

Forever Yours

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(Sonadow) Shadow is one messed up emo kid, his life is spiraling downhill and all he really needs is love and attention...

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1 - How life has been

I am starting a new story, but this doesn't mean I won't be writing more to Starting to know me I will finish that one... I just thought a Sonadow would be fun you know? I hope you all enjoy it. I am warning you right now, there is a racist comment in this chapter so don't get offended! They are just playing around I don't really mean anything about it, so don't get mad! You'll understand when you get to that part.

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Shadow sat alone under a tree in the school courtyard. It was lunchtime but he never ate lunch at school. He leaned against the base of the tree and took a long drag on his cigarette. Though it was spring, Shadow wore a long-sleeved shirt and pants that actually fit him, unlike the average teenage boy that wore baggy clothing. Shadow didn't have many friends. In fact, many people feared him. Considering the fact that he almost destroyed the Earth twice, people tended to shy away from him. His life had settled down and he lived in a large house with the only people he considered his friends. Those that lived with him included, Sonic, Tails, Rouge, Amy and Knuckles. Often times Rouge and Knuckles stayed in Knuckles' house, which was closer to the master emerald. Knuckles got seriously paranoid whenever he was away from it too long.

It had been a year since Shadow had faced off with Black doom and his army. The Earth was at peace once again, hopefully for good this time. Eggman hadn't really tried anything in a while, no one knew if he planning, or if he had just given up on his quest to rule the world. Shadow had become best friends with Rouge, for some odd reason, she was the only one he felt comfortable talking to. Shadow and Amy never got along. She was always so cheery and happy. She was loud and annoying and to put it plain straight, Shadow couldn't stand her. Tails was always working in his workshop, creating new inventions. He never bothered Shadow; in fact he kept his distance from the black hedgehog. Knuckles and Shadow had a few things in common, with the rage issues and what not. They just had different ways of expressing themselves. Knuckles got loud and let everyone know he was angry. While Shadow was quiet and kept his rage hidden. Knuckles and Shadow were also both very protective people, but that was it. They didn't dress the same way, didn't like the same type of music and had almost opposite opinions on issues occurring in the world. He let no one know how he felt in any situation. Shadow and Knuckles rarely spoke to one another, due to their differences. Shadow pretty much understood how he felt about everyone, everyone except Sonic. Sonic was kind to everyone, even those he despised. He was never one to start an argument and seemed to live for the soul fact of bringing joy to those he came across. Sonic and Shadow didn't talk much, Shadow didn't speak to anyone often, but whenever he did Sonic tried to cheer him up and be a positive outlet for Shadow, even though Shadow never accepted Sonic's offered help, he secretly appreciated that Sonic offered it. Shadow considered Sonic his second closest friend because he was the only one other than Rouge that made an attempt to bring happiness to Shadow.

Shadow read from a book. It was written in some sort of alien language It had been given to him by Black Doom. Written on the pages was information about his people's past. Though Shadow appeared to be an anthrop animal, just like everyone around him, he was not. The truth was, he had Black

Doom's blood running through his veins and he was the equal to the black creatures that attacked Earth. To put it simply, they were his family, despite his different appearance and higher intelligence. Shadow was able to understand the alien language of which his people spoke and he was also capable of comprehending their written language as well. He was the only one of his kind on Earth, but Shadow felt he belonged on Earth far more than he did on his home planet. Ever since childhood, Shadow had long to live on the planet he had spent many a nights gazing at. Now that he was here, he had no intentions of leaving.

Shadow had regained most of his memory of his past. There were still bits and pieces missing and he still wanted to uncover the rest. But he was patient and just sort of let things come as they did. He tried to lay back and watch the world go by, day by day. In school, Shadow was pretty much an outcast. There were several girls that had crushes on him, but they never approached him and even when they did Shadow wanted nothing to do with them.

A figure blocked the sunlight from the book Shadow held. He looked up to discover Rouge sitting beside him and closed his book, shouldn't you be with Knuckles? She smiled at him, He is having a milk drinking contest with Sonic and some other idiots. Besides, you looked lonely sitting here all by yourself and I thought you might like some company. Yeah? Well thanks I guess, but I don't really have anything to talk about. She laughed at his comment, you never do. A long silence fell upon them. Rouge understood Shadow better than anyone else. Shadow was the type of person that you didn't need to talk to, to have a bonding moment. Just being there with him was enough to brighten his mood. No matter how much he denied company, Shadow hated being alone. "Shadow? Aren't you hot?" "Well that what lots of people say but..." "That's not what I meant!" She blushed, "Your quite conceded, you know that?" Shadow smirked and Rouge took a deep breath, "What I meant was aren't you hot in that long-sleeved shirt? Its really warm out here." She fanned herself with her hand and wiped her forehead. Shadow felt his stomach sink. He pulled his sleeves down over half of his hands and said nothing. Rouge creased her brow at him in anger, "Shadow, What have I told you about that?!" He turned his face away from her. "You idiot. What in your life is so horrible that you do that to yourself? It makes no sense to me and no matter how many times I ask you, you never just tell me what's wrong. Its not like I'll think any less of you Shadow, and you know that." Shadow sighed and turned to her, "Its not that I..." Suddenly the two of them turned their attention on a loud yell heard from a table several feet away. In the distance they could see Amy who was now standing, shouting her lungs out at Sonic. Knuckles, Tails and many others were laughing hysterically. Sonic was wiping his face with a napkin, trying not to laugh. As she stormed off Shadow and Rouge could see the front of her. Amy seemed to be covered in milk, from her face to her chest. Rouge covered her mouth as she laughed, "Looks like Sonic lost the contest! Shadow seemed disgusted, "I'm never going to hear the end of their bickering tonight." Rouge patted the top of his head as Knuckles and Tails rushed over to them. They were both still trying to hold back their laughter. Knuckles gained control of himself first, "Oh My Gosh, did you guys see that!?" Rouge smiled at him, "No, but we're pretty sure what happened." Sonic trudged up to his friends, "I am so dead." Tails tried to cheer up the saddened hedgehog, "Awe, come on Sonic, it wasn't that bad. Amy can't stay mad forever." Knuckles responded to Tails' comment, "He sprayed cow boob milk out from his nose onto her face! Who wouldn't be pissed?!" Then Knuckles proceeded to point and laugh at the azure hedgehog. Shadow rolled his eyes at the argument that was taking place in front of him. Rouge didn't seem to like it either, "Knuckles shut your mouth, be nice. No matter how hilarious it was and even though Amy was humiliated, it was an accident and Amy is my friend." "Awe, come on baby, I'm not talking trash about Amy. Just old blue balls over here." Sonic was angered, "Will you stop calling me that! Damn it, that's like the hundredth time! You're driving me in-fracking-sane!" Knuckles laughed at him, "And that's why its so damn funny!" Sonic then proceeded to chase Knuckles around the courtyard, swerving around crowds of people. Doing so slowed

Sonic down and he couldn't catch up to Knuckles. Tails chased after Sonic in attempt to put an end to their fiasco.

The school bell rang, "Time for sixth period, want to walk with me?" Rouge stood and offered her hand to Shadow. He took it and pulled himself up. Sure. He took the cigarette from his mouth, lifted his sleeve up slightly and put it out on his arm. Rouge's eyes grew wide, "I know that hurts you. Uggg, why do you always have to do that when I'm around? It freaks me out!" She shuddered. Shadow smirked and put the remains of his cigarette in his pocket, "I know it does, and that why I do it." She made a pouty face at him and turned away. She started walking away, her short shirt fluttering with each step. She seemed mad, but Shadow knew she was just playing. He watched her for a moment then decided to play along. He caught up to her and made her face him. He stuck his tongue out at her and started to run ahead of her. She chased after him. Shadow ran at a slow speed, that way Rouge was right behind him, but couldn't catch him. "Shadow this isn't fair! You're faster than me and you know it!" Shadow stopped and turned around. He did this quickly, before Rouge could stop herself. She shouted as their bodies collided and Shadow embraced her. She accepted the hug and put her arms around him. She looked up into his sincere ruby eyes and sighed deeply with a warm smile on her face. "You've always been a sweetheart haven't you mister ultimate life form?" She broke away from his arms. Shadow had a confused look on his face. "Don't worry about it, just get your black @\$\$ to class." She gave him a small push and walked on to her class. Shadow shouted back at her, "That was so a racist comment, whitey!" He laughed to himself and walked slowly to his next class. *"Why did I hug her like that? I know she is beautiful and all, but I felt... I don't know. Is there something she isn't telling me about my past? Maybe I'll ask,"* Shadow thought.

Later that night, Shadow was in his room. He could hear the screams from Amy as she lectured Sonic. Tails had locked himself away in his lab and left Sonic to fend for himself. Shadow drowned out the yelling with hardcore metal music. Headphones to his ears, he did his homework in peace. After which he lay down and attempted to sleep. Amy was still complaining, not quite as loudly but she was still upset. Shadow could hear her cry and Sonic comforted her. *"He is so apologetic,"* Shadow thought, *"She is such a dog, why are people so nice to her?"* Shadow listened to them for some time, *"No one is that nice to me but then, I guess Sonic is kind to everyone, even the undeserving."* Shadow laid there, in a tee shirt and boxers. His arms were fully exposed, this only happened when he was in the dark, trying to sleep. He never let anyone see his arms. Everyone already thought he was mentally unstable, if they knew they might try to take him away, or send him away. He hugged his pillow tightly and rolled his body into the fetal position. He closed his eyes tightly and listened to the footsteps ascending the stairs, then to the sound of two doors closing. The house was silent. Shadow felt calm now that the whole thing was over, even though they argued over something so unimportant, he didn't like seeing the people he considered his friends, unhappy. "It'll all be better tomorrow," He whispered to himself as he fell into a deep sleep.

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I just went back and edited this chapter... cause through the transfer months ago the grammar and such was all messes up...

2 - Hurricane

Chapter 2... Ooo this story has gotten far hasn't it? LOL yeah well here we go

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The sound of the rain pounding on his window caused Shadow to open his eyes. He lay in his bed wrapped comfortably in the covers. He felt warm and secure; the sound of the rain was calming. He sat up and yawned. He glanced at the clock while scratching behind his ear, "six thirty... its too early. But now that I'm up, I may as well stay up." He stood to discover the house was freezing; he wrapped himself in his giant comforter, grabbed a pack of cigarettes and left for the kitchen. He started the coffee pot and took a seat on a stool placed next to the kitchen's television. He turned it to the weather channel and smoked a cigarette silently.

~ A level five hurricane is expected to strike the coast and move rapidly inland around nine o'clock this morning. Because of this there are many school and work closings. Please secure all doors and windows, check to make sure your pets are inside and take shelter in a room with no windows. To take extra precautions place a mattress over the door of the room you and your family are taking shelter in. Make sure you have plenty of food and water. The hurricane is suspected to pass between three and four p.m. this afternoon.~

Shadow watched the school's closing list as it went by on the bottom of the screen. Of course, RoseWood High was closed. Shadow turned off the television and poured himself a cup of coffee. Not long after, the rest of Shadow's housemates woke and pondered into the kitchen for their routine breakfast. Amy chattered away about her dream last night. "Sonic and I were horseback riding on a nice ranch while our three lovely children were visiting their grandmother!" Sonic covered his ears and slammed his head on the table. Shadow smirked, Tails noticed the small smile on Shadow's face and grinned at him. Amy wasn't pleased with Sonic's obvious disapproval, "Sonic why do you always react like that!? Can't you just be happy that people dream about you?" "I think its kind of creepy." Tails snickered at Sonic's comment. Shadow put his cigarette out and finally spoke, "School has been canceled today on account of the hurricane." Tails was astounded, "No! Today was the day we present our reports in science class!" Amy on the other hand, was quite ecstatic, "Yay! We can call over Rouge and Knuckles and all of us can just hang out all day! I'll go call them now, they are probably up getting ready for school!" Amy rushed out of the room and up the stairs. Tails sighed. "I guess I should board up the windows before the hurricane strikes," He said grimly as he trudged out of the room. Sonic sat awkwardly at the table, "I should help him." He stood up and began to walk after Tails when Shadow spoke to him, "I'll help, too but first I need to get dressed." Sonic was surprised, "You want to help?" "I live here too." The dark hedgehog pushed passed Sonic, who smiled and strolled after him. A few hours later, Rouge, Shadow, Knuckles, Sonic, Tails and Amy were all positioned in the living room. The power had gone out and it was undesirably chilly in the house. "We should move to the basement, the hurricane is starting to get rough," Tails always had the bright ideas. "Oh it's only going to be colder underground!" Sonic complained, he was wrapped in a blanket and huddled near the edge

of the couch. "I'll keep you warm Sonic!" Amy scooted closely to Sonic and squeezed him tightly. Sonic immediately jumped from his seat and rushed to the basement, the others chuckled and also made their way to the basement.

Once in the basement, all of them sat next to the heater. "So what are we going to do now?" Rouge questioned. Amy was as excited and cheery as ever, "Lets play truth or dare!" The others looked at her in disgust, "Amy, that game is for kids. You're fifteen, grow up. Besides, its kind of hard to do a dare when no one can leave the room." Amy sighed, "You're right, okay then how about we just play truth. We can learn more about each other, the six of us never have time to bond anymore!" Her companions sighed but accepted her proposal. She was right; none of them ever really spent much time together anymore. They just always had other things to do. Amy sat straight up, "I'll ask the first question, and this is for everyone. Who here is not a virgin?" Rouge, Shadow, Knuckles and Sonic raised their hands. Tails rolled his eyes and sat quietly. Amy's mouth dropped, "SONIC! WHO?" Sonic swallowed, "Well," He scratched the back of his head and avoided eye contact with anyone. Rouge chimed in, "Sally obviously, I mean they have been dating on and off for years. It goes without saying, and there are probably others, but Amy is shocked enough so..." Amy put her face in her hands and sobbed. A bead of sweat rolled down Sonic's forehead as he tried to cheer her up, "Come on Amy, it isn't that big of a deal." "Yes it is! You slept with her! Why did you have to tell me that you and Sally... Urgggg!" "Well, you asked..." Sonic backed away and Amy raised her head, Now I have another question, and this one is for you Sonic! She stood and pointed at him. Sonic gulped and bit his bottom lip. "If you could sleep with anyone in this room, who would it be!" "WHAT!? I'm not answering that!" "Why not?! Don't you love me, Sonic?! We are meant for each other!" She then began to chase Sonic around the room. Shadow brought his knees to his chest and wrapped his arms around them, "This game was a bad idea." Rouge and Knuckles agreed with him and watched Amy swing her hammer at Sonic, who was now clinging to a pipe that was hanging from the ceiling. "You can't stay up there forever, Sonic!"

Tails added more fuel to the heater in the corner of the room. Rouge stretched her arms, "Man, I can't wait for this hurricane to be over. It's so boring in here and I'm tired. I went to sleep to late last night." Knuckles smirked, "And why is that?" "Shut-up frackles." "Exactly." He then attempted to kiss her but she playfully pushed him off, "Oh stop, someone please help me. Whatever will I do?" Shadow was huddled in the opposite corner of the room with the book he was reading earlier and a flashlight. Sonic winced at the bat and echidna that were flirting in front of him, "Oh God guys," he covered his eyes with his arm, "Save that stuff for when you get home. I don't need to see that!" Amy whined, "Sonic why aren't we like that?!" Sonic rolled his eyes at the girl clinging to his arm. Tails stood on a box and peeked through a small window that was close to the ceiling, "It looks like the storm has cleared out, it's safe to go upstairs now." Knuckles stood, then offered his hand to Rouge to help her up, "Finally! Come on Knuckles let's go home. I'm going to drop dead from exhaustion." The six of them went back to the main section of the building then Rouge and Knuckles left. Amy went up to her room to paint her nails and Tails went back to work in his lab, like he always did in his free time.

Sonic and Shadow were left in the living room. "It's really quiet in here without the pink nightmare." Shadow closed his book upon Sonic's comment, "You really don't like her do you?" "Not really, she's in love with me, I know that. But I'm never going to tell her I don't like her, it would break her heart." "Heh, why do you care?" "Well I've known her for a long time and I don't want to make her sad like that." "But she is such a nuisance to you, and if you tell her maybe it will click in her mind and she can move on and find someone else to pester day in and day out. I mean you have to live with that dimwit." "Yeah, I know, but its really complicated you know? Especially since I have to live with her I don't want to make her unhappy. With my luck, if I ever told her how I really felt about her, she would go insane and kill us all or something crazy like that." Shadow laughed, "Then she really would be a pink

nightmare.” The two of them found this to be hysterical and laughed together. “Good one Shadz.” Shadow was a little confused, “Shadz?” “Uh yeah, I won’t call you that again if you don’t like it.” Shadow smiled, “No its ok, I’m just surprised you called me that.” “Heh heh, yeah.” Sonic leaned back in the recliner he had been sitting in. A pause in the conversation occurred until Shadow finally said something, “So Sonic, you and Sally are dating? I’ve never met her.” “Oh Sally,” He laughed a little, put his hand over his eyes then shook his head. “Nah, we aren’t really dating I mean we have, but stuff always goes wrong. We can’t keep a steady relationship. I’ve known her since I was just a little kid and there has always been somewhat of an attraction. I go visit her every once in a while, but we are mostly just friends now.” Shadow thought, “Hmm... I see. Heh, is she pretty?” “Psshhh Yeah! She’s gorgeous! “Don’t ever tell that to Amy.” “Oh I know, she would chop my dick off in my sleep and keep it in a pickle jar next to her bed.” Shadow blinked in disturbance, “What was going on in your mind to make you think that?!” Sonic smiled innocently, “Wait, on second thought, don’t tell me.” The two of them laughed, “Wow Shadow, this is the most you’ve spoken to me in a long time.” “Yeah? Well I don’t talk much.” “Yeah I noticed. You should try to talk to people more at school. You’re always alone, even at lunchtime. Speaking of that, how come you never eat?! You’re just about the only guy that doesn’t stuff their face at lunchtime!” “I’m fine being alone, I don’t really like people and I don’t need to eat much, I’m fine really.” “You hardly ever eat breakfast and you don’t eat much at dinner either, you’re super-skinny for a guy, Shadow. You really should try to eat a least a little more. Shadow looked down at himself and grabbed his stomach. His voice lowered, “Am I really that skinny?” Sonic looked concerned, “Shadow I didn’t mean it in a bad way, really. There is absolutely nothing wrong with the way you look, your just skinner in the waist area than a lot of other people is all. Probably cause you’re a vegetarian. You have no meat on those bones!” Shadow looked at him in disgust, “How can anyone eat the flesh of a once living being. It had a face! It would see and feel pain! Eating meat is grotesque.” Sonic laughed at him, “Whatever, tree-hugger.” “Shut your face you bubble headed carcass eater!” “Oh its on now, hippy!” Sonic stood and put his fists up, Shadow did the same. “Feel my wrath carnivore!” The two of them then engaged in a playful skirmish. Shadow punched Sonic in the face; it was returned by a jab in the abdomen. They fought for several minutes then Shadow pinned Sonic to the ground, holding his shoulders down and sitting on him. At that same time Amy entered the room. Her eyes grew wide at the site of Shadow, sitting on her love, the two of them smirking at one another. The coffee table was turned over and the couch had fallen backwards. She gasped and the two male hedgehogs turned to look at her, neither of them moved. They blinked and stared at her in silence. She shouted “Sonic! What are you doing with Shadow!?! UGGG!” She turned away and covered her eyes. Sonic and Shadow then stared each other in the eyes until they realized what they were doing must have looked like in Amy’s point of view. Upon taking note of this, Shadow quickly blushed and jumped off Sonic. Sonic got up and defended himself, “Amy, Shadow and I were just messing around.” “What!?” “Oh man that’s not what I meant! We were fighting!” “You two are angry at each other?!” “No!” “Then why were you fighting!??? And why was he on top of you!?” “Amy, guys play-fight. Its just what we do.” Shadow had his back turned to them, attempting to hide the fact he was blushing. Sonic’s face was also a bit red but he was able to quickly shake it off. Amy breathed deeply and regained her normal perky mood, “Okay Sonic, I believe you.” She hugged him, “I’m sorry for ever thinking that way about you!” He forced himself to hug her back a little, “Yeah, whatever.” While all this was happening Shadow put the couch and coffee table back to their original places. Amy informed Sonic she was going to the mall to meet up with some friends from school. She kissed his cheek and walked out the door to catch the bus. Sonic rubbed the spot she kissed roughly, “Ewww, pink germs!” He squinted his eyes and shook his face. Shadow snickered at him and smiled. “Well, I’m going go out for a run now, I’ve been locked up in this house all day and I think I’m going crazy. Catch you later Shadz!” “Bye Sonic.” Sonic raced out the door, causing the wind to blow and Shadow to almost fall



over. "Humph." Shadow took a seat on the couch and began reading his book once again.

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WOOO! Wee is it any better than chapter one? I know chapter one was a little boring, cause it was all-informational and stuff. But hey Sonic and Shadow talked to each other! They were so totally flirting! XD Yeah Thanks for reading everyone!

3 - Spring Break

Chapter 3, I must write more to my other story soon too... But this one currently has my interest. Hopefully others will read it and also find it interesting...

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Upon arriving home after school Friday afternoon, Sonic stood on top of a car that was parked in front of the house that he shared with his friends. He held a megaphone in his hand. He positioned himself on the center of the hood of the car and breathed deeply. He raised the megaphone and shouted into it, "I have an announcement! Everyone come outside right now!" He waited for several moments. There appeared to be no movement in windows and no one came out of the doors, so Sonic decided he should be louder. "LA LA LA I'M OUT HERE WAITING TO TELL YOU THE BIG NEWS! I'M RIGHT HERE ON THE CAR WITH THE MEGAPHONE AND I SORTA HAVE TO PEE! MY KNEE ITCHES AND I PROBABLY NEED A SHOWER!" He waited once again, until he noticed a figure form in a window, "I SEE YOU!" He pointed at the window, "I KNOW YOU'RE THERE AND I KNOW YOU HEAR MEEEEEE!" Sonic then began to sing the 'Numa Numa' song at the top of his lungs. He amazingly knew all the words and danced as he sang. As he finished he opened his eyes to discover that, Rouge, Shadow, Amy, Knuckles and Tails were behind him. He smiled and continued using the megaphone, "Do you know what today is?!" Rouge answered him, "Friday." "NO! Its not just Friday! Its the first day of SPRING BREAK! WOOOOOO!" Everyone looked at each other and assumed Sonic had consumed some sort of toxin or drug. Tails shouted at Sonic over the hum of the megaphone, "Sonic! What have I told you about sniffing those sharpies? Or the rubber cement and the paint in the garage and the cleaning products in the cabinet." "You told me not to inhale or ingest them... But I didn't do anything like that this time! I am excited because... WE ARE ALL GOING TO THE BEACH FOR FIVE DAYS, WOOOO! And we are leaving tomorrow morning so get to packing!" He struck a pose and smiled. Amy and Rouge were quite excited, "Oh My Gosh, Rouge I need to buy a new swimsuit!" "Me too, come on, we'll take my car! Bye boys!" They drove off and left the four males alone. Sonic stood staring at his three friends who looked back at him as if he were insane. "What?" Sonic asked. Shadow turned and walked back into the house, Knuckles followed him. Tails reached out his hand to help Sonic off the car. "What?!" Sonic asked again. Tails sighed, "Well, I think they are just a little annoyed that you did all that just to tell us we are going to the beach, couldn't you have just told us like a normal person?" "Well, then it wouldn't have been very exciting..."

The next morning at approximately eight o'clock everyone was packing their stuff into the back of the two cars they were taking. Knuckles and Rouge were taking their own car, while Sonic, Shadow, Tails and Amy were loaded into an S.U.V. Sonic was driving, but he refused to let Amy sit in the passenger's seat even though she begged him. "You will distract me and I will kill us all in a fiery explosion from a head on impact with a much larger vehicle." Amy smiled, "I'm just so beautiful you wouldn't be able to

keep your eyes on the road?" Sonic squinted his eyes, "Sure, we'll go with that." Amy climbed into the seat behind the passenger's seat. Tails sat beside her. Shadow nudged Sonic with his elbow, "If she sat in the passenger's seat and talked the whole way there you would purposely crash us into another car. "Yeah, by then I would do anything to shut her up." The two of them laughed, then took their seats. Sonic was leading, while Knuckles followed. "We need some music in here," Sonic stated. Amy's eyes lit up, "Ooo Ooo I know, lets listen to Brittany Spears! Or Ashley Simpson, or Jessica Simpson is good too! I have all their C.D.'s right here," She pulled a C.D. case out of one of her bags. Sonic and Shadow both turned around and cringed their faces. "Amy, what is wrong with you?!" Sonic was disgusted, "Shadow what kind of music did you bring?" Shadow leaned back and got a surprised but extremely cute look on his face, "Umm, I brought Death Metal and Emo Rock." Sonic grinned, "Put in some Death Metal." Amy looked horrified. Shadow put the disk in as Sonic cranked up the volume as loud as it could go. The music blasted from the speakers, Sonic and Shadow appeared unfazed from the extreme noise blaring at them. Amy put on her headphones and attempted to drown out the wretched screaming music. Tails put in earplugs he had made himself, which meant they really blocked out all sound. Sonic looked back at them, "Party poopers!" Shadow appeared expressionless and stared out the window. Sonic turned down the music and the four of them had some quite time until Amy and Tails fell asleep. Sonic struck up a conversation, "I didn't know you listened to this kind of music. Shadow continued to gaze out the window, "What did you expect me to listen to? Pop?" Sonic laughed, "No, it's just that I have this C.D. and you and I are really different." Shadow was surprised, "You listen to Death Metal? You, mister hero, listens to this?" "Yeah, well... I guess I'm not as happy as everyone thinks I am." Shadow looked at him with concern, "Really? I couldn't tell. You're sure good at hiding your emotions. What do you really have to be sad about anyway? You have lots of friends, you're loved worldwide, you're not fugly, you don't have some horrible disease, and you never get picked on or anything like that. I don't see why you're unhappy." "Well the grass is always greener on the other side. In reality, I hate being the center of attention all the time and I don't like that just about everyone on earth knows who I am. Since I saved the planet once, I'm expected to save it time and time again, its tiresome and I don't like the pressure. If the world exploded, it would be my fault cause I wasn't there to save us all. And I don't really see why so many people find me attractive, I'm pretty average looking." He sighed, his voice lowered, "Sometimes I think there is only one way out." Shadow gasped under his breath, "Sonic... I would have never guessed." "Yeah, well. You're unhappy too right?" "I guess you can say that." "I've been meaning to have a conversation like this with you for a long time, you seem like the only person I feel comfortable talking to that would understand me. You always vent on Rouge." Shadow thought for a moment, "Rouge is just about the only person I feel comfortable talking to at all." Sonic smiled, "Heh, do you like her?" "Well she's beautiful sure, but there is just something else. It feels like there is something... I don't know what it is but there is a connection between her and me. Sometimes I feel like there is something she isn't telling me. I wish I knew, then I'd understand better." Sonic bit his bottom lip as if he were holding back words; he kept his eyes fixated on the road ahead of him. Moments passed, then Sonic attempted to change the subject, "So are you excited about the beach?" "Eh, its ok. It's somewhere to go. I would have just sat around at home or something." Sonic also had his own complaints, "There is too much sand, it's dirty. There is too much water, I can't swim and it's salty." "Why did you propose we all go to the beach if you hate it?" "I thought it would be fun for everyone. The girls like the beach, and I thought everyone could find some enjoyment out of this trip." Shadow sighed, I'll find something to do. Hey, do you mind if I smoke in here?" "Go ahead, crack the window." Shadow did so and lit up a cigarette. He took a long drag then sighed in relief. Sonic spoke in a happier tone, "Hey bro, when we get to the hotel, you and I are sharing a room because Rouge and Knux have theirs, then for you, me, Amy and Tails we have two rooms. One of them has two beds and the other one has one. I'm not staying in the same room as Amy, and I'm not going stick you with her

either. But since we are forcing Tails to share a room with her, I think I'm going to let them have the room with two beds. So to put it all together, you and I will have to share a bed, but it is saving us from the pink monstrosity." "That's fine by me, so long as you don't snore." Sonic laughed at that comment. Sonic stretched out on the bed in his and Shadow's room. Amy and Tails' room was right across the hall. Shadow finished unpacking his things and flipped on the T.V. He was channel hopping when they heard a knock on the door. Sonic answered and immediately pounced on by the pink one. "Sonic! Tails, Rouge, Knuckles and I are going down to the water, want come?" Sonic quickly thought of an excuse, "I'm really tired, I had to drive all the way here, you got to rest in the car. "I'll go down there with you guys tomorrow." Amy looked sympathetic, "Awe ok, get some sleep baby." She kissed him on the cheek and peeked her head around the door to look at Shadow, who was now sitting with his back against the headboard of the bed, reading a book. "How about you Shadow? You want come with us?" "No thank you." "Hmm, ok, well I'll see you boys later!" She walked down the hall and Sonic slammed the door. He violently rubbed his cheek, "Oh God! Why does she always have to do that? Uggg!" He shut his eyes tightly. Shadow snickered at him. "Heyyy! Don't laugh at my misfortune! Ohhh why does she have to be in love with meeee?! Why? Why? Why?!" Shadow looked up from his book and smiled innocently at him. "Don't give me that face banana eater." Shadow returned to his book, "I'll look at you however I damn well want to meat muncher." The two of them chuckled at the insults. Sonic threw himself on the bed and curled up with the pillow, "That wasn't just an excuse, I really am kind of tired. I think I'm going to take a nap. Can you wake me up in an hour?" "Sure." A few minutes later Shadow put down his book and walked out to the balcony. Below he could see the boardwalk and the ocean. It seemed to go on forever. He leaned against the railing and examined the people down below. He spotted his friends down by the water. Rouge and Knuckles were waist deep in the ocean. Tails and Amy were building an amazingly detailed sand castle. "It figures Tails would take crafting the simplest things to the extreme," He muttered to himself. He turned his attention back to Rouge and Knuckles. He was holding her waist to help her from falling as the waves crashed upon them. Shadow watched as Knuckles lifted Rouge to his shoulders. They appeared completely and utterly happy together. Shadow whispered to himself, "Rouge..." Knuckles spun her around and kissed her softly, she cupped his face in her hands and stared into his eyes. Shadow closed his eyes and sighed heavily, he turned around and went back into the hotel room.

And thus concludes chapter 3, satisfying? Kind of? A little? OOOO Mystery... between Shadow and Rouge... wooooooo. **Coughs** Yeah, well don't worry this is a Sonadow story, the whole Rouge thing is just a side part. ^. ~ There is more cuteness to come!

## 4 - The Encounter

Chapter 4... Do you like this story? I wish more people would read \*sigh\*... yeah well, on with the show I suppose.

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It was late. The time was nearing midnight. Shadow left the hotel room to go for a stroll on the boardwalk now that the sun had gone down and most of people had returned to their hotel rooms for the evening. Shadow walked with his hands in his pockets. He wore a long-sleeved hooded shirt, despite the fact it was awfully warm outside. He kicked at a rock as he made his way to the pier. He kept his head down, the streetlights shone on him. His steps were quiet, the only sound made from him was the rock as it hit the pavement each time he tapped it with his foot. The few people that passed him stayed as far away from him as possible, in the lighting he appeared quite dark and sinister. Shadow had no complaints, they left him alone and he left them alone.

He ascended the steps of the pier and walked halfway down it. He turned and leaned his arms on the wooden railing. He peered into the night, the stars shown brightly and the moon was magnificent. The soft crashing of the waves against the beach was complemented by a light breeze. Shadow breathed in deeply and closed his eyes, taking in all that was around him. He had normal small frown on his face. He opened his eyes and watched a small boat in the distance. It moved slowly across the water's surface. Birds were sleeping in their nests under the pier.

