

Everyone Wants What's Mine

Eric shrugged. When in the Hackura realm, do as the Hackura do. I took a drink of what was handed to me, surprised to find it was a mug full of whiskey. Drake smiled, "You have to chug it. Then we will head out to the obstacle course. You like whiskey, right? Haley thinks you do." I laughed, "I do." I chugged my whiskey along with Jackson and Jim.

Once we finished, we followed Bjourn out to the obstacle course they had set up. They handed me a paintball gun. I raised my eyebrow. They smiled at me. Titus explained, "We will split into teams." He started assigning teams. He was apparently the referee. It ended up being Bjourn, Jim, Benjamin, Ubbe, Logan and me versus Marcus, Drake, Histeck, Harper, and Jackson.

I asked Bjourn, "So, is this regular paintball rules? What are we trying to capture?" Bjourn laughed, "We are trying to hit them with paintballs. We don't capture anything." Jim laughed and asked, "So we just hide and shoot each other?" Bjourn smiled, "If you get hit you weren't hiding very well, were you?" We both laughed. I said, "I suppose not."

We spread out. Titus yelled, "Shirts off!" Harper yelled, "FUCK! Is the whole Conners werewolf family hot?!" I laughed. Jackson linked me, "I think that was a compliment." I laughed, "Since he basically said he would fuck all of us, I'd say so." I began to climb a tree where I could shoot anyone who came by. I looked over to my right and saw Bjourn smiling a few trees away. Shit. If all the Hackura were in the trees, Jim would be screwed. I linked him, "I'm up in a tree, as is Bjourn. If you stay on the ground, use your wolf senses, and mind the trees." Jim linked back, "Thanks. Something tells me it's going to hurt worse than a normal paintball gun." He was probably right about that.

I saw Harper off in the distance. I aimed and hit him square in the chest. He went down with a groan, getting up quickly he stayed hidden among the rocks on the course. So, you weren't out once hit. How the fuck did this game end? Jim linked, "I was right getting hit is worse than a normal paintball gun. FUCK this hurts." I switched sides of my tree. I noticed Histeck closing in on my position. Bjourn began to rapid fire at his brother. Histeck yelled in pain, but still kept playing.

Titus yelled out, "Everyone on the ground now." Great. Bjourn smiled at me. We both dropped out of the trees we were in. I heard the shots coming at us. I ducked behind the tree then shifted into my wolf and sprinted to the rocks. I shifted back and heard Harper swearing, "DID YOU SEE THAT BROTHERS? I am TELLING you; magic dick over there has powers. No wonder our sister is having fucking triplets. He should make a mold of that thing and start a brand of dildos. Haley calls him Thor... it could be the god of thunder line of dildos. We will make

MILLIONS I tell you.” Jackson was roaring with laughter along with Jim and Marcus.

Marcus spoke, “I’m going to tell our heavily pregnant sister you are obsessed with her husband’s dick.” Harper gasped, “You wouldn’t DARE! You know Hackura women are crazy with mood swings. Our sister is an expert with a sword.” Jackson linked me, “Should I tell him she’s been more like a fairy? I’m leaning towards no. This is way more fun. He’s visibly sweating.” I linked back, “You shouldn’t tell him at all. Marcus knows Haley’s been more like a fairy. He’s just messing with him.” Jackson laughed, “True.”

I had used their conversation as a distraction to sneak up on Harper. I shot him three times while he cursed me and ran for the pond. I laughed silently while moving into a new position. Haley linked me. The party couldn’t be over already, could it? This was getting fun and I was absolutely winning. I froze for an undetermined amount of time when I caught onto Haley’s implication with her link. Many emotions filled me terror, pride, and happiness. Then it hit me like a mack truck I had to get her home.

I began to sprint across the field. I got pelted with paintballs. FUCK! Were they bewitched to sting like a mother fucker? I yelled out, “Haley’s in labor! The pups are coming!” What was I doing? I was faster in wolf form. Thor snorted, “I got this.” We shifted and started thundering back towards her. I felt Jackson and Jim on my heels also in wolf form and I could hear Haley’s brothers and dad thunderously running behind us. I shifted back to human form and ran into the castle.

I barely noticed anything but Haley. I was annoyed she was on her feet. She needed to be sitting down or laying down. I picked her up and was through portal. Haley was adamant she was fine; but she didn’t have a medical degree. Someone with a medical degree needed to check her and the pups, THEN she can be declared fine.

When I saw Doris sprinting towards us, I decided I liked her. All the women in the Hackura realm we just left acted as though this was no big deal. Here was someone on my level. Jackson linked me “Pups are born every day, big brother. Calm yourself.” I linked back, “Sure pups, but not MY pups!” He snorted but didn’t reply.

Haley was laboring like a fairy. Was that code? Did I LOOK like a fucking fairy who knew what the fuck that meant?! I needed a clear answer on whether or not my mate was ok. They kept not answering my questions. FOR GOD'S SAKE can anyone answer a question?

I linked my brothers, “Apparently shots are like bee stings, and Haley is cursing out Doris asking what fucking bee stung her.” Jackson laughed, “My sister in law is priceless. That’s true though. Many doctors say shots are like a bee sting, I am now curious what bees doctors have been stung by. They must be bees on steroids.” I bit my lip so hard I drew blood so I wouldn’t laugh.

