Chosen by Fate 711

Chapter 711 - 128- Split - Moving Through Damnation Part 2 (VOLUME 4)

Trinity

~~

"Alright, you guys." I said as I turned to look at Rudy and Alexio. "It seems that the other me said the Hall of Damnation is indeed one long hallway, like a tunnel. And of course, the person that we're looking for will be almost at the very end. The reason for that is the fact that the newer souls are up here while the older ones are at the back. This is literally moving in the order from newest to oldest." I did my best to explain it all to them as best as I could. They didn't look lost, and they both nodded at me to tell me that they understood what was going on. That was good. I didn't want to over explain things to them right now. That would just take way too much time. What I needed, more than anything at all, was for them to just follow along behind me and do as I told them to. I would take Rudy home with me when this was done, and I would send Alexio wherever he wanted me to. Until then, though, they were stuck with me, whether they liked it or not. And whether I liked it or not.

"I will follow you, Queen Trinity." Rudy bowed his head with a smile. He was already quite loyal to me. That was interesting to see.

"I will never follow you like him. However, I will travel with you since I have no other choice at the moment." Alexio didn't bow his head, but at least he agreed to come along in what I assumed would be a peaceful, or almost peaceful, manner. As long as we didn't have any problems in the future then we were good. I just didn't want to have him fighting with me or Rudy on anything. Not that I expected Rudy to take the lead on anything. He was going to follow me like the lost little puppy that he was.

"Alright, come on you two, let us go. We have a lot of ground to cover right now."

I grabbed the hands of two of the boys, Rudy took Zachary's hand in his, and we were about to start off.

"You know, I can help you with the children." Alexio said, stepping forward. "If something were to happen again, you are going to need your hands free, are you not? I saw you using magic before. For your sake, I acknowledge that magic is much more powerful than my physical strength. However, I will still be of use with guarding the children. If you would like, I will carry one of them, or even all three of them. I will watch them while we journey onward."

I could not believe what I had just heard. He seriously just told me that he would help me watch my children. He was offering to help me. To protect my babies. Of course, that would be beneficial. However, should I trust it? Should I let him do as he said that he was willing to do for me?

Well, I had no reason not to trust him. In truth, I knew that Alexio was not a bad person. He was just stubborn to a fault. But he did have a point. He was strong and very fast. He would be able to help me with the boys if we were attacked again. That would give me peace of mind and that felt like something my mind desperately needed.

It wasn't just up to me, though. I wasn't about to force the boys to go to him without asking them. So, that was just what I was going to do. I was going to ask them for their opinions.

Kneeling in front of the three of them, I looked at each of them in turn before I started to ask them what their opinions were.

"Zachary, Zander and Zayden, what do you boys think? Do you want to walk with me and Uncle Rudy, or do you want to walk with Uncle Alexio?" I looked at the two men in question and dared them with my eyes to correct me in the way that I had said their names. Thankfully, neither of them did.

"Uhm." Zachary was looking between me and Alexio as he thought.

"Hmm." Zander was doing the same.

"Mommy, I think I know, but I don't want to make you sad." Zayden hung his head.

"It's OK, Zayden, go ahead and tell me. I won't be sad at all. I promise.

"I think that Uncle Alexio is right. If something happens, Mommy is the strongest person in forever. Mommy is the only one that can save us. So, I think we should walk with Uncle Alexio and Uncle Rudy. That way Mommy can keep all of us safe."

I felt my heart melt at his words. He was a smart little boy, and he hadn't even been born yet. And he was right too. About everything except for Mommy being the strongest ever. But I agreed with him that me taking the lead and them being protected by Rudy and Alexio was probably the best option that we had.

"Do you two feel the same?" I gave them all smiles to let them know that I was not at all upset by what I had heard Zayden say.

"I think it is good too, Mommy. You are stronger."

"Yes, Mommy protects us the best. You need to watch for bad guys." Zachary and Zander answered me in calm voices. They were good boys and they knew what was best for them and us.

"Alright boys. That is fine with me."

Now that it was all decided, it was time for us to go.

~~

Reece

~~

UGH! I did not like how that tall ugly dude was talking to my Little Bunny. He was acting like he wasn't in the presence of someone that was so amazing. UGH! I could smack him right now.

Oh, and let us not forget about the fact that he was standing there telling my wife and mate that he wanted to protect and look after my children. Did he think that he was allowed to touch my kids, or to even look at my kids? He was not worthy of that. GAH!

Then, I had to literally stand here and listen to my kids and wife agree to let that man and the other ugly asshole watch my kids. That was pure horror. Then again, they were all right in the fact that my Little Bunny was the strongest ever.

OK, well, I was going to get past this. I wasn't going to let it bother me. I wasn't going to dwell on the fact that these two men, Rudy and Alexio, were there with my wife and sons and I wasn't.

Nope. I wasn't going to dwell on it at all. Instead, I was going to take some deep breaths and watch my wife as she started to move them all through the Hall of Damnation. And I definitely wasn't going to imagine throwing those two men into one of those torture cells. That definitely would not be very kingly of me at all.

GAHH!

Chapter 712 - 129- Trinity – Moving Through Damnation Part 3 (VOLUME 4)

6-8 minutes

~~

Trinity

~~

I knew that we needed to move fast. That was a given. And now that I didn't have to worry about Zachary, Zander and Zayden while I moved through the Hall of Damnation, I was able to focus on what I needed to do to get us through here.

Ideally, the best thing for us to do, would be for me to just hyper speed us through here and to the end. However, something told me that would be a very bad idea. For some reason, I felt like I needed to see something along the way in between here and the end.

I don't know what that something was, or why I had that feeling at all, but I felt the need regardless. Whatever that thing is, whatever it is that I am meant to see, I will figure it out one way or another. That was all that I needed to know.

So, still ignoring that feeling of someone or something watching me, I created another platform out of wind for us to ride as we progressed through the hall of damnation. This platform was a lot more sturdy looking than the bridge had been. They were in fact the same durability, but this one just looked a little more solid.

I thought that having something a little easier to see, and feel, would make both Rudy and Alexio a little more calm when it came to flying. The two of them, though they lived in the underworld, seemed to be very unused to magic and things like that. Honestly, who would have thought that demons would be so unknowledgeable when it came to these types of things?

I know it was all probably just legends and stories, but didn't there used to be demons that wielded magic and tried to lord over the earth? There are legends in every part of the world about demonic creatures and monsters that could do so many evil things.

Well, I guess that a lot of those so-called 'demonic creatures' could have just been shifters, Fae and magic users. But is that all it ever was? Or did something else happen? Did someone or something take the magic that the demons used to wield?

