

Chosen by Fate 411

Chapter 411 - Trinity - Arriving At The Fae Castle, Again (VOLUME 3)

Trinity

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Everyone had gathered at the Estate before it was time to leave for the Fae Compound. This would allow us to arrange the seating and store the luggage properly for everyone. Which was good because we ended up needing to take eight SUVs after we accounted for everyone's luggage. This was surprising since the SUVs could fit up to eight people each, and we should have only needed four of them at the most if it wasn't for the luggage.

The guards were not all in the same vehicle as me, Reece and the twins, but there were still a couple with us; Shawn and Shane to be exact. I hadn't gotten much time with either of them over the last year, all things considered. I sometimes missed the days when we all just basically hung out at the house and were able to have fun even if it was still them technically guarding me.

Now though, all of our babies were the ones that would be doing the hanging out while we adults were all devoting our time to our families.

"You look like you're lost in thought about something?" Shawn smiled at me as he got my attention. "Is everything alright?"

"Yeah, I was just reminiscing about all the times that we used to hang out and goof off before we moved on with our lives. It hasn't been all that long really, but in a way it feels like it's been years."

"Yeah, I know what you mean. I had thought about that when mine and Dietrich's babies were born. They changed our lives and turned everything upside down, but not in a bad way. I wouldn't change any of it. I love them and they're perfectly mine and Dietrich's." I could tell that Shawn was happy and quite enjoyed being a dad.

"You wouldn't change any of it?" Shane turned in his seat to look at Shawn with a grin. "None of it? Not even the fact that you ended up getting pregnant up you-?"

"Shut up." Shawn glared at his brother who just started laughing, I even saw Reece's shoulders shake as he drove the SUV toward our destination.

"I was just asking, you know, for clarity. I thought that you had hated that part of it all. That's all." Shane was still grinning, he would always give his brother a hard time, but I knew how much he loved Shawn. I never told Shawn this, but the entire time that he was gone, Shane was a mess.

"Oh, hush now, Shane." I grinned at him. "I think you're the one who would have changed it. You cried so much while Shawn was away just because you couldn't see your brother. I think that's why you want him to admit he would change something, because you wish you could."

"B..b..but, n..n..no..nn..no, l..l, I didn't, I mean, th..that's not, it wasn't-." He looked so shocked that I wanted to laugh, but I didn't because he didn't seem like he could handle it. "Urgh!" Shane growled frustratedly and was about to turn around when Shawn called out to him.

"Don't worry Shane, I missed you a lot too. We had never been apart like that before and it was hard on me as well. But we survived, and we're not separated anymore." The resulting smile on Shane's face was worth what I had said, even if it was kind of mean of me.

"I'm sorry I said that, Shane, but you really shouldn't pick on your brother like that. You need to be honest with your feelings and talk to him. I am betting that in the ten months since he has been home you never once told him how much you missed him while he was gone."

"I know, I need to be better about it all. And you're right, I didn't tell him. I was too embarrassed." He turned back to look at Shawn, and I swear his eyes had misted over a little bit. "I love you Shawn, you know that. Even when I make fun of you, I do it because I love you."

"I know."

Finally, the brothers might have finally gotten to where they talk openly and honestly, after what, twenty eight years, that's quite the accomplishment.

When we arrived at the Fae compound, we found that there was once again an entourage waiting for our arrival. Breon and several others were there. once again with an all black golf cart to guide our envoy of SUVs into the compound.

We were taken to the garage again where we exited the vehicles. The luggage was already being unloaded by a team of servants that moved silently and efficiently. We had made things easier on them and labeled all of the luggage so that they could separate it all into the proper rooms.

"Queen Trinity, it is lovely to see you again. We are overjoyed that you could come and visit us once again." Breon placed a hand over his chest and bowed forward as he spoke.

"Thank you, Breon, it is good to be back. Allow me to introduce you to my family." I turned just a little so that I could see everyone, but would still be able to see Breon. "Of course you remember my husband and King, Reece. These here are our twins, Reagan and Rika. Then we have my grandfather, Samuel, my Mom and Dad, Eve and Wesley, my brother Noah and his wife and son, Nikki and Elias, and my brother Carter and his wife and son, Emmalee and CJ. The other babies belong to a couple of my guards, their names are Alexandria, Alyssa, Levi, and Luka. With us this time are my guards Shane, Shawn, Dietrich, David, Izzy, Thoma, Pierre, Hugo, Mateo, Brianna, Waverly, and Juliet." I had been naming the guards as they were still getting out of the SUVs so imagine the shock I felt when I heard Breon gasp upon seeing Juliet.

Juliet, likewise, had a shocked expression on her face when she got out of the vehicle. She was staring at the man who had spoken to me with that familiar dazed look. It was easy to tell that the two of them had just discovered that they were mates. Now, isn't that a lovely way to start off this trip of ours.

"Well, Breon, allow me to introduce you to someone I think you need to know a lot more than just having me call out her name." I beckoned Juliet over with a wave of my hand, and she walked over timidly. She was around the same height as well with very bright blonde hair and orange eyes. "Breon, this is Juliet Rickard, a witch from the Aerie Convento. Juliet, this is Breon, he is an envoy of the Fae Queen."

"It's good to meet you." Juliet, who looked sweet and had a sweet sounding name, but anything but sweet when she spoke.

"Likewise." Breon smiled at her. Well, I guess he didn't care about the lack of manners when fate was involved. I wonder just how well this was going to work out for them; after all it was Breon who tried to stand in Acacia's way because of mixed breeding. Will he care about that now that it was his life and not hers?

Chapter 412 - Trinity - Temporary Residence (VOLUME 3)

6-7 minutes

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Trinity

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After I was able to get Breon and Juliet to put aside their budding romance, we were taken to the place we were going to be staying for the next three weeks or so. It was one of those family dwellings that were inside the castle with multiple rooms so it could accommodate as many people as we needed.

To be honest, I think the place was actually formed with magic when we got to the door. It was perfectly set up for us, it was even baby proofed. There were rooms on the main floor for the guards that held a lower status than those that had been with me since the beginning. There were two nursery type rooms that were perfectly set up to hold the six little ones. There was literally the right amount of every type of room that we needed. It was amazing. Even the style of furnishings fit my tastes nicely.

