

Sibling Meeting

Haley and Titus walked into the nursery where Cassandra, Nathan, and Molly were playing with the triplets. I smiled at my babies and then stared in shock as EJ popped into my arms. Well, alright then. He's a popping wolf baby. At least he's adorable. This was going to get interesting.

Cassandra asked, "Fairy babies can pop too?" I shook my head, "No, most have to learn how. EJ must have wanted to be in my arms and visualized it." I cooed at him, "Aren't you just my smart little man?" I swear he grinned mischievously and looked like a carbon copy of his father. I looked up when another pop sounded. I saw that Cassie was in my father's arms.

I laughed, "Oh boy. So, the fairy hijinks begins. Alexander is going to get in on this, I fucking feel it." I said, then another pop sounded and Alexander went from Nathan to Cassandra. Nathan snorted, "Shit." Cassandra slapped him, "You WILL watch your language around my grandpups, Nathan Connors." Sure, I guess.

I laughed asking, "Can you imagine if any of them popped to Eric? We'd hear a string of curses from up here." The babies starting crying. I got hit with a bad feeling. I hissed, "FUCKING SERIOUSLY? Ghiza!" Ghiza appeared. I told him, "Stay with them."

I popped to Jessica and Shana who had their girls. I grabbed onto their arms and popped them to the triplet's nursery. I told them, "You guys stay here and guard the children. Molly and dad are with me. We deal with whatever else is coming. The triplets get bad feelings too apparently, it's why they started crying. Or they felt it from me. I don't fucking know... or from one of them. Son of a bitch."

We walked down the hall. Molly asked, "Did you link Eric?" I shook my head and was about to when I saw my brothers come around the corner. They all dropped in pain and my dad's eyes widened. My dad gritted his teeth, "Seriously?! Witches are trying to compel my children. I'm going to take on as much pain as I can from them." I nodded and gave him a hug. I pushed my bonds down so I could focus.

My dad added, "My guards and Histeck's are here. There's a threat against him. So, I made them come with him." I groaned, "Great! Molly, it's a damn good thing we trained this morning. Put your badass bitch face on. Let's link our guys." We were about to do just that, but as soon as we stepped outside; we saw Marcus and Bjourn writing in pain which stopped us.

I quickly noticed and my father's guard and my brothers were already compelled. A witch stepped forward and spoke, "Your mates aren't coming to help you. They will be too busy fighting each other."

I rolled my eyes and addressed my brothers, “Ok, Bjourn and Marcus, go ahead tell me there are good witch bitches out there, and we shouldn’t wipe them out.” Both my brothers groaned.

Megan waved to get my attention motioning towards the witches. I shook my head and linked a pack warrior, “Guard Megan. Tell her she can’t take on this coven alone. She’s pregnant. She and that baby need to be safe. They won’t harm her. She’s one of their own.”

The pack warrior nodded and started to walk Megan toward the house. I watched her get teary as he delivered my message to her. She walked inside though. I linked Molly, “The Hackura fight dirty and use every advantage they can. Stay on my six. Jackson and Eric will be here soon.” She linked back, “The witches seem to think they won’t be.” I snorted, “They aren’t expecting fairy magic to be protecting them, and it fucking is.” She nodded.

I spoke to the witch bitch, “Using other people to fight your battles. That’s fucking weak. What is that you want here?” The witch bitch smiled, “Revenge.” I sighed. I guess that actually made sense. I asked, “Ok. What witch bitch did I kill that was your friend?” She frowned, “Not against you, silly girl.” Now my eyebrows raised.

I linked Molly, “Did Eric kill a witch I don’t know about? And why the fuck wasn’t I invited to kill a witch bitch? I’ve made my dislike of them very clear.” Molly answered, “I’m just as surprised as you. So, if Eric killed a witch... Jackson didn’t tell me anything about it either.” I sighed. Wonderful.

I spoke aloud, “Revenge against whom?” The witch smiled, “Fabian.” I groaned, “Are you fucking kidding me? Revenge against FABIAN? Oh, for the love of god! Did the dead get together to decide let’s all reach out from the beyond and fuck with Haley? It will be fun! Let’s just rub dirt in the wound.” The witch bitch laughed, “It’s salt.” I frowned, “What?” The witch bitch smiled, “The saying. It’s rubbing salt in the wound.”

