

Dr. Luna

#

The Vampires Promised Bride Bonus Chapter 1

Willa walked in with a long lacey white wedding dress. She brought it up to Lucy and laid it out across the bed.

"I remember when I wore this dress." Willa said reminiscing on her distant past. A faint smile spread over her face as she looked longingly in the air. She shook her head slightly and sighed, "It is tradition for this gown to be worn by the future queens." "It is beautiful." Lucy reached out and touched the lacey dress admiring it. "I just wish my mother could at least be here..."

"As if I would miss it." Freya said as she shut the door.

"MOM! What are you doing here? I thought you weren't allowed to come." Lucy ran into her mother's arms and turned to look at Willa.

"We are bending the rules at the very least we thought they should be able to be here too." Willa smiled widely. The royal vampire wedding followed strict traditions and one of them was the wedding was only for the nobles living in their vampire kingdom. But Derek had planned something special for Lucy. Breaking tradition. And part of that surprise was her parents being here.

"Your father is here too. He is talking with Alaric." Freya reached up and brushed her daughter's hair behind her ear.

"How is Aiden and Diana?" Lucy asked and noticed a slight flicker in her mother's eyes.

"Today is about you, Lucy." Freya smiled. "Don't worry about them they are fine. Come on let's see what you look like in your dress. I bet Derek will be completely stunned."

Lucy sighed and nodded her head following behind her mother. It wasn't long before the two women had Lucy stripped and dolled up in her wedding gown. The dress flowed behind Lucy with a long delicate train. She looked in the mirror and marveled at the beauty of the dress. She turned her head to see tears in her mother's eyes.

"Awe, mom." Lucy said giving her a faint smile.

"You look so beautiful Lucy. My baby is getting married and will be having her own baby shortly." Freya hugged Lucy tightly. "Enjoy every moment, Lucy. Life goes by so fast. One day you are getting married by your mate and then you blink and you are helping your daughter put on her wedding dress." She stood back and held onto Lucy's hands smiling at her. "I'm so proud of you. Enjoy today it is all about you and Derek."

"Thanks, mom." Lucy wiped her watery eyes and took in a deep breath.

"Okay, no more tears it is time to finish your hair and make-up with the final touches." Willa pulled up a chair and motioned for Lucy to have a seat.

The whole moment felt so surreal. She was about to get married... to the man she loved more than herself. At the beginning of this summer this was the day she had been dreading and now... she couldn't imagine feeling happier. She was about to marry her soul mate. Her connection to Derek started out as an arranged marriage but who would have ever imagined it would have turned into something so much more? She rested her hand over her little growing bundle and smiled. She was where she was supposed to be.

"Would you quit pacing? You are making me dizzy." Jasper chuckled as he straightened out his own black suit jacket.

"Right, I don't get what you are so nervous about. I mean you already figured out how to make a baby and perform sooo..." Justice smirked making Jasper snicker quietly.

"Careful, Justice... you can't talk about these things in front of the kid." Jasper pointed his finger in the direction of Aba. "Don't worry sonny we will explain it all when you get older."

Aba snorted and turned to glare at Jasper. "What are you going to teach me?" He looked him over and chuckled. "I guess you can teach me the things not to do in life." "Children shouldn't talk like that to their elders." Jasper gave Aba a cheeky grin.

"It isn't too late to run Derek. I'll let you have a head start and hold Lucy back before she hunts you down." Justice watched Derek finally stop pacing to turn and smile at him.

"I'd never run from her. This is the last step for us to finalize everything completely. I just can't stand being away from her right now. You know she needs me. She needs my energy. What if she is getting tired? What if she needs my support... Maybe I should go and check on her..." Derek took a couple of steps towards the door when it opened and Wyatt and Alaric came in.

"Making a break for it I see?" Wyatt chuckled and patted Derek on the shoulder.

"I just need to make sure Lucy is okay..."

"Relax she is fine. And it is time for you to see her anyways." Alaric walked in front of his son and looked him over. "You are going to make a great king one day." He wrapped his arms around Derek. "Now, let's take you to your bride."

"Dad let you come here without him?" Justice asked and watched Wyatt chuckle.

"Hardly. He came." Wyatt shook his head with a smile looking at Derek. "They all came."

"Wait what?!" Justice asked with his brows raised.

"Derek made arrangements for Lucy's close family to be able to attend. I guess he likes to rock the traditions we were built upon." Alaric chuckled patted Derek on the shoulder. It was a sweet surprise he had hidden from his mate. Which was not something easy to do when they shared their thoughts together.

"We wouldn't want to miss seeing this. Freya and I are so happy you have invited us to attend. Though it isn't like I have to give her away... she was already his the moment she found out they were mates." Wyatt looked at Derek and smiled. "And I am glad it all worked out like that. I can leave her with you comfortably."

"Thank you. I'll always treasure her."

Lucy walked out of the room with Freya and her eyes widened in shock.

"Luce Luce!" Aiden grinned lifting her up in his arms holding her tight.

"I thought..." Lucy started.

"Seems like that mate of yours thought I should be here to see my sister get married," Aiden said with a wide grin. "So I hear I'm going to be an uncle!"

Lucy nodded her head beaming in happiness. "Where is Diana?"

"She is here. She is already seated with Gia and Kurt. But I needed to sneak off and see you..." His gaze turned serious. "We haven't gotten to talk properly after everything that happened... Lucy... thank you for what you did for me. Diana is... she is precious to me. I only have her because of you..."

Lucy shook her head. "Don't Aiden. It's okay and I am... I am really good. I can't wait to get to know her. I know life has been really hectic between us lately. But we will make time soon."

"I miss you Luce. It's a good thing I have Diana... otherwise not having you around would be incredibly hard." Aiden hugged Lucy tightly once more before pulling back.

"Okay I don't want to make you late. I'll be watching you... you have a good mate. I know he will take good care of you."

"Thank you." Lucy's eyes watered slightly as she watched her brother walk away. There was rarely a time before when they were apart. They even shared the womb together. It was an adjustment but once things calmed down they would work on seeing each other more. They both had things to adjust to in their lives.

Freya wrapped her arm around Lucy and the two of them walked down the hallway following Willa. When they reached the end Mira was there waiting for them. She bowed her head slightly and opened the doors leading out into the garden. "What's this?" Lucy asked. Last she heard she was supposed to get married in their special room set aside for extraordinary ceremonies. It was not large and could only hold the noble families for the occasion.

Willa turned and smiled. "We had a change of plans. Derek requested the ceremony to be held out in the garden party area... we have more guests than we anticipated."

Lucy looked at Willa in confusion as she followed her through the floral walkway. Big tall green bushes surrounded the party area and the only entrance was under a white arbor that was intertwined with flowers. Under that arch, her father stood there waiting. "This is where I leave you. I love you my Lucy." Freya squeezed Lucy tight and left with Willa walking through the archway.

"Daddy." Lucy walked into her father's arms.

Wyatt held her tight in his strong embrace. In his eyes, she was still his sweet little baby girl asking for another bedtime story. He remembered her telling him that she was going to marry Derek and solidify the treaty with the vampires. She said she and Derek got along well and that it would always be that way. It turned out to be even better than just 'that way'.

"It seems like only yesterday I was holding you in my arms rocking you to sleep. And soon you will be rocking your own baby to sleep." Wyatt's voice was a bit hoarse as his eyes teared up.

"Thank you for being the best daddy I could have ever asked for." Lucy smiled looking up at him. "Ready to walk me down the aisle."

Wyatt chuckled. "Never. I'll never be ready for this day... but you have a good one Lucy. And I know I can trust you to him... but I'll always be the one who loved you first." He leaned in and kissed her forehead. "You will always be able to depend on me... no matter what." He grabbed her arm and wrapped it around his. He gave her a warm smile and slowly began to walk her through the arch.

Lucy listened as the music started to play Canon in D her eyes looked around all the people standing and she gasped. Her whole family was there. Her bottom lip trembled and Wyatt patted her hand gently. They were all here... they all had come to see her get married. A wave of love washed over her that was coming from her mate. She switched her focus down at the end of the aisle where Derek's eyes were locked onto her.

His eyes were watering and his thoughts of how lucky he was pooled into her. It was like time was standing still as she moved closer and closer towards him. The world vanished and all there was in the whole world was Derek.

Wyatt placed her hand into Derek's and went to take his spot next to Freya. Lucy and Derek's eyes stayed glued to the other. Their thoughts continued to reach out through their bond as their emotions poured freely.

"Lucy," Derek smiled raising her fingers to brush against his lips briefly. "You were mine from the moment you were born. It was always you. And as I grew I fell in love with you and knew I needed to protect you. I might have made some dumb decisions." He chuckled giving her a sheepish smile. "But I know there is no one else I would rather spend eternity with. You are the one who makes my heart beat. You are the one who gives my lungs their oxygen. I love you with my entire being. You are the only one who can ever make me complete. I have already given you my heart...my eternity...and I will continue to give you my everything."

Lucy's eyes teared up and she steadied her breath for her confession turn.

