

Chosen by Fate 591

Chapter 591 - 8- Reece – Visit Part 3 (VOLUME 4)

Reece

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I spent the night with my Little Bunny at the observatory that I had had made for last night. That date had been long overdue and very much needed. I think that my adorably sweet little mate will feel a little better now that we've taken care of some of the stress and tension. I have been so worried about her lately. I just wanted her to be happy, healthy, and safe.

All this work that she's been doing wasn't very good for her. That was why I wanted to get her out and away for a night. And I just used my birthday as an excuse for it. I just wanted my Little Bunny to be able to calm down a little.

Things seemed to have worked out the way that I wanted them to. Little Bunny seemed to be smiling more and looked a little less stressed than she used to. That alone made me smile when I saw her.

A few days after our date, well closer to a week really, it was Talia's birthday. She was turning four now and I was so excited for her. OK, maybe it was because I loved parties and I got to go overboard for my kids without having to worry about space or weather restrictions.

Talia loved all things to do with princesses, so that was the theme that we went with. I don't know if that was funny or not since she was indeed a real life princess. Maybe it was just ironic or something. I don't know, but I still thought it was cute.

So, what better thing could the princess loving real princess have for her birthday than a real life king there to escort her. I decided to wear my crown and dress a little more 'regal' than I usually did. I went to my little girl's door and offered to escort her down to breakfast for her big day. When she opened the door I saw that she was dressed perfectly, thanks to the help of her attendant who put her in the princess dress and did her hair for her.

"No, Daddy, that's OK." She was shaking her little head at me. "I am a princess, I am supposed to have a prince to escort me."

"Oh, so is Reagan taking you to breakfast?" I smiled at her, a little hurt but not letting it show.

"No, I am having Levi and Luka take me." She giggled and at almost that exact moment, I heard the sound of two sets of small feet coming toward me.

"Hello, Uncle Reece." Luka said with a smile. "How are you today?"

"Hi, Uncle Reece. We're here to be the princes for Talia today." Levi beamed at me with a wide smile that made me have nightmares about the future. These boys were already stealing my little girl away from me.

"T..Talia, are you sure you don't want Daddy to take you?" I couldn't let my princess be taken from me already.

"No, I am fine Daddy. Like I said, I need a prince. But Uncle Dietrich and Uncle Shawn should be here with Lexi and Lyssa, you can go spend some time with them."

At that, Talia left her room and took Levi's left hand and Luka's right. I think I just felt my heart shatter into a thousand little pieces.

"Talia?" I called after her softly as she walked away.

"I'll see you at breakfast, Daddy." She looked over her shoulder and smiled at me.

"Sweetie?"

Well, I wasn't needed as a king anymore, so I went back to my room and got dressed into my normal clothes. Not to mention, I put away my crown. I wasn't needed. That hurt so much more than I thought it would. I wasn't my little girl's first choice.

I tried not to let it bother me as I went down for the rest of the party. I kept a smile on my face during breakfast. Shawn, Dietrich, and the girls were indeed there and joined us. And slowly throughout the day everyone else started to show up until there were over a hundred 'close' friends and family at the party, that's counting adults and kids though.

There was a tea party as part of the birthday celebration, even the boys were participating. I mean, how could we all not participate, it was requested by a princess after all.

There were a lot of different parts to the party, but it was all super girly and princess themed. The mini cakes were eaten after the little activities. There was a big cake as well, since Talia needed to blow out her candles.

Presents were opened after that. Talia had a lot from those that were gathered. She went straight to the things that Trinity and I had gotten her. There was a large princess castle playset that was going to go into her room. Lots of new princess dolls and toys came after that. There was even that princess carriage-ride on toy, an updated version since it had been so long. Rika never wanted one but Talia does.

After our gifts, which Talia absolutely loved, which made me so proud, she went to Shawn and Dietrich's gifts. There were even small gifts from the kids that they picked out for her. I was still feeling really good until she opened the one that Levi and Luka got for her. There was an adorable little necklace, obviously made of gold and emblazoned with diamonds. The necklace had the word 'princess' written on it in a fancy script.

"See, Talia. It says princess." Levi told her as he pointed to the letters.

"Since you're a princess and all, it suits you."

"Thank you so much." She hugged the two of them. "It's my favorite present so far."

That's it, I was sinking. I was losing my fight for survival. I was no longer Talia's favorite. She was being taken away from me. Time was a cruel enemy. Come on, though, she's only four. Can't I have a little more time before a boy comes along and steals her heart from me? Can't she be daddy's little girl for a little while longer?

Aside from the devastating gift giving, I think that it was all going pretty well. Or so I thought.

I happened to look over at my wife, quite a bit, throughout the day. When the party first started and we were greeting everyone, she was smiling and happy. But as the day went on, I saw that she was looking tired, stressed, and slightly afraid. What was going on with her?

I wanted to know what was happening. I wanted to know why she was so scared and stressed out lately. Even when she was with family. Even when she was at a birthday party. Why was this happening to her? What could I do to fix it? How could I make it all better?

I was at a loss. I didn't know how to fix this. I didn't know how to make things better for my mate.. I didn't know how I could be a proper Alpha, mate, or husband. What kind of man was I if I couldn't help my own wife?

Chapter 592 - 9- Trinity – Visit Part 4 (VOLUME 4)

7-8 minutes

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Trinity

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For a few days I didn't hear that voice. I didn't feel like I was making a massive mistake every moment of the day. I didn't feel like I was a screw up. For a few days, I had peace.

However, at Talia's birthday party, I started to hear that whisper when everyone was close by. I usually only heard it when I was near a large group of people, maybe because I was afraid that they were going to see me as a fraud and a failure.

Still, while I was trying to enjoy my little girl's special day, I didn't want to hear that voice or feel that way at all.

