

My Sins

Lucas glanced at his mate, who was clearly reeling from being called a Duchess. Eric linked me. “I have never been happier I can link other Alpha’s. You’re in big trouble. Haley has been searching for Marcious’ youngest daughter for a few months.” I groaned replying, “I trusted Christy when I shouldn’t have. I really thought we would always be happy for each other if we found our mates. It’s not like we and I didn’t talk about it.”

Eric responded, “I know. At least she didn’t reject her mate for you and send him to Faerie to be tortured. Or use a witch to go into heat to try and have your pup, and like the charmed moron I am, I agreed.” I sighed. I did have that going for me at least. I felt really bad for Eric about all of that.

I smiled when Haley messed up a saying. I linked Eric, “Does she get any sayings right? You do know the saying is up a creek without a paddle.” Eric smiled, “Not often. I think she’s gotten one right.” I barely stopped from laughing out loud when the council member told Aiden to ask Haley to watch her language. Eric linked “Did you watch the tape of her last meeting with the council?”

I snorted, “You’ve met my Beta, right? He ushered me inside when I arrived to watch it. In our theatre room with popcorn. I have no clue why they think she’s going to curb her attitude.” Eric smiled, “I will be surprised if they leave here with their lives.” I was stunned, “You think she’s going to kill them?” Eric nodded, “I do. They didn’t just attack a fairy; they attacked a member of her family. My mate doesn’t let attacks on her family go. She’s a partial Hackura.”

I snorted at Haley again. I linked Eric, “Mimes. Where does she come up with this stuff?” Eric shrugged, “I don’t have a clue. She’s one of a kind. I want to know how she got a black eye. If that werewolf council bitch behind you in silver chains punched Haley; she’s mine to deal with.”

I was surprised to see Aiden taking care of Haley. I asked Eric, “Since when is he the dutiful brother?” Eric snorted, “He’s been in the shadows doing things for her since I met him. He’s been making an actual effort to do them publicly. I am keeping a close eye on him though. I think he’s able to be like he’s always wanted with her. If I’m wrong and he’s using her, I’ll kill him.” I snorted, “Then doesn’t your mate inherit the throne?” Eric shook his head no, “Aiden has two children.”

I realized Haley and Aiden knew Emmaline’s birth name. Dominic snorted, “She’s their cousin, of course they do.” He had a point. It took me too long to piece that together. When Haley sat down Eric whispered in her ear, “I don’t like overnight missions. I missed you, Angel.” Haley answered while Aiden took the council to task, “I missed you and the triplets too. That mission was a shit show, but BA is

good. We took down the ringleader.” Eric asked, “Did the black eye happen before or after Emmaline called you.” She winced, “Before.” Eric nodded tightly.

I nearly yelled at council members several times. My mate killed rogues, not pack members. I glared at Christy and linked her so Emmaline wouldn't hear, “You have NO fucking idea the hell you are about to see. Why Christy? Why would you try to kill my mate?”

Christy answered, “I was doing what's best for you Lucas, like I always do. I know how much Lacy leaving hurt you. Emmaline, from what I've gathered is running from someone. I'm protecting you! She's going to leave you!” I growled at her, “She will NEVER leave me, and I'd track her down if she did.” I rubbed my temples. I continued, “So you thought if she didn't leave you'd just have her killed? What is wrong with you?!” Christy didn't answer.

When Aiden announced his intentions I linked Eric, “Can he do that?” Eric considered, “Probably. Haley's on his side, which would mean I am on his side, along with my brothers, and our allies. Haley finding and training partial fairies has been good for everyone. Besides, she managed to kill a Vampire King when she was tortured, starved, and mind fucked. I don't think anyone wants to see what Aiden and Haley are capable of together when angry. Everyone knows to come against Haley is to come against the Hackura. I imagine the supernatural council will want to avoid conflict here. Besides our dumb ass council sentenced a sixteen year old to die based on one person's word and no investigation.”

He wasn't wrong. That was insane. Aiden basically said the same thing. I teased Eric, “Can you link him too?” Eric frowned, “No, he just knows she will stand by him now. Isn't that just delightful?” Eric and I stopped our conversation when Aiden started to talk about how Christy wanted to be my chosen Luna.

Eric included Jackson in on our link. Jackson said, “Damn. Aiden actually has information on Lucas? What is happening?” I growled, “I didn't know it was well known Christy had offered to be my chosen Luna.” Eric answered “It's not. I don't know how he gathered that information, but there are either fairy spies or pack members talked.” I sighed, “Lovely.”

When Aiden sat down he showed some interest in Emmaline. I linked Eric, “How much of a problem is he going to be for me?” Eric shrugged, “Probably none. The water fairies aren't the ruling house. He's met Maribella, and she's powerful. He was there when Marcious gave her the tour of Faerie, but he doesn't keep in touch with her like he does Haley.”

I felt slightly relieved at that, at least they are just cousins and not siblings. I didn't envy Eric in that aspect; fairies were a pain in the ass to deal with. Haley made her intentions clear. I linked Eric again, “You were right. She does mean to kill them.”

Eric nodded, “Of course she does. Our council, and I use that word loosely, doesn’t deserve to be the council with the mistakes they’ve made recently. Unfortunately, replacing them is going to be a headache. I’m NOT going to agree to be on the new council.” I agreed, “Same. I won’t do it. I wouldn’t have wanted to before I met Emmaline, but now I want to spend time with her.”

Haley went after the people who hit Eric. He linked me and Jackson, “Perfect. You two are my witnesses. If whoever hit her isn’t dead, I get to kill them. My Angel is all about what’s fair.” I couldn’t stop my laugh.

Dylan linked me, “Don’t think I don’t know you’re excluding me from your Alpha chat I can’t be in with because I’m not an Alpha. Beta’s need to be able to link everyone too. It’s so sad. I have to have group texts going. Which I do, have no fear. I’m only not giving you the running commentary because you’re having your Alpha one. FYI the Beta group text is SO much better.” He was probably right.

I linked Eric, “Your title is really fucking long now, my friend.” Eric groaned, “I know. I could drop the fairy one. Consort is so insulting. I am so tired of all full blooded fairies; they are such fucking assholes. My territory is crawling with them, the females want a concupiscence partner. Now that they know partial fairies have powers, they ALL want to help train. Assholes.”

Eric attacked a council member intent on trying to get to Haley. I linked Jackson, “Hopefully Aiden can get Haley her immunity or we will have big problems with the council.” Jackson answered, “Regardless of if Aiden comes through or not, those men are not walking out of here alive. Haley won’t let them, and Titus will just say they threatened the crown of the Hackura. They fought Eric, Marcus, and Bjourn. Something neither Marcus nor Bjourn is going to let go if Aiden can’t get his desired permission.” He had a point. You didn’t fight the crown prince, or any Hackura, if you wanted to live.

