

ALLISON SLAMMED the car door and sat back, folding her arms over her chest. Allen looked over, one eyebrow raised.

"Someone's in a mood," he said.

"I'm fine."

"You can retract those claws, Allie Cat. Now why don't you tell me what's going on." Allen pulled out of the driveway, barely missing the mailbox.

"Watch what the fuck you're doing! If you mess up my yard, I'm taking it out of your ass."

Allen made a left, and pulled onto the freeway. "Ok, seriously, what's wrong? I'm not going to have you biting my head off all night when I don't even know what's bothering you."

"Watch your speed. For God's sake, Allen, you don't have the money for a speeding ticket. And you better think again if you think I'm going to loan you any money."

Allen looked over at his fiancée with another eyebrow raise. "I don't need to borrow money from you. I have a job, and I'm good with money. What are you talking about?"

Allison turned to look out the window. She let out a sigh and wiped away a tear. How could she let him know that she found out? How could she break the news that she saw him kiss her best friend in a restaurant today?

"So, um," she cleared her throat, "What did you do today?" *Please don't let him lie to me. If he tells the truth,*

*maybe this can still work,* she thought.

"Oh, I didn't do much. I sat around the house, played some video games. Then Bob came over, and we worked on my car for a bit. After that, I took a shower and came to get you. Didn't you notice the car isn't making that clanking sound anymore?"

*That's it. It's over.*

"You didn't go to lunch today?"

Now Allen was the one clearing his throat. He took his right hand off the wheel and rubbed the back of his neck. "No, I didn't go to lunch today." He paused. "Why would you ask me something like that?"

"...because I saw you," she whispered.

"What sweetie?" Allen turned down the radio.

"I said, 'because I saw you!'"

"Where did you see me?"

"I saw you with Christine today at Haru." She folded her hands in front of her, one hand squeezing the other, trying to keep herself calm. She slipped from anger to sarcasm. "I mean, really Allen, why would you kiss someone at a sushi bar? That spicy tuna roll probably left a really nice taste in your mouth."

Allen sat in silence, staring at the road.

"Nothing to say now? I thought you wanted to know what was wrong...sweetie."

Tabitha Albright