

Spun Up

Lucas jolted up in bed grunting in pain. I was checking myself for injuries, I realized with dread it wasn't my pain. I linked Dylan yelling "Where is Emmaline?!" He groaned, "What? Huh? What's happening?" I jumped out of bed, "She's in pain. It's so bad I woke up to it. Did someone take her?"

Dylan grumbled, "I'm sure you've thought of this, but did you think to link HER, screaming at this ungodly hour asking where she was? Since she would quite possibly know better than I don't know... ME? She is the only one out of the three of us who is fully awake."

I sighed in relief, "Good idea." Dylan yelled, "ARE YOU SERIOUS? YOU DIDN'T LINK HER FIRST? WHY, LUCAS? WHY DO YOU HATE ME?" I ignored him and linked Emmaline. She said she was in the gym training.

I was off my bed and out the door running. I met Dylan on the lawn. He told me, "Lacy said Emmaline is in the gym. She didn't think anything was wrong." I growled, "Something happened." Dylan made a face at me, "Yes, it did. You happened. You screamed in our link and woke me up. I distinctly recall that happening. It was very wrong. Wrong indeed. I'm glad you are man enough to admit that."

We entered the gym. My eye's widened when I spotted my mate. Dylan said, "Well... poop." I growled at Alex and grabbed him by the shoulders. I yelled, "Emmaline's arm is clearly broken! I can see that from here! WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU? WHY IS SHE STILL TRAINING?"

Alex was clearly bewildered, "Lucas, I had no idea. Obviously, that would've stopped..." I ignored him and ran to Emmaline. Dylan clapped, "Do you all want him to kill you guys? What were you thinking?" Alex responded, "We didn't know, you know that." I growled.

Dylan said, "My barely awake not had any coffee brain figured out her arm was broken from the angle. Not even kind of broken; really broken. I'm not a doctor but the ulna and radius are fractured. Do you want to know how I know that? I LOOKED at her arm that's bent in a direction one's arm should not be bent. You didn't know? Seriously? What do you people want from me? She had to have screamed really loud. I'm stunned that's not what woke me up. Do you guys know I am ONE MAN?! One

man who has had no coffee. Someone, get me a gallon of coffee. I only mentioned it ten seconds ago and no one ran to me with coffee. You are slacking on my trainings when I mention coffee.”

I heard him taking sips, so I assumed someone did run him coffee. He smacked his lips together, “Ahh, I will try to keep our Alpha from killing the whole lot of you. AMATEURS! If the Luna gets a papercut, you stop what you’re doing and get her a BAND-AID. If she breaks her arms, you get the doctor. Then because you have a brain and your Gamma is right there; you wake up your Beta. Whom by the way... is me. I explain this because I think you need me to explain. Or since the Gamma has gone deaf along with the lot of you, and he’s actually taking part in the class today; someone is assigned to check on the Luna sporadically throughout class. Because you value your life and things.”

He drank more then continued, “Then I get our Alpha and keep him from killing you. When you follow NONE of the steps I mentioned, it is MUCH harder for me to keep him from killing you. Especially when said Alpha wakes up in pain because he felt hers. No one wins. NO ONE! Least of all me! I need more coffee!”

I linked the pack doctor, “Hector, I’m coming to you with the Luna. She’s got a seriously broken arm.” Hector replied, “Are you sure it’s broken?” I growled, “Since she’s not gumby, YES, I’m sure it’s broken, Hector.”

Emmaline said she’d made her partner keep coming at her, with a Luna command. Wonderful. Dylan groaned. I glared at my warriors. How could they let her keep going? They said she didn’t make a single noise. I linked Dylan, “They should’ve looked when they hit the equipment. HOW WAS NO ONE MONITORING THE LUNA’S TRAINING?”

Dylan replied, “Because Alex was actually someone’s partner today, and the rest hate me. It’s the only logical conclusion, and I’ve been SO NICE to them. So nice.” The human, who I was trying not to kill, said they didn’t hear because of fairy stuff. SPACE UNHEARD IN TRAINING?!

Lacy linked me, “Luc, you need to get her to the hospital. Her adrenaline is fading.” I looked down at Emmaline who started to cry. Her pain hit me again like lightning. I picked her up linking Hector, “We are coming to you now.”

I linked Dylan, “Do SOMETHING about those men not giving a shit about watching their Luna.” Dylan said, “Of course. To be fair, they couldn’t hear her.” I growled, “To be fair SOMEONE should’ve been watching her! I’m not a fairy, I give no shits

about being fair.” By the time we reached the hospital her pain was so bad I wanted to puke.

Hector linked me, “It has to be morphine. That’s a really bad break. We might need to perform surgery.” I growled. Emmaline felt better immediately, but her eyes closed for a bit. I punched a hole in the wall. I snarled, “SURGERY?”

Dylan winced as he came into the room. He said, “Surely, not. You all are forgetting that...” Hector stammered, “Alpha, this is a bad break. We could set it and give it a few days. It’s going to swell, and we can’t perform surgery until that goes down, but in my opinion it will require surgery.”

Dylan said, “Awesome. Any more good news for us, Hector? What’s that you say? The whole pack has decided to hate me collectively? Don’t you worry doc, I am fully aware of that fact.”

I growled and threw things. I asked, “Why isn’t she awake?” Hector said, “The morphine combined with her adrenaline fading. Her body just needs a minute. She will be aware of us in a few moments. I’ll prepare her cast.”

I turned to Dylan, “SURGERY!” Dylan patted my head, “Yes, the whole territory heard you the first time. It’s a surgery, not a death sentence. Plus, you are forgetting...” I growled, “I want the warriors IN MY OFFICE NOW! Alex can handle training until I’m done with them.”

Dylan shook his head, “Not now, Emmaline needs you now. We can’t have her wake up, and have you be in the wind. That would be very bad. Not only for her, but everyone else involved. Let’s take a beat here, Lucas. Then let’s remember our ace in the hole....”

I growled interrupting him, “They should’ve been watching her.” Dylan rubbed his temples, “Ok... since you woke me up so ridiculously early; Your vocabulary hasn’t been very expansive. We have covered surgery, and the fact that they should’ve been watching her. There’s no need to rehash. Let’s get Emmaline taken care of, and then revisit the training situation.”

Emmaline came around to say we could just call Haley. Hector mumbled, “I need the princess on speed dial.” Dylan rubbed his temples, “I kept trying to say that, and you kept interrupting me. Call Haley... so simple and brilliant. Now, she gets all the credit. I should’ve just called myself.”

Ryan ran in the room. He was pale, but calmed down once he saw Emmaline was, as Lacy said, “fine.” I was not ok with everyone saying this was fine. Dominic huffed, “She has broken bones, that is not fine. What is wrong with these people?” I replied, “I don’t know.”

Hector complained, “Who needs doctors? She has the fairy princess. What do I know? I only went to school to be a doctor.” Dylan linked me, “Haley will fix her right up. It will be as if it never happened.” I growled, “It DID happen. This will NEVER happen again. She should be safe here in our territory.”

Dylan reasoned, “Now, now she was safe.” I growled, “A broken arm suggests otherwise.” Dylan sighed, “You poor Alpha Sleep Tyrant, you’re so tired you’re not making sense...” I growled, “I need to call Eric.” Dylan sarcastically replied, “Sure, one should talk to GAP in this mood. What could go wrong? I’m just going to text Beta Caleb for funsies.”

I pulled out my phone. The second it picked up I growled, “Eric.” Eric asked, “Lucas, what’s wrong?” I immediately said, “I need Haley. Emmaline broke her arm in training.” Eric sighed, “Angel, your cousin broke her arm training.” I heard Haley say, “Aww, poor thing! I’ll be there as soon as Cassie is done eating. Can you link your mom and see if she can come be with the triplets until I get back?” Eric replied, “Of course, Angel.”

I growled, “I know she can’t come now, but I need her.” Eric assured me, “She will be there as soon as she can.” I hung up on him. Dylan asked, “Did you just hang up on the God of the Pricks?” I growled at Dylan, “We will be at trainings until I am certain someone is watching her closely.” Dylan nodded, “Of course we will. What else could we do? Can we go back to you hanging up on the God of pricks? I feel like a slow clap is in order.” Bexley and Eric popped in.

Eric linked me, “Lucas, just keep calm for Emmaline. When she leaves for school, you and I will fight your anger out. Just keep Dominic on simmer until then.” I truthfully told him, “I don’t know if I can. He’s mad and I’m fucking pissed.”

Dominic linked me, “You are NOT more upset about this than I am.” I sighed, “Fine.” I linked Eric, “Correction, we are both equally upset.” Eric snorted, “I know. Just focus on her. She needs you, and that’s what’s important.” I replied, “She’s staying home today.” Eric gave me a disbelieving look, “I wish you best of the luck with that.”

