

# Family of Five

Haley woke up and rolled to see Eric sleeping beside her. I smiled and kissed his forehead lightly. I got out my phone and texted Miley asking if she was free to talk later. Miley's answer had me shaking with silent laughter.

Miley: Of course, bitch

I was really upset she'd probably been upset over my lack of response to the invitations for the baby shower. I hoped switching locations wouldn't be hard for her; I knew she'd probably put a lot of time and energy into this. I popped to the deck after a few moments of trying to get out of bed the normal way. I was glad no one had seen the laughable attempt. I was like a damned beached whale at this point. I decided to do some light yoga.

When I was almost done I felt Eric's lust. I smirked. I continued doing my yoga, surprised I actually got to finish. I was a little disappointed he didn't try to start anything. We needed to talk though, which I knew. Pregnancy hormones were no fucking joke. I wanted to jump him and forget talking. This was absolutely his fault. He was too damn sexy.

We both brought up valid points. Then we had to discuss his mother. I didn't believe she wanted my forgiveness. I don't think she believes she did anything wrong. Arion wanted my forgiveness. He was sending me texts and leaving voicemails begging for me to speak with him. I hadn't mustered the courage to even talk to him yet; let alone forgive him.

When we got to Aiden knowing about the triplets powers, I wanted to wince. This was exactly what I didn't want to discuss this. It was too hard to even have the thoughts I was having about it, let alone say them out loud. Eric growled at me and told me to talk to him. I gritted my teeth and put my head into my hands biting back my reply. It was out of anger that I wanted to say he didn't talk to me so why should I share with him. That wasn't fair though. We'd discussed the Claudzilla situation, and I couldn't hold onto it. I told him my fears

When we got around to Arion, I admitted my mind had been plagued with my mother's words about seeing Arion's death. I felt it deep down in my guts this path was why. I wanted to avoid it at all costs. Was it too much to ask that they never found out the babies had fairy powers?

I knew my husband discounted how smart Arion truly was. Arion already knew that if Eric, my Hackura family, or any ally of either saw him here he was dead. For all his faults, Arion was a planner and he was cunning. Fairies could be very patient. They are devious and if Arion decided to go down this road, he would do it

well. Eric was adamant I wouldn't have to kill Arion, but he was wrong. I couldn't let a pack member potentially get hurt because of my brother. I certainly wouldn't let him take my children. Nor could I let Arion suffer the way everyone else would. They would take him alive and torture him. I couldn't have that either. I loved the jerk. I never thought I could be this person. A person who plans to kill either of my brothers should he attack my family, but we were in that place, nonetheless. My heart broke at the thought of killing him. Even after what Arion had done to me. My heart was telling me the choice, this goddamn path, was going to come down to me though. It was going to be Arion or my children. I didn't even have to think about who would win. It would always be my children.

Eric mentioned my finding an assistant. I was planning on that already because I wanted to be a hands on parent. I knew with the duties I had I would have to have help, but as much as I could I wanted to be there. I was even planning to ask my father if I could have a few more months to just be with the babies and not have any missions. I grimaced knowing I hadn't had any since I met Eric, but I could do them all at once.

Aiden was going to send trainers to help me with the partials. I knew it was because he was curious whether the other partial fairies had powers like I did. I hadn't told him I already knew they were all going to have powers. I think of the ones I'd found so far; Trixie was going to be the most powerful, which isn't surprising considering she's Fenilton's daughter, but I knew they were all capable of something.

Eric switched topics to my powers. I knew he was surprised I hadn't explained everything to Aiden yet. It's not like the fears I had of fairies knowing when I was a child in Faerie disappeared overnight. I was already leery since they already requested that I use my powers to heal in their realm for them. I also had other secrets I was keeping from my brothers. I still hadn't told them Fabian admitted to killing their father. Truthfully, I figured Megan probably had. Or I hoped she had, because I did not want to cause my brother more pain than he'd already experienced when it came to me.

Eric kept bringing up valid and logical points. He needed to stop because they were getting increasingly irritating. Why couldn't my fairy brothers be like my Hackura brothers? Nooooo, they had to be tricky, manipulative, and borderline in their love for me because they are fairies. I swear to god that 'fuck my life' saying applies to my life more than anyone else. I didn't say that out loud in case that wasn't the stupid saying in this realm.

I just didn't see how everything would be ok. I didn't see how these paths wouldn't lead to Arion's death. I didn't want him to die. It's why I saved him. I couldn't shake the fear that he was going to come for our children or, at least, me again. If he came for them there will be no turning back. I was a fucking monster. Fabian

will have finally succeeded. He's probably gleeful in the beyond. The rat bastard. I was actually wondering how Aiden and Arion's relationship was fairing in the wake of Arion's betrayal. Fairies did not handle betrayal well. We took it very seriously because fairies do not trust that easily.

My fears circled me back so Masium. No one could sway Arion more than Masium, I wished that my powers had been available to me that damn day at Damon's. I could've left Masium to the mercy of Eric and my family and popped Arion to the healing waters in Faerie. Everything would've been fine. Fuck Damon and Fabian. May one rot wherever the vampire after life is... and dear GOD let something awful happen to Fabian in the beyond.

I was going to protect my kids though. I was going to evade like a mother fucker. I was going to let them all believe one of the children had the pushing ability because of me, not Cassie. I would never let her live the life I did. I wouldn't let any of my children..

We stayed there holding each other until a knock on our door broke the reverie we had entered. Jackson was sent to tell us about breakfast. I smiled at him wondering how he drew that assignment from Mrs. Blanch. Normally it was a pack member, usually a kid. We all walked down to the kitchen together. I really did like my brother in law. I liked all of them actually.

I froze when I saw all the Connors were sitting at the table waiting for us to eat. That's why Jackson came to get us. This was an ambush. Damn you, Cassandra, you couldn't just give me one fucking bit of space now? She was so damn petty. I smiled at them bracing myself for another ambush about forgiving them or something along those lines. Mrs. Blanch wouldn't meet my eye either. I linked Eric hoping that I could get whatever they wanted to say focused on something else. I was going with the babies names.

Nathan, bless his heart, said they'd love to know before Cassandra could say anything. I'd just bet she'd have said we'd love to know, but first I would've had to forgive her.

I knew this was partially my fault. I opened up too quickly here because I felt so damn safe. I didn't take any normal precautions I usually did and it bit me in the ass. Everyone was moved by the baby names. I still didn't look at Cassandra for fear that would start her on some spiel about how I needed to forgive her because we are a family. I knew she wanted to put on some sobbing shit show for Eric, to make sure he didn't kick her the fuck out. I kept my eyes down and ate my food. Mrs. Blanch had loaded my plate with so much I didn't need to ask for seconds.

Cassandra cleared her throat. I knew it was to get my attention. I wasn't surprised when she said my name, but I internally groaned. She said the women wanted to

talk to me after breakfast. A million thoughts of how entitled she was flew through my head, but I held them back because it would upset Eric. Seriously, she had some nerve ambushing me because she wanted to clear her own conscience, considering she was the one who fucking ignored me while they were unconscious. She showed me how she felt. If the men weren't around, she would behave however the fuck she wanted. Now they were awake, she had to act like the caring matriarch.

Doris saved the day. I was going to get her and my father a fruit basket. I was railroaded into having a conversation I wasn't to. I really was disliking her more and more. I followed Doris out and saw Ethan on my way and smiled at him. I followed Doris out of the house. She led me to the hospital.

