

## Chapter 171 - Dr.Luna

Rhea and the girls were playing cards back upstairs in what they were fondly referring to as ‘The Pad’. Now that everyone knows Lee is her mate, Titus and Lila would be staying downstairs again in Titus’ room. The men sat there watching the girls with amusement.

Rhea eyed the colorful cards in front of her. She bit on her bottom lip and shifted the cards in her hands. She raised her eyes and suspiciously stared each girl down. One of them had what she wanted, but which one? The other women were all smiling up at her innocently. Darn them and their poker faces. They revealed nothing to her. She had to be careful. Asking the wrong girl would reveal her weakness to them all. Her eyes shifted nervously to each girl as she began to chew on her bottom lip. She had to make a choice. Her tongue rolled over her lips and she took in a slow breath. She had made her decision.

“Lila, do you have any sevens?” Rhea asked, meeting with the girl’s batting eyes.

Lila’s lips curled upwards. “Go fish.”

Rhea winced and reached for the deck of cards in the middle. Drawing yet another unmatched card.

“Man, the tension between you ladies is brutal. Can you imagine playing a real game?” Weston snickered and elbowed Dex.

“What do you mean a real game?” Ruby hissed looking at her brother in irritation.

“I mean a real game. Not something that is for keeping babies entertained.” Weston shrugged with an evil grin on his face.

“Such as?” Lila turned and looked at Weston waiting for his answers.

“Ignore him. This game is obviously too difficult for him.” Rhea smiled and raised her eyes up to him.

“Says the girl who is losing.” Weston had a huge cheshire cat grin on his face.

“Maybe, but I’m not the one all wet.” Rhea said calmly.

“I’m not all-” In the middle of him talking Rhea sent a surge of water down over him dousing his clothes. He looked up as water droplets rolled down his face and dripped onto the floor. Titus and Dex muffled their snickers while Grayson and Cody were laughing loudly.

“I wish I would have had you around growing up.” Ruby giggled looking at her brother.

“I think the princess needs a hug.” Weston said with a smirk. He started to walk towards her but a firm hand landed on his shoulder.

“Better double think that option unless you want an angry deity after you.” Dex chuckled reminding him who Rhea belonged to.

“Ugh so unfair. She’s completely untouchable... okay then. I’ll have to take it out on her brother.” Weston smiled wickedly over at Cody.

“Leave Teddy Ruxpin alone, he’s my little brother now. But if you are looking to vent your anger I’ll be your opponent.” Titus said as he rolled his shoulders back.

“You don’t need to protect me Titus. He wants a piece of a guardian then I’ll give it to him.” Cody leaned back and grinned.

“Are you going to have another food fight? I’m in if we do.” Dex said feeling amped up.

“We are still due for that battle. We can’t do it without Levi though. I still need to show him who is the best.” Titus’ eyes flickered to a window as he thought about Levi. The sun had made it’s descent and darkness had blanketed the outside. He would be making his return soon. He should be making his return soon. He knew Rhea would probably start getting nervous if Levi was much longer. Truth was he was already getting nervous. He looked over at Rhea laughing with the other girls at the table. If she was nervous, she wasn’t showing it. He was glad they were there to distract her for now.

“Yay I’m out of cards!” Kelsie squealed.

“I’m horrible at card games.” Rhea tossed her cards down with a fake pout. “Oh well. Time for some cookies.”

“You mean the cookies you made earlier?” Cody asked with minor remorse in his voice.

Rhea turned and dead pinned her glare on him. “You didn’t.”

“Those cookies are looooong gone.” Cody gave her a half smile and raised his shoulders in a small shrug.

“CODY!” Rhea took off after him and the chase was on. Cody hopped over the couch grinning back at his sister.

“Wow. So possessive over food. Sharing is caring Rhea.”

“There were three dozen cookies there. I only wanted one. One out of three dozen.” Rhea raced around the couch dodging between Grayson and Titus. Titus laughed and grabbed onto her arm as she raced past him. He gently tugged her back and held onto her shoulders.

“Run Cody. Save yourself.” Titus laughed as Rhea tilted her head to Titus giving him a dirty glare.

“HEY NOW!?!” Weston said pointing at Titus. “Why does Titus get to hold her? If Titus gets to touch her then we should all get to touch her.”

Dex walked over and placed his hand on Rhea's shoulder and grinned over at Weston.

“Oh... I see how it is.” Weston said folding his arms over his chest feigning he was insulted.

Cody walked up to Rhea grinning. “Peace offering?” He held up a bag of small brown cookies. “Ginger snaps.”

Rhea giggled and snatched the bag from him. She then turned to look at Titus. “Now I know whose side you are really on. I’ll remember that in the future.”

“Hey us men have to stick together.” Titus winked at Cody who reached over and gave him a fist bump.

Rhea took a small bite of a cookie as she looked out to the dark window. Time felt fast and slow at the same time. This was the latest Lee had ever been away before. She absent-mindedly twirled the cookie in her hand. Rhea...

I know Lumi. I feel it too. Rhea stood up and excused herself as she walked into her room. She felt like a piece of her was being clamped. Almost strangled. The tightening pressure squeezed inside of her. Her mate's connection to Lee was being strangled. It was like something was weakening the bond.

Lee, are you alright? Rhea reached out through her summon connection. She waited. But there was nothing. No answer.

Rhea. We can reach him through our mate link it is stronger than a regular mind link. We need to focus our energy together.

Rhea closed her eyes and concentrated. She felt the strings of energy swirl around her. She connected with the strong warm light that Lumi was pushing forward. This time she used her fairy magic along with Lumi’s energy and their mate bond to try to reach Lee.

Lee, can you hear me?

Rhea?! How are you able to talk with me?

Don't worry about that. What happened? Are you okay?

... Baby, things haven't turned out well. I have been sealed. They were waiting for me. As soon as I arrived, they immediately sealed me without listening. I'm sorry...

Rhea sighed. I was afraid this might happen. Don't worry Lee. I'm going to free you. Wait for me. She was staying strong. She didn't want him to worry about her.

Rhea no. Please baby. I need you to be safe.

Rhea giggled through the link she was struggling to keep it open. It was incredibly draining on her body. She wouldn't be able to do this again. Not if she wanted to be at full strength when she faced the Merrow Queen. Her eyes watered up and she had a pained expression on her face. It was a good thing he couldn't see her. She forced out a positive voice. Lee, I'm going for the Ocean's Tear. I'm not going to be able to communicate with you for a while because this is taking too much energy to break through. This time, it is my turn to protect you. I promise, I will free you. I love you Lee.

It doesn't matter what I say, my little troublemaker is going to go anyways aren't you?

You know me. Rhea smiled. I love you Lee. Don't worry about me. I will be okay. I'll see you soon.

I love you Rhea, my sweet fairy. Please... be safe.

I will be. Rhea began to tremble slightly from the energy drain. See you soon my love. The connection abruptly ended with her fading strength. Rhea leaned against the wall in her room with her eyes shut. She felt the cold stone on her back. The small tingling in her fingers. A single tear crept down her cheek. She reached her hand up and swatted it away. That was all for now. She wasn't going to let another tear drop fall right now.

A new heating anger rose inside of her. She couldn't feel sad. By feeling sad it would mean that there was a chance she wouldn't get Lee back. That wasn't an option. There was no room to be sad right now. She was determined. There was still something she could do, and she was going to do it. She did not care what dangers she would face. She was going to get her mate back. Hell yes we are! Lumi agreed in her mind.

Will we be recharged enough to leave in the morning? Rhea asked Lumi knowing how much that communication had drained them. They had to have pushed through an intense magical barrier for it to drain them that much.

We will be good enough. We will be ready for the merrow or demons or anything foolish enough to cross our paths. Lumi growled angrily. She was upset about her mate being kept away too.

Right. Rhea opened her eyes and looked at the door to her room. Time to let Cody and Kelsie know.

Rhea opened the door back to the main room. She could tell that everyone was worrying for her knowing she would be nervous about Lee. They had no idea.

She took in a deep breath and met with their gazes. "Lee... Lee isn't coming back." She leaned back for some support from the wall. Her energy was really drained.

"Wait, what do you mean?" Titus asked with wide eyes. "Are you all right?"

"I had to use a lot of energy to reach him. I'm okay. But he has been sealed."

They all looked down with very solemn faces. They thought this was the end. That there was no getting Lee back. Everyone except two other faces. Kelsie and Cody were staring at Rhea. She smiled and looked at her two guardians.

"Cody, Kelsie. Get your things packed up. We leave at first light." Rhea watched the two of them nod to her. Both of them smiled in support.

"Where are you going? You don't have to leave here because Levi is gone. This is still your home." Titus looked up at Rhea not understanding why she would leave. He didn't want them leaving. They were his family and belonged there.

"Titus, I'm not moving out." Rhea giggled. "I'm going to get my mate back."

Titus looked at her and frowned. "How? How are you able to get him back? You can't fight the deities."

"There is something I have to do. Someone I have to go and see to get something. It is something that will force the deities to hand Lee over." Rhea watched Titus narrow his eyes to her.

"Is it dangerous?" Titus looked at Cody and then back to Rhea.

"Does it matter? It is the only way to bring Lee back." Rhea answered with what was most logical. It didn't matter. What mattered was this was the only way for her to be with Lee. She wouldn't live without him.

Titus sighed and ran his hand through his hair. "Fine. I'm coming too then."

"Titus, I'll have Kelsie and Cody. You can't leave your kingdom, your guests, and your mate." Rhea shook her head protesting him coming.

"I'm coming Rhea. We are stronger together. It is safer for us to be together. I'll leave my kingdom in their hands." Titus pointed to the other lords. "Lila will be safe here. They can all take care of things here. I'm coming."

“Yes, Titus will go with you.” Lila spoke up siding with her mate. She agreed with him. It would be safer to have Titus with them.

“So where are we headed?” Titus smirked not letting up.

Rhea sighed and then offered him a smile as she gave up. Honestly, she would be glad to have Titus with them. They were stronger together and right now wasn't the time to be weakened. “We are going to visit the Queen of the Merrows. She has something I need.”Book 2

Chapter 90 Night Before

## Chapter 172 - Dr.Luna

Grayson rubbed his chin as he worried about the dangers that would be awaiting them. “How are you going to travel with the demons everywhere? It would be best for Titus to fly you.”

“We all can't fly there. Not for that long. Besides, that would almost be a big beacon to the demons to know where we were going. We are going to have to try our best to go unnoticed by them. Get there and get back.” Rhea was hoping they would be able to sneak out without anyone noticing they were gone. “You guys will have to do your best to make it seem like Titus is still here.”

“I'll stay out of sight while you guys are gone. Then they will just think Titus and I are having bonding time. Same with you and Leviathan. They won't know he isn't here. Just that he is spending time with his mate.” Lila walked up to Titus and linked her arm with his. She didn't want to be parted from him. But she wanted her new friend to be safe too. The two of them were safer together and that made him going with Rhea a no brainer.

“I'm surprised how calm you are right now.” Weston eyed Rhea with a hint of concern.

Rhea smiled at him brightly. “There is nothing to worry about that's why. Lee liked to treat me like I was defenseless. That really isn't the case. I am going to get what I need and bring Lee back. It is that simple.”

“Yes about that. How will whatever you are getting be able to get Leviathan back?” Grayson asked with intense interest. His eyes stared into the sapphire blue eyes searching for the answer.

Rhea looked over the eyes in the room. “I'm...” She wasn't sure how they would all feel about what she was about to tell them. She hoped they wouldn't be upset about it. “I am going to link his life force to mine. He will no longer be immortal. Whatever happens to one of us will also happen to the other. In this way, the deities will no longer object to me being with Lee.” She glanced over all of the dragons in the room. Finally, it was Titus who spoke first.

“I think that is actually a great thing.” His topaz eyes met with hers and a smile spread across his face. “I was worried about how Levi would do after your mortal life ended. I couldn’t imagine a better scenario for either one of you.”

“I wish I had something similar. I want my life to end when Grayson’s does.” Ruby leaned into Grayson and smiled up at him.

“Does Leviathan know?” Dex asked quietly.

“Yes, he is fine with linking our lives together. He just isn’t okay with me going to get it.” Rhea giggled with a shrug. “But he doesn’t have a say in the matter. I refuse to live without him.”

Dex smiled and nodded. “I wish I could come and help too.”

“Thanks, Dex, but I need you here. I need you to watch over Lila while I am gone. And my kingdom.” Titus appreciated that his friends were offering to help. He knew they all would. This is where they were needed though. “All of the royal family can’t disappear.” He then chuckled quietly as Dex nodded in agreement.

