

Always Here For You

Eric took in the beauty of Faerie. I'd never seen so many colors. Or anything so alive. The whole realm just radiated light and happiness. What brought me out of it was the feelings I felt from Haley in our bond. She was terrified. Marcus and Haley's guard literally vanished from before our eyes as they faded into the background. Jackson linked, "I would very much like to learn how to do that. They were here and now they aren't. I even watched them go. I'm still wondering where they went." I linked back, "I know. It's a skill of the Hackura though. It's not learned."

Haley's state was concerning me. She was going numb; I think I figured out what Marcus was scared of. It was losing the Haley we know. To see her retreating into her shell from us. I glanced down at her and she seemed to be willing herself to look straight in front of her. Her dread and terror were growing.

Jackson linked me, "She doesn't look ok." I replied, "She doesn't feel ok." Haley appeared to be on autopilot walking to the entrance of the castle. My eyes narrowed as I saw several fairies hiding behind the trees. They were all craning to get a look at our group. I linked Jackson, "Be on alert." He nodded replying, "We are being watched. By a lot of fairies. She was right to be afraid to bring the pups here." I agreed.

Haley wasn't hiding her feelings from me at least. When the guards bowed to her, I felt her knees buckle. Bexley's jaw was almost unhinged. Liam linked me, "Bexley wants to make sure you have Haley. She's very worried about her being here." I nodded, "I always have her. Bexley is not alone in that fear." They left quickly after that.

Jackson linked me, "Like I'd leave you two here alone with these people." I nodded biting back a growl. I asked him, "Can we go anywhere where another male isn't openly lusting after my mate? He's a fucking guard. She's the princess." Jackson snorted, "No, apparently we cannot. Haley didn't notice though." I sighed, "She never does." She popped us to her room.

I was a little surprised. It was subtle. There was still a lot of pink, but not what you'd expect from a fairy. It wasn't like her wing in the Hackura castle, but it was nice. She showed us around briefly. Then soundproofing came up. Fury lit through me like a fire. Jackson linked me, "Shit. We are going to step on our feet all over the place in this realm with her. Of course, they sound proofed in her room. She wasn't even safe here in her damn room. They are fucking assholes." I growled, "I know. To make someone unsafe in their own room. It was fucking sick."

When Marcus entered the room, he gave me a look. I knew we'd all be having a conversation later. Haley didn't seem to notice her guard were all looked at her with worry in their eyes. I linked Jackson after Haley answered her door, "Do they have ladies maids for royalty in Faerie?" He replied, "Even if they don't call it that, she's telling her the agenda. She's a ladies maid."

The maid began talking about me. Great. I linked Jackson, "Hopefully Haley doesn't kick her ass." Jackson snorted, "Your wife knows you're hot. She's called you hot and fuckable. Which, by the way, I can never unhear. She often goes on and on about how spectacular your sex life is." I laughed, "What can I say? You already knew that without her saying it." Jackson said, "Knowing and hearing are very different." I told him, "It seems we are going to be hot commodities in Faerie. Any ideas on why?" Jackson snorted, "Fairies like to fuck? Plus, we are good looking." I answered, "True. Haley may kill someone while we are here." Jackson replied, "Her? What about you? You were already pissed about how the guards were looking at her."

I growled, "Maybe Marcus will kill people for me discreetly." Jackson looked over to Marcus. He answered, "I bet he would. He looks worried. I don't like it." I admitted, "I'm worried too." Jackson shot me a look, linking, "Oh good. The male fairies are going to want to kill us because you and Liam lasted through their concupiscence's alone." I smirked, "Then we will feel the same."

Jackson pointed out, "So all the females who sign up for training spots with the partial fairies Haley trains are likely going to patrol packs for sex partners." I groaned, "Probably." Jackson laughed, "The females in our pack may kill them." I shrugged, "We will worry about that problem another day."

Jackson teased Haley using me after the fairy left. I linked him, "While you suck, you're at least making her not feel numb. So, continue on." The conversation turned to lunch. Jackson linked me, "I'll be at everything for you both. I'm not comfortable with us being separated. Not on their turf." I agreed, "I'd prefer that. I don't want one of us away from the group. Who knows what would happen."

Next thing I knew, I was in a tuxedo. Jackson linked me, "Great two days of Tuxedos. Just great." I linked back, "Two days of my mate looking like that in dresses." Jackson laughed, "Well, that's not a problem for me. She does look beautiful though, brother." I nodded, "That she does." We made our way to where Aiden was waiting. It was an uneventful meal thus far.

Then the conversation turned to Arion. I linked Jackson, "FUCK! I didn't think about fairies knowing Haley killed Arion. We might have to leave." Jackson answered, "You're right. That could be a problem, he was their prince. They didn't treat her well before though, and they were bowing. There's no way they know."

We were stunned to discover it was why they were bowing. This was a fucked up place.

Jackson disbelief came through in his tone, “What in the fuck? They bowed because she killed a prince?” I linked him after Haley explained, “Apparently, they respect her now because even though he was their prince he betrayed the crown. They are not upset he is dead.” Jackson was stunned just like me. Eventually he linked, “That’s fucking cold. He’s been a beloved prince here since he born. I agreed, “Yes it really is.”

Jackson asked me, “Did you know she asked him to find someone for her? Why does she need a fairy to find someone?” I replied, “I didn’t know. I have no idea.” Jackson and I locked eyes when she said Tucker. Jacked asked, “She asked Aiden to find Tucker? How did she know about him?” I figured it out, “FUCK! Claudia’s mate was Alpha Tucker Thomas?! That’s who she handed over! Why the FUCK didn’t we put that together?” Jackson said simply, “We were unconscious for three days then woke up to the girls being insane psychos. We had to mitigate their petty bullshit and worry about Haley’s state of mind. Then lots of pups were born. Fairies tried to take Haley and the triplets. We’ve been fucking busy.” I agreed, that was true.

I was quiet for a moment then linked, “Hopefully he will still be Tucker, and not a shell of the man.” Jackson said, “It would take more than a sadistic fairy to take Tucker down.” I agreed. I knew one thing. We weren’t leaving without him. Not now that we knew he was here. Haley insisted we be taken to him. W, which saved me the trouble of demanding to be taken to him.

We were led to a smaller part of the castle. Haley visibility shivered and briefly her eyes looked to a dark hall that clearly wasn’t used. It was brief but her terror skyrocketed. Aiden glanced over to the hall and frowned. He cast me a questioning look. I simply raised an eyebrow at him. It didn’t take me too long to figure out exactly what that place was to my wife.

My eyes widened when I saw Tucker Thomas. Thor snarled and I was horrified. My friend was a mess. He was scarred, bleeding, and his hair had grown to his shoulders. He’d always kept himself clean shaven with short hair. He was alive though. I asked Thor, “Can you reach his wolf?” Thor answered, “Barely.” I linked Jackson “Thor can just barely sense his wolf.” Jackson nodded, “My wolf said the same.”

Tucker moved his head, finally smelling other wolves present. When he saw me, his eyes darkened in amusement as I moved in step with Haley. Jackson linked me, “You are never getting rid of the head in your office now, brother.” I sighed, “Probably not, no.”

Jackson and I were both confused at her statements that she was better than Faerie's healers. Jackson asked me, "Could she be stronger because she's royal?" I answered, "Probably. She seems very confident she can heal him." Tucker had a smaller pack than ours, but he was still strong. We were allies and friends for a reason.

Jackson linked me, "Claudia is a fucking psycho. She could've been a Luna this whole time." I answered, "I know. She hadn't even met me yet. I don't get it. How could she ignore the mate bond? The pull to be with your mate? I don't understand. You know how it is. Now that I've met Haley, I don't know how Claudia did it or why she wanted to."