A figure dressed in a trench coat and hat approached Shadow casually. He stood next to him and looked towards him. Shadow turned his face to him. Shadow's piercing crimson eyes shot into those of the older males. The man spoke, "What are you doing out here?" "That's none of your business." "Are you lonely? Do you feel let down and depressed? Has anything happened to you that you just feel like you need to be refreshed and find something new to bring excitement to your dreary life?" Shadow continued his angered stare, "I'm no whore." The man laughed at him a little, "No sir, I have no intentions of using you for such purposes. I just thought you looked like someone who might want to try a free sample." The man slipped a small bag out of his trench coat and placed it into Shadow's hand. Shadow looked down, "What is this?" He opened it slightly and pulled out a small white tablet with a heart imprinted on it. "A pill?" The man hushed his voice, "Yes, there are five in that bag. Be sure not to take them all at once, or your life would be in danger. At most, take three at a time." "What is this? What will these pills do to me?" The man smiled, "It's acid my friend. You're in for a wild time. You'll feel fun and alive, happy and at peace." "You're trying to get me to take drugs..." "Just keep it away from the cops, or anyone that could turn you in. You look like a smart guy. I'm pretty sure I won't have to worry about you. If you like it, I'm out here every night, under the pier, at the same time as now. But it won't be free next time." Shadow slipped the pill back into the bag and the bag into his pocket. The man chuckled, "Have fun." Shadow turned his attention back to the water as the man walked off down the pier.

Not long after that Shadow made his way back to his hotel room. He tried to be as quiet as possible as he used the keycard to open the door, and then push it open. Sonic slept soundly. Shadow pulled off his hoodie and draped it over a chair. The bag the man had given him was in it's pocket. Shadow

undressed until he was only in an undershirt and boxers. He slid smoothly under the covers, attempting not to wake Sonic. The movement of the sheets caused Sonic to open his eyes. He spoke in a tired voice, "Hey Shadow... What time is it?" "Late, go back to sleep." "Okay." Sonic rolled over and returned to his deep slumber.

Shadow woke as the first ray of sunlight hit his face. He sat up and hung his legs over the side of the bed, the clock read 8:37 a.m. He yawned and stood up. The sound of running water could be heard. Sonic was in the shower. Shadow did not care and decided to walk into the bathroom anyway. Sonic was startled and peeked his head out from behind the shower curtain, "What the hell Shadow?!" "You should have locked the door." "Whatever," Sonic returned to his shower and struck up a conversation with Shadow, who was washing his face and following though the normal teenage morning routine. "Everyone is going to an amusement park today, want to come?" "I hate amusement parks." "Why? They are fun! Come on Shadow try to be social. You'll have fun I promise!" "I really don't like amusement parks." "Why?!" "Rides jerk your body around in ways that only simulate danger in attempts to give people a thrill and feeling of excitement. The food is fattening and horrible for any living creature. Grease shouldn't be consumed and if you eat before you get on the horrible roller coaster, you will only see the disgusting food yet again. Also there are tons of people walking around and they are all sweaty and smell disgusting." "Well yes, but you are supposed to enjoy that kind of thing." "Well, I don't." Sonic was annoyed, "You always have a negative outlook on everything." He turned off the water, "Can you hand me a towel?" Shadow grunted and did as requested. Sonic dried his body and hair in the shower and wrapped the towel around his waist. He stepped out and brushed his teeth. He spat and looked up at Shadow, "Please come with us." Sonic stared into his eyes deeply. Shadow stared back into Sonic's. They remained that way for a long moment as Shadow thought. Shadow felt something go through him as he gazed into those emerald eyes. It was a needy feeling; Sonic needed Shadow to be there. Without words Shadow could understand this, for whatever reason, Sonic had a deep honest desire for Shadow to be with him that day. Shadow blinked and turned away, "Fine, when are we leaving?" Sonic smiled widely, "For real?! Cool, um we are all leaving around nine thirty. It takes about an hour to get there. And..." Shadow started to leave the bathroom, "Put some clothes on." 9:50, they were all on their way. The seating arrangements were the same when they left for the beach. Amy yapped away behind Shadow, "Oh My Gosh you guys, today is going to be soooo fun! What ride should we go on first? Maybe a roller coaster? 'm afraid of heights, will you hold on to me Sonic? Keep me safe! Or maybe we should go on that swing ride, or the giant slide or OOO I know! A water ride! Those are always super fun!" Shadow was muttering words to himself. Sonic's eye had an uncontrollable twitch. Tails had put in his earplugs and was attempting to sleep. Sonic tried to be polite, "Amy... don't you want to put on your headphones and save some of that energy for the park today? I wouldn't want you to get tired before we get there." Amy smiled, "Your so considerate Sonic. Your right, I love you so much." He rolled his eyes and clenched his teeth together, "I know you do." She put on her headphones as Sonic suggested and sat quietly listening to her pop music. Sonic let out a sigh of relief, "Finally!" Shadow smirked, "It's bad that we have only been in the car for twenty minutes and she is already driving everyone insane." "I know I know." Shadow lit up a cigarette and cracked the window. "Hey Shadow?" Shadow took a long drag on his cigarette and blew out, "What?" "Why did you get in so late last night? I remember waking up at like three in the morning." "I went for a walk." "Okay... It seems a bit late for a walk but okay." "There are too many people out in the day time and its hot outside." "Oh." Sonic and Shadow sat in silence for a long while. Neither of them could think of anything to say, so they sat lost in their own thoughts. Sonic kept his eyes set firmly on the road ahead of him, but Shadow's wandered. Shadow tried to keep his attention out the window, but Sonic was a distraction. No matter how hard he tried to focus, his eyes kept drifting back to Sonic. For some odd reason he kept thinking about the way Sonic's eyes had looked that morning. *"Now that I think*

about it, I haven't looked him in the eyes in a long time. This morning... they had so much feeling, but what does that mean? Why did he look at me like that? Even though he was begging me, no one has ever looked at me like that," Shadow thought.

Later that day, Shadow was sitting on a bench at the amusement park as his friends walked up to him. Sonic wobbled and sat down next to him, "Remind me to never go on a ride like that ever again." Knuckles had his arm wrapped around Rouge's waist as they stepped closer to Shadow. Knuckles turned his head, "Haha look!" He pointed over in Tails' direction, "He's puking in the trashcan!" Everyone laughed, "What? You can't handle it Tails?" Amy joked. Sonic leaned back and closed his eyes, "The whole world is spinning so fast, please God, make it stop!" He put his hand over his eyes and breathed deeply. Rouge smiled, "Okay guys, I think its time we actually ride a roller coaster, who's game?" Amy perked up, "I am! Come on Sonic, sit next to me!" Amy grabbed his hand and pulled him off the bench. "Amy, I sat next to you on the last five rides. Let me force Shadow to ride something and sit next to him, Sonic protested. Amy turned to Shadow, "Oh yeah! You haven't ridden anything at all today have you? Fine you will ride the biggest, fastest roller coaster in the park! I'll sit next to Tails just to get you on it!" Shadow spoke, "Why?" "Cause I want to see the look on your face when you get off!" Shadow didn't even so much as blink. Knuckles also decided to pick on him, "What Shadow? Are you scared?!" Shadow squinted his eyes, "No." By this time Tails had recuperated from his sickness, "Then lets go!"

The six of them were next in line. Rouge noticed that Shadow had a nervous look on his face and tried to comfort him. She took his hand in hers and made him look her in the eyes, "It's ok Shadow, really everything will be fine. I promise." Shadow's eyes grew wide, at that moment something in his mind clicked and a memory flashed before his eyes.

~ Shadow stared out the window. Below he could see earth in all its glory. He was aboard Space Colony ARK. A hand touched his shoulder and he turned to face them, it was Rouge. She held onto his arm and got close to him. She breathed out as she laid her head on his shoulder. He turned and kissed her forehead, she cupped his face in her hands and kissed him deeply. They broke apart and he held her in his arms. The two of them were completely at peace. She then spoke softly, voice was faint but clear, "Don't worry Shadow everything will work out fine, I promise." She said more but Shadow's memory started to fade and he couldn't make out anything else. ~

A chill went down his spine as Shadow returned to reality. Rouge looked concerned, "Shadow are you ok?" "Ye, Yeah, I'm fine, really." She smiled warmly, "Good, come on its time for the ride."

And that is the end of chapter four, cause it got to the end of six pages... I love ending things with a cliffhanger! Comments make and keep me happy!

5 - From Amusement Parks to Beaches

Chapter five. A few people out there are actually reading my story... That makes me happy! For all of you out there loving it, I am now giving you a virtual hug! Well here is a newsflash for all of you; my Internet service has crashed completely. That's right, I can't get online or check e-mail or use AIM or do anything on FAC. But by the time you are reading this I will have new, high-speed Internet! That's right, its what I have waited for so long... and I can't wait till it is here. I also need it for school stuff (I'm in a classical college-prep school, and I'm in honors and AIG classes. So needless to say, I have tons of homework every night! It's a pain in the @\$\$... and I'm really going to need internet for research and stuff soon) Other news for you guys, by the time this story is up, I will be able to get things done and loaded on FAC faster, the wait won't be so long next time I promise! So, I hope you guys miss me while I am deprived of my lovely beautiful Internet. ALSO! This is the longest damn intro I have ever written; now bask in the wonderfulness of SONADOW!

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Shadow stepped off the roller coaster and rolled his eyes, "I've lived through scarier shoot than that." Rouge nudged his side with her elbow, "Yeah, that's great Shadow but I however cannot run at extreme speeds." Shadow smirked but said nothing, "Shadow! Stop having mean thoughts!" Shadow looked at her as they walked, "How do you know what I'm thinking?" "I can just tell, your thinking something rude. You always get that stupid, obnoxious smirk on your face when your thinking something mean but you never say it." Shadow shook his head and smiled, "You are very right my friend." She pushed him playfully as they rushed to catch up to the others.

Amy was complaining that she was thirsty and Tails mentioned a slushy stand he had seen, but it was a long walk there. Amy pouted, "I don't want walk all that way by myself! Sonic!?" She clung to his arm, "Come with me!" Sonic stuttered as he searched for an excuse, "Well uhh umm I ah..." His ears perked up when he thought of a brilliant idea, "Why don't you and Tails go? I'll stay here and keep Shadow company when Rouge and Knuckles decide to ditch us again." Amy took a moment to think and finally replied with a sigh, "Ok Sonic, but only because Rouge and Knuckles always just run off on everyone." She turned and started walking, "Come on Tails!" Tails looked back a Sonic, who smiled and winked at him. Tails grinned widely and ran off after Amy.

Knuckles pulled Rouge to him and wrapped his arms around her playfully, "Well for once you were right about something blue boy, were going ditch you guys and go do something fun." Shadow raised an eyebrow and Rouge laughed with a slight blush, "Not like that! We're staying here at the park, but we have been here a while and I'm getting tired." She looked over her shoulder to look Knuckles in the eyes, "We should head back to the hotel soon." He agreed with her, "Yeah, well I guess this is where we part, we'll see you guys later." Shadow gave a slight wave and Sonic told them goodbye, "Drive safely you retarded red-head!" Knuckles flipped him off as he walked off with Rouge.

Sonic and Shadow sat in silence as they watched the two lovebirds disappear into the distance. Boredom struck Shadow, "Well, what now?" Sonic thought, "Uhhhh, I don't know." I guess when Amy and Tails get back we can go. "That will take forever and I'm tired of sitting." "Okay then we'll walk around and just hangout and stuff." Shadow said nothing, but agreed by starting to walk. Sonic followed and attempted to make casual conversation, "So are you having fun?" "Its ok." There was a long silence between them, "Is there anything you want to talk about?" "Not really." Sonic frowned. They



walked in silence for a long while. Shadow was lost in his own thoughts, as usual. Sonic sighed loudly. Shadow looked at him with a genuinely honest face, "Am I boring you?" "No no! Its not that, its just, I mean I wish you would talk more." "Oh well, what do you want to talk about?" Sonic threw up his arms and spun around ahead of Shadow, "Anything and everything! There are endless amounts to the conversations that can be had between two great world heroes such as you and I!" Sonic stopped and turned to smile widely at Shadow. Suddenly Shadow heard the sounds of screaming coming from above. He quickly looked up to discover a huge falling object coming towards them. Shadow pulled out his green chaos emerald and rushed up to Sonic, he then tightly wrapped his arms around him and shouted "Chaos Control!" A flash of light appeared, and then the two of them were a few feet away, safe. An extremely loud crashing sound rang through the air as a seat from a ride slammed into the ground. Shadow's back was to the accident but Sonic witnessed it all. Shadow still held tightly to Sonic. Wide-eyed and mouth-open Sonic stared in disbelief. He swallowed a lump in his throat, "Shadow, you... you saved my life." Other people were now helping the two passengers from the wreckage. Luckily they both were unharmed, the seat was not very far from the ground when it fell off.

Amy rushed up right after the accident occurred. She walked up to see Shadow clinging tightly to Sonic. Sonic's head was leaning on Shadow's shoulder, still staring in astonishment." "Shadow! Get off of my Sonic!" She ran up to them at a rapid pace. Shadow released Sonic and pushed him away. Sonic turned to face Amy as she walked up to them. Anger burned in her eyes until she saw the wreckage. Her mouth dropped, Tails did the same. Sonic's breath ran short, "Can we please... just go b-back to the hotel now?"

Later that night Sonic lay in his bed wondering about earlier that day. Shadow took his spot beside him and covered himself, "Try not to worry about it, no one was hurt." Sonic snapped back to reality and smiled, "Yeah, and thanks again, for saving me." Shadow hid his smile with the blanket, "Eh, it was nothing. Its not like I was just going to let you get squished in front of me. Your organs would have splattered all over the place. Then I would have to ride home with your blood soaking through my clothes. Then it would have gotten cold and caked up, that would have really sucked." Sonic's eyes were wide with fear and disturbance, he blinked twice, "Your so... so maniacal and evil. What do you think about all the time that you can just imagine that out of no where?!" Shadow smirked and rolled over, "You'd be surprised." Sonic looked at the back of the dark hedgehog's head and sighed heavily. Shadow's ear twitched as Sonic's breath blew over it. Sonic smiled and laughed slightly as Shadow did so, "Sorry." Shadow pulled the blanket up to his neck, "Humph."

Shadow lifted his eyelids to see Sonic sitting at the foot of the bed watching television. He sat up and Sonic looked back at him, "Well good morning sunshine!" Shadow creased his brow and narrowed his eyes at the ever so cheerful hedgehog. Sonic laughed his stare off, "I've been awake for over an hour." Shadow draped his legs over the side of the bed and stretched, "What on the agenda for today?" Sonic quickly answered him, "Nothing really, we are all just going hang out and chill. We'll probably go down to the beach, you should come with us!" Shadow walked across the room in his boxers, the rest of his body was exposed. Sonic had never really seen Shadow without him being completely and fully clothed. He had never even seen him in a short-sleeved shirt. He examined him carefully but casually as he walked past him. Shadow's arms were covered in cuts that he, himself had put there. However there appeared to have mysterious scars over his chest, abdomen and back. Those seemed to be old; they were quite faded, but still visible nonetheless. Shadow disappeared into the bathroom and Sonic sat in wonder. He leaned back and bit his lip, a blush fell over his face and his eyes shot open. He cupped his cheeks in his hands and shook his head violently. He stood up abruptly and gathered a few things from a bag in the corner. He knocked on the bathroom door, "Hey Shadow?" He waited for an answer, "What?" "I'm going down to the beach, the others left a little while ago, I was waiting for you to wake up. You are welcome to come if you'd like. We won't be that far down, you'll be able to find us from the

balcony. Okay?" Once again he waited for an answer, Shadow's voice was quiet, "Okay." Sonic stretched out on a blanket as the sun's rays beamed down on him. He had left the hotel room about a half an hour ago and there was no sign of Shadow joining them. Amy strolled over and took a seat next to him; Rouge was tanning on a beach chair not far from them. "Hey Sonic, this vacation is really nice, we should take one like this every year!" He looked up at her and nodded in agreement. Tails then ran up and stood next to Amy, "Hey Amy, you want to go get some ice cream?" She thought for a moment, "Sure." She stood and bent over to Sonic, "You know we haven't really gotten any time to bond over the past few days, tonight we can build a fire out here and spend some quality time together!" At this remark Tails began to walk on ahead of her. She looked towards him, "Hey Tails! Wait for me!" Sonic sat up as she rushed towards the blonde kitsune. Rouge lifted her sunglasses and engaged in a conversation with her blue companion. "Have you noticed he has done just about everything possible to keep her away from you since we left the house? Every time she hugs you or anything he offers to take her somewhere or buy her something." Sonic thought, "Oh my gosh, your right! I didn't even notice that! Heh, I wish she would take interest in him." "What do you mean?" "Well to tell you the truth, don't tell him I told you but, the main reason I never dated Amy was because he has always had a thing for her. He would never really come out and say it but I could tell." "Awe, they would make a cute couple. If only Amy would open her eyes and realize what is right in front of her." "Yeah and leave me the hell alone. Rouge snickered, "Hopefully she'll calm down and mature as she gets older." "I doubt it, she has always been that way, and she always will be." A silence fell between them as a more serious mood fell over them. Sonic stared out into the ocean, "Rouge?" "Yes?" "When... when are you going to tell him?" "Tell who what?" "Don't play dumb you know what I'm talking about, Shadow." She fell silent and bit her lip, "Oh... well, it's a really touchy subject. I'll tell him about it when we are both ready to face it, you know? I mean right now isn't a good time. I... I guess I'm just waiting for the right moment." Sonic brought his knees to his chest, "I guess your right." Rouge brought her sunglasses back over her eyes to hide the tears beginning to form in them. "Please don't be upset Rouge, I didn't mean to..." She cut him off, "I know Sonic, its okay really, I know... so um... anyway," She swallowed a lump in her throat, "How have things been between you and Shadow? Getting along well?" Sonic's ears perked up, "Yeah everything is great!" She picked on him, "So what's it like sharing a bed with him? Exciting?" He blushed. "Shut the hell up, Rouge." He knew what she was trying to get at. "Come on Sonic, I know what you... Well you know. You don't have to hide it in front of me, its all good. He cares too you know." A burst of excitement filled Sonic; He balled his hands into fists and brought them to his chest, "Really? How do you know? Did he say something to you?!" She laughed at him, "Stupid boy." "No really Rouge, tell me!" At that moment Sonic turned his head to see a figure approaching them.

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This is sort of a cliffhanger, but its kind of obvious who it is... I think at least. But hey, I finally got another chapter done right? Yeah cool beans right? Hehe... cool beans. OOO The mystery of Shadow and Rouge's past continues...

6 - Rejection

Chapter six, its amazing isn't it? Hey I know it's killing you so I'm going to make 'stuff' happen real soon ok? I know your little sonadow loving minds have been waiting in anticipation for quite some time now, but have no fear, I will provide the 'stuff,' it won't be much longer now. Ok so now for my personal life, I am back in school and homework sucks! One teacher, Mrs. Blanton, lied to us. On the first day of our new classes she said we would hardly ever have any homework for that class. That's Bullshoot! We have had homework in that class every night since the first day! One night we had over eighty questions! Anyway today is September 11, 2006. It has officially be dubbed a holiday, Patriots Day. Remember everyone, and give a moment of silence for all those that died on that horrible day. (If you don't live in America and don't know what happened, you should look it up it's a big moment in American history... however you should know what happened already...) I will be getting high-speed Internet a week from today, and then I will post this. Hopefully you will read it the day I post it... if you read it later that's still good too. Anyway, on with the show.

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Shadow stumbled up to Sonic and Rouge, as if he had never walked in sand before. Despite the heat, he was wearing a long sleeved shirt and jeans. Rouge looked back at him, "Hey Shadow! I'm surprised you came out to join us!" Shadow sat on the blanket next to Sonic and took his shoes off, "Me too." He dumped sand out of his shoe and looked to them with an agitated look on his face. "I hate the sand, I hate the salt, I hate the water, I hate the people, I hate the beach." Rouge smiled, "But you came out here anyway, because you wanted to spend time with us, how sweet." Shadow finished ridding his shoes of sand and slipped them back on his feet, "Humph, whatever." Rouge giggled and began reading from a magazine. Rouge pushed her sunglasses back down to her nose. Shadow was wearing sunglasses as well. "Man Shadow, attempting to shield everything from the sun?" Sonic joked. Shadow grumbled, "The sun is evil..." "The sun, evil? What are you talking about?! The sun is great! It makes everything all bright outside and it gives us a nice warm summer!" "It is an extremely hot blazing ball of gas that creates ultra violent rays that burns millions of people's skin each year. Often times it can even cause cancer. Not to mention it reflects off metals and glass, which can blind a driver, causing them to possible crash into a civilian, crushing them between a two-ton vehicle and a brick wall." Rouge lifted her head to look at the dark hedgehog as Sonic was. Shadow took note of their terror-stricken stares. "You pessimistic psycho-path," Rouge stated then returned to her magazine. Sonic blinked and attempted to rid himself of the images that were now embedded in his mind. He decided to suggest something that Shadow could have fun taking part in, "Hey Shadz! Do you want to go down to the water?" "That water is cold, full of salt and has jellyfish and God knows what else in there." "I'll take that as a no, you want to go for a walk along the beach?" "There are too many people here." "Want to go get some ice cream or something?" Shadow just looked at him with a look on his face that you could tell meant no. Sonic was now becoming annoyed. Rouge stood up and gathered her things in a beach bag, "Well I think it's about time I go find Knuckles. You boys have fun. And Shadow, try to cheer up, life isn't so bad." As she walked off down the beach several men whistled and attempted to flirt with her. Sonic laughed, "Knuckles is one lucky son of a dog isn't he?" Shadow poked at the sand next to

him with a small stick, "Yeah." The tone in his voice was depressing just to hear. "You really hate the beach don't you?" Shadow looked at him, the answer was obviously yes. Sonic smiled and attempted to liven the mood. He stood up quickly and threw his arms in the air, "Then lets ditch this place and go somewhere nicer." Shadow gazed up at him as if to ask, 'Really?' Sonic smiled down at him as he put clothes on over his swim trunks. "Come on, let's go!"

Approximately an hour later Sonic and Shadow found themselves walking through a park. The place was clean and well kept. Wildlife roamed freely among the grass and shrubbery. Flowers of all kinds graced the ground beside the walkway. Sonic and Shadow had walked quite far from the beach, therefore there were no tourist in the park. There were hardly any people there at all. Occasionally a person on a bike or someone walking their dog would pass by, but for the most part, they were alone. They walked casually side by side in the middle of the pathway. They came to a bridge and stopped to lean on the railing and take a rest. Below them a family of ducks swam past. The mother lead her babies through the water while the father made sure no one fell behind. A small smile formed on Shadow's face as his crimson eyes gazed down on them. Sonic's eyes shifted to peer at Shadow's face as he did so. Sonic couldn't help but be delighted. He backed up and spun around with his arms in the air. Shadow watched him, "What's wrong with you?" "Oh, nothing. I'm just in a good mood." Sonic looked around searching for a place to sit down and relax. He located a bench several yards away along the water's edge. "Come on Shadow, let's go over there." He pointed in the bench's direction and he took of running towards it. Shadow walked calmly after him.

Sonic leaned back and slouched as he sat. On his way over to Sonic, Shadow had picked a flower about the size of his hand. He took his spot next to Sonic and examined it. The flower was rather beautiful; it consisted of eight petals with the coloring of light purple that faded into white as it got nearer to the center. Shadow spun it by the stem in his hand. He stood up, and crouched near the water. He gracefully let go of the flower and watched it descend into the water. As it landed its petals broke apart and floated apart from one another. Shadow observed this for a while, until he tired of it and decided to sit back down. When he returned to his spot he sat closer to Sonic than he had the time before. In fact he was so close, the side of their thighs touched. Shadow leaned into Sonic, so that their shoulders and the tips of their ears were against each other. Shadow closed his eyes and relaxed. However, Sonic's eyes were wide and a rather deep blush appeared on his cheeks. Sonic swallowed and breathed deeply as Shadow shifted his hand to Sonic's thigh and took Sonic's hand in his. Sonic felt his heart beat faster. Shadow was so close he could catch his sent, the pleasant aroma of his hair filled Sonic's nose. Shadow lifted his head and looked up into Sonic's emerald eyes. Sonic said nothing. He just stared into the mesmerizing red hues. Shadow leaned in, coming dangerously close to Sonic. Sonic's eyes shot open wide and his face grew hot. He looked at Shadow and jumped off the bench quickly. Shadow sat up straight and looked at Sonic, he anticipated an angered complaint. Sonic pointed accusingly at Shadow, struggling for words, but couldn't form any. Something rushing over the bridge caught Sonic's eye. It was Amy, she shouted Sonic's name as she came rushing over to them, Tails trudging grimly behind her. "Sonic!" She threw her arms around him and squeezed him tightly, "I thought we would never find you! Good thing Shadow always carries a chaos emerald, and that Tails can track them!" He hugged her back lightly and rolled his eyes, "Yeah, good thing."

Later that night, Shadow sat on the balcony of the hotel room looking down at the people walking below. Sonic slid open the door and poked his head out, "Shadow we are all going down to the beach to make a bonfire, you're welcome to join us!" Shadow sighed, "I'll think about it." "Yeah, I sort of promised Amy I would, so I have to, if I don't want to get yelled at." He waited in hopes that Shadow would say something, however he did not. "Umm ok, well then I'll see you later, hopefully soon, Shadow." "Yeah, whatever."

Shadow sat in silence and waited until he could watch them on the beach. Sonic and Knuckles were

piling sticks in a huge pile, Amy was as usual, staying as close to Sonic as possible. Shadow sighed and bit his lip; he leaned back in the chair and watched them contently. Amy jumped on to Sonic's back, almost making him fall over as Tails lit the fire. By this time, Rouge and Knuckles were lying in the sand, deep into their make-out session. Tails laughed as Sonic wrestled Amy off of him and sat in the sand. Shadow closed his eyes for a long time then stood and walked inside and to the bathroom. He took out a small case that contained a single razor blade. He rolled up his left sleeve and put the razor to his skin, he pushed and pulled downward towards his body. It wasn't deep, but deep enough that a trail of blood appeared on his arm. He pulled up the razor and peered at the blood with a saddened expression. He sighed deeply and pressed a tissue to the wound. As the blood soaked into the paper, it began to desinagate. He wiped it off the best he could, but a drop accidentally fell upon one of the hotel towels, causing a hole to burn through it. He then ran it under cold water. As the blood splattered into the sink, it sizzled at the bottom. He kept it there until the bleeding had almost completely stopped. That is when he cleaned it with peroxide and alcohol. The peroxide made it fizz white, as it fought the infection. The sting of alcohol did not even make Shadow flinch, for he was used to the feeling. He wrapped a medical bandage around it, so that if ever started bleeding again, he would realize it before it could actually burn through his clothes. "Damn my acidic blood. Damn you, Black Doom." Shadow spoke to himself, as he often did when he was alone.

When he was done cleaning up and had changed into his nightclothes, he went into the bedroom and lay across the bed diagonally. His face was in the pillow Sonic had used. The dark hedgehog inhaled deeply and closed his eyes. As he released the air, a large, warm smile appeared across his face. He wrapped his arms around the pillow and held it close.

Hours later Sonic opened the door as quietly as he could, attempting not to awaken Shadow. He walked in to find Shadow stretched across the bed. He closed the door slowly, however the lock was quite loud. Shadow sat up quickly, startled. He relaxed once he realized it was just Sonic, "What time is it?" Sonic sighed with relief; he thought Shadow would have been angry, "Like two in the morning." Shadow creased his brow and snuggled into the covers on his side of the bed, "What were you guys doing out there for so damn long?" He rolled on his side, back to Sonic, as the blue hedgehog changed his clothes. "We just hang out and talked and stuff. It was really actually fun... aside for the fact that Amy is such a pain, you know?" He laughed a little and got into bed. Shadow grunted at Sonic's last comment, "Evil pink demon from the fiery pits of hell." Sonic punched his shoulder, "That's so mean."

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OO Another cliffhanger, I would write more but it got to six pages... so yeah more stuff in chapter seven. Plus Sarah is here. It took me 10 days to finish this chapter... I have lots of school crap man. But for all of you who didn't play 'Shadow the Hedgehog' and don't know, Black Doom's blood is Shadow's blood... its sort of like Black Doom is his dad I suppose. So I thought, Black Doom is an alien; maybe his blood is all weird and different from earthlings? So I came up with the wonderful idea to make Shadow's blood extremely acidic. Great isn't it? It can burn through just about anything but metal, and Shadow's skin. Yeah, remember that.

7 - Whats wrong with me?

Hey go read the last few lines from the chapter 6 so you can remember... Yeah here we go WOO chapter seven it is currently 6:04 p.m. on October 4th 2006. How has life been for me you ask? Well it's been just fine and dandy. XD Anyways... here we go.

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Shadow turned over and playfully punched Sonic back, almost knocking him off the bed. Sonic's arms flailed as he reached for something to keep him from falling. In his struggle, he grasped hold of Shadow's arm. Not expecting this, Shadow didn't pull back and fell forward. The two of them slid onto the floor, covers and all. They were twisted between three blankets and each other, Shadow had landed on top of Sonic, his face pressed to Sonic's chest. Shadow pushed up, attempting to get off him but Sonic moved at the same time, causing Shadow to fall once again, but this time Shadow fell face down at Sonic's hips. He quickly pulled away hiding the blush on his face. He caught a glimpse of Sonic, who appeared to be blushing as well. "I... I need to do to the bathroom," Shadow quickly got up and shut himself in the bathroom. Sonic gathered himself and made the bed while he was gone.

Shadow sat on the edge of the bathtub. He inhaled deeply then exhaled slowly. He stood to look at himself in the mirror. He leaned in and examined himself carefully. He wasn't aware before how shy and embarrassed he looked, a small gasp of air left him. He quickly turned on the water and splashed it on his face. Shadow had grown accustomed to looking cold all the time, he always attempted to show no emotion around anyone but Rouge. She was the only one he let see his feelings. He looked at himself again in the mirror and tried his hardest to erase the expression from his face. Success! He smirked and dried his face.

When Shadow returned, Sonic was watching T.V. He turned it off as soon as Shadow entered the room, "You okay?" Shadow creased his brow at him in response. Sonic smiled, "Good." Sonic's eyes lowered to the bandage wrapped around Shadow's arm as he slid under the covers. Sonic stared and thought in silence, this gave Shadow an eerie feeling, "What?" Sonic quickly snapped back at the sound of his voice, "Oh nothing." He got in bed next to Shadow and lay on his side, staring at the back of the dark hedgehog's head. "Hey Shadow, what are you thinking about?" Shadow raised an eyebrow and turned to face him, "That is the gayest question ever." "Well, you hardly ever say anything, what do you preoccupy your mind with?" "I'm surprised you even know the word preoccupy." "I'm actually pretty intelligent." "That's what you think, blue boy." Sonic ignored Shadow's insult. "You always look so sad, I wish you weren't." Sonic avoided eye contact, not knowing how Shadow would respond. The annoyed expression had gone from Shadow's face, "Why?" Sonic looked back up at him, surprised at the innocence in the tone of his voice. "Well, cause it makes me feel bad when you're unhappy." Shadow moved in closer to him and asked him in the same tone, "Why?" Sonic felt a blush brush on his cheeks and he began to stutter. "Uhh... uhh." At this point Shadow was blushing too. Sonic panicked and grabbed hold of Shadow's shoulders, pushing him away slightly. "Alright lets calm down." Sonic's eyes were wide and he bit his lip. For some odd reason Shadow looked as if he were about to cry. Sonic was confused, "Shadow... are you alright?" Shadow shut his eyes tightly and threw himself down to Sonic's chest, hiding his face. Shadow grit his teeth as he held back tears. Sonic was worried, "Shadow are you okay?!" Shadow managed to pull himself up look at Sonic with his tear-filled eyes. "No! I'm not okay! And I don't know why!" He burst into tears and covered his face with his hands in shame. Sonic

instinctively pulled Shadow close and held him. "Shadow, its okay, really, just tell me what's wrong. I'll do whatever I can to help you. Just tell me." Shadow jerked himself out of Sonic's grasp, "I can't tell you and you can't help me! Just, just leave me alone! I hate you!" Shadow then ran off to the couch in the other room. Sonic wanted to go after him, but it would only lead to a fight. He decided it would be best to leave him alone, and try to get some sleep.