That was something that I both did and did not want to find out the answer for. What if I was right that they had magic and that someone took it? Would that make me want to help them? Would it make me want to help them to get it back? Would it call out to the bleeding heart in me that made other people's problems my problems? Then if I was wrong, and they never had magic, would it make me feel so sorry for them and the misconception about them?

I don't even want to fathom what I would want to do if I found out that demons got this bad reputation for nothing. I mean, a whole group of people that were feared and hated just because they were different from the others. Hmm. Yeah, I have no idea what that would be like at all. Nope. None at all. And that is not the world's thickest dose of sarcasm that I have ever seen or heard. Not at all.

I did my best to try to ignore all of those thoughts. I tried not to think about what it would all mean and instead focused on flying us down the darkened tunnel toward the evil goddess that was waiting for us.

This Hall of Damnation was a lot different than I thought it was going to be. I had thought that it would be much like Purgatory had been. But there were actual cells here, places for the soul to be imprisoned. However, it looked as if many of them were also tortured inside their cells, so I guess they didn't have to leave them at all.

The accommodations were not all that nice inside the cells. Definitely something that would have any human prison shut down for inhumane living conditions. The beds that the prisoners had here were nothing more than a jagged and rocky cement slab that would stab into the person sleeping on them. I saw no 'facilities' that they would be able to use to relieve themselves. Then again, they were dead, so did they even need to do that. And did they even sleep? I didn't know the answers to that.

The so-called beds could just be where they were put so that they could recover their bodies after torture. You can't have eternal torture if there is nothing left of you, right? So yeah, I don't think they needed the same 'comforts' that a person back in the land of the living would have had. No food, no bed, no restroom, none of it, just torture and a place to heal their bodies.

"This place is scary." I heard Zachary whisper from behind me.

"I don't want to be here anymore." Zander agreed with him.

"Don't worry, brothers. Mommy is strong. She will protect us. There is no place more safe than where Mommy is. And when Mommy is done here, we will go home with her and be born. Then we don't need to worry about all of the scary stuff anymore. Mommy will take care of us. She will always take care of us." I felt my heart swell with love as I listened to Zayden's words. He was just such a sweetheart. How did I get so lucky? And he wasn't even born yet. Yeah, he had all of Reece's charm, that was for sure.

"Don't worry boys, it is not just Queen Trinity that will protect you." Rudy whispered to them, most likely thinking that I couldn't hear him.

"Yes, Rudolphus and I will help as well. I may not be your parent, but I know the value of life. That means that I will not let someone take an innocent's life." Well, I guess that was as sweet as I could expect to come from Alexio. It would have to do for now. I wasn't going to push my luck with it at all.

"None of you have to worry. I will protect you all. I won't let anything happen to you. And I promise that all of you will get to go where you want when this is over. Whether that is back to your guard position or

home with me. None of you will be hurt, and you will all be happy when we are done here." I told them all, looking back at them all one at a time. I looked at Alexio, Rudy, Zachary, Zander and Zayden. And all of them looked back at me me with different emotions. The emotions ranged from shock, happiness and skepticism.

The skepticism was, of course, coming from Alexio. He must not have thought that I could do what I had just promised him. Well, I was going to prove him wrong then. I am going to make sure that he gets his happiness, whatever that may be.

"I promise you.." I said the words again, just to reiterate them to those that might not think that they were the truth.

Chapter 713 - 130- Trinity – Moving Through Damnation Part 4 (VOLUME 4)

6-8 minutes

~~

Trinity

~~

There was something that caught my attention while we flew through the hall. I was looking into the cells that we were passing. While doing that, I was taking note of the people, and creatures, that we passed.

Well, for one thing, all of the people didn't look humanoid and that led me to think that the way they looked here reflected the soul. Or there were some really evil shifters that weren't normal looking.

Anyway, that wasn't the thing that was making me so curious. The souls inside their cells all had something in common. They were all glowing just a little bit. None of the other souls that I had passed on my way here had done that. Or at least I hadn't noticed it until this point.

"Hey, Alexio, do you or Rudy know why the souls are glowing like that? And why are they glowing with such a dark light? I turned to look back at Alexio as I spoke. Rudy was nicer and more friendly, but I chose to ask Alexio instead of Rudy because I felt like Alexio might be more knowledgeable. The next words I heard told me I was right to guess that.

"I do not know, Queen Trinity. I am sorry, but I spent all my time at the gate until you came along." Yeah, that was just what I expected from Rudy. Sorry buddy, but that was why I asked our other friend here.

"Hmm. Well, I have been told about this in the past. The souls start to glow when they get to their punishment. So, the souls in Purgatory and here in Damnation would glow."

"OK, but what does it mean? Why are they glowing? What is the purpose of it?" I felt like a curious little kid at that moment. What does this mean, Mommy? Ooh, ooh, ooh, what does that do? OK, I didn't sound just like that, but it was a funny thought.

"The light indicated their redemption level. It is not something that they can change on their own. It is something that happens in the deepest recesses at the core of their soul. The darker that they glow, the more anger and evil that still fills them. The brighter and clearer that they are, the more they repent and regret what they have done."

"Huh?"

I tried to think about that for a moment. I hadn't actually looked at the people in Purgatory all that closely. I had seen them and the punishments that they were getting, that was true. But I hadn't actually looked at them long enough to see if they were glowing like this or not. And since I had not seen that, I had nothing to compare this to.

I was starting to wonder something though. Was this the reason that the souls hadn't left Purgatory all that frequently? Were they stuck there until all of the darkness left their souls? Were they made to wait there until there was absolutely no trace of that blackness inside of them? To me, that didn't seem like it would take that long at all.

"Do the souls in Purgatory leave when their lights turn white?" I had to ask Alexio if that was the case. But for some reason, I wasn't all that hopeful for his answer.

"No. The souls in Purgatory stay there until they have reached the end of their sentence."

That wasn't fair. It just wasn't right at all. The people should only have to stay until the darkness was out of their soul. If they were rehabilitated, then they should get to leave. They should get happiness and peace after paying for their sins.

I wanted to help the underworld even more now. I wanted to do something that I knew was going to make Reece and everyone else around me not very happy at all. I was going to upset them when they figured it all out later. I just knew it. Sorry in advance you guys.

Playing Alexio's words in my mind over and over again, I looked at the cells that we were passing. The souls that we were passing hadn't been here for very long, so they were still glowing almost black. But I wondered if there were any here that ever turned white.

"Hey, Alexio?" I called out to him again. Once again, I reminded myself of the fact that I sounded like a child.

