too. She made inside and met up with Sara in the Great Room.

Sara came over and kissed Lindsay asking, "Have a good time with Peaches and Lizzie last night?"

Lindsay was slightly out of breath and laughed, "Yeah...yeah we had fun."

As Lindsay was answering her, Sara pulled Lindsay in for a hug and felt something was different, "Are you wearing your armor?"

Lindsay laughed, "Yeah, with Peaches around thought it was good idea. However, I made a bit of an error."

Sara was puzzled, "How so?"

Lindsay blushed and whispered to Sara, "I haven't worn it in like forever and don't know where the keys are."

Sara laughed, "You lost the keys to the armor you locked yourself into?"

Lindsay giggled, "No not 'lost', I *think* they *might* be in Ron's safe. He is supposed to be back today right?"

Sara shook her head, "For your sake I hope so."

Lindsay added, "Got to admit though, I like the way this fits me and the plug is keeping me wet!"

Sara looked at Lindsay and laughed, "You sure like to torment yourself."

Martina came into the kitchen wearing ballet boots and asked Wynn, "What do you need me to do?"

Wynn turned around and told her, "You can start dicing the chili peppers then work on the potatoes." She noticed the ballet boots, "Since when did you wear Ballet Boots?"

Martina explained, "Been 'training' for the last year and half. This is kinda the first time I am trying to wear them most of the day."

Wynn laughed, "Well I wish you luck sista. I'm going to get the eggs going."

Peaches had come into the kitchen and upon seeing Martina decided she would surprise her. Martina had just put the home fries in the oven and Peaches came up from behind reaching around and tried to pinch Martina's nipples. She was rather surprised to find Martina in her chastity bra, "Damn, not fair!" and stomped out of the room.

Wynn laughed, "I thought you were joking about her!"

Peaches made her way to the Great Room and tried to have her way with Lindsay again and discovered Lindsay had protected herself too, "You too? Not fair!"

Martina told her, "Nope. I'll tell you one thing, she's persistent!"

Wynn wondered, "Who did she just try to 'pinch'? Certainly wasn't Sara as she knows full well Sara wears her armor full time like I do." Lindsay walked into the kitchen with Sara. Wynn looked over, "Lindsay are you in your armor?"

Lindsay replied nervously, "Yeah...why?"

Wynn laughed, "Okay, so you were the one Peaches just tried to 'pinch'."

Lindsay explained, "Yeah she did it to me earlier when I was still restrained to the bed."

Sara laughed, "Well, her and Maya will be leaving later today. So you will be able to get back to your usual high security belt."

Lindsay agreed, "Yeah. I'm going to go freshen up before we eat."

After Lindsay left the room Sara told Wynn, "Of course that is provided Ron comes home today. Seems Lindsay didn't realize she didn't have the keys for the armor. She 'thinks' they are in Ron's safe."

Martina commented, "I didn't even know she had one as well. I knew you and Wynn did."

Sara explained, "She got it the same time Peaches got hers. Whenever Peaches starts acting out, Maya threatens to make her spend a week in the armor."

Wynn laughed, "Somehow I don't see Maya following through on that threat as Peaches would drive her crazy. Still can't believe Peaches made it those through all those months a couple years ago when Maya blackmailed her into the challenge..."

Sara reminded Wynn, "...though we have never found any proof."

Martina joked, "and here I am in the same boat as the rest of you. Oh well as Sara said, they'll be leaving later today. At least I know where the keys to my chastity gear are..." A little later Martina and Wynn had breakfast ready. Martina yelled out, "Breakfast: come and get it!"

### **Chapter 13: Welcome Back to The Moon Goddess and This Just Keeps Getting More Awkward!**

Andy and I had breakfast at the hotel then met with Gary and Cristina at another one of his secret location's for lunch. Gary informed me, "Guy's I am going to stay out here until tomorrow. Geoffrey and Norah will fly you two back later this afternoon. I'll drive back tomorrow afternoon to Phoenix as Cristina and I should go over a few more details for the new product launch on Monday."

I asked, "Do Bunny and Bambi know?"

Gary told me, "Not yet, I'll give them a call after you two leave. You still have my office key right?"

I told him, "Yeah I always have it with me 'in case of crisis'."

Gary asked, "Can you make sure everything is working okay over there when you get back? I think Lulu said she was going to be there when you two landed."

We wrapped up lunch and Cristina dropped Andy and I off at the heliport, "Thanks guys for your help. Hopefully we'll be good for a while."

We walked in the charter office and saw Norah who told us, "Geoffrey is refueling the helicopter, should be ready in a few minutes."

My phone rang and caller ID showed 'Linda Holstein', "Hey Linda what's going on?"

Linda asked, "Hate to bother y'all, but would you be able to get me at Deer Valley?"

I told her, "Well Andy and I are still in Henderson, but we are getting ready to fly back. Should be there in a couple hours. Are Kayré or Kacie not able to get you?"

Linda told me, "That's okay I'll be leaving Idaho shortly so that should work, see you then."

I got off the phone and Andy asked, "What was that all about?"

Confused I told him, "Linda needs a ride back, not sure what happened to Marc. That and she completely avoided my inquiry about Kayré and Kacie. Something's up with her, just have no idea what."

Andy joked, "Isn't there always something up with her?"

Norah came over and took our bags, "Come with me please."

A couple hours later we arrived back at Deer Valley. I asked Norah, "Can you check to see when Miss Holstein is due to arrive? Apparently we are her transportation home."

Norah checked on her tablet, "Hmm...ah here we are Caldwell Industrial to Deer Valley. Looks like about another half-hour to fifty minutes."

Andy commented, "Well, it will give us a chance to check with Lulu and make sure everything is working okay here."

Norah offered, "I can bring her over once she has deboarded."

I told her, "Yes, if you could please this would make things a easier for Linda she tends to get lost.."

Andy corrected me, "No, she never gets 'lost', she just doesn't know where she is!"

Andy and I walked into Gary's office and I called out, "Lulu? Y'all here?"

Lulu walked in from the front office, "Ron? Ah, you two made it back. I haven't had a chance to login yet, just got here." Once Lulu got logged in we checked and she was able to connect to the CMS site server in Henderson, "Ah good. Gary was going crazy the other day when we lost access. We've been planning this product launch for almost a year now."

We chatted for a bit when we heard Linda up front, "Ron, Andy, anyone around?" We walked out with Lulu and Linda saw us, "Oh there you two are...Martina you look different."

Lulu wasn't sure if Linda was serious or joking, "Well, might be because I am not Martina. I am Lulu, Gary's Office Manager."

Linda realized her error, "Oh, yeah I remember now. Sorry, been a long last couple days."

Before we departed I told Lulu, "If there are any issues let me know. Of course I am sure Gary will." We headed out to the car and I asked Linda, "So how was Idaho and what happened to Marc?"

Linda explained, "He's still in Idaho. Something about a possible business venture with some resort that is looking to setup in that area. It wasn't too bad, but I much prefer Arizona. Hey, I am going to need to stay with you if that is alright?"

I told her, "Hmm, house is a bit crowded with Gary's Girls and Martina. Plus Maya and Peaches, oh but they'll likely be going home tonight anyway. Yeah no problem."

Linda told me, "Thanks. Sorry for the short notice. Been a long last couple days." That was the second time she used the phrase 'long last couple days'.

I reminded her, "Well, you get to stay one last time at this house. By next month we should be back at the other house."

We arrived back at the house and I met Wynn in the kitchen, "So Gary is staying another day in Henderson and apparently Marc is staying up in Idaho for a couple more days."

Wynn informed me, "Yeah Gary told me when called for Bunny. Marc had called earlier too and Martina told me."

I asked, "Ah okay, but did you know Linda was going to be spending the night with us?"

Wynn replied, "No, I did not know Linda was spending the night with us."

Linda had walked in with Andy, "Actually it is going to be more than a night if that is okay."

Wynn told her, "I have no issue Miss Holstein, I just need to know where I should put her."

I asked, "What's available?"

Wynn explained, "Well, the Copper Queen is a mess as all the equipment from last nights' play session was thrown in there. Maya and Peaches will be leaving tonight, so I can change out the linens in the Blue Agave. Oh wait, the Palo Verde is already empty as Bambi and Maya were in there playing last night. Okay, I'll get that suite freshened up."

Linda asked, "While on the subject of freshening up, is there a restroom I can use in the meantime?"

Wynn told her, "Yes, follow me."

Andy and I headed over to my office. A short time later Wynn and Linda walked in. Linda asked, "Are Sara and Lindsay home?"

I turned to Wynn, "I just got here so have no idea who's at the house. So, are they here?"

Wynn replied, "Yeah. Let me page them." She go on the intercom, "Lindsay! Sara! Please come to Ron's office."

Shortly Lindsay and Sara walked in. Before any of us had a chance to say anything Linda explained, "Okay...So I have good news and bad news about the Scottsdale Budget Holstein. Good news is the developers told us that Scottsdale City Council will approve the plan at the end of the month. From there they saying about a month or two before they break ground and completion in about six to nine months thereafter."

I did the math in my head, "Okay, so were looking at late spring early summer? Gives us some time to get stuff ordered and planned."

Lindsay asked, "So what's the bad news?"

Linda replied, "Yeah and this is what concerns you and Sara as well as Wynn. So Kacie is on a 'leave of absence' as is Kayré. Those two have been having some issues..."

Lindsay commented, "No shit! Kacie damn near bit my head off Friday. Not what I needed, when I walked in after dealing with PC's and Things near crisis that morning."

Sara was surprised, "Didn't know about that. Then there is the matter of her as Kayré put it 'pawning' Miss Bordeaux on to me."

Linda told Lindsay, "Kayré is really sorry about what happened on Friday. Funny

Sara you would mention Miss Bordeaux...now this is entirely up to you if you want to do this or not. Miss Bordeaux was so impressed with you she's asked for you to be her personal shopper."

Sara asked, "Meaning what?"

Linda explained, "Meaning that when she is at the store, she would only be working with you. She did tell me that she is willing to work around your schedule. She usually comes out our way from Paradise Valley about once a month. She mentioned something about wanting to bring her daughters."

Lindsay joked, "Lucky you!"

Sara told her, "Nah Miss Bordeaux is not that bad. Sure I'd be honored. Besides it is guaranteed commission."

I asked Linda, "So how long do you need to stay with us?"

Linda replied, "Oh yeah, so as I said they're both on leave of absence. Both of them are going to be at The Moon Goddess for a couple weeks to see if they can work things out between them. So meanwhile I am going to be running the store in Kayré's absence and Wynn I may need your help to cover as well. Ironically, the timing of all this works out as I am going to be signing the lease on the Superstition store I believe on Thursday."

I recalled, "Yeah, I thought you were doing it next week. But then when you told me you were going to Idaho with Marc you mentioned the walk through would've been this weekend."

Linda told me, "Yeah...sorry was getting my weekends crossed and was also dealing with Kacie and Kayré issues. Now, do you have an extra car I would be able to borrow?"

Sara replied, "I suppose she could use the Road Runner, it doesn't get taken out much."

Linda smiled, "Had one of those in my younger years, back when my hair was blonde!" I looked at Linda trying to imagine her 40+ years younger and with Blonde hair. She asked, "In the meantime, can someone at least take me over to my store? I need more clothes as only packed for a weekend, not two weeks."

Wynn told her, "Seeing as we still have a couple hours until dinner I can."

Andy told Wynn, "That's okay I need to go over to my store anyway and update some paperwork for Dunn as he takes over as manger on Monday."

Before Wynn departed I asked, "So is everyone else still at the house?"

Wynn explained, "Yes. Bambi and Bunny along with Peaches, Maya and Lizzie are all up in the play-loft."

I was not aware Lizzie was here, "Oh Lizzie's here too. Okay. Um want's the plan for dinner?"

Wynn told me, "I grilled last night and I think most everyone wants to spend time in the play-loft So I think the easiest would be Vinnie's."

Andy and Wynn left while Sara excused herself, "I am going back out the Cabana with Martina." She turned to Lindsay and asked, "You coming to?"

Lindsay replied, "Shortly, I need to talk to Ron."

I wasn't sure why Lindsay needed to talked to me, "Everything okay?"

Lindsay explained, "I put myself in my armor this morning and I don't recall where the keys are?"

I laughed as this was not the first time Lindsay had 'put the carriage before the horse', "Why would you do that?"

Lindsay replied, "To protect myself from Peaches. Anyway, I think we put the keys in your safe."

I opened my safe and took a look at the contents, "Hmm...spare keys for Sara's and Wynn's armor, flash drive with incriminating evidence against my father-in-law, keys to Peaches' collar...oh need to give those to her. What's this; Andy CBT-750?"

Lindsay laughed, "Oh yeah we put those in there. What about my armor keys?"

I looked some more and confessed, "Sorry, Lindsay I don't see those in here."

Lindsay sighed, "Must be in Andy's safe have to wait until he gets back with Linda."

I was walking towards the great room to head up to the playroom when I glanced on to the cabana and saw Martina laying on a lounge chair in her chastity belt and bra. I walked out and told her, "Love the Metal Bikini Martina! Way to start a new fashion trend."

Martina laughed, "I don't want to take any chances with Peaches still being around."

Later in the afternoon Andy and Linda returned. Linda noticed Martina, "Marc not letting her out?"

I told her, "Her choice, apparently Peaches has been getting a bit 'frisky' with her." I turned my attention to Andy, "Lindsay is going need you."

Andy asked puzzle, "Um...okay...why?"

