

Walk a Hard Line

All thoughts of Alpha Chase's and his problems flew out of Lucas' head when Emmaline jumped on him. I could practically taste her desperate need and lust on my tongue it was so intense. I pulled away from her kiss, "Baby girl, take what you need." Emmaline didn't bother responding.

She was crazed. She even spanked me at one point. I'd never liked being dominated, but with Emmaline I found I didn't mind. Dominic growled, "This is hot. Mate is SO hot." I understood slightly what Eric meant by using his and Haley's connection to fuel himself with Haley's need. Our souls being bound made me practically as lustful as Emmaline.

I could hear Haley and Katie's screams echoing the halls with Emmaline's. No one in this territory would doubt who they belonged to. Once she was satisfied, I cleaned us both off before getting into bed with her.

I linked Dylan, "We aren't going to make it back tonight. Emmaline's sister, Idel, did the water fairy ritual with her. Emmaline is out like a light." Dylan replied, "Aww you sexed your fairy into a coma... how nice your life must be! I have been PACING THE FLOOR FOR HOURS!"

I sat up quickly, "Why? What's happened? I can borrow a car to get back to you." Dylan snorted, "Borrow a car. BORROW A CAR? What would that help? USELESS! You are USELESS." I growled, "Dylan, what's going on?"

He retorted, "What's going on?! Our mates are fighting the QUEEN of the Hackura, The Princess of the Hackura, the Duchess of the Hackura, and because the UNIVERSE HATES ME probably another Hackura Princess." Dylan was clearly past the point of reason.

I bit my lip, "Technically, she's the future queen, but I'll give you the high probability on a future Princess. Haley is the only princess of the Hackura right now. Though I'm certain Haley would call them all princesses since they Hackura consider them married once they meet."

Dylan yelled so loud I held my head, "REALLY LUCAS? YOU ARE COMING AT ME WITH TECHNICALITIES RIGHT NOW? Lacy could get hurt. Emmaline could get hurt. We HAVE to do something."

I sighed, “They aren’t defenseless. This is not a real threat; it’s just training.” Dylan snarled, “I keep picturing Lacy that night with the Ducant’s when they split her lip. I can’t get it out of my head. Then I wonder how many fights she was in while she was away. Did someone hurt her while I wasn’t there? What happened during those two years? My mind is literally creating scenarios upon scenarios. She’s planning to be at the early training with Emmaline tomorrow morning.”

I understood now where this was coming from. He felt like he hadn’t protected her when she ran away. I said, “I can help you with the training problem. Our mates won’t train with the pack on Thursdays moving forward.” Dylan calmed down marginally, “That’s a little less than nothing, but only a little Lucas. I will take the mere morsal you are offering my brain for relief though.”

I looked over at Emmaline, “The number of situations Emmaline and Lacy have been getting in lately tell us they need to be more prepared. Do you have a better way of doing that than them fighting the Hackura?”

Dylan was silent for several moments before he replied, “No, you logical sleep tyrant; I don’t.” I said, “I don’t like this either. She’s my little sister who happens to be my best friend’s mate, and the other person involved is MY mate. I do need them to be safe with all this shit coming at us. This training will do that for them. We can’t always be with them, and who knows if a fairy or Hackura will be available to pop us; or open a portal to get to them quickly.”

Dylan sighed, “Keep talking. The voices in my Beta brain are calming down.” I laughed, “If we aren’t in our territory Lacy and Emmaline are in charge. Neither one would go to the safe room even if I ordered the warriors to take them. Emmaline knows she could order them not to. She could also go and then just pop out with Lacy. I’d rather they know how to fight should the situation occur. Hopefully, this is knowledge they have for no reason, but they will have it should they need to.”

Dylan sighed, “Why didn’t you start with that? Information they have but might not need. I can get on board with that. I’ve already alerted Alex to the no training on Thursdays for them. I sent a memo and a text. Normal people are asleep. Not all of us get a crazy ritual sex fairy. Or have an Alpha Sleep tyrant who keeps them awake. Which is hardly fair, he’s the Gamma.”

I snorted, “Normal people aren’t pacing the floors. Your room is going to need to be re-carpeted. We should talk about you and Lacy moving into a wing at the main house eventually.” Dylan stalled, “What?”

I said, “You’re Lacy’s mate and my Beta. I can’t have you move to a cottage when you have pups, or even one of the houses. None of those close enough to the main house are available right now. It’s smarter and more efficient to move you and Lacy into one of the wings in my house. Plus, you’re my best friend and she’s my sister. Let’s not forget, both our mates will love it.”

Dylan squealed, “ROOMIES! I love it. Let’s discuss tomorrow. I’ll send King Alpha Prick a memo post haste about how you want to be my roommate and not his. I win. I feel my joy beginning to spark. I’ll text my Beta group chat too. MUHAHAHA!”

I smirked knowing that for once I had managed to surprise Dylan. He’d always seemed to anticipate my moves especially once we took over the pack. It was good to know that I could catch him off guard on occasion. I finally made it to sleep.

Emmaline’s alarm went off too damn early. I barely held in a laugh when I looked around the room. I linked Eric, “Your staff may kill me.” Eric grunted in return. We talked a bit before Emmaline snapped the room back together. I was impressed that she only missing little things. The maids should be happier than they were with us last time, given how the room looked moments ago was a miracle.

I linked Eric again, “Emmaline mostly fixed the room, your maids shouldn’t be too upset.” Eric growled, “Fuck the maids.” I asked, “What’s up with you?” Eric replied, “Bexley felt left out yesterday so she and Haley are doing the Sky ritual this morning.” I asked, “Shouldn’t you be happy then?” Eric said, “I was going to wait in my room, but Jackson dragged me out for our run. Now, I’m worried she’s going to pop to me out here.” I laughed.

Emmaline popped us back home so we could both get ready for our days. Gemma smiled when we popped into the kitchen. I choked when she said Mrs. Blanches real name. I got hit with a roller pin twice when I’d used it.

We got onto the topic of Bray and it hit me. Haley had stumbled upon their accident! How did I not piece that together before? It had to have been her. I needed to ask Eric. I’d have to thank her.

Suddenly, Emmaline’s nerves were bouncing around in my chest. She seemed very unsure of herself. Dylan linked me, “Are we really going to a high school dance? I mean, we will take all the focus off the regular students. The poor popular kids won’t be the center of attention Whatever will they do?”

I smirked replying, “If my baby girl wants me to go to the school dance then that’s what we will do.” Dylan teased, “Aye, aye Alpha Sleep Tyrant. When you’re crowned

king of the dance, I'm going to laugh. I won't help you get out of it at all. I might even spread the word to the pack to ensure it happens." I rolled my eyes.

Emmaline shot out of the room as soon as she'd eaten. I finished my breakfast and Gemma said, "That was so cute. The Luna was so nervous you'd say no. Lacy seemed to think Dylan was going to say no too, but he never did. He said he'd go if you went. Everyone in the pack knew you'd go if Emmaline asked; including Dylan." I laughed, "He's convinced I'll be named king of the dance."

Gemma winked, "Have fun with that." When I turned to leave she added, "If the princess healed me, I really do want to thank her." I nodded, "I think she did, but I'll link Alex the confirmation." She smiled, "I'll just go see little Bray now and give him an extra squeeze." I smiled and left.

I walked into my office to find a glaring Dylan with a cup of coffee. I asked, "Is that mine?" Dylan snorted, "No... no coffee for you. This is for me, get your own damn coffee." I was confused, "What's wrong now? I thought we sorted your training issues last night." Dylan growled, "Consider me upset about the training thing for the foreseeable future." I laughed, "Alright, get Eric on the phone."

Dylan finally smiled, "But you give me such reasons to be happy. Getting King Alpha Prick on the phone." He picked up a coffee from the ground, "This is for you." I laughed, "You're such a big kid."

Eric answered, "Lucas, I don't know how long I have." Dylan laughed evilly, "No, it's me!" I snorted, "I'm here too." Eric asked, "Dear god, why?" I asked, "Can you ask Haley if she was in Ireland with BA three years ago."

Dylan squealed, "OH MY GOD! You think Bray is the result of fairy magic? I will build a shrine to little future Gamma baby Bray." Eric asked, "What?" I explained, "Now, that we know Haley; I've thought over the details of my Gamma and his wife's accident. Alex thought he heard a modulated voice and a regular one. Gemma never felt pain, only a euphoric feeling. Alex felt pain for several minutes before feeling a euphoric sense. Gemma went into heat unexpectedly that night." Dylan squealed, "She so did it! I love her ninja fairy fun sized self."