I snorted when Haley said what Eric had. I told him, “Well, you’ve gone and done it. You and Haley now share a brain.” Eric answered, “We aren’t wrong. Werewolves wouldn’t want to be involved when they hear they sentenced your mate to death. With no trial, no investigation, just one jilted ex lover’s word. It’s not like everyone waits for their mate in our world. That’s ridiculous that someone you fucked could sentence your mate to die. It’s beyond pathetic. How many decisions have they fucked up? How many people have they killed? Jesus Christ.” I paled, oh god. How many supernatural’s or humans had died on false accusations? How did we even find the answer to that question? This was going to come back and bite us, I was certain of it.

I was pulled out of my musings when Dylan linked me, “I hope he keeps talking, I want to see her rip out his voice box and make him eat it. I don’t have enough popcorn.” I asked, “Are you going to give me the Beta text chat commentary

now?" Dylan smiled, "No. That's for us Beta bloods. I hope Haley's daughter is just like her. The word NEEDS more of this woman."

Emmaline's heart rate went into overdrive when Aiden said her father's name. I rubbed her back encouragingly and tried to calm her. Before I could cover Emmaline's eyes, vines were gripping the council members, slowly cutting off their air supply like a python would to its prey. We all watched their deaths, somehow entranced. Dylan linked me, "I LOVE her. This is amazing. I subtly took a picture because my Beta buddies thought I was exaggerating. You have the most popular Beta of all time. You're welcome." I couldn't answer him.

I linked Eric, "I think she forgot about the council woman behind me." Eric shrugged, "We get one to play with then. She may not have bruised my mate, but someone did. She is my conduit if I find out the person who did it no longer lives." I about fell over when Haley suggested Nathan Connors for the new werewolf council. Eric linked me, "I love her. I'm recommending your dad for it too. Why wouldn't former Alpha's become council members instead of current Alpha's? That's brilliant."

I told him, "That's what we are going to suggest, retired Alpha's with excellent standing in the community. They are retired so they don't have packs to run, along with the council gig." Dylan was enjoying the fact he didn't have to organize body clean up.

Haley rounded on me. I wanted to gulp, but I was an Alpha. Eric gave up almost instantly on helping me. I teased him, "Whipped! You're fucking whipped, Eric." Eric just smiled. Jackson linked me, "I feel a little bad for you. She gets really testy when she's offended." I snorted, "Since she just killed the entire werewolf council and their guards, I'd say testy is an understatement." Eric linked me, "Sorry, Lucas."

When Emmaline mentioned Dominic being weakened Eric linked me and Jackson, "Oh, shit!" Jackson laughed, "Now you're in trouble, big brother." I linked, "I gather Haley didn't know that. Does it matter if you weren't weakened?" Dylan linked me, "If I was a nicer person, I'd jump in and regale our precious fairy princess with tales of how insanely murderous and not weak her mate was. This is so much more fun though. I shall remain quiet." I rolled my eyes.

If I hadn't just seen Haley kill a bunch of people, I'd say she was really cute when mad. Eric groaned, "I'm going to pay for that. I wasn't even weakened." I laughed, "So it's you and me in the doghouse." Eric snorted, "I'll get out of it by tonight. You're screwed."

Aiden left with parting jab. Eric sighed, "I hate full blooded fairies. The moon goddess is laughing up there because my wonderful mate is related to the royal

ruling house in Faerie. Which means I constantly have to deal with Aiden Holloran.” I admitted, “That does suck, but I know you do it for Haley.” Eric agreed, “I do. She wants a relationship with him, and he’s not being an asshole to her. You’ll have to deal with Marcious and the water fairies. I bet some come and try to convince her to fucking have sex with them. It happens with Haley frequently.” I growled, “Hell no.”

I linked Eric, “There are three powerful Alpha’s with fairy mates.” Eric answered, “Our mates are powerful too, and they are related.” True. I startled, “Did I hear that right? Haley met the moon goddess?” Eric replied, “I did too. The moon goddess told Haley she’d be taken, and that it couldn’t be avoided. Selene told me the same.” I was stunned, “I would be ok with never seeing the moon goddess if Emmaline doesn’t get taken from me.” Eric replied, “I understand that feeling. I’d prefer never to have met Selene if Haley hadn’t had to go through that bullshit.” Not to mention him, but it was clear he wasn’t going to.

I linked Eric again, “A list of your ex-lovers seems like a bad list to give someone, and it’s long.” Eric sighed, “I could just give her a list of the ones who may be crazy.” I shrugged, “She could forget she wants it.” Eric groaned, “That seems unlikely.” Dylan linked me, “I could give her the list... actually, I’ll wait until he gives her his THEN my superior list will arrive.” Of course, he had a list.

My brain short circuited when Christy and Lacy were mentioned. I linked Eric, “Emmaline got a flash of Lacy? Tell me my mate doesn’t have sight!” Eric quickly explained “No, Marcious has mentioned this before. All water fairies can do that. They glean memories or flashes.” I was relieved, “Thank god.

My dad stepped forward with a hard look in his eye. He linked me, “I’ll throw her into the pits of hell myself. She hurt my pups.” I snorted, “I’ll help you.” How did I not see this? Dominic said, “She only has one chance. We can help spare her pain from mom, but that’s it. She suffers.” I knew he missed Lacy and her wolf, Kiara. We only got to run with Kiara a few times before they ran.

Haley forced Christy to reveal her plan. I was enraged, seeing red. I threw Christy across the room, barely registering the silver as it burned my hands. She hit the dry wall so hard it cracked. Dominic was banging on our connection, he wanted out to deal with this piece of shit.

Dominic raged, “Let me KILL this fucking bitch! She fucking held us as we cried about Lacy leaving. Fucking liar! She made her run from us!” I had to calm down. Chelsea was losing it. Peter grabbed her, taking her back across the room. He shot me a look. He wasn’t the Alpha of his pack yet so he couldn’t link me, but I understood his unspoken words. He was offering us their pack’s assistance. Peter was going to make a great Alpha when he took over.

When Haley popped Christy away, I linked Eric, “Christy will be back in a way? What does that mean?” Eric winced, “I would imagine it means like Claudia’s head is still in my office.” I probably deserved a Christy head ornament.

The men who were supposed to guard Emmaline filed in. I linked them, “Wait until Emmaline goes upstairs. ONE of you will make sure she is safely in her room, then come back here and explain what the fuck happened.” The answered, “Yes, Alpha.”

Haley’s brothers smirked when she popped back in and toyed with Eric. Between everyone here we might be able to contain Eric. Dylan was a glutton for punishment, but he wasn’t crazy. He didn’t touch Haley when he gave her the grape. Eric’s growl still moved the furniture it was so loud.

I was fairly certain that Emmaline would want to train with Haley. I couldn’t deny that made me happy. I wanted her to have every advantage to defend herself. Emmaline left to go to her room. I was going to have to ask her to move into mine; I couldn’t sleep without her anymore. We could even go between the two rooms if she wanted.