I laughed, "Let's says she didn't think things through very well this morning and now has gotten herself in to a bit of predicament."

Andy laughed, "Well she is a natural blonde..."

Linda objected, "Hey! So am...well...'was' I. Anyway, how about you show me up to the play-loft."

Andy headed over to the cottage to find out what Lindsay had done. Meanwhile Linda and I headed upstairs into the loft. Linda looked around and commented, "Add a lot new stuff since I last saw it."

I reminded her, "Yeah and took some stuff out too. Dundee is re-doing the entire play room at the other house. It is going to bigger and better laid out overall. Come to think of it, I should go over there tomorrow and see what he has done so far."

Linda noticed the bondage stand and asked, "What's this metal stand?"

Bunny came over and explained, "One of my favorite toys, I have one at our house too." She looked over Linda who was wearing high heel sandals and nude fishnet pantyhose, "How tall are your heels?"

Linda replied, "4-inch why?"

Bunny then asked, "Can you wear 5-inch ballet heels?"

Linda still confused told her, "Yes, why?"

Bunny concluded, "Well, you are about height wise between myself and Maya. Maya has done this stand with 4-inch ballet heels. I usually wear 6-inch as I am a little shorter than she is. Just need to find a pair of ballet heels of the desired height in your size. Follow me." Bunny and Linda went over to the closet to find the shoes for Linda.

Meanwhile Andy went into the cottage and found Lindsay. She told him, "Was just heading back to the main house." She really didn't want to admit to Andy what

she did, but then she would have to at some point if she wanted out the armor.

Andy told her, "Ron says you've gotten yourself in to a bit of predicament?"

Lindsay sighed, "Yeah. So um...are the keys for my armor in your safe?" Before Andy could answer she added, "Because they are not in Ron's."

Andy laughed, "So that's what you did. No, I am not mad at you...why though?"

Lindsay explained, "Haven't worn in ages and since I don't have chastity bra like Martina I decided to fully protect myself this morning...at least until she leaves tonight."

Andy wondered who she was talking about, "Who?"

Lindsay told him, "Peaches. She's the reason why Martina is out on the Cabana in a metal bikini as Ron puts it."

Andy laughed, "Such a strange group we keep company with..." He thought about Lindsay being stuck in her armor and his cock got hard and started pressing against the spikes inside the CBT-750 he groaned, "Of course I wear this CBT-750 24/7 and you too are nearly belted 24/7. Okay, lets take a look and see if your keys are in there. If not, well have to find a kinky locksmith." Andy and Lindsay walked into their office and he commented, "Damn, been a while since I've been in here. So odd, thought we'd be using this more often." He opened the safe and looked around, "Ah...keys for the Fort McDowell store I will need those. Okay, ah here we are..'Lindsay Armor'."

Andy handed Lindsay the key and she stuffed it in her skirt pocket, "Thanks, I'll wait until later this evening when Maya and Peaches leave."

Back up in the loft Bunny found a pair of 5-inch ballet boots in Linda's size, "Here you go, get these on and I'll get you into the stand." Linda sat on the bench removing her sandals and replaced them with the ballet boots. She stood up and walked back towards the play-loft as if this was normal footwear for her. Bunny laughed, "Dang you make it look so easy."

Linda reminder her, "Darling, I've been wearing and walking in these since before you were born! I may seem like some stuffy old lady, but I am very much still kinky and into fetish as I was in my younger years."

Bunny defended herself, "Never though of you as a 'stuffy old lady' and besides I know about your stores." A thought crossed her head, "Speaking of which at some point we should discuss about possibly carrying my custom leather harnesses."

Linda told her, "Well, I am here all week and the next...meanwhile I am dying to try out that stand..looks like fun."

Bunny smiled, "Oh yes it is!" Linda was standing in front of the stand. Bambi removed the rectangular padlocks at the neck and removed the neck restraint. She picked up the Allen Key and removed the ankle and wrist restraints. She held on to the base of the stand and told Linda, "Go ahead and step into on the thigh hoops, I'll hold on to the stand and you so neither fall."

Linda put her left leg through the thigh hoop and commented, "That wasn't that difficult!"

Bunny laughed, "True, but getting your other leg in is."

Linda evaluated the situation, "Hmm, see what you mean. Good thing I still do yoga!" With Bunny holding on to the and bracing her, Linda put her right leg through the thigh hoop.

Bunny knelt down and placed Linda's ankles against the back of the restraints and then attached the locking plate. She told Linda, "Put your arms behind you, through the loops and you will feel where your wrists will go." Linda did as she was instructed and found where her wrists would be. Bunny attached the locking plate for the wrists. She noticed Linda's neck wasn't quite lined up with the neck restraint. She told Linda, "Stand up tall, I do think you will fit."

Linda told her, "Yeah I tend to slouch a bit when not in a corset." She straightened her posture and her neck was now perfectly aligned with the neck restraint. Bunny attached the front plate and secure with the rectangular padlocks. Linda saw what Bunny was doing in the mirror and laughed, "Not like I am going to be able to get that off anyway with my hands behind my back!" She tried to move around and found she had no where to go, "Wow this thing is tight!"

Maya happened to walk in and saw Linda, "Sure is. Remember when I was put in it a couple years ago, I think it was Ron's sister who did it. I know she found a wand skinny enough to get between my thighs."

Bunny told them, "I believe Gary gave Ron one of those when he gave you guys the stand and hogtie trainer. Let me go look." Bunny headed back to the play-loft closet and looked in the wands section. With a little hunting she found what she was looking for and grabbed an extension cord on her way out." Bunny returned to find Peaches had come up into the loft in a floral bodystocking and had her hair on a pony tail. Peaches didn't look too happy as apparently it was Maya's idea. She walked over and set the wand on the floor then asked Maya, "Need help getting her into the hogtie trainer?"

Maya laughed, "How did you know?"

Bunny explained, "Floral bodystocking, hair in pony tail..."

Maya told her, "Yeah guess that would be a give away. Please, it will make it quicker and easier for me."

Bunny told Linda, "Just as soon as I am done with Peaches I'll get the wand setup."

Linda laughed, "The anticipation is killing me, you don't know how horny am I right now. Especially seeing the Hungarian girl over there in the bodystocking about to fold herself up like a pretzel."

Bunny blushed at Linda's comments and turned her attention to Maya and Peaches.

Peaches suggested, "We can switch!"

Maya smacked Peaches' on the ass and told her, "You are not getting out this punishment that easy...unless you want to spend a week in the armor."

Peaches pouted and protested, "NO!"

Maya laughed, "Didn't think so. Since we are going to stay another night, may be tomorrow Linda can try the hogtie trainer and you do the stand."

Bunny help guide Peaches on to the dildo and tied her ponytail to the trainer. Maya attached the wrist and ankle restraints securing Peaches into the hogtie trainer. With Peaches done Bunny found an outlet to plug the extension cord into. She attached the other end with the plug for the wand. With a little work Bunny was able to squeeze the wand in between Linda's pantyhosed thighs and wedged it up against her pussy. Maya commented, "We should probably gag her!"

Bunny looked over at Linda who told her, "Sure, I am game!" Maya came over and stuffed a ball gag in Linda's mouth while Bunny turned on the wand. Linda let out a muffled yelp, but the look on her face said she was having a good time.

Bunny looked around and saw Lizzie and Bambi were in the chairs and asked Maya, "Where's everyone else?"

Maya told her, "Lindsay is out with Sara, Wynn and Martina on the Cabana."

Bunny never really played with Maya in the past as her sister typically did, "So you want to do something?"

Maya was also 'lost' as normally she played with Bambi, "I suppose what you

have in mind?"

Bunny looked around the loft and saw the giant cage and while pointing at it asked, "Will both of us fit in there?"

Maya laughed, "Oh yeah, I've been in there same time as Peaches and Lindsay so both of us would fit with no problems."

Bunny recalled seeing some transport restraints in the closet and asked Maya, "Could you help me into those transport restraints Ron has?"

Maya giggled, "Sure. In fact I think I'll slip into some as well. Come."

They walked in the closet and Bunny saw the transport restraints and removed two sets. The high security cuffs were already in the box all they needed to do was secure the box with the belly chain and padlock. Maya put the belly chain around Bunny's waist. She then attached the dangling excess of chain to the leg irons. Maya advised Bunny, "Wait until we are in the cage before you cuffs your hands as it will be hard for you to get in otherwise. Okay now you do me." Bunny repeated what Maya had done on her to Maya.

Bunny asked, "What else?"

Maya had an idea, "Well, I can run a double headed extension cord and get us a couple wands in there."

Bunny was getting turned on, "Wow, you're so good at this!"

Maya laughed, "Yet your husband owns a line of fetish toy shops."

Bunny told her, "I know. See, I can picture and design any kind of bondage harness that is described to me. But, I can't think on my feet like Bambi or even Wynn when it comes to these elaborate bondage setups, like how we 'relaxed' last night."

Maya understood, "Yeah I know what you mean. Oh...we should also be wearing gags!"

Bunny giggled, "But of course!"

Maya grabbed a couple gags along with keys for the belly chain padlocks and all the transport cuffs. They walked back into the play-loft and Maya opened the cage door and told Bunny, "Go ahead and get in, you will have room to turn around so you can face me. Take these wands too and thread the cords through the bars I'll get them setup." While Bunny made her way into the cage Maya plugged in the extension cord and attached the plugs for both wands to the head

of the extension cord. Bunny turned around and put on her muzzle gag then cuffed her hands. Maya got into the cage, closing and locking the latch on the door behind her. She realized that the only other people in the loft were Bambi, Peaches, Lizzie and Linda all whom were restrained. Oh well, someone would be coming up later. She told Bunny, "The wand is hot!". Bunny turned on her wand and applied it to her pussy. Maya put on her muzzle gag and cuffed her hands then took her wand and put on her pussy. She was surprised she was getting so turned on so quickly, but then recalled she had 'relaxed' the night before.

A couple hours later Lindsay went back into the house and saw Wynn was setting up the bar for dinner. She saw Lindsay, "Hey! Pizzas should be coming shortly, would you be a dear and take care of those when they arrive. Money is on the table next to the door. I need to head up to the play-loft and see who needs to be released."

Lindsay really didn't want to have yet another awkward encounter with Drew but Wynn had already left the kitchen. Sure enough the doorbell rang and Lindsay opened to door to see Drew. He looked at Lindsay who didn't say a word and laughed, "You know, this is just keeps getting more awkward!"

Lindsay really didn't know what to say and she handed Drew more 'hush money', "Yeah, should be used to it by now. I swear we are going to be back at that other house soon."

Drew took the money while handing Lindsay the pizzas and laughed, "Yeah sure...anyway thanks for the tip!" Drew left and Lindsay closed the front door taking the pizzas to the kitchen counter.

The next morning I headed over the Desert Oasis house to see what had been going over the past few days. Upon arrival I noticed the gates to the rear were open and coming into the rear I saw Dundee's and a couple other pickup trucks. There was also a small Desert Waste Services dumpster sitting upon plywood. I headed into the main house then down in to the playroom. As I came down the stairs I noticed the entire space had been gutted. Dundee saw me enter, "Hey Ron, good timing I was going to call you soon anyway."

I told him, "Had a chance to get away from the house. Been in Vegas the past couple days dealing with a mess with Gary's step-daughter shop. Wow, it is sure empty down here."

Dundee explained, "Yeah, we got our demo permit on Friday so we had it down here. We had already done upstairs as that was small enough that we really didn't need to wait for a permit. So we did notice a couple minor code issues with plumbing, electrical and HVAC, mostly related to the old system we are removing anyway."

I was concerned, "Is this going to cause delays?"

Dundee assured me, "Not really, as I said most of it is related to the old system and the other items we are going to addressing anyway when we redo the sections. Come with me and I'll show you what we are getting ready to start." We headed over towards my old shop and I saw they had already started framing the new dividing walls and the entrance to my shop. Dundee pointed out, "So you have lost a little bit of space in your shop, but it was mostly storage. We are already working on relocating the plumbing for the new powder rooms and new electrical for the lights and fans. Oh yeah, fans...so the existing ceiling fans besides not being in the right place were the wrong size for this area. I would recommend we put in a couple bigger diameter fan say an 84" which DC motors. We have a framing inspection on Tuesday and plumbing, electrical and HVAC on Wednesday. If that all goes well, we will patch and stain the concrete on Thursday and should be done with everything else down here by the weekend."

I asked, "What about the McGrawl's office?"

Dundee explained, "Were almost done with that let's head on up and take a look." We headed up the stairs as Dundee explained, "Again, their office is a minor project compared to your basement."

We made it up to the top level of the house and noticed plywood floors, "Oh forgot about removing the carpeting."

Dundee laughed, "Yeah, that stuff was in horrible shape. Just as soon as we finish up their office likely tomorrow, I'll get my floor guy in here and start laying the laminate. That'll take a couple days." We walked towards the McGrawl's office and noticed the doors had already been relocated. "Okay, so as you can see the doors now face the doors to their bedroom. Now as you can see we have already gotten the cabinetry built and their desk should be arriving tomorrow. The furniture came in on Friday and we are storing in the other garage for the time being."

I looked around and told Dundee, "Okay, great. Keep me posted as you progress. I *should* be in-town most of this week. Might be out in Gold Canyon later in the week for Linda's Superstition Mountain store."

Dundee informed me, "Yeah, she wants me out there next Friday she said you would be there."

I laughed, "Yeah, well she hasn't said anything to me...yet, which is not the unusual for her."