Doris smiled commenting, "You seemed uncomfortable. I was only going to ask for an appointment when I walked in. I changed my mind when I saw you though." I frowned and asked, "Could you really tell?" Doris laughed, "Because I know you, yes. Your face, as always, betrayed nothing. It was just a sense." I smiled, "I appreciate you so damn much for that. I was uncomfortable, I don't really want to talk to them." Doris smiled, "Your father explained the situation when he sent me. In laws can be tricky to navigate, princess. Everyone has their ups and downs. I know plenty of people with bitchy and conniving mother in laws. Just beware, they are cunning and manipulative. Yours seems to be cut from that cloth. Keep your eyes open." I sighed, "I know, I just feel like they tricked me." She nodded, "I understand and I agree. I just don't know if that was their intention. I think she has a prejudice about fairies she was hiding but it's now bleeding through. Time will tell. Now, let's check everything out."

She took out a measuring tape and measured my stomach, making notes. She checked the babies positions and nodded to herself. She smiled and told me, "Alright, everything seems good and right on track. Let's see your babies." She pulled over the ultrasound machine and put jelly on my stomach. She said, "Yup, still two boys and a girl." I laughed, "I didn't know that could change." She smiled, "Sometimes the little ones make it seem one way when it's not, but no mistakes here. Two boys and a girl. Hmm... I do believe we will be seeing the duchess and duke's a little sooner than anticipated. They are quite large." I snorted, "Have you seen their damn father? He's a fucking giant." She laughed, "Yes, he is. The two boys are seven pounds already and the little girl is just shy of seven. If you were human, you'd have had them already." I nodded asking, "How much sooner do you think?" She shrugged, "They could come next week or the week after. We will see when they are ready. Little ones don't tend to abide by anyone else's schedule. They come when they feel like it."

Once we were done, I texted Miley and she said she was free. I popped to the house she shared with Jim. Miley was clearly nervous. I took her hands and said, "Miles, I'm so fucking sorry. I just saw the baby shower invitations last night when

mom showed me. They are beautiful, and I love them! I'm so excited I thought everyone forgot with all the damn craziness that is our lives now about having a shower."

Jim cringed. Miley's eyes blazed, "Excuse me, bitch?! What do you mean you just saw the invitations? I have been on pins and needles for WEEKS. The Connors were supposed to show it to you! Eric even commented on how nice they looked. UGH! Whatever it's in the main room of your home."

I grimaced, "Actually it's at home, our home, now. I asked mom to move it because I really don't think the Connors women are into it. Also, how the fuck could you be on pins and needles? Why would you do that to yourself?" Miley sighed, "I love you, and your lack of knowledge about earthly sayings. This here is your home, Haley. They can't run your baby shower out of your own home." I shrugged, "They did. I don't feel like they want to have anything to do with me. I'd just rather have it somewhere that's home. I don't want tension. I want the babies to feel surrounded by love, and right now that's not here."

Jim growled, "I should've known you didn't know about it. Especially when they didn't even bother to help with a single piece of paperwork, or dispute, or come talk to you. I just thought you were so busy." I smiled at him, "It's not your fault, Jim." Miley was still pissed. She hissed, "I have been trying to be considerate of all you have going on, and they didn't even fucking show you." I laughed, "Well just so this doesn't happen again your shower is in three weeks. Bex's baby shower is the week before." Miley gaped, "You're planning two baby showers?" I smiled, "Bitch, you know I multitask like a pro. You didn't think I'd let either miss out on your baby shower, did you? Not after we went to all those for my brothers' mates. I fucking love throwing parties. I can't let my main bitch not have a baby shower."

Miley smiled, "You are so you. I can't believe you are planning us both baby shower's when you thought we forgot about you. Bexley has been driving me insane asking if you've said anything about the invitations. She was of the opinion your brain was still messed up from SIMS and you forgot." I cringed, "I'm not totally right yet, but if I sit down and think about it things come back to me." Jim's eyes narrowed, "I didn't know that it was still bothering you. Does the Alpha know?" I actually had to think about it. I answered honestly, "I think he does." Jim sighed.

Miley and I caught up on a few things. She wanted her baby shower to be in the Hackura realm too so her dad would come. I laughed knowing my dad would be thrilled if my kids were born so he could watch them during her shower. Mom would commandeer at least one as the mascot of Miley's shower.

Miley looked at her watch, "Well, we are going out to lunch. Plus, if you don't get up to the house Mrs. Blanch will send a search party to make sure you eat." I

looked at the time, “I ate a late breakfast. I have some time before she’ll be to upset. I’ll just pop my ass to the lake.” Miley’s eyes narrowed, “What are you avoiding, bitch? Don’t evade with me.” I sighed, “The Conners women. They want to ‘talk’ after lunch.” She sighed, “Bitches! I can’t believe they didn’t help you while the guys were out or tell you about your shower. Why did they do that exactly?” I shrugged, “They blame me for how fucked up Eric was when I was taken. They were doing what they thought would protect him.”

I took a deep breath and told her, “I don’t know how to get past this, Miles. Bjourn could’ve died. Your father in law would’ve died.” Jim sucked in a breath, “SHIT! You’re right. That bitch would’ve killed my dad. She didn’t like him.” Miley considered it. She added, “And she hated Bjourn. Bjourn wouldn’t have gone down like that though.” I shrugged, “They set the pieces in motion though.” Jim was fuming.

Miley spoke, “Do what you think is right, Hales. They went about this the wrong way. It all feels shady. I understand why it hurts you, you opened up here so quickly. Just don’t take yourself totally off the table.” I shrugged, “Eric told her she had to reconcile with me to stay. Cassandra doesn’t want to leave; I won’t be the reason he throws his own damn mother out. I’ll be nice to them all. I’m just not sharing any of myself with them anymore. Fuck their no secrets bullshit. I will have no secrets with Eric, and they can fucking deal.” Miley nodded, “Alright, we have to go we have reservations, but text our group chat if you need anything.” I gave her a hug and I popped myself to the lake.

My phone rang the second I took a deep breath. I looked down expecting to see Aiden calling, but it was Arion. I didn’t answer. A few moments later, I saw I had yet another voicemail. I sighed and was about to listen when my phone rang again. This time it was Aiden.

I answered immediately, “Hello, big brother.” He laughed, “So you’re still avoiding our brother I see.” I sighed, “I don’t know what to say to him, Aiden.” He was silent then spoke, “You fear his reaction to your powers and your children’s, don’t you?” I didn’t answer. He mused, “Do you not fear mine?” I groaned, “I think your reaction will be to want to train them and have a relationship with them. I think you will diplomatically try to get them to help you. I think Arion will try to take them. So yes, I suppose I do fear his damn reaction and the path he will choose. When mother came to see me and told me she’s seen his death on a few paths, I fear this is that path. I don’t want him dead Aiden, but I can’t let him have my children.”

Aiden was silent. Eventually he said, “I fear the same thing, little sister. I will do my best. My advisors have cautioned me that another strike against my reign from my brother has to be met with punishment. I can’t say if he goes against me on this that I wouldn’t rather have your wolf deal with it for me.” I was stunned. Aiden

just basically said he would kill Arion if he made it back to Faerie if he tried to take my children.

I shook myself, "What is your say on this then, brother?" Aiden laughed, "I want to know my niece and nephews. Obviously, they could help my kingdom with their powers, but I won't force them or you. I simply ask that you let me get to know them. Should I ask them when they are old enough to decide if they will help their uncle in specific circumstances, I'd appreciate the chance to ask." I sighed, "That's better than I thought I'd get. Don't manipulate my children, Aiden. I want you to be in their lives because you want to be, as their uncle. Not as the fucking king who wants to use their damn powers." Aiden sighed, "I believe both you, and Trixie would kick my ass for that. I want a relationship with both of my sisters. I am still King though, Haley. I want to know my family not just for their powers. I told you I wanted to know them before I knew of their powers."

