

## Chosen by Fate 611

### Chapter 611 - 28- Trinity – Searching (VOLUME 4)

Trinity

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I did my best to get back to the door to the royal tower. I knew that I should have just searched the floor that I was already on, but I thought that I might find something in my room, something that the voice probably didn't want me to see. That was why it told me to keep going, not to go back to where I had been.

Then again, I could be putting too much thought into that. That was the problem with this right now. I didn't know what to believe, what to think, or what to do. There were no definite answers that were coming to me. There were just feelings and instincts.

In truth, when you strip away the things that make up who we are, all that is left are our instincts. The feelings that we got that told us if something was safe or not. That's what I needed to rely on right now. I may not be able to shift right now, but that didn't mean that I was incapable of connecting to my primal self and the base instincts that all of us are born with.

Finally, after what felt like more than an entire day, or was it two, I made it up to my bedroom. I thought I had heard whispered words around me from time to time. No, it wasn't that voice talking to me.

These voices, the ones I heard in my tower, were those of Vincent, Roisin, and several other people. I even heard the children's voices from time to time. Little Talia's sweet little voice that was always soft and kind. The slightly older voices of Reagan and Rika as they started to act more like big kids instead of mommy's little babies.

At one point, when I was close to my room, I thought I even heard Reece's and Noah's voices. Those voices, specifically my husband's, actually put me at ease. I needed to be closer to him right now. I missed him and I was starting to lose hope.

Finally, I made it into my room, even though it was only a few feet away from the door that I had been near, it still felt like it was taking me a really long time.

My room looked the same as I remember it. There were no changes at all to the place, except for the fact that it was all in various shades of gray. It was still hard for me to process all of that gray. It was weird to see my home, see myself in mirrors and for it all to just be gray. Well, I guess when I do finally get gray hair, I won't look so bad, well, then again, my face wasn't its usual complexion either so maybe I would look bad.

"UGH!" I sighed the words as I got closer to my bed. "I just need to rest and relax." I was about to drop onto the mattress when I heard Reece's voice again.

"I'll be here, waiting for you Trinity, so wake up soon. We have a lot to talk about. And I don't think you actually want Griffin to run all those tests on you. He will have you in so many medical machines that it isn't even funny. And I know that you don't want anyone else to find out what is going on with you. So, come on, don't do this, don't stay asleep. It's time to wake up. You've been asleep for a long time

already. If you're still tired you can take another nap later, but I think it's time to wake up now. Please, Trinity, wake up. Please, baby."

I could tell that he was crying. There was definitely something wrong. Was this really happening? Was this what he was feeling right now? Has someone called him home early? Or had it been that long already?

"I love you, baby. I love you so much, Trinity. Please don't leave me here like this. I need you. I can't live without you. You know that, don't you?" I focused on the bed a little more and I was actually able to see him there, in full color, lying on the bed and curled up like he was wrapped around something.

"Reece." I called out to him and fought to get to the bed. I felt like, with the fervent desire to reach him coursing through my body, I was actually moving faster than I had been. That or I was just getting used to this place and how it felt to move here.

By the time that I got to the bed, I could tell that Reece was sound asleep as he curled himself around something that I couldn't see. I didn't want to think about it being my body or anything like that. That thought was just scary and morbid.

I laid my head down on his side and wrapped myself around him as best as I could. I was tired now and I needed to get some sleep. I don't really know how long it took me to get this far in this alternate version of my home, but it had taken all that I had just to reach this point.

I was just going to lay here and sleep with my husband, my Fido. Man, I don't call him that nearly enough. And just thinking about it made me remember the first time that I called him Fido. The first time had been when we were eating breakfast together for the first time. He kept pissing me off and finally, I just snapped at him. It was pretty funny, if I do say so myself.

I tried to focus on Reece, his face and his words, when I slept. I thought of good times and bad ones. I thought about the different things that have shaped our relationship and helped us to be who we are today.

"Dammit." I said the words to myself as I snuggled against him. No matter what I was feeling, I should have talked to him about it. I'm such a horrible person. I'm a horrible mate and wife. Dammit! I should never have done this to him. "I'm sorry, Reece. I am sorry that I am not there with you and the kids. I am sorry that I thought I was good enough to handle this all alone. I'm so sorry."

I wanted to sob, I wanted to cry and let all of these emotions out of me, but I couldn't. Actually, it was more like I wouldn't. I wouldn't let this get the best of me. I was going to fight this and get through this. I was going to prove that I was strong enough, even without magic. I would do whatever it took, right after I snuggled and slept like a baby with my mate.

Hey, I was still an emotional person sometimes, I needed him to sooth me.. I was allowed this tiny bit of weakness, right? I was allowed to be vulnerable where my husband and mate were involved, wasn't I? Well, no matter what someone else says, I thought that I was.

#### **Chapter 612 - 29- Reece – Telling The Others (VOLUME 4)**

9-11 minutes

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Reece

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When I woke up, I thought that I felt my Little Bunny's presence, not just her body but her. When I had fallen asleep, holding her against my chest, it literally felt like I had just been holding her shell, it didn't feel like she was there with me at all. However, when I woke up, I thought she might finally be awake. I thought for sure that she was there with me, but I was wrong.

When I opened my eyes and finally looked at her, it was clear to see that she was still asleep. She wasn't back with me at all, and that broke me.

"Where are you, Little Bunny?" I don't know why I asked that question. I was looking right at her. She was just asleep. That was all. She was making up for all that time that she wasn't sleeping and was exhausting herself. She would wake up soon.

I started to slip out of the bed and leave her there, but there was one more thing that I wanted to do. There was something that I would have done dozens of times by now had I known sooner.

I knelt next to the bed, pulled the blanket back from my little bunny, lifted the bottom of her shirt, and pressed my lips against her belly. I saw that it was already slightly rounded. She was already starting to show and it had gone completely unnoticed.

Why hadn't I been able to tell that she was pregnant? Why had I not smelled my children growing inside of her. I mean, she is carrying triplets, for crying out loud, I should have been able to figure this out a long time ago.

"I'm sorry that Daddy didn't notice you sooner." I whispered the words at her belly and the babies that were inside of her. "But I promise you this, babies, Daddy will never let that happen again. You are my babies, and I will protect you. I will watch over you and your mommy forever." I kissed my Little Bunny's belly again and hugged her tenderly before I rose to my feet and went to take a shower.

I had only taken a nap for a few hours. It was still early in the afternoon right now and the kids weren't even home from school yet. I needed to figure a few things out though. I needed to make sure that we handled this situation as best as I could since I was the one that was going to be in charge while my Little Bunny was asleep.

Following my shower, I wanted to eat something, though I didn't want to leave my wife either. So, for that matter, I sent a message to Abigail to please make some lunch and have Roisin bring it up to me. Sometimes, I really enjoyed this mind link ability that was given to us by my Little Bunny. She had changed so many things for us, given us so many new powers.

