

Hackura Realm

When Titus hugged Haley, she felt apart. As soon as I was in my dad's arms, I felt like a small child who desperately wanted the love of her mother. I had his and my mom's love unquestioningly. So why did it feel like there was a giant hole in me because my mother didn't love me as I once thought she did? I felt my father's agony over my pain. It hurt me that I was hurting him. I was trying to pull myself together, but my hormones were a wreck.

It felt hollow inside. I barely managed to explain. I felt Eric's anger and disbelief. This was different than his previous disbelief about Alania being here. The anger in my other bonds with my family was much stronger than Eric's. They'd disliked my mother since they met me. They'd always felt my abuse was a direct failure on her part. I stole a glance at my family to be met with eyes that were blazing gold.

I didn't know if I could stop them from storming Faerie at this point; what terrified me was at this moment I could care less. Did this last round of torture break me? Was I no longer myself? I have killed in defense of myself and those I love, but I never wanted anyone to be annihilated. Did Fabian finally win and break my fairy side? My Hackura side was firmly in charge of my emotions at this moment. I could barely feel my fairy side lately. What if that part of me was gone?

I was eased out of the hearing distance. My mind was nagging me that something was going on. They wanted me out of the kitchen for a reason, but I couldn't figure out why. I couldn't figure out why I left either. Normally, I would demand they tell me, especially Bexley. I wouldn't challenge my brothers, dad, or Eric, but Bexley... God, I really was broken.

I splashed water in my face and stared at my reflection while keeping an eye on Eric. I was still glowing, but my face had sunken in. I furiously searched the girl in the mirror for who I used to be. I heard a voice in my head say, "She will be back. She just needs time." I scoffed. I didn't have time. I was about to become a mother. I had a husband who needed me. Eric had a pack to take care of. No, we... WE had a fucking pack to take care of. I was their Luna. I didn't need Eric worrying about me instead of our people. It was time to fake it until I was normal again, I guess. Good thing I'd had thirteen years of practice at that. Everyone here loved me, but I knew they all had lives. They needed to keep living them, and not worry about me. I couldn't let everyone revolve around me afraid I would break.

I looked at the girl in the mirror. I mentally said, "I am Haley Cambridge Conners. I am fucking strong, I am a survivor, and I am still here." Who cares if my fairy family is ninety seven percent shit? My Hackura family was amazing. Eric and his family were amazing. I would make an appointment with the therapist Ethan had given me the card for. I couldn't remember where it was, or what her name was,

but Ethan would tell me again. I'm sure if I wandered around the hospital, I could find her office. I felt better having a plan in mind. I stepped back out of the bathroom more confident than when I had gone in.

I got three kicks simultaneously. I needed to eat more. I might have been done, but the triplets were adamant they were not done. I ate until they seemed satisfied. The discussion of going to the Hackura realm began. I frowned. Fabian's stone walk was tomorrow? Didn't I just ask Marcus about that today? I thought they would torture him for months. Fear crept back in that they had a reason to kill him this quickly. Did someone wish to rescue him? My mother wouldn't attempt such a thing. She was too peaceful. She would rather talk someone to death than raise a hand to anyone.

I wanted to show Eric around the Hackura realm. Eric paused. I worried he didn't want to go. Going for Fabian was complicated. On the one hand, I never wanted to see Fabian's face again. That was cowardly though, and I was done with that emotion. Then on the other hand, I needed to see his death so I could rest easy. I needed to know Fabian was truly dead so I could let my daughter grow up without the constant fear he would hurt her.

Tears pricked my eyes at the thought of Fabian hurting our little girl. I had to protect her and my sons. Fabian would never leave us alone if he didn't die. Our triplets, or any future children would be in jeopardy. I was worried about Fabian taking comfort from my presence, hopefully he'd be too injured to even pay attention to that. I wouldn't get close to him anyway. Eric and my dad worked out the details while I was thinking. I hadn't been listening, I was too busy lost in my own thoughts.

I couldn't believe that this would finally be over. My own personal monster wouldn't be out there in any realm to pop up and torture me. Plus, my brothers were taking care of their list quickly. I breathed a sighed of relief honestly. Fabian was set to die. It wasn't in the abstract, Fabian was dying tomorrow. My mother may never forgive me for this, but at this exact moment, I didn't have any feelings to spare for her. She had hurt me too deeply. She had thrown me into a bit of an existential crisis and confused me. My mind was nagging at me about something, there was something that didn't make sense; but no matter how I tried; I couldn't grasp it. Fabian tried to kill Arion, her mate's child. Then I told her that Fabian killed her mate. I knew she'd loved Fenilton, so why would she appeal for Fabian's life after that? Him being her brother only went so far... didn't it?