I agreed, "That's true. I supposed you want to know about my damn powers too." Aiden laughed, "Yes, I am curious. From what I gathered from your wolf; you're giving birth to the pusher to balance out yourself as the truth seeker. That's quite a talent you hid from us all." I rolled my eyes, "I didn't have one damn reason to trust anyone with that information. I can heal, you know that though. I'm the truth seeker which you know. I can pop, conjure, and control the elements." Aiden interrupted "That sudden freak storm when we met about the wedding details! That was you?" I cringed, "Yes, you upset me. I didn't mean to. Anyway, I can suck the air out of the room and create a tornado... or the air from a person for that matter." I paused letting that sink in.

Aiden laughed, "Well, is that all little sister?" I thought about it, "I think so. I mean I can do fae magic, obviously." Aiden snorted, "Obviously. No wonder your children are already powerful, I thought the shield I saw on the security tape was yours." I gasped, "OH FUCK ME! I forgot about the tapes!" Aiden laughed, "I did not forget, and I took care of it. Despite what you think, I do have your back." I snapped at him, "It's new so it will take some damn time to get used to."

Aiden cleared his throat, "It's not new. Just new for you to know about it. Fair enough." I sighed not understanding his words. I admitted, "The shield scared the crap out of me, I always wanted to have one. I tried so hard in Faerie to get one to show up. I practiced for hours willing it to show up." Aiden laughed, "As did I. I must get going. Trixie is coming to meet Arion today, and I'm escorting her around by way of a tour. I must thank you for her again. She is a treasure." I smiled, "I'm glad you are getting to know her." Aiden said, "Me too. It feels like a chance to get it right from the start with her." I smiled, "Tell Trixie I'll see her tomorrow, and tell Arion to be fucking nice to her." Aiden agreed, "I will." He hung up.

I walked into the kitchen laughing. My laugh quickly died seeing who was there waiting. I sighed, mentally chastising myself. I should've texted Bexley to come have lunch with me if she was available. I smiled at Mrs. Blanch. I felt bad that she looked so sad. I decided to speak to her. I asked, "Emily is due any day now, right?" Mrs. Blanch smiled, "Yes. She said to me the other day she didn't know how human women did this for nine months. She's ready to meet her little one." I smiled, "I'm sure she is." She handed me my plate.

I sat down and ate in the most uncomfortable silence, with Cassandra, Jessica, Molly, and Shana. They didn't even attempt to say hello. They could suck a dick because I sure as fuck wasn't going to start a dialogue. Eventually Cassandra said, "If everyone is done, we can go into the living room." Mrs. Blanch looked at me with sympathy. I said, "Sure." Mrs. Blanch followed with a pan of brownies. She announced, "I'll be in the kitchen if anyone needs anything."

I watched her go with a sigh. Cassandra spoke first, "We are sorry Haley, truly." I withheld my eye roll with admirable restraint. I asked, "Are you? Or do you just not want Eric to ask you to leave? Keep in mind the answer doesn't change how I feel. You are important to Eric. He just doesn't want me to be uncomfortable. I don't want you to leave, regardless of your feelings. Because I actually give a shit about what's best for my husband. You not leaving is what's best for him because you'd take Nathan with you. Just keep yourself out of our goddamn relationship."

Cassandra sighed, "I am sorry. I don't want you to feel like you aren't family." I shrugged, "But I'm not. You've had at least a decade with Molly, Jessica, and Shana. It was silly of me to expect the same just because everyone said it would be that way. Of all people, I know better. I have a family who treats me like I am nothing. I was expecting strangers to treat me as their own damn child. My own mother loves her sons more than me. Blood matters to people. Her sons have more fairy blood, and she had them with her mate. I'm not your blood at all. Your son is my mate. I understand."

Cassandra looked away, "I see that you don't. You are family, I was just afraid for him. I know you don't want him to get hurt. When you were gone, he was a mess." I nodded, "I literally said I fucking understand. I know he was a mess. He's told me, Jackson told me, my brothers told me, and you've told me. I'll be straight with you and say I thank the goddess Veronica didn't see a single thing that was done to me. At the same time, I had no one. Eric had my family and his to keep him going and I had no one except two witches I didn't even fucking know and a centuries old vampire. The peak of irony, of course, is that I hate witches. But I had to trust them. Rely on them because my brain was fucked up and so was my body. I was dying not being near Eric. Slowly descending into madness. I was alone, Eric wasn't."



Cassandra bit out, “Your brother was there.” I scoffed, “My brother who took me from my home? Who, without goddess protection, would’ve killed my children. My brother who left me to be tortured so our other brother wouldn’t know of his duplicity. That brother? Who I have NEVER been close with one damn day in my life. That you keep harping on about, like you have some pillar to hold up with it. My relationship with Arion is none of your business.” Cassandra sighed, “Yes, the brother you let go home. Instead of face justice from your family or my sons.”

I sighed, “He was going to die. In case you missed it, my damn brain wasn’t all together right. I’d do it again because Fabian didn’t get to win. That man doesn’t get to take ANYTHING from me ever again. I’ve told Eric that I won’t stop him from killing him because it would be hypocritical of me. If someone did what was done to me to him, I’d hunt their asses to the end of this earth to kill them.” Cassandra kept pushing, “But you still saved him.”

Molly sighed, “Of course she did. Because she didn’t want Fabian to kill him, and he’s her brother.” Cassandra disagreed, “She didn’t want him dead.” I shook my head, “No, I don’t want him dead. Whatever he is, Arion is my brother. Nothing will ever change that. He hurt me. Probably not for the last damn time either. It is what it is. None of your damn sons would want each other to die no matter what they did to each other.” Cassandra frowned.

I continued, “This also is what it is. I’m not going to run you off Cassandra, and I won’t ask Eric to. You’re important to him. So, here’s the damn deal. We can get along. We can cut the awkward tension. I won’t affect your relationship with him, and you stay the fuck out my relationship with my mate.”

Jessica whispered, “But you won’t have a relationship with us.” I rolled my eyes, “We will have a relationship. We are all living in this house.” Shana spoke, “But we won’t be close.” I snorted, “Do you even want to be? I hadn’t realized how much you all had pulled away until I found out there was a baby shower I didn’t know about. We don’t have to be friends but getting along would be a damn start.”

Cassandra spoke, “We should’ve told you about the party. We were focused on the planning. You were busy with your fairy event, and we were... keeping secrets. Which is harder than I thought it would be.” I snorted again, “You mean since you have no practice since you have no secrets? I find that pretty damn hard to believe since you’re the one deciding who gets cut the fuck out.” Cassandra winced, “We deserved that, but we really don’t keep secrets.” I laughed, “Really? Because you kept the threats a secret, you kept my baby shower a secret, the invitations, how you truly felt everything was my fault, and the meeting with Claudzilla. I’d say you’ve got a lot of damn secrets for someone who doesn’t keep secrets. To be fair, they all do have one thing in common. You were keeping them from me. Do we need to continue this or are we good?”

Jessica sighed, “We are far from good. We want to have a close relationship with you.” I shrugged, “You could’ve fooled me. Oh wait, you fucking did.” Cassandra had tears in her eyes. She whispered, “Haley, we do love you.” I nodded, “I think you believe that.” Cassandra’s lip quivered. She insisted, “We do. It was just Eric wasn’t Eric. I just wanted you safe and out of harm's way so he could be himself.” I leveled her with a look, “By doing that you PUT him in harm's way. That is unacceptable to me. My brothers, specifically Bjourn, could’ve died. Caleb, who is my friend’s father and my cousin’s father in law would’ve died. You don’t like me and wish I was someone I’m not. Fine. We can all know that and do what’s best for Eric and get along. I can do it. Can you?”

