

Say This Sooner

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Sequal to Forever Yours... Ark, Shadow's son, is 17 and falls in love... what will it take to win her heart?

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1 - Intrigued Attraction

Say This Sooner

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He smiled as he looked down to the two sleeping women on each of his shoulders. He laughed slightly as he began to sit up. They woke and looked at him with grins on their faces. He turned to wink at them as he dressed and headed for the front door. He checked his watch, it was already eight in the morning.

He drove quickly and made it home; his mother was feeding the twins in the kitchen. She glared at him. He smiled at her and took a seat next to her. He picked up a bottle and began to feed his baby brother who was currently being unattended, "Hey Mom." "Where were you last night?" "Out, here and there, you know, the usual." She sighed, "You're just like your father. No drugs right?" "No mom, no drugs." "And you used protection?" He reached in his pocket and placed a pistol on the table, "Sure, I always have protection." "Ark! What if you get caught with that by the police? I'm tired of worrying about you!" "Then stop worrying, I'm pretty damn good at not getting caught, and not getting killed." She rolled her eyes, "Get your @\$\$ in the shower. You smell like sex and booze. You better go to school today." Ark put the baby back in his carrier and stood, "I was planning on going anyway. Does Emerald need a ride? I know her school starts later than mine right?" "No Ark, Emerald and Lexie both caught the bus this morning. Unlike someone, you're lucky I didn't tell Knuckles you weren't home this morning." "Pshhhh he ain't my daddy! He can kiss my black @\$\$." You and your five kids. You have a problem with twins Mom? Haha Emerald is the only one that doesn't have a double. Plus, why did you go and get knocked up when I'm about to graduate? You figure that you wanted to try again and not screw up with a boy?" "No Ark, you know that's not it... it was an accident. I still love them though and you do too." "They look like frackles, have better names though." He bent down to Blade, "Isn't that right, you look like your fugly daddy, yes you do! And so does little James. You little fugly bundles of joy." Rouge threw an empty bottle at him as he darted out of the room towards the bathroom.

Ark checked his makeup in the mirror in the office as he waited for the principal. He tightened his lip ring, the principal coughed as he came in the room to catch Ark's attention. Ark spun around, "Hey there, sup?" "Ark have a seat." Ark sat in the chair and watched the principal intently. "Do you know why you're in here again today?" "I screwed something up again?" "Well yes, but I wouldn't put it in those terms. We need to talk about your grades. Ark, are you planning to graduate this year?" Ark propped his head in his hand and sighed, "Yes, I am planning to get out of this hell hole as soon as possible." "Don't you dare use that language in here! Do you want to fail?" The principal began to ramble on, Ark quickly lost interest and began to stare out the window. He watched a young girl as she walked across the courtyard. She looked about his own age. She wore a short skirt with a matching girly shirt. Her brown hair was in curls; She was a hedgehog. She clutched her books to her chest as a group of boys approached her. They seemed to be interrogating her. Lucky for the girl, the bell rang and the school halls filled with children. She melted into the crowd and disappeared from sight. Ark turned his attention back to the principal and continued to listen to his droning rant. "Ark, if you want to pass, you need to stay after for tutoring and extra credit. If you start now, you will be able to bring your grades up just enough to pass." Ark smirked, "You know, I think the real reason you want me to pass is so you won't

have to deal with me anymore. Aren't you going to miss my pretty face?" The principal looked disgusted, "Ark, teachers start tutoring next week. So for this week, just stay after and help clean up the school. I'll add five points to your overall grade in each class for this week. Now get back to class, and on your way wipe some of that makeup off of your face. Its distracting, and you're a boy remember? Why can't you be more like you're sister? She will be graduating with honors this year." Ark rolled his eyes and left the room.

After school Ark was scrubbing a wall covered in graffiti. The girl he had seen earlier approached him, "Need a hand?" She pulled out a sponge and began to help him. "Why the hell are you here? Little miss goody two shoes." She sighed and shot him a mean glare, "I need extra credit." "Why do you need it, you look like you make the perfect grades." "I'm failing history, cause I sleep in that class. Its my first period." Ark was surprised, "I didn't know preppy people failed anything. What grade are you in anyway?" "Eleventh and don't always base everything you believe on looks alone, sometimes they can be deceiving. Ever heard the old saying, 'never judge a book by its cover'?" "Umm yeah but that's usually about kids that look like frack ups." She smirked and said nothing in reply. He hesitated, not quiet sure what to say next. She was short, and had to stretch to reach some of the areas she was cleaning. As she did so Ark took the opportunity to examine her backside. Her skirt rolled up just enough to flash a bit of her panties. He became lost in thought and didn't notice his mouth drop open a bit. The next thing he knew, a soggy sponge was thrown in his face. He jumped back on its impact, "What the hell was that for?!" By the time had wiped his eyes she was walking away. "Hey you, wait!" She shouted after him, "Pig!" He spat at the ground as he watched her storm out of sight.