Eric asked, "Bjourn? Marcus?" Marcus answered, "She did. She was on a mission with BA. They heard the crash and found them." I interjected, "That was kind of you." Bjourn laughed, "We didn't do anything. Haley didn't know they were werewolves when she found them. BA didn't mention it, and they were in a rush." I said, "You should probably expect a gift basket from them." Marcus snorted, "She won't see that as necessary."

Dylan said, “Don’t you worry. I’ll question my fun sized ninja fairy and find out who all she healed. She sees it as no big deal. I’ll get you the answers, have no fear! Memo being sent as we speak. Alex technically met her before you, King Alpha Prick. How delicious that tidbit of information is.” He was tying furiously. Eric growled, “I’ll ask her.” I heard a pop before he hung up.

I snorted, “You push him. Dylan winked, “It sparks such joy in my life. Plus, he won’t ask her the right way. I’ve got this.” I rolled my eyes then linked Alex, “Have you talked to Gemma?” He answered, “Yes, I’m possibly in shock.” I snorted, “Continuing that then, it was Haley. She healed you both.” Alex replied, “Sending her a gift basket.” I laughed.

A knock sounded on the door. Dylan informed me, “It’s Frank. I rescheduled his appointment with us.” I nodded and Frank came in. He sat down, “Al didn’t say what this is about. Is Emmaline alright?” I nodded, “This is about Alpha Hammond coming into the diner and ordering food to go for lunch. Did you ever see him?”

Frank’s eyes widened, “I’ve never met him, but now that you say it... he’s got to be the big fella who tried to chat up Liz. He never made an inappropriate move, or I’d have told Al.” I sighed, “Did you ever see who he was meeting?” Frank shrugged, “No, he drove in an SUV with tinted windows.”

Dylan clapped, “I knew it! Gosh, I need to start betting on these things.” Frank looked away, “You know I took a smoke break as he was leaving once. I heard him on the phone. He was saying he would take the man under his wing because it’s what his brother would’ve wanted.”

Dylan and I exchanged looks. I said, “Alpha Hammond doesn’t have a brother.” Frank shrugged, “He seemed to think he did. He said he would do it for his Millie and his brother. Hung up after that and left. I went back inside.” I nodded, “Thank you, Frank.”

Frank nodded and got up to leave. He paused and mentioned, “Now, if you ever need anything for Miss Emmaline, you let me know.” I nodded, “I will, thank you for watching out for her.” Frank explained, “Always have felt protective of her even before I knew she was the Luna. We are like a little family at the diner.” He left quickly after that.

Dylan asked, “Could Millie be the foster sister?” I sighed opening a file. “According to the P.I. the foster sister’s name is Harriet. All traces of her disappear after her time with Christy’s family. The private adoption that seems to be sealed and buried. It’s going to take more time. Maybe there’s a connection between Millie and Harriet. My

dad thought Hammond found then lost his mate, and that he's losing his mind because of it."

Dylan agreed, "That could be. We can get the P.I. on Hammond's brother." I nodded and picked up a different file. Dylan asked, "Aren't you going to call King Alpha Prick with our new information?" I looked at the clock, "I'll tell him later. He's having sky fairy ritual sex. Haley popped in at the end of our call."

Dylan rolled his eyes, "I hate him. His mate is out of high school, and he can have sex any time he wants during the day. Did Haley even go to school?" I laughed, "The Hackura have their own schools. Haley is taking college classes and was when they met." Dylan rolled his eyes, "Online. He's the worst." I rolled my eyes at him. The day flew by. It felt like I blinked, and school was over.

I started to pace. Dylan just raised an eyebrow at me. The girls came home and were bouncing around with energy. They finished their homework at land record speed, complaining about time going slow. Dylan and I did not agree. I had no idea where the day had gone.

Dylan went on a tangent. I linked him, "You all have composure in spades because of us Alpha's." He considered then replied, "Fine, it's mates. Mates make us lose composure. This situation is madness." Lacy stuck her tongue out at him.

Dylan actually jumped then linked me, "Warn a guy when they are around!" I responded, "I didn't see him either." When Benjamin introduced himself, Dylan linked me, "I knew it! Another future Hackura princess is fighting them.

Do you know which one is Benjamin's mate?"

I shrugged, "I don't know their mates' names other than Bjourn and Marcus... well and now Logan. I don't know who's with who." Dylan glared at me, "Ariel. It's Ariel. The Fiery redhead whose dad is one of their top warriors in their army!" Lucas said, "Apparently you are right, it is Ariel." Dylan muttered, "Damn Marcus for knocking up Torvi. She at least has experience training, so she works with someone at their pace. Ariel has top speed only. I did something awful in previous life and I'm paying penance in this one."

I sighed, "Torvi is just as deadly as Astrid." Dylan rolled his eyes, "But friendlier and has experience training the little ones. Astrid doesn't train the kids. She gets them once they are shaped into fighting machines. Torvi trains the little kids. I want Torvi or Calista, or Cali as I learned she goes by the other day when we had visitors, she's a teacher." I shrugged again trying not to laugh.

When we got to the gym, I stopped dead in my tracks. Haley had Dylan pinned smirking at him. Eric was glaring daggers at Dylan growling at him. Emmaline practically dismissed us. Bjourn laughed, "That's the most ass backwards thing I've heard all damn day." We all walked away from the girls following Emmaline's instructions.

I asked Dylan, "What the hell happened? How did you end up pinned?" Eric growled, "He wants me to kill him." Dylan lamented, "All I said was this is crazy. That's it. Then my fun sized ninja fairy came at me. I defended myself. It was pure instinct."

I startled, "You hit Haley?" Eric growled, "He tried." Now I was astonished. I knew Haley was good, but Dylan was not easy to beat. Dylan lamented, "I wasn't ready." Eric snorted, "Because the enemy often waits until you are ready to attack."

I stepped in, "Eric, you've fought with Dylan, you know he's a good fighter." Eric smirked, "Not better than my wife." Dylan didn't even seem upset, "Yes, we all bow to the awesomeness of your fun sized ninja fairy. How are you cool with this? Haley could get hurt. You were my hope, you King of the Pricks you. Of course, you let me down. You live to do so."

Eric laughed along with Bjourn and Benjamin. Eric answered, "Haley isn't going to get hurt. Your mates aren't going to get seriously hurt either. Besides, Haley is going to heal anything that happens when they are done. It's fine, Dylan."

Dylan muttered, "Says the King Alpha Prick whose mate is a Hackura Princess who can put a werewolf on the ground in under fifteen seconds." Bjourn asked, "Fifteen seconds? She's fighting with me tomorrow. That's not acceptable." Eric snorted, "It was more like ten." Dylan seethed silently.

I told Eric, "It appears Alpha Hammond had a mate named Millie." I filled him in on the conversation with Frank. He said, "My intel did say he met his mate, but was staying away from her. I didn't know she died." Dylan grumbled, "Of course you knew he met his mate. Beta Caleb will be chastised for my lack of memo."

Bjourn said, "I'll get Gunner on the sealed documents. That's child's play for him. He will insult your P.I. for not being able to get around sealed human information." Dylan shot to his feet when Ariel punched Lacy and began to pace. He cheered when Lacy got a shot back in on Ariel, "That's it, babe! GET HER!" Benjamin laughed at him. I rolled my eyes.

I gritted my teeth when Emmaline took a hit. I asked, "How long is your training in the Hackura realm? Don't you ever take a break?" Bjourn looked at his watch, "They

will be done in thirty minutes.” His phone rang and he answered, “Gunner, did you get the information?” He nodded then put the phone on speaker.

Gunner said, “This is actually intriguing, Bjourn. This is not only human court sealed but sealed by magic. By a powerful witch or warlock. It’s going to take me more time, but I WILL rise to the challenge.” I heard Harper say, “Of course you will, lover.” A female voice teased, “Our lover.”

Dylan linked, “Ahhh, the teacher. Cali, she couldn’t come because she was getting busy. Now, I have a plan. Find a way to make sure Harper’s boytoy lover is busy during training days, and the teacher can come play.” I rolled my eyes. Bjourn ended the call.

I looked up at him questioningly. “Unless you wanted to hear them fuck, I had to end the call. I can get them back on the line. They are not shy.” I shook my head, “No, I’m good.” Dylan asked, “How does that work with his mate?” Benjamin said, “Calista is his mate, and it works how we all work. They are kind of unique though. They’ve always been a trio. They all love each other.”

Bjourn nodded “He’s like an uncle to their kids. Their kids love him; it works for them.” Benjamin laughed, “I think Cali loves that Harper never fucks another woman, he just has Gunner. After that disaster with her fake friends, I really think it worried her. Or that’s what Ariel says.”

