

*"Oh lord, Heaven knows we belong way down below."*

"Jon, pistols are out and I know my rifle doesn't have much left."

"What about your bow?"

"I dropped my fucking quiver two blocks back." I said.

"Shit." He said.

"We're gonna die aren't we?" I asked.

"It's not how I wanted to go out.."

"Not how I pictured it either.." I said. "Hell or bust huh bro?"

"Guess so sis." He said

We kept shooting and running until we ducked behind a tipped car.

"God I hurt worse than when I fell off that fountain at Disney World.." I said tossing my rifle in front of me. "I'm spent dude."

"I'm low.." he said.

"Well.. Guess I finally get to meet my grandpas.." I said.

"Just a little further sis come on." He said pulling me up and grabbing my rifle before helping me forward.

We came to a dead end and turned to see the horde catching up. Jon took out a few more before throwing the pistol he had.

"We're out." He said.

"It's been nice knowing you Jon. You were always like a brother to me and I appreciate it." I said. "I mean everything dude.."

"Yeah, same here sis." He said.

I looked over the planter we were behind and I saw something fly through the air and start flashing.

"Shit!" I said pulling Jon from his seated position to the ground and covered our heads.

"WHAT THE HELL?!" he yelled.

"Need some help there guys?" a man yelled as he and a few others took down the remaining zombies.

"Thanks for the save." Jon said standing and helping me up. "Who are you?"

"We're part of what's left of the U.S. military." He said. "I'm Nathan. She okay?"

"We're dehydrated and her collar bone might be broken." Jon said. "I'm Jon, this is Kelsey."

"Where is the medic?" Nathan yelled."

"Right here." The man said running up. "She's pretty beat up, so is he. Let's get them out of here."

"Right, you heard the man get these kids out of here." Nathan yelled. "Jon, Kelsey, we're going to get you two out of here."

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I woke up in a darkened room and sat up after letting my eyes adjust. I stood and fixed the hospital gown I wore before walking forward.

"Oww.. Fuck.." I said before a woman walked in.

"What are you doing out of bed?" she asked sitting me back down.

"Where the hell am I? Where is Jon?" I asked.

"He's fine, you need to relax." She said. "You were worse off than they said you were."

"Worse?" I asked.

"Sprained ankle, broken collar bone, several large wounds including a large gash on your cheek, and you were pretty dehydrated." She said.

"We'd been running for weeks and we had water but when we thought we were in a safe zone we woke up to a horde, like someone knew we were there.. We grabbed our weapons and ran." I said. "I left the pictures of my family and girlfriend behind... We left our food and water.. I had a small container of jerky in my pack and some granola bars but it wasn't enough. It didn't rain at all so we couldn't collect water.."

"Once we release you, you may go back and recover your items." She said with a smile. "But for now, you need to stay in bed."

"What if I don't want to?"

"Then I'd have to restrain you."

"Bed it is then."

I laid there wishing I had something. Xbox, laptop, PS Vita, PS2, PSP, anything to keep my mind off how bored I was.

'Hmm.. I wonder if Laura is okay? Did she make it to safety?' I thought before falling asleep again.

When I woke again Jon was sitting next to the bed with his head in his hands, he looked exhausted, bet we both did.

"Why don't you go sleep?" I asked sitting up.

"I'll sleep when I'm dead." He said.

"Alright Shepard" I joked.

"You alright?"

"I feel like an ape punched me in the chest and the muscles in my ankle are really tight and uncomfortable but I'm okay... These stitches are itchy.."

"I don't even remember you getting that.." he said.

"There was a loose piece on that box truck we took a breather behind. Didn't know I hit it myself."

"You'll have an awesome scar though."

"Yeah that's what they said when I had to get stitches in my ass twenty years ago." I said laughing. "I feel so old saying that but I'm only twenty five."

"I know how you feel." He said.

"Shit kid you're only twenty one.. Just like Alex."

"I'd still tap that."

"Dude, that's my sister."

He shrugged as we shared a laugh.

"Ugh God.. please stop making me laugh."

"Sorry sorry." He said. "Doc says you should be good in a week or so."

"I need to get out sooner.. I have to go back east and find a sign of her."

"I know.. But you need to get better first can't go around half dead sis."

"I've been half dead since the last guy I've dated." I said. "I've been in and out of depression, I've thought about suicide, running from my problems. You know I was almost molested as a kid? If my best friend Joey didn't come to my rescue it would have happened for sure."

"Good man then."

"I was five he was six. The funny thing is he was also my first kiss." I said. "I didn't even like him we just did it for the hell of it."

"Nice."

We sat there until my stomach made the loudest noise in the room.

"Holy fucking shit was that me?" I asked.

"I'll get you some food." He said laughing.

"Mmm smells like MREs." I said as he walked in.

"Unfortunately" he said as I sat up.

"All that time living with my sister on base.. I mean some of them were decent." I said.

"They don't have another shipment coming in till next week, has all their farming supplies. They are trying."

"I didn't say they weren't."

"Eat up. I've got an appointment with the doc." He said getting up and walking away.

I nodded and looked at the tray in front of me.

"Down the hatch.."