Back at the house, after breakfast Bunny and Linda discussed about carrying the body harnesses at The Budget Holstein. Linda informed her, "We can try at the new store first in Gold Canyon and see how it goes. Don't really have the

availability yet at Scottsdale.”

Bunny asked, “What about Oro Valley?”

Linda informed her, “Prohibited since I don't have a 'mature products' permit.”

Bunny thought she was joking, “Seriously the harnesses would be considered a 'mature product’?”

Linda laughed, “I don't get Pima County either. Yet I am allowed to sell corsets.” She shifted to the topic, “Would you be able to help me into that hogtie trainer?”

Bunny laughed, “You were serious about trying that. Okay, well you will need to go change into a bodystocking and put your hair in a ponytail. There are plenty of bodystockings in the playroom closet.”

Linda told her, “Okay, meet you up there then.”

Maya, Peaches and Lizzie ended up staying another night. Maya happened to come into the Great Room and Bunny asked her, “Linda is going to do the hogtie trainer, you want to put Peaches in the stand?”

Maya giggled, “You know, she thinks she'd get off easy in the stand compared to the hogtie trainer. Yeah, we'll change and be over there shortly.”

Bunny headed up to the play-loft to get the hogtie trainer prepped for Linda. Meanwhile Maya walked in wearing a black dominatrix dress and back fishnets. Bunny was shocked, “Wait, who died?”

Maya laughed, “I borrowed this from the closet, for whatever reason Ron doesn't seem to have any red dominatrix dresses. I'll need to have a word with him about that!” Peaches walked in wearing 4-inch ballet boots, black stockings with black short shorts and black strapless top. Wynn hadn't bothered to reassemble the bondage stand when she released Linda the night before so it was ready to go for Maya to get Peaches into it. She told Peaches, “Put your left leg through the hoop then I will help you get your right leg in.”

Peaches had no issues with her left leg but had some difficulties with getting her right leg into the hoop, “You sure will work?” Maya held on to the stand and then pushed Peaches' leg into the hoop. Maya then attached the ankle restraint.

Since Bunny was still waiting on Linda she instructed Peaches, “Put your hands behind you through the loops.” Peaches did as she was told and Bunny positioned them against the restraints attaching the plate securing Peaches' wrists. She turned to Maya, “Since there are two locks, how about we each do one side of her neck!” Maya nodded and picked up the neck collar from the floor along with the

padlocks. She handed one of the locks to Bunny who told Peaches, "Stand up tall!" Peaches adjusted herself so her neck was now at the right height so the girls' could attach the collar plate.

Peaches was fully secured into the bondage stand and tried to move, "Shit this tight!"

Bunny laughed, "You'll get used to it, especially once Maya gets the wand setup."

Linda walked in wearing one the black floral bodystockings. She saw Maya in the black dress and commented, "What happened to our 'lady in red'?"

Bunny giggled, "Apparently, Ron doesn't have a red dominatrix dresses in his vendor stock."

Linda pointed to Maya and said, "Hmm, well I do have red dominatrix dresses at the shop, perhaps I can donate one to Ron for here. However, you can be a Long Cool Woman in a Black Dress! Oh I see Peaches is already in the stand, how you liking it dear?"

Peaches tried to move and grumbled, "Too tight!"

Linda laughed and teased her, "Yet yesterday you were so wanting to switch with me! Okay Bunny let's get me into that hogtie trainer."

Maya went to get the wand to place on the stand. Bunny assisted Linda getting into the hogtie trainer. Maya had returned with the wand and commented, "Oh, forgot to get a gag."

Bunny told her, "Grab one for Linda as well as a blindfold." Bunny had Linda secured into the hogtie trainer and asked, "So how you like it?"

Linda commented, "You know I haven't stretched this much in my yoga classes. Of course, don't normally have dildo in my pussy during yoga. Not that bad!"

Maya returned with the gags and blindfolds handing a set to Bunny. Both Linda and Peaches were gagged and blindfolded. Bunny asked Maya, "What to spend some time in the cage again?"

Maya smiled, "Sure. I think the transport restraints and wands are still on top of the cage. Let me grab some fresh gags for us."

Bunny walked over and saw the transport restraints were indeed still on top of the cage. She put herself into the restraints, but waited to do her wrist cuffs until she was inside the cage. Maya came over and noticed Bunny was already inside and passed her a gag through the bars. She then noticed Bunny had already cuffed

her wrists, "Oh, well you cain't very well put this on yourself. When I get in there I'll put the gag on you." Maya grabbed the other transport restraint set and attaching everything except the wrist cuffs. She crawled inside the cage and moved over to Bunny, "Lean forward a bit so I can get this gag on you." Bunny leaned over and Maya put the gag in her mount and secured the strap behind Bunny's head. She exited the cage to get the wands setup, tossing both inside and then went over and found the doubled headed extension cord. Maya returned to the cage, crawling back inside and once again closing the door and locking it behind her. Before she put her gag on she told Bunny, "Wands are hot!" She placed put her gag on then cuffed her wrists. She reached around and grabbed a hold of her wand and turned it on placing it against her pussy.

### **Chapter 14: An Unlikely Change in Plans.**

Later in the week Linda came into my office with a box, "Ron, I have something here for Maya and can we talk?"

I was assuming it was about her Superstition Mountain store, "Yeah. You do know she doesn't live here anymore?"

Linda explained, "Yeah, but this a dress for Maya when she is playing here. She complained last weekend she had to wear a *black* dress instead of red when she was dominating. I knew I had a couple red dresses in her size I could 'donate'."

I told her, "Oh lordy! Okay, that makes sense. Give it to the House Mistress, Wynn. So, did what you wanted to discuss have to do with your Superstition Mountain store?"

Linda replied, "No. It has to do with North Scottsdale...well more precisely Kayré and Kacie. So Kacie is leaving the '*Budget Holstein Family*'."

I was rather surprised and confused, "Um...okay so her and Kayré splitting up?"

Linda laughed, "No. Um Kacie is going to go back to Walmart. She has been offered a regional manager position. From what I gather given her tenure and experience it had always been an option, including when they came out here a couple years ago. However, they didn't have a regional manager position available for Phoenix."

I thought I understood, "Oh so now they have a regional manager position for Phoenix."

Linda replied, "No. She will be regional manager back in her home region in Tucson."

I was rather confused, "So if they are not splitting, they're going to have a 'long

distance' relationship?"

Linda explained, "No. Kayré will work with your sister's partner...Madam Cat or something like that?"

I laughed and explained, "Miss Kitty; as in the character from Gunsmoke; Miss Kitty Rusell. Not sure why she picked that as her stage name, I think it was more the persona than the name. Also known legally as Lynette Meyers. Madam Cat makes her sound like an English dominatrix...which oddly enough, she had been known to do when we were younger. That, however is for another story. Okay, so then let me see if I understand this Kayré and Kacie are going to be staying in Tuscon, still living together, but not working together?"

Linda agreed, "Yes. Kacie was getting frustrated with The Budget Holstein and being with Kayré almost 24/7."

I commented, "It is a wonder Sara and Lindsay haven't gone crazy being together all the time."

Linda explained, "They really don't see much of each other at The Budget Holstein. Sara is out a lot getting orders and negotiating with vendors. Even when they both are at the store, they're usually busy with their regular customers. Oh and that reminds me, I need to talk to both of them about some of their regular customers doing like we did with Miss Bordeaux having Sara as her personal shopper."

I concluded, "True and even when they come home, they usually do their own things."

Linda went on to explain, "Kayré and Kacie are selling the condo here and will get one down there. So, I won't be taking over the mortgage or living there. However, since they won't be living in the residence above the Budget Holstein, I'll move in over there once it is completed. When were you supposed to move to the other house?"

I told her, "Likely next week if Dundee is able to get everything done this week. Guess I'll find out when I see him on Friday..."

Linda suddenly remembered, "Oh that reminds me, I am meeting Dundee on Friday at the Superstition Mountain store. I would like you and Andy to be there."

I laughed, "I already knew that. Dundee told me when I saw him on Sunday."

Linda changed the subject, "So if it is not too much trouble I am going to be needing to stay here off-and-on for the next...um...well until I get the Thirsty Cactus location done."

I replied, "Year?"

Linda defended herself, "Well not, all the time. Just when I need to be up this way for dealing with the new Thirsty Cactus location. If it is not too much trouble?"

I laughed, "Linda you're living out of a suitcase and really have nothing else other than your phone, tablet and laptop. So you really don't have that much you need to move when we go to the other house. What about The Superstition Mountain store?"

Linda explained, "Not really going to be that involved with that store."

I seemed to recall hearing this before, "Hmm...didn't you say the same thing about the Scottsdale location? Something to the effect this would Kayré's store to run."

Linda laughed, "Yeah..oh well shit happens. In regards to Superstition Mountain, I have a couple ladies whom I've know for years who are going to be running it. We first met in 1989 when the Reinsurance Festival first started in Arizona."

I laughed, "I some how can't picture you attending that...but then again I couldn't with Martina, so who am I to judge."

Linda asked, "Martina?"

I told her, "Yeah take look behind you at the picture in the wooden frame on the shelf. It was taken about 15-years ago."

Linda laughed when she saw the picture of Martina in her period correct clothing eating a giant turkey leg, "Wow. She looked so much different back then with the short blonde hair."

I found the picture of Martina and Laura from their Unlikely Affair many years ago, "And not wearing Pink. So do you remember a few years ago when we first started. Laura was supposed to come out and get things setup for you at the Oro Valley store?"

Linda recalled, "Yeah...didn't she eat something that didn't agree with her?"

I told Linda, "I suppose you could say that...Anyway, come over here I want to show you this."

Linda came over and saw the picture, "Okay that is Martina, but who is that fucking her?"

I explained, "Laura or as she was calling herself then 'Ann Marie'."

Linda looked closer, "Oh that *is* Laura, when we was this taken."

I told her, "The night that Laura was supposed to be at your Oro Valley store. I was on my way out to Gary's office when he was still in Vegas. This was the night we had the massive dust storm out near Tonapah that shut down I-10 in both directions for hours. I ended up turning around and came home to find a Gold rental Cadillac in the courtyard. No one else was at the house as apparently Martina had sent Sara to have dinner with Marc that night. So I came into the house from the garage and I could hear Martina from downstairs. I knew she had been up to something prior from what Sara had told me. So, I had grabbed my digital camera to have some evidence of her affair and was shocked to see it was Laura she was screwing around with. That is how Martina ended up in a chastity belt. I think it was Laura and Miss Kitty that added the chastity bra when she stayed with them before the divorce was final."

Linda was confused, "Why would she have stayed with them?"

I reminded her, "That was when Valley Shadows had closed and her and Marc were transferred to their 'Motel 6' property as Norah called it. Marc had his own place and she was staying with my sister and Miss Kitty."

Linda laughed, "Martina was always a wild one. Heck everyone in our group seems to have a wild and crazy side, well except Lindsay. She always seems so stressed out."

I explained, "I know, she keeps thinking she needs to be involved with the computer stores as much as she hates it now. Leaving Tucson was not easy on her, neither was the constant drama with the Fountain Hills store. I guess from what others have told me she had to assume some management responsibility the other day in regards to the Scottsdale and Rio Verde/Fort McDowell stores. Hopefully, now that they are down to just Fountain Hills and Scottsdale stores she can focus herself with just The Budget Holstein."

Linda assured me, "With Kayré and Kacie gone, I need her more than ever."

Getting back to the topic at hand, I asked, "So have you talked to Sara, Lindsay and/or Wynn yet about what is going on with those two?"

Linda told me, "Not yet. I am still trying to piece together information from Kayré. Not even sure what their time line is going to be or if this is for certain."

I advised Linda, "Whilst it is your choice as to when you choose to tell them, I would strongly recommend talking to them as soon as possible."

Linda agreed, "Yeah, I know. Likely tomorrow night as I usually talk to Kayré in the early afternoon. Hopefully she can give me a more definitive timeline."

She left my office and I got to thinking with her staying in the Queen Suite off-and-on during the next year and the McGrawl's taking the King Suite as well my old office; I would only have the old presentation room as a guest room. However, there are many times Sara and Lindsay would want to spend some time together as they do now in the High Infidelity Suite. There really wasn't any other rooms or areas that we could convert to provide them their own playroom. Since I had Thunderbird opened, I looked at the plans Dundee had drawn up for expanding and redoing the playroom. So the plan was to keep the 2-car garage on the west side and the 3 ½ on the east side. Since we only had three cars now; The Jeep, Cruiser and Sara's Roadrunner, we didn't need to have that much garage space. Wynn's Vespa and our bikes would still fit in the ½ car portion of the eastern garage. Of course, I forgot about the McGrawl's Mini Cooper. However, over the past few months with us constantly taking the Jeep out it was usually parked in the driveway. Figured this could just do that as well at the Desert Oasis House. I gave Dundee a ring, "So, I have an unlikely change in plans and hope this isn't going to be too much trouble."

Dundee asked, "What now?!"

I explained, "So, how about we convert the remainder of that western garage into a large guest bedroom and bathroom. It can double as an additional guest suite or a place for Sara and Lindsay to play and spend the night together."

Dundee told me, "It is going to cost you...to get expedited permits. However, since it is within the same area as the existing it might not be a big deal. So you want a bedroom, bathroom and closet."

I told him, "Yeah. Don't worry about sending me plans. Surprise me, I trust you and impressed with what you have come up with before."

Dundee explained, "Shouldn't take very long, just some new plumbing and electrical along with another ductless HVAC system. Okay let me ask you this, do you ever plan on using that garage as a garage again?"