'They will...see them dead...your fault...can't stop it...it's coming...run away...kill them...will be destroyed...your fault...they will die...destruction...' The voice was barely there, just a whisper that was all jumbled. I wasn't able to hear all the words that it had to say to me, it was like so many of them were missing and just trying to decipher it was enough to give me a headache.

The days following the party I did my best to try and maintain my composure as I spent time with my friends and family. I tried my best to enjoy myself and be happy. Only, I wasn't happy. I was feeling miserable. I was not able to concentrate or to focus on anything at all. I felt miserable and I couldn't really explain to anyone why I felt that way.

I didn't want them to know. None of them. Not even Reece.

I know that I promised I would tell Reece the next time that something was bothering me or when something wasn't right, but I couldn't tell him about this. I couldn't tell him that I thought that I was going crazy. I didn't want him to know what it was that I was feeling and thinking. I didn't want to make him think that I wasn't good enough or somehow damaged.

No, I had to hide this. I needed to hide it from him, no matter how many times he asked me what was wrong. I needed to hide it from Lila and Grandfather, I didn't need to ruin their upcoming wedding. I needed to hide it from Mom and Dad, who asked me every single time that they saw me what was wrong. No, I couldn't tell them.

And I needed to avoid Juniper for the time being. She might be able to sense that I was going crazy. With her mental health focused gift and all that. I knew that it would all go away soon. I had a feeling that once I got back to work and stopped ignoring my responsibility, it would go away. Then I would be at peace again.

The month was almost over already. It was almost time for Aunt Glory, Athair mòr, Trevor, Daci, Torben, Lily, and Rose to go home along with their slew of guards and attendants. Maybe I was just more stressed by their sudden visit than I thought. I thought it was all making me happy, but I hadn't been prepared for it and therefore it ended up stressing me out somewhat.

I wasn't going to tell them to leave though. I loved them and wanted them here with me. I wanted to visit with them. Not to mention that I needed to ask them about how I should delegate the work to make things easier on me. I didn't want to burden people or anything like that. And I didn't want to give someone a job that should only be handled by me. Because of that, I didn't know what to do about it all.

Maybe, I will invite Aunt Glory and Athair mòr to lunch. Just the two of them and me. That would give us time to talk privately. I didn't want anyone else to know what I was thinking about doing either. I didn't want them to think that I was a failure as a queen.

About two days or so before they were all due to leave, I sat down to lunch with Aunt Glory and Athair mòr. They were both wearing the smiles of people that were happy with their lives. I knew why they were so happy. Their reasons were the same ones that brought me joy. The love of their family, the love of their mates, the bliss that was the everyday mundane. It may not sound exciting enough to make them this happy, but it truly was.

"I am so happy to see the joy that you both have." I grinned at them. "I know you both wanted this for so long, and seeing you finally get it, makes me happy."

"We're only this happy because of you, Trinity. Without you we never would have found our happiness." Athair mòr reached across the small table and took my hand so that he could grip it tightly.

"He's right, Trinity." Aunt Glory took my other hand from across the table. "Val and I were only able to find our mates and have families because of you. I can't thank you enough. I am finally a mother, after millennia, I finally got to experience that joy."

"I'm happy for you, Aunt Glory. I am happy that you have your family, and that by extension I get to have more babies in my life." I grinned at her as I thought about how cute Torben was.

"Don't you ever plan on having more?" Athair mòr asked me as if it was just a casual thing.

"I don't know. Probably, at some point. But I don't know when I should. Not to mention, we're immortal now, and I could have a kid a hundred years from now, a thousand years from now, but, should I? Should I really do that when my kids will be so much older?"

That, for some reason, made Athair mòr laugh. I just raised an eyebrow at him though and he finally got to a point where he could answer me.

"Well, think about it, Trinity. I have two year old twins, and another baby on the way. But my son, the man that is your great great grandfather, was born centuries ago. I don't think that it really matters. You know, since Lily and Rose are actually you great great great great aunts." He was laughing again and this time, I joined him. What he was saying was so true that I couldn't help it. If I looked at a family tree, even though I was a lot older than his twins, and even my twins were older than them, they were a lot higher on the family trees since their branch was right below Athair mòr's instead of several generations away.

With immortality now being something that we all had, family trees were going to start looking really odd. And family reunions were going to get a lot more crowded soon. That thought was a little funny, if you think about it. I could imagine someone trying to introduce their family to other people.

'Here we have my parents.'

'But they look the same age as you.'

'Yup, and over there are my grandparents. They look about ten years older than me but they're actually five hundred and eighty-nine. Over there are my great grandparents and so on and so on.'

Yeah, a human's mind would explode at a conversation like that.. It was funny to think about though.

Chapter 593 - 10- Trinity – Visit Part 5 (VOLUME 4)

5-7 minutes

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Trinity

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I wanted to move past this talk of ancestry though. It was fun to think about, and I didn't know how to answer whether we were going to have more kids or not, but that wasn't the reason we were here anyway. So I just wanted to move on.

"W..well, Athair mòr, Aunt Glory, I wanted to ask you something. Something away from the other so that I don't sound like I am doing something wrong." Oh, yeah, like that didn't make me sound like an incompetent fool right then and there. What the hell was the matter with me? I didn't know what to do right now. Ugh!

"What is going on, Gariníon? [1] What can we help you with?" Athair mòr looked as honest, loving, and helpful as he always did.

"You can tell us and ask us anything, Trinity. You know that." Aunt Glory added as she looked at me.

At that moment, Roisin and Abigail brought the food in for us so I waited to say anything. Once our plates were in front of us, I asked that the room be cleared.

