

First Time in Faerie

Emmaline was so excited to have Katie back in her life. I talked animatedly as we walked up to the house, “I want Christmas colors for the wedding. So red and green are a given.” Katie nodded. She seemed to be taking everything in. I wanted answers about Grayson. I was furious he’d placed a spell on me. That little TWERP! How DARE HE! That’s why I could pee in peace?

Katie was pissed. She asked, “Who is Grayson?” Dustin and Ry froze. Lucas just seemed to be sitting back listening to us talk. I answered Katie, “Grayson is a guy I went to a dance with last year. He’s lost his mind apparently. He called the cops and tried to get Lucas in trouble for being with me.” Katie’s jaw dropped.

She angrily glared at Dustin and Ry, “This Grayson is not cursed because?” Ry smiled, “I punched him.” Katie smiled, “That’s a good start. He’s getting cursed though. Somehow.” I couldn’t help but smile. It was good to know Katie was still the same person I left behind.

I had my siblings back. I was happy to get to know my fairy sisters, but they weren’t Katie. I grew up with her. This felt like a missing piece of myself had fallen back into place. When they left, Lucas and I were all over each other. We fell asleep in each other’s arms.

I woke up to my alarm going off and popped to the gym. It was a fighting day, so I got paired with a really good warrior. She kicked my butt a few times, but I got her a few times too. The trainers were impressed, but I wanted to do better still. I winked at Lacy and popped into my bathroom. I peeked out and saw Lucas was still asleep. I stripped and showered quickly and popped over to Lucas.

It went exactly how I thought it would. I wanted him to be all jazzed for me to come home so I popped away from him afterwards. Haley would be proud. I jumped in the car and yelled, “Everyone get in now!” They were confused but obeyed.

As soon as Valerie closed the door I started to drive off. I rolled down the window smiling as Lucas ran outside. I managed not to drool even though he was just in shorts. The ensuing moments were a blur. When Lucas put me back in the car I muttered, “Haley is always right.” It was worth riling Lucas up.

I hit the gas before Lucas could do anything else. He’d already derailed my mischievous fairy fun to rile him up. Lacy laughed, “Did you pop out to the car?” I

nodded, “I just wanted to have a little fun. I didn’t think he was going to run in front of the car like a crazy person.” Valerie laughed.

Brad said, “You got his blood going. His wolf is about the chase, and you popped away.” I frowned, “To the car. He knew where I was going. It’s not like I popped away to some undisclosed location.” Lacy laughed, “It doesn’t matter. Let’s talk about the game my brother mentioned.” I blushed when I met Ry’s eyes in the backseat. I muttered, “Let’s not.” Lacy laughed.

Ry didn’t even look at me when he grabbed the keys to leave. I slapped Lacy on the arm, “Did you have to say that in front of my brother?” Lacy laughed, “He already heard Lucas, and lest you forget Lucas IS my brother. Anyway, this game. What is it?”

I waited for Chelsea and Sam to join us before I explained, “It’s called catch the fairy. I pop away from him, and he has to find me. He gets pretty amped up about it.” Peter spit out his drink. Chelsea laughed, “Maybe I can catch a ride on my fairy duchess friend and play with Peter.”

I smiled, “I am coming to your territory today.” Peter growled, “You have been enough trouble the last few days, Sugar Baby Momma.” Chelsea smirked, “You love it.” Peter tried not to smile but failed. Chelsea shot me a wink, and Drake and I went to class.

My day was going fine until I stepped out of the lunchroom a few minutes before the bell. I needed to switch out my books. Grayson called, “Emmaline.” I groaned and laid my head on my locker. I saw him coming in the front door.

I asked, “Where were you?” Grayson sighed, “Seeing a relative of sorts. I need to talk to you.” I glared at him, “Oh? Do you? Well, let me just drop everything I’ve got going on for a guy who put a spell on me without my knowledge. THEN called the cops on me after pretending to be my friend.” Grayson stopped walking.

He whispered, “I did the tracer spell for your protection. I noticed the wolves were paying attention to you this year, unlike last year.” I spat out, “That didn’t mean you had the right to place a spell on me without my permission.”

Grayson sighed, “Like the necklace you’re wearing. Did you give your permission for that?” I frowned. Was he saying my necklace was spelled? I pointed out, “The necklace was a gift that I accepted.”

Grayson smirked, “But you didn’t know it carried protection spells.” I retorted, “Protection spells are different from tracer spells. If you had put a protection spell on me, I would’ve been ok with that. You invaded my privacy.”

Grayson frowned, “I don’t know any spells that would help you.” I said, “So, you went with the one that invaded my privacy, and made me feel like I couldn’t pee in peace?” Grayson ran a hand through his hair.

He groaned, “This isn’t going how I thought it would. You’re in danger. I have an... uncle, who wants to help you.” I hissed, “Now you’re telling your relatives about me? Saying that I need help? I don’t need help. Unless he can help me with your weird new attitude towards me, I’m not interested.”

I tried to step around Grayson, but he blocked my path. He cautioned, “You need his help more than you know. Lucas isn’t the man he pretends to be.” I snorted, “YOU aren’t the person you pretend to be. Let’s make something clear here, Lucas is my mate.”