“So how will you get Leviathan back after you link your lives?” Weston asked and the others also looked at Rhea curiously.

“Well... I was thinking. When my father was missing my mother was able to draw energy from her guardian and my grandmother and transport to my father. I think I can do the same with Cody and Titus if they don’t mind.”

“Whatever you need Rhea. You know this.” Cody looked over and Titus nodded in agreement.

“I have something for your travels.” An older voice rang out from behind them.

“Gramps? How did you manage to climb up those stairs without having a heart attack?” Titus gasped out.

“Tsk. Such a rude young king.” Grandpa Sage shook his head and then walked up to Rhea. Titus grinned widely. He got a kick out of riling up the old man.

“Here you go.” Grandpa Sage held out four dark cloaks and handed them to her.

“What are these?” Rhea asked.

“Hey?! How did you know how many people were going and that we were leaving? And how did you know Levi wasn’t coming back?” Titus pointed to the four cloaks and eyed the Sage. “You knew all this was going to happen, didn’t you?” Sometimes Grandpa Sage could be really creepy with everything he already knew.

The old man smiled and shrugged his shoulders. “The future is never guaranteed. But some visions are stronger and more certain than others.” He then turned and took one of Rhea’s hands into his own. “Remember, to trust in yourself and your instincts. Believe in who you are my dear.”

She squeezed his warm wrinkled hand and smiled. “I will... but what are these for?” Rhea held up the cloaks and raised an eye to him.

“They will hide your scent so that you will not be able to be tracked.” His kind eyes stared at her and he lightly nodded his head to her. “You are going to need your rest. You have a long journey ahead of you. As annoying as the young rude king is please keep him close. Your defense against magic is only impermeable when you are together.”

“Is this a hint of something you have seen in the future and aren’t telling me?” Rhea watched the old man chuckle.

“Let’s say it is sound advice from an old man.” He released Rhea’s hand and took a few steps away from her. “No one’s future is guaranteed. From this point on there are many different paths. Some just as clear as the others. Every decision you make will have an impact on the future. Trust yourself and trust your companions.” His gentle voice reminded her of her own grandfather.

“Thank you.” Rhea watched as the old man headed back to the stairs.

“You sure you don’t want me to carry you down gramps?” Titus grinned as the old man's eyes flickered at him.

“You be sure to bring her back safely. I’m counting on you son.” His tone was gentle as he looked at the young king he helped raise. The joking and playful banter was put aside. He believed in Titus and this was a very pinnacle moment for him. This small part in his life could have big consequences.

Titus’ face drew serious as the two men stared at each other. “I won’t let you down Gramps.” Titus said with confidence.

“I know you won’t.” Grandpa Sage smiled and then disappeared down the stairs.

Kelsie walked up to Rhea and leaned her head against her forehead. “Do you want me to stay with you tonight?”

“No, actually I don’t know how long this trip will take so I INSIST that you stay with Cody tonight. We don’t need any promiscuous travel plans.” Rhea giggled as Kelsie’s face turned radish red.

“I’ll stay with you until you fall asleep.” Dex said looking at Rhea.



“No that isn’t necessary.” Rhea didn’t want to bother anyone. She was fine. At least she was thinking she was okay.

Dex smiled. “I know it isn’t necessary. Call it me spending time with you before your trip. I won’t be in this kingdom forever either, so I need to absorb my friend time.” No matter what she was saying and no matter what front she was putting on he knew better. She was hurting and nervous. Even if she didn’t realize it. When he was rejected, he put on a brave front. He would stay with her until he was certain she was able to stay asleep. It was the only way he could help right now.

“Wait a minute. So you trust having Dex with her behind closed doors?” Weston arched his eyes and glanced around at everyone.

“Yes, we do.” Titus shrugged and watched Weston open his mouth.

“What about me?”

“No.” Everyone said tersely in unison.

“Hey! I wouldn’t touch her. Especially knowing her mate is Leviathan. Give my self-preservation more credit than that.” Weston chuckled.

“Well, we have an early morning. Rhea, why don’t you go ahead and head into bed? We are just going to finalize a few more details for while we are gone.” Titus noticed how exhausted Rhea looked from her energy being drained.

“Thanks. I think I’ll do that.”

Rhea shut the door to her bedroom. This would be her first night in here without Lee. She made the quiet walk over to the bed and slid into the cool covers. It was never cool in the bed before because Lee always made it warm with his body heat. Her fingertips brushed the empty soft pillow beside her. She traced over the area where his head would lay. She grasped her fingers against it and raised it up to her face. She could smell him on the pillow. The room was empty. Her chest tightened as she laid her head down, holding the pillow in her hands. Like a tidal wave the emotions rolled over her.

It’s only temporary. We are going to get him back. One way or another. Rhea felt the sting in her nose and she bit her bottom lip to fight the sadness she was feeling.

We will get our mate back Rhea. No matter how we have to go about it. Lumi said threateningly.

Mmmhmmm Rhea answered quietly as she inhaled a deep breath of cool air. How had she become so dependent on Lee already? That now a night away from him felt like an eternity.

The creaking sound of a door echoed in the room and then the gentle sound of the door latching was heard. Quiet footsteps approached the bed. Then the sound of slight metal being plopped

next to her side of the bed. She opened her eyes to see the moonlight shining on Dex's face. She offered him a small smile.

"I know you said otherwise, but I think you could still use the company tonight." Dex smiled back at her knowingly.

"Thank you."

"Just make sure your mate doesn't roast me when he returns for being in his bedroom alone with his mate." Dex winked as Rhea giggled quietly.

"I think he will be grateful to you for taking care of me."

"Try to get some sleep Rhea. I'll sit here with you."

She closed her eyes. She could sense his presence and could hear the sound of him breathing. Surprisingly, it did help. It was calming having another person near her. She was very grateful to him. She didn't realize it until she was back in her bedroom alone, but it was hard. She appreciated his thoughtfulness towards her. She squeezed Lee's pillow into her chest. Don't worry my Lee. I'll be coming for you soon. She quietly thought to herself as a crystal tear trickled from her eye.

Because she was so exhausted and with the help of Dex's presence she managed to fall asleep. Dex listened to the sound of her rhythmic breathing and smiled.

"Sleep well princess." He whispered barely audible in the dark. Instead of leaving though he stayed there. He stayed sitting in the chair watching over her as she slept. Just in case she woke up he wanted to be there for her.

Book 2

Chapter 91 The Departure

## Chapter 173 - Dr.Luna

Just before the sun began to rise Rhea opened her eyes to her dark room. She was surprised to see that she wasn't alone. Dex had remained with her all night and was gently snoring in the chair he had fallen asleep in. She sat up and smiled at him. It had to be incredibly uncomfortable, but he stayed to take care of her. She scooted to the edge of the bed and dangled her feet over the side. She slowly reached a finger out and pushed it into his arm. She watched his eyes immediately shoot open and then settle on her.

“Thank you for staying with me.”

“Is everything okay? Are you okay?”

“I’m fine. It’s morning.” Rhea glanced her eyes over to the still dull sky outside.

Dex frowned and sighed. “I still wish I could come with you guys. I want to be there to help.”

“Thank you Dex. Honestly, I wish I could bring you all with me too. But Titus is right, the whole royal family can’t all disappear. And Titus will feel better knowing you are here to watch over Lila. Don’t worry. Everything is going to be okay. I will be back.” Rhea looked at his hazel eyes that were looking back at her with worry. “Thank you for befriending a non-dragon like me.”

Dex laughed. “I’m not at all like you had pictured, am I?”

“Not at all like I had pictured. They had you painted like you were this mean grump who didn’t like anyone. But that isn’t true about you at all.”

“It actually wasn’t far off the mark. I usually don’t get along with others. There are too many fake people who just want to be friends with the royals so they can use them. Your honesty was touching. You were so genuine from the moment I met you. I wanted that. I wanted to be close with that.” Dex looked down at his hands. The truth was after his mate rejected him, he was thrown for a loop. He didn’t know what to think of others. His mate was not after his power or position. She was happy to give it all up for the man she wanted. He could only imagine how freeing it was. He was always pushing everyone away. Then he met this girl who immediately chastised him on behalf of a stranger. She also was not interested in his position. He thought then maybe if he got to know her and understand her, he could understand the mate who rejected him. And he did. He had actually learned a lot from Rhea. He felt like he was in a better place because of her.

“Rhea, thank you. Thank you for befriending me. Your friendship is more important to me than you know. What I am trying to say is, good luck and be careful. Go do what you need to do and bring Leviathan back.” Dex looked up at the ceiling. “Don’t go getting hurt or anything because I can’t imagine a world without you in it.”

Rhea felt the mist in her eyes as she smiled at Dex. “Don’t worry. I’ll be back and I’ll be bringing Lee back with me. We will have a lifetime to enjoy our friendship. Besides I still need to hook you up with a werewolf, right?” Rhea giggled as Dex chuckled at her last remark. She stood up and gave him a hug.

“Take good care of Titus for me.” Dex patted Rhea’s head and backed away from her.

“Don’t worry. I’ll bring him back safe too.”

“And if something happens and you need our help send your pony back here to fetch us. I will send an army down to help.” Dex walked with her to the door and opened it.

Titus was just about to open the door at the same time. He looked at Dex at first a bit shocked but then smiled. “Thanks for watching over her last night.” Titus didn’t suspect foul play for even a moment. He knew how much Rhea was in love with Lee and how trustworthy Dex was. It was nice to have people you trusted unconditionally in your life.

Dex yawned and rubbed the back of his neck. “I wouldn’t be able to sleep anyways because I would be worrying about her. So just make sure your deity knows it was all innocent, so he doesn’t kill me for staying in his room while he was away.” Dex grinned as Titus chuckled.

“Go get some sleep Dex. Take care of things here for me.” Titus looked at him with an intense gaze. He was talking about more than his kingdom and Dex immediately understood him.

“Don’t worry. I have years and years of practice watching over her. Everything will be fine here.”

Rhea popped out of the room having changed her clothes and had a backpack packed. She looked over at Kelsie and Cody in the kitchen as they were finishing packing supplies. “I guess it is time to go and find the Merrow Queen.”

“We will slip out through the back. So that no one will notice us leaving.” Titus reached out and patted Dex’s shoulder. “We will be back soon.”

“Be safe. All of you.” Dex looked at Rhea one last time before he slowly left and went down the stairs.

“Cody, you guys ready?” Rhea asked as the two walked over to them.

“Ready. Let’s go catch a fish.” Cody grinned and Kelsie patted his back with a sympathetic smile.

“Cody bear that was really lame. I love you but that was lame.” Kelsie frowned as Titus snickered quietly with Rhea.

“Come on. I’ll lead the way.” Titus said as he walked over to the stairs.

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They ended up exiting through the old, abandoned part of the castle where Reese had led her when Titus first found out Lila was his mate. Surprisingly, they easily went unnoticed and before long they were descending off the mountain away from the dragon territory. They all had the cloaks on them that Grandpa Sage had given them and hoped they would pass through undetected by the demons.

Titus pushed a path through the thick brush and held onto Rhea as he guided her along. The thick bushes were still damp with morning dew and the hillside was a bit slick. He was going to help Rhea to make sure she didn’t slip and fall.

Rhea's mind was racing as she mindlessly let Titus escort her through the brush down the mountainside. She could not believe she was finally going to find the Ocean's Tear. She had to succeed. Failure was not an option. She reached up and touched her necklace. She made sure to wear the living gem necklace. She wasn't sure why she felt like she had to have it, but she just did. Maybe it was because it helped her feel connected to Lee.

Her chest hurt as she thought of Lee. He was alone and trapped in who knows what conditions. Her sweet loving Lee. She was sure he was worried right now. She had to succeed. Not just for herself but for him. She couldn't allow him to remain sealed away. She squeezed onto Titus' hand and bit her bottom lip. If she failed at getting the Ocean's Tear, she would set out to go against the deities. She did not care what that meant for her. She would get Lee back one way or another. If the moon goddess was on her side, then she would hopefully join her in her attempts to rescue Lee.

"Rhea. Where are we headed once we get off this mountain?" Titus asked, noticing the tension in her hand. He was here for her. And he would help her however he could. They had powers together and some were still undiscovered. Them being the Gemini twins had to mean something. It had to give them the power to succeed here.

"We will head further south. Where the river meets the ocean. Along the shoreline there is a cave. That is where we are heading."

"It's a good thing we have a water horse with us then, right?" Titus winked back at Kelsie and Cody as he tried to continue to lighten the mood.