Dylan linked, “I am beyond intrigued by this whole conversation.” Of course, he was. Dylan asked, “What if Harper’s boytoy lover meets his mate?” Bjourn and Benjamin both looked sad. Bjourn said, “His mate died the day they met.” Benjamin sighed, “Gunner was on an assignment with Harper. He turned in time to see his mate get hit by a drunk driver. He was walking down the sidewalk and never saw the car coming. Harper brought the driver back home, and eventually killed him. Haley got Gunner back to our realm.”

Dylan, of course, had more questions, “Does Harper’s boytoy lover want children? How does that work?” Bjourn answered, “There are women in the Hackura who want children, but do not enjoy men. Gunner has been thinking of doing artificial insemination with one of those couples. All parties want children and have agreed to share custody of any children that result from their attempts. I’m sure they will proceed with that.”

I nodded, “They know that it could take a few tries before it takes, right?” Benjamin snorted, “My sister would not stand for that. She’ll use her magic to make it take.” I

was surprised. Dylan voiced my question, “Why? It will work eventually... Probably. It’s highly likely anyway.”

Bjourn answered, “Because Gunner would be disappointed. That would upset Harper and Haley wouldn’t let that happen. Besides, she and Gunner are like siblings.” Eric laughed, “They bicker more than any of you do with her.” Benjamin pointed out, “Like siblings.” Eric nodded.

I asked, “Won’t that get Haley a new gig in your realm? For all couples who decide to go that route?” Bjourn shrugged, “She already does it if people ask. She loves helping people and making them happy.” I agreed.

Eric changed the subject, “If Hammond lost his mate, I’ll understand his descent into madness. I can’t imagine losing Haley. I don’t know how Gunner kept it together. I’ll help you kill Hammond all the same Lucas, but I’ll understand him.”

Benjamin said, “Gunner didn’t get any time with his mate. Harper and Cali kept him sane. Their relationship grounded him.” Eric and I nodded, but I could tell Eric didn’t understand. I think it was different for wolves. Plus, Eric has pups with Haley. She was his world, and Gunner never had that chance, it wasn’t a deep bond.

Haley called the fight. Dylan sprinted down to Lacy. I winced when Haley said their next session would be outside. Dylan lost it. Eric linked me, “Where the hell did his poker face go?” I replied, “Evidently when Lacy is involved, he has no poker face.” Eric said, “It’s a smart plan, and he knows it. They are far more likely to be fighting outside than on padded mats.” I agreed. I just didn’t like it.

I was proud Emmaline and Lacy had gotten shots in on Miley and Ariel, though I knew Miley had let one go past her so she could counter. Evidently, the Hackura were not afraid to give up shots to their face. The sparkle in my sister’s eye told me she’d loved everything about this training.

I linked her, “Did you have to say that you loved it, Lacy Loo? Dylan has been a mess to deal with ALL day.” Lacy smirked, “I’m not even sorry.” I reminded Dylan that Lacy had Alpha blood. There was nothing we could do about her enjoying a fight. The thrill of fighting was literally pumping through her veins. Dylan started to lead Lacy out of the gym when Emmaline popped Lacy away from him. I gaped at Emmaline.

Dylan linked me, “LUCAS!” Lacy told Dylan she wanted to see the dress that Haley was going to fairy magic Emmaline, so Dylan agreed to stay. I was stunned when I was practically kicked out of my own gym. What? Bjourn and Benjamin were smirking at their sister.

I rounded on Haley. She had to be joking? This was my territory! Bjourn was way too excited about Haley thinking I issued a challenge. That was not good. Dylan linked me, “You’ve done it now.” I growled at him and was suddenly being flung backwards. I couldn’t take a step forward no matter how hard I tried.

Dylan’s laughter could probably be heard for miles as I was pushed out the gym doors almost to the lake. I growled and tried to get back into the gym. Bjourn casually commented, “It won’t work.” Eric sighed, “Haley barred you from the gym with fairy magic.” I growled, “She can’t do that! I train there. This is my territory.” Eric nodded, “It’s temporary. I’m certain it’s less than twenty minutes.” I growled, “Haley is both awesome and infuriating.” Eric chuckled, “That she is, and all mine. So, you’re going to a high school dance?”

I grumbled, “Jackson told me you went to a ball AND you danced.” Eric growled at me. Bjourn asked, “So?” I smirked, “Eric hates dancing at balls, or dancing of any kind.” Benjamin was confused, “You took Haley dancing a week ago. She wouldn’t stop talking about how much fun she had.” Eric said, “Haley likes dancing.”

I teased, “Does she know that you don’t?” Eric growled, “No, and you won’t tell her.” I was howling with laughter, “I’m going to get Emmaline invited so we can double.” Eric said, “We aren’t taking dance lessons. I just took her dancing.”

I smiled, “Then I’ll have Emmaline tell Haley she wants to go dancing. Haley will want to come with us.” Eric asked, “Why are we even friends?” I smiled and felt the magic dissipate. I stalked back into the gym trying to look angry even though I was doing a happy dance on the inside. Eric truly hated dancing. Claudia had to beg him for months to dance with her at some event. He only agreed so she would shut up. He barely agreed to take her to a club he owned a few times and here he was going to balls and taking Haley dancing just because.

Dylan linked me, “I am not fooled, grit your teeth and fake it all you want so long as you tell me what you’re happy about.” I knew he’d love this. I told him, “Eric took Haley dancing, and danced with her at a ball.” Dylan smiled broadly and stood up straighter.

He clarified, “Mr. King Alpha Prick, who hates dancing with a burning passion all the way down to his pinky toe, voluntarily took Haley dancing?” I nodded. Dylan squealed, “I smell a triple dancing date in the future.” I responded, “Agreed.”

Haley popped her group away saying I didn’t appreciate the things she did. I frowned. I hadn’t meant to give her that impression. Dylan was back on his fairy kick. He

linked me, “Tell her you were joking because it won’t be as fun to enjoy Eric’s misery of dancing without an audience.”

I responded, “Then don’t tell Haley; she has no idea he hates dancing.” Dylan’s grin somehow widened, “That makes it so much more fun!” I rolled my eyes at him. I grabbed Emmaline, leading her back to our room. We talked for a bit before we both fell asleep.

The next day, Dylan and I were heads down on our work. Dylan grumbled, “We wouldn’t have had to work so late if you’d just agreed to work tomorrow.” I sighed, “You knew that wouldn’t happen, so let’s get it done. We are going to the dance tomorrow.” I texted Eric.

Me: I need Haley for a minute, please.

Moments later she popped with one of the triplets. Dylan asked, “Which mini King Alpha Prick is that?” Haley smiled, “Alexander. We just got the invitation to your wedding, my friend Dylan. It’s fabulous! A costume wedding! I’m so excited.”

I asked, “What are you coming as?” Haley shrugged, “I haven’t decided. I have to plan a couple’s costume! Google says that’s important. I love this Google I was told about. It knows everything about this realm.” I linked Dylan, “I love your wedding.” Dylan sat up straighter, “I love my mate. This is going to be awesome! All the men who have mates and attend will be in couple costumes. I didn’t even think of that.”

I spoke aloud, “Haley, I really do appreciate everything you’ve done for me and my pack, but especially Emmaline. I don’t want you to think that I don’t.” Haley nodded, “Alright.” I continued, “I want Emmaline to have a perfect day tomorrow. I was thinking manicures, pedicures, massages, hair, and makeup.”

Haley interjected, “Invite her friends and Katie. I have a friend who works in event planning. I’ll get the necessary people here that are supernatural’s to perform those services. No men of course, because I know not unlike Eric, you’d flip shit. I’ll turn the Luna suites into a temporary salon.” It would be considered an insult for Emmaline to have a man touching her when we had a planned date. Really ever, but especially then. I smiled, “She’d love it if you were there.”

For a split second, Haley faltered and turned white. Then her mask slipped back on, “Well, I don’t think so. Besides, I’d miss the triplets all day.” I frowned, “You could bring them. The girls would love it.”

Dylan linked me, “Dude...” I added, “But of course you don’t have to come.” Haley smiled, “I’ll go snap the room done, and text my friend to get the necessary people.” Dylan laughed, “Is there someone you don’t know?” Haley said, “Of course there are. I don’t know everyone. There are billions of people in this realm alone. Not to mention the other realms.”

Dylan smiled, “But you already made friends with an event planner in this realm.” I thought of Alpha Chase, remembering the event planner was at the event. I casually asked, “Are you making human friends now, Haley? This is the event planner you planned your fairy event with last weekend, correct?” Dylan linked, “Uhh, what’s wrong with you?”