About a half an hour later, Roisin came into the room carrying a tray of food. She didn't say anything, she just went straight to the table that was near the window and set the food down. Had I not stopped her, she would have left without saying anything other than the quietly uttered 'Here you are, Sir'.

"Roisin?" I called her name as she started to walk toward the door.

"Yes, Sir?" She looked at me with fear and worry in her eyes. Did she really think that I was going to blame her for all of this? Judging by the look in her eyes, I could tell that she truly did think that.

"Thank you for always being there for Trinity. I hope you can help me with everything around here until she finally decides to wake up."

"Sir?" She looked shocked. "B..but I.. but I failed her, Sir." She lowered her head in shame.

"No, you didn't. You didn't fail her anymore than I did. Trinity was hiding the truth from all of us. She wasn't telling us what was going on with her, and because of that, we've been left with no answers to the multitude of questions that we have. Please, don't blame yourself, Roisin." I did my best to soothe her, even as the words made me want to balk and blame myself. Apparently, Roisin could see that in my eyes though, since she smiled and spoke firmly at me.

"I will stop blaming myself if you can stop blaming yourself, Sir. Perhaps we should work on that together. I will remind you when I see you losing hope, and you can do the same for me."

"That sounds like a good plan to me, Roisin." I nodded my agreement at that. "We will help each other until Trinity finally wakes up."

After that, I decided to eat my lunch. I hadn't eaten at all since Vincent had called me in the middle of the night, so I was ravenously hungry. Still, I had a lot of stuff that I needed to do. I needed to talk with the other guards so that they knew what was going on. I needed to figure out what to tell the children. And I needed to figure out what to tell the people that filled our kingdom. What would they think when they knew that their queen was sick?

I started by asking that all of the guards, Vincent, Shane, Shawn, Dietrich, and David, as well as Gabriel come to meet me in my room. Most of them normally didn't come up to the room since it was off limits to almost everyone. Vincent had been up here as had Shawn, but everyone else usually waited downstairs for my Little Bunny to be ready.

Almost at the same time that I had finished my lunch, they all came into the room. I had summoned Roisin again so that she could clear away the dishes and she left just as the men were filing into the room. I saw her look at Gabriel and almost immediately look away from him. She had probably kept Trinity's condition from him so she was embarrassed to look at him right now.

"What's going on, King Reece?" Gabriel asked me with fear evident in his voice.

"I was going to ask the same thing. What is going on here?" Shane, who was normally always joking around, was acting serious for once.

"What happened to Trinity?" David was the next to speak. Oddly enough, Shawn and Dietrich didn't say anything, the two of them just looked at me then at Trinity and back again. Vincent, who knew what was going on, also remained silent.

"As you all either know or suspected, there is something wrong with Trinity. Vincent found her yesterday, unconscious."

"Yeah, we know that. We thought that she might just be sleeping off that exhaustion that she had been feeling." David's posture was straight and his body was calm, but his face showed just how worried he was.

"What exhaustion?" Shawn looked confused. He and Dietrich had been away for the last several weeks on a diplomatic mission. Since Dietrich was their king and both of them were vampires (or half of one, in Shawn's case) they had been the best candidate to speak with some of the clans in Europe, South America and Asia that had been causing issues lately. It wasn't something that was handled by me and Trinity, but we did offer our support for Dietrich if he needed it.

"She's had a rough time of things lately. She had been running herself so ragged that even her pregnancy went unnoticed. The only thing all of us were able to smell on her was the stench of exhaustion." I looked at my wife as I spoke, feeling the heartache settle a little deeper.

"Pregnancy?" Dietrich asked with his head tilted to the side. "I cannot see that she is pregnant at all. Honestly, I can't even see Trinity's spark of life at all."

"That's exactly what I was thinking, my love. I cannot sense Trinity at all, and I most definitely cannot sense a baby." Shawn's words only made Dietrich's that much harder for me to process.

"Well, I know that Trinity is pregnant, Griffin just did an ultrasound early this morning. She is pregnant with triplets and they are doing just fine for now. Medically, Griffin says there is nothing wrong with Trinity, she just appears to be asleep. However, we can't seem to get her to wake up."

At that, Dietrich and Gabriel walked closer to my Little Bunny. They were the two older among us and might know something that I didn't. I didn't stop them when they walked over to her bedside, reached out to touch her, or even when they examined her face. I knew that they were both just trying to help her.

"I don't sense her essence, which is perplexing, but she appears to be fine, and the life is still inside of her." Dietrich was speaking as if he were talking more to himself than to me.

"I can hear her heart beating, and even that of the babies inside of her. How far along is she?" Gabriel asked me without turning around.

"Nearly a third of the way through." Vincent was the one to answer for me.

"How did none of us notice this?" Gabriel shook his head. "All seems to be right with her, except, I don't sense her soul inside of her."

"That is precisely it." Dietrich looked at Gabriel then, his eyes opened wide. "That was the wording I was having trouble coming up with. It's like Trinity is gone from this body. Perhaps that is why Shawn and I couldn't sense her, or the babies. They are not here, their souls are gone. But where are they?"

"I think that is the big question on all of our minds." I told him.. "I think that is what we all would like to figure out right about now."

#### **Chapter 613 - 30- Trinity – Listening In (VOLUME 4)**

6-8 minutes

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Trinity

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When I woke up from my nap, I didn't see Reece anymore. I didn't feel his presence around me anymore either. I didn't know where he had gone, but I was starting to miss him already. However, after a moment or two, I heard a voice speaking from somewhere in the room.

"Yeah, we know that. We thought that she might just be sleeping off that exhaustion that she had been feeling." It was David. My sweet, innocent David that had been with me ever since the beginning of my time with Reece. Yeah, I had heard stories from Rawlyne about David and how he wasn't as innocent as I thought him to be, but I refused to let those stories mix with the image I had of him in my mind. He was still the same sweet, innocent David who had joined the others in the group costume to make that Halloween party for the kids extra special. Ever since that time, we've held a Halloween party here at the house. Well, now it's a castle, but it was at the estate then the castle. Over the years, I never forgot what it was that I had done for the children in the beginning. And I never would. I wanted to make sure that I gave all the people in my pack, as well as my kingdom, as good of a life as possible.

Still, I shouldn't be going off on tangents. I needed to know why David was in my room. And who was he talking to? Well, I didn't have to wait long for that question to be answered.

"What exhaustion?" Shawn seemed to be here as well. OK, so were all of my guards here?

"She's had a rough time of things lately. She had been running herself so ragged that even her pregnancy went unnoticed. The only thing all of us were able to smell on her was the stench of exhaustion." I could hear how scared Reece was when he spoke to the others about what was going on. I wanted to get to him, to be at his side and to let him know that I was here with him, so he didn't need to be so worried.