"Actually, it is a very good thing we have Kelsie because we are going to need her." Rhea looked back to Kelsie and smiled. "We will have to dive down into the ocean in order to reach the area where the merrow queen resides. There is a magic barrier deep down where once we reach it we will be able to breath. The problem is reaching it. Without Kelsie's speed we wouldn't be able to make it there without drowning." Rhea chuckled nervously and Titus' eyes grew wide.

"So, you are saying we have to hold our breath and hope Kelsie gets us there before we drown?" Titus looked back at Kelsie. "I hope you don't harbor any hard feelings for me."

"Kels Kels will be able to get us there easily before we run out of air. Right Kels?" Rhea looked back confidently at her friend.

"Yep, you'll barely have to hold your breath." Kelsie leaned into Cody and smiled. "Don't worry Cody, I'll protect you."

Cody chuckled and wrapped his arm around her. "Will we make it there today?"

"Tomorrow. We are going to have to find a good spot to camp. I mean, I guess if we ran in our animal forms, we would make today but that would draw too much attention to ourselves." Rhea had thought about running in their animal forms, but they needed to get there without being discovered.

By the time they reached the bottom of the mountain the sun had peaked its head over the horizon. The birds were singing happily and bounced around in the trees as they greeted each other. The soft sounds of twigs snapping, and leaves brushing was the only other sound heard. Besides their quieted voices as they chatted amongst themselves.

“Man, I haven’t walked this far in… actually I haven’t ever hiked this far before. Levi owes me big time. I am going to have a big wish list for my birthday this year and he better deliver.” Titus chuckled, shaking his head.

“Aww it’ll be good for your tender footed royal butt to put some miles on those feet.” Rhea bumped her shoulder into Titus playfully.

Titus swung his arm around Rhea. “I know you are trying to put on a brave face and not think about it, but I want you to know everything is going to be fine. I refuse to believe that everything was meant to be just for you to lose him. You are going to get him back.” Titus side eyed her and watched a soft smile reach her lips.

“Thank you, Titus. I think so too. I mean, it is hard. It is hard knowing that I can’t get to him right now, but I think I was always meant to get the Ocean’s Tear. I think this was the plan for me from the beginning.”

“I think so too.” Cody chimed in from behind them. “It makes the most sense. Levi doesn’t want to live for an eternity without his mate. You were always supposed to link your lives together. I am sure of it.”

“I was wondering. When you two have kids do I get to be Uncle Titus?” Titus looked back to Kelsie and Cody and watched their faces heat in embarrassment. “And are we thinking you’ll start a family sometime soon? What do you think they will be? A bear or a kelpie? Or will they have the ability to shift into either? Or what if they are a werebear but can breathe underwater? Taking attributes from both of you guys.”

Rhea giggled and grinned back at Cody and Kelsie. “Any idea when I will be an aunt?”

“Let’s just concentrate on one task at a time. For now, it is getting the Ocean’s Tear. We can talk about kids another time.” Cody winked at Kelsie and tugged her side gently.

“Guess you aren’t much of a multitasker huh?” Titus grinned with a shrug.

Rhea was glad to have Titus with them on this trip. He found a way to help keep her mind busy and thinking of other things. And always found a way to bring laughter into the trip. She did not originally plan on bringing Titus along, but she was incredibly thankful to have him around. She smiled up at Titus and then glanced back to her two guardians. She was incredibly lucky to have them in her life.

She took in a deep breath of air through her nose and glanced upwards to the sun streaming through the canopy of trees. She couldn’t wait until she could feel Lee’s arms wrapped around

her again. To be able to breath in his intoxicating scent. It has only been a day, but it has already felt like eternity. There is no way she would be able to live in this life without him. With every step they took she looked at it as one step closer to getting her Lee back.

I miss you, Lee.

Book 2

Chapter 92 Kali

## Chapter 174 - Dr.Luna

“ROCK PAPER SCISSORS SHOOT!” They all shouted in unison.

“Haha Cody lost. Go get the fire wood Smokey Bear.” Titus grinned widely as Cody rolled his eyes.

“This is a dumb method.” Cody grumbled as he started gathering sticks along the forest edge.

“What do you want me to do?” Kelsie asked and then received a mischievous glint from Rhea’s eyes.

“You know, the river is right there and I would love some roasted fish. If only I knew someone who could catch us fish easily.” Rhea bared her teeth in a big cheesy smile.

Kelsie giggled. “I can do that for you Ray Ray.” Rhea swung her arms around Kelsie and gave her a big hug.

“Thank you, Kelsie, you’re the best.”

“Yeah yeah I know I know. The only problem is I’m going to need a whole school of fish to feed my teddy bear.” Kelsie tilted her head smiling while looking at Cody. He’s lucky he is worth it. “I’ll be back soon.” She narrowed her eyes on Titus. “Don’t let her out of your sight!”

Titus lifted his hand to his forehead and saluted Kelsie. “Sir, yes sir. Not out of sight.” He grinned as she rolled her eyes at him shaking her head.

Rhea smiled as she watched Kelsie walk away. They all liked to poke at each other’s nerves, but it was obvious how close they had all become. Even Kelsie, who Rhea thought would never warm up to anyone, had taken a liking to their group of dragons.

“How are you holding up?” Titus asked as he took a seat on the green plushy moss beneath them.

Rhea took a seat beside him and leaned back on her hands. "I'm okay right now. I'm worried about Lee and how he is holding up. He doesn't have anyone with him. For all I know he is sitting alone in isolation somewhere. Nothing but his solitude to keep him company. That is what is the most heartbreaking. Thinking about Lee being all alone."

Titus raised his arm and rested it around Rhea. "He's strong Rhea. He is going to be just fine. I'm sure he is spending his time worrying about you the whole time." Titus chuckled and looked up at the dimming sky. "Don't worry. You'll get him back." He gently rubbed her back and she leaned into his side.

She felt the heat that radiated off of Titus. It was a different heat than Lee's. Lee's heat was exciting while Titus' was just a gentle warmth. Not too long ago he was a stranger to her. Now he was like the brother she always had. He felt like he had always been part of her life. And in a way he had since their souls were connected.

"I'm glad you are here Titus." Rhea said quietly.

"Me too."

—

Lee sat in a chair as he stared out through a window. He was in a barrier that allowed others in but wouldn't allow him to leave. He sighed in frustration as he heard soft footsteps approach his side.

"What do you want?" He growled angrily without looking at the person at his side.

A smile rose over the person's face. "Quite the unpleasant fellow, aren't you?" A calm light voice sounded.

His eyes twitched and he shifted his angry gaze at her.

"Now don't look at me that way. I spoke out on your behalf. Several of us did in fact. Of course, I already knew this would happen." She walked in front of him so that she was able to completely face him.

"What is your game here Selene?" Lee narrowed his gaze on the goddess.

"Watch your tone with me. Rhea is a child of mine. You think I want to see my children hurt? This was all meant to happen. This future has long been foreseen. All we can do is watch it unravel." Selene said gently.

"Why? Why only watch it unravel? If you are on her side, why not help her?" Lee snorted keeping his angry gaze on the goddess.



“I have helped her out. Everything I have done has helped set things in motion. There is a difference between helping out and interfering. As one blessed with the power of prophecy I can’t interfere blindly and mess up the timeline. However, I can give things a gentle push in the direction they need to go.”

“How long have you known she would be my mate? Did you know back when I was given the necklace?” Lee looked at Selene as he waited for her answer.

“I’ve known from even before then.” Selene said with a warm smile.

“So, this is all your doing? Just pieces in the game you are playing.” Lee raised his voice in slight agitation.

“There is a difference between knowing the future and changing the future. I can see the game. And see the few ways it could end. And at times I help direct pieces into the future I want. Still, I don’t have any direct intervention. Unlike you. You can have a direct hand in the change that happens because you can’t see the future. You can fight by Rhea’s side and directly change fate. Don’t think you are in the more frustrating position because you aren’t.” Selene tilted her head downwards and clearly explained the situation.

Lee leaned forward and rested his hand in his head. He was so frustrated. He wanted to be at Rhea’s side. He needed to be at her side. This was agony. He couldn’t take it. She was heading towards danger and he couldn’t be there. He was not able to help her. His precious sweet fairy who was now his only purpose for living was heading into danger for him. He didn’t know how to feel. Rhea was the fairy princess but the merrow queen was vicious. No one has ever been able to retrieve the Ocean’s Tear. Would things be different because it was Rhea? He was worrying for Rhea. How was she holding up? It was such torment no being able to see her and see how she was doing.

Selene walked away from him back to the edge of the barrier that was keeping him caged. “She’s doing okay. Cody, Kelsie and Titus is with her.”

“Titus went with her too?!” Lee raised his head and turned to look at Selene.

Selene smiled and nodded her head. “They are keeping a close eye on her and being a comfort. She is more worried about you.” She winked at him and then left him alone once again.

Lee turned around and looked out the window. A small smile raised on his lips. His sweet fairy would be worrying about him. Knowing that Titus was traveling with her really touched him. He left his kingdom to go with Rhea. Knowing that the two Gemini twins were together helped put him at ease slightly. With Titus by her side, magically, nothing could happen.

Please be safe my sweet fairy.

---

Selene flashed into a dark room surrounded by stone. The room was dimly lit by a few candles. The strong smell of decay hit her nose as she took a few steps closer to the figure in the center of the room.

“Your floral scent is disgusting.” A voice hissed.

Selene scoffed. “I feel the same way about your scent of rotting flesh.”

“The pieces are all moving into position.” The voice whispered staring into a bubbling stone pot.

Selene sighed with a small frown. “This is the worst part. Knowing the future and the possible outcomes but having to watch it happen.”

The figure from the pot lifted her head and turned her pale face to look at the goddess. Her dark orbs stared at Selene with a minor sneer on her lips. “Really? This is the worst part?” The woman’s black hair brushed against her face as she lifted her head up higher. There was no white in the woman’s eyes. Her eyes were like a sea of darkness. The small light flickering shined on the glassy darkness.

“You know what I mean.”

The lips of the pale woman curled upwards as her eyes smiled with blackness. “You mean how you have to stand by and watch her walk to her death bed?”

Selene averted her gaze and looked away from the woman in front of her. “Do you see that future too, Kali?”

Kali turned her head and gazed back into the stone pot. “I can see many futures.” She dipped a pale boney finger in the hot liquid and swirled it around. “It’s the futures between light and dark that align that are most likely to happen.” She looked up at Selene. “The futures that we both can see clearly. We both can see two very distinct ones about to happen.”

Selene nodded her head and looked back at the woman. She was the dark priestess, an immortal, who had the gift of prophecy. The two have existed together since the beginning of time. The Yin and Yang of each other.

“If he dies, she will have a long road for recovery.” Selene’s voice was very solemn. She exhaled lightly and frowned.

“She won’t have time for that recovery. She can mourn the dead after this is all over. Sacrifices have to be made sometimes for the greater good. Balance must be restored. An order has been broken and it must be set back in alignment.” Kali spat out bitterly. What was one’s life? What was a few dozen lives in the scheme of things?

“I just hate to see my children hurting.” Selene looked up to see the crooked smile on Kali’s face. “What did you just see?” Her voice was but an airy whisper.

“Something that you must not be meant to see. A future that now has only one path. What is about to happen, is meant to happen. The string of fate has been laid. Now it must continue to play out.”

“You won’t tell me what you’ve seen?” Selene asked in irritation pinning her gaze on the priestess.

“No, I don’t think I will. It is more entertaining this way.” Kali looked up from her pot and her obsidian eyes shined at Selene. “This is still only one small part. The big showdown is still yet to come.”

The closer the future came the clearer it would be. This is one of those futures where so much can happen. That so much can go wrong that Selene can not directly see which outcome it would be. Rhea would make it. She would pull through. She is able to see her clearly in the future with the demons. But not the others. This worried Selene. There wasn’t anything that could be done about it. This was life. Love, happiness, pain and sadness were all part of life. And as much as she wanted to shield Rhea, she couldn’t. The future that was coming was in Rhea’s hands now. Her decisions would directly affect the outcome.

Selene met with the dark orbs and nodded her head. “Let’s hope this future doesn’t blow up in our faces.”

“We’ve learned our lesson. We know what can happen when we interfere too much.”

“Like the balance shifting too much to one side?” Selene said with an obvious eye roll.

Kali stared into the liquid in the pot in front of her. She scowled as her gaze burned into it. “Exactly, now we have to play damage control.”

Selene scoffed and folded her arms over her chest. “You mean I have to play damage control. My children have to be put at risk for damage control.”

