**Discovering Melanie**

by Cave

**Discovering Melanie Ch. 1**

After a morning of classes and a quick lunch, I’d finished the week’s assignments early during the communal study hours. It was just a few weeks into my first year of college and I was still living with my parents.

Student housing was so difficult to come by and like a dummy I hadn’t placed myself on the waiting list a year in advance. It wasn’t a big problem though, as my parents lived just 15 mins away. On the upside, this saved me some money.

On my way home, I looked at the sky, clear blue skies, great! For early September it was still surpsisingly nice and warm, like late summer weather. As soon as I got home, I ran upstairs. Mom and dad were still at work and wouldn’t be home for at least an hour.

Not wanting to waste time, I got out of my clothes, standing in my room completely naked. For a moment I imagined myself going out into the backyard like this, but knew I couldn’t do that. Instead, I grabbed one of my shorter skirts and a thin sleeveless button down blouse. Putting on the skirt and pulling on the blouse, I made my way downstairs again. Nervously fingering the top buttons, I left them open, allowing the blouse to open up, exposing the upper part of my chest.

I sat down in one of the lawnchairs, facing the sun and partly away from the gate to the backyard. The yard was completely enclosed, only a gate at one side of the house. I didn’t want to risk anyone coming in seeing me without warning. We have some high trees around the garden, but there wasn’t a perfect spot where they blocked the view from the houses on both sides. I’d chosen a location where at least there was partial cover from the neighbouring houses.

This had become a regular event for me over the summer. Whenever I was home by myself, parents at work or otherwise not home, I’d try to catch a moment by myself outside in the sun.

Laying back in the chair, the butterflies in my stomach were out in full. I delighted in the feel of the sun on my bare legs, arms and face. Feeling the need for more bare skin, I pulled up the blouse to bare my tummy and pushed down the skirt so it rested on my hips. Not wanting to cover more of my legs, I rolled up the top of the skirt, making it shorter.

I’d gradually become more daring over the summer, seeking the edge of decency, often crossing it.

One…two…three times? No that was too much as with a rush of excitement I could see my lips peeking out. I quickly undid the third roll, while pulling down the skirt a bit more.

It was now resting lower on my hips, making a little bridge between them.

I could see the inside of my thighs beneath the skirt and it felt incredibly exciting to be so exposed to the elements. The soft breeze passing up my thighs added to the feeling and I spent a moment tracing my fingers over my bare legs below the skirt and caressing the soft skin with the palm of my hands.

Before moving my arms back onto the armrests, my fingers curled beneath the skirt, moving outwards and smoothing it out in the process.

I just loved teasing myself like this and could feel my heartrate increase, face flushed and saw that my nipples were poking holes through the blouse. I pushed up the blouse further up, baring a bit more of my tummy. Closing my eyes, I stayed like that for a while, nervously keeping my hands on the armrests.

Hearing a noise in front of me in the bushes, my eyes flared open. Luckily, it was just a cat making its way through the garden.

This was so bad, I thought, sitting here like this I felt like a sexual deviant. I was getting aroused and absolutely loved it. This is why I rush home early when I could. Unfortunately, autumn was fast approaching promising cold and rain and an end to my fun.

Closing my eyes again, I pushed myself further, nervously spreading my legs a bit more than shoulder width apart. I felt the sun’s touch on my nether regions and couldn’t resist opening another button on my blouse, pulling it further open to the edge of my nipples, lightly brushing them in the process. I felt incredibly sexy sitting there, partly exposed to the world and luxuriated in the feeling.

High on excitement, I occassioally fidgeted with the skirt or the blouse, loving the feeling of the fabric moving over my skin.

After what must have been some ten minutes of this, I heard someone speak nearby.

“Hello”

My eyes shot open, darting around.

“Over here!”

Oh shit oh fuck oh fuck

My neighbour, my friend’s dad, was waving hedge clippers to draw my attention. His head and shoulders rose above the thick hedge and was looking my way.

During our eye contact, I was frozen, like a deer in headlights.

“h…hi”, I managed, barely more than a whisper.

He was looking at me, how long had he been there?

His eyes dropped from my face to my crotch and mine followed. My earlier leg movements had worked up the hem and I could see myself. From his angle he’d see even more, I realized! I snapped my legs together and my hands shot down to my skirt, pushing it down for cover.

Suddenly I felt very hot, blood rushing to my face as I looked at my neighbour again. I had trouble breathing. Seeing the grin on his face that betrayed what he’d seen made it even worse. As his eyes switched between my barely covered breasts and my skirt, I knew he could still see a lot.

My only saving grace was that pushing the skirt down had slightly unrolled it, instead of pulling it down. As it was, it barely covered me.

He started clipping the hedge, occassionally looking my way.

I had to get out of here, but couldn’t let go of my skirt. Can’t he just go away for a moment, so I can get up?

A noise behind me – someone was near the front door, which was on the side of the house. This time fear drove me to action, despite knowing I was still being watched. I quickly unrolled my skirt and pulled it back into position as someone knocked on the door.

“Hey Mel!” I recognized the voice of my friend, the neighbour’s daughter Jocelyn, or Josy. She goes to the same college, but had chosen different classes. We kept in touch, but I had no idea she was home already.

“Hang on, I’ll let you in”, I said as I got up.

My heart was hammering in my chest. She was already walking towards the side gate, but I had to get inside, out of sight of her dad. Panic ripped through me as I realized he’d likely be talking with my parents about this.

I made my way to the backdoor, while fumbling with the blouse, redoing the buttons while trying to not be obvious.

Inside, I quickly checked myself – I was dripping. Grabbing a tissue and carefully wiping the sensitive area, I shouted to Josy, “I’m coming”.

Throwing away the tissue, I thought ‘no pun intended’ with a giggle and opened the door for her.

“er…hi Josy, didn’t know you were home. Finished early as well?”

“Yeah, I saw you were home, so figured we should catch up”

She was home already? Did she see me out back, just like her dad?

