

# So This Is Love?

By Meisaroku

Submitted: July 10, 2007

Updated: July 18, 2007

*[SEQUAL TO SWEET GRIEF] Jeff Hardy is trying to get his feelings for his exlove Amy Swatson over with. He's just not feeling up for love so much anymore...but will that all change with his new tag team partner? [New version of No Place For Me]*

Provided by Fanart Central.

<http://www.fanart-central.net/stories/user/Meisaroku/46946/So-This-Is-Love>

<b>Chapter 1 - Nothing Burns Like An Old Flame</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Chapter 2 - New Partner?</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Chapter 3 - The Rose Behind The Thorns</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Chapter 4 - Truce</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Chapter 5 - Stand Tall, Don't Ever Be Ashamed</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Chapter 6 - I'm Not Ready</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Chapter 7 - Getting Trouble</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Chapter 8 - Raking Up The Past</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Chapter 9 - The Match</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Chapter 10 - Did I Really Win?</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Chapter 11 - Guy Asks Girl</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Chapter 12 - Dance The Night Away</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Chapter 13 - A Brother's Care</b>	<b>38</b>

# 1 - Nothing Burns Like An Old Flame

## So This Is Love?

*Wicked*

Disclaimer: I do not own anything or anyone related to WWE. I only own Caria, Amy, and Brooklyn Swatson. Jamie Valentine, Dameon Bryans, and Roxy Bryans belong to themselves.

Genre: Romance/Drama/Humor

Pairings: JeffCaria, JohnAmy, JamiePhil, DaveDame, & MattRoxy

Superstars/Divas shown: Jeff Hardy, John Cena, Candice, Victoria, Melina, Randy Orton, Matt Hardy, and probably more.

## Chapter One: Nothing Burns Like an Old Flame

Snow fell continuously on the night of New Years Day. After performing on Raw, the brothers of the Hardys and the Bryans sisters spent the rest of the evening in a hotel room having themselves their own little get-together celebrating the new year.

“Mmm, you know I think New York has *thee best* Italian food around!” the elder Bryans sister Roxy took a bit out of her meatball on her plate.

“And chicken.” Dameon added.

Matt took a swig off of his beer. “Well any kind of beer is good with me!”

They were all sitting on the bed eating away at their dinners that they ordered from room service.

“To the new year!” Matt toasted

The other girls put down their plates and took their bottles in their laps and clanked it together with Matt’s.

“To the new year!” they said in unison.

“So where’s Jeff?” Dameon asked.

“In the shower.” Matt answered digesting more alcohol.

“Oh yeah ---- Damn he’s been in there for like over forty five minutes already!” Dameon exclaimed. “I forgot he was in there.”

“Jeff *a/ways* takes forever.” Matt said. “I always have to fight with him over the bathroom just to get

some hot water.”

“Ha-ha, kind of sounds like Dameon and I trying to get the mirror first.” Roxy chuckled.

“That only happens once in a while when he needs to do his make-up.” Matt said.

Dameon’s face turned slightly worried. “I kind of feel bad for him though. It’s been almost a month since his wedding that John crashed.”

“Yeah is he still feelin’ pretty down about it?” Roxy asked.

“Sort of, but then again there are times where I can’t really tell because he’s always hiding it behind a smile.” the younger Hardy explained.

“Man, he must have really loved Amy then eh?” Dameon said.

They were talking about the wedding Jeff and his best friend and ex-girlfriend Amy Swatson were holding until Amy’s ex-boyfriend John Cena tried winning her back.

It worked, and Jeff was left heart-broken. Though, on the other side he only wanted Amy to be happy and he knew it was more with John than him.

“Yeah but I’ve trying to help him through it. I keep telling him that he needs to move on but he said just couldn’t.” Matt continued.

“It must suck a lot not having someone you love, not love you back...” Roxy said. She cuddled up to Matt. “That’s why I’m glad to have you Matty.”

Jeff wasn’t the only one that had a break up. For about three months after Matt and his ex-girlfriend Jamie Valentine had split apart, both of them forgot each other’s memory very quickly and found new love. Matt got together with Roxy and since Dameon and Jamie were best friends she hooked her up with CM Punk.

Matt was always the type when he and a girlfriend broke up he got hurt but tried just picking himself up again and bouncing back. Jeff though, put everything he had into a relationship and that was always one of his mistakes.

Matt put his arm around Roxy “I’m glad to have you too baby.”

Dameon spoke “I wonder if he still loves-----”

She was cut short when Matt said. “Ssh! The water turned off.”

Dameon did as he said. They all fixed into position and watched the television and acted like nothing had happened.

Jeff opened the door exiting in his boxers for pajamas. He was drying himself off with a beige towel that

was in there.

“Hey guys, is there any food for me?”

Matt turned his head towards his brother and so did Roxy. “Bout time you got out of there! Ha-ha. Yeah, there’s a burger over here waiting for you.”

“A dude’s got to get clean doesn’t he?” Jeff joked.

“Yeah but not over forty five minutes to an hour!” Roxy laughed.

Jeff shrugged. “I like to keep clean that’s all. Toss that burger my way Matt.”

He picked it up and handed it to Roxy to give to Jeff. “I’d rather hand it to you. If I threw it I’d get all that hard work that you did to get yourself all squeaky clean ruined!”

“Oh. You’re SOO funny Matthew.” Jeff replied sarcastically.

“Yeah I know. Gotta love me right?” Matt smirked.

“No I don’t.” Jeff shook his head.

“You’re nice.” Matt mocked him.

Dameon sat up and changed the subject. “Matt, how about another round of beers?”

“Yeah I’m up for another couple in my system too.” Roxy agreed.

“So be a good little baby brother and order up some Coors Light.” Jeff teased him.

Matt flashed him a fake smile along with a rude hand gesture.

“I love you too.” Jeff smiled. “Now order up!”

“Fine, fine; but what do you guys think of some poker while we’re at it?” Matt suggested.

“More like *strip* poker...?” Roxy tried correcting him with a dirty little smirk.

“Uh, no thanks. If you guys are doing that I’m checking into a new room.” Jeff said.

Roxy groaned. “Ugh. I’m renaming you Jeffery-No-Fun Hardy!”

“Sorry if I don’t want to do that in front of family *thank you!*” Jeff exclaimed feeling rather crept out.

“So if you both of you guys weren’t in the same room you admit you would play?” Roxy asked.

Jeff blushed. “Okay this is weird.”

“Uh, he’s right hun.” Matt agreed. “May be some other time.”

An awkward moment broke out so Matt picked up the phone finally and called room service.

“Anyways, I’m going to set up my bed on the couch…” Jeff announced.