I could tell that everyone was quite impressed with the level of thought and consideration that went into where they put us all. I just had to wonder how they knew who all would be with me, and how many of each room we needed. In truth, the only explanation was that it had been done by magic after we got here.

The servants brought all of our luggage into the house, that was the only thing to call this. This was a house within a castle. The rooms had apparently been preassigned and they knew where everyone was before we did.

Reece and I, of course, had the largest and nicest suite that was right next to the nursery for Reagan and Rika; those were the only rooms on the top floor. Our family and friends were positioned near us on the other upper floors. The newer guards that were not quite friends had been given rooms on the first floor.

"Would you like us to put your belongings away, Queen Trinity?" One of the servants who had helped to carry everything in spoke with a squeaky voice. Now that I looked at her closely I could see that she looked like she was halfway through a form shift. Fae, at least most of them, had a human form and a nature form. There were some lesser Fae that I knew were unable to maintain a pure human form; she must have been one of them.

I didn't want her to think that I looked down on her or that I thought she was less than any of the others so I gave her a smile and let her do the job that she had offered to do.

"That would be wonderful, thank you. If you all could handle that for everyone we would appreciate it very much." I have given my sincerest thanks to her and let her go about her duties. I had learned through my studies that some Fae take so much pride in their work that they are offended when you deny them the chance to do it. When in doubt, just let them do the work that they have already offered to do.

The group of Fae moved quickly and efficiently, putting everything away with a speed and precision that I didn't think was possible. I was very impressed with how they had managed it all. However, that same Fae girl from before came and asked me something when she was done.

"Excuse me, Queen Trinity, but in the process of setting up your home here, I noticed that you did not bring a staff with you."

"I have brought my guards and my family, that is all the staff that we needed." I smiled at her, and her eyes popped open so wide that I saw she had no whites to them at all; they were actually lilac-colored and her irises looked like lots of little petals fitted together.

"No, Miss, I cannot allow that at all. You are a royal visiting the Queen. You need to be tended to, my lady. Please, allow me to care for your home whilst you are here. I will be discreet, and I will do my duties well. But you simply must have someone to cook and clean for you."

I could see that sincerity and light in her eyes. I knew that she just wanted to help us and do her job. She had most likely been raised and lived her whole life working as a servant to people. It was probably the only thing in life that she knew how to do.

I looked over at Reece who looked nearly as conflicted as I did. We did not know her, and we had left both the men capable of telling us whether or not we could trust her back home. However, we could simply not have important discussions near her, and we could have a guard taste test all the meals that she provided. I would also ask Queen Gloriana about her later.

'I think we should give her a chance.' I spoke to Reece inside his head for the first time in months. I saw the shock in his eyes, but otherwise he held his composure.

'I agree. We will watch her, and all meals will be taste tested, not just the ones she makes, but all of our meals. We will show her it's not just that we don't trust her; we're leary about everyone.' Reece really was overprotective and a worrywart, but I kind of loved that about him too.

'Alright.' I nodded at him again and looked at the Fae girl.

"OK, we've agreed to let you take care of the house for the time that we are here. What is your name?"

"Oh thank you, Queen Trinity, thank you so much." She beamed at me with a radiant smile. "My name is Roisin [1] Meadows, and I promise that I will do my absolute best for you."

I could literally feel her happiness when she smiled at me. It was like her emotions were being projected for us all to feel. If that was something that we would be privy to, then we would know if she was up to no good.

Chapter 413 - Trinity - The Whole Family Meets The Queen (VOLUME 3)

7-9 minutes

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Trinity

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After the housing issue was settled, it was time for us to go and greet our hostess. It has been well over a year now since I last saw Queen Gloriana. I know that she was going to be unchanged and look exactly the same as she did before. Me though, I am pretty sure that I look different.

I noticed how nervous most of my family looked as we walked to the meeting space, all guards and children included. Even those that had been excited for this meeting were starting to look nervous. I think Reece and I were the only ones that weren't nervous. Well, us and Shane and David since they were here last time. The only other person who didn't look nervous was Dietrich, but he seemed to have known the Queen a long time ago.

I wonder if he was excited to see the Queen again after so many years? Well, I guess we will find out soon enough. For right now though, as I walked down the hall holding Reagan in my arms, it was funny watching the panic on all the other faces. Even Breon was looking nervous right now. I guess he still didn't believe that his Queen approved of mixed matings.

We were led to the Queen's private quarters. The last time that I was in here it had been just the two of us so it was comfortable and spacious, but it didn't seem like it was big enough to hold nearly thirty people. Needless to say I was a little nervous at first.

I didn't need to be nervous at all though, the room, though the same in appearance and almost the exact same in furnishings, there was definitely more than there was the last time, was now almost three times bigger than it had been before. Huh, I guess the castle was not a place set in stone, even though it was made of stone.

The place was just as magical as the people that occupied it. The rooms and houses looked to be able to change themselves to whatever was needed at the time. That was good to know, and it would be nice to learn how to do something like that myself.

The moment that the Queen saw us when we walked into the room, she smiled broadly. I could tell that she was dying to run across the room and be the giddy little girl that she had been before. However, there were my guards and her servants present so she was not able to do that just yet.

"Thank you for bringing them here, Breon, you and the others may leave now." She was in a hurry.

"Wait just a moment, if you will Queen Gloriana." I smiled at her and saw that she was clearly not happy about being delayed. "There is some news that I would like to share."

"News? Really? And what might that be?" She looked like a girl in high school that was eager to hear the latest gossip.

"Breon here, has mated with one of my guards. Juliet here is a witch that had come along to aid in our protection detail, but she found a lot more than any of us had expected."

"Oh my, isn't that wonderful news." She beamed at Juliet, and I could tell that she was happy that her people were continuing to find their mates. "Juliet, dear, what do you think about having found your mate today?"

"I..I uh, I'm overjoyed, Queen Gloriana, my lady." Juliet looked nervous and thrown off by having been addressed directly; she was now struggling to be as polite as she could be. "I never thought that this kinda stuff would happen to me." She slipped a little on the politeness, but Queen Gloriana just smiled.

"And you, Breon, how do you feel? I know that you have not been the most open to this in the past." I could read between the lines she was throwing him. She was essentially asking him if he had gotten his head out of his ass and could now understand that fate was fate, and love was love; it didn't matter what form it took as long as the parties involved were consenting adults.