Sonic and Shadow spent the last days of their vacation not speaking to one another. They both felt too awkward to say anything. The morning they headed back home, Sonic, Shadow, Tails and Amy all sat silently in the car until; "What's wrong with you guys!" She leaned up and looked at Sonic and Shadow, "Neither of you have said much of anything in the last few days!" Sonic wanted to shut her up, "Just enjoying the silence." Shadow said nothing and kept his attention out the window. "UGGG You guys are so annoying!" She sat back in her seat and put on her headphones. Shadow finally said something, "We're annoying?" Sonic was happy he hadn't stopped talking to him completely, "I presume so." They arrived home and unpacked. Everything was back to normal, as it seemed. Around four in the afternoon Sonic had his suitcase and was standing near the door. Amy panicked, "Sonic! Where are you going?!" Shadow was sitting on the couch pretending to read a book, while he was ease dropping. Sonic sighed cause he knew Amy was about to throw a fit. "Well, we have a week left of spring break and I'm going to go spend it with Sally." Amy's jaw dropped and tears filled her eyes. "But... But, Sonic WHY?" Sonic sighed and rolled his eyes, "Because I can and I want to. I'll see you guys in like four days." "Sonic noooo!" She clung to him; he was beginning to get annoyed. "Amy... I have to leave now or I'll be late for dinner and the king will be pissed at me." She let go. Sonic was surprised he gave up so easily. He grabbed his suitcase and started to leave, "See you guys later!" Amy watched as he pulled out of the drive way and drove off down the street. She then ran up to her room and cried. Shadow was puzzled; he walked into the kitchen casually and sat next to Rouge. "Who is Sally?" "Don't you remember? We've mentioned her to you before." Knuckles commented, "She's Sonic's dog." Rouge kicked him. Tails decided to explain for Shadow, "Sonic and Sally have known each other since they were kids. They sort of date off and on, it's a confusing relationship." Rouge chimed in, "And she is a princess!" Knuckles had to make a rude comment as usual, "Yeah if that idiot would just marry her, he could be a rich king. Sally's pretty easy on the eyes too, if you know what I mean." Rouge kicked him again and scooted closer to Shadow. "What! You know I didn't mean it like that baby!" "Whatever, so yeah Shadow, that's Sally." Shadow thought for a minute, "Okay." He then stood and began walking out of the room, without saying anything else. Knuckles commented after he left, "What a weirdo." Rouge was a little annoyed, "He is not, that's just what he is like when he is thinking." He playfully pushed her, "You would know." She sighed, with almost a sad tone, "I do." Shadow finished adding another cut to his body; this time he had cut his left thigh. He sat at his desk going through the drawers. He had a sewing kit spread across his bed with several other supplies. Shadow sat in the center of everything and began to work. He worked delicately and carefully, making sure each and every stitch was, as he wanted it.

Shadow worked throughout the night and finally finished as the sun was rising. He could smell breakfast cooking from downstairs and decided he didn't feel like sleeping through the day. He cleaned up and put away the sewing supplies and slipped his creation under his pillow. Shadow then made his way downstairs. Everyone was sitting around the table; Shadow took a seat next to Rouge. Tails was serving everyone, "What would you like for breakfast Shadow?" Shadow cleared his throat, "I'm not hungry." Rouge sipped from her coffee, "You look really tired, what time did you go to sleep last night Shadow?" "I didn't sleep." Amy seemed aggravated with Shadow this morning, "What in the world could you have been doing all night that you couldn't sleep?" Shadow didn't even look at her, "Stuff." "Well that's not very descriptive." "I was doing something, you wouldn't understand." Amy began to complain, "You're right, I wouldn't understand because I'm not a mean, cold-hearted emo kid that cuts myself and has no

friends.” Shadow then got up from the table and returned to his room. Rouge shot Amy an evil glare, “Why do you have to be so mean to him? He didn’t do anything to you.” “He got to share a room with Sonic and Sonic blew me off to hang out with him several times over the course of our vacation. Sonic and I were supposed to have a nice romantic five days with each other and Shadow ruined it! And why do you always have to stick up for him Rouge? Its obvious to everyone that you still love him, don’t you!?” Rouge stared at her as her eyes began to fill with tears. Knuckles took her hand and pulled her towards him, she fought back tears as she pressed her face to his chest.

In his room Shadow sat on his bed with his knees pulled to his chest. He was in deep thought. He bit his lip and breathed out deeply and lifted his head. He looked at himself in the mirror on the wall for a long while. He then got up and walked across the room to the window and lifted it. Carefully, he climbed out onto the limb of an old tree. Shadow jumped down and walked off, down the street.

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All right this chapter ended kind of short, but hey there is more to come. I just can’t think of much tonight ^.^~ I want to finish another chapter to “Starting to Know me” so I can make a contest XP Yeah, that’s all for now I suppose.

8 - My Love

Chapter eight you guys! Woot woot!

It was around three in the morning when Sonic made it home. He had been away to visit Sally for the last few days. Spring break would be over and they would all have to return to school in a few hours. Sonic was tired as hell. He unlocked the door, attempting to be as quiet as possible. To his dismay, Tails had the alarm set and as soon as he got the door open it went off. Everyone other than Shadow rushed downstairs in their pajamas. Sonic scratched the back of his head as a bead of sweat fell down from his forehead. Hey guys, I'm home. Go back to sleep. Amy ran over and threw her arms around him, Sonic! You've been gone for four days! I missed you soooooo much! That's great Amy, go get some sleep. Alright my love. She kissed his cheek and trotted back upstairs behind Tails, Rouge and Knuckles. Sonic, now being alone walked towards the kitchen.

For some reason, the light was on in the kitchen. Sonic looked to discover Shadow sitting at the table with some sort of strange laptop. Hey! What are you doing? Shadow didn't turn to look at him, he just continued typing. Sonic felt an angry focused tension in the room, Are you okay? Shadow finished what he was doing and booted off his laptop, he then stood up. A blush fell upon Sonic's face when he noticed Shadow was in his boxers and a long-sleeved white undershirt. Shadow actually spoke to him, Did you have fun? Sonic was happy to hear his voice, Yeah actually, it's nice to visit her every once in a while. What did you guys do? Sonic felt like he was being accused of something when Shadow said this, What are you? My mother? Sonic laughed heartily. Shadow's expression didn't change, which made Sonic feel awkward. Shadow made a disgusted look on his face and walked lightly out of the room. When Sonic was alone, he realized how tired he actually was. Man& I've got to get some sleep. Everyone was awake and sitting downstairs. Shadow, could you go wake Sonic up so he isn't late for school? Tails asked politely. Amy stood shouted, I'll wake Sonic-kun! Rouge pulled her down, Take a seat, and let Shadow do it. He has a more calming voice. I sure as hell wouldn't want to be woken up by a loud-pitched squeal from you. Hey! Amy and Rouge began to argue as Shadow went for Sonic. He knocked on the door and twisted the handle; it was unlocked. He stepped in silently and closed the door behind him. Sonic didn't even move. Shadow stood over him, watching him sleep. A slight smile spread across his lips as Sonic slowly lifted his eyelids. He smiled at Shadow, Well good morning! Get up& or you'll be late for school. Sonic made a pouting face, I don't wanna! He rolled over, covering his head with the blankets. The smile disappeared from Shadow's face. He was frustrated with Sonic, I was sent up here to wake you up. Sonic rolled back over and looked at him, Lets ditch today. I can't, I've skipped too many times this semester already. Anymore and I'll have to repeat the tenth grade. Oh really?! I didn't know you skipped school. Shadow rolled his eyes, Its not like you pay attention. No one does. Sonic kicked him softly, You emo kid. Whatever, just get up. Shadow tugged at Sonic's arm. Fine, I'll be downstairs in ten minutes. Wait for me so we can walk to school together? Shadow was surprised by Sonic's proposal, Sure. Oh and Shadow? Can you pour me a cup of coffee? I'm still really tired, Sonic asked as Shadow was walking out the door. Okay.

Sonic sipped his coffee slowly as he walked next to Shadow. Shadow avoided eye contact and clutched his books like a nervous schoolgirl. A messenger bag hung at his hip and a barrette held a few strands of his hair down. This was the first time in a long time that Sonic had actually slowed down enough to walk with someone anywhere. It's a nice morning, not too hot, not too cold, Sonic attempted to make conversation. Shadow plainly and simply nodded in agreement. So, Shadow, I noticed that you have

been reading that really weird book with the strange language. What s it about? It s about the history of my people. Wow! That s really cool. Where on Earth did you find a book like that? Shadow laughed slightly, which shocked Sonic in a way. Not on Earth. I found it while I was going through some things on the Space Colony Ark. It s really old. Cool, cool. So what when on in the house when I was gone for those four days? I don t know. What do you mean, you don t know? You where there. I didn t really leave my room for much. What could you have possibly been doing in there for like, four days? I have things to get done, projects to finish, lives to save, armies to destroy. Sonic looked at him as if he were crazy, though Shadow s face was completely serious. They reached the school grounds and Sonic needed to go off to his click. Talk to you later, Shadow! He waved to him goodbye as he ran off. Shadow watched him go, and then walked off in the opposite direction.

Shadow went behind the wall at his school and set down his books. He took out a cigarette and lit it. He leaned against the wall and yawned. It was just the beginning of the day and he was already bored out of his mind. He closed his eyes and slid his back down the wall till he sat on the ground. He pulled his knees to his chest and finished his cigarette.

The evening was growing late, Shadow sat at his desk. He put together several different types of pills and took them all, wanting an escape from the world for the time being. He didn t take enough to kill himself, he didn t even take enough to dramatically effect him, just enough to make him calm and at peace with the world. He cut himself a bit and was currently cutting a name into a piece of paper. Suddenly there was a knock at the door. It was Sonic, Shadow? Can I come in? Shadow gasped, Just a minute! He quickly put his razor blade away and hid the paper in the desk he threw on a long sleeved shirt and opened the door. Yes? Sonic smiled at him, Just wanted to hang out and see what you were up to. Sonic causally walked in and threw himself violently on the bed. Shadow closed the door and sat down gracefully beside him. Sonic wrapped his arms around the pillow and felt something, What s this? He said as he pulled it out from under the pillow. It was a hand-made doll& of Sonic. Shadow quickly grabbed it from him and huddled it to his chest. He got on the floor, hiding himself from Sonic. Sonic was confused; he got down to Shadow s level on the floor and tried to talk to him. Shadow, what s going on? You can tell me. Did you make that? Shadow had his knees at his chest and his eyes were closed tightly, his ears were down and it seemed as his he was holding back tears. Shadow& please don t cry. Shadow shook his head and breathed-out heavily. Sonic grabbed his arm and pulled him closer and held him tightly. Shadow eased up and gripped Sonic s shirt at his chest. So, did you make that? Shadow paused then nodded his head slowly. Its cute, and it really looks like me. But, why did you make it? Shadow sat up, pulling himself away from Sonic, his head hung down as a tear fell from his cheek, Do you really want to know? Sonic waited for him to continue. It took me hours to finish, an entire night in fact. I wanted to make something that resembled you, because I wanted to hold you, and cuddle with you at night, and tell you things that I would never tell anyone else, without getting my heart broken. At this point a stream of tears was flowing down Shadow s face. He bit his lip, waiting for rejection from the azure hedgehog. Sonic was shocked and said nothing. Shadow found the strength to look with tear filled eyes, into Sonic s emerald gaze. Sonic threw his arms around Shadow. Shadow pressed his face to Sonic s shoulder and cried. Sonic lifted his head and stared into his eyes, Don t cry anymore, there is no reason to. Shadow looked away, I m sorry. You must think I m weak and over-sensitive. Sonic smiled, Not at all, you re just an emo kid, and everyone knows that. But don t worry about it, I like you just the way you are. Sonic pressed his lips to Shadow s and kissed him deeply. Shadow was surprised, but kissed him back with as much as, if not more passion. When they parted a cute blush graced Shadow s cheeks. Awww, you re blushing, Sonic said while pinching his cheek. You are too&a little. Sonic smiled, So for tonight, do you want to hold me, and cuddle with me, and tell me things that you would never tell anyone else? Will you break my heart? I ll try as hard as I can not to. Shadow thought, then smiled back at him, Sure why not? I ll take the risk.

A few minutes later Sonic and Shadow were under the covers, in their pajamas. Shadow was cuddled up to Sonic's chest; a wide smile was spread across his face. Sonic picked at him, "I don't think I've ever seen you smile this much, ever! Shhh, keep your voice down, you'll wake the others up. The only thing that will happen if they see us is ask why we are in bed together, then Amy would cry and Knuckles would make fun of us for the rest of our lives. Then the whole school might find out due to Knuckles' big mouth and we would have to deal with being picked on every single day at school. But then we could come home and cheer each other up. And on the plus side Tails and Rouge would be supportive of us! I don't want to give people something more to make fun of me for. But Sonic& Yes? What& what does this mean to you? To me, this means the world. Honestly, I've had feelings for you for the longest time. I was always afraid to say it cause I didn't know how you would react and I didn't want to destroy our friendship. I've wanted to be with you from the first day I met you. Since before you lost your memory. You've gotten most of it back now. There are only a few things you don't remember. I'm glad you're ok now. Shadow was amazed, "That's the sweetest thing anyone has ever said to me. I didn't start to like you until our lives settled down and we started going to school and having normal, structured lives. I hope that one day I can fill in the blanks in my memory, hopefully you can help me with that. Sonic smiled and kissed Shadow's forehead. "Let's get some sleep, it's getting really late. Shadow yawned and snuggled even closer to Sonic, "Goodnight, my love.

Cute and sweet? That's what I thought. Adorable! I know&lol

9 - The Truth

Chapter 9, see you guys, its not over! In fact it is far from it, much, much more drama has to go on, I can't just end it now! XD

The sun beat on Shadow's face as he woke to find himself cuddled to Sonic's chest. He sat up and leaned over Sonic, getting so close their noses almost touched. He stared at him until Sonic's blue eyelids lifted, revealing his jade eyes. Sonic instantly smiled, "Good morning my dark ray of sunshine!" Shadow laughed a little and kissed Sonic lightly. As he rose Sonic spoke, "Man, its only Tuesday, what a drag. There is nothing good about Tuesdays except the fact you made it through Monday." Shadow listened quietly as he got dressed. "Look Shadow, I was thinking. It would probably be for the best if we kept us a secret from everyone else. Honestly, I don't want to get picked on for being gay." Shadow was a bit saddened. "Oh& um yeah. I guess I'm sorry for like& everything." Sonic replied quickly, "Shadow that's not what I meant at all! I really, really like you. And I really want to be with you, I just want to keep us a secret for the time being. You know? Let people figure it out slowly, and on their own. The only person who would actually catch on really fast would be Rouge." Shadow was quiet, "Okay& With that Sonic hugged him tightly. Shadow blushed and hugged him back gently. "I'll try as hard as I can to make everything work between us, ok?" Shadow nodded and rested his head on Sonic's shoulder. At lunch Shadow sat with Rouge under the oak tree as he usually did. He was strangely cheerful today. Shadow smiled as he bit into an apple and stared down at his book. Rouge was shocked, "Shadow, are you ok? You are scaring me!" Shadow looked at her, confused. He chewed and swallowed then spoke, "Why? You are acting& happy. Not to mention, you are actually eating in a public place! You're never like this! Are you feeling well? What happened? Are you sick?" Shadow smiled childishly and bit his lip; he shifted his eyes away from Rouge. "What do you think happened? Give me a hint!" "Umm, it has to do with something blue. Would this something blue be a certain hedgehog?" Shadow nodded. "What did you do with this blue hedgehog?!" They were playing this guessing game like two giddy schoolgirls. "Well this certain blue hedgehog slept in this certain dark hedgehog's room last night. Rouge's mouth dropped. "Oh my gosh! Shadow, you didn't! I didn't! We just cuddled and talked all night. She pounced on him, letting out a high-pitched squeal. "That's soooo adorable Shadow!" He hugged her back. "Don't tell anyone, he wants to keep us a secret. It will ruin his reputation, you know?" "I understand Shadow. Ooooo I'm so happy for you! I don't think I've ever seen you smile this much&" Her voice trailed off into a saddened tone with the last sentence. Shadow noticed her sudden change in mood, "Rouge, what's wrong?" She suddenly snapped back to her normal self, "Nothing! Come on hurry up with your apple the bell is about to ring!"

Shadow held his books at his side as he smoked a cigarette on his way home from school. He was caught up in the crowd but was alone at the same time. Rouge had been driven home by Knuckles; leaving Shadow with no one to talk to. Shadow looked casually for Sonic in the mix of all the people. He finally found him; many flirty girls were following Sonic. Shadow watched out of the corner of his eye, Sonic seemed to be enjoying himself. Shadow walked ahead of them, making sure he could be seen. Sonic paused in his speech to the ladies upon catching sight of the dark figure. However, he shook his head and continued on with what he was saying. Shadow knew he was being ignored and had no intention of sticking around just for that, so he took a short cut down an ally way. He looked at his watch and decided he had time to kill. "I don't want to go home," Shadow muttered to himself. He continued walking till he came to a coffee shop and decided to go in. Everyone seemed to

stop and turn to look at the dark hedgehog as he made his entrance. Shadow looked around, there were tons of depressive teenagers sitting around sipping coffee, smoking and listening to poetry. Shadow quickly found a corner and sat there to himself; it was only then did everyone go back to what they were originally doing. One person approached him. She got up from her seat, from which she was spending time with her friends and casually approached him. She was a purple mongoose that looked strangely familiar. Are you by chance Shadow the hedgehog? Shadow looked at her strangely, Who wants to know? She smiled and sat down next to him, then motioned her friends over with her hand. Another mongoose with black hair sat beside her. He put his arm around her and kissed her lightly on the cheek. Her other friend sat across from them at the table; she was a pink echidna. Shadow was confused but said nothing. The purple mongoose smiled as she blew out a puff of smoke. You probably don't remember us, considering how fracked up your memory is. I'm Mina, this is my boyfriend Ash, and this is my friend, Julie-su. With you, we were never really close friends, but we knew of each other and had run ins now and then. Shadow creased his brow, What's going on? Ash answered him, Nothing really, we are just some old friends you don't remember or did you forget that you lost your memory? How can I forget something that I can't help but not remember? Mina twitched her eye, Shut the hell up boys, gosh you're giving me a fucking headache. Ash rolled his eyes, Anyway. What are you doing here? What's been going on in your life? We knew you were back but we don't know anything else. Shadow looked at each of them, How do I know you aren't lying to me? Mina then pulled out her camera. I have tons of pictures on here, take a look. They are all from about a year and a half ago, before you like died. Shadow flipped through them; amazed. There was one picture of Sonic kissing Mina on the cheek while Shadow held her in his arms at a party. He smiled at each passing memory. Mina had something to say, I don't know how much you remember, or how much they have told you but here check this out. I made a slideshow of all the couples back then. Shadow watched intently. Several pictures of Sonic and Sally passed by; then pictures of Julie-su and Knuckles. Shadow was puzzled, I didn't know you two went out. Julie-su bit her lip as if she was holding back tears, We were together for years& but then. She stood up. Mina got up as well, Come on Julie-su, let's go to the bathroom. The two of them hurried off. Shadow looked at Ash; very confused. You really don't remember do you? Nothing at all? Just keep watching. Shadow returned his attention to the camera. A picture of Rouge and Shadow appeared, they were on the ark, looking down at Earth, hand in hand. More pictures of them passed by, Shadow was in shock. The last picture on the camera was of Rouge smiling in a strange way, Shadow had his ear to her stomach and there was a caption underneath it. It read, *Twins* Shadow's mouth dropped and his eyes widened. Is& is this a joke? Ash smirked, No joke, go ask her yourself. Look I wouldn't say much to Julie-su about it if I were you. After you died, it took Rouge a long time to get over it and I don't think she ever completely did. However, when she decided to get another boyfriend, Knuckles was first in line. I guess you could say he dumped Julie-su hard for Rouge. She has really changed since then, not much but gloom and doom. But hey, do you still love Rouge or anything? Shadow was upset, No, I love... He covered his mouth quickly and darted his eyes, catching what he was about to say. At this time Julie-su rushed out of the bathroom, crying her eyes out. Why did this have to happen to me!?! This is all your fault! Why did you just go and die like that!?! Get back with Rouge so I can have the love of my life back! I hate you! She then ran off down the street, Mina chased after her, Julie-su wait! It's not his fault! Shadow swallowed and looked to Ash. Well I don't know what to say old friend. Things will work themselves out, you'll see. Shadow looked at his hands, I always ruin everything. Just go talk to Rouge. I got to go now, before I lose them. Shadow handed Ash the camera. Here. Ash slipped Shadow a piece of paper. That's my number, keep in touch. I hate losing friends. He then rushed out of the store.

Shadow stopped at his front door step, afraid to open it. It was extremely late for a school night; nearing midnight. He had found himself wandering around and sitting at the lake all day. The lights were still on

in the house. He swallowed and slowly turned the handle. He walked in to find everyone still up, waiting for him in the living room. Rouge looked as if she had been crying, she violently stood, Where the frack have you been!?! Do you have any idea what time it is? We were worried sick about you! Shadow said nothing; he just stood there blankly. Tails, Amy and Knuckles looked relieved. Amy spoke up, Well, since he is alright, we are going to sleep. Tails trudged up the stairs behind her, Goodnight you guys. Knuckles looked at the three of them, Umm I think me being here would make things awkward. I m going to let Shadow explain himself to the people he actually talks to. Knuckles then left Rouge, Sonic and Shadow alone. Sonic no felt comfort raising his voice. We have been looking all over for you! Shadow stood blankly, How come you guys never told me? Sonic and Rouge shared a quick glance then spoke at the same time, Tell you what? Shadow looked at his feet, I went to a coffee shop and ran in to some old friends, who I didn t know where friends but still. They had some pictures on a camera and& Rouge stepped towards him and put her hand on his shoulder. And what? Shadow looked up and into her eyes, What ever happened to& our children. Rouge s eyes widened and filled with tears. She turned her back to the boys and walked to the couch. She sat and put her face in her hands. Sonic s mouth was dropped; Shadow slid down and sat on the floor. What else don t I know? And where are my children? What happened to them? What happened to us? He looked to Sonic, What happened to you and Sally and why did you ignore me earlier today? Rouge gathered herself and made her way to sit in front of Shadow, I guess I should go first. She swallowed and wiped her tears. Alright. Before you died, you and I were together. We fell in love and spent all of our time together. We had so many plans& and over the course of time I became pregnant with twins, a boy and a girl. We picked out names, you picked the boy s and I picked the girl s. Ark and Lexie. We were going to get a house in the country, at least away from the city, to raise them but then, you died and I was left here alone. I was going to have to raise them on my own, and for your sake I was going to do my best. However, I got in a fight, considering my job is so dangerous and I lost them. They were born prematurely and died. We had them buried. It still kills me inside to know that there had to have been something I could have done to save them. Its my fault. Shadow touched her face as she started to cry. She smiled, They would have been about one now. Shadow pulled her close and held her. I want to see their graves sometime. Alright, we can go this weekend. she sighed, Through everything Knuckles tried to take care of me. He was going to help me raise the kids. He helped me do anything and everything that I needed him for. It took me a while but I decided to give him a shot since he cared so much and that brings us to today. He broke up with Julie-su for you. Ahhh you ran into her, she hates my guts. I noticed. The two of them laughed a little, then Shadow turned his attention to Sonic. Alright, your turn. Sonic smiled, Well there isn t much to say. I m sorry about earlier, with the whole ignoring you thing. I just don t want to make it obvious. I mean if I just left the entire group they would catch on and yeah. As far as the Sally thing goes, we have been on and off for years. I can t stand her stay at home and run the kingdom lifestyle. She can be really doggy and persistent at times, too. I don t know about her, you know? Shadow looked at him sternly, Pick now, me or her. Sonic looked shocked and thought for a moment, You. Shadow stood up, Good, well I think I just need some time alone for now. I ll see you guys in the morning. Sonic and Rouge smiled at him, Goodnight Shadow. Shadow turned and walked slowly up the stairs and into his room. He shut and locked the door behind him. With a heavy sigh he stepped into the bathroom and started the water in the tub. He undressed and sunk into the steaming liquid. This irritated some of his cuts and reopened a few, however he ignored it and let the small amount of blood flow through the water. He turned his head to notice a small bag sitting on the counter.

The end of Chapter 9! Too bad I won t be able to post this till like Christmas, my editor is out of town. (anime_angel_from_hell) go check out her stuff, she s pretty cool.

10 - Acid Trip

Chapter 10, woot woot.

Shadow narrowed his eyes at the bag and lifted himself from the water. He grasped it and opened it slowly to reveal a small pill. Oh yeah, He whispered to himself. This is that stuff from that guy at the beach. He held it up in the light, Acid? He sat on the edge of the bathtub and thought. May as well see what s so great about it. And without another thought he swallowed it. He drained the water in the tub and got into his boxers. Shadow lit up a cigarette and walked onto his balcony. The moonlight was glistening on the pool below him as the wind danced over the water. Shadow took a deep breath of the cool night air. However he quickly became bored and decided to go back inside and watch television. An hour passed and Shadow didn t feel tired in the slightest. He was disgusted in himself, I never sleep. The bags under my eyes are horrible. He slowly began to feel as if he were suffocating; yet he was able to breath. His eyelids became heavy, then they would spring open wide. Every movement he made appealed to all of his senses and every emotion possible was running through him at the same time. He smiled widely and stood up, then fell onto the bed. He wrapped himself up in the covers as he rolled and fell, toppling off of the bed. Shadow laughed, Haha! I fell. He looked up to the ceiling to see a mirage of colors taking over the open space. It was one color, and every color you could imagine at the same time; that spiraled into the center in a counter-clockwise motion. Shadow bit his bottom lip and whispered to himself, &Wow&

Sonic knocked on Shadow s door at seven in the morning, Shadow; time to get up! We have school today, I m coming in! Sonic opened the door to find Shadow sitting in the middle of the floor; paper was spread all about and Shadow was chewing on his toothbrush. Umm babe? Are you okay? Did you go to sleep last night? Shadow looked up at him, Hey there! I know you! You re Sonic! Sonic walked in closing the door, Umm, yes? Shadow sprung up and jumped onto him, I love you soooo much. I even made a dolly of you so I can cuddle it! And I have tons of pictures on my computer! Sonic was confused as he pried Shadow from him. Uhh thanks? What s for breakfast Sonic!? Shadow seemed as happy as a five-year-old child. We are having pancakes. Good! Yum! I m hungry! I can t wait for school today! Did you sleep well? I missed you last night! Sonic s eye twitched at Shadow s eerie chipper-ness. Shadow waited in a frozen state for Sonic s reply. Uhh I slept well indeed, and I missed you too? Shadow smiled and hugged him, That s wonderful! I m glad! I m going to go help with breakfast now! He pointed to the pieces of paper, Be careful not to step on the caterpillars, they are just babies! With that Shadow raced off down the stairs, in his boxers.

In the kitchen Tails was busily working at the stove. Shadow stood next to him, Can I help? Tails was shocked, Sure Shadow, you can go pour some orange juice& Shadow smiled so widely his eyes shut, Okay! He got the juice and glasses and began to pour, on the third glass he accidentally dropped it and it shattered. Amy let out a short loud gasp as it fell. Shadow looked terrified as he turned to Tails, I m so sorry& Chill Shadow its just a glass, we have tons. Yeah, but& I broke it& its all my fault, it s always my fault! He then burst out into tears and slid to his knees on the floor. Rouge ran to him, Shadow! What is wrong with you today? He looked up at her, Nothing, and everything! It s always my fault either way so it doesn t matter. You love Knuckles and I love Sony Play station . Actually video games hurt my eyes& but I love my Sony stereo. And several other things that start with an S. Such as soy beans, skittles, stars, songs, sex and most of all Soni& Sonic suddenly burst into the room, Shadow put some clothes on, you are scaring everyone for life! Shadow looked over to him, I have on some clothes, I had

on more. Shadow then took notice of a fly buzzing around the room. He smiled wildly and laughed childishly as his eyes followed its makeshift pattern. The others looked to each other in confusion. Shadow took hold of the counter's edge and pulled himself up. He grasped a pan from the dish drainer and violently swung at the fly, as he did so he let go of the frying pan so it rammed into the wall leaving a huge hole. Tails was shocked, I & I put so much work into this house and you just destroy the wall. What is wrong with you? Shadow looked to him hatefully, What is wrong with me? What is wrong with you!? I've had enough of your constant complaining you yellow banana! And you, giant pink condom, do you ever shut up? It's always Oooh Sonic hold me, I love you! What about my needs? And you mister potato head, aren't you good enough for Ms. Beautiful Sunshine. She deserves your constant undivided attention and you hardly ever talk with her at lunch in school. You are always with your stupid potato friends. And lastly I have some words for the blue balloon over here. Shadow turned and pointed at Sonic, Why can't I be as good as some old rotten dancing acorn? At that moment Shadow's face dropped and his expression went blank, I can't feel my face & Shadow then began to fall; Sonic caught him before he hit the floor. Tails helped, Let's get him into the living room and I'll do some tests to see what's wrong with him.

Shadow woke to see Tails coming at him with a needle, WHAO NO! Shadow jumped up and ran around to the other side of the couch. Shadow something could really be wrong with you, we need to test you. NO, I'm just having an off day! Keep your banana hands away from me! Shadow quickly ran upstairs and locked his bedroom door behind him. Sonic and the others stood, utterly confused downstairs. Amy was the first to speak, I think Shadow has finally, completely lost it. Rouge took Sonic's hand, Let's go see if he's alright.

By the time Rouge and Sonic picked the lock, Shadow had fled through the window. Shadow was trotting down the street, not sure where he was going, but at the same time he didn't care in the slightest. Sonic and the others decided to go to school and worry about Shadow later, they knew Shadow skipped school on a regular basis, the only difference was that today Shadow seemed to be out of his mind. Sonic tapped his foot impatiently in second period. He thought, I can't take this anymore! Shadow is out there with god knows who, doing god knows what, and he can't control himself. I have to get out of here and find him. The bell rang and Sonic sneaked through the school and out the door. I have to find him, He whispered to himself.

Sonic jogged down the street thinking, Shadow said something about the coffee shop the other day, maybe he went somewhere around there. Sonic stopped when he came to the place; he asked the people sitting outside, Have you seen a black hedgehog? I think he may have come past here. One of the ladies spoke, You mean that crazy guy that couldn't walk straight and was talking to himself? He went towards the park. Thank you! Sonic shouted as he rushed off.

