

Unexpected visitors

Emmaline glared at David as he stepped into the light right next to the cell. Alexa spoke, "How long will he not be able to hear us?" I smiled admitting, "Until I uncharm the area." Alexa said, "If you don't mind, I would like to taunt him about his precious June being dead." I winced.

Her eyes softened, "I'm sorry." I bit my lip, "I've been pissed at her for years. I never thought she'd die protecting me though. You've been trapped here for twenty-six years. You're owed a taunt or two."

I spoke my chant so David could hear us again. I nodded to Alexa who smirked, "So David, I hear your precious June is no more. She even died saving her lovechild, how poetic." David hissed, "DO NOT SPEAK HER NAME!"

Alexa got angry, "YOU WASTED my entire life! I have been stuck here for twenty-six years! I was your wick, David! I loved you since I was twelve years old. WHY wasn't I enough? Why did you need June? You always planned to have us both, I know you did!"

I searched David's soul, "She's right. Your soul feels slightly guilty because of words, but you always planned to have them both." David hissed, "Stay out of my soul!" I taunted, "Make me. Oh wait, you can't."

David chanted under his breath. Rattlesnakes appeared in the cage... angry rattlesnakes. Alexa sounded bored, "How original, snakes again." I held out my hands and froze them all. I winced, "I did not want to do that. Why did you put snakes in here that could kill us?" David hissed, "HOW do you still have your powers?"

I sighed. I couldn't lie, but my power to turn iron to water was cool. I evaded, "I'm awesome. Answer Alexa's question David, it's only fair." David yelled, "BECAUSE I LOVED HER, OK! I loved June! Why do you think I was so upset she cheated on me and conceived you? You ruined EVERYTHING FOR ME!"

Alexa nudged me, "Let's be best friends Emmaline, my dear. I do so LOVE anyone who ruins something for David." I rolled my eyes, "So you wanted to have my mother and your mate. But my mother couldn't have her mate too? Hypocrite."

David grabbed onto the bars yelling, "I SHOULD HAVE BEEN EVERYTHING TO HER!" I sighed, "So in answer to my question, that would be a yes. She couldn't have

you and my dad, but you wanted Alexa and my mom. How was that going to work?" David frowned, "They would've accepted it eventually."

Alexa snorted, "We have known each other our whole lives, you don't truly believe that." I searched his soul then agreed, "He doesn't." David glared at me, "Evelyn, I told you to stay out of my soul." I countered, "And I told you to make me."

I studied Alexa then told her, "Your second chance mate is out there. A warlock. He's a good man, and he will love you." I don't know how I knew that, but I did. David hissed, "SHE'S MINE!" Alexa stared at me, wide eyed.

Finally, she angrily told our captor, "I am NOT yours David. I haven't been for twenty-six years. Fairies are quite adept at keeping secrets. I did not know the soul searcher could get all those details about mates." I frowned, "It just came to me, and it's relatively new. I did it with my dad too. His mate is a fairy."

David asked, "How did you do it with your dad? June JUST died protecting you!" Anger swirled in his eyes and he grabbed my shirt, yanking me to the bars. I hit my head on them. Taking advantage David wrapped his hands around my neck. He screamed at me, "YOU TOOK HER FROM ME!"

I couldn't breathe. I braced my feet and pushed back in the opposite direction of David with all my might. David's head hit the bars and he yelled in pain, but his hands released my neck. I took a deep breath and Alexa dragged me away from the bars to the middle of the cell. She whispered, "He's officially lost it. June was his last tether to sanity. Be careful."

I rubbed my neck rasping out, "Your man killed mom, not me. My dad rejected my mom when he heard her reasons for letting me go and choosing you at my birthday party." David was stunned, "How could he do that? June is perfect!"

Alexa snorted. I said, "You rejected your childhood sweetheart. I don't think you can throw a rock at that glass house about rejection." Alex added, "Was not is. June is dead." David said, "I only rejected Alexa because she rejected me first!" I rolled my eyes, "You are an overgrown child."

Alexa spat at him, "You were hurting innocent children! What did you expect me to do David? Blindly accept that? You planned to take June as yours all along!" They'd clearly had this argument before.

David yelled, "I'VE LOVED HER SINCE SHE WAS A CHILD! I kept her safe from Fabian since she was ten. She was always to be mine since I helped Fabian. I helped

him only to SAVE JUNE!” I was confused, “What?” David said, “When I was fifteen...” Alexa hissed, “ASS!”

David ignored her, “I saw June when she was ten years old. I was captivated immediately. A man was trying to take her. I recognized him as a fairy. She had such spirit and fight within her. She was fighting the man every step the way. My instincts took over, and I killed him. She hugged me.”

He paused smiling softly to himself, “She called me her savior. I watched over her from then on. When another fairy came to take her, I spoke to him. I made a deal that I would give them other children with fairy blood. In exchange June and any of her future children would be left alone. Fabian showed up and agreed. It was then I discovered Axel has been working with Fabian all along. I always had to have June; I just did. I did love you though, Alexa. Tell me where our daughter is, and I’ll bring her to see you.”

Alexa rolled her eyes, “Sure you will. You’d slit my throat the second I told you anything about her. She’s better off without you in her life. Even your precious children from June hate you, and the man you’ve become now.”

I cut in, “That is SO not the story you and mom told us about how you met. You said it was AFTER your wick died tragically, but... mom never told the story. Because she couldn’t lie UGH! My entire childhood feels like one big lie.” David wiped his forehead. “I’M BLEEDING! YOU WILL PAY, EVELYN!” He stormed off. I called after him, “You keep saying that.”

I sat down and did my space unheard chant, “Ok, so there’s iron around us. I don’t want to call on Haley’s protection. That could hurt her. I’ll communicate with my light, maybe it has an idea.” Alexa pointed out, “That could call to Haley as well. Your light can communicate with your family.” I thought about it, “Maybe it will call my dad...still with the iron thing. Ok... Let’s think about this.”

I quieted my mind and told my light what I was feeling. I was concerned about the iron hurting a member of my family. My light embraced me and then I felt it... begin to plan? My light could plan... good to know.

I smiled, “My light seems to have come up with a plan. A burst of white light flew out of me into the air. Alexa warned, “It’s calling someone in your family. I used to have fairy friends.” She smiled clearly remembering them. I sighed in relief then stood straight up.

Horror filled me. I yelled, “NO! NO! NO! NO! OH NO!” I began to pace. Alexa asked, “What on earth is wrong?” I whirled, “The last time someone was trapped behind iron my baby cousins popped in.” A pop sounded and Alexander squealed at me.

I yelled, “OH COME ON! This is my light’s plan? I’m never asking it to plan something ever again.” Alexa cooed, “He’s adorable, but I’m not sure why your light thinks he can help us though. He’s just a baby. Though I supposed he could pop me out of the cell, but I don’t have a key to let you out.”

I sighed, “He’s a pusher.” Alexa stepped back, “Do tell him we are friends then. I like my brain all put together on the inside of my head.” Another flash of light appeared and we both ran to the other corner of the cell as far away as we could get.

I held Alexander protectively, then smiled, “Haley! Oh, thank god...” I trailed off when Haley stood up. She was taller than me. How the hell? Alexander giggled and popped to Haley. He yelled, “MOMMA!” He put his hand on her chest, then pulled back like she’d shocked him. He popped back to me. He looked directly into my eyes, “Not Momma.”

I figured it out, “Oh my god! Bexley?” Haley frowned, “No... I am Haley. Who are you?” Umm what? I frowned, “But you’re like 5’10. Our Haley is 5’3... OH MY GOD YOU’RE A RIBBON HALEY!” Haley agreed, “Yes, it would appear I am in the Ribbon. Damn. Eric is going to flip out, along with all of Faerie. HA! They will be so jealous.”