"Yes, my Queen, I know that I have not been the most agreeable person in the past. However, I have since recognized and corrected the error in my ways. And I am truly happy that I have done so as I now have a mate of my own. I can now find true happiness in this life."

I saw the sorrow flit across Queen Gloriana's face for just a second when she heard his words. I know she was happy for him, but Gloriana was still waiting for her happily ever after.

"I wish you and Juliet all the happiness in the world, Breon. Thank you, you are dismissed now." He and the other servant that accompanied us into the private quarters left.

"Queen Gloriana, I have with me a dozen guards, I know that we do not require so many in here with us, might I permit just a few to stay with us?" She saw Dietrich standing there, counted as those who were supposedly my guards at the moment.

"Yes, Queen Trinity, you may." She could tell that I was asking to keep those that I trusted with us.

"Shawn, Dietrich, Shane, and David will stay, the rest of you may retire to your rooms until we come back to the residence. Juliet, if Queen Gloriana permits it, you may spend your time with Breon."

"Yes, Juliet you may do just that." With a smile, Juliet left the room with the others, leaving just my friends and family behind.

When the door was closed behind them the atmosphere instantly changed to one that was a lot less tense.

"Oh Trinity, I am so glad to see you." Queen Gloriana sprinted to my side, and I thought she was about to give me a hug but she just pinched Reagan's cheeks and smiled at him. "And this adorable and handsome little man must be Reagan. And this one over here," she turned and gently pinched Rika's cheek as well, "she must be Rika. Oh, they are just so perfect."

She was beaming brightly as she looked around the room. She obviously went right to Dietrich next, her arms opened wide as if to hug him, but she instead pinched the cheeks of the two little girls in his arms. They looked just like him, black hair, pale complexion, and blue eyes.

"Dietrich, this is such a surprise! When did you have these adorable little girls? And why did you not inform me?"

"It is lovely to see you again after so long, Glory my dear. And these beautiful little girls are but two of my four children. My mate and I had them together on the day known as Valentine's day."

"Oh, what a sweet gift that was. Who is your mate? I have not been introduced to her yet."

"This is my mate." Dietrich indicated Shawn with a tilt of his head and a slight gesture of his hand. "His name is Shawn."

"Oh, how wonderful. These two little boys look just like your mate, the same unique hair and eye colors. Such special young men you all are. And your mate is a wolf too, that is fantastic. Did the two of you use someone to have the babies for you? What is it the humans call them, a uhm, a surrogate?" She looked up at Dietrich with curious eyes.

"No, Glory my dear, Shawn and I carried them ourselves and delivered them by cesarean section."

"Oh my stars, that is unique. I cannot wait to hear all about it."

At that moment Queen Gloriana turned to look at my family, a smile on her face.

"I am so happy to meet all of you as well. My name is Gloriana, and I am delighted that you're here."

Chapter 414 - The Whole Family Meets The Queen Part 2 (VOLUME 3)

7-9 minutes

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Trinity

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"Gloriana, allow me to introduce you to the rest of my family, and the guards that I brought along with me." I smiled at her and was happy to be dropping the formal attitude somewhat. "You already know Dietrich, who started as a friend and has joined us as an ally and confidant, not to mention he is mated to my guard and friend Shawn. Then there is his twin, Shane."

"Oooh, I do love twins." She winked at him.

"He is mated to a feline." I giggled at the childish pout on her face.

"Oh pooey."

"Then David." She looked hopeful for a moment. "Also mated." She deflated.

"Didn't you bring me anyone that was unmated?" She laughed. "I have a consort seat to fill."

That shocked me, last I knew she had a consort. Did she break it off with him because of that day I called her. I let it slide for now, I would ask her when we were alone.

"I believe a couple of my other guards are unmated." I thought for a moment. "I don't know them as well."

"Throw me a line here, Trinity, a Queen needs a little help."

"Oh my, Glory, since when did you become so thirsty?" Dietrich laughed at her and a few others chuckled as well, all the while the joke clearly went over the heads of the others.

"I thought she was talking about mates, why are you talking about thirsty, Dietrich? Do you need blood or something? Do the Fae drink blood?" Grandfather looked quite confused for a moment and that just made most of us laugh even more. "What?"

"Don't worry about it right now, Dad, I will explain it to you later." I have a hard time believing that my Dad knew what that comment meant.

"I am sorry, let us move on now. I will stop. Please introduce the rest of your family." Gloriana smiled and nodded to me.

I did as she asked and introduced us all. I started with my brothers and their families and went up the family tree, so next came my parents and Reece's mom, and then last was my Grandfather. Everyone was feeling a lot less nervous now that they could see that the Queen was a lot nicer than they had expected her to be.

"I really am happy to see you all, and I am glad you will be spending Yule with us. I absolutely adore children. And unfortunately, Star and Artem were not able to make it this year. I do so wish they would have. I wanted to meet my great, great, great, great nephew. That is a long generational gap though, isn't it. However, did you hear? Star's mother was found last year. I don't know how much you talk to her. I am so happy for her, her family has been healed."

I think that Gloriana realized that most of the people were still afraid at the moment. She just didn't match up to what you expected when first meeting her.

"Come now, no need to be afraid. Let's all sit and chat before we have some lunch. We will break the ice a little more, and then we can start working on this mystery that is your family tree."

I could see that she was intrigued by the whole thing. It wasn't often that you got to see this kind of thing happen. A mystery involving your entire set of people and a powerful ally. I am sure that Gloriana was eager to delve into it.

Once we were all seated comfortably and ready to talk, Gloriana jumped to her feet again as if she had been burned by the fire burning in her hearth.

"Oh no, this place is not baby proofed." Her hands were on her cheeks, and she looked mortified. "I will fix this right now."

With a wave of her hand, a large gate appeared in front of the fire and similar gates appeared in front of the glass bookshelf doors. Everything that was dangerous or that would harm or scare a baby was blocked off.

"There, all better. You can let them explore a little now. I actually have some baby toys they can use. I see my nieces and nephews from time to time so I know how to keep them safe and entertain them." She was grinning as she waved a hand again and made some toys float from inside a cabinet.

"Hehe, toy toy." Rika squealed delightedly in her adorable voice.

"Toy flo me, toy flo me."

"No Reagan, you can't make the toy float to you." I told him calmly as he reached with both hands.

"Yes Mama, toy flo me." Reagan sounded a little more forceful this time.

