

# Game of Destiny – A Thrilling Tale of Power, Love & Fate

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Game of Destiny

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It was an amazing evening. We snacked and gossiped, and they helped me pack. Everyone shared their mating story, even Matilda. I had never heard her talk about her mate before. She had a smile on Her face as she talked. It made her look youthful. There was also

pain there. We were taught as pups about the pain of losing your male. Wo all feared it, but it wasn't until now when I had Finlay

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that I truly felt the ice cold dread to face a fate like it. It would be like losing half of myself. A scar which would never heal. The strength Matilda had not only to survive, but to thrive, to be the support of her nephew and then a whole pack. She was an amazing

woman.

"I can't believe we finally have a Luna," Medow said happily as she was helping stack books in a box.

"Let's be honest, we have had a Luna for years. We just haven't calle her Luna," Shelly said and both she and Medow giggled.

"That reminds me, who won the bet?" I asked.

"The bet?" Shelly asked, trying to look innocent. Medow blushed. The only one who seemed to be genuinely confused was Matilda.

"You didn't know about the bet? I thought you knew everything," I said.

"What bet?" she asked.

"The bet about when Finlay and I would mate. And you two can stop pretending. Sam told me everything," I explained.

"He did? I will have to explain to him what a secret is," Medow huffed. I smiled.

"I'm not upset. I think it's kind of funny, but I want to know who won. I know it's not Sam."

"Ramses. He changed his bet after your first game. I should have changed mine as well," Shelly told me. I giggled. Medow and Shelly filled us in on what had happened in the pack while we had been away.

"Thank you all for helping me. This would have taken me forever to do on my own and it would have been so boring," I told them as we closed the last box. The room looked empty without all my things.

"We were happy to help. Right ladies?" Matilda said.

"Right!" Medow and Shelly said as one.

"I think we have kept our mates waiting long enough. Let's see if we can find them," I said and we set off. It wasn't hard to find them. The three of them were in the common room. They were playing cards with the two pups sleeping on the couch and Cadence and Jon sitting on the other couch, reading comics. It was such a homely scene it made my heart swell. All three men put down their cards when they saw us. Finlay walked up and kissed me.

"Hi," I said.

"Hi. Are you done?"

"Yes, everything is packed and done."

"Good. I have been very well behaved, don't you think? I haven't mindlinked you once, I didn't come to get you and I have been playing cards and distracting myself," he pointed out. I giggled.

"Yes. You have been good," I agreed.

"Good enough to earn a reward?"

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"Ah, I see where this is going. Are you in need of social cuddling?" The smile fell from Finlay's face,

"Um, yeah. I giggled, it was too easy to tease him.

Don't look so disappointed, honey. I will give you a proper reward for being patient. The cuddling will come after,' I mindlinked him and gave him a kiss on his cheek. Finlay's smile returned with new force. He chuckled.

"Never doubted you," he told me.

"Do you have a couple of minutes before the two of you head home Matilda asked me.

"Sure," I said. Finlay didn't object, he had too much respect for his ant. "How about we take a walk?" I suggested.

"Sounds lovely," Matilda agreed.

"It's dark outside," Finlay pointed out.

"We both have excellent sight even in the dark," I reminded him.

"That was not the point." Matilda laughed at Finlay's reply.

"Relax, Alpha. We are back on pack land. I will have your Luna back safely before you know it," she told him.

"Why don't you head home and I will be there before you know it?" asked him. He nodded and kissed me. Me and Matilda headed out back to walk along the creek.

"You make him happy," she told me. I smiled.

"He makes me happy, so it's the least I can do." She nodded.

"I haven't welcomed you to the family, I'm truly happy to have you," Matilda said.

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Thank you. You have always been accepting of me, I already felt like family," I confessed.

"I have seen you as family as well, but now it's official. I have known this would happen since the day you first shifted."

"You did? How?" I was considering if Matilda had the sight of the future. I wouldn't be surprised.

"The way Finlay looked at you when you were shifting. I had seen him guide several pack members through their first shift, but I had never seen that expression on his face. He looked to be in just as much pain as you were. Then, when he behaved like a toddler who's favourite binky had been taken from him when you had to stay two weeks in the human town. It just reinforced my suspicions. Mind you, I had no idea you were fated mates. I just thought the two of you had found someone you clicked with. I should have known better," she told me and chuckled.

"Was he really that bad? I talked to him every evening during those weeks and he seemed just fine."

"Of course he did, he was talking to you. But during the day he was ke a sulking child. The entire pack was ecstatic when you came back and we got our old Alpha back. I have been waiting since then. And waiting, and waiting. The gods know the two of you don't rush into things. Now, I understand why, but I was at my wits end for a moment. I was seriously considering locking the two of you in a room until you sorted things out." I giggled.

"That would have been interesting," I said. She laughed.

I'm happy everything has sorted itself out. The two of you belong together and I'm looking forward to having you as my niece and as my Luna."

"Thank you, aunt Matilda." We smiled at each other.

"I think it's time I take you back, or my nephew will hunt us down. He can be a tad bit dramatic, but he has been patient today." We

walked back in silence. Finlay stood waiting for me on the porch. I hugged Matilda and she waved at him as she walked back to the

pack house. Finlay walked up to me.

"How about a run before we turn in for the night?" he asked after he had kissed me. As soon as he suggested it, I felt both me and my wolf crave a run.

"It sounds amazing," I told him. We stripped on the porch and shifted. As we ran into the woods, I took a moment to enjoy the feeling of being in my wolf form on pack land. The hum of the surroundings as the link between me and the land was reinforced

was mesmerising.

'I needed this,' I told Finlay in our mindlink.

'So did I. My wolf wants to check every part of the woods, make sure the land is still safe and is still ours,' he said.

'Maybe not the entire pack land tonight. It will take us until dawn.' I got the sense he was laughing. His wolf looked over at me and then he charged me. He nipped at my legs with playful excitement, and my wolf got the message and tried to nip back. It started a chase. Playing with Finlay was a freeing feeling as we sprinted through the woods. After an hour of chasing each other around, we ended up at our viewpoint, looking out over the river and the mountains. I happily sat down and looked out over the landscape. Finlay sat down next to me, as close as was possible. 'I think I would be happy never to leave this place again. This is where I feel the most happiness,' I told him. He licked my head.

'I feel the same.'

'But we will have to leave at some point,' I said.

We do. We need to meet with allies, and your family,' he agreed.

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Well, that seems like good reasons.'

And in a year it's the next Alpha meeting. I was hoping not to have to go alone,' he said.

You won't. This time I will go with you."

'Do you feel ready to head home, Red?' he asked.

I'm more than ready. Last one back will have to clean the bathroom for a month,' I said and sprinted off.

'Sweetheart, that is cheating,' Finlay called as I sensed him setting off after me.

'Just because you are old and slow to get going.'

'I will make you pay, just you wait. Both me and my wolf were happy. We didn't mind if we lost to our mate, he was a worthy opponent.

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