

## Chosen by Fate 471

### Chapter 471 - Reece - The Rise Of The Knights (VOLUME 3)

Reece

~~

There was still a lot that we needed to do. Now that Trinity's birthday was over, as well as the initial council meeting, there were other things that we needed to get to. We needed to staff the daycare, select the deputy mayor, and fill out the ranks of the new army, or as the others have decided to call it, the Goddess Knights.

For now, my Little Bunny was taking care of staffing the daycare, and Wesley was going to be the deputy mayor. She had already spoken to Valerian and asked him to look into the incident that happened at the castle. And true to his word, Gabriel had asked his mate and our maid, Roisin, to look into the incident as well. It is very possible that they will get two very different versions of the story since they will be asking people of vastly different statuses. Knowing what is happening from multiple vantage points could be beneficial for us as well..

Right now, I was on my way to the barracks that Trinity and Valerian had built together.. They had done this not long after they had spoken about the incident at the Fae compound. I had requested it to be done so that we could get the training underway. If we were going to be fighting a war against an unknown enemy soon, I wanted to have an army that had been through some thorough training when we left.

This new barracks that they had built was going to be the home to the soldiers until they graduated from their training regimen. There were going to be a lot of people here soon since we sent out word to all those in the supernatural world that they could join our army. The condition before they joined was that they had to swear fealty to Trinity and myself and swear a binding oath that they recognized us as their Queen and King, as well as their Alpha and Luna. The contract was going to be so binding that they would be compelled to follow our orders even if they were a Vampire or a Fae.

They could not be a spy and enter our army as well since they will be vetted by Gabriel and Vincent. We were only taking those that truly intended to do right by us. There was no way that we could afford to be relaxed in this aspect; not with a war upon us.

I had called Paul to the castle. He had been asked to stay away for the time being so that things could be finalized. He hadn't been banned from the castle, since he was still invited to visit for parties and spending time as a friend. However, his job had been put on hold. At least he knew that there was a castle, and I didn't have to hear the shock again.

The castle had literally given everyone a massive shock when they saw it. Thankfully though, they were all used to it by now. Well, most of them. There were still some pack members that were going to be coming up here for future events that hadn't seen it at all. That was when we were going to hear their shocked expressions that I found both funny and annoying.

"Hey, Reece." Paul was walking up toward the front of the castle and saw me waiting for him.

"Hey, Paul." I waved at him.

"What did you need me for today? Is training resuming?" I saw the excitement on his face as he was eager to get back to work.

"Soon. I have something to show you and then something to explain to you."

"OK, that sounds like there is a lot of evasiveness in those words. I hope that everything is alright."

"Everything is fine. In fact, I think that you will be quite happy with what is going on right now." I grinned at him to show that there was nothing to worry about. "Come with me."

I led him to the dune buggy type of vehicle that I had gotten to drive around the now very vast inner part of the castle grounds. From there I drove him around the side of the mountain, a trek of about two miles or so. When he saw the building for the barracks his eyes went wide.

OK, to be fair it didn't look like a normal barracks. It wasn't like what you see on TV for an army location. It actually looked like a miniaturized castle, but less beautiful than the one that I lived in.

"What is this?" He asked with a laugh. "You guys need more castles now?"

"This is a barracks for the new army. Or as your two new captains have requested it to be called, the Goddess Knights."

"Goddess Knights?" He was looking confused. "And I have captains? So they outrank me?" He looked saddened by those words.

"Nope, you're the commander of the Knights, and they are your first captains." I grinned at him.

"Congrats on the promotion."

"Dude? Seriously?" Paul's eyes went wide. "So Astro actually named me Commander of the new army?" He was staring at the building with shock and awe. I knew that he could seem dense, but it was all an act. He was actually a really smart man who was really really good at strategic planning. "I promise, Reece, I won't let you guys down."

"You better not." I gave him a stern look just to show him that this was something to take seriously.

I proceeded to show him the inside of the building. How it was divided up between two dormitory buildings and the dining hall in the middle. They would eat breakfast here since they would likely be getting up so early, chefs would be provided for them of course. He could then decide if they wanted all the soldiers to eat in the barracks or the castle for the other meals, since he was the commander, that decision was up to him.

I explained to him how there would be recruits from almost every species of supernatural that there was, including the Fae and the Vampires. He was shocked by that and surprised that he was going to be training so many people.

I showed him the training grounds that we had prepared, but I told him if there were changes he needed, we could take care of that as well. There were all types of courses that would help to train his recruits, including water to train the sea shifters. I wanted all types of people on our teams to defend us and attack for us if needed. This was a whole new world for us, and we needed to adapt to it.

By the time that I was done, it almost looked like Paul's mind was blown, but he switched instantly into his work mode. I could see the sharp glint in his eyes and the smirk that told me he was eager to get to work.

"When will my first group of fresh meat arrive?" He asked me, and I could tell that he was already planning out what he was going to make them do. "I am going to whip them all into shape and turn them into Knights worthy of my friends." His nod told me that he was one hundred percent serious right now.

"That's what I wanted to hear." I grinned back. "They arrive in five days. Take the time to prepare yourself. Also, you, Juniper, and the twins are invited to move into the residential part of the castle. You are not just friends, Paul, you're family."

### **Chapter 472 - Trinity - What Athair Mòr Found Out Part 1 (VOLUME 3)**

6-8 minutes

---

~~

Trinity

~~

The daycare was finally staffed. That had taken me almost longer than deciding who should be on my council. I mean, I couldn't trust just anyone with all of those children. They had to prove to us that they were trustworthy and good with kids. Though the good thing is we had gotten it done within just about two and a half weeks. OK, it wasn't anywhere near as long as it took to fill in the council, but it felt like it.

During the time that we were working on staffing the daycare, Athair mòr had gone back home to the Fae compound. He wanted to see Gloriana in person and find out what had happened the day of the ball. Aunt Glory hadn't told me what happened during the call at all.

Roisin had gone home with him as well.. She was going to find out what her family knew about the incident. She was going back under the guise of needing to get some more of her things so that she could live more comfortably in the castle. She was just as smart and efficient as Gabriel was when it came to doing her job. They truly were a perfect pair.

I was hoping they had gotten some good information for me. I know that sounded selfish of me, but I still wanted it to be true. And the good thing is, they're due back at almost any moment.