“What about mine? What about my people? Do you think you are the only one making sacrifices?” Kali’s voice hissed angrily. Kali then sneered at Selene an arrogant smirk raised over her face. “Of course, that is what you do best though. You sacrifice the ones you love.”

“What happened to Endymion was not my fault!” Selene clenched her teeth and squeezed her arms over her chest. A silent water crystal dropped from her eye.

“No, it was our fault.” She looked up to Selene and then gave her a sympathetic smile. “We got too arrogant. In the end, he saved us from our mistakes. Now we have to make sure we set everything right. Remember who all this is for. Remember the path we chose and the role we picked.”

Selene nodded and met with the obsidian eyes. “If we continue to let it play out correctly...”

“And let the necessary sacrifices happen.” Kali interjected with a slight head tilted.

“In order to save him, some lives will be lost.”

“It is the bigger picture you must continue to look at. This is our one shot. You saved the Gemini Twins souls for this reason. We can’t let this chance go to waste. It is your only chance to get him back and my only chance for redemption.” Kali stared at Selene with resolve. For Endymion, she would put the Locke family through hell. She would push them into battle like the pawns that they were.

Selene dropped her shoulders in defeat. The Gemini Twins were needed for the demon war. That much was true. But that wasn’t the reason she saved their souls. There was something else that she needed from them. They were too deep now. There was no turning back. This match would need to play out. Then she would seek what she needed from the Gemini Twins. Selene sighed and nodded, her voice quietly affirmed with Kali, “For Endymion.”

Book 2

Chapter 93 Her Moment

## Chapter 175 - Dr.Luna

The tree frogs chorus began to die down along with the chirping of crickets. At the same time the birds began to make their presence known as the night faded away. Rhea opened her eyes and stared upwards. She breathed in the cold morning air feeling it grip her lungs. Today, she would meet with the merrow queen. It all came down to what would soon happen in the next few hours. She squeezed her fist in her hand and then exhaled.

Today, we get our mate back.

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The sun streamed through the trees flickering on their faces as they walked under the leafy canopy. The sound of the water rushing along the banks of the river was growing closer as the soft waves began to sound quietly. They were getting close to their destination. Cody looked at Rhea with the corner of his eyes checking on his sister. She looked undeterred and determined. She reminded him of their mother.

They walked up to a small cliffside where the river emptied into the ocean. The four peered down over the edge.

“There should be a cave directly below us. Under where the river splashes into the ocean.” Rhea said calmly.

“Rhea, I’ll fly us down. It will be much faster that way.” Titus looked at her and watched her nod her head.

Anything that could get them there faster. “What about Cody and Kelsie?”

“I don’t need a ride. I’m a kelpie after all.” Kelsie grinned and winked at Rhea.

“I can easily haul you an Po panda bear here. I really can carry all three of you.” Titus looked over at Kelsie who shook her head with her eyes looking at him like he is crazy.

“I’ll meet you three down there.” Kelsie raised up on her tip toes and kissed Cody before he could object then ran and dove in the rapid river.

Titus chuckled. “I think she is afraid of heights.” He winked at Cody and then his body began to shift. His large red dragon soon took form and he flapped his wings slightly to stretch them out. “Ready?”

Cody sighed in irritation and let Rhea pull him up to Titus. “I may be climbing on your back on our first date, but I still have my standards.” Cody teased as he hoisted himself up onto Titus.

“I’ll treat you to a honey pot when we get back home.” Titus adjusted himself into a standing position and then tilted his head backwards. “You both set?”

“Your back doesn’t feel like Lee’s back. His is more muscular than yours.” Rhea teased and heard a steaming snort come from Titus’ nose.

Titus flapped his large red wings, creating gusts of wind below him, and soon they had elevated from the ground. He flew forward and then spiraled downward over the cliff side. The water fall misted them as they approached. Small water droplets landed on them as Titus found a flat area where he could land.

Kelsie was already standing there with a small smirk on her face. Water travel was all too easy for her. Air travel, eh that wasn’t her sort of thing. She watched as Cody hopped off and walked up to her. He reached his hand out and gently took her hand in his.

“You really should try it sometime.” Cody smiled knowing she had a problem with flying. He watched her shrug and then lean her body into his.

“It’s overrated I am sure.” Kelsie couldn't see why she needed to fly. Not when she could travel to any body of water she chose to instantly. Maybe if she needed to go to the desert where the land was barren without any water then she would fly. Maybe.

Rhea walked up to the falls as Titus shifted back into his human form. She could see a darkness behind the falling water. She took in a minor breath and quickly jumped through the falling water. She landed on a cold damp stone surface. Her eyes peered into the darkness. Usually this would have been a problem for her. But she had Lumi now. She pushed her wolf senses forward and her eyes adjusted to the darkness in front of her. Moments later her other three companions were also at her side.

“I hope there aren’t water snakes in there.” Titus said with a frown.

“Aren’t those like a cousin of yours or something?” Kelsie snickered as Titus flashed an annoyed look over at her.

“Awe the big bad dragon isn’t afraid of snakes, is he?” Cody grinned widely looking at Titus.

“I’m not afraid of them. I just don’t like them.” Titus snorted and walked over to Rhea’s side. “You good?”

“I’m great. I’m ready to get Lee back.” Rhea looked into the darkness and then up to Titus.

“Remember, we are here with you Rhea. You aren’t alone.” Cody said as he walked up to her other side.

Rhea nodded with a smile. “Let’s find this merrow Queen.”

The sounds of the river began to hush as they walked deeper in the caverns. The soft dripping of water falling onto rocks sporadically sounded with an echoing sound. As they walked closer, they were seeing a blurry looking barrier in front of them. Beyond the barrier was another pool of water. Rhea reached her hand out and touched the barrier. This barrier was not meant for them. It was to keep out deities. The four of them effortlessly walked through the shield.

“What was that?” Kelsie asked as she turned back to look at it.

“It is to keep deities out. So, none of them can reach the merrow queen.” Rhea stared at the deep pool in front of her. “The merrow queen should be down here. Then there should be an area where there is another shield that will allow us to breath and talk under water.”

“Let me check it out really quick. I need to see how far away this is.” Kelsie looked at Rhea who nodded for her to continue. “I’ll be right back.”

Cody grabbed onto Kelsie’s arm and pulled her into his chest. “Be careful.”

She smiled up at him. “Don’t go treating me like I am fragile now. Not only am I a kelpie but I am also a guardian. They are the ones who need to be careful.” She kissed his chin and winked at him. “Don’t worry.” He slowly released his grip on her and she took a few fleeting steps backwards before jumping into the water.

Cody walked up to the edge and stood there staring into the deep dark pool below him.

“Don’t worry Cody, she will be fine. The merrow are vicious but so are kelpies. They won’t mess with her.” Rhea reassured Cody seeing his concerned face.

“So, what is the plan if this goes south?” Cody glanced over at Rhea and then back down to the deep blue.

“I’m not afraid of the Merrow Queen. The more I have thought about it she will not attack me. She is clever. She isn’t dumb. If she outright refuses to give me the Ocean’s Tear, then I guess I am going to have to face the deities head on.”

“Rhea.” Cody’s voice said with a dark icy undertone. “Don’t be stupid.”

“Rhea, if this doesn’t work, we will sit down and think about our options. Don’t do anything rash.” Titus placed his hand on her shoulder and tilted his head to look down at her. “Promise?”

Rhea sighed out in agitation. “Fine. I promise. I promise I will at least talk it over with you first. That’s all though.”

The soft splash sound was heard as the dark horse jumped out of the water. She looked at Rhea. It is down there pretty deep, but I can get you there. In order to do it the fastest I’ll need to take you one at a time.

You’re taking me first then. Cody walked up to the dark horse and then turned to Rhea waiting for her to object.

“I’m not going to argue with you Cody. If that makes you feel better.” Rhea shook her head and looked up to Titus. “She is going to take us one at a time. It is down pretty deep, but we can make it with a deep breath. Cody is going first.”

“Let’s go Kels.” Cody hopped up effortlessly on her back and then leaned forward into her ear. “When I said I would be riding you later I didn’t exactly mean this.” He chuckled as he heard her snort from her nose. He took in a deep breath and Kelsie dove into the water with him.

“This is your chance to turn back?” Rhea looked up to Titus noticing he seemed a bit nervous.

“No way. I just hope I can hold my breath long enough.” Titus reached back and rubbed the back of his neck and gave Rhea a crooked smile.

“Just don’t think about it. You’ll be able to breath before you know it.” Rhea playfully brushed against his shoulder with her own. “Thank you, Titus,... for coming. I know it wasn’t easy to leave your kingdom.”

Titus wrapped his arm around her shoulder and smiled. “Actually, it was.” He watched Rhea look up at him with wide eyes and he shrugged. “Levi has been sealed and you were waltzing

into danger. It was easy. It was an easy decision for me. That's how I knew it was the right one. I have to help my sister get my brother back."

"I'm glad you are my soul twin." Rhea looked up and saw his big goofy cheesy smile spread across his face.

"Me too Rhea. I'm happy we're family."

Kelsie hopped out of the water and stood at the edge of the pool. "Guess it is my turn." Rhea looked at Titus and winked. "Don't be nervous Titus when she comes back for you."

"I guess it will be the moment of truth if she actually likes me or not." Titus chuckled nervously as the black horse shook its mane side to side.

Rhea climbed upon Kelsie and took in a deep breath. She dove into the cold liquid as Rhea clung on tightly. The water was dark, but the deeper Kelsie swam an odd brightness was seen in the distance. Kelsie swam closer and closer, and the light became brighter. Rhea could see Cody standing on a small sandy walkway. Yes, standing. As soon as Kelsie reached the walkway Rhea could feel the pressure leave. She was able to breath as if it was air. She slid off of Kelsie and was surprised how her feet naturally planted on the ground. It didn't feel like she was underwater at all.

I'll be right back with Titus. Kelsie turned and sprinted back upwards.

"Now this is fascinating." Rhea said as she dug her feet into the sand below her.

"It is. It is like being above ground. It is very impressive." Cody said as he looked around at the well-lit path. In the distance you could see a white coral palace. The walkway led right up to it. This had to be where the merrow queen resided.

Finally, Kelsie returned with Titus who looked a bit green from his water trip.

"Breathe Titus." Rhea smiled and watched him hesitantly test the air.

"Holy crap. I can breathe under water. I am a superhero." Titus then grinned proudly and raised his hands over his head.

"A superhero who wet his pants. Good thing we are underwater and can't tell the difference." Kelsie back in her human form walked up to Cody's embrace.

"I was just trying to raise to water temperature a couple degrees." He said with a wink.

"Eeeww gross." Rhea elbowed Titus and then the four became serious as the stared into the distance.

"So, this is it huh?" Kelsie looked at the coral palace and then back to Rhea.



“I know this might sound weird, but I don’t feel nervous at all.” Rhea continued to look at the path in front of them. “I feel like I was always meant to come here. Like I am fulfilling something that I was always supposed to.”

“Maybe you were.” Cody shrugged.

“This will be my first time meeting a merrow.” Titus said looking at the others. “I hope I am dressed appropriately.”

Rhea giggled. “This is my first time meeting the merrow queen. I guess we are about to find out what she is really like.”

The four companions slowly began to make their way down the sandy path. Each step taking them closer to the coral palace. There are some moments in life that define who you are as a person. These moments bring out the person that you are supposed to be. It is within this defining moment, that a person will either step back in fear or rise up embracing their power.

Rhea was about to discover her moment.

Book 2

Chapter 94 Olga

## Chapter 176 - Dr.Luna

Just outside of the coral palace two armed guards were waiting for them. They had the upper body of a human but had a deep forest green tail fin. Their faces were blocky, and they wore golden helmets. In their webbed fingers they held silver tridents. Their eyes scanned over them maliciously until they fell on Rhea. She watched the white of their eyes grow as they sensed who she was. All fairies recognized who the fairy princess was. Rhea decided it was best to speak out openly and confidently. Showing her authority with the marine fairies.

“I have come to seek an audience with your merrow queen.” Rhea wanted to half roll her eyes. Even the merrow having someone with the title of queen felt like a slap in the face. She could be their leader but the title queen? Not when they had a queen and princess of higher authority. It just showed how much they wanted to separate themselves from the fairy royalty. She watched as one of them shifted uncomfortably. Then the other straightened his shoulders and looked ahead.

“Proceed, princess.”

His voice was gruff and terse. But they had gotten entrance without having to spill blood. Rhea felt Titus' hand tighten around her as they walked into the building. The walls were white with a spongy texture. The floor was a pale off white hard tile. They walked ahead down a long hall. An occasional guard was lined up every ten feet or so. They didn't even spare them a glance but continued to look forward.

