## A week later Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014

#### West Ridge

In retrospect, it was probably overdue.

Mindy started to get complacent and she let her guard down. She never even realised that she was doing it. Thankfully, she supposed, she found out during a sparring session and not during a fight with a hundred ninjas. It had been a week since they had gone out with Shadow. Naturally, Chloe was itching to go out again, but as Mindy already knew, Chloe was a stubborn bitch, just like Mindy and she was not taking no for an answer. Chloe also wanted to try some 'real' fighting with 'real' cunts. Therefore, the idea had been to show Chloe that she was not ready.

It was a Saturday morning and Chloe was on the mat, in her white aikidogi. Mindy came down the stairs, in her similar, but black aikidogi, ready to fight. Abby was over on the couch. Chloe's friend was looking forward to seeing a 'real' fight. Dave was upstairs, on the phone to Marcus about the Harley.

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Mindy and Chloe squared up to each other.

"So, you wanna play," Mindy growled.

"No, I wanna win," Chloe growled back.

Yes, the little bitch had learnt to growl, really well, too, in Mindy's opinion.

"Anything goes," Mindy challenged, and she allowed Chloe to open.

The thirteen-year-old began with a front kick which Mindy easily deflected. Next, came a roundhouse kick which, again, Mindy was able to dodge with a flip backwards. Mindy then returned the favour and she spun her protégé around and down onto the mat, but Chloe kept a good grip on her mentor, and she smoothly flipped Mindy around before she then pinned Mindy to the mat. Mindy felt Chloe's pressure on her ease, only slightly, then Mindy took advantage as she grabbed Chloe's leg, pulling her down and that allowed Mindy to roll out from under Chloe who was then flipped her over onto her front while Mindy kept her right arm bent behind her and vertical. Chloe yelled out in pain and Mindy eased her hold before she allowed her friend to stand up.

Chloe was raging, and Mindy could see she that was in pain, but the girl simply ignored it. She sprang towards Mindy, who flipped Chloe high over her head, but Chloe caught herself and expertly landed on her feet, before she reversed herself and skidded onto the mat and swept Mindy's feet out from under her. Chloe then continued with her attack, striking Mindy, none too softly, in her back and it was Mindy's turn to yell out in pain. Chloe let her mentor up with an evil smirk.

Mindy, understandably, was angry and her first decision was to wipe that shiteating smirk, off her protégé's face. Mindy ran at Chloe, who dodged and threw Mindy down hard, over her shoulder. 'Fuck that hurt!' Mindy thought to herself as she absorbed the pain. They both got back to their respective feet and adjusted their aikidogi, then squared off again. They both raged, and Chloe still had an evil smirk on her face.

Before Mindy knew, what was happening, Chloe threw a very powerful punch into her left side and then as Chloe allowed her weight to settle on her rear leg,

she lifted the other leg to the side and whipped it at the knee, which drove her foot into Mindy chest.

The veteran vigilante flew backwards and then she felt nothing.

"You've killed Hit Girl!" Abby screamed.

"Mindy!" Chloe screamed.

'What have I done?' Chloe thought in horror as she ran over to Mindy who was lying on her side, one arm out in front of her and she was out cold. Chloe's kick had sent Mindy into a pillar just off the mats; she could see a hole in the plaster where Mindy's head had hit. She had also heard something crack, when she kicked her.

Dave came thundering down the stairs.

"What the fuck is going on down here!?" he demanded and then he saw Mindy. "Fuck! What happened?" he asked, looking directly at Chloe.

"I kicked her a bit too hard," Chloe replied dejectedly, and she could feel tears running down her face.

"Don't worry," Dave said. "Shit happens - at least around here it does!"

Dave knelt down beside Mindy.

Mindy did not look good. Dave pulled Mindy, carefully, onto the mat and laid her on her back. He checked her head and he could see a large bruise, plus some blood from a few cuts. She was well and truly knocked out, but her breathing was okay, for the moment. A minute or so later, Mindy's eyes flew open and she took a deep breath, then she screamed, and tears started to pour down her face.

"What the fuck!?" Mindy yelled, when she had finished screaming and then she passed out.

"Oh dear, I must have missed something!" Dave commented as he undid Mindy's aikidogi and he was a little shocked by what he found.

Mindy's left side was badly bruised and there was a lot of bruising and swelling on the right side of her chest. The bruise spread from below her collar bone, down to below her right breast.

"Abby, three ice packs, fridge over there," Dave instructed, and he pointed at the kitchen a few yards away.

Abby jumped up and she came back with three ice packs moments later. Dave pulled out a knife and cut off Mindy's sports bra, before placing a thin towel over her chest, followed by two ice packs, which he held in place with bandages. He applied another towel and icepack to Mindy's left side, again held in place with a bandage. He then placed a blanket over her and left her to rest. Chloe was sitting on the couch, sobbing her eyes out. It was obvious that she was feeling immense guilt.

"It was an accident, Chloe . . . shit happens." Dave said, as he sat down beside her.

"Do you remember what I said, two weeks ago? *Injuries are a part of our lives*. She will be fine, believe me. She may kick your ass, when she wakes up, though!" Dave said with a smile and Chloe hugged him, still crying.

When Chloe finally stopped crying, Dave asked her to help him get Mindy upstairs, to bed. He picked up Mindy and took her upstairs, to their bedroom, where Chloe helped get her trousers off and into bed.

Chloe stayed in the bedroom, sitting on the couch, while Dave went downstairs to tidy up and Abby went home.

#### Two hours later

Mindy screamed, and Chloe ran over to her and knelt beside the bed.

"Mindy, it's Chloe . . . you okay?" she asked.

"Stupid fucking question!" Mindy growled.

"Sorry," Chloe tried.

"I owe you a fucking kicking, bitch!" Mindy growled, angrily.

"I'm really sorry, Mindy. It was an accident; I didn't mean it. *Please* believe me!" Chloe begged, and she felt tears as they began again.

"Fucking cut it out, you evil bitch!" Dave said to Mindy as he came into the bedroom.

Mindy glared at Dave, but then she relented.

"Sorry Chloe. I didn't mean what I said. Not many people get to put down Hit Girl . . . congratulations!" Mindy said, magnanimously.

"I still feel guilty," Chloe said truthfully.

"I'll be fine. Really! I just need some rest," Mindy said with a grimace.

"Can I stay tonight?" Chloe asked.

"No problem, kid," Dave said and smiled at me.

# The next morning Sunday, March $2^{nd}$

### West Ridge

"You are a damn good fighter, Chloe," Mindy said.

"I didn't mean to hurt you, I just got carried away," Chloe said. "But, you did say 'anything goes'."

"I did, didn't I?" Mindy replied. "Not the first time that my mouth has got me into trouble."

"Nor the last, unfortunately," Dave suggested as he sat down beside Mindy.

Mindy had awoken that morning in a lot of pain. Dave had changed the ice packs and the swelling was going down, slowly. The bruises though, were horrific, Mindy had also broken at least two ribs, and those would take time to heal. She did, however, feel sorry for Chloe. It was not her fault; she had just caught Mindy out. Chloe was a very good fighter, especially when she was all riled up.

"Am I ready?" Chloe asked, defiantly.

"Well, I'm fucking stuck here for the duration, so you'll have to shadow Kick-Ass," Mindy replied. "If he wants a cocky little bitch with him."

"It'll be just like you were there with me, then," Dave commented as he looked directly at Mindy, with an evil smirk.

"Fucking cunt! Ow . . . that fucking hurt!" Mindy yelled as she gripped her ribs.

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