"Derek, we had a lot of misunderstandings in the beginning. And we had an interesting start when we first discovered we were mates." She listened to his sweet warm chuckle. "Having you as my soulmate is the greatest gift the gods have ever given me. Regardless of the heartache and pains they cause us you are enough to make me overlook it all. I not only choose this union for our species. But I am choosing it as a woman who is deeply in love with her man, my soulmate, and my everything. There is no one else I would ever want to have by my side eternally but you. I love you more than I can ever say but because of our soulmate bond, I luckily don't have to. Because you can feel it. I promise you that you will always feel my love for you for all eternity." Derek leaned in crashing his lips against Lucy unable to hold back any longer. Their public confessions and their inner feelings had them both overwhelmed. His lips greedily devoured her lips as he pressed her body into his.

"Your union is approved and I was about to say you may now seal your commitment with an eternal kiss but I guess you beat me to it." A deep voice boomed making them both turn their heads. This wasn't the officiant who was there earlier. The man smirked. "Just your deity Rogio here. You know one of those gods that cause you heartache and pain." He said with a wink. "I'm just here to bless the union. Well, it is blessed. We are done here for today." And just like that, he vanished. "Even on our wedding day..." Derek said in annoyance.

Lucy giggled and leaned into Derek's embrace. "I think that is common practice."

Derek gripped her into his side and turned her to face the crowd.

"All hail the crown prince and princess of the vampires!" Alaric cheered loudly making the crowd erupt in cheers as Derek led Lucy down the path.

Everyone was seated now at long tables as they waited for Lucy and Derek to start the dancing.

"Oh my gosh, he is sooo cute!" Alexis squealed and pinched Aba's cheek lightly.

Aba growled and furrowed his brows.

"He should have been the ring bearer." Jasper teased making the werebear's eyes shoot daggers at him.

"Just because I am in a child's body doesn't mean I am a child." Aba huffed out in agitation.

"That's right you are a big boy now huh?" Jasper said in a teasing tone.

"Oh here they come!" Raine clapped her hands together as everyone turned their attention to Lucy and Derek walking out to the dance floor.

Derek spun Lucy delicately as the music started to play. He swayed with her slowly to the melody, her eyes glowing up at him.

"We finally got here Lucy..." Derek leaned in brushing his lips over her forehead.

"We did. And now we have eternity together."

"And I will show you every day how much I love you." Derek twirled her out and back into him.

"I love you Derek."

"I love you too... my little mate." He pulled her close pressing his lips into her sweetly as they slowly swayed together. The two of them were bound together in every way imaginable, for now and forever.

The Vampires Promised Bride Bonus Chapter 2

Lucy let out a quiet happy sigh and Derek jumped turning to her.

"Do you need anything? Are you feeling alright?" Derek asked nervously making Lucy roll her eyes and laugh. The couple had stolen a quiet moment away from the rest of the family to have a special intimate moment to themselves while they went to check if Lilly had arrived yet. "Derek, how many times are you going to do this? You are my soul mate which means you already know how I am feeling." Lucy watched a crooked grin reach his lips.

"I can't help it..." Derek said with an adorable play-pouting face. He wrapped his arms around her pressing his lips against hers. Sweet delicious sparks greeted them both. A feeling that would never get old between them. "I just want to take care of you." "You are. I'm fine." Lucy smiled up at him. The sounds of distant arguing echoed down the hall and she giggled. They were at it again.

"I can't believe you did that!" Sabrina growled as she stormed down the hall.

"Ha, you can't?! Well, let me make things clearer for you. Until one of us finds our mate you are mine. And if we never find our mates you are mine. I am not going to tolerate you flirting with other men like that. And I'll continue to threaten every man with their life if they look at you." Ryan growled stepping into Sabrina backing her into the wall.

"Isn't this problematic, leader?" Sabrina said the last word with sarcasm. "I mean if you are hooking up with me it will look like I would be getting favoritism."

Ryan's lips curled upwards. His hand shot out grabbing her waist possessively while his other hand reached up to cup her chin. "You'll be getting favoritism but only when it comes to sharing our beds. I'll be just as hard on you and maybe even harder..." His amber eyes darkened as his usually fun demeanor vanished. He growled lowly and pushed into her leaving no gap between them. "I will not tolerate you touching or flirting with another man. You are my exclusive partner from now on. No more catting around." Sabrina's breath hitched as he growled with his hot air hitting her lips. She looked back at him. "Don't I have a say in this?"

Ryan let out a dangerous low chuckle. "You had a choice all the way until you started involving my bed in your games. Now you don't." He crashed his lips against hers greedily tugging on her bottom lip with his teeth, punishing her drawing droplets of blood. The warm liquid oozed out and onto her lips, he continued to devour. He pulled and suckled on her lip before thrusting his tongue inside of her mouth. He listened to her moans as her body responded to the demands, he was making of her. He pulled back panting against her mouth still holding her face captive. His eyes returned to his amber color and a faint smile reached his lips.

"I know you like your fight, Rina... I know you keep a strong exterior and keep everyone at arm's length. But I know what you really want. You want someone who will take charge of the situation and protect you. You want someone who will pleasure and punish you." His eyes wandered to her lips as his thumb brushed over them. "And you want a man to be so possessive over your body that he will kill to keep you to himself.

Well, I am right here. I'm all of that... for you. You want to fight with me... then fight with me. Look at me and only me. And move in with me... even if it means we fight every night until we reach the sheets... and even fighting in the bed can be fun." His voice was low and husky as he listened to her staggering breath. "Rina..." He watched her eyes lift up to him as her chest continued to rise and fall.

"Why? Why me?" Sabrina asked quietly.

"You know why... you feel this between us too. This chemistry... and I'll be damned if I let it go. I want this fire you bring. And fighting with you... Mmmm I always end up thinking of all the ways I will punish and pleasure you. I want you only ever screaming out my name." His eyes began to fill with lust as his grip on her tightened.

Sabrina swallowed hard as she blinked looking into his eyes. "I thought this was just something we were doing for fun... just to pass the time. Not to become replacement mates... I don't know if I want to get into something that deep when it isn't going to last." "Then it should last." Ryan's gentle baritone voice said confidently.

Her eyes widened and she was looking back into his smiling eyes. He shrugged slightly keeping his gaze on her. "Rina... I'm serious about you. Why not? We can decide our own destiny and we are perfect for each other..." He could see the way her eyes looked at him hesitantly. She wasn't on the same page that he was. He cleared his throat and nodded. "I understand if you don't want to commit... if you want to continue to wait for your fated mate."

Ryan released his grip on her and took a step back. He rubbed the back of his neck looking at her. "Think about it... okay? I know we can be good together. And you know it too..." When she didn't say anything, he nodded his head slowly and walked away from her. This wasn't something he would pressure her about but he felt a pain inside of him as he walked away. She didn't reject him but it certainly felt like it. Maybe he came on too strong but it was how he was. He walked aimlessly down the hall and stopped when he saw two sets of feet in front of him. He glanced up to see Lucy and Derek standing there.

"Did you guys hear all of that?" He frowned slightly and watched them both nod their heads.

"Give her some time. That was a big thing to spring on her like that. Let her think about it and what it means." Lucy smiled and he nodded his head slowly.

"I know..." Ryan cleared his throat. "So, when are your grandparents coming? Isn't the big ultrasound today?" He said trying to change the topic.

"Justice and Jasper are waiting for them in the garden now." Derek looked down and smiled at Lucy. "We are going to project the ultrasound up on the screen in our room and you are welcome to come and join us if you want."

Ryan shook his head and chuckled. "I appreciate it but I think I'm going to go for a walk and clear my head if I am not needed here for anything."

"No, go on ahead." Derek watched Ryan nod his head and walk away. He let out a sigh thinking how problematic this situation would be. If this went sour, they both couldn't stay on as elite soldiers. He would have to let Sabrina go. He could hear Lucy pouting in protest over it and he turned to give her a reassuring smile.

"We will only act if we need to. Don't worry about it. This one isn't our problem to deal with my love."

"Luce!" Justice grinned widely walking with Aba, Jasper, Lilly, Tyler, and Tristan. "The cavalry has arrived." "Are your little legs getting tired buddy? You want a piggyback ride?" Jasper teased brushing against Aba.

"Quite the court jester your father hired," Aba said looking up at Derek in annoyance.

"Now now... call them momma and dada. Come on fella you can do it... mmmmmooooommmmaaaa, say it." Jasper teased.

"Jasper, will you quit." Lucy scolded.

"Uh oh. Can't go picking on momma's baby boy." Jasper teased again with a chuckle.

Lilly cleared her throat and pulled Lucy into her arms. "How have you been feeling? How is your energy level?"

"I've been feeling good. Derek is never away from me for that long so I don't know what my tolerance is before I start feeling drained." Lucy gave Derek a side glance to which he only gave a sheepish smile to.

Lilly frowned. "Well, I would have liked to know what your tolerance of being away from each other is. It was two hours for me and that rapidly declined. Of course, I had twin energy suckers inside of me. But this also can show how powerful your little one is inside of you." She looked over at Tyler who was carrying her doctor bag. That bag had seen a lot of years.

