

Genesis Beach Book Excerpt

“Don’t tell nobody nothin’, little darlin’”, the raspy voice whispered close to my ear. I jerked away, but the long bony hand grabbed me, and the long nasty green nails bit into the skin on my arm. I could feel hot breath in my hair as my earlobe was licked. I bit a finger, and the hand released me. I screamed at the top of my lungs as I ran outside in a storm and could barely stand up. Something hit me in the face, but I continued to try to run. The hand—no, two hands now—began shaking me hard, and I fell to the ground.

I awoke to Pepper pulling at me. We were both beaten by the storm’s wrath and soaked by torrential rain. Pepper wrapped herself around me so I couldn’t run anymore. I stared at her for a moment and then began to shake violently.

“Logan! My God! You scared me half to death. What is it? What the hell is going on?” I could only blink at her. She pulled me to my feet, and together we made the laborious trip back to safety.

Once inside, Pepper breathlessly told me I’d screamed out several times—a lot of nonsense—and the only words she made out were “stay away” and I bolted for the door, somehow unlocked it, and ran out into the hurricane. I’d been hit in the ear by piece of shingle, and I’d bitten her finger when she grabbed me. We dried off and sat quietly for a while, Pepper watching me as she doctored her bite. I rocked on the floor and tried to recover....This bony hand was driving me mad. I wanted relief from the overwhelming feeling of impending terror I couldn’t explain. I felt totally wiped out. And I’d stressed Pepper with my behavior, but there was nowhere to go.