

Dormitory

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Chapter 1 – Arrival

It was a long and exhausting journey. Mark was both a bit dizzy and excited. He arrived at a new town full of strangers and he was all by himself to start his secondary boarding school years. He had a hard time persuading his parents to let him come for he was only 14. He could still remember the anxious face of his mother and the proud eyes of his father from the time he told them he wanted to go to a school which was so far from home and he wanted to have full responsibility over his actions.

He felt all grown up now as he left the train and breathed in the chilliest yet freshest air he had ever felt. He knew he had to learn a lot about life and how he should manage on his own but it was no time for anguish. Fully covered in his thoughts, someone had jostled him out of the way so hard he fell.

Hey! – He shouted in a girly voice. He was sitting on the cold pavement and the stranger didn't care to stop or to look back for a second. Mark hit the roof and ran after the tall man. – **Hello, mister! Don't you think you could at least apologize for hitting me?**

No. – The stranger said plainly. The tall man stopped and turned around. To Mark's surprise, the rude guy was around the same age as he was. – **You should open your eyes and watch your steps, sonny!**

How dare you? – Mark became even more furious when the tall guy had simply walked away leaving him with this insult. He was pinching his mp3 player it almost cracked.

He went back to get his bags and he tried to calm himself down a little. That tall guy was so full of himself it made Mark hate him in a minute. But now, he had other things to attend to; finding the school, for example.

After a couple of minutes he was able to figure out which bus to take and which had taken him to a beautiful place a few miles away from town. There was a nice forested area around the narrow, winding road which led to a beautiful castle-like building: *Apollo, Secondary School of Arts*. There were some lesser dormitory buildings around the main building and a nicely kept garden with rose beds and a fountain in the middle. It was a wonderful sight as the bus stopped right in front of the wrought iron fence.

Mark got off and stopped for a minute to admire the breathtaking view. He just stood there and watched the front garden behind the iron fence, which led up to the castle. Hundreds of students occupied the area and it was even more colourful with them around.

Hi! – A nice voice said from behind.

Oh, hello... – Mark replied turning around. The owner of the nice voice was a sportive guy who vigorously shook Mark's hand and introduced himself right away:

My name is Tom. Do you mind my joining you? Well... I'm new here and I don't really know what to do or where to go... – He was constantly smiling at Mark apparently afraid of not finding his way.

It's okay. I'm here for the first time as well so I don't think I could be much of a help... – Mark said smiling back at Tom and gently pulling his hand from the forceful grip of the muscular boy. – *I'm Mark by the way and I believe we should go and check in now, shouldn't we?*

Yeah, you are probably right. I've heard that school will only start the day after tomorrow so we should go to the dorms first. – Tom cooled down a bit having Mark by his side. – *So let's go to the dormitories and check ourselves in.*

The garden was amazing. The rose beds formed different shapes like badges on the ground and there were some statues made of bushes and everything was so clean in spite of the fact that Apollo was an all-boys school. There were large trees along the walkway and pleasant clearings full of students. Some of them were drawing or making clay-figures but most of them were just chatting with each other.

The map by the fountain showed them where to go to the dorms so they followed the short stairs up to a massive building on a wide comb. They stepped into the main hall where an energetic, older student was awaiting for them.

Welcome to Apollo. I suppose you are new here. My name is Zack, say hello to Zack! – The tall but skinny guy was so full of energy he had almost exploded.

Hi Zack! – Mark and Tom said the same time. They felt silly but they both wanted to measure up to the guy who welcomed them so graciously.

Good! I believe you are here for a room, aren't you? – Zack giggled and left no time to answer. – *Come with me then! Quickly!*

And he ran away to another, shorter hall and up the stairs to the third floor. Poor boys were completely exhausted as they had to carry their heavy luggage and keep up with Zack at the same time.

That one will be yours. Room 609; here are your keys! Bye! – He said and the next minute he was rushing down to greet some other freshmen the same way he did Mark and Tom.

He's crazy! – Mark giggled still panting hard.

Yeah, but he is nice, too. He threw me some papers along with the keys. And wait, there's a sticky note attached to them. "You have to fill these papers by the end of the week and find me with it! Otherwise you will be in trouble and you don't want that, do you? With Love, Zack" See? I told you he's nice. – Tom said clumsily trying to hold on to his bag, the papers and the keys at the same time.

Artists are sometimes crazy, aren't they? – Mark added.

They had entered the room slowly for they wanted to enjoy this moment. They were going to spend 4 years in that room and it was the first time they entered. The bright room was nicely furnished with a small coffee table in the middle and two desks between three beds.

The bed on the right had a large, untidy bag on it and some random clothes all over the corner. There must have been another roommate who was currently out. They had no time to wonder though as

the door popped open behind them and a tall, half-naked boy walked into the room with a towel lazily thrown around his neck.

Hi! – He mumbled.

It was him, the guy from the station. Mark's blood Pressure was rising by the second. It couldn't be true. He was going to be locked up with such a moron for the next four years...

It's you! – Mark pointed at him truly in shock.

Haven't we met before? – Rick asked throwing away his towel on the mound of other clothes. – **Ah! Now I remember. You are that idiot who fell. That's right: Sonny. Well, hi there Sonny, and Sonny's friend!**

How could you be so...? – Mark gasped.

Do you know each other? – Tom stuttered.

Yeah, we go way back. He has been in love with me for so long but unfortunately it's a one-sided love... – He laughed with pure joy on his face and that was the first time Mark had realized that although he was a jerk, Rick had a nice smile...

Chapter 2 – The Kiss

“Mark Archer; mother’s name is Debra Young; 14 years old; address is 12 Woodcut^{Road}, Wellton, Dennland; beginning 1st year; dormitory room 609.” Mark stopped for a moment. There were three lines on the bottom of the entrance paper. There were places for him and for the headmaster to sign the paper and in the middle there was a small line that said “medical signature”.

So we have to find the school doctor... – He sighed.

Yeah. I forgot to tell you that Zack has written a small PS on the other side of the note. – Mark didn’t realize he wasn’t the only one awake. He turned his head and saw that Tom was sitting on his bed just like him. – **And there’s a funny map he drew. The infirmary shouldn’t be hard to find.**

Can you please shut up for a couple of more minutes? Someone is still sleeping... – A grumpy voice came from under Rick’s blanket.

For a few more minutes Mark and Tom were reading their papers prudently. Then they woke up and got dressed. Mark had noticed that Tom had a rather muscular body and when he turned around; Mark could see a long scar on his back from his shoulder to his waist. He wanted to ask about it at first, but he changed his mind. It’s none of his business and Tom would tell him if he had wanted to.

By the time they were ready to leave; Rick got up too, and put his jeans on with a crumpled shirt and drowsily followed Tom and Mark downstairs. All the freshmen were there in the main hall trying to figure Zack’s map out. Mark felt himself lucky to have Tom who resolved the shabbily drawn “Apollo Atlas” in no time. The sportive boy was far more confident than yesterday.

How dare you wander around in these sacred building so shameless? – A Hard voice stopped them. It was a middle-aged man in very tight, black suit with the school badge over his heart. He had a small moustache which unintentionally made you think of a dictator. – **If I ever see you again without buttoning up your shirt and not to mention barefooted, you will be in real trouble, young sir!**

You won’t see me like this again. – Rick said calmly. – **I promise.**

He walked away taking off his shirt and lazily threw it over the pedantic man. Then he walked out the door half naked. Tom was following him quietly with his head buried in the “Apollo Atlas” and a shocked Mark couldn’t do anything else but to leave the place immediately. The only thing that saved them from fury of the suited man was that other groups of freshmen arrived and they began asking questions completely surrounding the moustache-man and made him unable to move.

Are you crazy? – Mark asked the half naked roommate of his angrily. – *He must have been an important someone! We’re in mess because of you!*

I don’t care as long as it’s not too cold out here. – Rick yawned. – **Now, where is that infirmary, Tommy boy?**

It’s the second building after that rose bed! – Tom pointed at a white building.

What's the matter with you? And Tom, aren't you at least mad at him?

I don't think that man could remember our face. Rick was the only one he marked.

He was still boiling inside but he made no sound about it again. He was quietly following Tom with his arms crossed. Although he began to cool down as they entered the building and had to climb some stairs to reach the door that had a "Freshmen Medical Check" sign. Rick entered the door casually as if he was home and the two other followed him.

What happened to you? – The nurse asked staring at the almost naked Rick.

I thought I had to take my clothes off for the check up so I didn't bother putting them on.

Ha-ha! You are a funny boy! – She giggled before calling the doctor in. – **Doctor Johnson! Your first freshmen have arrived!** – She turned to Mark and Tom then. – **You should take off you T-shirts as well.**

My name is Doctor John Ellis, come and see me if you need anything! – The short doctor came in. – **Well, let's start... You would be... Let's see your paper, Richard Kempton; mother's name is Selena Weir; 14 years old; address is 2 Charleston^{Street}, Dorham, Sweerland; beginning 1st year; dormitory room 609. Breathe in!**

The handsome doctor continued examining Rick. So he was from this country, Sweerland; and he was the same age as him. Mark thought Rick was older for some reason. He couldn't help but notice that Rick had a very nice body and a conspicuously big budge in front of his jeans. Mark shook his head; hating himself to stare so shamelessly.