I moved my collar so he could my neck continuing, “I’m his and I’m marked. You and your uncle can shove your ‘help’ where the sun doesn’t shine.” I stormed around him after putting help in air quotes and got to my next class before the bell rang signaling lunch was over.

I walked into my last class and Chelsea laughed at the look on my face. She teased, “Who peed in your Cheerios?” I hissed, “Grayson. He told his family about me, and his uncle now wants to ‘help’ me. What even is that? Busybodies, I tell you. I survived on my freaking own for years, and this do-gooder family wants to help me now that I don’t need help. Where was their help last freaking year?! UGH!”

Chelsea frowned and rubbed my back. Valerie said, “Ryan won’t be happy Grayson approached you again.” I shrugged, “He was meeting someone. Probably his uncle for lunch. Come to think of it, he hasn’t been eating lunch I wanted to change the subject, so I conjured water bottles with straws that said bridesmaids. I looked in my backpack and squealed. I handed one to Chelsea, Sam, and Valerie. I asked them, “Would you guys be my bridesmaids?” They all answered simultaneously, “Yes.” Sam asked, “When’s the wedding?” I smiled, “Christmas Eve.” Concern gave way to contagious excitement.

I conjured different bottles for Haley and Lacy. For Katie, I conjured a maid of honor one. The girls were all thrilled, and we talked about it for several minutes. Eventually, Chelsea and I got to work on our lab for the day.

We finished it in plenty of time so I told her, “You know, I could pop you around away from Peter if you wanted. You’d have to tell me when he was coming, but I could do it.” Chelsea smirked, “We are going to keep that one in our back pocket for now.” I smiled, “You just let me know.”

We walked out of the class laughing, finding Peter and Drake waiting. Drake said, “No... no... the last time you guys came out of class laughing mischief was afoot.” I smiled, “I’m a fairy. Mischief is always afoot.”

Chelsea said, “Emmaline asked us to be her bridesmaids.” Peter sighed in relief, “That’s great, sugar baby momma.” Chelsea groaned, “Hopefully I give birth before your wedding Emmaline. It’s on Christmas Eve, Peter. Isn’t that fun?” Drake laughed, “You got pregnant at the end of August. You know werewolves are only pregnant for three months. You’ll have a little one at their wedding.”

I spotted Lacy waiting by my locker and skipped over to her. I handed her the water bottle. Her screech stopped all foot traffic in the hallway. She hugged me jumping up and down, “You don’t even have to ask. YES!” I laughed, “I’m glad you’re going to do it. Are you coming with us to Red Run today?” Lacy laughed, “Yes, since I don’t have a ride anywhere else.” I frowned, “I can have Ry come get you, or bring the car so you can go back.” Lacy quickly declined, “Heck no! I want to hang with the girls! Let’s go!” We picked up Valerie at the door, and we all got into Chelsea’s car.

Brad linked me, “I’m going to run to Red Run.” I replied, “Ok, be safe.” He snorted, “Yes, Emmaline.” We took off, and I closed my eyes. I thought about all the times I’d biked this path and smiled knowing those days were behind me. Peter announced, “We’re here. Everyone out.” Valerie and Lacy jumped out.

I heard Katie squeal, “Hi guys! Where’s my sister?” I laughed and jumped out, “Right here.” Katie ran to me and hugged me tight. She assured herself, “You’re still here.” I laughed, “I’m not going anywhere, Katie Cat.”

I gave her the water bottle and she smiled, “Yes, I’ll be your maid of honor. I just wanted it noted that this is weird. You getting married and all.” I laughed, “So noted.” She nodded, “I’ve thought of something to do to Dustin and Ryan. I want your opinion.” I snorted. This was going to be good.

Chelsea ushered us inside. Valerie went off with Ry and the rest of us filed into the kitchen for a snack. I asked, “What are you doing to Dusty and Ry?” Chelsea raised an eyebrow. Katie grinned, “To catch the she wolves up. My brothers not only hid Evie from me, but they also didn’t tell me about fighting. Or that Ryan got hurt. So, I thought of a teensy curse for them to remember not to cut me out of the loop.”

I smirked asking, “Which is?” Katie smiled, “At the end of every sentence I’m going to make them say Katie is the Queen.” I busted up laughing. Sam asked, “Can you really do that?” Katie nodded, “I thought a lot about it, and I’ll have to throw a few chants together, but I’m pretty sure I can.”

I laughed warning her, "They will retaliate." Katie smiled, "Won't that be fun?" Lacy laughed, "I'll never know how no one figured out that you all have fairy blood." Katie thought about it, "Actually, you're right. We like messing with each other, but we thought that was normal sibling stuff. Whatever, it will be funny! You all have to get Ryan to talk to you on the way to school tomorrow so you can enjoy my curse." I laughed. Lacy stood holding her hand over her heart, "I accept this mission."

We were laughing when Peter and Drake walked in. Drake said, "I don't like it, Peter. They are planning something." I laughed, "It's already planned." Peter groaned. Sam took pity on them, "You guys aren't in the firing zone for this one. This is a warlock/witch thing." Drake's eyes brightened. Katie explained her plan while they howled with laughter.

I grabbed Chelsea, "Let's get to work." She nodded. I couldn't hide my smile when I spotted her bag of peppermints on her nightstand. We worked for a while before Lacy, Valerie, Ry, and Katie came in. Lacy spoke for the group, "I declare you two stop working. At least for a break."