I was expecting them so right now, Reagan and Rika were in the daycare, and Reece and I were in my office waiting for them to arrive. We were trying to be more 'regal' than usual so at the current moment we were having afternoon tea in the office, waiting for them. I personally liked tea, Reece, however, not so much.

"Blegh." He said as he tasted the tea. "This one is just as bad as all the others." He complained.

"You just need to find the right blend." I smiled at him as I set my cup down.

"I will find a different one for you to try next time, my King." Gabriel bowed and took the cup away.

"Don't worry about it Reece. We don't need to have tea." I laughed at him.

"But that's what they always do in books and movies. It's the royal thing to do."

"You're an idiot, you know that, right?" I laughed at him as I shook my head.

"It's what they do." He said again.

"That's them, not us." I pointed it out to him. "We can just set our own royal traditions. Why do we need to follow someone else's example?"

He looked shocked when he heard that; it was like he hadn't thought about it at all.

"You're absolutely right." He grinned. "We will be trailblazers. Instead of tea, we'll drink something else. Bring out the vodka." He laughed.

"Let's spare ourselves the future AA meetings and just drink juice or something else that we might like. Perhaps juice, coffee, soda, something that won't make us look like a bunch of drunkards."

"You're no fun." He pretended to pout. "But fine, let's have whatever we like to drink."

Just then the bell to the office door rang. Yes, my office had a doorbell. Gabriel walked to the door to check who was there through the one way window. Yes, Athair mòr had thought of everything when he built my office.

"My Queen, it is Valerian and Roisin." He had a smile on his face as he spoke, most likely because his mate was outside the door.

"Let them in." I nodded at him.

When the door opened, I saw Roisin, my personal maid and Gabriel's mate, as well as my Athair mòr, Valerian. They were both smiling, but I could tell that there was something that had happened while they were gone. Despite the smiles they were both wearing, their eyes were holding the truth of it all with tense unease.

"Gariníon, I've missed you." Athair mòr smiled as he came into the room and walked up to me for a quick hug.

"We have missed you as well, Athair mòr. I hope your trip was a good one."

"Indeed it was." He answered in a warm voice and sat down in the chair across from me.

"Roisin, please have a seat so that we might talk about your trip as well." She knew that I was basically saying, 'OK, let's cut to the chase, I want to know what the two of you found out already!'"

"Yes, my lady." She nodded and sat in the chair that was next to Athair mòr's.

"Don't worry." I heard Gabriel whisper to her before he walked to stand behind me.

"Roisin, won't you please start us off. How was your family? How were things back home?"

"My family is doing great, Queen Trinity." She nodded at me. "They were not affected at all by the recent events, but they were very gossipy about it." She giggled as she worked her way into the story.

"Oh, really? I wonder just what it was." I put a finger on my chin as if I were thinking about it very intently.

"Oh dear, it was something quite major. It seems that someone tried to break Curtis out of the prison cells. The Queen was quite furious since he had not completed his punishments yet."

"That does sound like something quite major." I felt myself frown on the inside. I wonder what their goal was in trying to free the former consort to the queen. They have to know that being with him would only draw the ire of the Queen herself.

"Was the culprit caught?" I had to know that part.

"Unfortunately, my family has not found that out yet. It is being kept a secret from the rest of the court at the moment. I would assume they were, since Curtis is still locked up in his cell."

"Is that so? Hmm." I thought about this for a moment. If the person was caught then they most definitely were not part of the future issue, that is, unless they get free and come back with a vengeance. I think this is going to take some more information gathering before I can decide. "Thank you, Roisin. That will be all for now. Gabriel, will you see her to her quarters? I am sure that she is very exhausted from her travels. You may return when you finish up there."

"Yes, my Queen." Gabriel nodded at me and then took Roisin's hand. "Please, come with me." He smiled at her, and the two of them left the room.

I knew that Gabriel had missed his mate while she was away so I was giving him some time alone with her while the rest of us talked in private. I would share important information with him later.

Now it was just me, Athair mòr, and Reece. It was time to get down to business and find out what it was that the Queen had to say about this whole situation. I just knew that there was more to the story, and I was determined to find out what it was.

### **Chapter 473 - Trinity - What Athair Mòr Found Out Part 2 (VOLUME 3)**

7-8 minutes

---

~~

Trinity

~~

Just after the door closed behind Gabriel and Roisin, the conversation started.

"So Valerian, what happened?" Reece spoke in his Alpha voice. I really did like it when he acted all authoritative like that.

"Just as Roisin said, there was an attempt to free a prisoner from his cell. The culprit was a little more skilled at it than we would have liked. The reason being, they had intimate knowledge of the catacombs."

"Catacombs?" I tilted my head at the word. I had never heard anyone refer to a prison and catacombs in the same sentence before. However, if you think about it, that would make sense.. Throwing them in a dungeon that was in a maze of tunnels so they would not make it out very easily. That would be pretty cool if you asked me.

"Yes, catacombs. There are many secrets hidden in the catacombs of the Fae castle. One of them being the prison. We used to call it the dungeon, but we modernized it because of where we are." He grinned at me.

"And who has that sort of knowledge of the catacombs?" Reece asked him. "Who could have possibly gotten to the prison if they didn't know about the catacombs ahead of time?"

"That was the true issue now, wasn't it?" Athair mòr smirked, but it wasn't with any sort of happiness or pleasure. "You see, only the royal guard, the Queen, and myself are supposed to have that sort of knowledge of the catacombs. However, there have been people throughout the years who have been told about them, even though they have never been shown the tunnels themselves."

"So could it have been someone who knew of their existence who has been slowly mapping their paths?" Reece truly seemed interested in this part of the conversation so I was just letting him handle it at the moment. When I was needed, I would step in and say what was needed of me. For now though, I could just enjoy watching my mate be his true Alpha self.

"No, they would not have been able to map them ahead of time. They would need to have been let into the tunnels by someone with permission to do so. The moment that the culprit entered the tunnels, Glory knew. She could sense the intrusion upon her protection spells."

"That is convenient." Reece looked at me then and smiled. I think he was wanting me to learn how to do that sort of magic for us.

"Yes, it was convenient. It meant that we were able to catch up to the intruder just as they were trying to escape with Curtis. Thankfully, Curtis was not able to move too swiftly since he had been in the cell for the last several months." I could see a slight evil grin on Valerian's face as he thought about it. "I have to admit, that things would have gone more smoothly if I would have been home for that attempt. I would have been able to flood the tunnels with water and bring them to me in an instant. Thankfully, Glory was able to catch them swiftly as well. She ensnared them with her vines that she sent out as feelers in the ground. They knew right where to go after that."