Let's see the second young man! – The doctor went on with Tom. – **There you are Mr. Tom Hall; mother's name is Diana Dobbs; 14 years old; address is 14 Night^{street}, Kangleton, Sweerland; beginning 1st year as well; dormitory room 609.** – The doctor made him breathe and he did the same stuff he did with Rick until he noticed the big scar on Tom's back. – **What is that? Who did this to you?**

Just some boys back in the orphanage. It was a long time ago. Let's forget about it.

Very well, I can see it's a sensitive subject for you, but don't you go around and get hurt like this anymore! This scar will be with you for the rest of your life. – The doctor said calmly.

So he was an orphan. He must have had a hard time being able to get so high marks he could come to Apollo. Mark admired him for that but he didn't want to talk about that with him if it was such a sensitive matter.

After a short while Mark stepped forward changed places with him. He was examined carefully by the doctor who had nice warm hands. When he breathed in the doctor accidentally touched his private part through his pants. The older man flushed for a moment and went on with the check up. Mark was sure it was an unplanned mistake but still felt a little awkward.

Each of them got the medical signature on their papers and that was that. Mark and Tom got dressed and they left the room. They had just reached the still empty entrance hall with the stairs when Tom stopped.

Shit! I left my paper on the couch when we dressed up! I have to go back! – He said and faded away at the corridor a second later.

He touched you as well, didn't he? – Rick asked.

Rick's casual words were so outrageous for Mark that he couldn't watch his step; he suddenly slipped and rolled down the stairs hard. It was at least a 3 meter fall and he didn't move. Rick dashed down to see if he was all right.

Are you okay, Mark? – He said sounding frightened to death. It was as if he had changed into someone else, a boy who cared about his friend.

Yeah, I suppose so... – Mark whispered softly. He had his knees skinned and his shoulder was aching but he was well otherwise. – *I don't think I have broken anything...*

Rick helped him up and suddenly kissed him on the lips. It was so rash; Mark couldn't do anything about it. Rick was moving his tongue so passionately inside his mouth it felt amazingly warm. He was trying to resist at first, but after a second or two he became completely numb he couldn't even move. He felt the whole entrance hall fading away and then came a white blur before he passed out.

Chapter 3 – Harassment

The pure, white light began to fade and a clean room had taken shape. He was lying on a bed in the Infirmary. He was all alone and the bright sunbeams of the setting Sun lit the room. He had just realized that his clothes were taken so he couldn't go anywhere.

He heard some people speaking and a minute later, Tom, Rick and the doctor entered his room. They were all smiling widely except Rick. He acted as if nothing had happened in the hall between him and Mark.

I'm happy that you're okay. – Tom sighed. He seemed to have worried much about his new friend.

Well, let's see! – Doctor Ellis said stepping close to Mark and examining his face and neck for a moment. – **I think it's nothing serious. However I'm going to keep you under observation for the evening.**

I thought so. – Rick grunted.

I let you talk to your friends now. – The doctor said seemingly not hearing Rick's comment before leaving the boys alone.

A minute silence came. The boys were speechless as if they were waiting for something then they burst out laughing loud. It was a kind of moment only true friends can have.

He's quite fond of you, don't you think? – Tom giggled. – **Did he touch you two during the examination? He touched my dick at least three times. I thought it was an accident until the third time.**

You shouldn't ignore this kind of stuff. – Rick cut in. – **He might be a sick bastard like a pedo or something...**

Let's not talk about the crazy doctor! – Mark sighed.

I don't care, sonny. Anyway, I'm off. I have to hand in my papers.

Oh. Could you please take mine, too? – smiled Mark.

Nope. – Rick turned around. – **You should ask sonny-friend. I'm not your servant even if you are in bed.**

Okay. I can take yours. – Tom said patting Mark's shoulder. His heavy and strong hands made Mark hurt; Tom was obviously not aware of his power.

See you tomorrow morning! – Mark mouthed after his roommates. Rick had already left the room and Tom had to run after him if he wanted to catch him.

At least Mark had time to think after he got alone. He was still dizzy but he could put his thoughts together at least. He was searching through his memories and tried to settle things down but he had found a very disturbing peace.

The kiss Rick gave him was so passionate and so sweet. He didn't know what to think. Rick was pretending like nothing ever happened after the incident. Did it happen? Or was it just a dream? The feeling still felt fresh and warm and even by thinking about it, Mark had felt some strange warmth inside of him.

He had never felt something like that before. He had read books about these kinds of feelings. But it couldn't be true. It couldn't be love. He should have felt that towards girls, shouldn't he? His mind was racing; he had never been so confused before.

Finally, He could find some comfort, some peace by looking out the window. It was night already and the lights of the dormitories turned off after 8^{pm}. It was so calm and so peaceful. He had realized that it was his first feeling that was almost like he felt home. He knew he belonged here with the other boys.

He had always wanted to be a writer. His head was full of great stories which were destined to get out there by writing them. He was ready to do that and it was the perfect school for him. Apollo was an art school after all. He could learn a lot and he could be touched by other arts and other artists.

He started wondering about what kind of art would be Rick and Tom interested in but his body was weak and he couldn't keep his eyes open anymore. The last image was the kiss he got; his first real, loving kiss. This feeling had brought him a warm dream but he didn't know what was to come.

A strange and dark shadow slipped into the room without letting out the faintest sound of voices. It was swift and noiseless as he approached the bed. It became larger and larger and it soon shaded the Moon that lit Mark's dreamy face.

Mature hands emerged from the darkness and they started to caress Mark's innocent shoulders. The hands moved down quickly and they reached the line of the blanket but it did not stop there. Soon they reached private areas and suddenly, Mark got up.

Doctor? What are you doing? – Mark said sleepily.

Don't worry. You will enjoy this! – Doctor Ellis' hungry voice answered. – **Tell me how it feels!**

The doctor moved his hand and touched Mark's balls. He started to play with them and the poor boy was still too weak to resist. He squeezed the doctor's arm but it was no use. He tried to collect all his strength to kick against the forced sexuality but the doctor was too strong.

The older man was like a starving beast and jumped on the bed to keep Mark down. He was panting harder and harder and managed to tear off the blanket, leaving Mark's naked and numb body exposed. Mark felt warm tears running down his face as he tried to fight against the impossibly strong enemy.

Stop it! – A loud and sturdy voice came from behind.

It was Rick. He was standing at the door with a fearsome snarl. He jumped on the startled doctor and pulled him down on the floor hitting him hard on the face. Rick did not stop at this point he just continued hitting the doctor's face until his blood was flowing on the white floor.

After he calmed down a bit he stood up and kicked a last one to the Doctor's stooping body. He grabbed the torn pieces of Mark's blanket and covered the poor boy with it.

Come on! We are leaving. – Rick's black shirt and white face were covered in blood as he gently grab his roommate and went out of the infirmary all the way back to the dormitories while holding Mark in his arms.

Rick was powerful but at the same time gentle, too. He lay Mark down on his bed and put a blanket on him. He stood up abruptly and left the room without saying a word.

Mark was still shaking and was even more confused than before. His mind was full of pictures about the incident, but not the incident with the doctor. He was remembering the moments he could spend in Rick's arms and he remembered the kiss he got from him. It made the shaking go away in an instant, that powerful feeling was so much bigger so much stronger. He slowly fell asleep and continued that sweet dream he had like nothing had happened.

Chapter 4 – The Artist

Mark had spent the next day in bed. He still had a painful headache and he didn't want to meet other people. He knew he had to get himself together if he wanted to start school the next day; however it was too much for a young man like him to handle.

He had to get over the fact that he was almost raped by an older man. It was a terrifying thought at first but he managed to erase the whole memory quickly. He was able to do that because he had other things to worry about.

He wanted to find out why Rick had done those things to him. He could not figure out how Rick could be so rude and so kind at the same time. He could behave very roughly but he has a sensitive side as well. It was so confusing even thinking about it, so he decided to wake up and get some fresh air.

Both Tom and Rick were out dealing with paperwork for school. Tom had offered to take care of Mark's papers, too, so he had nothing to do but to lie in bed. He sure was not ready to go outside just yet. He needed more time.

He was just wandering around the dormitory. The nice corridors were almost empty because everyone was at the office trying to get reservation and registration papers. It was the last day to do that before school so everyone had to hurry.

It was sweet walking in the quiet corridors and swimming in the warm sunlight which was let inside by the huge windows. It was as if the sunshine had purified him and when he stepped outside the light all his problems were gone.

After the next corner he noticed that a small trapdoor which led to the roof on a narrow ladder. It was open and the all so familiar sunshine was pouring in through it. Mark wasn't thinking for a minute. The fresh air was so inviting he couldn't resist and the next minute he found himself on the roof.