"Yes, Queen Trinity?" He addressed me the same way that Rudy had been.

"If a soul in Damnation turns all white and has fully repented their sins, are they ever moved out of here? Do they get paradise or reincarnation or anything like that?" I had to know. I just had to.

"No, Queen Trinity. No souls ever leave the Halls of Damnation. It is not allowed. They are fated to spend all of eternity in their torture, whatever it may be."

As hard as that might be for me to process at the moment. I knew that it was the way that things needed to be. These were the purely evil souls. They were the ones that you could never trust to leave here. They might destroy all of humanity or something if they were let out of here. Just like Hekate wanted to do.

Reece

~~

I saw that look on my Little Bunny's face. I could see it in her eyes. I knew what she was thinking, but I wasn't going to say anything out loud. I didn't want to have the others hear what it was that I thought my wife was thinking at the moment.

How could I let them know that I thought my Little Bunny wanted to take over Hell? I mean, if they knew that, they would think she was crazy. They would abandon her. They would do so many things that I didn't even know what they were. They would...

"Yup. Trinity just decided to take over, didn't she?" Carter laughed.

"You know it." Noah joined in with him.

"She is so predictable." Mom almost doubled over in laughter.

"We all knew it was going to happen the moment she asked that question. Did any of us ever have any doubt?" Juniper asked the others before eyeing me. "Come on, Reece, you know I'm right. You thought about it too, didn't you?" She was glaring at me, but she already knew my answer.

"Yes, Juniper. I knew it too. But what can I say? That is my Little Bunny. That is what she is like. We all know it."

"Yeah, I know. I've known her longer than you, candy pants. She's my best friend. At least we know what she is planning though." She laughed and I had to wonder about her line calling me 'candy pants'. And apparently my face showed that too since she started to laugh at me hysterically.

"What the hell did you just say?" I asked her with my arms crossed.

"What? You're Reece's Pieces, for crying out loud. They're a candy. And they're in your pants. How is that not self explanatory? Come one Reecey, keep up here." She rolled her eyes at me and I was trying desperately not to blush as the others looked at me.. And I was failing miserably at it too.

Chapter 714 - 131- Trinity – An Unexpected Encounter (VOLUME 4)

6-8 minutes

~~

Trinity

~~

All these thoughts about souls and being stuck in hell forever were truly weighing me down. I didn't want to let the others know about it, but it was getting increasingly hard for me to think of anything else. I didn't like that. I didn't like that all I could think about, dwell upon, were these negative thoughts.

Right now, I needed to focus on getting out of here. Making sure that Hekate didn't escape hell. And getting home to my family. Why was that getting harder and harder for me to focus on?

Was it because I had been away for so long? How long had I been gone anyway? I remember when I was in the Hall of Self-Reflection, it had already been two weeks that I had been gone. That had been when I learned that time passed by quicker in the land of the living than it did here.

What felt like at most a day and a half, maybe, was two weeks. And that was what felt like an eternity ago. But even that was hard for me to judge.

It was actually really hard to tell how much time was passing here because I didn't need to sleep, eat, drink, or relieve myself while I was here in the underworld. Not having physical cues to let me know how much time was passing was making it difficult. As was the fact that there was no change in lighting. There was no night and day. It was all the same all the time.

For all I know, I could have been gone for years. The kids and Reece could have moved on without me. They might have me in a hospital waiting for me, or they could have buried me, thinking I was dead. I honestly don't even know what to think at the moment. I just know that I was finding it harder to focus on my family now that I was here in Damnation.

Maybe, just maybe, that was a side effect of Damnation itself. Maybe that sort of hopelessness and sorrow that I was feeling was what this place caused naturally. It would make a lot of sense, honestly.

And if I am telling the truth here, if I didn't have Zachary, Zander and Zayden, I would probably abandon any and all hope of ever making it out of here. Having them with me was the only thing keeping me going. They needed me, and I couldn't abandon them at all.

I battled the emotions silently, not letting the boys, Alexio and Rudy know what was going on inside of my head. As we flew on, down the hall, I also tried to avoid looking at the people in the cells. I didn't need to know who these people were. That was none of my concern. What they did and didn't do was none of my concern.

Frankly, I was just glad that I hadn't run into anyone that I kn...

"YOU!" A woman's savagely snarling voice broke my thought and made me instantly regret that I was even thinking what I had just been thinking.

"DAMMIT!" I snapped at no one in particular. Unless you wanted to count the bitch that yelled at me.

"WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE!?" I had truly hoped that I would never have to see, or hear, this woman's voice ever again. "YOU DAMN MONGREL MUTT! I THOUGHT I WAS DONE WITH YOU! WHAT, DID YOU WANT TO HUMILIATE AND TORTURE ME EVEN MORE? OR DID YOU WANT TO WATCH ME BE TORTURED?"

Solanum's voice was filled with anger and rage. She had not changed at all since I last saw her. Since I, well, killed her.

"Granny! You're looking great. I see you found your head in the afterlife." Why, I do think that the super serious Alexio got that joke. I mean, why else did he laugh when I said that?

"FUCK YOU, TRINITY GRAY! YOU ARE A HORRIBLE PERSON! YOU SENT ME HERE! YOU DESTROYED ME AS THOROUGHLY AS YOU COULD! YOU KILLED ME AND YOU SENT ME TO DAMNATION! YOU DID THIS TO

ME ON PURPOSE. YOU WANTED THIS TO HAPPEN TO ME! YOU WANTED TO WATCH ME SUFFER. YOU PLANNED IT ALL! I KNOW YOU DID! ADMIT IT! ADMIT YOU SENT ME HERE!"

"No, Granny, you sent yourself here. All I did was end your reign of evil that you tried to unleash on the world. Your own actions brought you here. That is something that you need to understand." Her voice had sent shivers down my spine when she spoke. It was like a memory that I didn't want to have replayed for me, again. I had already so recently relived the hell that was my experience with her. And I didn't want to have this happen to me again so soon.

As I explained this to her, I looked closely at her, at how she was glowing. And I was not at all surprised to see that Solanum's soul was glowing with almost a pure black light to it. She was definitely still full of evil and all those other negative emotions that would darken her heart and soul.

"I will get out of here, Trinity. I will get out of here and I will come for you. You mark my words. I will destroy you. I will snuff you out. I will-."

In the middle of Solanum's threats, a strange black shadow moved forward and clamped a hand over her mouth. That shadow pulled her off into the back of the cell and almost immediately she began to scream.

It was too dark for me to see what was happening to her, but I think that was a good thing. If it could make someone like Solanum scream like that, then it must be horrible. Besides, there was something else that I was even more interested in.