I couldn’t stop myself from saying, “You are so tall!” Haley frowned, “I’d probably be taller, but my legs were broken once.” I muttered, “Be glad it was just once.” Haley smiled at Alexander who was regarding her cautiously.

She talked to him, “Aww, you look just like your daddy! Damn, Eric and I make cute babies.” Two more pops sounded. Haley squeaked, “TRIPLETS! I better give birth like a fairy or Eric is cut off from sex.” I assured her, “I’m pretty sure you do give birth like a fairy. What’s your story?”

EJ regarded the other Haley then declared, “Not MOMMA!” Cassie started to cry. I assured them, “Guys, it’s ok. She is a different version of your mom. She’s not a bad guy.” Cassie’s crying softened to sniffles, but EJ and Alexander were still eyeing the taller Haley with caution.

Alexa said, "I never thought it was real, but this really isn't your version of Haley. Even her children know this isn't her. Wow...." I said, "This is probably not what I should be doing at this moment, but I've got to ask again; what's your story?"

I couldn't hold all three of the triplets. I told them, "One of you has to pop to not momma or Alexa. Both are safe, I promise." Cassie popped into Haley's arms. Haley laughed, "Not Momma, I like it. My story? Jeez. Where does one even start their story?"

I asked some questions to help get her going, "How old are you? How did you escape Fabian?" Haley's eyes narrowed, "You know of my uncle? I suppose I do need to know this me's reality. As for me, I'm eighteen and I was raised in Faerie for five years." I interrupted, "So you were never experimented on or raped? That's amazing! Our Haley will love that! What happened? How did you escape?"

Haley's eyes blazed, "Fabian did that to me? I mean her? UGH! This is confusing already. Sorry you guys, this is my first Ribbon experience." I shrugged, "Take your time, we are in a cell after all." Haley looked around, "Yes, we will have to get out here soon. I don't like it here. Anyway, Masium, Fabian, and Hexxus had beaten me really badly on my fifth birthday. They broke both my legs. I had FINALLY gotten my casts off several weeks later. Aiden took me to my appointment."

I interrupted, "Wait, how was it explained that you got hurt? Fairies can't lie." Haley explained, "They didn't lie, they evaded. Masium told Aiden I fell down the stairs, which was true. He left out that he pushed me and that was only how ONE of my legs got broken. Aiden took me to get my casts removed and told me to be careful going down the stairs. I was happy because he was teasing me. I decided I want to go catch a spritle. Everyone else always did with their friends, but no one ever wanted to go with me."

She sighed, "I was gone for hours. I reached a portal after I'd finally caught it. Two men came through with a very excited fairy. The two men with him weren't fairies. Hexxus didn't see the men enter the portal, but he did see me. He screamed at me. He called me an abomination and he went to hit me. The two men came over, their eyes were blazing gold. One grabbed me and the other killed Hexxus."

She paused to nuzzle Cassie then continued, "The fairy who'd brought them through was smirking. I realized he was a fire fairy. He was one of my brother's cousins. I asked him what was going on. This was when I realized I was the Truth Seeker because he told me that he'd known Fabian had killed his cousin, who was my mother's mate, the fire fairy king. He ran into the two Hackura men he'd brought back to our realm because they'd asked about me. He asked why and they said they were

my brothers. He brought them to see how I was treated. He knew it would end poorly since I was never treated well. I turned to the two men asking if it was true.” Dang. I liked that reality.

Haley continued, “They confirmed it, they were my brothers. They said the man who was supposed to go on their mission got sick. They volunteered because they hoped they could run into a fairy who could tell them about me. They didn’t think one would bring them to Faerie. They asked if this was an everyday occurrence or a one off. I told them bad things happen to little girls who tell.”

I asked the first thing that came to mind, “Which brothers?” Haley answered, “Marcus and Evin. They asked if I wanted to go home and meet our other brothers and my dad. I asked if people would be nice to me there. They said anyone who wasn’t nice to me would die. I laughed but turns out they were serious. They took me home to our realm. My dad declared war immediately. When it was circulated who murdered the King of Faerie, my mother could not handle it. Aiden took the crown. He sought peace with my dad. He came and talked to me. Marcus told me I should tell him everything that happened to me in Faerie. He promised nothing bad would happen. I told Aiden everything. Aiden agreed to turn over the offending fairy’s over to my dad for peace. The war ended.”

I thought about it, “Wow, so someone getting sick and your brothers going on a mission changed so much. Is your mom still alive?” Haley’s eyes widened, “Yes, Is she not here?” I shook my head, “No, she’s dead.” Haley asked, “Who are you again?”

I dismissed that for now, “I’ll answer that, you actually probably need to find your version of me. I just have one more question first.” Haley smiled, “We are related. I know that from the level of comfort I feel in your presence.” I nodded, “We are related.” Haley giggled, “I already told you I know that silly fairy relative of mine. What’s your question? The one before I get to who you are.”

I asked, “How did you meet Eric?” Haley explained, “I met Eric two weeks ago actually on my eighteenth birthday. Bjourn, he’s my brother.” I interjected, “I know, I’ve met him.” Haley smiled, “Well his mate Astrid.” I interjected, “Love her.”

Haley laughed, “Me too! She’s practically my big sister. The only one of my brothers without a mate is Logan. He’s quite put out I found mine before he found his.” I smirked, “I know who his mate is.” Haley clapped, “OH MY FUCKING GOD! That’s awesome. I love the Ribbon; we have to get to that. I can bring his mate to him as a present. His birthday is tomorrow. Anyway, Astrid’s brother’s son, little Cayden,

wanted to meet a werewolf. Cayden's a funny little guy. I babysit him, and I'm his favorite person." That was sweet.

She waved, "That's not important. The important part is Bjourn had met a werewolf that he had wanted me to meet for the last two years. Bjourn set up a meeting with said werewolf so that Cayden could meet a wolf. Cayden demanded that I come with them. We opened a portal to Eric's backyard where he and all his brothers were on the lawn waiting to meet little Cayden. Eric growled well... he yelled too Mate. He ran to me, and we are obviously twice light bound since I am here in the Ribbon. Which concludes how Eric and I met. Now, who are you? And who is Logan's mate?"

I smiled, "I am Emmaline Richards." Haley frowned, "I don't have a cousin named Emmaline Richards." I said, "My birth name is Evelyn Forrester." Haley gasped, "They said you were dead!" I hissed, "They actually did that in your reality? Jerks! David emancipated me without my knowledge. My mom didn't choose me, she chose him. They talked about giving my siblings a body so they would stop looking for me."

Haley yelled, "OH THAT SON OF A BITCH! You had no face! Gunshot to the head. WARLOCKS! What a bunch of assholes. Now I have to get back so I can find you!" I assured her, "You can do it. My dad will help. I'm probably in Tennessee anyway. In Red Run."

Haley's jaw dropped "You're kidding me!" She paused and studied me, "You have a mark on your neck. Let me see it please!" I turned my head and Haley squealed, "YOU ARE LUCAS LYONS MATE! HE WILL DIE!"

I remembered something, "Oh god! Is Lacy Lyons sixteen yet?" Haley said, "Lacy Loo? She turned sixteen a few days ago. We have become fast friends." I advised, "Get her away from Christy! She's going to make her run away!"

Haley frowned, "Lacy did text me something was up with her friends. Lacy can't run away from me. I would just pop to her. What did Christy do?" A red glow started to form in the cell. Haley shrieked, "Oh my god!"