I was going to lose it if someone else said the word fine. Dominic calmed down when Emmaline spoke to him. I linked Dylan, “The next person who says the word fine is

going to feel my wrath.” Dylan nodded, “Of course. Don’t mind me, I’ll just be striking the word fine from the vocabulary of the pack for... the foreseeable future.”

Lacy came back into the room. I hadn’t noticed she left. She must have gone to get Brad. Brad linked me, “I’m sorry, Alpha. I should be at training sessions with her.” I replied, “We didn’t have you on rotation until school.” Brad frowned, “I’ll be there from now on.” I told him, “You’re driving them today if she insists on going to school.” He just nodded.

Emmaline asked everyone politely to leave us alone. It was good she did because I didn’t have the ability to be nice right now. Possibly for the entire day. I nodded to Eric who grabbed Dylan. Dylan sighed, “Do you have ANY idea what this has done to my entire day, GAP?” Eric answered, “Yes.”

Dylan kept going, “I’m going to have to keep him from killing warriors. The only thing I can argue on their side is she did that ridiculous space unheard chant that NEEDS to be forgotten. Can Haley make her forget that chant?” Eric snorted, “Can she? Yes. Will she? No. Just keep moving.”

Dylan demanded, “SOMEONE GET ME MORE COFFEE!” Lacy added, “And some food. You can’t just have coffee, babe.” Dylan lamented, “I need an IV to pump coffee directly to my veins. Do you have ANY idea what this has done to my life?” Lacy laughed while Eric sighed.

Emmaline and I talked. She agreed no space unheard during training. I felt another piece of myself relax. I briefly let her into my panic this morning. My mind went to a bad place. I didn’t think there was any way she was hurt in our territory. I thought a witch had taken her as revenge for Hammond or something.

Haley finally popped in, and asked Emmaline how she was. Just heal her. Was that too much to ask? They both agreed they were more worried about me than Emmaline. I linked Dylan, “The fairies are on drugs. They are both more worried about me than Emmaline.” Dylan snorted, “I hear them. I have other questions. They are worried about YOU? What about ME? Is no one worried about me?”

Haley tried to hold back her smile when Emmaline told her they’d given her morphine. I linked Eric, “What does Haley mean that Emmaline will be extra fun today since she had morphine?” Eric replied, “I don’t know. Haley was sedated and mixed it with alcohol. She was very chatty and flirty. It was the first time we played catch the fairy.”

I asked, “What does morphine do then?” Eric frowned, “I have no clue... well... Bexley had a... reaction to drugs. But she’s a full-blooded fairy.” I nearly groaned, “What reaction?” Eric admitted, “She found things extra entertaining. Liam had quite the time pinning her down.” I grumbled, “Great.”

I linked Dylan, “Call Sam’s aunt. Let her know Emmaline’s teachers need to know she will be in an interesting mood. We aren’t completely sure what that means.” Dylan sounded harassed, “Ok... what does that even mean?”

When I explained, Dylan became jovial. Ass. Haley was trying to understand why anyone was upset with Emmaline. It wasn’t Emmaline we were upset with. It was the lack of supervision. Training should’ve stopped the second she got hurt.

I was still holding Emmaline when Haley healed her, and I let the peaceful euphoria wash over me. It didn’t seem like it took her very long and looked at the clock. Ten minutes. She’d healed Emmaline’s arm in ten minutes.

I linked Eric, “Is Haley getting faster at healing?” Eric answered, “Yes. According to Bexley since Haley is no longer hiding her powers from fairy’s and fully accepting of her fairy side, as well as her place as the princess, she has allowed her powers to flourish. In addition to eating regularly. Haley feels guilty when Bexley says that which tells me there is more to it.” I asked, “What’s the more part then?” Eric replied, “She hasn’t said.” Ok then. Odd.

Haley spoke in Fealish. I linked Dylan, “What did she say?” Dylan sighed, “I don’t have a Fealish dictionary. I do not know. Do you know who does? His nickname is an acronym.” True. Eric would know.

I linked Brad, “She doesn’t leave your sight today. Tell me you understand.” Brad agreed, “Of course, Alpha.” I watched them leave before I asked, “Eric, what did Haley say?” Eric spoke in an even tone, “Essentially she said that Emmaline shouldn’t take shit from anyone because any of us would’ve done what Emmaline did.”

I growled, “Of course she did. Dylan, get Nick on the phone.” Dylan saluted me, “Calling Alpha Kyle, because that is his name.” Nick answered, “Lucas?” Without preamble I told him, “I need you to have Drake and Peter keep a close eye on Emmaline today. There was an accident in training this morning. Haley popped into heal Emmaline. I couldn’t keep her here, and I’m...”

Nick cut me off, “Anxious about her being out of your sight. I will let my son know. Call if there’s anything else I can do.” I sighed in relief, “Thank you, Nick.” We hung up. I counted to ten in my head before I did anything else.

I turned to Dylan, "Get those warriors in my office." Eric cut in, "Let's use your gym first." Haley popped to Eric asking, "Are we going home now?" Eric shook his head, "No, I'm going to fight Lucas." Haley giggled, "Do I get to fight too?" Eric shook his head, "No, Angel." Haley pouted, "Fine, I'll hang out with my friend Dylan." Eric growled.

I stalked into the gym. Pack members fled the mats from the look on my face alone. Dylan called, "Better you than me in the mood he's in, GAP." Eric rolled his eyes. We fought for an hour before I held my hand up. "Thank you, Eric."

Dylan stood, "Yes, thank you GAP. Lucas, your mate is popping away from Brad, Peter, and Drake. Travis is howling with laughter watching it all unfold." I groaned, "Why is she popping away from them?" Haley wiggled her eyebrows, "She's in an extra fun mood." I sighed, "Why isn't Travis helping them?" Dylan said, "Travis said he doesn't want to look as dumb as they do chasing the air."

I asked, "Haley how long will she be like this?" Haley shrugged, "Every fairy is different. My best guess would be most of the day." I asked, "Why didn't you tell her to stay home?" Haley look amused, "You can't keep a fairy somewhere they don't want to be, my lion. We simply pop away. She's having fun, and it's not hurting anyone."

Brad linked me, "Emmaline popped away with Chelsea, Sam, and Lacy. We don't know where they are." Awesome. Haley smiled, "My advice? Enjoy it my lion, eventually it will be fun for you too." She popped away with Eric.

My phone rang. I answered, "Nick." Nick laughed, "It would seem your mate popped away with my son and Drake's mates. They are... beside themselves." I linked Emmaline. She told me their location. I informed him, "She's at the pond your men saw her at when they were tracking her." Nick snorted, "Alright, we are heading there now." I couldn't help but laugh that Emmaline though he was coming to swim with them.

Dylan was relieved, "Thank god. Your extra fun fairy finally got you to crack a smile." I sighed, "Get those warriors to my office, I'm not asking again." Dylan responded, "They've been in there since we left the gym." I snorted, "Of course they have." Dylan smiled, "Your dad is reading them the riot act. Your mom had to calm him down."

We had reached the house when Nick called back. I answered, "Nick, did you get them?" Nick said, "We had them. When Ben pointed out they were supposed to be in school Emmaline popped them back. Peter linked me, they have them all there now.

They are trying to convince Emmaline the classes for the rest of the day are in fact inside.”

Dylan gasped, “Ben? Excuse me but his name is Beta McAlister.” Beta McAlister laughed, “Beta Dylan, you know my name is Ben McAlister.” Dylan replied, “I do, but everyone calls you Beta McAlister. None of this Ben business. We all make our choice to go by our first name or last with our title. You chose your last name. You will always be Beta McAlister. I don’t make these rules, I just follow them people.”

Beta McAlister laughed then said, “Call if we need to track your mate again, Alpha Lucas. This is a lot more fun than the plan I had for my day.” Nick agreed, “Me too. Something tells me, we will see her again.” Dylan clapped, “That’s the spirit! Moon goddess PLEASE let this be an all-day thing. After the rude wakeup call you allowed in my morning, I ask that you grant this to me.” I walked into my office.

My dad turned to me then took his seat. I growled, “This will NEVER happen again. What possible excuse could you have to not have someone watching her when your Gamma is participating in class?” The first warrior spoke, “It’s not excusable, and it will not happen again.”

Another warrior spoke, “We are sorry, Alpha. She’s doing so well, and she was working on fairy skills.” I growled, “I don’t care if she’s watching paint dry. YOU HAVE EYES ON HER! ARE WE CLEAR?” They all nodded. I demanded, “Get out of my sight, before I beat you all bloody.” They all fled from the room.

Dylan casually said, “If anyone cares Emmaline is apparently sewing like a possessed person. She’s made over fifty bibs and spit up rags.” I frowned, “She’s not in a class that sews.” Dylan smirked, “Lacy is. She popped to Lacy because she couldn’t sit still. You should monitor the pack link today. It’s highly entertaining. Until Lacy told them she had Emmaline, they were in a panic. It was comical.”