"No Rea, toy flo me." Rika argued with her brother, and that was when a tiny little blue light surrounded both of them. Two of the toys that Gloriana had held with her magic floated over to my children.

They both settled back down and started to play with their newly acquired toys.

"Well, I would say that they have quite a bit of magic." Gloriana smiled as she placed the rest of the toys on the floor. Once we all had placed our children in a circle on the floor, the conversation resumed.

"Yes, I know they do. The thing is, we had given them a binding bracelet so they wouldn't hurt themselves." I was confused and worried since I didn't want them to get hurt.

"Ahh, I can imagine that it was a warlock made magic item? Those don't work inside the compound. These lands are technically not part of the human world. Those that don't know to expect us here will pass right through us. This is the true essence of the land of Faerie. We may have given up the realm to the shadows that wanted it, but we took the magic with us. Things such as magic tools from non-Fae origin will have no effect here. I do apologize." She truly did look like she was sorry about it. "If you would like, I can give you a binding charm that will safely keep their magic at bay until they are old enough to use it. That is what we do to the young ones here."

"I would appreciate that." I was still looking at Reagan and Rika and trying to figure out how to raise babies that showed magic at such a young age.

"Absolutely. I will have them prepared for you right away. With that she took a pen and paper from her side table and wrote a message that disappeared in a swirl of wind. That was quite interesting to see.

"Now, where were we?" She smiled at us all, ready to talk about everything.

Before we got to the real reason we were all here, we spoke amongst ourselves and got to know the Queen a little better. They all found out how obsessed she was about babies and about her having tried for millennia, but not having a baby.

"There was a time when I thought Dietrich would break my curse, but alas ten years and no children. And here he is with a mate and four children. Clearly the problem is me." We all saw the wave of anger and jealousy that washed over Shawn when he heard those words, but he managed to keep it in. That was good, I didn't want him to get hurt.

By the time that the conversation progressed everyone had spoken to and gotten to know Gloriana except for Grandfather. He was still nervous and weary, and I think he just really wanted to find out what was really going on in our family tree. He was an impatient man at the best of times, and right now he was worried about his entire family. Poor Grandfather, I wished I could do more for him.

After the laughter from funny anecdotes and stories about the babies died down, I thought he was going to demand that we move the discussion along immediately, but he was still just watching silently. He was always doing his best for us all, and I think it was time for me to do something for him. We shouldn't keep him waiting anymore. In truth, I know that all of us were more than just a little curious. It was time to find out the truth, it was time to find our family.

Chapter 415 - Trinity - Lineage Part 1 (VOLUME 3)

6-7 minutes

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Trinity

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"Alright, Gloriana, I think it is best that we try to figure some of this out before it gets too late. There are some things that a lot of us are very eager to know the answers to."

"Yes, of course Trinity, I understand completely. I will do all that I can to help you and your family. You are a friend, as well as an ally." She smiled at me and then popped her head up like she forgot something. "Oh, and let's not forget, kindreds now as well. Since if you are Fae, that makes you my people, and I love to help my people."

"We appreciate that very much." Dad smiled and spoke softly. He was no longer as afraid as he had been when we first arrived, which was good.

While Gloriana pulled something out from her desk with a wave of her hand, I pulled the journals from my great great grandmother from the bag that I had slung over my shoulder and hanging by my side. The item that Gloriana had retrieved was a small silver mirror. The glass looked old and fogged over at the edges. There were also runes that were written up and down the sides of the mirror, markings that made absolutely no sense to me at all.

"What is this?" Emmalee, curious as she was, couldn't stop herself from asking. Gloriana didn't mind though, she just smiled and started to answer her.

"This, Emmalee, is a truth seeker. It only works on items, magic or non magic. What it will do is tell me if the item you have truly is what it is being represented as. If there is something that is being falsified, this mirror will tell us. It will also, sometimes, present us with the identity of the person who fabricated the item if it is a fake."

"Ooh, that sounds interesting. And very useful." Nikki smiled at the Queen. She had been one of the most nervous before we got here, and now she was as comfortable as she could be.

"Very useful, Nikki dear." Gloriana nodded her head at her. "Now, Trinity, could you please pass along the items that you have? I believe you mentioned before that there were journals or something of the like."

"Yes, here they are. They were supposedly written by the Fae ancestor's mate. She was my great great grandmother and seemed to have lived an unnaturally long life, as did her son. But the long lives seemed to have ended there."

"Hmm, I wonder if there was something that might have aided her lifespan if that is true. Sometimes, just bearing a half Fae child will elongate a life, not eternally, but it could add a couple decades easily. However, a few hundred years would be unheard of."

Gloriana looked as if she were thinking about something as she prepared the mirror. I was attuned to magic, so I was probably the only one who felt it when the Queen started to gather her magic in her hands to use on the mirror.

After a moment, the mirror that had only been partially faded before was now completely fogged over. When it could no longer reflect anything at all, Gloriana took the books from my hand and placed them on top of the glass.

She didn't say any silly words, she didn't do anything unnecessary, all she did was sit and watch while the magic she had worked took effect.

I leaned forward watching with her, as the fog began to swirl all around the edges of the mirror. The fog was pure white when it started to swirl, but it started to change color almost immediately.

The white darkened to a yellow, and then it slowly started to become a pale green. By the time that the fog had finished changing colors, it was a bright shining green. Gloriana looked at the color and smiled broadly.

"These items are indeed what they have been presented to you as. That is a relief. I would have hated to tell you that they were fakes."

"That is a relief, since I have based a large portion of what I know on what I read in these journals."

We all just continued to watch on as Gloriana picked up a journal and started reading one at random. She had chosen one of the last journals that Ellyria had written. It was one that spoke of her longing for her lost love and how it was consuming her still after nearly four hundred years.

With a sad sigh, Gloriana sat that journal down after having skimmed it and picked up another one. It was from somewhere in the middle of the stack, and it spoke of the times that Fynn and Ellyria had to move around. Once again she sighed with sorrow and set the book aside. Finally, she grabbed the first journal and flipped to a random page. I saw her eyes go wide, but I didn't know what had caused it.

"Gloriana, is everything alright?" She looked scared, nervous, angry, and happy all at the same time. I didn't know how it was possible, but I had felt that way in the past before so I knew it could be done.

"Trinity, do you know what this journal has just told me?!" There was now nothing but pure excitement dancing in her eyes. "I need to send a message right away."

