

Enacting the Plan

Lucas couldn't take his eyes off Emmaline. I linked Eric, "This place is beautiful, but I can't look away from her." Eric replied, "It is beautiful. I understand that inclination all too well. We should find time to run before we leave. Thor loves running here." It was humorous that Eric's wolf changed his name because Haley had called him Thor.

I linked Eric, "Prixles are why this land is so fertile and green? Seriously all the colors are so bright. I've never seen anything like this." Eric replied, "Fairy's like beautiful things, and they are all part of the elements of the earth. I think they all keep it this way." I glanced at Haley. She looked ok, but she always did.

I asked, "Is she ok?" Eric replied, "She's not numb yet, so she's not terrible. She is not ok though." I replied, "I'm grateful to her for staying. I know it means a lot to Emmaline, and I'm more comfortable with you here." Eric responded, "That's my mate, selfless to a fault." He wasn't wrong.

Observing Emmaline, it was written all over her face that she already loved it here. Her joy was so evident. Marcious saw it too and sent me a wink. I wanted to groan. Emmaline would want to come back to this realm. Even her siblings were blown away by the beauty.

I linked Eric, "I don't want her here without me, but Emmaline clearly loves it here. I'd worry they'd want to take her and keep her here." Eric shrugged, "I don't have advice on that one. Haley doesn't come here without me or someone I trust. She has a past here that Emmaline doesn't. To her this magical enchanted realm is just that." I knew he was right.

When Marcious' home came into view I linked Eric, "You have GOT to be kidding me." Eric smirked, "You should see the castle. I'm beginning to think all the homes here are magical." I grimaced. They probably were.

Marcious led us through his home to Emmaline's rooms. She was reeling. I could feel her feelings were morphing into anger. I was worried we were headed for a full blown meltdown. When she saw the surroundings her emotions were at war with each other. She loved it, but she was angry. I couldn't help but feel she had every right to be pissed.

I linked Eric, "She's mad." Eric replied, "I think I would be too in her situation. Haley is worried." I agreed, "I would be mad too. You guys might want to get everyone into their own rooms. Hopefully, our room is soundproof." Eric replied, "Haley said all royals rooms are soundproofed."

She let go of her anger when we were alone. My heart broke for her. This was a very nice place, and if not for Fabian; she could've been here with her father. Emmaline said she felt all over the place emotionally, and I felt the same.

My mind kept replaying her stabbing. Dominic was growling and grumbling in my head. I'd watched her turn to water again. I knew she needed medical attention. My whole world can just turn to water and not be near me. Thank GOD if she did it in our territory then there's a lake right there. I was going to have to get everyone to map out the bodies of water in my territory.

I linked Dylan not sure if it would work, "Dylan, I need a comprehensive map of the bodies of water in our territory." Dylan snorted, "A link from Faerie. I feel so special. I am already compiling said map. I assume Emmaline is alright?" I was happy I could still reach him. I let him know, "She is fine."

Emmaline surprised me by initiating things between us. Dominic was prancing in my mind that everything we do is sexy to our mate. He asked me, "What's a GQ model? Is that good?" I assured him, "Yes, Dominic. She complimented us." We reconnected for hours.

I gave Emmaline my phone which quickly resulting in Dylan wanting to talk. Of course. He could just link me. The second the phone was in my hand Dylan immediately said, "You're staying the night? You could've linked me that information earlier. I'm here doing boring things like scouring the territory for bodies of water. You don't even appreciate the entertainment that is fairies, and you're in their realm? Forget nothing! I need to know everything they do." I assured him I would.

Emmaline went to answer the door. Dylan pulled my attention back to him, "Seriously Lucas, I don't like not being there with you. I feel very twitchy about it. Anything could happen." I told him, "I'll link you if there are problems. Bexley can bring you here if it comes to that." Dylan accepted that and we hung up.

A female fairy stepped into the room. It was not going well. I linked Eric, "We might need Haley before Emmaline turns this fairy to water." Eric laughed, "We are on our way." I warned him, "There's a fairy here eye fucking me." They joined us, and it went poorly.

I asked Eric, "Will Haley kill her?" Eric replied, "Probably not. Had she made a move on either of us, she absolutely would kill her." The fairy got over her fear and decided this side of Haley was entertaining. I asked, "How about now? Because... this is going downhill fast."

Eric snorted, "She's not that mad yet, only annoyed. She hates it when full blooded fairy's say she's entertaining now." I admitted, "That's understandable. She was

always this way. They forced her hide everything to survive. She could've been this way the whole time." Eric nodded.

The fairy finally got to the point. Eric linked me, "Dinner. Wonderful. Prepare to see your mate leered at. Watch your back down there. The females act like we are fairy men not wolves." I wanted to groan. This was going to be an evening I really needed Dylan, and he wasn't here.

I tensed when we were popped downstairs. I linked Eric, "There are a lot of fairies here." Eric replied, "I know, but this is normal. Apart from when we came for her mother's funeral, meals are high attendance events."

I growled at the fairies leering at my mate. Eric said, "Welcome to Faerie." I growled back, "Haley could've snapped them different dresses." Eric snorted, "This is what they all look like here. I'm glad she's taken my comments about slits seriously."

I glanced at Haley who looked stunning and asked, "Slits?" Eric smirked, "Slits make it easier to claim her. The bonus is it proves to all these mother fuckers she's mine." I looked at Emmaline's dress. It was blue with a low front and back with a sheer portion to the back. I grumbled, "Emmaline's dress doesn't have a slit." Eric smirked, "I'll talk to her about that oversight."

that fairy?" Eric nodded. I snorted, "I couldn't even think properly to figure that out." I looked at Katie with respect. My eyes slid to her siblings.

I linked Eric "It would stand to reason they all can control the shadows. Ryan is Katie's twin, and Dustin is stronger than both of them." Eric considered, "That is likely, yes. Did you know Katie could do that? I had Caleb pull our files on the Forrester children. It's not in there. They've kept this close to their chests." I shook my head, "I've read their files so many times now that we know their relationship with Emmaline. We don't have that information."