Haley was healing Tucker before our eyes. Aiden spoke wondrously, "She's actually going to do it. He and his wolf are being completely healed." His was awestruck. I answered him, "She said she would." He stared at me with a smile on his face. He said, "You have no idea how strong of a healer she is, do you? To do what she's doing is remarkable. He's suffered years of torture to assess his accelerated healing rate. His wolf, I'm sure you can sense, was barely there. Now even I can sense the wolf. His skin is growing back. She's even healing his scars. I always wondered how she didn't have any herself. Now I know." I asked, "Can't all healers do that?" Aiden shook his head, "No. They can heal to the extent that you don't die. To give you a chance to live. To completely heal and make it so he's perfectly normal... That's rare. Our healing waters here have to deem you worthy to heal to this extreme."

I groaned, "How rare?" Aiden smiled, "I've never heard of a healer this powerful. My little sister is in a category all her own." Jackson spoke sarcastically, "Well isn't that great." Aiden asked me, "You won't let her come heal for me here, will you?" I growled, "No, I won't." Aiden pushed me a little, "If I have a serious case, what if I bring them to you?" I growled, "We will do a case by case, basis but if she says no you back off."

Aiden smiled broadly, "You know she won't say no. She's too kindhearted. She has a soft spot for those who have been hurt. She didn't even think twice about healing the wolf here. She knew I would see how powerful she was. You may not know how rare her talent at it is; however, she most certainly does. She also knew that I'd be surprised by it. You know if me, Lucinda, or Aiylee are hurt she'll come here to save us." I growled, "Not without me or one of my brothers, she won't."

Aiden smiled and shifted his gaze back to Haley. He asked, "Why did she stare at the hall leading to the old healing section? She's never been over there. The new one has been here since before she was born." Jackson snorted, "Yes, because those scans you saw were done to her here in the new fancy wing." Aiden paled then nodded.

Tucker got permission to go for a run. Jackson linked, "I want to run here." I laughed, "We will. If we need permission, she'll grant it. I'm their stupid fucking consort so we probably just can because I said so. That insulting title should be good for something." Jackson laughed.

I linked Tucker, "I would've appreciated the heads up that there was a psycho obsessed with me before I met her." Tucker startled then smirked, "God, it's good to link someone again. I missed it. Even with you, you lug head." I smiled, "I'm glad we found you. I never believed you were dead." Tucker snorted, "It was close a few times, but I swore I wouldn't go down to some sick fairy."

Tucker was teasing Haley about liking her. I groaned, "Not another one." Jackson laughed, "She's a fairy brother. She has an allure. She's also quite funny. I don't think he means it like that though." Tucker linked me, "Some fellas get all the luck, don't they? You asshole. She suits you." I answered, "That she does."

When we left I linked him, "Meet us by the portal in front of the castle tomorrow evening. We are leaving as soon as the event for the former queen is all over." He nodded, "I'm guessing you don't like having her here." I shook my head, "You have no idea. I'm glad Aiden found you, Tucker." Tucker agreed, "I'm glad she asked her brother to find me. I'm grateful Chet is back; he's been so weak." I nodded and we went our separate ways. I could tell he was itching to shift.

I told Jackson, "I would've gone crazy if I hadn't been able to shift for a few years." He responded, "I agree. His wolf was probably going crazy not being able to get out." I answered, "I'm sure in the beginning his wolf did come out before he got too weak. That sick fuck Fabian probably loved that." Jackson snorted, "Probably."

When we went to Arion's funeral I felt Haley descend into a shell of herself. I wondered if that's how she survived when she lived here. I linked Jackson, "Marcus is going to be irate. She's gone numb. I'd imagine her whole family are monitoring the bond with her closely. I'm going crazy knowing this is probably how she survived here all those years. I can't imagine how they feel."

Jackson responded, "She has such a good poker face. She looks appropriately sad for the funeral, but certainly not numb." To my surprise, the service ended quickly. I mused to Jackson, "I guess this is their version of a royal funeral for a traitor." Jackson scoffed, "They really don't treat anyone well, do they? Not even in death. Assholes. Aiden is clearly upset about this and he's their damn king." Jackson wasn't wrong. I was sure Aiden was the reason why this funeral was happening at all.

As soon as the service ended I glared at a group of male fairies who were staring at Haley with lust in their eyes. When they saw my glare, they got nervous and turned

away. I turned back to see our group had been surrounded by fairy females. I looked over to see Aiden was deeply amused looking from me to fairy females, to the male fairies I had just threatened with a glare.

I linked Jackson, “Great, now Aiden knows there are fairy males who want her. I’m sure he’ll encourage the fuck out of that.” Jackson replied, “I’m sure he already knew. Your mate is the only one who’s oblivious to her charm. You might focus on the women who are looking at you like you are a snack. Your wife is pissed.”

Haley had an entertaining exchange with the female fairies, who turned their attention to my brother. Jackson linked me, “Um fuck no, Eric. Make them stop this. Are you sure we can’t kill them?” I smiled and tauntingly informed him, “We have a treaty.” Haley saved him. I was fighting with Thor for control the more she talked to them. They’d hurt her. I wanted them dead.

The more Haley spoke the more people were intrigued by her. I looked over and caught every single fairy staring at her in shocked delight. Jackson linked me, “Maybe if we tell the girls that she was ready to kill some fairies for trying to go after me for Molly; everyone will lighten the fuck up.” I snorted, “One can hope. At least your mate will.

Though she wasn’t really a problem to begin with.” Haley got another saying wrong, but it was funny. Jackson linked me howling with laughter, “OH MY GOD! WHERE DOES SHE COME UP WITH THIS SHIT?!” Her mind was a wonder.

After we left and walked into her room, I could see a weightlifting off her shoulders. We tripped over ourselves again with her past. I really wanted to run, but I needed to be with her. Thor whined wanting to do both. Jackson linked me, “You need to run Eric. We don’t need Thor killing a male fairy in Faerie for looking at her lustfully. Let him out and blow off some steam.” I sighed and agreed. I knew Marcus would make sure Haley was ok. Maybe talking to him was just what she needed.

She popped us to a beautiful garden. I could instantly tell she had created it. It looked very similar to her garden in the Hackura realm that we fucked in the last time we were there. After I shifted, Thor spread his paws out and let the ground sift under him. The ground here felt alive. Jackson and I took off running. Everywhere we went was beautiful. Thor howled delightedly when we sensed another wolf. I wasn’t surprised when Tucker’s large black wolf came bounding up to run with us. We howled together. I heard the pops but kept running,

I linked Jackson, “It would appear they are intrigued by us..” He answered sarcastically, “Joy. It’s amazing here. I’m sure you noticed but Marcus came out

from the background when we were leaving.” I nodded, “Yes, I imagine he is talking to her now. I don’t know how to reach her right now, Jackson. Do I give her space? Do I push her? I want her to talk to me. Feeling her fade into this numb state she’s been in is killing me.” Jackson sighed, “I think you talk to her when we get back tonight. Offer to talk to her here but fuck I don’t know Eric.” I sighed, “Neither do I.”

We shifted back to human form. Tucker followed suit, grinning ear to ear. He punched me in the arm and excitedly said, “GOD! I forgot how great running was. Chet is delighted and was practically doing backflips.” We smiled. Jackson agreed, “It is really nice here.” Tucker looked around, “It is. I can tell you where I was, it was not so pretty. I’m sure your mate knows all about it. They talked about her, Eric. Many missed her. They enjoyed passing her around. They wanted Fabian to find her.” I growled, “Of fucking course they did.” He nodded, “Yes, well they’d began to disappear as of late. Do you know anything about that?”