I replied, "Not really, there is still a 3 ½ car on the other side which has plenty of storage. Why?"

Dundee asked, "Well in that case why don't we remove the existing overhead garage doors and frame it all in. Add a couple windows in the playroom to allow natural light, one in the hall and some in the new bedroom. What do you think about doing plantation shutters like the rest of the house?"

I told Dundee, "Sounds good to me. Like I said, just do what you think works

best." I finished up with Dundee and was just starting to get back to what I was doing when the Bat Phone rang. My immediate response was, "Oh crap, now what broke?" I answered the phone, "AZOutback, Ron."

Gary asked, "Quick question, do y'all still use that bondage wheel you got in exchange for the caning platform?"

I told him, "I thought it was the cage we got in exchange and she threw in the bondage wheel? Anyway to answer your question, not really...why?"

Gary started his pitch, "Well a dear friend reached out to me and told me she was in need of one. She'd be willing to trade."

I asked, "What would we she have to trade that we don't?"

Gary explained, "How about a wood and leather spanking bench? Check your email."

I switched back to Mozilla Thunderbird and saw an email from Gary, but not with his ACME domain, "GZFEITSHES.COM? When did you get that domain?"

Gary told me, "Zac has had it for years, we decided to put it to use it as we are doing business together, more of a consignment service. Anyway you see the picture?"

I replied, "No, actually was distracted by the fact that somehow you managed to successfully register and setup your own email account."

While I was looking at the pictures Gary admitted, "Well, Lulu took care of that. So what do you think?"

I reviewed the pictures in more details, "Looks like it is in good condition."

Gary told me, "Pretty much like new, think it was another one of those cases where they just didn't realize how much space it would take up."

I laughed, "Sort like that bondage cross for the fucking machine you gave me when we first moved into the Desert Oasis house? Well with the expansion Dundee is doing at the Desert Oasis House we would have no problem fitting it. Is she local?"

Gary explained, "No, she's over in New Mexico. She will arrange for shipping and asks you pay the difference as the bench is a lot heavier than the wheel."

I told Gary, "Yeah, I would think so. Sounds more than fair to me. So I assume you will take care of all of this for me?"

Gary replied, "Yeah, I'll drop by later this week to breakdown the wheel then take it over to my shop. I have shipping crates it should fit in plus I can have UPS pick it up directly. When y'all moving?"

I advised him, "Just as soon as Dundee has finished all his work on the Desert Oasis house. May be in a week or so."

Gary offered, "So may be I should have her ship the bench to my office and then come and bring it and setup once you get moved in."

I confirmed, "Yeah, I think that would work better."

The next afternoon Linda appear at my office, "May I come in Ron?"

I was working on getting a site setup for a new client who had insisted we use their current hosting provider. I was having a hard time getting everything configured, "Yeah. I need to take a break from this. Still cain't understand why WordPress won't talk to the database. I have all the information correct in the wp-config file....oh well what did you need Linda?"

Linda explained, "Um, so I talked to Kayré today and she has informed me Kacie doesn't want them coming back to Scottsdale. Apparently, she never wanted to come up there in the first place, but didn't want to disappoint Kayré. So I hired a moving company to pack their condo and ship the contents down to Tucson just as soon as they find a place out there. Think for now they are going to just rent an apartment as would take too long to purchase a condo."

I asked, "So I suppose you will be telling Sara and Lindsay tonight?"

Linda sighed, "Yeah, best we do. It does explain so much though with Kacie. Oh well, not like I ever pulled shit like this. I was the reason Hal and I came to Arizona. Anyway when will they be home?"

I paged Wynn, "Wynn, my office please."

Wynn appeared, "You called?" She noticed Linda, "Hello Miss Holstein."

Linda laughed, "Afternoon Miss Lee."

I told her, "Yeah um...when are Sara and Lindsay due home?"

Wynn looked at the clock and told us, "About 30-minutes or so."

I asked Linda, "Want to talk to them before or after dinner?"

Linda told me, "Seeing as I need to go out to Gold Canyon this evening to sign the paperwork for my new store, as soon as they get home please."

I told Wynn, "Okay, so when they get home bring them on over and this concerns you as well."

Wynn acknowledged and asked, "Anything else you need?"

I decided to bounce my issue off of her as she had done WordPress sites as well, "Yeah...so I know you done your fair share of WordPress sites in the past; I am getting the dreaded 'Error Establishing a Database Connection'. I have triple checked the configuration strings in the wp-config and everything looks good. Any ideas?"

Wynn ran through everything with me, "So created a database with the new provider, created a user, connected the user to the database..."

That was new to me, "Whoa...wait, what? Isn't that automatic when you create the user under said database?"

Wynn told me, "If you are using cPanel it should, but some of these providers have their own control panels and it requires an extra step.."

I took a look and noticed there were no users associated with the database. I added the user to the database, refreshed the site and it came up, "Damn. Been pulling my hair out all afternoon. Yeah, they are using some obscure hosting provider that I haven't used before. The provider has their own control panel for their hosting. Will have to make a note about that for future reference." Linda got up and left my office with Wynn. I was making some minor adjustments to the client's new site when she returned along with Wynn, Lindsay and Sara. I explained, "So Linda has some news regarding Kayré and Kacie."

Linda explained, "Okay, so I had mentioned Kacie and Kayré were on a leave of absence. Um...well Kacie is no longer working for us. She will be going back to working for Walmart in regional management...in Tucson. Kayré is going to work with Madam Cat..."

I corrected her, "...Miss Kitty."

Linda laughed, "...yeah whatever the fuck her name is and Ron's sister at the original Budget Holstein store. They are not coming back up this way, at least not for a while. Kayré will likely come up once in a while, but not Kacie. So that means Lindsay and Sara, I will need you two full time. Wynn, still more as needed as I do know you take care of things here as well."

I told them, "This is good for you Lindsay there will be plenty for you to do at The

Budget Holstein. Besides which..." I noticed Andy had walked in, "...now that you and Andy just have the Fountain Hills and Scottsdale stores you can devote yourself to the Budget Holstein. Right Andy?"

No one else was aware Andy had come in, "Yeah Ron that is correct. Now that we are down to two stores Lindsay is free to spend as much time as she wants or needs at The Budget Holstein."

I joked, "Did you need something or just being nosy?"

Andy laughed, "Yes! Actually I was just coming in here to let you know Dundee is here to see you."

I laughed, "Of course he is. While I am attending to Dundee, Linda can explain in further detail what is going to happen."

As we walked out Andy asked, "So what's going on?"

I gave him an executive summary, "Kacie never wanted to come to Scottsdale. She accept a regional manager position with Walmart in Tucson. Kayré is going to be working out of the original store with Miss Kitty and my sister. So that means Sara and Lindsay would be full time at the Scottsdale Budget Holstein. As I was telling them, more so Lindsay gives her a reason to be away from the computer stores."

Andy agreed, "Good. I know she enjoys working at The Budget Holstein and she absolutely hates doing anything management related with the computer stores. Though, she did save the day on Friday with the Scottsdale store by convincing Max to stay."

We walked into the Great Room and saw Dundee, "Good afternoon Dundee, what's going on?"

Dundee explained, "Just coming to drop off an updated invoice. The new permits were pulled this morning and we already started work on your 'newest project'. I am thinking you should be able to take a look at the nearly finished product on Sunday."

I reminded him, "Okay sounds good. So, tomorrow night were suppose to meet with Linda in Gold Canyon."

Dundee laughed, "Oh she finally told you."

I laughed, "Not directly. It was mentioned in passing. But, yeah I think Sunday should work and I'll go ahead and submit a payment tomorrow, just need to move some money out an offshore bank account..."

Dundee joked, "As long as it is valid US currency, I don't care where it come from! Okay, see you tomorrow evening."

After Dundee left Andy asked, "What did Dundee mean by your 'next project'?"

As we returned to my office and I explained, "With Linda staying here off and on over the next year and with you guys taking two rooms, I realized I would only have the old presentation room as guest room. But, too there are times Lindsay and Sara like to spend time together in a room separate from your suite or my suite."

Once again Andy asked, "So we are getting in the way here?"

I laughed, "Nonsense. No, I decided to put some unused space to good use."

Andy wondered, "I didn't think there was any other unused space."

I explained, "I didn't either until I started looking at Dundee's plans for the redesigned playroom. I am going to have him convert the remainder of that garage into a living area. Specifically, a bedroom. bathroom and closet. It will double as another guest suite, but also a private area for Sara and Lindsay to play/spend the night together. I leaving everything up to Dundee on this, he is not going to forward me plans. So we shall see what he comes up with when we get out their on Sunday. No one else knows about this and prefer to keep it that way. We best be heading back to my office and find out what is going on." We returned to my office and I advised, "So Linda is heading out to Gold Canyon after dinner to sign the lease documents on the new Superstition Mountain store. Speaking of dinner when and what?"

Wynn laughed, "You are getting as bad as Andy. Spicy Meatloaf and should be done shortly, just need to finish smashing the potatoes."

Linda told Wynn, "I'll go ahead and help you out, I should do more around here besides take up space."

Wynn and Linda left just leaving Andy and Lindsay along with Sara and I. I remarked, "Well that was interesting."

Sara commented, "I am surprised Linda is not more upset with them."

I told them, "She is. But then she told me she was the reason her and Hal ended up in Arizona...have no idea what the meant other than she must have pulled something similar. Anyway, Lindsay and Andy you are both okay with this arrangement?"

Lindsay was confused by my question, "Not sure what you are asking Ron."

Andy explained, "He is asking if we are okay with you being at The Budget Holstein full time. The answer is yes, this has been the plan for the last few years since Linda opened the Scottsdale location. With Dunn and Zina along with only two stores now I am fine with this."

Sara told Lindsay, "Linda has plans for us involving having our own dedicated customers such as Miss Bordeaux for myself and a couple other of your regulars. This will be good and it sounds like we will be back at the other house very soon."

Linda announced, "Hey everyone, dinner is done!"

After dinner, Linda helped Wynn with the dishes before she left for Gold Canyon. As she was heading out she advised me, "I might be back late tonight, no need to wait up for me."

I told her, "I had no plans on waiting up for you."

Lindsay, Sara and Wynn went to the movies and Andy had headed over to Target to do some shopping for him and Lindsay. While everyone was away Gary dropped by with the Acme Truck to get the wheel. He asked, "Anything else you need moved while I am here?"

I told him, "Not that am I...oh wait...yeah, actually. Um, lets get the Alaskan King and the furniture out of Peaches and Maya's old room. That all will go down into the new guest suite that Dundee is building. For now we will just stick it in the eastern garage with the rest of the furniture." It took us a few trips but we managed to get everything loaded into the Acme Truck and then into the eastern garage.

## **Chapter 15: The Grand Tour**

Friday after dinner Andy, Linda and I headed out to Linda's new Gold Canyon store. The store was located right off the highway in the eastern edge of the Gold Canyon business district. We walked in and I commented, "Gee, Linda it looked so much bigger on paper!"

Linda was confused, "Odd, I don't recall giving you a floor plan..."

I told her, "Never mind, this just smaller than I expected."

Linda explained, "We will carry the same variety of products as Scottsdale and Oro Valley, just not as much. If we don't have what a customer wants, we can either have it sent here from Scottsdale within a couple days or shipped up from Oro Valley."

Andy asked, "Is your wheel in the Jeep?"

I replied, "Yeah should be. I am going to try to locate the D-Point." I headed towards the back store room area and started looking around.

I found a small closet and Linda asked, "What is it you are looking for?"

I told her, "The demarcation or D-Point, where your Fiber Internet connection comes into the building. It is the point where responsibility is determined. 'Inside' this point the responsibility of maintenance/repair is on you. Where as 'outside' it is your provider's." I found what I was looking for in the closet, "Here we go. We have an incoming line that is not connected to anything yet. Once you get your service established they'll lease you a fiber-optic modem which we will then connect to a firewall then to gateway router. Now, let's see if Andy found his way back."

Neither of us were aware Andy had come back in until he replied, "I left a trail of bread crumbs. So this our network closet?"

I replied, "'Closet' pretty much sums it up well. Should work fine as all we need is to put in a UPS, server, firewall, router and switch in here."

Andy asked Linda, "So how are the tablets working out for you?"

Linda laughed, "You know when you guys first did the stores, moving us to tablets I hated it. But, now I wonder how I ever got along without it. It is so handy to be able to view stock, inventory and everything else. They seem to work well in the stores too as the sales people can do everything right from the tablet. We hardly ever use the check out counters anymore."

I asked, "Any issues with Square?"

Linda replied, "No it has been fabulous, much better than the old leasing a credit card machine and paying an arm and leg for a merchant services account. Kacie was so glad when you guys switched us as she said it has been saving us money every since."

I told her, "Yeah, the processing fees tend to be less and you don't have the monthly lease on the card readers."

Andy noted, "Okay, good so we will stick to tablets with square here. Printers?"

Linda told us, "Kayré loves the wireless printer you installed in the Scottsdale store."

I asked, "So what about the administrative stuff, I assume they are still using some type of a PC?"

Linda replied, "Yeah they are using a laptop with base station to connect to big monitor..."

I explained, "Ah, so using a docking station. Gives you the flexibility with having a portable laptop, but being able to connect to a larger display and use a full size keyboard when you need it. So, we'll do a Lenovo likely x270 laptop with docking station. I'll see what we can get for 27" monitors either HP or LG."

Andy told us, "I am going to get some measurements."