I asked, "What is that?" Haley said, "I'd imagine it's your me. Someone very powerful sent her here. This magic hasn't been around for many centuries, well no one who could perform it has anyway. Her blood is coming to her children." I panicked, "But this has an iron shield to it."

Haley shrugged, "Turn it to water then. You have that power, yes? You are a water fairy duchess." I said, "It works on protective wards?" Haley nodded, "Yes, talk to

your light.” I muttered, “I need a manual. My light and I were NOT on the same page earlier.”

I sat down and thought about the iron around me turning to water. I knew the moment it worked because we all got drenched. Cassie made a sound of annoyance while Alexander and EJ giggled.

Our Haley appeared on the floor. The other Haley put her healing hands on her. When she backed away from our Haley I said, “I thought I took the iron down successfully so she wouldn’t get hurt.” Haley told me, “You did. I was healing her from the effects of her blood being pulled; it’s painful.”

Alexander popped to our Haley cooing, “MOMMA!” Her eyes snapped open, “Alexander! Do you have ANY idea how worried mommy and daddy were?” Haley sat up and looked at the other two, “You three are in BIG trouble! Big!” I admitted, “My light called to them. I didn’t mean to Haley. I’m so sorry.”

My Haley yanked me into a hug, “You should’ve called on me.” I said, “There was iron so we couldn’t pop out.” Haley sighed, “Apparently, the magic that pulls me to your call of protection would just bring me as close to you as possible.” I admitted, “I did not know that. I’m so sorry!” Haley shrugged, “Aiden just told me so…”

She turned and saw herself. She screamed, “HOLY FUCKING HELL! Look at how fucking tall I am! I knew it! I was supposed to be tall.” She ran over to the other her, “Quick! Someone take a picture with my phone.” She threw it at me.

She greeted my prison mate, “Hello, Alexa Price. Your brother is really excited you aren’t dead.” I took the Haley’s picture together. Our Haley caught up on the other Haley’s life quickly. The Tall Haley said, “Wait, we didn’t get to who Logan’s mate is.”

Our Haley answered, “In our reality it’s Katie Forrester who is now a Bishop.” Tall Haley grinned, “I might as well test that in mine. Do you have a Cayden in your reality?” Our Haley tilted her head, “Astrid’s brother’s son? Yeah, I used to babysit him. I tell people I babysat the future army commander frequently.” Tall Haley smiled, “Me too. Anyway, what did Christy Jenkins do to Lacy?”

Our Haley said, “First of all her name is Chrisassty.” Then we both explained what happened. Tall Haley’s eyes blazed. She promised, “I WILL find out if that’s happening, and she will be dealt with.” I smiled, “In our reality Lacy is Dylan’s mate.” Tall Haley laughed, “I LOVE HIM! Is he here too?” Our Haley said, “He will

be shortly. I call upon the earth, sky, and fire to bring the protections of my brother the King of Faerie to my side.”

Tall Haley said, “Let’s pop out of here, and deal with... wait. Why are we here?” I spoke with malice in my tone, “David Forrester.” Tall Haley said, “Hmm, I already planned to ask Bjourn to kill him when I got back while I searched for our you.” I nodded, “That works for me.”

Alexa chimed in, “If you could also get me the HELL out of here in your reality... that would be great.” Tall Haley said, “When we figure out where here is, sure.” Our Haley asked her kids, “Will you three pop to Grandpa Titus?” All three babies laughed at her.

Our Haley sighed, “Fine, but if it starts to go bad, you WILL go to Grandpa Titus.” Her tone held no room for an argument. Tall Haley snorted, “Grandpa Titus is probably beside himself.” Our Haley confirmed, “He is.” I grabbed Alexa and we popped outside the cell.

I asked, “Why didn’t the bars turn to water?” Our Haley told me, “It’s steel not iron.” I smacked my own head, “Of course it is.” Tall Haley yelled, “WAIT! Who sent you here other me? That’s a powerful fairy!” Our Haley frowned, “Aiden.” Tall Haley gaped, “But... that means.... The prophecy is us?! It’s our family?” Haley nodded, “Yup.”

She didn’t seem happy about it. I asked, “Prophecy?” Our Haley shook her head, “I’ll explain later. If Aiden didn’t pop directly to me there’s still iron around us. The guys have to be here now. Hey tall version of myself, is Arion still alive in your reality?”

Tall Haley snorted, “He’s alive. Obnoxious but alive...” It clicked for her. She gulped, “Is he dead here too? Mother and Arion? What the hell happened here?” Haley quickly summarized it for her. Both had tears in their eyes.

We got up to the door. Our Haley blew it off the hinges. Alexa started to cry, “I’ve never gotten this far before.” I comforted her, “You’re going to get out this time.” Our Haley announced, “We are surrounded by iron in this cave.” I shivered, “Is that why I feel so weird?”

Now that she’d said it my body wanted to get far away from the walls. Tall Haley said, “Yes. If we stay it will weaken us.” I asked, “Alexa, can you run?” Our Haley waved one arm, “Not necessary. Everyone grab my arms. Emmaline this will hurt afuckinglot, hold on tight to me. Alexander, Cassie, and EJ, pop us to the top of the cave.”

The babies giggled and then all a sudden we were gone. I felt my skin blistering. I felt my light want to stop the pain. I kept a firm hold on Haley though. This was the first time I'd felt my popping journey. It seemed to take forever before we were in a house above the cave.

A euphoric sensation came over me. I looked over my shoulder realizing Tall Haley healed me, while our Haley healed Alexa. They actually healed each other at the same time. I went to look out a window, "This isn't a house, we are in a castle. Oh my gosh! Oh my gosh! The structure!! We are in Russia!"

Alexa looked around in awe, "We are. I actually did know that. Good thing there are fairies around because I'd never get out of this place. Not only am I supposed to be dead, but I don't have a passport. I don't think going to the US consulate saying I lost my passport is an option when you are supposed to be dead."

I laughed, "Sorry, that's just a little funny." A bottle smashed against the wall. David yelled, "How did you get out! Evelyn, you ruin everything!" Seriously? Because I was pretty sure he did. He was just unable to take accountability.

Both Haley's called their swords then laughed. They simultaneously complimented each other, "Nice!" David asked, "Why are there two of you?" Alexa shook her head, "You know exactly why, David." David indignantly retorted, "Fine, I'll just kill the short one! Get them! Do not harm Alexa, and make sure Evelyn is not too damaged. She is mine to kill."

Before anyone could move, arrow's shot through the window. Tall Haley laughed "My girl BA is here. You are so screwed in this reality, David Forrester." David yelled, "I forgot to add her to the ward. She came in alone without other forces."

I pointed out, "My brothers will get in again." Tall Haley ordered, "Emmaline, remove the iron on the ward. Aiden will be able to get in and help while your brothers bring the rest of the ward down." David snorted, "She can't do that."

Our Haley said, "Of course, she can do that! We will guard you while you get it done." I asked, "Will Aiden know when the iron is dropped?" Our Haley laughed, "Yes, he will see water fall down all around inside the ward."

I sat down and communicated with my light. I closed my eyes. I heard things breaking and people dying all around me. I heard glass shattering then both Haley's shouted, "BA!" BA gasped, "Holy shit! You really are supposed to be tall!" Our Haley yelled back, "I FUCKING KNOW, RIGHT?"

I tuned them out. This ward was much larger with the iron, it was taking me longer. My light told me to focus, and that I could do this. I pictured the ward, and the iron in it. I had seen David cast wards, so I knew what his looked like. I imagined the iron turning to water.