I smirked teasing her, "Well, if you declare it then what could we possibly do?" Chelsea snorted, "Yes, what could two Luna's possibly do if we didn't want to stop working?" I laughed. Lacy rolled her eyes at us, "Well, I wanted to ask you guys to be in my wedding." I immediately answered, "Yes." Chelsea smiled, "Of course." Lacy sat on the bed and looked down, "Chelsea, I was hoping you'd be my maid of honor." Chelsea started crying, "Of course!"

Peter came and stood in the doorway. He wearily asked, "Sugar baby momma, are you alright?" Chelsea patted her eyes, "Yes, I'm fine." Several pops sounded. Drake and Peter were growling. I noticed they couldn't get in for some reason.

I recoiled on the bed throwing myself in front of Chelsea. Ryan was engaging with one of the fairies that had appeared. There were ten of them. I immediately recognized the one from the mall. He smirked, "It's extremely convenient you two are together." He grabbed me and Chelsea then popped before I get my bearings. Thankfully, Lacy and Katie grabbed onto me at the last second. At least someone was thinking properly.

We popped into the field where I was whipped. I gagged, "I might be sick." The fairy frowned, "Popping shouldn't disorient you, Duchess." I said, "It doesn't. I don't have fond memories of this field." He shrugged introducing himself, "I am Bactu, the future father of your children. I can take you away from this place. Before anyone tries to link your wolves, know I have an earth fairy with me; he's made it so it won't work to reach your mates or pack. We can't have the wolves ruining my fun."

One of the other fairy's spoke, "We get the she wolfs to turn in for the money, you promised Bactu." Bactu waved them off, "Yes, yes, the one called Chelsea is yours. Do be careful, as you can see, she's glowing." I hissed at him.

Chelsea and Lacy growled. I spat out, "You can't have Chelsea, and the only person who will father my children is my mate. That's not happening for a while anyway. Since you're not him, let's just all be on our way."

Bactu frowned, "We will have powerful children. I am a powerful water fairy, and you're the Duchess." I sighed, "Yeah, not really into having children for power. That's a terrible reason to have kids. My sisters are Duchess' too."

Bactu sighed, "Yes, your human sensibilities, I forgot about that. Look, come with me to Faerie. You will be treated well, and I will allow you to see your father. You are his true heir with his mate. You are more powerful than your sisters. They are now eligible to be named Duchesses since you have been recognized. I'm sure Prince Marcious has already petitioned the crown for their titles. As of now, you are the only water Duchess."

My eyebrows raised and Katie started chanting. Now I was pissed, "Allow me? You'd ALLOW me to see my dad? My father is a Prince. Are you a prince? I'm pretty sure you don't allow me to do anything. Besides, when I tell Haley what you've done, she'll kill you. She's very murder-y when upset. Something tells me, this will upset her." I wasn't going to get into my sisters not being Duchesses. That was insane.

All the fairy's paled, one of the others spoke, "You speak of our Princess?" I nodded, "Yes, she's my cousin. You have to know that." The same one said, "Of course we know. We just didn't know if you did." One of the fairies fell to ground convulsing.

I looked over at my sister. Her eyes shined. Katie laughed and said, "Bad move, Bactu. I just got my sister back. You can't have her. You'll WISH the fairy princess came for your asses when I'm done with you." Katie created an astral projection of herself that started beating up fairies. I shrieked, "YOU CAN ASTRAL PROJECT?" Katie smirked, "Sit back and watch, little sister. I've got skills."

I smiled at her and stuck my tongue out at Bactu. He held his hands out and chanted. Chelsea and Lacy screamed. I whirled around and saw them beating their hands against an invisible ward. I faced Bactu asking, "What did you do?" Bactu smirked, "I encased them in what is essentially an invisible box." I rolled my eyes, "Are you afraid to face wolves?" He hissed at me.

Lucas was able to reach me. The earth fairy must have messed something up. My attention was drawn to the fairy who popped over to Chelsea and Lacy. He smiled, “You’ll be easy to kill now that you are trapped, and then I’ll take the glowing mate of the Alpha and collect my money.” He stepped towards Lacy.

I let out an enraged scream. I popped in front of him, my hands were glowing blue. My light was several steps ahead of me. I liked it. I touched him. His screams turned to sputters as he drowned then turned to water. Another fairy popped in front of me. I conjured an icicle and slit his throat. I heard a laugh.

I turned around. Bactu was clapping. He exclaimed, “You are delightful, duchess! I will just handle your sister, then we will be off.” I heard the cavalry arrive. Bactu popped behind Katie. All my blood was pounding in my veins. He was going to hurt my sister. She’d dropped her astral projection, so I knew it was really her. I didn’t hesitate, I popped in front of my sister to save her life.

I felt the knife slide into me. Pain burst through me like a light turning on. I couldn’t even gasp for breath. I could feel panic in my chest, but I didn’t think it was mine. My light was comforting me. I could swear my light seems certain we would be ok. Katie used the shadows to kill Bactu. I knew she’d controlled them once before. Good for her. You had to be really powerful to use the shadows, and they had to agree you were worthy. The shadows didn’t do anything for anyone not worthy. I was certain all my siblings were worthy. If the shadows were worth anything, they would too.