I didn’t want to think of what she might have seen and had to push out the thought.

“So, catching some rays? I love the feeling of this September sun on my skin. It’s so nice and warm. Can we go outside?” she rambled on in typical Josy fashion, leaving me little room to respond.

Going back out into the backyard was the last thing I wanted, with her dad still there given the show I just gave him, but I could hardly give that as a reason.

“uhm…” was all I could manage.

“Nice pokies, did you go to classes like that?”, appraising my choice of outfit with amusement in her voice.

Straight to the point. More blushing.

“oh no, I… changed after coming home.” I didn’t know how to explain my reasons for wearing this blouse instead of a bikini if my aim was to get some sun.

Before I could object, she went out the backdoor leaving me with no choice but to follow.

“Oh, hey dad!”, she waved at him.

He waved back at us, continuing his hedge work and I turned yet another shade of red.

We chatted for a while, but I was nervous. My eyes kept stealing glances at Josy’s dad, afraid… afraid of her dad making a comment. After all, he knows I’m not wearing anything under this skirt.

I noticed him glancing our way several times and pressed my legs together, smoothing out my skirt.

What must he think of me, the way I acted? Will he talk about what he saw, tell my parents or Josy? It worried me deeply.

“Hello, earth to Melanie, are you still here?” Josy was waving her hand in front of me.

“Sorry”

“Looked like you were lost in thought, what’s on your mind?”

Evading, I mentioned my parents would be coming home soon, which was true.

“I should get started on homework”, I added for effect.

“I hear you, girl, you don’t want to be caught like that by the parental unit”, she said with a wink, followed by a glance at her dad, which made her shiver with discomfort that mirrored my own. When she talks like this, it’s like she has no filter at all.

Shortly after, we got up to make our way back to the gate. Waving her off and promising to talk later, I went inside.

I decided I’d have to be much more careful next time.

**Discovering Melanie Ch. 2**

That evening during dinner Melanie was on pins and needles, fully expecting to be chewed out for her behavior in the garden. But as she focused on the food in front of her, nothing about this afternoon was coming up. Dad talked about work, mom asked her about classes, nothing special.

The following days were much of the usual, sleep, eat, classes, assignments. No free time at the end of the day, but also no strange questions from Josy or her parents. Had Josy’s dad kept it to himself?

It was exactly a week later that she could get gome early again, and lucky for her it was nice weather. Only a few small clouds in the sky. She’d been getting more and more excited about the upcoming free time.

Though she’d been caught, it seemed like she got away with it, mostly anyway. She tried not to think about the fact that she had been seen by her friend’s dad.

Despite the shame and embarrassment she had felt the previous week, she knew she wanted to keep doing this. Just need to be more careful.

After changing into a similar skirt and blouse as last week, she went downstairs and looked out into the backyard.

Noone there.

After going outside, trying to stay quiet while moving towards the hedge that bordered the gardens, she tried to peek through into the neighbour’s yard. She couldn’t see much, as it was a thick hedge.

How can she be sure noone’s there? She stood there a few moments, hearing nothing but the birds and the soft wind rustling the leaves. Then with trepidation she went to her chair, carefully moving it to her chosen spot, so as to make as little sounds as possible.

Sitting down, she was more nervous than ever before. She was shaking, but also felt the all too familiar excitement bubbling up.

She sat there for a while, toying with the hem of her blouse. It was still all buttoned up. Even if someone saw her now, she wouldn’t have to be embarrassed about the way she was dressed.

The sun was nice, heating her up while the light breeze caressed her legs. In contrast, the heat was building up beneath her clothes and it wasn’t long before she started to feel sweat breaking out. The breeze would feel so wonderful on her skin, would help cool her down.

Again looking around, she listened for any sound out of the ordinary. When she got home, she had checked the neighbour’s driveway – the car was gone. There was no way Josy’s dad was home this time, she reasoned.

Slowly unbuttoning the blouse from the bottom up, she left only the button between her breasts, leaving the blouse loose but mostly covering her.

After a moment, she started opening the blouse below and then above the last remaining button. It hung off her shoulders, her chest mostly exposed.

The heat was not as pressing now and it’s still safe, more or less.

Nothing too private was showing, though it’d be an interesting sight for an observer.

She sat like that for a while, enjoying the combination of sun and breeze on her nearly bare chest. Her thoughts were on that last button, a few times bringing up a hand to toy with it.

She checked the time on her phone. Mom would be home soon, she realized.

Carefully listening for any sounds from the neighbours yards, her mind was on the previous week. she wanted to adjust the skirt again, to have that wonderful feeling of exposure to the elements.

It’ll be another week before she can do this again, if the weather even holds.

Knowing time was limited, she started rolling up the skirt. One, two, three times. She couldn’t stop herself as with a rush of excitement she saw her lips and then her mound come into view and turned it over one more time.

She couldn’t believe what she’d just done. It had been purely on impulse.

The skirt was now barely more than a belt, sitting around her waist. As her heart raced at her taboo actions, she reflected on her current state. Naked from the waist down, sitting out here completely exposed to any possible watching eyes.

Every second sitting like that was scary and exciting.

Still alert to any sound, she knew she had to go back inside soon. Her right hand moved down and she traced her fingers along the underside of the skirt from her waist towards the middle. From there her thumb began the journey south, light touches passing over bare skin, reminding her of how much of her was exposed.

The thoughts of being outside like this, coupled with the feeling of her fingers now passing by her center and down the side over her lips had her excitement skyrocketing as her abdominal muscles flexed and contracted.

Having reached her destination, three fingers took over for her thumb as her middle finger briefly dipped into the slippery wetness.

What must this look like, openly touching myself out here, Melanie thought.

She started slowly moving her hand back up, keeping contact.

With ragged breaths, flushed skin and her left hand firmly gripping the armrest, her finger slipped over the hard button at the top of her slit.

She was getting closer, a whimper escaping her lips, hand making small involuntary movements, adding to the pleasure as she lay back in the chair.