Emmaline was linking me about Team Fairy winning. I tried to reason with her, but she shut me out. I told Dylan, “Link Lacy. Emmaline won’t answer me anymore. Apparently, Team Fairy is kicking Team Werewolf’s butt.”

Dylan howled with laughter, “I thought today was a dead loss, but it’s been revived... with gusto.” He was quiet for a minute then resumed laughing. Someone brought him popcorn. I couldn’t stop my growl. Dylan explained, “Lacy said Emmaline cut you off because you aren’t being any fun. I guess you need to lighten up to get your mate to talk to you.”

I grabbed my wallet, “Go get in the damn car, Dylan. We are bringing her home.” Dylan stood, “I’m sure I don’t need to point this out, but it doesn’t seem like she wants to come home.” I growled, “We will convince her.” Dylan said, “Ohhh convince the extra fun fairy to play our way, I like it. I personally think you have no shot, you no fun fuddy duddy. I could probably help, but that would also be no fun. I cannot be called no fun. It will hurt my soul.”

As I drove, I called Eric. He answered, “Lucas.” I asked, “Can Haley talk to Emmaline? She’s giving everyone at school the slip. I need her to come home.” Haley sighed, “I can talk to her.” I heard a pop. Eric said, “You probably should’ve specified more than just talking to Emmaline.” I hung up.

I got out of the car to pure chaos. Brad, Travis, Drake, and Peter were running around like chickens without heads. I asked them, “Where is she?” Sam and Chelsea were hanging back trying to laugh quietly to themselves. Brad sighed, “We don’t know, but she took Lacy with her.”

I used our bond and led them back to where Emmaline was. I could smell her, but I couldn’t find her. Did she build another treehouse? We ran around the area for fifteen minutes before Emmaline linked me. I told Dylan, “She thinks this is a game that Team Fairy is winning. Link Lacy and ask where they are.” Dylan said, “I already did that, she said she couldn’t tell me.” I groaned.

Dylan started laughing. I looked over at him and followed his line of sight. Emmaline and Lacy were up in the tree. I convinced her to come down. Emmaline popped down to us, and I could see the black part of her pupil was expanded. She was smiling though and having a great time. Dylan linked me, “Game? What game are they playing?” I said, “Something tells me we are playing catch the fairy.”

Dylan linked me, “NON-SEXY CATCH THE FAIRY? I LOVE TODAY!” I rolled my eyes. Dylan didn’t find it funny that Eric got to play the sexy version, “Of course GAP plays this game with Haley. GOD, he is the worst.” I snarked, “You are such a girl.” Dylan snorted, “You seem to imply that was an insult. I disagree. If I can be on team Haley and Emmaline, I could be a girl. They will run the world, Lucas. Mark my words.”

Dylan linked me, “Are we even surprised Haley just enabled her cousin to continue the game? GOD, I love my fairy show.” Emmaline seemed genuinely confused that we didn’t want to play. She as nonplussed when she popped away continuing her game.

Peter groaned, “She’s been doing that all damn morning!” Chelsea said, “It’s actually pretty funny.” Peter yelled, “FUNNY? We have been chasing her all day.” Sam smiled, “We got to go with her, she’s just in a good mood guys.”

I told the group, “They are still here.” I ran inside to see Emmaline wave and pop away. I turned to Dylan, “I don’t feel them nearby anymore.” Dylan smiled, “Neither do I. Isn’t it great?” I admitted, “My link with Emmaline still feels blocked. Ask Lacy where they are.” Dylan’s grin broadened, “Apparently, that’s not allowed now that you are playing. It wasn’t cheating earlier because you weren’t in the game. Now, you don’t get hints.”

I growled, “For FUCKS sake. My wolf is pacing. I have been on edge since she was hurt this morning. With this...” Dylan smirked, “I know. Our fairy Luna is playing a dangerous game because you will catch her... eventually” I linked him, “What if I’m so worked up, I hurt her?” Dylan rolled his eyes, “I’ll stop you, but you won’t. You can’t fathom hurting her. I won’t help you cheat.”

I sent a text out to her brothers. Dustin immediately replied that she was at his house. I told everyone, “They are in Red Run at Dustin and Aubree's house. Peter, can you link your dad to go make sure she’s ok? Tell him we are on the way.” Peter nodded.

Dylan and I took off to the car. Dylan said, “I’m even getting my cardio in today. This was not what I thought would happen when I woke up unexpectedly before my alarm, and before any sane human is awake. Everyone needs a fairy in their life.” I grumbled, “I just need to pin down the fairy I have in my life.” Dylan sounded far too happy when he responded, “Somehow my friend, I do not see that happening any time soon. Dylan is a fan of that, yes he is.”

I sighed, “Dylan, you know I already needed to claim her after this morning. She keeps popping away from me. I’ll lose control.” Dylan waved his hand, “Yes, yes, yes. You prattle on, but I see fun. Do you think GAP doesn’t get all worked up when his fairy pops away from him? Because he does. She gets him riled up and pops away. He hasn’t hurt her; ipso facto you will not hurt Emmaline. Stop trying to ruin this for me. Relax and enjoy my show.”

We were halfway to Dustin’s when I got a call. I answered without looking, “Hello?” Nick laughed, “I am being a cheater, cheater pumpkin eater, but Emmaline and Lacy popped out. I did give them a fifteen-minute head start.” Dylan laughed.

I asked, “Cheater, cheater, pumpkin eater?” Dylan slapped his knee. Nick chuckled, “That’s what Emmaline called it. Peter linked me that they are back at school.” I pulled u turn. Dylan yelled, “WHOA there cowboy! It’s a good thing I didn’t eat

lunch yet or I'd have to get the car cleaned." I said, "Thanks Nick." Nick admitted, "This is better than paperwork." We hung up.

Dylan said, "Since my stomach is in the middle of the street back there... I remembered we do need lunch." I growled, "We will get lunch when we have Emmaline." Dylan grumbled, "Come on! Unless you are planning to hit her with iron, we can't catch her unless she wants to stop. That's always been the problem with fairies. You have two choices in catching one. One, you shoot them with iron. Or two, they let you catch them. Granted sometimes they want to fight, but generally speaking it's those two options."

I growled, "NO ONE will hurt her!" Dylan agreed, "Then we have to wait until she WANTS us to catch her. Besides, she can turn iron to water." I growled, "She does want us to catch her, it's a game." Dylan laughed, "Maybe she wants you to catch her, but the rest of us... She's having fun according to Lacy. Who is also having a grand old time by the way."

I called my dad, "Can you cover the office? Emmaline's... in a mood. We are having to chase her all over trying to catch her." My dad waited a beat then laughed, "Yes, son. I'll take care of this. I do listen to pack link on occasion. It's been entertaining today. You... catch my daughter in law." He was still laughing when he hung up.

We got back to the school and ran in as Emmaline popped away with Tessa. I yelled, "TESSA! What the hell?" Lacy said, "I have a test next period. Peter and Drake ruined the fun for Sam and Chelsea. Emmaline tagged Tessa in." Eric linked me, "Emmaline is here with Tessa and her mate. I'd advise you to stay at the school, and not head here. I'll make sure she's safe."

I growled, "She's in Eric's territory." Dylan begged, "PLEASE do not make us start driving there. We are wasting precious time." I admitted, "Eric seems to believe we should stay and wait here." Dylan yelled, "Damn it!" I frowned, "You wanted to stay here, and get food. Remember?" Dylan grumbled, "Yes, and now I get to thank GAP for it. That selfish prick for being the voice of reason, you listen to. I'm going to get us food at Al's."

We ate outside Lacy's classroom. Dylan said, "Not that I'm complaining I enjoy sticking by Lacy, but why are we outside her class?" I pointed out, "Emmaline will tag Lacy back into Team Fairy as soon as she's done with her test." Dylan nodded, "That makes sense."

The teacher came out and told us, "The students are done with their test. Come in Alpha, Beta, please. You can sit in the empty chairs." I nodded and sat by Lacy.

Seconds later a pop sounded as Emmaline quickly grabbed Lacy. I went for her but missed. I was painfully hard at this point.

Dylan stood, “Nothing to see here, move along students.” He dragged me out of the classroom and shoved me into the car. He happily told me, “No one needs to see your hard on. Think unsexy thoughts.” I growled, “I literally can’t. She’s spun me up so damn much.” Dylan tried not to laugh but couldn’t keep it in.

His phone buzzed. He told me, “My Beta chat is here for you today. They are at the Red Run pack house according to Beta McAlister. I still can’t believe someone called him Ben today, the audacity.” I snorted, “Yes, the audacity to call him by his name.”

I made it to Red Run in record time. Dylan said, “Maybe I should drive. You’re going to kill us driving one hundred and forty miles an hour. She’s not in danger.” I glanced at him, “I’m driving. If she was in danger, she’d probably just pop away thinking it was some kind of game.”