That was when all of the sound started to fade from the room. The moment that I started to move, to force myself through the thickness of the air that was around me. I guess it took so much effort and concentration that I couldn't see the men that were around me and I couldn't hear anything that they were saying.

I thought that was strange, but there was nothing that I could do about it. I just needed to move. I just needed to get to Reece's side. That was all that mattered to me right now. I just needed to move in the direction that I had heard his voice coming from earlier. I just needed to move toward the window and the table that was sitting near it. That was where I had heard my Fido's voice coming from.

UGH! It felt like I was moving so slowly again. Like every foot that I moved forward took me several minutes to traverse. This place that I was in could only be described as hell.

'Close, Trinity, this isn't exactly hell but a lot of humans call it that. This is the underworld.' There was that voice again, that one that had tried to draw me toward it until I saw the imps.

"Why am I in the underworld?" I almost paused in my never ending walk just to cross the room. I didn't though. I just kept myself moving as best as I could.

'You are here because you need to find Hekate. You need to find her and stop her from escaping the underworld. She is stirring and her power is growing.' The voice seemed different than it had before. It was no longer just repeating things like it used to, but now it was also giving me information that I needed. Not to mention, it didn't sound quite so melodramatic as it did before.

"And who are you?" I asked the voice, wondering who the mysterious woman that had been speaking to me all along was.

'Have you not heard of the fates? It is our job to warn you of dangers and to guide you along the way.'

"That doesn't sound like the legends of the fates that I know about." Something just didn't seem right about what the voice was telling me. The fates didn't interfere directly with the lives of those that they watched over. So why would they choose to warn me about this issue? Something just didn't seem to add up.

'Follow our advice, child, and we will help you.'

"I think I will find my own path." After that, I continued to just move forward and ignore the voice again.

Once I decided to move beyond the voice, and the lies that it was telling me, I heard something else. I heard Reece's voice once again, along with some younger and sweeter voices.

"Daddy, why isn't Mommy awake?" Talia sounded sad.

"What happened, Daddy?" Rika's voice was steady, but I could hear that it was all an act.

"Daddy, what can I do to help?" Reagan, my little man, was always there to try and help me.

"Mommy is sick right now and I don't know when she will wake up. She is resting though, and that is what matters. For now, I need all of you to be strong and to keep being positive. That is what mommy needs for right now."

Reece sounded like he was having a hard time remaining strong as he faced our children alone. It was breaking my heart seeing him like that. I didn't want to hear his voice as it was filled with so much sorrow and heartache.

"I want my mommy." Talia began to cry just a little. "I don't want mommy to be sick. I want her here with me."

"I'm right here." I called out to all of them. "Mommy is right here, baby girl." I started to try and move closer to them again. I needed to hug them, to hold them in my arms. I needed to let them know that I was on my way back and that I was never going to leave them again. "Mommy is here, baby. Mommy hasn't left you, Tally. Please, baby girl, please don't cry."

The more that I called out to them, the fainter their voices became until eventually, they were gone, and I was left alone in this place once again.

"NO! Don't leave me." I called after their voices when I couldn't hear them anymore. "Please! Don't leave me here by myself. Reece! Reagan! Rika! Talia! Please, come back! Don't leave me." It was no use. None of them could hear me. None of them could see me. They didn't know that I was so close to them because I wasn't actually there with them. "I might as well be a ghost." I sighed the words as I fell slowly to my knees. "No, not even that. A ghost walks in the same world as them. I am not there with them anymore. Maybe I am in the underworld.. Maybe I am dead, and maybe I can never get back home ever again."

#### **Chapter 614 - 31- Trinity – Another Door Part 1 (VOLUME 4)**

6-8 minutes

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Trinity

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For a moment, I thought about just sitting there and wallowing in self pity. If I was never going to get out of here. If I was never going to get home and see my family, then what was the point of getting up? What was the point of working so hard for something that I would never get to see ever again? That's right, there was no point.

However, I didn't have it in me to be a quitter. Never, in all my years, had I just given up on something when it was too difficult. When I wanted to go to school, I made that happen even if my grandfather was against it. When I wanted to keep learning how to fight, I made that happen by sneaking away to a gym and learning in secret. I never let things being too difficult stop me from doing what I needed to do, and this time wasn't going to be any different.

After my few moments of weakness were done, I decided that I was not going to sit here and cry anymore. I was going to wipe away the tears, pick myself up off of the ground, and push my way through this barrier that has been trying to stop me ever since I got here.

The moment that I thought about that, the moment that I let the fear and worry go, I was able to move so much easier. It may not have been as easy as I would have moved in the real world, but it wasn't as slow going as it had been before.

I was on my feet and forcing myself to move toward the door of my room. I couldn't use magic right now, so I needed to rely on my own body and my own prowess. This world was not going to get the best of me. I was going to keep pushing, harder and harder, until I was able to get to where I was going.

Finally, I made it to my door and the stairs beyond it. I was moving faster, or what I felt was faster than I had been moving. I almost felt like I was running down the stairs toward the other doors that were on the next floor.

I started to search then. I searched the rooms of all three of my children, Reagan, Rika, and Talia. I moved on to the empty rooms that were still on that floor. Another nine rooms in all. Seriously, I never



understood why Athair mòr had insisted on there being a dozen rooms for children. Did he really think that I was going to have that many children in all?

None of the rooms on this floor had a way out for me. There was nothing that would help me to escape this prison that I was in. I continued to search every room that I came to. I was not going to give up and I would search everywhere to find the way out.

Down the tower I went. Into every room, every space that was big enough for me to fit, I went there. I searched and searched as much as I could. But there was nothing. Nowhere in the entire tower had a way out of here.

That's fine. I wasn't going to give up. Not now, not ever.

I went to the other two towers. The ones meant for my nobles. I didn't like the idea of searching these places, but I had no choice. I needed to find my way out of here. I searched every floor in both towers. Every residence on those floors were searched when the doors opened with the slightest touch. I saw how each place was decorated to the style of those that inhabited the places. Trevor's place was much more masculine and wild looking, but there was some softness thrown in there from when Aunt Glory had visited. There was even an adorable little nursery for Torben. But there was no door.

None of the noble residences had a door to get me out of here. There was no door, nor a special portal, nothing. They were just regular places for people to live, except that they were in black and white.

I searched the offices after that. That was the next place that I thought I might be able to find a way out of here. I had heard the voice in my office. And I also spent a lot of time in my office, so it only made sense for me to find an exit in my office.

Well, I was wrong. I didn't find an exit in there either. I did, however, find a pitiful sight there. I found all the work that I had been intending to give to everyone else. All the files and paperwork that I was supposed to pass along to the team that I hired. It was all in my office with my writing all over them. Meanwhile, the offices of the people that I had hired to help me were nearly empty. They didn't have much to do. I hadn't been able to bring myself to trust people because of that stupid voice. That voice that I knew was just trying to trick me. It had tricked me too. It tricked me into not trusting my own people.