My tune changed immediately and I paled seeing blood that looked a bit like oil begin to leak out of my mate. Then it all came out in a gush. I looked at Doris panicked. Doris seemed to think it was fine, and she gave me a reassuring smile. There was nothing that was going to reassure me seeing Haley bleed. That was decidedly NOT water. Shouldn’t we be panicking? Haley simply snapped herself clean.

I linked all my brothers, “Fuck each of you for not telling me that when a woman’s water breaks, it isn’t water.” Harold laughed, “Yeah, it’s more like bloody oil looking shit. It’s terrifying.” I growled, “That’s unhelpful information now. My heartbeat is in my feet, you assholes.” I looked up as Haley and my families came into the room. I shot my brothers a glare.

Haley’s family offered encouragement then left. I was trying to figure out a way to ask my family to leave. I didn’t want to hurt their feelings, but this was about Haley’s comfort level. Her own family realized she wanted it to just be us. I was worried about Haley. I linked my brothers, “She does look ok, right?” Jackson linked back, “She looks really good. She’s not even sweating or anything, brother. She’s fine.” I nodded.

Bexley commented on fairy labor. Someone was going to have to tell me what the FUCK that meant before I lost my damn mind. Her and Haley started talking about wanting to be outside. No, that sounded like a horrible idea. I needed doctors with medical degrees in our pack hospital to assure me Haley was ok. Along with the pups. I locked eyes with Liam and we were both against this. No to this outside shit.

I linked Liam, “Fairies.” He linked back, “No fucking way is Bexley giving birth outside, I don’t care how fucking peaceful she thinks it is. I will strap her down.” I linked back, “That’s understandable, Pookie bear.” Liam winced. He linked me back, “I was hoping in the mayhem everyone forgot about that.” I smiled, “Not a chance, Pookie.” Liam smiled, “It’s ok. The warriors can’t call me that, though. That’s for my Sun alone.” I nodded in understanding. Bexley and Liam left.

I noticed Haley sent a text. Doris burst in kicking everyone out to examine Haley. Jackson linked me, “She doesn’t want us in here, does she?” I linked back, “I think she just wants it to be us. Plus, Titus is probably pacing the waiting room.” They left. Haley said she just wanted some peace and alone time with me before the pups came.

Jackson linked me, “We are going to need new floors. Titus, Marcus, Ubbe, Bjourn, and Drake are all pacing.” I linked back, “At least some of them are sitting down.” He laughed, “Oh no the rest are in the gym. They are putting our equipment to the test. Apparently, the only thing that scares Hackura men is a woman giving birth. Also, word went around and the whole pack is practically out here. Along with what appears to be the Hackura lords and others.”

I growled and asked him, “Are there any dark-haired, green-eyed assholes? About six foot one?” Jackson linked back, “Umm one matches that description. He looks quite worried and pissed at the same time. He’s not alone though. There is a guy with brown hair and broad shoulders, and a guy who could quite literally be a Disney prince with his black hair and blue eyes.” I growled, “THOSE FUCKERS! Those were the guys who were glaring at me in the Hackura realm. They want what is mine.” Jackson snorted, “Well, they can’t have her, and she doesn’t want them. Focus on the pups and Haley. Darrin, Harold, and I will keep an eye on the three stooges” I sighed, he was right.

Once Doris left, I grabbed the presents I had stashed in the room after my brothers told me push presents would save my ass. I didn’t think Haley would know what the fuck a push present was, but I wanted to spoil her anyway. I’d had her wedding ring custom mad for her. I’d hoped it would be ready by our wedding, but it wasn’t. Jackson had picked it up for me during that time period she was with the vampires. I wanted to give it to her at the perfect moment. I knew this was that moment. At minimum, I knew the Hackura knew about wedding rings. Astrid had mentioned a ring before. Those assholes who were in my fucking waiting room would know exactly what that ring meant. Thor relaxed a little seeing the ring on her finger.

I gave her the necklace I had custom made with our pups names on it. I confirmed with the jeweler that names could be added if we decided to have more pups. Haley and I just held each other and everything else faded away. We stayed that way until Haley said it was time. I was frantic. Doris came when I yelled. She told Haley she would sneeze out our children. I stared at her trying to see if she was joking, but she didn’t seem to be. I linked Catherine, “Get the fuck in here. This crazy woman is on crack.” Catherine linked back, “I’m coming. Why do you think she’s on drugs?”

When Catherine entered the room and heard the sneezing out children comment she paused. Catherine linked me, “Well, I don’t think she’s on drugs, but I have NEVER heard about sneezing out a pup. I’ll have to despise the fairies more than I already do. I pushed all my pups into this world. There is no fucking way fairies get to sneeze out kids.”

I almost dropped to the floor when Haley sneezed and seconds later I heard a baby crying. Are you shitting me? Fairies sneeze out children?! If their mates weren’t so

fucking stupid as to damage the women their first time together; those fuckers would overpopulate their fucking realm.

Catherine handed me a baby in a blue blanket. I whispered in awe asking, "It's a boy?" Catherine nodded, "Congratulations, Alpha. The future Alpha has been born." Pride filled me as I looked at my son. He looked just like the pictures I'd seen of myself as a baby. I turned to give him to Haley. She cooed at him. Tears filled my eyes when she called him EJ. She looked so beautiful holding our little boy. I thanked the moon goddess for my family.

Out of thin air EJ had a bottle in his mouth and was greedily sucking it down. Catherine linked me, "Haley did that, right?" I answered, "Surely, she did." I thought she wanted to breastfeed, but she could've changed her mind. A fed pup is a what mattered. When Haley implied she'd not conjured the bottle for EJ, I almost fell over. I had to remain on my feet because she handed him back to me.