I turned to Chelsea, “How did you all end up here? What happened?” Chelsea answered, “She didn’t show up at the mixer. We should’ve come back sooner.” Peter cut her off, “You did nothing wrong here, Chels. You checked up on her. That’s why we are here.” Chelsea sighed, “We went to Al’s, he was really concerned when we told him she hadn’t shown up. I’m sure he’s going to call you, Alpha. He wanted to close up, but Drake and Peter convinced them she probably just wanted to see you and came home.”

I linked my dad, “Call Al and let him know Emmaline is home, that she’s safe. I could link him, but I know you guys are friends.” My dad nodded, stepping aside to do just that. Chelsea continued, “Al told us about her new car so when we found it at the school, Peter drove us back here like a bat out of hell. We got here as the council arrived. They told us that a hunter tricked you. That they were here to help and kill the huntress. We tried to tell them that they were wrong. Peter even called his dad and had him explain. They just wouldn’t listen! If Drake didn’t stop them, they would’ve punched Valerie! She was just trying to explain they were wrong...” Sam kissed Drake.

I growled, “They are dead now. Go back to the pack house, or to Red Run’s territory with your mates and calm down. Emmaline is safe and we will get Lacy back. We will explain Christy lied. I’m sure you all will be back to running around together. Valerie, are you alright?” She nodded. They were all crying. Sam spoke, “We love Lacy. You know that, right?” I nodded. My mom spoke, “We know that girls. Lacy knows that too in her heart of hearts. You girls were always thick as thieves.”

Peter added, “You have Red Run’s cooperation and assistance in the search for Lacy should you need it.” I nodded, “Thank you, Peter.” Chelsea launched herself into his arms kissing him. They only broke apart when my dad cleared his throat. Chelsea’s group filed out of the room, and the five warriors I’d had guarding Emmaline walked in.

I growled at them, and they bowed their heads in submission. I yelled, “What the FUCK happened?” The head warrior of their group, Taz, stepped forward, “It was unacceptable, Alpha. Christy showed up and said you’d had a rogue issue at our Red Run border, and you needed us to go do a sweep of the area. She said she was sent to watch Emmaline. She’s given us orders before; we didn’t even question it. I’m sorry.” I growled them and they got on their knees. They weren’t wrong Christy had given orders on my behalf before, but they should know with my mate here that wasn’t the case.

I asked, “Why the hell would Christy give orders now that I have Emmaline? Emmaline is your future Luna, not Christy! She was WHIPPED! They ripped her back apart, and if not for Eric’s mate she would still be in fucking pain. The council was going to kill her! You got back well after Haley Connors popped in with my mate. What the HELL where you doing?”

Taz said, “We ran the borders and came back to the school. We decided we would give Christy back up, but we couldn’t find them at the dance. We followed their scents but lost it after ten miles. We picked it back up in the field where we smelled the Luna’s blood with two other unknown werewolves and another fairy’s scent. We came back here hoping to find Emmaline here and found all of this going down.”

I growled at them and yelled, “You all are going to keep guarding her, but you will have the WORST patrol duties to coincide with guarding her. Three of you will stay on her, while the other two run patrols. I will tell you when all five of you are needed. Do NOT EVER leave her alone again. DISMISSED!” They nodded quickly as they left. Jackson, Marcus, and Bjourn slipped out of the room with them.

My mom whispered, “Lacy, my poor baby. She thought she was running for our lives, to save us all.” I sighed, “This is my fault. If I’d kicked Christy to the curb this wouldn’t have happened.” My dad scoffed, “Bullshit. Claudia was bat shit crazy, and so is Christy. They would’ve had Lacy keep running to spite you, son. Go see your mate, son. We will find your sister and bring her home.”

I turned to Dylan, “Get one of our best technical people in here going through Christy’s phone and computer. I want to know if she has anything to point us to Lacy. Coordinate with Jackson to see if they can get us Claudia’s things, if any still

exist.” Dylan nodded, “We are going to find her. I can feel it.” I nodded to him and went to follow Emmaline upstairs.

The weight of my screw up weighed on me. This was my fault. My mind kept playing what would’ve happened to her if she didn’t know to call Haley. My beautiful Emmaline would’ve been injured. I refused to think she would’ve been killed. We would’ve gotten it sorted out before then. I got Emmaline’s version of events. If I had just listened to Dylan, my Beta doing his job, this wouldn’t have happened. My mind was swimming with my inadequacies as an Alpha and a mate.

Emmaline successfully distracted me from those thoughts. I claimed her until we went to sleep. We continued when we woke up too. I desperately wanted another round of sex, but I was worried Haley was going to pop in and take Emmaline somewhere for breakfast alone. I realized that Emmaline was going to be able to pop. Shit. She wolves could walk away from you, but you could follow their scent and chase them. No, no, no, Eric and my mate could vanish without a trace or a clue of how to find them. Perfect.

We made our way downstairs. I grabbed her hand, walked into the breakfast nook, and linked Eric, “We are here.” Eric and Haley showed up seconds later. I linked Eric, “I’m glad my mate knew to call on yours. I would’ve destroyed the council myself. They were going to torture her for five days for the rogues she killed in self-defense. They wouldn’t have gotten to kill her because I’d have fixed it, but still.” Eric smiled, “No they didn’t stand a chance against us, add in my brothers in law; they were screwed.” I smiled, Eric and I always had each other’s backs.

I realized Haley didn’t look at me. I linked Eric, “She’s still not speaking to me.” Eric sighed, “It looks that way.” I frowned, “How mad at me is she?” Eric shrugged, “We didn’t talk about it. We just stopped having sex about thirty minutes ago. When you linked me, Haley snapped us ready and now we are here.” I was sensing my meal wasn’t going to be a meal when my food turned into crickets.

I growled in our link, “You did not tell me that she’d turn my food into crickets.” Eric’s lips twitched, “You’re lucky she likes you.” I asked, “Does she still like me?” Eric admitted, “You’ll always be her lion, and now you’re mated to her cousin. You’ll be out of the doghouse eventually; she does take pranks very seriously. Darrin just got back his first editions after leaving Shana at home from the summit.”

I was curious, “What did she do? He loves those books.” Eric smirked, “She popped them to a hiding place, and Shana gave Darrin a list of what he had to do to get them back. Haley replaced all but his favorite book with paperbacks. His favorite was replaced by a journal with his list of to do’s.” I groaned, “Great!” Eric just smiled.

I noticed Haley was talking a lot, and she seemed a little nervous. I asked Eric, “Apart from being mad at me, what's up with Haley? She seems nervous.” Eric replied, “She gets this way with the fairies she finds that she’s related to.