I glared at her and asked, “Why would anyone rub salt in a fucking wound? Dirt could lead to an infection which could kill someone. Salt. That’s just ridiculous. Molly is that a witch bitch thing? They use fucking salt all the time. They are clearly biased.” Molly laughed, “No, it’s really the saying.” I groaned, “Why? Why is that the stupid saying? Dirt makes more sense.”

A warlock stepped forward, “ENOUGH! You will pay for your uncle's sins.” I couldn’t help it, I laughed. I laughed so hard my sides hurt and tears came out of my eyes. The warlock frowned then asked, “Why are you laughing?” I managed to say at him, “Pay for my uncle’s sins? Do you know nothing about me? I pay every goddamn time I close my eyes. Every time I have a panic attack or flashback. How about every time I push someone who loves me away? We can’t forget every time

my trust issues and insecurities flare up. I pay for damn Uncle's sins already. In fact, I have paid My ENTIRE life his sins. Do you know the pain I caused my family by not speaking to them when we first met? By fearing them? I fucking hate it. I could see it hurt them, but I had to protect myself. Because my uncle made me this way."

Molly gripped my hand in support. Ubbe stumbled into the yard with Evin, the two of them were clearly in pain. Several witches and warlocks stepped forward and began to attack him with spells. Ubbe convulsed. I let my eyes blaze and screamed, "WHAT THE FUCK?" The warlock answered, "He's been taking many of our kind. Based on who he's been taking, I'm guessing it's for what they did to you. Many are upset with him. I think it's fitting he will kill you." I snorted, "He won't kill me." The warlock smiled, "He won't be able to help it."

Marcus and Bjourn yelled simultaneously, "NO!" I rolled my eyes and laid it out for them, "See here's the thing. You may get my brother to attack me using your compulsion because you are a damn coward who can't do shit for himself; however, you have discounted something that matters. My brother loves me unconditionally. You can't spell that out of him, and you can't break it. You'll know I'm right when he doesn't kill me when he attacks. All my brothers could kill me if they wanted to. I'm really fucking good, but they are better. I'd hold them off with my fairy powers in a fight. Hell, I could pop away from him. If he really wanted to kill me that's what I'd have to do."

I saw their disbelief. Probably because there is no one they loved unconditionally but themselves. I continued, "They were raised from the time they could walk to wield a sword. I have a lot of catching up to do before I'm as good as them." The warlock smiled, "It will be sweet to watch you be wrong." I sighed asking, "You know I'm a damn partial fairy, yes?" He nodded so I continued, "I can't lie. I'm not lying. Spells cannot override love. Neither can charms or enchantments. It's a pure thing that not even magic can alter, assholes." The witch glanced nervously at the warlock. I saw their doubt start to creep in.

I didn't get to focus on them long because the guards of my Dad and Histeck advanced towards Molly and me. Molly whispered to me, "Umm they could kill us. They don't love you or me." I snorted, "They do love me. I'm their princess. Contrary to what people believe, the Hackura aren't killing machines. We have a reason when we kill." I linked Molly, "Unless they are using a compulsion to make them believe we are a danger to the person they are guarding; they won't go for the kill. Hackura are strong and we fight against shit like this. They will fight to not do something that wasn't an order from their king, their commander, or member of the royal family."

It hit me. An order. I yelled, "BJOURN! Tell them not to kill us." Bjourn got on his knees just barely. He commanded, "As the crown prince, I command you not to

kill them.” The guard reacted instantly. Confusion etched on their faces as they approached.

I told Molly, “Get Ready.” I linked Nathan, “No matter what you hear you keep everyone there and safe. You protect my children.” Nathan linked back, “Should I shift?” I thought about it, “It couldn’t hurt. They aren’t here for them, but plans can fucking change.” Nathan answered, “No one will get them regardless of their reason for being here. You girls stay safe down there and give them hell.” I sighed in relief answering him, “I fucking plan to.” I closed the link and conjured my swords.

Molly whispered to me, “How can your brothers fight the compulsion?” I conjured her a sword too. I told her, “The magic protecting Eric and his brothers protect mine as well.” I glanced worriedly at Ubbe. I dejectedly told her, “It’s not going to help Ubbe if we don’t end this fast.” She nodded.

We worked as a team as we were attacked. Molly called over her shoulder, “You’re right. They don’t want to hurt us.” I sighed as I stopped a blow coming for me. I hit one of the guards in the temple. They went down. I answered, “I know they don’t.” I willed my tears away. These were my people and my fairy side kept fucking shit up for me.