I stared at Catherine in shock. Her face mirrored mine. All I could think was... exfuckingcuse me?! EJ conjured himself the bottle. HOLY FUCKING SHIT. I didn't have time to process that as Haley sneezed again. I linked Jackson, "Come to Haley's room discreetly. I don't have enough hands to hold the pups." Jackson linked back, "I'm on my way." Catherine had another one of my children in her arms.

Jackson came in and took EJ from me. He held him close to his chest then sat down with him. Jackson linked me, "He looks just like you, brother." I linked back as I stared lovingly at my second son, "As does this one." Catherine smiled and told me, "It's another boy, Alpha. I am so happy for you." She handed me Alexander. I walked in a daze over to Haley. She cooed at him, welcoming Alexander to the world. He conjured himself a bottle just as EJ did. I still couldn't grasp that concept. Jackson joined us in our disbelief.

When Haley put Alexander back into my arms, I realized what was about to happen. My whole world stopped. My little girl was coming. I was going to have a beautiful princess who would look just like her mother. Haley sneezed again and Cassie was here. I immediately went over and was astounded by her beauty. My precious baby girl. I whispered to her, "No one will ever be good enough for you, my little princess." Catherine snorted.

Jackson linked me, "She sneezes out pups?!" I linked back, "Yup." Jackson muttered, "We are never fucking telling the other woman that. We think we have problems with them all now, that would be stoking the flames of the fire. Molly had to push for two hours before Saied came into the world."

I watched as Catherine handed Cassie to Haley. I looked at my two angels. I linked Jackson, "Cassie looks just like her mother." Jackson laughed, "Welcome to the

club of what the fuck do we do to keep boys away from our daughter's. It's like the moon goddess' karmic justice for how we were as teenagers. I will kick their fucking horny asses if they come near my little girl." I groaned, "We need a moat... with some alligators." Jackson considered then replied, "I like it." I nodded, "Caleb will have to look into it as soon as possible."

Jackson linked me, "Brother, I can sense EJ's wolf." I startled and replied, "WHAT?" Jackson nodded, "I sense that he has a wolf already." I focused on Alexander in my arms. Thor linked, "I sense his wolf as well as Cassie's. Cassie's isn't as strong a sense, but I have contacted all our pups' wolves." I was stunned.

I linked Jackson, "Thor senses all their wolves. He can talk to them already." Jackson linked back, "We are going to have legit baby wolves running around. This is insane, brother." I smiled. I was a little worried but proud. Once the news settled, I might panic. For now, I was one proud dad. To be able to sense their wolves this early was unheard of. My pups were one of kind. I linked Jackson, "They are quite powerful. We need to protect them. We will have to up trainings again. No one outside our family can know."

Jackson linked back, "How the FUCK do you think we can manage people not finding out?" I retorted, "Who's going to try to sense their wolves? They are babies." Jackson grumbled, "I did." I snorted, "We were curious if we were going to have toddlers running around shifting. You had a reason to check." Jackson inclined his head conceding my point.

Cassie cooed at me. I looked at her and went stock still. She was cooing at me, but her mouth wasn't moving. I linked Jackson with a serious tone, "Jackson." His head shot up his eyes meeting mine, looking for danger. He linked back, "What?" I looked him dead in the eye and linked, "Cassie is mind linking me." His eyes widened. He yelled in our link, "HOLY MOTHER FUCKING SHIT, ERIC!" I nodded. He took the words out of my mouth.

I smiled at Cassie and linked her out of sheer curiosity, "Hello, little princess. Daddy loves you very much." She smiled and snuggled into me. I had to sit before I fell. Cassie soon fell asleep, as did her brothers. The reminder that others wanted to enjoy our family as well burst the bubble. I leaned down and kissed Haley. I tried to convey all my feelings for her with my lips. She amazed me; she had given me the world. She and our pups were my world. I would protect them with everything in me.

I wasn't shocked both our parents were the first through the doors. Titus immediately came to me and put out his arms for Cassie. I couldn't help but smile. The fierce Hackura king melted at the sight of my daughter. Jackson linked me, "You looked the exact same, brother. The fierce Alpha and Hackura king practically on their knees for a baby girl." I linked him back, "No one will ever get

close enough to hurt my baby girl. I've got lots of help protecting her." Jackson agreed, "We will keep all your pups safe, Eric."

All of Haley's brothers were around Titus clamoring to get to hold Cassie next. Marcus somehow won. My daughter had many protectors, thank the goddess for small mercies. Our parents never left the room, but many people started filtering through. The pack came through first. Darrin linked me, "It was an intense game of rock, paper, scissors to see who could come in first. I'm pretty sure the dude that lost it for the Hackura got beat to hell." I smirked. I noticed Haley snapped herself clean. She was in her regular clothes again. I did a double take, she looked just as she did before she got pregnant. I wanted to kick everyone out and just enjoy her and our family.

I did not get my wish. The Hackura came in next. The last of them to come in were those three stooges. I immediately glared at them. They glared back. They tried to engage Haley. She was too busy watching our pups to notice their eyes were focused on her. Titus, Marcus, and Bjourn didn't miss it though. Their gazes hardened.

Marcus jerked his head at me over to the furthest wall. I linked my brothers, "Don't let them get any closer to her. I'll kill them if they fucking touch her." All three nodded, immediately moving to hover near Haley who was still was oblivious. Veronica's head snapped up as my brothers placed themselves within arm's reach of the three men. Veronica quickly evaluated the situation. Understanding appeared in her gaze. She sent Titus an 'I told you so' look.

