

Chapter 109

As we chanted, the energy swirled through the room. I stood beside Miranda's bed as Melissa stood beside Brent's bed. The words spewed out over and over and more feverous as we pressed on. I felt heat rush through my bloodstream and suddenly I felt blind as a bright warm light escaped my body. My hearing, though, seemed to advance as I could hear, even over our chanting, what was going on outside.

I swear I heard Everest's voice on the other side. He said "What is the bright light?"

"I am unsure, your Majesty. Would you like me to check?" I recognized the voice of Doctor Howard.

"No, no. We will stay put. She isn't in any danger. I can feel her. She is just warm. She is okay." Everest told him.

Is the window open? No, hospital windows don't open, do they? I was curious as to where that breeze was coming from. I wondered why the breeze felt warm and comforting. My mind seemed to separate from my body as my thoughts wondered about the wind, and how I could hear myself still chanting. My voice sounded cold yet still strong. Melissa, on the other hand, sounded angry as the words spewed from her mouth. She was truly giving it everything she had.

Then suddenly I felt as light as a feather. What an odd sensation to feel. I wondered, no, I knew that we were both floating in the air as the chant was working. We were practically screaming as the warm breeze swirled around my body, hugging me tightly. I was still blind, that was until I saw her shadow. Our Moon Goddess, well the shadow of her. I knew it was her, without a single doubt in my mind. She reached for me. I reached for her. Our fingers touched and when they did I could feel her power.

Her power coursed through my veins, giving me everything I needed. I cradled it gently, scared to release such energy into the world. I wanted to learn how to use it properly, afraid it might rebound and strike Melissa or myself. I blinked my eyes and I could see again. What I was looking at was not the hospital room but a white room. Everything was pristine and white. I looked around and my eyes landed on her.

"Do not hold back the magic I have granted you. Release it into Miranda. When released she will wake up." She told me.

"What of Brent?" I asked her.

"He will wake up when she does. It won't be right away, it will take him a while to be fully himself. Give him an hour or so for his eyes to open. Do not be alarmed when he does not move though. All will be well." She smiled. It was a sad smile. She turned her head to the right as if she heard something.

"What is it?" I asked her, also looking in the direction she had been. I did not see nor hear anything. I looked back at her.

She let out a long sigh "I must tell you this. I told Miranda there would be a price to pay. She will never be able to have children of her own."

"What? No. She must have children." I protested. "Take that ability away from me. I have my boys. I do not need anything more." I tried my best to sacrifice myself but she only shook her head.

"To make this sacrifice happen the way you would like, I would be taking away the next heir to the Kingdom." She approached me and placed a hand on my belly. It was warm and comforting. A light shone from her hand and I frowned at her. "You are with child, my dear. I just placed protection over your womb. It will last until Miranda is awake. Please, let her know of her sacrifice."

"I, I, I am with child?" My hand went to my belly out of a protective instinct.

She smiled at me. "Yes, my dear you are. Only by a couple of weeks."

"Oh." Was all I could say. I felt guilt wash over me. Here I was with a baby growing in my belly while Miranda would never be able to experience such a joy and blessing. It wasn't fair. This situation was not fair. I looked back at our Moon Goddess and frowned, not accepting Miranda's fate. "Why can't you let her have atleast one child!?" I was no doubt angry.

"My child, when the fire burned through her body, she burned from the inside out. I can not heal what she has agreed to sacrifice." She spoke softly.

"But she didn't agree to this." I refused to accept it.

"She did agree to whatever sacrifice needed to be made to bring peace among you and your people. She didn't want to know upfront but accepted that it could be her. She accepted that she may not come out of it alive. She accepted that she might lose her mate. She accepted her fate. Remember when I said something along the lines that you and your reign would bring everyone together? This is the way it should be. This is the way it is." She told me.

I simply just nodded. "Okay, I will tell her." I agreed, but my heart was broken for not only her, but for Brent. They will not have any babies. There was adoption, of course, but they would never carry and deliver their own babes.

Suddenly, it felt like I was sucked back into reality. I went back to being blind but felt power escape my body. I focused it all on Miranda, just as I was instructed to do. I blinked as my body slowly lowered to the ground. I blinked again and realized I was back in the hospital room again. I looked across the room and saw Melissa. She seemed fine as she offered me a small smile. That's when I heard her.

Her voice was raspy and soft. "Where, where am I?" Her eyes blinked rapidly as they adjusted to the light, as she began to squint.

"Welcome back." Melissa smiled.