The gravelled roof was a large open place with almost nothing on it. Some of the ventilation shafts were here and a small chimney at the other side. The morning air ran down Mark's spine as a shiver and he had realized that he was not alone.

A boy sat near the edge of the roof and he surely didn't notice Mark coming up here. And his hands were poking about for something around his lap. Mark could not imagine what the boy had been doing and he stepped closer. With every step he became more and more suspicious. The strange boy seemed to be concentrating very much. There were only meters between them when the boy introduced himself suddenly.

My name is Will – Said the boy still in deep concentration.

Hi, I'm Mark, Mark Boyd. – Mark was flushing a little. – **Well, I don't want to bother you.**

You are not bothering me. I'm drawing. No one can bother me when I'm drawing. – Will sounded very calm, as if he was watching the world from above. – **And I'm almost done. Want to have a look?**

Sure! – That was what Mark had waited for. He was so curious.

He stepped closer and sat down next to Will. He could now have a look at the boy's face. Will was kind of handsome, but he wore his hair shabbily and he was dirty all over. Mark had noticed that Will had wonderful emerald eyes. They were like porcelain, so shiny and so unlike his body.

Mark started to get embarrassed again so he moved his gaze to the drawing. It was an amazing pencil work. Breathtakingly realistic with only black lines; it looked dramatic and real the same time. Will had sure got talent. It took a second for Mark to realize that Will was drawing the view he saw from up here. The trees and the school building was a concrete copy of the real life. Even the smallest of details were worked out.

It's amazing! – Mark gasped.

Thank you! – Will smiled. – **You know...** – At this, his voice changed to a nicer tone. – **I don't usually show my scratches to anyone. I don't know why I'm showing this to you now.**

Well, I appreciate it. I think it is a rare talent you have. I wish I had so much talent in what I'm interested in.

I'm sure you do. And what are you interested in?

Writing.

Do you like poems or novels?

Both, I suppose.

You live in room 609. Will you show me some of your writings?

How do you know I'm in room 609?

I've seen you. – Will put his hands on Mark's shoulder. – **Can you give me a hug?**

What?

A hug; I'm so far from home and I feel a bit alone, so you would help me a lot with a hug.

Well, okay, I guess.

And Will wrapped his arms around Mark and hugged him tight. They were sitting there in the orange sunset hugging each other closely like old friends. Mark felt a bit uncomfortable hugging another boy so tenderly and his mind was glinting with images of Rick kissing him on the lips.

They stopped hugging and stood up. Mark helped Will packing his papers and pencils. When they were ready, Will grabbed Mark's shoulders and kissed his neck saying:

Thank you! I'm fully charged now!

Will had left the roof so quickly Mark had no time to say goodbye. He was standing there astonished and as his head was clearing in the nice fresh air he realized a strange feeling. His penis was so hard in his trousers that it hurt.

He looked around and unzipped his jeans letting his cock out. It was standing hard and its head was oozing with his desire. Mark wrapped his hand around it involuntarily and started to rub it softly. It was a nice sensation and his hands soon became slick as well. His speed had increased quickly and with a hot, throbbing sensation from deep inside, he shot out so much juice it covered the gravelly roof.

Although he had got up just an hour ago, he felt exhausted. It was a good thing that the images of the doctor had never again haunted him. It was like a bad dream that couldn't even happen. He just stood there alone and he was feeling the more and more powerful wind with his fingers. A storm was about to come, he knew it, so the first day of school was going to be a rainy one.

He went back to room 609 and found the worried Tom there. Tom was sitting on his bed anxiously and clearly couldn't wait a moment to ask:

Where were you? I was worried about you!

Can we please not talk about it... – Somehow, Mark felt that it was a token for him alone. – *I'm over things, it wasn't that serious anyway.*

He's still in his office. He has severe injuries. Could you tell me what exactly happened? I can't get a word out of Rick. But I know something's on, so will you tell me, please! – Tom sounded desperate.

Nothing that matters. I'm okay, and that's it. Please don't ask about it anymore!

Okay. I'll leave it for now, but you're going to have to tell me everything sometime, okay?

It's a deal, Tom, it's a deal.

They went to bed early. Mark was still weak but he knew that the next day it was going to be an all new life.

And where's he now? – Mark whispered just a minute later.

I don't know, he said not to wait for him.

But tomorrow is the big start... Well, it's Rick, isn't it?

Yeah. He can be strange sometimes.

Yeah. Good night, Tom!

Good night!

Chapter 5 – Introduce Yourself

A busy day had begun. Mark was up early. He had a quick shower in the bathroom at the end of the corridor and dashed back to grab some breakfast. He was looking out the window which was covered with raindrops. It was still raining.

He was eating his slice of bread with sour crème on it, gazing the waking Dormitory grounds. The previous day had slipped into his mind. Will's hug was so intense; Mark had done a thing he never did before. He remembered rubbing his shaft while on the roof and the bare thought had made his desire grow again. It was the nicest feeling he could have and he had read about it before but it had been his first time doing it.

He forcefully ordered his mind back to the topic of Will. It was strange to ask for a hug, but Mark was not sure about that as he grew up in Denland, a country consisting mainly of farming areas. He would rarely meet other boys there, and his father was always away in the fields, working.

The sharp sound of Tom's alarm clock pulled Mark back to reality. He turned around and sat on his pillow finishing the last bit of his breakfast and watching his two sleepy roommates getting up.

You are a morning person, are you, sonny? – Rick asked huskily.

Yeah, and you should be happy about it, because I've made you breakfast. – Mark complained.
– *And if you ever call me sonny again, I'll never bother making your meal again.*

Like I care, sonny...

It sure looked like nothing had happened. Rick and Mark were arguing for about a quarter of an hour and Tom was just sitting there, eating his breakfast silently. After they finished, Mark watched them packing their school items together and they were ready.

What class are you in? – Tom asked. – **I'm in class 1C.**

I'm 1A, sorry. – It would have been so much easier if Mark was in the same class with Tom or Rick. – *And you, Rick?*

Same as you, sonny.

I've met Zack yesterday and he said we should look for a sign in the main hall and it will tell where we should go. I wish I were in the same class, but there's nothing can be done now.

How do they order people into classes? – Mark sighed as they were walking down the stairs.

We won't have specialized classes until second year but now, they're putting us into classes according to our entrance exams. It means you two did a great job!

There you are! – A harsh voice stopped them. – **I have finally found you, mister...** – It was the same man who stopped them the other day, the man with a very tight suit and thick, little moustache on his square-like face. He grabbed Rick's arm and hissed: – **I'm watching your every step from now on! There won't be any trouble-makers in my dormitory, so I hope you won't try anything stupid! I've met your kind and I know how to handle you!**

Ah, Mister Davis! – Zack cut in who appeared out of nowhere. – **I've been wondering if you had some minutes for me. I have to discuss a very serious matter with you.** – Zack was smiling brightly as always and energetically pulled Mr. Davis out of the way, cocking his eyes at the boys.

They had a peek at the message board by the main door then they ran out of the dormitories. They kept running because of the rain and they crossed the gardens quickly to find shelter on the other side in the main building.

There were at least a hundred students waiting and chatting in the main hall. They all seemed to be freshmen. They were a bit lost and a bit wet just like Mark and his friends. Tom craned his head for signs and bid farewell to Mark and Rick as soon as he learned where he had to go.

Mark had no time to look around because a tall man popped up behind a corner and guided the crowd into a nice and airy classroom. Mark was looking at the paintings hanging on the wall as he entered the room when he had suddenly lost his balance and fell on the boy ahead of him.

I told you that you should watch your steps. – Rick giggled. It was he who floored Mark by leaving his foot in the wrong place.

Sorry, it wasn't my... – Mark tried to apologize.

Get off, bastard! – The boy said and threw Mark off of himself rashly. – **And keep your distance from now on. I don't want to get involved with scum like you!** – He said standing up and moving his long fingers through his golden hair. He didn't care to show his face to Mark or Rick.

Rick had already sat down by the time Mark managed to gather himself. He looked around to see if Will was there but he wasn't so he sat down next to Rick.

I knew you won't be able to resist my charm. – Rick whispered and got hit by Mark in the arm.

Welcome to Apollo, my dearest freshmen! – The professor started. – **My name is Warwick Jones, Professor Jones for you. I will be responsible for you until you leave the school and this duty of mine starts now. I'm going to make sure that I'm always available to you and you should feel free to come and visit me with your any problem. Now, I suggest we introduce ourselves. I'd like each of you to stand up for a minute and say a couple of words about yourselves. We should start with you...**

Hi. – A very slim boy stood up. He was shaking a little bit, but he seemed to have controlled it. – *My name is Trevor Barnes. I'm from this town and I like to draw. Is that enough, Professor Jones?*

Mr. Jones nodded and the next student stood up. After two or three introductions, Mark had found himself to gaze the boys with an analytical eye. He looks at the boys from top to bottom and he started to get excited because of it.