She never tried to make friends before, so she gets nervous because she wants them to like her. She never had to try before because Miley forced her way into Haley’s life, refusing to give up on her.” That was tragic. I really couldn’t believe the woman before me sometimes.

Haley spoke about Emmaline’s fairy family. I linked Eric, “The two full fairies, do I need to be worried?” Eric said, “I don’t think so. They aren’t like the sky fairies. The water fairies love humans and partial fairies. They only stayed away to keep Fabian from knowing about their existence. Marcious, he’s obnoxious, but he does seem to genuinely love his children. It appears to be a fairy trait, except when it comes to Haley’s delightful mother.” His eyes twitched when he mentioned her mom. I wondered what that was.

I told Eric, “I may have to join you in the hatred for my mother in law.” Eric raised an eyebrow, “May? You may? You’ve already asked my brothers in law to torture yours.” I shrugged. I asked Eric, “What does she mean full blooded fairies are cruel to their mates?” Eric grimaced, “They believe there should be a lot of blood when they first have sex with their mates, even if they aren’t a virgin.” I stared at him astonished as he continued, “The words you’re looking for are fairies are crazy.” I nodded in agreement.

When light sharing was discussed, I figured out that euphoric feeling I’d experienced was Emmaline sharing her light. I couldn’t believe she did that instinctually. I knew it was rare from the research Dylan had done after he saw Haley do it at their mating ceremony.

As the girls talked more I linked Eric, “You are glad Haley is powerful, aren’t you?” Eric bluntly stated, “With as many enemies as we have? Yes, I am. I am downright ecstatic to come at her is to come against the Hackura kingdom and Faerie. Really the deterrent is Titus.”

Both Eric and I stiffed when Haley said Emmaline was the soul searcher. I cursed, “Damn! You have the truth seeker, and I have the soul searcher!” Eric rolled his eyes, “I have two truth seekers and two pushers. HA FUCKING HA my friend. Join my goddamn pain. I have threats coming out my ass to take them from me.” I sighed.

I linked Dylan, “Learn everything you can about the soul searcher. More than what we have.” Dylan linked, “Holy burying the lead Alpha batman!! Emmaline is the soul searcher?! How exciting. I’m all over it. I’m practically the expert already. Be impressed.”

Eric's relief was clear when he was told Dylan and Lacy were mates. I linked him, "Come on, you know Dylan was never a threat to you and Haley." Eric cut his eyes to me, "He wanted to annoy me, and he did. Now he can't. I enjoy that quite a bit." I sighed, "Dylan lives to mess with you, and you make it so easy." He simply smiled.

I was furious that Emmaline didn't have much to defend herself with. I linked Eric, "A fucking flashlight. That's her weapon of choice?!" Eric's lips twitched; he was enjoying this too much. I yelled, "EXCUSE ME!?! She turned someone to WATER?!" Eric responded, "I didn't know fairies could do that. Haley can kill people by curling her fingers though so..."

I retorted, "TURNED TO WATER! She turned him to water; we haven't been able to find one of the bodies. It's because there's no body to find. I have to call Red Run. Now she could turn to water herself?! WHAT THE FUCK, ERIC?" Eric's lips pursed, "Welcome to the club my friend. Our fairies can do some weird shit. Haley doesn't do anything that makes her lose her clothes though." I growled, "Fuck you, Eric." Eric smiled, "You already have, but we have mates now Lucas." I growled at him but said nothing. Dominic linked, "He made a joke... Eric... made a joke." He was right. Haley really was good for him.

I asked him, "Do you really not know Emmaline's birth name? Or do you not want Haley to know that you know." Eric smiled, "As long as she's not running into danger, I respect that she wants to find her known partial fairy relatives on her own. I didn't know Emmaline was in danger. I didn't know that's who Haley was looking for though, and neither did she. She was looking really hard too if that gives you any comfort. Emmaline isn't linked to her past." I sighed, "A little."

I picked up my drink of milk and it almost crossed my lips when Haley spoke in Fealish and I felt the honey touch my lips. DAMN IT! I linked Dylan, "Remind me if I ever run across another supernatural and I'm not sure what race they are I'm calling Haley. Every. fucking. time." Dylan replied, "If only someone told you to do that in the first place. I'm such a slacker. Oh, wait...I DID!" I snorted.

I was worried by Haley's responses. I asked Eric, "I'm not sorry yet? What is she going to take from me? She took Darrin's first editions." Eric sighed, "I don't know. I won't tell her about your video game collectables, and if I were you, I'd put the word out in your pack not to let that slip. My angel would absolutely take them from you." I growled in my head. She couldn't have those! She wouldn't. I'd spent over a decade collecting them.

I immediately linked the pack, "No one is to talk about my gaming collectables in front of Haley Conners." Dylan immediately linked me, "OH MY GOD! Haley's going to take them, isn't she? To punish you for not calling her. I LOVE HER!" I growled, "She won't because she won't find out about them." Dylan laughed in our

link, “She’s a ninja fun sized fairy princess assassin. You’re screwed. You should’ve listened to me, and you wouldn’t have to worry about it.” I hated that he was right.

Haley was far too happy that I would be coming with Emmaline to fairy training. I groaned, “I’m going to be the fairy test doll for practice, aren’t I?” Eric tried to cover his smile, “Probably.” My attention was drawn back to the type of lessons Haley wanted to give, “OH HELL NO! She’ll teach Emmaline to drive me crazy with jealousy and she’ll tap into her into her mischievous fairy side.” Eric smiled, agreeing, “She will, and I wish you the best my friend. Haley was good at driving me wild before she figured out how to jump start it.”

Before Haley left, she informed us of a demon attack coming. I linked Dylan, “Get warriors on the borders. Non-fighters and pups inside. We have an attack coming tonight.” Dylan linked, “I won’t even ask how you know. My favorite ninja fun sized fairy assassin princess know things. I am ON it!” I knew he would be.

Jackson linked me, “Haley did something dangerous, but Eric knows she’s fine. Haley knows Eric hates it when she pops away from him and does it anyway. Must be a day ending in y.” I smiled at him, “Apparently that’s life with fairies.” Jackson snorted, “Yes, it is.”

I teased Emmaline that Eric could growl at her. He linked me, “My mate turned your breakfast food into inedible shit, and you didn’t growl once. I’m not going to growl at your mate Lucas.” I replied, “I know, just getting you out of your head. Haley is fine.” He nodded.

I was starving so we left to get food. We walked down to the kitchen in silence until Jackson said, “You’re screwed, Lucas. Haley is going to pull some kind of epic prank.” Dylan gleefully stated, “He’s worried about his gaming collectables. He linked the whole pack not to tell her about them.”

Jackson snorted, “She’ll ask Eric.” Eric answered, “And I’ll tell her I promised Lucas not to tell.” Jackson shook his head, “She’ll find out anyway, but I won’t tell her either.” Dylan snickered, “The fact that none of you know how she’s going to find out gives me such joy.” I growled, “Don’t you dare tell her!” Dylan gasped, “Moi? No, not me. I like sleep, and there won’t be any while you can’t find your things.” I frowned. I had no clue what he meant then.