Linda confessed, "I really don't know how I am going to layout out this store. In fact, I really planned on leaving that up to the ladies who will be running this location."

I assured her, "Not really that big of a deal. It doesn't sound like you are going to be using anything hardwired to the LAN. Everything is going to be over WiFi, including the printer or printers so we really don't need to worry about layout. We'll setup a mesh system of Access Points mounted from the ceiling so no matter where in the store you are you will have WiFi access. The technology improvements in WiFi have been incredible over the past couple years and makes things a lot easier for doing installs. None of this having to run CAT5 cable all over and building outlets. VLAN configuration gets a little more complicated, but then that's why Laura charges the big money!"

Andy came back and asked, "So we got everything we need?"

I told him, "I believe so. Linda?"

Linda replied, "Still waiting on Dundee."

Dundee happened to walk in at that moment, "You know Linda, a suite number would have been really nice. Luckily I saw Ron's Jeep."

Linda laughed, "Oh yeah, I knew there was something else I meant to tell you."

Andy headed out to put the wheel and his tablet in the Jeep. I told Dundee, "So, we'll see you Sunday then? Oh, Gary and I brought the bed and furniture for the new suite last night."

Dundee replied, "Yeah, saw that earlier when we went to put the furniture up in the McGrawl's new office. Yeah, I'll drop by sometime Sunday."

I told Linda, "Andy and I are going over to Starbucks, call me when you are

done.”

Saturday was fairly quiet and I had a chance to wrap up a couple more projects. Gary called to inform me he had gotten the spanking bench at his office, “When do you guys plan on moving?”

I explained, “Have a walk through with Dundee tomorrow, so may be next week sometime. I'll let you know when I know more.”

Sunday afternoon Dundee came by, “So, we are at a point where it would be good for y'all to do a walk through.”

I found Andy, “Andy are you and Lindsay free after dinner? I know Linda still is going to be at the Gold Canyon store tonight, so don't need to worry about her.”

Andy told me, “I suppose we could.”

I added, “Might as well bring Sara and Wynn with us too. Yeah so in a couple hours if that works for you Dundee?”

Dundee confirmed, “Yeah, gives my guys a little time to get things somewhat cleaned up.”

After dinner, the five of us headed over to the Desert Oasis house to see what Dundee and his crew had gotten done. When we came up the driveway I noticed the gates were closed so we parked under the Porte Cochere. We came in through the front door and were met by Dundee, “Evening all. Let's start in the kitchen, shall we?”

We headed into the kitchen and Wynn commented, “Still not use to seeing the fireplace gone or the flipped dinning and living rooms.”

Andy commented, “Yeah, but it seems to flow a lot better now.”

Lindsay giggled as she admired her reflection in the floor, “I can almost see myself in the floor.”

Sara was wearing short skirt and looked down, “Yeah, I can see the reflection of my steel covered crotch...”

Dundee explained, “We had the travertine deep cleaned and polished. What else? Oh yeah, the laundry room. We replaced the door and the failed exhaust fan. By the way, were you planning on bringing the machines from the other house?”

I told him, “Not that I was aware of, but I see Zac took those and the fridge too. Not a big deal, Wynn can go over to the local appliance store and pickup out new

fridge along with washer and dryer. They will usually have them delivered and installed the next day."

Zac also informed me, "The bowed shelves and warped cabinet doors in your office and library have all been replaced. Okay upstairs."

We went up to the top level of the house and this time I saw there was actually flooring, "Oh, we have flooring up here now other than plywood!"

Dundee laughed, "Yeah, that's right when you were last here we had ripped out all the carpeting...something that should've been done years ago. Anyway, we have the wood-plank laminate throughout the entire top level. We also repainted throughout up here as well as downstairs. Okay, the moment of truth...The McGraw's Office. Go ahead Lindsay and Andy."

Lindsay and Andy each opened a double French Door and looked in awe. Lindsay commented first, "Wow! This is a lot better than I had pictured."

Andy saw the desk, "That is one huge desk, but it does fill the space nicely without being overpowering."

Dundee showed Andy, "So these shelves can easily be adjusted as needed. Again, the center shelf is fixed but the rest can be moved. You have plenty of storage underneath, plus the closet for larger storage needs. We added a couple swivel recliners and a chaise lounge."

I looked around the room and was impressed, "Once again, you've exceed my expectations on this project, just as you did many years ago with the library and my office. So, what was the verdict on the master bath?"

Dundee laughed, "Oh yeah...the master bath. That was a riddle wrapped up in an enigma. So, when we pulled tile flooring in there we did discover some water damage. Still not quite sure what it was from as the tub was not leaking. Our theory is the tub was overfilled and they allowed the overflow water to sit there. The tile backing was rotted out on a couple of the tiles. We removed the tub but didn't find any signs of leaks or much more extension. The floor may not have been correctly leveled too when the house was built so any water that escaped from the tub may have gotten between the tub and tile and eventually to the sub floor. Still not sure, would have expected to see a stain on the ceiling below. Unless there was a leak and they had it fixed and also repainted the ceiling downstairs, though why they didn't fix the flooring while they were there?"

I told him, "Well, we know it is not leaking. No use trying to understand the logic of what was or was not done."

Dundee announced, "Yeah, it is just going to give you a headache. So, lets head

down and I'll show you what we did with the playroom and shop space." We headed downstairs and were met with a pair of frosted glass doors at the foot of the stairs. "As I mentioned during the consult, now that the main playroom is as soon as you come down the stairs we wanted some separation. Okay come on in."

We walked in and Lindsay commented, "Wow, this is huge!"

I reminded her, "Well it will look big while it is empty. I think the play area here is slightly larger than at the current house."

Wynn noticed the floors, "What kind of tile is this?"

Dundee told her, "That's not tile, it is stained concrete. It has been given a clear epoxy so it will stand up fairly well to the abuse your ballet heels would cause. You will also noticed a new ductless HVAC split system and soon we will install all new ceiling fans. Now which door should we choose, the left or the right?"

Sara asked, "Is this a trick question?"

Dundee was pleased, "Ah so you were paying attention. So yes, either barn door will take you into the hallway to the powder rooms, dressing rooms and storage closet. We did change things around a little from the original plan as we had some issues trying to relocate utilities. So we were going to have the closet in the center with two dressing rooms on either side and a powder room at the ends. We ended up putting the closet towards the front of the house and then found it would be simpler to put the two powder rooms on each end of the dressing rooms. The double doors next to the closet goes out to your shop and new area."

Sara asked, "New area?"

I told them, "Yeah, why don't you and Lindsay open these doors." They each opened a door and walked out to a long hallway.

Dundee explained, "Okay, we continued the stained concrete out here as well. We are in what would have been the remaining 2-car portion of the garage Due to the utility locations this would have ended up being a little narrower than your standard 2-car garage at roughly 19-feet wide. So the door to the right is to Ron's shop and his storage area and to left is a door outside. In front of you is a door which leads into the new area. Ron, you want to give them the background on this?"

I explained, "So, I got to thinking the other night: Linda is staying in the Queen Suite off-and-on for the next year until Thirsty Cactus is done; The McGrawl's are occupying the King Suite along with Maya's old room; all I would have for a guest room is the tiny old Presentation room. I know Sara and Lindsay do on occasion want to spend time to together, so I had Dundee convert the rest of this garage

into a new suite. This will also be useful too when my mother and Blanche, or my sister and Miss Kitty comes out or even Maya and Peaches. We are left with the 3½ car garage on the eastern side. So we can still park The Cruiser, McGrawl's Mini Cooper and Sara's Roadrunner in the garage along with Wynn's Vespa. The Jeep, we use so much everyday we haven't been parking it in the garage anyway. Now, I have no idea what lies beyond this door. Against my better judgment, I gave Dundee free reign on the design and build of this new section. I never saw any plans and what you are seeing now is what I am seeing for the first time as well. So, this will be The Quail Suite or in honor of Sara and Lindsay High Infidelity Suite 2.0! Dundee open that door!"

Dundee opened the door and told us, "Okay come on in. Again we continued the stained concrete in here as well. So, on the right behind this barn door we have decent sized closet. Let's head around the corner here. So on the left we have a small, but modest bathroom with plenty of storage for linens and toiletries. We have a walk-in shower and a water-closet with some more storage above the commode. Now, the door straight ahead goes outside and is a private entrance to this suite. Come on in."

I walked in with everyone else and looked in amazement at the size of the space, "Holly crap this is huge. Here I was worried that the Alaskan King would make this room look small."

Wynn asked, "Wait, was that the bed from Maya and Peaches' old room at the current house?"

Dundee confirmed, "Yeah it is. Ron had said this would likely would be the only room it would fit in. Nonetheless, you still have plenty of space even with doing the shelves and window bench up front."

Andy noticed the smaller windows along the east wall, "What's with the half windows here? I kind of like it, but not sure why you did this."

Dundee explained, "On the other side of that wall is the driveway, so you can some natural light and still have privacy. Okay, let's outside so you can see the exterior changes we made."

We exited the suite and headed out to the courtyard. Wynn noticed, "Wow the garage doors are gone."

Noticing the windows in place of the garage doors, Lindsay commented, "I don't recall seeing those windows inside."

Dundee explained, "Well, we didn't go up to the front portion of the playroom, so you likely wouldn't have noticed. So there are three windows on this side of the door; two in the playroom and one in the hallway where the dressing and powder

rooms are. Of course we have the big window for the suite. Okay, Ron and all what do you think?"

Andy replied, "Impressive. Really like what you did with our office and old bedroom."

Dundee reminded him, "Actually, Zac was the one who reconfigured the bedroom."

I told him, "You know, you never cease to amaze me. I mean everything turned out better than I had expected. So what's still left?"

Dundee explained, "Still need to get the fans for the playroom, should be coming in sometime next week. Other than that, just a few minor details and touch-ups. You should be ready for move-in by next weekend." Later the following week Wynn went to the local appliance store and ordered a new French Door Refrigerator along with a washer and dryer. A couple days later the store delivered and installed the new appliances. The fans for the playroom came in and Dundee was able to get those installed. That Friday Dundee called me, "Hey Ron, when you have a chance can you come over to the house and do a final walk through?"

I looked at my schedule and noticed Andy and I had another consult that evening with Linda for the Budget Holstein Superstition Mountain store, apparently they had figured out how they wanted the store arranged. We had told Linda the arrangement didn't matter as they would be almost entirely WiFi, but Linda, being Linda she was insistent we meet with the operators. I told Dundee, "Not until this weekend, Andy and I have yet another consult with Linda tonight."

Dundee laughed, "You too! Well, I'll see you there tonight and you can let me know then what works."

That evening Andy and I headed out to Gold Canyon. As we came on to US-60 in Tempe Andy joked, "Didn't we just do this last Friday?"

I commented, "Yep, but this time we don't have to wait up for her as she is already out there. The only saving grace is at least when she changes her mind a half dozen times about the new Scottsdale store we will be very close." Half hour later we made it to the store and saw the Roadrunner in the parking lot along with Dundee's truck."

We walked in and found Linda and Dundee and a couple ladies slightly younger than Linda huddled around a center display case. Linda saw us, "Good Ron and Andy are here. So, Ronnie has some questions for you in regards to POS."

Ronnie explained, "So I know you plan on using Square like you have at the other

locations. We are wondering if we can use Square's POS terminals?"

I looked at Andy as this was news to me. Andy explained all excited, "Yeah, those are fairly new. But we can for certain use those. How many terminals did you want?"

Ronnie told us, "Thinking two should be fine. Some customers still prefer to have a traditional terminal so to say that they can see their order in detail. The tablets are great, but sometimes awkward for some of the clientele out here."

Andy advised me, "Make note then we will need to drop a line or two to where ever they plan on having the terminals."

I laughed, "So much for 100% WiFi. Did you plan on adding more in the future?"

Ronnie replied, "No. We really only need one, but if something happens we have backup."

I told Andy, "Yeah then we'll just drop two lines. Dundee can enclose them in something pretty."

Andy replied, "Can't we just do one and put a switch under the counter?"

I explained, "If they were going to do more or use non-wireless printers than I would say yes. But, for two terminals it is overkill and more work for Laura...." I got to thinking, I had not yet consulted with Laura about this job, mainly because of Linda's uncertainty and not giving me a date she wanted to open by, "...while on the subject of Laura, I really need an expected completion date from you Linda so I can be sure we can get her out here. Very likely it is going to have to be over a weekend."

Linda asked confused, "Why can't she just do it after work like she has in the past?"

I reminded her, "Linda we're not in Oro Valley anymore!"

Linda remembered, "Oh yeah, guess it would be a bit of a trip from Marana. Jodi and Ronnie, what is your timeline?"

Jodi told us, "Ideally we like to be going within the next two or three weeks. Dundee needs a couple weeks to get everything built and installed. We are looking about that long as well to get the merchandise."

I told her, "Thank you Jodi! Been trying to get a date out Miss Holstein here for the past month. Alright, let me step out and give my sister a call. Meanwhile Andy you can geek-out with them about the Square Terminals."

I stepped outside and rang Laura's cell. Just before it went to voicemail she answered, "Evening Ron. What's going on?"

I explained, "So we are on our second consult for Linda's Superstition Mountain store. What is your availability in the next couple weeks?"

Laura asked me, "She does know that it would have to wait until a weekend?"

I told her, "Yes, I reminded her earlier of the fact this was not Oro Valley."

Laura was relieved, "Good. So what all is involved?"

