

Halloween Reception

Lucas couldn't take his eyes off Emmaline's Tinkerbell costume when she came down the stairs. Dominic growled at me, "Make mate change! That is very short and revealing. Actually, let's rip it off her. Yes, that's a better plan."

My pants tightened. I tried shaking my thoughts of ripping her costume off her from my head. I linked Eric, "This is your wife's fault." Eric ripped his eyes away from Haley to look at Emmaline. He laughed in our link, "I'm not even sorry." I growled at him.

I practically sprinted over to Emmaline. Her arousal reached my nose, and I barely managed not to throw her over my shoulder. Dylan linked me, "Oh, no you don't. I know that look. It's Dylan and Lacy day! You're the best man, and the bride's brother. You cannot, I repeat cannot disappear for hours. Calm yourself."

I replied, "Do you SEE this outfit?" Dylan smirked, "Now that I think about it you're right. I didn't see her standing there through my keen senses. I just don't know what happened. YES, I SEE HER! IT IS DYLAN AND LACY DAY! You can rip it off later, bestie."

I growled, "Watch it because I could convince Emmaline to get Lacy to wear something just like it." Dylan perked up, "Could you? I'd like a slutty Disney princess please." I groaned. Dylan winked, "Emmaline looks nice though." I growled, "She looks like a snack." Dylan sounded scandalized, "I would never say such things of my Luna and best friends' mate. I'll stick to she looks nice."

Emmaline teased me. I linked Eric, "Fuck your wife and her fairy outfits!" Eric replied, "You don't have to tell me twice, I'll be back." I growled, "NO! That's not what I meant!" Eric smirked, "Haley made you dislike Tinkerbell, and now she's bringing back the fun to said character. It's very fairy of them." I growled, "You're enjoying this because your wife is fully covered."

Eric raised an eyebrow, "My wife's dress is hardly covering her. Things like your mate being kidnapped from your own backyard pregnant with your pups puts things like their outfits into perspective."

I growled, "There's more material to Haley's outfit." Eric agreed, "That's true, but it wouldn't matter to me. At the end of the day, I get to rip it off." Eric's eyes went back to Haley and his entire demeanor changed. I looked over and realized what happened. Her clothes he was fine with, men taunting him about his wife not so much.

I linked Dylan, "This is why this is problem." He looked up at me questioningly until Beta James was flung back from Haley. Dylan looked stunned, "Dang. I didn't think she'd get that mad from him almost talking to her. Did GAP tell her to do that? He's no fun."

I watched as Haley popped to Eric and popped him away. I linked Dylan, "I don't think Haley did that." I linked Jackson, "Does Eric have some of Haley's powers?" Jackson replied, "He hadn't shown any, but Marcious told us he'd get at least one of her powers."

Dylan linked me, "Of course, she knew he was behind her. I didn't even need the youngest creepy ninja assassin to share that detail. I knew. She has ninja stealth powers. She threw him against the wall with the wind. I told James she'd do that if he crossed a line. I'm not entirely certain how almost speaking to her was crossing a line... women. What can you do?"

Jackson was surprised but glared at Beta James. Haley popped back with Eric. He linked me, "Beta James better watch the fuck out. I can apparently call the wind." I linked Dylan, "Remain calm." Dylan frowned, "Why wouldn't I... OH SASSAFRAS! DO NOT TELL ME!" I laughed in our link. He took it well.

I linked Eric, "Did she tell you how to control it?" Eric sighed, "She did. Apparently, my rage at seeing him near her; knowing his intent brought the power forward. When Fairy's first use of their powers it's usually activated by a strong emotion." I assured him, "Beta James won't do anything to Haley." Eric growled, "You and I BOTH know he'd fuck her in heartbeat to get back at me." I gave him a look, "Before you marked her, sure. Now, absolutely not. That would cause you pain, he's not that angry. Flirt with her, sure. Nothing else." He was clearly past reason though.

I linked Jackson, "Eric might need fresh air." Jackson replied, "He's not leaving Haley alone with Beta James here. I'm not a miracle worker." I sighed. I was concerned because Beta James was entirely too smug for someone who'd been thrown into a wall.

I was surprised by Emmaline's line of questioning in our link. Beta James finding his mate at this wedding was certainly welcomed news. I linked Eric, "Emmaline figured out who Beta James mate is. She said she'll be popping in later."

Eric relaxed a little bit, "So, he gets a fairy too. Oh, that's so good. He deserves the karma of the male fairies that will try to seduce his mate." I frowned, "Does anyone deserve that?" Eric retorted, "The guy who's mad his sisters all wanted to have sex with me does. They ALL knew what they were getting into. None of them were

virgins. I didn't lie, coerce, or mislead any of them in any way, shape, or form. Yet he still wants to flirt with my and fuck my wife because I slept with his sisters. Who all knew I'd slept with the others."

I said, "Haley wouldn't flirt back, nor would she ever think about having sex with him. Again, he would not have sex with her. She's marked." Eric growled, "I am aware she won't, or he'd already be dead."

I linked Dylan, "Why did you do this? On your wedding day?" Dylan replied, "Beta James is NOT going to hurt Haley. He's my friend. Maybe having them walk together wasn't my best idea, but I'm taking credit for GAP getting a fairy power. He's welcome."

I told him, "Emmaline told me his mate will be popping in to join us later." Dylan squealed, "ARE YOU SERIOUS?" I nodded. Dylan grinned broadly, "That's so great! See? It all worked out. God Alpha Prick, who can all the wind now thanks to little old me, I so loathe him will settle down. Beta James will get his mate. All will be well. All because of my meddling."

I rolled my eyes, "Sure, your meddling. Let's all overlook the fact that my mate is the soul searcher, and she solved the problem that you created." Dylan admitted, "Ok, so Emmaline played a part, but I put the players on the court. You can't take this from me. I am the conduit to the matchmaker today." I rolled my eyes.

Dylan thanked Emmaline for my costume I growled, "Really?" Dylan smiled, "It's my wedding day, and she gave me a lovely present." I rolled my eyes, "Then I'll return the present we got you if you like hers so much."

Dylan gasped, "Hey, now your sister needs a present too. It would be so rude not to get your little sister a present. Have you no shame or manners?" I laughed. I pulled Emmaline to me and started to run my hands up and down her costume. I could convince her to pop us away for a quickie.

My mom came in linking me, "You will NOT mess up your sister's wedding, Lucas Lyons." I responded, "I have no intention to mess up the wedding." My mom rolled her eyes, "Let's pretend like I don't know that predatory look on your face. You can wait to claim Emmaline. You WILL wait until a reasonable time AFTER the reception has started. Do you hear me young man?" I groaned, "Yes, mom." She smiled at me.

She addressed the group then linked me again, “You relay that message to Eric as well. I’ll have his mother scold him too if needed. Actually, I’ll do it. She’s already in a mood about fairies.” What did that mean?

I linked Eric, “My mother has informed me we cannot mess up Lacy’s wedding. That means we can’t fuck our mates until a reasonable time after the reception has started.” Eric growled, “Thor is NOT happy about that. I am not fucking happy about it either. Does your mother know Beta James wants what is mine?” I reminded him, “His mate will here soon.” Eric grumbled, “Haley said Emmaline told her she couldn’t tell me who his mate is. All I know is it’s good. What does that even mean?” I replied, “I’ll ask Emmaline.”