"Alexio, what are those things?" I pointed at the strange shadow creature. I could tell that this creature was the one that was actively torturing Solanum. It didn't have a face that I could see, so I couldn't see what it looked like, or what it was feeling. Still, I got the feeling that this strange thing enjoyed its job.

"That is a reaper. They are responsible for taking an evil soul from the land of the living when it dies. That reaper then brings them here for special punishments." That was definitely not what I was expecting.

The underworld just got more complicated, and scary, all at the same time. Someone please remind me to never do something to make me come to the Halls of Damnation. I mean, you know, after I go back to living that is. I never want to come back to this place ever.

Nope, after I destroyed Hekate's soul. I was going to get out of here. And then everything will be just fine after that. That was what was going to keep me going. Hoping and praying that I would never come back to Damnation after this was over.. Hoping that I wouldn't be in a cell right down the hall from Solanum and everyone else that was here.

Chapter 71!	5 - 132- Trinit	y – An Unexpect	ed Encounter Pa	art 2 (VOLUM	E 4)
-------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	--------------	------

8-10 minutes

~~

Trinity

With strange thoughts of those weird shadow reapers running through my head, I continued past Solanum's cell and started to move on. Now, more than ever, I wanted to just keep my eyes straight ahead and not think about looking at anyone else until I got to the end of the hall.

And that plan was working for me. I was ignoring everyone and everything as we flew past dozens of cells. I thought that maybe whatever it was that wanted me to go slowly through the hall had just wanted me to see Solanum and that all would be good and everything would just speed on by now.

Nope. I wasn't that lucky.

As I tried desperately to ignore everything around me, I heard someone calling out to me.

"Trinity!" The voice didn't register with me at first. "Trinity!" They called again and I looked back at Rudy and Alexio, expecting it to be one of them. "Trinity!"

"Queen Trinity, I think that man is calling you." Rudy said, pointing beside us.

"Trinity!" That man called again and that was when I turned to see who it was.

Why was I surprised? I should have known that if Solanum was here then he would be too. It wasn't that surprising in all honesty. I mean, he was one of the most evil people that I had ever met in my life. That I had even heard about in all of my life. I knew that he would be in Damnation, there was nowhere else for him to go. Nowhere at all.

"Trinity." He called out to me again and I saw just how happy he was to see me.

"Hello Edmond, it's been a long time." I was looking into the eyes of my father. Into eyes that were identical to mine.

"Hello Trinity. How have you been?" I was looking for the snide edge, the evil man's rage, something. However, he just genuinely seemed to be curious about me.

"Why do you want to know? What does it matter to you? What kind of sick pleasure would it give you to know that?" I didn't want to tell this man anything about my life. I didn't want to have him knowing anything about me and my family. Yet, I also couldn't help but think that he was somehow hurt when I asked him that.

"I deserve that. I have never been a kind person. I caused heartache, fear, pain, loss, anything and everything but happiness. There never were any good things that came from me. Well, except for you, Trinity. You and the children that I never let have a chance at life. I know that I was wrong. I know that I was a bad person. I have come to terms with that and understand it. And I do not expect you to ever forgive me."

I was staring at him with wide eyes as I listened to what he had to say. This man before me looked just like the father that I killed years ago. He sounded just like him. And I know that it was him without a doubt.

There was just one problem. This man didn't act like the father that I killed years ago. The things that he was saying was nothing like the father that I had taken out of existence. What had happened to him? Why was he so different from the Edmond that I had known before? Who was this new man here?

And asking myself those questions, I took a closer look at Edmond as he stood at the very edge of his cell. I took a really close look at him and assessed him based on what I had learned here in the underworld so far.

Edmond was looking at me with clear eyes that were filled with sorrow. His face was calm but sad at the same time. There was no tension. There was no anger. There was nothing but sad acceptance and calmness.

Oh, and he was shining with a bright light that was nearly perfectly white.

That right there was probably the biggest shock of my entire life. I was looking at my father and he was clearly not the same person that I remembered him being. He had, believe it or not, repented. Somehow or another, he seemed to have rid his soul of all evil.

"E..Edmond, what happened? Why are you so different?" The words came without me even planning them. I didn't mean to ask him, but I did.

"I am in the Hall of Damnation, Trinity. I am in Hell. Literally. I know that I fucked up. I know that I did things that I shouldn't have. When I first died, I spent weeks inside the Hall of Self-Reflection. While I was in there, I saw all of my crimes replayed before my eyes. I saw the lives of the hundreds of thousands of people that I killed. I saw the destruction that I caused over the course of my long, long life. I know that I was the one that was the problem, not them."

"It wasn't just you, Edmond." I hung my head, remembering what I saw earlier as well. "Your parents didn't give you a chance. If they had, your life probably would have been different."

"M..my parents?" He sounded confused, like he didn't think I knew anything about it.

"You are not the only one that was in that hall. I saw things too, and some of them had to do with you."

"That is flattering." He smirked, but then he seemed to think about something. "Why are you here, Trinity? You are not dead, are you? And you certainly wouldn't be here in Damnation. What is going on?"

"I am here to stop Hekate from escaping. She wants to destroy the world, and I need to stop her." His eyes went even wider than they had been before. "Do you think I can't do it?" I glared at him.

"No, I know you can. I have faced you myself. I just never thought about the fact that I was here in Damnation with Hekate. I used to want to see her so much, now I regret that. You know, Trinity, if I could go back, I wouldn't have done the things that I did. However, if that were the case then you wouldn't be here. And I know that the world would be completely lost without you. You are what the world needs. And even though I didn't have noble intentions at the time, I am proud to say that I helped bring about the person that the world needs. I am proud of you, Trinity. I am glad that you were stronger than me and ended me. Because without that, I would never have been able to see the world this clearly."

"Edmond" Was it bad that my heart was breaking right now? Was it bad that I felt sorry for my father? Was it bad that I felt horrible about the fact that he would be stuck here forever even though his soul had turned pure? What did these feelings say about me?

"Don't look at me like that, Trinity. I am where I belong. I am in the afterlife that I made for myself. I am just glad that not all of my children perished. And I can see here that you are extending your family." He looked at the boys around me. "They look like your mate." He was smiling like a proud Papa. And I realized then, that they were indeed his grandchildren but he would never get the chance to actually meet them.

"These three are as of yet unborn. I am currently pregnant with them." I explained it to him. "I have three other children at home as well."

"That is amazing. You are living your life to its fullest, Trinity. Thank you for not letting me stop you."

"Mommy?" Zayden came forward and held my hand.

"This is my father, Zayden. He is your biological maternal grandfather. But you won't meet him after you are born."