"Where are Destiny and Harley? Are they already here?" Tristan asked.

"They are in the room with my parents." Justice turned to see Tyler wave the bag gently in the air.

"So where do you want to set up at?" Tyler asked looking up at Lucy and Derek.

"This way, follow me," Derek said as he led them down the restricted hall to his room. He opened the door showing Harley, Destiny, Jason, Jin, Freya, Wyatt, Alaric, and

Willa. They were sitting and chatting waiting patiently for Lilly to arrive. "You guys made it!" Wyatt said standing up to greet his parents and uncle.

"You ready to hear your grandbabies heartbeat? It is just as wonderful as hearing your baby's heartbeat." Tyler said slapping Jason on the back and grinning over at Wyatt.

"Lucy! This is so exciting!" Destiny said running up grabbing her hands. "We are going to hear our baby's heartbeats together."

"Destiny let's do you first... come and sit on the couch over here. And Lucy let's get you situated on the bed and get this stuff hooked up to the monitors." Lilly handed some things to Tristan and Tyler who were well versed on how to use the equipment. Everyone gathered in front of the monitors with all eyes on the screen except for Derek who sat next to Lucy's side rubbing her shoulders gently. His eyes were still very much on her. And Harley sat down on the couch letting Destiny lay in his chest while he held her. Lilly put some gel on Destiny and moved the wand gliding it over her stomach. The gentle humming of a heartbeat echoed over the speakers. She grinned widely and turned to look at Destiny. "That is your little one right there. Congratulations!" Harley hugged Destiny closely and kissed the side of her head. "I thought I was already the luckiest man in the world... gods Destiny you keep making me so happy..." His eyes began to water and her eyes teared up with his.

"You are the one always making me happy. Even putting up with my moodiness like a champ. I love you, Harley." Destiny said sweetly reaching up to touch his cheek.

"So, Grandpa Jason and Grandma Jin?" Justice said with a chuckle.

"I don't care what my grandbabies call me. I am just so excited!" Jin squealed out as she bit into some imported chocolate that Harley had brought her.

"Okay, Lucy's turn." Destiny turned to her cousin excitedly.

Lilly put some gel onto Lucy's exposed stomach and gently glided the probe over her skin. They were all waiting quietly listening for the sound of a little heartbeat or two. Expecting the sound, they had just heard. Yet, silence came from the screen. Lilly lifted her head up to look at the monitor and frowned concentrating as she moved the glider again.

"Did you guys hear all of that?" He frowned slightly and watched them both nod their heads.

Lucy immediately began getting anxious and Derek mentally tried to soothe her with positive thoughts and emotions to calm her down. "Is something wrong?" Derek asked noticing the perplexed look on Lilly's face.

"It's..." Lilly shook her head. "Something is blocking me." She sat the wand down and placed her hands onto Lucy's stomach. "What is the matter little one?" She asked out loud.

"Aba, will you come over here." Lilly watched as Aba walked closer over to the bed. "Place your hand right here please. Good just like that. Now close your eyes and feel for your charge's energy. See if you can connect with her and see what she is doing."

Aba felt for the light he knew he was connected to but furrowed his brows as it was covered with darkness. He let out a low growl at the dark energy and felt it begin to retreat as he pushed his own energy forward. He felt his light touch another light and they intertwined together. A warm sensation came over him and he suddenly felt much calmer. It was like being enveloped by a gentle warm breeze and a small smile spread over his face. He opened his eyes and nodded his head. "You will be able to see now." Aba said as Lilly began moving the wand again.

"Was that her blocking us?" Lilly asked feeling a bit confused because the energy didn't feel like fairy magic.

"No, that wasn't her shield," Aba said with a small smile. The soft thudding sound came over the monitor and everyone glanced up. The rapid humming was joined by another faint thudding sound. "It was the other baby's shield." "Congratulations, it is twins." Lilly beamed happily.

"I thought only the Locke men were gifted with having twins but it looks like Derek has some surprises of his own," Wyatt said with excited happiness.

"Wait a minute so the other baby was shielding them?" Lucy asked reaching her hand down to her stomach.

"Yes, it is quite the contrast of energy in there. The fairy princess is a light warm energy, and the other baby has a powerful dark energy. It felt like a dark cloud that was protecting the two of them. It was a vampire ability for sure... there was nothing fairy about that energy." Aba said and Lilly nodded her head in agreement.

"If it was fairy magic, I could have manipulated it. But this magic was strong enough to continue to block me. You have some very strong little ones growing inside of you."

"Hmmm, it sounds like one of them is a shadow manipulator like me," Willa said thoughtfully thinking about the energy described.

"Yes, it did feel similar to yours but... maybe already stronger," Aba said making everyone look at the screen quietly.

"Powerful unions create powerful children. And usually, it is to serve a purpose." Lilly said quietly looking over at Destiny and Harley. Harley was the son of an original demon

his child would no doubt also be incredibly powerful on its own. But Destiny herself was powerful. There was no telling how strong their child would be as well. "The whole Locke family is the product of a greater purpose. I would venture to say these children will also have an important role to play in the future."

"Well, whatever that future is they have powerful family and allies that will help them along the way," Lucy said with a smile as Derek leaned his head into hers.

"That's right. We don't have an incredibly powerful family for nothing." Destiny giggled as Harley squeezed her lightly. He stayed with his arms wrapped around her and kissed the back of her head. No matter what the future brought he would do everything to protect his family and his mate. Damn the world, he would sacrifice everything as long as they were safe. Destiny was his happiness and for her, he would do anything.

Lucy and Derek gazed into each other's eyes feeling the love and excitement pouring out of both of them. Derek's eyes watered as he thought about how happy Lucy has made him. She has given him everything. Not only was she the love of his life but she was carrying his children. He couldn't believe he was so lucky that he would spend eternity with her.

Lucy felt the same way as Derek did. She had worried she would end up living in a loveless marriage for eternity. Instead, she found the love of her life and a soul mate. He not only gave her unconditional love but is giving her a family of her own. She knew there were still problems they would face in the future. There was still the uncertainty with the premonition about Alexis and the distant war. But whatever it was they would never have to face it alone. Destiny was right... they didn't have an incredibly powerful family for no reason. They had a wonderful family. A family that was connected by their strong love for each other. And it was this bond that continued to connect them. No matter the danger they would be there for one another.

The Vampires Promised Bride Bonus Chapter 3

"Sabrina! Pay Attention!" Tonya yelled giving the woman just enough time to dodge. Well, enough time to dodge most of the attack but still she was grazed by the elite strike. "What are you doing? Your mind isn't focused on this." Tonya ran to Sabrina's side and knelt beside her checking her injuries. Sabrina lay on the ground panting with a mouth full of dust. Liquid trickled down the side of her arm dripping into the dirt below her. She felt warm hands land onto her, and she turned her head slightly to see concerned amber eyes focused on her. "Are you okay?" Ryan asked and she nodded her head meekly.

"I'm fine. I just misjudged it." Sabrina lied. She wasn't focusing. She had been staring at Ryan in the distance during her sparring session. He helped her up to her feet with his hands resting on her waist for a moment. As he looked her over, she felt her cheeks

flush remembering what he had talked to her about just last week. He let out a sigh and his hand slowly raised to the wound on her arm.

"This is a careless mistake. This is elite battle practice. Not paying attention will get you seriously hurt." Ryan frowned as he released her arm. "Are you feeling alright? I think you should take the rest of the day off from training for today." "No, I am fine. I don't need the day off." Sabrina quickly shook her head adamantly refusing.

"No, I've decided. You are done here today. I expect you to come back tomorrow mentally ready. Zach, come and spar with Tonya. And don't go easy on her just because she is your mate. The purpose of these sessions is to prepare us and make us stronger." Ryan's eyes lingered on Sabrina for another moment. He wanted to take her somewhere private and look her over properly. Honestly... he wanted more than that. But it has been a week since he confessed his feelings to her. He asked her to be his chosen mate and she basically rejected him with her eyes. She has avoided him ever since. He was heartbroken... he thought they had something special between them. Hell, he still thinks there is something special between them. But this wasn't something he could force on her. If she didn't want it there was nothing he could do.

"Get some rest, Sabrina. You are dismissed for the day." Ryan turned away from her and forced himself to walk away. He was really concerned about her, and he was sure his feelings were showing. He couldn't treat her differently as her leader. He needed to be strict with her just like he would with everyone else. Besides, he needed to start thinking about her as if she was just a normal member of his elite team.

Damn, that part was going to be hard. Especially when he had these crazy emotions bursting for her. She wasn't just a fling for him. He loved her. But he had to let her go. Thinking about that made his chest burn and it felt like he couldn't get oxygen into his lungs. How was he going to let her go when he wanted her so bad?

He stood in front of Chaz ready to begin the next sparring session.

"Show me what you've got. And make sure you don't lose focus for a moment. We don't need any more accidents today." Ryan put his game face on as Chaz brought forth his elite skill. His elite skill fortified his body making him deadly in hand-to-hand combat. Just what Ryan needed to take his focus off of Sabrina.