After several moments, I heard a huge whoosh. I opened my eyes when water came rushing in surrounding me. Our Haley cheered, "You did it!" I smirked, "And now I have water to use." I turned to see Alexa trading spells with a warlock, smiling. She killed him then told me, "I forgot how amazing it was to use my magic."

Pops sounded. Bexley, Lucinda, and Aiden had come to us. Aiden complimented, "Well done, Emmaline. We are the prophesized family. Who knew?" Our Haley mumbled, "Me." Aiden chuckled, "You just figured it out recently." Haley made a face that told me that wasn't true. For a brief second guilt flashed on her face before her cool mask slipped back on. Her soul told me she was in great distress about this prophecy.

I stared at her in confusion. Her soul told me she felt selfish we knew, and she didn't think it was a good thing. I studied Aiden's soul and it was quite a contrast from hers. He was excited, practically thriving. No part of him felt this was bad. What did he know that Haley didn't?

Aiden gasped, "You're... tall..." He'd spotted the other Haley. Tall Haley sighed, "Could one more person say that? I want to know how tall I would be if I'd never broken my legs." Our Haley informed her, "I took a baby version of me to our dad. Maybe one day we will both meet her. Then we will know. I'll just be the shortest, most bitter one of us all."

The Tall Haley laughed, "At least you know now. You were always supposed to be tall. Besides, all fairies are tall. Everyone has to know you were meant to be." Aiden turned red. His soul was deeply embarrassed and contrite.

I pushed that aside and used the water to create my riptide. Both Haley's used their wind to knock the rest of David's forces into it. Aiden set a few on fire. Bexley started to hit those in the riptide with her sunlight killing them instantly as they were electrocuted in water.

David came down the stairs holding a gun. He stated, "If you want something done right, you have to do it yourself." He pointed the gun at me. Alexa screamed, "DAVID, NO!" He fired. I froze the bullet. I looked around. I had actually frozen everyone except my family.

I popped to David and popped him back, into the path of the bullet. Everything unfroze. David yelled in surprise and in pain when the bullet went through his collar bone. Both Haley's evaluated him simultaneously saying, "Shattered collarbone. That hurts like a bitch."

The taller Haley yelled, "JINX! You owe me a soda." Our Haley frowned, "The fuck? What is a jinx?" Tall Haley said, "It's..." I yelled, "NO! We don't need that right now." A jinxing Haley was the last thing we all needed.

I turned to my cellmate for all of an hour at most, "Alexa, I assume you have some spell you want to cast on David here. You have to have one." Alexa nodded, "I do. I'm going to use the spell he used on... the short Haley, who is from our reality. First though, could the pusher baby melt his brain a little? That would be fabulous."

David grabbed his head screaming as Alexander laughed in our Haley's arms. I teased him, "We don't want him to die yet, Alexander." Our Haley assured me, "He only sent him a few images. He's just starting. He's not pushing anything at the moment, he's giving him a break. The pain just lingers since pushing images to the brain is painful."

Alexa clapped and sat down, "That's just amazing." We let Alexander continue for several moments. We heard growls outside. David rasped, "I have rogues here too." Aiden sounded jazzed, "Let's pop to the battle!" He and Lucinda popped out.

Tall Haley asked, "Can I freak out this realities Eric? I want to see him. I miss my Eric already." Our Haley said, "Go ahead. You'll most likely freak out Dylan the most." Tall Haley clapped, "He's here? Popping into battle!" She popped away next.

Alexander had tuckered himself out. Our Haley spoke softly to her kids, "EJ, Cassie, pop your brother to Grandma Veronica." I asked, "Why not your dad?" Haley smiled at me, "He is here, fighting. I can feel him nearby." EJ and Cassie popped to Haley and put hands on Alexander then popped away. Our Haley sighed, "Finally, they are safe."

We heard a howl of what sounded like joy. I laughed, "That sounded like Dylan." Our Haley agreed, "It probably was. Alright BA, let's go I'm popping you back to your apartment for you to get ready for your getaway with your lover man." BA's soul felt guilty, "If you didn't have to get back right away, you could stick around and meet him. Well, I'll probably go to him, but you could've come with me."

Haley assured her, "I'll see him soon. Anyone who makes you smile like this is someone I need to know." That was an odd way to phrase it. She'd see him soon, not

meet. I wanted to wince at how happy BA's soul was. I decided to worry about that later. Haley popped out with BA.

David was still whimpering in pain from what Alexander had done to him. Alexa said, "I hope the pusher showed him all the suffering the partial fairy children he turned over went through." I pointed out, "Alexander had a lot of material to choose from." Haley popped back to us.

David had regained enough of his senses for me. I created my riptide again. I treated him like the witch who had stabbed Lucas. I sat in a chair and let him up for air long enough for him to get a breath and then dragged him back down.

Haley touched my shoulder, "You seem conflicted." I agreed, "I am. On another note, I'm glad Tall Haley is outside fighting. I'm glad that she's not as short as you or this would be confusing. Should we go help the guys?" Haley laughed, "They have plenty of help. Eric told me everything was fine before I popped BA out."

I admitted, "I'm worried BA is going to get her heart broken. We know who her mate is, but she's so happy with this guy." Haley shrugged, "It will all be fine, but that's not what's bothering you." She believed that. I sighed and let it go.

I said, "David deserves to suffer. Alexa, cast your spell so he can't use his arms to try to get up for air." Alexa smirked, "I love fairies." Haley shrugged, "We are partial fairy's, but point taken." Alexa chanted her spell.

David's eyes went wide in terror. His arms wouldn't move nor his feet. He sank the bottom of my rip tide. He was being thrown around. I kept bringing him up for air so he wouldn't die. I continued talking to Haley, "I know Lucas wants to torture David but my mother's dying wish was for me to kill David."

Haley was quiet then said, "Fuck what your mom wants. That's not her decision it's yours. David is not Lucas' boogeyman he's yours. This is about you, and what you need. Only you can decide that."

I agreed, "I know. I also know why my mom wanted me to kill him. I've thought a lot about it, and now I know." Haley sounded weary, "Alright, I'm sure this is a fucking fabulous reason. Why did June want you to kill David?"

I explained, "She doesn't want any of my siblings to do it. She didn't want her children to kill their father, and she... loved David and she doesn't want him to suffer. Despite his flaws and all that shit. She loved him. She knows I don't have it in me to make him suffer as long as he should."

Haley was quiet then admitted, “I won’t say I understand fully. I don’t think my mother would’ve jumped in front of a crossbow bolt for me. Putting all that aside, what do your instincts and light tell you to do about this situation? Not what me, Lucas, or any of your siblings would do. Not what any of us want, and CERTAINLY not what your mother wanted. What do YOU want to happen to David?”

I thought about it for several moments. I searched down in my very soul for the answer. It came to me as if it had been there all along. I suppose it truly had. I spoke with complete clarity, “I don’t want him to be alive anymore. For Charlie Rose, for me, for my future children, for my siblings, and future nieces and nephews. I don’t want him to have a chance to escape. I want him dead. I want to know he’s dead, and never going to hurt anyone I love ever again. I want to talk to him first though.”

Haley nodded, “Then that’s what will happen. Bring him up for air, and I’ll do my thing. Get your answers and end this. For yourself.” I nodded. I asked her quietly, “Does this make me weak? That I don’t want him tortured for years?”

Haley snorted, “No, I told Eric I wanted Fabian dead before our children were born. I said what I wanted to say to that terrible excuse of a person as well. Your soul is more sensitive than mine, and you didn’t have the same journey I did. Saying what you want doesn’t make you weak. Not wanting to torture someone doesn’t make you weak. You are a fierce, powerful, bad ass partial fairy duchess.” She really could give one hell of a pep talk.