“Well before you do that can I ask for a moment so we can talk?” Roxy requested.

“It’s not any more weird stuff is it?” Jeff checked.

Roxy rolled her eyes. “No, I just want to ask you a quick question in private that’s all.”

“Okay then.” Jeff allowed.

Roxy got up from underneath Matt’s arm. “We’ll just be a second you guys.” She informed everyone.

Matt nodded as he was still on the phone and Dameon said. “K.”

Jeff and Roxy stepped out from the room and a few feet away from the door.

“So what did you need?” Jeff asked.

“I was wondering if you would…” she trailed off for a minute. She was trying to word it right. “…possibly think about going out with my sister?”

“Well there’s two problems with that--- I’m still trying to get over my old feelings for Amy and I really don’t like Dame that way.”

“Come on; if you just give her a chance may be you’ll probably get interested.” Roxy attempted on convincing him. “I mean, she needs a boyfriend and you need a girlfriend so why not give it a chance?”

“I don’t have feelings for her and I know none will grow if we had a relationship.” Jeff repeated. “I only see her as a friend and besides I heard she likes Batista so try him.”

After that he didn’t say another word about it and walked off back inside the room. Why did Roxy have to bring up love and relationships? It only made him think of his past lover Amy. It was hard enough trying to get use to the fact that she was back with John. He didn’t need any more reminders…

Roxy sighed to herself. “I tried.”

Jeff lied down on the couch. He turned over on his side so he would face the cushions.

“Whoa sleep? What about beer?” Matt asked.

“You can have mine.” Jeff told him “I’m really tired so good-night.”

He sighed softly to himself. Closing his eyes shut, he tried shutting everything away from the real world.

Maybe in his dreams his heart wouldn't hurt so much...

**A/N: Hey guys! How'd you like the first chapter of the sequel to *Sweet Grief*? Yes, I'm sorry I deleted *No Place for Me* but it was just going no where so here's my new version! Please read and review! Hoped you enjoyed!**

## 2 - New Partner?

### Chapter Two: New Partner?

Music broke into his mind ---- well more like a ringtone. The emerald eyes of Jeff Hardy opened up and looked around for where it was coming from. He shook his head trying to wake himself up. Jeff picked up his cell phone by his bags and answered it.

“Hello...?” he said sleepily.

“*Mr. Hardy?*” Vince McMahon’s voice spoke.

“This is him.”

“*Oh good, I was just calling to request your attention in my office at the arena tonight in Philadelphia before the show.*” the Chairman said.

“Yes sir, what time would you like me to show up?” Jeff asked.

“*As soon as you arrive.*”

“Got it, I’ll see you soon then.” Jeff said.

“All right then, have a good day Jeff.” Vince hung up.

After he heard the dial tone, Jeff closed his phone and set it back on the floor. He rolled over on his back and looked up to the ceiling. What could Mr. McMahon want with him? Was he in trouble? No. His voice was calm and everything. Everyone knew when Vince was pissed it showed. But he never got called to discuss anything with him except for matches and what not. It left Jeff to keep wondering...

**xXx**

“So what did Mr. McMahon say again?” Matt asked.

“He wanted to see me in his office for something. God knows what.” Jeff said. He kept his eyes on the road as he drove them all to Philadelphia.

“Well what you do?” Matt asked again.

“I. Don’t. KNOW.” Jeff said more sternly.

“Relax bro; I’m sure it’s nothing.” Matt reassured him.

The sarcasm showed up in Jeff’s voice again when he said. “Right, with Vince it’s *a/ways* nothing.”

Entering inside, Matt kissed the lips of his girlfriend Roxy and said good-bye to her and Dameon. Jeff told them good-bye as well when they both walked off towards the Women's Locker room.

"So do you want me to come with you?" Matt asked.

"Yeah if you want, but you might have to wait in outside his office while we talk." Jeff said.

"All right, no problem." Matt nodded.

"Okay let's go." Jeff said

On the next floor, both of the brothers came inside of the waiting room of Vince McMahon's office. To their surprise, a young blonde came rushing out his door storming furiously away. She was wearing a red dress with white polka dots, a white sash around her hips and maroon ballet flats to match.

"Out of my way!" she commanded as she pushed through the Hardys.

"Whoa! Temperamental much?!" Matt exclaimed as the woman stomped out of the waiting room.

Even though she heard it, the woman ignored it and went on her way.

"Who the *hell* was that?" Jeff asked with eyes wide.

"I think that's Rosebud the new RAW Diva." Matt guessed.

"Yep that's her all right." the secretary answered.

"Yikes, what's she all pissy about?" Jeff asked.

"I have no idea." The secretary shrugged. "But taking from the yelling at the boss, it wasn't pretty in there."

"Oh boy." Jeff said. "I hope the news he gives me won't make *me* act like that."

"Yes, well since Rosebud is done with him, you're next Mr. Hardy." She said.

"Thank you."

Jeff stepped inside Mr. McMahon's office. He saw him sigh and was rubbing his temples. "Ugh... I hate my job."

"Uh, Vince?" Jeff called to him.

Vince's face looked up to see Jeff peaking inside. "Oh hello Jeff, come on in."

Jeff obeyed and shut the door as he came inside and sat down. "So why did you want to see me again?"



“I was wondering if you would consider changing tag-team partners just for a little while.” Vince offered

“What? But Matt’s always been my other tag-team partner sir.” Jeff said

“I know, I realize that but you see one of our Superstars is having some trouble winning any matches so far and if she doesn’t win one more I’m going to have to transfer her over to Smackdown!” Vince explained.

Jeff wasn’t sure if he heard correctly. “Wait – *she*?”

## 3 - The Rose Behind The Thorns

### Chapter Three: The Rose Behind The Thorns

Jeff looked at him. "Did I hear you correctly?"

"Yes, you're going to be paired up with a Diva." Vince told him. "But only until we can get her back on track."

"Who is it?" Jeff asked "Torrie? Maria?"

"Oh no, they're fine. It's...well..." Vince took a breath "...The girl just ran out of my office."

Jeff's eyes widen again. "What? I won't be able to work with her."

"Rosebud has just a little bit of a temper. She's a good girl I promise. The only reason why she was angry with me is just because of the fact that I told her about getting transferred over to Smackdown!" the boss explained. "Again, I only need you for a short period of time. And then no more with her."

Jeff sighed. "All right, I'll do it. When do we start?"

"Tonight."

"Well what about my match against Randy Orton?" Jeff mentioned.

"You'll have your match. But afterwards when she calls you out that's when you'll go and show everyone you're her new partner. You're not *technically* wrestling with her tonight. You're just going out there when she announces you're her partner. Next RAW you two will be wrestling against Melina and Johnny Nitro for the tag-team titles." Vince told him.