Molly sighed, “We want more though, Haley.” I pointed “You had more. I was so open and honest with you all it’s fucking painful. It is what it is, we have to move forward, and all exist in this house together. I understand it may take some time to get over this awkwardness, but I would like us to. Because I want you all to be present in Eric’s life and the lives of my children. I want you guys front row at whatever they do. Miley says baseball is very important in this realm. So, if our kids play that I want you there. Molly, I get your position more than anyone else’s.”

Cassandra nodded, “We will be there, but we want to be there for you too.” I shrugged, “I can’t stop you from being there for me. I’ll be there for you, but I’m done sharing myself with you.” Jessica made a face that looked like one of pain. I studied her closely.

Before I could ask Shana spoke, “We just didn’t handle this well. You say you understand we were scared for Eric, but you’re acting like we committed a travesty against you.” I raised an eyebrow, “My mate could’ve died along with my brothers. I can say with absolute certainty my mate would’ve been raped. If my child didn’t have a shield I probably would’ve gone into labor and Eric would’ve missed it. My pups would’ve been shot up with iron, and then I probably would’ve had to go save him. So, you did do something pretty damn awful to me. Stop acting like you did this little insignificant thing. I’ve already explained why to you and a larger number of people why this isn’t some small slight against me. You don’t get to invalidate that because it doesn’t suit your narrative.”

Everyone paused. I took that moment to ask, “Jessica, are you alright?” Jessica sucked in a breath, “This isn’t about me. We need to hash this out.” My eyes widened, “It’s hashed, Jessica. We will all get along for the sake of the men in our lives. Because we can agree tension and contempt isn’t what they need from us. Are you in labor?” Everyone moved around her.

Jessica let out a breath. She said, “I think so.” I smiled, “Then I’m going to disafuckingree with you Jessica. This is about you. It’s about you and those two little girls.” Shana asked me, “Will you pop us to the hospital?” I snorted,

“Seriously? You think I’m going to make her walk between fucking contractions?! Yes I’ll pop us there, honestly.” I grabbed their hands and popped to hospital.

Jessica cried out in pain, “I need Harold.” I grabbed her hands and told her, “I’ll link Eric.” Moments later, Harold barged into the room we had been settled in. I snapped him clothes which I don’t even think he noticed. I stood off to the side not wanting to interrupt their family moment as the rest of the guys filed into the room. We were kicked out shortly afterwards.

I was thanked for popping them here. I silently fumed. Just because they were petty with me doesn’t mean I was fucking petty. She was in labor so of course I popped her to the hospital.

Catherine asked to speak to me. Seriously? Did everyone I didn’t want to talk to get together and pick the same fucking day for heart to hearts. I nodded and explained to Eric what I’d be doing afterwards. He wanted me to come back. Truthfully, I just wanted to curl up in my bed and forget the world, but it was clearly important to him, so I’d be there.

The second the door closed behind Eric, Catherine spoke quickly, “I won’t take up much of your time. I just wanted to apologize. I take my oath as a doctor very seriously, and I discussed your care with people I did not have permission to. I am very sorry. You had every right to request a different doctor. I hope in time we can rebuild that trust. If you have more pups, I hope we will be in a better place that I can deliver them. If not, I do understand.” I was surprised. I told her, “Thank you Catherine, that means a lot to me. You could give some damn lessons on apologies. Maybe... well if it’s not... like insulting... You could assist Doris when it’s time to deliver the children. We could start rebuilding that trust.”

Now Catherine looked surprised admitting, “That was much easier than I thought it would be.” I shrugged, “It’s not like we were best friends. You were my doctor. Doris is my doctor but if you and Rose and whoever else assists her that’s fine with me. I think it would comfort Eric having you there.” Catherine smiled, “You really would do anything for him, wouldn’t you?” I nodded, “Yes, but I can’t say we will get back to me being comfortable with you and trusting you as my doctor. We can try fucking though.” She nodded and left.

I popped to Lindsey’s office to make another appointment to talk to her. Then I popped to my room. I decided on the room straight across from us for the nurseries. I opened the door and frowned. It was too damn big. Then it came to me I could put up walls and doors adjoining them then the room would be the perfect size. I snapped and the doors appeared along with the walls. I did the boys rooms first placing their names above the cribs. I got to Cassie’s room last. I still needed the finishing touches on the boys, but most of it was there. I had snapped most of Cassie’s room done when Bjourn and Marcus entered.

Bjourn laughed, "Eric isn't prepared." I smiled, "I'm not done yet." Marcus laughed, "Of course you aren't. We need to talk." I sighed and dramatically flopped onto the pink comfy rocking chair I'd snapped. I told him, "Well you're in luck because I'm having conversations all over the damn place. What do we need to discuss?" Marcus laughed, "So, the conversation with the Connors women went that well, did it?" I sighed, "Other than Molly, they don't fucking get it. They are trying to manipulate me, and I'm not fucking having it." Marcus snorted, "Alright, we need to talk about the guilt we all feel." Now I was lost, "I'm sorry... what now?" Bjourn laughed.

Marcus zeroed in on me, "Look me in the eye and tell me you don't feel guilty you were kidnapped. You feel guilty that Cassandra almost died, and about how long you were gone." I groaned, "Is this necessary, brother?" Bjourn and Marcus simultaneously said, "Yes." I groaned, "Fine, it is my fault Cassandra almost died. Those vampires and fairies were here for me and that's just the damn facts. I feel guilty I was kidnapped because I knew you would come back if I'd asked you to. Or if I had told you I wasn't at the summit. To be honest, I was going to call you and ask you to come back early. I was just still raw from finding out I wasn't fucking invited. I would've broken down if I told you I wasn't there. At the same time, Arion would be dead if you were here. You would've killed him. Then I wouldn't be in the place I am now thinking I'm going to have to kill him to keep my children safe. Or dealing with my snarky mother in law who's salty as fuck about the fact that Arion is still alive. I was gone because I know of at least one SIM I knew wasn't Eric immediately, but I missed him and so I stayed."

Bjourn simply said, "But." I sighed, "But Arion is my brother. I don't want him to die." Marcus smirked, "But." I groaned, "You fucking two! But I think he's going to die anyway. I don't know if that will be in a few years or a few weeks. I feel it down in my bones, he will come for my children. Do you guys have Masium yet?" Bjourn shook his head, "He's hiding, and we have a lot of fairies we are playing with." I sighed, "Then I know Arion is coming for probably me and my children. Masium will fucking convince him to." Marcus stood, "We won't let him take you."

I told my brothers, "I know you don't think Arion is smart and neither does Eric. Arion is wily and cunning. He can wait everyone out or create circumstances where we are caught unaware or separated." Bjourn stared at me. When he finally spoke, it was gently, "You truly believe you will have to kill him. Just subdue him sister. We will handle it for you." I sighed, "I can't do that. I'm a princess and the Luna of this pack. More importantly I'm a mom, and I will do what I have to do to protect them and this pack. I don't know if I'm capable of killing Arion, but if he's threatening my damn children; I think I will kill him." Marcus sighed, "That doesn't make you a bad person. It just makes you a mom." I snorted, "You and Eric are sharing a brain now. He said the same damn thing." Bjourn joined in, "It's true. You couldn't be a bad person if you tried." We continued talking until my

alarm went off. I snapped everything else I wanted in the room to my brother's amusement. I kissed them both and popped to Eric with a little time to spare.