He searched the park and finally found Shadow lying in the grass near the stream with a cigarette hanging from his mouth. Sonic sat beside him and smiled, I finally found you. Shadow's eyes shifted to look at the blue figure that was staring down at him. Shadow, are you alright now? Shadow blew out a puff of smoke, Better than I was & Do you know what was wrong? I mean you were acting really strange. Yes, and we aren't going to talk about it. I'll be fine in due time. Oh & alright. Sonic & Yes? Did you ditch school to come find me? Yeah, I was worried if you were okay. It was driving me crazy. Why? Cause I care about you, and you being out here by yourself & you could get hurt. Why would it matter? Because I care about you, and I don't want you to be hurt. I don't see why & Simply because I care, how many times do I have to say it? I'm not worth your care. I'm a failure. Sonic sighed, No you're not Shadow. Gosh you're such a freaking emo kid. Come on, let's get home we can just chill for the rest of the day. Just you and me. A small smile appeared on Shadow's face, Okay, help me get up. Sonic stood and grasped Shadow's hands, pulling him up. Shadow wobbled, as if his legs were made of jello. Shadow fell forward, onto Sonic's chest. Sonic smiled and lifted Shadow off the ground and into his

arms, How about I just carry you? I mean until you feel better. Shadow said nothing, he just merely gripped Sonic's shirt as he allowed him to hold him.

Shadow and Sonic lay on the bed in Sonic's room. Sonic leaned over Shadow; they were so close, their noses touched. So are you feeling better now? Yeah, thanks for helping me. Shadow wrapped his arms around Sonic, pulling him on top of him. Their lips met in a passionate kiss. Sonic playfully bit at Shadow's bottom lip and nuzzled his nose. You know Shadow, I've been thinking a lot lately. About what? Sonic smiled and laughed a little, You. Shadow licked Sonic's lips and kissed his nose. Really Shadow, I mean it truly. I can't stop thinking about you. I want to be with you, no matter what people say. Shadow was a bit shocked, But you said& I know what I said, but I don't care anymore. I can't pretend not to love you, it's been driving me crazy. Shadow pulled away from him slightly and stared into his eyes, I love you, too. Oh Shadow, I want this moment to never end. I'll never let you go. Shadow leaned up and whispered into Sonic's ear, Take me. Sonic was shocked, Shadow, what& Again he spoke but louder, Take me now.

Cliffhanger&. Well actually I can't finish it because I have to keep this story somewhat clean, you know? And I don't want to write the details& you know what they are about to do! You know!

11 - You're what?!

Chapter 11& yes.

Sonic and Shadow lay side by side, panting. Sweat dripped from their bodies, as they lay fully exposed, attempting to cool down. They turned their heads to look at one another with soft smiles. Shadow mouthed words, I love you. Sonic did the same with a small, I love you, too. It was a little past two in the afternoon; the others would be home in about a half an hour. Sonic laughed, I think we need a shower, come on my dark ray of sun shine.

The shower space was tight, therefore their bodies touched with every movement. Shadow helped Sonic scrub his back kindly, and then playfully spanked his @\$\$. Sonic turned around quickly, grabbing Shadow and pushing him against the wall and forcing him into a kiss. Using force, no fair! Sonic licked the side of Shadow's face. Ewww! You're horrible! Sonic smiled, But you like it. Shadow pouted, Shut-up. Sonic laughed at him and wrapped his arms around his naked lover. Shadow rested his head on Sonic's shoulder. Sonic took a serious tone, Are you happy? Shadow didn't move, Happier than I've ever been.

Sonic sat in the kitchen eating an apple, as Shadow read from his book. The others got home from school a bit earlier than they usually did; Rouge was the first in the door. She threw her arms around Shadow, Oh Shadow, we were all so worried about you! We didn't even hang out after school at all. We all came straight home to see if you were back. Amy hit Sonic in the back of the head, Sonic couldn't even wait that long. Why did you ditch school!? You know that's against the law right!? Whatever happened to you being a law-biding hero? Sonic said nothing; he decided it would be best to ignore her. Knuckles attempted to ignore the fact that his girlfriend was clinging onto another man; one that she had once been in love with. Tails, now being satisfied to know that everyone was safe and at home, began to work on fixing the wall that Shadow had destroyed earlier that day. Rouge kissed Shadow's forehead, You scared me! Don't ever pull that crazy stunt again& I'm not even going to ask what was really wrong with you. Shadow smiled, happy to know she cared.

Shadow sat on his bed, with the sliding door open to his balcony so that the smoke from his cigarette would blow out. There was a knock on the door, Come in. Sonic quickly slipped inside, closing and locking the door behind him. Hey Shadow, what are you up to? Umm, just sitting here mostly. You know we have no school tomorrow right? Teacher work day, we have a three-day weekend! Shadow's eyes lightened as Sonic sat beside him. Shadow scooted closer to him and kissed his cheek. Sonic pulled him onto his lap and held him close. Shadow looked him in the eyes with a soft smile on his face. He then ran his hand down the back of Sonic's quill, then his own. He thought for a moment, creasing his brow. We need new hair cuts, babe. Sonic was shocked, But I've had my hair like this for as long as I can remember. Exactly. Look, we'll make this fun, you do mine and I'll do yours. Just don't frack my hair up, or I'll have to castrate you. Sonic swallowed as a bead of sweat ran down his forehead as Shadow got up to go get a pair of scissors.

Sonic looked at himself in the mirror, amazed. It's so& so different. Sonic's hair was spiked in the back, with bangs over his left eye, It's never been this short before. Shadow smiled, Yes, but you look beautiful darling. And hey, you aren't so bad at doing hair yourself. Shadow's hair came right above his shoulders, He had layers in the front; red evenly distributed among them, part in the middle of his hair was red, where his stripe was. Shadow hugged Sonic from behind, You like it? Sonic turned around quickly and whisked Shadow off his feet, I Love It!

At dinnertime Shadow and Sonic both entered the dining room at the same time, everyone was shocked.

Oh my god, I love your hair! Rouge was excited for them, as she usually was. Amy however didn't approve, Sonic! Noooo! How could you do that to your beautiful hair! Knuckles didn't care, You retards, so fracking emo. Tails smiled, It's certainly different.

After dinner Shadow went out for a walk by himself. Sonic asked to go, but Shadow wanted to be alone. So Sonic sat back relaxing in the bathtub when there was a knock at his door. It was Amy, Sonic, Sally is on the phone for you, she sounded angry. Sonic shouted back as he hopped out of the water and wrapped a towel around his hips. He opened the door and Amy blushed to see Sonic dripping wet, and practically naked. Uhhh, uhhh, here. She handed him the phone and walked away quickly, beat red in the face. Sonic locked his door and took the towel to dry his hair as he talked to Sally. Hey girl, what's up? Umm Sonic, I need to talk to you. Sure babe, anything. Tell me what's wrong. Well I haven't talked to you in a while and it's been a few months since I last saw you. I miss you. Sonic laughed, Is that all? You know I'll come visit you, all you have to do is ask hon. Sonic that's not all. I really need to talk to you. This is serious & I'm just really afraid of how you'll react. Sally, don't worry about it, you know I'm understanding. I'm not going to judge you or think any less of you, no matter what it is. You need to feel free to tell me anything. I know I can talk to you, and tell you anything & but it's different this time & it's life changing. Just tell me, stalling isn't getting us anywhere. She took a long pause and a deep sigh, Sonic, you know how you came to visit about three months ago? Sonic leaned against his desk, Yeah. And you know how we messed around and stuff & Yeah & you don't mean & Sonic & I'm pregnant. Sonic's mouth and the phone dropped. Sally was confused, Sonic? Sonic are you there? Sonic struggled and managed to pick up the phone and talk, Yeah & Sally, what are we going to do? The only thing we can do. We'll just have to do our best to raise our child, Sonic. Do you think we should get married? Sonic felt tears form in his eyes, Sally, we've been over this. You know that I & Sonic! I am carrying your baby! Plus, it's not like there is anyone else in your life. Why don't you love me like you used to?! Are you going to let me become an unwed teenage mother?! Sally! You don't know much about my life, maybe there is someone else and I can't hurt them like that! How can you hurt me like this?! Sally, I love him! I don't love you anymore, how many times do we have to go over this?! Sally was crying her eyes out on the other end. Sonic listened to her for a moment, then took a softer more kind tone of voice, Look, Sally I'll do everything I can to help you take care of the baby. This is going to be really hard on both of us, but I'll be there when you need me every step of the way. It will all work out, I mean we talked about this happening before. It isn't the end of the world. Maybe not for you! Who is going to want me now? I'll be a sixteen year old mother! Sonic smiled, Sally, you're a princess. Enough said. She sniffed and attempted to calm herself; How am I going to tell my father? I'll come down there and break the news to him if you want. If you do that, he will attempt to force you to marry me & and Sonic? Yes? You love & him? Sonic bit his lip and his eyes widened, Umm I, uh yeah about that & ha ha ha & ohhh & Sonic, who are you with? You're dating a guy? It's all right if you are. It's not like you haven't been with a boy before. Sonic smiled; embarrassed, You knew about all that? Duh, if anyone knew what was going on in your life it was me, back then. You've dated a few guys & I'm not stupid. What would you say if I told you I knew you had been with Knuckles? Sonic stopped her, Shut up! That was back in junior high! And NO ONE knew about it! She laughed at him, I did! He had a long pause, & Stalker & Not really, but Sonic I have to go for now, call me tomorrow please. And if you could, come for a visit really soon. I'll come down this weekend, I'll leave right after school on Friday. Thank you & I love you Sonic. Sonic frowned and looked down at his feet and a tear rolled down his cheek, Yeah, I'll see you soon. Goodnight. With that he hung up the phone.

Sonic sat on the roof outside his window wearing nothing more than his boxers. It neared one in the morning when he noticed Shadow walking up the driveway and around the side of the house. Sonic ducked down, he didn't want to talk to him after hearing all that from Sally, he just needed time to think

about things. However Shadow saw the light on in his window and jumped up next to Sonic. Hey. Shadow stated blandly as he sat next to him. Sonic turned his face away from him, feeling the tears begin to form. Shadow leaned over in attempt to see his face, What s wrong? Sonic choked back tears, Nothing& I just need to be alone right now. Shadow grabbed Sonic s chin and forced him to look into his eyes. Tears fell; Shadow stop! I just need to be alone to think about things! Shadow tilted his head, Things are good between us, right? Sonic analyzed Shadow, Hey! You got your lip pierced! Shadow still waited for an answer, as if he hadn t heard Sonic s last statement. Shadow s pupils were strangely small for such a dark night. Sonic sighed, I guess so, I just really need to be alone right now& not as far as our relationship goes but just as in, the moment. Shadow let go of him and blinked, Fine, then he stood up, Sonic took hold of his leg. Don t be upset Shadow! Shadow shook him off, When you are ready to talk, you know where to find me. Attempt to get some sleep, we do have school in the morning. With that Shadow walked across the roof to his own window and slipped inside.

Hmm indeed, oh the drama. It just keeps getting better! XD HAHA Wait till the baby is born, so ADORABLE! I have pics of him in my gallery if you go look. ^.~

12 - Drugs & Confessions

Chapter 12

Shadow stared at his ceiling. He had woken up about an hour ago but hadn't yet found the strength to rise. School was going to start in an hour. It still hadn't worn off, even after that night that felt like it was never going to end. Shadow finally sat up, dangling his legs over the side of the bed. He stood and slumped over to the mirror. He noticed his bottom lip was swollen; there was a ring in the middle of it.

HOLY shoot! He shouted, loudly. He was shocked, I don't remember getting my lip pierced& Suddenly he felt a strong pain in his forehead. He bent over and held it with both hands. He sat on the floor; grinding his teeth because the pain was so sharp. After a few minutes he felt better, the pain had went numb. His eyes felt heavy and his legs wobbled as he walked. He gripped the counter of the bathroom. He closed his eyes as they began to roll back. He shook his head as he attempted to wipe the feeling from his body. He felt as if his mind was floating. Man when will this be over? It's been almost twelve hours.

Shadow walked down the stairs, backpack on one shoulder, with a cigarette hanging from the side of his mouth. Amy complained, Shadow, do you have to do that in the house!? It's disgusting not to mention illegal for someone your age. Where do you even get those? I mean you can't buy them. Shadow flipped her off and continued on with what he was doing. He set his backpack down on the kitchen and organized his books so they fit better. He pulled out a bottle of pills and downed four of them. Quickly, he hid them back in his bag. Sonic walked up to him and handed him a cup of coffee. Shadow took it without saying anything and sipped contently. Shadow noticed Sonic was depressed, Sonic, what's wrong? You were happy yesterday, why the sudden change of mood? Sonic shifted his gaze out the window; I don't want to talk about it right now. Shadow looked at him questioningly but left it at that, Alright, I have a stop to make before school so I'll see you later. Shadow looked around to see if they were in sight of anyone. No one was around, so he quickly kissed Sonic on the cheek and whispered to him, I love you. Sonic smiled slightly, I love you, too.

Shadow turned the corner; the man in black was waiting for him. You got what I need? Shadow asked. Depends, you got the money? Shadow nodded and pulled a twenty-dollar bill out of his pocket, Alright, I'll see what I have for you. The man slipped inside the house for a moment. Shadow leaned against the car smoking his second cigarette of the day. It did not take long for the man to reappear in the doorway. He handed Shadow a small bag full of various pills. Shadow put it in his pocket and went on his way to school.

His hand shook as he wrote. The words on the paper were sloppy; half of what he wrote was a poem when he was supposed to be answering the history question. Near the time to go home the feeling began to dissipate. Shadow began to sober up and was starting to notice the things around him again. As more time passed, he was slowly landing back on earth.

At the end of the day Shadow searched for Sonic in the crowd. He smiled when he spotted blue spiked hair in the distance. Shadow jogged to him and walked beside him happily. Sonic still seemed distant, Shadow attempted conversation, Hey hun& umm how was school? Good. That's good, anything interesting happen? No. Oh& well have anything you want to talk about, Not right now, Shadow.

Oh, sorry. The smile had disappeared from his face as Shadow walked awkwardly next to Sonic. The two of them turned down the back alley they took home everyday. It was quiet and shaded from the rest of the city. It was narrow; the staircase to an apartment building's fire escape was over them. Sonic

sighed heavily and pushed Shadow against the wall, causing him to drop his books. Do you really love me? Shadow was shocked, What? This morning, was the first time you told me you loved me. Is it really true? Shadow smiled warmly, Oh course its true. Sonic, I realized, I really do love you. Sonic stared him hard in the eyes after this statement. Tears began to form in the emerald gaze. Shadow was concerned, Sonic? What has been bothering you? Tell me please& Sonic began to cry, but pushed Shadow harder against the wall. He pressed his lips hard against Shadow s roughly, for a violent powerful kiss. Shadow brought his legs up and wrapped them around Sonic s waist as they began to grind. Sonic kissed Shadow s neck and nuzzled his nose. He loosened his grip on Shadow and embraced him softly. Shadow, I need to talk to you, but I m really afraid& of what you ll say because I love you more than anything, and I finally have you, just as I have always wanted. But I m afraid that I just fracked thing up for the both of us. I m afraid that your feeling will change and you won t want to be with me anymore. I m just& so afraid. Shadow cradled Sonic s face in his hands, Babe, if you really need to tell me something then tell me. I love you, that is no joke. And we will try to work around whatever the issue is. Because I want to stay with you, you make me happier than anyone else does. And I don t want to lose that. So just tell me what you need to say. Sonic sighed and took a step back from Shadow. Shadow, remember over spring break when I went to visit Sally? Yeah& Well& you see& she called me the other night& when I was up there, we kind of messed around and well& Well? Tears flooded Sonic s eyes, She s pregnant Shadow& Pregnant! What am I going to do?! Sonic fell to his knees; Shadow went to comfort him. Sonic, do you love her? No! I ve tried and tried to care for her like I used to, but it will never be like it was when we were first together. Whenever I am with her for a few days at a time I start to hate her, I can t be with her that long before she drives me crazy. I love you, Shadow. That s what makes this so hard isn t it? If you loved her& having a baby at this young age wouldn t be so bad. Listen, you got her pregnant before all this stuff with you and I started. So I can t be mad at you for that. I love you, Sonic. I ll be right here beside you through everything, I promise. Besides, it s going to be one cute kid. Sonic smiled, That s what I thought& Shadow took his hand to help him stand, Come on, let s get home. We can do homework together.

A few days later, Sonic got another phone call from Sally. Hey Sonic, I have some news. Yeah? What s that? It s a boy! Sonic smiled, Awwww! Yay! Oh my god that s so rad man. That s perfect! What s perfect? Rad! Rad? Yes, we should name him Rad! Its perfect! Wow it is! I love that name! Our little Rad! Sonic laughed, We sound like a couple of kids. Sonic, we basically are a couple of kids. Ahh that s true, hey I told Shadow about the baby. I haven t told anyone else yet though. Yeah, that s something I ve been meaning to ask you about. What? When I m going to tell people about it? No, not that. That will come in due time. I mean I ve been meaning to ask you about Shadow. What do you mean? I mean like, you two seem to have gotten really close. Yeah we hang out a lot and like we re good friends and all. No Sonic I mean REALLY close. I don t know what you mean. Sonic, when you talk about him, the tone of your voice changes, you seem& different. I don t know what you re talking about. See look, now you seem nervous. You were like this before whenever we would talk about him, it s just even more so now that you two have bonded. Is there anything going on between you two? At that moment Shadow walked in the room, but stood silently in the doorway, Sonic had his back to him. No! Shadow and I are just friends. We will NEVER be more than that I mean he is a guy and honestly not my type. He is way to dark for me you know that, personality wise anyway. I don t go for that, besides I need a chick. Sally smiled, Then, why not me? Sonic sighed, he was frustrated, Sally we have been over this& Sonic voice trailed off as Shadow walked away, fighting back tears. Shadow lay on his bed, smoking a cigarette and staring at the ceiling. Once again he was upset, Maybe& I really shouldn t care. I mean he is a boy and so am I. And we really don t go together, our personalities clash too much. Sonic knocked on his door. Shadow rolled on his side so he wouldn t have to face him upon entering. Sonic opened the door, Hey Shadow, what s up? He walked closer to

the bed, Are you sleeping? He leaned over to see Shadow staring blankly at the wall taking a sideways drag from his cigarette. Sonic laughed at the look on Shadow's face. Upon hearing laughter Shadow kicked Sonic in the chest hard to push him away. What was that for?! Sonic's laughter quickly turned to anger. Leave me alone. What's wrong with you? Shadow stood up and pushed Sonic in the hallway where he proceeded to yell at him before he slammed the door. Shadow shouted loud enough for anyone in the house, and possibly people on the street outside to hear. Shadow and I are just friends. We will NEVER be more than that! What the frack was that all about? That's not what you said earlier! Are you ashamed to admit it? You fracking country matters! Go lick Sally's pregnant pussy! Leave me the frack alone, you prick! He is a guy and honestly not my type. Again I say, What the frack!?! If that's what you fracking think then you could just fracking tell me to my goddamned, too dark for you, face! So just shut the frack up and stay out of my life! Shadow slammed the door and left Sonic standing there, jaw dropped. The others were sitting in the living room downstairs in silence. They couldn't believe what they had just heard. Rouge was the first to move, she ran out the front door and around the side of the house to Shadow's window. She caught sight of him jumping down and hurried to him. Shadow! What's going on!?! Shadow took off running down the street away from her. No Shadow, come back! She quickly got Shadow's motorcycle out of the garage and chased after him. Meanwhile Sonic still hadn't moved from the spot Shadow left him. Amy had made her way upstairs, SONIC! You have some explaining to do!

13 - Revived Relationships

Chapter 13&

Amy stared hatefully into Sonic's eyes as she yelled, "What was that all about? Why is Shadow mad at you and what was with him saying he wasn't good enough for you or some bull like that? What the frack was up with the pregnant comment!?" Sonic what haven't you been telling us!?" Sonic said nothing to her as he watched Knuckles and Tails come up the steps behind her. SONIC, ANSWER ME! Sonic shifted his gaze back to her and within moments tears flooded his eyes as he fell to the floor. Tails put his arm around Sonic and comforted him but Amy was still angry, "Why are you crying!?" For some reason, Knuckles was being kinder than usual. Amy, cut it out. Sonic, come here. He practically forced Sonic to stand up. Sonic hid his face in his hands, Knuckles spoke to Tails and Amy, "Look kids, I'm going to talk to Sonic about all this, go downstairs and find something to do. Amy protested, "I deserve to know! I am his GIRLFRIEND!" Knuckles' temper was begging to flare up, "First of all, you are not and never will be his girlfriend so get the hell over it! Get your @\$@ downstairs or you will frackin' regret it!" Amy felt a bead of sweat drop down her face and decided to give up the fight. She grumbled as she stomped down the stairs, Tails looked back sympathetically as the door to Knuckles' room shut behind the two teenage males.

Sonic sat on the bed with his head hung down. Knuckles locked the door and took a seat next to him, "Alright Sonic, I think it's time we talk about what really has been going on in your life. Sonic looked up at him pathetically. Knuckles sighed, "I know that you and I don't always have the easiest time getting along but you know I'm here for you when you need me man. I mean like, I'm the only guy you can talk to about stuff. You can't tell Tails shoot!" Knuckles laughed slightly then retook his serious tone. "And, you are the only guy I have to talk to. So, I know you're going through some rough times, vent away. Sonic smiled, "Knuckles you're so weird. But in a good way. Sonic, I promise I won't judge you or think any less of you so like is there something going on between you and Shadow. I mean I KNOW you are a little fruity and Shadow is kinda fem. Sonic punched him playfully, "Shut-up! And for your information yes Shadow and I have been dating for a few months now, about three actually. And like it's been hard. Having to keep everything a secret. That's why I tried to shy away from guys for so long, you have to keep everything undercover then word still manages to get out. Like it did for you and me?" Knuckles laughed at him. Sonic rolled his eyes, "That was in junior high! Yeah, yeah but it made for some great sex. Sonic's mouth dropped, "Oh no you didn't! Shut-up! Oh my god Knuckles. Nooo! Don't go there! Anyway! Yes anyway there is some other shoot going down too. Yes? Knuckles what would you say if I told you I was going to be a father? You mean, that thing Shadow said about Sally? Yeah Knuckles, it's a boy due in six months. Knuckles fell silent. Sonic's eyes darted uneasily, "Knuckles, I'm one hundred percent serious. Knuckles smiled and nodded, "Hahaha woo that is going to be an adorable baby. That's what everyone says! Oh my God! Why does everyone think that?" Knuckles laughed, "Sonic, Sally is gorgeous and you aren't so bad yourself, and if it gets the right mix, you two together Oh my God, he is going to be a hottie when he's older!" Sonic smirked, "Don't be hittin' on my son now! I know how you're into younger men!" Knuckles punched him playfully, "Younger men and older women, but not that young and not too old!" Sonic laughed at him and hit him back. The two of them engaged in their play fight fully, beating each other with pillows and pouncing on one another. This went on until they were tangled in the sheets between each other. Knuckles whined, "Sonic, move! You are breaking my dick!" Sonic blushed, "Oh, I'm sorry!" He struggled to get up but only

became more twisted, causing him to fall, face-first into Knuckles' chest. Sonic pulled himself up, bringing up to face level with Knuckles. They lay there for a moment, face to face, both blushing with excitement. Anxious and confused, curious and enthused; Knuckles wrapped his arms around Sonic, pressing their bodies harder together. Sonic bit his lip as he felt the movement at his hips, Well, I guess we have both grown in many ways since junior high. Knuckles seemed as if he were in a trance, Yeah& He trailed off his statement by pressing his lips to Sonic; who responded instantly, kissing his lover passionately. The session continued violently. Knuckles somehow wound up on top, with all of the turning. The two of them started heating up, but Knuckles managed to pull himself off. Dude, we need to stop I can't do this. Not to Rouge. Sonic smiled, Yeah, same here, for Shadow. Oh God that reminds me, he thinks I hate him! Rouge will take care of him, don't worry about it. I sure hope so& You know how close they are, Rouge and Shadow really get along. But, I guess that's what scares me the most sometime. Sonic was surprised Knuckles made a comment about his feelings, What do you mean? Sonic, I know you've thought about it before. Rouge and Shadow used to be in love, they even had children. Deep down, I know Rouge still really cares about him, even though he doesn't remember that part of his life, sometimes it seems like he cares about her too. I just don't want to lose her again. I've tried so hard to keep everything together and I refuse to lose it without a fight. Sonic smiled, That certainly is something one would worry about, but don't think about it so much. You know Rouge loves you and she is really devoted to you. You shouldn't stress so much. Knuckles sighed, Yeah I suppose you are right& well at least I hope you're right.

Meanwhile, Rouge had caught up with Shadow and they were standing on a bridge over a small body of water. They leaned on the railing and looked over the side. It's beautiful out here Shadow. Rouge smiled as she stared into the reflection of the city on the water. Yeah& Shadow was upset, but Rouge's voice was quite calming. Rouge moved closer to him, So hun, time to tell Rouge your problems. Shadow smirked, Do not refer to yourself in the third person& but anyway, you know Sally's pregnant right? Well I guessed from the comment you made, you never complain about anything that isn't true. Rouge, I heard him on the phone with her, telling her how I'm not good enough for him. Because I'm a guy, and that my personality is too dark and just everything. Shadow, calm down it's alright. You probably misunderstood. Sonic loves you, I can tell. Listen to me, I've never been wrong to you before. Look, Sonic might have been making shoot up to keep things a secret from Sally, at least for now. Just hear him out. I mean, you love him don't you? That's another thing that's been bothering me, I love him& too much. Too much? Yeah I mean, I think about him 24/7, he is always on my mind. All I ever want to do is be with him or& Or? Rouge promise you won't tell anyone& Of course Shadow, you know you can trust me. Well, here recently, I've gotten into drugs. I've tried quite a few things. It all started about three or four months ago, when I got acid from this guy on the beach. She got closer and wrapped her arms around his body; Shadow I figured you would wind up going down this path sometime. I mean you are so emotional. You cut yourself, write poetry and keep quiet all the time. You endure a lot of stress, I understand how you would turn to things like that& that's why you started smoking and all& it just got bigger. Shadow shook his head, No Rouge it's really bad, I do it all the time. I always seem to be searching for an escape because I feel so depressed and alone all the time. I've tried so many things, that's why some mornings I'm crazier than others. Yeah, I know those mornings, well at least this explains why you have been acting so weird. So, what all have you done anyway? You want me to list it all? Damn! Don't tell anyone. Umm& let's see I've tried weed, shrooms, acid, triple Cs, inhalants, antidepressants, prescription pills and cocaine. Wow Shadow! Shadow put his head down, Shut up! You're making me feel like a total druggie! Ohh I'm sorry. It's ok, I still love and accept you for who you are. I will always be by your side, no matter what happens. Shadow looked up at her with a smile. Rouge stared back at him with large, caring, aquamarine eyes. They both leaned in, softly but sincerely pressing their lips together. A tender kiss from one to the other; caring and careful with each

moment. When the two of them broke apart, Shadow cradled Rouge in his arms. She sighed a heavy, happy sigh as Shadow began to nibble on her ear. She blushed madly and moaned his name, Shaaadoww& Shadow moved to kiss the back of her neck softly then rested his chin on her shoulder. You re the sweetest thing, Rouge spoke in almost a whisper. The two of them stood, over looking the water in utter peace. I wish you hadn t lost your memory& I wish you never died. Then things would be perfect, like they used to be. Shadow s smile disappeared and he let go of Rouge, he walked over to the motorcycle and slipped the helmet on, Come on, let s get back, I ll drive. You hold on tight. Then he handed her the extra helmet from under the seat.

It was late when Rouge and Shadow arrived home. They had taken the long way through the park. Shadow crept into his room to find someone under the covers. In the darkness he could barely make out the figure that was sleeping quietly beneath the load of blankets. He debated if he should climb into bed, or turn the other way. He didn t know how Sonic would react, considering how badly Shadow lashed out at him earlier that day.

14 - Summer

Chapter 14& whoosh& does this go on forever?

Shadow decided to take his chances and slowly got onto the bed. He kicked off his shoes and wrapped his arm around Sonic. This stirred the blue hedgehog, causing him to wake from his slumber.

Sh-Shadow? Shadow bit his lip and remained silent. Sonic could see the moonlight from the window reflecting off of Shadow's crimson eyes. Oh Shadow, I'm so sorry about earlier! At that point Sonic flung his arms around his dark lover, I didn't mean those things you heard! I was just saying them to like, get Sally off my case cause I didn't want everyone to know! Shadow finally spoke up, I'm tired of hiding it from people. What does it matter if they know? Shadow, this might sound kind of rude or mean or whatever to say but what people think of me kind of really matters to me. I've worked hard to get the reputation that I have and I don't want it to be crushed because people find out I'm gay. Do you know the torment I would go through for the rest of high school? Shadow's eyes shifted away from Sonic, Alright& I'm sorry. Noooo Shadow! Don't be sorry cause it sounds really selfish and self-centered of me to say that, I just want to keep things good between you and me and my social life! I understand& it's ok& No, obviously it's not ok or you wouldn't sound so upset. Sonic, drop it! There is nothing we can do about it so just shut the frack up. Sonic felt a pain go through his body with Shadow's sharp words. Ok& Then Sonic tried to make things better by pulling Shadow to his chest and holding him. Shadow sighed, letting out all the stress he had built up. Sonic smiled and kissed his lover's forehead. You'll see, everything will work out Shadow, I promise.

The next morning the two boys stood in the bathroom, fixing their hair after a nice shower, completely exposed. Sonic took note of a difference in Shadow, Hey, have you lost weight? Shadow was surprised by Sonic's question, Umm maybe& why does it matter? Oh it doesn't I was just wondering because you look a lot thinner than before, I mean I can sort of see your ribs. Shadow quickly grabbed a towel and wrapped himself in it, Better?! Sonic was shocked, Hey, don't be so angry it was just a simple question. Whatever, Shadow was obviously irritated.

It was the last day of school before summer. Most of the classes just had parties. Shadow was the kid in the back of the classroom that didn't have any fun, as usual. Later that night would be Rouge's graduation. She was a senior, and was finally leaving high school. Sonic and Shadow would be going to eleventh grade, Knuckles to twelfth, and Amy and Tails to tenth. Rouge already had her career planned out; continue to be a spy and study psychology in college. Shadow stared out the window sadly as the rest of his classmates ran wild. He sighed as he thought about what he was going to do over the summer, *I have Sonic and drugs. That should be enough to keep me entertained& I hope Rouge stays at home for college or I'm going to miss her&*

Later that night, everyone was getting ready for Rouge's graduation. Shadow hugged her before they left, which was strange for him to show any sort of emotion publicly. It was a normal, average graduation. Nothing too special, everyone clapped and hollered for Rouge as she received her diploma and they went on with their lives. Everyone knew Rouge would do well in the future; she made perfect grades in high school. However she had to in order to keep her job. If she hadn't made such good grades, since she was young the military would have kicked her out. Being a spy ran in Rouge's family and everyone continued with it throughout their entire lives. Both her mother and father were highly respected in that aspect and they pushed their children to do their very best.

Shadow sat with Rouge on a bench on the balcony of her room at about three in the morning. Shadow,

why do you always stay up so late? You are hardly ever social in the day time. I do not like having all the people around. It is easier for me to think when its quiet and I am not in a large crowd. Rouge smiled and leaned her head on his shoulder. Shadow blushed and took her hand in his. She spoke to him, So, have any specific plans for the summer? Not really. I ll just do what I do everyday. Sit around, acting quiet and mysterious? I do more than that& Like& You really want me to say? Well I talk to Sonic, I frack Sonic, and Sonic fracks me. I cut myself and take drugs. I write poetry and read. I walk around downtown sometimes and smoke. Ohhh, you sound like the perfect man, She joked.