Dylan chided, “You have GOT to lighten up. She’s just visiting with her sister.” I glared at him, “If Lacy had broken her arm this morning...” Dylan cut me off, “Point taken. It’s MUCH more fun in my seat. Also, Lacy can’t pop away from me, so I will never be in your shoes. I also have no plots whatsoever to dope up our special fun sized ninja fairy.” I warned, “Dylan...” He smirked, “There are no plans on plans on plans going on here. Don’t worry, she’s included in all plans I haven’t thought of.” I didn’t have the energy for that.

I pulled up to the house and shut the car door quietly. I growled at Dylan when he slammed his, “Are you TRYING to let her hear us?” Dylan chuckled, “She already smelled you; the door doesn’t matter.” He was right. I ran inside. She waved to me again then popped away. I dove for her and hit the couch she’d been sitting on. I groaned in frustration.

Sharon clicked her tongue, “The poor thing. I don’t even think she realizes how spun up you’ll be when you catch her.” I growled, “POOR THING? Poor me, not her!” Nick and Beta McAlister laughed. Nick said, “Better you than me, Lucas. I’d put a note in her chart that she can never have morphine again.”

Beta McAlister laughed, “Or that she should only be given some if absolutely necessary. This is easily the most fun workday we’ve had in ages, Nick.” Dylan clapped, “YES! More people on team give Emmaline morphine. I started a petition. Travis signed it already, everyone else is scared. The she wolves will rally around me though. They will.” I growled, “No, Dylan. Team give Emmaline more morphine is

not a team we have.” Dylan smugly retorted, “I bet I could even get Haley to get me a t-shirt.” I rolled my eyes, “Of course you could.”

Dylan got in the car asking, “Where to?” I sighed, “Schools over now, hopefully she went home.” Dylan smirked, “At least she’s not popping all over Red Run. She knows this territory pretty well.” I sighed, “I was going to talk to Tom today.”

Dylan admitted, “We need to talk to your dad first.” I frowned, “Why?” Dylan sighed, “I looked over his files. Tom’s mate just disappeared.” I pointed out, “People don’t disappear.” Dylan prodded, “Which is why we need to talk to your dad. What mom abandons her pup and mate?” I frowned, “Someone who’s not really their mate, or someone who is afraid. My dad wouldn’t have let Tom keep his daughter if he thought he would hurt her.” Dylan shrugged, “We still need to know, so maybe we could get more information out of Tom.”

I growled, “Talking to him is a bit redundant, we know what we need to. I just want him to say it to my face. You’re right though, that’s a weird situation.” I changed the subject, “Any news on Alpha Raven?” Dylan nodded, “Logan emailed me information before I sent it to him... he already had it. That guy is scary. Gunner is on it, and he is positive it will confirm Alpha Raven is behind it.” I groaned, “Great.”

We got to my house, and I ran in to see my parents. Dominic was uncontainable. I heard a pop upstairs. My dad asked, “Don’t have any stealth left do you, son?” I growled. Dylan followed me. Lacy was waiting at the bottom of the treehouse.

She led Dylan inside. He gaped, “This is surreal. I love fairy magic. Lacy and I want to move out of the main house and into a treehouse that Haley conjures for us. I will live in magical treehouse Dylanland.” I growled, “No.” Dylan grumbled, “Grampus! Fine.... But I want one of my own.” I asked, “Lacy, where is she?” Lacy said, “She’ll be right back. She had to pop Tessa to her mate.”

Emmaline popped back in staying out of my reach. Dominic and I were evaluating her. Now, it was sexy catch the fairy. I needed the damn game to end. To my astonishment Emmaline popped Dylan and Lacy away.

I growled in frustration and took off for the house. Emmaline popped to me before I made it back. She snapped herself into her Tinkerbell outfit and took off. I shredded my clothes taking off after her. Warriors linked me she was on the border of our territory and Eric’s. Liam, Bexley’s mate, was talking to her, keeping her in one place. Dominic was not appeased. He didn’t want her talking to another male right now.

She popped away when I reached her. Liam assured me, “She’s winding down. I’d say the next place is the place she wants you to catch her in. Sorry, man. I know it’s rough. Enjoy the aftereffects though.”

I ran away from him. I was worried about the aftereffects. I didn’t want to hurt her, but I wasn’t going to be in control of myself. I found her swimming laps in her sanctuary. I jumped off the bridge and grabbed her by the waist.

Things quickly escalated. Eventually, I smelled Dylan as he knocked on our door. I growled angrily at him. He linked, “Is now the wrong time to say, I told you so? Because I told you that you couldn’t hurt her. You can say I’m right. It’s ok.” I growled, “Get out of here you smart ass know it all.” Dylan snorted, “She’s right. You should work on your angry Alpha growl, I barely wet my pants. Crazy fairy.”

She fell asleep once we both climaxed. I pulled out of her and took in the state of our room. Hopefully, Emmaline would just snap it back. It was wrecked. I cleaned myself off and then her. I pulled the covers back onto the bed and over us. I brought her to me and fell asleep.

Her alarm went off all too soon. She actually asked what I was doing. I muttered, “What am I doing? Going with you because those incompetent morons didn’t watch you, and you got hurt. That’s what I’m doing.” She couldn’t hear me. It was too early for so many words.

I wasn’t surprised Dylan came too. He was glaring at everyone in sight. I watched Emmaline swim for a minute. Then I asked Dylan, “What do you want me to do?” Dylan said, “Be a normal person so I can sleep in my bed.” I shrugged, “You can go back to bed.” Dylan snorted, “Puh-lease, where you go, I go. Is it too much to ask that at four in the freaking morning, you stay in bed?”

I told him plainly, “Until I’m certain they will watch her, no.” Brad assured me, “I’ve got the Luna, Alpha.” Dylan clapped, “Praise the goddess, back to bed.” I informed him, “We aren’t leaving. Brad can watch her tomorrow.”

Dylan sat down, “Do you just THINK of ways to be unreasonable and ruin my sleeping patterns?” I growled, “Yes, Dylan I do. I lie awake at night thinking of how to ruin your whole day.” Dylan stuck his tongue out at me, “As long as you can admit it.”

After class was over, I went to get Emmaline. I could tell she was going to pull me in the pool. It might jolt me awake, and I wanted her to be playful. Dylan had decided to be a thorn in my side and interrupt our moment.

I linked Lacy, “Get your cranky mate out of here little sister of mine whom I love dearly.” Lacy agreed, “Sure, Luc.” Lacy and several members were trying not laugh when Dylan became enraged about being accused of not being a morning person.

Dylan linked me, “I’m sending Brad a gift basket. No, I’ll subscribe him to some monthly membership, so he gets a monthly reminder of my gratitude for covering the four a.m. trainings. My pillow felt cheated on. It practically wept when I got up this morning.” I rolled my eyes and got ready for our day.

Once Emmaline left, I linked my dad. He came into the office with my mom. He asked, “What’s up? Other than the destruction of your room?” I told him, “That’s snapped back together. Dylan and I plan to visit Tom today. We were curious about his mate.” My dad frowned, “She ran off.” My mom looked away.

Dylan linked me, “Umm.... That was weird.” I asked, “Did you look for her?” My dad nodded, “Everywhere. Tom was distraught. He held it together for his daughter, she was his everything.” I clarified, “Our trackers lost her?” My dad nodded, “Yup, lost her, and our allies couldn’t pick her up.”

My mom suddenly found the tile on my floor too interesting. I quietly asked, “Mom?” She looked up, “What? Yes?” I asked, “How many tiles have you counted on the floor? What’s going on?” My dad turned to her asking, “Debbie?”

My mom sighed, “He wasn’t her mate.” We all stared at her. Finally, my dad asked, “What?” Debbie sighed, “She was young and in love. She’d been rejected by her mate, and she thought the pull she felt towards Tom was something. She thought that maybe he was her second chance mate.”

I pointed out, “Tom would’ve known.” My mom rolled her eyes, “He loved her too.” My dad asked, “Debbie, what did you do?” My mom admitted, “She came to me after she’d given birth. Her mate that had rejected her rescinded his rejection. She felt the bond with him again. Her wolf was cringing away from Tom’s touch, and she felt the pull to go be with her mate.”

I was appalled, “You can’t just un-reject your mate. Wasn’t she marked by Tom?” My dad said, “She was...” My mom interjected, “By her mate, Tom didn’t mark her.” I asked, “So, she just left her daughter?” My mom sighed.

Dylan asked, “Is her daughter her mates’ pup or Tom’s?” My jaw dropped. Dylan linked, “You need me, just admit it.” My mom answered, “Her mate’s.” My dad gasped, “Debbie, why did you keep her here? Does Tom know?”