Don't leave my sight for a second Rhea. Cody warned as him and Kelsie walked right on her heels keeping little space between them.

Rhea smiled and gave Cody a small nod. In front of them two large bronze doors welcomed them at the end of the hall. The guards there immediately opened the two large doors. She could feel the presence of someone strong as they slowly entered the inner room.

Rhea noticed her immediately. Sitting on a stone throne in the middle of the room. Her deep blue sea hair curled around her. She had deep green eyes and pale skin. She had a light green tail fin with the upper body of a woman. Her upper half was covered by a gold-plated chest plate. As her deep green eyes met with Rhea's she curled her lips in an unwelcoming smile. Her smile revealed pointed teeth, it was like looking at a shark's mouth.

"Welcome princess. What an honor to be graced with your presence. What is the occasion? We have rarely met the fairies of the land." Her voice dripped with a fake sweetness as her eyes held a strong gaze with Rhea.

"You can call me Rhea. And how should I address you?" Rhea ignored her at first. She would not address her as your majesty. She was the real royalty not the merrow.

"Olga." She replied tersely.

Rhea let a small smile rest on her lips. "Nice to meet you Olga. I have actually come here because you have something I need."

Olga leaned back in her chair and looked at her sharp fingernails. "What could I have here that you possibly need?"

Rhea had the odd feeling that Olga already knew why she was there but she proceeded anyways. "I need the Ocean's Tear." Rhea watched the green eyes glow slightly before they flipped up to Rhea.

"You? You need the Ocean's Tear?" Olga straightened up and then smirked at Rhea. "I already knew this. I just wanted to hear you ask for it. I actually know a lot of what goes on above ground. Specifically, I know about a certain half demon that desires the fairy princess." Her eyes stared at Rhea and then moved to look at the shining stone on her neck. Her eyes twitched before returning back to the sapphire gaze.

Rhea narrowed her eyes at Olga. What game was she playing here? "What is the point of bringing that up?"

Olga smiled. "Yes. The point. As much as I would love to hand over the Ocean's Tear to you I simply can't. Not until you complete the task, I ask of you. No one has ever been able to complete the task I ask of them. Each task is custom tailored for each person who seeks the Ocean's Tear."

Rhea sighed in annoyance. "What is the task you are asking of me?"

Olga's lips curled upwards revealing her pointed teeth. Her eyes were smiling as well as her deep voice answered Rhea. "I want you to bring me back the heart of Abaddon."

"Why? Why do you need his heart?" Cody growled angrily no longer able to keep quiet.

Her eyes snapped to Cody's and she was sneering in disgust at him. She did not like being spoken to by a nobody like him. He was a guardian. That meant nothing to her.

Rhea quickly interjected. "What my guardian means to say is what is the point of this task? How does this task get me the Ocean's Tear?"

Deep green eyes glowed at Rhea. "It does a couple things. One, it gives the proof that you are willing to face incredible danger for the one you love." Her voice dragged over the word love as she curled her lip at it in disgust. "Second. I need that demon's heart." She waved her hand to the side and pointed at a wall behind her. "It is a piece that I am missing in my vast collection."

Rhea felt Titus' fingers sink into her arm as they looked at the mural of objects mounted on the wall. They were all hearts floating in glass jars. Each having their own label and species.

She couldn't just collect shells? Kelsie's annoyed voice rang in Rhea's head.

"What proof do I have that you will keep your word?"

Rhea you can't be serious?! Titus' voice rang angrily in Rhea's head. Going and finding the merrow queen was one thing. But seeking out demons and having to bring back a heart was something else entirely.

What are my choices? I won't live without Lee. Rhea shot back angrily.

"I have no reason not to keep my word." Olga's voice was a bit agitated at the accusation of her not keeping her word. "In fact, you'll receive the Ocean's Tear first. When you complete your task you'll automatically acquire the tear. Then just send your kelpie there to give me what is mine."

"There will be consequences if you don't keep your word." Rhea said in a threatening tone to which Olga smiled at. "How will the Ocean's Tear get to me?"

"So many questions. You should worry about completing the task first princess. I wonder if you will be able to complete it?" Olga sneered at Rhea as her voice dripped in venom.

“This is the only way for me to get the Ocean’s Tear?” Rhea asked confidently. Olga nodded.

“Once I complete the necessary task, I will immediately have the Ocean’s Tear?” Olga smiled widely and nodded once again.

“Good luck princess.” Olga smirked knowing the dangerous mission the princess was about to embark on.

“Let’s go.” Rhea spun on her heels and they slowly left the inner chambers of the coral palace.

Olga watched them leave. Her twisted smile left her face. “You can have the Ocean’s Tear princess. If you can complete your task and survive.” She smiled lightly and looked up at the ceiling of her palace. These tasks were never in the odds of the pursuers. It was stacked against them from the start. An impossible mission in order to claim the reward. A reward that no one has ever been able to claim.

“I have to play the bad guy this time princess. Perhaps, next time we meet it can be on better terms.” Olga looked back at the closed doors. She was sending the fairy princess on a dangerous mission, but one that was necessary. This is the mission that Kali told her to send her on. It was the only way. The only way to activate the Ocean’s Tear.

Still, she wouldn’t just leave things at that. She did what was told of her. She sent the princess on the dangerous mission. But she wouldn’t be a pawn in the god’s game.

“Cetus!” Olga shouted in a resonating commanding tone.

A light blue creature mixed with green feet crept out from the shadows. The creature had the body of a dragon, the head of a shark, four legs, and a spiked tail. He was about half the size of a dragon in size.

“You know your orders.” She met with his yellow eyes and watched him snarl in acknowledgement.

Olga squeezed her hand into a fist and rested it on the arms of her throne. "Have faith in yourself princess. You can do this." Her voice whispered out from her lips as she looked up at the ceiling.

—

Kelsie emerged from the pool and shifted back into her human self. The four sat on the cold floor of the wet cave quietly.

“I’m supposed to be protecting you from Abaddon. Not walking you into his clutches.” Cody’s voice was gentle and quiet. He felt conflicted. He wanted to help Rhea. He knew she needed Lee. But this?! Fighting Abaddon? This was crazy.

“I don’t think it is a good idea Rhea.” Kelsie’s soft voice spoke out quietly. She couldn’t imagine Rhea getting put in harms way. She was her guardian too and her instincts were screaming at her that it was a bad idea.

“I don’t care. Don’t you understand? Without Lee I am dead anyways. I can’t live without him. There is no life for me without Lee. I have to try.” Rhea’s looked at her fingers with a small frown. She wasn’t afraid of Abaddon. She wasn’t afraid of dying. What she was afraid of was the possibility of being captured by the half-demon and forced to live as his personal toy. Forced to have his child. That demon was dirty and didn’t fight alone. She felt confident that one on one she could take him. Especially now that she had Lumi.

Titus sat there quietly. His elbows rested on his knees and his hands cupped his head. Levi would kill him if he let Rhea fight Abaddon. There is no way Levi would be okay with the task that was just presented to her. On the other hand, there is no Levi without Rhea completing her task. They would never see him again. He wouldn’t be released until Rhea died. And then who would Levi be? A shell that a god dwelled in. He wanted to protect Rhea and bring back his brother. Rhea was right though. Without Levi what life could she have? There wasn’t another option.

“How do we go about this? The four of us are not enough. We can’t go demon hunting with just us four, can we?” Titus lifted his head up as his topaz eyes looked around the people in front of him. He could see Cody’s hesitant gaze. “What choice do we have? I can’t bear to see Rhea live in pain for the rest of her life. Can you?”

Titus’ words rang true for Cody. He knew this too. As much as he didn’t want to march into death’s hands, he also couldn’t bear to see Rhea fall apart. She was crumbling before when she was taken away from their old pack. She was finally acting like herself again because of Levi. If she loses him, he knew she would spiral downwards. He might lose who Rhea is for good then.

“We need to come up with a plan. We can get rid of her cloak so that her scent is free again. But we need more than just luring him to us. We need to think hard about this. We can’t go and launch the demon war prematurely. This needs to be kept on a smaller scale. Where it will just involve a small group against Abaddon and his demons.” Cody sighed and felt his stomach turn slightly at what he was agreeing to. He was putting his sister, his princess in danger.

“Should we get Freya?” Kelsie asked.

“No, there isn’t time for that. We don’t have time to prepare a small army against Abaddon.” Rhea gnawed on her bottom lip as she tried to come up with a plan. She twirled her sapphire necklace around in her fingers and then held it out to look at it. She stared into the gem deep in thought. She then glanced at the pool of water.

“I’ve got an idea.”

Book 2

Chapter 95 Abaddon

## Chapter 177 - Dr.Luna

Kelsie walked up to them from the river. They were back at the top of the falls. “Everything go okay?” Rhea asked and watched Kelsie nod her head.

“I’m not going to lie. I am nervous about all this. We have no idea what type of army Abaddon will have.” Cody frowned and pulled Kelsie into his arms. He had a lot to lose here. He had to protect both Rhea and Kelsie. He would always protect Rhea first. But if something happened to Kelsie he wasn’t sure if he could go on. Having two important people to protect wasn’t a flaw though. He started looking at things in a new light. His parents had four children. That is four important people to protect. It isn’t a flaw. It just means you were blessed to have close people in your life. He knew his duty. That didn’t mean that Kelsie wasn’t just as important though.

Rhea discarded her cloak. “I know Cody. I am sorry for dragging you all into this.” She wished she didn’t have to lead them into danger too. She needed them though. Now more than ever. “On a bright note, I can’t wait to be rid of Abaddon. I feel like that we should have a party to celebrate.”

“A movie night with all of the best snacks. Wings are a must of course.” Titus bumped into Rhea’s shoulders slightly with a small smile.

“Dragon wings?” Kelsie smirked with a glint in her eyes. Titus gave her a crooked grin and arched his eyebrow towards her.

“CHICKEN wings are definitely a must.” Rhea giggled as they continued to walk upriver. She had discarded her cloak and now her scent would well be in the air. There was so much that could go wrong and right at the same time. There was one constant that kept her pushing forward. And that was Lee. He was still sealed, and she needed him. No matter what she had to do, she would get him back.

She felt her chest tighten as she thought about him. It has been a couple days and she was really missing him. His sweet intoxicating scent. His breathtaking smile. His deep sounding laughs. The way his arms curled around her. His strong embrace that made her feel like they could conquer the world. It hurt. She felt a burning sensation in her nose as she fought the tears away. If she didn’t succeed in bringing Lee back... how could she spend a lifetime without him? Then there was the thought of Lee being caged away. She had no idea what he was trapped in. And he would be forced to live that way until she died. Was he being treated okay and taken care of? Was he all alone? These questions would plague her for the rest of her life. They were bothering her now.

They had followed the river back until dusk. Soon they were making their preparations for the night. Rhea continued to drift her thoughts to Lee. Her mind was consumed by him. And to those around her they could tell she wasn’t completely there.

Rhea's chest hurt. She couldn't feel Lee anymore. She was disconnected from her mate. The man who brought new joy into her life. That gave her a new purpose. The one who washed away all the hurt and pain. She couldn't feel his energy anymore. It was like he was fading from her. The constricting feeling in her lungs came back as she tried to feel for his energy.

Why can't we feel him Lumi?

They made the seal stronger. They must want us to feel disconnected from him. They want us to move on from our mate.

Rhea squeezed her fists. How dare they make that decision? He was hers, HERS. We are taking our mate back.

We are taking our mate back Rhea. No matter what, we will take him back. Lumi agreed and nuzzled her head in Rhea's subconscious. Rhea, they have cut off the link you have with Lee. You can't feel him as your summon anymore. There is no more summon link to reach him by.

Rhea lifted her hand in front of her. Her face fell and she bit her bottom lip. She couldn't summon the water anymore. This was another blow. Especially when she needed her summon skills the most. She was going to have to fight against Abaddon without them.

I guess we are doing this on our own strength. Rhea took in a deep breath of air trying to settle her thoughts.

We still have Titus here. We are still the Gemini Twins and have a deep power at our disposal. Lumi reminded her. You feel his energy? His energy is still inside of us.

Lumi was right. She could feel the dark red light of energy that encircled her own. It was like Titus was also a part of her. Just like she was with him. Part of her light also flowed inside of Titus. It was such a unique connection being soul twins. She closed her eyes and touched his light that encircled her body. She could feel Titus. Feel his strength and... his feelings. She felt sadness. His light was emanating sadness. Rhea popped her eyes open and turned her head to look at Titus. To her surprise he was sitting beside her. She didn't even realize it. She was that lost in her thoughts.