Emmaline’s responses brought me up short. Eric slammed into the back of me. He linked, “Lucas?” I cut a glance at him, “Emmaline implied it might not be a partial fairy?” Eric was surprised, “Are you serious?” I nodded, “Apparently it may be a full-blooded fairy. The only thing I know is that it is in fact a fairy. She won’t tell me because and I quote ‘Anticipation is good for the soul.’ I have no words.” Eric groaned, “Fairies.” I actually agreed with him this time. I didn’t need anticipation; I was an Alpha. I got answers immediately, and I wasn’t nice if I didn’t.

Dylan linked me, “So, who is my buddy Beta James mate? You didn’t say earlier. I won’t tell him or anything. That’s no fun.” I growled, “I don’t know.” Dylan frowned, “Didn’t you ask Emmaline?” I retorted, “Anticipation is good for me apparently.” Dylan howled with laughter, “I love fairies.” I rolled my eyes, “Yes, we all know you do.”

Dylan continued his questions, “Do we know this partial fairy?” I retorted, “Possibly a full blooded fairy, and I don’t know if we do.” Dylan groaned, “Next time link me, I can get us more details. Beta blood does that for you. Alpha’s ask one measly question and get pissed if they don’t get answers. You all shut down. That’s what I’m here for, it’s literally my job.” I rolled my eyes at him.

I linked the pack, “No one looks at your Luna with anything but respect. I will punish anyone who looks at her lustfully.” Everyone went on alert. My mom linked me, “REALLY? It’s Lacy’s wedding.” I replied, “I said what I said.”

Lacy looked back at me then linked, “We tried to tell them, but they are just stubborn, brave little fairies.” I smirked at her, “You look beautiful, Lacy Loo.” She smiled and I continued, “I’m so proud of you.” She teared up, “Thank you. Now go stand by Chelsea before you make me cry.”

I sighed leaving Emmaline's side. It was going against every fiber of my being. I linked Eric, "You need to get in there and sit down. Jackson saved you a seat." Eric growled at Beta James, "Touch her and you won't live to meet your mate one day." Beta James said, "For god's sake, Eric. What are you, worried she'd prefer me to you and your sunny disposition?" Eric growled and slammed his lips on Haley's.

I linked Dylan, "Get someone to start the music before Eric kills Beta James." Haley put her hand on Eric's chest and smiled at him, whispering, "I love you, Thor. Only you." He smiled at her, glared at Beta James then stalked in to sit beside Jackson. His eyes never left Haley.

My eyes never left Emmaline once we got to alter. Lacy had the traditional werewolf ceremony. Quick and Easy. I did love my little sister, and I really was so happy for her. Emmaline and I linked about our own ceremony. The blood sharing seemed to scare her. Come to think of it, I was glad Haley could heal her afterwards. I would hate to see her bleeding. Dominic recoiled at the thought. I thought back to Eric and Haley's wedding.

I linked Eric, "Remember when you and Haley did the fairy piece of your wedding, and the fairy's freaked out. Why did they freak out?" Eric replied, "That's actually when we became twice light bound. The fairies didn't think Haley could share her light. They freaked out realizing she could use said light." I replied, "I remember some even passed out when Titus said Haley was his daughter." Eric smirked, "It was a good moment."

I snorted, "Let's hope that my wedding doesn't have fairy's trying to take my bride during the reception like yours did." Eric growled, "I have no patience for that, I'd just kill them for you." I snorted, "I'm in."

Once the ceremony ended Lacy had our group stay back. Eric, of course, didn't leave keeping his eyes on Beta James and Haley. I hugged Lacy, "Congratulations, Lacy Loo." I pulled Dylan in for a hug, "We are officially brothers." Dylan declared, "It's about time. We've basically been brothers forever. Your parents adopted me when mine abandoned me and Travis. Now, it's all official. I did notice my parents didn't make it. Don't be sad, Travis. It bothers me not at all." Travis snorted, "I'm not sad. I didn't think they were coming despite what they said." I winced. I hadn't known they'd said they come.

Lacy smiled and kissed Dylan's cheek drawing the attention away from that, "I always wanted my mate to be you, Dylan. I always had the biggest crush on you. You were my first kiss, and you'll be my last." Dylan kissed her deeply.

I went to Emmaline. I linked Eric when EJ popped to Chelsea, “You’re going to have to get Peter’s number. EJ could just pop on over to Red Run.” Eric gave me a look, “I already got it.” I rolled my eyes, “Of course you did.” Eric cooed at Cassie.

Dylan linked me, “I wasn’t ready. I need him to coo again when I have my phone ready to record that moment. The great GAP coos.” I groaned, “It’s his daughter.” Dylan gave me a shocked look, “He cooed. I’ve seen him rip a man’s heart out, and now he’s cooing. It’s adorable and I need it for extortion purposes. As my brother of a few minutes, I need you to get him to do it again.”

I was about to reply when another pop sounded. My heart stopped for a few seconds realizing it was right behind Emmaline. For a brief moment of terror, I wondered if Alpha Hammond started to work with fairies. I exhaled in relief when I realized it was just Idel dressed as Mrs. Incredible.

Dylan linked me, “YES! Beta James mate is here!” Eric said, “Holy shit.” Dylan asked, “Pray tell since it’s Dylan and Lacy day... who is she?” I answered, “That’s Emmaline’s full-blooded fairy sister, Idel.” Dylan squealed, “The moon goddess loves us, and no one can say she doesn’t. I’ll fight them. We just added a FULL-BLOODED FAIRY to our growing show!”

I snorted, “Alpha Theo is going to call Eric about this.” It should be me, but we all knew he wouldn’t. Dylan snorted, “Who cares about Alpha Theo?! A full-blooded fairy related to our Luna has found her werewolf mate. You just KNOW she will spend more time in this realm, and probably wants to spend time with her long-lost sister. THIS IS THE BEST DAY! I got married to the best girl at a COSTUME themed wedding Lucas. Maybe this is how we have peace between our pack and Alpha Theo’s.”

I rolled my eyes, “In your dreams.” Dylan smirked at me, “Have you not been paying attention lately? My dreams come true.” I sighed. He had a point. Lately, Dylan did seem to get what he wanted. Sure, he got pelted with some hail, but Eric would’ve killed someone else for saying the things Dylan did to him. Here Dylan was... perfectly fine at his wedding. Where he didn’t have to wear a tux.

Emmaline directed Idel to a room they could mate in. Eric linked me, “To quote my wife, Exfuckingcuse me? They can go mate, and I have to wait? Where the HELL is your mother to stop that from happening?” I told him, “She won’t care because Lacy doesn’t care about Beta James.”

Eric growled and kissed Haley, whispering in her ear, “I like your wig.” Haley giggled, “It’s not a wig, it’s a charm. This is my hair for a bit longer.” Eric glared at

me, “I have never disliked your mother more.” Dylan sighed, “Only because it is such a special day will I point out she can perform the charm again.” Now Eric smiled broadly.

We all filtered inside. Our group had dispersed and now it was just me, Emmaline, Lacy, Dylan, Eric, and Jackson. Someone walked by and handed Eric a plate of food. Haley snatched it from him. She mentioned she had a bad feeling and Eric and Jackson went on high alert.