Truthfully, I was half hoping Bexley would say I could be confused. Being the only fairy present she would know better than anyone else. Bexley also knew more about SIMS than I do. She confirmed my story though, so this is where we were at. Fairies not being able to lie was becoming a giant pain in my ass. If she could've,

Bexley might have lied to give me the small comfort that maybe my mother wasn't the biggest bitch on the planet.

The timeline for my mind returning to normal was unclear. Naturally. Why wouldn't it be? This entire thing was ridiculously frustrating. I wanted to escape these thoughts. I wanted everything to fade away but him. I knew just how to do that. Being with my mate. I was screaming his name until I was almost hoarse. I couldn't get enough of him. Our sheets were a wreck, but I didn't care. Every time we had sex I felt as if another piece of me clicked back into place. My last thought was that tomorrow I would get to take Eric to my home in the Hackura realm. I could take him to the places I'd always wished to share with someone I loved in a romantic sense. Now I could do that because Eric Connors owned me body, heart, mind, and soul.

I woke with a start. I wasn't sure where I was. I was a little scared until I saw Eric beside me. I took several deep breaths, then I looked at the clock to see what time it was. It was almost time for Eric's run. I looked down at my legs. I was sick of the fang marks. I channeled my healing light, hopeful I could remove the marks. I couldn't stop my smile when it worked. My healing light was back! I breathed a sigh of relief. I could heal myself. I healed my injuries quickly. My hands automatically went to where I'd had Vampire bites around my mark. Tears of joy escaped my eyes when I found they were gone.

My need for my mate hit me hard. I slid under the covers to see he was already awake down there. I was certain Miley called it 'morning wood,' which made no damn sense. It was definitely not wood. Wood would not taste good in my mouth. I smiled as I positioned myself between his legs. I licked lightly up his shaft, licking up the pre-cum.

Eric made a noise somewhere between a groan and snore. I took him completely into my mouth and giggled when he groaned again. He questioned, "Angel?" I couldn't help but laugh again wondering who else it would be. I gave him one hard suck. His hips jerked. I felt emboldened and continued. I caressed his balls and began running my finger along the vein leading back to his ass. I stopped myself from going further, putting a little pressure on it. He screamed, "SHIT, HALEY!"

I giggled again. Apparently, the vibrations did something to him because he came in my mouth instantly. I swallowed everything he had then kissed my way up his body. He twitched underneath my lips. I got to his mouth and his hands grasped onto my hair. He muttered huskily, "Well that's quite the wakeup call." He lightly pulled my hair to the side so he could kiss my mark. He stiffened, "Angel... the fang marks on your neck are gone." He touched my mark with his fingers. I shivered under his touch as sparks shot across my skin. I whispered, "I know. I healed myself this morning." He smiled and attacked my mark with his mouth.

I was quivering with desire. I begged him, “Eric, please.” He smiled against my neck and told me, “You have no idea how hard it was to see other marks here where only mine belongs.” I needed him inside me so badly. So, I said words I knew that would drive him crazy, “Then re-mark me Eric, please.” He growled and rolled on top of me entering me swiftly. A breathy sound escaped my lips and this time he was the one chuckling. He leaned down and whispered in my ear, “Do you like that, Angel? The feeling of me stretching you, filling you up so completely?” I shivered and answered him, “Yes, my Alpha. I do.” He growled and pulled almost all the way out of me then rammed back into me. I cried out in pleasure.

Eric growled, “No one will ever know what your face looks like in pleasure. No one will ever know this pussy but me. It calls to me Haley. It’s desperate for my attention.” I whimpered, “It’s only ever known you, Eric. Please... God... please... don’t stop.” He smirked and repeated his actions. He built us up quickly. Right as I was about to come, he bit into my mark. Stars exploded behind my eyes. My body was on fire in the best way. I thrashed beneath him scissoring my legs so that I was back on top. I pulled a stunned Eric up to me and kissed him hard. I turned so my ass was facing him and rode him with fervor.

When we finally fell apart, we were both breathing heavily. Eric spoke first, “That was more intense than when I first marked you.” I nodded and breathlessly told him, “You feel free to do that anytime.” He laughed and pulled me to him.

I was about to ask why he wasn’t going for his morning runs then decided I didn’t care. I didn’t want him to go. A knock interrupted us. Jackson’s voice came from the other side, “Is it safe to come in? The sex noises have stopped.” I turned red as Eric laughed saying it was safe. I quickly snapped my fingers and squealed delightedly when clothes appeared on us both. All my powers were back.

