

## Chapter 16 - Caitlin's Vision

“Okay,” Sirius said quietly as they snuck back to Hogwarts. (Remus had the camcorder tucked into his pocket.) “How’d he manage to get the camcorder to play like that if it was still in the Shrieking Shack?”

“That’s something I’d like to know,” Remus said.

“I’m not an expert on Muggles, but I have heard of camcorders. Apparently, you put a blank disc into the camcorder and it records like a movie. If you want to play what you’ve shot, you have to take the disc out.”

“Wait. Did we check this for the disc?” Sirius asked suddenly as they stopped walking.

Remus pulled out the camcorder and opened a little door on the side. A silver, round disc with a hole in the center was still inside.

“He could’ve had spare,” James offered.

“The only way we’re going to know is if we view it,” Remus said blandly. “When we get back to the dorm we’ll take a look.”

They headed back to Gryffindor tower and up to the boys dorm. They headed to Sirius’ bed and sat down on it. Sirius opened a little screen that swung out to the side and hit the ‘play’ button on the piece. They watched as a little movie began playing out. They saw Peter come into view and he began speaking to the camcorder.

*“I’ve been working with the Slytherins to try and ruin Michelle’s reputation. I have a great plan, but I only hope that it goes accordingly. I never liked her. She was always a know-it-all and loved to run to Remus for help. “Oooh help me! Please help me I can’t defend myself without the wolfs help! I’m such a wuss.”. Please, we all knew Remus had a hard on for her the whole six years he’s been at Hogwarts. He just never had the balls to tell her how he really felt. James and Sirius have decided to be nice to her in fear of losing Remus. So, they wanted to make amends with the slut. She says she’d never had a boyfriend before, but I don’t know about that. I’m planning on showing this little movie to everyone during a dance or something. What a hoot that will be!”*

Peter’s image laughed as he placed it behind the books, but it was a large enough gap that they were able to make out the fireplace easily.

The next scene shifted to Remus and Michelle.

Remus felt his throat aching at the sight of her.

*“Here,” Remus said as he saw himself heading over to a large trunk against the wall. He opened it and reached in, pulling out a long sleeved mans shirt. “Change into this and then put your clothes near the fire. They should dry in no time.”*

They saw Michelle take the shirt and disappear into the bathroom. They saw Remus pulling off his damp clothes until he was bare-chested and sitting in his boxer shorts. He grabbed a blanket and wrapped it around him. That’s when Michelle emerged from the bathroom dressed in the shirt. She took a seat next to him.

Remus didn’t want to look at anymore of this, especially since he knew what was coming but he had to know what Peter was up to. He saw Michelle’s shy expression and that’s when he heard himself say that he wasn’t naked under the blanket that he was in shorts.

Remus had asked where Peter had gone and Michelle had responded that she didn’t know. Then Remus saw himself tickling Michelle after the brief conversation and that’s when she fell back onto her back on the hearth rug.

“We don’t need to see what happens next,” Sirius said gently as he hit fast forward. The scene now had Remus and Michelle the next morning hurriedly getting dressed and they headed out of the room. About fifteen minutes later, a rat appeared and soon Peter appeared in human form.

*“This is totally going to destroy their reputation,” Peter was saying. “I’m gonna give this copy of the disc to Snape. He’ll get a boot out of it!”*

All three of them pulled their eyes off of the little screen and looked at one another. They knew what each other was thinking...Snivellus was going to die in the morning.

The next morning, Remus, James, Sirius, Emma, and Lily were sitting at the Gryffindor table. James and Sirius explained to Lily and Emma what’d they’d seen on the camcorder.

“Good Lord!” Lily said wide-eyed. “That’s horrible! I can’t believe Peter did such a thing, let alone work with the Slytherins to destroy someone...and Severus...he’d been so nice to Michelle...why the sudden personality shift?”

Remus fell silent. He’d had an idea as to why that was.

“Remember how Severus tried to tell Michelle about me? Perhaps he was angry that she didn’t believe him.”

James had a ‘doe eyed’ expression on his face. “That could mean that maybe he liked her too?”

“Gross,” Sirius said, wrinkling his nose in disgust. “Imagine what Snivellus would do with her?” He shivered voluntarily.

“It’s the same thing I did with her,” Remus replied sharply.

“I mean, it’s Snivellus,” Sirius elaborated slowly. “I didn’t mean anything against Michelle.”

He gave Remus a big puppy dog expression that was filled with genuine remorse.

Remus sighed.

“Look, that’s the only reason I could think of,” he said gravely. “He liked her, too, and when she didn’t believe him, he wanted revenge on her.”

“I swear I’m going to punch the shit out of him,” Sirius said, slamming his right fist into his left palm.

“What a horrible person,” Emma said, shaking her head. “To do something like that toward another person.”