I had to remind myself to never get on the bad side of Aunt Glory or Athair mòr. They're both so powerful. It made me wonder though, how were they going to be in danger if they were this strong? Could it be that someone close to them was going to betray them?

That actually seemed likely since the culprit this time knew intimate details of an area that they were not supposed to have. Could it be that there was a mole among the royal guards?

Thinking things like that made me realize how extremely happy, and lucky, I was to be able to know if someone on my staff was a traitor ahead of time. Having Vincent and Gabriel around was truly a blessing in many ways.

"So, who was the culprit?" I asked him with a somber look in my eyes. I was afraid that he was going to say it was a soldier.

"Her name was Frida." That surprised me. I didn't really expect it to be a woman.

"Wait a minute, I know that name."

I had to think about it for a minute. Where had I heard of a Fae woman named Frida? That was a little difficult, but it didn't take too long. I have only been to the compound twice so far; obviously it had to have been during one of those visits.

Hmm, it wasn't during the most recent one, I know that. So when during the first visit did I hear that name?

Soon a scene came before my eyes. I saw a man struggling to get free from the woman hanging onto him. I remember the words clearly as well.

"No Grier, don't do this. I'm begging you." A woman's shrill and high pitched voice rang through the hall.

"Let me go, Frida. I need to do this. I need to make my point." An anger-filled male voice responded to her pleading.

"No Grier. I don't want to lose you. Please." The woman was sobbing as she begged the man.

"Shut up, woman. I will not sit idly by."

That's right. Frida was the woman who was trying to stop that angry man who accused me of trying to ruin their way of life and said he wasn't going to accept the Queen bringing us into the compound. That night was the first time that I had seen Aunt Glory's magic, only I didn't know she was my aunt at the time. Hmm, I don't remember where Athair mòr was during that dinner. Perhaps he was hiding in his room or something.

"I find that surprising, in all honesty." I looked up to see Athair mòr looking at me intently. It was like he was waiting for my response. "Frida seemed like she wanted to stop her husband from committing a crime when I was first at the compound. What has happened in the last year and a half that would have changed her views on it all?"

"That's the thing, her views haven't changed. But someone, who is a lot stronger than she is, spelled her. She was compelled to do their bidding and as of yet we don't know who that person is."

That was alarming. There was an unknown culprit, a mastermind, behind this attack on the Fae castle. And whoever that person is, they had the power to force someone to be their puppet.

"Athair mòr, was anyone-?"

"Everyone that was inside the castle at the time has been accounted for. Anyone who might have had the chance to get at Frida had to have been outside the castle itself. And the problem there is: that we simply cannot question every member of the court quickly enough."

"Athair mòr, as much as I love having you here, I truly think that Aunt Glory needs you back home more. We will visit, and you will be here for your council meetings but, for now, I think you need to be there to help protect Aunt Glory and the castle."

"I think you are right, Gariníon. Though I will be missing you all dearly." There was sadness in his eyes when he spoke. I knew this was the right thing, but it was also hard to send him away.

### **Chapter 474 - Reece - Training Begins (VOLUME 3)**

6-7 minutes

---

~~

Reece

~~

The new recruits had started arriving for the Knight's training that Paul was going to put them through. As of right now, Cedar had been reassigned to help him, and when they were not on active watch duty for the Queen, Shawn, Shane, and David were to help him as well. Dietrich said that he would also offer his assistance to them. And when Gabriel had met with the recruits to gauge their loyalty, he found that their knowledge of history was a little lacking. Or to quote him:

"Their inability to name even one important event is simply appalling. The education that they received must have been abysmal."

After that Gabriel contacted Crawford, and the two of them decided to set up a twice a week history class that all the recruits were to take. They were also required to take an etiquette class so that they did not make a fool of themselves in front of the Queen.

All in all, our initial group of recruits had just shy of a thousand soon to be knights; nine hundred and eighty-two to be exact.. There were men and women from every group of supernaturals that there was, but of course there were mostly wolves since they were the most plentiful resource.

Trinity and I stopped by on day two of the training to see how things were going. To be honest, it didn't look like it was going very well at all.

"Translate that for me." Paul was pointing at a man that was standing next to a very confused-looking Feline from Europe, however, the man that he pointed to looked just as confused as the other man did.

"Paul, is there a problem?" I called out to him.

"I'd say that there is." He growled in frustration. "This whole thing is good in theory, but it sucks in person. Most of these people speak different languages than me, and I can't tell them what to do."

I looked over at the large crowd of people, all dressed similarly in the uniforms that we provide for the training. The uniforms that they were wearing were a lot like the US military fatigues. Only instead of being the green camouflage they were shades of blue. The solid color t-shirts that they were wearing with them were all navy blue. They were all to wear these everyday unless they were off the castle grounds. They were to identify them as recruits. The guards and instructors even had a dress code now as well. The guards usually wore black of some sort, but when they were instructing they wore dark blue pants in the same cargo style as the recruits but they were solid color instead of camouflage. The shirts were the same color except for the golden symbols that they had on the left breast area. The two letters in the symbol were the GG of the Goddess Guards since they were all part of that elite group.

"Hmm, that does pose a problem." My Little Bunny responded while I was looking at the new soldiers. "I think that I could solve it. It just requires me trying to actively give a blessing."

"What do you have planned?" I asked her as she smiled at Paul.

"You will see." She winked at me.

She didn't say anything else. All my Little Bunny did was tilt her head back and close her eyes. I could tell that she was concentrating hard, but she was hiding it with a smile. She wasn't saying the typical words that she did when she gave a Goddess blessing, but I could see the light building inside of her.

This was something that I had never seen before. Then again, I had never actively watched her while she gave a blessing before. It usually took us by surprise. This time though, she was calling on the collective powers of the deities that had blessed her and was asking them for assistance.

After several more minutes that light had grown so bright that it was nearly blinding. The next instant it exploded out of her and seemed to be searching for targets. I just hoped that none of the targets were in public right now.

I happened to be a target, as well as Paul, Cedar, Gabriel, and Vincent who were nearby. I saw that it was heading toward the rest of the guards nearby as well.

"What was that blessing for?" I asked her.