I walked over to Marcus. He asked me, "You're glaring. Have you noticed them before?" I snorted, "Did I notice the guys who watched us have sex in the ocean after stalking my mate there hoping I wouldn't be with her? The men who looked at me with hatred and contempt the moment we were announced by your father at the ball? The men who watched me fuck her after the bloody eagle with pain and disdain in their eyes? Yes, I've noticed all three. As did your Uncle Zader. I believe he spoke to one at the ball."

Marcus cursed, "FUCK! Mom always said they had a thing for her. Uncle Zader said he spoke to Kace for his disrespect towards you. We thought it was just about there being a new prince. Mom said we were wrong, but..." My eyes narrowed, "Your mother is right. They absolutely have a thing for my wife. I thought I proved she was irrevocably mine already. Clearly they need a reminder, in the delivery room while she ignores them to hold OUR FUCKING PUPS. Who are they?" Marcus frowned, "Phillip, Kace, and Cason. They all helped train her." I raised an eyebrow, "Let me guess Phillip is the wannabe Disney prince." Marcus laughed, "I have never noticed that before, but yes he is." I nodded and huffed, "I thought you and Bjourn trained her." Marcus nodded, "We did. She wouldn't let anyone else touch her without losing it. Phillip taught her to ride a horse from a distance. Kace

trained her on her computer skills. Cason is a very sociable person, so he tried to help her with her people skills.”

I raised an eyebrow, reminding him, “She doesn’t need help with people skills.” Marcus sighed, “She did when we met her. She didn’t want to look anyone in the eye, and she didn’t have any fun. It was tough. Honestly, it took a year before she even wanted to talk to Kace. He helped though.” I nodded. I asked him, “They are going to be a problem, aren’t they? I thought Haley didn’t have friends before Jim and Nick. They clearly believe they are her friends.” Marcus’ eyes blazed. He told me, “They better fucking not be a problem.” He sighed and ran a hand through his hair.

He explained, “No one ever called Haley their friend in our realm. It’s something children instinctually know if someone is their friend. Because of how she was raised, Haley did not know these things. She would’ve needed them to tell her. Haley thought of them as acquaintances. Haley IS friends with the Black Arrow, though. That girl is going to be pissed off she missed the wedding and baby shower. BA will kick her brothers ass for not telling her about the serious developments in Haley’s life. She’s on a mission, and he didn’t want her distracted.”

I was stunned, “Haley knows the Black Arrow? They’re friends?!” Marcus laughed, “I think the BA may consider her a little sister to be honest. I know BA would say at minimum they are friends. Haley just never saw it that way. She may now that she understands what a friend is. They have had each other’s backs on many missions.” I had so many questions.

Before I could ask Kace went to touch Haley’s shoulder. We all stiffened. I was about to growl; but Jackson had Kace’s hand pinned behind his back in a second. He shoved Kace towards Titus, who stared at him with anger until Kace left the room. Marcus followed close behind him. Veronica simply smiled because Haley didn’t even notice. She was only paying attention to our pups.

When everyone else left, Aiden showed up. I quickly realized who could’ve told me about fairy births. I cursed myself for not asking him what fairy births were like. He would’ve laughed and just told me. I could’ve avoided wanting to kill everyone for saying fairy birth like it was common knowledge what the actual fuck that meant. He took one look at Cassie and confirmed she looked just like her mother.

Damn. A moat. I was going to get a large fucking moat. Filled with alligators and piranhas. I might even need a drawbridge. I felt Haley’s shock our pups had been given titles in Faerie. I observed Aiden. I had discounted him. I had to admit, he was clever. He was giving Haley exactly what she wanted. He even acknowledged me as her consort. I wanted to snort. I am much more than that, the gesture was

warming my mate's heart though. I was going to watch him like a hawk, though, after Arion's duplicity. For once, the fairy king didn't overstay his welcome, leaving relatively quickly.

After the visitors stopped and Haley fell asleep, I watched her and our pups. EJ and Alexander woke up. I went over to them. Both quickly conjured themselves a bottle. I spoke to them, "You two will have to help me with your mother and your sister. We must protect them. They are special." Both boys cooed at me through link. I took that as agreement. Thor spoke, "Their wolves are communicating with me. They agree. They are very aggressive about wanting to protect their mother and sister. They are picturing the three Hackura men we do not like." I laughed and replied, "So even my pups notice what their mother does not." Thor linked back, "Mate has never looked at anyone but us. She is ours not theirs. I will kill them if they try to touch her." Thor was conflicted. He was practically preening with delight that Haley didn't notice. Yet he was angry because those men wanted her, and she was ours. I agreed with everything he said. We would kill them if they touched her.

As the days passed, I worried about Haley. I just had this nagging feeling I was missing something. I talked with Titus and he felt it too. Together we convinced Doris and Catherine to keep Haley and the pups in the hospital. Their daily updates they gave were that Haley was fine. Doris had even gone home, but periodically came back to check in. In the pit of my stomach, I just felt something was wrong.

Darrin and Harold called me an asshole daily because the triplets slept so well. Shana and Jessica had been giving me dirty looks too. After several days I'd had enough. I spat at them, "I swear to god if any of you have looked at Haley the way you've looked at me; you'll never fix your relationship with her."

