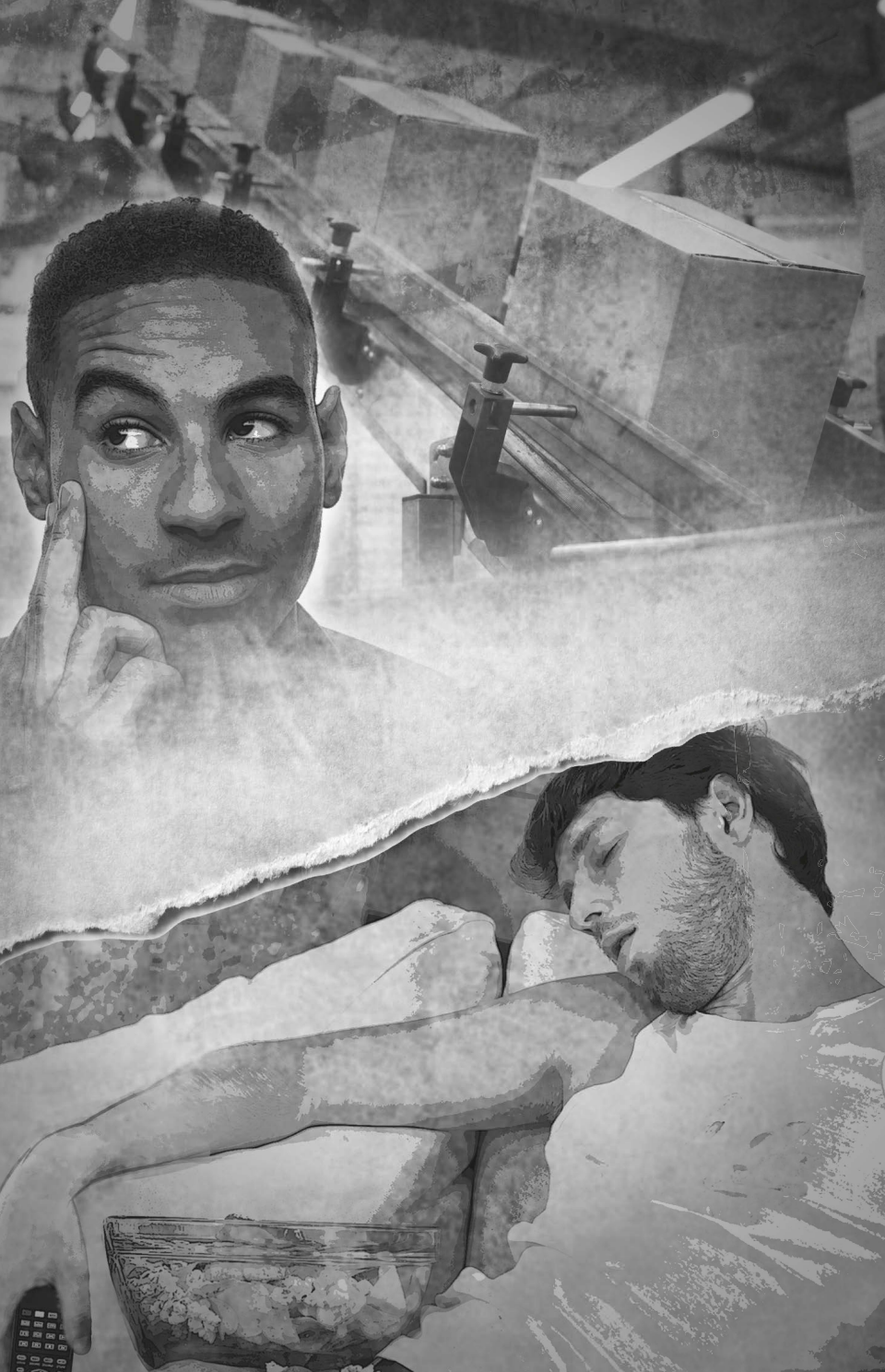


 **WARNING:**
MATURE CONTENT

BK 2 **TRIPPIN'**

THE ACCIDENT

PJ GRAY





A FRIEND'S GIFT

Troy left the shelter. He found a job and took classes at night. During the day, he worked at a meat packing company. He found a cheap place to rent. After a while, he bought a used car.

Troy tried to save money, but it was hard. He did all he could to stay off the streets.

Justin left the shelter a year after Troy.

Justin tried to keep a job. But he did not like to work. Soon Justin was back on the streets.

Troy and Justin still talked on the phone. Sometimes they met for dinner. They liked to eat burgers at a diner. Troy always paid for their meals.

"I got a call from Cash," Troy said, eating his burger.

"Cash?" Justin asked. "What's up with him?"

Cash was a friend from the shelter. He had moved to a town called New City. He got a job at an auto parts plant.

"Cash is having a New Year's Day party," Troy said.

"Cool," Justin said. "I wish I could go."

"Why don't we go?" Troy asked. "I can drive."

"Dude, I wish I could."

"Why not?" Troy asked.

“You know I’m broke. I can’t help pay for gas or food. I have no job. I don’t even have a phone.”

“Why not go with me?” Troy asked.
“What keeps you here?”

Justin looked down.

"I want you to go with me," Troy said.
"It's just one night. I will take care of gas
and food. We can crash at Cash's place."

"Okay," Justin said. "Let's go see Cash
and have some fun."





HITTING THE ROAD

It was the last day of the year. The air was cold outside and getting colder. Troy drove to Park Street. It was in a bad part of town.

Justin was outside of a house. He was waiting for Troy. Justin had no bag with him.

Troy unlocked the car door. Justin got in.
“Are you ready?” Troy asked.

“I’ve been ready all my life.”

They laughed.

Troy stopped to get gas. He bought some snacks for the road. Then they drove out of the city.

"Where does Cash live?" Justin asked.

"He lives about five hours away."

"Do you know the way?" Justin asked.

"Yes," Troy said. "He called me and told me. I wrote it down."

Troy gave Justin a slip of paper with some notes on it.

Justin was silent.

"What's up?" Troy asked.

"I have never done this," Justin said.

"Done what?"

"Left the city."

"For real?" Troy asked.

"No joke. This is my first time."

"I never knew that," Troy said.

BK 2 TRIPPIN'

Troy found a job and bought a car. It was time for a road trip. Justin tagged along. But a terrible snowstorm changed their plans.

⚠ WARNING:
MATURE CONTENT

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