All I wanted was for Lucas to hold me. I felt the change coming this time as I turned to water. Crap! I didn’t need this right now. I needed a doctor or Haley; probably both. I came to awareness in a beautiful place with the clearest water I’d ever seen. I heard fingers snap. I had clothes on now. I couldn’t move though. I was floating on my back. I began to hyperventilate. Where was I?

A man spoke, “Do not fear, my child, I am here.” I groaned trying to locate the voice. It sounded familiar. I had heard that voice somewhere before. I asked, “Where is here? Who are you?” The voice laughed then someone popped beside me.

I whispered, “I know you.” The man nodded, “You do, my child.” I rambled, “You’re the guy I met with my mom. Her friend, we had coffee with you every time you came to town... but why would you be here... Are...” I couldn’t finish the thought, but everything in me was telling me that this was my dad.

Finally, I managed “Are you my dad?” He smiled, “I am. My name is Marcious. I hear you go by Emmaline now.” I nodded, “Yes.” His eyes were sad, “I am very sorry for the things that happened to you. I thought I was protecting you. If I knew

your mother wasn't capable, I would've tucked you away with someone who was able to take care of you."

I shrugged, "It's not your fault. She was capable, she just chose David." Marcious frowned, "Yes, I want to hear her reasons, but I am deeply disappointed in her. She knows she's my mate. David is a passing fancy. Her loyalty should've been with you, her mate's true child."

I didn't really want to get into that. I stated, "It wasn't. Where are we? Lucas will be worried." Marcious laughed, "We are in Faerie. You brought yourself to the healing waters here. How did you get stabbed? Whoever did so will rue the day they harmed a child of mine."

I sighed, "Bactu tried to take me. He didn't actually mean to stab me. He was going to kill my sister, Katie. I popped in front of her." Marcious' face turned dark, "Bactu stabbed you?" I nodded. Marcious stated, "He will die, I promise you that." I was feeling much better. I told him, "He's dead. My sister used the shadows to kill him."

Marcious laughed asking, "Katie Forrester can use the powers of the shadows? She's certainly kept that quiet." I heard another pop, "Hello, sister and father. Haley called saying you would be here. She's coming with her wolf." I sighed in relief, "Is Lucas coming with her?" Hexxi bit her lip not answering me.

My dad responded, "Your wolf cannot come to Faerie." I started to cry, "Why? I want him here! Why can't he come?" Hexxi answered, "He's not a fairy." I cried, "I don't care. I want him!" Part of me knew I was being irrational as I sobbed, lying flat on my back, but I couldn't help it. Marcious sighed, "You will be quite emotional since you turned to water and traveled realms." I heard a pop again.

Katie screamed, "EVIE!" I was stunned to hear my sister's voice. I heard water sloshing around. I was in her arms before I knew it. She yelled at me, "What were you thinking?" I sniffled, "That you being able to control the shadows is really impressive. I want Lucas, Katie."

Katie frowned, "Haley said he couldn't come." Dusty and Ry grabbed my hands. Dusty calmly said, "It's ok, Evie." I cried, "No, it's not! I need him! He was so scared. I can feel how upset he is, it's tearing me apart."

Marcious observed, "You've tied your souls then." Haley answered, "Yes, she has. Emmaline it's ok, I'll call Aiden, we will get Lucas here." I concentrated on her words and began to calm down. She took out her phone, speaking fealish. I noticed more and more fairies creeping around the healing waters. I saw Eric standing on the bank by the water glaring at the fairies who were approaching.

Haley handed her phone to my dad who sighed and started speaking in fealish. Haley smiled, “Don’t worry, cousin. Aiden will handle it. Marcious is giving permission to declare Lucas a consort of the Duchess.”

I hiccupped, “Is that how Eric’s here?” She nodded, “He’s been declared my consort. He’s allowed here whenever he wants to be, as Lucas will be shortly. Hexxi, can you find those who were involved? Katie, how many got away?”

Katie grimaced, “Three. The main one’s name was Bactu.” Hexxi hissed, “I’ll get them. Where am I taking them?” Haley said, “My home, give them to my brothers in law. Once you do that, please go get Lucas.” Hexxi nodded once and popped away.

Marcious spoke, “Katie, you need to let her go so she can keep healing. Only a mate can touch another in the healing waters.” Katie glared at him but let me go. Marcious continued, “I would like you to stay here for the night, Emmaline. It’s best to stay here for the evening to allow the realm to make you feel better.” I said, “I won’t stay without Lucas.” Marcious snorted, “He’ll be here shortly. You all are welcome at my home, including the princess and her consort.” I smiled at Haley who smiled back.

Haley gently petted my head, “I’d heal you, but the process already started in the healing waters. It’s best to let the water work to restore you back to your normal state.” I nodded, “I don’t really get it but alright.”

Haley laughed, “It’s something about the healing water. It... offends the healing water if a healer heals once the work has started. Especially in the water.” Eric snorted. I muttered, “Sounds about right. Offending water and what not.” Marcious seriously said, “Water is not something to offend. It can flood, cause a tsunami, and so on.” He had a point. I admitted, “That makes sense.”