I linked Dylan, "Ask Nick if their notes on any of the Forrester children show they can control the shadows." Dylan replied, "Umm his name is Alpha Nick. You're a day late a dollar short to that party. I already asked because we didn't have it, and if Beta McAlister was keeping secrets, I would be oh so sad. Have no fear, I do not need to be mopey sad Dylan. Red Run didn't know."

I replied, "Neither did Eric. Send a memo that we are keeping that quiet. I don't need David finding out and coming to see his children." Dylan said, "This is not my first day on the job, Lucas. Let's get to the important details. Are you taking detailed notes of this trip?"

I snorted, “So far, I’m being eye fucked by all the females. I’m glaring at all the males who DARE to look at Emmaline.” Dylan snorted, “I can’t believe I’m missing this. It’s like they want you and King Alpha Prick to go on a killing rampage. Beta Caleb and I are needed. Forget nothing!” He was probably right. We did need our Beta’s.

The meal was delicious. I asked Eric, “Are meals always like this here?” Eric replied, “The seafood seems to be designated to the water fairy meals. Every meal I’ve had here is good though. I haven’t had seafood until today.” I shrugged, “Makes sense.”

Once we finished eating Eric linked me, “Follow Haley and I out.” Thank god he knew what to do. We were surrounded the second we stopped walking. Eric linked, “Told you they’d ask about concupiscence partners.” I groaned, “They can stick around your territory. You have Haley’s Hackura brothers to kill them if need be.” Eric smirked, “Neither you nor I need the Hackura to kill a fairy.” I conceded his point.

Katie easily realized Emmaline was overwhelmed. She commanded the attention of the room, “So, who here can help me and my brothers understand our Fae lineage and heritage?” She was smooth. I linked Eric, “Couldn’t Haley tell her?” Eric nodded, “Yes, but they haven’t asked. I’m not sure any of them care. She said it to distract them.”

Several men surrounded Katie, clamoring to answer her questions. Dustin and Ryan flanked Katie while I moved to follow Emmaline. Eric linked me, “She’s with Haley. They are just right outside.” I sighed but backed off.

Eric linked me, “We are ready to enact your plan. Jackson, Harold, Darrin, and our warriors will be standing by. Alpha Chase, Alpha Sophia, Alpha Nathan, Alpha Stephen, and Alpha Nick are also going to be waiting. Alpha Theo agreed to be back up for me.” I winced. I wondered how he’d convinced him to have any part of anything involving me.

I shook the pain of that aside. I told him, “Peter and Drake want to be there as well, but we don’t want to tip off Emmaline.” Eric sighed admitting, “Haley has a plan.” I grimaced asking, “What’s her plan?” Eric shrugged, “I don’t know. I just know she has one. I’m technically lying to her about Emmaline knowing the plan. I’ve implied she knows, but never directly said she does. I’ve been hanging around so many damn fairies evading has come easy to me. Haley has no clue I’m doing it, and I feel too guilty to ask her what she's planning.”

I asked, “How do you know she has a plan then?” Eric looked at me incredulously, “I know my wife. Bjourn and Marcus ask her questions and she evades. She has a

plan, but I have complete faith her plan won't interfere with ours. It's probably adding to it." I nodded.

Two fairy females fake tripped in front of me and Eric. On instinct, I put my hands out to catch her, and she ended up in my lap. Eric knew better apparently because he just pushed the fairy that was about to fall in his lap away. Before his fairy landed on the ground she popped to a standing position. Shit. Of course, they could pop before they hit the ground. The fairy in my lap smugly looked around the room.

Eric whispered, "I'd get her out of your lap. Haley and Emmaline are coming back." I grumbled, "You could've reminded me to override my instincts to catch her from falling." Eric shrugged, "I forget other people are nicer than me." I wished I'd done what he did. Emmaline was pissed.

She was red faced mad, and I could feel her anger pulsating in my chest. I linked Eric, "If her hands glow blue, don't get in front of her." Eric advised, "Push the fairy to the side. NOW!" I immediately followed Eric's direction and a vase hit the fairy in the head, knocking her to the ground. If I hadn't moved her, it would've hit me too.

I linked Eric, "What the hell is with all the floating vases?" Eric snorted, "It seems Emmaline has telekinesis. So does EJ. Upsetting him is hazardous and has been on several occasions. NEVER tell my son he can't have his mother if that's what he wants. Caleb got in the way of a plate that was going to hit someone who told him he couldn't have Haley." I wanted to push, but something told me I didn't want to.

I linked Dylan, "Who did Caleb take a plate to the face for?" Dylan snorted, "Uhh he did it for EJ. I, personally, would've let EJ smack Cassandra in the face with it. She's so very rude. Maybe a plate to the face would mellow her out. I doubt it, but we could all hope." Shit. How bad was everything in Black Mountain with the Luna's?

Dominic cut into those thoughts, "I love how possessive mate is right now. It's so hot." I had to agree with him. I was a little disappointed she didn't have a slit in her dress. I could've slid right into her. Instead, we went back inside.

Eric linked me, "You have lipstick all over your neck." I smirked, "I know. If my mate's dress had a slit, you could smell what happened." Eric smirked in response. He must have told Haley because she stuck out her tongue at me.

Marcious joined us. I admitted to Eric, "For some reason he doesn't bother me as much as Aiden." Eric replied, "Aiden recently came around to partial fairies. Marcious has always loved them, and he loves his children. Aiden is trying. As

much as I watch him and dislike him; he's trying. Change is hard, but he's doing his best to change himself and Faerie." I nodded.

I tensed when Marcious wanted to talk to Emmaline alone. Eric linked me, "Haley says he just wants to show her the animals he got her at some waterfall in the territory." I relaxed. He wasn't trying to take her from me, just share her heritage with her.

Marcious popped away with Emmaline and Haley popped us back to Emmaline's rooms. I began to pace. Haley spoke, "She'll be fine." I continued pacing, "Knowing that doesn't make me less anxious." Katie interjected, "I've seen her dad before."