Sabrina walked into the castle and began to make her way to the elite soldier's quarters. As she walked, she saw a familiar person walk down the hall and smile up at her. "Sabrina!" Lucy called and walked up to her.

"I'm surprised to see you alone." Sabrina wiggled her brows playfully at Lucy who giggled.

"Derek is getting my plate of food prepared in advance otherwise he would be attached right here. Justice, Jasper, and Aba are having another training session." Lucy looked at

the dried blood on Sabrina's arm and frowned. "What happened?" She asked as she pointed to the already healed wound.

"Just a moment of carelessness. So, I got booted from practice today." Sabrina shrugged but Lucy continued to drill into her with her green eyes.

"Thinking about something else..." Lucy said studying Sabrina's face. "Like maybe... Ryan?" She watched as her eyes widened a bit and a small smile spread over Lucy's lips. "Can I just say something?" She asked and watched Sabrina nod her head slowly. "Ryan isn't going to wait forever. I know I can't say a lot because I actually have my fated mate... but there is also something to be said about love. My Aunt Rhea chose my Uncle Lee even without knowing if he was her fated mate or not. My Uncle Cody chose my Aunt Kelsie as his chosen mate. It is one thing if you really want to wait for your fated mate... but if it is because you are afraid of having a committed serious relationship... Well, it's just... I think that may be what the real reason is... isn't it?"

"What if he meets his fated mate and leaves me. I'll be broken."

"What if you meet your fated mate? Would you leave Ryan for him?"

"No, I never would."

"So, what makes you think that he would do the same to you?" Lucy raised her brows at Sabrina. "Ryan is a good guy. He sacrificed a lot for Derek while pretending to be the prince. I trust him to honor his word."

"It's just... I guess I am afraid. I'm afraid that I'm new and exciting for him now. And once that wears off, he will follow the pull when he finds his fated mate. Lucy, my heart can't take that. I know I put up a strong front. But the damage that would do to me internally..." Sabrina shook her head as her eyes watered up. "It would be better to not fall deeper than I already have. Because I can't handle losing him later."

"And why do you think that is?" Lucy asked with a faint smile.

"Because I love him already..." Sabrina whispered out.

Lucy smiled and nodded her head. "Well, I think I am done here. I better get to the dining hall before Derek comes looking for me." She said slyly and crept away.

Sabrina watched her leave curiously and started to walk her own way. Her hand was suddenly seized, and she was now being dragged down the hall. She glanced up to see Ryan angrily pulling her away. "What are you doing?" She gasped.

He didn't say a word. He only continued to pull her down the elite corridor stopping briefly at his room before he shoved her inside.

"Ryan!" Sabrina hissed out as he shut his door. She watched him lean his head on the frame for a few moments. His hands were shaking, and his shoulders seemed to be heaving up and down with heavy breaths. He shook his head and then turned to face her. An angry expression was set on his face as he let out a heavy sigh.

"So that's why? You aren't accepting me because you think I am going to leave you? Damnit, Sabrina. I'm here killing myself because I want you so bad. I'm trying to push you out of my mind unsuccessfully might I add. Hence why I am here and not at practice. I came to find you because I can't stop thinking about you." He set his jaw and inhaled deeply. "I love you, you crazy woman. Once I take a mate, I will NEVER take another."

"How can you be so sure?" Sabrina whispered out. Her insecurities were surfacing as she fidgeted with her fingers. She glanced up to see Ryan had closed the gap between them. His hand reached out and took her own into his.

"Sabrina, I'll exchange blood with you. Binding us together for eternity. I don't want another mate. I just want you...." Ryan's amber eyes watched as hers lifted up to him. "I love you."

"I love you too," Sabrina whispered with teary eyes. His hot lips crashed into hers greedily as his hands reached out and pulled her into him. He slipped his tongue into her mouth passionately dancing with her own tongue.

He pulled apart and stared seriously into her eyes. "Say it Sabrina... Tell me you want me... tell me you will accept my mark."

Sabrina was panting trying to catch the breath he had robbed her of. His eyes were looking at her with a certain vulnerability. And she knew if she rejected him now not only would she crush him... but she would lose him forever. And she didn't want that. And suddenly everything seemed incredibly stupid. She was distancing herself from him because she was afraid of losing him. All the while that is exactly what she was doing... she was pushing him away. She was an i***t. And she couldn't deny how much she also wanted him.

"Ryan I will wear your mark and be your chosen mate. I'll trust you. You don't have to bind yourself to me with your blood..."

"Nonsense. I want us bound by blood. I don't want anyone else, and I don't want you to want anyone else." He smirked as he leaned down closer. "In case you didn't already know how crazy possessive I am..." He reached his fingers into her hair tangling into the strands. "From now on... you are mine and I am yours. For all eternity."

"For all eternity." She whispered as his lips possessively claimed hers again. She felt him lift her body up as he carried her across the room. He gently laid her down on the bed and smiled down at her.

"You are everything that I want Rina... everything. I'm never letting you go, you crazy woman of mine."

"Lucy! I was just about to come and get you. I was getting worried." Derek walked over and took her arm.

"You are treating me like I am an ordinary woman and not a supernatural killer," Lucy smirked and leaned into Derek's side.

"No, I am treating you like my beautiful wife who is carrying my twin babies inside of her right now." He kneeled down in front of her placing his hands on her hips. "Are you two being good for your momma in there? You better be. No hard kicking, no causing any unpleasantness, and don't siphon too much of her energy. Especially when your papa isn't around. You two must always be good for your mother." Lucy giggled and shook her head. "Do you think they are going to listen to you obediently?"

"If they don't, I'll give them the dad look after they are born."

"Haha one look from them and you'll be wrapped around their fingers." Lucy giggled and Derek quickly stood up and playfully put his hand over Lucy's mouth.

"Shhh, they'll hear you." He removed his hand and covered her lips with his own. He looked into her amused eyes and tilted his head trying to read her thoughts. "You seem to be in a very good mood, and you haven't eaten your lunch yet." She was purposely avoiding the thought because she wanted to tell him. She was so cute like that sometimes.

"Oh, I may have just fixed a problem is all..." Lucy smiled biting her lip as Derek looked at her curiously. "I may have coerced Sabrina into admitting something knowing that Ryan was standing there listening... And I think right about now they are fixing their relationship into something more permanent."

Derek chuckled. "Such a clever princess I have here. What was Sabrina's hesitation?"

"And why do you think that is?" Lucy asked with a faint smile.

"She was afraid he would leave her after he found his fated mate. But we were right, she does love him too."

Derek pulled her hips lightly into him as he brushed his lips over her forehead. "Well, my dear I have quite the spread arranged for you here. You can have your pick of food to eat." He led her over to the table and helped her into her seat. "Alright, Lucy... we need to think about the other baby's name. We know we have Lenore but what about baby number two? This one is your pick. We are certain the light energy is Lenore. So, the dark energy is our other baby... boy or girl."

Lucy nodded her head with a small smile. "Lenore means light... I was thinking of the name Alina for a girl and Luca if it is a boy. Even if it is dark energy our children will be the bringers of light."

"Of course, our children will be the light in the dark. How can they not be with you as their mother? I think those names are perfect." Derek sat down beside Lucy and interlaced his fingers with hers.

"Are you excited to go to the dragon party? It will be nice to be able to visit with everyone again." Lucy watched as Derek frowned and she read his thoughts in her mind. "Oh goodness, Derek. I can go to a party. We don't even have to travel traditionally. It is a simple walk through the portal. You can be so silly sometimes." Lucy giggled as a sheepish grin reached his face.

"I can't help it. I am overprotective of you. And I probably always will be. And heaven help our children when they are born." Derek chuckled kissing Lucy on the side of the head.

"What's to eat I'm starving!" Justice said walking in behind them followed by Jasper and Aba.

"Good thing I had the cooks prepare extra. I was prepared just for this moment." Derek laughed.

"You are getting wiser." Justice chuckled and grabbed a sandwich sitting down across from them. Jasper and Aba each took their own seats as well.

"Aba you look tired. Were they too rough on you?" Lucy asked looking at him with concern.

"Nothing I couldn't handle. I am getting stronger. Some of my demon powers are waking up more. It is an interesting power that I am excited to explore. I am also curious if I will be able to shift into a werebear. It will be quite intriguing and different from a wolf." Aba looked up with some excitement.

"I can't even poke fun at him today. He held his own and it was impressive. Especially being so young. Already you can see the enhanced guardian powers pushing through. He is formidable at a young age." Jasper shrugged having to give him credit.

"Physical young age. Mentally I am much older." Aba corrected Jasper. He still wasn't a fan of being in a child's body because often others forgot how old he really was.

"You know it is okay to act like a kid sometimes. You are in a child's body after all. There is no harm in being a kid one more time." Derek looked over as Aba bit into a sandwich.

"All I want is to be a good guardian and protector. And I can do that the best when these powers are more mature. That is all that matters to me."

"That and having fun. Enjoy your life Aba. Fill your memories with fun. And speaking of fun. We are having a game night tonight! Let's see if any of you can beat me consistently at racing karts." Lucy grinned and noticed the smile on Aba's face. "I'm getting better princess. I wouldn't press your luck." Aba chuckled feeling a bit more excited.