My mom assured us, “Tom knows, and he loves her as if she was his own. He promised Tammy that he’d raise her as if she were his flesh and blood. He loves her, you know that Dale. Biology does not make a parent.”

My dad frowned, “The only reason you would keep her from her real father is if....” My mom sighed, “Her mate was abusive. We tried to convince her to reject him, but she couldn’t. She insisted this was the only way. I didn’t want her to go back, and Tom didn’t want her to go back. Her wolf was insistent.”

My dad said, “I would’ve helped her.” My mom smiled, “You did. Well, our son and his allies did.” I snorted, “How did we do that?” My mom looked at my dad, “I promised her as her Luna to never let her daughter know who her real father was. She made me swear an oath not to tell you, Dale. They aren’t just your people. I had to do this for her, as her Luna.”

My mom turned to me, “You helped kill her mate, Lucas.” I yelled, “I did WHAT?” Dylan muttered, “Holy crap on a cracker....” He trailed off. It clicked for me, “No.... The Ducant Alpha? The Alpha of the Ducant’s was her mate?” My mom nodded, “I don’t know where she is, but she’s free now. I hope she will come visit.”

My dad announced, “I’ll find her.” I said, “I’ll help you dad.” My dad shook his head, “No, your mother is right. It was her job as the Luna to look out for the needs of this pack, but it was my job to protect my members. Gina needs to know.”

My mom yelled, “NO! There are so many reasons why not Dale Lyons, but no. I swore an oath. We cannot tell her. Her mother can, but I would do everything in my power to not let that happen.” I asked, “Why mom? She deserves to know.”

My mom demanded, “To know what? That this family played a part in killing her sperm donor, who was a sick twisted mad man that spat on everything werewolves stand for? That the little girl she befriended in Red Run and has kept in touch all these years was abused by her father? Allison McAlister is Gina’s friend; this information would ruin that. Why should she know that he would’ve let her be abused because she was a girl and not a boy? NO! I want better for Gina. She has been through enough at the hands of that wretched Ducant Alpha. Let her be happy!”

My dad spoke softly, “Debbie...” My mom stood, “I said no, Dale. Your vows are mine and mine are yours. We are going to help Gina. I already have a list of therapists that Haley gave me, and I have been to see Gina since she was brought home. We will let her live here in our pack, and we will keep her safe. That’s what we will do.”

I cautioned her, "She may not want to stay. Tom isn't going to live." My mom winced, "I already took her to see him. She was angry with him, and she deserved to say her piece." My dad asked, "Angry?" My mom nodded, "She told him if he'd told us or Lucas she'd have been found sooner. She might not have been hurt or seen her mate hurt. She lost their first pup from the abuse. She's sad because he's her father, but she understands. Even Tom understands. I will NOT have any of you upset Gina further. Am I clear?" Crystal.

My dad hugged her, "You make so damn proud, woman." I agreed, "Understood, mom." I tried to lighten the mood, "I suppose you can keep secrets like you said." She snorted, "Look at you trying to make me feel better." She tapped my cheek lightly then took my Dad's hand. They left together.

Dylan stood, "Off to see Tom." I admitted, "We have a problem." Dylan moaned, "Great... What now?" I pointed out, "The Ducant Alpha's true heir is in our pack, but what if he has a love pup? Or if his mate gave him another pup." Dylan said, "If she did, it wasn't a boy. He would've groomed him to take over. If there is another pup it's possible, but it's also possible the pup did not live if she existed. He could have a love pup though."

I said, "We need to look into that. They could help their uncle with revenge." Dylan nodded, "We can try Lucas, but we won't know. He's not listed on a birth certificate for any pup. We already had him looked into, and we didn't know about Gina." I frowned, "I fear this will come back to us in some way. Maybe not now, but in twenty plus years." Dylan frowned, "Maybe. It could be nothing." I disagreed, "Doesn't feel like nothing." I knew he agreed.

We walked down to the dungeons in silence. I heard weeping as soon as I opened the door. Tom looked up, "Alpha Lucas, just kill me. I'll tell you whatever you want to know. I hurt my little girl; she lost my grandpup. I don't want to live. All I wanted was to protect her."

I sneered, "You had sex with witch to protect your daughter? You and I have different versions of protection." Tom frowned, "I thought they just needed your tie. I was bewitched. The woman I saw at the school that night was my Tammy. My beautiful Tammy."

I sighed, "Emmaline saw you as me with this witch." Tom said, "I'm sorry, I didn't know that." Understanding crept into me. If Emmaline was gone, and I thought I'd seen her I'd react how Tom did. Dylan linked me, "Don't EVEN tell me you want to give him mercy."

I looked at him and replied, “I understand him, don’t you?” Dylan answered, “Yes, but fuck understanding. Serious Dylan is very upset about the school dance. You were going to be crowned king. Among other serious things that happened, that did not. I am PUT OUT at the highest of levels about it.” Tom said, “I really did want the best for Gina. I never meant to hurt her.”

I pointed out, “You betrayed our pack the moment she left.” Tom hung his head, “Never anything big. They said they’d give me Gina back if I gave them Emmaline and Chelsea. I couldn’t do it. I’m a horrible father, but I couldn’t.

Gina wouldn’t have wanted me to do that, and Chelsea... she’s pregnant. I tried to keep them away from the girls.”

Dylan spoke, “You gave them our border patrols to plant a holoport to take away the Luna.” Tom put his head in his hands, “That’s not what they were supposed to be doing. Alpha Hammond must have known I wouldn’t let them do that. They were just supposed to let Grayson see his mother.” Dylan sighed.

I asked, “Do you have any information that can help us?” Tom glanced up, “With what? Hammond is dead.” I reminded him, “Grayson and several witches got away.” Tom shrugged, “Without Hammond, they won’t come back. Grayson won’t be too upset that his mom is dead. She’s more of a fun aunt, who was more of a mess than fun. His aunt raised him. If she died, he’d be enraged, and do something stupid.” Dylan told me, “His aunt is still in Red Run.”

Tom nodded, “Yes, she told him not to get involved. That his father wouldn’t have wanted this for him. His father hated Christy. I think he just wanted his mother around more. He missed her, but she wasn’t right in the head anymore.” I asked, “Was Andie the one waiting outside the school to take Emmaline the night of the dance?”

Tom nodded, “Yes, Grayson was supposed to get her outside to talk.” I wondered aloud, “You really didn’t know they planned for Emmaline to see me with someone else?” Tom admitted, “I didn’t really want to know, Alpha. I just did what I had to do to keep my little girl as safe as I could. I made mistakes, big ones that cost her so much. At the time, I thought it was best.”

I told him, “I can’t let you live.” Tom nodded, “I know. I lived for my Tammy and my little girl. She’s not so little anymore. She’s fierce like her mother, my Gina is. She has her mate, and he swore to me he’d never let anything bad happen to her again. Just... for her, please get him some better training. Hammond wouldn’t let anyone get too strong in his pack. Gina’s mate could be a top warrior, but Hammond held him back. Please, Alpha.”

I didn't know why he asked. Everyone was trained here. I told him, "He will be properly trained. They will be welcome in this pack if that's what she wants. I will protect her as her Alpha." Tom nodded, "Thank you." I snapped his neck quickly.

Dylan said, "I thought you were going to torture him within an inch of his life." I admitted "If his story wasn't so damn relatable, I would have. I don't have pups, but I've seen Eric with his. He's smarter and he would make better choices, but he'd do anything for them. Tom was misguided in how tried to help her, but he was a father above all. He loved Tammy, and he never met his mate. Tell me you wanted to torture him after hearing all that."

Dylan sighed, "During my wedding I did... I still do a little. He was going to hurt Chelsea and Lacy." I said with finality, "He's dead now. Let's get back to work."

We worked steadily throughout the week. Gunner confirmed Alpha Raven was behind the contract on Chelsea. He was also able to unearth the plans for Christopher and Sebastian. To say Nick was enraged was an understatement. He was on simmer until a pack confirmed it through non hacking channels.

Dylan said, "I feel for Beta McAlister right now. I have been in those shoes, and it's not an easy task containing your Alpha." Eric's pack confirmed the information next, and our pack followed. There was no doubt it was Alpha Raven. His ultimate goal was getting Luna Marissa.

We all got on a conference call. Nick was irate. He snarled, "Marissa is MINE!" I agreed, "Luna Marissa is not going anywhere she's yours, Nick. We will keep her and Chelsea safe." I heard Luna Marissa assure him, "Nick, I am yours and no one else's. We have three beautiful boys, and a grandpup on the way. I am yours." Alpha Kyle growled, "MINE!"

Dylan linked me, "Beta McAlister said she has to be with Alpha Kyle at all times right now to keep him calm. He's been going into rages when she's not around." I sighed, "Sounds about right." Dylan said, "Poor, Beta McAlister. I gotta pour one out for my buddy."

