

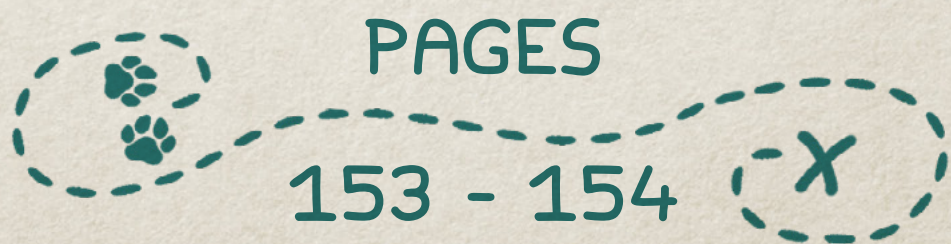
WITH LITTLE PAWS WE TODDLE AFAR

A Babyfur Regression Adventure

CHAPTER 7

A Pack of Mall Rats

PAGES
153 - 154



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As Raz and I enter the temple, the light grows dim. All I can make out is the silhouettes of the hanging apparel lining the stone walls of the hallway. Tiny beams of light radiate from pinholes in the ceiling, but not enough to fully light the hallway. Strange sounds echo out from within the darkness. Surprisingly, the creepy environment begins to scare me a bit as I feel my diaper become warm with fresh dampness. *I tell myself, You're a big boy, Asher... be brave, you're a big boy.* I squeeze Raz's little fabric paw tightly as we continue to walk forward. He looks up at me and smiles, "Pfffff... Is the little baby scared?" I angrily lash back at Raz, "Nu Uh! I'm not scared! You're scared!" I don't help my argument as I pop my paci into my mouth and begin to suck it for comfort. Raz chuckles, "I'm just messing with ya Kid. Don't worry Buddy. There's nothing to be scared of." I feel a little better hearing Raz's words and squeeze his paw a little more. I look back down at him, "I really wish I had my nightlight right about now." As the words leave my mouth, a little torch appears in my free paw. I can't believe it. I just thought about light and my imagination did the rest. Now able to see in front of me, I'm a little more confident about my decision to enter the clothing rack.

Wanting to break the eerie silence, I begin to talk to Raz. "I wonder what treasures this temple holds? I wonder if it's gold... or jewels... or better yet, TOYS!" The thought of finding toys within these walls fills me with excitement. I begin to get a skip in my step, then the skip turns to all-out jumping. Unable to control myself, I childishly hop up and down as I squeal out, "TOYS! TOYS! TOYS!" The sound of my outburst echoes off the walls. Raz yanks on my paw, "Easy Asher! You'll bring the whole place down! Use your inside voice, Squirt!" I giggle a bit and lower my voice. I then soggily skip forward as we continue our conversation. "So Raz, have you remembered anything new about your past or getting me back to normal?" Raz ponders, then shakes his head. "No, not really. There's one thing I find puzzling though. The pawful of times your mom has measured your height since regressing, it seems to be slightly less. But, it could just be inaccurate measurements. It's a Kid's dinosaur-themed height cart after all. Not exactly a precise scientific measuring tool. Then there's that guy Barnabus who your parents keep mentioning. I feel uneasy when they bring up his name. It seems familiar to me... Bah! Probably nothing." Raz laughs, "I'm surprised you're ready to grow back up, Asher. You seem to be enjoying the fact that you are little again. You're always giggling and laughing. You seem full of energy and wonderment. Are you still wanting to give all that up?"

Raz's words stir up conflicting emotions within me. I stop walking and begin to twist my little sandals on the stone floor. "Well, I do REALLY love being little again. I mean, I adore the attention and being taken care of. I don't miss using the potty and would much rather stay in my diapers. They're just so comfy! I like having my paci and baba back too. They're all very comforting and make me feel secure. It's also cool to use my imagination again and play with my toys without a care in the world. I love being little again Raz, but... but..." Raz begins to laugh, "But what Kid? Seems like you have everything in the world you ever wanted. You're living your dream and embracing your deepest desires. What else could you possibly want? Do you want to be an adult again?" I begin to twist my sandals again as I blush and become embarrassed. "Well... no I don't want to be an adult, but... well yeah... I uh... It's not about what I want, but uh... who... Uh... well..." I begin to feel more awkward and decide to change the subject. "Never mind, Raz. Forget I said anything." Wanting to just get on with our adventure, I look back up and begin to scan the perimeter. It's now that I realize the hall of the temple looks the same as when we started. "Hey Raz, are we going in circles? This all looks awfully familiar. Maybe we should turn back?" Raz nods his head, "Yeah that might be a good idea Kid. I'm sure your pals are worried about you." Hearing Raz, I begin to get worried as well. "Oh man, Jess and Jenn are probably worried sick. I really shouldn't have wandered off without them. I'm... I'm not a big boy anymore. I... I need them to help me and watch over me." I hasten my pace as we wander through the dark hallways that never seem to end. As I toddle along my steps become more of a waddle as my sagging diaper gets heavier and warmer. My anxiety grows as I realize that we

might actually be lost. We continue to walk further... and further, but the halls all look the same. I become flustered and begin to panic. "Oh no Raz, I think we really are lost! What are we gonna do? How are we gonna get out of here? My eyes begin to water. Raz can tell that I'm getting upset, so he wraps his little arms around my leg. "Calm down, Asher. It'll be okay Kiddo. We'll find our way out of here. I promise." While Raz's words are appreciated and welcomed, they do little to calm me down. I try my best to hold back my fear and tears, but after a few moments, I completely break down.

I drop to the floor with a huge *SQUISH* as my thickly padded, yet soggy diapered butt hits the floor. Tears and snot run down my face as my pacifier falls from my mouth and I begin to wail out, "WHAAAAA!!! MAMA!!! DADA!!! WHAAAAA!!! I want Mama! I want Dada! WHAAAAA! Trying his best to calm me down, Raz begins to pat me on the back. With a worried look on his little plush face, he begins to attempt to calm me down. "Shhh, it's okay Asher. We'll find your friends soon." He then grabs my pacifier and shoves it into my mouth. I begin to suck wildly like the little baby I've become. Still overwhelmed with emotions, I curl up into a little ball on the floor and I continue to sob as drool all over myself like an infant. Just when I think all hope is lost, I hear something from afar. It's a familiar voice. "Asher! Asher! Are you here, Asher?! Where are you, Asher?! As the voice gets closer, the temple walls slowly begin to disappear. My imagination is pushed to the back, as reality springs forward once more. I look around to see that I'm in the center of a circular clothing rack and lying on the carpeted floor. Whether it's the one I originally entered or a different one, I cannot tell. I sit up and listen again for the voice. "Asher! Where are you, Asher?! Are you here, Asher?! Everyone is looking for you! Where are you, Asher?! As the voice becomes closer, I realize who it is and my heart fills with joy. I wipe the tears from my face and push back my sniffles now knowing that I have been found. From behind the guard of my pacifier, I babyishly yell out, "I'm here! I'm here!"