As her thumb was starting another journey down, she heard a rustling on the other side of the hedge.

Panic!

Not willing to wait around fixing her clothes, as in her mind she could already see the neighbour looking out over the hedge, she grabbed her phone and hurried towards the backdoor.

Once inside, she turned around and briefly looked back outside.

That damn cat! She saw the bushy tail disappear into the bushes. It must have made its way through the hedge.

Frustrated, but also relieved she wasn’t seen, she made her way to her room.

Letting herself fall back onto the bed, the immediate memories of what she’d done filled her head. The skirt, still barely more than a belt, had left her completely exposed in her mad dash from the garden.

The fear of being seen, the rising arousal and the nearly naked run back inside… It was a whirlwind of emotions raging through her.

As she was calming down she had to ask herself, why did she escalate like that? Why couldn’t she just enjoy a relaxing moment in the sun like a normal person?

It was then that her phone rang.

Seeing that Josy was calling, Melanie picked up.

“Hello Josy”

“Hey Mel, can I come over? I need to talk to you about something.”

Can she be any more vague?

“I don’t know, my parents are coming home soon and I need to do some homework,” she said. What she really needed right now was some time to reflect on her actions outside.

“Please, Mel? I need to talk to you, but not over the phone.”

What was so urgent, Melanie wondered. Did something happen?

“Oh, alright, but I don’t have long.”

“Yay, I’ll be right over.”

Melanie quickly changed back into the clothes she wore earlier and then checking in the mirror to see if she was presentable, made her way downstairs as Josy knocked on the door.

“Hi Josy, what was it you wanted to talk about?”

“So…yeah…I’ll just lay it out… I just saw you running through your garden. Want to tell me what that was about?” Josy asked, ending with a giggle.

The end of the world.

**Discovering Melanie Ch. 3**

Josy stood there in Melanie’s room, waiting for Melanie to explain why she’d run half naked through her garden just a few minutes ago.

“Ah…what do you mean?” Melanie asked, hoping against hope that she didn’t have to talk about it. She was feeling light headed. What did Josy see exactly?

“Well, there I was just looking out my window and thought I saw movement in your garden. A moment later, I saw you run to your backdoor, dressed…” Josy was silent a moment.

“…or rather barely dressed, I should say.” She giggled.

Melanie didn’t know what to say. Why was the room spinning? She sat down on her bed.

“What were you doing?” Josy asked.

“I don’t…”

“Why were you naked?”

With these few blunt words, the world fell away beneath Melanie’s feet. Josy saw her, even if it was from a distance, she saw everything.

She turned away from Josy. She’d messed up so badly, how could she fix this? Could she try to deny it? Her heart was pounding in her chest.

“I’m sorry”, she said in a strangled voice.

“Sorry? What do you mean?”

“Sorry you saw me like that.” Melanie fought to keep the tears at bay. How could she face her friend now? If only she hadn’t panicked from that stupid cat. If only she hadn’t taken it so far.

“Melanie…” Josy’s tone was soft, kind. Not at all the laughter or ridicule Melanie was expecting.

She felt a hand on her shoulder and she initially recoiled at the touch. The hand stayed on her shoulder and it sent warmth through her body. This simple but gentle touch comforted her, calmed her fears.

“It’s ok, you don’t have to be sorry about that. When I saw you just now, I guess you were spooked by something, but the way you skipped through the garden with your hair dancing around your shoulders looked almost magical, like you were enjoying it.”

Josy was silent for a moment, moving closer and putting her arm around Melanie’s shoulder. She melted into the embrace, feeling acceptance in this touch and desperately wanted to move in for a hug.

“I’m not judging, just curious about what’s going on.”

Melanie turned around to look at her friend. She’d been afraid of being outed to the world. The words that came to her ears were kind words, however.

Though they were friends, they had never been that close, mostly friends of convenience.

Yet perhaps Josy could be someone she could trust, open up to even in this deeply personal matter. Perhaps it wouldn’t be the end of the world to talk with her about it. Would she keep it between them?

Melanie opened her mouth a few times but no words came out. How could she begin to explain?

They heard the front door being opened, then closed again. Melanie’s mom was home.

“Perhaps we can talk about it later. We need some place we can talk about this in private.” Josy said.

Melanie was unsure she wanted to talk about it at all, but nodded. “We’re ok, right? Please don’t tell my parents.”

“Of course, don’t worry. We’ll keep it between us, but I think it’ll be good to talk about it”, Josy smiled at her.

“Okay”, Melanie nodded.

With that they went downstairs to greet her mother and after a gesture from Josy, she followed her out the front door.

“I think I know a good place to talk”, Josy said once they were outside. “Do you know the park road that runs along the houses near the highway?”

Melanie tried to remember the spot. She didn’t pass by there often.

“Yes, but there’s always people going through there. Not exactly a place to talk in private.”

“I know, but there’s a little footbridge where you can cross the stream, just before it joins the river. On the other side is a small area of grass and small bushes surrounded by the streams. The bridge is the only way to get there, so there’s no traffic passing through”, Josy explained.

It sounded like a good place to talk to Melanie.

“When? Tomorrow evening?”

“Saturday morning is better, leaving at 10? Don’t worry Mel, I promise it’s okay”, Josy said, moving in for a hug which Melanie gladly accepted. Hugging so tightly let the emotions wash over her and the dam burst as she felt tears forming in her eyes. After they broke off their hug, she quickly went back inside, hoping Josy hadn’t noticed.

After briefly greeting her mom from the other room, she hurried up to her room.

That evening, Melanie kept going through the day’s events. Josy had seemed so genuine, but in school she was the perennial social butterfly, always talking to everyone about everything.

Would it be better to tell Josy the truth, or make something up? Try as she might, Melanie couldn’t think of a convincing reason for running through her backyard half naked.

Saturday morning, that meant Melanie had one more day to figure it out. One whole day of worrying. No, she decided that day, she’d face whatever was coming her way head on.

That night, it took a long time to finally fall asleep.