Haley frowned. I said, “Eric mentioned your event at fairy lessons.” Dylan linked, “So what? She made a friend, that I seriously doubt is human if she planned a fairy event. This is why you must confer with me before asking such questions. What are you doing?”

Haley nodded, “It’s the same event planner.” I raised an eyebrow; she didn’t answer the question. Haley hurried, “I’ll go snap the room done. Let me know when you see it later if you want something different. Bye!” She popped away as I gaped.

Dylan smacked me on the arm, “What’s the matter with you? You practically ran our fairy entertainment away.” I ignored him and called Eric. He greeted, “Lucas, did Haley get you what you needed?” I answered, “Yes, that’s not why I called. Did you meet the event planner she had at her event?”

Dylan snorted, “The event planner? Lucas what is your deal with this event planner? You made Haley uncomfortable then wouldn’t let this event planner go.” Eric instantly asked, “Uncomfortable?” I sighed, “I asked her for help making sure Emmaline has the perfect day tomorrow. Being pampered and all. I invited Haley to join the girls and Katie. I’ll have to call Logan later and let him know.”

Logan spoke, “I’ll tell Katie she’s invited. She was planning on helping Emmaline get ready anyway. Haley doesn’t like being touched by strangers. That’s hardly Lucas’ fault, Dylan. Girls usually like spa days. My sister is a rare exception, unfortunately.”

I winced, “I didn’t even think about that.” Dylan linked, “I did. I tried to stop you, but you got on the party planner train.” Eric said, “Don’t worry about it. I didn’t meet the event planner. I saw her talking to Haley a few times, but I never officially met her. Jackson did.”

Dylan grumbled, “For god's sake, why do we care about the non-human event planner?” We could hear Eric’s chair scuffle as he stood, “Non-human? How would you know that?” That meant Eric knew she wasn’t human either.

Dylan looked at me strangely, replying “I know because Lucas made a comment about Haley making human friends with the event planner. She evaded the question. Plus, said event planner is going to get us supernatural’s for the spa services. Conclusion: The event planner is not human and knows about supernatural’s. I’ll ask again. Why do we give crap? I must know the things.”

I explained, “Alpha Chase showed up last night at Eric’s. His mate had been in Eric and Haley’s home.” Dylan took a beat then started laughing. He gathered himself, “To recap, we now believe Alpha screwed himself over being a nice guy, is mated to a partial fairy or the event planner. Who could very well BE a partial fairy herself.”

I nodded. Eric admitted, “It does seem that way.” Dylan said, “They do say no good deed goes unpunished. I sent Beta Matt this memo after Alpha screwed himself over married his friend so she could be an Alpha. Those kids are so cute. They were too young to know King Alpha Prick wouldn’t have let them oust her from being the Alpha of her pack and got married. I’m coming to fairy lessons this week.”

I frowned, “Why?” Dylan smiled, “Umm because it’s going to be epic.” Eric disagreed, “It won’t be epic.” Dylan laughed, “King Alpha Prick, tell me... did you agree to let Alpha Chase come to fairy lessons? You don’t have to answer, I know you did. He’s your ally, and we can’t keep mates from one another. He’s not another Alpha Max type. He would never physically hurt his mate; therefore, you will help him find her. Because you like him, and he’s your ally. He’s looked up to you since he was a toddler. He idolizes you. He’s a follower of your prickishness.”

Dylan smiled as he continued, “His appearance will have BOTH yours and Lucas’ mates losing their precious fairy minds over. Gosh, it’s not even my birthday.” Eric growled, “Dylan, I already have to be in a damn couple’s costume for your damn wedding. Don’t make me want to kill you even more than I do on a regular basis. I have to help Alpha Chase.”

Dylan said, “I know that. Your fun sized ninja fairy doesn’t have to help him though. Nor does my Luna. I’d venture to go as far saying that they’d stand in his way until he deals with his own wife, who’s not his mate. Because neither of you have explained their relationship completely to them, have you? No, King Alpha Prick can’t do that. Because his fun sized ninja fairy would go full fairy hijinks on the werewolf community at large for being sexist. Then Alpha Chase and Alpha Sophia for coming

up with a crazy solution with no thought for the long term. Fairy lessons will be epic indeed.”

I sighed, “Emmaline can’t not tell who mates are if she knows.” Dylan’s eyes sparkled, “And if there was anyone who could find a way around that, who would it be?” I winced while Eric groaned. Dylan clapped his hands, “Oh yes, King Alpha Prick’s mate would be that person. I personally believe she will find a way. I’ve seen the way she glares at Alpha Chase and Alpha Sophia. I myself would’ve told her the truth and watched as she called a bunch of Alpha’s sexist jerks. Because she would.”

He rubbed his hands together, “GOD! I have to come to fairy lessons. I need Gemma to order more popcorn in bulk! No, Danver! Gemma would shake her head and judge me. Danver will just order my popcorn. He’s a gem, and I’m giving him a raise.” He raced out of the room.

Marcus chimed in, “He’s right you know. If there’s a way around Emmaline telling Alpha Chase who his mate is, Haley will find it. Eric sighed, “If she doesn’t already know how. Damn it. I already have a headache.”

I looked at the picture of Emmaline on my desk, “So do I. How can we deny him what we have though?” Eric answered, “I don’t know.” Bjourn spoke, “Because he has a wife, he made a choice. Choices have consequences.” Eric said, “A choice he regrets. He and Sophia have been friends since they were kids. Actually, they were best friends. He just wanted to help her. It wasn’t supposed to be permanent. That was never his choice. They aren’t marked for a reason. They are not the typical man and wife situation.” Bjourn said, “It seems I have someone to learn about. You do realize if there’s a broken promise involved, the funny wolf is right. My sister will go fairy hijinks on people.”

Dylan came skipping back in the room singing, “King Alpha Prick is going to get in so much trouble. I smell T-R-O-U-B-L-E.” I winced as Eric hung up. Dylan looked at me, “In all seriousness, you’re going to get in trouble too. I’m going to prepare myself for the cold war that’s coming to our territory.”

I sighed and stood to pace asking, “What should I do?” Dylan shrugged, “I don’t know. Your mate already hates Alpha Chase’s situation, but he is our ally. While he made a bad call with Alpha Sophia, he’s a good guy. I just don’t know how everyone doesn’t become a loser in this situation. Might I suggest talking to her.”

I ran a hand through my hair, “The moon goddess could’ve given us a break. Maybe his mate isn’t a partial fairy.” Dylan snorted, “Your mate and Haley would still hate the situation. Plus, there is not a mate on the planet who would go ‘Oh, you’re

married? That's cool. I'm not devastated or feeling murderous. Nope I'm chill.' That's just not a thing that will happen." He was right.

The rest of the day passed by without any drama. I called Nick to let him know to tell his son and Drake their mates were welcome for the spa day. He texted later both girls were excited, and he thanked me for including them. I told him Sharon was welcome as well. Garrett and Sharon were attending her school's dance, so she was getting ready in her mom's territory with her friends.

I heard Emmaline's alarm go off for training. I wanted to slap myself. I'd meant for her to sleep in along with all the other girls. I'd forgotten to send out a memo all the girls were excused from training because of the dance. I wrote Emmaline a note explaining what I'd set up for the day, then went down to one of the guest rooms to get some more sleep.

I woke up to Emmaline linking me asking for shower sex. I ran back to our room at Dominic's fastest pace. Lacy was threatening to break us up, so I teased her a little we were already finished. Dylan ended up in our room. I linked him, "You could've linked me." Dylan grumbled, "Lacy screamed me awake. I'm barely processing speech right now."

After we left and I told him, "Technically, you already cockblocked me. I'd still be inside her if not for you and my sister." Dylan grumbled, "Coffee. Let's get coffee. Then you can say more words." I laughed, "When did this role reversal happen? I'm fine with the morning, and you are the bear."

Dylan ran to Gemma as she held out coffee. He guzzled it, putting his cup back out for more. I took my cup from Gemma and sat down for breakfast. Dylan said, "It's Saturday, Alpha Sleep Tyrant. I like to sleep until at least ten in the morning on Saturdays." I nodded, "That's true." Dylan continued, "I got woken up through a yelling link. Lacy said that there would be no sex if I didn't get you and Emmaline off each other. I ran the whole way over from the pack house."

I smiled, "So, are you ready to pick out your wing in the house then?" Gemma's jaw dropped. Dylan answered, "Yes, I'll talk to Lacy about it this week. I already have an idea. I'm contemplating getting paint swatches. She'll coo and then I won't have to run as far to tear you apart from your fairy." Gemma commented, "Once the move happens, I will prepare both of yours and Lacy's breakfasts over here." Dylan nodded, "You do the lord's work, Gemma. No one will convince me otherwise."