I smiled, “I do. My wife’s family on her father’s side recently got a list of those that harmed her. They are working their way through it quite quickly at that. The last I was in their realm; it was full of fairies.” Tucker laughed, “Oh really? Everyone here was adamant she was human. What’s her other half?” I smiled, “She’s King Titus Cambridge’s only daughter.” He sucked in a breath then laughed heartily.

When he gathered himself he said, “Fuck you, Eric! Your mate is not only a fairy princess, but a Hackura princess? I hope for your sake that side of the family likes you.” I laughed, “They named me a prince in their realm, so I think they like me just fine.” Tucker snorted and teased, “God, it’s so hard to like you sometimes, Eric.”

I sobered a bit, “I am sorry about Claudia, Tucker.” He shrugged, “It’s not your fault. Hopefully, I get a second chance mate. I grew up watching how amazing the mate bond was, and then I got stuck with Claudia. Though your mate’s nickname of Claudzilla has a ring to it.”

Haley did have a way with words. I told him, “I’m sure you will get a second chance mate. You deserve one man.” He smiled, “Does your mate have a sister somewhere?” I laughed, “No, only brothers. Lucas asked the same question.” Tucker smiled, “I can’t believe I get to go home tomorrow. I’ll see you at the portal. I bet I beat you there. Are... are my parents still alive?”

I was happy to give him good news, “They are. Your dad didn’t want to take back over the pack. He’s been waiting for you. Your brother is leading another pack. He moved when he met his mate. She was the only child of an Alpha, so they lead her pack. It borders yours. Your sister found her mate. They all agreed to let Lucas run things until you returned. Everyone believed we’d find you. Not the werewolf

council, but those of us who knew you.” He nodded, “And found me you have. I am indebted to your mate.” I nodded, “She won’t see it that way.” He smiled at me, “You lucky prick. See you tomorrow.” He shifted and took off. Jackson and I shifted and made our way back towards Haley.

We found Marcus beside her; they were talking in quiet voices. Marcus sent me a look and faded back. Jackson linked me, “I think that was code for we have are having a group chat when Haley goes to sleep.” I answered, “If she goes to sleep. I don’t know how she could sleep here, honestly. If I was her, I’d try to avoid it.” Jackson advised, “Then fuck her unconscious. It’s worked in the past. He clearly wants to talk to you.” I snorted at him. He wasn’t wrong though.

We ended up in the library. She wanted to feel us, and I was more than happy to oblige. I was taking my time making her feel loved. If anyone was here, they certainly knew where her hiding place was now. I glimpsed Aiden at one point, and possibly Marcious, but ignored them. We made love all night and when she was about to close her eyes, she popped us back to our room and fell asleep.

Jackson linked me, “You unblocked your link so I’m guess you’re back. Marcus wants to talk.” I told him, “You did tell me to fuck her unconscious, brother. I was merely following your directive. What room are we meeting in?” He replied, “Mine.” I walked in and found everyone waiting.

Marcus spoke first, “We shouldn’t have brought her here.” I sighed, “She wanted to come. She felt like she had to.” Marcus replied, “She’s going numb. I’m sure you’ve felt it.” I nodded, “Yes, I have. I can’t say I care for it.” Marcus admitted, “You’re not alone. The whole family is pissed off. I’m sure you’ve noticed the amount of fairy males that want my little sister.” I growled, “I have noticed.”

Marcus sighed, “She doesn’t see it, but I see her becoming that little girl I brought home. She told me she’d talk to you and me at home. She’s just trying to survive here. I’m worried they are going to try to keep her here. They know she’s powerful now. They also know she can have children with fairy powers. They had no problem raping her before. I’m sure many would not have a problem with it now.”

I shut my eyes and said, “Aiden is different now with her now. He would not allow her to be unhappy and away from me. He was very impressed with her healing power. I will kill any fairy needed. We may be on their turf, but they won’t touch what’s mine.”

Marcus’ eyes narrowed, “Aiden wasn’t the only one. The two healers were watching her from afar. Everyone here probably already knows about what she did for Tucker the way fairies gossip. I’m sure if Aiden considered she was a fraction as powerful as she was... he’d have brought Tucker to you.” I growled, “They can’t have her. I won’t let them.” Marcus agreed, “Neither will we. You two need

to watch your six. I don't think Aiden told them we are here, but they know you are in their way." He left.

Jackson and I shared a look. I told him, "Watch yourself Jackson, he's right." Jackson nodded and said, "You as well. I'm not as big an obstacle in their minds. I would never let anyone hurt her, but to fairies I'm sure I'm not the one they are after." He was probably right. I told him, "No matter what happens, you protect her. She could have a flashback here if a move is made. She's more vulnerable here. I'm sure Tucker will be around to help if need be. You cover Haley." Jackson nodded, "Ok, but if you get hurt, she and I will kick your ass together."

I went back into Haley's room and pulled her to me. She was whimpering in her sleep. I cursed internally. Marcus was right. We shouldn't have brought her here. I fell asleep but was woken up by Haley screaming, "NO! Eric is real... he's real!" I sat up and shook her gently, "Angel, I'm here. I'm real." She just kept screaming. She started whimpering if none of it was real, she couldn't keep living. If I wasn't real, she was going to find a way to die, and Fabian couldn't stop her. I yelled, "FUCK! JACKSON!" Then remembered he couldn't hear me because it was sound proofed. I linked him, "GET MARCUS IN HERE NOW!"

Jackson stumbled into the room. His eyes widened listening to Haley's cries. He banged on Marcus' door who immediately ran in. His expression darkened at her words. I was desperate to get her to wake up. I linked her, shook her, and pleaded with her.

I asked frantically, "Marcus any ideas?" He shook his head, "No, you're already doing what I would do. FUCK! Why did we come here!?" I just kept begging her to wake up. She was dripping in sweat and shaking when she finally jolted up.

She looked around like a caged, wild animal. Her breathing hitched when she saw me. She unconsciously melted into me and took a deep breath then turned to see everyone's faces. Her guard had come in and they were looking at her with such concern as was Jackson. Marcus and I probably looked destroyed,

I brokenly linked Jackson, "If someone can convince her we aren't real Jackson..." He cut me off, "It was a dream. She woke up. No one could blame her if she didn't want to live, finding out everything was fake. Fabian's ghost is too strong here. We will get home and she should probably make an appointment with Lindsey... or five." I agreed but that was up to Haley.

When someone knocked on the door, Haley was shaking so bad I thought she'd fall if she got up. The ladies maid was there. I rolled my eyes and she started to tell us about the day for the queen. It was quite the agenda. Aiden probably had to fight to get Arion anything since they were having a fucking parade for the queen. I actually felt a little bad for my fairy brother in law. Leading was hard. Finding a

balance was hard, but in the end; He's lost a brother unexpectedly. These assholes barely let him grieve.

When Blade spoke, I looked at him. He looked a little shaken from her dream still. I couldn't say I cared to see Blade of all people shaken. I needed a moment alone with her. I wanted her to talk to me. I needed to hold her. Not being able to wake her up, and her saying she wanted to die if I wasn't real had rocked me. We held onto each other for a while.

When she popped us back to her room I was instantly on alert. Jackson was pale. I looked back and saw Marcus and her entire guard, their eyes blazing gold. I linked Jackson, "What happened?" Jackson replied, "I was just looking at what she had in the room. Fabian has these little... They look like USB's but when you touch them a video projects. Fuck Eric... they are bad. It was like his creepy video log of what he did to her in this room. I'd have fucking nightmares too. We need to get Marcus out of this realm." I asked, "What did you see?"

Jackson sighed, "We only saw one, but Marcus is going to search the room for them. I told him not to. He's torturing himself." I cut him off, "What did you see?" We all made our way down to breakfast. I was glaring at fairy males staring at Haley's chest.