She continued, “He is merely a warlock. He’s weak because he views women and children as weak tools who can be molded to his use. HE is weak, you are not. You are strong, brave, and fierce. He tried to take that from you, but you didn’t let him. That is why you will NEVER be weak because you are a fighter. You got knocked down, but you got the fuck back up to fight another day.”

I nodded and I brought David up for air. He sputtered, “You are quite powerful, Evelyn.” I took a shot at him, “More powerful than you, yes. I am a Duchess of the Water Fae. Why did you turn me away? I would’ve never known you weren’t my father. I loved you. I would’ve done anything for you. I was such a daddy’s girl.”

David admitted, “I loved you most of all. It’s why I turned you away when I found out you weren’t mine. Not all water fairies could turn those stones to water. Only a very powerful one could. You were going to be stronger than me, and I hated you for it. I hated that my June was with someone who wasn’t me.”

I questioned, “Why did you hold all your children back? All of my siblings can control the shadows.” David gasped, “They can? I had... no idea. I didn’t want them

to be better than me. I always had to keep a lid on Dustin. I knew he was powerful, far more than I was." I shook my head, "You're a horrible man."

David didn't care, "I am what I am. Power was always something I craved. I clawed my way to the man I am, and I wasn't going to let anyone destroy it. Not even your precious cousin, and certainly not you." I pointed out, "But you did lose it. You lost your children, your wick, my mother, and you lost the respect you had within the community."

David laughed, "I did not lose my followers. In fact, I gained several hundred when the information about the bounty on you came out. Yes, the goodie goodies of the world turned their back on me. Yes, my followers did so in public out of fear of King Titus; however, I had followers privately. Obviously, you have faced many of them."

I shook my head, "You still don't see it, David. Katie, Ry, and Dusty are amazing people. You missed out on them. You missed out on knowing their children. You missed out on being part of the Hackura family. Not just any family either; the royal family."

David glared at me, "I'll get out of here, and I'll start over. All three of my kids are having babies. I'll take their children, and they will be mine." Haley snorted, "You won't touch my nephew, but continue." David frowned, "That one may be hard."

Now I was getting pissed. I yelled, "THAT ONE? HE IS NOT A THAT! He's just a baby, and you want to use him. You want Aubree's child because of the shadows. It's why you want Ry's child as well, right?" David said, "Of course it is. With those three babies... I could get revenge one day on the Princess and you."

I disagreed, "No you couldn't. I won't let you leave here alive David, I can't. I may not be able to stop all the revenge plots in the world, but I won't let you turn three beautiful souls that are everything good and pure into something horrible and twisted with hate. Goodbye, David." His eyes filled with panic.

I continued, "For the record, I am doing this for me, and no one else. You abandoned me because of stones that I turned to water. Now, I will turn you to water." David began to scream. I released him out of the riptide and let the water flow back flooding the floor of the room. I walked over to him and placed my glowing blue hands on him. I told my light I didn't want it to be quick.

I felt Lucas enter the room. I heard the two Haley's talking about their Eric's. I heard Dylan giddily taking it all in. I watched David struggle. Arms encircled me as Lucas put his hands around my waist. I was home in this moment in his arms.

Dusty and Ry put their hands on my shoulders. I heard the strangled cry of Ben Price, my unknown caller, as he saw his sister for the first time in twenty-six years, alive. I heard Alexa say to David, "Our daughter's name was Emmeline Ryder, and she died because you kept me here. She died at the hands of vampires after giving birth to our grandchild. I will be a part of our grandchild's life, and I will never utter one word about you to her."

Dusty agreed, "Nor will we. Charlie Rose will never know of you, David." A portal opened and Katie stepped through. She walked over and stood beside Ry. She looked at David. He looked hopeful for a second. Katie crossed her arms, "I had to come to say this to you. I hate you. I hate that any part of you lives in me. You are sick and demented. Have fun with mom in Hell where you both belong."

Ry snorted. Katie told him, "He wrote down the plans he had for our children." I gasped. Dustin and Ry went rigid. The shadows appeared. Katie spoke, "I asked them to show you in your last moments what could have been if you'd never sent Evie away. I also asked them to show you the suffering you caused. You won't die for several hours, David."

David began to cry. I turned into Lucas' chest and cried myself. I managed to tell him, "I missed you." Lucas pulled my chin up and smashed his lips into mine. When he pulled back he rested his forehead on mine, He whispered, "Never part from me like this again, it was horrible. I have been a wreck."

Dylan said, "That's true. He's practically insufferable without you now, Emmaline. We met a wolf named Beta James Bond, and he had no sense of humor about it. Not one single bit. My jokes have gone unappreciated since your departure. You can't do that to me. My genius needs to be appreciated by my Alpha and best friend. It's how our dynamic works. I'm the ebb to his flow. The yin to his yang..."

Our Haley asked, "Does anyone know what the fuck that means?" Tall Haley laughed, "You don't know this realms sayings, do you?" Our Haley grumbled, "I know they are fucking ridiculous and wrong. Mine are better." Tall Haley laughed, "I'm sure they are."

Aiden asked the Tall Haley, "Do we get along in your reality?" Tall Haley laughed, "You are my favorite fairy brother. Of course, we get along. After I was taken home to the Hackura realm, you trained me on my fairy powers every week. Arion is... annoying, but at least he's not like your realities Arion."

Aiden's eyes filled with tears, "He's alive where you are?" Tall Haley nodded, "He's your right hand in my reality; he's very much alive." Aiden nodded, "That is good."

You must bond with him..." She replied, "I know. He may be annoying, but he's my annoying fairy brother. I won't let anything happen to him." They shared some sort of knowing look. What was that?

I heard a pop beside me. My dad asked, "Can I have a hug, daughter?" I turned and wiggled my way from Lucas to my dad. Lucas was really reluctant to let me go. I jumped and put my arms around my dad's neck.

I could feel his sorrow. I whispered, "I'm sorry about mom. She saved me." My dad tearfully said, "I never wanted her to die." I assured him, "I know." My dad pulled back, "I need to go. My mate will handle my sorrow." I smiled, "You already met her?"

My dad rubbed my cheek with his thumb, "Remember when I told you about my lover who I will soon have your brother with?" I nodded, "Yes." My dad said, "It's her, and we are both very happy. I found out right after your birthday party when I popped home. She can't wait to officially meet you." I smiled, "I can't wait to meet her either." He kissed my cheek, "I'm so very proud of you. I told you that you were much stronger than David Forrester ever thought about being." I acknowledged, "You did say that."

For a brief second I met David's eyes after my dad popped out. He was still suffering; the shadows were not done showing him what could have been. Lucas wrapped me in his arms again. He whispered in my ear, "If you think you'll be away from me between now and the wedding you're crazy."

I gasped. Oh no. Our wedding! I yelled, "I don't even know what day it is!" Lucas assured me, "It's the nineteenth. We will make it down the aisle on our wedding date." I raised an eyebrow, "Did you really meet a Beta James Bond?" Dylan squealed, "WE DID!"

At the same time Lucas said, "His first name isn't James." Dylan waved his arm, "Ignore him, Emmaline. He's sleep deprived. God, I miss sleep. You're lucky we are supernatural's. I have had so much coffee. We should get more coffee. How do Russians do coffee?"

Haley snapped him a mug. He reverently declared, "I love you special fun sized ninja fairy goddess, from the very bottom of my soul." He raised his mug to her, "Hopefully one day our pups will be mates so I can call you family for realsies." Haley laughed.