Hello. I'm Frank Ulysses. – It was a tall boy with large hands, big nose and a strange haircut. – **I'm from Uyland and I'm pleased to be able to study with you guys. Ah yes. I'd like to specialize later in martial arts.**

My name is Rolph. Rolph Sturgess. – The golden haired boy stood up with his head high. He had a very handsome face with bright blue eyes. He also had a very nice body, slim but elegant and his noble movements made him look like he wasn't from this world. – **I'm a member of the Sturgess family; I suppose each of you has heard of it. I'm here because my parents think I can still learn something here, but I don't think these codgers will be able to show me anything new...**

Yes. That would be enough, mister Sturgess. – The professor made the boy finish and nodded to the next one.

Mark became so excited about the boys he didn't realize the next one was him. His penis was rock hard and he had to stand up in a minute. He was terrified and got redder and redder by the second. He looked from left to right to find an escape route but the professor's voice could be heard the next second:

It's your turn mister...

Excuse me, professor. – Rick said suddenly. – **Can this poor thing remain sitting? He's too shy to ask but he has the runs if you know what I mean. And if he stands up... God knows what will happen...**

Oh. Of course, yes...

Everyone burst out laughing. It was embarrassing for poor Mark but he had so much to thank to Rick. Mark's unpredictable roommate must have seen the growing bulge in his pants and only tried to help him out. Mark was still unable to understand Rick's feelings about him.

I'm Mark Archer. – He shouted to talk down the laughing class. – **I'm from Dennland and I want to become a writer.**

Interesting; and what kind of thing would you like to write?

Well, I haven't decided yet. I want to try myself out in various genres and I want to write novels and poems, too.

I think you will be able to learn a lot from my colleagues. Okay. Now it's your turn, mister funny.

Rick stood up slowly like an old man. He scratched his rough, brown hair and sighed. His shirt was half untucked and as usual, some sizes bigger than his. His old belt kept his lazy trousers on.

I'm Rick. – The emphasis of this sentence let everyone know that he had nothing else to say.

Well, can you please say just a few more words about yourself?

I'm an orphan.

That shocked Mark. Rick was an orphan and he had absolutely never mentioned it to him. The shadow of the unpredictable boy became more and more distant. Mark sank into his thoughts and

didn't notice the class was over. He must have been thinking all the time and he regained his consciousness only when the other students were leaving the room.

He stood up and saw the board that said: "**Timetables (Zack) No class today because Mr. Namura is ill.**" He completely missed the second half of the lesson.

He involuntarily moved his feet and followed Rick back to the dorms. The rain had stopped and they were walking on the school grounds when Mark finally gained his courage to say:

Thank you.

There was no answer. Rick pretended not to have heard it and moved on but Mark knew he heard it. It was an embarrassing minute of silence between the two but they haven't stopped for a minute. They were walking side-by-side without saying anything but they knew what the other felt without a word anyway.

Chapter 6 – Two Boys, Two Secrets

Mark was sitting on his bed trying not to think of Rick. In the past few days he couldn't think of anything else. Rick was a mystery for him which he wanted to solve.

The school had started, and that was the closest thing that made his mind off of his rude roommate. The classes were super interesting. He had never imagined studying could be so good. It was basically an introduction only to every subjects but each of them promised exciting syllabus.

They had studied basic subject such as Geometry, Logics, Rhetorics, Bodycare, Naturalistics and History. Of course they had artistic subjects as well, for example: Pencilart, Sculptury, Music, BA (for Body Art), SA (for Scientific Arts) and Mark's favourite: Literature.

It turned out that there were no classes in Apollo. Students were tested in every subject and they were selected and put into classes according to their skills. Class A meant that you were one of the most talented and Class F meant that you didn't do well in the given subject. This way, students were selected into different classes for every subject and they were able to move between classes if they did well or wrong.

Mark did pretty well on almost every subject. He was Class A in Rhetorics, Naturalistics, History, Music, BA and Literature; Class B in Bodycare and SA; Class C in Geometry and Pencilart; and Class D in Logics and Sculptury. It meant he attended the same classes with Rick in Rhetorics, History, Music, BA and SA and the same with Tom in Naturalistics, BA and Sculptury. He found it curious that he had not seen Will since that day on the roof.

He had just got back to the dorm room. He had a shower every morning usually alone because he woke up very early, at around 5 each morning. These opportunities of being all by himself made him think about various things. Well, most of the time it was Rick, but he had time to think about his parents and Tom's scar and other things he wanted to know more about.

He was reading through his timetable. He was to start with two Bodycare lessons which were about keeping students fit. They were going to run a lot and play some games in the other lesson to increase balance and coordination. He had Literature, double Geometry and Logics lesson afterwards. The only lesson he had with a familiar face was Bodycare this day.

He passed the remaining time with reading a poem collection which he kept close to his bed. Then the usual clock went off and woke Tom and Rick up. Rick was yawning soundly as he threw some clothes over himself and shabbily left the room with the loudest yawn of that morning.

Mark waited for Tom and they went to the other end of Apollo gardens where the class B Bodycare lessons took place. It was a large outdoor area with a small dressing room. It was the only place in Apollo where the walls were mouldy and there were bugs and the whole place looked like a rubbish-shoot. It was said to be demolished soon.

The class consisted of twenty boys and they all went into the small dressing room to change. The yellow walls smelt of frowzy mould and the flooring was always dank. Everyone changed quickly so he could be out of here. The last two remaining was Mark and Tom. Mark was ready but he waited for Tom who had just started changing.

Mark was biting his lips when Tom dropped his t-shirt to the bench. A nice muscular body with some hairs here and there; then it was the trousers. Mark's eyes wanted to look through the white briefs which had a nice bulge that could refer to the size of the thing that lay inside and it should have been quite a nice one. Then Tom turned around and his scar was showing, long and painful-looking wound that ran down from his neck to his spine.

I've always wanted to ask you about your scar – Mark heaved his thoughts accidentally.

Well... – Tom had stopped dressing. – **I guess I know you enough to trust you with this. But you mustn't tell anyone about this, okay?**

Okay.

You know that I'm an orphan, don't you?

Yeah. I knew about it.

I grew up in an orphanage and we lived in a big house with the owner. He used to play with us and he was kind always but one day, his best friend died. Rumour had it that he was living with his friend together in an illegal relationship.

What do you mean? – Mark was a bit embarrassed to ask these questions that showed he was so naive and he knew so little about this country.

You are a farm boy, aren't you? In our country it is forbidden to have romantic or sexual relationship with someone of the same sex as yours. You can go to jail if you are caught. So, let me continue. The day his friend died he changed. He did not play with us anymore and after a while he started to call us into his room. He was touching us and kissing our bodies everywhere. If you should resist, he grabbed his knife and slashed your back with it. I resisted.

Oh, dear! And what happened to him? – Mark gasped.

He's in jail now. – Tom's voice turned softer and sadder with this sentence. – **And I wasn't molested, so I'm one of the few who can say they are lucky.**

What a horrible man!

He wasn't that bad. – Tom sounded defensive. – **He raised us up in love and it was only madness that turned him into that monster. I still owe him so much and I'm only thinking about the good memories.**

You are strong. – Mark smiled. –

I think we should be going now. This place reeks.

The lessons flew by for Mark and he couldn't think of anything else but Tom's story. He was unable to understand the lessons, not even Literature. He forgot to eat after all his lessons his stomach reminded him to get back to the dorms and eat something.

He had lunch minutes before the cantina closed, he almost skipped this meal. Being stuffed he walked up the stairs to room 609, but he stopped. He knew it for sure that he couldn't go inside and pretend as if nothing had happened. He had to clear his mind.

He wandered around the corridors and he found himself at the ladder to the rooftop. He didn't know why he came here, he wasn't thinking about it. But now there was no turning back, he felt like he had to go out to the roof and breathe some fresh air.

Is that you? – A familiar voice welcomed Mark.

Will, is that you?

Who else? – The friendly boy helped him up to the roof. – **I've been out here every day and you haven't come.** – Will's voice changed word by word. It was strange. He pronounced one word with anger and the next one softly with a friendly tone.

Are you okay? You sound strange.

I'm tired a bit. – Will was surely hiding something.

I haven't seen you around. – Mark started another topic. – *Aren't you first year? How come we are in separate classes in every subject?*

Okay! – Will shouted out of nowhere. Mark's heart almost stopped. It was frightening. – **You got me!**

What's wrong? – Mark tried to calm the boy down.

I'm not the student of this school! – Will shouted. – **My freaking father is the headmaster and he thinks I'm not good enough of this school! I have to waste my time with those stupid private teachers! I'm not allowed to be seen in school because I might bring shame on him.**

But... – Mark was shocked. He wanted to say so many things but he couldn't say a word now.

Please, don't tell him that I come out here sometimes. He would lock me into my room. Please! – His shouting changed into begging.