Dylan linked me, “What was that? My Spidey senses say it’s not good.” I answered, “I don’t know.” Dylan glared, “Make it stop. It’s unsettling. I want Lacy to enjoy more of the reception before all hell breaks loose. Get GAP a drink, that should calm him down.”

I rolled my eyes linking Eric, “Why did you tense up?” Eric replied, “Nothing good ever follows Haley getting a bad feeling.” I sighed clarifying, “Ever?” Eric inclined his head, “Shit is about to go down.”

We all stared at Haley in surprise when she said the food smelled awful. I took a deep inhale, it smelled fine. Several werewolves nearby sniffed the food and shot me a questioning look. Dylan linked me, “Is she pregnant again? The food smells fine.” He had a point.

I linked Eric, “Is she pregnant?” Eric answered, “Not to my knowledge, no.” Dylan said, “She’s the one who sent the damn list for the caterer.” I stared at him as he seemed to realize at the same time what I did.

I linked Eric, “It wasn’t Haley, was it?” Eric’s lips went into a grim line, then Haley asked him was a fax was. Dylan linked me, “I HAVE BEEN BAMBOOZLED! Why did I think a fairy would fax anything? I thought GAP was MESSING with me having her send it that way.” Lacy was annoyed until EJ’s growl reached our ears.

Dylan linked me, “Never tell GAP, but that was the most adorable growl I’ve ever heard.” I was about to reply when the contents of Chelsea’s cup spilled on the floor and a dome surrounded her and EJ. All of the wolves growled as we smelled silver and wolfsbane. I ordered the pack not to eat or drink anything.

I linked Dylan, “How the hell didn’t we smell that? Take the principal into custody now.” Dylan replied, “On that. You do realize Haley will go on a tangent because the only answer is witches spelled the cups.” He threw Lacy’s drink out of her hands.

He whispered, "That's it. I've joined Haley on team WITCHES SUCK! That could've killed my pup and hurt Lacy. These jerks want Serious Dylan. HE'S HERE NOW! No one hurts my family. Wait..." He linked me, "The principal?"

I replied, "He's been talking to one of the waiters and waitresses since he got in here. I'm confident he's our traitor. GET HIM!" Dylan replied, "I am all over that like white on rice. He SHALL be apprehended." Alex and another warrior took him into custody.

Dylan yelled, "WHAT THE BIBBIDI BOBBIDI FAIRY SHIT IS HAPPENING?" He pointed in Eric's direction. I looked over as Eric tried to convince EJ not to kill the waiter. Dylan said, "His pup is doing that? Are you for real right now?! What am I saying? Of course, it's real. It's GAP."

I didn't answer him as Eric managed to get EJ to stop. He kept on growling though. Haley told Eric to ask his questions. She had rounded up the wait staff. Dylan linked me, "Cassie is the Truth Seeker too?!" I knew that answer, "Yes, she is."

Dylan grumbled, "Oh COME ON! What else can they do? We know they can do whatever EJ was just doing to that guy's head, then that gold shield that appeared around Chelsea. Don't think I didn't see that. Now, Cassie is the Truth Seeker, and they can all can pop. One already has their mate, and we've seen Alexander heal. Is there no END to his prickishness?" I replied, "That's not a word, Dylan." Dylan said, "It's a word, Lucas. The name Alpha Eric Connors, known as GAP, is the DEFINITION of prickishness. I wrote Websters and everything."

Eric got us the answer we'd all known were coming. Chelsea and probably Lacy were going to be distractions for us so Hammond could attack. Lacy wasn't going to drink it before Chelsea did. Did Hammond think we couldn't handle getting one woman to the hospital? EJ apparently didn't like hearing there was a bounty on Chelsea. He started using his powers again.

Lacy linked me, "Umm." Before I could answer, Dylan linked me, "Did he just get so mad... he exploded that guy's brains? Because that's what it looked like, and while that's super cool I'll have to think of a new level for GAP to ascend to." I responded, "Yes, that's what happened."

Dylan said, "Right. That's normal... completely normal. This is fine. We all shouldn't stock up on candy to keep on hand so that kid never gets mad at us and explodes our brains. Nope... all good here. Move along, nothing to see. I'm not bulk ordering candy to test which is his favorite. That's not happening." He was definitely going to do that.

Haley convinced EJ to pop Chelsea out of the situation. Nick linked me, “I have no words. No, I lied. I have words. What in the HECK just happened?” I replied, “EJ...” I trailed off as Alexander began using his own pushing powers. I sighed and continued, “And Alexander are Pushers.”

Dylan shrieked in our link, “HIM TOO?!” I nodded. Nick replied, “So, Chelsea and my grandpup are fine because EJ Connors protected his mate in the womb and turned that guy's brain to mush?” I agreed, “That about covers it.” Nick sat down, “I just... never... his head exploded. It's got to be rare since not one fairy during the war we just had tried to do that.” I replied, “I know. I've seen it before. They did it from the womb. It's startling and rare from my understanding.”

Nick snorted, “Startling and now Eric's other son is doing it. Those five people are goners. The moon goddess picked my grandpup to be EJ's other half. She'll always be safe with him, no one could doubt that.” I agreed, “That's true.”

Dylan started shouting out loud. I linked him, “Didn't I just tell you his sons could explode heads?” Dylan replied, “It warrants being said out loud. HIS HEAD EXPLODED BECAUSE A PUP GOT MAD AT HIM.” Dylan started to rant about Eric's life.

Eric linked me, “Is he EVER less annoying?” I answered, “He's in shock. He's not wrong though. Chelsea and Elise's lives were saved because EJ is possessive of his mate.” Eric replied, “The moon goddess knows what she's doing.

They needed to meet so Elise would be born.”

The gravity of that statement hit me full force. Nick's wife, Luna Marissa, was silently crying. I linked Lacy, “Get all the women and children to the safe room. Wait, tell me you had them conjure a safe room in this building?” Lacy replied, “I am an Alpha's daughter. Of course, there's a safe room.” Lacy began leading everyone away.

Eric linked me, “That waiter didn't expect Haley to take my food. They were going to get all the wolves down.” I replied, “Would that have affected Logan?” Eric shook his head, “No, I'll bet the food is also laced with iron though. They couldn't have known wolfsbane or silver smelled bad to fairies.” I replied, “Wolfsbane is rank, that has to be what they smell.”

Emmaline gagged smelling the food. Dustin whispered to me, “It's a spell. They didn't do a blanket spell; it was specific to witches and wolves. If they'd included fairy's that would've gone down badly.” Nick shivered.

I replied, "EJ's Hackura senses would've picked it up though." Dustin agreed. Dylan linked, "Haley doesn't have Hackura sense of smell." I replied, "I think her pups do." Dylan snorted, "Of course they do."

Dylan growled out loud, "These guys are toast." Idel and Beta James popped back in. Dylan linked me, "At least Beta James would've been able to help if the rest of us were down." I replied, "We aren't, so bring him up to speed."

Emmaline and Haley gathered up the pregnant she wolves and popped them away. My dad breathed a sigh of relief, "Thank the goddess Emmy grabbed your mother. Crazy woman was talking about taking Alpha Hammond on herself for ruining Lacy's wedding." I assured him, "Emmaline wouldn't have let mom fight."

Eric advised, "Keep her close when she gets back, Lucas. We don't need our mates getting separated from us. That was clearly the goal." I nodded, "They won't have any luck with that."