"H..hello." He spoke to Edmond tentatively and Zachary and Zander followed suit.

"Hello boys. Are you protecting your mommy? I hope so."

"Sh...she is protecting us." Zayden answered him, being the closest to him.

"She does like to do that, doesn't she? She is strong, so you stay with her and do what she says."

"Mmhmm." The boys nodded and hummed in agreement.

"Take care, Trinity. It is time for me to go. It is time for my punishment." He stepped back into the shadows of his cell, another one that was so dark I couldn't see what it was. I sensed another shadow reaper, but I didn't see it this time. And unlike Solanum, Edmond didn't cry out at all. He was completely silent while he was being tortured.

"Come on." I ushered everyone along on our flying wind.. I didn't want to stick around for this.

Chapter 716 - 133- Split – Moving Through Damnation Part 5 (VOLUME 4)

7-8 minutes

~~

Trinity

~~

That feeling that I thought would go away after having seen Solanum in her cell, the one that was telling me to move slowly through Damnation, it was gone. Whatever it was that wanted me to move slowly, it had been focused on my father. I wonder if I was just supposed to see how he had changed. To see what he was like now.

I don't know why I had to see Edmond. I have absolutely no idea why my father was so important at the current moment. It's not like I was going to save him while I was here. It's not like I was going to say that he deserved to be given another chance because he had repented. I mean, it definitely wasn't like I was going to advocate for him to be reborn because I thought his soul might be able to do better with parents that loved him. None of that was true at all. Nope, none of it.

Or at least I was telling myself that it wasn't true. The problem was, I couldn't stop myself from thinking about it. I knew that it was wrong to be thinking these thoughts, but I knew that he was a bad man that had done terrible things. But he was also changed. He was a soul that realized what he had done wrong. And if he were reborn, I am sure that he would be able to live a better life. He just needed to be given a chance.

As I thought about all of that, I started to move us along faster and faster. I had the wind platform, flying cloud, magic carpet, whatever it was that you wanted to call it, I had it zooming down the hall at a breakneck speed. I was in a hurry to get to Hekate. I needed to end all of this. I had lots of other work to do.

"Queen Trinity, what is wrong?" Rudy asked me, sliding forward on his knees as he clung to the platform as best as he could.

"Nothing. I just want to get to our destination." Subconsciously, I sped up. I didn't mean to do it. I truly just could not help it. I had started to move us so fast that Rudy stumbled and the boys behind me screamed out a little.

"Mommy! Mommy!"

"Ahh! Slow down, Mommy."

"Too fast! It's too fast Mommy."

"I do believe we should slow down." Alexio spoke firmly after the boys cried out. "The little ones are frightened."

Just then, I turned to look at the children, and consequently, Alexio and Rudy. I saw that the men were both nervous even though they tried to hide it. And all three of the boys were clinging to Alexio like he was their personal protection device or something.

"I am sorry. I didn't mean to scare any of you." I hung my head. I had not intended to do anything that would upset them, and it really wasn't right of me to let my emotions affect them all like this.

"Something is bothering you." Alexio noted soothing my boys as best as he could.

"Was it that man? You told the children that he was your father, is that true? How would your father be in a cell in Damnation?" Rudy was like a curious little child right now. He was definitely not like a man I would have imagined when I thought of the word demon. He was innocent and curious, and often afraid. "Was there a mistake, Queen Trinity? Did someone put your father here incorrectly?"

"No, Rudy, it wasn't a mistake. He was a bad man. He did a lot of things wrong and he killed a lot of people. He is here because of that. And I was the one to kill him. I was the one that put an end to his tyranny. I did what I needed to do, that was all."

"Queen Trinity?" Rudy gasped in shock.

"I think that took a level of strength that not many people would be capable of." Alexio was a little wiser and a little more mature than Rudy was, it made me wonder how old each of them were.

"Thank you, Alexio." I gave him a forced smile and nodded at him to show him that I acknowledged what he had to say. I wasn't still upset about having killed my father. I don't think that I ever was. I did what I needed to do and that was all that mattered. Still, I wanted to stop people from suffering now, and he was the one suffering.

"That is what we are here for, is it not? We are here to help you. I have come to understand that already, why haven't you? I know that I was not so accepting at first, but I have had time to think. Something that I think we have all done since we started this journey in Damnation. This place makes you think a lot. It brings the thoughts to you whether you want them or not. There is no possible way for you to traverse the Hall of Damnation and not think about some of your darkest thoughts."

~~

Reece

~~

What sort of dark thoughts was that man, Alexio, talking about? What was it he was trying to say to my wife? He better not be having thoughts about her. I would find a way to kill him if he was.

Still. I should be thanking him. He was doing a lot of work while they flew through the hall. Mostly, he was protecting the boys, and that was what mattered the most. Trinity was busy with so many things that she wasn't able to focus on the children, so she had left that up to this man.

And I don't blame her for being so distracted. Seeing Solanum's nasty ass was bad enough, but did she really need to see her father? Really? And what was up with this changed man that Edmond seemed to be? Was that real? Could it be real?

I don't know anything about the underworld aside from what I have seen in these images, but I knew that the place was having a massive effect on my Little Bunny. She was seeing, hearing and experiencing things that she never would have if she wasn't there. These things that she was seeing were making her think and question more than she would have.

I mean, never in a million years would I have thought that my Little Bunny, or me for that reason, would think that Gannon Cornelius Edmond had reformed and deserved to have another chance at life. And I was thinking this without having seen what it was that she had. I was basing it off of what I had seen since this video started.

There was just so much going on. So much that was happening, and it was making us all think and question everything that we already knew. Or everything that we thought we knew. And I knew that when she got back from that world, she would need to talk all of this out with someone.

Based on the look in Juniper's eyes, she knew that too. Silently, just by nodding at each other, we agreed that we would both be there for her. She could talk to whichever of us she preferred. We would listen

and not judge at all. That was the good thing about having a loving husband and a close friend available to her.. She never had to wonder if she could speak her mind to someone.

Chapter 717 - 134- Reece - Time (VOLUME 4)

7-8 minutes

~~

Reece

~~

"So, how far do you think it is that Trinity needs to?" I heard Trevor whisper to Gloriana as we all watched on.

"I don't know. If the distance she has already gone is any indicator, then I would say that she has a very long way to go. I think this will take a long time, even with her having sped up."

"Yeah, me too. But I feel like, going fast or not, it's almost like it's taking a long time. Or maybe time here just seems to be moving really fast." Valerian noted the strange feeling he had been having, and come to think of it, he was not alone in it.