I countered, "Poor Nick. I know it's difficult for you all, but I understand the emotions he feels that there is someone out there trying to take his mate from him." Dylan said, "You have NO IDEA the hell Beta McAlister is in right now. It's his best friend and his Alpha. It's our job to mitigate your anger alongside your Luna. The poor man is probably getting no sleep trying to keep upsetting situations on Alpha Kyle's plate. There are always those unknown situations though. That are not actually upsetting in the slightest, but in your Alpha's current mood it's a def con one situation. Or when

people do stupid things like not watch the Luna while she's training. You know, as one does. It's hard being a Beta."

I complimented, "You all excel at it though." Dylan rolled his eyes, "It's LITERALLY in our blood." I wasn't going to say anything comforting so I left it. We came up with a plan to attack Sunday. The guys agreed to meet in Red Run tomorrow to finalize everything while the girls had their pup shower.

Luna Marissa declared, "You will NOT have that meeting in the pack house. That's where the pup shower is." Dylan said, "Our special fun sized ninja fairy calls it a baby shower." I stared at him. He shrugged, "What? I felt that was a necessary tidbit to share."

Nick ignored Dylan saying, "Fine, we have it in the house." Luna Marissa disagreed, "No, there's a different meeting in the main house." Nick sighed, "Yes, of course, the group therapy session. Where do you want us to go? The yard?"

I linked Dylan, "Group therapy?" Dylan answered, "She has a group she runs for abused werewolves. Be that family, mates, any type of relationship. They meet at their house, so no one sees them in case they are embarrassed. She's such a kindhearted soul."

Dustin spoke up from the Red Run end, "We can have it at our house. We are close, and our house is big enough." I heard Beta McAlister sigh. Dylan linked me, "Aww, stay strong Beta buddy! I'll just get his support going in our Beta Chat."

Nick growled, "I don't want to be that far away from you, Marissa." Marissa spoke softly, "It's ten minutes, Nick. It's five minutes if you shift and run." Eric threw out, "Haley and Blade will be at the shower."

Haley interjected, "Haley will be at the shower, Blade will be outside. Apparently, I tested him too much with the it's a small world ride." Luna Marissa chuckled, "There, you see? A Hackura guard will be on the perimeter. You could not possibly ask for more." Nick grumbled, "The army. If you can get the Hackura army here I will calm down." Marissa snorted.

Eric mused, "I'm sure we could get some of them." Luna Marissa yelled, "Jesus Christ! It's a pup shower, not a ticking time bomb. This is about our soon to be daughter in law when Peter asks her to have their mating ceremony. By the way son, GET ON THAT! I want to call her my daughter. I don't have one, and unlike the Hackura queen; I'm not willing to pop out eight pups for the chance to have one. She didn't even get to meet her daughter until Haley turned thirteen."

Haley laughed. Peter yelled, “MOM!” She snorted, “Don’t you use that tone with me. Have your mating ceremony, you already got her pregnant.” Peter grumbled, “She wants to see if she wants to have a wedding reception.”

Beta McAlister said, “For the love of the goddess, please no. Alpha Eric’s reception was ended by fairies trying to take and mate with his wife. Beta Dylan’s reception ended in a battle. Can we just stick to our traditional mating ceremonies?”

Haley sounded scandalized, “HEY!” Eric laughed, “That did happen, Angel.” Haley said, “Our reception was beautiful, and it’s not my fault the full-blooded fairies lost. It was fun. The added drama would be what the fairies considered a GIGANTIC success!” Dylan snorted.

Beta McAlister admitted, “It was a beautiful reception. Very uh... pink. Lots of pink. Barbie would’ve been jealous.” Haley asked, “Who is Barbie?” Her mom should be punched.

Drake cut in before Eric could lose his mind, “Peter, I was supposed to tell you that Chelsea told Sam and Lacy she just wants a mating ceremony. She didn’t want to pressure you by telling you in case you didn’t want to have one just yet.” Peter yelled, “What? Why would she think that? I wanted to have our ceremony the second I found her.”

Luna Marissa told him, “Pregnancy hormones are a powerful thing that you will never understand. That is wonderful news! I’ll start planning, Peter ask her so she and I can plan together.” Peter lamented, “Again, I was not the hold up here people!” Nick laughed, “Get used to it, son.”

We all agreed to meet in Red Run right before the shower so we could head out together. I linked Dylan, “Text Beta McAlister. Have him link Nick to let him know we are offering to assist his warriors to ease his mind at the shower. Brad and Emmaline’s other four guards will be there. We could spare ten more.” Dylan nodded, “He will send you a fruit basket and whiskey. I won’t be able to stop him.” I snorted.

Beta McAlister was thankful for the offer and even took us up on it. I sent the men I had in mind to spend the night in Red Run. I told Emmaline’s guard they’d be going in the morning. We explained to Emmaline and Lacy what had been going on. Emmaline seemed excited to be included in the plans.

Dylan linked me, “Look at how excited your little fairy is that you explained something to her. I want to cry a little seeing my little boy turn into a man.” I rolled my eyes at him and took Emmaline to our room. I vaguely recalled speaking to

Emmaline when he alarms went off, but I not what we said. I woke up and got ready when my alarm went off.

Dylan was already downstairs when my phone dinged. Eric had sent a group text saying Haley had a bad feeling. Dylan groaned, “Goodie. They all had such great reactions at the wedding when she said that.” I ordered, “Put the pack warriors on alert. Border patrols running until my dad tells them otherwise. Pups and non-fighters stay inside as a precaution.”

My dad came around the corner asking, “What’s going on?” I explained, “Haley has a bad feeling. It’s not too bad yet.” My dad nodded seriously, “We will be on alert here. You stay safe, and you keep your sister and Emmy safe too.” I assured him, “I will.” He looked at Dylan, “You too, Dylan. Keep them and yourself safe. Your dad called they were delayed and couldn’t make the wedding, but they are still coming back.”

Dylan sarcastically replied, “Are they? I guess they lost my number. Or Travis’, you know... their son who is still in high school? How long has it been since they’ve seen my little brother?” I winced answering, “Coming up on four years.” Dylan snapped his fingers, “Yes, that’s it.”

My dad sighed, “They are misguided, but good people.” Dylan said, “You know I respect you sir, but I don’t agree. They abandoned my little brother. I’ve heard people argue they abandoned me too, but I was older. I had to get Travis through high school and help Lucas run the pack. I’m not saying they didn’t deserve a vacation, but they could’ve come back. Hell, they could’ve made my wedding. Travis’ first shift comes to mind. Big moments they just missed without even an apology.”

My dad sighed, “I know they hurt you, but... your father is my best friend. He did everything he could to help locate Lacy. That’s part of what kept them away.” Dylan didn’t care, “Lacy is here now, and they still aren’t.” My dad hugged Dylan, “Just give them a chance when they come home.” My dad left.

Dylan waited for a second then snorted, “Yeah, when they come home. My firstborn will probably be five with siblings.” I clapped him on the back, “I’m sorry, man.” Dylan lamented, “I don’t understand. I don’t understand why they just left and didn’t even bother to be there for Travis. I was grown up, and we were running the pack, but Travis... they will NOT come back here and hurt my little brother. My father will be THRILLED to meet Serious Dylan for all of five seconds before I get them.” I frowned, “They won’t hurt Travis. We will protect him. I am his Alpha, after all.” Dylan nodded.

Emmaline linked me. I told Dylan, “Look alive, funny man. Your fairy fun is incoming.” Dylan shook himself and perked up, “Ah, yes. Off to my fairy show.” Emmaline popped us in. Dylan was back to his usual self, talking about time wasted driving. I didn’t mind popping, but there was something freeing about running in wolf form.

Eric caught my attention linking me, “I don’t think we should leave.” I asked, “Do we have a choice?” Eric snorted, “Yes, we do.” I shrugged. I wasn’t sure what got him out the door, but we left. We shifted and ran to Dustin and Aubree’s house.

Eric was anxious and pacing the second he shifted back. Jackson said, “It’s alright, Eric.” Eric growled, “Is it? We should go back.” Nick snorted, “My wife will kill us all.” Eric disagreed, “Just you, Marissa loves me.” Nick laughed, “She does have a soft spot for you. It’s only gotten softer since hearing your son is our grandpups mate... which is just something.”

Eric reminded him, “Your youngest has his mate too.” Nick smiled, “She popped to him the other day. Tucker was beside himself because Brooke refused to pop back for thirty minutes. Chris growled at Sebastian when he got near her. Marissa is tickled pink over the two of them. Chris pouts when she leaves.”

Dylan chimed in, “He’s already possessive.” Beta McAlister smirked, “Naturally, he’s an Alpha after all.” We went over our plans until Peter went rigid. He snarled, “Chelsea.” Drake stood seconds later yelling, “SAM!”