I felt Eric getting closer. I linked Molly, “Eric’s coming.” She nodded, “I know. My wolf feels Jackson getting closer too.” When we saw the guys, I explained the situation to Eric. I glanced at Ubbe anger overtaking me. I wasn’t going to be fast enough. I saw three more witches join the other two in their attack. I called my wind, but they had protected themselves. My wind merely bounced off the protection they had around them. Fuckers.

Eric asked where my dad was and I winced, knowing he was taking on all my brother’s pain. He was probably in agony; my mom would be here soon. Eric and his brothers joined the fight. Goddamn Fabian. Did everything always come back to him? He’s dead and still fucking with my life. I was over it. I was almost to the warlock when I saw a broad smile break out on his face. I’d never felt more inadequate than when I heard Ubbe’s war cry.

I looked at the smiling warlock. Something in my mind nagged me that he looked familiar. I glared at him with hatred, which seemed to thrill him. For once, I was crystal clear on where the blame laid in this situation. It wasn’t anyone here or me. It was Fabian.

I saw Evin stumbling and almost laughed. He looked like a drunk college girl I had seen once coming back to my old apartment complex before I met Eric. Evin was trying in vain to stop Ubbe. My heart broke at the look of confusion on my brother’s face as he raised his sword to attack me. I told him, “Ubbe, this isn’t your

fault. Ego, frater hoc fix (I will fix this, brother.) I love you Ubbe, they will pay I swear it to you.” He didn’t say anything. I could see the pain in his eyes as he swung his sword.

The longer the fight went on it was clear I was right. Which I knew, but the witch bitches had doubted me. I stole a glance at the warlock who wasn’t smiling anymore. He knew I was right, Ubbe’s fighting toward me was sloppy. If there was one thing the Hackura didn’t do, it was sloppy. We fought with precision. Ubbe was clearly telling me where his next strike was coming from.

Out of nowhere a charm came to me. I sighed and smiled in relief. I could free my brothers and wipe Ubbe’s memories of the attack. It wasn’t uncomplicated and I’d unlocked my full fairy powers. I should be powerful enough to pull it off. I stole another glance at the warlock. I was getting a sinking feeling; I really did know this asshole.

I spoke in Fealish, “Xed Tem Zecka Fren The earth Za grant Sefre Zecka Sechen Yeut will come decmoving Sefre event forever from his mind; oipo Ze decmember The events Fren kcasda. Xed Tem Zecka Fren Uise earth Den Yevce Za call upon Uise element Ze protect them from souti those going against their minds wish. Let them Kekkel in control caka again Fren their actions, only Ze continue should they will Op themselves” (As a child of the earth, I grant the child peace that will come removing this event forever from his mind; never to remember the events of today. As a child of the earth and sky I call upon the element to protect them from what those going against their minds wish. Let them be in control yet again of their actions, only to continue should they will it themselves).

I finished the last word as Ubbe came at me. I had already dropped one of my swords to place my hand on his chest to complete my charm. Ubbe gave me the perfect opening. I lightly put my hand on his chest and my light enveloped him. He went down like as though I had tranquilized him.

I set him down gently and kissed his forehead as I whispered, “Ego sum paenitet quod te amo, frater meus non reddere non possum non meminisse, quae fecistis vobis (I am sorry brother, I love you they will pay but I cannot let you remember what they made you do). It may be wrong to keep this from him, but I wasn’t kidding when I told everyone Fabian was done taking things from me. He wasn’t taking my relationship with Ubbe from me while my brother wallowed in guilt over something that was absurd.

I stood and let my anger consume me as the warlock in front of me transformed into Fabian in my mind. I spoke aloud, “Za’ll Setra Zu over Den over if Yeut’s souti Op takes Gensh” (I’ll kill you over and over if that’s what it takes, uncle). I popped to Eric’s side. We were about to send a message that we were formidable

on our own; together we were unstoppable. A team no one could beat, and everyone should be very afraid.

The warlock was shocked by my power. I was a god damn fucking princess. He attacked my family, the fucking Hackura AND the Conners! Did he think that would go unchecked because he didn't realize I was powerful? FUCKING MEN! So many were morons.

I need the warlock to know that I was the reason his plan failed. I needed him to know that like I needed to draw my next breath. No matter what form he took, in my mind he was my uncle. I just felt it. It wasn't rational or even reality. It was just how I felt. During our conversation it hit me. He was the leader that was sending the witches to work with Fabian. I nearly threw up when he called me princess. It flashed in my mind the moment I met him.