"That was for everyone who is an official member of the Goddess Guard and the Grand Nobles." She smiled at me. "They will now be able to understand and speak every language on the planet. I also included you and I in the blessing, and I asked that only those receiving the blessing be able to see the light. I didn't need others seeing it and wondering what it was."

She had thought of the exact same thing that I had. If a human in public saw that, they would flip out.

"So, what just happened?" Paul called across the yard to us.

"Try speaking to them." She instructed him. "I added something else for the instructors." She grinned.

"What does that mean?" He looked so confused right now.

"It means that they can all understand you, no matter what language you are speaking. To them it will sound like their language. And you will understand them as well."

"Seriously?" Paul looked excited before turning back to the recruits. "Can you all understand me now?"

"Oui."

"Da."

"Ja."

"Hai."

"Shì de."

"Sí."

"Si."

Several voices rang out in several voices, but all the words sounded the same to me.

"Yes."

"Holy shit, Trinity you did it." Paul looked excited.

From there we were able to watch as the new recruits were told what drills to do and where to do. It was definitely going to make things easier on Paul and the others now. And this new blessing would help us as well since even though we spoke multiple languages, there were still some that we didn't know. This would be a great benefit for those in our higher circle.

### **Chapter 475 - Trinity - First Quarterly Meeting (VOLUME 3)**

6-7 minutes

---

~~

Trinity

~~

This new way of life for us had been in effect for a little while now. It was now the middle of April and time for the first ever quarterly meeting with the High Nobles and the Grand Nobles. There were going to be a lot of people here, but definitely nowhere near as many as there could have been.

The nobles were arriving slowly over a few days. Star and Artem were the first to arrive, and we spent some time hanging out with them. When they came for their Nobility assignment, we had actually had dinner with them, got to meet their two babies and see all thirteen of their adopted boys who had gotten so much bigger and stronger since the talismans they had been wearing were removed..

The last time that they had been here, Reagan and Rika had enjoyed playing with their little boy, and I was glad that they got the chance to play with him again. And their youngest son was now four months old and curious about everything. Sometimes I still couldn't believe it. They had fifteen sons between the two they had together and the thirteen they adopted. I even remembered when Reece had Noah call and gently threaten the judge in their adoption case to force him to approve the adoptions. That hadn't actually been nice to the judge, but it was nice for Star and Artem.

I quite enjoyed the quick reunion we had with our friends and family from back in California. They were family because Star was actually my cousin thanks to my heritage linking me to Athair mòr. His brother Sorrel was the starting point for Star's Fae bloodline. So yeah, we were family.

After the visit with them was over, it was time to get to work. Once all the nobles had arrived, I had them assemble in the throne room the next day. Reece and I took our places before them while they all sat in the chairs on either side of the main aisle.

"Welcome, all of you. Thank you for returning to Castle Gray." Gabriel greeted them for us. "You are all here for the first of the quarterly meetings that you are required to attend. Since this is a new process for us all, I am certain that it will take you all some time to get into the flow of things. However, over time we do believe that things will go a little more smoothly for us all."

Silence greeted him when he finished his welcome. Everyone had bowed to me already, and so they were sitting patiently waiting for the meeting to begin.

"Again, thank you for making this trip here. This will soon become a regular and normal thing for you so it will not be as chaotic as it was this time. Now, I want to open the floor to all of you. If there were any major conflicts among the territories that you oversee, I want to know about them now."

There were a few people that raised their hands to tell me of the disputes that happened among the different packs, clans, and covens. It seemed that the most notable disputes were between two of the merfolk clans and several of the wolf pack and feline packs. That was not what I was expecting. It seems that this time around there were no issues with the magic users. Or at least none that they told me about.

I could get used to just minor issues like this. I didn't want to see my people fighting amongst themselves too often. I knew that total peace wasn't possible, just like Athair mòr had said before. However, a degree of calmness among the people was something that would be nice.

I worked my way through the disputes that existed among the groups. We tried to find solutions that were suitable for the parties, and the High Nobles were supposed to go back and delegate the issue for the others. They would tell them of my input, and if that was something they could agree on, they could move on peacefully. If they refused, they would be summoned to the castle for me to handle the issue personally.

This meeting was taking a little longer than I expected with how detailed everyone was being. However, I was glad that they were thoroughly detailed. It would be for the best in the long run. The more details I had the more efficiently I could make my decisions.

After the main meeting was over, we retired to our quarters for the night. The different groups would meet in their own meeting halls tomorrow to discuss any issues that they wanted to bring up to me. If there was nothing, they could go back to their rooms until the next group meeting. The Grand Nobles had watched over the group meeting and would watch again at the next one as well. We were going to meet while the others had their small meeting to see if there were any problems they wanted to address. There would be another meeting between them and myself if they thought it was necessary after the second group meeting. If not, then everyone would be dismissed and free to go home.

Thankfully, everything had actually been relatively good over the last few months. I do believe that they were all just trying to get used to the new way of life, and most groups were still scared shitless with having been summoned for the meetings back in January. Still, that peace made it so that the quarterly meetings ended after the third day, and we were able to adjourn until the next meeting.

Still, despite all of this going so smoothly, I couldn't stop myself from worrying about the warning from Danu and the impending threat to Aunt Glory and Athair mòr. It would be so much easier if we knew when the impending battle was coming. But no, we were left relatively clueless about the entire situation.

### **Chapter 476 - Trinity - Worry Grows As Time Moves On (VOLUME 3)**

7-9 minutes

---

~~

Trinity

~~

Several months have now passed since I was summoned by Danu. We had celebrated Reece's birthday at the beginning of last month and then the second quarterly meeting just a week or so after. It's kind of a shocker right now, really. Reece is twenty-eight, and I am twenty-one. Where did all the time go?

Before I know it the twins will be two years old. We have just over three months until their birthdays will be here again. I had a feeling that Reece was already planning what to get the two of them. He was always so excitable when it came to Reagan and Rika.

Some things that had happened lately, the positive and good things, were that the daycare was fully operational and running smoothly. The schools that we opened in the new city were fully functional as well with lots of students enrolled, all supernaturals, and the teachers were all supernaturals as well.. Oh, and one more good thing that we had was a bus system for the school, with some buses dedicated to the daycare. If there were kids whose parents were at work when school let out, they would be taken to the daycare by the buses. Oh, and did I mention that the daycare was entirely free for them to use? We used the funds that the pack paid in 'taxes' to the alpha since we didn't need that money for ourselves.

