

Storms Coming

Aiden and Arion walked into Eric's war room. I wanted to laugh when they saw Titus and Marcus. They glanced at each other and sat down at the end of the table. I asked, "Do you two have something you want to discuss?" Aiden nodded, "Yes, we spoke with our sister. She agreed to marry you." I simply nodded.

Arion asked, "Why are the Hackura here?" My eyes narrowed, "You interrupted my meeting, and have the nerve to ask questions of me?" Aiden looked at his brother in warning. He told me, "We apologize. We thought you would want to know about Haley's answer." Marcus looked at Aiden and spat out, "Considering he already knows, a phone call would've suited." I again wanted to laugh at their faces.

Aiden gasped, "Excuse me? What do you mean he knows?" Marcus sounded bored, "Haley just left you barely missed her. Lovely girl." Arion and Aiden stared at Marcus dumbfounded. I was done with them, "If that is all..." Aiden shook his head, "No, we would like to go over details of the wedding and speak with Haley. She should return with us to Faerie until the wedding."

Growsl led the room. Thor took over growling, "You WILL NOT take her anywhere. She will stay here with me. You didn't even know where she was. I have already protected her from an attack because you two morons communicated back home that you'd found her. You cannot protect, her that much is clear. Haley will stay here." I struggled to get Thor back under control. I told him, "Duke, give me back control. I will not let them take her." Duke snarled, "I will come back out if they try to take her. I thought I told you I changed my name. It's Thor. Mate called us Thor we like it, and you know it." I sighed, "Understood. Of course, you're changing your name after sixteen years together. What was I thinking? It's a habit. I know you're Thor now. Give me a chance to adjust." Thor snorted, "You weren't thinking. Mate's name is better." I took back over. I nodded to Jackson who had grabbed onto my arm. Marcus and Titus exchanged glances, thoroughly entertained by the turn of events.

Aiden spoke, "What do you mean our sister was attacked? Obviously, she's safer in Faerie." Jackson scoffed, "She was perfectly safe here, until you carelessly leaked her alias. After hearing about how she was treated in Faerie, our brother's wife and soon to be Luna will remain here. Or you can expect a bloodbath."

Arion was stunned. He asked, "Why would you care? Our mother wants to see our sister. Haley is a partial fairy. She's under our rule, not to mention she's our sister. We will take her if we want..." He was cut off by Aiden's hand grabbing him as I roared menacingly. I informed him, "You will not leave this room alive if you continue to threaten to take my mate from me."

Aiden gasped, "YOUR MATE?!" Arion scoffed, "Haley can't have a mate. She's only a partial fairy." Aiden glanced at his brother and hissed, "Stop talking Arion." Arion rolled his eyes, but those seconds cost him. I had crossed the room and had my hands around his throat. "Disrespect my mate or call me a liar again, and this room will be the last thing you see fairy prince." Caleb added, "All other supernatural's partials have mates. Why would the fairies be different? She has a mate. My Alpha." Arion popped behind Aiden coughing. Aiden looked at me admitting, "Your Beta has a point. Obviously that changes things. We will not take Haley home, but our mother does want to see her."

I walked back to my seat staring down Arion. Once seated I said, "Then the Queen can come here. No one will harm her." Aiden sighed, "Our mother doesn't leave Faerie." Marcus snorted, "Since when? She obviously did because you have a partial fairy sister. I thought they couldn't lie." Aiden huffed, "I am not lying. I just omitted the word anymore." I tilted my head asking, "Why couldn't the Queen leave your realm? I promise no werewolf would harm her." Both Fairies shifted awkwardly. Titus and I leaned forward intrigued.

All the sudden Jessica was screaming at me through mind link, "ERIC CONNERS YOU TELL HAROLD TO MOVE HIS ASS NOW! HIS PANTS BETTER BE OFF WHEN HE ENTERS THIS ROOM." I almost gagged when I replied, "That's... too much detail Jess." She yelled back, "WHAT THE F**K EVER ERIC! I HAVE HEARD ALL ABOUT YOU IN BED FROM HALF THE PACK! GET. HAROLD.TO.ME.NOW." I sighed, "He's practically on his way."

To our group I said, "Harold, I need you to continue on with your other commitments. We will see you in on this meeting later." Harold looked at me in confusion. Jackson and Darrin smirked, catching what was happening. I mind linked my brothers, "Jessica is in heat and screaming at me in my head. She says that your pants better be off when you get to your room. For the love of the goddess, leave before she yells something else I don't want to know." Harold smirked and answered out loud, "Of course brother." Harold left the room quickly.