I would never betray you like that. – Mark patted Will's shoulder. He was all psyched out. – *We are friends, aren't we? Friends do no such thing to each other.*

Will looked up straight into Mark's eyes desperately longing for some understanding which he clearly couldn't get from his father. He jumped into Mark's arms and he cried out loudly on his shoulders. Mark was surprised at the sudden emotional bursts but he hugged Will back. They were standing there for a couple of minutes speechless, and Will's crying had stopped after some minutes as well.

I'm so alone... – Will said still in a shaky voice.

You know what? – Mark tried to cheer him up. – *I have a little free time around this time every week. I'm going to come out here and hang out with you, okay?*

You are such a nice guy! – Will was smiling widely now. – **I love you!**

Will hugged Mark again tightly and after suddenly licking his neck, he ran away and back to the building. Mark couldn't help but laugh at the poor boy's craziness.

Mark was just standing there for a couple of more minutes stunned. He was watching the afternoon sky and he felt a shiver starting from the small wet area on his neck which reminded him of Will and how innocent he was. Like a little child, he ran away after doing something he shouldn't have done.

He thought over how much he learned about his new friends. He felt he could understand Tom and Will more from now on. The only big mystery left unsolved was Rick now. He couldn't help but smile on the bare thought of his rude roommate, and after a minute he climbed down the ladder and walked to room 609. He felt strong again getting to know more about his friends and getting closer together with them.

Chapter 7 – Dear Mister Davis

More than a week had passed since Mark found out the secrets of Tom and Will. They days went by quickly as Mark had so little time. He had to study hard for the first tests which were coming up in almost every subject and the only day he would have had some free time, he spent his time with Will on the roof (not that it wasn't fun, Mark enjoyed these secret meetings).

One afternoon he was returning to the dorms after a tiring day when he found Rick waiting for him. The black-haired boy caught him and pulled him into the room so swiftly he almost fell.

There you are! – Rick whispered.

What are you doing?

Is Tom with you? – The interrogation continued.

No, but he has no more lessons today, so he should be arriving soon! Why are you asking?

Sorry, I don't feel like telling the whole plan twice. Although, until we wait here, you could tell me about your feelings for me and how much you love me!

Mark hated these pranks. It usually took some time for him to realise that Rick was just fooling with him and by that time, he usually got so embarrassed he was nearly unable to speak.

You are very funny! Ha-ha! – He tried to hide his blushing face with an awkward grin. Then he pushed Rick away and jumped onto his bed sulkily.

Don't be mad at me, honey! – Rick followed him clearly overacting the scene he made up. – **What can I do to make you happy?** – Rick touched Mark's thigh and stroked it gently.

Waa! – Shouted Mark, who got so frightened and humiliated, he fell off the bed thudding hard on the floor.

Rick couldn't help but burst out laughing. The next moment, Tom came in the door and saw the two crazy roommates of his, one lying on the floor stroking his head, the other laughing loudly at the other end of the bed.

You guys surely know how to make a tiring day better for me! What's going on again?

No-Nothing! – Mark said still embarrassed.

It's good you are here! I need to talk to you guys.

What is it? – Asked Tom who seemed to be into anything right now.

Don't you think it's boring to just sit there and study all day? Yeah-yeah, I can see your face, sonny: you want to say "But we have to study if we want to pass the tests". – Rick imitated Mark's higher voice.

But... – Mark wanted to answer, but he couldn't because Rick went on.

I say you may study in the afternoon as much as you want, but at night after lights-out, we are going to execute my secret plan.

What plan? – Tom asked.

You'll know when you will have need to know. – Rick stood up.

And what if we don't want to? – Asked Mark.

But you do! Bye! – Rick said walking out the door with a big smile.

He always does that. – Tom giggled.

Yeah. And doesn't he have to study, too?

Actually, he's doing quite well and I have never seen him studying more than a half an hour.

Yeah. To top things, he is a total genius. I hate him. – Mark sighed.

Mark and Tom were of course unable to learn anything that afternoon. Rick left them so excited that they couldn't speak of anything else. They wanted to figure their crazy roommate's plan out, but they were clueless. Rick often did this to them. He said something interesting but teased them by not finishing it.

Around 7, he returned carrying a small bag. He was at the town shopping. It was a long trip to the town which was 6 miles away from Apollo and there was no bus service in weekdays. Rick must have walked all the way to town and back.

Don't you want to tell us what we are going to do? – Tom asked impatiently.

Nope. – Rick shook his head. – **You may mess everything up. We are leaving the room at 11 PM.**

Boy, are you crazy! – Mark added.

At 9, the strict Mr. Davis went around school shouting "Lights-Off!" and to make things certain he switched the electricity down at half past 9. After that he usually went around the corridors a few times just to make sure that everyone was sleeping.

After 9:30, Rick pulled out some cards and a candle and invited his roommates to play cards to pass the time until eleven. It could be heard clearly if Mr. Davis came up to their floor being in the second room by the stairs so they had nothing to worry about.

At around 10:30, he did come up, but the boys had the time to blow the candle in time. It was strange, because usually Mr. Davis did a circle on every floor and he skipped this floor now. Maybe he was just lazy.

Ready, sonny? And you, Muscle-boy? – Rick asked the other two at exactly 11PM.

Yeah.

Sure.

Come with me and from now on, talk in whispers! Ah yes, and leave your shoes here, they make too much noise.

And they were off. Rick still didn't tell what are they up to, but they followed him. It surely was an exciting walk. Being alone in the big and empty dormitory was funnier than they could imagine. It was a strange and interesting feeling breaking the rules. They went up the stairs to the fourth, then to the fifth floor. Mark realized that he had never been to this part of the dorms. It was a bit different from the other floors.

What is this floor? – He whispered.

This is the floor for the wealthy students. – Rick answered. – **And your best friend, Rolph sleeps in that room over there!** – He pointed to room 901.

We are going to prank him, aren't we? – Tom figured out.

Yes, is there a problem with that?

No, I've met him too, and I hate him as well.

Then, come with me into the restroom!

What? – Mark asked. – *But his room is here.*

Yes and our nice little trick will start working only after he wakes up.

They went into the restroom and Rick unfolded the little package he got from town. It was a brown bottle which he carefully put onto the washbasin. This restroom was twice as big as the one in the third floor, not to mention that up here they had separate room for showering while two floors below, the ordinary students shared the restroom and the showers in the same space. Of course it wasn't bad, but up here it was clearly luxurious.

What's in that bottle? – Tom looked questioningly.

It is a mixture of scouring liquid and rinsing with a small amount of household acid. We are going to daub the toilet seat with it. It's going to burn like hell if "someone" happens to sit on it.

Oh, dear! You are a seriously ill guy, aren't you? – Mark gasped but smiled at the same time.

Every genius has to start from somewhere.

Brilliant, but how do you know which toilet does Rolph use? – Tom miscredited.

There's only one made of marble.

You bastard!

Let's work. Here, I brought gloves. And slush it carefully. Every bit! – Mark and Tom happily obeyed the orders and salvaged the top of the toilet seat completely.

We should go now before someone sees us! – Tom said when the three mischiefs had finished working.

They could barely hold off their laugh. Being bad was so funny and that Rolph guy did deserve every bit of this. They were on their way back soon. There was a large clock on the stairway which showed them that it was past midnight when they were taking the stairs down to the third floor. They had only passed the fourth floor when they heard Mr. Davis's voice from behind.

Stop!

The blood in their veins froze in a second. They turned around but the strict dictator-like figure wasn't there.

It wasn't in our agreement, Angus! You have to stick to it if you want to do business with me! – It was Zack's voice, but it was certainly changed. Mark got used to the nice and quick speech of the upper schoolmate of his, but now it was sharp and affronting.

Sorry, Zack! Can we talk about it? I need your ... merchandise! – Mr. Davis almost cried as he begged for something.

Come again tomorrow at midnight, dear Mister Davis and bring more money with you!

Thank you, you are a sweet boy! Thank you.

The boys had to move quickly because it seemed that Zack and Mr. Davis had finished their talk. They ran down the stairs and into Room 609. They were still panting when Mr. Davis passed by their closed door. He was in a hurry again but now he went the other way.

It was strange. What could the business be between Mr. Davis and Zack? Mark stripped down and went to bed as the others.

What was that all about? – He whispered.

I don't know, but we have to sneak out tomorrow and see it for ourselves.

Don't you think it's dangerous? – Tom quivered still in excitement.

Yes, it is. But isn't it the most fun thing you've had in this school?

I'm going with you. – Mark confirmed.

I won't be the only one staying. I'm going, too. – Tom agreed with them finally.

Mark could barely sleep that night, and he could only think of Zack and Mr. Davis. The first thing that made him think of something else was in the next morning when Rolph ran down the stairs crying in pain and two other boys ran after him in boxers trying to help him. They ran around the school crying and everyone laughed at them, particularly the loudest trio in front of room 609.