The school was running above state standards and was classified as a public school, but did not allow the 'school of choice' option that a lot of others did. That meant that, as bad as it sounds, we wouldn't get humans in the school. I was hoping to change this in the future, but we needed to have the next generation of our people educated about their histories and not just what the humans taught.

In this school, we taught the histories of the Fae wars, the Vampire wars, the Shifter wars, and the true story behind the Witch Trials. These were things that the kids would never learn from the public school system anywhere else. And these were things that those who were going to help lead my people in the future needed to know.

We also had teachers from these specific species that worked together to teach those history classes. And believe it or not, we were working on building our own university. This would be a way for those that live all around the world to attend a college that was for shifters only.

It was a type of segregation, which was bad, but it was needed at the moment. We needed our children to learn specific subjects, and if a human were to attend and take a class on the intricate histories of the Fae or Shifter Origins or something like that, it would be a little hard to explain to them what it was truly all about. Maybe one day in the future we can reveal ourselves to the humans and remove all the barriers. However, now wasn't the time for that.

Right now, instead of thinking about how to live harmoniously with the humans, I was worried about Aunt Glory and Athair mòr. I didn't know what was going to happen, or when it was going to happen, but I knew that something was coming.

We hadn't been back to the Fae compound since the Yule celebration. We were going back for Yule again this year though. I know that it was a little unfair to the people here since we had gone last year to the Yule celebration, but I just had a feeling that we needed to go this time. Call it the Goddess Incarnate Intuition or whatever you wanted to name it, but I just felt like I needed to be there during the Yule festivities this year.

The rest of the family wasn't going this time. This year it was going to be me, Reece, Reagan, Rika, Lila, and of course my guards, as well as some of the knights and some council members. I was definitely going to take Gabriel and Roisin with us too.

The plans were already being put into motion for this all to happen. The council members that were going to be there with us were Trevor, Landon, Nathair, Kayda, Rahim, and Daciana. Dietrich was staying behind this time even though Shawn was going with us. And of course, there were two council members that were already at the Fae compound, Athair mòr and Anastasia Lightly.

Still, part of me didn't think that it was enough. If the fight broke out while we were there I didn't know if we would have enough people there to back us up. I didn't bring these worries up to Reece though; I didn't want him to think that I was being paranoid or something like that.

It was a really stressful time just waiting for it all to fall into place. I didn't even have classes to distract me anymore either. I had graduated and had even taken the MBE or the Multistate Bar Examination. I was officially a lawyer now as well as a Queen, a Goddess Incarnate, and a Mayor. Oh, and when I told Reece I had specialized in business law so that I could be of use to him, he was actually surprised. Dare I say that he nearly cried because I had done something that specifically tied my chosen career with his business empire. I was even given an official position in the company, not that it required me to go to work everyday; but I was officially listed as the legal counsel for Alpha Corp. Oh well, what was one more title to my ever growing list?

I guess that I should get to some of the negatives over the last four months. There was a fire in the row of businesses that Gina and Ella's shop was in so they needed to move. That had actually turned into a partial positive because they moved it over to Trinity Falls and were doing even better. They even had a studio in the castle where they would work on dresses and other Queenly outfits for me to wear.

There were minor disputes with some packs that turned into major issues, and I had to summon eight different packs before me. Six of them were able to resolve their issues; however, in the last case, one of the two Alphas had refused to accept anything but full surrender from his rival. He reminded me too much of Stanley, and I know how that ended up.

If this man was to be left on his own, he could wind up causing just as much of a problem. I didn't want to immediately remove him if he wasn't going to keep up the fight, but I didn't want to leave him as is either. So, I gave him a warning that was stern, and as I was told later, quite terrifying. I also told him that he would be monitored by one of the knights without him knowing it, and if he continued to cause problems then he would be removed from his position and possibly receive other punishments. I will admit that his eyes were filled with terror when I told him all of that.

I had done my job though. I had been the Queen and handled everything that was brought to my attention over the last several months. I had been busy working almost every single day, as had Reece. He may be the King of this whole empire we were growing, but he also had to run his corporation. So a lot of the time, I was doing this job on my own and the twins were spending a lot of time making friends in the daycare or with their grandparents.

Life had to move on regardless of the impending threat, jobs, school, or anything else. And it just so happens that, for me, life was a very big and often a very chaotic and jumbled mess. I didn't know what it was that I was supposed to be doing half of the time and so therefore I was just winging it and doing what I thought was best for my people as a whole. I guess that was truly all I could do. Worry, wait, rule, and repeat. That was what my life was now.

### **Chapter 477 - Reece - Second Birthday (VOLUME 3)**

6-7 minutes

---

~~

Reece

~~

I truly couldn't believe that it had been two years now. When we woke up this morning and prepared the little party at home for Reagan, I couldn't believe that they were already two years old.

OK, OK, Reagan wasn't born until just before midnight so he wasn't two at the start of the day, but we didn't care. We were going to celebrate this day for him, and tomorrow would be Rika's. And the day after that was going to be their group party for all our friends and family. That is just the way it was going to be..

Last year, Reagan really had been into dinosaurs. This year he is really into racecars. He is always pretending to drive as he zooms around the house. And just like Reagan, Rika's interest had changed as well. Last year all she wanted was butterflies, and this year she was obsessed with dragons. I don't even know where the interest in them came from, but she loves dragons like nothing else. I wonder what they will like next year?

When Trinity and I woke up, we worked with everyone else to put racecar and racetrack themed decorations all over the main parts of the Royal Tower. When Reagan got up he squealed in delight.

"Racecar, Daddy I can be a racecar." He jumped out of my arms and ran around the pretend track that we had set up for him.

"He does love those cars." Valerian, who had just come back for the birthdays, commented when he saw Reagan run around excitedly.

"That he does." My Little Bunny smiled as she answered him.

"Are you looking forward to the party on Saturday, Valerian? That idea of yours is awesome, and I think that Rika is going to love it." I asked him, thinking about the plans that he had for the twins.

"Oh yeah, it's going to be fun. I haven't celebrated a child's birthday like this for a long time, and not exactly like this really since they weren't modern." He was grinning, just happy to be included.