The moonlight hit his face in the darkness as Ark lay in his bed. He stared at the ceiling, his ruby eyes glistening. He rain his fingers through his jet black hair as he sighed heavily. He was lost in thought and couldn't sleep. He didn't even speak or eat much at dinner that evening. He couldn't stop thinking about that girl from earlier, he didn't even catch her name. He had never thought this away about any girl before. He'd dated too many to count and slept with even more than that, but never had he thought about any single girl so much. Never before had he felt any regret for disrespecting a woman's body, but he couldn't help but be embarrassed this time. Watching her walk away so angrily, because of something he did made him feel horrible. Usually this was the type of thing he would brush off and forget about, but the sparkle in her glaring brown eyes stuck in his mind. She didn't even seem to take interest in him. She didn't comment on his looks or anything, which confused him. Ark had always been popular with the girls, since he was a little boy. If he wanted to date someone, no questions asked she would agree to it. If he wanted a hook up, women swamped to him. He wasn't used to rejection and he always got what he wanted. Maybe it was because she was too much of a 'good girl'. Yet there was an air of mystery surrounding her. Ark brought the covers over his eyes and shut them tightly. He didn't know quite what it was about her that caught his attention. She was pretty much an average girl with average features. He didn't know what it was that made her so special in his mind, all he knew was that he has to find out.

The next day Ark stayed after for more school cleanup. He rushed through the empty halls searching for the girl from yesterday. He found himself in the eleventh grade hallway. He knocked on the door of his old history class, the teacher was inside and he decided to step in. "Hey Mrs. Speas!" History was one of the few classes Ark never had much trouble in and to top that Mrs. Speas was just about the only teacher that ever liked Ark. "Oh hello there Ark, how have you been?" "I'm fine, doing some extra credit so I can graduate but umm I have a question for you if you don't mind." "Go ahead honey, you know you can talk to me about anything." Ark smiled, "Well there is this girl that's apparently failing

your class. She's in your first period, has brown hair and brown eyes. Sleeps in class and has to do some extra credit to pass?" "Why do you want to know about her?" "Well I don't know really, but I ran into her yesterday after school... she was doing cleanup and I was wondering if she was staying after today too... and what her name is if you don't mind." Mrs. Speas smirked at him, "You know Ark, you've had plenty of girlfriends over the past few years... but they always come to you, you never chase them. I don't know what your intentions are but you be nice to her, she's a good girl." Ark waited impatiently, "Name please? And where might I find her?" Mrs. Speas laughed, "I believe you would be speaking of Rhyme. She is a sweet girl, does all her work, she just doesn't pay attention in class. She couldn't stay after today, family matters I believe. However she should be here tomorrow, on cleanup duty again." The smile disappeared from Ark's face, "Oh... alright then." He forced it back, "Well thanks Mrs. Speas. I'll talk to you later, I have to get back to work before I fail." She laughed as he made his way out of her classroom.

Ark lit up a cigarette as soon as he stepped off school grounds. He breathed out and spoke to himself, "Ahh menthol... I don't see how Dad can stand to smoke those reds... too strong for me man." He flicked the ashes to the sidewalk and flipped his hair back. "Rhyme huh? That's an odd name for such an ordinary girl... but then, she did say not to judge a book by its cover. I don't know... I'm pretty much what you see is what you get. Her though, she's different, maybe."

Ark practically dropped his cigarette as he heard the sound of a gunshot and a loud scream. His eyes shot open as he hurried to where it came from. Down the ally way he could see a man with a pistol and a young girl holding her arm tightly. "Hey!" he shouted, catching the man's attention. As soon as he turned away the girl made her break for it and ran off into the darkness. Ark would have chased after her, but right now she needed protecting, "It would be a disgrace to my family if I just let you kill that girl. What the hell were you thinking..." Ark was calm, and quite used to these situations. His father had taught him to be prepared for the worst when he was young. The man that stood before him was large and dressed in casual wear, "That dog doesn't have my shoot! I paid three days ago and she doesn't have my shoot! I knew I couldn't trust that little slut!" He pointed the gun at Ark. Before either of them could blink Ark had a firm grasp in the man's hand and a heavy fist to his face. The man was thrown against the wall, bleeding from his nose, "What the frack, who... what the hell are you? You animal!" Ark raised an eyebrow, "No... my daddy just taught me right." Ark emptied the bullets from the gun and stuck them in his pocket. He tossed the gun back to his bleeding victim and shot him a quick wink, "Now don't go shooting any more young ladies alright? Like my father always told me, you never hit a woman. No matter how much that dog deserves it."