Everyone turned to her. Dustin asked, "What?" Katie sighed, "Every so often mom would get cagey about where she and Emmaline were going for coffee. She outright refused to let me come on occasion. I followed them a few times and saw all of them together. He was always affectionate towards Emmaline. He even gave her presents sometimes."

Ryan said, "I've seen him with them too." Dustin confessed, "So have I. When Emmaline said she wasn't our dad's kid... Marcious was the first man that came to mind." Ryan sighed, "Same."

Katie sighed, "I don't understand why mom didn't just call him and let him take her. He obviously cares about her." Haley answered, "My uncle is why. Marcious distanced himself because Fabian was abusing and experimenting on partial fairies. He hid Emmaline from my uncle, and only recently discovered his other daughter, Maribella, wasn't dead as he believed. Your mother could've gotten in touch with him though. He would've made sure that Emmaline placed somewhere safe. June has MANY things to answer for."

Katie asked, "When would that be? I'd like some freaking answers now." Haley sighed, "I agree with you. You can get more answers than I can right now. I won't risk them finding out about Emmaline when she doesn't want them to. When she's ready to get answer, I will help her."

Everyone sat back. Katie sighed, "I hate that you're right. I know Evie's feelings matter most here, but dammit I want answers! I can't ask them because I'd just punch them in the face." Dustin sighed, "We all want answers."

Ryan spoke, "There's a small piece of me that hopes dad threatened mom. Maybe this was the only way to keep Evie safe. Or at least what she believed to be. I know mom loves Evie. None of us can even remotely say mom and dad are in love anymore. Mom's basically an alcoholic roommate of dad's at this point." Dustin

agreed, “I know what you mean. Mom’s not magical, maybe... there’s a good reason.”

Haley looked like she was about to explode. Katie stood yelling, “FUCK HER!” Ryan stood and reached for her. Katie pushed him away, “NO! There is NO REASON that will justify what she did! NOTHING! Do you both hear me? Initially, sure, letting Evie go to save her from David. She had time to give us a heads up. Emancipations aren’t granted overnight. Dad pushed it through AFTER mom gave him her answer about her choice. Uncle Walter was ready to get Evie out of town. Mom had PLENTY of opportunities and choices to let us in. To let us help. I gave up on my dream to be a lawyer to become a PI to look for Evie. Ryan wanted to travel and look for his wick. He gave up the money for his Europe trip to pay for our trips to morgues, overnight stays, car rentals, and on occasion air fare.”

Eric linked me, “That’s god awful parenting.” He was right. Katie turned to her brothers and continued, “Dustin, you and Aubree fought about buying a house when your apartment no longer had the space you guys needed. You took a leave of absence from your job to help search for Evie. There is NOTHING that wretched bitch could say to justify what she’s done. I don’t care how fucking scared she was. WE deserved better. Evie sure as shit deserved better. Mom can fucking rot in her grave for all her care.” Katie took several deep breaths.

I linked Eric, “I like her.” Eric smirked, “So do I.” Haley groaned, “Well, fuck.” Katie turned to face her. Ryan asked, “What?” Haley glared at him, “She made me like her. Fuck you, witch. That’s three. Now, I’m up to three witches I like.” Katie grinned, “You liked me the moment we met. You just didn’t want to admit it. For the record, I like you too. Even when you used your powers to make me listen.”

Haley evaluated her, “For what it’s worth. I agree with every word you just said. All of you deserved better. If you still want to be a lawyer, I will do what I can to help you. It’s part of what I do with my partial fairy initiative. If any of you want to try your hand at your earth powers, we have training on Wednesday’s.” Eric laughed and wrapped his arms around her.

I said, “Emmaline goes. I’m sure she’d love to learn with you guys.” Katie smiled, “Evie goes?” Haley nodded. Katie clapped, “I’m in.” Haley tilted her head, “In what?” Katie explained, “I’ll come to training.”

Haley nodded then changed the subject, “Using the shadows is impressive. I’d imagine you can control more than I’d originally thought earth wise.” Katie admitted, “We all can control the shadows.” Haley snorted, “Of course you all can. Can David?”

I tensed. If he could, that would change things. Dustin answered, “No, he can’t. We didn’t know we could until after Evie left. I began to work on my powers

without dad. I encouraged Ryan and Katie to work with me to see what we were truly capable of.”

I commented, “Your dad held you back.” Ryan frowned. Dustin agreed, “Yes, he held us all back. We just don’t know if it was intentional. Given what we know about him now... I lean towards it being intentional.” Katie sighed, “Screw him too.” Haley smirked.

Ryan sighed and held up his ringing phone. Dustin said, “Just answer him.” I glanced at Eric. Ryan picked up, his anger was clear in his tone, “Uncle Walter.” I could hear Walter say, “None of you have been answering me or your Aunt Janice’s calls! You’re all in Tennessee from what I found. Katie left without a word.” Ryan yelled, “Do you blame her? Did you know?”

Walter was quiet eventually he responded, “About David?” Ryan said, “Yes, about my dad putting a bounty on our little sister. Did you know?” Walter sighed, “I did know. I’ve tried to get it cancelled many times. If you remember a few years ago, your dad put me through a wall. It was when I confronted him and told him to remove the bounty.” Ryan hissed, “And you didn’t tell us?! We could’ve talked to him. I have nothing else to say to you.” He hung up.

He paced for a minute then announced, “I’m going to call Valerie.” Dustin followed him saying he was going to call Aubree. Katie grumbled, “I’ll call my wick too... oh wait. I haven’t found him. So, I’m calling no one. Hey, new bestie princess buddy of mine, can I take a walk around here?” Haley nodded, “Of course. Call upon my protection should anyone try to harm you.” Katie smirked, “Will do Princess.” She left quickly.

I kept pacing. Haley spoke softly, “Lucas, they are just talking.” I growled, “They’ve been gone for a while.” Haley said, “He probably took her to the enchanted waterfall. Water fairies take all their children there. He would let her play with the pets he had placed there when she was born. I’m sure they are just spending time with them. She’ll be back.”