"Yes, welcome back. It has been so very long." I smiled and moved to her side. I noticed out of my peripheral vision, that Melissa moved to her other side. She appeared to be standing in the direct view Miranda would have of Brent.

"How long has it been?" She frowned as if she remembered something. "Where is Brent?" She asked in a panic tone.

"It has been about four months, maybe a bit more." I told her honestly. Her head snapped at me as her eyes searched my face.

"You look sad." She frowned. "Is it Brent? Was he my sacrifice?" Tears began to well up in her eyes, threatening to topple and spill down her cheeks at any given moment.

"Shhh, shh. No, no, he was not your sacrifice." I gave her a small smile and motioned to the bed next to her. "He is still asleep. Because of your special abilities, you were able to wake up first, I assume. Give him an hour or so, he should wake up. You were both linked and bound together through magic."

"Oh, what about Cassie!?" She let out in a panic.

"Cassie is well. She has been hanging around my boys and I hear, bossing them around. They adore her, truly. They will do anything for her. I think she knows it, too." We both softly laughed.

"Hmm. Well, I wonder what she meant by sacrifice? I honestly don't think I want to know." She said honestly.

"I know." I told her. "But I don't have to tell you until you are ready."

"How do you know?" She frowned.

"I spoke with her when we were trying to bring you back. That is how I know that in about an hour or so Brent will wake up. He may be groggy, sore, and confused, but he will be back with you."

Miranda let out a long sigh. She sat for a moment and looked up when a soft knock sounded at the door.

"It's Everest and probably a doctor, maybe a few nurses. You will need to be checked out." I told her and she nodded.

"I'm just going to head on out. I am very tired and require some rest." Melissa left the room quietly as Everest, a nurse, and Doctor Howard entered.

"Hello there, Miranda." Everest greeted her warmly. "Welcome back."

"Hi." She smiled. "It is nice to be back, even though it feels just like the battle happened yesterday."

"Hello, Your majesty." Doctor Howard bowed his head, kneeling to Miranda. He stayed this way until she spoke to him.

"Hello." She greeted him.

"I am Doctor Howard and let me tell you, we are so very happy that you are awake. I would like to ask you a few questions, check your reflexes, and get you standing and walking. If this is okay with you?" He smiled at her as he pulled up the rolling stool.

"Of course." She looked over to us.

"We will leave you to it." I told her and she nodded her head.

"Doctor Howard, I would very much like to be informed the moment Brent awakens." He ordered him,

"Of course, King Everest." He bowed his head as we made our exit out of Miranda's room.

"Sometime later in the evening, once Brent is awake and all of his tests are complete, I would like to bring Cassie up here to see them both. I think that it would do them both a lot of good. I think Cassie will be just the right push they will need to get the healing back on track." I told Everest as we rode the elevator down to the main floor.

"Of course. Let's go have lunch with the kids. Does it sound like a plan to you?" He asked me.

"Sounds like a perfect plan babe." I smiled as he took my hand in his own. We stepped out of the elevator and made our way to where all the kids were.

When we finally found the kids, we were surrounded with small arms wrapped around us with hugs. "Hello to you all." Everest chuckled.

"Is it true?" I looked over at Trevor and nodded my head. "That's good then." I watched his eyes move to Cassie as he whispered to himself more than anyone else, "Really, really good." A smile crossed his face.

"Is everyone hungry?" I asked them all.

"Yes!" They all yelled in unison.

During lunch, we were approached by someone whom I have yet to meet. He bowed and greeted us properly. He asked to speak with Everest and when they stepped out of the restaurant I looked over at Trevor. When he mouthed "Brent" I only nodded. When Everest came back in and sat down, he looked across the table at me. When our eyes locked on one another, I felt how uneasy he was and I felt him reaching out to me.

"Brent is awake. His eyes are open but that is all. He is unresponsive." His thoughts drifted through my mind.

"Unresponsive?" I had to remember to watch my facial expressions.

"Yes, he has been awake for about thirty or forty minutes now. He hasn't moved, other than breathing and blinking." I heard him sigh.

"Oh. I was under the understanding that it would take him longer to fully recover. Let's not give up hope yet." I told him as he nodded his head in response.

We finished our meals and walked back to the castle together. Trevor took the boys and Cassie up to their rooms after hugs and goodbyes were given. "I will see you all shortly." I told them all.

We made our way back to the hospital after the kids were out of our line of vision. I wanted to lay eyes on Brent myself before I made any conclusions of my own. I was sure he would be just fine. He just needed time.