Jessica looked down. She admitted, "We haven't been to see her." I stared at her in surprise and snorted, "Sure, that will convince her you want to be friends." They both looked ashamed. Shana said softly, "We just don't know how to fix it. Haley made it clear we could all be cordial and exist in this house together. Molly wants to go see her, but she's been covering her Luna duties since you wanted Haley to stay in the hospital. We should pitch in so she could see her."

I rubbed my face. I said, "Molly is the only one trying. You claim to want more with Haley, but you do nothing to make that happen." Jessica sighed, "We are sorry, Eric." I laughed humorlessly and told her "I'm not the one you need to apologize to, and you sure as shit don't act as if you are sorry." They left quickly after that. I linked them, "Help Molly with something. You girls are a team. No more leaving one person to do the work of multiple people." Jessica linked, "You're right. We could help out more." I knew I was right. Molly wouldn't let them take most of the work because they had new little ones. They could do little things that would lighten Molly's load though.

Bjourn, Marcus and Titus came into my war room next. I smiled at them. Titus had been visiting daily. He couldn't stay away from Cassie. I smiled and asked the question I knew the answer to, "Hello. Are you here to see my little princess?" Titus smiled, "Yes. I should've taken Haley when she was a baby. Seeing your little girl has only confirmed that for me. EJ and Alexander are so special too. They look just like you, Eric."

Before I could say anything, Caleb came running into the room, "Alpha Lucas needs our help! He's being attacked by rouges! His messenger said there are so many that if the Hackura are here, he wouldn't turn down their help. That he would pay them. We have to go! They are dying, Eric! The messenger said Dylan might be dead already, he was guarding Alpha Lucas' flank." I jumped up and linked my warriors, "GET TO THE BORDER WITH BLUE MOON NOW! ROGUES ARE ATTACKING, OUR ALLIES NEED OUR HELP!" Dylan better hang on. Someone was going to tell me how the FUCK our border patrol didn't catch the scent of a massive attack going down. They'd run by twenty minutes ago.

Marcus, Bjourn, and Titus turned to me. Bjourn asked. "How far are they?" I replied running as my brothers joined us with a group of one hundred warriors. I told them "An hour if you go the speed limit." I threw them the keys to an SUV. I challenged them, "Bjourn, the race is on." Bjourn smiled and jumped into the SUV. I shifted and everyone followed suit. We took off running for the border. I'd have to call Haley if Dylan was hurt, because I refused to believe his obnoxious ass was dead. We hadn't worked out a system with the triplets yet. She had talked to Titus about having a maternity leave essentially to stay with them. I didn't want her to feel forced to help. I could link her if we were in a jam.

We made it to Lucas' borders in record time. I was stunned to see him and his warriors waiting for us. They looked perfectly fine. No blood or bodies anywhere. I shifted back, "Lucas!" I pulled him into a hug. I pushed him back, "You're alright! Where are the rouges?" Dylan snorted, "I'm fine too, not that you'll act like you care, but I know... deep down... you care." I sighed, "I'm glad you're ok too, Dylan. We were worried." Lucas frowned asked, "What are you talking about Eric? We got a messenger saying you had urgent news to tell us. I bought Dylan and a few of my warriors to our border to meet you. Dylan came hoping your lovely wife was coming. He's enamored."

I growled at Dylan, "She's fucking mine!" Dylan put his hands up in mock surrender. I continued, "We got a messenger saying you were being attacked by rouges and needed assistance, that you were dying." Dylan said, "My Spidey sense are saying we done messed up and walked into a trap. Does anyone get that feeling?" We all whipped around as we heard a shit ton of pops.

Dylan snorted, "Oh good. Fairies and rouges. That's good, this is fine." I yelled, "FUCK! This is so they can attack Haley and my pups!!" I linked her, "Haley,

Angel. We were tricked. The fairies are coming for you and our pups. Get somewhere safe, now.” She didn’t answer me. I could feel her annoyance growing in the bond, along with her anticipation. She knew a fight was coming.

I growled at the fairies. I told them, “I swear to the GODDESS if any of your kind has touched my mate or my pups, I’ll slaughter you all.” A fairy laughed taunting me, “They are too powerful for the likes of you, wolf. They belong with us.”

Marcus scoffed, “My sister will tell you herself, that you didn’t want her as a child and you have no right to her now. She’s ours, not yours.” Titus spoke with authority, “If you take my daughter or any of my grandchildren, I will lay waste to your lands until I have them back. Then I will round the remaining fairies up and torture them one by one, until the only ones left are Bexley and my daughter.” The fairies shivered.

The rouges didn’t care about Titus’ threat. They attacked. Lucas and I shifted along with my brothers. Dylan was prancing around in wolf form. He was annoying, but he was good to have in a fight. I linked our warriors, “Kill every last one of them.” We were battling when a portal opened. Evin came running through with the Hackura army. With their help we slaughtered the remaining rouges and fairies in mere minutes

Once it was over Titus yelled, “EVIN! WHAT THE FUCK?! You know you were to stay in our kingdom.” Evin shook his head and quickly told us, “I couldn’t. Haley called I was the only one who answered her phone calls. Her fucking fairy brother is trying to take her.” Marcus yelled at him, “AND YOU FUCKING CAME HERE?! Why didn’t you go to her?” Evin’s eyes blazed gold. He hissed, “Oh, good idea brother. Why didn’t I think of that? It’s so simple, go to my little sister when she needs my damn help. Oh, wait. I FUCKING DID THINK OF THAT YOU PRICK! SHE’S MY BABY SISTER TOO! I can’t open a portal into Eric’s land. Something is blocking it. I thought if I got dad that maybe he and Uncle Zader together would be strong enough.”