I heard a pop. I looked around and everything settled when I saw Lucas. I wanted to cry, and realized I was. He cut through the water gracefully. I could think better in his arms. I found myself annoyed I’d turned to water again. UGH! I just got back to normal, and now I was going to be an emotional wreck again. Fabulous.

We got onto the subject of training. My muscles were already sore anticipating what a Hackura princess meant by more intense. I decided not to think about that and took in the beauty around me. This was the most beautiful place I’d ever seen. I found myself wanting to spend the night.

I was worried about my friends though. Lacy and Chelsea were probably beside themselves. Poor Sam was probably crying to Drake about how she wasn’t around when this stuff happened. Something I’m sure Drake was not unhappy about.

I really wanted Haley here. This was her home turf. The rest of us didn't know what to expect here, but she did. Eric didn't seem thrilled they were staying. I felt a little bad, but Haley was the only one of our group who'd been here. I knew it was selfish, but we really did need her, she had experience with fairies. I couldn't help but marvel at the area as we walked to my dad's home.

The ground felt like it was alive. This was the greenest place I'd ever seen. There was beauty everywhere you looked from the flowers all the way to the springs. I saw what looked like golden whips flying around a forest.

I broke our silence, "What are the golden wisps?" Haley answered, "Those are prixles. They can be fun. They make sure the forest stays beautiful and green. They love trees." I smiled, "Did you have any prixle friends?"

Haley shrugged, "They weren't mean to me, but they don't care about fairy things. They care about trees. So long as you don't harm trees, they don't bother you." I noticed Eric was tightly gripping her hand.

I gasped when a mansion came into view. I asked my dad, "Is this your home?" He laughed, "It is my home. I'll take you to your rooms." I was stunned, "I have rooms?" Marcious smiled, "All my children have rooms here, just in case." Lucas tensed, glancing at Eric.

I followed my dad up the stairs. When he opened the door to my rooms, I found myself speechless. This was not a room. This was a house inside a house. There were five additional bedrooms with the doors open. I saw the double doors leading to what was obviously my room.

My anger towards my mother snapped back within me as everyone went to settle into their room. I walked over to my pillow, picked it up, and screamed into it. Before I knew it, I was crying. I felt Lucas rubbing my back. He comforted, "It's alright, baby girl."

I screamed one last time then turned to face him, "I could've had all this. He wanted me, Lucas. I've met him before. He would come see my mom and I every so often. He even gave me presents sometimes. She knew which ones were from him in my room. She didn't even give them to me. She could've told him David found out and had him take me to someone who would've watched out for me. I lived in a tent when this was here the whole time! Why did she do this to me?" I broke down sobbing and Lucas rocked me in his arms.

Lucas rubbed my back, "I don't know. Only your mother can answer those questions." I sighed, "I know that. I'm just... I feel like I'm all over the place again." Lucas said, "I'm sure you do. I can't say I'm in a great place myself. I saw

you stabbed, baby girl. Then you disappeared. When Haley said you'd gone to Faerie..." He trailed off.

Eventually he continued, "I've never been so worried. I'd have fought to get you back; it was my first thought." I held onto him like he was my lifeline. Maybe he was. I explained, "I became hysterical when they said you couldn't come. Haley fixed it. Is there anything she can't fix?" Lucas laughed, "I haven't seen much she can't. Haley Conners is a force of nature." I smiled, "That she is."

I could feel Lucas' need to reconnect in my chest. I kissed him lazily and licked his lip. He granted my request, opening his mouth. I explored his mouth with mine. He groaned when I tried to snap us naked. He ended up with his shirt on, but I'd gotten everything else off. I was completely naked and given that I'd been stabbed and transported realms; I thought I did a good job. Lucas removed his shirt in one swift move.

He pushed me back onto the bed. I rambled, "Do you do anything that's not sexy? I'm just asking for my lady parts because they jump up and down when you do things like that." Lucas laughed then kissed me. He teased, "I just took off my shirt, baby girl." I snorted, "You took your shirt off like a flawless GQ model."

Lucas chuckled and trailed kisses down my body. I jerked when he bit the inside of my thigh unexpectedly. Lucas growled, "You're going to stop giving me heart attacks, my little fairy." Before I could respond his tongue was on my clit. I gasped taking several seconds before managing to say, "I didn't mean to."

He didn't reply. His tongue attacked me while his arms held me in place. He brought me to the edge multiple times, but he didn't let me come. I was panting impatiently. I begged, "Please, Alpha. Please!" He smirked climbing up my body. He slammed into me, "No popping in front of knives." I rephrased his statement, "No popping in front of knives without a plan." Lucas grunted his acceptance and finally let me come.

We were laying there cuddling when Lucas took out his phone. He handed it to me explaining, "You can call Lacy. She'll circulate it to everyone that you're ok." I kissed his cheek, "Thank you." I quickly dialed her number. She answered breathlessly, "Lucas? Is she ok? Are you coming back?"

I started to cry, "I'm fine, Lacy. We are staying the night at my dad's house. We will back tomorrow." Lacy asked, "Why are you crying? Oh crap, it's because you turned to water. You're having another water fairy period."

I laughed, "Yup. Just get the chocolate ready." Lacy teased, "You say that, but I'm going to tell Travis you said that. He can't STAND a crying woman. He'll have

caches of chocolate all over the house. Actually, so will Dylan. The Frosts do not do well with crying.” I laughed, “Whatever makes you happy.”