Flashback

I was barely conscious. I was hanging on by a thread when I heard my uncles voice reach me, "Now you see. There she is. I'll let you play with her." I heard a scoff, "It's hardly playing. She's obviously already been played with today." Fabian laughed, "The agreement was never for her to be left alone prior to your encounter. You wanted a piece of the princess who looks just like her mother. Well, here she is." I heard a snort, "Even beat up she looks just like her. She is even more beautiful." Fabian sounded gleeful, "And we can all see how that excites you. This is as close to my sister as you will get. No vaginal sex with the abomination."

I heard the man respond, "You don't know that. The queen banged a human, I'm above a human male." Fabian sounded bored, "So?" The man sighed, "Yes, yes, yes I'll abide your rules regarding sex." Fabian added, "By the way, my sister has taken up with a male fairy who can't have children when she feels the urge to have sex. She doesn't want any more children." The voice answered, "With how you treat this one; I'm sure she doesn't." Fabian laughed, "Blood runs deep and all."

I heard an answering laugh, "Clearly it doesn't in Faerie. Or you wouldn't be offering me your niece who's bleeding from already having been raped today. She was obviously taken with force." I couldn't agree with the voice more. Blood didn't mean anything here.

Fabian said, "She's an abomination. Luckily for her, she's a pretty one. There are many here with obsessions and desires for the queen that pay for her. Your service extension will be paid, plus the time you wanted with her. We will leave you to it." I could hear footsteps walking away. I couldn't stop the tears that fell down my cheeks. I thought I was done for the day. Drexsi had already had time with me. I was always left alone after that.

I heard the man whisper, "I'm sorry they were rough with you, my princess." The way he said it almost sounded tender. Then I remembered he was pretending I was my mother. I wondered if he'd ever met her. I felt something wet start to circle my asshole. I whimpered and cringed in pain. He consoled me, "Shh, I know it hurts, but this is the time I have. It won't hurt as much this way since I'm preparing you a little. You probably won't even remember this you're so out of it. They told me you just turned thirteen recently. In six months, it will be my turn again. I'll demand you not be touched prior to our time together. I'll show you it doesn't have to hurt."

I cringed and dug my nails into my palms and cried out in pain as he entered me. It didn't hurt as badly as when the fairies did it, but it still burned. I cried silently. I couldn't even open my eyes as he thrust into me. I was broken this time. Normally, I would fight back... I already had today. I'd been whipped, beaten and raped. My uncle had never let two people rape me twice in one day. What fresh new hells was he going to dip me into now?

The man groaned his release and kissed my temple, "You're perfect. Maybe I can convince your uncle to give you to me." I shivered at the thought. He put a blanket over me and pushed my hair behind my ears, "I'd be kinder to you if you were mine. I wouldn't share. I'm selfish, and as I said you're perfect." The more he talked the more terrified I became. Fabian could do that. He could give me to this man where I'd be a slave. I didn't even really know what this man wanted from me. I needed to stay in Faerie. This is where my father knew I was.

Now I was crying because it wasn't fair. I'd stayed here and dealt with the abuse because my father was coming for me. I only had three years left. If Fabian gave me to this man... my father might never find me. Pain gripped my heart at the thought. All these years had passed and I'd have survived in vain if my uncle agreed to hand me over. I had no doubt if it suited him; he'd give me to this man to rape over and over until I died.

I heard feet come back in. The man said, "Fabian, she's perfect. Can I convince you to part with her?" Fabian laughed, "I cannot part with her. She's quite the money maker for me. She's also the star in many of my experiments." I heard the man's intake of breath as he asked, "Your own niece? That's who you use my witches for?"

My hatred for this man grew. HE was the reason the witches came here. If my head wasn't pounding in pain, I'd have put that together sooner. Fabian said, "Of course. She is nothing." The man scoffed, "She's your money maker as you said." Fabian replied, "As long as she lives, she is." The man was silent for a while.

Eventually he said, "Let's start talking terms. You can consider it at least. We can even wait till she's older. I know you want an alliance with us." Fabian was quiet

then his cheerful voice broke through, “An alliance? Now, that’s absolutely something to consider. Even my dear sister, the queen, knows her precious daughter’s marriage will be used for an alliance. Yes... Yes Axel. I believe we can discuss terms. We could even keep everything above board as this would be an alliance.” I managed to open my eyes to see the warlock before me for a brief moment before everything faded from me.