I felt pulled so hard I went to a knee. Dylan asked, “Uhh...you ok there Alpha too amped up?” Bjourn gritted out, “Haley pulled us to her.” I yelled out loud, “We have to do something she needs us!” Dylan said, “I mean, I’ve got a solution for you. It’s out there, but we could just run to your border. I’m just saying, it’s an option. Apparently the only one as alas, despite my efforts, I do not have a partial fairy for our pack yet. No one fear, I am on this kerfuffle. It will be solved.”

I ignored him as Titus led us back through the portal to the Hackura realm. Zader was waiting for us. He was sweating profusely. Veronica and two other women were holding a wailing Miley. Miley cried, “I should’ve stayed with her today. I just wanted to visit mom. Why do we have the worst fucking timing to leave her alone?!” I replied, “Fairy fuckery.” She actually laughed. Titus yelled, “Bjourn, we

need you!” Bjourn ran over to Zader and Titus. They were barely managing to open a portal. It wasn’t wide enough for anyone to get through.

Marcus yelled, “We all need to help!” They all ran over and as soon as the portal was wide enough I burst through it with my brothers. Haley’s family right behind me. Thor fumed in my head when I saw my mate bleeding from head to toe guarding our pups. I lost all composure and roared. I saw what Haley was doing. She was going to get out of here. Which was good. I yelled, “MARCUS!” He turned to face me. I inclined my head to Haley. He saw her intent as did Blade. Blade put a hand on Haley and Marcus dove. He barely got a hand on Blade’s foot as they popped out of the room.

I saw Arion’s dead body on the floor, it slowly beginning to turn to dust. Masium’s unconscious body was next to him. I growled and shifted into Thor, then began to rip apart the fairies that dared to touch my family. I linked everyone, “No one kills Masium. That fucker has talking to do. When we have answers, we will make him wish he was dead.” Everyone howled in agreement. We easily defeated the remaining fairies.

Javi took off running outside. He called over his shoulder, “There are more in the yard! Thomas and Sasha are holding them off with the babies guards.” We followed him. Fury filled me when I saw my warrior’s unconscious again. I linked, “MOTHER FUCKERS! How are they doing this?” Jackson answered, “It’s Masium or Arion. They are the common denominators.” I growled, “Arion is the common fucking factor.” I noticed Molly was now beside Jackson. She had healed from something, but it was clear she had been injured. I could smell her blood.

Javi was not joking. Outside a huge battle was raging. I snorted at the irony. No actual battles had been fought in the fairy werewolf war we just signed a peace treaty for. Now, there was one for a princess they abused, who was my world. They couldn’t have her back. I gave Thor control and let him rip apart the fairies. He shredded them to pieces.

I was surprised when I heard a familiar howl. I turned stunned to see Lucas, Dylan, and his warriors coming from the flank at the fairies. He really was a good friend. I turned and ripped the head off a fairy and worked my way to Lucas. We met as the last fairy was killed. I shifted back, “You are a good friend, Lucas.” He shifted back and smiled, “You know I have your back always. I also rather like your wife, Eric... she brings out a great side in you.”

Dylan shifted, “Not to gloat, but running here was MY idea. I’m brilliant and you’re welcome. I also had your back. Onto pressing matters... where is your lovely wife?” I growled at him. Lucas groaned, “Dylan!” Dylan shrugged, “What? She’s amazing and I worship the ground she walks on.” I grabbed him by the throat. I told him, “She’s mine. Got it?” he managed to nod. I dropped him. Dylan

sighed, “If she ever convinces you to learn how to take a joke, I’ll make her a shrine. There will be ballads sung about her, just prepare yourself.” I rolled my eyes.

I turned to Bjourn. I sighed, “I say this too often, but where is she?” Bjourn pulled out his phone. He said, “Marcus texted they are in the castle at home. She got all the children to sleep and she’s... shit.” I groaned and voiced my fear, “She killed Arion, didn’t she?” Molly answered, “She did. He gave her no choice. She begged him not to make her kill him. He just... I don’t know. He seemed resigned to his death. Like he welcomed it... wanted it even. He did something so she couldn’t heal him. It was weird. I tried to take down Masium, but he used his wind to fling me across the room. Whichever of the boys is the pusher did their thing until he passed out.” I nodded. I pulled her in for a hug. I whispered, “Thank you Molly, for trying. I am very glad you are ok. My brother would never be the same without you.”

I broke the hug and turned to Bjourn, “Please take me to her. I need to see her and our pups.” He nodded and opened a portal. All Haley’s brothers, along with Titus stepped through. As soon as I stepped into the realm, I got a link from Haley, “Eric, make it stop. Please make it stop.” I linked her back, “Where are you? Make what stop?” She linked back, “It doesn’t feel right! You’re not Eric! Where is he? I need my Eric!” I growled.

I asked out loud, “Marcus where is she? She’s linking asking me to make it stop. She says that something doesn’t feel right.” Suddenly my mark burned. I heard Haley scream. I roared and ran towards the sound of her voice, echoing off the walls of the castle. Haley’s was family hot on my heels. I ran into a room leading to her wing in the castle. My vision went red when I saw Cason kissing her neck. Haley screamed, “You’re not, Eric. Let me go! Why do you look like him?” She didn’t seem like she could move.