"Everyone, except for Gloriana and Valerian, please leave. I would like a closed meeting." That raised a few eyebrows at me, but I didn't care. I knew that I never asked for closed meetings, but I didn't want my people to know what it was that I was truly feeling. I wanted this kept a secret for the time being.

Once the room was emptied, Aunt Glory and Athair mòr looked at me with serious and critical eyes.

"What is going on, Gariníon? This isn't like you."

"I know, Athair mòr. It's not like anything that I thought I would be doing. But I never thought that I would ask this as well." I sighed and looked at them, feeling my heart pounding. "I need you to help me. I feel like I am not doing something right. I feel as if my kingdom is going to suffer if I don't fix this." I looked at them with serious eyes and I could feel my heart pounding a mile a minute.

"Is that all?" Aunt Glory's voice held a note of relief. "Trinity, you had me so worried." She was almost laughing now. Was it that obvious?

"Gariníon, there is no need to worry. Glory and I have both felt like that several times over the last couple dozen centuries and more. It's normal."

"It is?" I tilted my head in confusion at Athair mòr's words.

"Yes, it is. I mean, you're still learning everything for one, so that is to be expected. But, you hold the fate of so many people in your hands that it's understandable that you would get nervous about it from time to time." He smiled and reached up to squeeze me on the shoulder for comfort and support. "Don't let this get to you."

"But wouldn't it be bad if I showed how weak and incompetent that I am to everyone else?" I could still feel the pain and the worry surging within me.

"You're not weak or incompetent, Trinity." Aunt Glory snapped at me a little. Her voice was firm and stern. "You're learning, that is all. I would like to see anyone that would call you weak or incompetent to do your job. Let's see just how fast they would end up running for the hills. You're a good Queen, Trinity, you really are. You just need to accept that."

"I hope so." I shrugged to myself, not bothering to hide how little confidence I had in that statement.

I tried to brush it off, though. Instead of saying anything more, I took a bite of my food. It was a specialized Fae dish that I asked to have made in honor of my two guests today. I knew that it was Aunt Glory's favorite and that Athair mòr liked it as well. I was doing my best to cater to them and make sure that they had a good time during this lunch, even if I was too messed up to even taste the food right now. I'm sorry, Roisin, you and Abigail worked so hard on this meal, and I can't even appreciate it properly. I truly am the worst.

Athair mòr and Aunt Glory didn't let it slide though. They kept pushing me until I agreed to their suggestion. They were doing this for me and my future, so I didn't really mind.

We came to the conclusion that I was going to 'assign' different tasks to different people, even if I had to hire them to make sure that it all got done properly. I was to have an entire entourage of staff that could handle different aspects of my kingdom.

Obviously, my entourage had to be people that I could trust, so that meant that I needed Gabriel and Vincent to help me with that part. Here I was giving them more work to do. I hated making people do more than they had to do when they were already so busy. It made me feel like a bad friend. Even though I was the person in charge and I needed to do it, it still made me feel horrible.

I listened to all of their suggestions, and I was certain that they were right about them all. I just needed to not try and do it all by myself. I seem to remember a time when I did let other people do things in the business aspect of the kingdom, but then I saw how many mistakes I had made and everything that I needed to fix.

Now that they were all fixed, now that everything was better, would I really be able to hand off some of the responsibility again? Would it really be OK? I guess I could try. That was the only thing that I could do. I needed to do something to save myself. Though, I was sure that the process would be slow and I wasn't going to be handing the jobs over immediately. I still had time.

Chapter 593 - 10- Trinity – Visit Part 5 (VOLUME 4)

5-7 minutes

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business aspect of the kingdom, but then I saw how many mistakes I had made and everything that I needed to fix.

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Chapter 595 - 12- Trinity – More Work To Do (VOLUME 4)

6-8 minutes

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Trinity

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It was now the beginning of August, it was time for me to get back to work, and I had so much to do. I had to find which people to hire as my 'kingdom assistants' and of course that meant that I needed to give my head of security and beta, Vincent, and personal assistant, Gabriel, more work to do.

I didn't have to call either of them to the castle for the meeting. For one, they both had their residences inside the castle. And for two, they both worked closely with me every day. They were one of the few people that got to see how crazy busy I was almost every second of every day. Maybe they will be happy to hear that I want help from other people.

"Vincent, can you come here for a moment?" I called him over from his position near the back of the room. "You too, Gabriel." The latter of them was standing behind me and had been waiting for instructions.

When the two of them were close enough to me, I motioned for them to take a sit.

"Sit down, please. Both of you."

"I am an assistant, my Queen, I cannot sit in your office."

"With all due respect, Trinity, I cannot be a proper bodyguard if I am sitting in a chair." They both refused my offer and that annoyed me a little bit.

"Sit." That came out forceful and as a command. So, of course, they both sat immediately. I really shouldn't, but I still found it funny when people were compelled to do as I said from those commands. That was so evil of me. I needed to make sure I didn't abuse that for fun, that would just be cruel.

"Yes, Ma'am." They both said the words as they sank into their chairs in front of me.

"What can we do for you, Trinity?" Vincent asked with a hint of nervousness in his voice.

"I am going to be giving the two of you some more work. I don't want to over burden you or anything, but I need a job that only you two can do." As soon as I started to tell them this though, I felt a tugging

on my consciousness. This one wasn't how I was used to being summoned, but I could tell that there was a celestial that wanted to speak with me. Though, who could it be? "Hahh!" I sighed.

"Is something wrong, my Queen?" Gabriel asked me with a worried tone.

"Not wrong, really, but apparently, someone wants to talk to me. I will be back."

I felt myself slip out of my body and even watched my head slump forward. Vincent got to me in time to catch my head before it slammed onto the desk. He deserved a raise for that show of speed and concern.