Friday came and went. The world hadn’t ended, so whatever happened Melanie would deal with it. Working and socialising with fellow students and talking about ordinary things helped Melanie regain some semblance of normalcy.

Saturday morning, Melanie woke early. The thought of canceling with Josy popped into her mind several times. She still didn’t know how she could begin to explain and whether Josy might understand.

Melanie dressed in faded jeans and a long sleeve shirt. She wasn’t in the mood for shorts or a skirt. Besides, it was cloudy and not very warm this morning. These clothes were comfort food for her mind.

Deciding that canceling would merely delay the inevitable, it wasn’t long before it was near 10 am and she got a text from Josy telling her she was outside.

On their way to the park, they kept the conversation light, talking about the week, plans for the weekend, etc.

Josy seemed casual, while Melanie was anything but. She went from thinking about how to explain to making excuses. Josy should mind her own business what she does in our backyard, she thought.

“It’s over here”, Josy said.

They crossed the stream into the closed off area. There were some grassy spots, as well as some bushy areas. All in all, it was relatively open.

As Josy had explained, it was surrounded by the small streams that split before and joined with the river after the little outcrop. It would be a nice place for a picnic, weren’t it for the noise of the highway on the other side of the barrier on the far side.

There were no benches to sit on, Melanie noticed, but Josy took a cloth out of her bag, spread it out on the grass. Convenient.

“Let’s sit.”

From here, the view to the path was mostly obscured by nearby plants.

They sat down. Melanie fidgeted, unsure where to begin.

“So, how long have you been doing this naked outdoors thing?” Josy asked in her typical no filter style.

Melanie turned towards Josy.

“What? I don’t go traipsing around naked in the outdoors all the time, if that’s what you mean.” Melanie was indignant.

“But you were, Thursday.” Josy looked and sounded genuinely curious this time.

Melanie turned away again, shoulders slumped.

“Yes, but…that was an accident,” she said lamely.

“Uhm, you’ll have to explain that one, ’cause it doesn’t make sense to me. Accident how?”

Melanie stayed silent for a while. What can she say? Josy watched her sitting there.

“This isn’t easy to talk about”, Melanie finally said. Her thoughts were a frustrating mess. Every time she grasped at a thought to put it into words, it slipped out of reach.

“Then how about I ask some questions instead.”

Melanie perked up at that suggestion. That might work.

“Okay.”

“Are you a pervert, Melanie?”

She jumped up to her feet, staring down at Josy.

“Josy! What the hell!”

Josy burst into laughter, while Melanie stood there in shock. However, soon Melanie was laughing along and sat down again.

“But seriously, Mel, try to relax a little.” Josy said, still in humorous mood.

“I’m not a pervert”, Melanie said forcefully. She had to admit that Josy’s crude sense of humor made her relax a little.

“But you enjoy showing a little skin?” Josy asked in a neutral tone.

Still expecting a ribbing, Melanie sat up a little straighter, intent to defend herself.

“Showing skin? As in putting myself on display for others? No, I don’t think so.” She kept a calm tone, then after figuring out how to explain it her tone softened. “I enjoy feeling the sun on my skin…”

Melanie hesitated before saying the next few words, raising her knees and putting her arms around them.

“It’s like a craving”, Melanie said and then quickly turned her face away. She immediately regretted saying it.

Josy thought back to the previous week, when she’d seen Melanie in a similar outfit. Melanie had come from her backyard then as well. Apart from her obvious lack of bra, had she been bare below her skirt then as well?

They’d gone into the backyard again, where she’d seen her dad working on their hedge. She remembered that Melanie had seemed on edge then.

“I see.”

Josy was slowly beginning to understand her friend a little better and was trying to think of ways how she could to help her.

They sat in silence for a while, lost in thought.

“Shall we go back soon? It’s getting a bit warm”, Melanie said. The sun had broken through the clouds and it was steadily getting warmer.

“I’d like to stay a bit longer, if you don’t mind.” Josy, who was wearing shorts, noted Melanie’s atire. “You know, if you’re getting too warm…”, She trailed off.

“What?” Melanie prompted her to continue.

“…you could shed some cover.”

It took a moment for Melanie before she understood the import of those words.

“Here? Now?” she turned red at the thought.

She looked around at their relatively hidden location. If she were here by herself, she might think of removing some of her clothes. In front of Josy was a different matter. Talking about it with her was bad enough.

Maybe she could come back here by herself another time. It was more secluded than her backyard, despite being an open area. So far no one had bothered them there.

“Up to you, I’m just going to lie down for a while”, said Josy.

Melanie lay back as well and let the idea mull over in her head. It’s just the two of them. Could she take off her pants?

She looked to her side. Josy was laying there with her eyes closed, in just her shorts and blouse. Melanie was jealous of Josy’s exposed skin.

Besides, it was getting hot.

She unbuttoned her jeans and as quietly as she could she started moving it down over her hips. It was Josy’s suggestion after all, Melanie reasoned. Not like it’s her own idea to expose herself to Josy.

As her panties came into view, Melanie was glad she was wearing a nice pair, white with some lace around the edges.

After checking that Josy was still laying there with her eyes closed, Melanie worked her jeans down her legs. She already felt the relief from the smothering heat of her tight jeans. She removed her shoes and socks and pulled her feet out.

This is nice, Melanie thought as she laid back. Not much different than wearing a bikini to the beach. Well, panties are not exactly a bikini, but they covered the important bits, right?

She felt herself relax as the familiar feeling of both sun and surrounding air soothed her skin.

“Are you okay there, Mel?” Josy said a few minutes later, startling her.

“Yeah… It was hot, you don’t mind, do you?” Melanie asked hopefully as she pulled her shirt down over her panties.

“If you’re feeling hot, you should remove your shirt as well”, Josy said, closing her eyes again.

“Wait, what?” Melanie was stunned by Josy’s brazen suggestion. Her shirt covered most of her body. By pulling it down, it even covered her panties.

Taking off her pants was borderline. She was still decent, she figured.