Finally, Jackson answered, "It opened with her sleeping. Fabian hit her with an iron rod saying she ate too much at dinner. He beat her up then shoved his fingers down her throat until she vomited. He beat her afterwards. He left her a broken bloody mess. That Ladies maid or whatever the fuck she is comes in later and cleans her up and puts her back in bed." I growled, "I fucking hate fairies." He agreed. I felt Haley come out of her numb state again, to anger and possessiveness.

Haley and I were both feeling possessive. When I'd had enough of the leering at her, I placed one hell of a kiss on her lips. It shocked the crowd. Not unlike her Hackura family, they were stunned by her being physically affectionate. Jackson laughed and linked me, "If looks could kill you'd both be dead, but mostly you. The females are practically fanning themselves. I think a few even came. Aiden looks like a cat that ate the canary for some reason."

I turned as Aiden came over and was practically gleeful as he looked around at those staring at us. It was time to read the will. I smiled at Lucinda when I saw her. She smiled back. We were led into an office. I linked Jackson, "The lawyer is sweating bullets." Jackson answered, "He's also radiating fear." I was unsure why; it wasn't going horribly. I was shocked her mother didn't give Haley any of her jewelry. I linked Jackson, "What the hell? Why wouldn't she give her daughter anything?" Before he could reply the crown being given to Haley came up.

Aiden jerked and Lucinda looked like she was about to cry. They didn't need to be worried. Haley didn't want it and promptly gave it to Lucinda. I wondered how large the estate was that Haley was getting, but I could ask her later. When the lawyer gulped only Jackson and I noticed. Jackson linked, "Whatever is coming is bad." It turned out Haley was being given the property. After the reaction, it clearly meant something I didn't understand.

Jackson linked me, "I feel like we are missing something." I replied, "We obviously are. Her anger is about to make Thor take over." The more that everyone spoke the more confusing it got. Jackson asked, "What does her property have to do with being here?" I replied, "Maybe she has to visit? I don't know. This is fucking weird." I looked at Lucinda who was looking worriedly between Aiden and Haley.

I felt Haley thinking and plotting in our bond. I could only imagine what was going on at the Cambridge castle right now. I'd had enough, someone was going to explain this to me or Thor was going to push through. Haley agreed but said later. Great. Thor growled, "I will RIP THAT MANS HEAD OFF FOR UPSETING MATE ERIC!" I told him, "Let's hear her explanation first. It's not the lawyers fault anyway. He's just doing his job." Haley stormed out of the room.

The lawyer was holding out a piece of paper. He shakily said "It's the properties list. I meant no disrespect to the princess. I'm just the deliverer of the will." Jackson took it and nodded. We found Haley talking to Aiylee. I was surprised Aiylee remembered me from when she and Lucinda came to seek sanctuary in my territory during the war.

Jackson linked me, "Well that's clearly why she asked if they were only hers if they were standing. She intends to destroy them all." I answered, "I got that. I want to know why though. It's obviously not some sort of therapy. It's something she feels she has to do." I had to take the final letter from Haley's mom for her. Her anger and dread were too high. She was emotionally frazzled.

When we got back to her rooms, Haley lost it. Marcus was watching her with pain in his eyes. I was stunned. I had never seen her like this. I didn't understand the explanation that she couldn't leave. That can't be right, surely? Aiden leaves this realm. The former queen left and obviously Arion had too. Fairies leave this realm all the time.

When the reason was explained I linked Jackson, "MOTHER FUCKING FAIRIES!" Jackson replied, "That's a bitch move on her mom's part." Marcus turned to leave and said in a low voice so Haley couldn't hear, "I'll level these places throughout the day. I'll text you my progress. That bitch WILL fucking pay." I raised an eyebrow. Jackson and I shared a look. Thor linked, "I knew it. They have her." Things were getting interesting to say the least.

I had to put them aside to have lunch in honor of the queen who had become a giant pain in my ass. I quickly noticed many male fairies hadn't gotten the message earlier. I growled at a few. Jackson reminded me, "You can't kill them." I linked back, "I could absolutely kill them." Jackson huffed, "Fine, you could kill them, but we are at peace with the fairies right now." I growled, "If they keep looking at my mate with that blatant lust and hunger in their eyes I WILL kill them." Jackson sighed, "She doesn't even notice." I growled, "That's not the point. They want what's mine." Jackson said, "They can't have it so..." I grinned, "You're right they can't."

After lunch I learned the celebration of life was apparently code for getting hammered. I watched Haley do shot after shot trying to get drunk. Jackson said, "I'm with you on being worried now, brother. She knows she can't get drunk." I nodded, "She does. She can get tipsy though." Aiden came over and handed her a drink. Meanwhile, I growled at several fairies who moved to get closer to her. Aiden grinned broadly and left Haley's side.

Aiden motioned me over to him. I greeted him formally, "King Aiden." Aiden smirked, "So formal but alright. Hello, wolf of my sister's. Is she ok? She can handle her liquor quite well for such a small person." I told him, "She can't get drunk, it's a Hackura thing. She seems to be trying quite hard, though" I watched her and Jackson take a shot together. Aiden agreed, "She does. I am sorry about the properties. I have no idea what mother was thinking." I snorted, "She's a selfish bitch." Aiden tilted his head, "Such an interesting tense to use. She is in a bitch instead of was." I snorted. He knew too. His conversation with Haley must have been one hell of an evasion on his part.

He pointed over to the group of fairy males and said, "I see you've noticed my sister's wannabe club." I raised an eyebrow, "Her wannabe club?" Aiden smiled, "Fairies don't quite see ages the same way others do as we live so long. They saw a beautiful girl who looked just like the queen. Many wanted my sister. Fairies tend to have sex young. That group you keep growling at was quite disappointed she didn't seem to like anyone here. Not everyone was a part of my uncle's depraved ring. They wouldn't hurt her." I growled at them again.

Aiden smiled broadly, "They hate you, and you hate them. I thought we'd have a full hospital after you kissed her, I was prepared for a brawl. The female fairies lust skyrocketed and so did their hatred of my sister. The males were astonished and jealous she would kiss you at all." I rolled my eyes, "I'm her husband and mate, of course she'd kiss me." Aiden nodded, "Many do not believe she has a fated mate. What they believed was that you married her for peace and children. They did not expect to see you being affectionate or possessive of her. They hoped she would find a lover here. I would prepare for drastic measures on Haley's part."

I stared at him. He didn't elaborate so I had to ask," What drastic measures? As for the male fairies... if she had any interest in them, they'd never get to lover status. Because I would kill them." Aiden smiled, "You'll enjoy her drastic measures I'd imagine. She's going to get fed up with the female fairies and prove you are very much hers. Her fairy side will demand it, probably right along with her Hackura side." I nodded and Aiden looked away. He sighed and told me, "It's time for the parade."

I went back to Haley and Jackson; her anger and frustration were palpable. It was tinged with hurt and confusion. Jackson linked me, "She has no idea the males are looking at her. She thinks people think she's going to kill them for being mean to her as a child." I shrugged, "The females might want to watch out because in her current mood, she just might. Aiden seems to think she's going to do something to prove I'm hers." Jackson laughed, "So long as I don't have to see it." I laughed, "It wouldn't be the first time." Jackson winced, "First time with her." I smiled broadly, "I never let anyone see any part of her." Jackson snorted, "Of course you won't. You actually care if people see her."

We left for the parade. It was moderately entertaining to watch a hoard of drunken fairies try to walk around at the parade. It was a complete shit show. Haley was still fuming mad. She snapped us into new outfits in her room. Her dress had my dick straining in my pants. I was about to tell her to pop us somewhere private when I got a text.