I explained, "It should be about 99% WiFi. Once Linda and her team get everything finalized Andy and I will install a mesh WiFi, along with a fresh server, firewall, gateway router and switch. Her team is requesting two Square terminals and those will be hardwired. A couple wireless printers, tablets and laptops."

Laura replied, "Seems fairly simple...but..."

I replied, "...this is Linda we're talking about!"

Laura laughed, "Yep. I trust you can keep her in line!"

I laughed, "Well, considering she is staying with us until off and on until the Thirsty Cactus location is done."

Laura recalled, "Oh yeah. Keep forgetting about the drama with Kacie. Let me look at my schedule real quick...well next weekend is out as I am working. Hmm, but I do have a four-day weekend the following week, Saturday through Tuesday. If it works for her perhaps that Sunday."

I told Laura, "Okay. That should work for Andy and I as well. We should be moving back to the Desert Oasis house this coming weekend. You and Miss Kitty going to be staying with us during that time?"

Laura told me, "Not sure, suppose so. Miss Kitty has been wanting to come up to Scottsdale."

I explained, "Okay, I'll run it by Linda and her team and get back to you later with arrangements." I headed back in and found Linda, "Okay I talked to Laura. She is working next weekend and also that is the weekend I planned on moving us back to the Desert Oasis house. However, she is free the following weekend and would be open to getting everything setup two weeks from tomorrow."

Linda asked Ronnie and Jodi, "Will that work for you two?"

Jodi told us, "Yes that would be okay. Gives us some time to get the merchandise and for Dundee do what he needs to do."

I asked Andy, "Okay, did Linda make any other changes while I was on the phone with Laura?"

Andy replied, "Not yet. I do have a runny list of everything we will need."

I wasn't sure if I heard him correctly, "*Runny* list?"

Andy laughed, "*Running*...of course with the way things are on this list it could be very well be runny. Anyway, I'll get with Zina on Monday and see what we have in stock and what we need to order."

I told Linda, "Due to the small size of this project I am thinking we will do everything at once instead of doing pre-stage install then having Laura come out."

Andy agreed, "Yeah since we are going to be very close to 100% WiFi there won't be as much cabling to do other than to the Square terminals and what we will need run through the attic to setup the WiFi mesh."

I asked Linda, "Anything else you guys needed?"

Jodi advised, "We made a list, but unlike Andy's it is not runny...let me look....oh I have this on here from Linda not sure what it means. 'Shuttle'?"

Andy asked, "As in shuttle server? I don't recall her having one?"

I thought for a moment, "Yeah, Oro Valley has a couple for the TVs. We stopped doing that as it was more cost effective to put an HP Mini PC behind the TV and have the slide show locally. That is what we did when we redid Scottsdale. So, I take it Linda you want to have a slideshow TV here as well."

Linda replied, "Yeah likely behind the POS counter. Will that work?"

I asked Dundee, "If we provide you the TV and the bracket can you get it mounted for us?"

Dundee confirmed, "Yeah that simple to do. Anything else you need there?"

I told him, "Other than a standard AC outlet, not really. We'll attach a vesa mount bracket to the wall. The mini-PC will slide into that, just need an AC outlet to plug in the TV and PC."

Dundee inquired, "Will the PC use a normal power plug?"

Andy told him, "It uses an external power supply/inverter like laptops so it would be a normal 3-prong plug. I guess I should add those to my runny list!"

I reminded him, "Yeah, but also we need to get the TV sooner...actually we don't need to get the TV. Linda or Jodi or Ronnie, y'all just pick out what type of TV you want and make sure you get a wall mount to go with it. The only requirement is the TV needs an HDMI input, but that is pretty much standard now."

Jodi confirmed, "Yeah, we have a TV and Appliance store close to here and I'll find something that works. What about USB?"

Andy and I just looked at each other...how did we not think of this. I told her, "Yeah actually that would work fine. If all we are going to do is a slide show for the products, we just put the images on a USB stick. Most of these Smart TV's have slideshow software built-in. Heck we wouldn't even need the PC."

Andy did advise, "The only downside is have to remove the USB stick every time you want to make updates. Whereas the PC would just pull the file from a network folder that you can update anywhere. I suppose if you are not making that many changes it wouldn't be that big of a deal. Not sure why we did it that way at Scottsdale?"

I informed him, "I think it was because they have like three TV's over there running the slideshow. In that instance it would make more sense just to have all the slides on the network drive than on separate USB flash drives."

Jodi asked, "What do you think would be better?"

I told her, "Really up to you guys, it is not a big deal for us to install a mini PC as again it can connect via WiFi. Guess it depends on if Linda is wanting to spend the extra \$750 for the PC..."

Andy told me, "If all we are going to do is a slideshow we can set her up with a refurb G2 mini for about \$250. I came across a bunch of those when I went to clean out the Fort McDowell store. I am guessing someone traded them for something else. I would just swap out the RAM and install fresh hard drive."

I was thinking, "G2 mini...they use DDR3 SODIMM RAM and either a 7 mm or 9 mm hard drive right?"

Andy told me, "Yeah why?"

I reminded him, "I've got a bunch of 4 GB DDR3 SODIMM sticks from when we used the older Lenovo T440 laptops. Plus I still have a bunch of those drives too that never have been used. Everything is moving to DDR4 and SSD drives now,

so not really going to be using those parts for anything else. We can bill them \$100 for the Windows license key and give them the PC. Okay to clarify, you need to get the TV and wall mount before Dundee does his part. We will provide a mini PC for the slideshow when we do our part of the installation in two weeks."

Linda told us, "Sounds good. I'll be back home later tonight no need to wait up for me."

I joked, "You and Dundee going to have a wild night out on the town?!"

Dundee wasn't too sure what to make of my joke and Linda smiled, "May be..."

I laughed and told Dundee, "We should be able to do the Desert Oasis walk through tomorrow sometime or Sunday. You two kids have fun and don't get into too much trouble!"

Dundee agreed, "Yeah that works. I'll call you and consult with you later."

I asked Andy, "You know your way home from here? Need to call Laura back."

Andy assured me, "Yeah, we've gone this way many times when coming up from Tucson."

We headed back to the house and I called Laura back, "Evening Laura. So, Linda and her team are fine with us doing the install two weeks from Sunday. Just so you are aware we are not going to do a pre-install, everything will be done that day. We really don't have the much cabling to do, so there is no need for us to make a special trip."

Laura agreed, "Yeah, that makes sense. Okay, so I'll have Sophie bring us up that Saturday. You said y'all are going to be back at the old house?"

I joked, "Yep, the house where you and Martina had your little affair many years ago. I suppose we can put Sophie in the Presentation Room while you and Miss Kitty get to christen the new Quail Suite."

Laura told me, "Okay sounds good and I'll give you a call the night before to let you know. Was there anything Linda added since we had talked?"

I informed her, "She wanted us to install Shuttle Server for a slideshow TV upfront by the POS counter. But, we are not doing those anymore. Andy has an HP G2 Mini we are going to refurbish and just charge them for the Windows Licensing Key. We'll just stick the PC behind the TV and it can connect to the network via WiFi like 99% of everything in the store."

Laura asked, "Are they going to want to have guest WiFi access?"

I thought for a moment, "That subject never came up and frankly I don't see a need. It is boutique retail store, not a restaurant."

Laura told me, "Yeah well knowing Linda...anyway I'll set aside a VLAN should she decide she wants to have a guest WiFi."

I laughed, "So true. Okay, we'll talk next week once Andy has had opportunity to see what equipment we can get."

## **Chapter 16: The Unlikely Return and Lindsay versus...The Volkswagen?**

On Sunday Andy and I meet Dundee at the Desert Oasis House for a final walk through. Dundee greeted us, "Morning Ron and Andy! Okay, so we are done! Let's head on in and see what we did."

We walked down the stairs to the entrance of the playroom and I noticed the French doors had been painted a light grey, "Hmm...interesting color."

Andy commented, "Yeah, wouldn't have chosen it myself, but it does look good."

Dundee explained, "With the way the lighting is over here white would have been too reflective and blinding. Okay come on in. So we have two Big Ass Fans with DC motors. These give you six speed settings and plenty of air circulation."

I noticed the 'Grey Door' theme continued with the dressing rooms and powder rooms too. Also noticed the trim around the door was a natural pine, "I like the trim around these doors, adds to the rustic feel and provides a nice contrast with the Grey."

Andy commented, "Gives it that 'barn' feeling, especially with the barn doors."

Dundee informed me, "Yeah, all the regular passage doors and casing throughout are in this style."

I told him, "I like it. Too often everything is just off white on white. I really dislike white kitchen cabinets it just looks so 'sterile'."

Andy added, "We had the white kitchen cabinets in our place down in Tucson because Lindsay wanted the 'farm house kitchen' feel. I think within a couple months she started regretting it as she was constantly having to clean them."

Dundee laughed, "Yeah, I tell that to clients all the time. It looks great in a magazine, but in real life they are not doing to stay pretty very long without a lot of upkeep. I am glad you guys like the look as we ended up redoing the entire house this way."

I told Dundee, "Had not even noticed when we walked in. Shows you how much attention I was paying. When we head back up I'll look."

Dundee told us, "We changed out the door hardware on the outside entrance to the suite as well as your shop. We installed a keyless deadbolt so you can program a code for those locks. Figured since it would be a guest suite it would be easier than giving them a key."

I replied, "Yeah, that actually is something I would have never thought of doing."

We headed back upstairs into the kitchen and sure enough I noticed the door to the laundry room was grey as well. I asked, "What else have you done since we were last here?"

Dundee replied, "Well we pressure washed the entire back area including the pool deck and also did all the balconies. Oh and I had a pool inspector check the system out and he said the sand in the pool filter needed to be changed and also the pump motor should be replaced. I talked to Zac about it and he covered those costs, so you have a new pump motor and fresh sand in the filter. Let see what else? Oh yes, the eastern garage we adjusted and lubed the garage doors. The opener are still in great shape given their age. Did replaced the tension spring on both door though. Also replaced all the ceiling fans throughout with the newer DC motor with remotes models."

We headed upstairs to the King Suite and noticed the new fan. It was rustic look that matched the rest of the house. I asked Dundee, 'Are all the fans the same style?"

He replied, "Yeah. Size they are all the same except that small non-suite which has a smaller sized fan. Well, that is everything. If y'all notice anything let me know."

I told Dundee, "Shall do. I assume you will email me a final invoice?"

Dundee replied, "Yeah, I will. So are you two going to be back at Linda's Superstition Mountain Store next week?"

We informed him, "No, we won't be back over there until we do are install..."

Andy added, "...or Linda calls us back there!"

I cringed, "Yeah or that. She can be pain in the...at times."

Andy joked, "But she is a 'premier client'!"

I laughed, "Yeah. Oh well, as I told Andy last night at least for us when she changes her mind about the new Scottsdale store next year it won't be that bad for us as it is just across the highway."

Dundee laughed, "Yeah lucky for you guys. I am out in Peoria so it is a bit of drive for me. Though closer than Gold Canyon for sure. She asked me to do work at the Oro Valley store and I flat out told her I could not do that given it was just too far away. She'd seem to understand."

I asked, "Where in Peoria are you?"

Dundee replied, "Vistancia, off the Loop 303 and Lone Mountain."

I hadn't realized he was so far out, "Basically way west of here."

Dundee laughed, "Yeah since you are Pima and Lone Mountain. Okay then, well unless otherwise...guess I'll see you guys in few months when we start the Thirsty Cactus projects."

Dundee let himself out while Andy and I chatted on the balcony. Andy asked, "So, when we moving?"

I told him, "Well seeing as we will need to get stuff packed, but the Anzoira crew will take care of that as they did when we moved out of here. I plan on us being in the house next weekend. Should be easier this time around as won't have Maya and Peaches of us. Linda is really doesn't have a lot so it won't be much for her. Reminds me, need to call Gary and have him start getting stuff moved out of the play-loft over the playroom here."

Andy told me, "Yeah, we really cleaned up after you announced we would be back here. I donated about half of my clothes...."

I joked, "and yet still have more than Lindsay!"

Andy laughed, "You make it sound like that is a bad thing."

I told him, "Suppose not. As if I should talk, got more boots than Sara does shoes! Oh well, let's head back and let everyone else know what we are doing."

We headed out to the courtyard and got back in the Jeep. As we were exiting saw Gary coming up the circle on his Harley. I honked and motioned form him to pull up next to us. He pulled up next to us, "Well hey there soon to be again neighbor!"

I informed him, "Dundee has wrapped up so you can start bringing the 'toys' over. Wynn will be around during the week so she can let you in at the current house. I

still have a lockbox on the backdoor to the kitchen here, I'll text you the code. I believe Dundee had the locks keyed the same so the key should work on that outside door."

Gary asked, "Can't I just do like before with the garage door?"

I figured it would be easier to 'show and tell', "No, Dundee changed things down there, follow us."

Gary hadn't seen the changes since he was last there, "Oh wow, you can't even tell that used to be a garage!"

I opened the outside door to the 'great hall', "Come on in and take a look at Dundee's handy work." We walked in and I explained, "On the left here is the new Quail suite, straight ahead is the entrance to my shop and then the right side is the new play area."

Gary noticed the double French Doors into the play area, "Ah good that will make things easier to bring the 'toys' in."

I told him, "See I was paying attention. There are barn doors separating the play room from the dressing area."

Gary saw the barn doors, "I really like these, they've become popular recently. Okay, this works well. Mind if I take some pictures in here so I can figure out how to layout the new room?"

I replied, "No go ahead. I think the layout we have currently works well. Of course we don't have the wheel anymore."