I wasn't exactly happy right now. Whoever was wanting to see me was most likely going to give me more work to do. This wasn't going to be fun or pleasant. Hmm, I wonder. Can I turn them down now that I am a Goddess myself? I would think that I could, but we will see.

I had the familiar falling up feeling that turned into a falling toward the ground. As I approached the ground, I saw that there was a man and a woman waiting there for me. The woman seemed to be wearing a long white dress and her long, light brown hair curled loosely down her back. The man had shorter hair, but it was much curlier than the woman's was. His hair was black, and he appeared to be wearing a toga.

When I landed, I saw that the man and woman that had summoned me were wearing little leafy crowns. They were actually laurels, and I knew that. Still, it was a shock to see them when I first landed. That made me think that these two were either Greek or Roman celestials.

"Thank you for coming to see us, Trinity." The man spoke in a slightly higher pitched voice. "My name is Sancus. This, here, is my friend, Veritas." Ahh, so they were both Roman. Well, at least they should know each other.

"Hello. Why was I brought here?" I asked them with just a slight amount of annoyance in my voice.

"We know that you have taken three of our kind into you. You have ascended into being a Goddess because Nehalennia, Thoth, and Danu wanted to leave the celestial realm. The realm is paradise, that simply is not the issue. But we grow bored of that paradise. We want to return as well."

"And how is it that I can help? I don't want to have things crowded inside my soul." I didn't want to be some supernatural version of Sybil or anything like that.

"That is not what we were thinking. We have been watching those around you. We have been looking for people that are worthy of our type of gifts." Veritas spoke in a soft and sweet voice.

If I remembered Sancus was the God of oaths and Veritas was the Goddess of truth. They were oddly specific types of celestials and not many people were worthy of those titles.

"Did you find anyone that was worthy of them?" I was curious. I wanted to know what they thought of the people that were around me.

"That we have." They both spoke at the same time as they nodded their heads at me.

"I personally believe that the man named Vincent would be the most qualified recipient of my mark. I wish to raise him to the rank of God so that I may be reborn as a human." Sancus was explaining to me

in a high, even voice. "From what I have seen, there is no man more loyal to you than Vincent. He is an honorable being and I think that he would do well with my blessing."

"I will not force it upon him. He will have to choose to accept you of his own accord." I made sure that he knew I would not be outright agreeing to this. "And who have you chosen, Veritas?" I asked her even though I was pretty sure that I already knew.

"The man Gabriel is the most honest man that I have ever seen. I believe that he would be the best one to accept my blessing." I wasn't surprised at all. They had both chosen the men in my presence and called me here to see if I would grant their requests.

"You two need to ask them yourselves. I will not decide for you."

"B..but we cannot go to the mortal realm." Veritas looked frightened.

"We are lesser gods. We cannot make that trip on our own. I am sorry, but we cannot ask them." Sancus and Veritas both hung their heads in shame. They were already giving up.

"If you can't go alone, then I will take you." I held my hands out to them, my left to Sancus and my right to Veritas.. They both looked too nervous to take them, but I wasn't about to give up.

Chapter 596 - 13- Trinity – Escorting The Gods (VOLUME 4)

6-8 minutes

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Trinity

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After a few moments of hesitation, I felt the two of them slide their hands into mine. Their skin was warm to the touch, almost like they were standing next to a heater or a fire before giving me their hands. I tried not to pay attention to that though, I needed to focus.

I was definitely a Goddess. I was actually two Goddesses and a God. I had the blessing from three different celestials inside of me. I wasn't a lesser god or goddess like these two. That meant that I should be able to do this. I just needed to focus and concentrate.

I focused on the spot directly in front of me and envisioned a door opening up before me. It took a lot of concentration, mostly to get past that heated feeling of their hands as I held onto them.

Finally, I saw the door begin to appear. The door was big enough for all three of us to walk through at once. It was large, white, and glowing. With the flick of a mental switch, I managed to make the door open all by itself.

Now that the door was open, I could see onto the other side. I was laying there against my desk while Vincent and Gabriel stood frozen in time. I wasn't completely sure if the time over there would freeze when I was completely gone or not. By the looks of it though, the time there had frozen from the moment that Vincent had caught my head.

With the hands of the two celestials in my mine, I stepped forward toward the door. I was walking directly toward my body. I needed to be there in my true form to make it so that the men would be able to see and hear me.

The problem was, how were Veritas and Sancus going to be seen and heard by Gabriel and Vincent? They wouldn't be physical in that world, there would be nothing to hold onto. Hmm.

I only had one idea for when I got onto the other side, but it wasn't that good of one.

"When we are there, do not let go of my hands until I tell you. Even when I step back into my body, do not let go. If you lose contact with me, I am very certain that you will just come right back here. You need me as an anchor." I told them the only thing that came to mind and I saw them nodding their heads like they agreed wholeheartedly.

"Yes, Trinity, we understand." Veritas answered immediately.

"We will not let go." Sancus just continued to nod his head.

You know, aside from the fact that they were both taller than me, I almost felt like I was holding the hands of Reagan and Rika. They were like the twins standing on either side of me and I was walking with them as if I were their mother. It almost made me smile as I thought about it.

We walked slowly through the door, and I was happy to see that the two of them were still with me. Time, however, was still stopped just like I thought it would be. I needed to be back in my body for it to move again. This was what happened when you visited the celestial realm, it was weird, but I guess I needed to get used to it.

Now that I think about it, I don't remember the time freezing when I visited the celestial realm before. Maybe that was because at that time I was just a mortal. I wasn't a human, so I can't say that. But I wasn't immortal at the time. Every time that I had been summoned by Nehalennia, Thoth, and Danu, I might have had a slightly longer lifespan than a human but I was still completely mortal.