Marcus: I'm Almost done with the list. I've found some interesting things. Thomas is keeping them

safe. I know why the queen gave the property to Haley.

Me: What did you find?

Marcus: You'll have to see it to believe it. I grabbed a scrapbook Alania had in one of her houses

of Haley as a child. I got Arion and Aiden's out as well for her if she wants them, but Haley should

have this one at least.

Me: She will probably love it. She's pissed at the moment.

Marcus: Pissed seems a kind word for what I feel, but you can't really blame her.

No, you couldn't. I looked at the letter on the bed. Marcus didn't explain what he'd found, but maybe the letter would tell her. She still looked at the letter like it was going to explode. Jackson linked me, "She's never opening that letter." I disagreed,

“She will eventually. I think she’s just trying to get through this. Besides, Marcus found some interesting things. He thinks he knows why the queen gave the properties to Haley.” Jackson was annoyed when he replied, “Of course. Fucking sneaky fairies can’t do their own shit. She knew she was going to die. Why not burden Haley with one more thing? What did he find?” I shrugged, “I don’t know. He said I had to see it. Alania did not think she would die this soon. If she is in fact dead.” Jackson snorted, “A witch had to help them if Aiden saw someone turn to dust. I had dad talk to Bjourn. Aiden was quite evasive when he spoke to Haley. I think the Hackura have Alania.” I did too. What was interesting is Aiden was evading for them. My question was why.

Haley was going numb again the closer we got to where the funeral service was being held. She was on autopilot walking to the front of the venue. Aiden looked at her in surprise when she took his hand, but his smile blossomed. For just a moment, I could see in him what Haley did. Jackson linked me, “Is she good?” I answered, “No, she’s not.”

I kissed Haley’s forehead and heard a few quiet hisses. I looked over to see a furious group of male fairies and a smiling Marcious. He gave me a nod, then he looked over to the male fairies positively gleeful. Haley was feeling very possessive and lustful.

I linked Jackson, “You might want to get out of here as soon as this is over.” Jackson snorted replying, “I’m not leaving you.” I answered, “Haley just told me she’s about to throw me down and have her way with me to prove I’m hers.” Jackson raised an eyebrow and looked over to the group Haley was glaring daggers at.

Jackson sighed admitting, “Well, they are looking at you with bedroom eyes. In her shoes, you’d do the same if it was a pack member looking at her.” I growled, “I’d kill a member of my pack for looking at her like that. She’s their fucking Luna.”

After the services, Haley left to go to the bathroom. On her way back she was confronted. Jackson sighed, “Oh boy.” I hissed, “I can’t believe they don’t know that now is not the time for this. It’s her mother’s funeral.” Jackson answered,

“I’m sure their logic is thinking this is their only chance. She doesn’t ever come here.” I looked over to see Liam holding back a furious Bexley from marching over to her cousin. Marcious sighed, “Oh, let Bexley go. That would be delightfully fun.” Liam glared at him.

Haley taunted the girl. Jackson linked me, “She is priceless. A screw on its last wrung!” Haley basically told Jackson to get lost and why. Jackson was surprised by her honesty and spit out his drink. Haley popped us away. She popped us right

outside at the back of the building. I made her come several times screaming my name, because she wasn't the only one who needed to prove something. Those male fairies needed to hear how much I pleased her. They needed to know that she was fucking mine. We stayed there when we were done. I couldn't pull out of her. I was addicted to her smell, her face after we had sex, and mostly her not feeling numb in our bond.

I could hear the grumbles of male fairies inside. I don't think she intentionally brought us to the perfect spot for everything to echo but she had. When we got back inside, Jackson linked me while Haley flipped off the fairy females, "Where does she come up with this stuff brother? By the way, I left but there was no point." I smirked, "I didn't think you would get far enough away." Jackson snorted, "You guys are loud. Her brother, Marcious, and Bexley were practically gloating. Aiden was actually outright laughing telling them that they brought it on themselves."

He teased Haley and she walked over to speak to Aiden. Jackson muttered, "She warned me... I needed to be in a different realm in order not to hear that. Seriously Eric, do you have any idea how loud you were?" I laughed, "Of course I do. She accidentally picked a spot in the back that created quite the echo."

Jackson snorted, "Marcious was telling people your pleasure with each other increases since you are twice light bonded. Some fairies actually had to sit down at the news." I sighed and noticed a lot of people staring at us with open curiosity. I muttered, "Great, because we needed it announced." Jackson shrugged, "None of the fire or water fairies seemed surprised. They already knew. You know fairies can't keep secrets." I sighed, "Sure they can if they want to. They are just giant gossips who can't lie." Jackson laughed.

The day was finally over. The second we got back to her room she snapped us into normal comfy clothes. I stared at her ass. Jackson linked me, "You JUST fucked her. Come on! You are worse than were you sixteen. Jesus fucking Christ." I smiled and replied, "I can't help it."

I finally figured out why Haley had originally asked Marcus for explosives. I linked Jackson, "She's going to blow the building down where Fabian abused her." He agreed, "That would make sense. It's not like Aiden will be mad at her for doing it. Not that I think it would stop her even if it would upset him." We both stopped talking as a strangled sound came from Haley's throat as she ran her hands over the necklace she had asked Aiden for.

For some reason, the necklace seemed to make her decide to open the letter from her mother. I read the letter much faster than Haley. I linked Jackson, "Shit. I don't think the queen wrote all of this. It's FAR too nice to have been written by a fairy. Definitely too nice for anything her mother has ever said to her since I met Haley.

We are right. Something is going on.” Jackson linked, “The Hackura have something to do with this.” I sighed, “Probably. I just think some things don’t add up. There is no way Alania would’ve ever said she was glad Veronica loved Haley. She’s too damn selfish and self-centered. Some of this clearly came from Alania though. Overall, it’s just too nice.” Jackson shrugged, “Ignorance on your mate’s part might be best here.” That I agreed with.

Tears were running down Haley's face. I kissed her on the forehead. Marcus burst into the room covered in grime from destroying all the properties. Haley popped us to the last building. We all watched it collapse together. Haley went numb again. Marcus and I shared a worried look. Haley popped us to the portal to leave without saying a word. Her guard, Bexley, and Liam came. I spotted Tucker leaning against a tree waiting for us. I waved him over. Haley’s broken whisper was so soft the werewolves all barely heard it. Even Tucker looked worried about her.

Jackson linked me, “I’m going out on a limb and saying she’s numb again.” I nodded, “She is.” As soon as we stepped through both Haley and Tucker went onto their knees. Tucker’s eyes were flickering from his to black. His wolf was clearly happy to be back in the earthly realm. Haley turned and said, “Welcome home, Alpha Tucker.” He laughed and a few tears rolled down his cheeks.

I took charge, “Haley and Bexley can pop us to our home. Tucker, You can stay the night. We can call your family and let them know you will be returning home. We can call Lucas as well.” Tucker nodded, “That would be nice, Eric. I can’t wait to talk to my little sister. I can’t believe she’s mated.” I smiled knowing he has a few nieces and nephews now from each of his siblings. That was their news to share.

Haley grabbed my hand, Jackson grabbed mine and he grabbed Tucker’s. Haley’s guard and brother grabbed on and we all popped to the main room in our home.

Mrs. Blanch was there with my parents. My mom said nothing. Mrs. Blanch took one look at Haley and frowned, “YOU have NOT been eating! Get your butt in the kitchen right now! Honestly, you spend some time in Faerie and you just forgot to eat. I’m just going to have to follow you around all the realms you go to.” Haley turned to me. I shrugged. I linked her, “You didn’t eat much and she’s a shark. Go eat. I bet she’ll give you a brownie.” Haley smiled answering, “I do love her brownies.” They both left

My dad broke the silence, “Titus called and said they would bring the triplets back tomorrow morning. After what they all were feeling from Haley, they thought that would be best. That statement has me quite worried about my daughter in law.” I nodded agreeing, “I miss the triplets, but I agree that’s best.”