Taking off her shirt left her in just her underwear.

Sitting there with her long sleeve shirt, Melanie was thinking how much more comfortable it would be if she removed it.

“Maybe we should go home”, Melanie said, staring at her pants.

“Do you really want that?” Josy asked, raising herself on her elbows.

Melanie thought it over. She didn’t really want to go home yet. She felt that craving she mentioned earlier, but it was fighting against her inner demons.

In school she’d avoided showering after gym class, choosing to rush out early instead. Behind her back she’d heard the snide remarks from some of the more popular classmates, making fun of her lack of curves. Boys never payed much attention to her at that time.

Her friends had told her not to worry about it too much, she’d hit her growth spurt later. But even though she got some curves later on it had damaged her self image. Even in the last few years, she’d avoided team sports so she wouldn’t have to shower in public.

This past summer, she chose to stay home, making excuses whenever friends would go to the lake or beach. She was hoping to make new friends in college, start over without all the bagage, so to speak.

Aware that she needed to get more comfortable with her body, over the past few months she had used moments when her parents were away to go out into her backyard by herself.

Bit by bit she had dared herself to uncover more skin in different ways and found that she enjoyed it. Every time it felt like she expanded her horizon, like a quest of personal development.

But it had all been safe in her backyard. Alone and unseen, until last week, until now.

She was fiddling with the hem of her shirt. Baby steps, she thought.

“No, we can stay”, she said, finally answering Josy’s question.

“Then remove your shirt.”

Not so much a suggestion this time. So much for baby steps.

“Can you turn the other way, please?” Melanie asked nervously.

“No”, Josy said, sitting up and turning her way, “and we’re not leaving before you take it off.”

Where did that come from? Melanie gulped. This was even worse! Her heart was racing and she was trembling. Is this anxiety, she wondered.

“Please”, she begged.

Josy seemed to consider it and lay back down. Melanie watched Josy close her eyes.

She could do this, Melanie thought. With shaking hands, she started lifting her shirt. Josy opened an eye at the sound, a smile now on her face. It was a kind smile, Melanie realized, not a cruel one.

Her arms felt weak. It was a strain to pull her shirt up further and then it went over her head, temporarily shielding her view. It scared her not being able to see and she put more effort into it, taking it off and pulling her blonde hair out, she held it to her chest.

Josy smiled again, taking the shirt from her hands before laying back down again.

“Good on you, Mel.”

Melanie sat there for a few minutes, face red from more than just the heat. It had felt good to hear those encouraging words from Josy.

As her nerves settled her mind went back to her immediate surroundings.

Sitting there in just her matching panties and bra, she felt the sun on her skin. It brought back memories of past days in her backyard and those enjoyable moments.

She could enjoy this too. She lay back down, forcing her arms by her side.

After a moment she felt herself relax in the feeling of the sun on her skin, releasing tension all over her body. Occasionally she heard Josy move around a bit, reminding her she wasn’t alone.

Melanie was happy she could lay there like that. She felt relaxed, comfortable and as the sun warmed her skin she felt the familiar stir deep down inside of her.

“This is nice, isn’t it?” Josy asked after a little while.

Melanie, who’d been relaxed and close to dozing off, was roused by the sound.

“Yeah, it is.” Melanie agreed, she was feeling better and better.

“You know, I was wondering about something.”

“About what?”

“You’re shaved, right? Down there.” Josy asked it in a calm voice, but Melanie was instantly alert again. That came out of nowhere.

“What?!?” Melanie said, opening her eyes to see Josy sitting up, looking at her.

“I didn’t get a good look the other day from my window, but I could tell you didn’t have much hair down there.”

Melanie blushed, didn’t know what to say.

“Can I see?” Josy asked. Melanie turned even redder.

“How can you ask that? And why?” Melanie didn’t know what to make of that question. Why would Josy want to see.

“Just curious, I suppose. A learning experience?” Josy asked.

As strange a request as it was, it intrigued her. Besides, she’d already laid bare her secret earlier. She couldn’t ignore the butterflies that awoke in her tummy.

“I guess…” Melanie said, wondering what Josy was playing at. However, she didn’t move her hands.

Josy waited for Melanie to say more. Nothing further forthcoming, she shrugged and figured Melanie just needed a little push.

She moved closer to Melanie, who couldn’t believe Josy was so bold, then took the waistband of her panties between thumb and index finger, which prompted a sharp intake of breath, and pulled it up to take a peek down at Melanie’s mound.

Melanie’s heart raced, still unsure how to react. Was Josy really just looking down her panties like it’s the most normal thing in the world?

“I can’t see very well”, Josy said after a moment. She moved even closer and said “Lift your hips.”

Melanie, feeling light headed by the surreal situation, felt compelled to comply as Josy took hold of both sides of her panties and slowly dragged them down.

“What…what are you doing?” Melanie found her voice. Realizing her panties were getting pulled down by her friend, Melanie’s head was filled with conflicting emotions.

She couldn’t believe she was letting Josy do all this to her. Somehow it felt right to just let her do her thing and be a passenger along for the ride.

It was strange getting undressed like this, in an open area freely accessible to anyone. The risk of someone walking in on them fueled both fear and excitement and somehow being a passive participant in her own exposure enhanced the experience.

Yet she didn’t think she would trust a guy to do the same to her.

She had no feelings of attraction towards Josy and as far as she knew, Josy was the same. What was Josy’s motivation in all this? Could she trust her?

Josy pulled the panties furter down than Melanie had expected and stopped short of exposing her clit, letting the waistband rest on top of it. She slowly reached out her hand and to Melanie’s surprise let her fingers glide over the smooth skin.

“Nice and smooth. Did you do this for your boyfriend, or a potential partner?” Josy asked as she continued to touch her, yet she still sounded like this was nothing out of the ordinary. It lit a fire inside of her.

“No, not for anyone. I…don’t like hair down there, so I remove it.” It was unreal, talking to Josy and being touched like that.