The Tall Haley commented, "Dylan, I love that you are the same as my Dylan back home where I came from. I have to get back and make sure my new friend Lacy

doesn't run off, and I have to find Emmaline. Then unite our Katie and Logan. It's all about to get so interesting." She sat down on the chair directly behind her, then she faded from view in the same light she appeared in.

Dylan excitedly chattered, "Can I just say HOW FREAKING AWESOME THAT WAS? I want to be a part of all Ribbon visits. Promise me, oh goddess Haley, send the ribboners to me. I'll catch them all up so you don't have to explain every time and get bored."

Haley laughed, "I'll do my best to make sure you get to meet any Ribbon visitors. Can we just talk about how FUCKING TALL I AM?" Eric laughed, "Our pups will likely be tall too. We will just have to tell them you were supposed to be tall." Haley snorted, "Tell them? Hell no, I will fucking SHOW them. I took a picture with that me. I can't believe I just said that sentence." I laughed.

We all heard a splash hit the wall, and we turned to realize David had finally turned to water. Katie checked her watch as the shadow's disappeared. She said, "Three hours, it took them three hours." Alexa murmured, "Then they went at warp speed. He could've been like that for months to understand all the havoc and pain he caused in people's lives."

Dusty stepped forward, "Alexa, I know you don't have reason to trust David's son, but I swear my siblings and I are nothing like him. I want to be part of Charlie Rose's life just as you and Ben do. I'd like it if we could at minimum be kind to one another for her sake."

To his surprise, Alexa engulfed Dusty in a hug. She told him, "You are nothing like you father. I have heard him talk about you. I just love Aubree to pieces; her mother was my best friend. I've heard people saying she's pregnant. Her mother would've been so happy. I'd love for us all to have dinner and get to know each other. I don't know if we can be more than members of the same coven; however, for Charlie Rose and Aubree's sake... I'd like to try."

Dustin smiled, "You guys want to join my coven?" Ben shrugged, "I guess we do. I'm not leaving Alexa's side ever again. Sister, I am so sorry, I never knew." Alexa held up her hands, "After spending twenty-six years here I will tell you one thing I know; do not waste time on regret. Give yourself a break, brother. You did what you could with the information you had. I am not upset with you, and I never was. Axel though.... Before we join a coven; he's got to die."

Haley informed her, "He's dead, Eric killed him." Eric kissed Haley before saying, "It was a team effort. Technically, though I did kill him." Alexa smiled, "Fabulous! Then

I have a grandchild to start spoiling.” Ben rubbed her head, “We will get you a new identity. We can’t explain to the human authorities how you are not truly dead.”

Alexa waved her hands, “I do not care about the identity the humans think I have. I just want to dedicate the rest of my time on this earth to being the best grandmother I can be. I missed out on my baby’s whole life. I won’t miss out on one more second of Charlie Rose’s.” Ben took her hands, “Neither of us will.”

Dusty declared, “You are both accepted in my coven. We meet on Tuesday evenings. This week’s meeting is our last until after the holidays. If you both want to come, I’ll introduce you around. If you want to wait until after the holidays, that’s fine too.”

Alexa said, “No, I want to get settled in the coven and the area. I won’t put things on hold again. You never know when a crazy person will show up and imprison you and force you to think about all the things you put on hold. After twenty-six years, it can drive a person crazy.”

I cringed. Her soul was being honest. She’d thought about everything she should’ve done. She was also in pain from never being there for her child. I wished I could ease the pain in her soul. I reached my hand to take hers and squeezed it for comfort.

A pink glow went into her. Lucinda squealed, “I can’t WAIT to get home. Faerie will be aflutter with the news.” Alexa’s eyes snapped to mine. “You... you eased my soul.” I blinked several times, “I did what now?”

Haley explained, “Due to the prophecy we need to talk about, your soul searcher powers are getting stronger. Your soul called out to you to ease the pain in Alexa’s soul and you did. She is now at peace.”

Alexa earnestly told me, “Best therapist ever and free.” I admitted, “I can’t even begin to process that. Let’s go home.” Dylan clapped, “GOD YES! To my pillow we go! It’s going to require sweet talking. At this point it’s not going to listen to my excuses about how I’m not cheating on it. If it throws me out my room, you have to find me one to stay in until I convince my pillow it’s the only one for me, Lucas.” I laughed, “I missed you, Dylan.” Dylan patted my head, “I missed you too.”

Aiden instructed the group, “Everyone grab onto a fairy.” He laughed then added, “We are the strongest fairy family in all of Faerie and we are several supernatural group’s rides home.” Lucinda laughing so hard she snorted.

She stopped and looked at me and my cousin, “The celebrations will be ongoing in Faerie.” She said pointing at Haley and me. She continued, “We will have our big

party with my friend Beta Dylan, and all of you on New Year's Eve. You both MUST be there."

I asked, "Strongest family?" Haley sighed, "We have to chat when we get home." Dylan squealed like a teenage girl at a Taylor Swift concert, "NEW YEARS IN FAERIE! LUCAS I AM SO EXCITED! In all seriousness Haley and Emmaline, we can all chat after sleep. I don't want to miss that chat, and Dylan needs sleep. So much sleep."

Haley agreed, "So do the fairies. Not as much sleep but we should get a few hours." I yawned suddenly feeling quite tired, "Agreed." We made sure everyone had a hold of each other based on where they wanted to go. I popped my group home, and Haley's came with us.

Dale, Debbie, Lacy, and Aubree greeted us. Debbie started crying, "Thank the goddess. Both my girls are home now, Dale! Thank you, Emmy, for going after our Lacy to help her with that madman. I just don't know what she was thinking running off the school at that time of night."

Lacy sighed, "I told you, I'm sorry. I don't know what got into me. I found the book on my desk when Bexley popped us back." I winced, "That wasn't her fault." Lacy gratefully expressed, "THANK GOD! Please tell her how this wasn't my fault." I told her, "A warlock influenced you after hiding your book to go to school and get it." Lucas tensed.

Dylan said, "If no one will say it... I will. That does not explain how Grayson ended up dead in our room. With blood all over the place looking like a TV crime scene. Lacy had to burn our sheets. The very sheets this was created on." He touched Lacy's stomach before he asked, "Why couldn't we just turn him to water, little Luna?"

Haley asked, "Grayson is dead? DAMN IT! I had plans for him!" I winced, "You might need new carpet in there too, Dylan. OH WAIT! I'll just snap it before you get mildew." I closed my eyes and snapped them the same carpet in their room but new.

Dylan nodded, "Well that's clear as mud now, isn't it? I can't think of a single question to ask. Oh wait, WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED IN OUR ROOM? I am now more confused than I was before." I sighed, "I went to see if I could find a clue or something..."

Dylan interrupted, "And somehow found the thorn in our side that was Grayson. Continue." I winced, "Well yeah, he was there with his 'let's run away' speech. So, I punched him." Dylan looked at Lucas and complained, "It's like pulling teeth. I'm so

tired right now. I can't pull any more teeth. I had to activate GAP to prove to Ben his life was in danger, and no one laughed at my jokes. I have been TRAUMATIZED!"

I rolled my eyes and continued, "This warlock stepped out and said he made Lacy leave. He said he was taking care of loose ends." Dylan interjected, "Naturally." I ignored him, "The warlock slit Grayson's throat. I grabbed a shirt to try and stop the bleeding, but it didn't work."

Dylan stiffened, "What shirt?" I frowned, "Umm a shirt on the floor?" Dylan growled, "Lacy..." Lacy was trying not to laugh. She said, "I'm sorry, Dylan." Dylan went to his knees, "NOOOOOO! DAMN YOU GRAYSON! Why universe? I told EVERYONE we should kill him! Why did I suffer?!"