Then my dad spotted Tucker. He yelled, "YOU FOUND TUCKER?" He walked over and gave Tucker a hug and kept talking, "You... You're alive! It's good to see you, son. Your dad is going to be so happy." I told him, "Haley asked Aiden to look for Claudia's mate." My dad's eyes widened, "SHIT! I didn't even think to ask. I didn't think her mate was little Tucker Thomas." I snorted, "He's not little anymore, dad. He hasn't been for quite some time." After a moment I added, "I didn't think to ask if her mate was Tucker either, but Haley asked and Aiden found him. Haley healed him, and we brought him home. We have calls to make." Everyone nodded.

I walked out heading towards the war room. Caleb already had the number pulled for me. I dialed Tucker's family. They didn't answer, so I called Lucas, who answered immediately, "Eric, you actually caught me in my office. I just walked in. Please express my sympathies to your mate. She's going through so many things at one time. We are very sorry for her loss." I said sincerely, "Thank you Lucas. I'm sure she will appreciate her lion thinking of her. I actually called to give you good news." Lucas changed his tone, "Oh really? What's that?" I smiled waiting for a moment.

Dylan sighed, "Oh tell us... PLEASEEE, PLEASEE, PLEASSEEEE." Of course, he was there. I rolled my eyes as I said, "You can hand Alpha Tucker's pack back to him. He's home." Lucas sucked in a breath then yelled, "What? You found him?! In... you were in... you FOUND HIM FAERIE? SHIT! Claudia's mate was Tucker Thomas? THAT MOTHER FUCKING BITCH!" Dylan said, "For the record, whenever that sentence is explained to me about Claudia... I would have known it was Tucker. Then I would've been the one to find him. Just so everyone knows that. I've told you all thusly, you have to tell the beta blood all the details."

I laughed, "Of course you would. We tried to call Tucker's family, but they didn't answer." Lucas responded, "Because they are here. We were having a party. If he's still with you I'll send Dylan to get them." Tucker stepped forward speaking, "I would appreciate it, Lucas." Lucas' voice was thick with emotion when he replied, "Hello Tucker. We missed you, my friend." Tucker told him, "I missed you all. There were moments I would've killed to hear a Dylan joke." Dylan squealed, "I TOLD YOU! Alpha's love me. I'll just be on my way. I'll send you a memo full of Beta Dylan jokes, Alpha Tucker. I am here for you."

I growled, "Please do be on your way, Dylan." Tucker raised an eyebrow, "You don't like Dylan? Since when?" Jackson laughed, "Since Dylan is obsessed with his mate." Tucker laughed, "You can't blame him, Eric; she's something. Not my type, but she's special." I rolled my eyes, "At least I have someone I don't have to worry about." Tucker laughed.

Tucker's father's voice floated over the speaker, "Alpha Lucas. What's so important? Do... do you have news about Tucker?" Lucas told him, "I do." Gasps

echoed in their room. Tucker's mother's voice shook as she asked, "Is it a lead? Have you found my boy?" His brother, Alpha Tim Thomas, asked, "Is he alive?"

Tucker snorted, "Hey dipshit. Of course, I'm alive." Sobs broke out on the other end of the phone. Haley slipped into the room and linked me, "I can pop them here to see him." I nodded to her. I told the group out loud, "My wife is more than willing to come pop you here. We have rooms for you to stay the night should you choose to do so." Through tears Tucker's father said, "Yes, please Alpha Eric." Haley popped away.

I instantly heard Dylan say, "Well hey there Princess! If I had more warning I'd have had those men ready to feed you grapes and fan you." I growled. Haley laughed. Tucker's sister asked her mate, "Can we please go see him? Just for a little bit." Her mate didn't speak but Haley did, "I can pop you back after she sees him." I heard a sigh of relief, "That would be great." I heard a laugh. Haley said, "Bye, Dylan. Bye, my lion." then she was back with Tucker's family. They ran to him leaving her brother's mate and his sister's mate standing behind them. Both nodded to me.

Haley came over and wrapped her arms around me smiling. Tucker spoke, "Why don't we take this to another room? We are hijacking Eric's office." I nodded to him as they all followed him out. I told Haley, "Your dad is going to bring the triplets home tomorrow." She sighed, "Fine. I'd argue with him, but I know there's no point. I really fucking miss them though." I smiled and kissed her hand, "He's just worried about you." She sighed, "And he wants more time with Cassie." I laughed, "Probably."

Caleb interjected, "We still have Masium and Alpha Harden to deal with, Eric. The witch ummm... well she... Masium is alive, but she was mad. He looks... strange." I raised an eyebrow and asked, "So Megan is still here?" Haley grimace then admitted, "I told her she could stay here, and that I'd help her." I kissed her forehead, "That's fine, Angel." I told Caleb, "We will deal with Masium and Alpha Harden later, Caleb. Anticipation never hurt anyone."

Marcus pulled out a scrapbook and gave it to Haley. She opened it and gasped, "Where did you get this, Marcus?" He said, "In one of the places I destroyed. I thought you might like to have it." Haley flipped through the pages. I glanced over her shoulder. She really was a beautiful little girl. Constantly in casts from the pictures but she was stunningly beautiful even as a child.

Haley's eyes filled with tears and she said, "Thank you, Marcus." He said nothing while she looked through the rest then looked up. She asked him, "Did you find anything else?" Marcus nodded and handed her several files. She frowned and then opened them. Her eyes blazed gold. Her anger, confusion and worry hit our bond with a vengeance.

Haley yelled, “WHAT THE FUCK IS THIS?” I glanced at Marcus who said, “I thought you should know.” She groaned and sat down, muttering to herself, “Just in case these last few days didn’t have enough shit piled in them; let’s add whipped cream.” Jackson tried to lighten the mood, “It’s icing or a cherry on top.” Haley rolled her eyes and told him, “We’ve already had the damn cherry and icing. Now we have whipped cream to top it all off. What am I supposed to do with this? Why me? Why couldn’t Aiden deal with this?” She stood and handed me the file and began to pace.

My eyes widened when I saw the contents in the file. I handed it to Jackson. He looked up with disbelief in his eyes. We sat in silence watching my mate pace the room. Eventually I said, “You don’t have to do anything with this, Haley.” She snorted, “Yes, I do. Thank god Fabian didn’t do this to me, or I’d raise him from the fucking dead to kill him again. I can’t keep this from Aiden. I don’t even want to. I’m not going back to Faerie to find this place. Someone has to. Fuck this and fuck her. This is his kingdom now; the full blooded fairies are his business.” I sighed and dialed Aiden’s number for her.

Aiden’s amusement came through the phone when he answered, “Ahh my sister’s wolf. Do you miss me already?” I was about to answer when Haley said, “It’s me, brother.” Aiden’s tone immediately changed, “Are you alright, little sister?” She sighed, “No. I was going to call you and see how you were doing later, but fairy shit has come up. When Marcus was demolishing mother’s houses, he came across some information I just received. Mother had recently found this out and didn’t want Fabian’s secrets out there... for some fucking reason. But she’s wrong. You need to know.” Aiden paused then asked, “What did you find?”

Haley sighed and opened another file. She was scanning it as she answered, “Fabian came to mother saying he wanted to do a project. A study really, to see why fairies fertility rates was dropping. Mother agreed and left him to his project.” Aiden cursed, “OH SON OF A BTICH! What did he do?” Haley cringed. She picked up another file and kept reading.