"Are you okay Titus?" Rhea asked tilted her head up to him. She saw his lips curl up and then a quiet chuckle escaped from his lips.

"Am I okay?" Titus grinned at her and draped his arm over her shoulder. "Are you okay? You are the one who has gone stone quiet on us. I'm worried about you, Rhea."

She leaned her head into his shoulder and smiled. Of course, he was sad thinking about her. "I'm okay. I just realized something sad was all." She straightened up and turned her head to look at him. Cody and Kelsie also popped their heads up to listen to what Rhea was saying. "I've been disconnected to Lee. I can't use my water elemental skills anymore. They must have realized I contacted Lee and strengthened the barrier so I can't contact him anymore."

“I’m sorry Ray Ray.” Cody scooted up behind Rhea and wrapped his arms around her. “It’s only temporary though. We will get him back.” It was this moment that pushed all doubt from Cody’s mind. His sister couldn’t live without Levi. After just a couple days her light was already beginning to dim. Levi was the one who made Rhea shine so brightly. She wasn’t complete without him. There was no other choice. They would do what they needed to do. Whatever they had to; to bring Levi back.

“I know. It isn’t forever. I just felt... I guess I felt a bit empty for a moment.” Rhea admitted quietly. “But I’m not empty. I have you guys with me. And I also have Titus’ light inside of me.”

“Whoa make sure you don’t tell Lee that there is any part of me inside of you.” Titus chuckled as he held his hands up showing he was keeping him to himself.

Rhea laughed. A full laugh. One she hadn’t had in days. “Can you feel my light in you?”

“I can.” Kelsie spoke up. “From the moment I became a guardian. I could feel your gentle warm light. It smells like you too. I’ll never let this light go out.” Cody nodded in agreement.

“I’ve always felt connected to you Rhea. I just never knew what it was. It wasn’t until I found out about us that everything finally made sense. I knew you weren’t my mate, but I felt incredibly protective over you. Like you were part of me. I guess that is because you were. It’s weird. You never knew something was missing until suddenly you are given the missing piece. Now I couldn’t go back to being just a piece of myself. I know that seems weird coming from me. Someone who is not your mate-” Titus was interrupted by Cody.

“It’s the same for me Titus. Even weirder for me to say because she is my sister. But as her guardian I can feel Rhea. I can sense her feelings. She is part of me and who I am. It isn’t weird at all. I completely get it.” Cody and Titus nodded at each other with a small smile.

“Thank you, all of you, for risking your lives to help me and Lee. I just hope it doesn’t backfire. I don’t know what I will do if I lose any of you. You are all important to me. How could I move forward if something happens?” Rhea said quietly. She had this nagging uneasy feeling inside of her. Like she was about to lose someone precious.

“Rhea. No matter what happens. I have no regrets. You are not forcing me to do anything. I am here fighting because I want to. I love you Rhea. No matter what happens I want you to know that I love you. You will hold on to our memories and keep them precious. Don’t look back with regret. In order to do right by me, by us, you have to look ahead.” Cody watched Rhea’s eyes tear up.

“Don’t talk like I am going to lose you that is too sad.” Rhea turned and leaned her head into Cody.

“Cody is right. No matter what happens you must promise to move forward. Don’t get stuck in the past.” Titus agreed with Cody. He didn’t want Rhea to live with regret.



“We are all here because we have chosen to be here.” Kelsie leaned her head into Rhea and smiled.

“Well, the same goes for all of you. If something happens to me, you have to move forward and protect Elysium for me.” Rhea said with a determined look on her face.

“Deal.” Cody said with a smile. Nothing would happen to Rhea. Not while he was around. He would protect her no matter what. If something happened to her it would be because something already happened to him.

“Okay, enough with the last speech talks. Let’s get some rest. I have a feeling we are going to have an eventful day tomorrow.” Titus said with a sarcastic chuckle.

The four of them laid down around the fire. The stars flickered and the moon illuminated down over them. Tomorrow would be an eventful day. Tomorrow would test Rhea’s resolve to move forward.

Rhea woke to the clawing pain in her head. Lumi was digging at her subconscious screaming to be let out. Rhea sat up and saw Titus, Cody and Kelsie were already standing up peering out into the pale morning light. SNAP

A twig breaking in the distant tree line was heard. They were trapped. On one side of them the river raged angrily and on the other were the sounds of movement just beyond the tree line. Rhea stood up and walked next to the others.

The scent hit her nose first. The strong smell of licorice wafted in the air as loud sounds came closer.

Princesssssss

Rhea clenched her fists and peered out to the trees.

Thank you for making this easy for me princesssss. I was having a hard time waiting for you. And now you have served yourself up to me.

Who says this is going to be easy? Rhea snapped back at the intruding voice.

There are only four of you. A wolfless princess, a water mule, a dragon and ah yessss the little bear cub all grown up.

Rhea smiled. He did not know she had gotten her wolf. He didn’t know that Titus and her were Gemini Twins. He also didn’t know that both Cody and Kelsie were guardians. This would not be as easy as he was thinking.

A black shaggy wolf stepped into view. His eyes were wide and menacing as they locked onto Rhea.

“Don’t think that everything is going to go as you have planned.” Rhea snorted angrily to the half demon.

No, this time it will. This time I made certain I wouldn’t fail. As Abaddon said this a few demon wolves came into view. They weren’t anything major. He must have lost a lot of wolves fighting against her brother, Wyatt. But then two large giant monsters came into view. They had red skin, gray horns and tusks. They were the servants of hell. They were Oni’s. Oni’s were wicked creatures that were used to enact violent punishment and would devour anything living. Some of the foulest in the demon realm. If that wasn’t enough two goblin creatures also came into view. They had white tusks and wore skull necklaces. They were demon witch doctors, demons that were able to summon wide ranges of curses and traps.

THUD THUD THUD

“Oh no.” Rhea gasped as the last creature crept up behind Abaddon. Its large body and blood red skin rose above the demon wolf. It set its commanding gaze on Cody and curled it’s fangs in defiance. It was a hell hound. Just like the one that had almost claimed her Uncle Tristan’s life. The monstrous hound snarled. He had been brought here to take on the guardian. Abaddon thinking there was only one. Rhea looked at the others in her party. There was not fear in their eyes, only determination.

They were outnumbered. But they were strong. A dragon king, two guardians, and a fairy princess. Plus, Titus and her were immune to magic and Cody and Kelsie were strong against it. This was the last step. The last barrier keeping her away from Lee. With that thought she set her gaze back on Abaddon. She looked at him as the one keeping her away from her mate.

Let’s kill him. Lumi growled angrily in Rhea’s head. Book 2

Chapter 96 No More

## Chapter 178 - Dr.Luna

I’ve got the hell hound. I’m not sure how to divide the rest. I am worried about wolfsbane and how it will affect you. Cody turned his head to look at Rhea.

Abaddon is mine. Rhea growled back in their heads. He doesn’t know I have my wolf either.

Titus and I will have to take care of the rest then. Kelsie then eyed up the rest of the army.

Titus, I have Abaddon. Cody is taking on the hellhound that leave the rest for you and Kelsie.

Yeah, sure. Piece of cake. Titus chuckled in her head.

Cody and Kelsie both shifted instantaneously. Their large animals never leaving the enemy. Titus also shifted. His large dragon took immediate command of the area as his burning aura injured the weaker demon wolves.

The demon wolves began to whimper and slinked backwards. The dragon's aura was too intense for them. Abaddon was impermeable to fire and was not bothered by the heat from Titus. Instead, he growled bitterly at the pathetic wolves. They would be no help to him. Yet, he didn't seem too upset either. As if he still had another trump card up his sleeve.

Lastly, it was Rhea's turn. She shifted into her large white wolf. She fixated on Abaddon who looked surprised but not intimidated.

The princess finally got her wolf I see. Very fitting. You are the light to my darkness. We were indeed meant to be paired up together.

I already have a mate!

A dark chuckle rose in her head. Well, he didn't do his job by planting his seed in you. I'll have that honor.

Lumi bared her teeth and growled lowly. How dare anyone talk about mating with her. This demon had another thing coming. She wasn't just an ordinary wolf. She would claim his life and get her mate back.

A loud snarl ripped through the air and the demon hound lunged forward towards Cody. The large bear and hound clashed in a thunderous sound. Their bodies barreled behind them towards the waters edge. There was no time to worry about Cody though. The other creatures began to attack. The witch doctor's held Kelsie in place. They looked to be trying to do the same thing with Titus, but their magic was not working on him. He spewed fire towards the oni's and roared loudly at them. Threatening them to proceed.

Lumi and Abaddon met in the middle. Their teeth gnashed together, and their loud snarls filled the air. The demon was more experienced in fighting than she was and he managed to sink his teeth into her side. Her soft white fur was suddenly soaked in red oozing liquid. Pain shot inside of her as his venom entered her system. It was like molten lava had been injected into her veins. Millions of scorching needles pricked her skin and began torturing her body.

She couldn't focus on the pain now. Instead she used it as a catalyst to attack her target. She needed to take him down fast. She wasn't immune to the wolfsbane like her father was. With every moment that she fought against Abaddon she would continue to weaken under the venom in her system. Lumi tore back into him. Successfully landing several wounds to the half demon. His dark fur was also now shining from the dampness of his blood.

Abaddon leaped backwards and then a blood curdling howl rippled from his throat. He was calling for others to join in on the battle. Soon a new group of demon allies began to trickle in. Abaddon was clever. He had gathered demons that were immune to fire knowing that Rhea had

dragon allies. A few more oni's came into view. Several imps and ogres also were rushing into the battle. That wasn't what made the pit in Rhea's stomach drop. It was the sight of four more hell hounds creeping up in the distance. There weren't upon them yet, but would be soon.

A high-pitched whinny was heard from behind her. She turned to see Kelsie trying to fight off an oni while fighting the magic of being pinned down by the witch doctors. The witch doctors realized that they were not able to use their magic against Titus. And Kelsie was still able to move under just one witch doctor since she was a guardian. So they focused their magic completely on her. Pinning her in place to the earth.

Titus, we have to get rid of the witch doctors! Rhea shouted into his head as Kelsie thrashed again.

Suddenly Cody barged into the oni in order to protect Kelsie. This gave the hell hound the opening he needed and he jumped onto Cody's back sinking his fangs deep into him. Large gaping wounds were left on his back. Blood splattered around him and began to pool onto the ground. A constant stream was trickling from the gashes and dripping over his fur.

Rhea saw the white of Cody's eyes as they rolled back into his head. The frantic screams from Kelsie's horse as she struggled to fight against the magic. Abaddon lunged back into Lumi. She was unable to get to Cody's side. She felt her body weakening from the poison. Her blood boiled as it coursed through her carrying the poison through her body. She blurred for a moment as her vision momentarily darkened. No, she had to fight through the venom. She lunged back into Abaddon with ferocity. She had to get to Cody. Cody needed her.

As the two wolves tangled together a new sound was heard from the riverbank. A handful of kelpies leaped into action. Two of them took protective stances next to Kelsie (they were her parents) and another two headed towards the witch doctors. Dark shadows swooped over them from above. Five large dragons glided down on the fight. Three of them directly intercepted the other hell hounds.

Rhea heard another loud roar from Cody as the hell hound lashed into him again. They were right along the river's edge. Cody's body slumped onto the ground as the red liquid oozed out of him. He was badly wounded the first time when he ignored the hell hound to protect Kelsie. And in his weakened state he was not able to fight off the onslaught of attacks against him. The sad thing is, is that one on one Cody could easily have beaten the hell hound. But he was too distracted, and his focus was pulled away from the fight in front of him.

Cody looked up beneath hooded eyes. The light was beginning to fade. Other dragons had arrived and so did some kelpies. As long as Rhea and Kelsie made it then he had no regrets. Rhea would still have a guardian to protect her, she had Kelsie. He couldn't feel the pain anymore. Only exhaustion. His eyes slowly began to droop. He kept his gaze on his two important girls. I'm sorry. He thought as his eyes closed shut.

A loud splash was heard and two large creatures leaped onto the shore. They were blue with green feet. They looked to be part dragon and part shark. One of them latched onto the hell

hound and the other latched onto Cody. Then they pulled them both back and into the river, disappearing.

NOOOOOO! Rhea screamed in her head. Her attention left Abaddon and he took this moment to bite her back leg injected more venom again.

Lumi's fiery gaze spun to Abaddon. She surged into him. Tapping into a strength she never knew existed. A strong light emanated from her body as she ripped into the demon wolf. She used this burst of strength as she latched onto his back leg. SNAP! The sickening sound of a bone breaking was heard as she crunched through his bone. She immediately jumped back out of range trying to gather her strength. The venom was over taking her body and she was exhausting herself just trying to battle the wolfsbane.