Lacy snorted, “Dylan wants to talk to Lucas.” I handed the phone to Lucas. Lucas greeted him, “Hi, Dylan.” He listened for several moments before saying, “I will take notes for you and report back in full any and all fun stories.” Lucas laughed.

I snapped us clothes when someone knocked on the door. He didn’t end up with a shirt, but I had on underwear. Progress. Lucas hung up with Dylan when I stood to answer the door. There was female fairy standing there. She smiled at me then came into the room. Her eyes raked up and down Lucas’ body.

I felt my fury snap. I hissed, “If you’re quite done ogling my mate and fiancé, you could tell me what you want.” The fairy glanced at me in shock. Lucas choked out a laugh.

Haley and Eric entered the room. The fairy glanced at Eric with open lust. Well, I knew she was about to get hers. Maybe Haley would knock out one of her teeth. Haley popped in front of her eyes blazing gold.

I whispered, “Ha-ha.” Lucas and Eric snickered. Haley stated, “I’ll punch you, bitch. I’m not in the FUCKING mood to watch fairy’s lust after my husband. He doesn’t want you, and neither does my lion.”

My siblings came in. Haley pointed at my brothers, “Neither do those two guys. Now, What. Do. You. Want?”

I laughed. She was such an interesting person. The fairy was now flustered, “We don’t get wolves here often, and the rumors about how they hold up…” Haley said, “Do not finish that fucking sentence. Don’t you DARE talk about my mate in bed. Don’t you do it.” The fairy quickly stammered, “I apologize Princess. No disrespect was intended. I was just looking.”

Haley hissed, “Offense taken, I’m offended. Emmaline, are you offended?” I looked at Lucas before agreeing, “A little bit, yeah.” Haley smirked, “See? Offended. What do you want?” The fairy smiled, “I really find you more fun this way, Princess.” Haley seethed in anger. My siblings took a step back. Lucas glanced at Eric. I smiled crossing my arms in front of me.

Haley responded, “I’d like for you to take a second and imagine how much that means to me.” Katie did a slow clap. Dusty and Ry snorted. The fairy’s grin broadened. I wondered if she knew how close she was to being punched in the face.

The fairy stated, “Marcious wanted me to bring you down for dinner.” Haley snapped and all of us were in formal gowns and tuxedos. She held out her hand to me and Eric. Everyone grabbed onto someone.

The fairy laughed as we popped to a dining room. An immaculate dining room. I gasped at the blue room with a massive oak carved table with beautiful symbols etched into it. Marcious’ voice boomed, “Lovely, our guests are here. Let’s sit!” He came over to me twirling me around. He kissed the top of my head praising, “You look stunning, Emmaline.”

I hadn’t looked at the dress Haley had snapped. I looked down and gasped. She had me in a royal blue dress that was fitted until my knees then flared out. It has spaghetti straps, and a V neck. Katie said, “I LOVE the back of her dress! It’s the sheer material for me... Wow!”

Lucas growled possessively and put an arm around me. I noticed Haley had snapped his tie to match my dress. She shot me a wink. I took in her appearance. She looked both glamorous and ready for war. She was in a red dress with long sleeves, and a sweetheart neckline. It had an empire waist and tapered out from there, but it had a long slit up the front to her mid-thigh. Eric was also possessively wrapped around her.

I glanced at Katie, who Ry and Dusty had surrounded with angry glares being thrown at many fairy men. Katie was in an emerald dress that had an A-line bodice. It was a halter top that her boobs looked amazing in. The top was beaded and gathered at a belt at her waist then went into a solid skirt. Her dress also had a slit up her leg.

Katie laughed complimenting, “You’re pretty good at fashion, Princess Haley. Thank you for the dress.” Haley smiled, “Of course.” Dusty said, “You could’ve made them look less like fairy bait.” Haley responded, “It’s not fairy bait. It’s an appropriate dress for dinner in Faerie. No one is fairy bait. We don’t have bait.”

Eric snorted, “He means people will be drawn to you three.” Haley rolled her eyes, “I’d kick their ass if they tried, and so would Emmaline. Something tells me Katie doesn’t let people give her unwanted attention either. So, get your sexist warlock ass in a chair.” Katie and I laughed aloud at the shocked look on Dusty’s face.

Haley walked to the table and pointed at my seat next to her. Eric was on her other side and Lucas was on mine. Everyone sat once Haley did, and food was brought out. It was an elegant five course meal ending with a Lobster Frittata dish. I felt like I fit in here because I loved seafood. I guess that made sense since I was a water fairy.

When everyone finished their meal, Haley stood nodding to Marcious who stood as well. She led the way to the main room where everyone descended on me. One greeted me throwing a million questions at me, “Hello, Duchess Emmaline. The announcement about your consort went out, and everyone’s going crazy. Can you believe it? We get to meet you, and you’re with your wolf Consort. Are you excited or your concupiscence? Princess Haley and Bexley’s wolves lasted the whole time. Can I come to your pack and find my new partner for mine?”

Everyone was clamoring around me, not even waiting for answers. I was getting overwhelmed. My dad spoke, “You’re forgetting the Duchess turned to water today, and was healed in the healing waters. I’d watch out before you overwhelm or anger her.” Everyone took several steps back except Lucas.