Shut-up! That s mean! Shadow pouted but Rouge laughed and comforted him, I respect the honesty. Sonic left for four weeks during that summer to see Sally. Amy was destroyed when she found out Sally was pregnant. Tails was a bit shocked, but happy for his best friend at the same time. The secret of Shadow and Sonic s love was well kept from Amy and Tails. While Sonic was gone Shadow s drug use continued, and worsened on nights that Sonic didn t call. He was as lonely and depressed as ever. Sonic seemed to be his only healthy escape. Shadow began to dress in tighter clothes and wear eyeliner. He was also guilty of borrowing Rouge s clothing on occasion. Shadow was emotionally unstable at all times, so he was quiet and kept to him self. Shadow could go from extreme rage to being extremely miserable in a matter of ten seconds. Even he was beginning to suspect that he was bipolar. But the truth of the matter was, he couldn t tell if he was really acing that way, or if it was the drugs having an effect on his mind. Shadow became more sheltered than ever, constantly fearing the loss of his love. In reality Shadow was more afraid of Sonic being with Sally than he let on. No matter how many times Sonic told him he loved him and would never leave him, Shadow still retained that constant fear of losing him. Rouge and Knuckles started putting things together to build their own house on Angel Island. They had plans to get married in a year when Knuckles graduated. Rouge also wanted a quieter place to study for her college classes. She would also have to begin taking extra military courses so she could up her spy rank.

Sonic didn t have much fun with Sally. The entire time he was there was spent prepping for the baby. They spent the days shopping for everything from diapers to cribs. Sonic was pressured by many people in the kingdom to marry the young princess. Sally s father was especially angry that the blue hedgehog refused to wed his daughter after impregnating her. I ll spend time with the kid and pay child support and everything but I m just not ready to get married or anything yet& I m not even out of high school, Sonic stuck to his argument. However the king always had something to reply with, Well my daughter isn t ready to have a child but she has to, and she is still in high school as well. It wasn t easy for Sonic to put up with on a daily basis. However, he couldn t deny, the castle was wonderful and Sally was beautiful. At times he would think about how much of a fool he was to not marry Sally and move there with her. He could become king, have beautiful wife, belong to a highly respected family and start one of his own. But then he would call Shadow and realize all of that was worth giving up for his dark lover. Shadow s eyes would light up and a wide thankful smile would appear on his lips. Shadow looked so happy and grateful to hear from the blue hedgehog that he adored so much. Sonic, I miss you so much. I can t wait till you get home. I ll do something special, I promise! Sonic knew Shadow was devoted and caring, no matter what. He couldn t imagine leaving him, no matter what happened, Shadow would always be there for him through the good times and the bad. Some nights Sonic would take note that Shadow appeared emotionally unstable. Occasionally, Sonic would call to hear that Shadow had been crying. Shadow would always deny it, but Sonic knew from how often he would sniffle. Sonic enjoyed the luxury of the castle, but he couldn t wait to get home.

The remainder of the summer was well spent. Shadow and Sonic spent every moment possible together. One night in particular, Knuckles, Rouge, Shadow and Sonic went on a walk after Tails and Amy went to bed. It was around three in the morning, the four of them were actually spending time together without fighting. Knuckles smiled, You guys want to go somewhere? Sonic was interested,

Like where? Ohhh I don't know& maybe a strip club! Rouge hit him in the back of the head, Shut up! The only one of us old enough to even get in would be me anyway. Shadow flicked his cigarette, Actually, I could get us all in. I have connections. Rouge's mouth dropped, Shadow! Don't encourage them!

Within minutes the four of them were sitting at a table in the finest strip club in town. Shadow smiled as he blew smoke towards Rouge. She shot him a dirty look and crossed her arms. Knuckles and Sonic were having the time of their lives. They watched girl upon girl dance across the stage. Shadow tried to lighten Rouge's mood, Come on, you have to let the boys be boys once in a while. Besides at the end of the day you know they will wind up coming back to you. Shadow winked at her and took her by the hand, You really want to get their attention? Come with me. The two of them left the table and walked into a backroom while Sonic and Knuckles were distracted.

The next song came on, Sonic and Knuckles waited in anticipation as the lights dimmed and three new dancers appeared on stage. Blue lasers shot off on the side of the stage, creating an erotic light show. Dim floor lights appeared, showing the figure of the women on stage. Simultaneously, Knuckles and Sonic's eyes moved from the feet to the face of the woman in the center. Their mouths dropped in disbelief. Rouge was an amazing dancer. She slowly but smoothly made her way over to them, then leaned down, kissed her beloved red echidna on the cheek and went back to her dance.

On the way home, Knuckles and Sonic showered Rouge with complements. That was amazing! I didn't know you knew how to dance and well& strip! Sonic exclaimed. Knuckles put his arm around her, Ha ha I did. You were great baby. Yeah, yeah I know. Shadow are you alright? Shadow's walk was a bit uneven. He swayed from side to side with every couple of steps. Shadow took offence, Fine I am! I drunk am not! Making fun of me stop! Sonic laughed and picked Shadow up, draping him across his arms. Shadow clung to him tightly, wrapping his arms around his neck. Shadow then began to purr. Rouge and Sonic smiled widely AWWWW

XP Hmm, now that I think about it, this was kind of a filler chapter. The next one will get things back on the main path!

15 - Children, Lovers and New Friendships

Chapter 15& All right, guys we have to skip ahead a few months to keep it moving steadily.

It was January eighth. Everyone had been invited to the castle considering Sally was due any day now. Shadow and Sonic were strolling the kingdom. In all honesty, the only reason they were out there was because Shadow needed a cigarette and he wasn't allowed to smoke inside. Everyone was excited for the new baby, even Shadow, who had been secretly dreading the arrival. Sally's parents had stressed Sonic to marry their daughter on several occasions. The subject would be brought up almost every night at dinner. However, Sonic could never really tell them that he couldn't marry her because he was in love with someone else; because that someone else just so happened to be another man. Shadow couldn't help but feel that he was coming between them, Sonic, would you be happier with Sally? I mean& Every time Shadow would start like that, Sonic would cut him off, No, I love you. I don't know what I would do without you. End of story, drop it. Don't even think like that. Hearing those words would always make Shadow smile, but inside he was always worried about breaking up a happy family. The time finally came for Sally to give birth. Sonic was with her in the delivery room for the entire five hour labor. The others waited impatiently outside. Eventually a doctor walked down the hallway to tell Sally's parents and Sonic's friends that the new baby had arrived. Everyone circled around the proud parents; Sally was heavily drugged and was quite tired. Sonic held his new borne. His new son, Rad Guy Hedgehog, was beautiful. He looked almost exactly like his father, the only difference were the bangs that cutely hung over the small child's eyes.

Three days later Sally and Rad came home from the hospital. Sonic and Sally had agreed to switch off, taking care of Rad each week. This would work over the summer, during the school year Sonic would take him on the weekends. Rad was a happy baby, always smiling. He seemed to have taken a fancy to Shadow. Every time the dark hedgehog would walk in the room, Rad would stretch out his arms to him to be held. Shadow was happy that Rad liked him so much, even though he was embarrassed to be seen showing compassion. Shadow would try to play with Rad when no one was around, Sonic even found Shadow and Rad sleeping on the couch one evening. Rad was cuddled up to the white fuzz on Shadow's chest. Actually, Shadow took a huge interest in the new addition to the family. Shadow would hold and play with him any chance he got. He just didn't like to make it seem that he cared so much. The evening before Sonic and his friends were going to return home, Sally's father pulled Sonic aside to speak with him. Listen boy, I know it seems a bit odd that I wanted to speak with you privately and I don't want you to feel uncomfortable. Oh it's alright Mr. Acorn, I practically lived here since I was a kid. It would be hard for me to feel uncomfortable around you. Whatever you want to talk about, I am all ears. The king smiled, I'm glad to hear that. You are a good boy. I am proud that you fathered my grandson; hopefully he will grow up to be as responsible as you. But there are a few things I really need to discuss with you. First of all, you won't marry my daughter and I know you are more than likely tired of hearing about that. I am not going to nag you about it any longer. However, I would like to know why. And I mean I need the honest, true answer. I know that if there was not a really important reason why, that you would marry her for your son. So what is it? You have known me since you were little and you know I wouldn't think any less of you. Sonic blushed madly and turned away from him. Sonic, there is someone else you have fallen for, isn't there? Sonic nodded, Please do not make me tell you who. I'm not ready for that& just know that I just can't bring myself to leave that person for someone I am not truly in love with. The king smiled, Its alright, I understand love to the fullest. Never leave the one you love

for the one you like. Now there is another issue I wanted to bring up with you. I trust you, and you are an honest boy. Even if you never marry my daughter, would you please, when the time comes, take my title as king? I know that you could do much good for my kingdom. Sonic smiled, I m not sure where my life will be when that time comes, but yes. I accept your offer. So long as my family will be able to stay here with me. Of coarse Sonic. Thank you my king. At that moment, someone tapped on the glass of the balcony the two men had been sitting on. It was Amy, We are all about to play a game if you two would like to join us. The two of them smiled and stood, following Amy inside.

Sonic was allowed to keep Rad for the last week of winter break; then Sally would come to pick him up. Actually, the king s bodyguards were the ones that brought Rad back and forth each week. Shadow loved Rad dearly. He would spend hours holding and playing with the young child. In a way, Shadow seemed like more of a father to Rad than Sonic was. It brought tears to Rouge s eyes to watch Shadow play with him. Every time, she would think of what could have been. Shadow is such a great father, even to a child that isn t really his, She would whisper to herself.

Shadow sat on the foot of Sonic s bed, intently playing with Rad. Sonic sat beside him and kissed Shadow softly on the cheek, I m glad you like him, I was worried for a while that you would hate him. For some reason I never saw you as the fatherly type, but I guess I was wrong. Shadow smiled, I don t know. Honestly I never saw myself like this before, either. I guess it s just the feeling that someone actually needs you to take care of and protect them that I like so much. Sonic wrapped his arms around his lover, You know I think its time that Rad takes a nap. It s been a pretty stressful week, what do you say we relieve some of this stress? With that, Sonic seductively ran his tongue along the side of Shadow s ear. Shadow turned to him with a smirk, Let me go put him to bed. Shadow winked at him as he carried the baby out of the room.

About four months later Shadow was walking down the street alone at about five in the morning. The sun could barely be seen over the horizon. Once again the school year had come to an end. Sonic had left for a week to spend some time with Sally and Rad, I want Rad to get to spend time with both his mom and his dad at the same time! He would protest. But Shadow wasn t stupid. Sonic would go up to see Sally every few weekends, as if Shadow didn t know what he was really going up there for. However, he never mentioned anything because he didn t want to start a fuss. He was happier now that he was with Sonic, than he had ever been and he didn t want to screw anything up, no matter what he had to put up with. Knuckles had just graduated. The very day he was done with school, Rouge and him moved out and built their own house. It was near the shrine of the master emerald considering Knuckles owned all that land, it only made since to build there. Rouge also considered the future, it would be nice to raise a family with so much open space for the children to play in. Amy and Tails still weren t dating, because Amy was in denial. She refused to believe that Tails loved her, refused to believe Sonic was gay and insisted he was in love with her. Even though she knew Sonic and Shadow were together she could never fully accept it. They all kept things quiet at school, it took some convincing but Amy actually agreed to not say anything about Sonic and Shadow s relationship to anyone. For just a little over a year now, the lovers had kept their secret.

Shadow took a long drag from his cigarette. As he reached an ally way, a stranger approached him. Shadow stopped as the tall man stood in front of him. The man took the hood of his jacket down with a smile, Hi there, what are you doing out this late, or should I say this early? Looking for something? He was a hedgehog of light blue coloring, but his hair was slightly darker. His eyes were a calming brown; a pair of small red sunglasses shielded them. A goatee graced his chin. He appeared to be in his mid twenties. His hair was shaggy and his smile was lopsided. Shadow didn t see or feel him to be a threat. In fact, Shadow automatically felt comfortable around this stranger. Shadow answered him, Not really, just out to clear my head, can t sleep. Ohhh, is that the problem? I have stuff to fix that! Shadow smiled at the older man s childish excitement. Are you a dealer? The man laughed, How did you

guess? But no seriously, I was about to go get some coffee, if you have nothing better to do, come with me. I don't have any money on me. I didn't ask you to buy anything, I asked you to come get coffee with me, my treat.

Shadow sat across the table from the man, sipping his coffee. The man seemed to be enjoying Shadow's quiet company, So I didn't catch your name& Shadow swallowed, Oh, my name is Shadow. Ahh I'm glad I'm not the only one with an out of the ordinary name, my name is Lyric. Shadow smiled, That's a nice name. So uhh, how old are you exactly? Ohh I'm twenty eight, you? Shadow laughed a little, I'm only sixteen, almost seventeen. Ahh that's not bad, it's nice to be young and to not have to worry about adult matters. Feh, you don't think I have things to worry about? You don't know me. Shadow was a little irritated. Lyric raised an eyebrow, Oh really? You know Shadow I think there is something about you& Shadow blushed, And what is that? Lyric smiled sweetly, I don't know yet, but I like it.

What is this? OHHH New character! XP I always like to end it on a cute note. ^^

16 - Cheater

Chapter 16& wow this is getting far.

As Shadow sat across from his newfound friend, he couldn't help but smile. For some odd reason Lyric made him feel completely comfortable. Lyric was one of the few people he had ever met that didn't look at him weird. Not even once. Lyric was totally accepting. Shadow thought about that and figured that was why he felt so natural being around him. Lyric seemed to have a calming aura around him. So Shadow, what are you into? What do you mean? I mean like, what's your thing, what's your fix? What makes you think I take drugs? Lyric laughed, Honestly, look at you. You're dark and mysterious. You drink coffee and you smoke. You are sixteen and quiet. Either you're a bad @\$@ bookworm or a stoner. Shadow scratched the back of his head, I do actually read quite often, but yeah you're right. Do I really look it though? Yeah, look how skinny you are, that isn't natural for a boy your age, unless you have an eating disorder. But it's most likely from the drugs. Plus you have dark circles under your eyes, which means you don't sleep much. Probably because the drugs keep you awake. Shadow was shocked, Damn, you're good. Lyric laughed happily, I'm a dealer of course I know my shoot! So yeah, what's your thing? Shadow twirled a lock of hair in his fingers, I don't know, I've tried a lot of shoot. I guess my favorite would be like cocaine& and acid is good on occasion. Only for parties though, I mean I can't get that crazy all the time. Lyric smiled, Would you rather smoke or snort it& haha snort is a funny word. Shadow laughed at Lyric's randomness, I would rather smoke it, makes for a better high. Yeahh I know what you mean. That's actually one of my faves, too. You know, you're a really cool kid, I got somewhere I have to be soon but hit me up whenever you need something, or even if you just want to talk. I'm all ears. The two of them stood after Lyric paid the bill. As they stepped outside Lyric reached into Shadow's pocket for his phone. However, he didn't pass up the opportunity to touch Shadow ever so lightly. Lyric quickly hit a few buttons and handed the phone back to Shadow, Call me up some time. With that Lyric winked and turned to walk down the street the other way. Shadow was blushing crazily he quickly turned and began walking at a rapid pace. He touched his hand to his cheek; they were burning. He was shocked, What? Why? He shook his head and thought to himself, Alright Shadow, calm down. You love Sonic, that's it. He is the only one you care about, relax. He breathed deeply and refreshed himself. Then he slowly walked home, taking the long way. Shadow slumped in the chair in the living room. Still two more days till Sonic came home. Shadow was curled up in a blanket with a nice book. A romance novel? Shadow you become more and more like a chick everyday, Rouge joked. She sat on his lap and got cozy with him under the blanket in the small armchair. It was an amazingly comfortable position for the both of them. Shadow put the book down and rested his head on Rouge's chest. She played with the hair on the back of his neck and kissed his forehead. He began to purr softly, she smiled and held him closer. Shadow stayed in full awareness, just in case someone was to walk in on them. Not like they were doing anything bad, Shadow just didn't want to explain why he was so close to her, and why he was purring. Shadow could never purr in front of anyone that he didn't care for deeply. He had to trust them with every fiber of his being before he would allow them to see his weakness. In his entire life, there were only three people he felt comfortable purring around. That would be Rouge, Sonic and Maria. The three of them meant the world to him. Even Maria, despite the fact she was no longer among the living. Rouge often held Shadow when Knuckles and Sonic were gone. She felt the need to keep a close relationship with him, even though she knew they both had different people they needed, and who needed them. Shadow was still and always would

be her best friend. Shadow, you re adorable& Shadow smiled sweetly and nuzzled his head on her collarbone. His tail wagged from happiness as he clung to the white bat. He calmed down a bit and took a more serious tone, Rouge? Yes, Shadow? Don t& do not ever think that you don t have a place in my heart.

Later that night Shadow sat on his bed impatiently as he stared at Lyric s number in his phone. Should I call him? He thought to himself. He sighed and sent the number, May as well& but wait, what if Sonic finds out and gets mad?! Shadow panicked in his mind. Lyric s voicemail picked up, Hey you reached me, Lyric. Leave me a message cause you know you love me. Over and out, doges. Shadow waited for the beep then began, Hey, it s me, Shadow. Remember you met me earlier and we went to the coffee shop? Yeah, you gave me your number and I wanted to see what you were up to. I guess mine is on your caller id now, so give me a call when you can& well if you want to that is. Take care, goodbye. Shadow let out a sigh of relief and tossed the phone to the other side of the bed. No sooner than it dropped it began to ring. Shadow picked it up, Hello? Lyric s voice chimed from the other end, Hey there! I didn t expect you to actually call me! Shadow smiled, Yeah, I was just sitting here and thought I would see what you were up to. Oh I m just chillin, got some weed. Want me to come pick you up? Shadow was shocked, Pick me up? Yeah you can come stay here for the night or at least a couple hours, are you doing anything? Umm not really, my boyfriend is out of town so& Alright I ll be there in a few. I drive a black viper, text me your address. Will do, see you in a few.

Shadow sent the directions, hung up the phone and got ready. Lyric was there shortly, he parked his car at the end of the driveway and called Shadow s cell phone. Shadow answered as he was throwing on a clean shirt, Hello? I m out front. Okay, do I need to bring any money or anything? Lyric laughed, No, I have you covered. Bring your own cigs and lighter though, whatever you need for the night. Alright, hey drive down the street a bit, I have to get past some people downstairs and I don t want to make it obvious. Give me five minutes, tops. Alright, see ya. Shadow hung up the phone and stuck it in his pocket; he threw on a baggy hoodie and made his way down stairs. Everyone was sitting in the living room eating ice cream. Amy spoke, Where are you going at this time of night? Out for a smoke.

You re going to get lung cancer if you keep smoking those cigarettes, or whatever it is you intend to smoke tonight. Yeah, and you re going to get fat if you keep eating that kind of crap. At least my bones don t show. Shadow flipped her off and walked out the front door. Rouge chased after him.

Shadow! Don t get all pissy! Amy is just a dog sometimes; you know that. Rouge put her hand on his shoulder and pulled him back. Rouge, I just want to go out for a smoke. Stand here with me, or I ll walk with you. No Rouge, go back to Knuckles. I ll be home later. Lyric was getting tired of waiting for Shadow at the end of the street. They were about ten feet away from the viper when Lyric lightly tapped the horn of the car twice. Rouge instantly looked at the car then back to Shadow. She noticed Shadow appeared impatient. Shadow, what s going on? What do you mean? Don t play dumb with me, who is in that car waiting for you? Shadow sighed and rolled his eyes, I can t keep anything from you can I? She cupped his face in her hands, Answer me& Rouge, I m going out to party, chill. With who? Who is in the car? This guy I met the other day. Shadow don t go getting yourself in trouble. Shadow gave her a quick hug and went up to the car. She hollered after him as he opened the door and sat down,

Don t do anything stupid! Don t do anything that you could lose Sonic over! Remember, you love him! Her words trailed off as the car sped down the street.

Lyric took Shadow back to his apartment; it was small but cozy. It consisted of one bedroom, one bathroom, a living room, a kitchen, and a small dining room. Lyric flicked on the light of the bedroom and something moved on the bed from under the sheets. It was a beautiful young woman. She sat up slowly and stretched, she was of striking resemblance to Lyric. Shadow, this is my little sister, Melody. She dropped by earlier today looking for a place to stay. She stood up and dropped the blanket to the floor; she was in nothing but her bra and panties. She smiled at Shadow, Hey sweetie! You re a cutie, what s

your name? Lyric stepped in, Hey sis, step off I claim this one, besides he has a boyfriend. That wasn't what I asked& I asked for his name. Shadow spoke up, Umm I'm Shadow and I'm only sixteen by the way. Damn Lyric! You like um young don't cha? I'm guessing that means you need the apartment to yourself then? Ha ha I need a drink anyway. I'll see you when they kick me out of the bar. She slipped on clothes as she spoke, grabbed some car keys and left. Lyric took Shadow's hoodie and threw it in the corner. Relax, she's gone, let's get fracked up. Shadow laughed slightly as he watched Lyric pull out the weed and begin to roll a joint.

About an hour later, Lyric and Shadow sat on the kitchen floor together eating anything and everything. Currently devouring a bag of cheetos, Lyric watched Shadow lay back and begin to stare at the ceiling. Lyric? Lyric's remark was muffled by a full mouth, Huh? That was some good fracking weed& Lyric swallowed, Yeah I know, I'm a dealer sweetie, I save some of the good shoot for myself, duh. So anyway, Shadow, your boyfriend's name is Sonic, right? Yeah, how did you know? I heard that chick screaming out not to screw up your relationship& come to think of it I don't know much about you. Only that you are a gay stoner. I like chicks too, don't get me wrong now. Just cause I'm in a relationship with a man doesn't mean I don't like women. Lyric laughed, Yeah same here, cept I'm not dating anyone right now. I don't think my sister is either; she typically hops from guy to guy. Whoever buys her what she wants&I worry about her sometimes, though. She's only twenty-four and she's messing around with so many people. She is going to wind up catching something and it'll ruin her life. Shadow wasn't in full control of what he was saying, She is beautiful I mean she is just like Wow. She looks just like you, if you were a really pretty girl. Lyric put the bag of food down and laid next to Shadow, Everyone thinks she is gorgeous. That's cause she is! She is like even prettier than the mother of my children! I mean damn! Lyric shot up, You have kids?! Shadow sat up next to him, No, no! It's a long story, I would have kids, if they had survived. Technically, they were never born. Oh& I'm sorry to hear that. Yeah well what can you do to help your baby-momma when you're dead? Absolutely nothing, but I had to do it to save the entire world, so I guess either way they would have died and there is nothing I can do about it now. My boyfriend has a son though. He is the cutest kid ever. Lyric's high was wearing off, but Shadow's was still strong. This was kind of bad news for Shadow, considering now he would say just about anything without thinking first. What is it with you teenagers having babies? Shadow smirked and attempted to stand, he gripped hold of the counter and managed to sit on it. Lyric walked over to him and stood between his legs facing him. They wrapped their arms around each other. Shadow got so close to Lyric's face his lip ring lightly hit against Lyric's bottom lip as he spoke. I don't know, I guess we all just take a good frack too far. Well at least Sonic and I do.

17 - Can You Forgive All of This?

Chapter 17& omg man omg lol

With that Shadow clung tightly to Lyric and pressed their lips together in a sudden burst of passion. Lyric slid Shadow off of the counter and pushed him against a near wall. Shadow clawed at the older man's back as their tongues danced to a forceful, violent tune. Shadow grasped hold of Lyric's shirt and roughly threw him down on the couch next to them. He straddled the dealer and continued with provocative hip movements. Shadow moaned softly and reached for the belt at Lyric's groin. Lyric took his hands in his and looked him in the eyes. With a sarcastic smile he spoke, Shadow, what about your boyfriend? Shadow slapped him hard, throwing them both to the floor. My boyfriend? He is out cheating on me with his child's mother as we speak. You think I give a damn about him right now? Shadow you're stoned, you don't know what you're doing. I can't let you& Can't let me do what? Do you think I'm a lightweight? I can handle my drugs thank you very much. After all the shoot I've done, weed is hardly anything at all. Shadow had him pinned down; he was ready. But Shadow& Shadow frowned at Lyric's protest and got off him. Shadow stood and crossed his arms, Fine then, frackin' deny me. Lyric quickly stood and swooped Shadow off his feet, How can I deny someone when they are practically begging? Shadow gasped and struggled to free himself from Lyric's tight grasp. Lyric hushed him, Shhh calm down. It's alright. How old is that boy you've been with, sixteen, seventeen? Well I'm going to show you how a real man does it. Shadow suddenly felt nervous as the intensity of the situation hit him, by this time Lyric was carrying off the dark hedgehog to the bedroom. Shadow was plopped hard on the bed and undressed with utter impatience. Lyric was more forceful than Sonic ever was, he knew what he wanted and he knew how to give it. Shadow closed his eyes tightly and gasped as his legs were bent backwards behind his head.

Shadow woke to the sun beating down on his face. He blinked his eyes rapidly, shocked to awaken in a strange place. He sighed with relief when he remembered where he was, but then he realized he was lying between two warm bodies. He instantly looked to his left to find a pair of beautiful brown eyes staring at him; he instantly blushed. It was Melody; she sat up and jumped on her brother, who was sleeping on the other side of Shadow. Lyric woke with a sudden jolt; Melody was sitting on his chest. About this time Shadow realized he was fully unclothed, he clutched the blanket to his chest and bit his lip. Melody smiled, Did you boys have fun last night? Lyric stretched and kicked her off of him, Yep, loads of fun. Did you have fun last night, baby sister? She stood up, once again in her bra and underwear, I sure as hell did! By the way, I made you guys coffee. As Lyric stood she shouted at him, Dear God Lyric, cover your wang! He flipped her off and placed a cigarette between his lips, he threw one at Shadow and another at Melody; he lit up and tossed the lighter at them then proceeded out of the room.

By midday, Melody had left the apartment, she had to if she wanted to keep her job. She was a waitress at a local restaurant. She worked long hours but got great tips. Shadow spent the day with Lyric, several people stopped by his apartment wanting their fix. Shadow sat on the couch in the living room reading while Lyric attended his customers. Who's the cutie on the couch? Some of them would ask various questions such as those. Both men and women seemed to be after Shadow. Lyric would always reply with, He's my property, no one touches him without my consent. And of course some of them would make smart-@\$\$ remarks, but Shadow had gotten used to ignoring people when they talked about him. Lyric sat on the couch and put his arm around Shadow. Shadow put down his book and focused his

attention to the twenty-eight year old. Did you have fun last night? Lyric asked with a devilish smile. Shadow blushed and bit his lip. I'll take that as a yes. You know, you were a lot better than I thought you would be. Hey, promise not to have my @\$@ thrown in jail? I mean you are under age; I'm twelve years older than you. But hey, it's not like I don't do other illegal things. Shadow laughed slightly under his breath. Lyric breathed softly on Shadow's left ear. Shadow cupped his face to make him stop and touched their noses. Lyric smiled passionately at him, You know Shadow, Sonic is really lucky to have you. He might want to watch his back. Hearing those words was like having a thousand lightning bolts streak through Shadow's body. His eyes widened and lips parted as the intensity of the guilt from what he had done in the last twenty-four hours was rushing into him. Lyric kissed Shadow softly then pulled back when Shadow put no effort back into the kiss. Is something wrong, Shadow? Shadow shook his head, No& I just feel kind of sick. Could you take me home now? Besides, Sonic is coming home tomorrow. Lyric smiled, Sure, you go down to the car, I'll grab your hoodie.

Shadow entered the house around dinnertime. Everyone was in the kitchen. Amy was the first to speak to him, Just went out for a smoke, eh? I didn't know it took an entire day and night to smoke one cigarette. Where were you really? Shadow took a seat at the table, None of your damn business. Rogue brought him a cup of coffee, Chill Shadow, Amy leave him alone. Shadow sipped from the cup lightly. Amy muttered under her breath, Sonic deserves better. Shadow's eyes widened and he gritted his teeth, controlling himself he lightly set mug down, What was that, Amy? Amy snapped at him, I said, Sonic deserves someone better than the likes of you! He doesn't deserve to have the person he is with out all hours of the night getting stoned and most likely cheating on him! Shadow could take no more, Oh you want to bring up cheating?! I'll give you frackin' cheating, what the frack do you think Sonic is up there doing with Sally huh? He is frackin' her that's what the frack he is doing with her. It isn't about; let's spend time with the baby together it's about, let's have an excuse to frack without having to tell people. You think I don't know that he is up there doing that shoot?! And you have to be completely dense if you think he isn't screwing her little mutt @\$@. How about he frackin' moans her name in his sleep. He talks to her on the phone like I mean nothing to him and he takes vacation and leaves me for weeks at a time to run off and cheat on me with her. You think that doesn't stress me out? Will I never be good enough? Did you ever stop to think that maybe, just maybe, the reason I'm so fracked up is cause I use drugs to cope with all that shoot. That's right, I admit it, I'm a frackin' drug addict. Booze, weed, cocaine, acid, shrooms, you name it; I've done it! There is wayyy more to my problems than Sonic, though. You can count on that. I'm just another fracked up emo kid searching for an escape from the harsh realities of the real world. What right don't I have to cheat on Sonic after all the times he has cheated on me? What would you do in my position? I can't leave him& because I love him and you don't understand how hard it is for me to deal with all this shoot. This was the point Shadow began to break down; tears were streaking down his face. He covered his eyes with his arm and grinded his teeth. Rouge comforted him, as usual.

Everyone else was in shock over the event that had just occurred. Amy squealed with excitement as she took note of Sonic standing in the doorway of the kitchen. Sonic was holding a suitcase in his left hand; he dropped it and stepped forward with an evil smirk on his face. Shadow avoided eye contact and spoke in almost a whisper, You're home a day early, how long have you been standing there? Sonic walked over and got his face close to Shadow's, Long enough to find out you're an unfaithful, cheating, drug addict. Shadow stared him in the eyes and spoke through his teeth, Don't you even say a damn thing about cheating and you knew about the drugs. Shadow pushed Rouge away from him and stood face to face with Sonic. In a sudden swift movement Sonic pinned Shadow to the wall, Was he good? Or was it a woman? Shadow punched Sonic in the face, None of your damn business, but if you really want to know it was damn well better than you ever frackin' were! Sonic lunged at him, Probably because you were too high to know how much it really sucked! The two of them rolled on the floor,

punching and kicking. Sonic had Shadow down, but Shadow managed to use his legs to throw Sonic up into the air. He landed hard on the kitchen table, his head banged against the window. The glass cracked and one of the panes fell out. Shadow was struggling to his feet when Sonic shouted and violently punched him in the stomach sending him backwards to the counter. Sonic rushed toward him, he grabbed a knife from the butcher s block and put it to Shadow s throat. The two of them stopped and stared intensely into one another s eyes with pure anger. Finally Shadow smiled and laughed full heartily. Do it! The look on Sonic s face changed from anger to despair with Shadow s words. frackin kill me! What are you, scared? Shadow was smiling as if he had gone insane. Sonic dropped the knife and threw his arms around Shadow. He put his face in Shadow s shoulder and sobbed, I m so sorry Shadow&

18 - Forgive the Innocence of Children

Chapter 18& ahhh yay!