We had cake, all of Reagan's favorite foods, and he opened a couple of gifts that we had for him. One of his presents had been one of those power cars that you can get kids. Only it was obviously custom made and tricked out with magic by Valerian and Trinity. They had made it so that if he hit something with it, there would be a magic bubble that surrounds it instantly so he, and the item, would most likely not be hurt.

The next day we did the same thing for Rika. There was cake, all her favorite foods, and gifts. She got a rideable toy dragon. And Trinity and Valerian even made it so that it would hover off the ground. That was the best she was going to get. If I saw her flying through the air, I would probably have a heart attack.

At the main party that was on the 2nd, which thankfully was a Saturday, we had invited just our friends and family to join us. The whole pack wasn't invited this time per the Queen's request. Still, there were a lot of people that came.

With everyone and their kids, we had nearly thirty children and almost sixty adults, and that was literally just the friends and family. We can never have small parties, can we?

For the party, we had a larger race track with several little cars for the kids to ride around. There was a section of the party that had little magic dragons that Valerian was controlling. He had made them so that the kids would fly throughout the ballroom, going as high as twenty feet max even though the ceiling was much higher than that. The kids were also strapped in so they wouldn't fall. I know that most of the kids were shifters and could heal, but that didn't mean that I wanted them to get hurt.

Another good thing about this party just being friends and family was that no one felt uncomfortable. This time we were all close and comfortable with each other. And there wasn't a mountain of gifts that needed to be donated.

Seriously, there were still so many gifts that needed to be donated by the time that we got the kingdom up and running that a lot of them went straight to the daycare. I had appreciated everyone's generosity last time, but there was just too much.

This year, there were a lot less gifts, and the kids could keep them if they wanted to or get rid of them if they didn't. That was entirely up to them.

As I thought about all of that, I heard an excited little giggling noise that caused me to turn and look at Rika.

"Daddy I flying." She smiled at me sweetly. "I flying."

"Yeah baby girl, you're flying." I felt my heart begin to swell at the happiness in her eyes.

"Ah her made me fly. Watch Daddy."

"Hey, what about Mommy?" Trinity giggled.

Over the last year, there had been a slight shift in the favoritism that the kids showed us. Rika, who didn't have a preference before, was not very much a daddy's little girl type. And Reagan, who used to hate it when anyone, but Trinity or I held him and still preferred his mommy to his daddy, had become the calm, cool, and collected type so he didn't care if it was Mommy, Daddy, Ah her, Móraí, Lola, Nona, Papa; he didn't really care at all.

It was wonderful watching them change and become their own little person. I loved seeing all the little changes that they went through, but it was bittersweet as well. I felt my heart ache every time that I saw how much they had grown. Or if I thought about it too much. As exciting as it was, it was also so sad to see.

And soon, we would be heading to the Fae compound where we would celebrate Reagan and Rika's third Christmas and hope that they would be safe from all the political drama that might be going on there.

### **Chapter 478 - Trinity - Returning To The Compound, Again (VOLUME 3)**

6-8 minutes

---

~~

Trinity

~~

This was our third time making the trip to the Fae compound. I was nowhere near as nervous as I was the first time. And even though I didn't know it, I had been nervous the second time as well. This time though, I was cool as could be.

Or at least that was what I was telling myself. I know that I was nervous this time too. The only thing is, I wasn't nervous about the same things as before. This time, I was worried about what someone might attempt to do while we were here.

Was this going to be it? Was this going to be the time that we had been waiting on for almost a year? Was that unknown enemy going to make their move? Were we going to find out what all has happened over the last year?

I had asked Athair mòr about the events of the last year, but he told me it would be best to wait and talk about it with Aunt Glory.. That, honestly, didn't make things any easier on me. If I had to express the way it made me feel, I would say nervous at the very least, frightened at the very worst.

The whole process of entering the compound was the same as the times we had come here before. We were met at the gate by Breon, however, he seemed to be in a much better mood than I had ever seen him before.

"Good day to you, Queen Trinity. I hope you are well. And you as well, King Reece." Breon grinned as he welcomed us through the gate. This time, knowing what was going to happen, I had my window down and shield up so that we could speak to the man before us.

"Good day to you as well, Breon. How is Juliet doing?" The last time we were here, he had mated with my guard, and she had stayed behind.

"She is doing very well. We were married over the summer. I could not be happier." Breon, who had slightly bowed his head out of respect for us, had now raised his head, and I was able to see the shining happiness in his bright golden eyes.

"I am happy to hear that."

Following our little exchange, Breon rode in that same black cart as he guided our vehicles into the garage with a group of soldiers surrounding the SUVs.

"Is it just me, or are there more soldiers than usual?" Reece asked of no one in particular.

"That is most likely because of me." Athair mòr spoke sheepishly. "As much as I dislike this show, everytime that I come back to the compound, they act like it is a major event." I saw a pink tinge in his cheeks, and I couldn't tell if it was from embarrassment or because he was lying to me.

"That must be very taxing." I smiled at him, hoping that it was just the embarrassment that made him blush.

"It can be. That is why I do not leave the compound often."

"That must be boring." Reece laughed, distracting me from the situation. I think he could tell that my worry was making me feel suspicious and distrustful.

I hated the way that this was all making me feel. It wasn't fair to those around me. I needed to try and keep my emotions under better control than this.

Once we were inside, and the SUVs were unpacked, we had the same process as before. We made our way to the same residence that we had been in before, we settled ourselves in before we were to go and have a nice family dinner with Aunt Glory. Athair mòr had gone to his residence to get ready as well and would be meeting us there.

The residence was slightly different this time. There were rooms for me, Reece, Regan, and Rika on the top floor, just like before. There was a room for Lyla up there as well. Gabriel and Roisin had their room just below mine, fitting for what basically amounted to my personal retainers. On the same floor as Gabriel and Roisin were the council members. The floor below was for guards. The knights were staying in another residential home that was attached to this one but could also be entered from the hallway.

This time, there were fewer floors since there weren't as many people with us. That kind of saddened me though since I wish my family was here with me. Then again, didn't I want them here if something bad happened? That was why I had been nervous about bringing the twins with us. What if they got hurt because of it?

Roisin got straight to work preparing the home for us. Gabriel and she were already efficiently doing their jobs. My top guards, the ones that amounted to being family, were the ones that were going to escort me to the room with the Queen.