I, like Valerian, felt like either they were moving too slow. Slower than it seemed like they were going, or time here was moving really fast. I mean, it couldn't be moving fast, no faster than normal anyway. We had just been here watching the magical screen that Talia had made for us. It had been what, an hour, two hours at most. That wasn't all that long. So why did it feel like so much longer when I tried to think about it.

When I looked at the clock on the bedside table, I saw that it had stopped working. That was odd, since it was not a battery operated clock but one that plugged into the wall. OK, well if that one stopped, let me check the other one.

I checked the clock on the wall, across the room from us. That one had stopped too. Well damn. That sucked.

There was another alternative though. I could check my watch. It was the same one that my Little Bunny had given me on our first ever Christmas together. I wore it every day. I always have and I always would.

And of course, that one had stopped too. I hoped that whatever stopped all the clocks didn't damage it permanently. I don't want anything to be wrong with this watch. I loved it too much.

Well, when all the old schools fail, it's time to be modern. I pulled my phone and tapped the screen so that it would light up.

"Hmm. Let's see, it's.." I stopped speaking to myself and just froze. I could not be reading that right. Not at all.

"What is it, Reece?" Trevor came over to me then. He waved his hand in front of my frozen face as I watched the time on my phone.

"Do you guys know how long we have been in here?" I didn't say anything else to him or the others. Just that.

"Maybe two hours?" Trevor was pulling out his phone now too.

"Yeah, that would be my guess too." Noah added, also grabbing his phone from his pocket.

"Yeah, it hasn't been any longer than that. I mean, it's not like it's been. It's been sixteen hours?" Carter was about to agree with the others when he saw the time on his phone. All of them were now pulling out their phones, aside from Gloriana and Valerian since they didn't have them.

"How in the world has it already been sixteen hours? I mean, Trinity hasn't been in the Hall of Damnation that long, I just know that she hasn't. So how is it that time is passing that quickly?" Gloriana was perplexed as she looked at Trevor then at me.

"Yeah well, that question took you fifteen minutes to ask." Carter held up his phone. "Time is moving insanely fast right now."

"Does that mean that we are stuck in here right now?" Juniper looked around at everyone. "And is time passing this quickly for everyone else? If time is passing us by that quickly then it would basically make us all look like we're frozen to everyone moving at normal speed."

"Or would we be moving at super hyper speed or something? We're obviously moving at an accelerated speed for some reason, but I don't know what it is right now." Paul shrugged and pulled Juniper toward him and held onto her.

"I think this has to do with the magic that Talia used. We're seeing into a place where time moves differently there than it does here. I think time there is slower than it is here." I was watching the screen now, just seeing my Little Bunny and the others flying through the hall. "I think time here moves quicker than it does there. So, if we were to be watching her at our normal speed then they would all be moving super slow. There would be no point in watching Trinity and the boys on this screen if we couldn't see what they were doing. This super speed that we seem to be moving at, I think it's the only thing that is stopping this from being a picture."

"Now that you mention that Reece, I do believe that I have heard about that before." Gloriana looked at me with thoughtful eyes. What about you, Val?"

"Yes, it sounds familiar." That was all that Valerian had to add.

"So, what do you think will happen if we leave this room while the magic is in effect? Will we be able to get back in, or would we be stuck out there until we close the magic? And how do we close the magic?"

"Those are good questions, Mom." I thought about it for a minute, trying to give her answers that I didn't have.

"I don't think that all of us can stay in here that long. That would not be fair to everyone else. If we've been in here that long, I know that my kids are missing me." Juniper was on the verge of tears when she said that.

"And I have work to do. As the mayor of Trinity Falls, I need to be there."

"I think some of us need to leave. And one will try to come back in. If they can't, then we know that they're stuck out. But only a few of us should stay." Samuel was trying to be helpful and diplomatic here, so I let him say what he needed to.

"I agree." Noah nodded at him. "And those of us that leave, please inform the others what is happening. We don't want more people to worry about us."

"I am staying." I wasn't going to let anyone talk me out of it.

"As am I." Noah added, though I knew that was going to be the case."

"I will stay as well." Valerian stepped up next.

"And me." Trevor was the last. Everyone else was too busy to stay here too much longer. I didn't know how long we were going to be in here for. Another day. A week. Who knew? I would miss so much with the kids, but they would know that I was watching after their mommy and brothers so that should make things a little easier on them.

Gloriana, Juniper, Paul, Eve, Wesley, Samuel, Mom, and Carter all left the room. It was just the four of us left behind. Samuel had agreed to try to come back in, but it obviously wasn't working. Or he just hadn't tried just yet.

Now that it was just the four of us, Valerian used his magic to put a very large couch in front of the screen. We all sat there among a mound of fluffy pillows and hearts filled with worry.. It was time to see what happened to my Little Bunny.

Chapter 718 - 135- Trinity - Moving Through Damnation Part 6 (VOLUME 4)

7-8 minutes

~~

Trinity

~~

Now that I was doing my best to keep my emotions in check, I was able to move us through the Hall of Damnation at a rapid pace. Albeit one that didn't scare the boys or the men with me.

If I didn't know for a fact that I was moving way too fast, I would have just called them all a bunch of babies. But that wasn't fair, especially to the boys. They were unborn babies. They didn't have any experience in life at all and yet they were following me through the depths of hell. They were braver than more people in the world, simply because they had been trying to help me out from the beginning. I would never insult them like that, ever.

The cells were flying past us on either side now. They were moving by us so quickly that we couldn't see who was in them, nor what was happening in them. That was actually the best way that these things could be. It was better for the others not to know what was going on in this place. Rudy and Alexio may

be demons, but they don't belong in this part of the underworld. And the boys didn't need to see that at all. I needed to protect them as much as I could. Now and forever.

There was one thing that I noticed the further back that I went into the Hall of Damnation. It got quieter. The deeper in, the less the souls that were being tortured screamed. It most likely had to do with them accepting their fate or just losing all touch with their reality. Whatever it was though, they didn't make a single noise as the shadow reapers worked on them.

I had seen more than one of those reapers out of the corner of my eye, but I never looked close enough to make it so that I could see them clearly. That would have made me slow down and actually see the tortures. I didn't want that either. No one, not even me, needed to see the tortures.

It was also getting darker. There was less light. And there weren't any brightly glowing souls to light up the hall either. It seems that, out of everyone we had passed so far, only my father had repented for his sins. Only my father seemed to regret what he had done. That was pretty awful to think about. How much hatred were the others harboring? How much was still weighing down their souls?

I didn't really have a lot of time to think about that. The moment that the thought slipped into my mind, I could see the end of the hall looming before us. In the distance, I could see what was essentially an enormous and ornately carved cell door.