Sonic clung to Shadow, I m so sorry& I didn t realize how much pain I caused you. I never meant to hurt you& and look where it got us. I didn t mean to drive you to do all those horrible things and I never thought how much my cheating hurt you. Shadow was shocked; he wasn t expecting such an honest apology in front of everyone. He sighed and leaned his head against Sonic s, I m sorry too, I took things too far, I know I did. Two wrongs don t make a right& and the drugs aren t good for me either. Sonic looked up at him, Does that mean you re going to quit? Shadow s eyes darted, Umm& do you want me too? Sonic laughed, Shadow was nervous. Don t worry, I don t expect you too. I ll let you have your happiness; it doesn t bother me all that much. But really, lets stop fighting. Are we even? Shadow nodded and kissed his forehead. Good, because I brought you a present. Shadow looked puzzled as Sonic went over to the suitcase he had dropped and pulled out five bottles of vodka. He turned to everyone, Who s ready to party?! Tails was shocked, Sonic, my window is busted, the table is cracked, the counters are busted up, and there are holes in the wall! You want to party right after to just had a huge fight with your boyfriend?! Not to mention you re underage, how did you even get that? Sonic handed Shadow a bottle and unscrewed the cap to his, Well, Shadow and I made up. See, back to drinking together and all that jazz. I want to party, because it has been a long stressful two weeks with Sally s constant doging and Rad s continuous crying. And I was able to get my hands on this because Sally can get me anything and everything I want. Shadow understands the whole, it doesn t matter if its illegal, I can get what I want thing better than any of us, isn t that right Shadow? Shadow grinned, Damn straight! And I m warning you, I m a slutty drunk. Shadow got down from the counter and Sonic put his arm around him, Oh I know.

Shadow awoke the next morning completely naked, laying on the coffee table in the living room. Everyone was spread out around him. Sonic was curled up in a ball on the floor next to Shadow; he was also naked. Rouge and Knuckles were down to their underwear; they were stretched out on the couch together. Amy was on the stairs and Tails was hanging over the back of a chair; they were both fully clothed. Shadow stood up and searched around for his boxers while the others slept. Once he found his and Sonic s he woke his lover up, Mhhh& the sun, it s so bright. Shadow, you look like an angel in the morning light. A dark, evil, violent yet beautiful angel. Shadow smiled but said nothing, he tossed Sonic s boxers at him and picked up a bottle from the floor, The best way to cure a hangover is to drink more. The others began to rise. Rouge woke on top of her sleeping boyfriend; he was slightly snoring. She giggled and pinched his nose; he instantly rose with a shock. Amy opened her eyes with a groan, Ohhhh, my head! Shadow walked over to her and handed her the bottle, Drink up tuots; you will feel better. You ve never gotten drunk before have you? Amy managed to sit up and look at him, No, what did I& what did we all like do last night& oh my god& I m going to puke& Rouge quickly went to her and helped her get up. She took the bottle from her and handed it back to Shadow, who drank some and screwed the cap back on. Amy was gagging as Rouge brought her to the bathroom and held her hair back, Oh honey, I m sorry. You must have drank too much; it ll get easier when you build up a tolerance. But you had fun, didn t you? Amy was too sick to answer.

In the living room Sonic had gotten Tails to lay on the floor, he seemed to be in pain. Are you going to puke too? Tails groaned, No& I m alright& just be quiet. Knuckles protested, You re not resting there, you re going to your room& sleep the day away and get rid of your hangover. Knuckles picked him up

and took him up the stairs. Tails groaned in agony the entire way. Sonic and Shadow stood around in the kitchen, searching for food. Shadow didn't want to eat, but Sonic was forcing him. Shadow if you don't eat, one of these days you're going to wind up in the hospital from starvation. I do eat! I'm just not hungry right now. Knuckles walked in at that moment. Shadow was thankful, it got Sonic's mind off of forcing food down his throat. So guys what are you going to do for the rest of the summer? Sonic answered him, I don't know, I don't really have anymore plans& Shadow shot him an evil glance. Rouge came downstairs, Shadow I'm going shopping. Want to come with me? Shadow stood, Sure, it's better than hanging around here with these losers.

Rouge and Shadow spent the entire day shopping for new clothes. Rouge was driving while Shadow sat in the passenger's seat of the jeep. He yawned as he looked over the receipt from his purchases.

Damn, you shop like a crazy woman. Rouge laughed at him, At least it was fun, right? Suddenly Rouge swerved the car to avoid an accident. If she hadn't they would have been involved in a head-on collision. She ran off the road into a ditch. The ditch was deep and the impact was hard.

Shadow opened his eyes to find himself lying on a table in a white room. Apparently the force of the impact had knocked him out. Shadow felt sore all over, he lifted his head slightly to find an IV jammed deep into his arm, he was hooked up to a breathing machine. He was nearly blind in both of his eyes; immense pain flowed through his head. His groan was muffled. A man dressed in all white entered the room and stared down at Shadow. The man didn't appear to be a normal doctor, everything but his eyes were covered; Shadow was still but his mind was racing. He attempted to speak. The doctor laughed slightly, Shhh don't speak It'll all be over soon. Shadow's eyes shot open; he knew what that meant. Suddenly he felt that he had been in this situation before. Two more doctors entered the room. They filled a syringe with a clear substance and approached Shadow. Shadow panicked and struggled to get away from them. The doctors contained their laughter as he resisted their attempt to inject him. Shadow used every ounce of strength he had, the surgeon came at him but Shadow managed to reach his arm up and knock the needle away. Shadow threw himself off of the table and went for the door, the I.V. ripped out of his arm and the breathing machine pulled him back. Shadow pulled the mask off and slammed open the door; making a run for it down the hallway. The alarm sounded, this was no normal hospital; that accident was no accident. Shadow was bleeding from his arm and blood dripped down his face from a fracture on his forehead. He licked the blood off of his top lip as he ducked in a nearby room. He sat quietly as he listened to the footsteps behind the door. Shadow was in his boxers; he locked the door and searched for a telephone. There was none; this was just like what had happened years ago.

Why do they do this to me? Shadow wondered. He looked around the room to take notice it was a lab, there was a door in the corner of the room. He went through it upon hearing someone try the door handle. Shadow ran into the next room and locked the door behind him; he turned to find it was a rather large room with two huge test tubes in the back. He stepped closer to find two small bodies floating in them. He was puzzled, the two bodies belonged to two young children; three years of age, tops. There was a boy, and a girl; their markings seemed strangely familiar. The boy was black with white streaks in his hair and around his eyes. He had bat-like ears but the body of a hedgehog. The girl was just the opposite, with her white fur and black streaks. She had the ears of a hedgehog, but the wings of a bat. He touched the tank of the little boy with the palm of his hand. Upon doing so the boy opened his eyes to peer at Shadow. The crimson color matched that of Shadow's. Tears filled Shadow's eyes, You can't be& those eyes& aren't from earth. The boy smiled and pressed his hand against the glass to Shadow's. Shadow noticed a tube sticking out of the back of the boy's neck; the child floated elegantly in the water with a breathing mask over his face. The little girl was still asleep; she was hooked up just as the boy was. Shadow went over to a control panel and began to analyze it, pressing the correct buttons. He vaguely remembered machines such as this when he was on the space colony ark. Within minutes he opened the two tanks that contained the children. As he did so another alarm went off. Men

were pounding at the door. Both children were awake now; they pulled the tubes off of themselves and took off their breathing masks. The girl seemed more timid and afraid of Shadow, the boy was happy and social he spoke to the dark hedgehog. Who are you and what are you doing here? Shadow was stunned that the boy could speak so clearly, Umm I don't quite know. I was in a car accident. The next thing I knew, I was here. The boy nodded and took a hold of the girl's hand; she hid behind him. You look like us, the others& they are human. We aren't human and you're like us Shadow nodded, Yeah& Can I ask you your name? The boy smiled, My name is Ark and this is my sister, Lexie. Shadow's eyes shot open and tears rolled down his face. He quickly wrapped his arms around the children, they gasped as he did so. Mister, what's wrong? Why are you crying? Do your boo boos hurt that bad? Shadow held them tight, No& I don't really know what's happening and this is physically impossible& I'm not really sure of anything right now except that I'm your father.

Finally getting somewhere with the kids, look look Shadow's children are alive after all, nice isn't it? XP

19 - New Additions to the Family

Chapter 19& it keeps going and going&

Ark looked to Shadow questioningly, Father? Shadow had tears in his eyes, Yeah& and I m sure your mother is dieing to meet you. Lexie finally spoke up, I know what a father is, Ark, remember those cartoons we watched where the little boy had a mommy and a daddy? He called his daddy, father once and his mommy, mother. But Lexie, they told us we didn t have a mommy and a daddy. Shadow cut in, Who told you that? At that moment the door was busted down. Shadow wrapped his children in his arms and ran down a nearby hallway. Ark shouted, Take my directions, I know how to get out of here! I ve seen trucks come in and out. Ark directed Shadow as they sped down the hallways, avoiding the guards. Shadow was quick on his feet, and Ark was quick with directions. They came to a huge garage; the exits were heavily guarded. Shadow held his children close and stepped toward them. They held up their guns, ready to fire. Move. Shadow was stern and had a maniacal look upon his face. The army men held their stance, but Shadow could tell that they were nervous. I m taking my babies home to their mother, where they belong. One of the men was bold enough to speak out, How do you even know that they are your kids, you ve never met them before. Shadow laughed, I would have to be dumb as a sack of rocks not to know that they were mine. Within a flash Shadow was out of their sight and on top of one of the trucks. The men panicked, not knowing where he had gone. Shadow made a break for it and was able to sneak around them easily. Lexie commented once they were outside, Those guards are stupider then I suspected, we got right around them. Shadow chuckled at the young girl. Using his intellect Shadow evaded the outside guards. Alarms were ringing and they even brought dogs out to find them, but Shadow was too smart for them. He sighed, Dumb humans. Ark laughed, Yeah! Shadow raced home with the children still in his arms to find no one was home. He set them down in the living room and grabbed his phone. Ark and Lexie were amazed they sat on the couch and looked around, baffled. Shadow dialed Sonic s number and waited, he leaned against the wall and watched the kids. Sonic answered. Hello? Hey babe, it s me. Oh my God! Shadow! Where have you been?! Oh my God, I ve been so frackng worried about you, you weren t in the car when the police came to the accident and I know you were with Rouge and she has been stressing over you and everything, what happened? Shadow smiled, I ll explain when you all get home, is Rouge alright? Oh, yeah she is fine now, she bumped her head really hard and passed out, she woke up this morning though. We were actually about to come home. Alright, get here as soon as you can. I will baby, I ll see you in a few. Shadow hung up the phone and ran his hand through his hair, it was then that he noticed his head was still bleeding. Hey Ark, Lexie. Come upstairs with me I need to clean up and get on some clothes. Lexie flew into Shadow s arms while Ark raced up the stairs at an incredible speed, Oh yeah& that s my son alright.

Sonic busted in the door, Shadowwww! Where are you? Shadow had bandaged his forehead and left the kids standing around the wall upstairs, he wanted to break the news before they made their appearance. Rouge was right behind Sonic, the two of them threw their arms around him and squeezed him tight. Rouge had tears in her eyes, Shadow I was so worried, what happened to you? Everyone walked in; Knuckles put his arms around Rouge and sat with her on the couch. Shadow made an announcement, I have a story to tell that I think you all might be interested in. Everyone took his or her seats around the living room. Shadow stood in the center. Well, I woke up in a military facility& an operating room in a military facility to be exact. I was tied to a table with an IV and my head busted open,

they tried to give me this thing in a needle but I managed to get away. Sonic cut him off, Ohhh that s bullshoot, see if the fracking president doesn t hear about this shoot! Shadow stopped him, Sonic calm down let me finish. Sonic shut up and sat back in his chair with an angry appearance. Well, as I was saying. I hid in this room and walked through a door& Rouge, what did you say happened to our children? Rouge looked down and her voice was soft, Shadow, why are you bringing up such painful memories? Shadow stepped over to her and took her hand, Really, what happened I need to know. Rouge swallowed, I thought I told you, I lost them& Yeah but what happened to their bodies after you lost them? Shadow I don t know& I was in the hospital, I lost them and they disposed of the bodies. Shadow held her close, No they didn t. Rouge pushed him away, Shadow what the hell is wrong with you? What the hell do you mean?! Shadow let go of her and walked towards the stairs, he looked up them to see both of the children anxiously waiting at the top, Shadow, motioned for them to come down. Shadow who the hell are you motioning for? Rouge started walking towards him but Shadow put out his hand for her to stop. Ark sped down the stairs and quickly clung to her leg. Lexie came more slowly and went to Shadow s arms. Rouge looked down in disbelief. Ark turned his head up to her, Mommy? Rouge s mouth dropped and tears flooded her eyes, Shadow, what is going on& I saw& I saw them dead. Shadow started to cry with her, I really have no fracking clue whats going on either so don t think I m just fracking with you. I found them there, in that facility. The military is actually after me right now& I kind of stole them. Rouge bent down and looked Ark in the face, Ark? Ark smiled and threw his arms around Rouge; she held him tightly and picked him up. Shadow handed Lexie to her; she cradled them both in her arms. She cried heavily, Lexie lifted Rouge s face with her hand, Don t cry mommy, people cry when they are sad. Please don t be sad. Have you two been in that place your entire lives? Lexie answered, We ve never left the building, they let us play in the garden sometimes but mostly we were in the big tubes. Ark chimed in, as he broke free from Rouge s grasp. He put his arms up, Yeah they were like these huge tanks of water and we breathed out of these things over our faces and they put a thingy in our necks and made us smarter with the computer so we learned a lot see look. Ark lifted up the hair on the back of his neck and showed everyone a plug-in. Lexie spoke, They told us that we didn t have a mommy or a daddy and that they made us. They made us with special parts and lots of needles and tubes and metal and computers. Knuckles finally said something, That s messed up. How could they do something like that? Tails being the most intelligent of the group included his input to the conversation, Shadow if you just took them from the lab, how do you know they are physically stable? You said they were hooked up to machines. He turned his attention to the children, Did they do many surgeries on you? I mean like& Did they put you to sleep and cut you with knives? Ark was happy to answer, Yeah! A lot about a year ago only, half the time we weren t asleep& it hurted bad. Rouge forced Ark to her, I ll never let that happen to you again, I promise.

Shadow stood with Rouge on the back porch watching Ark and Lexie play as normal children in the backyard. Shadow was smoking while Rouge enjoyed a cup of coffee. They are as beautiful as I always imagined. Shadow smiled at Rouge s statement. Rouge, I m really a father& and you re really a mother. How are we going to raise these kids when we aren t even together? Rouge looked at him with a serious face, I don t know. I guess we ll have to find a way. I m sure Knuckles is actually worrying about that now. I mean, I m engaged now Shadow, and you have a future planned out with Sonic. I ve heard you two up talking to the wee hours of the night. You re going to find a way to get married, adopt kids and have a big house in the suburbs, and I know you re going to name the kids, Shady and Stormy! Haha you two are so adorable. Shadow blushed, You weren t supposed to know all of that! Rouge laughed at him. Shadow once again took a serious tone, You know Rouge, I do love you. She blushed, I love you too, Shadow and because of that, even though we aren t technically a couple, I know we ll do fine raising these kids. Of course, you should stop some of the drugs. It s a bad influence on them! Shadow rolled his eyes, I know, I know! He sighed and spoke again, You know Rouge, O=one day,

they will come for him. Who are they? What do you mean? He is next in line to be king. When they realize I have a son, they will demand I train him to one day take my place. Wait a minute Shadow, what are you saying? There are some things I haven't told you about myself, Rouge. About my people. Your people? You do understand that I'm not from this earth, right? Yeah, I know about Black Doom technically being your father. She laughed at him, Shut up! I'm being serious. Rouge there has been conflict between Black Doom and Me for a long, long time and it's hard keeping the peace between my side and his. I am the king of one half of the planet and he is king to the other. I stay in contact via satellite video. Hold up, wait a minute. You're a king? Yeah, I am & Ark is the next in line, as my first born son. Wow, that's crazy, Shadow & I never knew & it blows my mind. Shadow smirked, It isn't an easy job, and I don't want the whole world to know that I hack into the military satellites and reposition them and crap along those lines to get connection to my planet. Shadow laughed full heartily, Imagine how much they will want to kill me when they find out. I mean I've tried to destroy the world like three times, have stolen, I'm into drugs, I'm a menace to society. Evil and sadistic, oh and I'm bisexual, mostly gay, what politician or military man likes that? No one! They tried to kill me earlier and they don't even know that I can hack into their oh so secret system & funny. Rouge was happy that Shadow was smiling. She turned her attention to Ark and Lexie, who were wrestling in the grass.

Knuckles and Sonic stood on the balcony above them in deep conversation, Are you worried? Sonic asked Knuckles. About what? You know, now that they found their kids, are you worried that they will want to be together again? Sweat dripped from Knuckles' forehead, I don't know & I hope not. Sonic leaned back, Me too, it would really suck to lose everything I worked so hard to keep. I should be with my family right now; I should be with Sally and Rad. I should have married Sally, I should be a king, and I should be living the good life. But I gave that all away for him and he better never forget it. Knuckles had never seen Sonic talk this way about Shadow. Sonic, I don't think they would do that, I mean Shadow loves you and he goes through more hell at school than you even know. He keeps a lot of that away from you cause he doesn't want you to feel bad for him. What do you mean? No one knows about me and Shadow and no one picks on me. Yeah but Sonic, you don't play or dress the part, Shadow does & quite often. Sonic laughed a little, Yeah he is starting to look more and more like a chick everyday. I wonder if he realizes it. How could he not realize it? He is the one wearing chick's clothes and makeup. Plus with all the shoot he goes through I honestly feel sorry for him. Do you like him dressing like a girl? Sonic looked surprised, Honestly, I don't care. Whatever makes him happy, I could care less about how he looked or how he dressed. Well you know Sonic, Shadow is jealous of Sally. I know he is, and I can't help that & well maybe I can but, you know what I mean. Maybe he thinks I want a woman and that's why he dresses and acts like one. Sonic and Knuckles laughed together. Quickly Sonic stood and had an evil, hateful smile on his face as he turned to Knuckles, All I know is, you better keep your woman off of my man, ok? With that Sonic stepped back inside leaving Knuckles to sit there alone and confused.

20 - Straighten Up

I have no Microsoft word, so I am stuck writing in Microsoft Works... for now at least. I hope I get Microsoft word back soon... but yeah its been a while, lets continue, shall we? I actually lost chapter 20 when my old computer died... so the plot is going be a little different kiddies.

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With summer comes loads of free time and since Knuckles had just graduated from high school, he and Rouge decided this would be the best time to finally get to work on building their house. Obviously it would be on Angel Island, considering Knuckles owned so much land there. Plus, when putting the fact that they planed to raise a family there; a lot of space would be nice for children to play in. Rouge and Knuckles would have to leave their friends for an entire month, and Rouge, becoming a very attached mother, insisted that the children stay with her for the next month. Shadow had no complaints, he loved Ark and Lexie, but a break would be nice.

About two weeks had passed, Sonic awoke to find himself alone in his bed one night. "I could have sworn Shadow was here when I fell asleep," Sonic thought to himself. He wrapped himself tightly in the sheets and rolled to Shadow's side of the bed. His face was down into the pillow and he inhaled deeply. He lifted up and his thoughts began to race, "Shadow was here, I can smell his shampoo in the pillow. Wow. Is it creepy that I know what he smells like? Wait no Sonic, NO! Stay on track, where the hell is that dog?" Sonic untangled himself from the layers of sheets and stood. In his boxers he made his way to Shadow's room. He felt the computer, it was still warm. Shadow had been on it recently. Shadow's cell phone was off the charger, he must have taken it. Sonic felt anger grow within him. Shadow had snuck off in the middle of the night to God knows where. He clenched his fists tightly and grinded his teeth together. He then exhaled deeply, releasing the anger. He was tempted to call Shadow's phone, but decided not to. Sonic went downstairs into the kitchen and began to brew a cup of coffee. It was going to be a long night.

Meanwhile, Shadow looked at the time on his cell phone; two in the morning. Shadow hurriedly walked down the street, his ride would be there soon. This was about the fifth time Shadow had left the house while everyone was sleeping since his break started. His phone rang, startling him in the dead silence of the night. Lyric's name appeared on the front, "Hello?" Lyric was already high, "Heyyyy baby! I'm right up the street, I can see your little tight @\$\$ walkin this way. Walk faster hunny. I neeeded you." Shadow blushed and laughed it off, "Alright, alright I'm coming." "Haha, I bet you are!" Lyric always had to turn everything into a sexual suggestion when he was stoned. Shadow hung up the phone and reached the car. He got in the seat; Lyric practically pulled him in. "So sweetheart, where to?" Shadow smirked, "Where ever I can get some good fracking rock, no, tonight I'll be good with just weed. I have to do stuff with Sonic tomorrow. Don't let me do anything but weed." "Awww, Shadow why do you always have to be holding yourself back because of that stupid boyfriend of yours? I say you dump his @\$\$ and get you a real man!" Shadow rolled his eyes, "Whatever."

Lyric drove them to the woods, and parked his car hidden under the darkness of the trees. The duo got out of the car and walked a bit into the woods. Lyric smiled, his high had worn off a bit, while Shadow's

was just starting. Shadow smoked a blunt as he slowly followed the older hedgehog through the twists and turns of the path. It was a difficult task to avoid tripping over the fallen twigs and leaves underneath their feet. Lyric spoke ahead of him, though Shadow could barely hear him. "I want to show you this one spot! I think you'll like it." They came to a clearing, at the end there was a small cliff, below it was a lake. The moonlight glistened over the cool water. Lyric sat in the grass with a plop. Shadow gracefully took a spot next to him. "Shadow?" Shadow exhaled a puff of smoke as his eyes turned to Lyric and he let out a small, "Huh?" "How blazed are you?" Shadow smiled, "Pretty blazed." "Well I wanted to talk to you so put the weed out and listen to me, dog." Shadow laughed, "Alright, alright." Shadow put it out on a rock and stuck the blunt in an empty pack of cigarettes. "Shadow listen to me... I've really been meaning to talk to you about some things. It's really weird, and probably wrong, both morally and lawfully. Well Shadow, how do you feel about me?" Shadow laid back and stared up at the stars, "What do you mean? Like, you're a great guy and I'm glad you're in my life cause like, you're chill and fun to hang with and have crazy nights with. Plus you don't judge me for anything, you make me feel wanted." Lyric smiled, "Shadow, I'm glad I can make you happy." The two of them fell silent for a long while. They lay in the grass, side by side. Shadow began to hum a soft song that he sang to his twins as he lay them down to sleep. Suddenly something caught Shadow's eye, his hand shot up and he pointed, "Look! A falling star! Quick Lyric, make a wish." Lyric was calm and relaxed, "I wish... I wish this moment would never end." Shadow smiled at him and moved closer, putting his head on his chest. Lyric held Shadow close. He lowered his voice to a whisper, "Shadow?" "Yes?" Lyric hesitated, "I... I love you." Shadow's eyes shot open and he felt his heart sink. He pretended to ignore his friend's confession. "Hey, Lyric it's getting late, well... early. I think I should be getting home. I mean before Sonic wakes up and all." Lyric nodded and stood, making his way back to the car.

It was nearly four in the morning, Shadow made his way through the front door. The house was dark, he headed for the stairs but was stopped cold in his tracks by a chilling voice. Sonic flipped on the kitchen light, "Where have you been?" Shadow felt a streak of pain shoot through his entire body. He turned slowly to face the furious blue hedgehog. Sonic was still only in his boxers, he had been sitting in the dark of the kitchen drinking coffee for hours. Shadow's eyes were wide with fear and he opened his mouth to speak no words would come out. Sonic slowly stepped up to Shadow, Shadow took a small step back. Quickly and violently Sonic swung at Shadow, hitting him hard in the face. Shadow staggered backwards and held his face in his hands. "I know this isn't the first time you've snuck out on me like this. Whenever given the opportunity you go out, don't you? When I'm not home, when you think you can get away with it. I'm sick of this shoot!" At this point, he was yelling and the others had woken up. Amy and Tails decided to stay upstairs and avoid the conflict. They stood at the top of the stairs, from that angle they could see the argument. Shadow was bleeding from his mouth, he looked at Sonic in despair. Sonic hit the wall hard, punching a hole in it. Tears formed in Shadow's eyes and he fell to his knees. Sonic continued to scream at him, "Why the frack are you crying!? You're probably too stoned to feel the pain. I'm the one who getting cheated on, not you!" Shadow finally spoke up, "I wasn't out cheating on you!" "Then where were you and what the hell were you doing??!" "Sonic I'm sorry, I was... I was with my dealer and all we had was weed I swear! Baby I..." "Don't 'baby' me! I don't want to hear that shoot, Shadz! I tired of this crap! I'm tired of waking up and you not being there. I'm tired of knowing if I'm really talking to you or the drugs. I'm tired of being in a quiet relationship. I have everyone thinking that after high school I'm going to go live with Sally. I'm tired of all of this drama, if you would stop all this shoot and just be a good kid then I wouldn't have to stress so much. I wouldn't have to worry such much and you wouldn't make me so fracking angry." Shadow let his hands go, revealing the bruised, bleeding wound in his face. The blood was still dripping from his mouth, he swallowed some of it and stood. "Sonic, I... let me explain." Shadow paused and looked at Sonic, half

expecting him to begin yelling again. "I... I'm sorry... I really don't know what else to say... I can't fix what I've done but... I love you." Sonic sighed, "I love you too Shadow, you just better start fixing your life. That's all I'm going to say. Stay out of my room for the night. I'm sick of looking at you." Sonic then made his way past Shadow and up the stairs. He passed Tails and Amy, completely ignoring their presence. Shadow stood still 'till he heard the slam of Sonic's door. He then sighed and wiped some of the blood from his face to the sleeve of his shirt. He headed to the bathroom to clean himself up.

Once he applied pressure and washed his cut, the bleeding would still not come to a stop. So he tied a bandage to it and pulled his cell out of his pocket. Slowly, he dialed Rouge's number and held the phone to his ear. Rouge answered in a groggy voice, "Hello?" Shadow was choking back tears, "Hey Rouge... I'm sorry that its so late." Shadow could hear Knuckles in the background asking who was calling at almost five in the morning. Rouge sounded a bit more awake, "Oh my God Shadow, are you alright?" In the background Shadow heard Rouge frantically get up from her bed. There was a heavy sigh from Knuckles as he rolled over. Rouge slipped on a bathrobe and left the room. Shadow breathed deeply and swallowed, "Rouge... I messed up... I messed up bad." She calmed him as she heard him begin to cry softly. "Aw, sweetie. I'm sure everything will be alright. Just relax and tell me what happened." "Well Rouge, I'll put it this way... right now, I'm sitting on the bathroom floor. My mouth is still bleeding and I'm having a meltdown." "Shadow, what did you do?" "Well... I went out tonight...with Lyric." "You mean your dealer? I don't like him." "I know you don't, Rouge. You've told me before. Well yeah, anyway... I snuck out around two and Lyric picked me up. We went to this really pretty cliff over a lake in the woods. All we had was weed I swear. But I came home... and Sonic was waiting in the kitchen. He was so angry, and he looked so disappointed. Rouge if I don't do something, it's all going to be over." "Then, why are you bleeding?" "He hit me... hard... he only does that when he is really, really pissed." "Shadow, you know that's not right that he hit you. Especially, hard enough for you to bleed. You don't need an abusive relationship." "No Rouge, really I deserved it... really I did. I understand, plus he is just in one of those moods and I really can't blame him. This is all my fault. Everything is always all my fault...I'm so sorry." "Shadow..." "No Rouge! I'm sorry for being a frack up! I'm sorry for the drugs. I'm sorry for cheating on the one person that means the most to me. I have no idea what I would do without him. I'm sorry I'm not the greatest father. I'm sorry I'm not really a good boyfriend. I'm sorry things never seem to go right. I'm so sorry for everything. I just, I don't know how much longer I can go on like this... I'm sorry." "Shadow, don't talk like that. Your kids love you, Sonic loves you and I love you, too. You have so much to be happy about. If you want to change your life I am all for it and you know that. It would be better for everyone and you know that too. Shadow, don't let this bring you down. You can't change the past, you can only work towards a better future and I'll be here for you every step of the way." "I know you will be Rouge, I know I can always count on you. But Rouge, I'm really scared about all of that stuff with Lyric." "Shadow you don't have to do all that stuff with him, I mean, he has other customers, I could call the cops on him for you and just have him taken away if you want." "No! Don't do that, please! You don't know him like I do... him and his sister need each other. And I'm not talking about the drugs and the sex right now. I didn't have sex with him tonight, just so you know. I mean like... about what he said to me tonight." "What do you mean?" "Well, while we were laying under the stars, he told me he loved me. Lyric never says that kind of thing to anyone and I don't know... Rouge he can't love me." "Shadow... How old is he again?" "Twenty-seven." "I want you to stay away from him, he is no good for you and that isn't right. I don't agree with all of this illegal shoot and there is absolutely nothing legal that you have been doing with him." "I know Rouge, I know..."

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End of Chapter 20, OMG doges XP yeah...

21 - Done

Chapter 21

A few weeks passed. Sonic and Shadow were back to being a normal happy couple, but there was still a bit of an awkward tension between the two of them. Rouge was coming back to drop off the children. She would stay the night, building the house was taking longer than expected and Rouge thought Shadow could use some time with them. Or, more so, the children could use some time with their father.

Ark burst open the door and threw himself into Shadow's arms. Shadow smiled and held him tightly. "Daddy, Daddy! Mommy took us to the zoo and there was this giraffe and then there were the elephants and they were like this big!" Ark held his arms as far apart as he could, "And they were loud and then the monkeys climbed in the trees!" Shadow kissed him lightly on the cheek, "Oh they did? That's great." Lexie cautiously took hold of Shadow's pant leg and looked up at him with longing eyes. Shadow picked her up and cradled his children in his arms. Lexie wrapped her arms tightly around Shadow's neck in an embrace. Amy watched as Lexie did this, "Awwww they are sooo adorable!" Rouge finally spoke up, "I'm going to stay here for the night, because Knuckles is painting and honestly, I can't stand the fumes anymore. I didn't think it was too healthy for the little ones either." Tails chimed in, "No problem Rouge! You know you are always welcome here. We left your room the way it was." She smiled, "Good! I need some time to unwind. All that work on that house has taken its toll on me and Knuckles has been driving me a bit crazy with all the 'No Rouge, this goes here!' or 'This is put on like this, not that!' I mean common do I look like the type of girl that builds anything? I'm smart and pretty, girls like me get boys to do that kind of work for them." Amy laughed and high-fived her, "Amen sister!" Rouge hugged Amy, "Hey sweetie, could you do me a favor and watch the kids just for today? I want to go to a spa and take Shadow with me. We haven't had any time to bond in so long!" Rouge turned and smiled warmly at Shadow who was still holding his children. Shadow was wearing a tight pale pink tee-shirt with tight light blue jeans. There were rips in the knees of his pants, and the ends that dragged on the ground as he walked were frayed. He kept his bangs from covering both of his eyes with two hot pink barrettes. Amy was happy to baby-sit, "Of course I'll watch them! They are both such little angels!" Shadow set the kids down and they bolted for the back door. The two of them wrestled each other to the swing set and began their play. Sonic hugged Shadow tightly and kissed him lightly. Sonic told him to have fun and relax. With a touch up of makeup and a bit of primping the two of them were ready to leave.

"Oh my gosh, Shadow, this is amazing." Rouge closed her eyes and allowed the man to remove her towel to massage her back. Shadow was on the table next to her. "So sweetie, I know you've been though a lot of shoot lately, care to confide in me?" Shadow turned his head to look at her, "I really don't know what else to say. I'm getting through things I guess." "Alright hun, but you know I'm always here to talk to." Shadow smiled, "I know Rouge, I know."