I asked, "What is happening right now?" Lucas snorted, "Dylan's lucky shirt is no more." Dale clapped Lucas on the back and Debbie yanked me into a hug. Howls of joy rang out seemingly from nowhere. I looked at Lacy then noticed Travis and Jacqueline were both here. I gave them a quick wave.

Lacy answered my unspoken question, "The pack is happy their Luna is back safely. They did it when I was popped back too. Travis here has refused to leave my side." Dylan complimented Travis, "Like the good brother he is. I even have a treat for him."

Lacy admitted, "I had to ban your father from the house. I was tripping over him every five seconds." Dylan tapped his chin, "Him, I did not tell to be your shadow." Lacy said, "I know, or I would've dealt with it. The pup is fine. As is Aubree's. Everyone got a clean bill of health. Why has no one snapped Emmaline clean?" Haley laughed and snapped. I told her, "There were so many other priorities."

Dylan stood, "Haley, tell me the plans you had for the thorn in my side. I need to feel better." Haley bit her lip, "I was going to let Alexander and EJ practice their pushing skills on him." Dylan clapped, "Yes, tell me more." Haley smiled, "Cassie was going to practice getting him to tell the truth then practice with her sunlight hands."

Dylan put out his hands and made a 'come on' motion, "Bring it home for me, my fun sized ninja fairy Goddess." Haley laughed, "Then I was going to erase his memory and charm him into believing it was his lifelong dream to move to Antarctica and become an ice fisherman. Google said it's cold there."

Dylan howled, "It IS cold there." Haley held out her hands and conjured a bloody shirt. She asked him, "Is this your shirt?" Dylan started to cry, "You left me too soon

little buddy! I would've avenged you!" Haley laughed again then snapped her fingers. His shirt was now devoid of blood.

Dylan grabbed her from Eric for an air hug. He literally didn't touch her then yelled, "Don't kill me, GAP. This is a moment! My lucky shirt is back. IT LIVES!" He ran and hid behind Lacy. He said, "Luna, you are forgiven for using my lucky shirt to try to save Grayson." I raised an eyebrow, "I didn't ask for your forgiveness but ok." Dylan acted like I stuck him with a dagger to the heart, "Hurtful."

I suddenly felt gross. I hadn't showered since I got Grayson's blood all over me. I said, "I know Haley snapped me clean, but I'd love a hot shower. Then I just want to go to bed." Dylan cheered, "Amen! The Luna has spoken. We can gather to share information later."

Aiden laughed and he and Lucinda popped out. I didn't realize they'd come with us. Eric said, "Lucas, call us when everyone is awake." Dylan teased, "That's right, GAP. Everyone means Dylan too. I AM the resident fairy expert for the werewolves. I must be part of the conversation." Eric rolled his eyes.

Lucas agreed, "I'll call you, thank you for everything." He shook his hand. Dylan chimed in, "Yes, thank you for the look into the Ribbon. It's beautiful and it's not fair that you of all people are in it. Such is our life ever since you came into it. A lesson in life is not fair but mine kicks ass, should be the title of your autobiography, GAP."

Eric shook his head, "Dylan, I've known you your entire life." Dylan waved his hands at the ceiling, "I know. The moon goddess has blessed me while simultaneously being oh so cruel." We all laughed. Eric managed not to, but his soul told me he was relieved, amused, and content. Haley popped their group away.

Lucas led me upstairs. I led us to the bathroom and turned on the shower. I kissed Lucas, "I know I said it earlier, but I really missed you." Lucas whispered, "God, baby girl. You have no idea how I missed you." We got into the shower after I snapped us naked. We washed each other several times until I felt the grime was gone.

Lucas seemed unable to let go of me. I smiled up at him, "I won't disappear on you." He laughed, "I know because you will be by my side until the morning of the wedding. Then Haley, Blade, and possibly Blade's mate will be by your side. Along with Brad, and several of our warriors." I sighed, "That's serious overkill." Lucas nipped my ear with his teeth, "Impossible." We both got under the covers of our bed, and we fell asleep.

I woke up feeling completely rested. Lucas was still sleeping though. I popped out from under his arms and went into the bathroom. I squealed when his arms wrapped around me. Lucas nipped my shoulder, "I do believe I told you that you'd have to be by my side until the wedding." I pointed out, "You were sleeping."

He bit my neck, "And you got out of bed without me." He threw me over his shoulder in one swift move and spanked me. He growled, "Bad fairy." I laughed as he threw me back down onto our bed. Lucas whispered in my ear "I have so many plans for you in this bed."

He pulled my sweatpants off along with my underwear. His tongue lightly flicked my clit. I jerked my hips. His hands gripped onto my hips tightly. His tongue attacked, and I felt a finger enter me. I jerked and moaned.

He linked me, "Let me hear you, baby girl." I couldn't hold back. He worked me over quickly. I came within minutes. He climbed up my body and kissed me deeply. He pulled back and flipped me onto all fours and entered me. I gripped the sheets between my fingers and rocked back into him. I shrieked in surprise as his hand slapped my butt before he slammed into me.

I moaned, "Lucas!" He began to slam into me. I pleaded, "Harder Alpha, please!" Lucas growled and gave me exactly what I asked for. We didn't stop until our stomachs growled. Lucas laughed, "I suppose we should get lunch, and gather the troops."

Troops? My brain needed a minute to catch up. It came to me, "Right, what's this most powerful family thing?" Lucas sighed, "I actually want to hear what Haley has to say about it, but you are apparently quite a powerful soul searcher." I told him, "The fairy goddess said that our daughter would be one too." Lucas asked, "You met the fairy goddess?"

I nodded, "Yup, David hit me with a bat when I showed up to rescue Lacy and Aubree." Lucas growled. "I very much would've enjoyed torturing him." I cringed, "I know, I just needed it to be over." Lucas hugged me, "I know you did. It's fine, it's not about me." I timidly said, "Haley said it was my show." Lucas agreed, "Haley was right."

I snapped us dressed and popped to the kitchen. Haley and Eric popped in a second later. Haley smiled, "Good afternoon, everyone." I groaned, "Gosh, what day is it?" Haley answered, "The twenty-first." I gaped, "We slept that long? Holy crap! We are getting married in three days! I have... nothing to do, never mind. I can snap it all done with my cousins."

Haley laughed, “Exactly, all is well.” Dylan came running in, “This meeting wasn’t about to start without me, was it? Cause that would be crazy talk.” I reassured him, “No, we were just getting food.” Dylan announced, “There is pizza in Lucas’ office. On warmers. I woke up this morning and planned everything. Let’s go. Pizza is waiting. Along with my story.”

I asked, “Your story?” Dylan said, “Yes, little Luna. Haley is going to tell us a fairy story. I have my notebook ready to go to take notes in.” Lucas snorted. I pressed, “Do you really?” Dylan nodded emphatically, “Of course I do. There’s popcorn, pizza, and notebooks. I even have multiple pens, and a recorder to capture everything she says.” Haley laughed.

I linked Lucas, “Is he serious?” Lucas answered, “He definitely is.” I bit my lip as we walked upstairs. I took several boxes of pizza. Lucas took a whole box himself, and we sat down at the table together. Dylan really had his place at the table set up and ready to go. He even had an old school popcorn machine ready to make him more popcorn.

We all ate in comfortable silence. Haley broke it, “Since I’m done eating, I’ll start.” Dylan yelled, “WAIT!” He turned on the reorder and smiled, “Proceed my fun sized ninja fairy goddess.” Haley smiled while Eric rolled his eyes.