Titus bellowed loudly as he fought against a couple oni's and an ogre. Another dragon joined at his side and aided him in his fight. Then another dragon flew into the sky looking over the river where Cody had disappeared.

Kelsie was still locked in place by the witch doctor's curse. She wouldn't be released until it was dead. The witch doctors were battling for their lives against the kelpies. Kelsie was frantic to get to Cody. Not only was she pinned down but she had sustained severe injuries to her legs.

An earth-shaking roar echoed in the air by one of the three dragons fighting against the hell hounds. They weren't just fighting the hell hounds. Behind the hell hounds was another group of witch doctors. They were using their magic against the dragons.

Rhea felt the shell sealing around her. I need more. I need to be stronger. We have to help them. I need to get to Cody. Goddess, what are we going to do? The blood continued to trickle onto the ground. That was the least of Rhea's worries though. It was the poison that had over taken her body. She was struggling to heal with it in her system. No, not even that. She was only worrying about Cody. In this moment. He was the only one she was thinking about. She kept having flashback of her childhood with him.

The first time she skinned her knee he was the one to pick her up and take care of her. When she wanted a cookie from high up on a shelf, he was the one to climb up and get one for her. When she did something wrong, he was there trying to take the blame on her behalf. He was always there. Always there to comfort her. He was always by her side. She replayed the moment the hell hound sunk his teeth into him. The look of agony on his face. And how his body began to sag lifelessly. Then how he was dragged underwater just moments ago.

A fire ignited inside of her. Her eyes flickered with rage and sorrow. She had enough. This was enough. Abaddon was done messing with her family. She reached inside of herself and called out to one of her fairy powers. She had the ability to disorient, and she would use this as her chance. She needed a moment to distract Abaddon so that she could reach him. She could feel the resolve inside of her building as her magic came forth. She watched as the dark wolf in front of her began to shake his head. This was her chance.

A blue light shone from her necklace as she pushed off from the ground diving into him. A loud rippling growl broke from her throat as she sank her teeth into his neck. His blood splattered over her face and she clamped her jaw tighter with a crushing force. Red pooled to the ground. In a panic, Abaddon latched his fangs into Lumi trying to get her to release her hold. The rich smell of iron wafted in the air as the breeze swirled it in the wind. He didn't want to kill her, but his own life was now in danger. Self-preservation had kicked in with his last attack. The two wolves held each other in their deadly locked hold until finally one let go and sank to the ground lifeless.

The white wolf stood staggering in her blood and his blood. The toxins were flowing through her making her body as she struggled to stay conscious. SNAP. She froze. She began shaking her head back and forth frantically while high pitch yelps left her. The loud shrills of a horse whinnying was also heard. They both felt it. Cody's light had gone out.

Rhea's body shifted back as her necklace took over. The blue light surrounded her body as she screamed out in pain and grief. The ground began to tremble. The clouds swirled angrily as a strong wind picked up. The light grew brighter and brighter until it combusted. The gem dust swirled into the air and spun around in a circle. Rhea's body laid on the ground. Don't move Rhea. Let me work on trying to heal you. Lumi's voice called to her, not that Rhea could move anyways. Her eyes were also beginning to draw close. She was exhausted and in shock. Lumi was drawing in her fairy magic in order to heal her. With the wolfsbane she couldn't do it on her own.

No... Cody. Cody. How can you leave me? Cody please don't leave me. Rhea cried out to his empty link. She never felt such emptiness inside of her. He was gone. He had always been there from the beginning and now... he was gone. No more Cody bear. No more teasing him over his voracious appetite. No more strong warm hugs. He told her to move forward. She wasn't sure how though. Her eyes shut briefly as she let the exhaustion and poison sweep over her. Maybe it would be better if she could join Cody? Then she wouldn't have to feel this pain. Then she wouldn't have to move forward without him.

At this same moment the blue gems began to swirl in a fast counter circle. The fragments began to create a whirlwind of a sapphire color. And then Rhea felt something familiar. She fluttered her eyes open with the last bit of strength to see a large familiar blue dragon emerging from the gem fragments. She felt his connection emerge again in her mind. A blue flame surged from his mouth as a vicious roar left his throat. A bright blinding light flashed through the sky. Rhea could no longer hear the sounds of the battle. Everything started to turn foggy.

As Rhea fell unconscious Leviathan rampaged over the demons.

Book 2

Chapter 97 Time to Heal

## Chapter 179 - Dr.Luna

“It was a good thing we sent Kelsie to let you guys know that we would be running into demons. I don’t know what we would have done if you all didn’t come. She was able to get a few kelpies to help too.” Titus smiled as he wrapped his arm around Lila.

“I’m just glad we left when we did. I couldn’t imagine if I had los..” Lila’s voice trailed off quietly as she noticed the slight movement in front of her. The person was finally stirring.

“Thank goodness she is finally coming to.” Lee said to Titus as a wave of relief washed over him.

Light shined in her eyes. It was flickering so brightly. How annoying. Sounds started to come through as she became aware of her surroundings again. With a gentle inhale she smelled the sweet scent of her mate. She could hear his voice as he talked with Titus. How did she get Lee back? Does that mean they were now connected? What had happened? She began to recall the battle and its events. Cody. Her eyes flashed up and she sat up. Immediately arms were on her shoulders.

“Rhea easy.” Lee’s calm voice called to her.

“Cody.” She turned her head frantically. Please please please please be here.

“Rhea, Lumi has been working tirelessly on healing you and removing the wolfsbane. Thank goodness your healing fairy powers kicked in. It was able to help Lumi heal you through the wolfsbane. If it wasn’t for that.” He paused and let out a sigh. “You need to rest.” Lee’s voice was deep, gentle and calming. But Rhea was not calm.

“Lumi can rest in my subconscious. I need to be up.” She looked over and saw Titus and Lila sitting on her other side. They were in the same spot as when she fell unconscious. Over near the river Kelsie sat all alone staring into the water. Rhea’s heart broke. She knew. Life was never going to be the same.

“Why are we still here?” Rhea whispered. “And where is everyone else?”

“Lumi said we must not move you.” Lee was watching her with deep concern.

“We’ve been here for two days. The others went back to keep an eye on things. We managed to fight off the demons. Levi here came in and basically unleashed his godlike fury on them.” Titus frowned slightly as he held onto Lila’s hand. Rhea was going to need time. Time to heal from this.

“I don’t understand. How did you get here?” Rhea looked over at Lee.

“It turns out that the living gem was the Ocean’s Tear. In order to work your soul had to call out to it. Something that usually happens in a moment of desperation. Which is why a dangerous task

is used to try to get the tear to work. We had it all along.” Lee smiled softly. “The moment it released it broke the seal and I immediately came to you. Our life forces are now connected.”

Rhea wanted to be happy to see Lee. And she was. But she couldn't focus on what should be a happy moment. She was breaking inside. “I need to talk with Kelsie.” Rhea pulled herself to her feet and Lee immediately helped her up.

“Are you sure you should be standing?” Lee asked full of concern.

She gave him a reassuring smile and nodded. Her eyes set on her friend she motioned for Levi to stay there. She needed to see Kelsie alone. She walked over to where Kelsie was blankly staring and looked at the water with her.

“It's my fault. He got injured protecting me. Blame me, Rhea.” Kelsie croaked out when she saw her friend approach.

Rhea wrapped her arms around Kelsie and the two girls softly sobbed. “It isn't your fault. Cody loved you. He only did what was natural.”

“I can't believe he is gone.” The tears streamed down Kelsie's face.

“I don't know how to move forward.” Rhea softly whispered. “I just want to wait here for him. I have never not had Cody in my life. I can't do this Kels.” The tears trickled in a constant pool down her face. She kept wiping the wet crystals, but they kept falling.

“We have each other Rhea. I'm still your guardian. I'll always be by your side now. Cody said to take comfort in the memories. That's what we will do. We will laugh, cry and always remember him.” Kelsie sniffled and pulled back slightly from Rhea. “You know he would be disappointed in us if we couldn't at least do that.”

Rhea nodded. How was she going to tell her family? How could she tell Cody's twin brother? This empty void inside of her was getting bigger as she thought of her family. Could she ever move on from this? She honestly wasn't sure. She wanted to curl up in a dark cave away from the world and hide there.

She took in a deep breath and turned her head to the side. Overlooking where Lee and Titus were standing looking back at them. Beyond them she saw a dark blob lying on the ground. Abaddon.

“We need to return his heart to Olga. A deal is a deal.” Rhea said quietly.

“I'll do it, Rhea.” Kelsie said putting her hand on her shoulder. “I'll take her the heart. I can travel there instantly through the water. Besides, you need to reconnect with Lee. He has been by your side nonstop worrying over you.”

Rhea frowned. “I feel so empty Kelsie. I don't know right now where my heart is.”



Kelsie smiled and patted Rhea. "Rhea. It's okay to be sad and mourn Cody. But don't forget about your mate. Your mate is precious, and you need to appreciate that. Especially since your time with them is not guaranteed. Love him Rhea. Use him for comfort. Our time together with our mates is..." Kelsie sniffled as she broke off.

Rhea leaned into Kelsie. Kelsie had lost her mate. They were the perfect match and now she was stuck being her guardian alone. "I'm so sorry Kelsie. I feel like I just exchanged Lee and Cody. I got Lee back but lost Cody. It's not fair."

"This wasn't an exchange Rhea. Even if Cody knew the outcome, he still would have gone through with this and you know it." She gave Rhea a sad smile. "I'm going to go dig out that demon's heart and deliver it. Then we can go back home." Kelsie walked with Rhea up past the others to where Abaddon's body was laying.

"You really did a number on his body didn't you? I guess werewolves are more savage than I thought." Kelsie elbowed Rhea and tried to force a smile. She knew she would never recover from losing Cody, but she had to put on a strong face for Rhea. She would live with the memory of Cody's love for the rest of her life. And at night, when she was alone she would allow herself to break. "Rhea."

Rhea turned from looking at the dead body to looked at Kelsie.

Kelsie sighed while staring at her friend. "I never got a chance to talk to Cody." Her tears began flowing again. "But I am pregnant."

Rhea began crying and she wrapped her arms around Kelsie. "That's wonderful Kelsie. I know Cody would have been proud."

Kelsie nodded. "I guess he made sure he left us with something to remember him by. I planned to tell him after we got back. If he knew he never would have let me come." She gave Rhea a crooked smile as she wiped her tears.

"Neither of us would have let you come." Rhea corrected her.

Kelsie nodded. She then dug a glass jar out of her bag.

"Hold up." Titus said as he approached them. "I'll do this part for you guys." He plucked the jar from Kelsie's hand. Within a few moments, he handed Kelsie the jar that now contained Abaddon's heart.

"I'll be back soon." Kelsie said and then walked back to the river, jumping in and disappearing.

"Want me to torch the body?" Titus asked looking back at the dead demon wolf.

"Yes, burn it." Rhea said tersely and walked away towards the trees. She placed her hand on a tall maple tree and then leaned her head into her hands. Cody was gone, Kelsie was having his

baby, she had to tell her family, but she also got Lee back. She felt incredibly guilty. She was so focused on getting Lee back that the repercussions punched her in the face.

“Rhea.”

She heard Lee’s unsure voice from behind her. He was standing a few feet behind her but was hesitant to touch her. He knew she was hurting. He was hoping she didn’t push him away. If she needed time, then he would give it to her even though he was dying to hold her.

Rhea turned around and looked into his baby blue eyes. The truth is she missed him so much that it hurt. And even now, she just wanted to be in his arms. She wanted to seek his comfort. She took a slow step towards him and then practically leaped into his arms. His powerful grip rested around her and he bent his head down into the crook of her neck.

“Baby, I’m here. I’m here baby and I am never going anywhere. Forever and always.”

“I don’t know how I am going to move forward or how long it will take, but I will try. Kelsie is pregnant. I am going to be the best aunt I can be.”

Lee’s hands stroked down her back. “There is nothing I can say or do that can make this better. I’m sorry. I wish I could have been able to be here sooner.”

“It’s not your fault Lee. I’m glad it worked. I know it doesn’t seem like it because of everything but I am so thankful to have you back Lee. I need you. I need you so bad it hurts.”

Lee let out a breath of relief as he breathed in her scent. He was afraid she would grow resentful of him. “I need you Rhea. We never have to be apart now. Not even death will keep us apart now that our lives are intertwined.”