Before we left, we had discussed a few things at length before coming here this time. Even Athair mòr contributed to this conversation when he heard what we had been trying to decide. I was to use a taste tester at all times. After what had happened last year, and on the day of my ball, even Aunt Glory was using a tester for every meal. Athair mòr told me that he had used a taste tester again after coming back to the compound following his visit with us.

"It is the safest thing to do for now. I want all the food for everyone tested, not just yours Trinity." Reece had told me when he made his argument for it. "I don't want someone trying to hurt Reagan or Rika."

"I know, I agree." I nodded at him. "If the food is made in our quarters by Roisin, that is fine, but I will not trust anything else. Especially if Aunt Glory and Athair mòr are even suspicious of their food from their normal staff."

"Times are changing here." Athair mòr sighed. "You will see how it is later."

As I remembered his words, it made a pit open in my stomach. It was like nerves and fear were breeding and multiplying at a rapid rate inside me. I knew it was just the unease that I was feeling playing tricks on me, but still it wasn't pleasant. I was eager to get this done and over as soon as I possibly could.

"I think that we're all settled now." Roisin came and smiled at me after getting everything upstairs ready for us. It was now time to change and to head out for our meal with Aunt Glory. We would, of course, be talking before we actually ate. I just hoped that we would be able to settle some of my fears when we talked.

Maybe, just maybe, Athair mòr was not telling me what all was going on because they were preparing a special, happy sort of surprise for us. Yeah, and maybe I was a giant lizard monster that was blamed for destroying Atlantis or whatever. I knew the truth even if I didn't want to accept it. Things here had been steadily going to shit since my very first visit here. I had to wonder, was all of this my fault after all? Did I cause this?

Was Grier right that night that he died?

### **Chapter 479 - Trinity - Surprise Before The Dinner Part 1 (VOLUME 3)**

6-7 minutes

---

~~

Trinity

~~

Vincent, Gabriel, Shawn, Shane, David, Waverly and Pierre were all to escort me to Aunt Glory's personal study. Vincent, Gabriel, and David were to wait inside with me while Shawn, Shane, Waverly and Pierre were to guard the room from the outside.

Pierre had been the guard that tested for poison at the closing ceremony last time and was ultimately poisoned. He said that he wanted to protect me again and had actually volunteered to be my official taste tester this time as well. He and Waverly, who had also been a tester last time, were both going with us tonight for that purpose alone. They would test anything that me, Reece, Reagan, and Rika were going to eat.

Just thinking about that job for them terrified me. I know we had saved Pierre last time, but what if we aren't that lucky this time around? What if I actually were to lose someone while we are here?

Aside from my guards, the council was joining us for the discussion, but they were going to be dismissed before the meal. They were there just to share in the information.. Aunt Glory had approved of this ahead of time, but I still felt bad that we were usurping the meeting.

Trevor, Landon, Nathair, Kayda, Rahim, and Daciana were all coming with someone that was basically the equivalent of their Gamma. They would test any drinks that were offered to them. This taste testing was going to be a united front from all of us.

Now that we were ready to leave with the order of events decided, there was a knock at the door. That was most likely going to be Athair mòr. He was going to walk with us to the meeting since he was part of it as well.

"Welcome, Prince Valerian." Gabriel welcomed him into the residence.

"Thank you, Gabriel. I hope you're all-?" He stopped in the middle of his sentence like someone had slapped him or he had been overly shocked by something.

"Athair mòr?" I asked as I stepped closer to the door to find out what had happened.

"I...I don't believe it." He was grinning like this was the best night of his life. "T..Trinity, Gariníon, how is this possible?"

"What happened, Athair mòr? Is something wrong?"

"Oh, Goddess no." He grinned at me. "Trinity, this is the most amazing night ever. How did I not catch this sooner? How did I not notice this before we left your castle? Were they inside the vehicle the whole time?"

"What? What are you saying Athair mòr?"

I started to look around the room and figure out what was going on. That was when I noticed that Daciana, the Gypsy was looking at Athair mòr in a way that I never noticed during the previous meetings.

This makes no sense to me. If this was what it looked like, they would have known it much sooner, wouldn't they? Or, could it be possible that they had to be here, in the lands of Fae to feel this bond for the first time.

"Daciana, are you feeling what I think you're feeling?"

"I...I think so." She was grinning broadly.

"Athair mòr, you've met Daciana before, multiple times. How is it that you didn't mate until now?" I was so confused. "Do you think you needed the magic of this place to make it happen?"

"That is possible. There are many things that none of us know about the mate bond, and how it affects those from different groups of people." Even though he still wore a dazed look on his face, he was speaking as if he knew exactly what he was doing and saying. I was glad that he didn't seem to be at a complete loss.

"Well, I guess this is truly a night for celebration. Daciana Joviak, you may already know him, but this is Valerian Undine, your mate. Congratulations to the both of you." I looked between the two of them as they walked slowly toward each other. Athair mòr took Daciana's small, slender hand and kissed the back of her knuckles while looking in her eyes.

"Daciana, I am sorry it took until now to feel the bond, however, I am delighted."

"As am I, Valerian. I must say, I thought you were a very good looking man the first time that I saw you. I just never thought that this was how things would end up."

"And you, Daciana, are an exceptionally beautiful woman. I truly do think that fate can be an interesting thing, and I am delighted to be sharing this moment with you."

They spoke for a few moments longer, but they both knew that we had a job to get to. With another kiss to her hand, Athair mòr let his eyes smolder as he made a promise to her.

"Let us return to our work now, Daciana. After that, we will make the best of this Yule celebration. We do have a very long future ahead of us after all."

"Yes, that we do."

I had to wonder, how would Aunt Glory feel about the fact that Athair mòr had met his mate? She had been waiting for a mate for a very long time. And while Athair mòr had never mated before today, he had been married and had a son. He had more in his life than Aunt Glory had ever had.

While part of me was overjoyed by this new mating for my family, for my great great great grandfather, I was still worried about another part of my family. I didn't want to hurt Aunt Glory's feelings, but I also didn't want to tell the new couple to pretend like nothing had happened at all.

While these thoughts were playing over and over inside of my head, we prepared to leave. All of my guards, and the council were circling Reece, Reagan, Rika, and myself. Even Athair mòr was acting more as a protector than a royal at this moment. I wonder if they had planned this ahead of time. Did the council know that they were acting more like they were servants of mine than my trusted advisors?