Chapter 8 – The Apollo Triplet

Mark couldn't wait the end of the Logics lesson. It was a bright, sunny day but he couldn't enjoy it a bit. His mind was racing. Zack's voice echoed inside his head and he was so excited about the previous and the approaching night. He wanted to find out what was going on.

After classes he went swiftly back to the dorms and met the others. Rick was already there but Tom had one more lesson to attend to. Rick was squeezing a jack-knife which lately became his toy. Mark dropped himself on his bed and watched his roommate playing with the sharp tool.

He was watching his veins and imagined that their blood pumped to the same rhythm. Mark's heartbeat quickened and he could feel a building sensation in his crotch. He caught himself and rolled around on the bed not to see Rick.

He tried to close his eyes but it was no use. His shaft had hardened and was aching inside his tight jeans. To his shock, two hands touched his shoulders rolling him back.

What's the problem, sonny? – Rick said his hands already on Mark.

No-Nothing! – Mark stuttered and hoped Rick didn't see his crotch.

Are you turned on? – Rick noticed. – **You have turned on watching me, have you? Ah, You must have a big crush on me, sonny!**

Mark was embarrassed again and to top things Rick started to laugh and moved his hand on Mark's chest and was on his way down. Mark's face was all red. He was virtually shaking with fear and embarrassment.

Suddenly, the door popped open and Tom came in. To evade suspicion, Rick stopped teasing Mark and rolled him down from his bed, then proclaimed himself the "King of the bed". Tom was getting used to the crazy habits of Rick and waved his hand.

Listen guys! I'm going to leave you for a sec. You should behave and eat properly. – After seeing the uncomprehending faces, Rick added: – **We're going to do a ceremony which might drain you.**

As usual, they didn't have time to say anything, because the next second, Rick was gone. Then, Mark remembered he was supposed to meet Will more than half an hour ago. He stood up and went out the room saying that he won't be long.

He then rushed up to the roof and let out a big sigh when he saw Will standing at the same place he used to stand.

I'm sorry. – He started. – **Are you mad?** – He added when he didn't receive any answer.

No. – Will answered finally with the usual craziness in his voice. – **It looks like you don't want to hang out with me...**

No, it's not that. I'm just... very busy at the moment.

You have other, more important things. – Will sniffed and sounded like he was about to cry.

You know how important you are for me. You are one of my closest friends.

But not the only one.

Don't be so affronted, come and tell me about your week so far! – Mark touched Will's shoulder and looked into his eyes with a nice smile.

Will softened in a sudden and began to talk like a little boy. He was talking about his father, the headmaster of the school and how he let Will to finally go outside his room. Mark was happy about it.

However the allowance was restricted to the office section of the school, where they couldn't meet each other. Will quickly turned to him and with a smile he said:

I want to show you a game. Stand up!

What?

Just stand up! – Will ordered.

Okay.

Now, close your eyes and don't move 'till I tell you so!

Mark obeyed, he trusted the eccentric boy in spite of that he was strange at times. He closed his eyes and stood still. It was a nice day and he could feel the beams of the setting Sun caressing his face. There were no order to move but he could hear Will moving around him anxiously. Then, the boy stopped somewhere in front of Mark stepped closer. He was so close, Mark could feel the warmth of his body now and the next moment he felt something tender and hot pushing into his lips.

It was his second kiss. Hot and passionate like Rick's. He couldn't defend against it as he felt Will's strong determination. They were kissing on the roof for about a minute then they parted. This sensual experience left Mark with a strange emptiness as the two lips had backed away. He was still standing there with closed eyes, but he was so much more vulnerable now.

You may move! – Mark heard and when he opened his eyes he could only see the fleeing Will jumping down the hatch into the building.

He was so shy about it that he couldn't face Mark. He indeed was a strange boy. Mark was standing there for a couple of more minutes thinking about the things that happened.

His mind became crowded with questions he was unable to answer. What was that feeling he felt when kissing Will? Why did the strange boy kiss him anyway? Wasn't it illegal to love other boys? Rick came to his mind afterwards. He felt somehow guilty about the whole thing and he felt like he had to apologise to Rick but he didn't know why.

The next moment he looked down to the dormitory grounds and saw Rick crossing the main garden and returning to the dorms. He had to go back and concentrate on the evening. His life became so busy these days. He was filled with questions and emotions and he was into many secrets and things.

He went down and walked back to room 609. Rick was already there when he entered and he was holding bandages. Mark felt guilty again and it was nearly impossible for him to convince himself that his roommates didn't know about his kiss.

We are going to form a sacred triangle. – Rick started. – **I think we could call it the Apollo Triplet. But to make this alliance legitimate, we have to do a blood pact. Like this!**

The next moment Rick slashed his palm with his knife and let his blood trickle into bowl he must have put into the table before Mark entered.

Are you crazy?

My parents are living in Sweerland, but they are from Addania. It is an old ritual there to form immortal friendship. Here, take my blade!

You are serious, aren't you? – Mark gulped.

Don't worry it won't hurt a bit!

Mark and Tom didn't have the choice because Rick seemed very desperate. Mark held the knife and slashed his palm as Rick did and allow his blood to trickle into the bowl. Tom did the same thing. There wasn't too much blood but it looked odd to see the three little rivers flowing down to merge in the bottom of the bowl.

Now the last part... We all have to consume some of it. I start. – A strong shiver ran down Mark's spine as he watched Rick putting his forefinger into the red liquid and licking it off the next instant.

There was no way back and the other two boys had to do the same thing. After everything was done, Rick took the empty bowl and left with it without a word. Tom and Mark were staying there breathlessly, and they couldn't speak as well.

It must have been the strangest thing that happened with Mark: strange and disgusting, but thrilling and warm on the other hand. Rick came back some minutes later and found his two roommates standing in the same spot where he left them. He smiled at them and finally broke the silence:

You did pretty well. The Apollo Triplet is now formed. We are never to lie to each other and we must never betray this bond or curse our souls if we do!

We are mad. – Tom said.

But doesn't it feel good?

I suppose... somehow, yes...

See? Now go to bed and get some sleep. I'm going to wake you when it's time. I hope you haven't forgotten about our midnight trip...

Of course neither of them was able to sleep for a new adventure was waiting for them, the Apollo Triplet!

Chapter 9 – Night of the Beast

The clock was ticking so slowly, Mark could barely contain himself. He tried to guide his thoughts to somewhere else, but he failed to do so even with the memory of Will's kiss. It was unbearable to wait and he was constantly watching Rick for the sign which could indicate their departure.

Tom was sitting on the side of his bed, playing with his fingers. His anxiety was undeniably showing, but he had a better way to deal with it than Mark. He yawned once or twice randomly in every few minutes just to show he was there. He was not at all sleepy.

Rick on the other hand was so calm that it made his two roommates crazy. His shapely outline stood motionless by the window. He was watching the nice, starry sky and it gave him endless patience. Every half an hour or so, he'd take a look at his wristwatch to check the time.

Not too much after 11:30, Mister Davis passed by the door and went on to the upper floors. Rick waited a few minutes and showed the others that it was time to go. They were already at the door waiting for their leader. Rick crossed the room and opened the door.

They were off. The Apollo Triplet was roaming the empty corridors of the dormitory once again. They swiftly and quietly crossed the hallway to the stairs and cautiously followed Mr. Davis up. It was still early and the quarry didn't stop at the place where he was supposed to meet Zack some minutes later. He went on to the "Royal" floor where the Apollo Triplet did its mischief yesterday.

Rick stopped. He was listening to the faint noises which suddenly became footsteps from up above. Mark and Tom could hear it now, footsteps, other than Mr. Davis'. The next moment Rolph's voice was heard:

Good evening, Mr. Davis!

Oh, evening Mr. Sturgess! I think you should go back to your room now. He won't be coming this night.

You are probably right. But that bastard will pay for what he did. If only I knew who it was...

We will find out, Mr. Sturgess. But not today, we have to sleep! Go to bed and I'll look around once again.

Rolph walked out of hearing range and the sound of his closing the door could be heard. According to Rick's watch, it was almost midnight. They had to find a place to hide because they knew Mr. Davis will cross the very same place they were standing at. Tom had spotted an offset along the wall which would've hide each of them well.

By the time Mr. Davis arrived they were carefully hidden. The boys were at an ideal place where they were covered with shadows but they could see the dictator-like man clearly as he hesitated a bit and then entered the second floor hallway to the dorms.

Night Angus! – Zack's voice could be heard faintly.

Oh, hello. Here's the money... – The man who used to be so strict and harsh was trembling now.

Thank you. – Zack slid the money into his back-pocket. – **It's more like it. Now, let me give you my merchandise!**

And Zack started to dance erotically in front of the quivering Mr. Davis. He stroked his waist and licked his lips and danced closer and closer to the tight-suited man. He threw his t-shirt down and turned around the stroke his bottom to Mr. Davis' crotch.

Mark was breathless. He couldn't imagine such thing might happen. It was outrageous. He was watching the nice and friendly Zack breaking the law and to top that, he did it for money. Although Mark wasn't sure how he felt about the law that prohibited men having relationships with each other, but he was quite adamantly against making love for money.