Now though, I was a Goddess myself. I think that when you're a Goddess and going to the realm of the Gods and Goddess, the rules are a little different. It would be interesting for me to find out just what it was that was different about me now that I was a Goddess.

I will admit that over the three years since I became a Goddess, I haven't actually done much to 'explore' my Goddess nature. However, to be fair, I didn't know what to do. I was thrust into this position with no warning. I couldn't be blamed for not knowing the ins and outs of it all.

Anyway, moving to the present, not the past, I needed to get this taken care of. I needed to first figure out how to get into my body without letting go of the two childlike gods that were clinging to me.

I decided to just go for it and try to walk through the desk that I was sitting at, I mean what is the worst that could happen?

Thankfully, nothing bad happened. I walked through it with no problem at all. I started to step inside my body when I looked back at the other two.

"Remember, don't let go at all. And the moment that I am in my body and solid again, step out of the desk. You don't want to get stuck in there at all. I don't even want to know what kind of service I need to call to get a God unstuck from my desk."

I had to stifle a laugh because of my sarcasm. I had a weird train of thought there for a moment. First it went 'who you gonna call?' and then it morphed into one of those old TV commercials and I heard an elderly voice saying 'help, I've fallen and I can't get up' and then that one led me to envisioning a turtle stuck on their back and of course that led me to the Ninja Turtles. At that point, I had to force myself to stop thinking altogether, because clearly, I couldn't be trusted at the moment.

I tilted around and settled my 'spirit', I guess that is what I should call it. Anyway, I settled my spirit into my body and I literally felt a sort of 'click' that told me I was in place. Was I imagining that part? Did I make that part of the experience come into being because I was waiting for something that told me that I was in place? I don't know, but I know that I was just happy to be back where I belonged.

I looked next to me before anything else and I instantly saw Sancus and Veritas in their places on either side of me. That was good. And when I looked over my shoulder, I saw that the door was closing.

In the back of my mind, I knew that the moment that the door shut behind me, the time in this room would restart. At that point I would be able to speak to Gabriel and Vincent. And likewise, they would be able to see and hear Sancus and Veritas. It was only then that the two celestials could ask the questions that they wanted to.. It was only then that they would find out if these men would accept them.

Chapter 597 - 14- Trinity – Will You Ascend? (VOLUME 4)

6-8 minutes

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Trinity

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I heard the door slowly close behind me. The low clicking sound was almost deafening in the silence of the room. The moment that it did click though, the time in the room caught up to me and everything in the room started to come alive, or go back to normal, or whatever you want to call it. What I found odd about it though, was that there was a weird 'whirrrmp' type of noise when the time started, it almost sounded like a record player stopping.

"Holy shit!" Vincent leapt away from me the moment that time had restarted.

"My word!" Gabriel gasped and put his hand to his mouth.

I could understand their reactions, especially Vincent's. When time froze, he was holding my head to stop me from getting hurt, yet when time restarted, I was sitting up and looking at him. That means, in his mind, that happened instantaneously. It has no doubt frightened him.

There was also the fact that there were two people standing next to me that hadn't been there before.

"T..T..Trinity, w..who are these people?" Vincent was reaching toward his hip where I knew he kept a gun and a magical sword that I had made for him.

"Don't worry, Vincent. These are not enemies." I did my best to soothe him. "Both of you, please sit back down." I motioned with my eyes since both of my hands were occupied.

"Trinity? My Queen? What has happened? Did you, perchance, visit the celestial realm?" Gabriel, still in shock, sat on the edge of his seat. Vincent, who clearly didn't want to be seated, for my safety of course, stayed hovering over the cushion of his seat.

"Yes, Gabriel, I did. These here are Veritas, the Goddess of truth, and Sancus, the God of oaths."

"Hello, Vincent." Sancus nodded at him with a shy smile.

"It is a pleasure to meet you, Gabriel." Veritas did the same to the other man.

"Queen Trinity, why did you bring two celestials back with you?" Gabriel was obviously very confused at the moment. I know that he was wondering what was going on and I wanted to answer that for him, I really did.

"Well, it just so happens that these two have something to ask the two of you." I grinned at him, happy for once that this was something that didn't have to do solely with me.

"U..us?" Vincent looked between Veritas and Sancus with confusion. "What on earth would they want to ask us? We're not important. They should be speaking to you, Trinity. Not us." He was shaking his head no, as if that was going to be his answer to whatever it is that they were going to say.

"Just hear them out, Vincent. I think you will be pleasantly surprised when you find out what they have to say.

"O..OK." Vincent agreed and finally sat all the way into his chair, no longer hovering over it and ready to attack at any second.

"Sancus, would you like to begin?" I asked the man standing next to me. He seemed like the more outgoing of the two.

"Yes, I think that will be good." He smiled at me then looked at Vincent. "I am, as Trinity has pointed out already, the God of oaths. My blessing, or power so to speak, has always been to see true bonds and oaths when they are given. You, Vincent, are the most loyal man that has given an oath to Trinity. You are a kind and worthy man and I would like to give you my blessing."

"And you, Gabriel, are the most honest being that I have ever seen. I, being the Goddess of truth, can always detect the truth. I know when someone is lying, and I can help to uncover deceit. Gabriel, I would like to give you my blessing." Veritas was smiling sweetly at the man that she had chosen to take over her power.

"I..I don't know what you mean." Vincent stuttered just a little. "What do you mean that you want to give me your blessing?" He looked between the two celestials and then at me. His eyes were filled with wonder mixed with worry. He wasn't fully trusting this just yet.

I had a feeling that I was going to need to explain things to them. If that was all that Sancus and Veritas were going to say, then the two men in front of me would need more of an explanation.

"Vincent, do you remember what happened when I ascended? When I became a Goddess?" I brought up the memories from a few years ago, memories of the day that he almost died in my arms.