I smiled at my dad. I mouthed, “Thank you.” He smiled back at me. I slowly edged out of the room while everyone was excitedly talking. I noticed Haley slip out while Katie commanded the room. All the male fairies were openly flirting with Katie much to Ry and Dusty’s displeasure.

I slunk against the wall and followed Haley outside. She was standing at the water’s edge right outside the back door. I asked her, “Are you alright?” Haley turned, “It’s not the ocean, but the sound of the water makes me feel safe.” I smiled, “Isn’t that weird that the water calms a sky and earth fairy?” Haley shrugged, “Probably. It has to do with my dad. Their realm has an ocean, and I felt safe there with my him.”

I frowned asking, “But you don’t feel safe here?” Haley smiled, “I was safe here and in the fire territory. I just didn’t get to come here often.” I was being selfish with her. I whispered, “You don’t have to stay, Haley.”

Haley smiled, “Sometimes, we face our fears for those we love. You don’t know these people, and I do. Lucas is at ease with Eric here, and Eric doesn’t want to leave Lucas. While simultaneously being worried about me being here. His feelings are conflicting. I will be fine. I survived thirteen years here. What’s another night?”

I tried to ease her feelings, “It would’ve taken us a hell of a lot longer to get ready without you.” Haley laughed, “You’d have had to deal with the fairy lady in waiting ogling your brothers and Lucas if I wasn’t here. She would’ve come up earlier to get you and them ready.” I frowned, “I wouldn’t have liked that.” Haley laughed, “That’s probably an understatement. You might have turned her to water since she would’ve openly flirted with Lucas.”

I could feel my hands begin to turn blue. I yelled, “He’s MINE!” Haley smirked, “I know and now so does she. Fairies don’t feel how wolves do about mates. As I’ve

explained to you before, it's an adjustment for them when they see mated wolves. We should probably get back in there before our mates kill someone."

We walked back inside together. Haley muttered, "Shit." A fairy female was sitting in Lucas's lap. Fury filled me. Haley grabbed my hand, but I brushed hers away. I yelled, "What the HELL do you think you're doing?" My dad smirked while Eric tried not to laugh. Lucas looked really annoyed.

Everyone stared at me. I was so mad I wished that an expensive looking vase would hit her upside the head. My jaw dropped when it flew across the room hitting her directly where I'd wanted it to. She fell to the ground.

Haley came up beside me, "Take a deep breath, and think about all the vases being set down." I looked around and noticed all the vases appeared to be floating. I don't know why, but I thought they were awaiting a command from me or something. I thought about them being set down.

Lucas had his arms around me. He linked me, "It's ok, baby girl." I responded, "WHY WAS SHE ON YOUR LAP?!" He didn't wince but he must have wanted to. He calmly explained, "I was talking to Eric, not paying attention. She tripped on purpose and fell into my lap. I was about to get her off of me when you walked in."

My dad said, "In case anyone missed me saying my daughter turned to water earlier tonight, allow me to repeat myself. I would advise you to leave her consort alone. We would hate to have an accident where someone was turned to water." I snorted, but I was considering it.

I grabbed Lucas leading him outside. I pushed him against the house and kissed him. I pulled back, "No fairies except me sit in your lap. Got it?" Lucas smirked, "I've got it, little fairy." I kissed his neck hard. I intentionally left lipstick on his neck.

I grabbed his hand and led him back inside. Ry was instantly at my side asking, "Are you ok?" I nodded not trusting myself not to burst into tears. Haley came over with Eric, Dusty, and Katie. I asked, "How did I do that?" Haley smiled, "You activated your telekinesis power." I sighed, "You did say that you thought I had telekinesis. I just got so mad and wanted a vase to hit her. Not all of them though."

My dad joined our group laughing, "My youngest daughter is quite powerful. You are delightful." I frowned, "I'm sorry I ruined your dinner." Haley snorted before my dad's booming laughter filled the room. He waved his hands, "Ruined? No, no, my beautiful daughter. You made my dinner. We thrive on drama. It was quite

boring apart from everyone's initial reaction to you all popping in. No, this was much better.”

Haley confirmed, “He’s right. This was way more entertaining to them.” I linked Lucas, “That’s weird.” Lucas said, “It’s different for sure.” My dad cleared his throat, “I’d like to speak to you for a minute, Emmaline.” I looked at Lucas. He linked me, “It’s whatever you want to do here, baby girl.”

I sighed and held out my hand for Marcious to take in his. He popped us to a boat in the middle of a beautiful river. I asked, “Where are we?” He smiled, “We are in the heart of the water fairy territory. This is a special place we always bring our children.” There was ivy growing down covering the entrance.

I couldn’t stop my gasp when we entered. It was beautiful. There was a waterfall flowing into a drop pool with the clearest water. There were fish, turtles, and even sea otters swimming all over. I looked down and picked up a starfish. After admiring it, I gently put it back as we continued.

My dad popped us to land and smiled at him. He asked me, “Do you like it?” I smiled, “I do. It’s beautiful here.” He pointed at a fish, turtle, and otter, “Those are your animals. I brought them here as babies when I heard your mother had given birth to you. You can name them.” The animals he pointed at came right up to me. I laughed as the otter began to play climbing over me.