Zack continued. The was dancing around Mr. Davis so sexy that it made Mark's penis quicken. Zack now licked the older man's face and it made the strict man moan like a child. Zack grabbed Mr. Davis' hands and moved them on his naked waist while still dancing to an imagined music. Mr. Davis quickly tore the jeans off of the boy.

With an elegant twitch, the dancer threw his torn jeans off of his legs and continued. Zack bit his lips as he showed them closer and closer to his customer's. The hiding boys could not hear what, but Zack whispered a few words to the old man's ears which made the strict old bastard blush. Zack's lips were almost touching with Mr. Davis' when he jumped back suddenly.

Both Rick and Tom gaped Zack as he threw his underpants down and showed his nicely curved and already hard cock. He stroked it around Mr. Davis while still dancing and he started to unzip the older man's trousers as well. A short but thick penis came out.

Zack wrapped his right hand around his and Mr. Davis cock together and slowly stoke them. Mr. Davis had to wipe his mouth as he virtually started to drivel. So many juices were coming out of Mr. Davis' hard cock it made Zack jump down and cover it with his mouth while pushing Mr. Davis hard to the wall.

The hungry eyes of Mr. Davis glittered in the moonlight as he moved Zack's head back and forth. He seemed to enjoy the merchandise he was given and he moaned lightly every time Zack stroked his cock with his lips. With his other hand Zack stroked his cock and became more and more excited.

He suddenly stopped sucking and turned around offering his butt to his customer. Mr. Davis was only waiting for this. He grabbed Zack's waist and pushed his hard shaft inside brutally. Zack forced to hide a shout of pain but seemed to go numb after a minute and he continued to stroke himself.

The small moans of pain became moans of pleasure and Zack's body twitched as the older shaft went in and out more and more quickly. The sweating bodies were pushing against each other to the same rhythm and Mr. Davis moaned as he had to stop pushing because of the overwhelming pleasure.

Mark didn't know why but he had to turn his head in the direction of Rick. He was frightened to see that Rick was already looking at him. In his deep embarrassment he hitched his head back and almost rolled out of the hiding shadows in the process.

God bless you, Zack! – Mr. Davis sighed as Zack licked the remaining juices off his cock. – **You are worth your money...**

I suppose I'm getting myself a new regular, aren't I? – Zack replied in a soft voice while gently tucking the limp penis back to Mr. Davis's trousers.

Well, I better be going...

See you, Angus!

Mr. Davis walked out of the hallway and headed down the stairs. Zack collected his clothes and walked into his room casually and completely naked. The scenery became empty and after a minute or two the Apollo Triplet came out of the shadows.

It was... – Tom began.

But he couldn't finish his sentence because approaching footsteps could be heard from above. They had to flee. Tom ran down the stairs first. He was very fast and had turned in the next corridor by the time Mark tripped over in his excitement and hit himself hard.

Rick stopped to help him up but Mark had sprained his ankle and couldn't move. Mark tried not to shout in pain. He looked at Rick with flowing eyes and he could see that the rude roommate had not thought about leaving him even for an instant. He was looking for an escape but was unable to find any. The menacing noise became louder and louder with every step it took. Was it the end of the Apollo Triplet?

Chapter 10 – I love You

Mark was defenceless as the steps got louder and louder. He kept his eyes closed to be able to hold his shout back when he felt a strong hand on his shoulder which grabbed him and pulled him up. He had to open his eyes to see what happened, and he realized that he was on the back of Rick who was carrying him and was running across the hall and into a small cupboard. He managed to put Mark down but they were only able to hide there if they were very close together. Rick hastily jostled himself inside and shut the door.

Complete silence came with the fear that they might have been seen. Mark was in so much pain but it seemed to fade away as he felt Rick's hot breath from behind and his legs around his waist. He was sitting on his rude roommate's lap. Although he didn't have any more time to think about this for the loud steps had arrived to the scene and stopped.

Come out if you are here! – Sounded Rolph desperately. – **I've heard the noises you made down here, scum!**

The hiding boys had to hold their breaths. Mark was still in pain and he sweated heavily. He was on the edge of crying out loud when a warm and calming palm touched his forehead from behind. Rick was trying to ease his pain and it worked somehow. He felt warm and nice inside and it had overcome the pain.

Rolph however was circling in the hallway like an eagle sharply searching for any little sign that could tell about the mischievous one who had messed with him the other day. He was getting dangerously close to the boys' hiding place and they were swiftly running out of air when all of a sudden, an earth-quaking door slam was heard from the direction of Room 609.

Rolph snapped his head up and ran down the stairs. Mark was finally able to breathe out surprisingly noticing that his pain was gone for good. It was one of the happiest things in his life, sitting on Rick's lap like this, wrapped around by the caring arms, and the strong legs of his roommate.

You can be so nice sometimes. – He whispered without thinking.

Only sometimes? – Rick whispered back into his ears, getting embarrassingly close.

What are you doing? Aren't we supposed to get out of here? – Mark asked trembling.

He will come back this way. We have to wait for him to go up. – Said Rick. – **Until then, why don't you tell me how much you loved me, sonny?** – His voice was different somehow even if he was whispering; it was softer and calmer than usual.

Don't make fun of me!

Why? Don't you like it? – Rick said and kissed Mark on the back of his neck tenderly while moving his hands down from Mark's shoulders to his chest.

Mark was completely breathless as, in the next second, he felt a growing and hardening thing pressing on his bottom. He had only realized that he himself was hard as rock and Rick's hands were now caressing his belly through his sweaty shirt slowly moving downwards. He couldn't say a word

when Rick at last touched his belt and started to undo it with his left hand while gently feeling Mark's shaft through his pants with the other hand. Mark gulped, he was not at all against this kind of pleasure, but he was uncertain if it was a good thing to do with a boy. Apart from his doubt and embarrassment, every inch of his body was craving for more.

Meanwhile, Rick undid his belt and unbuttoned his pants and was smoothly caressing the small hairs over Mark's hard shaft waiting for a reassuring sigh or moan that he was allowed to move forwards. Mark felt his excitement oozing from the top of his blunt thing but he was unable to do anything.

Rick was startled and pulled his hands back frightened when Rolph stormed back to the hallway and went across to the stairs. It was the end of the hot atmosphere. Mark hissed up for his pain was back and they both felt it that they had to go back because Tom was waiting for them.

It was a very hard thing to do, but Rick helped him up and opened the door of the cupboard slowly and with watchful eyes. They were completely silent, and Mark buttoned himself back and set his belt right again.

They floundered down the stairs slowly and they were still so close next to each other, but so far away now. Mark started to feel something strange. It was as if his heart was clenched by invisible hands. He knew he had to tell something but he couldn't form the words.

They were finally back on their own floor just meters away from room 609 bathing in the intense moonlight which poured in through the shiny window in the hallway. The round Moon was watching them when in the end Rick mustered up all his courage and said:

I love you!

They stood there holding hands, looking at each other and Mark could lose himself in Rick's wonderful and bright blue eyes. He tried to reply but again, he couldn't find the words. His very world was shaking and he could only answer with a kiss.

And that kiss was the sweetest in his life. The perfect, reassuring response for Rick as their soft lips pushed against each other nicely and their emotions connected to flow into each other like a river of love. They were by no means aware of the fact that they were doing something really bad in a really bad situation at the wrong place and time. They were so much more above the rules. They were there for each other.

The sound of the doorknob made them part suddenly when Tom had opened the door a crack to look outside. Rick helped Mark to the room as if nothing had happened and they entered. Tom was seemingly full of things to say and he didn't even know about the latest things but he had to wait for the morning because Rick said:

Let's go to bed now. – His voice was strange. – **We don't want to be hitched by something silly like talking in the middle of the night when we're supposed to sleep.**

Mark knew it was a made-up excuse Rick had thought out, because he didn't want to think about Zack now. He wanted to cherish the last minutes a little bit more just like Mark wanted to do the same.

They both knew that tomorrow might bring other winds but this feeling was theirs for now. They slipped out of their clothes and lay down on their beds separately, but longing for each other so much.

They were so calm that they fell asleep in no time dreaming about the same thing without knowing about it. They were alone there, reliving the moonlit kiss which bound them together and the sweaty erotic sensation in the cupboard.

It was a sweet and bitter sentiment at the same time. Something you may call: Love.

Chapter 11 – Upside Down

Mark got up slightly later that morning. In his dreams he was with Rick, and it made him never want to wake up which eventually, he did. Tom and Rick were already up and the first thing he felt after waking was the familiar pain. His leg was hurting bad.

It was disgusting! – Shouted Tom. – **Shouldn't we call the police? It is a crime against the law, you know.**

We don't have evidence. – Answered Rick calmly. – **And it's no big deal.**

How can you be so callous? It is a sacred thing and these bastards should go to jail! It is outrageous! Men are made for women and for them only! – Tom complained harshly.