"I remember what you told me about it. But of the actual process, no one was there to see it." Well, he was right about that one. But he knew what I was talking about and that was all that mattered to me right now. I just needed him to understand what I was getting at when I continued my explanation.

"Well, that day I took the blessings of Nehalennia, Thoth, and Danu into my body. I took their power and became a Goddess."

"Yes, I understand that." Vincent nodded his head as if saying he was following me so far. Gabriel was looking at me intently, having also heard this story.

"Well, the blessing of the two Goddesses and God that I took into my body is what ascended me. It is what made me what I am now."

"OK." He was understanding me but not putting the two things together.

"Sancus wants to give you his blessing, Vincent." I emphasized the words for him and waited for him to fully understand them.

The moment that his eyes went wide I knew that he had figured it out. Some of the color drained from his face and he gripped the arms of the chair that he was sitting in.

"T..T...T..Trinity, a..are you telling me t..th..that he w..w..wants to m..m..make me i..into a G..G...G..G..God?" ding ding ding. He got it in one go. And let's see what kind of prize we have for him. Oh, I know, he can ascend if he wants to. I wanted to laugh at my whole game show reference.

"Yes, Vincent. You would become the new God of oaths. And I am guessing that you will have an increase to that ability that you have. And as for you, Gabriel, Veritas wants to help you ascend so that you are the new God of Truth." I smiled at them, hoping to calm them down just a little bit as I explained what was going on. "What do you two think? Will you become gods? Will you ascend?"

I could see the emotions flitting across Vincent's face as he thought about the words that I had said.. I had told them all before that this was possible. Now I just needed to know, would he go through with it? Would he become a God? Would he join me?

Chapter 598 - 15- Trinity – Ascending And New Jobs (VOLUME 4)

7-8 minutes

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Trinity

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"I..I..I guess." Vincent stuttered out the words and I knew that he was wavering for a moment.

"You don't have to do this if you don't want to, Vincent. No one will force you to do this. It can be a major responsibility." I spoke soothingly, telling him in not so many words to choose carefully.

"I th..th..think, I..I..I more worried about wh..what will happen to th..them if w..we t..take their blessing." Now that he seemed to be getting what he wanted to say out, I noticed that he was becoming less nervous. Even though he stuttered through that, I was pretty sure that he was past all of that now.

"When Veritas and I ascend, we will move into the hall of souls. When the time comes for a new life to be born, and it is our turn, Veritas and I will be reborn into the mortal realm. We will not be lost forever, if that is what you are fearing. This here, is another sign of your worthiness in my opinion." Sanus smiled at him as he answered the question.

"So, you won't, like, die or anything?" Vincent asked him, just to make sure.

"No, I will not die."

I watched as relief visibly spread across Vincent's face. I know that he had been worried about that. He had probably been worried about that having happened to Nehalennia, Thoth, and Danu as well. He was just a caring person. He always has been.

"If it is safe for you, then I will agree to it. I do not mind joining Trinity in the ranks of celestials. This will only help me to serve her better."

Vincent grinned then bowed his head to me like he was intent on telling me that he was forever at my side. He truly was one of the most remarkable men that I had ever met.

"And you, Gabriel? Will you accept Veritas's blessing?" I asked him, turning my attention to him now.

"I believe so. I have heard your explanation to Vincent and so I do not require the same. I would have held my reservations if I were to be snuffing out a life by doing this, but if I am only going to be taking the title and status so that they may reincarnate, then I do not mind ascending. I too, wish to join my Queen among the ranks of the celestials."

Gabriel, loyal as always, immediately agreed to accept the blessing from the Goddess into himself. I was a little nervous, but also excited. These two men, these two friends, no family members of mine, were going to ascend and become Gods just like I had become a Goddess. I wasn't going to be the only one.

Uh oh. I just had a thought. What will Reece say? He will wonder why he wasn't the first one to get a God after me. Oh, well, he will have to deal with it. These two were chosen, it's not like I made this happen. I just helped them.

"Alright gentlemen, since you accept these beings into you, all you must do to take their blessing is to hug them. Hold them against you and absorb their light into you." I was speaking like I was some sort of an expert. Dammit. People are going to think that I was some pompous know it all.

"OK."

"Understood." Thankfully, Vincent and Gabriel didn't think along those lines. They just nodded and the two of them started to move toward the being that they were going to be accepting power from.

I watched as Vincent reached toward Sancus, he was nervous and uncertain just a little, but I had a feeling that was because he was about to hug a strange man that he just met today. That wasn't easy for some people unless they were very social and very open. Vincent was sweet but often a little reserved.

Gabriel on the other hand, was a pure soul that didn't truly harbor negative thoughts about people unless they warranted them. Gabriel was going to Veritas with a smile on his face and I saw that he was not going to have an issue accepting the blessing.

"Sancus, Veritas, only when they are holding onto you can you let go of my hands. If you do so before their arms are holding you in place, you will be instantly taken back to the celestial realm and you will need to find another way back here."

"Yes, Trinity." Sancus sounded scared, just like Vincent had.

"Understood." Veritas sounded pure and trusting, exactly like Gabriel.

The two men that were employed by me, reached forward and wrapped their arms around the God and Goddess. Vincent held Sancus close, and only then did the God let go of my hand. Likewise, Veritas was enveloped in Gabriel's arms and let go of my hand at that moment to hug him back.

There was a bright, shining, white light that started to fill the room. The light was brighter than the ones that I was used to seeing and I needed to shield my eyes. The problem was, with my eyes covered I couldn't see what was happening around me. I got a few glimpses of shadows but that was it.

After about thirty seconds, the light disappeared as suddenly as it came on. I blinked a few times and cleared my vision. When I was able to see again, I saw that Sancus and Veritas were gone, only Gabriel and Vincent stood on either side of me.