I nodded and the kitchen staff looked startled by our appearance. I asked Gemma, “If I could have a plate of what you made earlier, that would be great.” Gemma frowned. I explained, “Fairies happened.” Dylan snorted, “Now, don’t skimp on the details. He upset the fun sized princess of the fairies. He did not get food.” Gemma laughed and handed me a plate.

I asked, "Dylan, do we have any idea who could have hired a demon to have us attacked by rogues?" Dylan snorted, "We have a list of enemies. We took over five packs last year by force, justifiably, but we have enemies in their allies." I nodded, "I want you to have someone look at the most likely candidates." Dylan raised an eyebrow, "I won't be doing my job because... If you've replaced me, I'll help Haley prank you. I AM THE BEST!" I smiled, "I assumed you wanted to come down to deal with Christy." Dylan smiled, "I take it all back. You are the best friend I've ever had."

Eric chuckled and coughed, "Only friend." Dylan smirked, "Not true big bad Alpha Prick, your mate is my friend." Eric growled. I dropped my spoon when Emmaline linked me Lacy was on the phone. Eric asked, "Lucas, are you alright? Haley's not here, you're safe to eat." I ran out yelling, "Emmaline has Lacy on the phone! Dylan, link my parents to get to my office. NOW."

I ran at full speed. We settled some things about where Lacy was. Eric linked me, "Haley will bring her home. That's why she couldn't get to her. There are two isolated groups in Ireland. One who doesn't recognize Aiden as King, and another that work with him. The one that works with him had an agreement in place with Alania they would require permission to pop in. Aiden is securing the permission." I replied, "Thank her for me, Eric." He nodded.

Emmaline spoke, "I'm guessing you need a family minute and you have some work to do." I nodded, "You are family, Emmaline." Emmaline shrugged, "I'm going to find Chelsea, Sam, and Valerie if they are still here. I want to make sure they are ok and let them know Lacy is coming home." I nodded pulling her flush against me kissing her hard. I pulled away, "Now, you can go find your friends." She smiled, waving to everyone as she left.

Jackson said, "She's sweet, Lucas." I replied, "I know. Dylan, I'm going to ask you to do something that's really hard. When Lacy gets home, I need you to let us have some time with her before you run off to mate and mark my baby sister."

Dylan growled, "Fine. You are such a tyrant. You're lucky I love you so much. I make such sacrifices." I smiled offering, "Do you want to go start in on Christy?" Dylan perked up, "Yes, I do. I've disliked her for so long! She's made me be serious so many times lately. I must spread that pain."

My parents ran in the room out of breath. My mom asked hopefully, "Is she on the phone still?" I shook my head. My mom dissolved into a mess of tears. I quickly explained, "Haley Conners is going to bring her home. Lacy will be here in a few hours, mom. Haley has to feed the triplets, then get Lacy out of her fairy contract. Then she will be popping her home."

My mom sobbed and hugged my dad who had a few tears running down his face. Eric said, "Haley will keep me updated. I'll let Lucas know." My mom hugged him. My dad linked me, "I'd join you, but your mom needs me." I nodded. Out loud my dad said, "Thank you, Eric." Eric smiled, "You're family to me, Dale. So is Lacy." My dad clapped him on the back.

I walked down to my dungeon as everyone trailed behind me. Christy's wailing could be heard from the top of the steps. I stopped in front of her cell and opened the door. I dragged her to the torture room. She screamed, "No, Lucas! Please, not this!" I growled, "The punishment for attacking your Luna is death, Christy." Christy growled, "I should be the Luna! She's a child! A naïve, stupid child!" I growled and punched her. She looked at me in shock, then screamed "I was doing you a favor! I might even be your second chance mate!"

Eric scoffed, "No you're not. You've known Lucas forever; I know for a fact you've never felt any sort of mate connection to him. If you were second chance mates, you would've felt something. Especially because Lucas is an Alpha. Did you reject your mate like Claudia did?" Christy sighed, "No, I'm pretty sure my mate was Elias." I winced. Elias had died in a rogue attack when we were sixteen years old.

I strapped Christy face down on the table and grabbed a whip. Eric offered, "Haley said the most painful places to be whipped are the inner thighs and feet." I told him, "I'm sorry she knows that. Christy, I'm going to whip the way they whipped my mate." She whimpered, "No, Lucas! Please! I'm better for you, it came from a place of love."

I lowered the whip onto her back before she had a chance to keep talking. She screamed in pain. I hated every second of this. There was a time where I deeply cared for Christy, but that inflamed my anger. Every time she consoled me over Lacy it was all lies. I stalled my hand, asking her, "Did you laugh at me every time you comforted me? When I cried for Lacy did you mock me behind my back?" She cried, "No! I was there for you."

Dylan sprang forward and yanked out a chunk of Christy's hair. Jackson said, "Well, that should tell you how serious this is, Christy. Dylan's pissed." Dylan roared, "YOU KEPT HER FROM US BECAUSE YOU'RE A SELFISH BITCH!" Christy screamed, "What do you care, Dylan?" Dylan growled, "I always liked Lacy and you know that! Our wonderful, fun fairy Luna can tell who people's mates are. Lacy is mine." Christy sighed, "That's not my fault! Lacy was keeping Lucas from his job."

I growled retorting, "You weren't my job! Lacy never kept me from anything!" Christy snorted, "We had a date you left because she called you crying." I stared at her, "You... tricked my sister into leaving because she was scared for her first shift

and wanted her big brother? Are you fucking kidding me?! I planned to be at her shift anyway! She wanted me there, and you knew that!" Christy snorted, "We had two more hours before her shift. She needed to grow up."

I raised the whip and shredded her inner thighs and feet to ribbons. When I stopped Christy begged, "Just kill me. I can't stand this." I laughed, "Do you think I care? Besides, the fairy princess wants a piece of you." Christy snorted, "That BITCH made me feel like there were spiders all over me all goodman night long. She had her turn with me."

Eric snarled and reached out and snapped Christy's arm in half. He warned her, "Speak about my wife again, and I'll break your other arm." Christy was wailing. Eric turned to me, "Time flies when you're having fun, I guess. Haley and Lacy are upstairs." Nerves flew at me. Dylan bounced between his feet. I whispered, "It hasn't been that long." Eric disagreed, "It's been an hour and a half." I took off running, and for once Dylan passed me.

I linked Emmaline, "Lacy's back." She answered, "I'll come back. Can I bring the girls?" I quickly replied, "Sure." I ran into my office and my eyes landed on my baby sister. She'd lost weight since I last saw her. Her green eyes flashed to me as she was wrapped around Dylan, who was smelling her and breathing her in.