As soon as she said those words there was a knock on the door. Well, that was fast, whoever it was.

Gloriana called out to ask who had come to disturb us so I was guessing they had nothing to do with the newest message she was sending.

This interruption turned out to be a servant bearing a delivery.

"Forgive me, my Queen." He bowed his head immediately. "I was instructed by the master to bring these to you." He handed her two tiny gold chains.

"Canter, what wonderful timing. Will you tell him that I need his assistance in person, immediately. Do not delay and do not allow him to tell you no. I need him here now!" Gloriana's voice was excited as she instructed him. "Go, now."

Chapter 416 - Trinity - Lineage Part 2 (VOLUME 3)

6-7 minutes

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Trinity

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"Gloriana, what is going on? What did you find?" Dietrich asked as soon as the door shut behind Canter. "Is there something wrong?"

"No, it's not that it's wrong. I've only seen one page of this journal, the one from the start of the relationship that this woman had with her Fae lover, but if I am right in my assumption, then I know who you descended from." There was a bright shining light in her eyes as she spoke. The excitement, the anticipation, the wonder. It was a lot to deal with, I just hoped that we could all handle it.

We sat in silence for several minutes, waiting on the man that Gloriana had just summoned. It felt like the silence was going to drag on forever, and I wouldn't have been able to handle that. I needed to say something.

"Gloriana, what are those chains?" I asked just as a way to stop the tension from growing even more.

"Oh, yes, in my excitement I nearly forgot. These are the binding charms I had prepared for Reagan and Rika. They will contain their magic more efficiently than that of the warlock items that you had. You can put them around their ankles or wrists, they will size themselves to fit the children snugly but not harm them in any way."

"This is very helpful, thank you." I smiled and took them from her hand.

Together, Reece and I put the charms onto Reagan and Rika. Just like Gloriana said, as soon as we slipped them onto their wrists, the charms shrunk down to fit like a tight band, but it in no way squeezed the children. I was happy that they were doing as she had said they would.

At that moment, there was a loud and very authoritative knocking at the door. Whoever was out there was someone important. Maybe not as important as the Queen of the Fae, but still pretty high up.

Gloriana waved her hand, and the door opened to reveal a large man. The man looked at the most thirty years old, but I also knew that appearances were deceiving. He would most likely be hundreds, if not thousands of years old. He looked strong, tall, handsome, and angry. His hair was different shades of

blue in a gradient that went from almost black dark blue at the top to a light almost white blue at the bottom. His eyes were blue as well, they went from bright sky blue to cornflower blue and then sapphire blue.

"What business did you need me for, Gloriana. I thought you could handle your company on your own."

"Oh hush now, brother. I have some news for you." This man was Gloriana's brother? I would never have pegged them as siblings, except for the fair complexion they were quite different looking.

"Glory, if you're going to recognize our familial bond in front of strangers, please warn me ahead of time." He glared at her, but there was a playful smile at the corner of his mouth. "What do you want from me, sister? I was actually quite busy before you interrupted me, not once, but twice."

"Val, I think I have found something that you need to see. Come, sit with me." She beckoned him forward and made him sit on the sofa next to her.

"This had better not be something stupid again. I swear if this ends up like that magic light invention the humans have, I will drench you for a month."

He sighed as she forced him into the seat, but he took the journals that she was handing him nonetheless.

"Read, Val, read." The man did as he was instructed to. He, unlike Gloriana, started with page one of the journal. He read the dates, he read the entries, and by the time he got to page two, he was too invested to stop. He read page after page. For what felt like a long time, we all just watched his face as he read nonstop.

This newcomer, the man that Gloriana called Val, was looking more and more sad and surprised at the same time. I could see his eyes misting and tears gathering in his eyes. He was trying hard not to cry, but it looked like he might lose that battle.

"Glory, how? How did you get these? Have you authenticated them? Are they truly real?"

"Yes, Val, they are real." I could see that Gloriana's smile was bittersweet. She was happy for him, but for some reason she was truly sad.

"I..I never knew how he died." The man fought hard not to sob. "I never knew the truth of what happened. The one who avenged him, she never came to the banquet. And now I know why."

Wait a minute? This man had something to do with my great great grandfather? What relationship did they have? And what would that make him to me? This was about to delve into the uncomfortable and awkward. I just hoped he didn't get upset when I started to speak to him.

"Excuse me." I had stood up and walked forward so that I was right there in front of him.

"Who are you?" The man didn't look happy to be interrupted.

"Val, this is Queen Trinity: she is the Queen of all the shifters, as well as the witches and warlocks. She is the one who brought me these journals." I could sense a slight mischievousness coming from her at the moment. Was she trying to play some sort of game?

"Thank you, Queen Trinity. Thank you for bringing me these journals. This will set my mind at ease more than you will ever know. For centuries, I have gone without knowing what it was that really happened. Please tell me how you came across these journals. I need to know." I saw a mix of desperation and gratitude in his eyes. Whoever my great great grandfather was, he meant a lot to this man.

Chapter 417 - Trinity - Lineage Part 3 (VOLUME 3)

5-7 minutes

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Trinity

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"These journals were given to me by my personal assistant. I had him doing some research for me." I didn't know if I should go all out and tell him all of it right up front. I didn't know if I could trust this man yet or not.

"Why was he researching Rhinum? Why would he need to know about him when he died over five hundred years ago?"

"Well, I had him researching my family." Here it goes, I am about to tell him the truth of it all. "Those journals belonged to my great great grandmother. So, according to this, Rhinum was my great great grandfather."

"The child of hers lived? She truly was able to make it without help? What happened to the child? Fynn? Where is he now? Where is my grandson?"

That answered my question. This man, he was Rhinum's father, and he was my great great great grandfather. Well, those genetics of his are strong, since he was truly very old, but looked only a little older than my husband.

"Fynn died, about seventy years ago I would say. Or at least, he is presumed dead. He never returned home from the war that he was sent to fight." There were tears streaming down his cheeks now.

"So my only son, and my only grandson died while at war. How could I have let all of this happen to my family?" He sobbed for a moment, his shoulders shaking while Gloriana held him in her small arms.

"I know it is hard, Val, but there is a silver lining. Think about what she has said. These journals belonged to her great great grandmother. That great great grandmother only had one child."

His head lifted at her words, stunned awe filling his face. It was like he was just making the connection from her words, my words, and the journals. I could understand that he was upset, that he was having a hard time processing anything other than the true way that his son died.