Rhea smiled into his chest. “What did happen in the rest of the fight? My body tapped out towards the end.”

“I was so scared when I saw your body lying there covered in blood that I snapped. I just started obliterating all the demons. Titus went and took out the other witch doctors and then Grayson, Weston, and Dex killed the hell hounds. I went to your side immediately but Lumi warned me not to move you. So, I just stayed by your side. It was hard seeing your body like that. Kelsie jumped into the water to look for Cody and Ruby came back saying there was no sight of him anywhere. I have been hoping and dreading for the moment you woke up.” Lee kissed her hair. “Baby, I know you are hurting. That’s okay. Take as much time as you need. I am here for you and I will be here to help you through this.”

“The emptiness feels weird. I was so used to having him always beside me that I honestly don’t know how to move past this. It hurts so bad, Lee.” The tears started trickling down her cheeks. There was an emptiness inside of her where Cody’s energy resided. She would never get used to not having it there.

“After we get back, I’ll bring your family to the west dragon kingdom. That way you all can have a day for closure and comfort one another.” Lee lifted her chin to look into her watery sapphire eyes. “Cody will always live inside of you. He is in your memories and part of the reason you are you.”

“I’m glad I have you with me now Lee.” Rhea smiled as their eyes met. She watched as he slowly began to close the gap between their lips. He stopped for a moment to make sure this was alright with her before proceeding. He then took her lips gently into his. Pouring his love and affection into his slow kiss. For now, he just wanted to be a comfort to her, and he would do whatever he needed to in order for her to heal.

“I love you Rhea. Thank you for freeing me. I’ll spend the rest of our lives together making it up to you.” Lee peck her lips once more and then pulled her body flushed against his holding her tight. She risked so much for him. She even lost her brother fighting to get him back. She deserved everything. Anything he could ever do for her he would. Though nothing could help with the hurt from losing Cody. He could only do everything he possibly could to try to make her life as fulfilling as possible.

“I love you too Lee.” Book 2

Chapter 98 The Fairy's Song

## Chapter 180 - Dr.Luna

Rhea stood up and walked over to the rivers edge. It had been over an hour. Kelsie should have been back a long time ago. Something was wrong. That damn Olga did something to her. I’ll kill her!

“Rhea.” Lee walked up behind her and slid his arms around her waist.

“I have to go. I can’t lose Kelsie too.” She turned her head to look up at Lee. “Maybe I can call for Rowan to take me to the underwater area. It is too far down for me to make it on my own.”

Lee chuckled. “Sweetheart. You do know you are mated to a water dragon, right? I’ll take you.”

“But I thought you couldn’t go down there because of the barrier?” There was a magic barrier so deities couldn't enter.

“That was before. Now that I am linked to you with the Ocean’s Tear, I can go anywhere that you can go. But listen, you don’t have your wolf right now since she is exhausted. So, remember that and let me handle any rough business.” Lee hated taking her into potential danger but at the same time, he knew she couldn't lose Kelsie too.

“Thank you, Lee, for understanding that I need to go for her.”

“We are not losing anyone else.” Lee turned his head to Titus and Lila. “You guys wait here in case Kelsie returns. We are going to see if there is something wrong.”

“Okay, please be careful.” Titus didn’t like the idea of not being near Rhea. The witch doctors were a prime example of how Titus and Rhea were stronger together. They couldn’t even touch them with their magic. Levi was with her though and he knew no one would be able to touch her with a predator like him at her side.

Lee shifted into his dazzling blue dragon. He tilted his head to the side and lifted Rhea up onto his back. Then with a few powerful flaps they lifted off and were soaring in the air. The whole time Rhea was scanning the ground below them for any sign of Kelsie.

“You don’t think she was hurt, do you?” Rhea’s voice cracked thinking how she could lose both Kelsie and her unborn child.

“I’m sure there was just a delay. If anything happened because of the merrow queen there will no longer be a merrow queen.” Lee said darkly.

The nice thing about flying was that what took a whole day for walking only took Lee and his speed fifteen minutes. Lee landed at the bottom of the river falls where Rhea directed and then shifted back to his human form. He immediately scooped Rhea into his arms as she led him down the cavern behind the falls.

Rhea’s heart was racing. There was no sign of Kelsie. Not that she would have seen a sign of her though. Kelsie traveled in the water.

Lee squeezed her shoulder and gave her a reassuring smile. He could hear her heart pounding. Deep down he was concerned. Rhea couldn’t take another blow. He was afraid he would lose her inside of herself. It wasn’t supposed to be like this. Rhea was always supposed to be happy by his side. Indirectly, she was in pain because of him. As much as he needed her maybe he should have kept his distance from her. What am I thinking? I could never stay away from her. I need her too much. I just wish I could make everything better for her. Please let Kelsie be okay.

“It’s down this pool here. Straight down and then there is an area we can breathe underwater.” Rhea pointed to the pond.

“I’ll dive in and shift into my dragon. This tunnel is too small and so is the pond hole. Just jump in and grab onto me. I’ll get you down there.” Lee kissed her forehead and dove into the water. The moment he did Rhea could see the ripple in the water from him shifting.

Kelsie? If you can hear me, I am coming for you. Rhea tried to link with her friend but had not been able to get through. But she could still feel her, so she knew she was alive. She dove into the cold water, grabbing onto Lee who swiftly made his way to the bottom.

Rhea stood inside and breathed freely as Lee shifted back at her side. Surprisingly, he was faster than Kelsie underwater.

“I can feel her Lee. She is down here. Why can’t I link to her?”

“It must be the merrows barrier.” Lee grabbed onto Rhea’s hand. “Stay close.”

Rhea pulled Lee along quickly. And before long she had broken into a run. She had to get to Kelsie. When they approached the coral palace the guards immediately stood aside allowing them to pass. Rhea didn’t hesitate, though Lee was more reserved and cautious. They were expecting Rhea. He tugged her arm back and wrapped his arm around her. He was determined to keep her safe.

The other guards opened the double doors to the throne room and they swiftly entered. Rhea’s eyes darted around the room. In the far corner she saw Kelsie and Olga who looked up at them. Olga wasn’t surprised at all. She had been expecting them.

“Kelsie!” Rhea yelled as she dragged Lee over to her. She wrapped her arms around her, and her voice trembled. “I was so worried.”

Kelsie had tears in her eyes. “We’ve been waiting for you.” She whispered out.

Rhea looked at her confused and then to Olga. Olga smiled and looked at Lee. “Well, this is the first time a deity has been able to enter my chambers. Amazing what a little bit a destiny and magic can do.” She chuckled and then looked at Rhea.

“You managed to complete your task. I knew you would be able to do it. I have something for you.” Olga said and then took a few steps backwards. She slid a door open to reveal Cody’s body laying on a table. Rhea gasped and raised her hand over her mouth. “My two water beasts, Cetus and Cater, brought me back two interesting creatures.” She nodded her head over at the hell hound that was now lifeless on the ground.

Rhea walked up to him and grabbed onto his hand. “I’m so sorry Cody.” She furrowed her eyes and then looked back. “I don’t understand…”

Olga smiled. “Don’t you?”

Rhea turned and looked back at Cody. Lee walked up to her side then and put his hand on her shoulder.

“He… he’s alive?” Lee asked and then turned to see Rhea’s shocked face.

“I can’t feel him though. I don’t understand.” Rhea looked at Cody and squeezed his hand.

“The dark priestess likes to see people overcome through pain. However, she crosses the line when she thinks she can pull the strings where my princess is concerned. Kali, the dark priestess,

gave me the task for you to destroy Abaddon. I was afraid of what casualties could occur because of this. So, I sent Cetus and Cater to watch the battle. In the event one of you was taken down they would bring their body back along with a sacrifice.” She motioned her head over at the hell hound. “The way my magic works is a life must be exchanged for a life. That is as far as I can take it though. It is up to you, Rhea. You must make him your guardian again.” Olga stood at Kelsie’s side and patted her shoulder. “The little kelpie here refused to leave his side. She knew you would come for her. So, we have been waiting for you to do what only you can do.”

“Wait a minute. Her wolf is dormant right now. She just woke up from exhaustion and healing. This isn’t safe for her.” Lee shook his head. He wanted Cody back but not at Rhea’s risk.

Olga clicked her tongue. “How do I know more than you? Deities. This only proves they are too stuck on themselves to learn anything.” Olga shook her head. “You two are connected now. That doesn’t just mean your lifeforce. Your energy is also connected. She only needs to tap into that. She can see it. Rhea has the gift. All the fairy royalty does. They can see energy and its color.”

“But I am unsure what I need to do.” Rhea squeezed Cody’s hand and closed her eyes. She had to bring him back but how?

“That’s because you haven’t learned it yet. Us fairies continually adapt and learn. We are always growing stronger because of this. Dig inside of yourself Rhea. And search for what you need.” Olga smiled and nodded her head.

Rhea placed both of her hands on Cody. She could feel his shallow heartbeat. Just like with the curses she would search inside of Cody. Closing her eyes and diving into his subconscious. She was swimming in darkness. The sounds around her vanished. A blue light swirled around her. It was Lee’s energy keeping her company. Deeper she dove. Her eyes adjusted and she saw a gentle orange flicker.

Cody was wrapped up in a ball as his orange light flickered around him. She reached out to touch him as she did his eyes shot up in shock looking at her.

“Rhea? No! No Rhea, not you.” Cody cried as he stood up. “You can’t be dead.”

Rhea wrapped her arms around him and cried. “I’m not dead. And neither are you.” She felt his arms wrap around her. The tears trickled out harder. She thought she would never feel his touch again.

“I love you Cody. I thought I would never see you again. I thought I lost you.” Rhea croaked as she began to ugly cry.

Cody held onto her. He didn’t know how he was alive or where they were at now. All he knew was he needed her too.

“What happened?” His tender voice asked.

“Olga saved you. She exchanged the hell hound’s life with yours. So, you are alive now, but I have to bring you back.”

“And where are we?” Cody chuckled.

“We are inside of you.”

“Okay. That is sort of gross and disturbing on a whole other level.” Cody teased and Rhea giggled. Even his lame cheesy jokes were music to her ears.

Rhea pulled back and wiped her eyes. “I’m going to bring you back now.”

Cody smiled at her. “How are you going to do that?”

Rhea smiled brightly. “By making you my guardian again.” When Cody died his connection as her guardian faded. Now, she had to awaken that part of him again. The magic inside of him that her mother had placed. She had to call out to it. And she knew exactly how to do it. She would sing the song of remembrance. She grabbed onto Cody’s hands and searched for the song in her heart. The one that her soul knew. The song that would connect her to her mother to activate her fairy magic.

The light that dances in the sun

It lurks in the leaves before they fall

In every corner of the world

You’re dancing and listening to my song

The flowers that bloom, it blooms for you.

The song brings you closer towards me.

Almost connecting our hearts as one

We are singing together, though distantly

The voices are calling to me

From way over yonder, from far I can hear

Voices of laughter

Voices of singing

Echoing voices on the wind

There's a voice calling out from far away

It guides me onward everyday

As if it smiles as if it sings

The sound of wind echoes

Your voice that it brings

In happiness and in sadness

We reach for the distance

The uniting of our lands

Your hand in my hand

Together, under the same sun

Can you hear the song I sing?

Bringing us closer to everything

Now the moment has come at last

Awakening the magic formed in the past

A bright light shot up and Cody's bright orange glow surged. The light pushed Rhea out of the darkness and flung her out of Cody's subconscious. She opened her eyes. The tears were still pooling from her face. She felt Lee's arm tighten on her, but all eyes were glued to Cody.

It started with a small twitch in his hand and then his eyes slowly opened. Cody looked around and smiled.

"What? You are crying out here too?" Cody chuckled as he looked at Rhea. He adjusted himself and sat up. Kelsie dove into him sobbing and Cody wrapped his arms around her. "I'm sorry for worrying you Kels." He softly cooed to her as he held onto her body tightly.

Rhea leaned into Lee and cried into his chest. She could feel Cody's light again. He was back.

"You shouldn't be crying now. He's back and okay." Lee smiled as he held onto his fairy tightly. The two men looked at each other and exchanged a smile.

"Glad to see you are back with us Levi." Cody smiled while Lee laughed.



“Glad to see you are back with US Cody.” Both Lee and Cody chuckled as they held onto their sobbing girls.

This was a close call for the group. It was something that brought them even closer together. Their bond had strengthened. And a new appreciation for one another was formed.

Kelsie leaned back and looked up at Cody. “Before anything else happens I have something to tell you.” Kelsie watched him looking down at her curiously and she smiled.

“I’m pregnant.”

Book 2