Dylan laughed, "Hello my karmic justice, I thought you ran away from me, fleeing the very room in GAP's presence. It's like you all forget they are fairies. If they don't want to stick beside you, they will just pop away from you." Eric growled, "Dylan... Not now."

Dylan retorted, "Sure. Who needs logic or facts? They just mess everything up." Eric glared at him. Dylan linked me, "I'm right." I nodded, "You are. We need to keep them with us though because they didn't expect for us to be in fighting shape." Dylan said, "I don't need that explained to me, be sure to tell your Luna though."

A portal opened beside Eric. Bjourn, Marcus, Darrin, and Harold stepped through. Darrin said, "Witches are being followed from the border discreetly by our warriors. They are coming from behind to surround you."

The girls popped back with Astrid. Dylan said, "YES! The future King AND QUEEN of the creepy ninja assassins are on our side. I AM SO PUMPED! Alpha Hammond done messed up now. He's not getting away this time."

I replied, "He ruined my little sister's wedding, and he wants my mate. He absolutely dies tonight." My dad agreed, "Amen. My wife will have a conniption fit if he doesn't, and we are avoiding that at ALL costs."

Dylan fist pumped. I walked over to Emmaline. I linked Eric, "Are they going to snap into different outfits?" Eric replied, "It doesn't seem like it." I growled. Dylan asked, "What now?" I pointed to the women, "Emmaline is still in her costume. All of them

are.” Dylan laughed, “Oh my gosh. She is going to pop around as Tinkerbell. That’s... there are no words... No, I’ve changed my mind, amazing... that’s the word. So many words are flowing to me now.” I growled, “No.”

Emmaline warned an illusion was coming. Dylan grumbled, “How unoriginal, I’m disappointed in them. I’ll chastise them thoroughly for not mixing it up.” He stalled when he saw what appeared to be Lacy being chased and run down.

Emmaline couldn’t see or hear what we did, but Lacy was screaming for us to help her. I cringed as I heard, “LUCAS! DYLAN! HELP ME! DADDY! PLEASE! PLEASE HELP ME!” My eyes filled with tears. I linked Eric, “Get my dad.”

I got in Dylan’s face trying to reason with him. This had to be their backup plan in case we didn’t eat the food. I could see Eric restraining my dad while Haley spoke to him. He was thrashing and crying. “My pup... that’s my pup! She needs me!”

Dylan relaxed when I used his own words in our previous illusion about using the bond. I linked my dad, “It’s not her. Dylan felt his bond with her, Lacy is still in the Hackura realm.” My dad answered, “Haley just showed me a picture of Lacy with King Titus. I knew it wasn’t her, but... I heard her crying for me. She’s my baby girl.” I wiped my eyes, “I know. He will suffer for using her that way.” My dad growled his agreement.

I linked Dylan, “She’s fine. Haley just showed my dad a picture of Lacy with Titus. She’s probably going to squeal about taking a picture with the King of the Hackura all night.” Dylan said, “I’ll RIP his head off. That was torture. She needed me. She was screaming for us.” I put an arm on his back, “I know, but it wasn’t her.” I patted him on the shoulder.

Eric looked at us worriedly. I nodded to him letting him know we were all good. Haley was using her truth seeking ability to get more information. Dylan was irate that they thought they’d get Lacy away from him. I assured him, “We know she wouldn’t have left your side.”

Dylan lamented, “They would’ve had to pry her away from cold dead hands.” I nodded, “No one doubts that. We know you love her.” He grumbled, “This is why you don’t let someone who’s losing their mind plan something. Chelsea Hanes is not more important to me than Lacy. She’s mine. Mine trumps worried for a she wolf everyone else would be worried about.” I sighed, “I know she is.” He answered, “We need to kill him quickly because I need to see Lacy. I need to see they don’t have her. I need her here in person.”

I got back in his face, “You protect her and our pack, right here, right now. I need you by my side.” Dylan straightened, “I’m always by your side. I just need to get my windup toy, and sick him on Alpha Hammond. I’ll give his murderous GAP self this one because I need efficiency.” I was relieved knowing he had his focus back on the fight we were facing. He started to pace; I watched him worriedly.

Eric spoke softly to Haley then dragged Haley over to our group. He spoke to Dylan in hushed tones, “I know how you feel, Dylan, and before you say some snarky comment just let me say this. I watched Haley fight from behind the god forsaken enclosure with our pups inside her. I watched her get hit and injected with iron. I watched her lose weight, she had bruises and fang marks all over her. I watched her, and I could do nothing to help her. I couldn’t get to her no matter how much I tried to get through the barrier keeping her from me. I sat outside that house for a week unable to touch my mate while she suffered.”

Dylan linked, “I can’t snark when he says such things. He’s such a mood killer with his facts. My facts are fun, his are depressing.” Eric’s were on point though. Eric continued, “We WILL defeat Alpha Hammond, and when we do Lacy will be back in your arms. Channel that anger and helplessness you just felt. Let it fuel you to fight with us.”

Dylan was silent for several seconds then smiled, “I knew you liked me, GAP. I told you Lucas it was deep down, but he likes me. We are secret besties. All our allies just heard the proof. There will be no denying our secret friendship after this.” Eric rolled his eyes.

Dylan lowered his voice, “Thanks, Eric. I needed to hear that. Of course, it had to come from you of all people... prick.” Eric smiled as he dragged Haley away. I linked Eric, “Thank you.” Eric replied, “We need him, and I meant every word. I know all the emotions that just hit him; it’s not pleasant.”

Dylan linked me, “We missed James and Idel’s first couple fight... DANG IT!” I retorted, “Yes, well it’s good to have you back.” Dylan danced in place when Beta James stiffened asking if Idel liked Eric. Dylan whispered in my ear, “Dear moon goddess, let her say yes. I mean... honestly have we met a woman who doesn’t like him?” I thought about it, “I’m sure there’s a few.”

Idel’s answer settled the room. Dylan linked me, “Did anyone else see that smile GAP just had. I swear to god, I flashed to two years ago right before he killed two people.” I responded, “She’s not wrong. Eric could snap her like a twig if he wanted to, but he never hurt anyone without a reason. Especially a woman.” Dylan agreed, “True. We

need to get a partial male fairy in our group. It would drive GAP insane. I have new goals.”

I tried not to laugh. Eric would hate that, but I can't say I would be a fan either. Idel and Haley bantered. Dylan linked me, “Someone will have to inform Idel that GAP's love for his fun sized ninja fairy is his one redeeming quality.”

I sighed, “He's a good guy.” Dylan replied, “He's a terrifying God Alpha Prick who is now less murder-y because of our fun sized ninja fairy; AND he's only less murder-y if no one threatens her. He gets WAY more murder-y when she's threatened than he did before, which says something. We should get him into therapy.” I wanted to tell him murder-y wasn't a word, but I knew that would launch a rant.

I groaned, “He gets things done, and he's a good guy.” He was about to reply when Alpha Hammond shouted my name. Dylan said, “You did not just tell your fairy to pop away. I see that happening like I see the grass turning blue tomorrow. A fairy could make that happen though, so hope springs eternal and all.” I growled at him as I took Emmaline's hand, and we walked out to face him together.