Jackson spoke, "So, the Queen can come here under our protection. We would escort her from the portal to our home. She is welcome to have fairy guards with her as well. Does that settle this issue?" Arion and Aiden looked at each other. Aiden waved his hands, "Maybe they can see each other some other time." Everyone glanced at each other confused. Titus grimaced.

Arion spoke, "We would like to see Hexxus and our sister." I glared telling him, "I'm not in the business of granting wishes. I do believe that is a fairy stereotype." Arion smirked, "I'll pop Haley out of here if you don't let us." I roared. Aiden grabbed Arion and threw him into the wall. He yelled, "Arion, shut up."

Marcus mocked, "You could try fairy prince, but you'd have to get past me. So, you will not be taking her anywhere." Aiden and Arion whirled to face Marcus. Disbelief and incredulity showed on their faces. Arion asked me, "You... got a Hackura guard to protect Haley? You would spend that type of money on her?" I growled, "I will protect her with all that have. How I choose to do that is none of your concern." Marcus narrowed his eyes, "How little do you think of her that you don't want the best protecting her?" Titus grabbed his sons' arm as his eyes began to glow.

Arion spoke rst, "You may not believe us, but we love our sister. We just have to think of our kingdom rst. We would not spend that type of money for her protection." Titus grabbed the table; his eyes were blazing gold. He gritted out, "You fairies disgust me. She is your blood and blood matters above all." Aiden spoke, "She is half of our blood, and as Arion said we do love her. Fairies are very different in how we treat each other. Do not think you know us because our love is different than yours."

I asked, "Why do you want to talk to Haley?" Aiden glanced at Arion before speaking, "Our last conversation did not end on good terms. We have missed her. Additionally, she should be included in the wedding discussion. It's her wedding after all. We can wait outside until your meeting with the assassins is nished." Marcus raised an eyebrow, "Watch yourself fairy prince. I am a Prince too, and I won't sit here idly if you insult my father. Where Haley goes, I go." Arion rolled his eyes, "Of course he got a Hackura prince. Wolves." Titus spoke, "How arrogant to think you can control where either my son or I go. Alpha Eric, I would like to stay and see your mate again." I nodded and linked Haley.

Arion and Aiden glared at me. Arion asked, "Well, aren't you going to get our sister?" I smirked as a knock on the door came. Haley came in and evaluated her fairy brothers. When she saw bruises on Arion, she made a face. It seemed like she expected to see worse.

She greeted me, "So, what did you need me for?" Aiden and Arion stared at her. Aiden asked, "How could you possibly know that he needed you?" She didn't spare them a glance. Jackson got up and grabbed her a chair placing it next to me. I answered her, "Yes, Angel. Please take a seat. We are going to discuss wedding details." She scrunched up her nose, "Ummm this looks like the wrong damn planning committee. Cassandra, Molly, Jessica, Shana, Miley, Veronica, and any of my brothers' mates not on missions would be much more appropriate group for a wedding planning session."

My Dad turned his laugh into a cough. Aiden spoke, "Well, we won't be planning the colors or anything, Haley. That is of course up to you." He was cut off by Haley standing up out of her chair. She baited him, "Oh please brother, do tell me what is not in my control at my wedding that you agreed to without even asking me. I would think you would have better manners to know when you ask for a favor the other person makes the f****g terms." Arion stifled, "Haley don't be disrespectful."

She scoffed, "You wouldn't know the meaning of that word if it bit you in the ass." I grabbed her arm and linked her, "Calm down, Angel. Your eyes are starting to turn." She linked me back, "They are NOT controlling anything about our wedding. Over my dead aking to dust dead body, Eric." I shuddered at her imagery. I'd seen fairies turn to dust. I did not want to imagine Haley that way.

I asked out loud, "What details are you wanting to discuss? As you can see, Haley wants to plan our wedding." Aiden nodded, "Since she is a fairy, well a partial." Haley grimaced but Aiden continued, "We need to have the fairy ceremony incorporated into the wedding." Haley huffed, "Oh really? I'm good enough for your special fairy ceremony? Charming." She closed her eyes then said, "Actually, that does mean something to me. Thank you. I know what it is, Aiden. I'll incorporate it and you can ociate that part. Is that all?"

Arion ran his hands through his hair and put his head on the table. Aiden looked pained. Concern leaked into Haley tone when she asked, "Are you guys alright?" Aiden said, "Someone else wanted to ociate that part of your ceremony." Haley shrugged, "I don't f****g care. You're my brother, and you're going to be the King of the Faerie one day. Mother can't perform the ceremony because she's a woman. So, I want you to do it Aiden."