"Not a chance Aba, I will be the one to steal this crown," Jasper smirked as he raised a challenging brow up at the little guardian.

"You make it like you win easily Lucy? As I recall we are even in our match history. But I have no problems reminding you of that. Just so long as Derek remembers this isn't a team game. Last time he protected your lead." Justice looked up darkly at Derek who shrugged with a big grin.

"You can't prove that." Derek wrapped his arm around Lucy. These were the fun memories they would always hold dear. This peaceful time they were all enjoying together. And in these moments, they were further fastening a deep loving bond between them all. A bond that allowed them to trust each other undoubtedly with their lives. Because peace wouldn't last forever, and they would have to rely on each other with their lives. But for now... they would enter another battle. The digital racing world where only one would reign supreme.

Sabrina reached up and touched the fresh mark on her neck. She had a hard time acknowledging that Ryan really wanted her... but he did. They even exchanged blood together and bound themselves completely. An act that only that most devoted couples did... and he did this with her. She belonged to someone... she belonged to him now. She rolled over and curled into his arms that tightened around her as he slept. She closed her eyes and smiled. This feeling of belonging was amazing. She now understood what Stella was talking about. And how amazing it was to fit perfectly with someone.

Ryan may not have been her fated mate... but she did fit perfectly with him. And them choosing each other would be a memory she would always treasure. Fated mates can help fasten and draw together an instant connection. But it is still up to each person to make that choice. She didn't need to wait for fate for her to make her choice. She made it and it was Ryan. And it was a choice she would gladly make over and over again.

The Vampires Promised Bride Bonus Chapter 4

A little girl around the age of five was hiding in the nearby bushes. She cupped her hands over her mouth to prevent herself from laughing. A blonde haired boy was

searching out in the distance and slowly picking up on her trail. A hand landed on her shoulder and she jumped slightly startled. Another boy raised his fingers to his lips and the girl nodded slightly. He grabbed her hand and quickly took her away deeper into the forest. "Lucy you really need to find better hiding places. Jasper will find you in no time there." The little boy with brown hair and amber eyes said as he continued to pull Lucy deeper into the woods.

"Well Derek, if you and Aiden hadn't left me all alone so fast... You both vanished and I didn't know where to hide." Lucy panted as she tried to keep up with the faster boy. Derek felt her stumble slightly and he stopped, turning to check on her. "Are you okay?" He asked looking her over with concern.

"Of course I am fine. I'm just not as fast as you yet. But one day I will be." Lucy said proudly.

Derek gave her a smug grin. "I don't think you will even be as fast as me but I think you are adorable. And you will always be more adorable than me."

Lucy pouted and folded her arms over her chest. "I will too be just as fast."

Derek chuckled and stepped forward patting Lucy on the head. "If you say so Luce Luce."

Lucy looked around under the dark canopy of heavy pine trees around them. It looked very gloomy under the shade of the pines. She inched a bit closer to Derek.

"Don't be afraid Lucy. I'll always keep you safe." He said placing his arm protectively around her shoulder.

"Really?" Lucy lifted her head up to look at him.

"Of course silly. You are my future wife and we are friends too right?" He smiled down at her green eyes that lit up.

"Well, then I will protect you too. When I get bigger I'll be stronger." Lucy said with fierce determination. "I guess when we get married we will get to play together all of the time, huh? I'll be living here with you and Jasper."

"It will be like one continuous sleepover. It will be fun. I promise I will always be there for you Lucy. No matter what."

"Me too." Lucy beamed up at him happily. She reached her hand and grasped his with her own. "We've already formed an alliance."

"Shh Lucy... someone is coming." Derek pulled her hand closer to a lower pine branch. He then released her hand and gently pushed her down to crawl under. "Hide under there Lucy. And don't come out."

Lucy got on her hands and knees and crawled under the prickly pines. She leaned up against the tree trunk and felt some sap on her back. She looked under the hooded opening but Derek was gone. She could no longer see his feet. She heard the sound of footsteps coming closer and closer.

"I know you are here somewhere Lucy," Jasper said as he began tracking. He was naturally gifted as a tracker and one day planned to be one of the best around.

Lucy pulled her feet closer as she tried to control her breathing. She could hear Jasper getting closer to her location. She could even see his feet approaching the tree now. Then another sound was heard and another set of feet appeared. "Derek, where did you come from?"

"You still have to catch me, Jasper." Derek grinned and led the chase away from Lucy.

She listened as their footsteps faded farther and farther away. And now she really was alone in the dark. Her night vision sight still wasn't developed and everything looked dark like it would for a normal human. She gnawed on her lip nervously as an eerie silence came over the forest.

Then something happened that made the hair on the back of Lucy's neck stick up. A chill raced down her spine as a familiar sensation hit her arm. Tiny legs were crawling over her arm. She glanced down to confirm her fears were true. A deadly ninja assassin with eight legs was preparing to end Lucy's life. She let out an ear-piercing scream and frantically tried to escape the evil murderer.

She tore through the painful pine needles that became intertwined in her hair. Panic began to set in as she felt like she was trapped in the prison of needles. She jerked fiercely to free herself and tumbled out from the tree and into a set of arms. Her eyes were clenched shut as she shook and rubbed her hands over her body.

"Is it on me? Is it on me? Get it off! Get it off! I'm dead I'm dead I'm dead!" Her panic-stricken voice cried out in desperation.

"Lucy, calm down. There is nothing on you." Derek said in gentle tones as he brushed his hand over her.

"I don't see anything Lucy. What is it we are looking for?" Jasper asked as he began to scan over the area for the threat.

"Are you sure? Check my hair again. It could be anywhere." Lucy shuddered and braced herself for impact from the spider's bite.

"Lucy, I promise there is nothing on you. You are safe." Derek reached down to pluck the pine needles out of her hair gently.

"What is happening?! I heard Lucy's scream." Aiden said crashing towards them. He looked at his sister and glanced around the area. "Seriously Lucy..." Aiden shook his head.

"You didn't see it Aiden!" Lucy spat out defending herself.

"I'd like to know what IT is..." Jasper grinned as he looked over at Aiden.

"I'm betting it was a spider..." Aiden said in annoyance.

Derek and Jasper turned to look at Lucy who stared back at her brother defiantly.

"It was going to kill me." Lucy looked up at Derek. His lips were curving upwards and then all the boys began laughing loudly.

"Here we were worried something bad was wrong and it was over a spider?" Jasper laughed loudly planting his hands on his knees to brace himself.

Lucy furrowed her brows and began pouting. She felt Derek's hand land on her shoulder and she lifted her gaze to him. She could see the amusement in his eyes as he was smiling down at her.

"I'll be your spider protector Lucy. It's okay. But what you are most in danger of..." He said reaching his hand to her hair. "Is getting this sap out of your hair. It is pretty tangled."

Lucy reached her hand up and felt the mess of sap and pine needles in her hair.

"Come here." Derek pulled her back towards his back and he knelt down. "Hop on I'll give you a lift back." He felt her climb up on his back and wrap her arms around his neck. "Okay, Lucy hold on tight!"

He took off running as she squealed happily. When he first met Lucy as a baby he wasn't sure what to expect of his future wife. But the more he got to know her the more he liked her. She was someone precious to him. He was still young and didn't completely understand the magnitude of having a mate. What he did know is that he really enjoyed Lucy's company. She was fun to be around and already he was very protective over her. It was his goal whenever he saw her just to make her smile. Whatever this feeling he had for her was... he liked it. He never wanted to lose it and always wanted to keep her close.

Derek opened his eyes and looked at his mate sleeping peacefully next to him. He stared at her closed eyes with a smile on his face. That dream was a very pleasant

memory he had with Lucy when they were young. It was the earliest time he can remember feeling the budding feelings of love forming for her.

A grin formed on his face as he remembered how terrified she was of the spider at that time. And it was something he had forgotten about until he met her again as an adult when he was pretending to be Ryan. As soon as she told him what she was panicking about it all clicked. It made perfect sense. But more than that... she was still his same sweet precious Lucy.

While he had to be away from her he wondered about her and her personality. He had Jasper reporting back to him all the time so he could feel connected to her. Secretly he was incredibly jealous of Jasper during those times. He was able to freely spend his time with Lucy. Because of that the two of them grew close and had a tight bond. He worried she may end up feeling more for Jasper than for him.

One of his biggest regrets was distancing himself from Lucy. He wished he could go back in time and inform her of everything. Maybe then he could have snuck some precious time to visit her as she grew. He knew he was lucky. The girl he fell in love with was the woman he now had laying beside him. Few people got to experience such a sweet love as he had.

He reached his hand out brushing her hair away from her face slightly. Her eyes immediately popped open and he stared into her eyes. He watched a sweet smile reach her lips as she stretched slightly.

"Good morning my love." Lucy smiled as she went through his thoughts. "Really... that is when you remember starting to love me?" She giggled and pushed her face into his hand.