I was grinning ear to ear when Jackson stepped into the room. Eric glanced at me unable to hide his happiness either. Jackson looked at both of us with raised eyebrows. I’m sure we were smiling like lunatics. Jackson mused, “I assume those noises weren’t coming from fully clothed people, so your powers must be back sister-in-law of mine.” I smiled, “They are.” He nodded and looked me over.

His tone was relieved when he added, “You’ve healed yourself too. WOW, that’s a lot of color you’re sporting.” I looked down at my outfit. I was wearing yoga pants that started out blue faded to purple at my knees then at my calf faded to pink with star designs on them. My top did the same and crisscrossed in the back exposing my bright pink sports bra.

I agreed, “It’s been a long ass time since I’ve worn color, well aside from the last few days. I’m pretty sure it’s been a while.” Eric wrapped his arms around me, kissed my forehead and told me, “You look beautiful.” Jackson nodded, “You look great. You look just like you.”

He turned to Eric informing him, "Eric we have a lot to do before you leave. You need to eat and get to the war room." Dread filled me with the thought of being separated from him all day. Eric picked me up and set me down on the couch. He winked at me, "Let's get a move on, Angel. Then you can show me your old stomping ground in the Hackura realm." I smiled, "I didn't really stomp around that realm, Eric. I do have a lot of places I want to show you, though. I always wanted to have someone to show them to. Oh, and we have your ceremony to introduce you to the people." I squealed, "It'll be so fucking exciting." Eric raised an eyebrow asking, "Ceremony?" I nodded, "To introduce you as their Prince. We will be at a ball tonight... Oooohhh it will be so much fun!" I grabbed his hand and ran down to the kitchen. Jackson's laugh echoed in the halls as he followed us.

I skipped into the kitchen holding a very amused Eric's hand. Mrs. Blanch smiled at my appearance. She nodded almost to herself and spoke directly to me, "You look much better, little miss. I see you've healed yourself. That's good! We don't like fang marks around here." She shot me a wink. Eric and I ate in silence.

After a few moments, Marcus came in and sat down next to me. Eric nodded to him and kissed me on the cheek. He told me, "I have to get some work done before we go." I slid my poker face on. He studied me and asked, "Are you alright?" I shrugged. He frowned watching me. Jackson cleared his throat. My heart clenched as he walked away.

Marcus spoke distracting me, "Are you ok, little one?" I nodded because physically I was fine. Emotionally I was a wreck, but Marcus didn't specify his question. Marcus frowned, "Didn't I tell you not to use your evasive truths on me? We are already going to go around about you ignoring the fact that you weren't at the summit when you called to tell me you were pregnant." I frowned. I didn't want to discuss that.

Bjourn walked in as I said, "I just didn't want to talk about it because my feelings were hurt. I wasn't keeping it from you, Marcus." He sighed. Bjourn spoke, "You look better." I nodded, "My powers are back." He smiled, "Good. Let's go for a run." I internally cringed but agreed. I could do this.

The three of us left the house. My heart was thudding in my chest from the very first step, but I forced myself to keep going. We'd made it about a mile away when I collapsed. Marcus noticed me first and yelled, "Hales?" When I did not move to answer him, he ran back to me yelling, "Haley!" Bjourn was right behind Marcus. They both panicked as I struggled to breathe. I felt myself being lifted up into someone's arms. The closer we got to the house the better I felt. I patted Marcus' shoulder, "I'm ok now, Marcus. You can put me down." He ignored me. I persisted, "Marcus, really. I'm fucking fine." He walked straight past the house to the hospital.

I hissed, “Marcus Ragor Cambridge you put me down right now! I don’t want to go to the damn hospital!” Bjourn was following us at a distance frowning. Marcus glared at me, “I really don’t give a fuck. You just collapsed, and you’re pregnant.” I sighed, “I only collapsed because I got too far away from Eric.” They both stopped moving, asking in unison, “What?”

I breathed heavily out of my nose, “It’s something with my damn fairy side. I can’t feel that side of me fully, but it’s really hard to be out of Eric’s eyesight. Miley and I couldn’t stay in the main room yesterday because my feet wouldn’t go any farther. Obviously, today is a little better since I got a whole mile away.” Marcus looked at Bjourn then back at me. He asked, “Why didn’t you tell us?” I frowned, “Didn’t I? I swear yesterday I said that.” They stared at each other seeming to have a silent conversation.

Catherine came around the corner. She studied us then asked, “Luna? Are you alright?” I nodded, “I’m fine.” Marcus spoke, “Could you check on the babies anyway?” Catherine nodded, “Of course. Set her down in here.” She pointed to a treatment room. I sighed. Marcus whispered, “Humor me.” Catherine checked me out. She declared, “The babies are perfectly healthy.” Marcus nodded at her while Bjourn squeezed my hand. The three of us walked back to the main house. I turned and realized we’d lost Bjourn somewhere along the way. Marcus and I ended up in yet another room I’d never been in before, that was near the war room with a tv.