"Okay, I understand." Jeff stood up with Vince and shook his hand.

"Enigma and Rosebud I can see the storyline going well with you two." Vince said.

Jeff let go of his hand after a minute. "By the way sir, what's Rosebud's real name?"

"Caria. Caria Swatson."

"Swatson'?" he repeated.

"Yes, she is the third sibling of the Swatson family." Vince nodded.

"Wow, small world after all. I had no idea." Jeff chuckled.

“Yes well, you better be your way. Make sure to tell Rosebud you’re her new partner.” Vince said.

“Will do.”

He left his office and met up with Matt.

“So what’s goin’ on? Was he pissed or what?” Matt questioned.

“Nope, though he switched you as my tag-team partner.” Jeff said.

“What?! With who?” Matt asked.

“With Rosebud; or better known as Caria Swatson.” Jeff said.

A confused expression lied upon the face of the younger brother. “Swatson? She related to Amy and Brooklyn?”

“Yup.”

“That’s weird.” Matt stated.

“Yeah, well anyways I have to go talk to her. I’ll see you after the show.” Jeff said leaving him.

“All right later!”

**xXx**

*‘I wonder where she is... I hope she didn’t leave.’* Jeff thought to himself walking down the WWE halls searching for Rosebud.

Passing the lounge, she heard a soft – but audible voice.

“I’m stuck like this forever... I’ll never be good enough to be on RAW and live my dream to be the best.”

Another familiar voice came into scene. Jeff back up and looked into the door that was opened ajar. He tried making himself look not so noticeable so he hid behind the wall as he snuck a look in.

It was Amy, Brooklyn, and Caria all sitting together. Caria had her elbows resting on her lap and face buried in her hands.

“Don’t give up; it’s only been your first two months. You’ll get better.” Amy put an arm around her.

“You’ve got a long ways to go. I mean, it’s not going to be like this forever you know?” Brooklyn said.

“But what if I can’t win my match next show? I’ll be transferred over to Smackdown! with mostly all kinds of has-beens or untalented wrestlers.” Caria said sounding like she was about to cry.

Jeff felt kind of sorry for her. She was stressing so much over winning and doing everything right. Maybe she wasn't so bad after all.

Amy held onto her. "You're going to win, and you'll still be on RAW with us."

Caria lifted her head up and looked over to her sister. "And how do you know that?"

"Because I'm your older sister and well I just know." Amy said. "Don't worry about winning so much. Just relax and enjoy the ride. Stop being so much like dad."

Caria chuckled. "Yeah I guess you're right. All's I need to do is chill out. Maybe that's my problem."

"That and when you don't get something right you get all flustered like dad. That's your *other* problem." Brooklyn yanked her over to him and gave her a noogie. "Now be confident already why don'tcha!? Ha-ha!"

Caria tried to wiggle free. "Hah! Hey! Brook that's my hair you're screwin' up!"

Jeff smiled slightly. It was better to see the three of them happy together.

"Now come on, let's go meet up with John outside. I heard there was a good party goin' on and I want to see if I can pick up a chic."

Amy rolled her eyes. "Ugh, you're such a man. But he's right, let's get out of here."

The three of them got up and started coming towards the door. Jeff hurried up before he was spotted eavesdropping and quickly tried getting away. But after he only got a couple steps away he heard Amy call his name behind him.

He turned around and acted casual. Caria's face hardened. "YOU."

## 4 - Truce

### Chapter Four: Truce

"Caria, you know him?" Amy asked.

"Well yeah he is Jeff Hardy and isn't he your ex?" Caria said.

Jeff's eyes iced over with the same emotions he had when Roxy talked about his and Amy's relationship.

Caria turned her head over to Jeff. "And aren't you the one that called me *TEMPERAMENTAL?*"

Amy blinked. "You said that Jeff?"

"No, Matt did. But by the way you're acting it makes you look temperamental." Jeff said strongly. His patience was wearing thin, but he tried not showing it.

Caria calmed down. "Oh, sorry about that. I had no idea that you didn't say it. I just get upset when people call me that."

"It's alright." Jeff forgave her. "I just came to tell you that Vince assigned me as your new tag-team partner."

"Really? Oh I was going to ask Jamie Valentine, but I guess since Vince assigned you I guess I'll see you there in the ring." Caria said.

"Alright back up." Brooklyn ordered. "How'd you guys meet?"

"When I ran out of Mr. McMahon's office I passed them angrily and that's when Matt--I presume--called me temperamental. Jeff was with him." Caria said.

"Er...well you more like pushed through us." Jeff corrected. "And Mr. McMahon called me to his office and told me the news."

The third sibling scratched the back of her head in embarrassment. "Yeah, sorry about that too. Heh-heh..."

"What happened to Matt?" Amy spoke.

"I think he's probably in the locker room or having a match at the moment. I'm not sure..." Jeff answered.

"Well anyways, I know I gotta get going out there soon in less then fifteen minutes so I'll catch up to you guys later okay?" Caria told her brother and sister.

"All right, we'll see ya." Brooklyn said.

"Bye!" she waved to them.

As Caria detached herself from the group, Jeff went his way too not saying good-bye or another word to Amy or Brooklyn.

Amy sighed as she watched Jeff go away. She knew what was going on and felt the coldness of his actions.

"He hasn't been real friendly these days eh?" Brooklyn said.

"Yeah." Amy muttered in guilt.

In the ring stood the couple of Johnny Nitro and Melina. The crowd booed the heels on as Johnny said "No one will defeat Johnny Nitro and Melina ---- the most dominant champions all of WWE!"

'The One' by Van Halen played and rang throughout the arena. Everyone knew what that meant. Caria came out through the curtains and out onto the run way. She got a good feedback from the audience. Mostly in respect.

Before coming into the ring, Caria got a microphone. She slid underneath the ropes and faced the two that was already there.

"Not if I can help it." she spoke into the mic.

"Well look who it is; Miss Rose *dud* herself! What brings you here?" Melina said cockily.

"Wow is that seriously the best you got?" dog I think you need to brush up on your skills!" Caria shot back.

Melina took her turn. "The only thing I need to brush up is the trash in this ring!"

"What're you doing out here anyways?" Johnny asked

"I just want to challenge you for the tag-team gold." Caria replied.

Johnny laughed. "Ah there's just one little thing toots --- Where's your partner?"

Caria smiled. "Glad you asked. Melina, Nitro, I would like to present Jeff Hardy!"

Jeff's entrance music came on and he did his little dance. He dashed into the ring uner the ropes. The audience roared and the girls screamed.