"I don't exactly remember when... but that memory I remember the way I felt with you. And from that point on it only continued to grow. I would get so excited when it was time for us to meet again. Up until... well until I turned fifteen and then everything changed after that. Being away from you then was incredibly painful. I missed you so much, Lucy." He shook his head. "I don't even want to think about those days. I just want to take the now in. I've never felt such happiness as I feel when I wake up next to you." "These are my happiest moments too." She smiled and looked up at the ceiling as she thought about that day. She projected her memories so that Derek could also see what she was thinking about clearly. She started thinking about a moment that was later on the same day when she had come to play with Derek. She remembered a sweet moment she had with her father later that evening...

Her father had just finished reading her a bedtime story after their long day visiting the vampire kingdom. She had her eyes closed thinking about the story of the princess waiting to be saved. She didn't want to have to rely on anyone. She would be able to save herself. This was the way her mother was raising her to be. A strong woman who could handle her own fights.

"Daddy?" She opened her eyes as she saw her father creeping away and to the door. He really was the best father she could have asked for. Even though he was tired he came back and entertained her thoughts. But when she mentioned that he didn't have to worry that she was going to marry the prince his expression completely changed. Thinking about it now it was probably really tough for her father. She knew he treasured her and was probably constantly beating himself up over the whole treaty idea. It must have been a tremendous relief for him when he found out her fiancé was also her fated mate. It was a relief to her as well.

"I'd like to know what IT is..." Jasper grinned as he looked over at Aiden.

She looked over and smiled at Derek. She was a young girl then but she was right about her future. She did marry the prince and together they united their species. But more than that she married the man she loved. She ended up marrying the boy who always took care of her. The boy who grew to be the man who doted on her constantly and loved her unconditionally.

Derek grabbed her hand and lifted it to his lips creating tiny tingling sparks on her skin. He smiled as he gazed into her eyes. She was precious to him then and even more so now.

"You are the greatest treasure I could ask for. I thank the gods... well not all of them..." He said with an annoyed look as a slight smirk spread on his lips. "But I thank those responsible every night for you. I love you, my little mate."

"Love me enough to serve me breakfast in bed? Your little mate is a growing mate and I am eating for three of us."

Derek chuckled. "Done. Lay here and relax my love. I will bring you everything you could ask for and more."

Selene leaned into Endymion's side as she closed the viewing. She looked up at the man she loved and smiled. "We did well with those two."

"We did. Their children will be vital to the future." Endymion pulled Selene close and kissed her forehead.

"I thought we were done with all the meddling. I feel like we finished the battle only to enter into another war." Kali clicked her tongue as she walked into the room. "They have no idea what is coming."

"And that is the way it is supposed to be." Selene turned and gave Kali a sad smile. "But we will give them everything they need to persevere. It may take time... but their moment of triumph will come. It has to..."

"Yeah... after the world is almost destroyed and all hope is lost." Kali snorted and rolled her eyes.

"But all hope won't be lost. There will be a chance to save this world. It isn't much but this is all we can do. Keep gently pushing things in the right direction." Selene wished they could do more but they learned their lesson. She wouldn't risk losing Endymion or anyone else.

"All this is for naught if the other fairy princess is killed. If she never produces her heir with Aken then the holding world won't be created. Their child will be the only one who will be able to connect with the vampire fairy princess." Kali looked down and shook her head. "We are riding on so many what-ifs..."

"If things do not fall into place exactly there is no hope for this world." Endymion squeezed onto Selene. "But that is why we are doing what we can now. We know the paths that are needed and the children needed for the future."

"Once again, I am afraid it is up to the Locke family ancestors and the new generation of guardians. The guardians will be the key to safeguarding the world. And the fairy princesses will hold the fate of magic in their hands. I believe in them. This time we aren't stacking their family for our selfish gains. We are doing everything we can in order to protect their future. We owe them this much." Selene squeezed her hand into a ball tightly while Endymion placed his own hand over hers gently. "You are doing everything you can."

"What if the Kraken and Leviathan choose to fight to protect the world?" Kali watched as Selene shook her head.

"The gods won't be able to interfere. If we interfere with what is to come the war of the gods will come to be. Just like how we back the Locke family there will be gods backing the other. Because of this if we directly interfere the gods will be divided and war will break out. And in this vision, the universe will be destroyed."

"One grim outlook after another." Kali spat out folding her arms over her chest.

"The dark will come first. But there will be a chance for the light. And we must put our trust in them. It is all we can do." Selene and Endymion stared at each other quietly. What they were doing now was for the Locke family. She selfishly already had everyone she needed. And they were safe from the future devastation. But the Locke family was not. Because they have done so much for them they would do everything they could to aid them for the future that was to come.

The family had fought many battles and they had won them all. But a war was coming. One that made the demon war shallow in comparison. It would be this war that would separate the tight family. Elysium would be sealed with part of the family inside. While some of them would remain to defend the world.

They had a ways to go before this future would come. But it would come... that much was certain. Selene would offer all the Locke family a safe haven, but she could foresee they wouldn't accept it. They would do what they could for the magic and species of the world to protect them. That was the kind of people they were.

The Locke family didn't realize it but once again the fate of the world would rest upon their shoulders.

The Vampires Promised Bride Bonus Chapter 5

Destiny stood on top of the white stone roof with her hands gently resting on the silver metal bar in front of her. She was looking over the view of the city from the top of the company building. Below her, she could see the dots of people walking and small cars traveling over the busy road. There were many other businesses and buildings, but none were taller than the one she was standing on.

The sky was a brilliant blue and the warmth of the sun gently warmed her body. She glanced upwards and marveled at the beauty. She closed her eyes and relaxed under the gentle breeze that played with the ends of her hair. She heard the soft sounds of footsteps approaching from behind her and her lips curled upwards. "What are you doing up here all by yourself?"

She felt his arms encircle around her waist pulling her into his heated embrace. She leaned her head back and let out a small relaxing hum.

"I'm enjoying the view and the weather. You don't expect me to stay inside all day while you are stuck doing paperwork?" She opened her eyes and tilted her head up to see Harley looking down at her.

"I like having you close. Especially now that you are carrying our child inside of you. I guess the office is pretty boring for you huh?" Harley frowned as he looked down at his beautiful mate.

"No, I don't mind coming with you. I like being close to you too. And it gives me a chance to learn about your businesses. I also love the view from here. Updated by FindNovel.net, visit for more free novels. Can't blame me for escaping to it. It is far too tempting. It's my favorite."

"Oh?" He teased with his fingers around her waist as he leaned his head down to her neck. He gently kissed her skin and brushed his lips over her ear as he spoke. "What about me?"

Destiny smiled and leaned her head into her possessive mate's lips. "What about you? You really think you can compete with this?" She turned around in his arm and placed

her fingers around his neck. She grinned as she met his gaze. "There is no competition here. I would take you over everything. I don't care where I am as long as you are with me."

"Mmm, that's what I like to hear." Harley leaned down and pressed his lips against hers softly. "How are you feeling today?"

"I feel fine. The same as yesterday and the day before. I actually feel really good." Destiny loved how attentive he was to her needs. She was his treasure, and she could feel that from him. He made her feel so special and loved.

"My lord they are waiting for you in the conference room." A man with dark eyes and black hair said. The man was tall and slender but toned in build. It was Sebastian, the right-hand demon of Harley's. He would be what a beta is to an alpha. In his hands, he was carrying a little carton of chili fries that he was in the middle of eating.

The wind carried the scent over to Destiny and her stomach tightened. She felt the bile raise up into her throat and back down as she tried to fight off the horrible wave of nausea. Her stomach felt heavy as it constricted again. This time she pushed away from Harley and ran quickly to the side where there was a trash receptor. She bent down and began to spill the contents of her stomach.

"Dessy." Harley grabbed her hair with one hand while the other rubbed her lower back in soothing circles.

"I'm okay." She said spitting the bile from her mouth. "Just a bit of morning sickness."

"Sebastian go to my meetings in my place. I'm not leaving her side."

"Harley, you have to go. I'm fine. Those meetings are important."

"Well? What are you waiting for? You heard me. Go and get those fries away from my mate!" Harley growled and Sebastian nodded his head respectfully and vanished. He turned his attention back to Destiny and looked over her with concerned eyes. "Harley."

"Shh. I'm right where I am supposed to be. You are my first priority. Now and for always. Besides if I need a deal bad enough, I can just manipulate the CEO and have him killed." Harley grinned when he saw Destiny's disapproving glance. He chuckled and pulled her body into his own. "I'm teasing. Sebastian can handle everything. He is more than capable. He knows everything there is to know about the company. And one day he will be our child's right-hand man to help them run the business I have created." "Oh? And what will you be doing while our child runs this business?"

"Well... WE will finally be able to go and explore the world. We will go everywhere and visit everything." Harley grabbed a handkerchief out and handed it to her to wipe her mouth with.

She took the cloth dabbing at her face and Harley took her into his arms leaning her head onto his chest.

"We can't do that. Exploring the world would take a long time. We can't leave our child that long."

Harley chuckled. "My love. I am not talking about leaving a toddler. Look at you? You are no longer by your parents' side. I am talking about after they are a capable adult. Then we most certainly can. Besides, I will be leaving Sebastian and some of my best demons to guard our child. I can't wait to take you everywhere and give you everything."

