***Lyddie***

***Chapter 19 – Diana***

With Rachel gone Lyddie felt a new sense of loneliness.  She knew that she had been alone before Rachel ever got there but somehow now that she had had Rachel there it felt even worse for her to have left.  Lyddie missed her company and friendship.

As the days wore on at the factory, Lyddie found herself wondering why she was working so hard.

It was now mid-July and Lyddie realized she had not really spoken to Diana much since she had been dealing with her own problems.  Lyddie started to notice that Diana looked sick, tired, and sore at work.



A few times Lyddie saw Diana and tried to talk to her.  Once, she even told Diana that she was thinking about signing the petition.  Lyddie thought Diana would be so excited to hear this news, but instead Diana just said "Well, we'll see" and walked away.

One night, Lyddie asked where Diana was and someone told her that she was having a meeting at Number Seventy Six and that Lyddie was welcome to go if she wanted. Lyddie got to the meeting and it had already started.  She was confused by what the girls were talking about, but soon met a woman named Mary Emerson.  Mary told Lyddie that if she wanted to sign the petition she would have to wait until next year.  They had already submitted the most recent petition to the government.



Lyddie is upset that she can't sign the petition and tells Diana she is sorry that she came so late.  Diana tells her that it's not her fault and that she understands why she waited.

Then, Diana tells Lyddie that she is going to go away to Boston.  Lyddie is so confused. The factory has always been so importantt to Diana, why would she leave?

Then, Diana tells Lyddie that she has to leave because she is pregnant and it is against the rules of the factory. Also, she tells Lyddie that she must have the child by herself because the man who she was with is actually married.



Lyddie is shocked by all of this news.  She realizes the man Diana is talking about must be the mysterious man she saw Diana with that summer night a year or so ago.

The next week, Diana was gone and rumors were spreading around the factory that Diana had left while she still could before being fired or blacklisted.

Lyddie was worried about Diana and hoped that her and the new baby would be ok on their own.