As the music died down, the cheers did too. Caria handed Jeff the mic. "Oh hello Johnny, long time no

see."

## 5 - Stand Tall, Don't Ever Be Ashamed

### Chapter Five: Stand Tall, Don't Ever Be Ashamed

***A/N: I want to thank my lovely reviewers. Anyways enjoy the fifth chapter :D***

"Well well well, yes it has been a long time Jeff Hardy." Johnny said. "This should be interesting fighting the both of you."

"Oh it'll be more than interesting when we beat you and take the titles." Jeff responded smirking.

"Really now? Is that so? We'll see at the Royal Rumble." Johnny told him.

Caria took the microphone from Jeff. "Why wait *THAT* long? Let's make it next RAW!"

Johnny stuck out his hand gesturing for him to shake it. "Deal."

Jeff only looked at Johnny's hand. Then after he decided he didn't trust him, he attacked him by punching him in the face. They fought back and fourth. Melina then attacked Caria by spearing her. The two Divas went at for a while until Victoria and Candice came out aiding Melina. They ripped off Caria's clothes exposing her red bra and underwear. Then Victoria took Caria and yanked her arms around her so she couldn't defend herself. Melina picked up the mic. "You wanna play dirty? I'LL PLAY DIRTY!"

She started to hit her in the face and more attacks came Caria's way. But once she broke free of Victoria's grip, the young and fiery blonde attacked all three of them back. Knocking only Melina out, the other two escaped from the ring. She looked around for the mic and retrieved it.

"And that's nothing compared what you're going to get the next time you mess with me! So I just you steer clear of me or fracking else!" she spat into it and then dropped it.

Then after she realized that she wasn't fully dressed she blushed. Darting for her shirt and pants she covered herself up. But she heard the cheers of the crowds and decided to let go of the clothes. She climbed up on top of the ring and rose her hand up with devil horns.

"Well I dunno about this King, but I guess after a losing streak Rosebud was having she's finally getting back up on her feet." JR commented.

"Yeah and what a body she has! Look the audience is agreeing with me!" King exclaimed.

"May be this is time is the beginning of a fresh new start for this Diva." JR replied.



## 6 - I'm Not Ready

### Chapter Six: I'm Not Ready

Caria walked down the halls of the arena happy and proud. A smile forced itself across her face and wouldn't leave. She was so glad to finally get a break from the losing streak.

A voice called her name "Caria! Hey wait!"

She stopped and turned around, it was Jeff. He caught up with her after a second, and said "Hey...(he tried catching his breath)..You did...great out...there."

"Thanks, I tried and thank you for starting that fight. I was really itchin' to finally get my hands on Melina for a LONG time!" Caria said.

"Yeah, no problem." Jeff smiled. "And it's only going to get better; trust me."

"Yeah I cannot wait." she smiled. Then she looked down at herself. "But I'm in my bra and underwear so I'll be going now."

Jeff blushed. He realized it too. "Uhm.. Yes right."

Caria hurried off blushing like mad. She had forgotten that little detail. "Bye!"  
Caria pushed open the door to the locker room and entered in. She was greeted by the claps of the other Divas.

Amy came up and put an arm around Caria. "Way to go sis!! That was so awesome!"

"Ha-ha thanks Amy, thanks guys." Caria grinned brightly. She went over to her bag that was by Amy's and grabbed a shirt and pants.

"Hey Caria." Amy called to me. "How about this? You, the gang and I go out and just have some fun? Go and party?"

"Oh totally! I really need a good goin' out." Caria said pulling up her jeans.

"And why don't we invite a certain high-flyin' Enigma?" Amy rose her eyebrows up and smirked.

"I know what you're thinking and this is my answer --- NO." Caria laughed.

Amy tried playing innocent. "What? You don't want our own *friend* to come with us? You're nice."

"Yeah a *friend* that you want to set me up on a date. Amy, I'm not ready for another relationship. Please

don't try and get me with someone right now." Caria pleaded tossing on her top.

"All right." Amy gave in and sighed.

"And besides," Caria continued. "Isn't he your ex? It'd be too awkward if we ever sparked something."

"Yeah he is." Amy said. "But we're over and we don't have anything between us anymore. We're just back to being friends and I'm with John. I wouldn't give one care in the world if you went after Jeff."

*'Or at least **I'm** over our feelings...'* Amy Swatson thought.

After getting done dressing, Caria shrugged. "I don't know...may be in the future..."

## 7 - Getting Trouble

### Chapter Seven: Getting Trouble

"Is that everything?" the dirty blonde man asked everyone.

"Hold on Brook." Amy nudged Caria and quickly whispered 'Go get him.'

Caria knew what she was talking about. She glared at her, but Amy glared at her in the Do-It-Know kind of way.

"What's...going on?" John asked confused. He was watching the whole thing.

Caria smiled politely "Just a sec' guys." She pulled Amy over to the side out of hearing distance of the others.

"What the hell are you doing?" Caria snapped though keeping it under control so she didn't cause a scene. "I thought we covered this already!"

"Cari', just invite him over as a friend. I understand what you said. I thought since we're all going that may be he'd like to go too. I'm not expecting anything from you two."

"Well why don't *YOU* ask him then?" Caria argued.

Amy rolled her eyes in frustration. She turned Caria around and pushed her in Jeff's direction. "Oh will you just *GO?*!"

"Hey!" Caria exclaimed in surprise. "Fine, I'm going! Lousy little..."

She started swearing under her breath.

"What did you say?" a southern accent asked.

Caria looked where it came from. Jeff was a few feety away from her packing up his things in the trunk of his rental car. Tagging along with him were his brother Matt, Roxy, and Dameon.

"Oh sorry! It was nothing..." Caria apologized.

*'I REALLY got to keep my mouth shut sometimes!'* she thought.

"Hey Jeff will you come here for a minute please?" she requested.

"One minute." Jeff said putting another suitcase into the trunk. When he was done, he walked over to her. "Hey, so what's up?"

"Well, I was just wondering if you would like to come with us tonight? We're heading off to go have some fun in the big city!" Caria offered.

"Is it good with you if I ask Matt and the girls to come with us?" Jeff asked.

Without thinking Caria said "Sure."

Then thinking to herself she said 'Oops.'

"Guys!" Jeff called to his friends.

All heads turned to him. Matt answered for the three of them "What?"

"Do you all wanna go with us out in town?" Jeff answered.

"Love to, but me and Roxy are going to be alone tonight." Matt grinned in a dirty way.

Dameon's eyes got huge and shot them a disgusted look. "Okay NASTY! I'm goin' with them! Buh-bye!" She ran over with Jeff and Caria.