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There you go doges, chapter one complete... another epic has just begun. Let me know what you think of it!

2 - Life

Chapter 2

Sweat rolled down his face as Ark cling to the sill of the window. He looked down, "Clinging to the sill of a third-story window isn't my idea of extra credit!" He had been washing windows when the ladder collapsed under his feet. His mind raced at the situation, "Alright think... what did Dad say about things like this... umm... alright." He looked behind him to discover a tree a few feet away. He held his breath and pushed hard with his feet against the wall to launch himself towards it. He grasped hold of a branch, obtained his balance and let go, he landed on his hands, did a back-flip and safely landed his feet to the ground. With a heavy sigh of relief and wipe of his forehead he turned around to find Rhyme staring at him. Her mouth was open and her eyes were wide. Ark suddenly smiled and shouted to her, "Hey! I was hoping you'd show up today!" She blinked rapidly a few times, amazed at the feat she had just witnessed. Ark quickly forgot about his fall and urged for conversation, "What are you cleaning, can I help?" She pointed to the broken ladder, then to Ark who was stupidly waiting for an answer. "You... how... did you do that?" Ark tilted his head, "What?" She sighed and decided attempting to get an explanation from him would be too much of a hassle, "Never mind..." She turned to walk away, Ark rushed after her. "Hey wait! Can I do clean up duty with you?" She was beginning to become annoyed with him, "Whatever." Ark pouted and followed her, "So umm, you're name is, Rhyme isn't it?" She walked at a fast pace, "Who told you?" "Umm... I heard people talking?" She rolled her eyes, "Don't you think you're being a bit too persistent to talk to me?" "Umm no?" She heaved a sigh and walked ahead of him.

Minutes later the two of them were cleaning trash from the football field. Rhyme was sweating from the heat of the sun beating down on her. She wore a lightweight pink jacket. Ark was concerned for her, "It's really hot out here, you're going to get heat stroke if you keep that jacket on." She snapped at him, "So now you're trying to get me to take my clothes off?" Ark was finally becoming annoyed by her rude comebacks, "No, I just don't think you feel like taking a trip to the hospital." She paused then decided to take her jacket off. Underneath she wore a white take top. Tight bandages were wrapped around her left arm near her shoulder. Through them you could see specks of blood. She acted as if it were nothing, though Ark was shocked. "Oh my gosh! What happened." She turned away from him and continued to gather garbage, "Nothing, don't worry about it. Keep your nose out of my business." Ark watched her walk to the other side of the field as his mind raced with the thought of yesterday. The gunshot, and the girl that ran away; She was holding her arm. It just couldn't have been Rhyme, could it? Ark knew there was something about this girl, something important.

Ark and Lexie sat watching television together later that night. He sighed heavily and shifted his gaze to his twin. She automatically turned off their entertainment and turned her attention to him. "Alright brother, spill, what's wrong?" "It's this girl." Lexie was surprised, "Wait, wait. You? Have woman problems? Since when?" He threw a pillow at her, "Since about a week ago. I don't know, she's just... confusing. She doesn't seem to give a shoot about me... and I think I might be bothering her." "Ark, you know not all girls want a hook up right?" "I know! But that's not what I'm after from her! I mean, I don't

even know why I take so much interest. She's just a normal girl. Brown hair, brown eyes, really short... adorable. I don't know, she appears to be like a normal preppy dog. Somehow, I think there's more. Especially after today." Lexie threw the pillow back at him, "Hold on, what's this girl's name. Give me a bit more details." "Her name is Rhyme, she's in eleventh grade and is failing history. However she's apparently got good grades in everything else. Mrs. Speas likes her! Haha... but then Mrs. Speas liked me and none of the other teachers did..." "From what you say she's just some normal prude." "No! I think there's something more. Really, with all my soul I know there has to be more to her... I can just feel it." She snickered, "Ark, remember that one time you said you believe with all your heart and soul that the milk wasn't expired... so you drank it and wound up puking your brains out two hours later?" Ark shot her a hateful glance, "This is nothing like that! Damn it Lexie!" He was cut off as a dark figure entered the room.