There was one other thing that I found in those offices as well. I found that a lot of my team had written messages back and forth to each other. In them were written things about me.

-She's doing too much by herself. She needs to rest.

-I'm worried about the Queen. Is she going to be OK?

-Does she not trust us? Did we disappoint her?

-I think she is getting sick. Have you seen how tired she looks lately? I hope nothing is wrong with her.

I really had disappointed my people. I had turned their hard work and dedication to me into something for them to despair over. I really was a horrible queen.

"I will do better. I promise you all. I will get better. I will be back. And I will share the work with you. I won't listen to that voice. Not now, not ever again."

'You might not want to make that declaration. You need me to show you the way. You need me more than I need you, Trinity.'

The voice came back almost the second that those words were out of my mouth. And I could tell that the voice was not happy with my declaration. Whoever the woman on the other end of this connection was, she was not happy with me right now.

'If you want to see the complete and utter destruction of everything that you love and cherish, then by all means, ignore me. I will relish in your suffering when you lose it all.' Yeah, that was definitely not the voice of someone trying to help me.

"I don't need you." I growled the words into the silence around me. "I told you I would find my own path. I don't need you leading me astray." The voice didn't respond, and that made me feel quite relieved. I didn't want to hear what it had to say anymore.

### **Chapter 615 - 32- Trinity – Another Door Part 2 (VOLUME 4)**

7-9 minutes

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Trinity

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I forced myself to ignore everything that the voice had ever said to me while I walked away from the office. I pushed all thoughts of that voice away as I continued on my path. I was nowhere near done searching this castle for my exit. And if I didn't find my exit inside, then I would leave here and search the grounds, then the city, the state, the entire country. I wouldn't rest until I got home to my family. I wouldn't rest until I could let them all know that I was never going to leave them.

I didn't let my constant failure discourage me. Each room that I searched that didn't have the way back home was just one more step closer to finding that door. I was not going to look at it as another missed opportunity but rather another stone on the path to my success.

I moved on throughout the entire castle. I searched the throne room, the various ballrooms, the dining rooms, kitchens, sitting rooms, meeting rooms, storage rooms, everywhere. And still I found nothing at all. I moved onto the daycare tower and found nothing in there either.

"I will find something, sooner or later. I just know that I will." I spoke with conviction, determination, and just a little bit of frustration. "I won't give up."

I started to search the two underground garages and the very large wine cellar that was under the castle. I was getting hopeful now, since I was running out of places to check in the castle. I was getting to the point that I just knew I had to find something.

The garages were empty, aside from the black and white cars that did me no good right now. And I mean that literally. I wasn't able to take the keys from the hooks and I wasn't able to open the doors to get inside of them. So, I couldn't use the cars to travel the outside world easier. Not even Reece's dune

buggy could be used, and that didn't need a door opened to get inside of it. Still, I wasn't able to climb into the driver's seat.

The wine cellar offered me even less options, if that was possible. The room was naturally dark, but there were no subterranean windows that gave light to this room. It was pure dark and, therefore, impossible for me to see in. That was pissing me off too. I was supposed to have some night vision but that didn't seem to be working here at all either.

"There is absolutely nowhere inside this castle that will get me home." I sighed, just a little bit of dejection entering my voice before I pulled myself together. "Alright, that just means that I need to search outside."

I marched out of the wine cellar and back toward the main floor of the castle. It was taking me a lot less time than it used to, either the atmosphere here was thinning or my body was just used to it more. Either that, or I just wasn't letting it have power over me anymore. Either way, I was happy to be moving mostly freely.

When I went outside, I saw that it was bright and sunny out, just like it had been the day that I had ended up here. I even found myself needing to shield my eyes from the sun, even though it was in black and white like everything else, it was still bright and blinding. I think that was actually making me feel a little bit better. Now, if only the air tasted sweet and helped to calm me down some more. That would make everything seem almost perfect at the moment. That and some color to my surroundings.

I was just about to start walking down the driveway when something caught my eye. I saw someone, or something, starting to move around on the side of the castle. In truth, I don't even know how I saw such a slight movement, but it did. And now that I saw it, I wasn't about to let it get away from me.

I took off running then. I just spun to my right and ran as hard and as fast as I could toward the side of the castle that was closest to me. I saw, just for a moment, another flash of movement that seemed to be moving away from me.

I saw that movement and I was quick enough to pick up on where it was going. It seemed to me that it was heading to the mountain. Was it trying to climb up the slope to get away from me? Did this person, or this thing, whatever it was, think that I wouldn't chase it up the mountain all the way to the top? It was dead wrong if that was what it thought about me.

"There." I said as I changed direction to keep following the thing in front of me. "Over there, under the branches of the trees." The thing that was running was moving fast and was shorter than me but quite a bit. If I had to guess, I would say it was as tall as a child just a little older than Talia. "A child?" I wondered aloud as I thought about the thing that I was chasing. "Am I following them again? Is that what this is?"

I nearly stopped right then and there, not certain if I should actually follow those imps right now. Then again, those imps had saved me from the voice. They had stopped me from following it toward the place that it was trying to take me. They may have gotten me stuck here, but they had actually helped me, in their odd little way.

"I wonder what they want from me now?" I couldn't help but be curious as I thought about that.

The moment that I started to contemplate it more, the path that we were on opened up into a bigger one. That was when I saw that I was indeed following the imps. All three of them were here again. They were standing in front of another door.

This time, when I looked at the imps' faces, I saw that they were indeed more childlike than devilish. They looked like three identical, innocent little boys. And all three of them looked like my Fido.

"OK, I am projecting here. These adorable little imps are looking like Reece because I miss him." I laughed at myself and my absurdity.

While I had been slightly distracted, two of the imps approached me with sweet little grins. Right now, that little face reminded me of Reagan and Rika. They looked so innocent yet so filled with mischief, just like my children.

The two imps that approached me took my hands while looking happily into my eyes. The third imp was still near the door, pointing at it with excited gestures while smiling at me just like the other two boys.

NO! I had to stop imagining that they were children. They weren't little kids! They're imps. They're little creatures that will play tricks on me and cause problems whenever they can. Though, they are helping me right now. Still, that's not the point.

The little imp that was still by the door mimed opening it and smiled at me. I don't know why, but all three of these imps were completely silent. They didn't make any noise at all while they were walking or anything else.

"You want me to go through this door?" I asked the boy in front of me. IMP! I had to remind myself internally not to think it was a child for real. The imp didn't say anything, he just nodded his head and continued to point at the door. "Will it take me home?" I asked them and didn't like the answer that I got from them. They paused and hesitated, but eventually they did nod at me and indicate that it would. Why did they pause? Why did they act like they didn't know for sure? "Fine." I sighed, resigned to the fact that this was my only option.