Jeff shuddered. "Dude, TMI."

Matt scratched his head in confusion. He looked over at his girlfriend for an answer but she merely shrugged.

Caria getting annoyed said it for her. "Too much information!"

"Well yeah basically what she said." Jeff said. "Anyways catch you later. Ya horny wierdos!"

"All right 'bye!" Matt laughed.

Roxy waved. "Ciao!"

"Well I wasn't plannin' on bringin' two more people but thats all right." Brooklyn said.

"Yeah well Matty-boy and Dame's sister were plannin' on doing SPECIAL things and we couldn't leave her behind." Caria said.

As he drove, John sat in the passenger's seat. Amy sat behind him playing with his hair. Caria sat in the middle with Jeff in the seat behind Brooklyn. Dameon sat on the floor in the back.

Jeff turned his head towards Caria "Nice way of putting it."

Caria laughed. "Hey just sayin'!"

"If it wasn't for her I'd end up scarred for life!" Dameon said dramatically.

"Yeah, I can't blame you on that one." John agreed.

"Where are we going anyways?" Caria asked Amy.

"Misty's; it's a bar."

"Got it." Caria understood.

Walking in they sat down and waited to be served.

"So who's takin' one for the team tonight and being the designated driver?" John asked.

"I will." Brooklyn volunteered. "I just want to get something to eat tonight."

"Wow, you sick or somethin' man? Usually I or Amy are the sober ones!" John joked.

Brooklyn waved it off. "Nah, I just don't feel like drinking tonight."

Five minutes passed and they finally got a waitress. Passing many tables, they also ran into a scummy-looking man.

"Heya sweet cheeks wanna come home with me?" he slapped Caria across the behind and laughed idiotically.

Caria spun around and smacked the perverted male. "Don't ever touch me again frack-face. Go get some hooker off the streets @\$ \$ wipe and stay away from me!"

The man looked around in his fifties or sixties. He had greasy, short brown hair that reached down to his ears. He had cheap brown eyes and was overweight.

He grabbed her wrist and tried pulling her over to him. "Come here you fiesty little wench!"

"Get off of me -- let me GO!" Caria clawed to get free.

Jeff spun around and saw her getting attacked. He came and shoved the man off of her. He stepped in front of Caria. "Don't mess with her or you'll be leaving here with more than a broken hand."

"Right, and who're you to tell me what to do? You?" he said.

John came forward next to Jeff. "And me."

He looked the creep straight in the eye. "She is my girlfriend's sister. And when people mess with my family, it really sets me off. And that'll be you're worst mistake to make. Now either you can walk away or things are goin' to get real ugly."

The whole bar went silent. Many eyes were fixed upon the group.

"Well?" John said.

The man said nothing, he stood there staring in the face of the West Newbury native. After another second, he turned his back and left the building. People starting cheering for them when it was done.

Caria glomped John with a hug. "Thank you so much."

"Don't mention it girl." John held her.

She then went over to Jeff and hugged him too. She saw what she was doing and then got off.

"Oh uhm-- Sorry. Thank you so much."

Jeff chuckled.. "It's cool, I'm glad you all right. He didn't hurt you too bad did he?"

Caria shook her head. "No."

"Good." he said. He opened up his arms gesturing for her to hug him. "Come on, you know you wanna."

Caria laughed. She entered into Jeff's arms.

## 8 - Raking Up The Past

### Chapter Eight: Raking Up The Past

"He REALLY stepped in front of you after that guy was harassing you?" asked an amazed Jamie Valentine.

"Yep." Caria said brightly.

"Oh, that's SO romantic!" Jamie said in awe.

Sitting in her hotel room, Caria and Jamie were talking with each other on the phone discussing about the night before.

Caria laughed at her best friend's remark. "Jamie he was just protecting me from an asshole that's all."

"Admit it, it was just a SMIGE cute." the Toronto native teased.

"Okay, hold on lemme think about that --- No." Caria said sarcastically. "Been down that road, don't want to go there again."

She looked back at her life when that horrible day dawned on her...

### Flashback...

***It was just another ordinary day, or that's what she thought it to be. The first week of summer in the city of Prescott and Caria started her new job, but it was extremely stressful. Though hopefully seeing her boyfriend would make her a little more happy.***

***The twenty one-year-old pulled her car into his driveway. Music played inside of the house and could be heard from a certain distance.***

***Caria rolled her eyes and giggled softly. Ryan always had his music pumped up. She turned the key off and let the engine die. She buried her keys into her pocket and got out.***

***Walking up, she figured that it would be fine if she would just walk in. Caria placed her hand on the knob and turned it. To her most fears, as she looked inside the house, she saw what she'd hope never would happen.***

***Blue eyes widened at the sight of his girlfriend standing at the door in shock. He grabbed the nearest blanket on the couch to cover up his exposed body.***

***In disgust, she ran outside to her car. Caria slammed the door in anger and hatred. She heard it***

***opened up and Ryan's voice called after her. She just ignored it.***

***Caria's head shot in his direction, her eyes blazed with venom. She looked down at her hand and ripped the diamond ring that he gave her for her birthday off and tossed it to the ground.***

***"You mean nothing to me!"***

***End Flashback***

***"Caria...? Caria, you there?"***

Jamie's voice zapped her back to reality.

***"Sorry, where were we?" Caria caught back on.***

***"Talkin' about Jeff." Jamie told her.***

***"Oh yeah...I don't want to have another relationship with another guy. After my last one crashed, I've given up on love. I already had this talk with Amy." Caria said.***

***"When was your last relationship?" Jamie asked.***

***"Two years ago..." Caria muttered.***

***"And you don't think it's time to move on?" Jamie said.***

***"I'm just scared to put my heart on the line. I don't want to deal with another painful break-up." Caria said softly biting her lip.***

***"Hun, sometimes you got to take another chance after many blows. Take it from someone who's lived through it before." Jamie said. "Jeff's my best guy buddy. And he's not really a bad person."***

***"I know he's not, but I don't want to start anything with him. But right now, I just want to be friends. We are still just getting to know each other."***

***"You're right." Jamie said. "Give it time."***

**A/N: Well her friends are convincing her, but what will Caria do? Stay tuned and please review!**

**- Wicked**



## 9 - The Match

### Chapter Nine: The Match

“Hey....hey.....HEY!”

Caria was pacing back and fourth out of nervousness. She stopped abruptly when Jeff grabbed a hold of her. “Hey chill, it’s going to be fine.”

“I’m scared I’m going to lose again.” Caria said. They were back by the curtains that lead to the runway. Their match was coming up next.

“What kind of talk is that? We’re not going to lose. Now breathe girl.” Jeff said.