Hammond started talking about Dustin and Ryan. Dylan linked me, “He's a bad villain. You don't compliment the other side as your opening statement. He's got thirty freaking witches, and he's complimenting the TWO we have. I hate him and his not knowing how being a villain works self.”

I looked at the ground so no one would see my smile when I responded, “I don't like him either. It's safe to say none of us do.” Dylan snorted, “I hate him the most out of us all. It's my crown and not even GAP can't take it from me.”

Eric linked me, “Our men are right behind the witches coming at us from the flank.” Emmaline tried to appeal to Hammond, but he was far too gone. I noticed several witches blanched during Emmaline's attempts. They seemed to realize that if Millie appeared to Emmaline, then this wasn't what she would've wanted.

Eric linked me, “Ten just cut and left.” I linked my men in the main house, “Ten witches coming your way.” Alex replied, “We've got them, Lucas.” Dylan linked me, “We aren't letting them get away, right? Because illusion or not those assholes had her screaming for me, and serious ANGRY Dylan must have vengeance.”

I replied, “No one who was a part of this gets away.” Alex linked me, “I interrogated the principal and some our wait staff that were brought to us. I got the location of the principal's daughter and her mate. Should I send someone to get them?” I

contemplated before answering, "Send five men in case it's a trap. She's our responsibility, she grew up here. Bring her home."

Emmaline figured out we were being flanked. I was proud that she and Haley were looking out for us. I linked Eric, "Did your mate tell you we were being flanked?" Eric nodded, "That she did. Our mates are one of a kind. I was tempted to tell the remaining witches their leader's daughter was hiding in a safe room, but then they'd try to take her from us."

Dustin and Ryan's threats had more of them running. They fled right into the arms of mine and Eric's warriors. We were getting confirmed numbers as they left. Dylan linked, "These ten remaining morons should get a Darwin award. Dustin and Ryan already proved they were more powerful than thirty of them. These guys are like 'sure we lost over half our numbers; but we can take them.' Seriously?! Where did all the logical people go?" I replied, "They ran into our warriors." Dylan snorted.

I kissed Emmaline and pushed her a safe distance away so I could shift into Dominic. We attacked. I linked Dylan, "Make a circle around the women." Dylan said, "Ok I guess I can do that. It seems like a waste of time since they can pop away, but alright." The women were talking, but I couldn't focus on them right now. The witches brought rogues into the fight.

I whirled to check on them after I took one down, but the rogues didn't even twitch in their direction. They were focused on us. I concentrated back on the task in front of me. I growled at Hammond who just laughed at me. I took down more rogues.

All of us froze when Alpha Chase yelled. My blood ran cold because that meant he'd shifted back to human form. His pack members that were here, and any Alpha fighting could have heard him through link. Dylan linked me, "Now seems like a bad time to say I told you so.... but... I did tell you so."

I turned to where Emmaline had been, but they were gone. I linked Eric, "Where did they go?" I heard Thor's furious growl. Dominic and Beta James' wolf joined him. Thor tried to cut off from the group to get to them, but he was surrounded immediately.

Peter and Drake jumped in to help him. We heard Haley making silly comments. Eric linked, "OOPS? FUCKING OOPS! Haley has GOT to stop saying that!" I growled, "Let's just get to them." We heard another pop, and I glanced up. Maribella had joined the fight. Tucker's wolf's howl of anger couldn't be mistaken as the girls began to fight.

I linked Eric, "They are going to let Emmaline take on Hammond." Eric responded as Haley took down a witch, "It looks that way." Emmaline's link back to us had me roaring in anger. Dominic growled, "ENDING THIS? IS MATE INSANE? WE NEED TO GET OVER THERE!" I pointed out, "You're in control. Move your ass, wolf!"

Dominic and I snarled taking down two wolves when Hammond called Emmaline his. Dominic thundered at me, "MATE IS MINE! MY MATE! HOW DARE HE!" I was pissed off too, "I'm not disagreeing with you. She's ours." Dominic calmed down when Emmaline said the same.

I got a clear path for a brief second and bounded towards the girls with Eric beside me. Dylan was behind me when we were suddenly surrounded again. I growled when Grayson appeared. I linked Dylan, "THIS DAMN KID!" Dylan huffed, "I have good news, it's official we have finally reached the right moment for him to die."

More information was revealed about his home life and clarified lingering questions. I growled to Dylan, "I KNEW IT! Andie is the foster sister!" Dylan pointed out, "Emmaline has met her. Because they went to that dance la..." I growled, "DO NOT finish that sentence." Dylan took down a rogue on my left. He responded, "Of course not. What was I thinking?"

Everyone stopped when Blade killed Andie. Dylan linked me, "Is anyone else wondering WHEN DID HE GET HERE? How do they keep doing that?! I'M SCARED! I'm going to order motion sensor cameras to see if it can ease my anxiety about the creepy ninja's just showing up."

I linked Eric, "Did you know he was here?" Eric replied, "No, Javi and Sasha are on guard duty. Blade was supposed to be in the Hackura realm." So, Haley had plans. We really had to get in on the ground floor of knowing her whole plan. She was quite the strategist.

Dylan laughed when Grayson charged at Blade. He asked, "Is this kid for real? How has he made it this far in life without dying? He's an idiot. Darwin awards all around." Haley flung him into a tree. A witch dragged him to a different tree where they disappeared.

Dustin hissed, "Of course they have a damn holoport." I growled at Dylan, "The principal is going fucking down for that." Dylan replied, "His name is Tom." I growled, "I know his damn name!" Dylan nodded, "Ok then, the principal it is."

My heart stopped when Hammond grabbed Emmaline, but she simply popped away from him. I killed another rogue. Eric linked me, "He's turning feral, Lucas." I replied, "Once I get to him, I'll put him down."

I howled in delight when my dad broke away heading straight for Emmaline. But when he got there, Emmaline was gone again. I noticed with dread that Hammond was leading her to holoport. I linked, "Dad! Hammond is leading Emmaline to the holoport!" My dad grunted and took on a witch.

Haley turned, spoke in Latin, then killed the witch coming up behind my dad. I linked Dylan, "Get me a damn Latin dictionary!" Dylan responded, "Maybe I ordered one and I'm learning said language. She said something about behind him." I growled, "That's not helpful." Dylan responded, "I just started! Give a Beta a break."

I linked Eric, "What did Haley say?" Eric replied, "She told Blade to get to Emmaline, and she'd be right behind him." Eric and I finally managed to kill the rogues around us and hit the ground running to assist my dad. We'd just killed the witch he was fighting when I heard Emmaline whimper in pain.

I saw red and tore through the remaining rogues that had appeared in my path. Blade grabbed Hammond from behind and told Emmaline to kill him. I shifted back and grabbed some shorts throwing my dad, Eric, and Dylan other pairs. Emmaline told Hammond who she really was.

I linked Dylan, "Anyone left alive and not our ally dies. No one leaves with that information." Dylan nodded. Emmaline dropped the pup bomb on Hammond. I saw the pain in his eyes when he realized he'd never know his pup before they turned blue. We all got soaked when Hammond turned to water, and it dawned on me exactly where the fairies had popped to. Behind us, out of the splash zone.