"Is that it?" Vincent asked me, confused.

I tried to find something that might be different about Vincent as I listened to him. I was guessing that he would have a mark like I do, but what and where were the questions that I needed to answer.

I was about to give up on the idea and just say that it was hidden, but then I saw the smallest little flash of color on his upper arm. When I focused on it and actually looked at it, I saw he had a laurel wreath wrapped around his left arm, around his bicep.

When I turned to look at Gabriel, I saw that he had the same mark, but it was on his right bicep. That was interesting.

"Well, you are both Gods now, how do you feel?" I asked them with a smirk on my face.

"The same." Vincent looked worried. "Did it work?"

I didn't answer him, I just pointed at the mark. When he saw it he grinned and looked at me with confident eyes.

"I am sure we will find out how to be Gods later. What did you need us to do, Trinity?" Good he was ready to get back to the original reason that I was calling them to talk.

"I need to delegate some work, but I need to find people we can trust to work for me. I guess now that you are gods, it will be a heck of a lot easier to do that." I almost laughed at my own words.

"We can take care of that, Queen Trinity. Just leave it to us." Gabriel smiled at me. "We will find you people worthy of any job."

With that, I handed them each a file that I had prepared. It listed the jobs that I wanted to 'hire' people for and what they would be doing. They were to help me find people capable of filling these positions that I could also trust with intimate knowledge of the kingdom.. These two men were going to help me find the help to help me. Now isn't that convoluted?

Chapter 599 - 16- Trinity – Is It Going To Work? (VOLUME 4)

7-8 minutes

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Trinity

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Over the course of the next three weeks, I was able to work with Vincent and Gabriel to find myself half a dozen qualified and trustworthy individuals that we could delegate work to. My plan with it all was for me to give each of them work that went into a specified field. I needed someone to help with the financial side of things, not to mention the information gathering, the law, the education, interspecies relationships, and lastly monitoring of the human information network. We needed to make sure that everywhere was covered and the information was gathered and organized properly.

The six people that I was bringing on for these jobs included some people that I have already gotten close to. There was Landon's mate Ava, as well as Nadeen and Kayda who were both council members. There was a new face among the group as well. There was a man by the name of Jason who was a bird shifter, though I don't know which breed. And adding to the familiar faces, but much closer to my inner circle, were Rawlynnne and Jackson (Rawlynnne was, of course, also a council member). They were being brought on for the law and human information network sectors of my plan. They were also some of the people that I had blessed all those years ago and I already knew that I could trust them.

Apparently, both Rawlynnne and Jackson were willing to give up their position in the FBI to come work directly for me. I think with the way things have changed over the years and how their families have grown, they don't want to be away from their homes as much. That was fine with me, I was happy to take them on full time and pay them a competitive wage. Though I was also told that my competitive wage was way higher than they expected and that I needed to stop letting Reece's billions influence me. I didn't think that it was that much, but OK.

I was doing my best to let go of the reins and let other people help me with my work. That was hard though, so very hard. Even now, while the new 'trainees' were learning their new responsibilities and all that, I was sitting here in my office basically bouncing my head off of my desk with nothing to do.

I had prepared the files and folders filled with information that they needed to know about their jobs. I had gotten the lists of their duties and expectations ready. I had made sure that everything was going exactly how I wanted it to. The only problem now was that I couldn't be the one to tell them what to do for me.

No, Reece, Vincent, and Gabriel had taken that job away from me and told me to just wait here.

'They're going to die.' That voice was back again. It had gone away for a couple days just like it had before, but now, whenever I was feeling like I wasn't doing enough work, the voice came back. That's why I was both happy and worried about getting these people to start their jobs. If they did their jobs and I didn't have to worry maybe the voice would go away completely. Then again, maybe letting them work for me would backfire and I would end up feeling so miserable that I was left as nothing more than a blubbering fool when my sanity completely abandons me.

'All of your people are going to die, and all of it will be your fault.' Over the last few weeks, since Aunt Glory and the others had left, the voice had stopped being nothing but a faint whisper. Now, even though it was still just a whisper, it was loud enough and clear enough for me to understand everything that it said.

'You're ruining it all. They will die in a fiery mass destruction, and it will all be your fault. You should run away. You should leave them be and flee before they blame you. You're a murderer. You're a killer. You're going to destroy them all.'

I tried all the time to pretend that the voice wasn't there at all. I tried to pretend that I didn't hear it or that I was above its influence. The truth of the matter though, was that I was literally going insane because of it.

I felt like my hair was thinning and I was sleeping less and less. I wasn't eating as much, and I know that I was losing weight. Reece had asked me several times now if I was sick or if I needed to see Griffin and Lana.

No, I didn't want to see them. I didn't want to burden them. I didn't want to make them check me out when there was nothing physically wrong with me. My only problem was psychological. I was going crazy, that was all.

That was another reason that I wanted competent people to work for me. What would happen if I lost it all completely? I would have to leave Reece in charge, but he would need help. He would need a group of people that were capable of running things in my stead. But was this going to work? Would they be able to manage the whole kingdom if I couldn't stop myself from going crazy completely?

Dammit! I certainly hoped that they were. I didn't want to worry about something else. I didn't want to second guess another of my decisions or to hear a new voice start assaulting my ears.

Speaking of that voice, it was back once again.

'Run away, Trinity, run away and save yourself. If you stay, all of your people will die. All of them. Over half the world's population will die from a mass attack that is caused by you. You will kill them. You will destroy them. Can you live with that?'

"No, mystery voice, I can't." I sighed to the empty room around me. "No, I can't live with that. That is why I am hoping you are nothing more than my fear that I am messing up and not an actual threat to my people. I need to do what I can to help them all. I need to do what I can to make sure that no one ever suffers because I am not the queen that they deserve."