The door seemed to be shaped like an Ankh. That right there told me that it had to do with Thoth. That was his symbol after all, and on top of that, the cell beyond it was a lot larger than what the others appeared to be like. And there was light coming from within that cell as well.

It was like everything about Hekate's cell was completely different from the other cells around her. This evil goddess may be a prisoner, but she didn't seem to be getting treated the same way. She didn't seem to be getting punished and she had a lot of creature comforts that the others didn't have for themselves.

In the cell that housed that evil goddess, I saw a large bed that was made out of white marble. On top of that marble bed, there was a mattress that looked luxurious and soft. It was definitely not the bed of someone who was in prison. It looked like the bed of someone who was being pampered.

I guess even when he was locking his wife away from the evil deeds that she had been committing, Thoth couldn't bring himself to be harsh and cruel to her. He loved her, no matter what she had done. He loved her enough to make sure that she was comfortable in her banishment and punishment.

Aside from that bed, I saw a beautiful fountain with fresh water inside of it. There was a grove of trees from which she could collect various fruits. And everything was just bright and clean, and in no way at all a punishment.

I think what struck me as the most odd of it all, was the fact that there was a giant screen in that prison cell. It was a screen that looked much like a television screen. And on that screen I could see myself.

I was literally watching me and the others zoom closer to that cell as I looked into that screen. This was some sort of viewing magic that I had never heard of. It was magic that was letting her watch me the entire time that I had been here in the underworld. That was how she knew where to send the beasts.

That was how she knew when to make people attack me. She had been watching me, and listening to me, this entire time. She was able to do all of those things because she was watching me.

"HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!" She was laughing hysterically in the distance. She was most likely looking into the screen and seeing my face the way that it was frozen in shock and awe. And that look on my face was probably what had made her laugh like that. That fucking hag. I would get her for this. I would make her pay. I swear I would make her pay.

This had to be the reason why I felt like someone was watching me ever since I got to the Hall of Damnation. This had to be why I felt like someone had been keeping tabs on me. This had to be it.

~~

Reece

~~

"What in the fucking hell!?" I bellowed at the screen that I was looking at. "That looks just like this magic here. Talia used magic that has been in the underworld for centuries. No, for millennia. How in the hell did she do that? How did she know what to do?"

I hadn't taken my eyes off of the screen as I asked the other men those questions.

"I don't know, but I think that this means Talia is going to be a lot stronger than any of us ever expected." Valerian sounded serious as he answered me. Not that his response did anything to alleviate my worries.

"I think that my niece is going to be giving her mother a run for her money." Noah did laugh at that, even though it sounded like it should have been a joke.

"Yeah, I think we have all been underestimating little Tally." Trevor shook his head, just as worried as I was.

"Yeah well, I think we all need to learn to stop underestimating my children." I actually did laugh then. It was the truth though, we had all been forgetting from the beginning, that Trinity is powerful, and she's unlocked a lot of new magic. And that magic is flowing inside of my children too. It only stands to reason that they would take after her. And thank the goddess that they did. Talia had made such an amazing magic screen for us to see what was happening to my Little Bunny.. Now, though, it was time to see what was happening on the other one of those screens, and inside that cell specifically.

Chapter 719 - 136- Trinity – Meet Hekate (VOLUME 4)

6-8 minutes

~~

Trinity

~~

I tried not to dwell on the fact that this supposed to be a prison cell was far too luxurious for someone that was here to be punished. I had to also remind myself that Hekate was put here by a man that loved her dearly. And she was a goddess as well.

Being a goddess meant that Hekate was subject to certain benefits that the others would not be. Or at least that is what I told myself. Hekate was a goddess and would just summon these things to her side even if Thoth hadn't provided them for her.

The thought and words weren't doing much for me though. All I wanted to do was hurt that annoying Hekate. She had probably not suffered at all. Aside from this being her home for the last few millennia, this was paradise for Hekate. She could do what she wanted whenever she wanted and all the people around her had to see that every day for eternity.

Now that I was close enough though, Hekate had finally decided to show herself. I was just starting to slow the platform down, getting ready to bring us all to a stop, when she stepped forward and grinned at me.

Hekate didn't look anything like what I expected her to. I was picturing what all the ancient Roman and Greek gods looked like in the myths. I was imagining something along the lines of the two that came to me when they wanted to make Vincent and Gabriel their new hosts so that they could be reborn. They were very stereotypical looking.

Hekate, on the other hand, was not at all stereotypical. She was as dark as night. Her complexion literally looked like the night personified. There was even a slight bluish hint so that it looked like there was a little bit of the actual night inside of her skin.

To contrast her complexion, Hekate's hair was pure white. It looked like the brightest of full moons woven into hair and made to flow down her back until it hit her knees. And the hair was as straight as could be.

The eyes that were looking out at me from inside of that cell were pure white as well. There seemed to be nothing relieving all of that white that I saw in her eyes. There was no iris. There was no pupil. It was all just white on white on white. And of course, they were lined with white eyelashes and white eyebrows.

I couldn't take my eyes off of the goddess as we got closer to the cell at the end of the hall.

"Mommy, I am scared." I heard Zachary whisper behind me.

"I don't want to go over there, Mommy." Zander was following his brother's lead.

"Mommy, stay back here. Don't go see the lady." Zayden rounded them out.

"I have to see her, boys. She is why Mommy came all the way here. I have to stop her.

"HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!" Hekate laughed again, long and loud. She apparently thought that my words were funny.

"Is something wrong, Hekate? Did you catch sight of your reflection or something? I don't see what else you would find so funny right now."

"You need to stop thinking you can disrespect me, girl." The fallen goddess glared at me as she snapped the words at me. "And the fact that you think you can talk to me like that, and that you think that you can defeat me, that is truly disrespectful and hilarious. I will end you and take your magic. You are here and that is proof that I will destroy you. I brought you here. That was me. That was my power. I brought you here and I will get exactly what I want from you. You need to prepare for that now, Trinity. All of you are going to die and I will finally be leaving this prison of mine."

"No, Hekate, you won't be. I won't be letting you out of your cell. I will not be giving you any of my magic. And I will see to it that you will never be able to do this to anyone else ever again."

"HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!" She truly did like laughing like that, didn't she? That annoying overly loud laugh of hers, ugh! It was grating on my ears and making me wish that she would just shut up already.

Finally, the platform that we had been riding on came to a stop in front of the ornate door. The door was a lot taller than I had been expecting it to be, and Hekate was a lot taller than I expected her to be. She was standing on the other side of the door and I swear that she was at least seven feet tall. She was about as tall as Alexio, at the very least.