As soon as Haley finished that sentence Emmaline and Marcious popped into the room. Dominic finally calmed down. Marcious had a smug smirk on his face. Eric linked me, “We are going to our room. Link me if you need anything.”

When everyone had left, we fell asleep quickly. I woke up when Eric linked me, “Haley granted us permission to go run. I’m ready if you are.” I looked at Emmaline not wanting her to be alone here. As if he sensed that, Eric continued, “Haley is going to sit with Emmaline.” I agreed, “Alright.”

I carefully got up without waking Emmaline and met Eric. We shifted as soon as we were out the front door. Dominic was delighted. We ran through the forest. I

heard a lot of pops. I commented, "It seems fairy's get up early." Eric snorted, "We intrigue them." I replied sarcastically, "Oh good, now my life is complete. I intrigue fairies. Wonderful." Eric laughed, "Welcome to the club."

We ran for well over an hour. When we came back Marcious was waiting outside with clothes. We shifted back. I asked him, "Where's Emmaline?" Ryan and Dustin came outside which increased my anxiety.

Marcious smiled, "She is with Cousin Haley, Katie, and the terrifying man called Blade." I glanced at Eric who seemed surprised. Marcious said, "Haley popped and grabbed him, saying her wolf would be irate if they were out and about in Faerie without this Blade man." Eric snorted. He appeared to be linking someone.

Eric frowned announcing, "They will be back shortly." I asked him, "What is with the frown?" Eric shrugged, "I'm not sure. Haley seemed a little short with me. I don't know, it could be nothing."

A few minutes later the girls popped in front of us. Eric was right, they all seemed a little off. I shoved that aside and went to Emmaline. She melted into my embrace as Haley did with Eric. Katie put out her arms lamenting, "Oh that's right... I have no one." I snorted. She was pretty fine. Ryan walked to his sister, "You have me." Katie hugged him and we all walked inside for breakfast.

Marcious came over to Emmaline, "You are welcome here anytime, my daughter." I growled. He added smiling, "With your wolf, of course." He handed her a card, "Call me should you ever need me. Or if you'd like to talk." Emmaline beamed at him, giving him a hug.

We walked to the portal. Marcious insisted we experience the portal. We walked through and were back in Eric's territory. Emmaline spoke, "I'll pop our group back to our territory. Thank you for everything, Haley." Haley smiled, "Anytime. See you soon." They popped away and Emmaline popped us back home.

My mother wrapped her in a fierce hug. My dad gripped me tightly, "I'm so glad you both are back safe, son." We had some much needed family time. I watched Emmaline like a hawk for the rest of the weekend. She must have been using her soul seeking power because she kept asking me if there was anything I wanted to talk to her about. There were many times, it was on the tip of my tongue to tell her what was going on. The need to keep her safe had me keeping quiet.

When Monday rolled around, I was a little relieved that Emmaline was going to be safely at school. Before lunch Brad linked me, "Emmaline's sister Katie signed her out. She says they need girl time." I asked, "Is Emmaline ok with it?" Brad answered, "She almost seemed to be expecting her. We're following them at a safe distance." Why didn't Emmaline tell me if that was their plan all along?

Dustin and Ryan entered my office. Dylan quipped, “For the record, I still don’t like this. I should be part of the plan. I’m the planner around here. I just want that written somewhere.” I sighed, “It’s not the greatest situation, but it’s what we have to work with.”

A pop sounded. I was startled to see Bexley with Eric’s group. She popped away without saying anything. I raised an eyebrow at Eric. He answered my unspoken question, “Haley’s in the Ribbon. Is there any chance we can hold this off until she’s out?”

I winced, “No, the time is set.” Eric frowned, “We are so fucked when she gets back.” I asked, “Do we know how long she will be?” Eric shrugged, “It shouldn’t be more than a half hour. She’s been gone for a couple of hours. Damn Ribbon and its inconvenient timing.” I had to agree with him.

I changed the subject, “Is Bexley mad at you?” Jackson snorted, “The women in our pack are all in odd moods.” I glanced at Marcus and Bjourn who seemed to agree. I asked, “What’s your theory?” Marcus shrugged, “They could all be in on Haley’s plan. Maybe they are upset they weren’t involved in your plan. Who knows the ways of women?” Dylan raised his hand yelling, “PICK ME! SOMEONE!”

I laughed asking the Hackura men, “What about your mates?” Bjourn said, “Our mates are in the Hackura realm this week.” Eric snorted, “If my mate has a plan, yours are involved.” Bjourn agreed, “They absolutely are. As far as I have been told, that’s where my mate is. Astrid can take care of herself. I have the utmost confidence in her, and in my sister to not place Astrid in harm's way. My bond tells me she’s gearing up for something, but at this moment; she’s in the Hackura realm. I’m sure that will change shortly.” I nodded.

After a moment, I took charge, “Eric, let’s go.” Dylan stepped forward with shoes, “Here. I had these before I knew Haley was in the Ribbon.” I took them somewhat confused, I reminded him, “I have shoes.” Dylan rolled his eyes, “Not with tracking devices in them you don’t. It’s a backup, just in case. Because I make plans on plans. Not the secret side plan the fun sized fairy ninja has going, but I do what I can.”

I teased, “Haley will be upset you doubted her.” Dylan snorted, “I don’t doubt her. As I said, it’s just in case. Who do you think pointed me in the direction of someone who could get me an undetectable tracking device?”

Marcus casually asked, “Haley knows about the shoes? Who did she put in touch with?” Dylan smiled as Alpha Sophia, Alpha Chase, and Alpha Kyle with Peter, Drake, and Garrett came in. Dylan said, “She pointed me in the direction of the

boytoy lover of Harper. He didn't give me his name, and I didn't ask because his nickname is gold and I adore it." Eric started laughing.

Drake asked, "Is he a boytoy or a lover?" Jackson said, "Don't even start with that. It's a name Haley came up with, just go with it." I said, "I assume the Red Run students are here because Katie took Emmaline out of school?" All three nodded.