Haley sighed, “Since I’m not sure what everyone knows about the prophecy, I’ll just start at the beginning. There’s a prophecy taught to all Fae children when they are young. It tells the story of a family that will bring notoriety back to Faerie among supernatural’s. A family that will be our ruling houses for the rest of time. Ruling houses, of course, fall and rise in Faerie. Marcious could tell you the water fairy’s along with fire fairy’s, would have risen up against the Holloran reign if Aiden hadn’t taken over when he did. None of them had any love for Fabian.” I wondered which family would’ve ruled then.

Haley shook herself, “Anyway, this promised family would be realized because of the siblings and their ascent to power. The oldest sibling would be the leader of Faerie and possesses ancient powers. There is no Fae charm the eldest sibling cannot cast once their full potential is reached. With the younger sibling by the eldest side, they cannot be defeated because the youngest can take people’s powers away. It’s unclear but the option for another sibling is there with other powers. Which was obviously in case Arion was still around.” Haley looked away.

She cleared her throat, “Anyway the prophecy talks about more than the siblings. It mentions all the relatives of the houses, and our children. The soul searcher will now always be in your bloodline, Emmaline. It will be passed from you to your children,

then their children, and so on. Your powers will continue to grow. You will be able to tell when someone's mate is coming. You'll be able to tell them what their mate is, be it fairy, partial fairy, human, werewolf, demon, angel, hood, you get the point. You'll know if someone is deemed worthy of a second chance mate. You can actually grant them a second chance mate. Not who their mate will be, but if someone loses their mate and you know them; you can determine if they get another mate. You already know you can ease the pain of their souls."

I put my hands up, "This seems like it's getting more complicated. What if someone, like BA, doesn't want to know who their mate is? We have to do that ritual all the time with this wealth of information I now know?" Haley shook her head, "Actually, no. Now that our family has realized we are in fact the family in the prophecy our powers are amplifying."

I mumbled, "Yup, I noticed that." Haley explained, "Well, you will be able to withhold information without the ritual unlike past soul searchers. Unlike you were before one of us realized it was our family." I said, "But... I told my dad at my birthday his second chance mate was out there. Was that just a natural progression of my soul searching power?"

Haley sighed then admitted, "No, I had started to suspect we were the family in the prophecy. I re-read the history of fairy's when I conjured the book for everyone. I wasn't certain we were the family or not, but everyone started developing their powers more... probably right before thanksgiving. The more convinced I became, the more we developed. It peaked when Bexley, WITHOUT ME THERE!" Eric put his hand on Haley.

She had tears in her eyes, "I have asked for Bexley to be made Royal for YEARS! Aiden declared Bexley Royal withfuckingout me. He's in trouble. That action progressed us even farther and solidified us as the family that was prophesied. You now possess the ability to not tell someone without causing yourself pain. Since you did this before you had kids your line will have that ability as well."

I nodded then yelled, "HOLD ON! That means... You are the youngest sibling. You can take people's magic away? You said power? That's magic right?" Haley sighed, "Yes, you and I are... kind of important in this prophecy. You are pure of soul and mind that's why you and your line are being blessed as the soul searchers for the rest of time. I am pure of fucking heart apparently."

Eric said, "Angel, you really are." Haley shrugged, "Sure. Why not? Because now people are going to want the two of us because goddesses blessed us. The Fairy and Angel goddess blessed you, Emmaline" Lucas stiffened.

I asked, "The Angel goddess?" Haley nodded, "Yes, the Fairy and Angel goddesses had to agree on who was pure of soul and mind. The mind is from the Fairy goddess. The soul you had to pass some Angel goddess fucking test. Yay us. Anyway, all the goddesses and gods had to agree I was pure of fucking heart. Because the fairy that possessed your power and my power could abuse it. Mates are a big deal, and you can now determine who is worthy of a second chance."

I asked, "So... could you take a werewolves wolf from them?" Everyone stiffened. Haley nodded, "Yes, I could, but I wouldn't do that without a very good reason. To take someone's wolf would be to take half of them. At MOST I would just make it so they couldn't shift into their wolf, but that seems mean to the wolf. I'd probably just kill them, so their wolf could go to someone else. Fuck, I don't know. I don't want this power."

I connected some pieces myself, "So, you are why the partial fairies are so good at magic then." Haley frowned, "Yes and no. I'm why they can do it so quickly. I brought their magic to the surface. With training they all could still do that magic they have been performing. For example, Katie probably would've taken longer to master the skills she already has."

I put my head in my hands, "So, people will come for the two of us." Haley pursed her lips, "Yes, but we are formidable on our own. If you called me to you, and we fought together; we cannot be defeated. If two members of our family fight together, we can get hurt but even if we have iron in our systems you and I could not lose. That's not something that's widely known outside of Faerie, for obvious reasons. You and I are the logical ones to take from the family and try to use. We live close together, and we are not just cousins in name. We are close to each other. People will absolutely come to try to take the both of us. Our call to our family's protection will now pull everyone in our connection."

I gaped, "So if I call you.... it calls Aiden too?" Haley nodded, "It will call your father the strongest, but everyone will feel it. They will know who called. Same with our children." I whispered, "Wow... just wow."

Haley sighed, "There's more, but for now I think that's a lot to take in. Damn it! One more thing needs to be said now. One of your sons will be the strongest water fairy in our history. He will possess multiple talents that no single water fairy has possessed."

I gulped, "That's not good." Haley blew out a breath, "Believe me, I know exactly how you feel. Our kids are going to be best friends, that's also in the prophecy. That our children and Aiden's are close along with Bexley's. We are basically now a powerhouse." I sat back in my chair, "Holy mother of pearl."

Lucas rubbed my back. He assured me, “We will protect our pups. I swear it to you.” I sighed, “At least I don’t have to worry about telling someone who doesn’t want to know their mate. Or you having to take my pain again or bind me not to tell someone’s mate. Does that mean the other thing doesn’t hurt you now?” Haley snorted, “No, that would be convenient. Until that’s resolved I’m still bound to that ritual.” Darn. Haley grumbled, “And we still can’t lie.” I laughed, “Dang it! Couldn’t they let us tell white lies? We are this super powerful family now.”

Haley frowned, “Well, no one tells lies that are white. Lies don’t have a color.” I snorted, “I meant small lies,” Haley shrugged, “You’d think for the shit they just threw into our lives they’d have given us that but no. Assholes.” I said, “Ok then... we are super desirable as are our children, and our powers are going to get stronger.” Haley nodded, “Basically, yes.” I groaned, “I feel like I need to go back to bed.” Haley laughed, “You and me both.”

We talked a little bit longer before everyone stood up. Haley smiled, “Well, we will see you on Christmas Eve to get you down that aisle, soon to be Emmaline Lyons.” I pointed my index finger, “About that, I was wondering if you thought my dad would mind if I did my last name like yours. I want to go with Emmaline Walsh Lyons.”

Lucas smiled at me. Haley said, “He’d love that.” She gave me a hug. “Call or text if you have questions. You are of course welcome at the celebrations in Faerie should you choose to go to any of them. They are literally everyday all day.”

Dylan chimed in, “We are all going New Year’s Eve, right?” Haley nodded, “We have to, Dylan. The queen and king decreed it. Happy fucking New Year.” Dylan squealed, “YESSS! HAPPY NEW YEAR TO DYLAN!” I laughed and Haley popped her and Eric away.

I leaned into Lucas, “It sounds like we have some powerful kids.” Lucas agreed, “Yes, it does seem that way.” I whispered, “We have to protect them.” Lucas leaned down and kissed me, “We will.” I could feel the seriousness of his soul, and I knew I felt the same. We would do this, together.