I offered to heal Jessica. They were all stunned. I frowned. They thought I would just let her be in pain? I was offended, surprised, and hurt by their assumptions. Seriously? I'm not a bad person. I don't let people suffer when I can help it. I did not understand their logic. I wasn't the one who did anyone wrong here, they were. But I was suddenly the bad guy? As if I would just let them be in pain. All I fucking said that would change was I just wasn't going to tell them my secrets.

Catherine came in and kicked us all out so Jessica could deliver. I snapped some presents for the babies. Then remembered I had missed Shana and Jessica's baby showers. I snapped her babies a few little things too. Shana was shocked. Are they fucking serious?! I got out my phone and opened a group chat with Bjourn Marcus, Torvi, Astrid, and Miley.

Me: They think I'm a bad person now. I said I would heal Jessica and they all almost fell over in

shock. They thought I would just let her be in pain. Then I snapped some baby gifts to Shana and she

acted like it was the world's kindest gesture. It was two blankets and some binky's for fucks sake.

Bjourn: Why were they surprised you would heal her? No one thinks you are a bad person.

Me: Clearly they fucking do.

Torvi: That's absurd.

Astrid: I agree with Torvi.

Miley: Jim said in this realm when women are upset with each other they don't help each other out.

Me: That's not the same. I have a damn healing ability. It's not like I offered to help her with the damn

night feedings.

Marcus: I think they intended to be kind but thinking you wouldn't heal her is rude.

Me: THANK YOU

I put my phone away as Harold came out and told us the girls were here. I was shocked when he announced they'd used my first and middle names. I smiled at him and told him that was nice. He said Jessica insisted. I really hoped she didn't name her child that out of guilt.

I went to see the babies. I smiled at both of them. They were perfect and beautiful. I went over to Jessica while everyone else was busy and started to heal her. I didn't even bother to say anything to her because I didn't want to hear how shocked and thankful she was. Once I was done she thanked me. She started to say something but stopped. I strongly suspected my mate was behind that and I was grateful. I really didn't need them digging the knife in deeper about their opinion of me.

I walked back over to the girls and spoke in fealish, "Grant these tecious Eqsad ones protection Fren Yuit earth. Grant them well wishes Den Sacren Sewq their parents. Blessings Fren The earth Den Yevce Bets them both (grant these precious little ones protection of the earth. Grant them well wishes and sleep for their parents. Blessings of the earth and sky on them both)." We left shortly after that.

I could help them get sleep. My children were likely to sleep better. Fairy children often started out sleeping eight hours. With our children's powers they may sleep longer if they can conjure a bottle to themselves.

I was so excited to show him the babies rooms. Finally, something we could share together that was not ruined by anyone else and their agenda. He liked both EJ and Alexander's rooms. I could feel his surprise when we entered Cassie's. I smiled. It was fabulous. He said he liked it then promptly took me back to our room. Which was a good thing, my hormones were going crazy. We made love until I drifted off to sleep.

I woke up amped up for training. I hadn't gotten a chance to finalize those plans yesterday. I gave Eric a kiss and popped to the lake to begin my preparations. I quickly got everything set up. Then I also got texts from five other girls saying they wanted to join. I texted them directions. Most were of the girls coming were earth fairies. In total there were eight earth fairies. I had assigned Bexley to work with them. I was going to have five of them that were sky fairies. One was water and then there was Trixie, the fire fairy.

I looked up when I heard two pops. The trainers Aiden had sent were here. I groaned, "You've got to be fucking kidding me! Really Farrin? You of all people are here for training? Eric is going to flip shit." Farrin smiled, "I have heard you carry powerful babies, princess." I narrowed my eyes, "Don't you dare threaten my children, Farrin. Or I'll kill you here and now." Blade appeared by my side.

Farrin put his hands up, "I'm not threatening you or your children. I am simply stating facts. Everyone is buzzing about their powers in Faerie. Many are torn on

whether you should be brought back. Aiden already announced you were doing this partial fairy thing here and would remain here with your mate.” I glared at him, “What makes any of you dare to think I’d do a damn thing for you? Most of you were never kind to me. Why for the love of god does it have to be you training with us?”

Farrin smiled, “I agree with you, princess. You should remain here; it is clearly where you belong. You have changed so much and the true you shines through. This is your place. As for training, it won’t always be me. The other fairy lined up for today had something come up last minute. I’m only here for today. Should I find the fire fairy I train interesting... maybe more.”

I sighed, “If Eric lets you stay.” I linked Eric but quickly figured out someone else was telling him. Eric never linked me back, but I felt his anger and his feeling closer to me in our bond. I turned to see Thor and several other wolves coming towards us. Great. I really didn’t want the partial fairies to get scared away. Eric shifted and put me behind him. Farrin and I both had to explain quickly. I knew Farrin didn’t like me. It did not excuse his behavior at our wedding, but it was true. Farrin didn’t hate me, but he didn’t like me. This wasn’t about him or me today though. This was about teaching other part fairies magic. Farrin coming was actually a big fucking deal. He was a talented fire fairy. Eric settled then went off with his brothers went a few yards away and I couldn’t help but smirk as they sat down to watch. Possessive damn wolf.

I turned to my group and split them up. I told Farrin, “I assume you know your student is related to the King and Prince of Faerie.” Farrin smiled, “I did receive strict instructions on my behavior.” Good. He was already staring at Trixie with surprise and wonder. What the fuck ever.

I finally turned to the water fairy and was surprised to see a second cousin of mine. Hexxi, Marcious’ daughter. She smiled, “Hello, cousin.” I nodded, “Hello cousin. It was kind of you to come.” She smiled, “The water fairies have always wanted to meet other partial fairies. My father could feel my partial sibling’s power. We were sad having to keep them all hidden after we found what was happening to you.” I nodded. She pulled out the one that had water fairy blood. I sent the earth to Bex, and I took the sky ones. Bexley and I agreed to switch off with earth and sky every training.

We went through basic stuff connecting with the earth, sky, water, and fire. Trixie did really well. They all did. There were some that were definitely going to be more powerful in each group, but they all possessed the ability to do something. One of my sky girls even created a small breeze. For their first lesson, it was incredible and they were all so excited afterwards. I laughed at their enthusiasm, remembering my own when I had realized I possessed magic. We agreed on the next training session and they left.

I turned to see Eric speaking with his brothers while somehow still keeping an eye on Farrin. Farrin didn't change his position but said to me, "I never looked down on partial fairies but I never realized how fairy they truly were. Trixie shows great promise. It is a good thing you are doing here, princess." I smiled, "Thank you, Farrin." He nodded, "I do hope your husband doesn't plan to kill me because I do plan to come again." I nodded, "As long as you stay away from me, I can't see it being a damn problem." He nodded. Hexxi gave me a slight wave before popping away.

I could feel his Eric's pride for me in our bond. Afterwards, I spent my time updating my records and preparing for the next fairy event. I also planned the next training session. I conferred with all the teachers. I was going to let them come up with their own plans since they would know the skills to prepare. I wanted to kept up to fucking date, though on what they were doing. I had to make sure they weren't underpreparing or over doing it.

Days flew by and the morning of my shower arrived. I decided on a pink dress that faded into blue since I had to represent the boys as well. I popped down to where Marcus said he was going to create the portal. I was a few moments late, so the portal was already open when I arrived. I stepped through and squealed in delight. The entire room was wall to wall pink with some blue sprinkled in. My family had done such an amazing job with the decorations.