I took two steps and ripped him off her. I turned to her to ask what happened, but Cason hit me from behind. Haley screamed. I could feel her confusion, anger, and annoyance. I knew she wanted to react. She wanted to fight back. I turned and attacked Cason, Thor desperately wanted out to rip him apart, but I couldn’t let him. I needed answers. I beat Cason until he was bloody.

The only thing that stopped me was a small voice. “Marcus, where’s the real Eric? I need him. Why does this shit always happen to me? Where are Cassie, EJ, and Alexander? Are they still asleep? Where are my babies?” I turned around to face her. Jackson and Darrin, who I hadn’t realized followed me through the portal, grabbed Cason immediately.

I went to hug Haley. She flinched away from me. My heart seized in pain. She looked at me with terror then whispered, “Are you the real Eric? Are you my

Thor?" I closed my eyes, "Angel, I'm slightly offended you think Cason looks like me. I'm far more attractive." I moved slowly closer to her, reaching out to wrap my arms around her. She sighed in relief and whispered, "I feel the tingles." I smiled, "Of course you do. I am here with you." She shook her head, "That wasn't Cason. He looked exfuckingactly like you Eric. He did something to me, I couldn't move."

I held her close. I was pissed. She didn't need this shit tonight. I promised her, "We will get answers. Bjourn appears to have taken Cason away with my brothers. Are you ok?" She nodded, "Take me to the kids, Eric. I need to see our babies." Marcus spoke, "Mom has them, little one. They are fine and still sleeping." Haley insisted "I need to see them."

I picked her up and carried her bridal style into her wing of the castle. Veronica was waiting for us, her eyes blazing as she sat in a rocking chair watching the babies. Haley whispered, "Hi mom. Are they doing ok?" Veronica nodded, "They are sleeping just fine." I smiled and felt myself settle seeing them.

Haley motioned for me to put her down. She hobbled over to the babies bassinets. Veronica, Marcus, and I stared at her in shock. She had healed herself. So, why was she limping? She kissed all the babies foreheads. She whispered to EJ, "You did so good protecting your siblings, baby. Mommy is so proud of you. Of all of you."

Haley limped back to me. I immediately picked her up. We walked out of the room together. Veronica turned on the baby monitor. The nine Hackura who made up our children's guard stepped into the room. One stayed back and dropped to a knee. He spoke, "Princess Haley, Prince Eric I am sorry. We were doing a sweep of the perimeter. We had three guards staying with the children, but they said they got a text from us saying that we needed them outside. Then we were attacked. We will find out how this happened. The children will never be without one of us again." Haley nodded, "I would like to tell you it's ok. I know it's not your fault. Just don't let this happen again. You will all stay with them tonight, right?" The man nodded. Haley whispered, "Thank you, Ghiza." He smiled and went inside the room with our pups.

Veronica asked the question that I had on the tip of my tongue, "Haley, you healed yourself when you got here. Why are you limping?" Haley frowned, "I will heal that later. I just used up a lot of fucking energy, so I haven't healed it yet. I had to heal my head." Marcus raised an eyebrow admonishing, "You know better than that. We see your evasions, little sister. Telling us you'll heal it later, does not tell us why you are limping at all. What caused it?"

Haley stuck her tongue out at him, "Those are two different questions, brother." I spoke, "Answer them, please angel. We are just worried. Did you fall?" She

wincing, then whispered, “No, you pushed me. I landed weird and rolled my damn ankle then I hit my head. Well, I mean not you. It just looked like you, but you said it was Cason.” I growled. Marcus’ knuckles were turning white. Veronica said, “We will have answers. This is unacceptable.”

I took Haley to her room. I linked Caleb hoping it would work, “Call the motherfucking king of the fairies. Tell him there was a battle tonight. He was betrayed, again. I’d say offer our condolences for his brother’s death, but the only damn person I feel bad for is MY MATE!” Caleb linked back, “I was heading into the war room to do just that. Are Haley and the pups alright?” I linked back, “They are fine, thank you Caleb. Now we are dealing with Hackura fuckery. Because tonight just wasn’t enough for Haley already. Please let Lucas know he and his pack are welcome to stay the night. I’m sure Mrs. Blanch will open the kitchen to them. Make sure to tell Dylan Frost every five fucking minutes that Haley is fucking MINE.” Caleb linked back, “I’ll do that, Eric.”

I linked Mrs. Blanch, “Our pack needs food. Along with Lucas’ warriors before they leave if they leave tonight.” Mrs. Blanch huffed back in reply, “Am I new? I’m already feeding them, my dear boy. Are Haley and the pups alright?” I confirmed, “They are.” I laid Haley down on the bed. I was resisting the strong need I had to claim her.

I closed my eyes and asked, “What happened?” Haley shrugged, “I was coming to get a blanket. I have a favorite blanket here. I wanted to cut it into thirds for the triplets. I know it’s fucking stupid, but I thought it would protect them somehow. I wasn’t paying any damn attention and got pushed. When I turned to see who it was, it looked like you. It distracted me and I didn’t catch myself until it was too damn late. When I tried to stop myself, my ankle rolled.”

I growled. Haley put her hand on my chest and continued, “Then I hit my head. It made me dizzy. It felt like something immobilized me. The man who looked like you said I needed to stop putting myself in danger. He said I needed to lie still and take what he had to give me. It just sounded fucking wrong. When he touched me, I knew for damn sure it wasn’t you. It just looked like you though...” she trailed off.