Gary told us, "Yeah and too stuff and can be moved around as well. The bench is bigger footprint than the wheel too, but there is plenty of space here."

I asked, "Did you have a chance to inspect the bench?"

Gary replied, "Yeah, believe me Ron you got a really good deal on that. It is a lot nicer than she had lead me to believe. It has a leather wrap headrest and the head can be strapped down as well. Let me take a couple pictures here and I'll show you the pictures I took. Lulu and I uncrated and assembled it when it arrived. We figured we need to make sure it wasn't damaged and was all there." Gary took a couple pictures of the room. He opened us his photo gallery and showed up, "Here we go. So this is how was it was shipped; This one is it uncrated; assembled; and Lulu just had to try it out!"

Andy saw the photos and commented, "Oh wow, Lindsay is going to love that!"

I told him, "Yeah when Gary told me about it that was the first thing I thought of. You don't think she will have any problems with this?"

Andy assured me, "No she won't. I understand with the caning platform and that was more corporal, this is something she's used to. We had one similar to this at the club, but not as nice."

I asked Gary, "Is that the same finish as the cage?"

Gary looked at the photos, "Fairly close. That's another toy you got a hell of deal on!"

I told him, "Yeah and everyone loves it." I turned to Andy, "I want to surprise Lindsay with the bench, no one other than us three know about it."

Andy understood, "Okay. Yeah that's good."

Gary asked, "So I can see this new suite Dundee built for y'all?"

I joked, "Sure, seeing as Bunny and Bambi will likely been in it whenever we have to go back out to Henderson due to a crisis!"

Gary laughed, "Hey, that was the first time in how many years?" We headed into the suite and Gary noticed the barn door at the closet, "Cool another barn door. Oh wow, good size closet." We rounded the corner and he saw the bathroom, "funny, it seems small but it doesn't." We then moved into the main room, "Wow! Is that a California King?"

I told him, "Alaskan which is 9 feet by 9 feet. Peaches and Maya had it up in their room at the other house. It was too big for their condo so they just left it. Dundee jokes the reason I had this suite built was to accommodate this bed!"

Gary looked around, "Nice. This is a really big room then." He saw the windows bench and shelves and commented, "Now there is a Dundee signature piece."

Andy told him, "He did quite a bit in our office."

I told them, "Might as well get the grand tour, Dundee did a lot of work in the entire house."

We headed through the play room and up the stairs into the kitchen. Gary saw the floors, "Those cleaned up nice. So, what do you think of Zac's changes down here?"

I told him, "I wasn't sure at first, but the more I go through here the better it seems to flow. We rarely used that fireplace so deleting it really opened up the

area. Let's head on up to the top floor."

As we came to the top Gary saw the plank flooring, "Oh wow, that is nice. Been thinking about doing that at my place. Bunny is so into carpet as much as both Bambi and I dislike it."

I told him, "Yeah there is no carpeting in the house now. It will be a lot less upkeep for Wynn too."

Gary noticed the reconfiguration to the entrance to the McGrawl's office, "So, redid the entrance on this room too."

Andy replied, "Dundee's idea, makes the layout of the room a little better and to accommodate the desk. So over on the far wall you can see what he did."

Gary whistled, "Yeah, that Dundee is quite the craftsman. He blew me away with my office and then to see what he did with your library and office. Well, glad to have you guys back, not that Zac was bad neighbor. So, yeah I think I am free mid-week and will be able to start moving stuff over. You know, I have an oversized black drop cloth I can put over the bench once we get it in here. That way you can get it as a surprise."

Andy laughed, "He's always one step ahead of us."

I replied, "You make it sound like it is a bad thing. Well, we better be heading back to the other house before Wynn sends a search party for us."

Andy and I returned to the house and found Sara and Lindsay along with Wynn in the kitchen. Wynn saw us enter, "Was wondering what happened to you two. Everything go okay?"

I explained, "Yeah, everything went fine with Dundee. Ran into Gary as we were leaving so had to show him everything that Dundee did. He says he will be around mid-week to start moving the toys back over to the other house. I still have the lock box on the kitchen door at the Desert Oasis house, so he will be able to let himself in over there. So, with that said we should be moving this weekend. Anozira crew should be here later in the week to pack up everything as they did when we moved here. Should be a lot quicker this time as we don't have Maya and Peaches and also everyone did a major declutter."

Thursday night Gary called from the Desert Oasis House, "Heya Ron, are you able to get over to this house and inspect the layout of the playroom?"

I had just finished dinner and really wasn't working on anything important at the moment, "Yeah, it is a good time. Should be over there in a few minutes."

As I headed downstairs and passed through the kitchen Wynn informed me, "Oh Ron, Anozira Moving will be starting around seven tomorrow morning with the move scheduled for nine on Saturday."

I told her, "Okay, that works. I'll have to pack my office and move that over tomorrow night. The McGrawl's should do the same as well. Anyway, I've got to go meet Gary at the house. He wants to get my approval of the layout of the playroom."

I arrived at the Desert Oasis House and saw the Acme Truck on the western side of the courtyard. I head inside and found Gary along with Lulu in the playroom closet, "Hey Gary...Lulu, didn't know you would be here."

Lulu explained, "Well, had to help Gary get the spanking bench loaded on the truck. Guess Wynn helped him with the other equipment at the other house. Plus, I can help Gary 'demonstrate!'"

I laughed, "I do know how a spanking bench works, but I get it!"

Gary laughed, "Told you he wouldn't buy it. Anyway, we're almost done in here. Go ahead and take a look around and we'll meet you shortly."

I went into the main playroom and for the most part the layout was pretty much similar to the way we had it at the other house. I did notice the covered spanking bench sitting in the corner, or at least I think that was what in the corner...could've been a Volkswagen for all I knew, it was rather large.

Gary and Lulu came in and Gary explained, "So the only difference was moved the oral chairs along the bondage stand and hogtie trainer. Seemed a little crowded having the chairs over here. As I am guessing you figured out, the spanking bench is over in the corner under the cover."

I joked, "Oh and here I thought it was a Volkswagen!"

Lulu laughed, "It is big, which I guess is why the client ended up having to donate it."

I told her, "You want big...the cage."

Lulu groaned, "I know, we carried it in. I'll be reminded of that in the morning."

Gary shifted gears, "Well, I can help you with that and give you something else you will be reminded of in the morning!"

Lulu giggled, "Oh boy. Does it involve this?" She held up a wooden spanking paddle.

Gary took the paddle, 'Why yes it does, now remove your skirt.'

I laughed at there little presentation, "Did you two rehearse this?"

While Lulu removed her skirt Gary removed the cover from the spanking bench, "Well here it is! I must say this puppy is very solid and has Lulu will demonstrate shortly will hold your victim...er subject...'participant'...yeah that's it in place securely! Lulu will now demonstrate."

Lulu hopped on the bench I noticed she was wearing a high security belt with thong cable back. I laughed and asked, "Geez Gary do you have all your office staff in chastity belts?"

Gary replied, "Well it is part of their uniform...well may be not."

Lulu explained, "Actually was modeling this earlier and forgot I had it on."

I shook my head, "Okay sure...why not."

Lulu giggled, "What can I say, I'm strange and unusual!"

I added pointing to Gary, "You have to be to work for him!"

Gary complained, "Hey, I resemble that remark! Okay, let me get her strapped in and I'll give you a 'full demo'!" Gary explained, "Three straps for each leg; one at the ankles, one before the knee and one at thighs. Two for midsection and then three on the arms; one for upper arms, one before elbows and one at wrists. The headrest also has two straps to keep the head down. Notice these are all double prong buckle straps, very high quality and more secure and durable than those cheap plastic and nylon quick release." Gary fastened all the straps, "Okay Lulu, try to move around." Lulu struggled and really couldn't move around much, "Yeah, she ain't going anywhere. Let me give her a couple whacks and then I'll release her." Gary gave Lulu's bare bottom a couple firm, but gentle whacks before he released her. He asked, "So what do you think?"

I looked over the bench. I lifted one side in an attempt to move it and was surprised by the weight, "Wow, this is solid! Very impressive. Once again you managed to get my some nice equipment."

Gary gloated, "Have I ever done you wrong?"

I teased him, "Well, the wheel...but that was a 'free gift'. Everything has been great from all the toys to the girl's belts and armor."

Lulu commented, "You mean they actually wear those?"

I told her, "Yeah, Wynn and Sara do full time. Lindsay occasionally...though I think that was because Peaches was staying with us. Yeah, Lindsay had not worn it in so long she had no idea where the keys were which she realized after she had locked herself into it. Andy found the keys in his safe. Now Peaches on the other hand, I don't think she has worn it since the initial fitting. Maya has threatened numerous times to put her in it when she acts out, but I don't see that happening as that would be more of a punishment for Maya!"

Gary told me, "We just need to finish restocking the playroom closet and then we will be on our way."

I reminded him, "We should be moving in sometime Saturday."

The next morning the Anozira Moving packing crew and got to work packing the downstairs. Due to the current staffing shortages at The Budget Holstein Lindsay and Sara were both at work. Andy and I assisted each other with getting our offices packed. Andy met me in my office and asked, "What do you need help with Ron?"

I told him, "Mainly just getting all these components to Cruiser in the garage. Everything else the Anozira crew will take care of. They won't get to y'all's cottage until after lunch so we have some time still." After a couple trips to and from my office and the garage we had all my computer components loaded.

We headed across the Cabana to the McGrawl's cottage. As we walked in Andy commented, "You know we never really used this as much as we thought we would. I kinda realized that a couple weeks ago when Lindsay and I were trying to locate the keys for her armor. Seems all we really did was use it as a hotel room if you would."

I laughed, "Funny, you two were all excited about this when I bought this house."

Andy agreed, "Yeah true. Of course too, I think we thought we'd be working from home more often. Lindsay was able to for the first couple years. Now it sounds like she won't be that much now. I might be as there really isn't a need for me to be at the stores all the time. Oh well, let's get this stuff loaded up." Several trips later we had all of the McGrawl's computer components loaded into the cruiser as well.

Before we headed out I checked on Wynn who was packing the kitchen. I told her, "Andy and I are going to head over the Desert Oasis house. Everything going okay?"

Wynn replied, "So far. They seem to be moving fairly quickly, guess the 'summer cleaning' really helped."

I laughed, "Or late spring cleaning. But, yeah we had a lot stuff that we didn't need. Which reminds me, I still need to do the closet in the High Infidelity suite. I know there is a lot of stuff in there we can do without."

Wynn informed me, "Be sure to keep the Hello Kitty bodysuit!"

I was confused, "What? For that matter why?"

Wynn explained, "There is an adult-sized pink Hello Kitty bodysuit that Martina wears when we would relax."

I laughed, "Okay. I had no idea we had that. Had to have come from Gary. If you get a chance, go ahead and set that aside along with anything else you think we should keep. Gary and Lulu already did the play-loft closet yesterday so everything in there has already moved to new playroom closet at the Desert Oasis house. Andy is waiting for me so, I should be going."

Since neither one of us really needed to be at the house we spent most of the morning getting our computers setup and reconnected. We returned that afternoon just as the Anozira crew was leaving. We walked into the house and Wynn informed us, "Nearly everything is packed. I have just enough of the kitchen still unpacked to cook dinner tonight and breakfast tomorrow."

The next morning the Anozira crew returned and within in a couple hours had everything loaded. By early afternoon, they had everything unloaded back at the Desert Oasis house. After I paid the crew and left, I met everyone in the Great Room. "Well, here we are back 'home' again! So I know y'all are anxious to get unpacked and settled in. A bit of advise though, get your beds setup first that way when you hit that point that you can not do anymore, your beds will be ready for you."

Linda asked, "and just where is my bed?"

I told Wynn, "She will be staying the Queen Suite, kindly show her the way and help her get the room setup as she likes. She'll be the only one using it for the next year."

Linda objected, "I really hate to impose seeing as you don't have much space here."

I told her, "I still have the old Presentation Room and the new Quail Suite downstairs."

Linda asked, "Downstairs?"

I explained, "Yeah, the western garage was converted by your boyfriend into the expanded playroom and also had him build a new suite down there."

Now either Linda didn't catch that I referenced Dundee has her 'boyfriend' or she was going to avoid the subject as she simply replied, "Ah okay."

I replied, "I'll show it to you when we use the new playroom tomorrow. The suite I think is going to be used a lot by Sara and Lindsay as why it is also be known as The High Infidelity Suite 2.0!"

Wynn and Linda headed upstairs and I went back to my office to get a few more things unpacked. I grabbed a box I had brought with me and headed into the secret room. Upon opening the wall safe I noticed this one was slightly bigger than the previous one Dundee had installed the first time around. I placed the contents from the box into the safe which was mostly vehicle titles and the spare keys for the girls' belts/armor. I came across the flash drive that Wynn had created with a backup of the evidence against Jed. I placed it in the safe as well, but made note to take a look at the contents one day. I closed up the safe and the secret room heading into my office and took a seat at my desk. The sun was just starting to set, my favorite part of the day and I looked out the windows facing the Cabana and wash. It felt good to be "back home". I worked on a couple small projects and had lost track of time when Wynn walked in, "Evening Ron. I am going to be retiring for the night, anything you needed."

I asked as I looked at clock on my computer, "What time is it?...Oh geez almost 11:00 PM, didn't realize it was so late. No, I'm good. Glad to be 'back home!'"

Wynn agreed, "Yeah to be honest, I like this house better...I think everyone does."

I breathed a sigh of relief, "That's good to know, as wasn't too sure about coming back here with everything that had happened."