After taking a deep breath, I opened the door, steeled my nerves, and stepped through to the other side. I mean, what was the worst that could happen?

#### **Chapter 616 - 33- Reece – Taking It Hard (VOLUME 4)**

7-9 minutes

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Reece

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The kids were taking things harder than I had thought they would. The three of them love their mom so much and, with her gone like this, they felt like they had been abandoned. Honestly, I didn't expect the level of anger that Reagan and Rika were having right now.

The more that I listened to them, the way that they were venting over it, they weren't blaming Trinity. They didn't place the blame on her at all. They weren't blaming me, the triplets, Talia, the guards, or anyone else close to my Little Bunny.

No, Reagan and Rika were blaming themselves for what was going on. I heard them talking among themselves before dinner the day they found out what was going on and it damn near destroyed me.

"I can't believe that I let this happen." Reagan sounded like he was on the verge of tears when he spoke to Rika. I had gone to call them for dinner since we were keeping staff in the tower at a minimum right now.

"It wasn't just you, Rea. I didn't notice that Momma was sick either. I didn't pick up on the fact that she needed us. I was too caught up in my own thing. I was too focused on getting back to school." Rika was just as close to tears as Reagan was.

"What should we do now, Rika? How are we going to help Momma? What are we even capable of doing?"

"I don't know, Reagan. I just don't know." Rika was crying now. I could hear it in her voice, and I could smell the tears in the air.

"Don't cry, RiRi. Don't cry." Reagan cried while he said this to his sister. "We will figure something out."

I couldn't take it anymore. I needed to step in and make them understand that it wasn't their fault. It wasn't anyone's fault.

I stepped into the sitting room that they were in. I saw that Reagan was standing behind Rika as she sat on the footstool. Rika's face was in her hands and Reagan was hugging her head against his chest. Seeing them there like that, so small and powerless, it made me feel like I couldn't do anything for them or my wife.

"Reagan? Rika?" I called out to them and they barely moved, they just looked up at me with their eyes.

"Dad?" Reagan tried not to cry, he tried to be a 'man' in front of me.

"Daddy?" Rika didn't care about remaining strong for me, she was my little girl and she knew it.

"Come here." I moved toward them quickly, holding my arms out for them. Despite everything, despite Reagan wanting to be strong and not show his emotions, the both of them moved toward me and allowed me to hold them in my arms.

They didn't say anything at all while I held them against me. They just hugged me back. Rika was silently crying on my right shoulder where she had buried her face. Reagan, though, was not letting it out, he was holding it in.

"You don't have to be strong right now, son. You can cry, it's OK."

"But Dad, I..I can't. I can't be a man if I cry." That broke my heart. I had never once told him that and I don't know where he learned it, but I was going to fix that right now.

"Reagan, am I a man? Am I strong and brave? Can I take care of my family?"

"Y..yes, Dad." That was such a weak voice that I barely heard it.

"Good, I am glad that you think so, because I cry too, son. I cry when I have to. I cried when I found out that Mommy was sick. I cried the first time that I held you in my arms. I have cried a lot of times over the years. Crying doesn't make you less of a man. Being brave doesn't make you a man either, son. No, in my opinion, to be a man you need to stand up for what you love, protect your family, and always try your best. If you can do that for me, Reagan, you will be the best man possible."

"Thank you, Dad." He tried to hold the tears back long enough to say that but he finally cried. He was already burying his face in my shoulder and crying along with his sister. "I miss her, Daddy. I miss my mom and I want her back."

"Me too, Daddy, I want Mommy to wake up." Rika sobbed in agreement with her brother.

"I want her to wake up too. But we just need to keep loving her and to keep being there for her, and I just know that she will wake up soon. Can you two do that for me?"

"Uh huh."

"Yes, Dad." They pulled back at the same time and looked me in the eyes as they answered. They were still so much alike for it to be adorable.

I carried them down to the dining room and we ate dinner together with Talia. So far, we hadn't even told mom, Eve, Wesley, or Samuel about all of this. They still had their places here in the castle, but Eve and Wesley were living in Trinity Falls since Wesley was the Mayor. And Mom was living in Samuel's family home ever since they got married a couple of years ago. That meant, unless we invited more people to the table, it was just our family now.

I saw that Reagan and Rika's eyes were red from crying so much, but so were Talia's. I hadn't seen Talia crying but she must have been at some point when she was alone. I hate that my baby girl was crying while I wasn't there to comfort her.

I spent the entire night with the kids. I didn't want them to feel lonely or abandoned at all. I played a game with them, watched a movie, read to them, and tucked them all into bed. Afterwards, I needed to vent some of my frustration.

I decided to shift almost as soon as the kids were in bed. I hadn't even gone outside yet, which meant that I ended up walking through the castle in my pure black wolf form until I got outside.

Once I was free of the confining building, I ran. I just ran as hard and as fast as I could. Around the castle, through the forest, up the mountain. I didn't realize at first that I was trying to find a trace of my Little Bunny as I ran. It didn't hit me for a little while until the depression started to hit me. I was really trying to see if her soul was out here. I must be an idiot.

After I exhausted myself, or rather my frustration, I went back inside. I needed to sleep. I had to rest so that I could be there for the kids and for my wife. No one knew when she was going to wake up. It could be now, ten minutes from now, ten days from now, or it could even be ten years from now. No one knew anything at all about what was going on.

I knew that there was someone else in the room the moment that I walked into it. I recognized the presence of another person, and I immediately went into the closet to get dressed. No need to frighten her.

After I was dressed, I walked over to my bed and climbed in beside the person that had come to visit us. Talia was laying against Trinity's side and hugging her tightly. I did my best not to wake her as I pulled the blanket up over her and tucked her in. I kissed her forehead and then laid down beside her so that she had the warmth and comfort from me as well as the feeling of her mother.

That was how I slept for the rest of the night, and I woke up to Talia holding onto me instead of Trinity. Talia was still sound asleep, and I could tell that she had been crying through the night. At least I had been here to hold onto her this time. She wasn't alone.

"Mommy?" I heard her little voice while he slept on. "Come back, Mommy."

### **Chapter 617 - 34- Trinity – Through The Other Door (VOLUME 4)**

6-8 minutes

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Trinity

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I stepped through the door and felt like I was being sucked into some sort of whirlpool, vortex or something similar to that. The moment that my foot went across the threshold of that door that was just standing there in the mountains, it pulled me over like something had grabbed me and dragged me down.

The three little imps that looked like miniature versions of Reece seemed to be pulled along with me as I went through the door, but when I landed, I didn't see them anywhere. Actually, I didn't see anything at all. I seemed to have ended up in a pitch black, completely dark room of some sort. I didn't know what to do or what to think when I landed there.