I linked my brother, “He was going to rape her... MY MATE, while LOOKING LIKE ME!” Jackson growled in reply telling me, “He WILL pay.” Haley didn’t seem to grasp that was his intention, but I did.

Anger consumed me. Haley apologized, “I’m sorry Eric. I did know it wasn’t you. I know you wouldn’t fucking push me like that or hurt me. I healed my head. I’ve just left my ankle because of the energy I’ve used on this cursed damn day. I don’t want to push myself. I don’t want to be unconscious and miss something with you or our babies.”

I growled, “I am not mad at you, Angel. I am mad that everywhere I turn someone wants to take you from me. Fucking Dylan Frost is obsessed with you, and he’s a headache enough. The three Hackura men here want you. The fucking fairies keep trying to take you, and then there are vampires...”

Haley interrupted me, “And you're fighting your instinct to claim me. Don't Eric.” I stared at her stunned. I asked, “Come again?” Haley smirked and teased me, “I'd love to. So, make me come, Eric. I need to feel you, feel us. I... I did something really fucking horrible tonight.” I growled.

I pulled her closer to me, “You protected our pups from a monster who would've used them which could have possibly led to their abuse. He was going to harm all four of you. You did nothing horrible.” Haley had tears in her eyes. She whispered, “Claim me, Eric. Show me you still want me even though this is who I am.” I growled and ripped her shirt off.

I kissed her neck where I'd seen Cason kiss her. I bit her lightly. She moaned as I set about replacing his scent with mine. Haley snapped me naked, but she still had her pants, bra, and underwear on. I tore her bra off. I ripped it apart and immediately put her nipple into my mouth. She was moaning and begging for more. I tore her pants and underwear off in one pull. I inhaled deeply, her arousal sending me into overdrive.

I attacked her clit. Haley screamed my name. I held her hips down as she they bucked against me riding out her orgasm. I made her come countless times until my aching dick refused to be denied anymore. I slid into her easily.

Haley shivered and moaned, “Eric!” I began to pound into her mercilessly. I growled, “YOU ARE MINE! SAY IT!” Haley screamed, “FUCK, ERIC! YOURS. I am yours!” I growled and bit her neck. I nipped her ear and whispered, “You will NEVER be anyone else's. You are mine, all mine! You are my beautiful angel, and no one else's. I don't deserve you, but I will not be without you.” Haley screamed, “ERIC!” Her walls clamped around me, but I couldn't stop pounding into her.

I flipped her onto her stomach and kept going. Her screams of ecstasy echoed in the halls. Finally, I roared my own orgasm. It just kept coming out of me. I rocked inside her for what felt like hours. We were both breathless when I slipped out of her. I walked into her bathroom and drew us a bath. I poured some of the bubble bath shit she had sitting out on the bathtub into it. I walked back out to her and picked her up gently. I placed her into the tub, cursing at the bruising I saw on her ankle.

Haley kissed my cheek. She told me, “I'll heal my ankle after I eat breakfast tomorrow, Thor.” I nodded and slid in behind her. Haley whispered, “I killed my brother, Eric.” With that she burst into tears. She turned around to face me and

straddled me. She buried her head into my neck. I rubbed her back, trying to soothe her, “He gave you no choice. I’m so sorry, Haley. We got word that Lucas was being attacked, but it was a trap. He was waiting for us, and then we were attacked.”

Haley whispered, “It’s ok. I know Arion is...” Her breath caught and she corrected herself, “Was quite wily. I knew...” she hiccupped her sob, “I knew I would have to kill him. Eric, EJ, and Alexander BOTH have the pushing ability. EJ has a shield and Cassie...” She hiccupped, “Is the truth seeker. Just like me. She made Masium tell the fucking truth. He thought it was me but... it was her, Eric. They have wolves too. What do we do? Poor EJ was so strained to keep up the shield. He’s just a baby, EJ’s shield was how I killed Arion. He saw EJ’s shield dropping and I didn’t even hesitate. I killed him. I fucking killed my big brother.”

I held her close. “He may be your brother in name and blood; but he’s not your brother like any of your Hackura brothers are your brother. He forced your hand; he threatened our pups and you. I cannot survive without any of you now, Haley. You did what you had to for OUR pups. For OUR family. We agreed that we come first. I know it was mostly aimed at my family dynamic, but we agreed. It’s us first. Always. You are their mother, Haley. That is love like no other. You reacted with a mother’s instincts to protect them. You are an amazing mother and mate. You did nothing wrong.”

Haley held onto me tightly. Eventually she asked, “Is Molly ok? I need to train with her when we go home. She’s a damn good fighter. If I’d had a chance to work with her before, she might’ve kicked Masium’s ass.” I rubbed her back gently in small circles. I agreed, “Molly is a good fighter. She’s a Beta’s daughter and mated to an Alpha. She has to be fierce. I’m sure all the women would love to train with you.”

Flashes of claiming Haley entered my mind. I stilled, remembering we didn’t know if she was like a Hackura or a fairy with her ability to get pregnant. As if Haley read my mind she said, “I asked Doris to insert an IUD. I’m not ready for more babies yet.” I smiled, “Agreed, Angel.” We got out and dried off. I carried Haley back to bed. Then I held her until she had been asleep for more than an hour.

I opened the door to see Blade waiting in the hall. I nodded to him. He nodded back. I informed him, “No one but her family, me, or my brothers get near her.” He nodded and said, “Blade keep safe.” I nodded to him, assuring him I knew that was the case. I took off to find out why the fuck Cason thought he could rape my god damn mate and wife.