Alpha Chase caught up to us. He linked Eric and me, "I tried to stop them, I really did." Eric replied, "There's no stopping them once they get an idea. Thank you for trying." I echoed his sentiments, "You really can't stop them. It's ok Alpha Chase." He was staring at Haley, but what was odd was Eric didn't seem upset. He seemed like he knew something he wasn't saying. Alpha Chase just looked relieved that Haley was ok. Dominic growled, "Probably because she knows who his mate is. Focus on OUR mate." He had a point.

Dustin yelled and he was lucky Emmaline answered before Haley did. Haley looked furious he'd yelled at her. Ryan calmly explained why they were upset; I took Emmaline in my arms breathing deeply. Eric could barely contain Thor as he kissed Haley.

Dylan linked me, “They can’t send the pack into heat again, Lacy is already pregnant. They have to wait until she has our pup. It’s only fair since it’s Dylan and Lacy day.” I linked Eric, “Take her to your room in the house before you mate on the lawn.” Eric replied, “Don’t mind if I do.” Before he could, Haley popped to Emmaline and left.

Dylan smiled, “I finally see how he pays. His little fun sized ninja fairy can pop away from him any old time she desires.” Eric growled at him, but before he could come across the field they were back. Eric grabbed Haley. He whispered in her ear, “Where are the pups?” Haley answered, “Mom already had Cassie and Alexander down for the night. Chelsea had to put EJ down. I told them we’d come get them in the morning.”

Eric nipped her ear, “Good. Pop our group home.” Eric linked me, “We will come back in the morning if cleanup is needed. I’ll call you.” They left.

Dominic growled, “CLAIM MATE NOW!” I couldn’t deny him or myself anymore. She was still in her ridiculous, short Tinkerbell outfit. My pack howled in delight when I threw Emmaline over my shoulder.

Dylan linked me, “No, no, I insist that I handle this. Don’t you or GAP worry about it for one second. It’s only my wedding night.” I linked my dad, “Can you handle this so Dylan can go be with Lacy?” My dad answered, “Of course.”

I replied, “Go, my dad’s got it under control.” Dylan happily replied, “Best older brother ever!” He entered the house right behind me carrying Lacy bridal style. I wasn’t going to think about that. I was going to focus on my baby girl.

I tied her hands to the headboard telling her, “You have no idea what this costume does to me.” She replied in an innocent voice, “What does it do to you, Alpha?” I commanded, “Snap me naked.” She snapped her fingers quickly. I placed her hand on my dick telling her, “I have felt like this ever since I saw you. Then you popped away from me, and our pack, who were protecting you.”

Emmaline pursed her lips, “Alpha, I have every right to defend you like you’d defend me, and our pack. I love you too, you know?” I growled and kissed her. When I pulled back, I responded, “Don’t expect me to be happy that you put yourself in harm’s way to protect me. I understand it, but I don’t have to like it.”

She bit my lip, “Do you think I was happy when you did it? I need you just like you need me. You don’t own the corner market on loving your mate so much you’d do anything to protect them. Millie said I would be the one who killed him. So, I did, and I’m not sorry I protected you.”

I bit her mark and she screamed. I tore her underwear off and entered her. She screamed my name. Dominic pushed forward, "Scream for me mate, scream my name." She screamed, "DOMINIC, PLEASE!" He growled and slammed into her, and she gripped the ropes holding her in place. We both came, but I was nowhere near done with her.

I ripped off her costume and took her nipple into my mouth. Dominic couldn't take it and entered her again. We continued like that all night. Dominic lost it for a bit when she popped out of the ropes. He pinned her against the wall. He ordered, "No more popping away from me, mate. YOU. ARE. MINE!" He growled as he pounded into her.

I took her until her body couldn't take anymore, and she fell asleep after we'd finished. I pulled out of her and carried her to the bed. Her body was still twitching with pleasure. I held her close breathing in her scent.

After an hour, I finally calmed down enough to go to sleep after silencing her alarm. I linked the warriors, "There is no training tomorrow. Everyone did very well tonight." I got back a sleepy replies, "Yes, Alpha."

I linked my dad, "We had no casualties, correct?" My dad answered, "We didn't lose anyone. A few injuries, but they are healing. The worst was a broken leg. He will be in pain tonight, but Dr. Gonzalez says he will be fine by tomorrow. Alex and some warriors found Gina and her mate. It was Tom that betrayed us for her. I noticed he was already in the dungeons. Gina is distraught."

I sighed, "I'll speak to her later. Is she alright physically?" My dad spoke carefully, "She was beaten in front of her mate, and vice versa with him. They are alive and their physical wounds are healing now that they aren't being weakened by wolfsbane. They will need help." I replied, "Then they will have it. Get to bed, dad." My dad informed me, "I just walked in the house. I love you." I replied, "I love you too, dad. Thanks for handling everything." He snorted, "Anytime, you're my pup."

I fell asleep holding Emmaline and woke up to an empty bed. I felt for Emmaline in our bond. She was distraught. What the hell happened? I grabbed shorts and headed for her sanctuary. I found her crying softly. I grabbed her, "Baby girl, what happened?" Emmaline sighed, "You're going to be mad at me." I asked, "What are you talking about?" Emmaline sighed and handed me her phone. What? I asked, "Why are you giving me your phone?"

Emmaline wiped her tears, "It's not my phone. Well, it kind of is. It was waiting for me under my desk at school the other day." I growled, "When?" She wiped her eyes,

“After I talk to Grayson with Tessa. I gave it to Katie to see if Gunner could track anything down on it. He’s still monitoring it, but he hasn’t been able to figure out who it is.”

I looked at the phone asking a question I knew the answer to, “You’ve been talking with this person?” Emmaline shrugged, “Cryptic stuff. I thought it would give us a lead on Alpha Hammond, but this person has a different agenda.”

I pushed through my anger to ask, “Alright, so why are you crying?” Emmaline said, “Because you’re mad at me.” I said, “I wasn’t mad until I woke up. You’ve been upset since before I got up.” Emmaline sighed, “The most recent texts gave me the details on who put the contract out on Chelsea. I don’t know if they are right, but I knew we’d have to talk about this. I won’t put Chelsea in danger by keeping this to myself.” I growled, “So you only keep things to yourself when you’re in danger?”

Emmaline sighed, “I knew you’d take the phone. I only did what you would have done. I gave it to Gunner first. I don’t know what this person wants now. He said it’s not about Alpha Hammond, but I didn’t believe him. He said we have a common enemy, but I don’t know who it is.”

I read through their conversations. I offered, “I’d imagine this is about David. How do you know it’s a he?” Emmaline said, “Gunner said the profile of the person who bought it appears to be male.” I asked, “What else does Gunner know?” Emmaline mumbled, “That it was bought with cash in New York. Do you really think it’s about David?”

I nodded, “Yes, I do. You are the perfect weapon against David. You make him lose his common sense because he knows your mom cheated on him.” Emmaline asked, “How mad are you?” I sighed, “I’m not mad, I’m disappointed. I started this sequence of events in our relationship, and now I’m ending it. From here on out, the only secrets we keep are fun secrets. Did this not hurt your soul? To keep this from me?”

Emmaline thought about it, “I’ve been a little off, so probably.” I sighed, “We have to stop doing this, and I don’t just mean you. We aren’t two separate entities anymore. We have GOT to talk about stuff like this together.” Emmaline nodded, “I’m sorry,” she whispered.

I kissed her forehead, “It’s fine. Nothing in these texts are things we didn’t know. You planned to bring this to when something important was shared. I’m not taking the phone, but I do want you to tell me when you get texts.” Emmaline nodded.