"Hello?!" I yelled out to the darkness that surrounded me. "Is anyone there?" There was no response at all. "HELLO?!"

I had yelled out even louder, to the point where my throat hurt a little, still there was no response.

"What the hell." I growled in frustration. "Well, I knew this was a possibility. OK, maybe not this exact thing but I knew that me not going home was a possibility. I mean, the little imps didn't look very certain about this door, but it did move me to a different location. So, maybe this was some sort of progress for me.

"Hahh." I sighed loudly as I tried to get my bearings in order. I wanted to get a sense of my location, but my eyes weren't adjusted to my surroundings just yet. "Dammit." I snapped but then immediately calmed down. "Well, there is nothing that I can do about it right now. I guess I need to just try to move around and see if I can figure something out."

I decided to turn around and see if there was anything behind me that was of any importance. I moved slowly as I tried not to trip over my own feet. It was so dark I couldn't even see my own hands directly in front of my face so I didn't need to trip and risk landing on something that could hurt me.

I took two timid and tentative steps forward with my arms out in front of me. The steps were small, barely a few inches each, but I still ran into a solid surface almost immediately. It felt like a wall. A wall with no door.

I tried to feel around the wall. I went to my left, counting my steps as I went.

"One... two... three... four... five... six... seven... eight... nine... ten... elev-." I stopped because I reached the edge before I could take my step. "Well that is the end of that side."

I started back the other way. Slowly counting and measuring my steps to make sure they were equal to the ones I took to get to this side.

"One... two... three... four... five... six... seven... eight... nine... ten. OK, I should be back to the center. Now to move to the other side." I steadied myself, took a breath and then started moving again. "One... two... three... four... five... six... seven... eight... nine... ten." I reached a little more with my hands and I was at the edge again. "OK, well at least the place is symmetrical." I laughed as I said it, finding that funny for some reason that I didn't even understand. "OK, time to get back to the middle and venture away from this wall." I started to move once again, back toward the middle of the space that I was in. "One... two... three... four... five... six... seven... eight... nine... ten." There, now I was back in the middle of the room.

"I wonder how far this room goes." I spoke to the dark room as I took my first step. "Also, I wonder if I should be walking along the walls, just in case there is another door there. Oh well, too late now." I had already started to walk forward into the darkness before me.

I literally felt like I was blind while I walked. I couldn't see anything at all. Because of that, I wasn't taking very large steps. And the steps that I did take, I basically dragged my feet along the floor as I went. I didn't want to risk stepping onto or into something that would hurt me or cause me to fall. No, I needed to be safe right now. I had to take this slow.

"I wonder what the kids are doing now. How are they taking this? What do they think about Mommy not waking up?" I may have asked the question aloud just to help kill the time until I found somewhere to go, but I honestly didn't want to think about that at all. I didn't want to have to know what they were thinking and feeling. I knew that they were sad, hurting, heartbroken, all of it. They would feel like Mommy didn't want them anymore. They would think that they had done something wrong or that I just didn't love them anymore. I couldn't handle that thought. I didn't want my babies to feel like I didn't love them.

While I thought about that, making sure that I kept moving forward all the time, I could finally see some sort of light in the distance.

"Finally!" I sighed happily in relief. "How long have I been walking anyway?" It felt like it had been hours since I left the wall. I had been taking slow, dragging steps, but I knew that I had to have gone at least a mile already. "Huh, I just realized something." I said to myself. "There is no more resistance when I walk. That had almost completely slipped my mind until now." I laughed at how inattentive that I had been. "How stupid I have been to not even notice that."



I laughed at myself as I focused on the light that was off in the distance. That light was just a pinprick and it seemed so far off in the distance still. If I've already gone a mile or more and I can only just barely see that light, then I can only assume that the light was still several miles off in the distance.

"This is going to take forever." I was starting to lose my will to move on.

'You are losing heart because you know that you are nothing. You are worthless. You have done nothing but cause trouble and get people killed. You hurt everyone that ever gets close to you. You are a plague, Trinity. A curse of death and heartache on those around you.'

I would love to say that those words were spoken by the same voice that had been bothering me all along, but it wasn't. This voice that spoke now, seemed to be my own. But I didn't say that. I didn't think that. Those weren't my feelings at all.

I was starting to panic now. What was going on here? Why would those words come in my own voice? I didn't feel that way.

'Or do you?' The voice spoke again, it was sounding ominous and full of confidence right now. 'You obviously do not know what it is that you truly feel, Trinity.. You don't know the secrets of your heart.'

#### **Chapter 618 - 35- Trinity – Follow The Light (VOLUME 4)**

6-8 minutes

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Trinity

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OK, well I couldn't very well say that the voice wasn't freaking me out. For one, how was it talking in my voice now instead of someone else's? Two, why was it telling me that these horrible things were what was truly in my heart? And finally, why couldn't I ignore it like the other voice that I had been hearing?

'You cannot ignore me Trinity, I am you. I am the thoughts and feelings that you have buried deep inside of you. I am the truth of your heart that you don't let the world see. I can be hidden from others, but I cannot be hidden from you. I am you, Trinity. I am the dark part of you that you don't wish to face.'

"Leave me alone." I snapped at the voice. "I don't want to hear you. I don't want to think about you."

'You have no choice, Trinity. I am the you that has been hidden in the dark. I am the you that will never leave you. I am the you that even you are afraid of.'

"NO!" I yelled and put my hands over my ears as if that would drown out the sound of the voice. "You're lying. That is not true. You're not me. You can't be. I am me. I am me."

'You cannot block out the sound of my voice, Trinity. I am inside of you. I am in your head. I am in your heart. I am in your soul. I cannot be gotten rid of. I am the darkness that lives inside of you.'

"NO!" I yelled again, as I started to run across the dark space in front of me. If this voice was the darkness, then getting to the light would help me.

'Yes, Trinity. It is all true. I am a part of you and I will never go away. So, you might as well embrace me. I would very much like to come out and play. It is so lonely living in the darkness. I don't much enjoy a life of shadows.'

"This isn't real. This isn't real. It can't be real. This isn't me. I swear this isn't me." I was frantic now, running away from the phantom voice inside of my head. It sounded like me but it didn't say what I would have said.

Just thinking about that, about what all of this might mean, I wanted to run away. I needed to run away. I would get out of this darkness and into the light that was in front of me. I wasn't going to move so slowly now. I wasn't going to slide my feet along the ground and be as careful as I could be. There was no more time for that.

If I took too much more time to get across the room, the largest fucking room that I had ever encountered in my entire life, if it took me too much longer to get into the light then I would lose my mind. I just knew it.

I had already felt on the verge of losing my sanity ever since that other voice took up residence inside of my mind. Now I was dealing with another voice that I couldn't block out and that sounded like me. Right now, I just didn't know what were actually my own thoughts and what was spoken by that voice that claimed to be me.