"My grandson had an heir?" He looked at me with hope. "His family continued?"

I watched as he looked around at all of us in the room. There were a lot of people, and I knew he didn't know which of us here might be his family and which might not be.

"You?! You're his family?! And, and this little one here." He looked down at Reagan who was still in my arms.

"Yes, Fynn married and fathered a child before he left. His daughter wasn't born until after he was gone, and she never met him, but the family continued. His daughter, my grandmother, married Samuel Whitton, my grandfather over there. They had two children, my biological mother, Lily who died twenty years ago, and Wesley. In my generation, aside from me, there is Noah and Carter." I indicated everyone as I spoke their name by pointing at them. "Over there is my adoptive mother, who is technically my Aunt Eve, but she and Wesley raised me so they are my mom and dad. Noah married Nikki, and that is their son Elias. Carter married Emmalee, and that is their son Carter Junior, or CJ. Over there is my husband Reece, and our twins are Reagan and Rika."

With each name that I added to his growing family tree, the man before me smiled. It was like someone was giving him the greatest gift he had ever been given.

"So many of you." He grinned as he looked around at us all. "I cannot believe that there are so many of you. I thought that I had no family aside from my sister and the children of my brother's line. B..b..but I have a family!" He laughed and sobbed at the same time while tears streamed.

"So, if you're our family, that would make you our, what, great great great grandfather?" Carter wondered. "That's a lot of generations to keep track of." He laughed and broke the tension in the room.

"Yes, that is exactly what it makes me. And add another great to that for these babies." I watched as he took one large finger and gently stroked Reagan's cheek. "He is quite cute."

"I am sorry to interrupt." Noah stood and walked to my side. "I know that Queen Gloriana referred to you as Val, but I do not think that is your real name. Is it?"

"Ahh, you are quite right." He smacked a hand to his head. "That is the nickname she has had for me our whole lives. My name is Valerian. Valerian Undine. Well, the last name is more of a species. It is what I am. I am a Sidhe from the water lines. The first of them to be exact. But, because of that fact, the surname was adapted to me. Sorrel, our brother, was given the surname Greenman. And Gloriana, as she was already the Queen, was given the name Belphoebe."

That was a lot of information that I didn't expect right then. It wasn't bad though, to be honest I was glad that I was learning more about all of this.

"So, Valerian Undine, I guess we're family." I smirked at him. "I hope you're not disappointed to have a bunch of wolves for your family, with a spattering of warlocks and witches just for kicks."

Valerian laughed then. It was a real laugh that was filled with joy and happiness.

"I think, somehow, I might be able to survive." At that moment, and without warning, Valerian reached out and wrapped his arms around me. He was holding me tight, hugging me to his chest as he laughed and cried at the same time. "I have a family. I never thought this day would ever happen for me. I cannot believe that I have so many family members that I never knew about. This is the happiest day I have had in centuries. Thank you, Trinity, thank you for bringing me this surprise!"

Chapter 418 - Trinity - Getting To Know Valerian (VOLUME 3)

7-9 minutes

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Trinity

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When Valerian released me his eyes were red and swollen from all the tears he had shed. I smiled and laughed because that was what he was doing.

"I think you're still going to want to see." I giggled. "I think we should fix those." I pulled my magic to me and reduced the swelling in his eyes for him. I knew that it was going to take away the stinging ache of the tears as well.

"You're skilled in magic?" He asked me with surprise. "Does that mean that those two charms I made were for your children?"

"I didn't know you made them, but yes. Reagan and Rika had a warlock crafted equivalent, but we learned that those wouldn't work here. They are already using their powers, but I am worried they will hurt themselves."

"These little ones must be special." He grinned as he looked at Reagan with an inquisitive stare. "D..d..do you mind if I hold him? I haven't held a child of my bloodline in so long."

I knew that I could trust him with my baby. I also knew that he must be overjoyed and excited to have received the news that he had gotten today. I wasn't going to dangle family in front of his face and then tell him no. That would have been cruel to him.

"He gets a little temperamental at times when strangers hold him, but you're more than welcome to try. If he gives you trouble, there are three more babies to hold."

Valerian grinned and reached out for Reagan who, surprisingly, went right to him. Reagan was looking at him with wide curious eyes. Tentatively, as if nervous, Reagan reached his hand out and grabbed a fistful of Valerian's hair. He didn't pull it, he was just feeling it.

"Mama, him hair blue." Reagan sounded as if that was the most exciting thing they had ever seen.

"Mama, him hair blue. Hair blue, Mama." He turned to giggle at me as he repeated himself. "Haha, hair blue."

"Yeah, Reagan, he has blue hair. Isn't that cool?" Reagan just giggled and looked back at him.

"Hello there, Reagan. I am your Athair mór [1]." The entire name sounded complicated, and completely foreign to Reagan.

"Ah her, ah her." Reagan was doing what he could to repeat the words, but he could only phonetically get out parts of it.

"Close enough." Valerian grinned. "I will be Ah her until you get a little older. You lot will be the first ever to call me that name."

"Mama, Ah her?" I heard Rika call out jealously from Reece's lap. "Mama, me want Ah her."

Reece stood up and walked over to where Valerian stood before me.

"Care to try two of them." He joked with the man. "She's getting a little jealous of her brother."

"I would love to." Valerian grinned and shifted Reagan so that he could take Rika in his left arm.

She did the same thing that Reagan had done. She reached out and gently grabbed his blue hair and giggled.

"Mama, him do blue hair." Rika was just as excited as Reagan had been.

"They are so adorable." He squeezed them to his chest, hugging them tightly.

"Dada, me go Ah her?" CJ tugged on Carter's sleeve as he whined.

"Mama, me too." Elias turned and begged Nikki to go to see his Athair mór too.

"What do you say, Val? Do you want to sit on the floor so you can play with them all at once?" Gloriana laughed at him.

"Yup, I sure do."

As he said that he walked over to an empty spot on the floor and plopped on it. Come here my garpháistí [2], come see your Ah her." CJ and Elias ran toward Valerian with grins and giggles, and he caught them in his large arms as well.

For a while, we all just sat there and talked while the children used their new Ah her as a jungle gym. Valerian seemed to love it. I guess the older Fae really are family oriented, especially if they have been without a family for a long time.