“Where are your tan lines? You’re a bit lighter down here, but I don’t see any distinct lines.” Josy asked, as she looked closely at Melanie’s pubic area.

Melanie was amazed at Josy’s brazen behavior. The touches and close attention sent tingles throughout her body. The question about her tan made her nervous and she was unsure how to answer.

“I uh… I may have experimented a little over the summer.”

“Ah”, The vague answer seemingly satisfied Josy, as she continued looking for a moment before laying back down again. “Thank you for showing me.”

The sun, the open air, the exposed skin and the touches had Melanie high on arousal. She felt herself squirming with her legs and Josy seemed to notice.

“Are you okay, Mel?”

“Uh huh.”

“Is this turning you on or something?” She asked in an amused tone.

“No!” she lied as embarrassment washed over her.

“Are you going to fix your panties?” Josy asked, amused that Melanie was just laying there and not doing anything about it.

“M… maybe later.”

Being exposed like this was exciting her and while talking about it was embarrassing, the direct attention to her state of undress increased the level of excitement she felt.

“Hmmm, let me then. Lift your butt.” Josy sat up and moved closer again. Melanie did as she was asked, letting Josy take control again, though she felt a pang of disappoinment that her fun time was over.

However, instead of pulling her panties back up as Melanie had expected, she gasped as Josy began pulling them further down.

“What…what are you doing?” asked Melanie in a high pitched voice as her bare lips were exposed and she felt her panties go past her knees.

Josy didn’t answer as she pulled Melanie’s panties further down and off her feet, putting them next to her bag.

“How does it feel, Mel? To be naked except for your bra, here out in the open.”

Melanie moaned, her arousal skyrocketed “Oh fff… why did you do that?”

“Haha, enjoy it, Mel”, Josy said, “Wow, it sure looks like you are!”

“Don’t look!” Both hands shot to her pussy, where she felt her own wetness. Damn, she was sensitive.

She lay there like that for a minute trying not to move her hands before begging “Please put my panties back on.”

“Why not do it yourself? They’re right here. I Have another suggestion though, just turn over on your stomach”, Josy said.

“What if someone comes, they’ll see me!” Melanie said, as she turned over.

“We’ll be able to hear them coming.” Josy said as she unclasped Melanie’s bra.

Melanie felt a touch her shoulder and as if understanding the unspoken command, she lifted her upper body. After allowing Josy to maneuver her arms through the straps of the bra, she felt Josy pull it away.

“Josy!” Melanie exclaimed. She was now completely naked.

As she lowered herself back down her hard nipples grazed the cloth sheet Josy had brought and it sent a wave of pleasure through her body. She bit her lip as she barely supressed another moan.

“You’re a strange one, Mel, a naked strange one” Josy said with a laugh and ignoring the question.

Melanie let out a long drawn out sigh. How did she end up here like this?

The whole experience had her high on arousal, yet underneath it all it felt liberating.

The fear of someone walking up to them dominated her thoughts, but Melanie couldn’t deny how amazing it felt to lay there in the sun, completely naked.

During all her backyard adventures, she’d never dared to go this far. It was new and exciting and still very scary.

They lay there for a while, in silence except for the noise from the highway and the rustling of leaves in the wind.

“Cute butt”, Josy said after a while. “Shall we go home soon? I’m sure we both have a lot to do today. Last chance to get some sun on your front.”

“Don’t look please”, said Melanie as she turned over on her back. She saw Josy briefly looking her over as she fought to keep her arms by her sides. “Stop staring!”

“If you’re like that, perhaps I should take my leave and take your clothes with me!” Josy threatened.

“No!” Melanie sat up, reaching for her clothes.

Josy laughed and then said, “relax, I’m kidding, but maybe we should take a few pictures to remember this day.”

Melanie shot her an warning look.

“Maybe next time”, Josy said as she checked the time on her phone. Melanie kept an eye on her till she put her phone down to make sure she didn’t start taking pictures.

They lay there for another 15 minutes before leaving.

Though Melanie was extremely nervous someone might walk up to them, she was enjoying every minute of it. Somehow Josy’s presence didn’t bother her so much anymore.

“I hope you know you can trust me, Mel.” Josy said as Melanie was pulling on her panties.

“Aside from your cruel jokes? Yeah, I think so.” Melanie said as she put her bra on her B-cup breasts. “Hook my bra for me, you know the one you took off me earlier. I can’t believe you undressed me.”

“I know, but it was fun, wasn’t it? I hope that doesn’t make things weird between us. I was just trying to give you a little push”, Josy said, blushing.

“Really? You’re the one blushing?” Melanie asked incredulously. She laughed at how ridiculous it was that it was Josy who was embarrassed.

“Yeah, we’re fine”, she said as she pulled on her jeans.

It was time they headed home. Melanie took one last look around at the place where she’d been naked just a few minutes ago and shook her head in disbelief.

They crossed the footbridge and Melanie checked the time again. It was just past noon, lunchtime.

“So, since we’re fine, does that mean photos next time?” Josy teased.

Melanie shivered as she imagined Josy taking pictures of her in various states of undress. Would that be pornography, she wondered.

The idea of having someone take pictures of her naked and outside excited her, but she would be destroyed if the pictures ended up online or worse, seen by her friends and family.

“Absolutely not…maybe…no, stopping putting these thoughts into my head.”

“I can’t wait to tell my friends about this.” More teasing.

“Enough already!” Melanie was getting exasperated as Josy laughed.

They walked in silence for the rest of the way. When they were nearing home, Josy spoke up again.

“Do you want to come over for lunch?” she asked.

“Uh, yeah, sure. I’ll just hop in and let my parents know”, Melanie said. “Wait, will your dad be there too?”

“Saturday lunch, he usually joins”, said Josy, stopped walking and added in a wary tone “Why?”

Melanie turned red again as she walked a few steps further. She looked back at Josy who was standing there with a stern look on her face.

Melanie realized she shouldn’t have asked it like that. Why hadn’t she just casually asked if her parents will join for lunch. Now how will she get out of this.