Wynn knew what I was talking about and laughed, "Oh you mean like Lindsay tackling me! Yeah, we had some interesting drama here, but hey you can't have all good with out some bad!"

I laughed, "I suppose so. As The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band said 'If we're ever gone see a rainbow, We'll have to stand a little rain.' I suppose I should be going to bed as well."

I shutdown my system for the evening and headed into Library closing the doors to my office behind me. I headed upstairs to the master suite and found Sara was still up reading an eBook on her Nook. She saw me enter and joked, "I thought you were going to spend the night down in your office!"

I told her, "Nah, just lost track of time working on projects. It is insane right now how much I have going on. Should be able to get caught up in a couple weeks, provided Linda's Superstition Mountain store project doesn't snowball! Oh well, at least it keep money coming in."

Sara laughed, "Like we are broke!"

I reminded her, "I still have the balloon loan for this house which is due in about 5-months, but that shouldn't be an issue as I can sell the other house now and then use the proceeds to pay it off and what I owe you as well."

Sara joked, "I don't want to have send Bunny over to break your kneecaps! So, I got an email earlier from the modeling agency and they are asking if I want to a 2-week gig in Vegas next month. Anything going on?"

I thought for a moment, "Other than Linda's store, not really. You considering doing it?"

Sara told me, "Not sure. I've never worked with their Vegas branch, I'll have to ask some of co-models if they have had any experience with them. Well, I am rather tired and you look like you are about to fall asleep..." I headed to the bathroom and got ready for bed I changed into my bed shorts and headed into bed. Sara rolled over and tried to grab my crotch, but instead of my cock she felt my CB-6000, "Geez, do you ever take that thing off!?"

I reached over and tried to rub her pussy but was met with cold hard steel and laughed, "Says the lady who is wearing her chastity belt in belt!"

Sara laughed, "Touché!"

Sunday morning was the first breakfast back at The Desert Oasis house, but it was not home cooked. I had made a quick trip to the market next Vinnie's to get breakfast for everyone. As I was handing out the sandwiches to everyone Wynn explained, "Once I get the kitchen unpacked later today we should be able to resume normal meals starting tomorrow with breakfast. I suppose we can do Vinnie's tonight."

Lindsay cheered, "Yay! This won't be awkward anymore."

Wynn wondered, "What?"

Lindsay explained, "So the last couple times Drew delivered when we were at other house Drew found it odd. Especially the last time, as both Drew and I were not expecting for Wynn to order another pizza before we moved."

Wynn asked, "When was this?"

Lindsay told her, "Couple weeks ago when Ron and Andy got back from Vegas. Bunny and Bambi were here along with Peaches and Maya. You went upstairs to gather everyone for dinner when Drew came. Anyway, I kept telling him we would be back here again soon."

I looked around and noticed we had made quite a bit of progress getting unpacked yesterday as the move itself did not take very long. I commented, "After lunch we will take a break and spend sometime down in our newly remodeled playroom."

After breakfast Andy and Lindsay worked up in their office while Sara and I worked on getting the Library restocked back to its former glory. Linda was trying to make herself useful by helping Wynn get the kitchen unpacked. Sara and I walked into the Library and noticed the pile of mismatched boxes across the room. Sara asked, "Why are there two different types of boxes?"

I looked around and found one of the older boxes and explained, "Well these boxes are from when we moved out of here the first time. They've been sitting in the garage since we had moved. I didn't have the space at the other house like I do here."

Sara understood, "Ah okay that makes sense. So all this stuff has been sitting in boxes for the past few years?"

I confided, "Yeah. So, let me see if I can remember how I had this setup. I believe on this side I had all the computer related stuff and then over here was all my vintage adult materials. Then I had some of the fetish related catalogs and magazines in the center." I looked out the windows and recalled, "Wow, forgotten what a great view we have here of the wash as well as Martina's pool."

Sara commented, "Seems weird you calling it that."

I told her, "Well it is. She paid for it, the Cabana and heck even the grill with her Google stock money."

Sara sighed, "Yeah I suppose so. It is odd being back here, so much happened. Well, there is no use dwelling on the past let's get unpacked here."

Later that morning Lindsay came down into the library wearing denim shorts, a t-shirt along with nude fishnets and flat sandals. She noticed Sara and I had gotten a lot unpacked, "Wow, it is not so empty in here anymore! Anything I can do to help?"

Sara told her, "If you don't mind you can break down these boxes."

Lindsay giggled, "I can do that!" She turned one of the boxes upside down and with a karate chop split open the bottom.

I laughed and handed her a box cutter, "This should be easier on your hand."

Lindsay took the box cutter from me and replied, "Yeah, you're right. What should I do with all the wrap?"

I told her, "For now just stuff it in the larger boxes until we get some bags to put it all in. You guys wrapped up with your office already?"

As Lindsay was breaking down boxes she explained, "I'm got all my shit unpacked, but Andy is working on his 'collection'."

Sara laughed, "Well I am working with Ron on his, which hasn't seen the light of day since we left this house."

Lindsay paused for a moment and told us, "You know you two have really helped us out over the last few years and I know sometimes I can be a bitch..."

Sara interrupted, "Sometimes?"

Lindsay joked, "Hey, why I ought...be glad I am only wearing flats! Anyway we really appreciate everything you two have done for us."

I reminded her, "Well, with you two staying it gives me reason to keep Wynn around."

Lindsay was on a roll, "You saying we're messy? No, I understand. But wasn't Sara working for you prior when it was just you and Martina?"

Sara reminded Lindsay, "Martina was like a little kid, had to constantly pickup and cleanup after her. Was even worse when she would bring Ann Marie over...those two...aye yi yi!"

I also added, "It was also Martina's condition for Sara living here, including her uniform. Of course that didn't last very long as Martina ended up running off with Marc. But yeah get Ann Marie and Martina together it was like a tornado hit..."

Seems Lindsay wasn't aware of Laura's alias, "Who was Anne Marie?"

I explained, "A long, long time ago when Laura and I were still in Vegas and after she left the house, that was her stage name."

Sara added, "Also the name she would have Martina call her around me. Of course even if Martina had introduced her as 'Laura', I would have had no idea

who she was.”

I thought, “Yeah, you two never crossed paths prior. Come to think of it, you never met me at the fucking Cheerleader condo Laura and I had. That was part of the reason I was so glad to get this house as I didn't have to stay with Laura and her dozen cheerleader friends. But, yes Martina was extremely messy. At least when she stayed with Laura and Miss Kitty those couple months after Valley Shadows shutdown they trained her to clean up after herself.”

After a couple more hours we had most of the library unpacked. Sara looked around and asked, “So is that everything, seems like you had more before?”

I explained, “I think we had it more spread out before. That is something I can work on later. I suppose I'll go out get some KFC for lunch.”

I headed over to the kitchen to see Wynn and Linda were still working on getting the kitchen unpacked. Wynn saw me and commented, “Seems I bought more stuff once we got to the other house. I'll need to thin it out a little.”

I told her, “Check with Maya and Peaches to see if they could use it.”

Linda commented, “If none of them need it and y'all don't mind storing it for the next year I'll take whatever is leftover for me new place.”

I laughed, “Well that was easy. Anyway I am going over to KFC to grab some lunch.” I returned about a half hour later and we had lunch. I asked Andy, “So how's the unpacking of your collection coming?”

Andy replied, “Slower than I thought as I am coming across stuff I have forgotten about. Such as Linda's server hard drive from many years ago.”

Linda laughed, “Oh yeah, I do remember you asking if you could keep it.”

Lindsay giggled, “and he complains about my shot-glass collection that occupies a single shelf..”

After lunch once everyone had a chance to thoroughly degreased their hands I announced, “Let's take a break for a while and come down to the playroom. Gary and Lulu moved everything late last week.” We came down the stairs and opened the doors into the playroom.

Sara looked around, “Wow, very different from what it used to be. Seems like the same layout as we had at the other house. Couple things are in different places. Something's missing though...” She noticed the covered spanking bench next to the cage, “What's under the sheet?”

Lindsay joked, "From here it looks like a Volkswagen."

Sara laughed, "Okay...somehow I don't think Ron would have VW bug in the playroom...hmm the wheel is gone, not that we really used it anyway." Sara turned to me and asked, "So what's under the cloth?"

I explained, "A new toy that Gary hooked me up with. Another one of those GZ-Fetishes barter deals. Kinda like how we ended up with the cage. I do believe Lindsay is going to have fun with this one tough." I turned to Andy, "We're going to need a gag too."

Andy went off to the playroom closet to get a gag for Lindsay along with a paddle.

Lindsay was getting excited, "What is it?"

As Andy was returning with the gag and paddle, I told her, "You and Sara can remove the cover."

As they removed the cover Lindsay's eyes light-up and she stood there staring at the bench, "Oh...wow!"

I laughed, "You like?" Lindsay was still speechless, but managed to mutter a 'yes'. "Sara, why don't get Lindsay strapped on to the bench. Andy has a gag for her and a paddle for you to use as well."

Sara giggle, "She did admit this morning, she has been a bitch lately. Will need to do something about that." She took the gag and paddle from Andy. Sara handed the gag to Lindsay and told her, "Remove your shorts and put this on." Lindsay took the gag, stuffed it into her mouth and fastened the straps behind her head and under her chin. Lindsay removed her shorts revealing she was wearing low-profile belt under the fishnets. This particular belt had a rear thong cable which had an anal plug attached. Sara told her, "Get up on to the bench." Lindsay climbed up on the bench and Sara started strapping her in, "Geez, there are a lot of straps!"

Andy commented, "Good thing too, she might try to escape!"

Wynn walked over and started fasten the straps for Lindsay's arms, "Here, let me help out. Besides gives me a chance to get familiar with this toy for when I spank you."

Sara laughed, "Here I thought Ron would."

I joked, "I'm a busy man with my own business to run. That is why I hired a Wynn as our housekeeper, she cooks, she cleans and dominates my wives!"

Andy joked, "While in bondage herself...at least during the cleaning part. Think it would be a bit difficult to cook while gagged and wearing a fiddle!"

Wynn was confused, "Wives?"

I reminded her, "Martina, as in my first wife..."

Wynn saved herself, "Oh yeah, that's right." She noticed the straps on the headrest, "Oh wow, you can strap down the participants head too."

I told her, "Yeah, make sure you do those as well."

Lindsay was finally fully strapped in with no where she could go. Sara told her, "I'll start easy...get you 'warmed up'!" Sara did start off easy...for the first two or three whacks then she got more aggressive. After a few more minutes she stopped. Sara was going to rub Lindsay's pussy but realized she was belted, "How is it every time I try to play with you, you are in one of your belts? Oh well, another time." She gave Lindsay's behind a couple more hard whacks before handing the paddle back to Andy. Sara removed the gag from Lindsay and asked, "So, how did you like that?"

Lindsay proclaimed "That was fun! Man this bench keeps me in place tightly, can't move much of my body...I like it. Need to get you on this soon."

Sara told her, "Well, not right now. I would need to go upstairs and get out of my armor."

I told them, "Y'all can spend the rest of the afternoon down here. I have some work to do in my office." Before I left I asked Linda, "Can I borrow you for a moment?"

Linda replied, "Okay."

I told her, "Wanted to show you the rest of what Dundee did with old garage." We headed through the right barn door, "Here we have dressing rooms and a couple powder rooms. Behind this big barn door is our new toy closet." We headed out to 'The Great Hall', "This is all new, he created a new outside access from the cabana into here. To the right is my shop and straight ahead is the new suite. Go ahead and go on in." Linda opened the door and we walked in. "Closet over here and as we round the corner there is a full-size bathroom on the left."

Linda rounded the corner and saw the giant bed in the center of the room and asked, "Montana King?"

I told her, "Close, Alaskan. It belonged to Peaches and Maya at the other house. You know Dundee jokes the reason I had this suite built was so I'd have

somewhere to put the bed!"

Linda looked around, "Wow, hard to imagine this was a garage at one time. He does good work!"

I agreed, "That he has. Oh well, I'll let you get back to the playroom and I have some more small jobs to work on. Seems like it never ends, which I suppose is not a bad thing."

Later that afternoon Lindsay came into my office, "Thank you Ron! Sara and I really like the new toy. By the way, when is Drew supposed to be here?"

I told her, "Pizzas should be here sometime in the next 5-minutes or so."

Lindsay giggled, "Oh goody!" A short time later the doorbell rang and Lindsay shouted, "I've got it!"

She opened the door and there was Drew with a stack of pizzas and a couple bottles of Soda. He saw Lindsay and exclaimed, "Finally! This is so much better. It just wasn't right delivering to y'all up there. Oh, Peaches broke our credit card machine so I am wondering it would be possible to pay me in cash?"

Lindsay took and handed off some of the pizzas to Wynn who told Drew, "Yeah I think Ron should have some cash. Come on in and set down those sodas then come with me to his office." Wynn and Lindsay set the pizzas on the table as did Drew with the sodas. Wynn told him, "Come with me." She knocked on my office door, "Drew needs to be paid, apparently Peaches did something..."

Drew explained, "She took her frustrations out on our credit card machine....well more like she didn't know her own strength. Dianne says she has a spare at her house. Anyway, your order came to \$67.50..."

I laughed, "Funny, I could see that happening with Maya...okay so \$67.50..." I opened my desk drawer and pulled four \$20 bills from the drawer safe. I handed him the cash, "Okay, here you go and your tip too!"

Drew took the cash, "Thank you. Good to have y'all back over here!"

*To be continued...*