I looked up when Peter and Drake trickled in. Peter said, "Thank you for doing this, Alpha Lucas. Chelsea and Sam are so excited." Drake said, "I'm excited they are in

the girl gang of bad asses. Sam and Chelsea were besides themselves they couldn't find dresses they didn't feel fat in. They aren't fat, they are pregnant, but DEAR GOD don't say that to them. Somehow that made it worse."

Dylan spoke while eating popcorn, "They called Haley, didn't they?" Peter nodded, "She popped in and saved the day. My dad loves her, possibly more than me and my brothers at this point." I laughed, "She's great." Peter nodded, "Is she joining them upstairs? I thought she would, but for some reason Sam and Chelsea didn't think she was." I shook my head, "No just Katie, Emmaline's sister."

Ryan joined our group. Gemma gave him a plateful of food. He kissed her cheek, "You are a keeper, Gemma." She laughed. Dylan said, "Yes, we are keeping her. She's our Gamma's mate, therefore she's ours." I snorted. Gemma winked at him then asked Peter and Drake what they wanted for breakfast.

I asked Ryan, "Where's Dustin?" Ryan snorted, "Some coven came in saying he took their territory and challenged him. He won, of course, and now they are settling things." I frowned, "He talked to the coven in Red Run." Ryan shrugged, "These guys were from Nashville. It feels like a diversion."

Dylan said, "Ohhh, Dylan does not like that at all. Say other words. Diversion for what?" Ryan shrugged again, "I have no clue. I wonder if they wanted to see what Dustin could do." I frowned, "Do I need to contact Nick and have him station warriors around Dustin and Aubree's house?" Ryan laughed, "No, Dustin took them down without showing a fourth of his strength. The other coven will let this go."

I nodded. Dylan linked, "I already told my buddy Beta McAlister. He's alert. Nothing with happen to Dustin or Aubree." I replied, "Thanks, Dylan." Dylan replied, "But of course, I must see you crowned king of the dance." I nearly laughed out loud.

Ryan added, "Dustin's pissed though. He's going to cut them off if they aren't done by this evening. He wants to see Evie in her dress." I nodded, "That's good. She would want him to be here." Ryan smiled, "We know. He wanted to be here all day." I should've invited Aubree for the girl's day. Damn.

I asked Drake and Peter, "So did Haley kick you out from seeing your mate's dresses too?" Drake snorted, "Kick us out? I practically ran from the room. Sam was yelling at me while crying, and nothing I said was right."

I smirked, "I actually know the problem. I just learned that lesson, women don't want you to fix the problem, they just want you to listen to them." Drake stared at me. He

asked, “How the HELL am I supposed to do that? She was upset. I had to try and fix it.”

I shrugged, “It’s just what I learned, and I’m passing it along.” Drake turned to Peter, “Do you hear this shit?” Peter shrugged, “Women. If it keeps the sobbing tear fest that happened last night from happening again, I’ll try it.” Dominic snickered, “Logan materialized.” I replied, “It’s about damn time you started warning me about that.” Dominic just huffed.

I spotted Logan standing in the kitchen. He moved silently sitting beside Dylan, waiting. I smirked. Dylan turned then yelled, “BAH! STOP THAT!” Logan laughed, “I just couldn’t resist.” We spent the day playing video games, eating, and just hanging out. I showed everyone to the rooms where they could shower and change. I walked into my room and saw a tie on my bed. I walked over and picked up the note that was left on top of it.

My Lion,

This matches Emmaline’s dress perfectly. I looked through your ties, and nothing would’ve gone with her dress. You’re welcome that I helped you avoid this epic catastrophe of clashing pinks.

Fairy Godmother to the rescue (again)

I quickly got dressed while chuckling. We all met back up in the living room. I asked the group, “Does anyone know how long it will be before they are ready?” No one had time to answer before we heard a pop. I turned, Ta-Da indeed. Haley was a miracle worker. You couldn’t even tell Chelsea or Sam were pregnant. Valerie looked great, as did my sister. Emmaline was stunning. It was definitely worth being thrown out of my own gym by the wind.

I led Emmaline outside. I was going to text Dustin to meet us at the school when I saw him pull up before I got Emmaline into my car. Everyone waited for us since the other girls didn’t want to go to the dance without each other. It took a little longer with the news Emmaline dropped about Aubree being pregnant.

I went over to congratulate them all when Katie announced she and Logan were having a boy. Dylan linked me, “How did they get Haley in that family? No girls between ALL the brothers so far.” I shrugged, “Now they have Cassie.” Dylan said, “If King Alpha Prick’s DNA messes up how fun our fun sized fairy’s DNA is... I’ll find a way to get him.” I rolled my eyes.

Emmaline was happily chatting on the way to the school. When she asked about Dustin, I gripped the wheel wondering if there was a fight coming for Dustin I needed to prepare for. I wasn't surprised she wanted to do something special for her siblings, and she'd asked me to help her. We could definitely do that.

We pulled into the school parking lot, and I noticed several nervous glances sent towards Dylan and me. I sent out a link as every wolf tensed when Dylan and I walked in. "We aren't here to ruin your fun. Our mates just wanted us to share this with them." Everyone relaxed. A warrior's son even spiked the punch.

Dylan linked me, "Are we going to do something about that?" I said, "Not let our mates drink any." I spoke in a low tone, "Peter, Drake, the punch has been spiked. Stick with water." They both nodded and we all danced. Eventually Emmaline left for the bathroom. I headed over to get us water. The second Emmaline left it all went to hell.

Everyone disappeared except for me, Dylan, Peter, Drake, Sam, Lacy, Chelsea, and Valerie. Valerie screamed, "RYAN! RYAN WHERE ARE YOU?" I heard a strangled voice, "Val, hang on... Illusion." We heard a scream, a man's scream.

Valerie frantically looked around, "RYAN? RYAN, ARE YOU OK?" Sam picked her up, "Feel your mate bond, Val." Valerie stood shakily, "He's... ok." The gym doors opened. We all saw Emmaline start to walk towards me with a terrified look on her face. From nowhere a sword pierced through the front of her chest from behind. She screamed. Dylan, Peter, and Drake held me back as she gurgled and died right there in front of me.

Everything moved into slow motion. I howled. Dominic seemed stunned. I started moving towards her, trying to get to her body as the man behind her laughed at me. Dylan punched me in the face. I growled at him. He demanded, "FOCUS. That's not her. It can't be." I had tears streaming down my face, "OF COURSE IT'S HER!"

The man spoke, "I thought you'd avenge your Luna, not let yourself be held back, Alpha." Dylan got in my face as I broke Drake's hold on me, leaving only Peter holding me back. He yelled, "THINK LUCAS! You'd be on the ground in pain if she died. She's marked and mated to you. It's not her! We need to find the real Emmaline."

Peter grunted, "Feel your bond." I registered that Chelsea, Sam, Lacy, and Valerie were all sobbing. I felt in my chest for Emmaline. I couldn't stop my tears of relief. I straightened, "It's not her." Dylan let out a breath of relief.

Lacy growled, “You will die, warlock!” I turned as what seemed to be half of a large coven entered the room. I quickly stated, “I don’t recognize them. Peter? Drake? Dylan?” Peter said, “They aren’t from around here.” One witch laughed, “We are from Missouri.”

Dylan snorted, “Missouri? What the hell are you doing here? Other than ruining my mate’s dream for her first dance with Moi. That’s gonna bring out serious Dylan. No one likes him. I don’t know why people keep doing this. Lucas was going to be crowned king. I had it all planned. Where’s our Luna?”

The witch smiled, “You just saw her die. Surely, you don’t need to ask.” I growled then linked Dylan, “On my mark we cut through them in teams. Valerie is with Lacy. Chelsea and Sam need to stay behind Peter and Drake.” Dylan nodded and linked Lacy.

The witches made a move towards us. I nodded to Dylan. We split out into our groups. Dylan and I were taking down witches and warlocks faster than anyone else. We knew each other’s moves like the back of our hands, holding them off with next to no effort.

I worried about my pack members that had disappeared from our view in the gym. It clicked, “Son of a bitch!” Dylan punched a witch asking, “What?” I growled, “Ryan told Valerie it was an Illusion. That’s why he’s not here with us. He recognized it and fought it. He was trying to get her to fight it too.” Dylan said, “We aren’t witches, we can’t fight an illusion.”

I shrugged, “He might have thought she could with his mark. Witch’s mates can fight illusions. So can fairies.” Dylan taunted a warlock who came at him, “So who did you sacrifice that looked like my Luna?” The warlock laughed, “Your Luna is dead!”