Shadow took a seat next to his daughter and yawned, "What's up?" Lexie teased her brother, "Ark's got this major crush on some girl." "No Dad, its for real, I mean she's different!" "You don't even know her and the way you describe her, it seems that she is just some dog that would never be interested in a frack up like you." Ark flipped her off and stood to his feat. Shadow shot him a cold glare for him to calm damn. Ark listened to his father, if he had any respect for any form of authority it was for Shadow. Ark looked like his father, almost an exact replica. Just about their only difference was that Ark's stripes were white, while Shadow's were red. Shadow finally took the moment to give some words of wisdom, "Alright, I don't know this situation and I don't know this girl, but if you feel there is something, go for it. Never let an opportunity pass you by that you'll regret for not taking. If you ever fall in love, make sure that person knows, they just might fall in love with you too." Ark smiled, "Thanks Dad." "Now any, back to the real reason I came in here to talk to you little freaks, Ark you have training in fifteen minutes and I need to hook up the television to the satellite for a conference that I have in twenty." Ark nodded in agreement and went off to change into more comfortable clothes as Lexie helped her father with the wiring for the television. Their entire lives Ark and Lexie had kept a secret from the world, only their family knew. Shadow wasn't of normal blood. Therefore Ark and Lexie inherited that gene from their father. Shadow's blood didn't even come from Earth, which in term would technically make him an alien. Ark and Lexie would be considered alien androids. The twins were not technically born, Rouge had a miscarriage. However, thanks to science they were brought to life and kept alive in tubes. But since their bodies weren't fully developed when Rouge lost them, many of their bones were made of light metal and specific types of glass. The two of them even had a small hole in the back of their necks; It acted as somewhat as a plug-in for. With it they could access the internet and someone could hack into their minds. Their bodies were complicated, but they never knew anything different, so it was normal to them. They certainly were special children, especially Ark. He was next in line to inherit the throne his father currently ruled over. The blood that ran through Shadow's veins was that of royalty. He didn't quite get along with the being of which he blood originated from. This led to a revolt when he was younger, and in the end he wound up with power over half of the planet in which his technical 'father' ruled. In doing so many civil wars sparked up. Shadow was needed for his planet, he developed a way of communicating with his army from earth via satellite when he was only a teenager. This way he can take care of his people, and be with those he loves. Shadow's rule made Ark a prince, and Lexie a princess. Shadow had been training Ark be become the next king since he was only five years old. Ark learned the ways of their people, self defense and strategizing for war. After twelve years of practice, Ark was pretty talented in the arts his father taught him. Sometimes it was hard for him to keep it all secret, especially in gym class. He wasn't quite sure when the day would come that his father would step down from his responsibilities, but when that day came, Ark would be ready.

Ark sunk into the warm bathwater and sighed heavily. Shadow worked him to the bone when it came to physical training. He reached over the side of the tub to the pocket of his jeans that lay on the floor. He pulled out a pack of cigarettes and placed one between his lips. With a flick of his lighter it was lit; he inhaled deeply and flicked his ashes onto a used wet washcloth. He brushed the hair out of his face and leaned back. "Sometimes, the nicotine just won't cut it." He creased his brow and wet his lips. "The girls come easy and the drugs come cheap, when you know the right people and wear the right clothes. Have the right attitude and enough cash and you can get whatever you want in life. Its sad that's how the world really works. A pretty face and nice body can work wonders, sad but true. Every teenage girl obsesses over her weight, thinking the skinner she is the more boys will like her, sad but she's right. Every boy thinks he needs to be thin and have money, good looks run our world. If you want a pretty one you have to be pretty yourself." Ark laughed to himself, "I was born with a pretty face, and worked for this body, I deserve all the attention I get. Lexie is beautiful, I never quite understood why boys aren't all over her. I guess its because of her bookworm personality, she doesn't put herself out there enough, she doesn't try to show people she can be fun. No one wants to hang out with a boring beautiful person. It might be fun at first, but you quickly tire of them." He sighed, "I should stop talking to myself." He finished smoking and washing in silence, threw on some boxers and entered his bedroom.

He flipped his cell phone open to reveal that he had thirty eight missed calls. His eyes widened, most of them were from the same girl. He didn't even know her, or did he? He brushed it off, he got too many calls from too many different women too often. If he wanted to talk to them, he would call. He kicked his feet as he looked across his room at a picture of his Dad and Sonic he had on his dresser. Sonic was his step-dad, Shadow fell in love with him when they were just teenagers. In the picture Shadow had a big smile on his face and a peace sign from his hand. Sonic had his arms wrapped around his dark lover, the two of them were at the beach, around the age of eighteen. Ark never took to time to really pay attention to how much like his father he was. When Shadow was a teenager he had just as many if not more piercings than Ark. Ark knew his dad had tattoos but he never asked to see them, as if it was an invasion of privacy. Ark never really asked his dad much about his past, Ark was little when Shadow was young so he didn't remember what his Dad went through. Half of it he probably kept secret anyway. Shadow's eyes held such depth. He had the eyes of a man that had been to hell and back, he never found happiness easily. Despite the torment Ark assumed he endured, Shadow found happiness in his azure lover. Which is the only reason he stayed with him, Shadow was never one to stick to anything too long, unless it was dearly important to him.

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There may be some errors in this, I'm not quite sure because my editor... no longer edits my stories cause she is lazy and I don't want to beg her to do it T\_T... so I'm just going with it now ^.^