Nick growled, “Sebastian is linking me for help. Witches have him and Christopher.” He sprinted out the door. Dustin grabbed his keys and jumped into his car with Ryan. Eric and I shifted with everyone following close behind.

Warriors linked me, “A pup just killed the witch holding Alpha Kyle’s pups. Luna Emmaline popped to the boys; Sebastian got away. She just had the pup pop out with Christopher.” I linked Nick, “Your sons are safe.” He howled in relief.

I linked Dylan, “You’ll love this. Brooke popped in and saved Christopher.” Dylan replied, “SHUT UP! TELL ME EVERYTHING! A pup?! Pups are saving our literal asses? Lacy was popped out with your mom to the Hackura realm. Chelsea and Sam are there too with someone named Doris.”

I linked Nick, “The pregnant women are in the Hackura realm. I’m going to guess EJ popped Chelsea where he knew it would be safe.” Nick responded, “Eric told me.” I came into the clearing. Eric veered off heading towards Haley and Blade.

I saw Emmaline attacking rogues. My warriors were keeping as many away from her as possible. She had just drowned one while another was sneaking up on her. I let Dominic tear through them as I jumped over her and into the fray. Once we'd contained the threat, I turned to see her eating. Good. Emmaline broke down what happened with the Kyle boys.

I linked Dylan, "ACID TO WATER?" Dylan replied, "I love it, Lucas. I love it SO MUCH! A pup melted a witch's skin off... for her mate. That's terrifyingly adorable... Nope it's just adorable." It was going well until Alpha Raven appeared in front of our group.

I linked Eric, "He's got rogues, but there are no pack members with him." Eric gritted out, "On your right, he has ten pack members." I looked over and growled. I asked, "Couldn't they have made this simple?"

Eric answered, "No, now we have to question who in the pack knew about this. His children are in the dungeons in silver cuffs, it looks like Daniel fought him." I looked around, "How do you know that?" He replied, "I texted Haley's brother's before we shifted since we thought it was Alpha Raven attacking. Ubbe and Benjamin found his family."

Peter's wolf was forcing his way forward to protect his mom. Alpha Raven didn't even acknowledge him; his eyes were on Nick. Nick seemed the picture of calm. Dylan linked, "That's the calmest he's spoken any time this week we've heard those words." He was right.

I saw Alpha Raven give a signal, and I heard the darts being fired. I dove on Emmaline; Eric did the same. Emmaline and Haley were both confused, I saw Sharon was on the ground being guarded by Garrett. I explained they had iron darts. Alpha Raven frowned. His gaze sharpening on Haley and Emmaline. He wanted them to be without their powers most of all.

I linked Eric, "He watched them, Eric. Emmaline and Haley are his goal with the iron darts." Eric growled, "I'll rip his spine from his body. It's also a miscalculation not to want Sharon; she's good." The fairies popped inside.

The rogues attacked. We were fighting them when Dustin and Ryan pulled up. Magic was thick in the air as Dustin countered their witches magic with his own. I linked Eric, "How are none of their spells affecting us?" Eric answered, "Haley and Emmaline's magical protections. If they start using dark magic, we might be in some trouble."

I heard pops. Eric linked me, “They went after the wolves with iron darts.” I growled, “Heaven forbid they stay the fuck inside, and not get near the iron.” Eric snorted, “Unfuckingly likely, Lucas.” I grumbled, “I can dream, let me have my dream.”

I heard a whimper that I knew. My blood ran cold, that was Dylan. I turned to my left knowing that’s where Dylan always was when we fought. A witch was using dark magic trying to force him to shift, or to at least cause him pain. I wasn’t sure. He was still taking out rogues, but he didn’t see the witch pull a knife. I didn’t think, I ran and jumped in front of him.

I heard Eric’s howl of anger, but I couldn’t focus when I felt pain burst into my side. I couldn’t hold my scream as I shifted back to human form to spare Dominic the pain. Dylan shifted back yelling, “Lucas... no! Bad wolf! Why did you do that?” I looked at him, “You’re my best friend.” Dylan’s eyes filled with tears.

He gathered himself and yelled “GAP! We need our special fun sized ninja fairy and her healing hands! Right now!” Dylan held me, “Don’t you die on me, brother. You have to be the steady uncle in my pups’ lives.” I tried to get my breath back, “It’s fun Uncle.” Dylan snorted, “Please, I’m the fun one. You have to be the serious, helpful one.” I laughed weakly quickly stopping because it hurt.

I heard Emmaline scream, but I couldn’t see her. I wasn’t sure what happened but the next thing I knew Emmaline and Haley were next to me. Emmaline’s eyes were fiercely blue. There was no pupil left, just two blue circles.

Emmaline’s gaze cut to the witch who was staring at her in terror. I vaguely heard Haley taunted the witch. I whispered, “Dylan... can...” Haley cut me off, “Dylan is suffering from the effects of the dark magic. He even overpowered it to shift and held you which had to cause him a great deal of pain.”

I looked at Dylan. He shrugged, “It was but a mild irritation. Haley you can heal him, can’t you?” Haley put a hand on his shoulder, “Of course I can, it won’t even take me too long. I can heal you too, my friend Dylan.” Dylan shrugged, “I am feeling better since Emmaline is doing... whatever it is Emmaline is doing while GAP kills anything that glances in any of our directions. I knew he cared about me somewhere in that pinky toe of his.”

I laughed letting myself float away in the peaceful euphoria. A voice filled the silence, “Hello, my child.” I whirled and went to my knees, “Moon Goddess, Selene.” She put a hand on my shoulder, “Rise.” I asked, “Could Haley not heal me?” Selene laughed, “Of course she can. I gave nothing but the best for you and my child Eric. Powerful women were needed for powerful Alphas.”

I asked, "How can I serve you, Moon Goddess?" Selene smiled, "I just used this moment to officially meet you. I love all my children, and I so rarely get to meet them. Your pups will be strong just like their parents. Stay vigilant and weary of the enemies you create. Down the road it will be important to people who are important to you. I, of course, will try to alter my children's path, but I fear some souls will not be swayed. I will try all I can. I do not want any of my children to suffer as I see this path they are so set on."

I gulped, "Will my pups suffer?" She shook her head, "Your pups will have trials, but it is not for you or your pups that I make this request." I admitted, "I don't understand then." She smiled sadly, "I am afraid I cannot say more. Just keep a watchful eye. You won't be able to prevent it all, but maybe you can spare some pain. Your Luna will take the situation hard. She is a such sensitive soul, and she loves fiercely."

I nodded, "I will be watchful." Selene stated, "More trouble is coming soon. Your mate is strong, it's why I chose her for you." I growled, "How do I protect her?" She smiled sadly, "Her goddess believes she needs this trial. She will need you, but she will do this her way." I growled, "David." Selene smiled, "You are so smart, my child. You need to wake up now. Your Emmaline needs you."

I opened my eyes. I sat up to see Emmaline standing with her back to me. Both of her brothers were beside her. The witch who had stabbed me was in what appeared to be a riptide that was suspended above the ground.

Dylan linked me, "Dude, Emmaline has been almost drowning the witch but refusing to let her ACTUALLY drown until you woke up. Don't piss off our Luna, man. Seriously, if she and Haley decide to take over the world, let's just let them. They could do it; I'm telling you. She got pissed and Haley brought the rain. She used it to kill everyone else. Except Alpha Raven, and Emmaline literally delivered him to Alpha Kyle's feet. Emmaline has lost it. Haley did Haley things with those Emmaline didn't see."

I stood and wrapped my arms around Emmaline. She turned sobbing into my chest. I watched as the witch died, she actually seemed relieved. I linked Dylan "Was it my imagination, or was that witch relieved to drown?"

Dylan snorted, "No, no... Did you not hear me? Your mate wouldn't let her die. She kept almost letting her die, brought her up for air, and then dragged her back down. I even tried to get Emmaline to crack a smile by calling her a Pokémon. No dice, Lucas. It was very dreary and serious. I did not care for it."

I linked Eric, “Any casualties on our end?” Eric replied, “No.” I looked at him. He had actually ripped out Alpha Raven’s spine to kill him. Dylan said, “Oh yeah, and GAP went full Raging Predator Monster. Let’s just say he doesn’t like it when people shoot iron darts at our special fun sized ninja fairy. We might need to get him into counseling for his rage. I’ve goggled such groups. There are no spine ripper groups, but we could fudge a bit to get him accept into a different one.” I rolled my eyes.

Emmaline’s sobs trailed off, and she passed out cold. I caught her yelling, “Shit!” Haley assured me, “She’s alright. She went through such extreme emotions very rapidly, and she used a lot of power. She’ll need food when she wakes up. Let’s all be glad she didn’t turn to water.” Dylan got on his knees, “Dear moon goddess, never again. ANYTHING but her water fairy period.”