When the children got tired and fell asleep on Valerian for a short nap, he just stayed there and let them be while he joined in on the conversation. During our talks we learned that Valerian never mated but he did have a child, a spark of jealousy was in Gloriana's eyes as she looked at her brother since she had never even had that much. We also learned that Valerian and his wife did not last, and she left, abandoning her son in the process. She now, supposedly, lives in the Faerie plane with the dark Fae. She was a Silkie, a sea Fae, that had been why they were paired together to begin with. Valerian raised his son to be a proud warrior who fought for his people. But when his son, whose full name was Antirrhinum, had died in the wars, it had nearly destroyed Valerian. He became closed off and was considered mean or cruel by a lot of people. In truth, Valerian just didn't want to be hurt again.

You would never have known that Valerian was ever closed off because he was so open and animated when he spoke right now. He was telling us stories from his youth, and from when Antirrhinum was a child. I had a hard time processing that these childhoods happened hundreds and thousands of years ago. I mean, if you listen to Valerian, he, Gloriana, and Sorrel had been born directly from the Goddess Danu before she started turning the other Fae, or fairy creatures, into her children. The only ones that she birthed though, were the three siblings that were at the top.

It was truly fun getting to know about all of them. It was getting late though, and we were all ready for bed. The meal that we had come here for had been forgotten, and we were all too tired to even eat

now. Though, we had made plans to have breakfast with Valerian in the morning. He was really excited to see us all some more.

"I am so glad you are here for the Yule celebration, that just means that we get to see a lot of each other during this time."

"And, there is another benefit." Gloriana smiled at us. "You can all call me Aunt Glory now."

"Oh, can you all call me Athair mór? It's the words we use for grandfather. I know there is no 'great' in there, but I am still that to you. Well, most of you. Samuel, you were married to my granddaughter, but I never met her, and I am sure calling someone who looks younger than you grandfather would feel awkward, the same goes for you Lila, you can just call me Valerian. But the rest of you are my grandchildren, my garpháistí and I would love it if you could call me Athair mór."

"I think we can do that." Dad was the one who answered, and even he looked older than Valerian. However he was, in truth, his great great grandson.

"Thank you, Wesley. Thank you all so much."

I thought about something then. Dad, though he looked older than Reece and Noah, didn't look like he was almost fifty, and Mom didn't look her age either. Even by wolf standards they looked younger. I had to wonder if that was because of the Fae influence in our lives.

I would have to ask about that later.

Chapter 419 - Trinity - What Actually Is The Yule Celebration (VOLUME 3)

6-8 minutes

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Trinity

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When we woke the next morning we got ready for breakfast with Valerian. I wanted to catch Roisin ahead of time so she didn't start making breakfast, and thankfully, I caught her just as she was about to go into the kitchen.

"Roisin." She stopped and looked at me with those pretty flowered eyes of hers.

"Yes, my lady?" She bowed a little when she saw me. "What can I do for yeh, miss?" She slipped into an accent then that I couldn't quite place.

"Not all of us need breakfast. Many of us won't be eating here this morning. We'll be back for lunch I do believe, but we're having breakfast with Valerian."

"Huh?" She gasped at those words. "The Queen's brother? Queen Trinity, are you sure that you want to do that? He can be quite harsh at times."

"I think we will be fine. He was quite pleasant last night, after all, we are his garpháistí." I saw Roisin's eyes go wide with shock.

"Truly? I didn't think that he had any family. Not since his son passed on." She was smiling happily, obviously she thought the continuation of his line was a good thing.

"Yes, he had a son before he passed away; however, no one knew of it. Valerian, or rather Athair mór, asked us to come and have breakfast with him this morning. While we're here, we want to get to know more about our Fae side. I think it will help us in the future."

"Aye, my lady, I believe that will be for the best as well. I am truly happy for you. You found your family, and it was the Prince no less."

Her words made me pause for a moment. I was descended from a Fae Prince. I was royalty no matter how you looked at me. What the hell? Why was fate playing such a major hand in my development? And what did this mean moving forward?

I thought about that the entire way to Athair mór's family domain. It was a house just like the one that we were staying in, but its rooms were much larger since it had a lot fewer rooms. The parlor that we entered was much bigger than I expected for a man that was living alone.

I could tell he had prepared for our arrival though. He had taken Gloriana's, or rather Aunt Glory's, example of baby proofing and prepared a space that would be perfect for putting the little ones for while we talked. He even had four Fae versions of a highchair brought in. The chairs in question looked like they were fashioned from flowers and vines and were actually really cute.

"Welcome my clann [1], thank you all for coming today." Athair mór had his servants prepare a breakfast feast for us. Everyone sat down around a large blue marble table that looked like it was an ocean wave trapped in glass. It was beautiful and mesmerizing.

"Athair mór, I was wondering, could you tell us what the Yule celebration actually is? I have heard of them before, but I don't know if they are the same here."

"Ahh, yes, we celebrate things differently than the old Paegan holidays. Here, in the lands of magic, we don't just celebrate winter, we celebrate magic." He looked like his face lit up; it was like he might be looking forward to the celebration for the first time in a long time.

"So, what do we do? How do we celebrate it?" Noah, ever the diplomat, asked this before I could.

"The opening ceremony is tonight. There will be a banquet that every Fae is invited to. It will be a glorious outdoor banquet under the light of the stars. From there we celebrate the main types of magic before we get to sub types. The three of them are Light, Nature, and Water, the three things that life needs to survive. Light magic encompasses everything from sunlight to fire, to even the absence of light. No matter how different they may seem, darkness is a form of light magic; it is just the inverse of it. Nature magic can be anything that has to do with the land: plants, rocks, trees, all of it. Water magic is a little loose in its definition as well. Water can be rain, oceans, streams, ice, and even the wind oddly enough. The Fae are a little confused when it comes to these things, huh?" He chuckled and then continued. "Unless you are in the desert where there is very little water, the air around you has water in it. So, for that matter the air and wind type magics fall under water magic."

"Huh, I never thought about it that way." Carter was grinning as he listened to the explanation.

"Wait a minute. Trinity, do you think that your affinity for wind and ice magic is due to your fae lineage?" Grandfather caught the connection before any of us had.

"It is possible, I would think it would mean something anyway."

"Your magic specialties lie in my domain?" The grin on Athair mór's face was kind of adorable.