Lacy greeted, "Hi, Luc." I smiled, "Lacy Loo." Dylan set her down and she ran into my arms. I spun her around. Dylan growled and I shot him an amused look. He grumbled, "He takes my mate away when I get her and doesn't let me sleep. He's so mean to me, Dale." My dad laughed and wiped away tears.

I whispered, "I missed you, Lacy Loo." She started to cry, "I really missed you too. I'm so sorry." I held her tighter, "No, I'm sorry. I'm the Alpha here. I should've known what Christy was doing." My dad cleared his throat, "You stop that right now Lucas Lyons. You couldn't have known. Your mother hates that woman for god's sake and even she didn't suspect her. All of us have been searching, you, me, and Eric. My Beta, nor yours guessed this one. Dylan said, "For the record, I DID say Christy was horrible. I feel like that counts for something."

I sighed and set Lacy down. She ran to our dad. I noticed Haley was here and crying. I raised an eyebrow. She waved her hand, "Happy tears. I'm so happy for you guys." I nodded, "Thank you for bringing her home. I hope it wasn't too much trouble." Lacy laughed, "She kicked ass, and she got in several good verbal jabs. Then dropped the brother bomb, the king." Bjourn spoke, "That's twice and this time it didn't involve a partial fairy. What favor does your fairy big brother want?" I whirled around, not realizing he was in the room.

Haley stuck her tongue out at Bjourn stating, "Nothing big." I frowned, "Tell Aiden the favor owed to him is from me." Marcus spoke, "She would've tried that.

Aiden doesn't want anything from you." He address his sister, "Haley, what does he want?" Eric growled, "He made you give him something?" Haley rolled her eyes, "Eric and I have to take a quick, and I do mean QUICK, trip to Faerie next month. Aiden has a visitor coming he needs the truth from, it's nothing my lion."

Eric's face told me that wasn't true. I linked him, "Eric?" Eric replied "She has ghosts there. Our last trip was a disaster." Out loud Eric asked, "How quick?" Haley answered, "A few hours. It will be fine." It didn't make me feel better that even Jackson looked worried. Marcus was clearly furious.

Bjourn spoke, "This is why we hate fairies. Does Aiden not know that you would've done that for him anyway?" Haley sighed, "He does. It was about appearances. He was taking a contract away from some earth fairies. They had to see him get something for it. Aiden did a good thing here. Focus on that fact, please." Dylan linked me, "She verbally rebuked them, then said please. I love her."

Haley turned to Lacy, "I'm glad you're home, Lacy." Lacy turned, "It was a pleasure to meet you. You really are Eric's perfect match. You're way better than Claudia. She was such a bitch." Haley snorted, "Claudzilla is the worst. Are you done with Christy, Lucas?" Lacy shivered. I nodded. Christy wasn't on my list now. I didn't want to hurt her anymore; we'd been together for quite some time, and I wasn't a robot. I did what needed to be done.

Haley smiled, "Well then, I'll take her with me when I leave. I'll handle some disputes and be back. I probably won't have her back to you tonight, but maybe Wednesday." Haley kissed Eric, teasing, "See you later husband of mine." Eric retorted, "Later when we will discuss your mission in detail." Haley sighed.

Marcus and Bjourn agreed. Bjourn stated, "With us too. The Hood himself is on our shit list." Haley grinned admitting, "You'll have to get in line after BA, she's pissed! But because I love you, here's a sneak peek before I pop out, she went dark, but she'd sent word she was going to. Her brother didn't agree with the plan because of the FUCKING TROLL! I hate him SO MUCH!"

Eric, Bjourn, and Marcus growled as Haley smiled and popped out. Eric yelled, "MOTHER FUCKER!" Jackson smiled, "Say what you want, but fairies know how to make an exit." Dylan said, "Sure, sure who is the troll? That's the highest of insults from a fairy, in case anyone was wondering." Bjourn answered, "Haley is not a fan of the Hood's lieutenant" Dylan squealed and started typing on his phone.

Chelsea, Valerie, Sam, Drake, Peter, and Emmaline came into my office. The girls instantly ran to Lacy. They all started crying. Lacy apologized, "I'm so sorry. I

should've known you wouldn't say those things about me." Chelsea cried, "We missed you so much, Lace."

I walked over to Emmaline and pulled her into my arms. When the girls stepped back, Lacy noticed Emmaline in my arms. She greeted, "You must be my brother's mate." Emmaline nodded, "I'm very happy to meet you. I know the girls, Lucas, your parents, and Dylan missed you a lot." Lacy smiled, "I already like you."

Emmaline nodded then said, "I know everyone really missed Lacy, but Dylan and Lacy are both dying to have some time together. Please Lucas, let them do what mates do. You know you wanted to do the same when we met." I growled, "I waited." Emmaline laughed pointing out, "If I was a werewolf, you would've carried me out of that classroom." I sighed. She was right. I winced, "Oh fine, go Dylan."

Before the words had left my mouth Dylan had Lacy whisked out of the room. My mother laughed and said, "Both my babies have their mates." She looked at my dad continuing, "This is such a good day Dale." My dad smiled, "Our babies are both home and settled. We can finally come home." My mom cried, "We can come home for good." They left my office holding each other.

I pulled Emmaline to me. She asked, "You still have work left, don't you?" I frowned, "How did you know?" Emmaline admitted, "Haley texted me some things to notice with soul searching. You're conflicted. I took a stab that it was because you wanted to spend time with me, but you have work to do." I laughed, "You're right." She kissed me and started to leave with Chelsea, Valerie, Sam, Drake, and Peter.

I called, "Drake, Peter, you're going to want to stay back for a moment." They boys looked at each other questioningly but stayed. We waited until the girls were gone. Peter asked, "What's going on?" I said, "Let me get your dad on the line."

He answered on the first ring. Alpha Kyle's amusement came across in his tone, "Lucas, I'm now calling you by your name because you call me so damn much now. If you hadn't just found your mate, I'd think you wanted to replace your Eric tumbles with me." Peter groaned, "DAD! EW!" Alpha Kyle laughed, "Hello son, it was just a joke. Your mother would never share me." Peter shivered. I said, "You can call off the search for the fifth body." Alpha Kyle was relieved, "Great, we were getting nowhere. Where is it?" Eric laughed.

Alpha Kyle questioned, "Was that Alpha Eric laughing?" Eric answered, "Yes it is, Alpha Kyle." I informed him, "There isn't a body to find. Your son was right, my mate is a fairy." Alpha Kyle said, "He already told me that last night. What does that have to do with the body?" I sighed, "Emmaline can drown someone who's

attacking her and turn them to water.” Alpha Kyle was stunned. Peter and Drake’s jaws dropped.