She answered him, “He harvested sperm and eggs from full blooded fairies. There’s an orphanage in Faerie at one of Fabian’s properties. Mother hadn’t found it yet, but you need to; there are tons of fairy children afuckinglone, Aiden.” Aiden cursed, “FUCK! Seriously?! That’s why she gave the property to you? What the hell? Did she really think you wouldn’t find out and tell me? You don’t have any children here, do you? Tell me he did not do that to you.” Haley picked up the last file.

She snorted, “Hell no. I’m not worthy, remember? I’m a partial fai...” She trailed off and paled. I felt her dread and urgency in the bond. I asked, “Angel, what’s wrong?” She whispered, “Oh, shit.” Aiden sighed, “I don’t like it when you do that, little sister. You were all angry now your voice sounds scared and angry.

What did you find?" I whispered, "You and Lucinda have a son. He's six months old brother." Aiden yelled in anger. I heard Lucinda gasp.

Aiden screamed, "WHAT? A SON? HOW COULD SHE NOT TELL ME? Do you have a list of the children? And who they belong to?" Haley answered, "Yes. He calls them successes. Arion has children too. Five of them. We have a lot of cousins, Aiden. Masium and Hexxus' children are there."

A pop sounded. A furious Aiden stood in front of us. Haley handed him the files and they spoke rapidly in fealish. Aiden spoke aloud, "I have to go and find this place. How? I don't fucking know. They can conjure themselves food instinctually but CHRIST! They've been alone this whole god damn time?!"

Haley offered a solution, "Have Lucinda use the charm you used to find me. Your son is there. He's her blood too. It will give her something to do. I'd need something to fucking do if this was my son."

Aiden's eyes brightened. He yanked Haley into a hug, "I do not deserve you. Thank you, sister." She replied, "I'm your sister, Aiden. I fucking love you, you dork. If my nephew needs to be healed; or any of the children let me know. We can work something out for them to come here. He doesn't have a name, Aiden. None of them do. Those poor babies. He just used fucking numbers." Aiden kissed her on the forehead and spoke again in fealish. He nodded to me and popped away with the files.

Haley sat and put her head into her hands. She whispered, "How could she not tell her own damn son about her grandson? Why would she think I wouldn't tell him about this? Even if he didn't have a son there;0 we have nephews and nieces and second cousins... Jesus fucking Christ. Does everyone think I'm a bad fucking person?" I said, "No one thinks you're a bad person." Haley's eyes briefly flashed to my mother. She muttered, "Sure they do. I'm going for a run."

Marcus told her, "Only if Blade is with you." Haley nodded and gave me a kiss. She told me, "I'm sure you have to work to catch up on. Lord knows the amount of paperwork you're behind in now. Let me know if you want my help." She kissed me again then walked out, her emotions were all over the place in our bond.

My mother spoke the second Blade shut the door, "I don't think she's a bad person." I sighed, "I know." Marcus pulled out the flash drive looking fairly object. I asked him, "Did you watch them?" He shook his head, "Not yet." He called his family. Thankfully, the triplets were sleeping. Veronica came in with the monitor. I said, "Mom, I need you to leave." She stared at me in shock. I said, "Now." She glared at me but left. Marcus touched one of the drives.

Fabian's voice came on, "Test subject is sleeping. We are working on how sleep deprivation adds to her torture. She has only slept an hour each night before I come and wake her." I growled. He walked over to her. Harold gasped, "Holy shit." We saw the car battery Fabian had hooked up to shock Haley awake.

Tears filled my eyes as she screamed and jolted awake. She tried to get away. Fabian yelled at her, "Come back here you ungrateful wench! You live here even though you should be dead! Consider this payment for your life." Hexxus held her down. Fabian shocked her so much her chest was singed and bleeding. Titus broke a table.

Marcus played the next one. Masium and Hexxus starred in many of the videos. My anger was at an all-time high. Finally, when it was done; I spoke, "We will be seeing Masium tomorrow after I spend some time with my pups. Should any of you be interested in joining, you are more than welcome." They shot me grateful looks.

Titus spoke, "I will see him blood eagled beside his dead father and brother, here in our realm." I nodded, "Of course. We can also hit him with the knowledge he leaves behind children he never knew about." Titus nodded and ended the call.

My dad spoke, "That poor girl. He never gave her a chance. I don't know how she is who we see today. Did she..." My dad looked at Marcus and asked, "Did she ever try to kill herself?" We all flinched. Marcus finally said, "Not that I know of, but we didn't ask her that. She's never tried from the moment I met her." He looked at me the question clear in his eyes.

I told him, "I can honestly say, I don't think she did try. She wanted to meet her dad, but I can ask her later." Marcus nodded. Caleb handed me some files. I was ignoring my instinct to go throttle Masium for what I just saw. Caleb told me, "Your brothers did most of your paperwork. You just look like you could use a distraction." I nodded my thanks. I easily finished up what hadn't been done. I felt Haley was in our room in our bond. I left to go find her.

I saw Blade in our hall and he spoke, "Princess upset. Blade cannot help. Emotional. Protect princess from physical. Wolf's job to fix emotional." That was quite the speech for Blade. I told him, "I'll help her." He nodded and faded away.

I walked into the room just as Haley stepped out of the shower. She snapped on one of my shirts and a pair of her sweatpants. I told her, "You look amazing." She turned and smiled at me. I sat down on the couch and patted the seat next to me. I said, "Talk to me, Angel." She sighed and sat down beside me. She put her head on my chest. We sat there in silence before she asked, "About what?" I kissed her head, "Anything. Everything. You felt numb while we were in Faerie. Marcus and I were both worried we'd seen the last of our Haley."

Haley shrugged, "It felt natural, honestly. That's how I survived there. I couldn't feel anything. Not there. Fabian was everywhere behind every fucking corner. He was lurking in every shadow he's everywhere. Then I just..." She trailed off then continued, "We attended my brother's funeral because I killed him. I finally had the respect of a group of people, whose respect I don't want or fucking need, because I killed him. All because Aiden wanted me to have their respect. Even though he's hurting. Then I have to call my brother and deliver crushing news that he has a son he didn't know about. Oh, and our bitchy dead mother knew about said son for a week."

Haley sighed, "The only damn thing I can say in her defense is she did try to find the place but couldn't. But she STILL didn't tell her own son about this. I'm tired of cleaning up fairy messes every time I turn around. I'm tired of them constantly hurting me. I'm fed up with myself for being surprised every time they fucking do it too. I never want to go back there. I never want our children there because if they go, I can't not go with them. Is it even fair for me to hold back that piece of their heritage from them? No, it's not and I fucking can't. They should see the beauty of their fairy blood. It is a beautiful place to everyone but me. I feel selfish for wanting to keep it from them. I know I won't and I'll go back there for them. I hate it. I hate that there are innocent children suffering there right now. Not understanding why no one loves them. I know exactly how those children feel. I hate that there are female fairies who are going to throw their tall bitchy asses at you whenever they can. I can't believe my mother and Arion are actually gone."

Haley took a deep breath then whispered, "I could tell you some of what happened to your friend Tucker because I recognized the scars he had. I used to have them myself. I hate that they know how powerful of a healer I am now. I just couldn't let Tucker suffer anymore when I could fix him. I really fucking hate that being back there made me feel like that small insignificant little girl that had no one."

She paused and I rubbed her back. I told her, "The triplets don't have to go there for a while. We will all go together so they can see it. We can also take Marcus with us. I'm sure Aiden will do anything that makes you comfortable. As far as the fairies, you are highly desired among the male fairy population there. So, I know how you feel." She laughed at me. I could feel in our bond she thought I was wrong.