My brothers took all the guys out of the room. My mom came in and I gave her and Miley a hug. I gushed "It looks afuckingmazing! You guys did such a great job! Thank you." They smiled. I looked around the room to see who was here. I smiled at all my brothers' mates and gave them hugs. Bexley was here as well. She hugged me, "Lucinda had something she was unable to get out of, but she sent a gift and her well wishes. She wishes to see you soon." I smiled. I had always liked Lucinda.

To my surprise Cassandra, Molly, Jessica, and Shana were here. They smiled and gave me hugs. Miley passed out drinks to everyone. I opened presents and got lots of clothes and spit up rags, binky's, a custom stroller Bexley had snapped. The spot for Cassie was pink and the boys were blue. I laughed. I wanted to do the same for her, but she and Liam decided not to find out what they were having so their stroller was yellow. So was everything else I had snapped for them for her gift.

I started to feel a slight tickle at my back but shrugged it off. We played games. Everyone was having a great time. We were all laughing and talking. I was just glad there wasn't any tension. I got up to go the bathroom. Bex followed me. She grabbed my hand, "You keep scratching your back. Why?" I shrugged, "I've been feeling a slight tickle on and off since the party started. Bexley screeched, "WHAT?!" I stared at her wide eyed, "I didn't think it was a big deal." Bexley smiled as she ushered me back to the party.



She told me, “That’s what labor feels like to a fairy, my silly cousin!” I frowned, “Well, I didn’t know that!” She laughed, “Your in laws are going to be pissed this is how you are to give birth. Labor is different for fairies. It’s not painful. Lucky you that’s how your fairy DNA came through. Miley might want to kill you though. Let’s not tell her, like ever cousin.” I laughed, feeling slightly overwhelmed. I’d never looked into fairy pregnancies, because I didn’t think I’d ever have a child or let a fucking man touch me intimately.

Bexley shouted, “We need a portal back to Doris because the little ones are coming!” A flurry of activity happened all at once. I linked Eric, “You need to come back now, please.” He laughed, “But we are having such fun and I’m winning!” I snorted, “Winning? Winning what? I still need you to come back because you are about become a dad so…” He yelled, “WHAT?! YOU’RE IN LABOR?” I sarcastically said, “That’s typically what you’re about to be a dad means, Thor.” He didn’t respond, but I felt him getting closer.

He burst into the room a second later with paint all over him. I laughed and snapped him clean. Jackson, Jim, my dad, and all my brothers were right behind him. Eric picked me up and Miley created a portal into the hospital. Eric ran us through. He yelled, “DORIS! WE NEED DORIS!” I laughed, “Eric it’s ok. I’m fine.” He paid no attention to anything I said.

Doris came running towards us. She quickly ushered us into a room and made everyone else stay in the hall. She smiled at me, “So, you’re laboring like a fairy I see. I guessed you would be since you were leaning more towards your fairy side during the pregnancy than Hackura.” Eric looked panicked, “What does that mean?” I snorted, “It means Miley is going to call me a bitch and mean it. Apparently, fairies don’t really experience pain with labor. I’ve been feeling a tickle that kind of itched on my back since the party started.” Eric growled, “Why didn’t you say anything?” I shrugged, “I didn’t know that’s what labor felt like. In all the movies Miley has made me watch people’s damn water breaks.” Doris checked me and smiled, “Well you’re six centimeters dilated. I’ll go ahead and break your water, which is what typically happens anyway. Shockingly, the movies lie.”

I frowned as she took a crochet type needle and walked towards me. I spoke, “You’re telling me this is necessary? That thing needs to be used.” She laughed, “It won’t hurt, you’ll feel some pressure.” She spread my legs. She started to do whatever it was she was doing. I yelled, “Pressure?! Jesus this is like the time you told me a shot would be like a bee sting. What FUCKING bees were you stung by?!” I felt something pop and liquid gushed out of me. Doris went to clean it up. I beat her to it and snapped myself clean. Eric laughed. Doris smiled at me and said, “You always are such fun, princess.” She left.

It wasn't long before both our families filed inside the room. Marcus walked over and gave me a kiss along with the rest of my brothers. My mom and dad were last. My dad said, "We will be in the waiting area, princess. If you need us, you tug on the bond and we will be right by your side." I nodded.

Miley walked over to me and said, "Well, you make labor not seem that bad." I smiled and Bexley laughed. She added, "Because she's giving birth like a fairy. It would be better outside." I nodded, "That actually sounds fabulous." Eric and Liam cut us both a look and said simultaneously, "Not a chance."

Bexley and I rolled our eyes and Eric stayed by my side and his family stayed in the room. I sent Miley a text asking her to ask Doris to clear the room. She smiled at me and left with Jim. Doris came back in, "Everyone out, I need to check on the princess." Nathan frowned asking, "Didn't you just do that?" Doris replied, "Yes, and when the princess is in labor and the King is a nervous nelly in the waiting room, one does what the king says. Now shoo!"

Once they left she looked at me and asked, "Are you overwhelmed?" I nodded, "I don't want to hurt anyone's feelings, I just want it to be calm and just me and Eric for a while." She nodded and checked me, "Alright well you are dilated to an eight now. I thought you might go back down since we broke your water, but these little ones want to join us shortly. When the tickle extends up your spine call me back. I'll keep everyone out." I smiled, "Thank you, Doris."

Eric kissed my forehead, "You're doing so good, Angel. You give me so much. I got something for you. My brothers told me a push present is vital." I laughed, "What's the fuck is a push present?" He smiled, "A present for giving birth." He gave me a ring box. I opened it and found a gorgeous, pink sapphire two carat ring surrounded by little diamonds in a Halo setting. I gasped, "Eric, it's beautiful!" He smiled and put it on my ring finger. He told me, "You should've had a ring long ago. Now anyone will see you and know you're all mine. In this realm that's what this ring symbolizes." I nodded. I could understand that.

Then he pulled out another box. I laughed, "Eric Connors, what did you do?" He smiled, "I told you, you are giving me so much, and I'm going to spoil you." I opened the box and a necklace with three infinity rings with our children's names on them were on a platinum chain. Tears were streaming down my face. He whispered, "We can add more names if we like." I nodded and gave him a kiss, "I love you, Eric." We stayed holding each other for a while longer.

I felt the tickle up my spine. I said, "You should get Doris." Eric shot up, "Really? Right now?" I nodded. He used his supernatural speed to get to the door. He screamed for Doris. I rolled my eyes that wasn't fucking necessary. Doris came back inside quickly. She checked me and said, "Alright, now is where we enter a code of silence. No one will tell Duchess Miley how this goes. She will have to

push when her time comes, but you... you are going to feel a sneeze coming on." I looked at her my eyes wide. I said, "You're fucking joking." She laughed, "I think it's about time something was easy for you. You were owed something that wasn't the hardest path in life, Princess. You will sneeze three times and each time a baby will come out." I looked at her then Eric who also looked disbelieving.

Catherine came in to assist Doris. She also had a disbelieving look. I said, "You're fucking with me right, Doris?" Before she could answer a powerful sneeze overtook me. I looked up in time to see Doris handing a baby to Catherine. I yelled, "HOLY FUCKING SHIT! YOU WERE SERIOUS?! Eric, which one of our babies is it?" Catherine handed Eric the baby with a blue blanket. Eric walked over to me and said, "It's a boy, Angel." I smiled and held out my hands, I cooed at the baby in my arms. I whispered, "Hi, EJ. Mommy and Daddy love you so damn much." He grabbed onto my finger and squeezed. Everyone but me about fell over when he conjured himself a bottle and began to suck it down.