Hours of pampering later the two of them exited the spa. "I'm not ready to go home yet Shadow, the day is still young! There are plenty of stores open and I..." She reached into her purse and pulled out her

wallet. She slipped a silver card out of it, "Have Knuckles' credit card! He promised me a shopping day and I've skipped the last three. He puts money on the card for me as a present!" Shadow's eyes lit up and he snatched the card from her, "Oh my God! Can you say 'Shopping spree!'" Shadow spun around and rushed for the car. Rouge chased after him.

Two hours later the trunk of the car and part of the backseat was full of shopping bags. It contained everything from clothes, to makeup, to jewelry, to accessories, to random items. Shadow and Rouge were currently in a designer store trying on sunglasses. Shadow posed with a pair studded in diamonds that matched his belt. They were white with purple lenses. "Oh my gosh, those are so cute on you!" Rouge exclaimed. Shadow took them off, "Yeah I know, but I think we've run up the money enough today. Lets get heading home, its about dinner time isn't it?" Rouge checked the time on her cell phone. "Oh man, I didn't even realize how late it was getting." She sighed, "Alright, I guess we'll go home now."

Later that night Rouge and Shadow sat on the floor of Rouge's room, continuing their bonding time. They had the T.V. on the lifetime channel and they had been painting their toenails. Shadow was leaning back against the bed, waiting for them to dry. Rouge was next to him doing the same. They were both in their pajamas. A silk, short gown for her and grey pajama pants for him. Shadow rested his head on her shoulder. It was late, almost three in the morning. Everyone else in the house was sleeping, even Sonic. Shadow put his arms around her and moved his head to her chest. She smiled and kissed his forehead. "I missed you, Rouge." "I missed you too Shadow." Rouge embraced him back. Shadow prolonged it, as if he didn't want to let her go. "Thank you, Rouge." "For what, Shadow." He looked up at her with big, innocent eyes, "Thank you for everything. For being there for me. For my children and for being the best friend any one could ever ask for." Rouge closed her eyes and smiled warmly, Shadow made her feel a bit uncomfortable considering he was being so clingy. However, she knew that was just the way Shadow got sometimes and he needed compassion every once in a while. Rouge noticed that Sonic wasn't as nice to Shadow as he used to be. Shadow didn't complain, because he knew that it would only lead to an argument and Sonic had many more things to say to Shadow than the other way around. Shadow sat up more and touched his nose to hers. He ran his fingers through her hair and gazed into her eyes. Rouge felt sweat begin to form on her forehead from nervousness. Rouge's eyes were wide while Shadow's were partly closed and filled with lust. He pressed his lips softly to hers. She knew it was wrong, but she did not push him away. He lifted her to the bed and slid his hand up her shirt. She wrapped her legs around his back, pulling him down to her as she deepened the kiss. Shadow unhooked her bra from the front. He smiled evilly as he slid it out and lifted her silk gown off of her. She tugged at the rim of his pants and slid them down. He quickly wrapped his arms around her and flipped to where she was on top. It was now her decision of what action to take. She knew the game Shadow played, he wanted her to show that she wanted it, and that it just wasn't him taking advantage of her. Rouge laughed as she sat on him, wearing nothing but her panties. Shadow joined her laughter. The two sat up as if they had both been joking about the whole ordeal, as if it were staged. They sat on the edge of the bed smiling at one another. Slowly their eyes opened and the smiles disappeared from their faces. They examined each other's face in question. Without a word spoken, the two flung themselves at one another once again. Shadow bit her neck as she slid off the last of their clothing. She moaned softly and hushed him, "Be quiet, so we don't wake anyone." Her eyes rolled back as she felt the dark lover take her.

The two lay panting together in the bed. "Damn Shadow, three hours..." Shadow smirked and kissed her bottom lip, "I'm just good like that." Shadow stood and redressed himself. He tossed Rouge's clothes

to her. He then inhaled deeply, "Damn, this room smells like sex!" Rouge stood next to him, "Hmmm, I wonder why?!" He playfully pushed her and she pushed him back, "Damn Shadow, you smell like a wet horny dog. Go take a shower you mutt." Shadow smacked her @\$@ hard and she let out a yelp, "After you, and your giant white @\$@." "Hey! That @\$@ gets me a lot of free stuff thank you very much. You'd be surprised how eager men are to assist you when you have big tits and a nice @\$@." Shadow laughed as he hurried her into the shower.

Three days later Shadow sat in the kitchen smoking a cigarette and watching the morning rain hit the window. Tension between Sonic and him had been high the last few days, as if Sonic was avoiding him to a degree. Shadow was the first one up this morning, as usual. Fully dressed and showered and still not another soul had risen from their slumber. The sun had been up for well over an hour now. Shadow sighed as he put out his cigarette and rose to make a fresh pot of coffee. Rouge was gone and once again had taken the children with her. Shadow pondered about her, "I wish... I don't know. We shouldn't have done what we did the other night. But it was just impulse, right? Man what am I, nothing more than a mere animal? I'm so horrible, I don't deserve Sonic. I've cheated on him so many times, and maybe... maybe he knows about it and that's why he is so mean to me all the time. I need to find a way to make it up to him. Maybe I should give him his birthday present early, and apologize... no then he'll suspect about the other night. I'll just make breakfast. Alright what do these frackers like to eat?" Shadow searched the shelves and pulled out a box of blueberry pancake mix. He then found a package of bacon in the fridge, he cringed at the sight of it. "How can any one eat this?" He quickly put it back and pulled out a container of strawberries instead. Shadow worked for a while, he made mountains of pancakes and set four cups of strawberries. He poured glasses of orange juice. Shadow even took it upon himself to set the table, with a vase of flowers from the garden in the backyard. Breakfast was complete and still no one had come downstairs. Shadow ventured upstairs to find his housemates. He knocked on Tail's door first. There was no answer so Shadow slowly opened the door, "Tails?" Tails was asleep, face down on his desk in a pile of research. Shadow woke him as he entered the room. Tails shot up and turned around, "Shadow? What are you doing here?" Shadow smiled, "I made breakfast and no one is awake yet, wash up and come downstairs." Shadow then left the room, Tails was in shock. Shadow never does nice things like that. Next Shadow went to Amy's room. She was in the shower, he walked though the dreaded pink room and knocked on the bathroom door. She answered, "Sonic? Come in! I'm not dressed but I'm sure you don't mind." Shadow rolled his eyes and covered them as he stepped into her bathroom. "Oh, Shadow... its you. What do you want?" "I made breakfast, get some clothes on and come eat." Amy's reaction was similar to Tail's but a bit more blunt, "Are you trying to poison us all now?" Shadow began to leave and called out to her, "Yes, now hurry up so I can kill you all, and get to burying you all in the backyard, I need fertilizer for my flowers." Sonic's room was the last stop, Shadow smiled as he opened the door, "Baby? You awake?" Sonic was lying in his bed staring at the ceiling. "You made breakfast?" Shadow blushed, "Umm yes, I did. Can you come downstairs before it gets cold." "You've been cooking for a long time. Why?" "I just wanted to do something nice for you." "Why?" "Because I love you. That's all. Now please get up." Sonic sighed and stood, he throw on some pants and went with Shadow to the kitchen.

After the meal, everyone was satisfied. "Wow Shadow, I didn't know you could cook!" Tails was always positive reinforcement. Amy wasn't quite so positive, "Yeah it was good, but the most surprising part of all this was actually seeing you eat. I was beginning to believe that it was impossible for you to digest anything." Sonic simply winked at Shadow with a small smirk to show satisfaction. Tails and Amy offered to clean the dishes. Sonic began up the stairs; Shadow followed him, "Sonic wait, I..." Sonic reached the top of the stairs and walked a little into the hallway before he stopped, "Shadow... I need to

talk to you... no I need to do this now. I can't stand it anymore." Shadow stood a few feet away from Sonic, clutching his gift to him hard in the palm of his left hand. Sonic sighed, he had a serious look on his face and a fierce tone in his voice. "Shadow, I'm sorry, but I can't do this anymore. I can't stand this anymore. I can't take anymore of you." Shadow's face dropped and his heart sank he stared at Sonic; speechless with utter horror in his eyes. Sonic's voice became a bit louder with a tad more anger, "I know what you and Rouge did the other night. It kind of hurts to wake up alone, and when you go to search for your boyfriend you slightly and quietly open the door to find him in the bed with someone else. Especially someone I know you have a strong tie to. You've cheated on me one to many times. With that damn drug dealer, with your babies' momma and God knows who else, I'm sick of it! I'm sick of you!" Shadow finally found the strength to utter a few words, "Sonic, I'm sorry I... promise that I..." "No more Shadow! No more! I'm sick of you, don't you get it? I don't want to be with you, I am done! We are breaking up, do you not get that? Do you not get what done means? D-O-N-E. You want me to be even more blunt about this? I hate that you're a fracking drug addicted whore, you're fracking anorexic and you look like a chick. You've changed and I hate what you've become. I can't stand to put up with all your bullshoot anymore. I'm sorry Shadow, but I'm done and I think the only way we can both move on from this would be if one of us left this house. Now am I leaving, or are you?" Tears were running down Shadow's face, he dropped the box he had been holding and covered his face. He sniffed and managed two words, "I'll leave." "Alright," With that Sonic calmly walked to his room and shut the door. Once Sonic was out of sight, Shadow bolted for his own room and pulled his phone out of his pocket.

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Here we go, you knew there was more drama coming ^.^~ Did you expect anything less from me? XD

## 22 - A New Place to Stay

### Chapter 22

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Shadow muffled his tears with his left hand as he listened to the phone ring on the other line, the answering machine picked up; "Hey doges, you've reached me, Lyric. I am obviously not available to answer the phone right now... but maybe if you leave a message, I'll call you back later. Unless you're the police, in that case frack You!" Shadow then heard the beep, "Lyric, its Shadow... I need you right now. Please, please for the love of God call me back as soon as you can." He hung up and gathered some of his things together to throw them into a book bag. Shortly after he began packing his phone rang. Lyric was on the other end, "Oh my God Shadow! What's going on? Do you need me to come get you? Are you alright???" Shadow swallowed back tears, "Lyric... you know that one time you told me you would do anything for me, and if I needed a place to stay, I was welcome with you?" "Yeah." "Well is that still an option?" Lyric, "That option will always be open. I'll be right there to get you alright, just hold on, I'll be there as soon as I can. You can tell me what happened later." Lyric hung up quickly in a panic. Shadow finished backing, taking only clothes and his cell phone.

Lyric sped most of the way there so he appeared at Shadow's doorstep in no time. He rang the doorbell, but did not wait for an answer. Melody had tagged along with him; Melody burst through the door. Shadow was walking down the stairs as she threw her arms around him, "Oh baby, are you alright? Are you hurt?" Shadow merely looked at her with his tear stained eyes and running makeup. Lyric had a pistol in his hand, "Alright, what mother fracker needs to get their brains blown out?! You frack with him, you frack with me, dog!" Shadow walked past him, slightly touching his arm, "No Lyric... no."

As the three left Amy entered the living room where Sonic was calmly watching television. She was holding the package that Shadow planned to give to Sonic. Amy and Tails had heard the breakup from the kitchen when it happened. "Sonic?" Sonic was silent. "Do you think you should open this?" "No" He never took his eyes off the screen. Her eyes shifted to the floor, "Then I'll just put it on top of your dresser," She then rose and left Sonic alone. Tails avoided everything by staying in his workshop, tinkering with all of his new inventions.

Shadow lay on the floor in Lyric's living room. Lyric stood over him, Shadow had went over what happened between him and his love. "Lyric, he was the love of my life... I have never been in this much pain in my entire life. I've had my sides literally ripped open, bones broken, organs cut and busted open, internal and external bleeding and various other wounds, but none of those things can even compare to this pain. I feel like someone is suffocating my heart, like someone is stomping on it and not letting the pressure up. I have no strength to move and I'm barley even blinking. I have never felt this horrible. Melody sat beside him, "Sweetie, they don't call it heart break for nothing. When someone has undergone so much emotional stress and has been thrown into depression and shock from this, you're heart can literally skip a few beats. That's the pain of heartbreak. I've been there all too many times, and so has Lyric." Shadow was a bit surprised. Lyric sat down, "Yeah, that was a long time ago. I let

her go, she never wanted me.” Shadow commented, “You never mentioned anything like that to me.” “It was years ago, it doesn’t matter now. I have no idea what happened to her anyway. But that’s just life. Sometimes, even when you love someone so much, so much that you would die for them, they just don’t feel the same way. Its hard, but when it comes down to that, if you really love that person, then you’ll let them go. You’ll let them be happy. Seeing her happy was one of the few things that made me happy, and she wasn’t happy with me.” Lyric was incredibly sorrowful, Shadow could tell by the tone in his voice. Yet, he held a smile on his face. Shadow closed his eyes as silent tears rolled out from them, “But its not just that, he wasn’t happy with me. I made him feel that way, cause I’m a stupid drug addicted whore. I know I am, and because of that... I lost the most important thing in the world to me. I would have, I still would do anything for him. I love him.” Lyric leaned back against the coffee table, “I know you do Shadow, I know you do.”

Shadow woke between Lyric and Melody on the bed the next morning; the two of them were fast asleep. Shadow carefully climbed over Lyric and made his way to the kitchen. He slouched down in a chair, lit up a cigarette and flipped open his phone. Thirty-four missed calls awaited him. Thirty-three of them were from Rouge, one was from Amy. “I guess Amy informed Rouge of my predicament...” Shadow didn’t feel the need to listen to the messages, he knew they all said the same thing, “OMG Shadow, are you ok? OMG I’m so worried about you! OMG call me!” He took a long drag and leaned back to look at the fan spinning on the ceiling. It wobbled as it went, even though it struggled, it kept on spinning. “I guess that’s just what I have to do... I guess that’s just what the whole world has to do. Just keep spinning.” Lyric walked in as he said this and began to make a pot of coffee, “Yea. That’s all we can do for now.” Lyric sat down next to him and lit up a cigarette of his own, “I’m here for you, I’ve got your back. I promise I won’t let you hit the ground.” “Well when are you going to catch me? I think I’ve fallen just about as far as I can.” Lyric smirked, “You’ll fly again, one day.” Shadow just sighed for a reply. Lyric took a serious tone, “No really Shadow, I’m really here for you.” Shadow lifted his head a bit to look Lyric in the face. He noticed a small blush on his cheeks and a longing stare in his eyes. A questioning look spread across Shadow’s face and Lyric quickly turned away to get the coffee.

That night Melody had to go to work, Lyric was afraid to leave Shadow alone, “Hey, I need to go to the store to pick up a few things, are you sure you’ll be alright if I’m gone?” Shadow was bundled up under a blanket on the couch, he lifted his head to look at Lyric, “I’ll be fine, I promise I won’t go crazy and jump out the window. At least, I’ll be alright for a few minutes. I think some time alone could actually do me some good.” Lyric still wasn’t sure, but he left anyway. Alone, Shadow decided to give Rouge a call; even though he really didn’t want to. “Hello? OMG! Shadow are you alright? I wanted to go look for you but I don’t know where Lyric lives. Oh sweetheart! Please tell me the whole story.” Shadow sighed, “Well, you obviously know. I’m single again. After about two years, its over and all of this is kind of hard for me to grasp. You know I love him, and I always will, but that’s not the point right now. Rouge, I fracked up... for real this time, and I don’t know what I’m going to do. I feel so empty.” “Honey, that doesn’t answer my question. What did Sonic say? Why did this happen?” “I ruined it all, its my fault I know. He just got tired of it all.” “Tired of what? Shadow, what did he say?!” “Rouge, I don’t want to tell you. I don’t want you to have any of my burdens on your shoulders.” “Shadow! I don’t care, okay?! I’m here for you, I want to know the details, I care about you! I can’t help you if you don’t tell me why it all happened. What more did you do that Sonic got so mad about?!” Shadow fell silent for a moment as he pondered what to say, “Fine then... Rouge... Sonic woke up the other night, when you and I were together. He found out about that, and that piled up on all the rest, was all he could take. I ruined everything, again. I’ve got to go. I’ll call you later, bye.” Rouge pleaded for him to stay on the line as he hung up and turned off the phone. Shadow stood to light up cigarette and grab a beer from the fridge.

By the time Lyric got home Shadow had downed four beers and was on his fifth. He stumbled around the living room, slightly dancing to the music in his head, "Lyric! You're home! I thought I was going to be alone forever." "Shadow, I was only gone for about a half an hour." Shadow began to fall as he tripped over a blanket on the floor, Lyric dropped the bags he had been holding and jumped to catch him. Shadow fell into Lyric's arms and took another swig of his beer. "You're looking better and better by the second," Shadow laughed. "Haha! No, I'm not that drunk, I know what's going on... kind of." He stood up on his own and sat on the floor. Lyric sighed and went to put the groceries away. Shadow shouted at him, "Did you buy me any cigarettes?" Lyric tossed a pack at him, which he happily accepted. He tapped the bottom of the pack and opened it. Gently, he slid a single cigarette out from its casing and placed the end between his lips. As he did this, Lyric tossed a lighter to him. Shadow caught it and stuck the flame. He inhaled and watched as the end of his cigarette began to catch fire. He pulled away and threw the lighter across the room. He took it from his mouth and exhaled. "Ahh... I needed that." Lyric smirked and grabbed a beer from the fridge. He sat on the couch in front of Shadow, "You know... I'm not the one to preach to you, considering I sell the shoot, but maybe you should cut back on some of it." Shadow's mouth dropped, "Now you're saying I've gone too far?! Oh my God, I must be horrible if you think I'm bad!" Shadow's eyes began to fill with tears, Lyric pulled Shadow towards him and cradled him in his arms, "Shhh Shadow, please don't cry. I hate it when you cry. I'm just saying, you're life would be much simpler if you calmed it all down. Look at me, I've done nothing with my life. I don't want you to wind up in a miserable excuse of an apartment, selling drugs to pay the rent... and my frackin' car payment; What was I thinking when I went for that frackin' sports car? I love my Viper though, it may be the only thing I own that is worth anything. Anyway Shadow, for the people that love you, just promise me, you'll try to settle your life. You're almost out of high school now. Only what, three more months? And you need to start thinking about your future." Shadow leaned over and put his cigarette out in the ashtray on the coffee table. He leaned back and wrapped his arms around Lyric's shoulders. Shadow stared him in the eyes, "The people that love me? You love me, don't you, Lyric?" Lyric blushed, "Of course I love you Shadow, ha ha you're one of me homies man." Shadow's expression didn't change, "No, you don't love me like that. You really love me. Not as a friend, not as some sex toy, you love me... for me. Don't think I haven't noticed." Lyric leaned back as Shadow pressed their lips together, he closed his eyes and held Shadow tightly. Shadow cuddled to him and rested his head on his shoulder, he began to purr softly. "Thank you Lyric... for caring, when no one else did." Lyric was a bit shocked, but a warm, soft smile spread across his face as he placed a kiss to Shadow's forehead.

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And that ladies and gentlemen.. Would conclude chapter 22, its not over yet doges... ^~ Yeppp

23 - Life ain't easy

Chapter 23

Shadow continued living with Lyric. Lyric took him to and from school each day, if Shadow missed anymore days, he would fail. Lyric attempted to ease Shadow away from the drugs, but nothing seemed to help him. Shadow was filled with depression and drowned it in drugs and alcohol. It killed Lyric inside to see Shadow so miserable; especially when he knew it was over Sonic. Shadow rarely smiled, he seemed to grow sadder and sadder with each passing day. He began to lose his drive and will to live. While with Lyric, Shadow obtained his driver's license. Still, he chose to be driven to school by his older friend. It was rare to see Shadow sober, he was barely passing his classes and was just sort of drifting through life. The hardest part of it all, was that he had to see Sonic at school everyday. Luckily, Sonic was only in Shadow's lunch period.

Shadow walked down the quiet hallway before class on a dark Tuesday morning. He held his books to his side, the hallways were almost completely empty. Five guys were standing near the end of the hallway, Shadow went to pass them but they stopped him. "Hey there, you're that little queer boy aren't you?" "Yeah he is, that Shadow kid. Everyone knows about how Sonic dumped you!" "HAHA! Who would have thought, old blue blur was gay." Shadow took defense, "He's not gay, he's bi!" "Umm he does dudes, that's all that matters. But you like it don't you?" Shadow was angered, "You guys are assholes." He attempted to push his way past them, but they held him back. "Where do you think you're going. One of them snatched his books from him and threw them down the hallway, they shoved him into the storage room. Three of the boys went in with him. They pinned him to the wall and covered his mouth. Shadow bit the boy's hand as hard as he possibly could. The boy began to shout, the other two tacked Shadow to the ground. Shadow fought back with all of his strength, he landed a punch square in the jaw of one of them. The boy he had bitten pulled a needle and syringe out from a box in his pocket. He jabbed Shadow with it. It didn't hurt, Shadow was used to pain. His entire body began to go numb and his vision blurred as the clear liquid began to make its way through his bloodstream. He was defenseless, the boys preceded to beat him until they felt that they had their revenge for the pain Shadow had cause them. One of the boys held a video camera, while another one of them pulled him up from his hair. Shadow couldn't make his mouth form words. He merely pleaded to the boy with his eyes. "You freak! Look what you've done now! If you would have just shut up and taken it you wouldn't be in such bad condition now!" Shadow smirked slightly and pushed words from his lungs, "That's a damn strong drug you got there." The boy grinned, "I know." He had Shadow on the floor, "You getting this?" He asked the boy with the camera. Shadow began to fall from conciseness as he felt the boys begin to undress him.

Shadow woke hours later, after nightfall. His body hurt all over. He noticed his books in a pile on the floor in the corner. Slowly he stood and picked them up. He exited the storage closet and began to walk down the hallway. The door was locked, he pulled a hairpin from the back of his head and picked at the handle till he heard a click. With ease he opened the door and made his way down the front steps of the school. His motions were slow, his make up was smeared, his hair was tangled and ruined, his clothes

were wrinkled, he had a black eye and several scrapes and bruises all over his body. The streetlights of the city lit his pathway home. He could only think of one thing; "I missed school again today... I can't fail. Maybe I can make it up if I stay after for tutoring and do extra credit work. I still need to get my senior project done too." It was a long walk home for Shadow. When he reached the apartment he noticed Lyric's car missing from the driveway. "He must have gone looking for me... I don't even know what time it is." Shadow unenthusiastically searched for his keys in his pocket. Gently he turned the handle and entered the cold empty place he returned to each night. He dropped his books up on entering and closed the door behind him. Calmly he slipped off his shoes and walked towards the bedroom. He laid down on the bed and pulled the covers to his chest. He dug in his pockets and emptied them on the nightstand: a cell phone, keys, a pack of cigarettes and tic-tacs. He sighed and took his cell phone. He dialed Lyric's number. Lyric sounded stressed, "Shadow! Oh my GOD! Where the frack are you?!" Shadow was calm and quiet, "I'm home..." He hung up and placed the phone back on the nightstand. He then turned over and closed his eyes.

Lyric burst in the house and ran directly to the bed room. He flipped on the light and jumped into the bed with Shadow. He squeezed him tightly, then gripped his face in his hand. Shadow's expression was blank, but his eyes beheld a horrible sadness. Lyric examined his face in great detail, "Who did this to you? What exactly happened? Do you have any idea what time it is? Do you have any idea how worried I was about you? Where the frack were you?!" Shadow began to cry, he pushed Lyric back with a strong force and buried his face in his chest. He held Lyric tightly and sobbed deeply. Lyric's rage quickly changed to compassion, he held Shadow and rocked him slightly. "Shhh Shadow, don't cry. I hate it when you cry. You're alright now, I'm here.

Shadow drove up to Rouge's house after school the next day. He rang the doorbell and put his cigarette out on the porch. The door quickly flung open and Shadow was pushed backwards. Lexie had flew into his chest and squeezed her father's neck. Ark clung to Shadow's left leg. Rouge stood in the doorway smiling, she welcomed Shadow in. Ark and Lexie ran off to play as their parents sat down to talk and drink coffee. "So, how have you and Knuckles been?" Shadow sipped from his cup and stared at her from over the rim. "We've been well... actually, I don't know." Shadow raised an eyebrow in question. Rouge blushed and looked out the window, "Isn't this house great? It's huge, and has a great backyard. Plenty of space for kids to play in, you know? Yeah..." Rouge smiled slightly and stared into her cup. Shadow's mouth dropped as he placed his cup on the table. He smiled and laughed a little, "haa, no.." He winced at her, "Noooo, you couldn't be. Aren't you? No.. no. You're not... Are you?" Rouge bit her lip and looked back up at Shadow with an innocent smile. "Rouge?" She rolled her eyes cutely and nodded. She and Shadow burst out with high pitched squeals as they embraced each other from across the table. "Oh man, how far along are you? Wait... does Knuckles even know yet?" Rouge hushed him, "About two months, but no, he doesn't know yet." "I guess that means you don't know if it's a boy or girl yet... well as soon as you find out, we are so going shopping for that kid. Haha, hopefully it will look like you." Shadow playfully punched her arm. Rouge rolled her eyes once again and stood to pour herself another cup of coffee. "You know Rouge, coffee isn't good for the baby." "How do you figure?" "Well caffeine is a stimulant, like cigarettes, and that could damage the baby, mentally and physically." She sighed and slid her cup to Shadow, "Fine then. I want a healthy baby, or it might turn out like you." Shadow put her cup to his lips, "If you had a kid like me, I would personally kick its @\$\$. Damn, I would hate to raise a brat like me." Rouge scoffed, "Shadow, take a look at Ark. If he doesn't grow up to be a happy, hyper version of you, then nothing in this world will make sense." Shadow became defensive, "How do you figure!?" "He plays dress-up with Lexie. His preference in music is that emo-screamo shoot you like so much. He absolutely hates the kiddy stuff. He's three! I'm supposed to

be able to baby him, he is supposed to like watching Barney and Winnie the Pooh, but no! He wants to watch MTV. My three year old is a teenager! At least Lexie likes Barbies and the fairy princess movies.” Shadow smirked, “Ark plays with Barbies.” Rouge put her face in her hands, “I know! He’s like a gay teenager.” She sighed, “I bet you were the same way when you were little.” Shadow darted his eyes, “Mayyybe.” Knuckles then entered the room with Ark and Lexie under his arms, the two of them were covered in mud. Ark shouted, “Mommy! I figured out how to use the water hose!” Knuckles remarked, “Yeah... he figured it out in the garden.” Lexie giggled cutely and kicked her feet. Knuckles sighed and carried the two children off to the bathroom. Shadow hollered after him, “You better get used to cleaning up after kids now!” Rouge threw a dishrag from the table at him and hushed him. “But seriously Shadow, we’ve talked enough about me. How have you been holding up?” Shadow’s face dropped. He forced a smile, “I’ve been fine I guess. Going to school everyday, making the best of things, that’s life.” “Yeah but Shadow, are you happy?” “No... but I’ve come to accept that happiness just isn’t for me.” “Shadow... you know that’s not true. Don’t say that.” Shadow cut her off, “Rouge don’t feed me that crap. I was born to be a weapon. I have fracked up views on life and a fracked up life in itself. Happiness isn’t for me... I know that, I figured it out a long time ago. Okay? Just leave it at that.”

Later that night Shadow sat at the desk studying while Lyric was at work. He had recently acquired a new steady job as a bartender. Melody was staying with some guy, which she had been doing for a while now. She told Lyric that this guy was different, and that he really cared about her. Or so it seemed. She thought he could be the one. For the time being, Shadow didn’t have a moment to worry about other people. If he wanted to graduate with his class he needed to study. He had mountains of extra credit to complete, a pack of cigarettes and mug of coffee. He was in for a long night of boring books. Lyric returned home around two thirty in the morning. Shadow was making a fresh pot of coffee when he entered. “Shouldn’t you be in bed? You have school in the morning.” Shadow smirked, “What are you, my mother? For your information I’m doing schoolwork. If I don’t, I’m going to fail.” Lyric took off his shoes, “Alright, whatever you say,” Lyric then wrapped his arms around Shadow from behind and pressed his body closely to his. “How about you take a little break?” As he said that he slowly slid his hands to the rim of Shadow’s pants and tugged. Shadow put his cup down and turned around to kiss Lyric. He ran his fingers through the older man’s hair and spoke muffled words, “Maybe just a little break.”

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Still a few more chapters to go XD

24 - Graduate

Chapter 24

Shadow held his future in his hands. He leaned back in his chair and held the letter up to the light. This was his report card, it would determine if Shadow passed, or failed his senior year of high school. After all the hours upon hours of extra credit, it would destroy him to discover it all was for nothing. He had never studied so hard in his entire life. Lyric sat across from him, eyeing him impatiently. Shadow's eyes darted from the letter to Lyric and back to the letter as he slowly opened it. He unfolded the light blue piece of paper and winced at it. Fearfully he read the numbers, "C D B D." Shadow's mouth dropped, "I... I passed." Lyric jumped up and threw his arms around him, "That's great Shadow!" Shadow was stunned, "I'm not going to graduation." Lyric was a bit surprised, "Why not?" "Cause everyone hates me... and it would only be embarrassing to have to walk across the stage in front of them all. Plus... he'll be there." "Sonic?" "Yeah..." Lyric protested, "Shadow its your high school graduation, frack all the other kids. You're going no if ands or buts about it. If you don't go I won't pay the electricity bill this month. So in the darkness we shall thrive, and you know I don't go back on my word." Shadow rolled his eyes, "You don't understand... but whatever."

So there Shadow sat, two rows and three to the left behind Sonic. Dressed in his cap and gown, green and white school colors, he waited for his name to be called. All of his old friends were there, invited no doubt, by Sonic. Lyric, Melody and Rouge were the only ones that had come to see him. Along with her, Rouge brought Ark and Lexie. His classmates whispered to one another about the children. "How did he get with a girl like her?" "I didn't know he had kids." "Maybe that's why he's so weird... stress from the kids," are the things they would say. In a way Shadow was really happy that his children were there. It shined a new light on Shadow, even though it wasn't really faltering to have children while you were still in high school, it was a positive light compared to the image he did have.

A smile spread across his dark face as Sonic walked across the stage. Even though they were warned not to, and only allowed to after the ceremony was complete, a few people from the graduating class cheered for him. Sonic flashed his classic smile and waved as they did so. It seemed that everyone loved him. Shadow felt an odd mix of emotions, he was upset but at the same time really and honestly happy for Sonic. Sonic had spent all four of his high school years playing Mr. Popular; the worst part, he knew it. He had never suffered the torment Shadow went through for the entire three years he attended RoseWood High. Things got worse and worse for Shadow as time went on while they only got better and better for Sonic. In a way Shadow was jealous of all the positive attention Sonic obtained, but another part was just happy to see him so joyful.