I sighed and told her, "Fabian kept videos of what happened to you in your room. Jackson accidentally touched one and it started playing a recording on a projection." She groaned, "Of fucking course he did. Marcus saw it, didn't he?" I nodded. Haley sighed, "So, Marcus found whatever else was hiding on the ports in my room." I asked, "Ports?" Haley nodded, "That's what those are called. They are used for recording messages for people or like a live journal of sorts." I asked her, "Did you have one?" She looked away and whispered, "Until they found it and

used what was on it against me. Then I asked Aiden to destroy it with his fire fairy powers.”

I told her, “Marcus did find more of them. I had my mom leave the room, but others saw them. He called your family and conferenced them in.” Haley sighed, “Well at least Fabian’s already dead so my father is less likely to declare war.

Thank you for having your mom leave. I’d prefer if no one fucking saw them...but still.” I cringed. I should’ve cleared the room. I should’ve learned that from her physical. I needed to get my head on straight.

I apologized, “I’m sorry. I should’ve cleared the room. You had a right to decide how that happened. Your family is coming tomorrow to torture Masium.” Haley nodded, “Sure. He was often involved in my nightly tortures.” I took a deep breath. I told her, “I’d like you to consider having more frequent appointments with Lindsey for a while. I was really worried about you while we were in Faerie.” She didn’t say anything for several moments.

Eventually Haley said, “Well, we think alike. I already called and got bi-weekly appointments with her for the foreseeable fucking future.” I nodded. I couldn’t hide my relief, “You’ve been through so much lately, Haley. We are all worried about you.” She shrugged, “I’d lie and say I’m fine, but I can’t. I’m also not anywhere near fine. It’s better this time around though. I have you, I have our babies, and I have my family at my side. I already feel better being at home than I did being there.”

I nodded, “Good. Why didn’t your mother leave you any of her things besides the property and the money?” She shrugged, “Probably because she wants the jewelry to stay in Faerie. I wanted this necklace because she said my dad gave it to her. I don’t care about her other stuff. I never have. I just wanted her to spend time with me. I wasn’t that girl that played dress up in her mother's room. The whole will was pretty much complete petty bullshit anyway. Her not giving Lucinda the crown makes no sense. The crown of all things should stay in Faerie.”

I smiled and told her, “It meant a lot to both your brother and Lucinda that you immediately gave it to her.” Haley shrugged, “I already have a damn crown. Plus, mine’s better. That crown belongs to the fairy queen, which I will never be. Nor do I ever want to be. I’m going to put the money mother gave me aside for the triplets. If they want to go to college it will be paid for. I’d like to use the rest to fund all my part fairy initiative. The database, the events, the traveling, and an assistant. What are your thoughts? I heard some pack members in the kitchen earlier, and they said couples should talk about money situations.”

I laughed, “Pack members, huh? I think that sounds like a fine plan. We are by no means strapped for cash, little mate. I am quite well off. I’m actually rich, really.

How much did your mother leave you?" Haley shrugged, "I am thinking about buying a book called relationship for dummies too. One of the warriors was talking about getting it for his recently mated brother. I didn't know we were supposed to talk about money and shit. As far as what my mother left, in this realm it would be about ten million dollars."

I stared at her for several moments. She had no idea how much money that was here. I told her, "You don't need the book, little mate. We will figure things out ourselves. I appreciate that you even thought to bring it up after hearing people discuss it. That is quite a bit of money here. It's probably going to go farther than the triplets college and your partial fairy funding." Haley tilted her head and asked, "Really?" I nodded and told her, "We could invest some of it as well. I have a guy." She shrugged, "Sure, whatever you think is best."

I almost laughed. She was adorable. Not that a princess ever had the need to look over money. Especially in a realms she lived in. She'd only been here for a little bit, and it wasn't her permanent home when she came for school. Haley mused, "I guess I could repair the gym. I heard my family has been rough on it." I laughed out loud and told her, "They have. The repairs are already underway though."

Haley playfully slapped my arm. She exclaimed, "Hey! I could've just snapped the whole damn place back to normal." I laughed, "Caleb seems to be forgetting that little talent of yours. Slap him." She sighed and melted into me. She whispered, "I wish we could go back to my island and live in a little bubble with our babies." I told her, "We can take a vacation soon. We've been gone for large chunks of time so I'd like to stay home for a while."

Haley sighed and changed the subject, "I have my partial fairies coming for training tomorrow. Maribella is supposed to come. Marcious texted me he taught her how to pop, so she's coming." I asked, "Are you excited to see her?" Haley nodded "I really am. I always liked her. The girls I saved understood what I was going through. They were nice to me when no one else ever fucking was." I pulled her in tight.

I promised her, "Haley, I want you to know I'll always be here for you. Even if we are fighting. Even if I'm so mad at you I can't see straight. Or if you're pissed at me. If something happens, I am here for you. I hate that you thought I wouldn't come with you to your mother's funeral even for a second. You are my mate. I would never let you handle that alone." She put her cheek on my chest and was quiet.

Eventually Haley said, "I'm trying to get used to it, Eric. I know that you have a job here and it's a damn important one. I've pulled you away from it a lot. I just wanted you to know you could send someone if you couldn't come. I wanted you to come the whole time. I just didn't want you to feel like you had to. When you

made it clear you were coming this ball of anxiety I had just disappeared.” I nodded, “I know. I still won’t care what’s going on. It could be a terrible time to leave and I’ll still be there. You and our pups come first Haley. We agreed to that. I’m a man of my word.” She smiled, “I know you are.”

She leaned up and kissed me. We made out for several minutes. Haley moved to straddle me on the couch. Her mouth left mine to gently nibble from my ear down my neck. I rocked my hips against hers so she could feel how much I wanted her. She snapped our clothes off, then gently lowered herself all the way down. I groaned, “Shit, Angel. You are so wet.” She smiled and sexily whispered, “I always am for you, Eric.” She started to rock her hips. She put her feet beside my butt cheeks and grabbed the back of the couch. She started to move faster, slamming into me. We were both moaning with desire. I growled and let my head rest on the back of the couch, just enjoying watching her pleasure herself with my body. Her hands gripped the couch tighter as she came. I couldn’t hold myself back and came right after her.

I stood and carried her to the bed. I laid her down and told her, “I can never get enough of you. I ache for you when I’m not in you. I fight myself to not bury myself inside you every moment of every day. I barely held myself back when you snapped yourself into those yoga pants earlier today. I’m convinced they were designed to drive me wild. Do you have any idea how your ass looks in those pants you constantly walk around in? Or how your boobs taunt me? They beg for me to play with them in those tops you wear. When you were my clothes, god Haley. It’s so fucking hot.

I cupped her breast and she moaned. I could smell her arousal. I could feel her getting wet again. I told her, “This is mine.” I rubbed my thumb over her nipple. She whispered “Yours.” She ran her fingers up and down my back. I looked at her in shock when she smacked my ass. I smirked, “Oh yeah?” She giggled and replied, “Yeah. You smack my ass and I smack yours.” Then she smacked my other ass cheek. I rammed into her. And she gasped, “Eric!” I chuckled and grabbed one of her legs. I stood at the edge of the bed, pulling her with me. I began to move inside her. I moved my hand between her legs and started to rub her clit.

She clutched the sheets and screamed, “ERIC! GOD! FUCK!” I smirked and kept thrusting, sending her climaxing again and again. When I finally came, she was sobbing and twitching from all the orgasms she’d had. I pulled out of her and went to get a towel to clean her off. She was fading to sleep. Sleepily, she muttered, “I’ll always be ok now because of you. They can’t beat me. They never fucking could, but with you and my family by my side, they can knock me down; but I’ll get up every damn time.” I smiled, “It’s just who you are, my Angel. You are a survivor.”

Haley smiled and immediately cuddled into me when I laid down. I smiled and kissed her forehead and followed her to sleep.