I was letting some of my fears out for the first time. These are fears that I have been harboring since the first day that I found out that I was going to be the 'queen' of all the shifters. These fears date back all the way to when I was nothing more than a Goddess Incarnate.

Oh, look at how time had flown by. I can't believe that in just a little over eight years since that time I am now someone who is completely unrecognizable. If the Trinity that actually married Reece was standing here, she wouldn't even know who I was. And if I could see myself from back then, I would warn her to think twice before making any of her decisions. It's best to be sure so that you didn't inadvertently cause a massive political issue.

"Hahh." I sighed as I pressed my head against my desk. I truly do hope that none of this ever gets out. I didn't need people to know that I was actually crazy.

No, my personal issues could never see the light of day. I needed to hide this from them all.. I needed to put on a happy face and make them all think that I was doing just fine.

Chapter 600 - 17- Reece – A Break From All The Work (VOLUME 4)

6-8 minutes

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Reece

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My Little Bunny had been back to the crazy and hectic days again. She was always trying to do too much. Over the last few years, she was always trying to take everything onto her shoulders and do everything by herself. I really don't know why she insisted on doing it all herself instead of asking me or Vincent, or even Gabriel for help.

Things have been getting so much worse for her lately too. For some reason, ever since Gloriana and Valerian, along with the others, came to visit she has been so much worse. It's like something is troubling her, but I can't really tell what it is yet.

And to top it all off, she is so exhausted. Something that has really been bothering me lately. All I could smell on her was that exhaustion. She reeked of it. And I didn't want to sound rude or cruel by pointing it out to her.

She didn't just smell tired either. It was easy to just look at her and see that she was tired. There were dark circles under her eyes, bags even. There were lines where there never used to be. Her expression just looked drawn and worn out.

Dammit! Why couldn't I make things better for my Little Bunny? She is my whole world. Her and my children. I would do anything for her, but I didn't know what to do for her right now. All I wanted to do was make everything better for her. How could I do that, though?

The only thing that I could think of, was to drag her away from work and make her participate with the family more. She loves the kids, and they love her. I know how much happiness they bring her and how much she loves spending time with them too. I mean, she was still forcing into her schedule for the nightly bedtime stories to them, on top of all the other work she was doing. That told me that if it was something to do with the kids, then I just might be able to drag her away.

That was why I had scheduled this whole family day for us. I wanted to take the kids to the mall to shop for something special. School was starting soon. Reagan and Rika were going into second grade and Talia was about to start preschool. It was a big time of year for our family.

"Come on, Mommy. It's time for us to leave." Talia ran into Little Bunny's office with so much enthusiasm it was almost like I set off a firework in there.

"Go? Go where?" My Little Bunny was so exhausted and tired, but I could still see that she had a smile on her face for her little girl.

"We're going out, Mommy." Rika grinned and followed after her sister.

"Yeah, come on Momma. Let's get going." Reagan was the last one that I needed to send. I was still standing at the door leading into the room and watching them all with a smile on my face. If all three of them came to her for a day out, then there was no way that she would turn them down.

"I..I admit I didn't know that we were leaving at all. Where are we going?" I watched as she stuttered a little and floundered about, trying to figure out what was going on.

"We're going for a family day. Come on, Mommy." Talia took her hand and gave her one of those shy and innocent smiles. It was bound to work.

At that moment, my Little Bunny lifted her head and looked at me with confusion on her face.

"Come on, Trinity. I know you're busy with your queenly duties, but the kids and I want to spend time with you. So, take a break and come out with us." OK, I might be trying to rely on my winning smile and perfect charm as well. I would use all the tools that I had in my arsenal just to drag my wife away from work.

OK, that might sound a little wrong here, but she just worked too much. All day, every single day. I needed to try and put an end to it at some time. I needed to help keep her healthy and sane, or whatever it was that she is supposed to be. Maybe working all the time is sane to some people, but I knew that it was destroying my wife.

"Alright." She sighed before looking back at me and shaking her head, knowing that I had won this round made me feel immensely happy. "Let me at least get changed and get ready for the day. I don't even know where we're going."

The kids took my Little Bunny's hands then and helped to speed her along her way. They pulled her to her feet and then out of the room. As a family we all went upstairs to help mommy pick out her clothes for the day. I wanted this to be as casual as it possibly could, but that wasn't possible with all of us.

As I watched my family happily pick through clothes, I thought about how much work went into us going out as a family. OK, Trinity and I could go out no problem without it becoming something too major.

Yeah, we were considered celebrities and all that, even among the humans. Even so, the two of us could manage it no problem. The kids though, I didn't want anything to happen to them. So, we usually brought the 'entourage' with us. There were at least four bodyguards whenever we went out as a family. And when pressed about it by people, I would tell them it was all for my family and their protection.

All I wanted was a little bit of family fun out and about with everyone. It was simple, in theory. But the actual execution of this day involved a lot of people working in tandem for us. I hope that didn't make my Little Bunny start to think too much about her work and then that, in turn, makes her regret coming with us.

Dammit, I just can't stop my mind from thinking about these unpleasant things.

It wasn't going to make me change my mind about today, though. I needed to get my Little Bunny out of this damn castle and into the land of the living. I needed to have her see that there are actually people out there that exist and that life outside of her office hadn't disappeared completely.

Ok, I might be exaggerating just a little bit, but could anyone blame me? I have been seeing this pattern form for a long time and it was starting to scare me. I just wanted to have my family together again.

I just wish that something, anything, would happen to force her to stay away from work and be with the rest of us. I just wish that there was something I could do to keep her out of the office for a little while.

Please, Trinity, Little Bunny, help me find something to help you.. Help me to help you.