Arion groaned, "Haley..." Aiden cut him off, "Alright, little sister. If that's what you wish, I will perform the fairy portion. Now, as to who will walk you down the aisle..." I stilled, sensing where this was going. Marcus quirked an eyebrow. Titus visibly paled. Haley cut Aiden off, "My dad is going to walk me down the aisle." Arion choked. Aiden squirmed his voice cracked when he asked, "Your dad? You found him?" Haley smiled, "No, he found me."

Arion interjected, "You weren't raised with him. Surely your father is busy. Who is he? We will speak to him." Haley smiled broadly, "You'll nd out who he is. My dad cleared his calendar so he could come to the wedding. He actually loves me." Marcus coughed out a laugh. Aiden looked sadly at Haley saying, "Haley, you know we love you too." Haley looked at him, "I know. It just means something different to me than it does to the two of you." Aiden looked away sadly.

Arion spoke, "Well, someone else wanted to walk you down the aisle." I glanced at Marcus. I shifted my gaze to my brothers. We all had the same expression. Jackson linked us, "This is bad." I replied, "It better not be who I think it is." My dad replied, "It's going to be exactly what you think it is. They wanted Fabian to do the ceremony, and Arion is going to suggest he walk her down the aisle." I growled in our link, "He better not. It will hurt Haley's feelings."

Jackson sighed, "Someone should tell Mrs. Blanch to prepare ice cream and a cocktail. A strong cocktail." I looked at Haley. Her face brightened when Arion said someone else wanted to walk her down the aisle. My heart broke because she didn't know who they meant. Haley asked happily, "Really?" Arion nodded. Haley continued, "Aiden, that's so sweet you would want to walk me down the aisle, but my dad's coming. Plus, you're doing the fairy part of the ceremony. Thank you though. It means a lot to me that you would want to."

Aiden winced. Marcus and Titus' eyes narrowed. Arion admitted, "Not Aiden." Haley frowned. Her embarrassment was clear. She said, "Oh, of course. Mother will understand. We can nd something else for her to do in the ceremony. Can't we Eric?" She looked at me with such a hopefully expression that I wanted to call off peace talks and throw her fairy relatives out of my territory. Before I could answer her spoke. It seemed he wanted to be dust on my oor. "Mother won't be coming." Haley's head whipped around. She asked "What... What the f**k do you mean she won't be coming?! Aiden?"

Aiden glared at Arion. He asked, "Do you have to make it worse, Arion?" Arion looked between his siblings then said, "Sorry." Haley looked at me, "My mother can come, can't she Eric?" I looked at her, "We offered her protection should she want to come and see you prior to the wedding. That would obviously extend to the wedding itself." Haley's relief came through, "See, mother can come. Doesn't she want to?" Aiden looked back at Haley, "Mother cannot leave Faerie, sister." Haley looked confused, "Since when? I know she only came here once but surely my wedding is something she doesn't want to miss." Aiden sighed, "She just can't leave." Haley scrunched up her face, "The only reason the Queen couldn't leave is because she has been deamed unt to rule, and the person ruling said she cannot leave." Arion looked at her in surprise, "How do you know that?" Haley rolled her eyes, "Some of us read books. That actually makes this situation make a lot more sense, Mother would've never condoned a war. Let alone a war that continued for two years without discussing peace. She's all about peace, love, and harmony. Aiden, can't you make an exception this once? It's my wedding. I'm stunned you let this war go on this long without pursuing peace, Aiden. Also, why isn't anyone addressing you as King? If mother isn't ruling... you are the King."

The brothers looked at each other but said nothing. I linked the wolves in the room, "Tell me this isn't going where I think it is." Caleb replied, "If you think it's heading to Fabian somehow ruling Faerie... that's exactly where this is going." Jackson angrily replied, "HOW THE F**K DON'T WE KNOW ABOUT THIS?" I growled my agreement.

The Hackura look blindsided too. Fabulous. The fairies were clearly better at keeping secrets than I gave them credit for. Fabian's abuse, now this. What else were they hiding. Darrin chimed in, "I think Haley's going to lose it." I agreed, "Probably."

Arion nally spoke, "Aiden isn't ruling in Faerie yet. It was decided he wasn't ready." Haley laughed as everyone looked around nervously. She gathered herself, "Not ready? That's a joke. He's been ready since he was a teenager. He's a natural born leader. Everyone has always looked up to him. Who the f**k convinced him he wasn't ready?" She looked at Aiden continuing, "You're thirty-six years old, Aiden. When will you be ready?" Aiden looked pained, "You know fairies live for hundreds of years, Haley. Others have more ruling experience than I do."