It came time for Shadow to walk, they called his name and he rose from his chair. He silently and carefully made his way to the stage. His stomach churned and he blushed madly. He wanted to puke, he was so nervous. His legs shook as he climbed the stairs. He shook hands with the principal who had a fake smile across his lips; with his other hand he took hold of his diploma. As he did so a few kids in the audience started to shout, "Speech! Speech!" Their taunting encouraged some of the other young

adults to join in. Shadow froze and looked out into the audience; his eyes locked on Sonic who looked a bit worried but didn't say anything. The principal shouted into the microphone for them to hush. Shadow filled with anger, was there nothing he could do that was even remotely acceptable? On impulse he snatched the mic from the principal's hand. He glared into the audience and paused for a moment, not quiet sure of himself. He released his rage with words. "You want a speech?! I'll give you a damned speech! Is this the part where I turn into a suck up and say how great everything is? Or do you want me to run off stage crying?" None of the teachers or higher ups attempted to stop Shadow, maybe they were afraid of him, or maybe they just thought it was his time to speak. "I've never said much of anything to any of you frackers. As far as I was concerned, these last three years, you kept your distance and I kept mine. You made comments about me and snickered as I walked past. You started rumors and taunted me on a daily basis. Guess I'm the one kid everyone loves to hate, every school has one right? But you have no idea how hard it is to be that kid. I'll admit, a lot of the rumors people started are true. I'm not saying all of them are but a lot of them. Such as, 'Shadow's a cutter.' and 'I heard he does drugs.' and 'he's suicidal' or 'he's gay' or even 'he's a whore.' Well for your information, I do cut, you all drive me to. It's not even because I want to turn my emotional pain psychical, at least it's not that anymore. Now it's more of, I want to prove to myself that I'm the only one that can hurt me. And yes, I do a hell of a lot of drugs; it helps me escape from all of you. I probably do enough in a week, if even, to tranquilize an elephant. You're damn right, I'm suicidal. If it weren't for my kids I'd be six feet under right now. I can't stand life, but I'm living for them. You saw them, the little boy and girl with Rouge... they'll be four in a couple months. I'm not gay... well not I'm completely anyway... I'm bisexual. And a rumor you probably didn't hear, or maybe you did... Mr. Perfect? The guy you all think is so amazing, Mr. Sonic T. Hedgehog himself, was my boyfriend for over a year and a half. That's right! That's why he wasn't dating any of you doges, he was with me! But he broke my heart, which only drove me into more depression and drugs, and none of you stopped anything. Of course you didn't know... none of you knew. I'm not necessarily what you would call a 'whore' I get around... often by force. Some of you in the audience know exactly what I'm saying. To be honest, to every single one of you, except for Sonic, I have always hated you. I'm not on good terms with any of you frackers and don't you ever try to make it up to me, because it'll never be enough to get back three years of my life. When I leave today I pray to God, if there is a God, that I never see any of you ever again. I'm done. I hope you're happy with yourselves... even if you never said anything to me personally, you never did anything to help me either, so frack You and have a nice day." Shadow calmly set the mike back in its holder and stepped off stage, lighting a cigarette as he did. The audience was so quiet you could hear the flick of the lighter clearly. Everyone was stunned and no one saw the speech coming. Shadow put up a middle finger as an ending silent statement and made his way to Lyric's car. In the audience Lyric and Melody looked at each other in shock. They hurriedly made their way after Shadow. Rouge whispered to Lyric to have Shadow call her later. The principal took his stance back at the podium and uttered a few words, "Well... alright then lets continue with this graduation."

Shadow leaned against Lyric's truck and slowly smoked his cigarette. Lyric and Melody ran up to him. He managed a smile, though his eyes were watering and his entire body was shaking. "I... I think I need to lie down." Shadow went to stand upright, but in doing so he only fell forward into Lyric's arms.

Shadow woke hours later on the couch back at Lyric's apartment. It was late and Melody had left for work. Lyric was reading a book, sitting in a chair in front of Shadow. Shadow had a warm rag on his forehead and was tightly wrapped in a soft blanket. He smiled, knowing Lyric had made sure he was well cared for. Lyric looked up, "Hey, are you feeling alright?" "What happened?" Lyric chuckled, "You fainted, that was quite a speech you made there. And I thought you were shy in front of people,

especially crowds.” Shadow looked up at the ceiling and spoke in a dazed tone, “I am...” Lyric put his book on the coffee table and started to walk into the kitchen, “Well you graduated, and I’m very proud of you. Oh yeah, Rouge wants you to call her, but it’s already late so you should probably wait till tomorrow. While I’m in here do you want anything?” Shadow didn’t move, “Get me a shot, vodka. Then a Bloody Mary on the rocks.” “Ohhh in the mood to celebrate tonight? Shadow you know I have to leave for work in a half an hour, I’m really glad you woke up though. I should get a day job so I can be home with you at night. I don’t like you being alone all the time. Melody should get a day job too, her life would be easier. Alright you can have you’re booze but don’t drink too much, you might get sick.” Shadow sat up and draped his legs over the side of the couch, “If you wouldn’t give it to me I would just start getting slammed the moment you left.” Lyric poured Shadow his drink and spoke to him with concern, “You really need to calm everything down a bit, you’re going to wind up hurting yourself really badly one day.” Shadow threw the rag from his head to the floor and scoffed at Lyric’s remark, “Whatever, I’m fine.”

By the time Lyric left Shadow already had a buzz. He continued to drink, “One swig for Sonic, one swig for every hateful word towards me, one swig for my depression, with each swig they all disappear a little more. Shadow held the canister of Vodka to his lips, “It’s kind of sad when you drink so much you can’t even tell it tastes like nail polish remover anymore... or bleach.” He then staggered over to a photo on the wall of Lyric when he was a teenager, Melody stood next to him in the picture. “Hey you, with the blue hair and the brown eyes and such... the one not with the boobs, why do you keep staring at me huh? And why the hell do you work so much? You’re never home when I’m drunk and horny... and damnit where did you put the coke?! Asshole... hiding the shoot... I should get free merchandise anytime I want! I let you touch me in inappropriate ways!” Shadow angrily eyed the picture and pointed at it as he backed into the bedroom and shut the door behind him. “Alright, Mr. Lyric Song, where might you be hiding the good shoot? Hmm... I know! The desk!” Shadow practically fell into the chair of the desk. He violently attempted to force open the drawer, “Damnit... now where did you hide the key.” Shadow shifted through papers on the desk, then lifted the keyboard to the computer. “Come on now Lyric, right under the keyboard, you need to find better hiding places.” Shadow used to key to open the drawer. Inside there was a box that contained a considerable amount of high-class drugs. Shadow pulled out a small bag of cocaine, then closed the box and slipped it back into the desk drawer. He grinned happily and made his way to the bathroom medicine cabinet. He took three Xanax from a bottle and swallowed them all at once. Inside a trinket box on the bathroom counter was a razorblade. Shadow took it in hand and walked off into the living room.

He sad on the floor, crushing the cocaine into finer grains. It didn’t take long before Shadow had laid out four lines. One by one he snorted the cocaine till there were just scraps of it left. He wiped what was left on the table onto his finger, which he rubbed along his gums until they went numb. Shadow felt a surge of excitement. His eyes twitched. A rush went down his spine and he felt the top of his head go numb. At that point the couldn’t tell if it was indeed his scalp he couldn’t feel, or the top of his brain. When he stood and a head rush swept over him he closed his eyes and saw fields of white flowers and a bright blue sky. Petals fluttered in the wind and a calming silence filled his ears. His entire body was numb and he felt no fear. He felt as if he were floating and that absolutely nothing could hurt him. He forgot all of his troubles, he forgot all of his achievements. He didn’t care about Lyric, or Rouge, or even Sonic. Shadow didn’t have a care in the world.

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One more chapter to go, it's almost over...

25 - Forever ~Final Chapter~

Here we go, the final chapter to the very first story I completed, Forever Yours.

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“Beep Beep Beep” was all that Shadow could hear. All he could see was darkness, miles upon miles of darkness. He was screaming in his head for the darkness to end, for there to be a light somewhere in this eternal black. Pain shot through his arm, a cold sweep over his sweating body. He panted in uneasiness, his heart was beating so fast he felt as if it were about to burst. Shadow was screaming for it to stop, but he could hear no yelling. Just the dreary continuous beeping that seemed to be taunting him.

Shadow gasped as he threw open his eyelids and scanned the room rapidly. There was but one man in the room with him. He was dressed in a white cloak with a matching mask over his mouth and nose. Shadow couldn't see the man's eyes through the glare on his large glasses. Shadow's breathing slowed as he began to understand his surroundings. The entire room was white. He lay on white sheets, on a white bed, in the white walled room. Several needles were stuck in his arms and hands, all of which leg to a bad of some sort of liquids. It was then that he took note of the incredible pain in his head and stomach. The pain was so intense the common man would most likely rather die than endure such pain. Shadow grit his teeth and squinted his eyes. The man in the white cloak spoke to him, “It hurts doesn't it? Here, you can have a bit more medicine, it should ease the pain at least a little” The man pricked Shadow with yet another needle, and injected him. Within seconds the pain eased up enough to where Shadow could utter a few words, “Wh... What happened?” The man laughed, “What do you mean what happened? You brought this amongst yourself. Did you think cocaine was some sort of a joke? Especially when its mixed with Xanax and alcohol. A lot of alcohol. Didn't you're mommy and daddy ever teach you that drugs are bad?” Shadow frowned and looked down, “Well sir, I never had a mommy and daddy.” “Hmm it figures, usually it is your kind that wind up in here. You're a lucky one though because usually when they come in like you did, they don't wake up. You seem to be alright though, if not alright then at least alive. Strange... but I think I'll let your friend explain things, he has been waiting in the lobby for a day and a half now for you to wake up or die or whatever you were going to do. Some others wanted to stay but I couldn't have my lobby full of people just waiting to see if you were going to die so I had to send them all home. I'll send him in.” The man left Shadow to lie there. Shadow felt an unexplainable amount of guilt. He didn't want to face Lyric, even though he hadn't been told who it was that waited for him, he knew.

Sure enough, moments later Lyric slipped into the room and closed the door behind him. “Hey Shadow, how are you feeling?” Shadow said nothing, he didn't know what to say. He had messed up so bad this time. Lyric sat in a chair next to the bed and looked to Shadow. Shadow avoided eye contact. “Shadow... they talked to me about what I should do with you. Well... what you should do. I could have lost... you could have died Shadow. It's really a miracle that you came out of the coma, most people don't.” Shadow turned his head to look at Lyric. Though it pained him to move, “Lyric... I'm sorry, really sorry but, sorry isn't good enough. At least not this time.” Lyric looked down, “Shadow, they want you to go through rehabilitation. I think it might be a good idea.” Shadow's eye grew wide, “You want to send me

to rehab?!” “Shadow! It’ll be good for you, it’ll help you! I can’t stand seeing you this way, can you not see what you’ve become?” Shadow’s eyes flooded with tears and he bit his bottom lip, “I don’t want to go... I’m fine, I’ll be fine.” “Shadow! You could have died! You’re hooked up to countless machines and you can barely move. How can you see that as *fine*? I can’t let you die Shadow... I can’t let you kill yourself. I love...” Shadow’s face was nothing but pitiful as he stared at the man who had taken care of him for the last several months. Tears rolled down his face, but he made no sounds to suggest crying. Lyric was equally saddened, “Shadow, the way you’ve become, is entirely my fault and I know that. That’s why I agree with them, this is my fault and I should be for helping you to get better.” “Lyric, I don’t have a disease.” “Addiction is a disease Shadow, at least it seems like one. You have so much to live for Shadow, and I’m not going to stand by idly watching you destroy your life. I really think it would be best for you to go, but right now I have to leave. They gave me five minutes, apparently you need your rest and I have to get going. I missed work yesterday if I miss it again I’m going to be in deep shoot. I’ll come by after work to see how you’re doing.” Shadow laughed slightly, “Aren’t visiting hours over by the time you get off work?” “Yeah, but I don’t care.” Lyric kissed Shadow on the forehead and made his way out of the room.

It was the dead of night, Shadow lay in the bed and stared out the window at the bright shining moon. The doctors wanted him to stay in the hospital for three more days to make sure he was alright, then a bus would come to take him to a different hospital. They put it in nicer words but Shadow wasn’t stupid, he was going to be shipped off to rehab to get his life straightened out. Rain slowly started to patter on the window, making it slightly more difficult to see out. “The sky knows how I feel,” Shadow whispered to himself. Though his physical movements were slow and painful, his mind was racing and fully alive. *“Lyric thought I would die, guess I never told him that my body isn’t like his... I heal much more quickly. Still, I don’t need help, I’m not addicted. Or maybe I’m just in denial. No, I’m done with everything. Really, I have to be, I can’t be like this. My kids, Ark and Lexie, deserve more. I can’t go to rehab. Only God knows how long I’d be stuck there for. I don’t want to be away from them for so long... I don’t want them to grow up on me while I’m away. I have to get out of here... and I can’t go to Lyric, he’ll just send me back.”* Shadow quickly ripped the needles from his arms, wincing in pain as he did so. Slowly he stood from the bed and walked to the window. The rain began to beat harder against the glass. Shadow’s body still felt a bit numb and his movements were clumsy. He slid his fingertips to the base of the window and attempted to lift it. It wouldn’t budge, it was then that he noticed it had been nailed shut. Shadow opened a drawer and shifted through surgical instruments. At the very back of the drawer was a hammer, which had probably once been used to hang pictures in this room. Shadow used the back of the hammer to pry the nails from the wood. He did so with skill and tossed them to the floor. Within minutes he had the window open and was sitting on it’s sill. Shadow was on the fourth floor of the hospital and it was a long way down from where he was. He eyed the ground nervously and thought of how he would do this. There were ledges that jut out from the sill of the windows of each room. Shadow carefully slid his body out of the window and to the sill of the next. The rain blurred his vision and made climbing down the building even more difficult.

Shadow made it down to the second floor, only one more floor to go till he could reach the ground. He held onto the ledge as he stretched his body to reach the next level, but the slip from the water cause Shadow to loose his grip. He fell two stories and didn’t let out even the smallest utter of terror. Luckily some bushes cushioned his fall. He opened his eyes slowly in surprise that he wasn’t hurt in the slightest. He picked himself up and began to run through the field of the hospital to the road. His hospital gown was soaked and his feet were covered in mud. He shivered in the cold as he walked along the dark road. The only thing he had on other than the open backed hospital gown was his boxers. He saw



red and white flashing lights off in the distance, fear struck through him. Someone must have realized he left the room. He panicked and hid in the brush alongside the road. He began to crawl through it until he made it to a thick growth of trees. He stood and ran through the small forest that separated the road from a shopping district. He hurried to a payphone on the side of one of the walls only to remember he had no money on him.

It was a long walk home, Shadow had been walking along the dark roadway for hours in the pouring rain. Shadow saw the headlights from a truck rushing closer from behind him. Unenthusiastically he stopped and stuck his thumb out hoping the truck would stop but not expecting it to. To Shadow's great surprise, the truck did indeed begin to slow and came to a stop beside him. Shadow had a helpless expression on his face as he looked up at the man in the driver's seat. The man cracked the window, "Get in!" Shadow walked around the side and climbed into the truck. "What are you doing out here?" The man looked around his mid forties. His hair was grey and he had a thick beard. Shadow shuddered as he looked at the man in disgust. "I need to get home." "You look like you escaped from some damn mental hospital!" Shadow smirked, "Something like that." "Alright, I'll take you there, but you have to do something for me, you know how this works I'm sure." Shadow put on a fake smile, "Of course I do, here I'll give you directions to a nice place I always go to for this sort of thing." Shadow led the man miles and miles down the road, "Why don't we just pull over on the side of the road near here?" The man would protest. "No! What if someone drives past? I know the perfect place." Eventually Shadow wound up leading the man into a wooded area filled with many bumps and hills, which had to be driven over very slowly so the car would not be damaged. "Alright stop," Shadow told the man with a look of seduction on his face. The man leaned his chair back and waited for Shadow. "You want something?" Shadow stated while taking his hospital gown off. The man nodded, "Then you can have this," Shadow tossed the gown on the man's face and threw open the car door, he made a run for it through the woods. He could hear the man shouting angrily as he started the car. The man wasn't going to catch Shadow, no matter how hard he tried. At this point Shadow was only a few miles from home.

Within the hour Shadow arrived at the front doorstep of the place he used to call home sweet home. He rung the doorbell and waited. No one answered so he rang it again, Amy answered. She rubbed her eyes, when she realized who it was she was in shock, "Shadow! What are you doing here, do you realize what time it is? And why are you in your underwear?" Shadow shivered and brushed a lock of hair out of his face, "I'm guessing Rouge isn't here..." "No she's not, but come in out of the rain please." Shadow stepped into the house. Amy quickly got a towel for him from the closet, "Did you run away from the hospital?" "Even you knew about that, yeah Lyric called the house and let us know. We all stayed at the hospital but you didn't wake up and they made us go home, we've all been so worried. Rouge has been crying her eyes out and Sonic hasn't come out of his room since we got home. She threw her arms around Shadow even though he was soaking wet. Shadow hugged her back, "Look Amy I know things aren't really that great between us..." "No Shadow, I'm sorry I was total dog to you when you lived here. Can we put that behind us now." Shadow smiled, "So long as you're not just saying that cause you feel sorry for me."

Shadow sat at the table with a warm cup of coffee he silently stared out the window at the rising sun. Amy was on the phone with Rouge, it was a quick conversation. Amy poured herself a cup of coffee and sat across the table from Shadow. "I didn't know you drank coffee..." "Well, I guess I've done a lot of growing up over the past few months you've been gone." Shadow smiled at her, glad to know she no longer hated him. "You should go try to talk to Sonic, he hasn't spoken a word to anyone since we found out you were in the hospital. No one thought you were going to make it. Its kind of hard to believe

you're sitting in front of me right now, its almost as if I'm talking to a ghost."

Shadow went up to his room and got dressed, it had been a long time since he had slept in that bed and bathed in that bathtub. He hadn't sat at his desk in months, or turned his computer on. His shelves were collecting dust and everything was exactly as he had left it. All the pictures of Sonic and him were exactly where they were before, even the doll Shadow had made of Sonic years ago was sitting right in the center of his bed. For a moment he stood and admired his life as it once was. The moment quickly passed when he heard a knock on the door from downstairs.

He stepped out of his room and stood at the top of the stairwell, watching Amy as she opened the door. Rouge's face appeared, her eyes were swollen with tears and it appeared that she had cried all of her makeup off. She still had curlers in her hair. A smile quickly spread across her face as she noticed the dark hedgehog standing only feet ahead of her. She charged at him, throwing her arms around him. He smiled and embraced her back. She began to cry once more, "Oh my God Shadow, I'm so glad you're okay." She buried her face in his chest and sobbed. "Hey stop crying, I'm here now and I'm alright. You have no reason to cry." She looked up at him lovingly. "I don't see how you can smile with all those tears in your eyes. I don't see why you even bother to wear makeup, you're beautiful." She let go of him and playfully punched him in the shoulder, "Listen to you, you hopeless romantic. You always know the perfect things to say to me." Shadow smiled, "I know but um... did you bring Ark and Lexie?" Rouge began to walk back down the stairs, "Uhh no, I didn't want to wake them. It took forever to get them to sleep last night." "Oh, well... can I see them today?" "Of course, I'll have Knuckles bring them over later."

It was late in the morning, Tails had risen from his slumber and joined the others in the kitchen for breakfast. Usually Tails was the first one up but he, like everyone, hadn't gotten much sleep in the last few days over the stress of the situation. Sonic laid in his bed listening to the murmur of the voices from downstairs. Everyone seemed to be in a strangely good mood, which made Sonic curious as to why. Sonic was miserable, he hadn't eaten or moved much at all since he heard the horrible news about Shadow. How could everyone be so joyful when he felt so terrible? He slowly rose from his bed and looked at himself in the mirror. Dark circles were under his eyes from all the tossing and turning he had endured through the night. He hadn't cried once, though his eyes hurt as if he had. Sonic hadn't cried in over a year. Not that he didn't want to, but that he refused to let himself feel so low that he had to. He slipped on a pair of grey lounge pants and a white tee-shirt. A deep heavy sigh escaped him as he turned the knob of his bedroom door and exited.

Shadow looked up from his coffee as Sonic appeared in the doorway of the kitchen. Sonic's eyes grew wide with shock then a small smile spread across his lips. A feeling of relief swept over him. He quickly wiped these expressions off his face. "Wow, its like seeing a ghost." He smirked as he went to pour himself a cup of coffee. Shadow responded, "I could say the same for you." An awkward tension grew in the room, everyone fell silent. Sonic sat directly in front of Shadow. Amy continued making breakfast, Tails was helping her. Shadow and Sonic became locked in each other's eyes. It was a long, questioning stare. Sonic broke the silence and shifted his glance away from his dark ex. "So, why did they let you out? After a stunt like that I figured if you woke up they would be sending you to the crazy house." Shadow ran his hand through his hair, "They didn't." "Ahhh so you broke out, so typically you." Shadow smirked hatefully and stood, "I suppose so, well if you lovely people don't mind I think I'll go take a nap now. Because you know, it was a long walk here from that hospital." Sonic rolled his eyes, "I bet it was!" Shadow calmly walked out of the kitchen and slammed his bedroom door.

Amy argued, "Sonic, why do you always have to do that?! Can't we all have a nice time together for once?" Sonic answered with a hateful glare. She continued to protest, "Why do you have such a grudge against Shadow? I mean really, sure he kind of messed up his life and I know he cheated on you once upon a time. But you cheated on him first. He is no worse than you, except he had to sneak around to do it, you got a free ticket to go see Sally because of Rad. Shadow never did anything to try to hurt you and you damn well know it." Sonic clenched his teeth together and shut his eyes. He stood from the table and walked away, also slamming his bedroom door once he got inside. Tails sighed, "Way to go Amy." "What?! Its true! He treats Shadow so poorly and Shadow never meant to do anything to hurt him!" Rouge finally put her input into the conversation, "Amy, Tails, I don't think you two fully gather what's going on here. I know Shadow better than anyone in this world, and over time I've grown to know Sonic pretty well. Sonic is trying to push Shadow away... to be honest, I know Shadow still loves him. And I strongly believe that Sonic still has feelings for Shadow as well. Sonic puts on the 'I don't give a damn' attitude not because he hates Shadow but because he is trying to convince himself that he really doesn't care. Mostly because he is worried that Shadow really doesn't care anymore. Its an emotional battle for the two of them, and its been a long time since they've talked to one another. A really long time."

Sonic peered around the corner and down the hallway as he slowly exited his bedroom. All clear. He silently and carefully walked to Shadow's room and lightly knocked on the cherry wood door. Shadow didn't answer, so Sonic turned the handle with ease and poked his head in. Shadow was reading a book at his desk, he turned his head to look at Sonic as he entered. Shadow looked surprised. Sonic felt a bit awkward and decided to ease the feeling with speech, "Umm hey." Sonic entered the room and shut the door quietly behind him, "I want to talk to you." Shadow closed his book and focused his attention to the nervous azure hedgehog. Sonic was caught in the innocent curious stare of man he urged words to speak to. "Well, its been a long time since we've spoken to each other hasn't it?" He took a pause to gather more words, "There is so much, I need to tell you and its so hard after everything I know you've gone through. I know I don't even know half of what you've gone through, but from what I've seen and heard you know. And its been so long and I'm sorry and I'm just..." At that moment the doorbell rang downstairs. It was followed by pounding fists.

Sonic and Shadow ran downstairs, Rouge had answered the door. Lyric shouted at Shadow, "Shadow, I thought you'd be here. You have to come with me now." Shadow pleaded, "I don't want to go to..." "I'm not going to force you to go to rehab I promise, but if you don't go now the cops are looking for you and they'll be here soon and they are the ones that are going to drag you away. We have to get out of here, they know you broke out of the hospital and everything. We have to go now!" Shadow's face shown nothing but despair. His eyes darted as he quickly pondered his options. He stepped forward to go with Lyric. Sonic spoke out, "Shadow wait! I love you." Shadow's mouth dropped, everyone was shocked. Sonic continued to speak in a somewhat hurried tone, "I'm sorry, I'm so sorry for everything. Really... please don't leave again, we'll work this out. I have some pull I can fix this for you, just don't leave again. Please. Earlier I wanted to... I tried to... but it's just so hard to say cause." "No!" Shadow cut him off, "I don't believe you..." Sonic attempted to reason with him, "But Shadow I really..." "No! no no no no no no!" Shadow shook his head in his hands, "You can't... I, we, you... after everything..." Shadow had never seen Sonic look so pathetic. Sonic spoke quietly, "I know its kind of weird for me to say that, after everything. But when I found out that you might have been dead all I could think of was everything we had. I missed you so much, I had never felt so miserable in my entire life. I love Shadow, I never stopped loving you. I just made some stupid decisions and said some dumb @\$\$ things, but I

really, really love you.” Everyone fell silent for a long moment. Lyric wanted dearly to profess his love as well, but Shadow already knew it and he felt it was not the time to do so. In his heart, Lyric truly cared for Shadow. Yet he knew they weren’t meant to be and he knew that Shadow still loved Sonic. Shadow had been staring at his feet, he pulled up his head with a small innocent smile to Sonic. He reached into his pocket and held a small object in his hand. He stepped over to Sonic and took his left hand in his. Shadow transferred the object to Sonic’s hand and made him hold it tightly. Shadow looked him in the eyes with the loving gaze they used to share, “If you love me, you’ll chase after me.” Shadow then took a few steps back from him until his back was to the wall. The smile never left his face. Everyone was frozen around him, watching him intently. Shadow reached into a cargo pocket of his pants. He slowly pulled out a pistol and put it to the side of his head. He cocked it, everyone screamed, and then he pulled the trigger.

Blood splattered against the wall as the bullet entered his skull. It was the longest most horrifying moment of Sonic’s life as he watched the only one he truly loved fall to the floor, dead. He was mortified, slowly he unclenched his hand to discover what Shadow had placed in it, a second bullet. On the side Shadow’s name was carved into it. Sonic’s face went blank as Rouge and Lyric ran to Shadow. Rouge was crying hysterically. “Shadow... no...please don’t die, you can’t die Shadow no! Tails, do something!” Amy had her hands over her mouth, utterly speechless and terrified. Tail’s felt frozen. Sonic calmly walked over to Shadow’s bleeding, breathless body. He bent over and easily took the gun from his lifeless hand. A single tear rolled across his face as he loaded it with his single bullet. Quickly everyone’s attention turned to him as he held the pistol under his chin and whispered, “If this is what it takes to prove to you... I love you.” As he squeezed it everyone shrieked once more, Amy shouting out Sonic’s name.

Shadow was floating, he was surrounded by a white nothingness. His body glowed as he drifted through nothing and everything. He felt nothing, just emptiness. Quickly he turned around as he felt a tap at his shoulder. Sonic smiled at him, “Do you believe me now?” Shadow’s eyes filled with tears as he threw his arms around his regained lover, “Sonic, I love you!” Sonic lovingly embraced him back, “I love you too Shadow, I love you too.”

Sonic opened his eyes to see Shadow standing above him, “Good morning beautiful.” Sonic was sore all over. “Don’t worry sweetheart, you don’t have to talk I know it hurts you. I’ll explain, Tails is a genius. Shouts were heard from the other room, “Is he awake?” Shadow shouted back at them, “Yeah!” He was responded to with cheers, then returned his attention to Sonic, “You’re going to be fine. Tails did some quick surgery on they two of us... I didn’t know he was able to do all that. The kids amazing. I don’t know what I was thinking when I did that, or what you were thinking when you did that. But all that matters is we’re here now... and things are going to be better. You’ve been sleeping for five days. I healed quicker than you, because I’m not like you but you already know that, I heal faster. I’m moving back in, unless you want to move somewhere else, just the two of us. I already talked everything over with Lyric and such. I love you, rest up.” Shadow bent over and kissed him on the forehead then exited the room.

A few minutes passed and Sonic decided to use all the strength he had to get up. He had bandages upon bandages wrapped around his head. When he left the room he was in the kitchen, he looked through the window to see Shadow sitting on the railing of the deck in the backyard. Sonic smiled and walked out to him. Shadow turned his head and cutely smiled at him when he saw Sonic slowly coming towards him, “What are you doing out of bed? You need to get rest so you can heal fully.” “ No, all I

need right now is to be with you.” Shadow got off the railing and walked to him, “Then... will you open this now? I know its really late but... I found it on your dresser unopened.” Shadow held a box to Sonic. It was the same box he attempted to give to him the day they broke up. “It was your birthday present.” Sonic took it from Shadow and opened it slowly. He pulled out a silver chain with a locket on it. He carefully opened the locket to find a picture of Shadow on one side and a picture of himself on the other, on the back a small quote was inscribed : *“Love isn’t finding someone you can live with, it’s finding someone you can’t live without.”* Sonic smirked as he looked up to his blushing dark lover. Shadow helped him put the necklace on, “I mean it Sonic, I love you, with all of my heart.” “I know you do Shadow.

The two of them stood together, leaning on the railing of the deck. The sun was setting beautifully, hues of blue, pink, orange and purple engulfed the sky. Sonic had his arms around Shadow who, unlike the first time they dated, was much smaller than Sonic. Shadow’s face was heavy with blush, “I can’t remember the last time I was this happy.” Sonic kissed the side of his neck, “Well this time, I mean it, I promise, I’ll let you know just how much you mean to me. And I’ll be yours, forever.”

~~~~~The  
End~~~~~

26 - Author's Notes

Authors Notes

This is the part where I get to put in my little notes about my story, "Forever Yours" First of all let me say my name is Melissa Martin, I'm fourteen (soon to be fifteen) and I started writing "Forever Yours" about a year ago. I actually started writing a few days after I turned fourteen. This is the first fanfic I ever completed, hopefully it won't be my last. When I started writing I didn't really know what events were going to unfold or how it was going to end, I just sort of rolled with it. I actually had other plans for the story other than what I wrote. When I began, I didn't want to include any of my fan characters I just wanted to keep it somewhat original so that people would already know and love the characters.

Originally I was going to have Shadow hook up with Ash, who is a character from the Archie Comics, after he and Sonic broke up. Ash was going to wind up leaving Mina (his girlfriend) to be with Shadow. The two of them were going to get involved with drugs and the party scene together. Ash was Mina's everything and it would have crushed her if he left her, so Sonic was going to wind up being the one to console her about it all, which was going to lead to a relationship between the two of them.

Just a little thing on the side, I named Shadow's daughter Lexie because I really like that name... obviously, but I plan to name my daughter that one day. I guess we'll just have to wait and see though.

Some of you have probably already noticed that the personalities and some of the situations that occurred in the story are similar to those of the people I know in real life and to some of the things I and some of the people I know have gone through. Of course not everything really happened, but a lot of it did. Or at least it happened in a different way. I guess I'm just trying to say, a lot of the things I write, I take from my personal life.

In the end I always planned to have Sonic and Shadow get back together, and I wanted a happy ending. Which you were probably all half expecting. I really debated on if I was going to bring the two of them back to life or not, I decided so because I plan to make some what of a sequel.

The sequel of "Forever Yours" is going to be called "Say This Sooner." It will be about Shadow's son with Rouge, Ark, when he is seventeen. Ark is a senior in high school and failing miserably, he is offered extra credit so he can graduate and winds up having to stay after school. He meets a girl named Rhyme and automatically likes her. Ark is used to getting what he wants, he parties all the time and always gets the pretty girls in school. He never has a problem getting laid or making friends. Ark thrives on attention and never gets turned down. Rhyme is a junior, she makes good grades in school and has nice, good friends. You could say she is the 'perfect student'. However she is very secretive about her home life. She is the first girl to ever turn Ark down for a date, after that Ark makes it his mission to get her to agree to go out with him. He winds up getting her to agree to go to prom with him if he can pass his classes and graduate.

Like "Forever Yours" I'm not quite sure how I will end it or the events that will take place within it. I guess we'll see when I get started. I hope you enjoyed my story, it took a long time and a lot of work. Let me know what you think of it, I know a lot of you don't really comment. With almost a thousand views and only fifty four comments I have to have more readers than I know, which I am glad for. So long as I know people are reading and enjoy my work, I'll keep writing. Take care everyone and thanks for reading!

If you have any questions about the story just ask!

Let me know what you thought of everything!