Ryan said, "Katie mentioned she might take Emmaline out, I forgot to tell you. We encouraged her to do it. Emmaline's safer with Katie." I nodded, "I have no problem with it. My men are still with them. Thank you all for coming. Stay on our lands, and we will link you updates via our warriors. Obviously, the plan is much like it was with the rogue King." Everyone nodded.

Eric and I went outside followed by Jackson, Caleb, and Dylan. Dylan said, "Be careful, Lucas." I nodded. Jackson said, "Eric, do NOT get cut by silver this time. Haley will lose it, and we will all be in her line of fire."

Eric laughed, "I make no promises. I will do what needs to be done, you know that." Caleb sighed, "We do. I'd say be careful, but why bother. You're going to have to deal with your mate if you get hurt." Eric smiled, "I'm sure it will be fun."

Jackson snorted, "Except for the precedent you are setting here of walking into a trap. That's going to come back to bite you in the ass, brother." Eric stiffened, "I'd imagine it will. We will cross that bridge another time."

Dylan didn't leave. He demanded, "Put your new special Hackura ninja assassin boytoy lover made shoes on." I smiled, "Lighten up, Dylan." I put the shoes on and he visibly relaxed. He muttered, "I don't have a good feeling about this." I sighed, "I know but we need to know who we are dealing with."

Dylan nodded, "Which is why I haven't even tried to talk you out of this plan." He looked at Eric, "You keep my bestie safe. Yes, I said my bestie not yours. Don't be greedy. And yes, I know you could snap me like a twig if you wanted. Blah, blah, blah, just do it King Alpha Prick."

Eric smirked, "I will but you already knew that." Dylan rolled his eyes and walked away with Jackson muttering, "Oh yes, let's do this without the fun sized fairy Hackura ninja princess. We can't just stall a meeting for thirty minutes.

Those two are a glutton for punishment. He's NEVER getting his game collection back."

I frowned and pulled out my word search. I saw something I hadn't before. I immediately growled, "DYLAN! YOU FUCKER!" Dylan turned around and then

glanced at the clue in my hands. He rolled his eyes, “Really, Lucas? You solve the damn word search now?”

I asked, “Where’s my next clue?” Dylan smiled, “I have to give you a piece of your collection back first, then you get your clue. Which I’ve decided you can’t have until you get back. Because I’m petty.” I stared at him.

Eric said, “We will be late Lucas.” I growled at Dylan, “After that best friend speech, you helped Haley with this? Et tu, Brute?” Dylan snorted, “I like fairy fun, and I wasn’t about to piss off my fun sized fairy ninja by declining.” I sighed, “Fine. When I get back though, I want my collection piece and my clue.” He nodded and they walked inside.

Eric got into the passenger side of the SUV and I got in the driver’s side. Eric said, “He’s just worried, you know. Which is odd enough. He’s always making jokes. He was borderline somber back there. You can’t even be surprised he’s part of the game.” I sighed, “I’m not. Not really. I’m more surprised he wasn’t the first clue.” Eric laughed.

I asked, “Are you worried about Haley?” Eric replied, “I’ll spend my life worrying about her. I know she can handle herself, but I hate when she goes into the Ribbon alone. I’m a horny asshole in any reality. The other me’s can sense she’s our mate. I worry about any trauma she could relive depending on where her own self is at. Faerie was not kind to her. I know she can always go to her Hackura family or that reality’s me to be safe. She could also go to you. You would protect her.”

I was surprised. I asked, “Haley would come to me?” Eric nodded, “She would. You are her lion. She knows you would protect her even without knowing she’s my mate. She would tell an alternate reality you she was my mate though.” I laughed, “My face would be priceless.”

We arrived at the site of the meet. I linked Eric, “I sense at least ten wolves.” Eric agreed, “So do I.” We allowed ourselves to be surrounded. One gave us orders, “Shift and follow us if you wish to speak to our leader.” I looked the werewolves up and down.

I linked Eric, “I have no idea whose men these are.” Eric frowned, “Neither do I.” I said aloud, “The meet was for here.” The wolves looked at each other smiling. The spokesperson sounded smug, “The meet changed. You can follow us, or not. If you choose not to, we have been advised to tell you that Emmaline will be fair game.”

I growled, “My MATE is not fair game. She’s marked, mated, and had her Luna ceremony. We could easily kill all of you.” The wolves shrugged, “Yes, but then you would know nothing.” I linked Eric, “I’ll lose my special shoes if we go.”

Eric replied, "I'm sure there is more to the shoes. Haley would've known shifting was a possibility." I linked Dylan, "They changed the meet. We have to shift and follow them." Dylan growled, "Not to be a I told you so person, but I WARNED YOU THUSLY. That's a trap." I agreed but shifted and Eric followed suit.

Eric linked me, "They are leading us into a trap. We are heading towards your border with Red Run. We know Alpha Nick has nothing to do with this. I smell a lot of werewolves around us." I sighed, "So do I." Dominic was growling.

Eric warned, "There's a silver net about to drop on us." I smelled it a second later. I winced, "Haley's going to kill us both." Eric must have agreed, but we let the net drop on us. Their group shifted back. Eric and I did as well to spare our wolves.

Their spokesperson commented, "Love really does fuck you up. You knew that was going to drop on you, and you let it happen. It makes us easier for us I guess." A four wheel truck pulled up. They hauled Eric and I to the back.

I was linking Dylan updates. I realized where we were after about an hour. I linked Eric. "No fucking way." Eric growled, "Evidently." I linked Dylan, "We are in Alpha Hammond's territory." Dylan growled, "Seriously?! What did we do to him? He's just... RUINED my suspect board! He's so rude. We will stay in our territory but head that way."

They were a solid hour and a half behind us. I asked Eric, "Is Haley back yet?" Eric shook his head, "Not yet." I sighed, "I was hoping she'd be back here by now." Eric said, "So did I." We were brought to Alpha Hammond's dungeons. I growled demanding, "What is the meaning of this? We were supposed to discuss peace."

