

Trans Girl VS The World

Chapter 3

By Tyfa Robinson

Maya is looking at the noose she hung, crying, coughing, and gagging. She clutches her head.

Maya: (I can't do this anymore! Everything hurts! I just need to die! I-)

Maya's phone rings. She tries to compose herself quickly.

Maya: Griffy?

Griffy: I saw your posts on Twitzler. Please talk to me.

Maya: Griffy... I don't know what to do... I want to die.

Griffy: Do you want me to come over and take you to my house?

Maya: Yeah...

Griffy: Stay on the phone with me, okay?

Maya: Okay...

Griffy: I love you so much. Please stay safe until I get there. I'm on the way now.

Maya: Everyone would be better off if I was dead.

Griffy: I know what you're going through is really tough, but I want to help. Nobody important would be happier if you were gone.

Maya: But I'm beyond help...

Griffy: That's not true, there's so much you haven't tried yet, you're 16. Life always changes, one day you'll be living in a house with me and we can adopt wonderful kids and be good moms with a family.

Maya: I'm so sorry. I'm such an idiot. I'm so stupid, my brain doesn't work.

Griffy: Maya, it's okay. You're smart and kind and loving. You help your friends whenever they need it. You've got dreams and goals and aspirations. You're a wonderful girlfriend and person. It's just chemicals in your brain and your toxic environment. You'll get better I promise.

Maya sniffles and coughs.

Maya: Okay.

Griffy: I'm here now. Come outside and I'll walk you to my place. Don't hang up 'til you're with me outside.

Maya: 'Kay.

Maya heads downstairs and puts her hand on the doorknob.

Dad: Where are you going, shitstain!?

Maya: Fuck off!

Maya runs out the door, grabbing Griffy's hand.

Dad: I'll fucking kill you if you don't get back here!

The two run through the rain to Griffy's house. They pant when they arrive and creek open the door.

Mrs. Night: Griffy? Maya? What's going on?

Maya starts bawling and snot drips from her nose.

Griffy: She's really hurt...

Mrs. Night: Calm down, Maya. You're safe here. Tell us what happened.

Maya and Griffy huddle close.

Griffy: Do you want me to tell them?

Maya: Y-Yeah...

Griffy: Maya's parents found out she was buying E, so... they beat her up. This isn't the first time they've done this either. She was going to hang herself...

Mrs. Night: I'm... I'm so sorry, Maya. Please, let me get the first aid kit.

Maya: When he pulled out a knife I ran upstairs and hid in my room. He broke the door down and I kicked him in the nuts, so my mom came upstairs, helped him downstairs, and called me the devil. I shoulda just let him kill me...

Mr. Night: I'm gonna kill the bastard!

Mrs. Night: Calm down, Jeremiah! Maya, I'm calling 911, you need medical and psych evaluations. They'll deal with your parents and notify CPS.

Maya: Don't! I don't wanna be put in foster care! They'll hurt me more if this happens! I just... I just...

Mrs. Night: Maya, as an adult this is my responsibility. I'm obligated to do this morally and by law. I could get in serious trouble knowing this and doing nothing about it. You're not going to be put in foster care, I won't let that happen and I'm going to make sure your parents can never touch you or another child ever again.

Maya sniffles as Mrs. Night calls 911 and Mr. Night sobs in a corner.

911: 911, where is your emergency?

Mrs. Night: 51 North 11th Street.

911: Okay, and what is the emergency at 51 North 11th Street?

Mrs. Night: I have a 16-year old girl in my house who's been beaten and bruised by her abusive parents. She claims to have hung a noose in her room and was planning to kill herself. She needs serious medical and psych evaluation.

911: Alright, I've sent a dispatch. Can you tell me the name of the child as well as your name?

Mrs. Night: Her name is Maya Ortiz and my name is Sandra Night. You'll notify CPS and hold them responsible, correct? I'd like to be her new guardian.

Maya gives Mrs. Night a look of surprise, while Mrs. Night looks at her worried.

911: We can't guarantee that but we'll try our best to make that happen, and we'll certainly investigate and most likely arrest her parents. Do you happen to know where she lives?

Mrs. Night: She lives at 21 North 10th Street. Maya told me he picked up a knife, she hid in her room and he broke the door down. She kicked him in the testicles and her mom helped him downstairs and called her the devil.

911: Can I talk to Maya?

Mrs. Night: Yes, you can talk to her, that's fine right?

Maya: Yeah.

Mrs. Night hands Maya the phone.

Maya: Hello?

911: Hello, Maya. Officers are on their way. We're gonna have them take you to the hospital, get you checked out and get you safe, okay?

Maya: I've been there before, I just... need the help.

911: It's a good thing you told a trusted adult. Officers should be outside now, so I'm gonna hang up and they'll come inside.

Maya: Okay...

Two officers knock on the door and Mrs. Night opens it so they can come in.

Officer #1: Which one of you is Maya?

Maya: That's me...

Officer #2: Do you have any weapons or personal items on you?

Maya: Just my phone.

Mrs. Night: I'm Mrs. Night and this is my husband and my daughter.

Mr. Night: You're gonna arrest her parents, right? If we had known sooner we'd have stopped this! To think these sick people could harm a child! They could've killed her! This girl is like a daughter to us! If we lost her, I'd...

Mr. Night tears up a lot and Maya frowns as she looks at him.

Officer #1: Our first priority is the child's safety, sir. I understand how you feel, if anyone harmed my daughter's girlfriend, I don't know what I'd do. A second unit will be dispatched once the child is safe in the hospital. We're suspecting the perpetrators will be violent when we arrive on the scene so we're well prepared to make an arrest.

Maya: He owns a gun...

Officer #1: Thank you for letting us know. Are you ready to come with us, Maya?

Maya: Yeah...

Maya gives Griffy a hug and the officers escorts her outside into the back of a vehicle. The two police cars drive away.