“Maybe it’s better I don’t join for lunch.”

Judging from Josy’s frown, that too was not the right way to get out of it.

“Should I run for it?” she asked Josy with a nervous smile.

**Discovering Melanie Ch. 4**

Melanie and Josy were standing on the sidewalk in front of their houses after returning from their long walk and talk.

After a couple of slip ups, Melanie had seen no way around telling Josy how her dad had seen her sunbathing just over a week ago.

“You’re kidding! My dad saw your pussy?” Josy exclaimed, she seemed upset.

“Shhh! Please keep your voice down!” Melanie urged, looking around to see if anyone was nearby. Inwardly Melanie cringed at hearing ‘dad’ and a reference to her pussy in the same sentence.

“Sorry. This is… disturbing. I can’t believe my dad saw you.” Josy said in a low voice.

“I know, I’m so sorry, I didn’t mean for it to happen”, Melanie said, genuinely apologetic.

Josy was silent for a moment, seemingly considering the matter. Then she looked Melanie in the eyes.

“I’m not okay with this, but I accept that you didn’t mean for it to happen.”

“I really didn’t”, said Melanie vehemently. She was really worried about upsetting her friend. “I don’t think I should join you for lunch.”

Melanie anxiously watched Josy as she seemed deep in thought. She saw the frown on Josy’s face slowly turn into a smile, one that had an edge to it that made Melanie uncomfortable.

“Like I said, this is kind of freaking me out, but I’ll give you an opportunity to make it up to me. You’ll come to lunch with us, but I have a few conditions. One of those is you’ll have to agree before I tell you them”, Josy said with a wide smile.

Melanie wanted to make it up to Josy. She felt she just gained a friend, but she very much did not like the idea of agreeing to conditions before knowing what they were.

“Don’t worry, it won’t be that bad”, she added as she saw Melanie’s troubled expression. “You might even like it”, she added with a wink.

Melanie certainly didn’t like the sound of that last part. However, she decided she would suffer through it if her friend deemed it necessary.

“Okay”, she said.

“You’ll have to say you agree to the conditions.”

“I… I agree to the conditions.”

A shiver went through her, what did she just agree to? It was still just a lunch, wasn’t it?

Josy laid out her instructions to an increasingly wide-eyed Melanie.

Ten minutes later, Melanie nervously rang the neighbor’s doorbell.

She was wearing the same blouse as she had last week in her backyard only this time with a sensible bra underneath. She also wore a mid-thigh wrap skirt that left a small indent mid front where it overlapped. Flip flops completed her look.

All in all, it was a casual outfit suitable for lunch. Yet Melanie was fidgeting. Josy had told her to wear this to lunch as part of the conditions.

Josy opened the door and let her in. After greeting Josy’s parents and 20-year-old brother Mark, Melanie followed Josy upstairs.

“We’ll be right out”, Josy told her family, who were already setting the patio table for lunch. “I just need to check something”, she said to her family, giving Melanie a wink.

Melanie gulped and nodded, following Josy into the bathroom.

“Show me”, Josy said as she locked the door.

“Wait, why is your brother here too?” Melanie asked. She had thought the lunch would just be with Josy and her parents.

Mark had moved for his studies to a different city a few hours away. She’d always been a bit intimidated by his presence.

“He sometimes visits over the weekend”, said Josy as she looked at Melanie expectantly.

Blushing furiously, Melanie followed Josy’s request. She lifted her skirt letting Josy see that she wasn’t wearing panties.

“Good girl”, Josy smiled. “Now let’s go downstairs and have a nice casual lunch. You can let go of your skirt.” The last ended in a giggle.

What we do for friendship, thought Melanie ruefully as they walked back downstairs.

“That’s a cute outfit, dear” Josy’s mom said as they walked outside.

“Thanks, Mrs. Walker”, said Melanie, glad she didn’t know all the details.

“Please, call me Anne.”

The patio table was one of those iron framed glass tables, Melanie noted, suspecting this was part of Josy’s plan. She was extra careful with her skirt as she sat down.

She glanced at Mr. Walker, afraid that he’d recognize the blouse as the same one she’d worn that fated day.

At least Josy had allowed her to wear a bra under it. It wouldn’t do for her ‘pokies’ to show at a family lunch.

“We had a nice walk through the park, but Mel was wearing too many layers”, Josy explained to her family. “She complained about the heat, so I suggested she change for lunch.”

Addressing Melanie, she added “You should try to be more comfortable with yourself, Mel, show some skin.”

Melanie was shocked at Josy’s play of words, right in front of her family. What was she playing at? Is she planning to expose her, either literally or figuratively?

“I’ll say I must agree”, Anne said as they got seated. “You’re a gorgeous young lady, Melanie. Be comfortable with who you are, whatever you are wearing.”

Melanie blushed furiously and her eyes shot to Josy, who barely suppressed a snicker. She hadn’t missed the hidden meaning in those words either.

Shifting her eyes to Josy’s dad, Mr. Walker, she saw a knowing smile on his face. This was awful, how was Josy ok with all this?

Melanie felt naked sitting there bare under her short skirt and she silently begged for a change of subject.

“Thanks for letting me join you for lunch”, she said as she took a slice of bread from the platter offered by Anne.

“You’re always welcome here. We haven’t seen you much the past year”, said Mr. Walker.

He’s almost as bad as his daughter, Melanie thought in never ending embarrassment. What’s with this family?

“Are you feeling alright dear? You look a bit flush” Anne asked.

“I’m… I’m fine. Just a bit warm from the sun”, Melanie replied nervously and then quickly added “It’s nice to have this late summer weather, isn’t it?”

Talking about the weather, really? Melanie could slap herself but managed to refrain from doing so. Her comment did trigger an odd look from Mr. Walker however, which renewed Melanie’s blush.

“It’s real nice, but the weather won’t hold. They say we can expect rain this week”, said Anne.

Melanie was disappointed the nice weather was coming to an end. Well, at least it would mean she wouldn’t get caught out again any time soon.