I heard Alpha Hammond's voice, "I don't want peace with you, Alpha Lucas. I want you to suffer." I growled, "Why? I've done nothing to you." Alpha Hammond smiled, "You chose another over Christy, and had her killed."

I gaped at him, "Christy? Why do you care about Christy?" Alpha Hammond shrugged, "She was very dear to someone who is dear to me. Now, you must suffer. I think that should begin now. Bring in my little dove." I linked Eric, "Little dove?" He shrugged. Eric and I were thrown into the same cell.

I linked Eric, "Why would they put us in the same cell?" Eric shrugged, "Those are silver bars laced with wolfsbane. What are we going to do?" I winced asking, "Any iron?" Eric smirked, "None." I froze when I saw Emmaline being led into the room. What?!

Alpha Hammond smiled, "Ah, there's my little dove." Panic like I'd never known gripped me. I couldn't even scent her. What had that bastard done to her scent?

How did he even get her? I growled and linked Dylan, “He has Emmaline! How the FUCK did that happen?” Dylan replied, “I have no clue! I sense... fairy things. Such fairy things.” What?

Eric held me back. I snarled, “How did you get her?” Alpha Hammond laughed, “It wasn’t hard. I texted my little dove a picture of you and Alpha Eric in silver nets. She popped right to me to save you. It was very heartwarming. My little dove has been leery of me since we first met in the diner.”

My eyes snapped to Emmaline. I questioned “The diner?” Emmaline stoically stood there. Alpha Hammond laughed, “You didn’t tell your precious Alpha about me, or my flowers? I’m offended. Tell me how the witch’s enchantment spell didn’t work on you, little dove? When you first saw me, you should’ve run into my arms.” Emmaline shrugged saying nothing.

Alpha Hammond said, “Fine, don’t tell me. Take her to her room.” I rushed forward and reached my hand through the bars dealing with the pain to take her hand. Nothing happened. There was no rush of tingles. I said, “I’ll get you out of here, baby girl.” She nodded as they took her away.

I growled, “No werewolf will stand with you, Alpha Hammond.” Alpha Hammond shrugged, “Have they ever? All because I think the mate bond is shit.” Eric said, “Because you tried to ignore your mate. Which didn’t go well for you.” Alpha Hammond said, “You don’t know anything!” Clearly Eric did know something.

Alpha Hammond stormed out calling over his shoulder, “I have preparations for dinner to make for my little dove. You’ll hear us making love afterwards, Alpha Lucas. I have the audio down here just for you.” I growled, “Don’t you DARE rape her!” Alpha Hammond laughed and left the room.

I linked Eric, “I felt nothing when I touched Emmaline. Our bond wasn’t there, I felt no fear in my chest. Not even a flicker, and she didn’t smell like her.” Eric eyes went wide. He growled, “FUCK!” I asked, “What?” Eric was pacing, “Haley’s plan. I don’t think that was Emmaline. She didn’t speak because she doesn’t SOUND like Emmaline.”

I asked, “How could she not be Emmaline? It looked just like her.” Eric groaned, “The first time I met Bexley she has altered her appearance to look like the fairy queen to mess with Aiden. I’d bet everything I own, that wasn’t Emmaline, it was Bexley. I’m linking Jackson. That’s brilliant. I can’t believe we didn’t think of that. Of course, he would try to manipulate Emmaline into coming to him.”

I sighed, we really needed to get Haley in on all plans from here on out. I linked Dylan, “It’s not Emmaline. Eric believes it’s Bexley.” Dylan said, “There’s some

sort of barrier around Alpha Hammond's territory. Dustin and Ryan are working on it. They can't get a hold of Katie or Aubree."

I told him, "I imagine they are a part of Haley's plan. If Emmaline's not here.... Then Emmaline has to know. That's why she kept asking me leading questions. She knew the plan... By chance is Lacy with you?"

Dylan lamented, "I TOLD YOU THUSY! I already figured out the girls were together. Lacy is not with me or at school. I'll just bet she's lurking around wherever the girls are. Next time, I'm ditching your plans and going with theirs." At least that way we'd know what their plan was. I could get behind that.

I linked Eric, "Emmaline knows. That's why the girls were off in Faerie. Haley must have told them she had a backup plan. Katie and Emmaline had no clue what she meant." Eric groaned, "That would do it."

I admitted, "It's brilliant. We really need to have Haley on all planning committees. I would've never thought to use a fairy this way." Eric said, "I'm surprised Bexley agreed. She has to have some way out. Bexley is not a fighter. Liam didn't know their plan. He's irate, but he's confirmed it. The woman we just saw was Bexley not Emmaline."

I was relieved even though that meant I had no clue where Emmaline was. Eric smirked, "Haley's going to kick their asses for trying to manipulate Emmaline." I smiled somewhat comforted as men came into the dungeon.

Eric sighed, "Now is where we bleed for this plan." The men put on gas masks. I said, "That's not good." As a mist came down into our cell. I breathed it in and felt the silver in my nostrils and instantly lost the ability to move. Eric appeared to have the same reaction. Men entered with silver tipped whips.

Eric linked, "Apparently no one has told them spikes hurt more." I glanced at him astonished. It hit me how he knew that. I asked, "Haley?" Eric nodded. I asked, "You can still move?" Eric responded, "Not my arms or legs."

The men took off their masks and began to whip both of us. After ten lashes, I heard a pop. Relief hit me; Haley must be here. Eric's panicked cry had me forcing my neck to look in his direction. I saw a ray of sunlight hit the man whipping Eric. He was flung into the wall of the cell.

I stared astonished at his daughter, Cassie. Oh, shit. I linked Dylan, "Eric's daughter just popped to us. GET IN HERE!" Dylan said, "ARE YOU SERIOUS? You can't let King Alpha Prick kill me for this. It wasn't my fault. I'm too funny to die!"

Eric said, "Cassie, baby. Pop out now." Cassie ignored him and sent several shots of light out of her hands burning the men. Unfortunately, they were far from incapacitated. Two more pops sounded. Eric yelled, "FUCK! Alexander, EJ, pop home with Cassie NOW!"