'This is all quite real, Trinity. I am not going anywhere. I am you and you are me. I am in the dark, and you can't return to the light. We are going to be the same soon. Just give it time.'

"Stop talking. Just shut up. Leave me alone. I am going to get back to the light. I am going to get out of here. I am going to make it home. I am not you. You are not me. I would never think about those things." I was running full out now, racing toward that light that was slowly getting bigger in the distance.

'I would not be so sure of that, Trinity. You think some things that are truly vile sometimes, you just don't tell those around you. You are a murderer. A killer. A monster that has caused the death of countless people. You have used your own hands to cause death and destruction. You have caused heartache and pain. You have done so much more than the average person and you will do even more over the course of your unnaturally long life. I cannot wait to see the bedlam and mayhem that will come from you. I cannot wait to see what torture and pain you bring to others. Let me see it, Trinity. Let me be a part of it. Let me watch the blood run and the masses run in panic. Let me hear the frantic cries of fear and pain from the many people that you are going to destroy in your future. Let me bask in the glory of that wonderful destruction.'

"Whoever you are, you're sick. Do you hear me?" I paused and started yelling at the darkness around me. "You're a sick, twisted, disgusting person and I know that you are not me, you can't be."

"Heh heh heh. I love how certain you are of that fact. It makes it all the more special for me. That way, when your image of yourself crumbles to nothingness, that will just be another form of pleasure for me.

Go on, Trinity, keep fighting it, don't accept me for what I am. I will enjoy your inevitable fall that much more now.'

The voice disappeared then as it laughed into the background. Only, it didn't disappear completely. It was still there, in the back of my mind, laughing at me with its evil, ominous tones.

"Go away!" I snapped at it again as I started to run again. I was running harder and faster than I ever remember running in my entire life. I needed to outrun that voice and the things that it was saying to me. I needed to get away from here and into the light. That was the only way.

If the voice claimed to be nothing but darkness, then I needed to get into the light so that I would be free of it.

"Just a little more. Keep going. Get to the light. Get out of the darkness and into the light." I was trying to give myself a pep talk as I pushed forward and moved toward the only semblance of freedom that I could see. I didn't want this voice to lord over me and control my life. I would get out of here, get to the light, and find a way to get home.

'Heh heh heh.' The voice was still laughing like an asshole in the back of my mind every time that I thought I might escape it. 'Heh heh heh.' It was starting to piss me off more than it was annoying me. 'Heh heh heh.' Each time that it laughed at me, my anger flared, and I felt like I wanted to punch something or someone.

""GAH!" I grabbed my head and screamed in frustration. "That fucking laugh is even worse than the words that the voice was saying. This is so fucking annoying."

'Heh heh heh.' The voice laughed louder and harder this time.. Apparently, they thought that was even funnier than the stuff from before.

## **Chapter 619 - 36- Trinity – Into The Light (VOLUME 4)**

6-8 minutes

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Trinity

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I ran. I ran and I ran and I ran as hard as I could. That laugh, that voice, all of it was getting to me. I couldn't help it. There was just something about it that was scaring me. Maybe it was right, maybe it wasn't, but whatever it was, it was getting to the point where I couldn't take it anymore.

Every step I took, each time that my foot met the floor of this dark room, I could see that light growing larger in the distance.

"Oh thank the Goddess. At least I am making progress. At least I can tell that I am getting closer. This doesn't seem to be one of those fun house, or horror house effects. That is one good thing."

Why did I keep talking to myself? Was it so that I could drown out the sound of the voice inside my head? I didn't know if that was the real reason or not, but it seemed like a good idea to me. So, I was going to keep talking. I was going to do whatever I needed to so that I didn't officially go insane.

Or is talking to myself and justifying it with feeble responses from myself even more insane than letting that voice take over my mind? Honestly, I didn't know anymore. All I knew was that I was almost to that light and I would feel a lot better once I got there.

"Just a little more, Trinity, come on, keep going. That's it. Keep running. Go. Go. Go. Go." Yeah, this little pep talk I was giving myself wasn't crazy at all. I was doing just fine. Yup, nothing to worry about here.

Run. Run. Run. Run. I stopped talking out loud because I was starting to feel silly, but I chanted along inside of my head. Hey, it was helping me just a little bit. Each step I took I said the words inside my head. Run. Run. Run. Run.

Finally, the light was right there. It looked like it was a campfire that was just sitting there in the middle of the room ahead of me.

Yeah, that's what it was. It was a campfire with large sitting logs laying around it. The fire itself was huge too. I could literally walk right into it, and it would still be way taller than I was.

Not that I was going to walk into it. That would truly make me insane. No, I was just noting the very impressive height of the fire that was looming before me. It was massive and definitely dangerous. Who the hell would want a fire that big to begin with?

Even though I was still so far away from the fire, I could feel the heat that was coming off of it. I hadn't even realized how cold I was until I was this close to the fire and I felt the warmth that it was giving me.

"Damn, that feels good." I couldn't stop myself from crying out as I started to feel warmer and the numbness in my limbs that I hadn't even noticed started to subside.

The ends of my fingers and the tips of my toes were actually starting to prickle with a slight amount of pain now that I could feel them again. It was strange, the things that I hadn't noticed around me. Was I just ignoring it or was I just not able to tell the difference in things anymore? Or was it just this place in general?

I thought about all those things as I walked toward the heart of the warmth. The moment that I entered the circle of light that the fire was giving off, I saw that the fire was starting to shrink. With each step that I took the fire got smaller. It was odd, I had never seen anything like this before.

In a way, it was like the fire had burned bigger and brighter just so that I could see it. Like it was actually acting as a beacon for me to follow this entire time. I tried to think that this whole thing was odd, and at first, I really did. In truth though, I don't think anything from this place was going to surprise me all that much anymore.

Finally, I got right next to the fire, and it was no bigger than a typical campfire that you would see anywhere else. It wasn't a bonfire or anything like that, it was a normal sized, perfectly contained campfire that was surrounded with a beautiful array of stone that had been stacked in an elaborate design.

"Is anyone here?" I called out in a loud voice. Someone had to be here, didn't they? Why else would there be a fire here? Someone had to light it. Someone had to be waiting here for it. So, who was that person, and where were they? That was the big question, wasn't it?

"Hello?" I called out again, hoping that there would be someone here to answer me this time. "HELLO! IS ANYONE HERE? HELLO!?"

I couldn't see or hear anyone near the fire. The only sound that I was able to hear right now was the crackle of the flames inside the rock pit.

Just for the hell of it, knowing that it would amount to nothing, I walked around the fire in a slow circle. I looked in every direction as I walked, trying to find something or someone that would help explain to me what was going on right now. I looked at the ground, the fire, the wooden benches, all of it. I even looked out into the darkness around me trying to see the place that I was in, but there was nothing to be seen.