“That’s probably for the best”, she said and saw all four heads turn her way. She realized in horror that she’d said that out loud. Josy was barely suppressing her mirth and Mr. Walker raised an eyebrow.

“What do mean?” Mark, Josy’s older brother asked.

“Uh… I mean, rain is good for the vegetation. It’s been dry lately.” Melanie said lamely.

To her relief, there was agreement around the table. She was also glad that conversation turned to more casual subjects, though she was nervously pressing her knees together.

She half expected hi-jinks from Josy, some attempt to expose her, but to do that in front of her family would be too much, right?

After lunch, Josy and Melanie cleaned up while Josy’s family went inside.

Just as Melanie was reaching over the table to grab a plate on the other side, she felt her skirt being lifted from behind.

She yelped and struggled to move upright from her overreaching position. Josy had now lifted her skirt high enough to expose her butt. She was using a kitchen utensil to do it.

Melanie slapped it away, but before she could fix her skirt Josy slapped her bare ass with her hand, causing Melanie to yelp. As she fixed her skirt, her head turned to her right, towards the kitchen.

Mark was standing there staring at her slack jawed as he had a perfect profile view of her.

Melanie was utterly stunned and felt the heat in her face.

“Hey Mark, whatcha doin’?” Josy asked her brother as she lifted Melanie’s skirt again, this time with both hands.

Feeling her skirt going up like that sent Melanie’s heart racing, but she was too shocked to do anything. She saw the grin on Mark’s face as she felt her skirt go up around her waist and a shiver went through her body.

She sensed Josy standing behind her and felt the hand on the right side let go of her skirt, followed by fingernails trailing down her right butt cheek before retreating, triggering another shiver.

\*Smack\*

The second slap on her ass broke her out of her trance.

Another yelp and she turned to pull away from Josy and the house and bolted with her skirt still around her waist.

Unfortunately for her, the backyard had no exits, except at the side of the house.

She stopped at the side hedge that separated their gardens and fixed her skirt. It was the same hedge that was recently clipped.

She felt hot and her heart was pounding in her chest.

Had Josy seriously just done that? She couldn’t believe it. She’d just been exposed, and her naked ass spanked in front of a guy.

Not just any guy, but the two years older neighbor she’d known most of her life.

That’s now the third of the Walker family who’d seen her in a state of undress, she realized.

“Sorry, Mel, I didn’t plan on doing that, but the opportunity was too good to pass by.” Josy said as she walked up to her.

Melanie looked up and didn’t see Mark anywhere.

“Josy…” she sighed loudly.

“Now tell me you didn’t enjoy any of that.” Josy said.

Melanie sank to the ground. She felt exhausted and embarrassed beyond measure, but surprisingly no real anger towards Josy.

What she did feel was disbelief. She hadn’t believed Josy capable of doing something like that.

She felt Josy’s hand under her arm, pulling her up. “Come, let’s sit over there. I’ll clean up the rest of the table later.”

Josy led her to two chairs near the rear of the garden and they sat down. It was a nicely shaded area, she noticed. Mr. and Mrs. walker probably used this place to relax.

“No, I don’t think I enjoyed that”, Melanie said as she felt her heartrate slowly return to normal. She didn’t ask Josy why she did it as she thought she already knew.

Instead, she asked “Do you have any idea what that does to me?”

“It’s difficult to imagine, but I can see it in your face”, Josy answered, still amused.

Melanie took a long deep breath.

“Can you please stop taking it to such extremes? I think it’s killing me”, she said. These shocks to her system couldn’t be healthy, she figured.

“But you did like it.”

Melanie didn’t want to answer that, so they sat there silently for a little while.

She got the impression that Josy wanted to continue that line of conversation.

At some point, Mrs. Walker let them know they were going out and whether they wanted to come along to the local department store. They rejected the offer.

“So, we’re good now?” Melanie asked. “My redemption complete?”

Josy laughed, “yeah, Mel, we’re good. We were good before, you know. But thank you for indulging me.”

Melanie thought about these words from Josy. Indulging her? Is Josy getting some form of enjoyment from this, just as Melanie was?

Though unsure whether that bothered her, she was positive she needed to dull the edges that made Josy put her through these extremes.

“Your brother”, Melanie said after a while, worried. “Will he keep this to himself?”

“Mark? He just saw his sister and a friend playing a prank on each other, harmless fun. Besides, he didn’t see much… I think. Just me spanking you twice.” Josy said, ending in another laugh.

“Did you see the look on his face?” Josy asked shortly after.

Melanie didn’t respond. She had seen it. He’d obviously enjoyed looking at her ass. Perhaps she did have something guys enjoyed looking at and it made her feel a bit better.

“If you’re really worried, I can have a talk with him”, said Josy, mistaking Melanie’s silence for worry.

“No, it’s probably better left alone.” Melanie decided.

As Josy had said, it probably looked like a practical joke, even though not entirely harmless in Melanie’s opinion. Additionally, Josy talking about it with her brother might make it worse than it is.

“You know, I’d say let’s move our chairs into the sun, but we both know what would happen then”, Josy said.

“And then we can cross your mom off the list as well”, Melanie responded without thinking.

Why had she just blurted that out?

“List?” Josy asked.

“Never mind, I should go home”, Melanie said, nervously looking towards the side gate, but Josy was not letting her get away with it that easily.

“Wait, wait, wait, do you mean as in members of my family who have seen you?” Josy laughed, then continued “Actually, Mark only got a side view of your ass and just a brief rear view, I think.”

“Don’t remind me!” Melanie felt the heat rising to her face all over again.

“We should correct that by going inside to find him right now. I’m sure he wouldn’t mind”, Josy continued on, obviously amused by an increasingly reddening Melanie who didn’t bother to respond.

Not long after, they decided they’d wasted enough of the weekend already. They both had assignments and chapters for the next classes to study, so Melanie went home.

After all that stress earlier, she felt surprisingly relaxed working on her assignments and was able to finish them all faster than expected.