A man rushed at me with a silver knife. He was knocked back as a golden dome surrounded us. I remembered this from when Haley was in the field where she fought Claudia. EJ was shielding us. All the men fell to ground holding their heads. Their screams faded when they died. EJ released his shield. Alexander was healing Eric. I faded into a healing warm fuzzy bubble because Eric was touching me.

When I came back to my senses, I sat up with a jolt. Eric was growling quietly. He handed me EJ while he held onto Cassie and Alexander. Alexander was passed out, cradled in his chest. Eric informed me, "Haley is back in this realm. She is so mad I can't stop growling." That boded well for us.

Eric pleaded, "Guys, daddy needs you to pop to your grandparents." Cassie got a stubborn look on her face, and shook her head no. I snorted, "She looks just like her mother." Eric nodded and appealed to EJ, "Son, I'm alright. You need to protect your siblings. Go to your grandparents and let mommy and daddy deal with this."

EJ glared at Eric, who snorted. I asked, "What?" Eric said, "Their wolves communicate with Thor. EJ agrees only if I promise not to get hurt again." I smirked. Alpha wolf indeed. Eric explained, "EJ, buddy that was the plan to keep your cousin Emmaline safe. We needed to know who was coming for her." We heard glass shatter. I didn't need superhuman hearing to hear Haley's war cry.

I felt Emmaline getting closer to me. Alpha Hammond ran through the dungeons with a group of his men. He had a deep cut on his face running from his forehead to chin. He declared, "This isn't the end, Lucas. You won this round. My little dove got the best of me." I growled.

Eric linked me, "At least he didn't know it was Bexley." I said out loud, "She's not your little dove. SHE'S MINE!" Alpha Hammond smiled, "She's my little dove. One day she will be all mine, and it will destroy you."

A wolf beside him grabbed him, "We HAVE to go! The Hackura princess is viciously murdering everyone in her path." Alpha Hammond laughed, "I see her pups popped to their father. That's probably why she's so upset. Quite the powerful family you have Alpha Eric."

Eric growled, "A powerful family you just pissed the fuck off." Alpha Hammond briefly seemed to realize his error, then shrugged. He and his group took off

running. I stood and yelled, "Coward! You are leaving your pack to die while you flee! You are no Alpha! You are a traitor to your blood!"

I turned when I heard a pop and sighed in relief. The pups popped out. I told Eric, "At least they won't be here when Haley comes down to get us." Eric didn't reply. He searched the dead wolves pockets and found a remote to let us out of our cell.

We were several feet from the door when we both smelled werewolves coming our way. I linked Dylan, "Eric and I are in the dungeons, we have a fight coming our way." Dylan linked back huffing and puffing, "Why do you link me things I can do nothing about? Do you think I like feeling useless? My whole purpose in life is to be useful. Link Lacy. Or have King Alpha Prick link his wife that you two pissed off. Haley's plan is amazing by the way. We just got to the hole in the ward that Aubree, Katie, and two other witches named Lisa, and Megan had open. They'd been here since you guys got here. They didn't have their phones to be tracked. We had to run to the opposite side of the territory because you all pissed of the fairies. Thank you oh so much for my extra cardio."

We'd hear about this for the rest of our lives. Dylan continued, "Oh and Katie's wick is very protective of her. We just got in. Haley and her brothers have slaughtered anyone who stood in their way. Those that have surrendered are actually shaking in their boots terrified of our fun sized fairy Hackura ninja princess."

I glanced at Eric who seemed to be in shock at the news he was getting. Beta Caleb or Jackson must be filling him in. I replied, "I have so many questions, Dylan. Let's start with Katie's wick? When did that happen? Who is it? Haley's brothers? Do you mean Marcus and Bjourn?"

The door burst open as Dylan answered, "Interesting questions. Yes, Katie's wick. Emmaline struck again. It's adorable. I couldn't possibly ruin the surprise for you. I'll just say there were signs." I groaned, "Just tell me." Dylan replied, "You are no fun. Fine. Just so next time you remember I should be included in your plan to get captured; I'll tell you. Haley's brother, the youngest one, Prince Logan is Katie's wick."

Eric laughed. I asked, "Did you just hear about Logan." He nodded. The wolves who were coming to fight us shrank back for just a second before continuing to come at us. I linked Eric, "How old is Logan? I thought Haley's brothers had their mates." Eric shrugged, "Logan didn't. Now he does. He's twenty-four." So, Haley was the only girl and the baby of the family.

Dylan continued, "Haley had her brothers trailing you both. Evin, Histeck, Drake, the Hackura prince, not Red Run Drake, Ubbe, and Harper were following you.

Logan was with Aubree, Emmaline, and Bexley until Emmaline realized they needed Katie.”

I linked Eric, “Good thing Haley decided to like Katie before this.” Eric snorted and lunged for the werewolf closed to us. He quickly broke his neck. We heard a pop and sunlight shot past us into the pack of wolves. Eric whirled yelling, “CASSIE VERONICA SHAYLA CONNERS!” I couldn’t stop my laugh when Cassie giggled. I told him, “She’s just like her mother.”

We fought to protect Cassie who was shooting sunlight at everyone she could. A few minutes later we both heard two more pops. Eric growled, “FUCK! I can’t even be made they came back to protect their sister!”

The dungeon door flung open. Haley’s appearance was shocking. She was covered from head to toe in blood, and her eyes were blazing. My eyes were drawn to Emmaline. She wasn’t as covered in blood as Haley, but she’d clearly killed to get in here.

I relaxed a little when her scent reached me. This was actually Emmaline. She looked pissed. Haley screamed out a war cry and began killing people left and right. Her brothers looked a little surprised. Torvi and Astrid were with the group as well. Haley had made her way through the wolves in a matter of minutes.

Emmaline snapped and Haley was clear of blood as she ran to Eric. She slammed into him whispering, “You are in SUCH trouble!” Eric smiled and kissed her lightly as she pulled away, grabbing for her children. She chided them, “You little stinkers! You gave mommy heart palpitations when I felt you with your dad. Your dad was panicked.” Haley rocked with all three of her pups in her arms. Eric put his arms around his family.