Flashback ends

Rage consumed me as I remembered how I knew him. How the FUCK did I forget to put him on Bjourn’s list? Did I forget anyone else? I knew that despite what Axel said previously, he wasn’t here because of anything Fabian had done. Axel was here because he wanted me. I didn’t know if he and Fabian had ever agreed to a deal. I was sure Fabian had found a way to get the most out of me offering me as a fairy snack/pet to King Damon. He probably gave me to Axel too. Or telling the warlock Damon had me so he could sit back and watch the fallout. That sounded just like something he’d do. I told Eric we needed to take him down

Axel began to chant. He wanted to fight me, so I started calling up on the earth, “Xed Tem Zecka Fren Yuit earth Za counteract his demands Ze go against Zu, Bre will dondon disobey Yuit laws Fren Yuit earth” (as a child of the earth I counteract his demands to go against you, he will not disobey the laws of the earth). We traded spells and charms back and forth, the air so thick it practically reeked of magic.

The more we fought the more desperate Axel got. He began to taunt me with Eric. Did this dude live in a cave? We were the TALK of the supernatural world. We were twice light bound. Even if we weren’t, we were mates. Eric couldn’t hurt me. Thor wouldn’t hurt me. Axel and Fabian must have gotten along so well. They both had a delusional view on life.

I waited for the perfect moment, then dropped the fact that I knew Axel’s name. Miley would be so proud. She’d taught me to withhold things I knew for the right time. A “bombshell” she called it. Axel’s entire countenance shifted realizing I remembered him. I cut him off before he could cause my family more pain by telling them how we knew each other. I practically baited him to try and make Eric hurt me. Mostly to keep the memory of how we knew each other from repeating on a loop in my mind.

Eric wasn’t thrilled, but he got on board with the plan. I could feel Bjourn was PISSED I knew Axel. Shit. I was going to get hell because I forgot this guy, but in my defense did they not realize just how intricate the ring was? How many people were involved? I didn’t keep him from them on purpose, my mind had protected itself against one of its many monsters. Axel thought his plan was working. This

realm's sayings got even more absurd. How could anyone be an ass because someone ELSE assumed they were?

Once it was over, I linked Nathan, "You can shift back now. Are you guys alright?" Nathan answered, "Nothing happened here. We are fine all. The babies are sleeping." I sighed in relief. Other needs took over Eric when he told me to pop to my treehouse. Once those needs were taken care of reality set in and I popped us to the main room. I wasn't surprised Ubbe was still unconscious. He needed my healing light since I had erased his memories of the event. I healed him quickly. Then had to explain to him what happened. My evasive skills came in handy. I felt annoyance and surprise in all my connections when I explained.

I glanced away from Ubbe to look around the room. I gasped when I saw Aiden grinning at me like he'd just won a pot of gold. What in the actual hell is he doing here? I shot him a look to not let Ubbe in on the fact that I wasn't telling him the whole truth. Aiden's eyes glinted in delight. Wonderful. Now I was amusing him. Ubbe pushed, but I evaded. Ironically, the person who saved me from the whole situation was the brother I never expected to save me, Aiden. He wanted to talk. I really hoped it wasn't about some other fairy fucking shit is he going to dump on me tonight. Might as well get this over with.

A group of us made it to the war room. He wanted to discuss the orphanage. I was glad he found it, but I'd known that; Farrin had told me. When Aiden complimented me, it was a silly response but a small part of me soaked up his praise. I'd always wanted him to be proud of me. If it was because he saw my fairy side shining through, did it matter? It was still approval and I wanted it.

I was actually sad when he popped away, because now I had to deal with my angry Hackura brothers. I eventually got them to see my side of the argument with Ubbe. I knew it was hard for them, but the reality was my life was absolutely nothing but hell and pain until I met them. They'd saved me. Especially Marcus. I don't know if I would've survived without them. We agreed to have a sibling meeting later. My brothers all filed out of the room and Evin shot me a wink.

Eric had questions. Of course, one was who Axel was. He was not fond of the answer. I needed an escape. The prisoners who needed to die before they talked to anyone were technically not an excuse, but they worked all the same. Eric was apparently coming with me. Damn. He was sweet, but that threw my 'don't let them find shit out' plan to hell.