Marcus turned on the tv then turned to me. He studied me before he asked, “How are you really?” I rolled my eyes, “That would depend on what you mean.” He laughed rephrasing, “With everything you went through. By that I mean with being pregnant, with your mother, everything Hales.” I thought about it honestly answering, “I’m getting better at realizing this is real, that I’m really here. I’m having problems remembering things though. I feel a nagging in my head when things don’t seem right. I don’t feel quite like myself, but I’m getting there.” I paused and looked into my brother’s eyes. He needed my complete honesty right now without evasions. His eyes were begging me to tell him everything.

I took a deep breath and added, “To be perfectly honest, I feel a little bit broken. I can’t be physically farther away from Eric than apparently a little over a mile. Granted, that’s better than yesterday, but it’s fucking weird. I’m not that clingy girl. Or maybe I am. I’ve never been in a relationship before. I’m really happy about the triplets, but until Fabian is dead, I’m holding onto this fear that he will escape. I fear that my daughter will have to live her life with guards around her constantly, because I can’t let what happened to me happen to her. I’m torn apart because if I already feel that way towards my daughter, why couldn’t my biological mother give a single fuck about me?”

I started to cry, adding, “She didn’t care about me, Marcus. She didn’t even ask how I was doing. She just wanted me to make things better for Arion and Fabian.

Which is ultimately better for her somehow. How can she not care about me? I haven't met my children yet, and I would destroy anyone who hurt them."

I had to pause and collect myself. Marcus was watching me with wide eyes. I took a deep breath and told him, "I'm also scared down to my core that this time, Fabian finally won." Marcus was stunned by my admission. He asked me, "What? How could he possibly win?" I wiped tears from my face, "Last night when dad and all of you felt so angry from what I told you about my mother, I thought that this would be it. I wouldn't be able to stop you from killing all the fairies, and for once I didn't care. I didn't care if you completely took out an entire race of people for me. A fucking group of people I have been advocating for and protecting for six years. What if... what if I'm not me anymore? What if he finally broke me?"

Marcus grabbed my shoulders. He looked deep into my eyes saying, "He could never change you. You're becoming a mother. You want to protect your children, Hales. That is perfectly normal. I can't begin to understand your mother. Torvi and mom, hell any of our brothers' mates, would destroy people for their children. I think that's normal. As far as Fabian is concerned, he has been your own personal boogie monster since before you can remember. I think your feelings there are natural. If he thinks that he will so much as gaze upon my only niece, he's even more insane than I've believed him to be for the last several years." I smiled.

Marcus nudged my shoulder and added, "You do realize she's so much trouble, right? Your daughter is the only niece to all of us Cambridge men. She's the ONLY granddaughter to our dad and last but not least, her father is Eric Connors." I laughed, "Dating may be hard, but I want her to have a normal life." Marcus laughed snorting, "Dating? I don't think so... maybe she will be like her mother and only be interested in her mate." I smiled, "Or she will be like her godmother, Miley." Marcus groaned. "Please, god no."

A squeal came from the doorway. Miley shouted at a decibel that only animals could understand, "Godmother?" Marcus covered his ears. I laughed asking Miley, "Who else would be my children's godmother?" Miley screamed excitedly. Jim came into the room with wide eyes asking, "What is with that squeal?" Miley clapped her hands together and informed him, "I'm the godmother! I have to plan the most amazing baby shower! I need to buy presents!" She shot out of the room. Marcus and I laughed at Jim's expression of terror, combined with a deep love, as he followed her out of the room at a more sedate pace.

Marcus gathered me into his arms. He told me, "You're going to be a great mom. It may take a little bit to get over this recent traumatic event, but I believe in you. I know you'll surprise us all how quickly you're ok. If you're not ok though, it's ok to tell people. Please don't think you need to walk around acting like you are whole when you're hurting inside." I nodded, hugging him back tightly.

Eric walked into the room. My eyes met his over Marcus' shoulder and he smiled at me, "Hi, Angel. It's time to get going." I nodded and snapped his completely packed luggage at his feet. Eric looked down and frowned. He asked, "You're not packing for yourself?" I smiled admitting, "I have clothes there." He nodded. I tilted my head because I felt his relief. Why was he relieved I had clothes there?

