

Also that night, Jane and Anna slept peacefully, with Felicity between them. The girl had requested it just for this one night.

Sexy role-playing between the women would have to wait. It was not a problem. For it was the role of mother that each *most* enjoyed, after all.

Though the bed was huge, the three cuddled together in the middle, as a unit, clutching one another.

And as she fell asleep, gazing out the picture window at the sky, Jane recalled one of her favorite literary lines, but for once not from Shakespeare. It was Dante's last verse of *The Inferno*, spoken by the author as he and his guide surfaced after their harrowing journey through Hell:

*"E quindi uscimmo a riveder le stelle."*

"And so we emerged, to see—once more—the stars."

Jane, Anna, Felicity and Marta had journeyed through Hell and back. And they too had emerged to see, once again, the stars.

A family—stronger than ever.