Caria inhaled deeply then exhaled out.

“Good, now are you okay?” Jeff asked her letting go.

She nodded her head. “Yeah, I think I’m together now...”

Jeff smiled. “That’s the spirit.”

After the current match was over, Lillian Garcia declared the winner and announced the next match.

“Ladies and Gentleman, this match is for the Tag-Team World Championship titles! From Los Angeles, California; weighing in at a combination of 350 pounds --- Johnny Nitro and Melina!”

MNM’s entrance music played and the two of them entered in. The red carpet was rolled out and the cameras flashed all around. The audience booed the two heels. They took about a minute to finish up their display then got into the ring.

“And their opponents from Cameron, North Carolina and Prescott, Arizona; weighing in a combination of 375 pounds --- Jeff Hardy and Rosebud!”

Jeff’s music came on. The fans cheered and a roar of excitement came from them. Once again, Jeff did his energetic dance. He was wearing his same black muscle shirt with matching cargo pants. On his feet were his white shoes. Hanging from his neck was his silver necklace with the symbol dangling from it. And on his arms were his white and black arm bands with the multiple holes in them.

Caria was dressed in her black spaghetti-strap shirt with frills at the top and bottom. Over it was her mesh tee. She also had on her camo mini skirt, red stockings and big combat boots; and tossed her long blonde hair into pigtails.

Running into the ring, Caria followed Jeff sliding under the ropes.

The bell rang and the match started off with Jeff and Johnny. Through out the time, the four of them battled it out. It went on for a while, after Jeff and Johnny had enough of each other, they tagged the ladies in. Melina and Caria were at each other's throats, though now Melina was at winning hand.

Pinning Caria the ref called one, two -- kick out! Melina tried again, but didn't succeed. Caria got up and pushed Melina into the ropes. As she spun back around, Caria clothes-pinned her then got her to the mat.

One, two, three!

The bell rang again and the crowd cheered.

"Here is your winner and the new Tag-Team World Champions – Jeff Hardy and Rosebud!"

Caria did it, she managed to defeat Melina and both she and Jeff beat the heel couple at last. Jeff got into the ring with her. The ref took the belts and handed it to them. The two rose the gold up in the air. They had won.

## 10 - Did I Really Win?

### Chapter Ten: Did I Really Win?

Later that night, they all celebrated Jeff and Caria's victory. It was just the same John, Amy, Brooklyn and Caria; with Jeff, Matt, Roxy, and Dameon. Afterwards, they all settled down at a hotel in the city of New York, New York.

Around 12:30am to 1:00 was when everyone started to fall asleep. Though a certain young Swatson was still awake. Caria snuck out of her room trying not to disturb the others, as well as the rest of the hotel. Walking silently down the corridors, she headed downstairs and out back. Caria was wrapped in a towel, and was slightly afraid someone might see her.

She heard a noise behind her. Caria turned around, but nothing was there. She continued walking with her head cocked to the side so could see if anyone was spying on her. But she didn't know that in front of her was someone. Caria bumped into the person and jumped out of fear accidentally dropping her towel. Along with that, she saw papers fly everywhere.

"Can I ask you a couple questions?" said the person.

Caria looked up, thankfully it was Jeff.

He was smirking. "One: What is with you and the color red? Two: What're you doin' out here?"

Jeff meant by the bikini that Caria was wearing. She answered him "Well, to your first question: I like it, it's always been my favorite color. And the second one: I was... just going for a quick swim that's all."

"You're a swimmer?"

Caria nodded. "Yeah, I'm a Pisces. I love the water. But wait, what're *you* doing out here too?"

Jeff knelt down to pick up the scattered papers. "I was going to go in the lobby, drink a few cups of coffee and write."

Caria did the same and helped him. "You write?"

"Yeah, poetry; or as I like to call it 'emoetry'." Jeff said.

Caria chuckled. "'Emoetry' eh, I never took you for an emotional person."

"Well, there are a lot of things you don't know about me. Like I never knew you liked to swim." the Cameron native pointed out.

"True." Caria agreed.

She picked up a paper that caught her attention. She eyed the title of it.

***“Insideaway”***

The hand-writing wasn't all that bad, but other than that Caria started to read it.

***“Inside a bubble...that somebody blew...  
I am the wall that you see through.  
Away from space...I'm trapped inside...  
There is no room...no room to hide.  
Inside a star...that everybody sees...  
They see the sparkle but can't see me,  
Away from land...I'm trapped inside...  
I'm sorry I did it...sorry I lied,  
Inside a song...that nobody hears...  
Its only me...wet from tears,  
Away from grace...I'm trapped inside...  
I'm floating away to the other side.  
Inside a world...that you created...  
I've left this world...myself has faded.  
Away from love...I'm trapped inside...  
I'm held from holding...my body's died.  
Inside my soul...that you reach through...  
I am the ghost that stays with you.  
Away from them... I watch you sleep...  
I visit your dreams...  
In peace so deep;  
Inside a bubble...that somebody blew...  
I am your angel...  
That somebody is you.  
Hide away... Fly away...Insideaway.  
By: Jeff Nero Hardy”***

Stunned by it, Caria said “Wow Jeff, this poem is amazing...”

The rainbow-haired man chuckled softly. “Thanks, I tried. Most of my good works usually come when I least expect it; or when I'm feeling something deep.”

“Definitely better than anything I could ever write. Ha-ha, I stink at poems.” Caria said.

“I highly doubt that.”

“Yeah, you should see them. They all sound like some bored, angsty teenage girl wrote it.” Caria told him.

“Bored, angsty teenage girl!” Jeff repeated. “Well that's a first.”

“Eh, well you know. Any who, I write better stories than I do poems or songs.” Caria said.

"Can I see some of them?" Jeff asked. He got the last piece of paper.

Caria handed the ones she got, over to him. Then she grabbed her towel off the floor. "May be later, but first I want to read some more of yours. Let's go to the pool."

"Isn't it closed?" Jeff said.

"Who cares?"

They got outside where the pool was. Jeff was showing some of his newest works he'd created to the older ones that he wrote over the years. They were sitting Indian-style by the water.

"Now here are just a couple ramblings that I wrote down at four in the morning." Jeff said giving her a piece of paper.

"Oh boy, this should be interesting." Caria laughed. She started to read it.

**4am Ramblings**

***Sippin' at my drink on lunch.***

***Hawaiian Fruit Punch.***

***Waitin' on the buzzer cue.***

***Work to do.***

**By: Jeff Nero Hardy**

"Wooooow Jeff." Caria grinned.

"Ha-ha, I know I know." Jeff said. "Here's a more serious and longer one than Insideaway."