I growled coming apart at the seams. I ripped through the warlocks and witches. Dylan linked me, “They just keep coming.” A green mist shot through the gym and several pack members growled seeing us fighting, immediately joining our battle.

My blood ran cold when Lacy screamed. Dylan and I both took shots to the face turning to find my sister. I heard Emmaline scream her name and tears pricked my eyes. My baby girl was really ok. Dylan and I took the warlock fighting us down.

My heart stopped when I figured out why Lacy screamed. It was Valerie. Valerie had been stabbed in the heart. Ryan entered the gym seconds behind Emmaline. The shadows killed every witch and warlock remaining except the one under me.

Dylan linked, “He just killed twenty people in two seconds.” I couldn’t reply because I was worried about Valerie. I was also almost knocked over with relief at seeing Emmaline. My heart felt like it was sputtering in my chest.

Emmaline was trying to help Dustin check Valerie. Dylan linked me, “That’s a fatal wound. We need Haley.” I nodded trying to think clearly. Brad ran over, bleeding from a head wound, and secured the warlock I had. He told me, “I’ve got him, Alpha.” I asked, “Are you alright, Brad?” Brad shrugged, “It’s nothing. Valerie and Emmaline need you.”

Emmaline sprinted from the room. I remembered what I needed to do right now. I took out my phone. I’d follow Emmaline after I got Haley here to save Valerie. Logan pointed at his phone, and I realized he was calling Haley too. We both frowned when Haley didn’t answer. Dylan was frantic, “Oh no. Now is not the time to not answer one’s phone. She can’t die. You call King Alpha Prick! I’m going to repeatedly call Beta Caleb.” He ran over to hold Lacy on his phone.

Drake rocked Sam back and forth. She cried, “Why would she do that? I... I could’ve gotten out of the way.” Drake winced, “She’s going to be ok.” I could see on his face he knew that wasn’t true. Peter said nothing while holding Chelsea.

The relief I felt hearing a pop and seeing Haley standing beside Emmaline was immense. I almost fell to the ground in relief. Jackson stormed into the room seconds later taking in the situation. He asked me, “Are you guys alright?” He was on his phone. I couldn’t hear Eric pick up, but I knew that’s who it was.

I answered dryly, “Now that I can see my mate isn’t dead, I’m better.” Jackson stared at me and spoke into his phone, “Eric, we need you here now. Haley might pass out from this healing. I smell silver in the wound. It’s bad.” Eric must have hung up because Jackson put his phone back in his pocket.

He studied me, “Lucas, your heartbeat is irregular. You need to take deep breaths.” Dylan said, “He’s right because of course he is. He annoying. Emmaline’s fine. She’s right here and perfectly fine. See how fine she is in her pretty in pink dress. There’s a breath for Dylan, yes there is.” He patted my face. Dominic seemed to be settling himself too.

I vaguely heard Haley talking about going on a witch killing spree. Dylan snorted, “I’m joining her. Let’s just take out all the Missouri covens. They are jerks. Come on! Who’s with me? Let’s wind up King Alpha Prick to do our murderous bidding. It won’t even be hard. He’s already going to be mad.”

Lacy growled, "I'm so fucking in." Jackson said, "Go to your mate, Lucas. I don't know what happened but go." I looked at him, willing my feet to move, but they wouldn't. Jackson seemed to realize the problem and pushed me forward. That momentum got me over to Emmaline.

I couldn't stop saying she was ok and taking in her scent. My heart couldn't process that she'd seen me kissing someone else. I just needed to focus on her being alive. She could be mad about a fake me kissing someone else all she wanted. She could kick my ass later for helping Alpha Chase. None of it mattered as long as she was alive.

Haley had started healing Valerie as Bexley popped in with Eric. Eric linked me as Bexley was talking. "Lucas, Jackson said your heart rate wasn't good. You are pale. Did you get hurt?" I shook my head, "They... it was an illusion. I saw Emmaline die, Eric. Dylan, Drake, and Peter had to hold me back to realize I'd felt no pain in our bond. I... I saw her die. A sword pierced from her back through her front. I..."

Emmaline left my arms to go to her brother. Lacy came up and held onto me. She whispered, "She's ok." I felt a hand on my back that I knew was Eric's. Peter and Drake had gotten Sam and Chelsea chairs to sit by Valerie. Sam was crying saying this was all her fault.

Peter and Drake walked over to us. I asked, "How did it happen?" Drake said, "Sam and Chelsea wouldn't stay behind us. A witch was coming up on my back. Sam got in the way fighting her. She didn't see two other witches coming. Chelsea yelled at her, but she couldn't get there in time. Valerie dove as the knife was coming for..." His voice broke.

Peter put a hand on Drake's back and continued, "Sam's stomach. It would've killed their pup." Drake wiped his eyes, "A boy. It's a boy." I put a hand on his shoulder, "I know how you feel, but Sam's ok and so is your son. Congratulations, Drake."

Jackson asked, "And you Peter? What are you guys having?" Peter smiled, "Our little one is being shy. We can never get a good shot of the goods." I smiled. Eric joined, "Congratulations to you both. What the hell was this?" I shrugged, "Some coven from Missouri."

Dustin came over and explained the story from Emmaline's side. He said, "She came to me. She recognized the signs of the illusion from a flicker of your hand. She thought really quickly. I'm proud of her."

I growled, "A flicker? What the FUCK is a flicker?" Dylan shrugged. Eric replied, "Some witch shit." I said, "We have a warlock left that Ryan didn't kill with the

shadows.” Dustin snorted, “Then you are lucky, and Lucas must have been in the way. Ryan wouldn’t have wanted the shadows to kill anyone on our side.”

I nodded, “I probably was.” Brad came up, “The humans were compelled to leave by the illusion. None of them saw anything. Pack members were confused, they didn’t remember any of you were here.” I asked, “What happened to you?” Brad said, “I heard Ryan yell, and came running inside from the back. I couldn’t find Emmaline, but I ran into a witch. She held me up for a while.” I nodded.

Eric ran to Haley as she passed out cold. It took Valerie a few moments, but everyone breathed a sigh of relief when she opened her eyes. Ryan was holding her sobbing. He told her, “Don’t you ever do that to me again.”

Valerie took a full breath and then saw Haley in Eric’s arms. She asked in an astonished tone, “Haley came to save me?” Eric nodded. He looked angry. I gently commanded, “Emmaline, pop us back home. We have several pack members in need of medical attention. We need Sam and Chelsea checked up on, as well as the pups.” Emmaline had everyone grab hands.

I linked her feeling her nerves in my chest, “You can do this.” She replied, “This is a big group.” A warrior said, “Let us collect keys, Alpha. Most of us came together. We can get all the cars back home.” I cringed because Brad needed to come with us to get checked out. I did not want these kids driving my Aston. I looked around the room.

My eyes narrowed when I saw Tessa and her mate from Eric’s pack. I linked, “Eric, Tessa’s mate...” Eric answered, “He’s twenty. He can drive your car. He’s actually a bit of a car enthusiast. He’ll treat it with care.” I grimaced but motioned Tessa forward.

She walked over holding his hand. I told them, “You two take my car back please. I don’t want to see a single scratch on it.” Tessa’s eyes widened as her mate reached for my keys. He assured me, “I will return your car without a scratch, Alpha Lucas.” I nodded.

I linked Eric, “Have they decided which pack they are going to live in?” Eric replied, “Yes, Tessa wants to come to our pack with a clean slate after the whole Lacy/Emmaline school confrontation thing.” I asked, “Did Haley agree?” Eric nodded, “She did her truth seeking thing, and admitted clean slates are nice. She’s helping Tessa get the transfer paperwork together so she can come to the school in our district after the holidays. She actually likes her. They’ve become friends.”

Emmaline popped and jumped in excited that she'd managed to get our whole group to the hospital. I grabbed Heather, "Check out Sam and Chelsea as your priority." I linked her, "Sam was hysterical because Valerie would've died without Princess Luna Conners." Heather nodded.

Sharon popped in with Garrett, Beta McAlister, and Nick. Both men grabbed their sons in for a hug. Sharon checked on Chelsea and Sam. Eric linked me, "Haley linked me before she started healing Valerie. Sam wasn't in danger, but her blood pressure was high. Chelsea was fine."

I nodded, relaying the message to Heather. Heather had wheelchairs brought in for them both. Suddenly, we had worried parents storming the hospital, all asking questions and talking loudly over one another.

Emmaline cleared her throat, "Everyone please settle down. We have some injuries, but thanks to our allies from Black Mountain, no casualties. We all need to thank our Alpha who had us all training more frequently to be prepared for such situations. We fought back and we won. Anyone who is not here is uninjured. They are driving the cars back from the dance. They should be arriving in a few moments and you can meet them at the pack house. You can link who you are looking for, but I wanted to ensure you to know that everyone is ok. The casualties were on side of the witches and warlocks only."