I cooed, "Aww, my hungry little baby boy. Oh boy... Eric take him. I feel another damn sneeze is coming." I sneezed again. Doris handed another baby off to Catherine. I noticed Jackson step inside. He took EJ from Eric and sat down with him. Eric brought the baby over to me, wrapped in another blue blanket. I smiled, "Well, hi Alexander. Welcome to the world baby boy. We love you." He cooed and conjured himself a bottle just like EJ had.

Jackson's mouth dropped. He asked, "Did the baby just get himself a bottle... using magic?" Eric nodded, bewildered. He said, "He did. Just like EJ did." Jackson muttered, "We are all in so much trouble with these little pups."

I handed Alexander to Eric. I sneezed again and Cassie came into the world. Jackson asked, "Are you shitting me? She sneezes children out?" Eric laughed, "Yes. At least something is easy for her in her life." Jackson muttered under his breath. Catherine came over and placed Cassie in my arms.

Cassie immediately put her hand on my chest. I knew what she wanted rather than a bottle. I unsnapped my hospital gown and Cassie latched right onto me. I smiled at her. She pulled off after several minutes. She conjured herself a bottle like her brothers. Alexander was fussing now. Eric switched babies with me.

Alexander placed his hand on my chest, so I put him on my other boob and he greedily drank from me. When Alexander was done EJ began fussing. I laughed and told Jackson, "He's jealous of his siblings. Switch with me, Jackson." Jackson came and handed me EJ. He took Alexander and went to sit back down. I put EJ on my boob and he was immediately content.

Soon all three babies were asleep. Doris asked, "If you want to princess, now would be the time to snap yourself clean and heal yourself. The amount of people

that are waiting to see you and these little ones in the lobby is quite high.” I nervously asked, “Really?”

Eric smiled as he rocked Cassie in his arms. He told me, “The whole pack is practically here. Along with a lot of Hackura people. The pack wants to see their future Alpha’s and Luna, Your people want to see their Duke’s and Duchess.” I was stunned. I figured it would just be both our families waiting. Eric leaned down to kiss me. He whispered, “You are amazing, little mate. Our pups are beautiful, just like their mom, I can’t believe you’ve made me father.” I smiled at him again. Eric broke our kiss, to kiss EJ’s forehead who was still in my arms.

The first to come see us were Eric’s parents and mine. My dad held his arms out for Cassie. She nestled right into him. I laughed. My mom came over to me with a smirk on her face. I whispered to her, “She already has him wrapped around her finger.” My mom nodded, “That she does. Can I hold this little man?” I nodded and told her, “This is EJ.” She held him and began to rock back and forth with him. He gurgled at her and she melted, cooing at him.

I looked up and saw Cassandra holding Alexander. Doris had not been joking, there seemed to be a revolving door of people who wanted to see the babies. Halfway through our visitors I realized I hadn’t snapped myself my normal clothes. I quickly did that and healed myself. I instantly felt a lot better. Everyone was taken aback when the triplets conjured themselves a bottle. Bexley and I laughed at their expressions. I wondered if I had been able to conjure my bottles. That was why fairy children slept better. They just conjured what they wanted. It would be a problem when the triplets first started having sweets, but that was a long way off.

The last of the visitors left. I debated then decided to texted Aiden that the children had arrived. No sooner had I sent the text when a pop sounded. Aiden smiled and looked me up and down. He smiled, “You look great, little sister. Did you have a fairy birth?” I nodded. Aiden smiled, “Of course you did. I am happy for you. May I meet my niece and nephews?” I nodded.

I wordlessly handed Cassie to him, since she was the one I was already holding. Aiden smiled at her and cooed, “You look just like your momma did. Yes, the wolf is going to have to be careful with you. You’ll turn heads, little duchess.” My eyes went wide, “You... you named my children as royalty in Faerie?” He smiled, “The announcement went out as soon as you texted me you’d given birth.” Eric grabbed my hand and squeezed as tears flooded my eyes.

Aiden nodded towards Eric and said, “And he was named the consort of the Princess. I couldn’t very well ignore him since he did help bring these little ones to us.” I was stunned. Eventually I replied, “Thank you, brother. That’s... I wasn’t expecting that.” Aiden smiled, “I know. Now, where are the boys?” Eric handed him EJ and took Cassie back from him. Aiden cooed at him. EJ conjured himself a

bottle. Aiden smiled wider He whispered, “Just like fairy babies. This one looks just like you, Alpha.” Eric smiled, “So does Alexander.”

Aiden handed EJ to me and walked over to Alexander. He picked him up out of the bassinet. He spoke in fealish, “Xed The king Za bless these children Fren The Yevce Den earth. May their lives Kekkel lala Den fruitfull they tyu royal (As the King I bless these children of the sky and earth. May their lives be happy and fruitful they are royal).

I couldn't stop my tears. I hugged my brother. He kissed my cheek and whispered, “Za mucha saigal Eqsad Ioup. They tyu beautihen (I love you, little sister. They are beautiful). I smiled and thanked him, “Za mucha saigal yuz Ioul. Thank Zu (I love you too brother, thank you.)” He nodded to Eric, “Congratulations Prince Alpha Consort Connors.” Eric said, “Thank you, King Aiden.” My brother grinned and popped out.

The days passed by. Doris and Catherine were militant about me not leaving the hospital. I knew who was behind it, my dad and Eric. They wanted to make sure the children and I were ok. Which was moderately ridiculous because I healed myself. It was nice to have them being so worried about all our health. It had almost been a week since the triplets were born.

Eric was stunned by their development. His brothers were cursing him because Cassie slept ten hours and the boys slept around eight to ten. It really depended on if they wanted to eat from me or just conjured a bottle. Bexley's shower was tomorrow so I was confirming last minute details. I suspected EJ had the shield power. It was just a sense I was getting from the children. I suspected Cassie had the sunlight hands. Which led me to believe Alexander was the pusher.

I had been waiting for Eric to come by when he linked me, “Haley, I have to take care of something but I'll be back.” I replied, “We will be waiting.” About an hour after that my phone rang. I smiled when I saw who was calling.

I answered, “Hi Megan!” She immediately jumped in, “We have no time for pleasantries, I've left Arion. I rejected him.” I was stunned. I asked, “What? Why? Do you need a place to stay? You are welcome here.” She sighed, “That's great because I'm pretty sure I'm pregnant with a half fairy baby so I will need your help. I called to warn you.” My heart sank, “What did he do?” Megan sighed, “He's coming for the children and you. I overheard him and Masium. They have gathered some fairies who believe you and your children belong in Faerie. Masium found a witch who claims she can help you not go crazy since you are twice light bound, but I know she's lying. Nothing could stop it.”

I groaned. It hit me. I whispered, “Arion’s coming now, isn’t he? Eric’s emergency isn’t real... or it’s a diversion that Arion set up.” Megan sighed, “I’m afraid so. Stay safe and I’ll see you soon.” She hung up.

I opened the door to my room. I was relieved to see warriors lining the hall. I ordered, “Someone make sure Bexley is hidden and safe. We are about to be attacked by fairies who want me and the children. I just don’t think they will fucking stop with me. They will want her back too.” The warriors nodded to me.

I linked Eric, “Eric, we need you back here.” He didn’t reply. All of the wolves suddenly dropped to the ground. I yelled, “MOTHER FUCKER! Can they ever face the fucking wolves?! Whose power is that?” It hit me. I hissed, “It’s got to be my stupid fucking brother!” I ran back into my room. I spoke to the babies, “EJ, I’m pretty sure you have the shield. We need it baby.” I pushed their bassinets together.