Dad, mom, Bjourn, Miley and Jim came in next, followed by Eric's brothers. Eric went over to his brothers. They talked for a moment before he joined my family near the couch. My dad opened a portal, and we all walked through to our home. I grabbed Eric's hand and stepped through behind Marcus. When Eric stepped through, he looked astonished. He muttered astoundingly, "This is beautiful." I smiled. The Hackura realm was very green. Not Faerie green, but it was beautiful here.

My dad had opened the portal that put us right outside our castle. The ocean right behind it. Our castle was made with white stone and the tops of the towers were blue. That was thanks to me. I told them they needed colors on the castle. They were steadfast on the point that those colors couldn't be pink, so I went with blue instead. Pink would've been better.

I smiled as I looked around, turning to my dad, "My roses are still blooming I see." My dad laughed, "I have people who keep them alive in your absence, Princess." Eric laughed and looked at the ground covered in white and red roses. He told me, "They look great, Angel." I smiled and grabbed his hand, leading him quickly inside. My mom yelled, "His ceremony is in three hours. The ball is afterwards." I yelled back, "Alright! We will be there."

I led him up the stairs and around the halls to my wing in the castle. As soon as we reached the door to my wing, I pulled him to me and kissed him passionately. I could feel his smile against my mouth as we began to devour each other. He had me up against the wall in seconds. I automatically wrapped my legs around him. We were grinding against each other for several minutes. He whispered in my ear, "You should wear more dresses and skirts. I could already be inside you in a dress or skirt." I shivered and snapped myself naked but left him clothed. He bit down on my neck.

I heard a zipper being undone. Eric swore while trying to get his pants down. I smiled and teased him, "Oh yes, a dress would make this so much fucking faster." He growled and entered me in one swift move. I moaned. Eric slammed into me and asked, "What was that Angel?" I couldn't speak. I'd been reduced to moaning. Eric slammed into me again. He bit my ear and whispered, "Hmm nothing to say now?" I shook my head. He slammed into me over and over. My back hit the wall, but it was a delicious kind of pain. He pounded into me in the hallway not bothering to leave our spot. Our screams echoed throughout my wing.

When we both reached our climax, we clung to each other for a moment. Eric looked me in the eye and told me, "I love you, Haley Connors." I smiled, "That's good cause I kinda love you too. Plus, we are going to have three little ones running around soon." He smiled and put his hand on my bump. He slowly pulled out of me and set me down. I sauntered down the hall, turned and spoke over my shoulder, "Well come on, you big bad Alpha. We still have to get to my room." He came up behind me and squeezed my waist gently murmuring, "How am I supposed to focus when you're naked?" I laughed teasing, "Who said I wanted you to focus?" He growled.

I popped a few feet away from him and winked. He lunged for me, but I popped just as he reached me. I lead him to my room. He was so worked up and ready to go by the time we got there, he didn't notice the pink explosion that was my room. He simply tackled me on the king-sized bed. I laughed. Eric growled, "Naughty little fairy." I giggled and teased him, "But I'm your naughty fairy."

His eyes turned black. He grabbed my legs and moved them over his shoulders. He spoke possessively, "You are mine." He entered me again. We stayed like that until someone knocked nervously on the door. The voice called, "Umm princess... The prince's ceremony starts in five minutes." I breathlessly answered, "We'll be right there!"

I snapped and Eric was now fully clothed in a black tuxedo. Eric smiled commenting, "That is so handy." I snapped my clothes and makeup on. I went with red lips since I wanted to wear an emerald, green dress. Eric growled and kissed my neck. He placed featherlight kisses on my neck and murmured, "You look amazing." He trailed his fingers up my side. He admitted, "I want you again." I laughed, "As I want you. I always want you. You're too damn sexy! We have to go though, or we'll be late." I looked in the mirror nodding to myself. I had gone with an A-Line off-the-shoulder sweep train dress with a ruffle split front. It had a green belt at my waist and tapered out from there. I snapped my red, crisscross, pleated closed back high heels on. I wanted my shoes to match my lips since you could see them.

I grabbed Eric's hand and popped us down to the main hall. My mom smiled and kissed my cheek chiding, "You are always the last one ready. You look amazing!" I smiled at her, "Thanks, mom." One by one our family began to enter the main ballroom. My mom and dad went first, followed by Bjourn and his mate. It went in order of birth, so Eric and I were last. I looped my arm through Eric's extended arm. When we were announced cheers went up from the crowd.

I smiled at Eric who looked a little taken aback. I linked him, "They are excited about you being their prince." He replied, "That's just surreal. I also think they are excited about you, Angel. They love you here." I changed the subject, "I guess I didn't really get to tell you about the ceremony. We got... distracted." He smirked,

“It was quite the distraction, Angel. What’s going to happen at this ceremony?” I told him, “You’ll be crowned as a Prince, we will dance, then kiss.” He nodded, throwing a wink my way.