She took her brother's hand, "My brothers, Ryan, and Dustin, along with Dustin's his wife Aubree brought the illusion down. Once it was down our pack fought together, and we contained the threat."

I linked Dylan, "I've never heard her call them Dustin or Ryan." Dylan replied, "At least Dustin doesn't seem like he's going to cry this time. No more crying people. I might decree it. Dylan likes laughter not tears."

I pointed out, "This time was for the pack's benefit out of respect for him. I don't think he'd like it if anyone but Emmaline called him Dusty." I pulled Emmaline to me, "That was very good. The Luna helps keep everyone calm. The mother of the pack if you will." I had our group examined by Hector. He had Eric lay Haley down which he did begrudgingly, only relenting after our entire group had been checked.

Nick slipped into our room with Beta McAlister. Beta McAlister spoke to me, "Thank you. Sam is on bedrest for a few days. Hopefully, once she calms down everything will be ok, or it will be a bedrest pregnancy for her. Some female mumbo jumbo, but our pack doctor hadn't caught it. Heather said without the Princesses observation she wouldn't have either." I nodded, unsurprised.

It was confirmed Valerie was one hundred percent healed. Ryan's tears hadn't stopped. Valerie tried to comfort him, but he just held her tightly to him. I understood how Ryan felt. I'd talk to him later.

Emmaline didn't take a single hit which I shot a grateful look at Dustin for. He'd come to save her, and all of us. Lacy got hit with a spell but was fine. Hector gave her a sedative so she wouldn't feel like her skin was crawling.

Hector turned to Haley, examining her. He frowned asking Eric, "Did she hit her head?" Eric answered, "No, I caught her." Hector's frown deepened. Eric growled, "What?" Hector looked at me and I said, "Just tell him."

Hector sighed, "She's got a bump on her head. I'm going to examine it." He did. After a few tense moments he said, "She had to have taken a hit to her head." Eric frowned, "She didn't." Jackson said, "She popped into the kitchen. I thought she came from your room."

Eric shook his head, "No, she couldn't have. I was with Darrin in our room. I thought she was in the triplet's nursery." Hector sighed, "Let me examine the rest of her then." When he lifted her shirt Logan and Eric growled. Emmaline gasped in shock. Haley had purple and black bruises on her side.

Hector linked me, "She has four broken ribs on this side." I replied, "You might as well tell them before they ask." Logan was on his phone asking someone, "Did Haley have a mission I didn't know about? Because she's got fucking black and purple bruises on her side. There's no way her ribs aren't broken." Logan's eyes glowed gold. Hector stammered, "Four... four on this side." I linked him, "He's not upset with you, Hector." Hector nodded.

Emmaline asked, "How could anyone do this to her? She had her fairy powers, and she's like impossible to hit." Logan responded, "No one is impossible to hit, and we let ourselves take shots on occasion."

A portal opened and Marcus and Bjourn came through it. Bjourn said, "She didn't have a mission, brother. You would've known. I have Gunner pinging her location this evening after the triplets went down."

Nick linked me, "Is this our life now? Portals just opening all over the place. Witches from a different state attack a high school dance." I sighed, "Evidently." Nick said, "I'm damn glad you and Dylan went." I sighed, "It was probably because we were there." Nick disagreed, "Sam told us Lacy was coming with or without Dylan. She would've got Emmaline to go too. This was about them, and you know it."

He paused, "It was about Chelsea too, she knows that. She said none of them tried to hurt her. It's the bounty on them." I winced, "We have a prisoner." Nick nodded, "So Peter said. He also mentioned you have an in law who can control the shadows? You make me glad we are allies regularly." I smirked, "In laws. All three of them can control the shadows." Nick's jaw dropped.

Hector stood back wincing, "She has two broken ribs on her other side. She took one hell of a beating. If I had to guess, I'd say she shielded someone." Eric growled, "Of fucking course she did. I can damn well tell you where she wasn't. My fucking territory. NO ONE would do this in my territory, and if they did; they do not comprehend what's coming for them. Jackson, have I not made it clear she takes us when she goes places?"

Jackson said, "That's what doesn't make sense. She brought me here with her." Eric growled, "Marcious said if she got hurt in the Ribbon it would pull her out." Bjourn looked at his phone. He yelled, "MOTHERFUCKER! I am going to KILL The Hood himself." Eric asked, "Why do I get the feeling I'm going to want to kill him too?"

Bjourn explained, "BA was on a mission. Something happened and she sent out an SOS alert out. The Hood did... fuck he did what I would do. He sent the person that could get to BA the fastest."

Eric growled, "I'm going to kill him." Bjourn said, "You'd have to find him. I can kill him though. I know where he is." Eric argued, "Then you can take me with you. Because I know he's in the damn shroud. You know where that is and can get in. So, take me. What the hell happened?"

Bjourn said, "BA got hit with a paralytic somehow. She could see everything but couldn't move. Several demons beat Haley before they stepped back. She unleashed and I quote 'hell on them.' I'm going need a better definition of hell."

Eric growled, "Why didn't she unleash hell first?" Bjourn said, "She probably panicked at seeing BA immobile. She would've wanted to assess what was wrong with her." Eric's chest rumbled. Beta McAlister concluded, "That's why she popped to the kitchen. She was going to eat and heal herself." Eric was not happy, that much was clear.

Dylan linked me, "Maybe we just set King Alpha Prick loose in Red Run to see if a rogue pops up for him to kill." I rolled my eyes, then realized Emmaline was texting someone. I raised an eyebrow, "Do you have the Black Arrow's phone number, baby girl?" She answered, "Yes. I'm making sure she's ok. She said she's fine, and she

feels bad about Haley. I explained what happened. She baked Haley some kind of special cake with their special alcohol.”

I linked, “How many demons did Haley take on?” Emmaline typed and then answered, “Twenty. Something blew BA’s cover; the demons spiked her drink. She recognized it and sent the alert to her brother... You know before she was unable to move.” I nodded. I didn’t know the Black Arrow had a brother. There was usually one moniker per family, so her brother probably didn’t have one.

My dad came running in and he pulled me, Emmaline, Lacy, and Dylan into a hug. He muttered, “Thank GOD you guys are alright. I took your mom out for dinner and a movie. We came back to this mad house. That woman, I swear. She’s pregnant and trying to run all over damn place.” I laughed, “Where is she?” My dad smiled, “I got Heather to watch her. We found out we are having a little boy.” I congratulated him, “That’s great dad.” We went to my mom to show her we were ok, then we all went to bed.

Emmaline wanted to spend the following day in Red Run with Sam, which Lacy agreed to. I couldn’t let Emmaline out of my sight, so I went with her. Dylan grumbled but came with us. We got some work done and Emmaline popped us back for dinner at our home. Lacy was all excited about moving in, she already had a wing in mind.

My mother was ecstatic about my idea. My dad linked me, “I knew I loved you for a reason.” I rolled my eyes. We held off on interrogating the warlock. I wanted him to wonder when we were coming.

On Wednesday I told Dylan, “Let’s go pay our warlock a visit.” Dylan smiled, “With pleasure.” It was highly disappointing. The warlock started talking the second we entered the room, “Look man, it was my coven leader’s idea. He owed this guy a favor, and..” I cut him off, “What guy?” The warlock shrugged, “I don’t fucking know! Some other warlocks who are working with this messed up wolf.”

I sighed, “Alpha Hammond?” The guy said, “Sure. He wants the fairy chick, Emmaline. He said we could have the bounty on her and collect the other bounty on the pregnant werebitch. You were supposed to go crazy thinking your mate was dead. Your stupid Beta reminded you that it couldn’t have been her. It was fucked from the first moment we began the illusion.”

Dylan said, “Excuse you. I am not stupid; I am a comedic genius. Who has been forced to be so very serious lately.” I complained, “I am deeply upset this went so

quickly. I didn't even invite Haley this time." The warlock sighed, "I already know I'm dead. Can I at least have a quick death?" I laughed, "That's not up to me."

The warlock and Dylan glanced at me sharply. The warlock was apprehensive as he said, "You're the Alpha, who else would it be up to?" I said, "If you were the one who had killed the girl you made me think was my mate, I would kill you. I already killed him though. Who was the girl?"

The warlock sighed, "Some orphan from Saint Louis, I didn't get to know her." I growled at him. He asked, "Who decides my fate if it's not you?" The door opened and I nodded to Ryan. I told him, "He's all yours."