"Yes, they have long been my strongest styles of magic, even though I can use every element. My wolf even becomes an ice wolf." I tried not to blush under his excited gaze.

"I would love to see that sometime. I have not seen a werewolf in animal form for quite some time. I would love to see all of your wolf forms. I think it would be wise for me to see them since we are family." He was looking a little sheepish, like he thought that perhaps he was asking for too much.

"I think that would be good too, Athair mór." Dad agreed, clearly trying to make the man feel less awkward. "That way you will recognize us if the need were to arise, and we were fighting or something in our other form."

"Yes, exactly." He grinned, glad to have the excuse provided for him.

We talked for a while longer while the children played. Athair mór played with the children some more, but he also helped us to understand more about the Yule schedule. There would be four days devoted to each element, and during that time each household was to prepare a gift for the Gods and Goddesses that the Fae either worshipped or descended from. After each set of the four days, there was a day devoted to the Royal Fae of that element complete with a banquet, and then there was a ball the next day.

During the four day celebrations, there were festivities and gift exchanges with loved ones. The entire thing was a giant party to be had for nearly a month. It sounded nice, interesting, and exhausting.

Chapter 420 - Trinity - The Opening Ceremony Banquet (VOLUME 3)

7-8 minutes

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Trinity

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The day seemed to pass in a blur. We were getting ready for the banquet before we knew it. And we were bringing all four of the children along with us; that was going to be interesting. Athair mór insisted though. We were to be seated at his table, representing his family, and he was going to announce during the banquet who we all were.

A lot of the people here knew that I was a Queen in my own right. A lot of them even spoke to me the last time that I was here. This time, however, they were learning that I was one of them as well.

I just had to wonder though, would any of them believe it? I mean, we have proof. There are plenty of journal entries that tie our families together. Plus, they could do a blood test if they wanted to prove a familial bond. Though I would love to see the reaction on that lab tech's face when they analyzed our samples. That would be funny enough that you could sell tickets to it, if it wouldn't destroy the veil of mystery we had over the humans.

Well, here's to hoping that the naysayers from last time will cool their jets with this new revelation. I wasn't going to hold my breath for it to happen though. I enjoy living too much to suffocate myself to death.

The banquet had been set up outside in the large open town square. There was a raised dais that was big enough for three large tables. Aunt Glory was seated in the middle with no one at the table with her. Usually her consort would sit with her so I guess it was true, Curtis had been relieved of his role.

The table to the left of Aunt Glory's was empty. There was one place setting but no food was waiting there for anyone. On the right side of Aunt Glory's table was Athair mór's table. He was waiting for us with an eager look in his eyes. He beckoned us over and even stood when we arrived. His servants, however, were the ones to pull the chairs out for us.

"I am glad you are here. I am so happy to have a family sit with me again for this time of the year. I have missed this for the last several hundred years."

"I am sorry that you were alone for so long, Athair mór. But we're here now, and even when we're not in the Fae compound, we will still be your family. You will be welcome to visit any of us at any time. I am sure that the others will agree." Nikki's calm and sweet voice was soothing him as she spoke.

"Ah her! Mommy, me sit with Ah her?" Elias was bouncing in Nikki's arms, trying to get free.

""If he is OK with that, Elias, then I don't see a problem with it." Nikki smiled at Athair mór as she spoke.

"I would love that. Come on, Elias, Ah her will hold you now."

"Yay! Ah her! Ah her!"

While we all smiled happily at Elias and Athair mór, we heard the sound of three different bells ringing. When I looked up, I saw that the three bells were all very different in the way that they looked. The center one was bright yellow, like a shining and shimmering light in bell form. The one to it's right was green and looked like ivy, but sounded like metal. The last one was blue and looked, and even seemed to be moving, like water, but it too sounded like metal. The bells all had different tones, but they played a harmonious tune as they moved in their pattern for the tolling.

Long before the bells had gone silent, everyone that had gathered at the tables, large ones and small ones, had gone completely silent and still. They were all waiting for the banquet to start. And quite a few of them were staring at me and my family as we sat with none other than Valerian Undine.

"Welcome people of Fae, to the start of the Yule time celebrations. There will be the same schedule as usual, but I have been told that some groups have decided to go above and beyond what they usually would for this year's celebration. There is no news that needs to be shared by me at this time; however, I would like to turn the floor over to my brother."

Athair mór stood then, taking Elias with him as he walked to the center of the stage.

"Good evening, people of Faerie. I have an announcement that I would like to make. I have found out some wonderful news just recently. News that I was not aware of for a long time. My son, Antirrhinum, had met his mate in his battalion the month before his death. As it turns out, he actually died saving the woman he loved. That woman, the one he mated with, was the female wolf warrior who ended that war for us. It turns out her efforts had not just been vengeance for her lost Commander, but also for her lost love. Antirrhinum had even asked for her hand in marriage, and they were expecting a child." He turned to look at the group of us for a moment before he continued. "The grandson that I never met went on to father a child, and that line continued. The people you see before you now are my family. They are what had become of my son's sacrifice."

There was a hushed murmur that went through the crowd as they whispered amongst themselves. Then, one person near the front, stood to address Athair mór.

"Isn't that woman there the Shifter Queen that was here last year? How can she be your descendant?" The person didn't sound convinced at all. I stood then, handing Rika to Mom as I passed by her on my way to Athair mór's side.

"I am the Shifter Queen, yes. I also happen to be the Witch Queen. And now, I am apparently a Fae Princess. That is a lot for one person, but not impossible. In truth, I am a trinity. That being my name, and what I am. I am a tribrid. Three different species at once. Wolf, Witch, and Fae all happen to be in my lineage. That is nothing for you to scoff at me for. To be honest, I count myself very lucky to be who I am today."

I let the person know that nothing they said was going to upset me. I was, after all, more powerful than most people. I needed to act like it at times.

"Fine, you're part Fae. But I want to know why the Queen's consort is missing? What happened to Curtis?" A woman's voice rang from the back. "Queen Gloriana, my lady, you said you had no news to report, then explain that to us; if it isn't news, what it is?"

Queen Gloriana looked slightly angered, but she smiled and answered the woman's question in a cold voice.

"Curtis is currently being punished for overstepping his bounds. I would advise you, Dula, to not overstep yours."

Yeah, that was a threat if I ever heard one. The fear that ran through the woman was visible all the way up on the dais. Oh, just what was going to happen now?