I continued, “On another topic, Eric’s mate also brought a potential rogue attack to our attention. Guard your borders. It’s probably just on my territory, but you can never be too careful when demons are involved.” Alpha Kyle said, “An attack on you is an attack on your allies. We will be ready to assist. Out of curiosity Alpha Eric, does your princess allow your werewolf allies to attend her training sessions for their unmated males? I gotta get myself a fairy in the pack.” Eric laughed, “She probably would. Though you’d just need Lucas’ to meet the fairies then your unmated males. She’s the soul searcher.”

Alpha Kyle admitted “I figured she was when Peter told me it was confirmed she was a water fairy duchess. She did tell my son who his mate was after all.” I sighed. Alpha Kyle continued, “So, she can drown people and turn them to water? Damn good thing she’s on our side then. Full blooded fairies are morons. Eric’s mate and yours are ridiculously powerful, those two alone would be worth befriending all the partial fairies for.”

Eric agreed, “My family and I have been saying the same thing since we met Haley.” Marcus spoke, “Our family has been saying that since I brought my sister home.” Alpha Kyle didn’t say anything. Drake and Peter turned to face the corner.

Drake yelled, “Holy shit! Are you the Hackura princes?” Bjourn laughed answering, “Yes.” Peter looked like a kid on Christmas. He asked, “Which ones? I’ve never met a Hackura before,” Marcus laughed, “That you know of. I’m Prince Marcus, this is Prince Bjourn.” Their jaws dropped.

Eric said, “They practically live with Haley and I now. Their mates and their kids on occasion as well. Bjourn just proposed to Astrid in the chapel Haley and Bexley conjured for our wedding.” Bjourn teased, “I told you; you guys are better than cable. We know you appreciate us being around because my sister is a magnet for trouble. Haley’s chapel is beautiful, and it was the perfect setting to propose.” Eric smiled, “I like having you guys around, and Haley was thrilled you proposed in the chapel.” Alpha Kyle laughed, “Of course he likes having them around.”

Before Eric could reply, my pack link went crazy, “ROGUES! WE ARE SURROUNDED!” I jumped up, “They jumped up their timetable, we are surrounded.” Eric replied, “My pack on our border is engaged. Haley will be…” he trailed off as Haley popped in. She said, “Right fucking here. That’s where Haley will be. Where is my cousin?” I paled, “SHIT! She’s in the pack house!” Haley rolled her eyes, “I’ll get her. I bet we beat you wolves to the fight.” I almost passed out, “Emmaline’s not fighting!”

Haley disagreed, “She’s a fucking bad ass who took out five rogues on her OWN, and I’ll be with her. Get used to it. We aren’t the mates who sit around waiting at home for you kind of women. We fucking assist because we are powerful too. Sorry not sorry.” With that she popped out.

Alpha Kyle said, “We’ve got some rogues on our border too. We will deal with them and make our way to you. Son, stay safe.” Peter answered, “Will do.” We ran outside and were met by Dylan who was grumbling, “I’m going to rip these jerks to pieces. I’m Twenty-four and I had JUST marked my mate. Then they show up. What’s a beta gotta do for a night of good mate loving?” I sighed, “I didn’t need details, your mate is my sister.”

Eric growled. I looked ahead noticing Emmaline, Haley, Chelsea, Sam, and Valerie fighting. Peter, Drake, and I growled too. We ran to them. Haley was doing her thing. Emmaline was watching her chanting words. The lake level was rising causing some rogues to lose their footing as the wind picked up. I took down a wolf that was coming up behind Emmaline. She smiled at me and kept chanting.

Dylan linked me, “Why are there like one-hundred freaking rogues here right now?! Rogues are such cock blockers.” I winced, “No, no, no, no that’s my sister.” Dylan snarled and jumped on a wolf. I heard Emmaline scream, “NO!” I turned to see a knife frozen in midair, three feet away from me. Emmaline was staring at me in horror. I quickly realized the knife had been thrown at my stomach. Eric’s wolf jumped on the man who had shifted back to human form to throw the knife and ripped out his throat.

Haley squealed, “OH MY GOD! You can freeze, Emmaline! That’s amazing! I bet you have telekinesis too! Lucas, duck! NOW!” I ducked just as the knife unfroze. It hit the wolf Dylan was fighting instead. The rogue roared in pain and shifted back.

Dylan shifted back. He growled, “It’s laced with wolfsbane, Lucas. I can smell it.” I turned back to face the group when Emmaline hit my body full force. She slammed her lips on mine. When we pulled apart, she asked, “Are you ok?” I assured her, “I’m fine. Getting hit with wolfsbane wouldn’t have killed me.”

Haley snorted, “He’s not allowed to die, he’s my lion, he’s your mate, and he’s very important to mine. Besides, he’s not sorry he didn’t tell me about you yet. I’d bring Lucas back with my healing light if I had to. I’m not one to brag but HOT DAMN! We are such a powerful fucking family! You haven’t even trained yet, and you can freeze! Your father is going to freak out! It’s been so long since a water fairy could freeze. A lot of people think it’s a sky trait, which makes sense, but something with the particles in the air makes it water.”

Haley was bouncing with excitement. Eric shifted back; Haley snapped clothes on all of us. Peter came back looking pale with a prisoner. He whispered,, “Alpha Lucas.” The rogue laughed a crazed, manic laugh, “This is just the start, Alpha Lucas Lyons. You will pay for your sins, and now there’s a pretty little Luna to make suffer for what you’ve done.” I growled, “You won’t touch my Luna. What sin exactly are we talking about?” The rogue laughed, “He’s coming for you!” With that the rogue wrenched his neck in Peter’s hand, killing himself by breaking his neck.

I looked at Dylan whose eyes widened in shock. Eric’s eyes locked on mine and he said, “Nothing will happen to Emmaline, Lucas.” I looked at Emmaline. The rogue was right, I had something they could take from me that I would do anything to get back.

Haley spoke, “Don’t you worry my lion, Emmaline and I will work together on her powers. She’s not weak or a bystander. Threats are part of this life we all lead.” I managed, “You aren’t weak, and you were taken from Eric.” Haley sighed, “Emmaline, should you get involved in a fight, and one of your brothers pop up, don’t turn your back on them. You good now, Lucas?” Emmaline paled asking, “Your fairy brother betrayed you? The king?” Haley sighed, “Yes and no. Aiden didn’t betray me, my other brother did. His name was Arion.”

Emmaline linked me asking, “She killed him, right?” I sighed, “Only when she had to. The first time he betrayed her she saved him and let him go. Only when he came for her children did she kill him, and he took a piece of her heart with him.” Emmaline responded, “I’m not defenseless, and Haley is going to train me.” Eric was still staring at me. I agreed with Emmaline, “You’re not. Go back to the house. I have to clean up the area and dispose of bodies.”