Ryan stepped forward with murder in his eyes as we stepped out. Dylan sighed, "Why did we give this to Ryan?" I said, "He needs it. I thought I saw Emmaline die, but he actually saw Valerie almost die. He needs this, and he will be my brother in law soon. I know how he feels except when the illusion ended it was his reality. If not for Haley, Valerie would be dead."

Dylan winced, "Has King Alpha Prick lightened up yet?" I shrugged, "I'm sure he was fine when she woke up." Dylan said, "It's like you never met the man. I asked and knew the answer was no. He's still crazy over our fun sized ninja fairy leaving his sight. I just bet Luna disputes are being held with his or he has a camera and warriors on her. I, myself, am excited for the train wreck that will be fairy lessons. Lacy can't wait to watch."

I stopped, "You told Lacy?" Dylan said, "Not why we are going with you, just that we were in fact coming with you. A heads up isn't going to fix this since you didn't tell Emmaline." I nodded and texted Dustin before we left for fairy lessons.

Me: You should check on Ryan. My warriors say he's still in the dungeons dealing with that warlock.

Dustin: Thanks for the heads up. I'm on the way over. I'll help him.

Emmaline came into my office and grabbed my hands. She happily squealed, "Lacy said she and Dylan are coming today." I nodded. She laughed, "Nothing is going to happen at fairy lessons, but she's excited." Dylan linked me, "Little does she know how very wrong she is."

Emmaline popped us and grabbed Lacy running over so she could meet everyone. I winced, "She thinks it's for her safety." Dylan nudged me, "I bought you a doghouse, don't you worry." He shoved a handful of popcorn in his mouth. Eric snorted.

Dylan added, "Yours will be arriving any moment King Alpha Prick. I got it made special. It was expensive but worth EVERY penny." Eric rolled his eyes. Alpha Chase was standing behind Darrin and Jackson. I linked Dylan, "You put your popcorn in a giant tin?" Dylan replied, "My popcorn rations are proportionate to the situation."

I asked Eric, "So how's everything with Haley?" Eric said, "Fine. I reiterated that she had to pop with help. She agreed and admitted she panicked because they didn't have full details, she only knew that BA was down. She was going to tell me what happened when Emmaline called, so at least she'd planned on communicating with me."

Jackson added, "And she took me with her to you." Dylan said, "I've noticed my good buddy Jackson keeps pointing that out so that King Alpha Prick's doesn't explode. Moving on from that gem, has our fun sized fairy noticed Alpha Chase hiding back there like the big strong Alpha he is."

Alpha Chase growled, "I am not hiding." Dylan smiled at him. Eric said, "She hasn't, but she is focused. Anything, Alpha Chase?" Chase scented the air, "Nothing so far." Eric sighed, "Hexxi is here today and not Idel."

I saw Haley's eyes flicker to Eric, then her gaze zeroed in on Alpha Chase. I warned, "Eric." He sighed, "I know." Emmaline turned and gasped. Haley grabbed her, talking rapidly. Katie flicked a worried but angry glance in our direction.

Logan said, "Great... just great." Dylan sighed, "Alas, I did not get you a doghouse, creepy sneaky ninja prince assassin." Logan rolled his eyes. Haley and Emmaline were talking back and forth and clearly decided something. Haley grabbed both Emmaline's hands, and a glow passed between them.

Dylan smirked, "Methinks the princess found a way around Emmaline telling Alpha Chase who his mate is. I should've bet on that." Alpha Chase growled. Haley stalked towards our group with Emmaline, Hexxi, Lacy, and Katie on her heels.

She asked casually, "Eric, why is Alpha Chase here?" Eric sighed. Alpha Chase said, "Please don't blame him, Princess Luna Connors. When you had your fairy event my wolf told me my mate was near." Emmaline gasped and covered her mouth. Haley spoke in fealish and Emmaline calmed down.

Alpha Chase pleaded with Emmaline "You know? Please, who is she? I just want to make sure she's safe." Emmaline opened her mouth, but nothing came out. Haley stepped up eyes blazing, "You DARE try to get my cousin to tell you that information? You would put her through that kind of pain?"

I asked, "Pain?" I glanced at Emmaline who looked back at me with anger. Haley didn't stop glaring at Alpha Chase, "Yes, Alpha Lucas. Pain." I winced then linked Eric, "She called me Alpha Lucas." Eric was astonished. Dylan shoveled more popcorn in his mouth.

Haley continued, "As the Soul Searcher Emmaline's happiness in uniting couples is at the core of her very soul. If, for example, some guy who is let's say married to someone who isn't his mate because said mate couldn't put on HER BIG GIRL PANTIES ON and handle her shit... was told who his mate was, and said mate was... unhappy their mate is a married man..."

She sarcastically spat out, "Because you know that's every little girl's dream... having a soul mate that's married to someone else; THAT would hurt Emmaline's soul. She would be in turmoil until said Alpha took his dick out of his hands and figured his shit out. You want to know who your mate is Alpha Chase? Then fix your damn personal life! Don't you EVER try to approach any partial fairy with your life as it is. It's insulting, even to fairies."

Hexxi snorted, "It's insulting no matter who you are." Alpha Chase growled, "Really? A full blooded fairy is insulted? You all have sex with people who aren't your mates when you know who your damn mate is." He had an excellent point.

Hexxi smirked, "But we don't marry them. Sure, we have lovers but the only person we marry is our mate." Alpha Chase frowned, "No one knew it would hurt Luna Emmaline. I don't want that at all. I just want to meet my mate; my wolf is losing his mind. He's so upset."

Haley disagreed, "I knew it would hurt her. Someone could've mentioned this situation to me. Instead, I had to explain it to my cousin, and she had to decide in the moment. Had we had time to prepare we had other options, but noooo mansplaining happened." Emmaline laughed, "This isn't mansplaining."

Haley hissed, "Whatever. Manasserie then. Get your shit together, Alpha Chase." Alpha Chase sighed, "What do I do?" Haley asked, "Seriously? Did you just ask that? Get a divorce before your wife meets her mate, and he tries to kill you. Because that's what all you Alpha males would do if your mates were married to someone who isn't you. You and Alpha Sophia didn't think this through. She needs to tell her pack to shove their opinions UP THIER ASS, because the way I hear it you went to Europe for two years for some special Alpha shit, and was Alpha Sophia sitting on her hands that whole damn time? No, she was running her pack. Defending it from threats LIKE A FUCKING BOSS. She doesn't need you, and I'll personally fight anyone who says

that she does. She's a bad ass and she needs to fucking own it. Now, if you will excuse me, I have lessons to get to."

Alpha Chase quickly asked, "What if it's one of the workers from your event that were human?" Dylan whispered, "You should've quit while you were behind." After freezing for a moment Haley spun around, "They deserve better than a married man too. Do you love your wife in the romantic sense?" Alpha Chase answered, "NO! She's like my sister. I just wanted to help her."

Haley encouraged, "Then by all means, help her. Make her realize she's a bad ass, and she doesn't need a husband to rule her pack. The negative Noah's can chill, become rogues, or join a different fucking pack. Who needs male chauvinist in their pack anydamnway?" No one bothered to correct her on the negative Noah saying as she stalked off.

A doghouse arrived with a name plate that said King Alpha Prick's House. Eric growled at Dylan. Emmaline said, "You knew." I hadn't realized she hadn't gone back over with Haley. I told her "He's our ally. I never would've even let him attempt to ask you if I knew it would hurt you."

Emmaline had tears in her eyes. She wiped at one that fell, "But you didn't even ask. You knew that it hurts me to see him with Alpha Sophia. You wanted me to subject another woman to his situation. You didn't even talk to me. We are supposed to be partners and you keep shutting me out! I would've understood why you had to help him. Just as you understand why I can't help. We don't even know exactly how they work! Do My fairy powers are NOT a party trick, available at a whim to give answers to people I don't even know have asked a question. They're certainly not something anyone has a right to offer up besides me. Do people just EXPECT that Haley will heal them? That they can call Eric and tell him they'll be bringing someone in to be healed because his Luna can do that? No, they don't and he would NEVER allow her to be used or her powers to be given freely without discussing it with her first. I'm not a child. I'm your Luna, mate, and partner, so when are you going to treat me as such?"

I looked around as the other Alpha's pretended not to have a front row seat to this conversation. Haley popped back and grabbed Emmaline stating, "I need my student." then popped away with her. Dylan linked me, "At least everyone here is an ally." I nodded.

Alpha Chase said, "This was a terrible idea. I upset your mates, and my mate's not even here." Marcus and Logan said nothing. Jackson consoled him, "Let's go get your some of Mrs. Blanches food, Alpha Chase." We all felt the cloud of darkness appear over our heads.