Peter pleaded, “Please bring Chelsea and Sam back here, Princess Luna Conners.” Haley said, “It’s just Haley, I’m friends with your mates. I’ll be right back.” She popped and was back in seconds. Drake asked, “Where are they?” Haley snorted, “I’m not popping them into the yard. I popped them to your pack hospital. Go on you two!” They took off.

Haley turned to her mate, “Eric, EJ is refusing to leave Chelsea.” Eric snorted, “Of course he is.” Haley continued, “Which means the other two refuse to leave.” Haley pulled out her phone and spoke in Fealish.

Brooke, Christopher, and Maribella popped in seconds later. Christopher walked over to his dad calling out excitedly, “Brooke can melt people’s skin off, dad. How COOL is that?!” Nick laughed, “That’s... something, son. Can you give Brooke back to her mom, please? Your mother needs to see your smiling face.” Christopher sighed, “I guess. Bye, Brooke. Thanks for melting the skin off that witch for me.” He handed Brooke back to Maribella. Haley and Maribella smiled at him before the latter popped away. Christopher sighed and stomped into the house.

I couldn’t stop my laugh. Dylan sighed dramatically, “Young love, it’s so adorable.” He punched me in the arm. I yelled, “HEY!” Dylan asked, “What?” Eric raised an eyebrow then linked me, “No one but me saw that.”

I linked Dylan, “What in the actual hell?” Dylan angrily told me, “Don’t take a knife, bullet, or any sort of weapon for me. That’s my job for you!” I growled, “I will take whatever I like from you. You’re my best friend too.” Dylan made eyes at me, “Aww, shucks... but really Lucas. Don’t do that to me. My heart stopped.”

Lacy slammed into Dylan yelling, “WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED? Why is Emmaline unconscious? Why did I feel pain from you? Not even a little, a lot of pain! Me and the little peanut were worried sick! Are you hurt?”

Dylan linked me, “All you dude.” Dylan spoke out loud, “Lucas will tell you.” Eric laughed. I opened my mouth, but nothing came out. Haley explained, “A stupid witch bitch used dark magic to try to take down Dylan. Dylan still took down rogues, but the witch bitch was going to stab him. Lucas dove in front of the knife. I healed him. Emmaline used a shit ton of power to kill the vast majority of the forces remaining. Sharon and I killed those she missed with our wolves.

My mom gaped at me before yelling, “You were STABBED?” I assured her, “I’m fine, mom.” She hugged me awkwardly and pulled Emmaline’s hair out of her face. “Poor Emmy.” I begrudgingly admitted, “She’s alright.” My dad linked, “STABBED?! What did I say before you left?” I groaned, “Not now.” He growled, “STABBED!” Great, just great.

Nick shot me a look before saying, “Let’s move this over the hospital.” We all went inside. Nick broke our silence again, “Fairies are fun, yet terrifying.” Beta McAlister snorted, “Full blooded fairies are idiots. Have we said that? Sharon was drawing the water from their bodies to petrify and kill them; Emmaline was drowning them in an actual riptide. Haley decided that wasn’t crazy enough and had Emmaline draw the water from EVERYTHING around her. Then Haley made a torrential downpour so Emmaline could kill them faster while she took the air from people and created a tornado. I don’t know that I want to see what happens if they add fire into the equation.”

Lacy mused, “It’s something. King Aiden has literal fire hands.” Eric told us, “That is a new development, all thanks to my wife.” Beta McAlister snorted. Cassie popped to Eric. He smiled at her and rubbed her nose with his.

Dylan bemoaned, “I NEVER have my camera ready at the right moment. DANG IT!” I rolled my eyes. I asked, “Haley, do you need to check Emmaline out to make sure she’s ok?” Haley snapped hundreds of pizza boxes taking at least fifteen for herself.

She told me, “Emmaline is ok. She will wake up soon, and then she will eat all of these boxes I’m putting beside you. Then you should probably get her somewhere private.” Dylan snorted, “Of course he will sex out of this.” Haley laughed, “Eventually, she could be mad first though. I can’t really say. Eric’s never really gotten hurt when we fought together. She saw him injured. I was plenty mad when

you all ran into that trap with Alpha Hammond, and he got hurt. Alexander healed him before I saw what was done though.”

I was dumbfounded, “Mad?” Haley raised an eyebrow, “She got a broken arm in training, and you lost your shit. You were stabbed, and without me you would’ve needed surgery to live.” I complained, “If you’re going to be logical, fair, and shit, I can’t talk to you.” She laughed.

Eric teased, “Would I be in trouble, Angel?” Haley blanched, “Trouble? Trouble would be the least of your fucking problems. There’s no getting stabbed, or I’ll kick your fucking ass. After I go full fairy Hackura princess on so many people’s asses. They would RUE the day they hurt you.”

Nick laughed until Luna Marissa walked in. She chided, “There’s no laughing, Nick. You’d be in his shoes too. I would be so upset with you. Is poor Emmaline is she alright?” Nick assured her, “It’s just emotional overload.” Beta McAlister’s wife, Esther, came in behind her.

Luna Marissa said, “Poor thing. She made Esther get me inside. She is deceptively strong, threw me right into Esther’s arms.” Nick growled, “Why were you outside?” Marissa gave him serious side eye, “I can fight, you know? I was running to our pups.”

Dustin pointed out, “If you’d gotten close enough the witch could’ve taken you away. I’m sure there’s a holoport out there. That’s why Evie didn’t want you outside. She’s all about women fighting in the trenches, which I blame the princess for.”

Haley snarked, “I don’t recall being around when she killed five rogues on her own. I also don’t recall her needing to be saved today. You’re fucking welcome, Dustin Bishop. Will SOMEONE get on team let’s kill the dark witch bitches.”

Nick said, “Your sister in law is a witch.” Haley snorted, “Two are. Neither are dark witches. I said DARK witch bitches.” Blade laughed. I linked, “Two?” Dylan replied, “Lisa, Arion’s ex-mate. She considers that witch her sister in law too.” Of course, she did.

Out loud Dylan agreed, “I mean... maybe the ones in Missouri.” Dustin yelled, “COME ON!” Dylan shrugged, “They have been giant pains in our asses lately. When the special fun sized ninja fairy doesn’t like you; you gots ta go.” Haley smiled, “Thank you, my friend Dylan.” I rolled my eyes.

Nick said, "I guess I need to call Alpha Raven's Beta." Eric assured him, "Caleb is there dealing with it. Haley's brothers were managing that side of things while we were fighting. We will handle it since I killed Alpha Raven."

Nick sighed, "Only because I was going to let the werewolf council decide his fate. I was waiting for him to make a move." Eric smirked, "I distinctly saw his foot twitch." Nick laughed, "My granddaughter is going to have her hands full." Haley agreed, "Our sons are just like their dad. I'll have to give little Elise pointers." Dylan clapped, "Please do." Eric rolled his eyes.

Alexander popped to Haley. Peter came out announcing, "Elise is here." Nick's family filed into the hospital room. Drake came out twenty minutes later. "Tristan McAlister is on the scene." His family hugged him and went into their room to see him.

Emmaline stirred in my arms. Haley pointed to the pizza beside me. I whispered, "Baby girl, you need to wake up and eat." Emmaline sat straight up and hugged me like her life depended on it. Dylan prompted her again, "Eat, little fairy who can't decide if she's Queen Else or a Pokémon. OHHH She's a combo!" I snorted.

Dylan teased, "We need you around in case someone else who needs to drown in a riptide appears out of thin air." Emmaline laughed and wiped her tears. She ate twenty-five of the pizza's that Haley brought over for her. I told her while she was eating her friends' pups had been born. She insisted we all go see them before we popped out.

When went to see Chelsea first, EJ was cooing at Elise. He was popping to whoever was closest to her at the time. He'd even conjure her a bottle when she cried. Haley gave some Fealish blessing, and then we shuffled to Sam and Drake's room.

Tristan strongly resembled his father. Drake was beaming with pride. Sam looked a little tired but happy. Haley repeated her Fealish blessing for Tristan. I linked Eric, "What is she saying?" Eric explained, "She's blessing them, and helping them sleep." I asked, "She can do that?" Eric nodded, "Yes, she can."

Emmaline popped our group home. She then popped me to her sanctuary. She clung to me, "I was so scared, Lucas." I assured her, "I'm ok." She started crying, "You can't do that to me. I need you." I rubbed her back, "I need you too, baby girl. I was told you'd be mad at me."

Emmaline shrugged. I wiped her tears, “No more of this, I’m ok.” She cried, “I can’t help it. I’m not mad at you, I don’t even have it in me. I just need you to be ok. If you’re not ok, I’m not ok. I was so not ok. I lost my mind a little bit.”

I disagreed, “I was filled in, you did nothing wrong.” She said, “I don’t even feel bad. She tried to take you from me, you’re mine.” Then her lips were on mine. She popped us back to our room, and I made love to her all night long.