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1,036 words.

<Ravenous>

by <Growing Desires>

## Chapter 4

The next morning her belly had gone down, it was the weekend and Ellie was off work. Unfortunately, I was not. My alarm roused me from my slumber, but Ellie was still very much in the land of dreams. I spent a few minutes rubbing her body, feeling the differences she was keen to show to me yesterday. The more I focused on it, the more I realised she was right, she had gained a few pounds.

My second alarm started to vibrate, and it made me spring into action. I got ready and met my uncle outside my house.

The day was long, and I hadn't heard from Ellie all day. I sent her a message in the late morning, hopeful that my message wouldn't wake her up. She left me on read, so I knew she was at least alive, but presumably she was too tired to deal with the world in any meaningful sense.

By late afternoon I was a bit more concerned with her lack of messaging. I sent another and I didn't even get a read indicator.

*She can't still be asleep, can she?*

My uncle dropped me off and handed me a wad of cash.

"You've done well this week, there is some extra there for you." He told me as he dismissed me.

"Thank you!"

He shook his head stubbornly. “You’ve earned it, enjoy the rest of your weekend, I’ll see you Monday.”

I nodded and closed the door, he sped off, eager to get home to watch the game tonight.

Opening the door to our place, I could smell the aroma of food, quite a bit of it.

*Maybe Ellie made food for when I got home...*

I pondered for a second.

I never told her when I would be home...

Walking into the kitchen I saw pans boiling, but I also saw a few plates in the sink. I struggled to remember if I had done the washing up last night before I fell asleep on the sofa or not.

I cast my eyes over to the dining table and there were place mats set up with cutlery.

Maybe she did know... Usually weekend work is variable but... I guess this is normal time...

Yet Ellie was nowhere to be seen.

*Where is she?*

I headed towards the living room. I walked in and saw quite a few discarded snack packets on the side table. It wasn’t until I fully entered the room was I able to see Ellie. She was sitting on the sofa, leaning back with a bag of crisps resting on her stomach, which appeared to be bloated once again. Before I could utter a word, Ellie spoke.

“I know, I’ll ruin my food...” She giggled, taking another handful of crisps. “But I really have just been so hungry today, I swear I am going to eat everything in the house.” She stared at me for a moment. “I don’t know what’s gotten into me, I am just so ravenous.”

I didn’t know what to say, I just cast my eyes over her and took in the sight before me. Something I never thought I would see Ellie doing on a Saturday, sitting in front of the TV eating crisps before dinner with a stuffed stomach.

The sound of water boiling over the pan and burning on the hob made Ellie jump up, almost throwing the crisps to the floor, she rushed into the kitchen. I noted that she was looking like she had been eating all day, but she didn’t look bigger than last night, or the day before actually.

I joined her in the kitchen, after she had the over boiling water under control.

“I am making meatballs; hope you don’t mind.” She turned and smiled.

She gave me a good view of her profile, the swell of her belly making her look like she was in the first trimester, purely because of the contrast of her stomach vs her whole body. If Ellie noticed my gaze, she certainly wasn’t saying anything about it.

“We’ve not had meatballs for a while.” I tried to make small talk to move away from the swollen elephant in the room.

*Three days in a row...*

Ellie smiled. “I know! I had a hankering for them. How was work?”

“Good, my Uncle paid me extra for the tough week.”

“That’s great! Maybe we can go back to that buffet sooner than we thought.”

“Yeah maybe...”

*Food again... What is going on?*

We chatted for a while before food was served, it didn’t take too long but after seeing Ellie’s serving my eyes went wide.

“What?” She said.

“That is a lot of food.”

“I told you I’m hungry.” Ellie smiled before starting to eat from the overfilled bowl of pasta.

I struggled to eat my food, not because I wasn’t hungry, but I kept watching Ellie, amazed at the pace in which she devoured her meal. I was even more shocked when she got back up and had seconds.

*How is she doing this...*

After she had polished off the second serving she leaned back in the chair, her stomach was pushing out so far that her pyjamas were separated in the middle. Giving me a clear view of her belly. I stared as she rubbed the top of her stomach.

“You’ve hardly touched yours.” Ellie said, looking over to me for the first time since she

started eating.

“Sorry... I guess I am just not that hungry.”

“Oh, I’ll eat it, save it going to waste.”

Shocked, I pushed the bowl over to her and watched as she ate the remainder of my food too.

*Ravenous doesn’t even begin to describe her...*

I took the plates from her after she had finished and placed them in the sink before returning to my gluttonous girlfriend. I helped her to her feet, and we made our way to the sofa’s next door in the living room. She cuddled into me, her hand rubbing her stomach, presumably to soothe her. I couldn’t take my eyes off it; it was so drastic a change but there was something else going on. Something I couldn’t put my finger on yet.

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