I didn't want to stress the boys out at all. I needed to get them away from this door and I knew just what to do about that. I slid from the platform and stood just in front of the door on my own. After that, I moved the platform so that it hovered above me in the cavernous hall. I was keeping the others out of harm's way and making it so that the two men would protect my children while I fought the evil goddess.

"Hello, Trinity. I guess it is polite for me to give you a proper greeting before you die." Hekate chuckled at me.

"Hello, Hekate. I would give you the title that you deserve, but I don't know how many greats to be in front of the word granny. So, maybe I should just call you what I called Solanum. Though that seems a little rude. Hmm. Gram Gram? I can call you Gram Gram." I saw the way that the fallen goddess's eyes sharpened and hardened at my disrespectful tone and words.

"You are quite inconsiderate, aren't you?" She ground the words out through her clenched teeth.

"I work very hard to act this way for the ones that deserve it. I mean, it's not like this comes easy to me. I need to put a lot of thought and effort into what would best ruin your day and how I should go about it. It's all quite exhausting, really."

"HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!" She laughed again. I guess I once again said something that was hilarious. "Let me show you why I will be taking your power, Trinity."

I watched then as Hekate pushed the door to her cell open and stepped out into the hall to meet me. She was not being restrained. There was nothing and no one to hold her back in the cell. She was literally leaving to do whatever it was that she wanted to. And this, here, was probably the exact reason why I was here. She was allowed to do too much, and I needed to stop it. Damn you, Thoth. You caused all of this, and I can't even punish you for it. I mean, who sends someone to hell and lets them just walk around free? That was just careless and insane.

Chapter 720 - 137- Trinity – Hekate Explains (VOLUME 4)

6-8 minutes

~~

Trinity

~~

"As you can see, Trinity, I am not being restrained here. I can leave my cell whenever I want. I am not the same kind of prisoner that the others are. I am more free than they are. I can do as I please. And, right now, I want to take your magic."

This was enough to piss me off completely. I was trying to figure out why in the fucking hell that the evil goddess would even need me here when she had this sort of ability. When she could leave her cell, what was the point of calling me here? What was it that she wanted from me? What did I need to do?

"If you can get out whenever you want, Gram Gram, then why am I here? What did you need me for? Unless you are actually too scared to leave. Would you rather me stop you just so that you have no more excuses left as to why you're still here after all this time?"

"Still so damn disrespectful. You are a very rude descendant. Here you are meeting one of the reasons that you even exist and you're treating me like I am nothing. If it wasn't for me then you would not be here. And even if you still somehow existed, you wouldn't be half the powerhouse that you are now. I helped to make you, Trinity, so you need to respect me."

"Oh, thank you for that explanation, Gram Gram. I never would have figured that out on my own. And I am so happy that I have yet another bat shit crazy relative. You know you're not the only celestial being that I have met face to face? So you can stop expecting me to be in awe of you. And I am already sick and tired of you and your bullshit. Now stop trying to dodge my question and answer me. What am I doing here? Why am I here if you can get out of that cell already? Why did you try to bring me right to you? Why were you mad that I was diverted and taken on a longer path? Explain it all to me."

"I will relish in your destruction, Trinity. I will see to it that you are so thoroughly removed from my path that you will not be able to reincarnate ever. I will wipe you from existence and then I will destroy every single member of your family. Them and all of the ungrateful bastards that call themselves my descendants. Only the truly strong and the truly wise will survive. I will take them and fill the world with the true children of Hekate. And, this time, I will do it without my husband. I will find another partner, someone who has the same vision as me." I swear that was the most maniacal face I had ever seen in my entire life.

"You still haven't answered me, Hekate. Why did you need me here? What was the point of all of this? Why the hell did you drag me here and away from my family? WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME!?" I let my anger get the best of me as I screamed at her in the end.

"I WANT YOUR MAGIC, BECAUSE I CAN'T GET OUT OF HERE WITHOUT IT!"

Apparently, Hekate had reached the end of her rope as well. She was screaming back at me and hyperventilating to show me just how pissed off and angry that she was about this whole thing.

Not only that, but I could see that she was hunched over, curling in on herself with her feeling of powerlessness and inadequacy. Whatever the hell she was up to, she had just let a small fraction of her true self start to show through. I wasn't completely sure, but I had a feeling that this was going to piss her off even more.

And, sure enough, there was a strange color starting to appear in Hekate's cheeks. It was sort of like a lightening of the color, the blue in her complexion started to look a little like baby blue right where her cheeks were.

That was the oddest blush I had ever seen from someone. And probably the cutest, you know, if it weren't on the face of this crazy bitch. As it was, I just wanted it to stop so that I could get back to business.

"What do you mean you can't get out of here without my magic?" I crossed my arms and waited for this annoying bitch to continue explaining all of this and finally say something that made even the least little bit of sense.

"I mean exactly what I said, Trinity. I may be able to get out of my cell and I may not be treated like the other prisoners in this fucking hell hole, but I am still not able to get out of this Hall of Damnation. It is made so that no one gets out. No one was ever intended to leave this place once they entered. You could get out, though. You're not dead, your soul is alive, and therefore, you are not bound by the same restrictions that the rest of us need to live with. You and your little boys are able to get out of here and that is what I want for myself. I am going to take your magic, and your soul, into my body. You will get me out of here and then I will destroy your soul. Even if I have to kill you before I leave here I will. I will just ride your soul out of this place until I am back in the land of the living. From there I will still destroy your soul and make it so that you will never come back to be a thorn in my side ever again. I will have my desire fulfilled and that will be that."

"You are far more insane than I ever thought you would be. I am not kidding. You are certifiably and legitimately crazy. Do you truly think that it is going to work? Do you think that you will be able to destroy me that easily? Do you think that I am not going to make sure that I stop you?" It was time for me to laugh now. I was laughing nearly as hysterically as she had before. "HA HA HA HA!"

The laughter tasted bitter and disgusting in my mouth. I didn't want to laugh even though it was something that I was not able to stop myself from doing. The laughter made me feel like her, like Hekate. And feeling like that fallen goddess was making me feel dirty and disgusting. I just wanted that to go away and this whole mess to be over with.

"Your laughter is not needed." Hekate snapped at me. "The only one that will be laughing when all of this is over is me. I will be the one to end you. I will be the one to get out of here. Don't worry, your little friends can have my cell, since they won't ever be getting out of here either. They will be stuck here along with everyone else. And they won't even need to be punished for all of eternity.. Aren't I just so nice?" Her little giggle was so much worse than her maniacal laughter.