Outside the edge of light that the fire was giving off, I could see nothing. I couldn't see the ground, the walls, the ceiling, nothing. The place that I was in was still a mystery to me. And to make matters worse, the stuff inside the circle of light just confused me even more.

I knew from my walk here and the exploring before I started walking, that this was a room with walls. Walls that had felt like they were made of wood. I had gotten the impression that the floor was made of wood as well. I hadn't felt it under my hands like I had the walls, but the way that it reacted to my steps definitely made it feel like wood instead of stone.

However, inside the circle of light, what I could actually see clearly, looked like I was outside. I had somehow gone from locked inside a wooden room to standing outside at a campfire that seemed to be surrounded by rocks and dirt.

"This is fucking weird as could be. What the hell is going on here?" I turned in a circle while standing in place, looking around the place that I had found myself now. "I really don't like this fucking shit at all. This is freaking me out."

"Have you ever noticed that you start to use more profanity when you get frustrated?"

## **Chapter 620 - 37- Trinity – Who Are You? (VOLUME 4)**

7-9 minutes

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Trinity

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"Have you ever noticed that you start to use more profanity when you get frustrated?" I heard a voice that sounded like my own call out from behind me while I was looking around me.

"What the hell?" I spun and looked to see who was there. This time, the voice didn't come from inside my head. It came from behind me as if someone was physically there.

The moment that I had turned around, I saw that there was someone actually there. Someone that looked an awful lot like me. Only, this person, who also happened to be in black and white, was somewhat reversed in the looks department.

I had dark hair and light colored eyes, mahogany and blue to be precise. This person before me looked like they had pure black eyes and white hair. I couldn't be certain since they were in black and white, but that was what they looked like.

Looking at the person standing in front of me brought back flashbacks of the night that I met my father. The white hair looked exactly like the hair that I remember seeing on Edmond. The eyes weren't the same of course, Edmond and I had almost the exact same shade of blue eyes. Still, seeing someone that was wearing my face with hair that looked like Edmond's made my skin crawl. I did not want to have anything that further tied me to that asshole. He was dead and gone and I was happy about that.

"Hello, Trinity." The person wearing my face and using my voice grinned at me while she spoke. "I have been waiting for you."

"And who exactly are you?" I asked as I took a step back, or I tried to. The moment that I moved back I ran into a barrier that was hard yet invisible. There was nothing behind me at all, but I couldn't move through it.

I turned and felt the barrier with my hands. I even slammed my fists against it, hurting my hands in the process. The most that it did was flash a bright, blinding white light when my fists collided with it.

"Well, this fucking sucks."

"Like I said, you get more profane the more nervous or frightened that you are." She was grinning at me and moving toward me.

I thought for sure that she was going to come at me for something, but I was wrong. The woman that looked like me just moved so that she could sit on the log that was next to the fire.

"Come on now, Trinity, sit down. I think that we need to talk."

"Who are you?" I didn't move, I didn't even contemplate it. I wasn't about to sit down and have a heart to heart with a crazy face stealing psychopath. This whole situation was reminding me of a horror movie I once saw. Only, the face stealer was more murderous, and a hell of a lot more angry, in the movie.

"You know who I am, Trinity. We have been talking since you got here. I am you. Well, a part of you at least." She grinned at me and gave me a look that you would give to a child that wasn't understanding something. It was a cross between tenderness and laughter at their adorable ignorance of the way the world works.

"I don't believe you." I snapped at her, but she didn't respond to my anger at all.

"We will have time for that later, Trinity. Right now, you need to sit down. It is not like you can leave here right now anyway." There was a knowing, evil look in those eyes of hers when she looked at me.

Don't even ask me how I managed to see that look in her eyes with them being pitch black, but I did.  
"Go on, sit down now."

"N-."

"Do not make me tell you again, Trinity." She looked at me with anger as she interrupted my refusal. "I may have all the time in the world, but you do not. You want to get out of here and get back home, right? If you want to speed this up, then I suggest you sit down now."

There was nothing that I could do right now. She was right about the fact that I couldn't leave, I was stuck here in this place with her. And apparently, she wouldn't let me out until I sat down and talked to her.

Well, I seemed to have no other choice. I had to sit down and talk with her whether I wanted to or not.

"Fine, I will sit." I walked around the fire and sat across from her on the large log that was directly in front of her.

"Good, that is the best, and only, option that you have. I am glad that you are accepting things for what they need to be." She smiled at me, a look that should have been nice and pleasant since it was on my own face, but there were dark and sinister things inside that smile.

"You didn't really give me much of an option now, did you?" I glared at her while I crossed my arms over my chest. "I don't know what it is that you want from me, but I hope you make it quick. Like you said, I don't have all the time in the world. I need to hurry and get home."

"Yes, yes, you need to get home to our children." She grinned at me again, almost as if she were reminiscing about the times that I have spent with my children.

"My children." I snapped at her and rose to my feet once more. "They are my children. Mine and Reece's and no one else's. My children, my babies." I felt my heart pounding feverishly inside of my chest. It was the anger, the rage, that I had felt when someone else had tried to claim my children as their own. I would not put up with something like that. Not now, not ever.

"Calm down, Trinity. If I am you and you are me, then does that not make us the same person? And if we are the same person then, would the children not be just as much mine as they are yours? You see my point here, Trinity? The children are yours, yes, but they are just as much mine because I am a part of you." There was a low, threatening growl emanating from the back of my throat as I listened to her words. "Calm down, Trinity. It would do you no good to attack me. If I am to be injured, then so are you."

Just to prove her point, the face stealing psychopath took a small branch from the campfire and raised it in front of her face for just a moment. She then snuffed out the flames by stamping it against the ground.

Now that it was just a piece of timber, she raised it again until she was looking at the glowing tip of the wood. The next thing that she did shocked me to my core. She took her left hand and wrapped it around the tip of the branch's burning hot end.

I felt the pain sear through my hand. It was so hot that I felt it begin to peel away the flesh that had been before. Now though, there was nothing but pain and the smell of charred flesh.

I bit down on my tongue to stop myself from crying out in pain, but the desire was there.

'Dammit! That hurts.' I basically screamed those words inside of my head but apparently, that face stealer, hand burning psychopath could hear me.

"Yes, it does hurt indeed. So please, do not make the mistake of trying to hurt me. Anything you do to me will happen to you as well."

Just great. This was just fucking lovely. Could this be any worse? I mean, seriously, what the hell was wrong? Why was this happening? Why was I here?

I know why I was here. I followed that voice, dammit. I followed that voice and let it lead me astray. That voice and those imps are the reason I was trapped in this world.. I just needed to do my best for right now and then leave. This copy of me couldn't want to talk for too long, could she?