Eric grabbed my hand and we walked down into the dungeon. Jim and Nick had the witches and warlocks waiting. I turned to see Jackson not far behind Eric and me. I really just wanted to throw something. I wanted to ask a simple question and handle it but nooooo. Everyone's going to find out now. I'm going to have to tell my fucking family, and I'd wanted to avoid that.

I quickly singled out the most panicked warlock. I said, “Hey you!” He stuttered, “TTYllerrr.” I frowned asking, “What?” He said, “Myyy naammme iss Tt Tyler.” I rolled my eyes, “I didn’t fucking ask. Did you guys really come here to exact revenge for some stupid shit my uncle did?” Eric growled.

He linked me, “Why else would they be here?” I replied, “I’m not positive yet. It’s just an idea.” He replied, “What fucking idea?” I sighed and didn’t answer him. Tyler looked nervously to his group. I groaned and told him, “Ok, see I don’t have time for this. I have a sibling meeting to get to, babies to see and play with and a husband to fuck, so…” I snapped my fingers in front of Tyler’s face so he’d look me in the eye. I asked, “Why did you really come here?”

Tyler immediately answered as I filtered out the truth, “For you. Fabian promised you to Axel. He’s been obsessed with you for six years. He just wanted you. We were going to attack King Damon when he found out you were there, but we showed up too late. We heard the wolf had you, so we planned this attack. We wanted to make them think you were dead so they wouldn’t look for you.” Eric growled.

I asked, “How the fuck did he not know Eric was my mate?” Tyler said, “We don’t really pay attention to supernatural news. We keep to ourselves.” I sighed and asked “Is there anyone else coming for me? I mean it’s basically a weekday activity at this damn point.” He shook his head, “No, he brought us all with him.” I nodded, “Thanks.” I summoned my sword and beheaded them one by one. The last warlock was screaming his head off before I ended him.

I snapped myself clean and walked out of the dungeons. Eric grabbed me from behind and caged me into the wall with his body. He gritted his teeth, “You knew they were here for you.” I sighed, “I thought it was pretty fucking likely. I didn’t recognize him at first, Eric. I was barely conscious when his turn happened. I briefly opened my eyes to see his face, but I remembered he was trying to barter an alliance with Fabian. He wanted a marriage alliance. Apparently, he was obsessed with my mother. Luckily for her she had a carbon fucking copy of herself so no one bothered her, just me.”

Eric kissed me and spoke enunciating each word, “You. are. Mine.” I smiled teasing him, “Hey I personally think you should run a TV ad with that in the supernatural community. I’ve already agreed I’m yours. It’s everyone else getting all up in our business because they didn’t get your damn memo.” Jackson snorted, “Now you’ve done it, Haley.” Eric smiled, “I like it.” I kissed him, “Good. Get right on that so everyone gets the damn message. Now, if you’ll excuse me, I’m off to a sibling meeting.” Eric asked me, “How do you know where it is?” I laughed, “It’s in the gym of course.”

I left the house and walked towards the gym. When I walked in, I was stunned to see Logan had joined the group. Logan noticed my surprise and said, "Dad came home because mom reamed his ass. He had to go calm her down. She was not happy with the pain she felt from all of us." I nodded, "That's fair enough." I sat down.

Bjourn stood and asked, "Who is Axel?" I groaned, "Oh for god's sake! Not you too!" Bjourn didn't falter, "Who Haley?" I sighed, "Haley. You Haley'd me. You always call me sister, little one, rarely do any of you use my actual damn name." Everyone just waited.

I gave up and admitted, "He was someone that Fabian promised me to in a marriage alliance after he raped me when I was barely conscious. Mostly because I had been raped less than fifteen minutes prior to my encounter with Axel. It was a lovely belated birthday present from my uncle. I honestly didn't remember Axel until he called me princess. I barely got a look at him as my eyes were swollen from being beat. He was obsessed with my mother. Apparently many of my rapists were."

They all stood up with their mouths gaping at me. After several moment I told them, "If you all don't pick your jaws up off the floor, I'm not going to answer any more of your damn questions." Evin recovered first, "You don't usually give so many details. At least not to the group. Maybe to Marcus but not all of us." I sighed, "I already got shit from Marcus and Bjourn for withholding details that I spilled when I was sedated. I promised mom I'd try. This is me trying. I'm telling you everything."