I told her, "I need to move on this information. I need to let Nick know, and we need to verify it. If it's true we will likely be attacking this pack." Emmaline winced, "Do you have to? Can't you talk to them?" I shook my head, "No, the Alpha want to kill Chelsea, and has plans to kill Peter's siblings. We can't talk him down at this point." Emmaline sighed, "Alright."

I kissed her then reassured her, "I'm really not mad. I'm glad you told me when you did. I wish you'd told me about it sooner, but I'm glad you are talking to me. I'm glad you didn't rush off to try to handle this on your own."

Emmaline looked hopeful, "Will you let me help you with this then?" I nodded, "I won't bring you to the fight if it's avoidable. I'll have you sit in on the meetings with our allies about this information though." Emmaline nodded, "I want to fight if you fight." I sighed debating, "We can talk about that later when the time comes. I'm not saying no... If Haley goes you can go." Emmaline smiled, "Ok." I kissed her again. "Let's get back. We have a lot to do."

Emmaline grabbed my hand and popped me back to our room. We took a shower together and washed each other. Dominic linked me, "She could've kept it from us, and gone off with her girl gang but she didn't. Mate trusted us." I replied, "I know, that's why I'm not mad. Nothing in those texts was vital information until now." Dominic replied, "I don't like it though. This person wants her to feel like she owes them. They want to use mate, and they clearly know who she really is. That's dangerous." I agreed, "I know."

I linked Dylan, "I know this is not how you saw today going, but I need you and Lacy today." Dylan replied, "Yes, I know. We have to go over stuff from yesterday. Can we put off torturing Principal Tom until tomorrow?" I begrudgingly admitted, "We have to." Dylan groaned, "I can't tell you how much I dislike the sound of that." I replied, "Get to my office." Dylan grumbled, "I dislike it all so much. We are on the way."

I took Emmaline's hand and led her to my office. I asked, "Does Lacy know about the phone?" Emmaline shook her head, "Only Katie, Gunner, and I knew about the phone." I asked somewhat incredulously, "You think Logan doesn't know?" Emmaline shrugged, "I don't think he does. Katie would've told me if she clued him in."

I couldn't stop my laugh, "Emmaline, Logan knows about it whether Katie told him or not." We entered my office and Logan flipped on the light. I nearly jumped; Emmaline squealed. Logan smiled, "Logan does know about the phone. No, Katie didn't tell me, and no we haven't been able to track down the person sending the texts. He sends the texts, turns the phone off, and disconnects the battery."

Dylan walked in asking, “Who does what with a phone that our creepy resident ninja is stalking?” I brought them up to speed. He and Lacy were taken aback. Dylan clapped dramatically, “Well, Lucas I don’t think I could be more surprised if you’d told me you owned a purple unicorn. That’s not what I was expecting to walk into today.”

Logan smiled, “Andie was in a car accident last night. She was drinking and driving, not wearing her seatbelt. She was thrown from her car and impaled by a tree. She died on impact.” Emmaline gaped at him.

Dylan said, “You people are terrifying. How did you fix the time of death, and get alcohol into her system?” Logan smiled, “You can be dead, and your blood can circulate, Dylan. It’s called CPR. By definition that gets the heart pumping. We are good at what we do.”

Dylan muttered, “Good? You’re good at what you do? Terrifying. The whole lot of you. Do I need to send you a fruit basket to stay on your good side?” Logan smiled, “You’ll be fully aware if you get on my bad side, Dylan Frost.” Dylan shivered.

I got everyone on a conference call. Eric answered, “I heard Grayson’s mom had a drunk driving accident where she was thrown from the car and impaled.” Logan casually commented, “That she did.” Dylan said, “Don’t you just sound tired, GAP.” Eric snorted, “You’re lucky I’m on the phone at all. I had sexy plans after hearing about my nickname that I barely got into. Logan sent a text to Bjourn to let me know me we’d be busy with other things. So, why are we busy?”

Emmaline spoke, “Do we know if Grayson is going to use his police contacts to question the story about his mom?” Logan laughed, “They wouldn’t get anywhere. The coroner already got the blood alcohol level back that was well over the legal limit. There’s documentation Andie left the state of Louisiana where she was staying. No one would believe she was here. She had a hotel that was paid for the rest of the month, and she just so happened to die in the state of Louisiana a block from said hotel.”

Dylan linked me, “They are scary. He’s like Beetlejuice or something.” I shook my head, “I don’t even want to know how you arrived at that conclusion.” I shot an email off to everyone, “I just sent you all some information we can discuss once we have everything situated. Dad, do you want to take the lead from last night?”

My dad stood, “We had a dozen injuries and all have healed. We took the principal from our school into custody during the reception. It was confirmed he was feeding the details of our patrols to Hammond. His daughter was being used as collateral.

Obviously, we all know he should've come to us. I didn't have time to get all the details from him. He did say he was so worried about his daughter he was doing whatever he could to save her."

I growled, "So he chooses betraying our pack, our Luna, and the future Luna of Red Run? Instead of coming to me? We would've helped him." My dad said, "I know that. He said he wasn't thinking straight. He refused to harm Emmaline and Chelsea. They asked him to get them out during school. He said he would be discovered and kept putting them off. He only..." I growled as it clicked, "It was him, wasn't it?"

Dylan said, "Oh my god... Emmaline thought Principal Tom was Lucas?" He started laughing, but Emmaline frowned. Dylan wheezed, "He's older than Dale. Emmaline, we need to get your eyes checked. Someone get our Luna some carrots!" Emmaline pouted, "Hey! Illusions are really powerful. He had to have had something of Lucas' so he'd look like him." Dale cleared his throat, "Yes, he had the tie Lucas wore the day he met you. He took it off in the conference room, and Tom kept it."

I frowned, "He's been against us that long?" My dad sighed, "He's been a spy for Alpha Hammond's pack since his daughter joined theirs. Neither she nor her mate knew about what he was doing. Her mate dislikes Hammond, for obvious reasons. Once Hammond had to flee their territory, they started the flip from spy to traitor." I growled, "He was betraying our pack this entire time?!" Emmaline put her hand on mine and linked me, "You can deal with him later. We are ok." I kissed the top of her head and sat back down.

Eric announced, "Our pack killed all the witches coming from the flank. We had three injuries that have all healed. Alpha Chase's pack had no injuries, nor did Alpha Sophia. Alpha Kyle had a few, but all had been healed."

Dylan asked, "How did I get bamboozled from a fake Haley fax?" Haley grumbled, "I still don't even know what a fucking fax is!" My dad answered, "The principal faxed it over. They used a spell to make it look like it came from Eric's territory." Dylan gaped, "They can just do that? Can we go back to where witches and warlocks ignore our existence, and we ignore theirs? It was a happier time; I was but a carefree boy." I rolled my eyes.

Nick said, "Can we get into the information you emailed us all before my son destroys my office. Are we sure about this?" I said, "No, we aren't, we are all going to have to do our own investigations." Peter snarled, "Where did this come from?"

I explained, "Emmaline got a phone taped under her desk at school. It's an unknown caller on a prepaid phone. The Hackura ran it down, it was purchased in New York

with cash. It appears to be a male, but he hid from cameras. The caller claims he and Emmaline have a common enemy. He warned us Hammond was coming. We already knew that. I believe we got this information because Emmaline told this person he wasn't actually helping her. Obviously, we had to share this with you all. We can't act on it as we aren't sure it's accurate, but if it is we are with you."