"I already have everything I need." Destiny smiled up at him.

"I want you to have everything you want as well. Tell me what you want. Whatever it is it will be yours." Harley watched her sweet smile spread over her face.

"Well right now I need a toothbrush, toothpaste, and some mouthwash." She smiled biting her bottom lip.

His rich chuckle reverberated in his throat as he hugged her body tight into his own. "How are you feeling?"

"I feel gross and need that toothpaste." She listened as he chuckled.

"All right my love. Let's get you home so you can feel more comfortable." Harley escorted her as if she was delicate and could break at any moment. He led her to the elevator to take them to the first floor. While he was in the elevator, he texted his driver to meet in the front to drive them home.

The door opened and he walked out a few steps with Destiny tucked in his side.

"Oh! I need my laptop. Eh, I can have Sebastian bring it later."

"Go and get it. I'll wait for you right here." Destiny watched him furrow his brows at that. She giggled and pushed at his chest backing him into the elevator. "Harley get your butt up there and get what you need or I'm not going anywhere."

He laughed and grinned widely at her. "Such a bossy little lady I have brought into my life. Yes, my queen." He flailed his arm out playfully as the door closed giving her a fake bow.

She giggled and shook her head. He always made her happy. She was lucky. She had Harley in her life since before she was born. It was incredible always having your destined love around. Even before she could feel the mate pull, he was everything to her. He was her best friend, her protector, and now her lover. She walked a few steps

forward where there were several white gates. This was where workers swiped their badges in order to gain access deeper into the building.

By these little gates, there were several security guards standing making sure no one unauthorized got through. They were normal humans. In fact, most of the employees here were regular humans besides Harley's own men. The only other who was supernatural was Clara. Clara was Harley's secretary, and she was a vampire. She was also a good friend to Destiny.

She walked a few more steps forward and the guard nodded his head to her as she passed through the little security gate. Her heels clicked as she walked farther down the hall and into the large lounge room. On one side there were large, cushioned chairs and the televisions were on for the guests who were waiting. And right in the front of the lounge is the main desk where two lady greeters worked. Destiny didn't like these two humans. They were superficial, shallow, and rude. Though they always pretended to be sweet and accommodating she knew better. She had exceptional hearing being part demon and part werebear (though she couldn't shift). And often she could hear what the two women would whisper thinking no one could hear them.

Today was no different. She heard their insincere greeting to her as she walked over to wait for Harley in the sitting area. She sat on one of the cushion seats and acted like she was paying attention to a magazine. "What do you think he sees in her?"

"She is probably another businessman's daughter. He is forced to take her for a deal to go through."

"Yes, that has to be it. She isn't that pretty."

"Of course not! You are much prettier. I know he had a thing for you before he was forced to take her."

"I thought we had a connection too."

"Of course, you did. He always made sure to smile at you and tell you good job. But was trying to keep a low profile."

"You can tell he isn't sincere about her. He is too over the top with his doting. It is so obvious it is fake."

That one made Destiny smirk behind the magazine. She always felt his attention was over the top too, but it was far from fake. He was just that sickening sweet with her. He spoiled her. He had spoiled her since she was born and continues to do it even more so now. She knew it was because of how precious she was to him. He was the son of an original demon and has lived a long life. She was someone he never dreamed he would find or ever be gifted with. She was the greatest gift he could have ever received. Better than any treasure in the world.

All he ever wanted to do was make her happy. He showered her with gifts and affection. While she didn't need the gifts, she was always willing to accept his affection. It was something she was always craving. She always needed his touch, to see his smile, hear his voice, smell his scent. She always needed him.

She listened as the gossip changed to another businesswoman who walked by. They were cutting on her outfit and the color she had chosen. Honestly, she had never heard two more miserable people. She knew with one word the two would be fired and never seen from again. Well, they would be lucky if it just ended with being fired. If Harley thought they had upset her he would instill fear into their souls. They were bitter ladies but harmless. Destiny could care less about their gossiping ways. Besides, if she really wanted rid of them, she would do it herself. She wasn't about to let Harley have the satisfaction of kicking them to the curb.

"Look how young she is? She is barely out of diapers."

And they were back to talking about her again.

"He has to put on a good show, I am sure. Once they are more settled, he will be able to take someone he really wants as a mistress."

"I heard she is pregnant already."

"Oh! Maybe the baby isn't his? And he is agreeing to take care of her."

"Awe that is so sweet and exactly something he would do. I bet you are right."

His rich chuckle reverberated in his throat as he hugged her body tight into his own. "How are you feeling?"

"So, which is it? Is it a marriage of convenience or is it a troubled pregnant lady he is trying to protect?" A voice hissed making Destiny lift her eyes up at the whispering voices.

Clara now stood next to the desk glaring at the two women who were startled. They licked their lips and glances at one another nervously.

"Let me make one thing very clear. That woman over there is the CEO's most precious treasure. He adores her. He loves her. He loves her so much that I would venture to say he would kill someone if they made her shed a tear. So perhaps you should remember that before you try to tear someone down to make you feel better about yourselves. The truth of the matter is, you two aren't good enough for him. Even if he didn't have Destiny, it would never have been either of you. If you wish to keep your jobs here don't ever let me hear you utter another negative word about Destiny again." Clara looked smugly down at the women who were shaking slightly from the intimidating gaze.

The sound of Clara's heels was heard clicking loudly on the tile floor as she walked away. She glanced over at Destiny and winked over at her. Those ladies didn't realize it, but they were now on Clara's list. It was a dangerous list to be on. A strong vampire like her could easily make an afternoon snack out of the two ladies and none would be the wiser.

She watched as Clara headed up through the white security checkpoint and she caught sight of Harley coming through one of the other white gates. Destiny stood up and smiled as Harley walked up to her. He reached out and pulled her by her hips into his front and publicly claimed her lips.

"Harley! You shouldn't have I haven't gotten to brush my teeth yet." She watched as he smiled down at her looking at her as if she was silly. She blushed and stared into his eyes. "What is that for anyway?" She smiled biting her bottom lip. "So, everyone here knows you are mine. And I missed you."

She giggled and shook her head. "You were only gone a couple of minutes."

"The longest minutes of my life. Being away from you is pure t*****e." Harley said in a dramatic playful tone. "Come on my love let's get you home."

Harley kept an arm around her waist as he led her out of the building. The two women remained silent this time and even seemed to be busying themselves with something else. They both still looked severely flustered. Destiny didn't let them bother her at all. There will always be someone jealous of what you have. Besides she didn't care about their gossip. They were bitter women that she couldn't be bothered with. They were simple humans who were not worth taking up space in her head. She leaned into Harley's side as he escorted her to the black limo that was waiting for them.

Harley helped her in first and raced around to the other side, so she didn't have to scoot over. Then he slid over next to her and wrapped his arm around her shoulders placing her head on him.

She leaned into his warmth and closed her eyes. Her body was completely relaxed next to him. Wherever he was she was home. He was her home. He always seemed to be whoever she needed him to be, and she adored him for that. He was a dangerous powerful son of an original demon but to her, he was her loving, doting mate. The man she cherished and loved with her everything. She felt his lips brush over the top of her head as she began to fall asleep.

"Rest my love." Harley cooed to her as his fingers traced over her delicate arms. He smiled as he listened to her breathing even out. Very few could understand how important Destiny was to him. As someone who has lived as long as he has it is almost impossible to fathom. He knew the deity Leviathan understood this better than anyone else. At times you almost drift through a mundane life of routine and predictability. Sometimes even feeling numb to what would happen around you. Then you find

someone who makes you feel again. And not just feel again they give you your purpose. As if your whole life you were just waiting for them to appear. Destiny became his everything. The reason he lived, breathed, and the reason his heart began to beat. It was all because of her. He never understood the whole mate concept before. He always thought he would never get to experience having a mate so used to think poorly over it. Like a mate was only a handicap. Man was his way of thinking wrong. She was the best thing in life that he has ever experienced. And he has several lifetimes of experience under his belt.

He didn't care about the world all he cared about was Destiny. The only thing that was important to him was protecting her and his unborn child. That was all that mattered to him. If a day ever came when the world was in danger, he would take Destiny away from it. He would find a place for them to exist away from danger. Destiny and their unborn child were his world and that was all that mattered.

She never knew how much she saved him and gave him a new life. She could never imagine what the darkness of the world was like before he found her. Now that he had his light, he would never let it go. He would treasure her for always. He never would have thought all those years ago when he rescued a green-haired demon how much it would change his life. But it did. Rescuing Destiny's mother Jin wasn't just providence... it was fate. It was destiny.

The Vampires Promised Bride Bonus Chapter 6

Aken

I don't remember how long it has been since I have placed my feet on the solid ground above me. I have locked myself away in the depths of the ocean for so long. I can't help but think about how I ended up cursed here. It all happened a long time ago.

Being a god, my life became boring and tedious. I lived the same life day after day. The other gods had their rules they lived by to establish order. They were dull. So, I started to have some fun. Which led to some things I regret deeply. I can't take it back now... but it still haunts me.