You still cannot prove it. – Rick said.

If we told them what we saw, it would be enough, wouldn't it?

This whole conversation dragged Mark back to reality. He didn't know that Tom had so strict opinion about men loving each other. It made Mark feel kind of uneasy. He was sitting there on his bed massaging his foot and was watching his two roommates talking although it seemed more like quarrelling.

You propose that we should go and tell everyone that we were out after lights-out?

We have to! That's the law, isn't it?

I won't. – Rick pronounced simply. – **I won't risk anything just to snitch on the poor Mr. Davis and Zack!**

I can't believe it! – Tom was still on edge. – **What do you say, Mark? What should we do?**

They both turned to Mark who had no idea what he himself thought. It was a hard decision. His mind was racing. He could listen to his emotions and say that being in love with another male was everyone's own decision, or he could listen to reason and his brain which was telling him that it was unnatural to be involved with another boy. Finally, he said something without thinking:

I don't think we should get involved in this.

You two are so selfish! Can't you see how important this is? I've encountered with this kind of sick people before. And although he was a nice man he turned into this horrible monster. I suppose you know what I'm talking about, Mark! Every man, who has sexual intercourse with another, turns into something horrible in the end.

Well, we are adamant, so you cannot persuade us. – Rick tried to end this uneasy conversation.

It is like you were one of them, you know. I'm serious! I'm going to go and tell the headmaster even if you don't like it! – Tom shouted and stormed out of the room.

Rick was just standing there without any little movement. He started to bite his lips and he was getting more and more angry about something. He was scared of something. Scared of his own thoughts. Mark was just sitting on his bed watching his friend. Finally, Rick turned to him.

We cannot be together.

What? – Gasp Mark.

Look! What do you think would happen if Tom found out?

I cannot lose you after everything that happened last night!

I thought it over last night and I don't love you. I just wanted to make convenience of you. – Rick started to talk louder and louder. Mark had not seen him like this before. – **I wanted to use you for my pleasure, but I never loved you. And after we formed the sacred ritual, I think I cannot use you like that.** – He was furious now, so angry that it made Mark anxious as well. The always so patient and self-confident Rick was now shaking and becoming twisted somehow.

You do not love me...? – Mark whispered while a first drop of tear ran down his cheeks. – *I-I...*

I have to go! – Grunted Rick as he stood up. – **See you later!**

After the echoing sound of the closing door, Mark found himself all alone in room 609. It was only a minute before he started crying out loud but in that minute, he felt like the room was growing bigger and bigger and it made himself feel alone so much. The emptiness and growing pain then turned into tears and he couldn't stop his emotions flowing out. Did he lose his first love the day following it taking hold of him?

He cried for several hours alone in the messy room. It was like the world was going to end. He knew it was a silly thing to think, but he felt like it anyway. He was worn out because of his long struggle with his feelings, but he had to get up. It was already past noon and he had decided to go for a walk to clear his mind off the horrible thoughts he was having.

He was wandering on the school gardens and it sure made him feel better. The nice warm air he breathed in made him feel relaxed somehow. He could even find a minute or two when he was not thinking of Rick at all. But it was hard to accept. And in his deepest, he didn't accept that Rick did not love him. It must have been a lie. Or he wished it was. He buried the sadness inside and tried to smile for a change. He breathed a long and nice one before he sat down on the sweet grass in the long shadow of a tree.

If you want to join my little team, you have to come to my room at exactly eleven this evening. – It was Zack's voice that came from behind a large bush.

Alright. – Came the answer. Mark couldn't believe his own ears. It was Rolph's voice.

Then, I guess I will see you in the evening.

Zack moved on and left Rolph alone with his two bodyguards he usually hung out with. They were laughing dumbly for they shouldn't have understood what the conversation between Rolph and Zack was all about. Rolph was laughing, too.

Finally. Something that's not boring at all. I can join a secret club of some sort. I don't know what they are doing but it shouldn't be so boring like the rest of the school.

Rolph didn't seem to be aware of the fact that he wanted to join a male prostitute group. Mark wanted to warn him at first but he couldn't find the words or the guts to tell anything. He just let the rich boy walk on.

Mark was thinking about Zack now. He wouldn't have thought that there might have been a whole team, a secret group of prostitutes among the students. And they seemed to have Zack as the leader. It was an awkward feeling to know that something so rotten could exist in such a beautiful place.

His parent came to his mind. They rarely went to the big cities, but when they did and saw a prostitute on the street, Mark's father would always complain about how sacrilegious it was to sell one's own body for money. However it was sacrilegious too to love someone with the same gender.

Mark felt confused when he returned to room 609 and his head started to ache again. It had to be because of the crying and the thinking which he had too much of for this day. As it was a Saturday, he went to bed early. Tom was still out somewhere and so was Rick. Mark fell asleep quickly enough to not hear Tom arriving back a few hours later.

However, he did wake up at exactly 10:50. He couldn't help himself but to check whether both his roommates were back or not. He found Tom snoring with his face deeply buried in his pillow, but there was no sign of Rick whatsoever.

He started thinking about what he had heard and finally stood up and went out of room 609 to see Rolph's meeting with Zack. Mark had only realized that he was just in his boxers and t-shirt when he was already half way up the stairs. Anyways, it was even more exciting to feel the cold marble with his bare feet.

He walked to the hiding corridor where the Apollo Triplet hid the previous day. The cold walls touched his legs and waist and it was somehow refreshing for him. He felt the same coldness inside his hearth now and it suited the emptiness of stone.

Rolph had arrived only a minute later and knocked in Zack's door. Rolph was completely clothed and that proved that he didn't know what he was into. Zack came out wearing nothing but a towel around his waist and closed the door behind him.

Hi, there! – He started.

Aren't we going into the room? It's risky to be out here.

You won't come into my room until I have complete trust in you. – Zack had the same strangeness in his voice just like yesterday.

Then, what should I do?

Don't you want to know what this secret team does? – Zack asked while stepped a bit closer to the handsome, blond boy.

Well. I know you make pretty big money somehow... – Rolph had absolutely no idea.

Why do you want to make money? – That was the same question Mark would like to ask. – **You are the richest boy in the whole school.**

I don't want to live on my father's money. I want to earn my own, no matter how. – Rolph was adamant.

Even if you have to do things like this?

And the next second, Zack was kissing Rolph on the lips and caressed his crotch with his right hand while he grabbed the rich boy's shoulder with his left, not letting him get away. Rolph seemed to fight back, but Zack was two years older and seemed to be stronger. After a minute, Rolph gave up fighting and kissed back with a newly arrived hunger in his eyes.

Zack stopped the blond boy who wanted to remove the towel from around his waist. He pushed him away just when he got steadily more excited. Rolph bit his lips and tried to stand still.

Yes.

Alright! Then, I'm going to tell you about your first task. If you do this, you're in! You have to find the one who's been eavesdropping on me and one of my customers recently and told the whole thing to the headmaster. That bitch couldn't prove anything but it's still uneasy for me if you understand...

Yeah. – Rolph said. – **I think that secretive person might be the same one who had that snotty prank on me. It's going to be fun finding him. And I've already got an idea where to start the search.**

Good. Leave now and come back if you have anything to say about that bastard.

Mark gulped. The two greatest villains in school were looking for him and his roommates. He watched Zack going back to his room and Rolph walking up the stairs to his. He waited a little and came out of the shadow to go back himself. He barely reached the stairs when a whispering voice came from behind:

Got you!

He started to run. He had no idea who was behind him but he had no time to think about it. He just stormed down the stairs directly to room 609 without thinking about how he could compromise his friends.

He almost reached the room but when he turned his head backwards he ran into someone and fell. His pursuer was closing in on him and he was laying on the floor along with someone else. The figure of Rolph unfolded from the shadows and laughed at him.

So it was you! I couldn't dream about a better start. I knew it was you, Kempton.

Kempton? As Rick Kempton? Mark turned his head and he found out quickly enough that the person he hit was Rick who must have been arriving home from somewhere.

Don't be so flattered, Rolph. – Rick started in a strange voice. – **Go to Hell!**

I'm leaving you now, but I'm going to tell Zack about you. And you cannot expect anything good.

Then, he left. Mark's heart was still throbbing. He stood up and helped Rick up, too. Mark had just realized, that Rick was drunk. He must have broken out somehow and went for a drink, or for a couple.

Mark led Rick to his bed and helped him down before he went to his own. Tom didn't wake up in the process. Mark thought it was better this way. Although he was tired, he couldn't sleep much. His mind was working as a factory and he felt himself alone for the first time until he was a student of Apollo's.

He may have lost both of his roommates as friends and he lost the love of Rick probably forever. He wanted to find a piece which he could hold on to but he was without hope. He was also scared about Zack and Rolph and what they were up to now that the truth was out. If only he hadn't gone eavesdropping again...

Chapter 12 – Will you?

...: Coming Soon ...

Please, give me feedback at kovacs.endi@gmail.com!