**Heroes**

**We fly inside as if we are never coming back.**

**We fly outside as if there were no tomorrow.**

**We think without thinking...we rise!**

**We respond without responding...we leave!**

**We live this life as if we are in death proof bodysuits.**

**We live this life as if we are in...sane!**

**We starve without starving...we continue!**

**We became without becoming...we cherish!**

**We always expect the overwhelming unexpected.**

**We cry without crying...we act!**

**We save without saving...we pretend!**

**We run for you with thoughts of your life ending.**

**We provide without providing...we wait!**

**We extend without extending...we stay!**

**We are the chosen few who save your tomorrows.**

**We grow without growing...we maintain!**

**We help without helping...we are?**

**The ones who risk our birthdays for yours.**

**The ones who risk our existence for the world.**

**We follow the danger, where ever it goes.**

**We are the believers, we are...**

## **Heroes.**

**By: Jeff Nero Hardy**

"It reminds me of like Superman or Spiderman or something..." Caria finished up reading. "Question: Do you always sign with your full name?"

"Yeah, I mean, someday when I die, someone's going to come across these and I want everyone to know who wrote it." Jeff said.

"But how many Jeff Hardy's do you know out there?" Caria questioned.

Jeff shrugged. "I don't know, but anything is possible right?"

"I guess so." Caria said giving him back the two papers. In return, Jeff gave her another one. A small pile of poems were stacked beside his lap.

## **"Dream Man**

She has no words to describe  
the way he makes her feel.  
She can't begin to imagine  
If he'd touch her, how it'd feel.

It's the closest she can get to him.  
A knowledge she must bear.  
Only in a world of her subconscious  
Can she show him how she cares.

A one-side connection  
She uses him as her muse,  
But he's unaware of her existence.  
So he's not really her's to loose.

She holds a tiny hope inside  
Never sharing it with others  
Of a secret love affair  
That she might have with her dream lover.

**By: Jeff Nero Hardy**

Caria smiled softly "This one's my favorite."

Jeff did the same. "Thanks."

Looking into each other's eyes they spent a minute in silence.

*'He's just something else...I never knew how kind he really was inside...'* Caria thought to herself. She

blushed slightly.

Her conscious told her *'don't do it... don't fall for him...'*

But she couldn't help it. She leaned forward to him and placed a kiss on his lips. Jeff followed her signs, and went a long with her. Soft and slow, it began to be then turned more passionate as time progressed. Jeff slipped his large, warm hand onto her neck massaging it. He felt her steady pulse.

*'This is suppose to be good right?'* Caria asked herself in her mind. *'I won my title, and I'm still going to be on RAW. But even though, I saw us as only friends I'm beginning to see beyond that point...So did I really win?'*

**A/N: Sooo... sweet eh? What do you all think? I want to give a big thanks to my lovely reviewers! Yay throws cookies everywhere Anyways, please tell me what you think:D All poems here are property of Jeff Hardy.**

**- Wicked**

# 11 - Guy Asks Girl

## Chapter Eleven: Girl Asks Guy

Caria groaned in pain as she felt something boney digging into her kidneys. It kept going up and down, up and down, up and down. As she opened her gray-blue orbs, she realized she was sleeping on her back and Amy was on her hands and knees jumping on her.

“Wakey-wakey moron!” Amy giggled.

“UGHH...what the hell?”

She climbed off and Caria rolled over onto her back. She felt a breeze across her stomach.

“What the...” She looked down at herself. Caria remembered she fell asleep with her bathing suit on. She ripped the covers back on. “Uh..... I can explain...”

John laughed at her. “And where were YOU last night little missy?”

“Uhh... the pool?” Caria grinned sheepishly.

“Alone?” John pestered.

“No.” Caria said. “I was with Jeff too.”

Caria quickly covered her mouth. She knew she was going to get an ear-full from all three of them now.

*‘Oh frack.’*

“Ooooh, someone’s a little deviant!” John picked on her.

“I am not!” Caria exclaimed.

“I KNEW you liked him!” Amy said with a smug look on her face pointing to her.

Caria groaned again getting very frustrated and annoyed by her family. She put the blanket over her head. She felt extremely embarrassed. Brooklyn took the blanket off her face so he could look at her,

“What happened?” he asked sternly.

Caria rolled her eyes. He was just like their father. “Nothing.”

“Caria.” Brooklyn said more strongly.



Caria sat up. "Brooklyn! It was nothing I swear! I was going to go for a quick swim last night and bumped into Jeff and I invited him to come to the pool with me and we read some of his poetry."

"You went to the pool to read poetry?" Amy asked confused.

"Well he was going to go in the lobby, get some coffee and write some poetry and he brought his other poems with him." Caria explained. "When I bumped into him we talked and we went to the pool and I read some of his poems. I didn't really get to go swimming and he didn't want to. (She narrowed her eyes over at her brother) and NOTHING like that went on. ...Well may be except for a kiss."

"A KISS?!?!" the other three exclaimed in unison.

"It meant nothing!" Caria lied. Her expression went to scared.

Brooklyn beamed at her. "Keep it that way."

Caria nodded.

"Now get up and get dressed." he ordered. "We got to head to Boston."

"Okay." Caria obeyed.

Brooklyn and Cena stepped out of the room.

"So, how was it?" Amy asked.

"It was wonderful." Caria said truthfully. "He is a really good kisser."

Amy squealed and clapped her hands in a fast motion. "Yay, you two are going to be so cute together!!"

Caria chuckled. "You are not going to give up on this are you?"

Amy shook her head proudly. "N-O."

Caria sighed rolling her eyes. "God help me. Ha-ha!"

"Hey, Vince is holding a masquerade coming up Saturday at the Grand Dance Hall in Tampa, Florida. You should ask Jeff to take you." Amy suggested.

"Hmm, I'll think about it." Caria told her.

Amy through her arms up in the air and cheered. "YES! SHE FINALLY LISTENS TO HER OLDER SISTER! HUZZAH!!"

"You're an idiot." Caria shook her head.

"You love me."

Caria sighed “Yeah, I know. Anyways, who’s Brook going with? I know you’re going with Cena, I’m asking Jeff, who’s *his* lucky lady?”

“Guess.” Amy grinned.

“Uh... Candice?”

“Going with Randy.”

“Maria?”

“Santino.”

“Victoria?”

Amy scrunched up her nose. “Oh HELL NO!”

“I give up.” Caria said in defeat.

“Torrie. Wilson.”

Caria’s jaw dropped. “No way!”

“Way.”

“WHOA, I never thought he had a thing for Tor’.” Caria said. “That’s so cute!”

“You have got A LOT to learn girl.” Amy put her hand on her own forehead.