At first, I only did harmless pranks. One of my favorites was when I had the deity Erebus's hair color changed to white. I stole a powerful mixture from a goddess so that he wouldn't be able to reverse the effects. You should have seen his face. I chuckled in the darkness as I recalled the memory. Erebus was doing everything to try to fix his hair color. He was acting like a mad man. It was the most fun I remember having in so long. And I wanted to feel that excitement again.

Erebus was quite angry with me after that incident, but it wasn't until what happened next that he turned to hating me. That one wasn't my fault though...well not entirely.

Erebus had a harem of women that he kept but one of the women was his favorite. She was a dryad named Ivory. I used to go and flirt with his women to get him riled up. I didn't mean anything by it... ever. One evening Ivory visited me. She entered my chambers and immediately dropped her garments. She stood there naked. This beautiful woman was now just standing there asking for me to take her. But I wouldn't. I didn't. But Erebus flung open my door and saw the whole scene and didn't let me explain. He killed Ivory right there in a flash of rage. Then he vowed that one day he would destroy me. He would hurt me in the worst way possible.

Of course, those were empty threats. How could Erebus hurt me? He wasn't as strong as me and the deity knew it. His hatred for me only continued to grow after that. Until he was constantly out to get me. In fact, the reason I am cursed here is because Erebus snitched on me to the wrong god, Rogio.

I did a lot of things I regret now. I acted impulsively and didn't think about the consequences. I'm an i***t and Rogio was right to be upset with me for what I did.

I overheard Rogio talking and saying how a certain young man needs to find a mate soon. This piqued my interest immediately. Why did Rogio want this man to find a mate? So I continued to listen. Rogio wanted this vampire to find his chosen mate and was purposely trying to lead him to women who would be compatible. He was also leading him away from the vampire kingdom. I found this very interesting.

I was lacking in entertainment, so I found this vampire and told him to visit the vampire kingdom. I told him that something interesting awaited him there. Then I sat back and watched with intrigue on what was going to happen. It turned out that that man was mates with the queen of the vampires. Yeah... like I said I am an i***t.

The queen couldn't ignore the temptation of her fated mate and met him in secret. Her marriage to the vampire king was one of convenience. She had two children already with the vampire king and had fulfilled her obligations to him. But even I could see how the king looked at her. He loved her. The king adored her. I hid myself and watched it all unfold in silence. I still remember the king's face when he ended up catching his queen in bed with another man. It was gut-wrenching to watch. His face paled and there was so much pain in his eyes. The king snapped and killed the queen's fated mate. That man was now dead because of me. I led him to this fate.

The king loved the queen so much that he looked past what she did. He just wanted her and her to love him. But the queen couldn't get over the loss of her fated mate. As a deity, I have seen many things but one night I witnessed the queen killing the king and then herself. I felt so nauseous at that moment. Hell, I still can feel it thinking about it. The sad look of betrayal in the king's eyes... they would always haunt me. I was the cause of all of this. I didn't know what the trickling effect would be. I had learned my lesson then. I would never mess with things that I shouldn't. But I never got the chance to prove that...

Rogio went hysterical. His vampire king and queen were both dead. They were both hand-chosen vampires of his. He wasn't just angry... he was grief-stricken. Rogio had always kept a close relationship with the ones he was a deity for. And he was the vampire deity.

Of course, that snake Erebus would have been watching me the whole time. He knew what I had done. He didn't hesitate to let Rogio know about my mistake. Rogio had a lot of clout among the deities, and they agreed with him that I should be punished. I wasn't going to just be punished. Who were they to punish me? They weren't even going to hear me out. I fought against them. One on one they didn't stand a chance against me, so they united together. With a combined force they brought me down, cursing me to a life at sea. I would never be able to walk upon land again unless I mated with a land dweller. Something that was impossible to break since I was stuck in the oceans. Damn clever cruel gods. To give hope where there isn't any.

I heard that Rogio was internally broken after everything that happened. He was crushed he wasn't able to protect the vampire king and queen. It drove him mad, finally, he couldn't handle it anymore and he went dormant. He had closed himself off from the world going into a deep slumber. If he was only going to go to sleep anyways then he didn't have to leave me cursed here.

The more I thought about it... the more I became fed up with the other deities and their council. Why do they get to decide things? With their stupid rules they made up. Honestly, it makes no sense. It is just a way for them to pass the time. I have no respect for their rules. They didn't even give me a chance to explain anything. Other deities had done worse but because I didn't just accept my punishment I got cursed down here.

"Quite the place you have here."

I turned my head to see a white glowing bubble behind me. Perfect. The meddling moon goddess was just what I needed. What the hell did she want?

"Go away Selene," I said in a bitter tone. She was trouble and I didn't trust her.

"What if I told you I have a way you can get on dry land to break the curse?"

I knew this would be a mistake. Selene was the master of manipulation. Sure, everyone saw her as a helpful goddess who could see the future. But I knew better. That conniving b***h was up to something. Whenever she had her hand in something you better believe it was for herself. Selene was like the constant pressure on a tree. In time it grows the way she pushes. Then one day the tree falls and it falls in the direction it was leaning. The direction it only fell because of the way it grew. The way that Selene manipulated it to grow. She didn't make it fall but she knew it would fall. So she influenced where it would fall. Yep. That was Selene.

"Like I said... go away."

"Hear me out. All you have to do is grant your earth powers to the fairy king and aid him in the demon war. After that, you don't need to be his summon anymore. However, you would be connected to his life now. In this way, you can return to the earth and find yourself a land dweller as a mate so you can end the curse."

Damn it was tempting. I turned and glared at her. "That's it? I just have to stomp some demons into the ground and I'm free to go?"

"Everything afterwards would be your choice of course. I think it is a way to help each other out. The fairy king will need your power and you can use the fairy king as an anchor. It is the perfect situation for both of you."

I should have trusted my gut instinct... with Selene, it was never something that simple. And it wasn't.

All those years and I was still a fool. I went to the fairy king and aided in his battle against the demons. Honestly, it felt good to use my earth powers again. It felt good to be in the air and on the land. It all should have ended there for me. I kill some demons and I then would be on my

way.

Of course not.

I came over to bid my farewell to the fairy king to whom I was now connected. I turned and looked at the woman next to Leviathan. I was being pulled towards her. Damn it. That damn crafty b***h. How in the hell was Selene able to make this unborn child my mate? There was an incredible desire inside of me to protect her from everything and anything.

I had thought that my life was hell before. But staying away from her was the hardest thing I have ever had to do. And I couldn't stay away from her completely. I hid my aura from her and watched her grow. I watched her laugh. I watched her cry. I was always watching her. And soon it wasn't just the mate pull... I had fallen in love with my spunky fiery mate.

I knew Erebus still hated me and he was a problem. If he knew about Alexis being my mate he could come for her. He still wants to punish me. And I was proven right when he ended up abducting her cousin thinking she was my mate. The bastard had ears and eyes everywhere. This only confirmed even more that I was doing the right thing.

I, the mighty Kraken, now had a weakness. Alexis. I knew my enemies would use my weakness against me. I couldn't let them. I had to stay away from her in order to protect her. Erebus thinks that her cousin is my mate. For now, that will keep Alexis safe. I just had to continue to stay far away from her...

I leaned my head into my hands and let out a loud sigh. This was so hard. I needed her. I needed to be close to her. I wanted to hear her laughter. I wanted to hold her close and tell her I have loved her for quite some time. But because I loved her so much I needed to protect her. If me staying away from Alexis would keep her safe I would do it. Even if it was killing me.

I know she was hurting too. I never wanted her to hurt. I just want her to find happiness and be

happy. Even if it wasn't with me. Damn. Even the idea of another man touching her made me want to destroy the world. But it was for the best. I was a monster. Quite literally I turned into a beast. But for what I had done in my past... the fairy princess deserved better. Someone way better than me.

I had done other things in my past besides the tragedy with the vampire's king and queen. When I was cursed to the ocean, I roamed in my beast form. I would go to coastal cities as a horrible monster and cause tsunamis to attack their civilizations. I was angry... it was horrible what I had done. I can't take it back. I am tainted with those sins. Why should the fairy princess be with someone like me? Why should she be cursed with a fated mate like me? She deserved

someone so much better.

Sometimes I would hope for a future with her. One where I find Erebus and destroy him. But then even if I kill Erebus, I am still not good enough for her. She is so beautiful and perfect. Her light is so bright and warm. I don't deserve someone like her.

Not having Alexis is the cruelest punishment I could have ever received. Watching her be happy with another man is the worst t*****e that could ever happen to me. And yet it would be the best thing for her. In the long run, she was better off without me. It would be hell... but I deserved it. And as long as Alexis was safe and happy that was all that mattered.

I watched Alexis as she stormed back to her home. Alexis would often come and yell in the darkness hoping I would hear her... and often I did. Because I was always watching her. I quietly chuckled hearing her talking. She claimed that she was going to find me and claim me. Honestly, it made me happy to hear her say those things even if it couldn't be.

"Be happy my princess. I will always love you."