Marcus smiled telling me, "And we appreciate the effort. We are struggling, little sister. I assume your mate told you about the videos we all saw." I nodded, "I'll tell you what I told dad. There's a reason none of you felt my pain." They got quiet. I continued, "Did you notice the silver bracelet on my wrist in those videos?" They nodded but didn't say a word.

I told them, "Fairies can feel someone's sorrow. Fabian didn't want anyone to ask me about mine, especially my family. That bracelet blocked my sorrow, and because the universe fucking hates me, it ended up blocking our connections as well. You all felt my pain so clearly when I came through the portal because I ripped it off before I left. It's what burned my skin."

I saw an invisible weight lift from their shoulders. Histeck spoke, "We thought we'd just ignored your pain." I laughed, "Oh come on, you wouldn't do that, you couldn't. You saw those ports. If you'd have been able to, you'd have felt that. I had no damn clue I had a bond to control. Let alone how to do it." I saw understanding light in their eyes.

I continued, "I love all of you. You're great brothers. I don't know who I'd be without each of you. You let me hurt you repeatedly for months because I needed time to open up. I know it hurt you that I was scared of you. I know it hurt you that I ran from you. I never explained a lot of things. I want you to know why I didn't eat much in front of you but snuck down to the kitchen. It wasn't until I was thrown into an alternate reality with my mini me before I realized I'd never told you."

They were all leaning forward. I took a deep breath and told them, "Offering me food was often a trick. If others were present, I had to take it or the beating would be worse afterwards. If we were alone, whatever fairy was present would beat me if I reached for food. I was given plain chicken, and I was only allowed water if I was good if my brothers were traveling." Bjourn hissed.

I continued, "It was an adjustment... honestly a shock, coming to you guys. As much as I didn't want to be, I was conditioned. I'm so damn sorry it's taken this long to explain why I was the way I was when I arrived. I'm sorry that I needed time, and that it hurt you guys. I know it did when I didn't respond to your gestures or attempts to get to know me. I really was trying then and I'm trying harder now. You guys fixed me up and glued me back together. I was afraid I was in some elaborate experiment Fabian concocted."

It had been a huge fear of mine. I whispered, "For a few weeks, I thought if I didn't get close to you guys it wouldn't hurt when the experiment ended. I do want to thank you for being who all of you are and never giving up on me. You showed me what unconditional love is. What being a sibling actually means. I owe all of you for the person I am today. I love you guys. Even though you are really fucking dramatic when it comes to me." I winked at them. They all sat stunned for several moments.

I added, "Quietest sibling meeting EVER." I sang the word ever. Drake got up and wrapped me in a hug. Soon all of our siblings surrounded us. Logan whispered, "We love you so damn much, little sister." When we broke our hug Bjourn said, "Thank you for explaining, little one. You didn't have to. We understood why you were skittish; we were worried about you. We felt we should've helped you. Not a single one of us will apologize for being overprotective. Even if you'd grown up with us, we'd behave this way." I laughed, "You guys!"

Drake added, "I don't know how to get over it, little sister." I frowned, "Get over what?" Drake said, "What we saw happen. We even know that far worse happened to you. All I know is that those still alive on your list do not understand the wrath coming for them. How did you survive? How are you this woman in front of us today? I'd be in a ball on the floor."

I reached over and grabbed his hand. I disagreed, “No, Drake you wouldn’t. We are fucking Cambridge’s and we are strong. As I said earlier, I am who I am today because of all you. Drake you never gave up on getting me to talk to you. You knew I could conjure Pirate a sugar cube, but every day after my ride with him you were waiting with one. You never expected me to say anything to you. You just showed up. You kept showing up and proved to me you’d be there for me. All of you did. You just kept showing up despite getting nothing from me in return.”

My brother’s wiped a few tears from their faces. I lovingly told them, “You guys are amazing men. Your mates are lucky women, and your children are so very lucky that you are their fathers. I’m lucky to have you all for brothers.” Marcus spoke, “No we are the lucky ones. Lots of other girls would’ve hated us and been justified in doing so. We didn’t save you when you were little. We grew up privileged and well cared for while you suffered.” I snorted, “But you’re different from how I grew up... My brothers... brother, now I guess. They grew up the same damn way you did. I know that if I’d been with you guys you would’ve kicked someone’s ass if you saw someone hurting me. You wouldn’t have stood by and watched it as I begged for your help.” Ubbe stood, “Damn right! We would’ve kicked ass and taken names!” I laughed. We talked for a little bit longer before we all headed out. Now it was time to see my babies and Eric.