Immediately a shield went up around them. I smiled, “Good job, baby.” I called Eric’s phone but I only got his voicemail. I left him a message, “Eric, wherever the fuck you are it’s a diversion. Fairies are coming to take us. Come back!” I called Marcus, Bjourn, and my father but I got their voicemails. I kept going through my brothers.

Finally, I reached Evin. He answered, “Hello, little sister.” I sighed in relief, “Evin thank fucking god one of you answered the damn phone! Fairies are attacking us. They want me and the children. I need you to come help us. The wolves are down because of Arion’s stupid fucking power. No one except you answered my call.” Evin was responding to me when the door to my room blew off the hinges. I dropped my phone. My heart hurt as Masium and Arion barged into my room. I tugged on all my connections. I felt their instant concern then panic.

I whispered, “Do not drop that shield do you hear me, baby?” I didn’t want them to know which triplet possessed the power, so I didn’t use his name. Arion spoke to me, “Come with us, sister. You belong in Faerie with your children.” I ignored him glaring at Masium.

I hissed, “This is your damn fault, Masium. What’s your plan? Do you think you can overfuckingthrow Aiden? He will not stand for this!” Masium shrugged and offered, “He forgave us once. He will again. Or we could just hide you all from him. He won’t have a choice if he wants to make sure you are being taken care of.” I groaned, “You and your godawful fucking plans. You cannot hide me from my husband or my Hackura family. Or did you forget you already failed at that once.”

I looked to Arion. I said, “You lost Megan over this.” He frowned, “She will understand one day.” I rolled my eyes, “For someone so smart you are ridiculously fucking dumb.” A fairy they brought with them made a move towards the children.

I raised my hand and curled it. He clutched his throat as he struggled to breathe. Everyone stared at me as I killed him. I told them coldly, "If any of you so much as twitch in the direction of my children, you will die." I conjured my swords to me.

Masium chuckled, "Come now, cousin. You just gave birth. Let's not injure ourselves and make this harder than it has to be." I smiled, "Did you already forget that I can fucking heal? I was healed hours after I gave birth."

A trio of fairies came in dragging a very injured Molly, Cassandra, Shana, and Jessica. They smirked at me and the one in front told me, "Surrender, or they die." Cassandra cried, "Don't." I rolled my eyes, "Didn't anyone tell you the four of us aren't getting along. I've learned in this damn realm that means I'm not supposed to help them out. It's very fairy of this realm, is it not?" Masium started to laugh.

Arion frowned asking, "You won't help them? That's not like you." I snorted "Did I fucking say that? I just pointed out they fucking think I won't." I called the wind and threw the fairies that surrounded them into the wall and grew the vines trapping the fairies trying to hurt them against the wall. It freed all of the women I pointed out, "I'm not from this realm, dumbasses."

Arion smiled asking, "Aren't you going to banish us?" I rolled my eyes, "If it would work yes, but it seems mother gave you protections. I, for one, am fucking stunned she's not helping me. Really I'm going to fall over any second." Masium frowned, "FUCK! How powerful are you to tell that?" I rolled my eyes, "You all have a blue and gold glowing necklace on. Seriously, you could've tried to hide it, so it was dramatic when I tried to banish you. I do notice some of your people aren't fucking wearing them. So, as a child of the earth and sky I banish those without protections." Ten of them were hurled backwards.

Arion frowned, "Seriously? Can no one follow directions? That's... moving on. Haley, mother wants you home too." I rolled my eyes casually stating, "Good help is hard to find especially when you are going against your king. What she wants doesn't really matter to me anymore, brother." Arion stepped forward, "You belong with us." I cocked my head, "Do I? Isn't it just fucking funny how until you found out I had powers that I didn't belong with you? How could you do this, Arion? I wanted you to live. I wanted you to be happy. Now you've taken the decision out of my damn hands."

Arion snorted, "Your wolf is busy." I laughed, "My brother will be here soon. Probably with the damn Hackura army." Masium laughed, "That shows what you know. We tricked them along with your wolf and led them into a trap." I taunted him, "Shows what you fucking know, cousin. I have more than one brother, and they are never all in the same place. It's a thing." They froze. Masium's gaze slid to Cassie. I instantly put myself between them so he couldn't see her.

I asked him, "What do you want Masium?" He smiled, "Power and freedom. You and your children can give me power. We can keep breeding you to see what other marvelous powers you can bring back to Faerie." My heart stopped. Arion frowned. Masium smirked, "So you truly are the truth seeker, cousin." I shakily said, "Yes, I am." I knew that my daughter had just made him tell the truth though. Because I didn't use my power on him.

Suddenly some of their men went down holding their heads. Then more on the other side went down. My heart dropped to my feet. It wasn't possible for one baby to take out this many as a pusher. It was both my sons. I linked Eric shouting, "ERIC, WE FUCKING NEED YOU!" I was stunned when I got a reply. Eric said, "We are coming, Angel. Hold on!"

Masium took a step forward. Molly instantly lunged at him. I kept my eyes on my brother. Molly and Masium struggled before he used the wind to knock her away. He dropped to the ground as one of my sons pushed at him, screaming in pain. He didn't die though, so they apparently weren't going to kill him at this point. Masium eventually stopped screaming and passed out. Blade and Javi burst through the door covered in blood.

Arion took a step forward, and so did I. I raised my sword. I begged him, "Please brother, don't." He sighed, "It's for the best." I said, "Last time you tried to do what you fucking believed was best... you almost killed me AND them. Please brother, do not make me do this." He shook his head, "That was different. This has to happen. I am lost." I asked, "What are you talking about, Arion? Just pop away." Arion simply said, "No."

I closed my eyes and let my anger consume me. I opened my eyes and attacked. We were switching between swords and fairy powers. He managed to hit me with a fire bolt in my arm. I hissed in pain which caused all my children to wail. Cassie hit Arion with her sunlight. I yelled, "Blade, Javi get to the children!"

The wind was swirling around Aiden and me. We met in the middle and clashed swords. He was the prince of Faerie. His training was extensive and he had always been good with a sword. We both had wounded each other. We were both bleeding. EJ was crying in pain. I knew he was straining to keep the shield up around his siblings. He wasn't trained yet. He didn't have the stamina.

I saw the moment I had my chance to kill my brother. EJ's shield shrank a little, causing Arion to lose focus. I frowned. I could see it in his eyes, he thought his chance to take my children was here. That wasn't like him. He seemed almost erratic. His goal had to be to pop away with at least one of my children because my ass would be right behind him.



I didn't hesitate to waste the moment. I struck my brother through the heart with my sword. We both went down in a bloody heap. I was bleeding from head to toe from our battle. My brother's breath was coming in gasps. I cried and held him, "I'm so sorry, Arion. I'm so sorry. You gave me no fucking choice. I couldn't let you have them. I'm so sorry, brother." He patted my arm. He told me, "You did what you had to, little sister. I will be better off now." What the fuck did that mean? He smiled, "I do love you little sister... Always." I told him, "I'll heal you and..." He shook his head, "No." A light passed between us. I stared at him. I tried to heal him and it wouldn't work. I cried, "What did you do?" He told me, "What was right." He took his last breath.

My heart broke as I sobbed, putting my forehead against his. The remaining fairies were advancing on the triplets. It was now a free for all. I mustered all my strength hearing the cries of my children. I pushed my feelings aside and popped to them. Javi and Blade were cutting down fairies as they came.

Eric and his brothers stormed into the room with my family coming through a portal. They started ripping through fairies as I grabbed the triplets bassinets. I couldn't be here anymore. My children shouldn't see this. They shouldn't have watched their fucking uncle die in front of them. Fucking Masium! I quickly popped away from this nightmare holding them tightly.