**Chapter 480 - Trinity - Surprise Before The Dinner Part 2 (VOLUME 3)**

8-10 minutes

---

~~

Trinity

~~

"So, Trinity, what kind of person is the Fae Queen?" Landon asked me. "I mean, is she a mean Queen or a laid back one like you?"

"Well, I guess that would all depend on the person. She's nice to me, definitely someone that I can be myself with. However, I did see her kill someone the first time that I met her. So, yeah, that's not an easy question to answer." I answered him honestly, and in a cheerful voice; however, it made a lot of people around me pale with fear.

"Haha. She sounds like quite the woman." Trevor joked after he heard what I had to say. "I am glad that she isn't someone weak and insecure.. That just wouldn't make for a good Queen in my opinion."

"She's definitely a good Queen." Valerian jumped in to defend his sister's honor "I can assure, Mr. Jacoby, you and Mr. Clayton will have nothing to worry about. My sister will not disappoint."

"I didn't really think that she would." Landon grimaced at the fact that he was basically reprimanded by a three thousand year old man.

It was a pretty long walk from our room to Aunt Glory's private office, but I had been walking through my castle back home for almost a year now, so I was pretty used to it. As I was thinking about the castle, I thought about all the people that now lived there with us.

All of my guards, aside from Shawn who lived in his massive house with Dietrich, now had a residence in the castle. They still maintained their other homes as well. Dietrich did actually have a place in the High Noble tower, but they didn't stay there often since they lived very close to the castle after all.

My whole family aside from Carter also lived in the castle. They were either in the tower with me or had their own private residence with the others. Landon had moved into his High Noble suite as well. He went back to his pack house every now and then but he spent most of his time at the castle lately anyway. Trevor had moved in as well. His pack encompasses half of the entire country. He said it didn't matter where he lived within that territory as long as his people had access to him. Well, they did, just usually by appointment only.

Juniper and her family, and Cedar and his family; it seemed that everyone close to me was living in the castle. Good thing it was so big. And not to mention, good thing we all got along so well.

I had distracted myself with those thoughts until we were right outside of Aunt Glory's office. There was a guard out there waiting for us, and his eyes went wide with shock then he saw the group of us approaching. There were more than twenty people who had just arrived before him, a good number of them royalty.

"I..I..I will I..I..let the Qu..Quee..Queen know that you're here." He bowed his head a little.

"Not such a good sign." Trevor laughed. "Why is he so skittish?"

"Perhaps he could picture you in your bear form Winnie the Poohing it all up."

"Oh shut up Tigger, at least I don't-."

"Hush." I silenced them and they both stopped immediately. Damn, I really loved that sometimes. It was fun watching them obey me with that sort of compulsion.

"The Queen is ready for you now." The guard was back, this time he was perfectly composed.

"Thank you, Dande." I nodded at him, remembering his name now that I saw his face clearly. I had met him at the last Yule celebration. His family was half pixie and half sprite, and he had a twin sister named Lion. Get it? Dande and Lion, Dandelion. I almost laughed last time, even with it being as cheesy as it was.

The double doors to the office were opened, and we were led into the room. It was larger than usual, being able to accommodate whatever was needed just like the residences.

"Trinity." I walked in ahead of everyone with Reece, Reagan, Rika, Vincent, and Gabriel.

"Aunt Glory, it is so nice to see you." Reece and I had instinctively set the twins down right before we walked into the room and held their hands as they walked beside us.

"Oh, and look how big they've gotten." She was starting to gush over the twins as everyone else walked in behind us. "I have been waiting until I had the chance to see these two beautiful ba-."

Glory stopped short, her words cutting off like she didn't know what to say or do at the moment. She slowly stood up and was looking at the group of guards and council members behind me.

I watched as a massive smile spread across her face. I didn't know what was happening, and I was actually scared by what happened next.

"EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!" That scream was nearly ear piercing, and it soon shifted into something a lot less composed than what it already was.

"Gloriana, what is going on?" Athair mòr ran to his sister's side. He was clearly scared about what was happening.

As Aunt Glory continued to scream, and my guards started to circle us all as if to defend us from an unknown threat. I looked around the room to see if there was an explanation for what was happening.

I saw that one specific person was grinning in a way that he never usually did. It still held the wild look that he always had, but there was something more to it. And he was also not panicking which meant that he knew what was going on.

Slowly, as if he were trying to saunter to gather her attention, he walked to stand in front of her.

"I think that I am very happy that I came here today." Trevor took Aunt Glory's hand and kissed the back of it as Athair mòr looked as if someone had just slapped him across the face.

"What the hell do you think you're doing?" He asked Trevor, but the words went unanswered as Aunt Glory squealed happily as she jumped and threw her arms around his neck.

"Oh thank you, thank you, thank you."

Aunt Glory was now dangling with her feet kicking out behind her while Trevor wrapped his large arms around her waist.

"I could get used to this." He chuckled as the Queen of the Fae pressed herself against him.

"I guess this makes two, tonight. I think it's fitting, considering that you two are all that's left of the triplets." I grinned as I looked at the confused man and excited woman.

"What are you talking about?" Athair mòr further showed how confused he was.

"They mated, Valerian." Landon clapped a hand to his shoulder, causing all the pieces to click into place for Athair mòr.

"Mated? My sister finally mated?" He was grinning. "We both found our mates."

"What?!"

Glory was shocked by her brother's words and pulled her face out of the curve of Trevor's neck.

"What did you say?" She asked her brother as Trevor lowered her to her feet.

"I mated as well." Athair mòr grinned at her. "Just now, just before we came to see you." He waved a hand, and Daciana walked to his side.

"Valerian!" Glory hugged him next, and Daciana as well. "Finally, Valerian, it finally happened. Oh my goodness, I can't believe that this finally happened to us after so long."

"I know, Glory, I know." He smiled while he hugged his sister tightly.

I was happy for them. They had been waiting for so long, never knowing when or if they would even meet their mates. I know there were just a lot of extenuating circumstances that hadn't been met yet.

It took a little while longer to get things settled, and everyone to take their seats, but we managed to do it. Also, Dande was sent to Aunt Glory's private kitchen since there would be two more joining us for dinner tonight.

I guess that was to be expected. No one wanted to find their mate and then immediately leave. Well, aside from me. That was exactly what I had done. And whenever I mention that new mates should have time together Reece just growls at me and reminds me about that. I've been nice lately, and I haven't reminded him that he didn't want me at that time either, so we were even.