We reached my family up on the platform in no time. My dad gestured for us to step forward as he smiled. His voice boomed across the room, “As you have heard, our Princess has found her mate. They recently got married.” Cheers went up from the crowd. My dad introduced Eric, “This is her mate, Alpha Eric Conners. You know we have long respected the Conners family. We have reached a treaty with his pack. *Ut benedicat tibi hanc unionem, et ejus fidem receperint* (I bless this union and welcome its alliance).”

I linked Eric, “Now you kneel in front of him.” Eric moved to kneel in front of my dad, who looked at me expectantly. I snapped him a crown just like my brothers. A circle small platinum crown. He smiled and set it on Eric’s head. My dad said, “*Nam familia pro honore nostro* (For our family, for our honor, for our people)” I linked Eric, “Now you stand and take my hand.” Eric did exactly as I instructed. We stepped forward together. My father’s voice boomed, “I announce your new Prince, mate of our Princess, Prince Alpha Eric Conners of the Hackura.” Everyone cheered loudly. My father smiled and said, “*Et nunc non biberent* (and now we drink).”

Everyone dispersed quickly. I led Eric to the dance floor. The second we were on the dance floor the band started playing a song for us. Eric took the lead and led us through a ballroom dance. He even ended it with a spin into him and dipped me. I linked him, “You kiss me now.” He teased, “Try to stop me.” He brought me back up and kissed me hard on the mouth. The crowd roared with applause and whistling. He broke the kiss, and we smiled at each other as everyone else joined us on the floor.

I grabbed his hand and led him out of the hall around some corners. I wanted to show him a quiet space I always came to during balls. He looked around the room where paintings of the past Kings and Queens of our family were. I pointed to one painting and told him, “Those are my grandparents. I never got to meet them. They passed away about a year before I came here. I wished I’d known about them... I probably could’ve healed them or something.” Eric wrapped his arms around my waist, “I’m sure they would’ve loved you.” I smiled, “You’re biased.”

I turned around to face him. I bit his ear teasing him, “I do believe you said it would be easier to fuck me in dresses, there’s even a slit.” He growled, “I think I love pregnancy hormones. You’d better watch it, or I’ll get you pregnant quite often. We will fill our home with pups.” I smiled as he backed us against a pillar. I told him, “We barely manage to keep our hands off each other as it is. I think if I’m not on birth control, kids will happen.” He smiled then disappeared into the slit

of my dress. I could feel his breath before his mouth touched me. I grabbed onto the marble pillar, so I didn't fall.

Eric used his talented mouth to make me come over and over again. My moans echoed throughout the room. When he came back up from under my dress he asked, "Do you see the benefits of dresses now, my Angel?" I breathlessly replied, "Yes." He smiled "Good." He spun me around, so I was flush against the pillar. I could feel the cold marble against my breasts, spilling out the top of my dress. Eric gathered up the back of my dress and entered me from behind. I whimpered feeling full and complete. Eric pulled slowly out, then slammed back in. We went at it for hours. Eventually we made it back into the ballroom.

On our walk back Eric whispered, "I feel like they noticed we were gone." I laughed, "They absofuckinglutely noticed. Did you not hear them cheering?" Eric looked startled. He asked me, "They were cheering because we were having sex?" I smiled, "Welcome to the Hackura realm, husband. Where everyone cheers if someone is fucking." He smiled, kissing me as we walked back inside. We were greeted by whistles and cheers. Eric whispered in my ear, "I like it here, wife." I agreed, "So do I."

Someone cleared their throat behind me. I turned to see my uncle, Miley's father, standing there. I quickly introduced them, "Uncle Zader, this is my husband Prince Alpha Eric Connors. Eric, this is my uncle and Miley's dad, Prince Zader Cambridge." Eric reached out his hand and my uncle quickly took it. Uncle Zader spoke softly, "It is nice to meet you Prince Alpha Eric. I've previously met the young man who's stolen my daughter's heart. He seems to be a good man." Eric nodded, "Please Prince Zader, call me Eric. Jim is an excellent young man, one of my strongest warriors. His father is my Beta, and he has trained both his sons to be strong men." My Uncle nodded, "Well, let me look at you, my niece." He grabbed both my hands and spun me around.

He smiled and announced, "You look beautiful. I am glad you are with your prince back at home safe and sound. Miley was distraught. I even came myself and fought the vampires beside my brother." I gasped, "You... you left this realm?" My uncle smiled, "Only for you, or my Miley Bug would I leave my home again. I apologize that I didn't get to meet you at that time, Eric. I don't like to stay long in your realm." Eric nodded, "It's fine. I wasn't exactly in the space to meet people at the time. I appreciate you coming to help bring my wife home to me." Uncle Zader nodded, "You are an excellent fighter, Eric. I was most impressed, as were my sons. I know my nephews are too. My nephew Bjourn is rarely impressed by anyone's fighting skills. He has been impressed with yours for several years now. Since you first met, actually. He's the reason my brother looked into you for our beautiful princess."