Haley scoffed, "Obviously their experience sucks ass. You've been in a war being slaughtered for two years. You are only now attempting to pursue peace. You would've been at the table in a few days if you were ruling Aiden. Why is Mother unt to rule? Is she all right?" Arion replied, "She handed down her harshesht sentence of punishment. Some felt it was unjust. She was deemed unt to rule afterwards." Haley stared at them. Eventually she said, "You two have GOT to be joking. You LET our mother be forced out because she handed down a harsh punishment. Her rst ever. Then let someone else rule our home? WHO THE FU..." She stopped as it sank in what was happening. All of us sucked in a breath.

Suddenly thunder and lightning struck outside. Storm clouds rolled in, and rain poured down. I looked out the window as darkness had surrounded our home. Jackson linked everyone again, "Uh small storm? She calls the monsoon outside a small storm? This is her right?" My dad replied, "Since it was sunny until she gured this out, I'm going with yes." I agreed, "It is her. I don't think she did it on purpose though. Which is concerning. It's because she's so upset." I glanced at my mate who was struggling to keep her eyes from turning gold. I glanced at Marcus who was looking at his dad. Titus looked like he wanted to kill Aiden and Arion here and now.

Haley screamed, "TELL ME this isn't what I think it is. Tell me you did NOT come here to say FABIAN wanted to perform the Fairy ceremony at my wedding. Or that he wanted to walk me down the MOTHER F****g aisle. Tell me that monster isn't running Faerie." Aiden was staring at the storm. He spoke, "The weather here is strange." I didn't want him to know this was Haley, so I agreed, "Yes, it is."

Haley yelled, "THAT'S WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY AIDEN?!" Arion jumped up "Don't speak to us this way, Haley. Fabian is the head of our family. He should be performing the ceremony and walking you down the aisle." Haley gasped, "I'm sorry I must have misheard you. Basic logic would tell you AIDEN is the head of our GODDAMNED family. You honestly believe the man who beat and molested me should have anything to do with my wedding?!" Tears streamed down Haley's face.

I pulled her into a hug. Aiden had tears in his eyes. "Haley, he rules Faerie right now. I would never ask this of you if that weren't the case." Arion scoffed, "We aren't asking. Uncle Fabian is doing one or the other." I growled, "He steps foot in this realm, and he will die." Arion jumped back at my tone.

Haley yelled through her tears, "TAKE IT BACK AIDEN!" Everyone looked at her in shock. Aiden asked, "Take it back, sister?" Haley screamed at him, "YOUR GODDAMNED THRONE. TAKE. IT. BACK." Aiden winced, "I don't want to hit you, Haley." Haley screamed in frustration and looked at her brothers. She asked, "Do you want to know what he did when you weren't looking? He brutally raped me anally. He experimented on me to see if iron would hurt me. He forced me to drink lemonade to see what would happen. He let other fairies PAY to torture me and rape me. That's not even half of it, and you let him run our homeland. You aren't even ghting for your kingdom. He let your people die in droves and you... YOU SIT ON YOUR ASS DOING NOTHING! TAKE YOUR THRONE BACK NOW!" Thunder roared outside. I linked Haley, "Angel, take a breath."

Arion and Aiden sat quietly thinking for several moments. Aiden looked at Haley with sadness, "I know you don't understand. You've always hated us." Haley scoffed and interrupted him, "Hated you? You think I've always hated you? You've got that backwards, brother. The feelings the two of you have are not mine. I idolized you Aiden. I once thought you hung the sun, moon, and all the stars. There once was a time I believed the three of us would take on anyone who challenged our family, and ght side by side. In fact, I still believe if the three of us stood together nothing could stop us. Then I was brutally slapped in the face with the truth. My being a partial fairy embarrasses both of you. You never wanted me to stand beside you. You giving me in the shadows like some dirty little secret that should never come out. I'm thanking you fabulous advice because you are my brother, Aiden. Unlike the two of you disloyal jerk, the fact that we are siblings actually means something to me. TAKE YOUR F****g THRONE BACK. You will be a good leader, despite being a s**t brother. I believe that at the very least you cannot be bad enough to watch you people die off because you have too much pride to negotiate peace."

Aiden was crying. Arion even looked sad. Arion just had to open his mouth again, "You couldn't ght beside us, Haley. You're just a partial fairy." Marcus sucked in a breath and started to say, "Don't..." Haley interrupted him, "AS A CHILD OF THE EARTH AND SKY I BANISH YOU FROM THIS TERRITORY!" Everyone's eyes widened. Aiden gasped. I watched, stunned, as wind pushed the door to the war room open. It forced Arion backwards. He was screaming at Aiden who was too stunned to move, "AIDEN HELP ME!" Vines appeared from the hall, grabbing onto Arion's wrists, and pulled him back out of the room. His screams were echoing in the halls until the door slammed shut. The thunder and lightning crackled. Aiden turned to his sister stunned and asked, "Haley, what did you do?"