“Snivellus isn’t human,” Sirius explained patiently, as though he were explaining to a chilled that one and one equals two. “He’s a pod person.”

Emma giggled.

Remus’ eyes shifted to the Slytherin table. Severus was sitting at the table eating his breakfast. Remus’ eyes filled with such a hate that he was worried that a jaundice arc had begun creeping in around his iris’.

Emma saw the jaundice arc creeping around Remus’ iris’. She was scared as she’d never seen that in him before. The others seemed to have noticed it too because Sirius leaned close to Remus.

“Easy mate,” he whispered. “Your eyes are starting to change.”

“I don’t care,” Remus growled vehemently. “*HE’S* the reason Michelle is dead!”

Emma looked at Remus alarmed. She was hoping he wouldn’t do anything rash...well, it was too late for that. Remus already had a plan formulating in his head.

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When the bell rang, ending breakfast, Remus immediately got up from the Gryffindor table and grabbed Severus, pulling him into an empty classroom. James, Sirius, Lily, and Emma were with him. They closed the door behind them and stood around blocking the exit. James and Sirius had their arms folded over their chests. Remus grabbed Severus by the front of his uniform and banged him up against the wall.

“*You are the reason that Michelle is dead!*” Remus snarled angrily.

Severus sneered. “I don’t know what you’re talking about, Lupin.”

“I’m talking about *this!*” Remus reached into his robe and pulled out the camcorder. He flashed it under Severus’ nose.

Severus’ expression changed from a sneer, to fear, and then back. “Congratulations Lupin, I wasn’t sure you’d be into kinky things.”

Remus’ hand moved to Severus’ throat and squeezed. His eyes were narrowed into slits.

“Whose idea was it?” said Remus.

Severus gasped and struggled to reply.

“WHOSE IDEA WAS IT?” Remus bellowed out angrily.

“Remus, easy, pal,” James said, looking at him with concern.

They all knew Remus was extremely enraged, and he might do something foolish and spontaneous and not think clearly.

Severus finally managed to find his voice.

“It was Peter’s,” he wheezed out. “Peter wanted to teach Michelle a lesson because she was hanging out with you. He didn’t want her to...he strongly felt that she was a loser and didn’t deserve to be with you.”

Remus was nearly grinding his teeth at this point. Emma could almost see him foaming at the mouth. Emma stepped forward and put a hand on his arm. She looked at him with sad eyes, as she knew that hurting Severus wouldn’t bring Michelle back. Remus glanced at her, still enraged. He was still breathing heavily with a furious temper. Emma just kept her eyes on Remus’ and didn’t take her hand off of his arm.

Still, Remus was not calming down. He turned his attention back to Severus.

“Why wasn’t the camcorder picked up before? And how’d you manage to get the movie to play even though the camcorder was still in Hogsmeade?” Remus growled.

“Peter didn’t have a chance to get it,” Severus wheezed, shutting his eyes and hoping that the oxygen didn’t stop flowing to his brain. “He was killed that night in the Hall remember? He had a spare camcorder. That’s the actual one he used that night.”

“Where is it?” Remus demanded.

“I don’t know,” Severus said.

Remus tightened his grip on Severus’ throat.

“I’m going to ask you again...where is it?” Remus snarled, his eyes narrowed into slits.

“It was destroyed that night in the fire!” Severus wheezed even more. “It was in Peter’s pocket! But with the fire, it melted!”

“You’re lying,” Remus said.

“No,” Severus choked out.

“Remus please,” Emma pleaded with him. “Let him go.”

“No,” Remus said. “I want to hurt him just as much as he hurt me.”

“I didn’t want to hurt Michelle,” Severus wheezed. “I was going to talk him out of that prank! I thought it was too cruel, but he didn’t listen to me at all.”

“Remus, please,” Emma said, still keeping her chocolate brown eyes on Remus. “Please let him go. Hurting him won’t bring Michelle back.”

“Yeah, but it’s making me feel better,” Remus retorted.

“Please,” Emma pleaded again, stepping closer to Remus. “Let him go.”

Her tone softened even more.

Remus looked at her. He was still enraged and released Severus. Severus was bent over gasping and sucking in air frantically. He was wheezing as he tried to suck in the air. In temper, Remus grabbed Emma’s arm just above the elbow and roughly turned her to face him.

“Ow,” Emma said, wide-eyed. “Remus, you’re hurting me.”

“I hope you’re happy,” Remus spat at her. “He needed to be punished for helping Peter kill Michelle.”

He roughly released Emma’s arm and stormed out of the classroom, the door slamming behind him. Emma glanced down at her arm. A bruise in the shape of fingers had formed.

James, Lily and Sirius all left after that. They went to classes, but Remus wasn’t there. It was strange since Remus hated missing classes. He had always panicked if he was late.