Peter growled, "I'll tear him to FUCKING pieces! He wants my mate, daughter, and my brother's dead!" Nick growled lowly and we heard a little growl from Eric's line. Dylan rolled his eyes, "His pup is going to rival him in possessiveness. GAP can rip people's heads off, and his son can just explode someone's brain. Life is not fair..."

I interrupted, "Yes, Yes, I know." Eric said, "We will stand with you, Nick." Dylan said, "To be clear... is EJ coming? It would just save us all time if he just got mad and exploded their brains." Eric growled, "My son is NOT coming if we fight."

EJ growled again. Haley cooed, "Don't you worry, EJ. Mommy and daddy will be there." I winced and Emmaline grinned broadly. I heard someone laugh, "There you have it, Garrett. I get to fight this time WITH Haley and Emmaline." Nick offered, "Lucas didn't say Emmaline was coming."

I sighed, "I said she could come IF Haley was coming." Haley replied, "Haley's fucking coming. Girl gang of bad asses TAKE TWO!" Eric sighed, "Yes, and you're bringing Blade with you again." Haley stated, "Blade says I have to take him everywhere. He even got my dad to basically make it a law. Where I go Blade goes."

Dylan snorted, "He made it a law? You're saying he passed an actual law saying his daughter had to bring her guard with her wherever she goes?" Logan chimed in, "Basically, he did. You can't really blame him at this point."

Eric laughed along with the rest of us. Dylan asked, "Could the Creepy ninja King make some sort of law where Lacy can't run off into danger without me? That would be great." Logan said, "He's not a werewolf." Dylan agreed, "No but he can just pop up like all of you, can't he? That would be motivation to obey any law he puts down." Logan rolled his eyes, "It's not going to happen."

Dylan sighed, "If only you were a partial fairy, you would do it for me because it would be fun." Logan said, "Doing things for your amusement is not my thing." I linked Dylan, "Not the person to mess with." Dylan sighed, "Fine."

Emmaline and Lacy had been very quiet. We made several more plans, but Dustin was suspiciously silent as well. When we hung up, I turned to Emmaline, "You have been a very quiet, baby girl. What's going on?"

Dustin cut in, “You didn’t know about the phone, did you Lucas? She didn’t tell you? She told Katie, and not any of us.” I felt like an evasive fairy when I answered, “She told me when important information came in, that’s what counts.” I gave him a hard look letting him know to let this go.

Ryan spoke, “Evie, you aren’t alone anymore. Fuck our dad for making you think like this. You always used to confide in us.” Emmaline winced, “I told Katie Cat... It’s... it’s not easy guys. I just didn’t want to be cut out again, and I knew Katie wouldn’t do that. I didn’t know if you would or not.”

Ryan sighed, “That’s our fault. We all have to figure out our new dynamic, but I don’t like this one we have going. I won’t hide things from you, but I don’t want you to hide them from me either.” Emmaline nodded, “I swear on the green of my turtle toad.” Ryan and Dustin burst out laughing.

Dylan voiced all our question, “I’m sorry... the green of your turtle toad? Do we need a doctor? Did you hit your head last night?” Dustin said, “She loved this stuffed turtle Ryan gave her. When she was four, she tried to convince Ryan she would keep a secret for him. She swore on the green of her turtle and she got flustered and added the toad.”

Dylan said, “Aww, Hallmark moment! You guys need to hug it out, right now.” He pulled out his phone and started playing some cheesy romantic music. Emmaline stood up. Dylan squealed, “That’s the spirit! The music demands you hug.”

Emmaline smiled and hugged her siblings. Dustin whispered, “I’ll keep doing better, Evie. We love you.” My heart warmed, knowing how badly she’d wanted them in her life. Emmaline pulled back and said, “I love you guys too.”

She walked back over to me, and I pulled her into my lap and kissed her. I linked Dylan, “Get our PI’s on the information we were handed.” Dylan sighed, “That’s going to be an interesting if it turns out to be accurate.” I admitted, “I have a feeling it’s right.” Dylan nodded, “I thought you were going to say that.”

Logan said, “Email me the information, I’ll see if we can’t run it down.” I nodded. Dylan said, “Were you just skulking around in the dark again?” Logan answered, “I don’t skulk, I was waiting for the meeting to start. Now I’m off.” He faded into nothing.

Dylan squealed, “I want him to teach me how to do that. GOSH he’s so awesome. WAIT! GAP said Haley can do that... she would totally teach me!” Lacy smiled, “Or

we could enjoy what's left of the day after our wedding." Dylan stopped immediately, picked her up and ran out of the room like he was the Road Runner.

Emmaline laughed and turned to me, "Would you like to enjoy the day after Lacy and Dylan's wedding before we have to deal with real life tomorrow?" I kissed her, "Absolutely." Emmaline popped us to her treehouse. She asked, "Can I ask a question?" I smiled, "Always." She whispered, "Why is it so unforgivable that for his daughter, the principal helped Hammond? I know you said he could've come to you, but I've seen a LOT of TV shows. They always get in trouble for going to the cops. It never turns out well, and you're basically the police chief of the pack."

I couldn't help but laugh, "In pack life, you thrive together. The lone wolf who doesn't disown their pack but doesn't live in a pack get lonely. They are vulnerable to attack. Those who are banished or reject and leave their pack go crazy. That's why rogue's eyes are red. They need a pack, and without it they slowly descend into madness. I am the leader of our pack, and my job is to protect my people. Tom could've linked me; he didn't even have to approach me. Instead, he helped the catering company try to potentially cause Chelsea to lose her pup; not to mention the pack members that would've been injured. Hammond had no intention to let my family live, or Dylan most likely. He put everything we stand for at risk."

Emmaline thought about that for several minutes then said, "Alright. I didn't think of it that way. He could've linked you at any point in time without being discovered." I smiled, "I know it's a different way of life for you, so anytime you have questions just ask me." Emmaline looked me in the eyes, "I promise I'll do better at sharing. I expect it of you, and then I cut you out. It wasn't exactly fair since we'd agreed not to do that. I was hoping to hand it to you with a lead. Not more work for you to do, you have SO much work."

I smiled, "It was a lot because we had lots of people being watched. It's not normally that much paperwork." She smiled, "Thank goodness! I was wondering how we'd have time for our kids." I smiled at her, "Because you and our family are my priority. I know I suck at relationships, but I'm promising you now; you are my family. If and when we add to that it's always going to be number one. Work will be there, but we won't be able to get those moments back when our pups are young."

Emmaline smiled, "Look at you already being a good dad. I'm scared if you guys act on this information something will happen to you." I nodded in understanding, "We will be fine. I'm more worried about your unknown caller."

Emmaline sighed, “I think Dusty had a theory.” I smiled agreeing, “I think you’re right. Since I’m sure it has something to do with David, I would imagine he would know the list of those it could be best.”

Emmaline pursed her lips, “He’ll try to track some things down before sharing. He’s kind of a perfectionist.” I rubbed her shoulders, “Let’s worry about that tomorrow. Right now, I have something else I want to do.” I leaned in and kissed her. For the rest of the day, nothing existed but the two of us.