Packing up their things, the Swatson family and John cleaned their suite of their items. The Hardy brothers and the girls with them did so too.

Caria met up with Jeff in the lobby as he was just about to walk out the door.

“Jeff?” she called to him.

He stopped in his tracks and turned around. “Yeah?”

Caria felt a bit nervous and awkward for some reason. Like the night of her match. “I just wanted to say...I hope I didn’t move too fast last night by kissing you.”

“No, you didn’t.” Jeff said. “In fact I was...(he thought first before he said the last part of his sentence...and then he decided to say it.)...actually wanting you to.”

“Really?” Caria smiled brightly.

Jeff felt like a great wave of change broke before him. "Yes."

Caria kept smiling. It seemed like around him she couldn't ever stop. "I'm glad...and I was wanting something from you myself."

"What's that?"

"I know the guy is supposed to ask the girl in these kinds of things but...will you go to the WWE Masquerade with me?" Caria requested.

"I will." Jeff answered sweetly. But what was even sweeter than his answer, was the kiss he smoothly slipped onto her lips. Unfinished, he was cut short by Roxy's voice.

"Jeff you comin'?"

Jeff faced her outside. "Yeah. (He looked into Caria's eyes.) I'll see you there."

He took his bag and walked out the door. Jeff put it in the trunk, and then got in the driver's seat.

Matt looked at his sibling. "What's with you Mr. Smiley?"

"Let's just say that I'm over Amy."

Matt knew what he was thinking. "Way to go."

## 12 - Dance The Night Away

### Chapter Twelve: Dance The Night Away

Four days passing and the day of the Masquerade ball came. Reds, blues, yellows, greens, and so many other different streams of colors decorated the many outfits of the WWE Superstars. There was only one problem – Caria couldn't figure out the perfect outfit.

"I LOOK like I'm wearing a freaking CIRCUS TENT!" grumbled the young Prescott native.

Amy groaned. "This is getting completely and utterly OLD CARIA!!"

"Amy dear, please try and lower your voice." Jamie asked. "We don't want to get thrown out now do we?"

The white blonde sighed. "Sorry Jamie, it's just that *someone* won't pick her outfit all-freaking-ready!"

"*Sor-ry* if I don't want to look like you on your damn wedding night!" Caria complained.

The three RAW Divas were in the Women's dressing room of the Dance Hall with the others.

Jamie held her head where the migraine was starting to kick in. She handed Caria a slimmer and glitterier dress. "Here, take this one so I can try and get this migraine both of you caused me to go away!"

Trying it on, she checked herself out in the mirror to see every little detail was right. Caria picked up her frosted, pearlish mask and put it on her face. With her hair all curled up and the dress with the mask she said. "I'm satisfied."

"UGH, thank you GOD!" Amy said in relief. "Can we get our own dresses on now?"

Caria raised any eyebrow. "No one said you had to help me."

Amy gave her the glare. "Oh piss off!"

Caria mocked her. "You love me."

Amy growled; Jamie pushed her away from Caria so they could get dressed. "Amy, LET. IT. GO."

A white high-heel stepped onto the floor of the dance room. Soft orchestra-like music played. Caria looked around for him, attempting to scan the crowds of people to find where Jeff was. But no such luck.

Looking back over at the tables where the punch was, she spotted a young man with long multi-colored hair in a tuxedo and a black mask talking to another man with chocolate brown hair. She walked over to

him and did a small curtsy. Jeff saw her and did a bow. She then asked to dance with him and he accepted.

Jeff took her hand and led her into the center of the room. Around and around they danced. They even slow-danced at the end of the night. Caria looked up at Jeff and kissed him gently but lovingly.

She looked into his dark green eyes. The twinkle in his eyes shined from the kindness within him. Caria then whispered something soft in his ear.

*"I love you."*

**A/N: Weee! So how is everyone out there? How do you like chapter twelve:D Next one or two chapters are probably going to be sweet and then I'm givin' a surprise for you. : Not going to tell you all that much, but stay tuned please and thank you all for the amazing reviews! Keep it going please!!**

**- Wicked**

## 13 - A Brother's Care

### Chapter Thirteen: A Brother's Care

**A/N: Well, this is a short little chapter. It's kind of OOC. But a small detour around the story. Next chapter will be back on topic.**

By one in the morning, the Ball was over. Amy, Brooklyn, and John walked out into the parking lot.

"Well that was pretty fun eh?" John said taking off his mask.

"Yeah it was." Brooklyn said "I'm glad I took Torrie. May be this time I can finally ask her out on a date for once..."

"Why wouldn't you before?" Amy asked.

"Because I was too chicken-shoot to do so." Brooklyn stated.

"Dude, it's all good." John told him. "I'll ask her out for you."

Brooklyn declined. "No thanks, I'm going to do it once the right time comes."

"Good luck then." John wished him.

"Thanks." Brooklyn replied. "Anyways, where's the other kid sister of mine?"

"I think she's --"

Amy was cut short as Caria sped off pass everyone. Chasing her was Jeff. She was giggling and chanting from a far "You can't get me! You can't get me!"

"Oh yeah?" Jeff responded to her. "Watch me!"

Amy blinked. "Uh, I think I found her..."

Jeff caught her, embracing her tightly. He then picked her up in the air and spun Caria in circles.

Meeting up with the others, Jeff let Caria down as John said "Seems like you two are having tons of fun."

"Yes we are." Caria said. "Hey Brook, I was wondering if Jeff could come a long with us for tonight?"

"Sure, I don't care." Brooklyn mumbled.

“Thanks.” Caria thanked him cheerfully.

Walking ahead to the car, Jeff asked Caria “Why’d you have to ask him?”

“Well one, only in respect that he’s my older brother and paying for a lot of our needs when we travel on the road. I mean, we all put in our own part but he chips in the most. Getting more travelers only means more money to spend and another mouth to feed. And two, he still treats me like I was a little kid. And you know how older brothers get when it comes to guys and their little sisters.” Caria explained.

“Oh I see...” Jeff understood.

**xXx**

“I thought you didn’t want Caria getting too close to Jeff?” John said.

“I agree Brook, what’s going on?” Amy backed John up.

“She’s a big girl, and I need to start loosening up. A piece of his dirty blonde bangs fell over his right eye. He brushed it away. “We’re all older now. She can make her own decisions.”

Walking slowly, he followed Jeff and Caria; leaving John and Amy in the state of wonder.

“This is most concerning...” Amy said watching Brooklyn stroll off. “I’ve never seen my brother act this way before.”

“May be he’s just realizing something for the greater good.” John guessed

‘*One can only hope...*’ Amy thought.