My jaw dropped. I didn't know my dad was considering Eric for me before we met. Eric nodded at my uncle, "I am honored that I was being considered. She is my other half, and I love her deeply." My Uncle nodded, "Well, I will see you tomorrow. I hear this stone walk was your request, little niece." I nodded. Uncle Zader grinned broadly, "That will make it all the better. Your charge to the army was quite memorable. You have grown so much since Marcus brought home. We are all so proud of you." He left a second later and we were surrounded by well-wishers, and plenty of people who wanted to meet Eric.

When the party wound down and several of my brothers along with our people left to have sex throughout the castle. I think Eric began to grasp how different we are in this realm. As the royal couples snuck away everyone cheered and toasted. Eric's face was quite comical. After a while I felt like I'd shared him long enough. I grabbed his hand and led him down to the ocean. We both took off our shoes. I gathered up my dress in my right hand and started walking.

Eric and I walked silently along the beach. I was taking him in the direction of the first treehouse I'd conjured. Eventually Eric spoke, "This has been an incredible experience." I smiled, "They are one of kind people." He nodded, "They all love you, Haley. In fact, they adore you. I saw several men glaring at me, they were wishing they were the one beside you instead of me." I laughed and hit his arm. "You, my love, are seeing things. Besides, I only have eyes for you." I leaned up and kissed him. When I moved to step back, he pulled me in deepening the kiss.

When we broke apart, he told me, "You don't see yourself clearly, but I am glad you only have eyes for me. I'd have to gouge out some eyes if you looked back at them like they look at you. You're mine." I smiled and stepped back from him, wiggling my eyebrows, "That I am, Alpha." I took off running down the beach. He caught me quickly, grabbed me around the waist and spun me around in the air. He spoke in his sexy tone, "Oh, little mate. You shouldn't run from me. Now, I have to have you again." I laughed, "Damn... it was almost like I'd planned it that way."

I snapped my dress off leaving my bra and underwear on and ran into the ocean. He smiled when I squealed as the water hit me. He watched me for a moment then he stripped off his clothes and came after me. I confessed, "I always wanted to share this place with someone. I wondered if I was a normal teenager if I would've brought a guy here to skinny dip. I have no goddamn clue why it's called that, it should be called naked swimming. Miley always said it was fun." Eric growled, "Mine." We rocked against each other in sync with the waves as he entered me. Somewhere along the way he ripped my underwear off. We stayed connected even after we'd come until I said, "Come on. I want to show you, my treehouse."

I popped us back on the beach, dry, with our clothes from the ball on. I led Eric down the beach a few miles from the castle. He laughed as I led him up the steps to

enter my treehouse. Eric teased me, “So, your version of a treehouse was never what I considered a treehouse.” I shrugged. How the fuck would I know what his idea of a treehouse was? It was a house in a tree. For this one I had conjured pink everything. Literally everything was pink inside and out.

We climbed up into the treehouse together. I walked over and sat down on the couch. Eric followed me and we sat there cuddling. Eric broke our moment of silence, “Bjourn told me you collapsed on a run with your brothers today. He said that you couldn’t stand to be that far away from me.” I sighed, “Bjourn is a tattletale. It’s been a problem since we got back. I could barely leave the dungeon the other day. Miley and I couldn’t go to the main room because it hurt to be that far away from you. That’s why I knew we hadn’t been in the main room when my mother charmed Miley away. I couldn’t go that far. Today, I made it a little over a mile away from you before I collapsed. It’s getting better.”

Eric turned me to face him, “You should’ve told me. I think it’s because we are twice light bound.” My brow furrowed, “I thought I heard Masium and Arion having a conversation about that. I have no damn clue if it was real.” Eric asked, “What did they say?” I shrugged, “Not much other than they were fucked. They said Fabian had lost it. How that was brand fucking new information to them I’ll never know. They said they could keep me out of court because the king had hurt me. They said he went through... I don’t remember exactly how many, but a lot of pets. He hurt them because I made him mad. Masium complimented me, which is why I don’t know that it was real. They questioned what they had done. They wanted to see if Aiden could help them.”

Eric growled, “That was probably real then. They had reached out to Aiden for help. Your brother was working on a plan to get you back to me.” I laughed, “Of course he was. Aiden always fucking fixes things for everyone. He’s a fixer, just like his dad.”