They still didn’t see him at dinner, either. They were beginning to get worried about him now. They headed back to the Gryffindor common room and found him sitting on the couch, staring into the fire. Emma could see tears swelling in his green eyes. She gingerly touched her arm where Remus had grabbed her. She felt a tingle of fear running through her body.

“Remus? You okay, mate?” James asked tentatively.

“I’m fine,” Remus grumbled. “I’m sorry I lost my temper back there. It wasn’t me.”

“We know, pal,” Sirius said gently. “You were just angered at the thought that Snivellus had something to do with the prank.”

“Wait...he never actually admitted to taking part in it...did he?” Lily asked confused.

“He didn’t have to,” Sirius said. “We know it. Pod people give off vibes.”

Emma didn’t crack a smile at that, but Remus’ lip twitched.

“Their brains are also mush,” he offered lightly.

“Remus we KNOW how much you loved Michelle...we loved her too...and yes we know not like you loved her, but still. We miss her incredibly too. But I don’t think she’d want you to beat the stuffing out of Snivellus.” James said kindly.

“Yeah I know,” Remus said quietly. “You’re right. I was just so angry.”

“We know,” Lily said kindly. She went over to him and gave him a hug. “Good night, weirdo,” she teased.

Remus chuckled.

James gave him a brief hug, too, before heading into the boys’ dorm. Sirius gave Emma a kiss on the cheek before following James. Now, it was just Emma and Remus alone in the common room.

Remus immediately began feeling guilty about how he had just grabbed her. When he saw the bruise, he felt even worse. He got up and went over to her, standing in front of her.

“Emma, I’m sorry,” he apologized with remorse. “I never meant to hurt you like that.” He gently touched her arm. He felt her recoil slightly and that broke his heart.

“It’s-it’s fine,” Emma stammered, as though she was a deer caught in the headlights. He could see her shaking violently.

“It’s not fine,” Remus said. “I should’ve never grabbed you. I know a salve that will take care of that bruise.”

He ever so gently took her arm. At his touch, she froze even more as though a shotgun was pointed directly at her.

“I’m fine,” she said, yanking her arm from his grip. “I’m going to bed. See you in the morning.”

She brushed past him and headed to the girls’ dorm. He angrily kicked at the couch, now angry with himself for grabbing her so hard. He felt so horrible. He headed to the boys’ dorm.

The next morning at breakfast, Caitlin was sitting at the Hufflepuff table eating porridge. She glanced over at the Gryffindor table. Emma was sitting, talking with Sirius. Lily and James were talking but Remus looked horrible. He looked guiltily at Emma before lowering his eyes to his breakfast. Caitlin was curious to see what happened. Emma had caught Remus looking at her and she had this frightened expression on her face like a doe before turning her eyes back onto Sirius.

Remus pushed his food away and just crossed his arms on top of the table. Caitlin gathered up her things and headed over to him. She sat down beside him.

“Why the long face?” she asked with concern. “Is everything okay?”

“I wish,” Remus grumbled and proceeded to tell Caitlin what happened. She listened with interest and didn’t interrupt him which he was grateful for.

When he was done, she spoke.

“Severus didn’t participate in it,” she explained. “Peter told him his plan and forced him not to tell. He WANTED to tell you lot what Peter was up to, but Peter threatened him that if he told, he would tell the whole school that Severus forced him to go a head with the plan. He blackmailed him.” Caitlin said gravely.

Remus felt bad about grabbing Severus’ throat now, too.

“I just made a complete mess of things,” Remus moaned, letting his forehead hit the table with a ‘thud’.

Caitlin chuckled and put her arm around his shoulders. “Try not to worry. First of all, Emma’s just a little scared of you right now. See, her biological father used to hit her. So when you grabbed her, it brought back some memories.”  
At that, Remus raised his head.

“Come again?” he asked slowly.

Caitlin nodded. “When Emma was three, just before they gave her up for adoption, her biological father used to hit her...he abused her. Michelle never mentioned that?”

Remus shook his head.

“Probably just the same,” Caitlin said. “Anyway, when you grabbed her, it brought back a lot of memories...bad ones.”

Remus didn’t know if he could feel any worse if he tried.

Suddenly, Caitlin’s head turned to the left and she stared off into space. Her body went rigid as the swirling cloud of blue and white came before her eyes. Remus knew that look. She was having a vision.

When the vision was over, Caitlin's body jumped slightly and she blinked several times.

"Oh...my...God," Caitlin said as fear crept into her coffee colored brown eyes.

"What's wrong?" Remus asked worriedly. "What did you see in the vision?"

Caitlin swallowed and looked directly at him.

"Let's just say history is about to repeat itself," she said solemnly.