I looked back at Emmaline who lightly smacked my chest. She told me, “Trouble, Lucas. You are in trouble.” She jumped on me hugging me tightly whispering, “I’m so glad you’re ok. Haley came in at the right time. We were waiting on Bexley’s signal. I was pacing like a crazy person.”

I smiled, “I heard you found your sister’s wick.” Emmaline giggled, “My sister is going to be a princess of the Hackura one day. We had to pull them off each other. I don’t think we will see them for a bit after today.”

Eric whispered to Haley, “How are you feeling about Logan and Katie being mated?” Haley answered, “I’m really happy for him. I already decided I liked her. Now, I know why I liked her the moment we met. I actually feel better I’m not suddenly trusting of all witch bitches. She’s my sister, so obviously I liked her.” Eric laughed and Haley’s brothers snorted.

Emmaline squeezed me, “Katie’s so happy.” Haley shared a look with Emmaline. Emmaline straightened her shoulders. I linked Eric, “They can’t link, can they?” Eric said, “I don’t think so. Fairies can’t link each other.”

Emmaline took control, “Let’s get everyone in the yard, and pop us back to our territory.” I sighed, “We need to decide who’s going to take over this area.” Eric linked me, “You and I both know who’s taking over.” I smiled, “Let’s go tell him.” Eric nodded and we walked out of the dungeon.

We surveyed the carnage. I linked Eric, “Is there a pack left for anyone to take over?” Eric looked at Haley and then answered me, “Anyone who didn’t fight is alive. Anyone who stood in her way died.” I raised my eyebrows and walked outside to see a surprisingly large amount of people rounded up with my allies. Many of whom cringed at the sight of Haley. Emmaline was smirking along with all of Haley’s brothers.

Marcus smiled as he walked over to us. He hugged Torvi, “I knew my little sister had a side plan.” Bjourn smiled, “What appears to have been an excellent plan.” Haley smiled, “Of course it was. It was a group effort between me, Emmaline, and Katie.” I nearly winced. Ryan and Dustin actually did. Katie subtly shoved Ryan. It was complicated since Logan was wrapped possessively around her.

They both already bore each other’s marks. The only surprising thing about that was Logan’s mark wasn’t yellow for Katie’s father’s coven. It was a gold and blue color. I had no idea whose colors those were. Or when Katie had the time to join a new coven.

I noticed when Valerie went to Ryan’s side, I did a double take. Her mark now matched the Hackura Prince’s. Whose coven did the Forrester’s join? I cleared my throat and looked at Alpha Chase’s pack. All of them turned to me.

I spoke confidently, “Alpha Chase, Alpha Eric and I would like to offer the position of Alpha to your brother, Cameron.” Alpha Chase smiled and turned to his brother, “The choice is yours, Cameron. I support you in this should you choose to take it. I will miss you and Reagan if you choose to go though.”

Emmaline linked me, “Who’s Reagan?” I replied teasing her, “Cameron’s mate. Fated not chosen. No need to get your hair up.” Reagan came to stand beside Cameron. They were clearly linking. Cameron spoke, “Since this pack does border my brother and is a quick run to him, and this pack needs a leader who we all trust; I accept your offer Alpha Lucas.” I nodded. Alpha Cameron stuck his hand out to me. He said, “This is unexpected. I am honored by your trust in me. I won’t let you down.”

Alpha Chase said, “We need to leave men behind to help stabilize everything.” Eric agreed, “We can have more brought in. I’ll leave thirty-five behind. Bill Henderson can assess the additional ones to send over.”

I linked him, “Why not Liam?” Eric shot me a look, “Bexley was in danger. He’s going to be doing what WE are doing after the debrief meeting. If we didn’t have to lead it, we’d be claiming our mates. I’m not going to stop Liam from doing just that when his dad is more than capable of making the assessment needed.”

I added, “We will leave fifteen.” I linked Alex, “Can you make the assignments?” Alex smirked, “What are Gamma’s for? Next time, a Gamma would like a little more heads up on the plan. I do run Dylan interference for a reason. I can somewhat keep him calm if I know what’s going on. The pack is worried about seeing serious Dylan.” I nearly laughed. The other Alpha’s left behind warriors. Alpha Chase left the most which wasn’t surprising.

Emmaline, Haley, and Bexley popped us back to our home with all the Alpha’s except Cameron, who was quickly conference in. He needed to be in his territory right now, but he also needed to be debriefed. We had just sat down in my office when Sharon popped in.

She quickly without preamble said, “Sam is in heat. I need Drake.” Drake growled, “Where is she?” Sharon laughed, “With Chelsea at the cabin Peter and Chelsea mated in. I popped them both there when we realized what was happening.” Alpha Nick laughed, “Partial fairies are necessary for every pack.”

Peter stood along with Garrett and two others Peter motioned to. He grabbed onto Sharon’s arm, “Take us with you. We will guard Drake and Sam.” Sharon checked everyone was touching and grabbed Peter’s hands, then threw a wink at Emmaline. She waved at her sister and popped out.

Katie asked her, “Is she a fairy friend of yours?” Emmaline shrugged, “Umm, kind of? She’s my half-sister.” Katie made a face. Logan nuzzled her neck. I spoke, “So, why don’t we review Haley’s plan first? Did anyone get Alpha Hammond?”

Katie hissed, “No, he had several witches waiting to whisk him away. He got away with ten others fifteen if you count the witches.” I sighed, “At least we know who we are looking for. I’ll file paperwork with the werewolf and supernatural councils. Every pack will be on the lookout for him.”

I turned to Haley and Eric. I said, “The floor is yours Haley.” She glared at me asking, “How the fuck can the floor be mine? This is your house.” I snorted, “I meant I’m handing over the debrief to you.” She rolled her eyes, “This damn realm and its sayings.” She stood and walked over to Emmaline and Katie. Everyone else was right. I should’ve told Emmaline the plan.