I told him, “I’ll call you Cooper.” The otter made a noise I thought was approval. I looked at the turtle, “I’ll call you Simon.” The turtle shook its head and I laughed, “You don’t like Simon?” My dad chuckled, “The turtle is a she.” I laughed, “I see. Simon won’t do then. How about Speedy?” The turtle nodded.

I looked at the fish. It was a pretty blue and yellow color. “Do you like the name Blue?” The fish jumped out of the water and back in. “I’m taking that as a yes. Blue, Speedy, and Cooper.” I jumped in and played with them for a while.

Eventually, I popped back to my dad and snapped myself dry. Success! I asked, “Do I call you Marcious? If I remember right, you had me call you Marc when I met you before.” He smiled, “You may call me what you wish. For now, Marc is fine if you aren’t comfortable with a term of endearment. My other girls call me dad, but I understand if you don’t want to.” I nodded.

He asked, “Do you still have the presents I gave you? I have more for every birthday and other such occasions.” I frowned, “My mom didn’t pack them when I was forced out.” His fist tightened, “I will get them from her. She won’t know you’ve been found. Never mind, I’ll just take them. You’ll have them back; they were meant for you.”

I smiled, "That would be nice. I enjoyed the bracelet with all the animals on it. Dolphins were a favorite of mine." My dad smiled, "Then one will be added to this place for you." I gaped, "You can get me a dolphin?" He laughed, "Of course I can." I smiled.

I reached over placing my hand on his, "I'm sorry I didn't ask to see you sooner. It's been a crazy time, and until Haley explained her past to me... I didn't understand why you would stay away. I suffered so much on my own, but what she went through was barbaric. I understand why you didn't want her uncle to find me. Thank you for protecting me from him."

My dad smiled, "You are wise beyond your years. He was my cousin, but I disowned him long ago. I thought he'd killed your sister Maribella." I gasped, "What?" He nodded, "Yes, I had found out what he was doing when I went to visit her. I couldn't find her and did some digging. By the time I sent someone in to find her, they saw a memory from Fabian leaving her to die."

Tears filled my eyes at the thought of Maribella being dead. My dad continued, "Haley saved her, which of course wasn't in the man's vision. They thought they were dead, but Haley saved many of them. She thought they were humans and sent them into your realm to hide. When I found out she was alive, I thought you were safe with your mother. So, I focused on finding Maribella." I nodded.

I asked, "Do you miss my mom?" He smiled, "Not in the way I'd imagine you would miss your wolf. I wish to see her, but I am with my Palthia right now. As angry as I am at your mother at this moment, I dare say she wouldn't like seeing me now."

I asked, "Haven't you seen her though? I heard you were messing with David." My dad smiled, "I don't have to see either of them to do that. They haven't been home, and I have many water fairies at my disposal. I am glad you have befriended your cousin. She is an incredible ally. She does not trust easily but seems quite protective of you."

I smiled, "She's my fairy godmother." He laughed, "Yes, she called Aiden and asked him if that was a real thing. She was going to skin hers. It entertained many of us, but now our Princess seems to entertain us more often than she does not." I agreed, "She's great."

He replied, "As are you. You are my daughter, and you are just as beautiful as I knew you'd be. You'll be getting a baby brother here soon. My Palthia and I asked Aiden to use Fabian's research so that we could have a child. He should be here in a few months."

I smiled hugging him, “That’s great. Congratulations.” My dad smiled, “I’m going to be a better parent than I was with you girls. Those of you who are partial fairies, I failed you. I wasn’t trying to, but I did.” I frowned, “You had an impossible choice. You protected us from a monster. You couldn’t have known what my mother would’ve done.”

He smiled sadly, “I should’ve. I didn’t watch her closely because she was my mate. I don’t have sight like Haley’s mother, but I have a fraction of that. If I’d have focused, I should’ve been able to see you. Ever since I found out you weren’t with her, I tried but couldn’t find you. I am very sorry about Bactu. I gave Aiden my blessing to declare your wolf a consort because I’ve seen you two together. He truly is your soul half.”

I tilted my head asking, “You saw us? You didn’t see him until today...” He looked a little sheepish. I laughed, “You’ve seen us before today.” He laughed, “My sharp-witted little girl, I have seen you with your wolf many times. I didn’t approach you because I respected your needing time, but I wanted to see you. I needed to know that you were ok. I was there the day after Haley saved you from that wretched council. They are LUCKY she killed them.” I shivered knowing he meant it. My family was quite murder-y at times.

Marcious smiled, “Fairies are protective of their children. Anyway, I have seen your wolf’s love for you. Since you are the soul searcher, he’s the best mate for you. As much as I wanted it to be a fairy so I could see you more often; it would’ve hurt you to be mated to a fairy. We are fickle people.” I agreed with him.

Eventually he held out his hand, “Let’s get you back before your wolf loses it. Shall we?” I grabbed his hand and he popped us back into my room. Lucas was pacing. I asked, “Lucas, are you alright?”

He ran to me breathing in my scent. He whispered, “I’m fine. You’re back.” I nodded, “Of course I am.” Haley and Eric left our room as did my dad. Lucas and I fell asleep holding each other. Before I drifted off, I thought this was a great first trip here. It was also a good start to a real relationship with my dad now that I knew that’s what he was.