Eric didn’t say anything for a while. Eventually he said, “I know a little about what being twice light bound means.” I tilted my head asking, “How? Did you get close with a fairy while I was gone? Because I’ll kick a bitch’s ass.” He shook his head, “No need for that. Bexley told me a few things. We need to sit down and talk to her when we get back home. The bulk of what I know came from Arion’s conversations with Sir Arthur. Sir Arthur actually had knowledge of his own. Apparently, it’s very rare for a fairy to be twice light bonded to someone. It requires a deep love and a very unselfish fairy. You tied your life force to me.”

I gasped, “So, if something happens to me, you die?” I began to cry. I didn’t want that. Eric wiped my tears, “No, but if I die you will as well.” My eyes cleared. That was alright. I shrugged, “Well, that’s ok.” He snorted, “It’s not. I’ll not go without you again. Anyway, you tied yourself to me mind, body, and soul. You have extended my life span, as well as our pack, by extension my family’s. Your body,

heart, mind, and soul are apparently irrevocably mine, in all realities, which is why we are in the ribbon. Your fairy side was starving emotionally without me. It was killing you and making you more confused than the SIMS would've. Arion allowed you to come see me because he realized you needed to be near me to keep living. Your fairy side is why you can't be far from me right now. It's repairing itself. When we have sex, a pink dome surrounds us. I'm honestly stunned you keep missing it. Your chest glows gold. Apparently when you are healed completely, it will glow pink."

I was floored. I told him honestly, "Eric, I'm not upset we are twice light bound, but I am sorry I didn't know it was a thing. I would've discussed the whole thing with you before doing it." He smiled, "Little mate, you being mine in all facets is a formality. You already were. Your fairy side just realizes it now. You need me to survive. The timeline of losing your mind was accelerated because you were forcibly taken from me. Because you didn't want to go. Once you are healed it will be fine if I need to go somewhere or you do. Until then you will have to stick close to me. You'll have to tell me when you're feeling better. On that note, it means this time you'll have to attend the summit with me when we get back." I sat up and looked him in the eyes, "Exfuckingcuse me? The summit?" He smiled, "Well, the summit didn't quite happen. We left in a hurry, then we called our allies. The vampires obviously didn't attend. Part of what I was doing today was going through the particulars. When we get back, we will be leaving for the summit. Your guard will be going with us this time too."

I sighed, "They live here Eric." His eyes hardened, "They are going to rotate back and forth. Two of them will always be with you. Your family, your guard, and I all agreed we don't want to be caught unaware again." I rolled my eyes, "I would like to point out that I took out over half of Fabian's contingent of men. Not to mention the stupid fucking former vampire king's men. I am capable of handling myself." Eric nodded, "I know you are. I watched the feed. You were, as always, very impressive. Honestly, had Arion not taken you, you would've made it to safety. But I can't lose you again. It destroyed me Haley, Thor had to take over after Marcus told us you were pregnant. He was in charge for several hours. It was as if time meant nothing to me. I killed vampires and searched for you. That was all I could do. I broke down sobbing after learning about the prank you played with the paperback books on Darrin."

I snorted lamenting, "I missed it? Damn it! I'm actually sad I missed the moment he found out." Eric laughed, "Apparently, his books will have revenge." I grinned broadly, "No one's told your brother not to get into a prank war with a fairy, have they?" Eric shook his head, "No, I can't say that anyone has. Anyway, Ubbe had narrowed down your location to three places. I went to all of them. I felt you so near at the last one, then you called my name. I was in hell. I'm not saying you weren't too, because I know it was. I know you were tortured. I couldn't bear to see the bruises and vampire bites all over you. I woke up to your pain when Fabian

was torturing you. My screams echoed the halls of our home. Your brothers had to give me a crash course on controlling our bond.”

I gasped, cursing, “Shit! I’m so fucking sorry. I would normally control my pain better.” He waved his hands, “I know. I don’t even care about that, it’s not the point. You were in so much pain you couldn’t control it. Knowing you were going through that with our pups, bearing in mind I thought it was only one pup at the time, destroyed me. I constantly worried if you were going to lose our pup. I didn’t even know if you were going to survive at all.” He paused and looked away from me. He whispered brokenly, “I asked Jackson to take my place if you didn’t make it. If we couldn’t get to you, I wasn’t going to go on without you.” I gasped, “No...” He cut me off, “So, I will take every step I have to take, to protect you and our children. I can’t be without you.” He cut off my protests before I could make them with a kiss. We made love all night long. I popped us back to my chambers. Eric fell asleep while I laid awake watching the sun come up. There was a sense of relief in knowing it was Fabian’s last sunrise.