Haley snorted, “It’s just a litany of insults from my lion this week.” She snapped and the bodies were gone. I bit my lip, “Thank you, Haley.” She glared at me, “I left the triplets after barely getting to spend time with them after the clusterfuck situation I got sent into with the Hood. I have to take out a fucking demon, and link Eric every fifteen minutes, and the SECOND our men told me there were rogues on our border with you; I was here. Then you say you have clean up to do. It’s like you want me to be mad at you.”

I sighed. Dylan spoke, “I never doubted you for a moment, my ninja fun sized fairy princess.” Eric groaned. Haley smiled, “Thank you, Dylan. At least SOMEONE appreciates me.” Jackson laughed, “Don’t worry sister in law of mine, we appreciate you.”

Marcus and Bjourn joined us in the clearing, smirking at me. Marcus spoke, “Little sister, we always know you’ve got our back. Unless, of course, you’re pissed at us.” Haley snorted, “I’d still have your back and you know it. I’d just do some

fairy shit to you later. I SHOULD snap the bodies back and make Lucas deal with it.”

She turned to look at me when Dylan whimpered. She said, “You’re lucky I already love my cousin and you know I love my husband fiercely or I would do just that. It wouldn’t be fair to Dylan either. Emmaline, I will see you Wednesday with your mate. Now, I’m off to see if my children are still awake.” With that she popped away.

Eric lips twitched, “Don’t worry, Lucas. Caleb still gets in trouble for ordering new things when I break them. I’ll talk to her.” I sighed, “She’s going to make my life hell.” Jackson smiled, “Darrin will be delighted to pass off the crown. He can’t think of anything to get her back with. Mostly, he’s afraid of what she’d do in retaliation, should he do anything.” Marcus said, “He should be. She’s been a touch testy lately.” Bjourn snorted, “Darrin should let it go. She’s the prank master. Don’t mess with the prank master. Trust me, we tried. It ended with us admitted she’s the master of pranks.”

Emmaline smiled and kissed my cheek. Chelsea spoke, “We will take Emmaline back. I know you still have things to discuss.” Chelsea kissed Peter and Sam kissed Drake then they left. I groaned, “So someone is coming for me, for my sins. I have no idea. Dylan?” Dylan groaned, “Best guess...? Black Wing’s pack. We took them over a few years ago, after they split off between brothers. We only took out the pack that Alpha Jack took over.” I sighed, “Oh come the fuck on! He kidnapped two pups from our border!” Dylan sighed, “You asked. I’m telling you who’s the most likely suspect. Alpha Jack was a bad apple, but Alpha Hank is still his brother. They were close until the packs split, and no one knows why they split in the first place.”

I told him, “Call Alpha Hank’s Beta. Throw out feelers but keep looking into other options, and once you talk to him; understand this physically pains me to say but go back to my sister.” Dylan practically danced away. Eric and Jackson laughed. I groaned, “I’m the only one here with a sister. You don’t get it.” Drake said, “I have a sister.” Damn. I forgot he was here. Marcus and Bjourn snorted as well. I said, “Ok, fine. They don’t have a sister.” I said pointed at Jackson and Eric.

Everyone cleared out but me, Jackson, Marcus, Bjourn, and Eric. Eric stated, “You’re worried about Emmaline.” I ran my hand through my hair, “How can I not be? Your mate is a goddamn Hackura princess as well as a fairy princess. She was still taken from you, Eric. Emmaline was already taken from me by Christy. I already have glaring security risks when it comes to her.”

Eric sighed, “Christy is taken care of, my mate took her to our dungeon. Your warriors have been chastised and punished for leaving Emmaline. Haley wasn’t

wrong either, Emmaline is not defenseless. Even without using a fairy power, she overpowered four of the five rogues.”

I pointed out, “A rogue is not a warrior or an Alpha.” Eric shrugged, “A rogue could very well be a former warrior. I will talk to Haley. If Emmaline’s brothers are even remotely possible candidates for betraying Emmaline; I’ll kill them myself. Haley will tell me who they are, and I will do what needs to be done. I will NOT let you suffer like I did, I can’t.” My eyes filled with tears. Marcus and Bjourn simultaneously stated, “Nor will we.” Marcus added, “I don’t think they are a threat to be perfectly honest.”

Eric and Bjourn glanced at him. Eric said, “You know who they are.” Marcus nodded, “Yes. You agreed to let Haley do find her fairy relatives on her own. I did not. She was looking and I was looking over her shoulder. The person I don’t trust is the stepfather. I looked into the last few years of his life. He’s become more violent and unpredictable. Her brothers genuinely want to find their youngest sister. So does Emmaline’s sister.”

Bjourn spoke first, “Haley will kick your ass brother.” Marcus shrugged, “If she finds out, but she’s not looking. I won’t be blindsided again when it comes to her. I failed her. I should’ve been there that day, and I should’ve taken out Arion long before she had to.” Bjourn frowned, “Or I should’ve. Any of us could say that Marcus, and none of us will fault you for protecting her by watching her back. It’s smart.”

I looked at Eric and it hit me. I stated, “You already knew he was looking.” Marcus didn’t look surprised by my statement. Eric smiled, “I’ve gotten to know Marcus overtime. You hate surprises, and after the whole thing about your techs having access to her phone and whatnot; I knew you’d be watching out for her.”

Jackson roared with laughter, “That’s why you were so blasé about her looking into it alone?” Eric said, “It’s partial fairy business. I didn’t think she was ever in danger, but I knew if she was that Marcus would tell us.” Jackson couldn’t stop laughing.

I was relieved. At least Emmaline’s brothers weren’t risks. I asked the question that was probably going to offend them, “Did you consider Haley’s fairy brothers risks?” This time Bjourn spoke, “We did. Not as the type of risk that would actively take her though. They were considered risks because they didn’t lift a finger to help her when she suffered.”

I followed up, “With that in mind, you’re certain her brother’s aren’t any kind of risk?” Marcus shook his head, “No, they are still diligently looking for her. They believe they have the help of their uncle, which I can assure you they do not. They’ve never stopped looking for her, they love her.” I felt my heart tear a little

bit with that information. I knew how her brothers felt. It's how I felt about Lacy being missing.

I sighed, "Alright, well let's get back." Jackson grumbled, "We have to drive back to our territory because Lucas pissed off my sister in law." Just then a pop sounded. Haley appeared on Eric's back. She stated, "Alright, hop on the fairy express where we are under appreciated, overlooked, and insulted. Onto our own territory where there are two count them, one, two, pack disputes left. Because I AM that fucking good." Haley stuck her tongue out at me before she popped away with her brothers, Eric, and Jackson.

I shifted back into my wolf and headed toward the pack house. I was about to shift back when I heard a gasp, "Dominic, you're... you're beautiful." I turned to see my mate step out of the shadow by the lake at the edge of the house. She reached forward to touch my fur. Dominic started to purr. I linked him, "Really? You're purring?" Dominic replied, "Shut up! It feels so good." I laughed at him and watched in amazement as my mate petted a giant wolf twice her size with no fear.