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Finding Her True Alpha Chapter 141-Ashlyn

I had to leave the kitchen, or I was going to say something I would later regret. Mason was getting on my last nerve and I was about to shout out every past mistake he ever made, his fault or not. I took James and left to find the library. I needed to focus my mind on something else, or I was going to explode. After finding the library, which was the same library as before, I went back to our room to get a few things for James.

When James was changed, I made a bottle and then grabbed a floor mat so he could have some tummy time.

I also grabbed him a couple of chewy toys. Poor guy seemed to enter his teething stage. Carrying everything, including James, I made my way back to the library. I wasn't even finished laying out the mat when Gabby came running in. Looking up, she looked like she was "Gabby, sweetie, what's wrong?" I asked her.

"Are you going to reject Mason?" She whispered. I immediately stopped what I was doing and walked over to her, with James on my hip.

"Why would you ask that?" I asked her and she shrugged. Taking her hand, I led her over to the couch so we could sit.

"Gabby, what's wrong?" I asked her.

"You were fighting with Mason." She sniffled.

"I'm sorry, sweetie. We shouldn't have done that in front of you. And no, I will not reject Mason. I love him very much." I told her and she looked up at me.

"Then why were you fighting?" She asked me, confused.

"Mates have disagreements. But that doesn't mean I don't love him. We had a scare yesterday, and it was hard for me to turn off my momma wolf dragon. We are trying to work through it the best we can." I told her.

"So you aren't leaving him for that other guy?" She asked me, while playing with James' hands. Sighing. I forget kids are little sponges that absorb everything.

“Gabby, there is no other guy. It’s just Mason and Derek. And I love them both and I’m not rejecting either of them. We will sometimes have disagreements, but we love each other. And you, and James.” I said, and she wrapped her arms around my waist.

“I don’t want to leave.” She told me, snuggled into my side.

“And you will never have to. All of you can stay, even when they find their mates. And you are a part of our family. We will have to move your bedroom to our wing.” I said, and she looked up at me.

“You mean that?” she asked with tears in her eyes.

“It’s your choice, Gabby. But I would love for you to be a part of our family.” I told her, kissing her head.

“Can I call you mom?” She asked, and my heart swelled with so many emotions. Tears prickled my eyes as I tried not to breakdown.

“You can call me whatever you feel comfortable with, but I would be honored if you called me mom.” I told her, squeezing her tight.

“I love you, mom.” She whispered.

“I love you, Gabby bear.” I mumbled into her hair, kissing her head. All my previous anger was now forgotten as I held both of my babies. I never expected at 18 that I would have two kids, but the thought of not having either of them twisted my heart painfully.

“Gabby, do you want to play with James?” I asked her after I calmed down my emotions. She nodded, and we both stood up from the couch. Gabby helped me lay down the mat for him and then they both laid on the mat together. I watched them until Mason was in my head.

“Can you meet me in the hallway?”

“Gabby, I’m just going to be in the hallway for a minute,” I told her before I stepped out of the library.

Mason was waiting in the hallway, and I didn’t notice that Gabby had left the door open.

Before I could even get a word in, Mason wrapped one of his arms around my waist, pushing me up against the wall. He crushed his lips to mine, reminding me of our first kiss. Wrapping my arms around his neck, I pulled him closer to me. He ran his tongue along my bottom lip, asking for entrance, which I granted. My body was on fire as our tongues fought against each other.

Pulling a part only when our lungs were screaming for more air. He rested his forehead against mine as we both tried to catch our breath.

"I'm sorry, Baby." He breathed out.

"I'm sorry, Mason." I apologized, looking into his gold eyes.

"Have you told Derek?" He asked me.

"Told Derek what?" Derek said, standing behind Mason. He moved beside me, leaning against the wall.

"We have a daughter," Mason said with a smile.

Derek looked at Mason and then at me.

"Gabby" I told him, and his face lit up. Just then, Gabby called out from inside the library.

"Mom, I think James is hungry."

"I'll be right there, Gabby bear." I called back to her.

"She calls you mom?" Derek asked, and I nodded.

"She asked me if she could. I know she isn't blood, but she's mine." I told him.

"Then she's ours." He said, pecking my lips. Both of them accepting her made me want to cry. It's nearly impossible for an alpha to accept a child that isn't his.

"Let's go get our babies settled. I'm expecting King Jordan's call." Derek said, and Mason led the way into the library. Gabby had picked James up and was walking with him. He was trying to eat her shoulder.

"Help." She pleaded, and I couldn't help but laugh.

Mason quickly walked over to her and took James. I passed him the bottle I had made for him earlier.

“Gabby, sweetie, find a book and I’ll read to you while I feed James,” Mason told her and her face lit up. She nodded and ran over to the shelves to find a book.

“Thank you,” I told him, kissing his cheek.

“It’s my pleasure, baby.” He said, pecking my lips before he sat down on the couch with James. Gabby quickly ran back with a book in her hand. I watched the three of them while Derek wrapped his arms around my waist from behind.

“You and Mason?” He mumbled into my neck.

“We are good, Derek,” I told him.

“So, why are you in the library?” He asked me.

“I wanted to do some research on the vampire royal family tree. Something isn’t adding up. And I also needed to see who would be next to inherit the throne. It would save me from going around the entire kingdom, asking everyone to show me their blood.” I told him.

“Blood?” He asked him and I nodded.

“Being of royal blood, we can identify royal vampires. They have different colored blood.” I told him.

“Wait, is that why Mason asked me what color Theo’s blood was?” He asked me.

“That’s why.” Mason called out before returning to the book.

“Theo’s blood was red,” Derek said.

“And I may not remember much from that day, but I’m pretty sure I would have noticed if his blood was a different colour.” I told him.

“So, what are you thinking?” He asked me and I shrugged.

“I don’t know. When I find it, I guess I will know.” I told him.

Walking around the library, I pulled out every book I found about the vampire kingdom. Finally, I couldn't carry anymore, so I sat at the desk and started to read through them. Looking over, I found Mason, Gabby and a sleeping James, still snuggled on the couch. Gabby had pulled out a story about a princess and a dragon. I've only heard bits and pieces, but they both looked so happy.

Before I could open a book, one hybrid walked into the library, taking a seat across from me. I'm pretty sure his name was Wyatt, and he was a vampire wolf. I was curious about meeting his wolf. It was definitely an interesting combo.

"My queen, I think I can help you with information about the vampires," he said.

"Please, Wyatt, call me Ashlyn. And what do you know about the vampire royal family tree?" I asked him.

"Obviously, I don't know the past 300 years, but I know that family name of the King before we were locked away. It was King Tobias Kuran. My father, whose family were vampires, spoke of him, telling me the stories. He was a prominent leader, and my father said that he never had a problem with hybrids." Wyatt said Derek had come over and was leaning on the desk beside me.

"Kuran was Theo's last name," Derek told us.

"But that makes little sense. If their family has been inheriting the throne for centuries, then why was Theos blood red?" I said, trying to put the pieces together.

"Wait, has a daughter ever taken over the throne?" I asked Derek, and he shook his head.

"The only daughter that I've known of to take over a throne is you. If a son isn't born to the current king, the title is given to the next in line," Derek explained.

"So, if Kurans have been ruling the vampire kingdom for centuries, then that means that Theo wasn't a Kuran. That explains why his blood was red and not a different color" I said.

“You know about the blood of the royals?” Wyatt asked me, and I nodded.

“Then that has to be the answer. The king was not this Theos’ father,” Wyatt said.

“Now we just have to find someone who is a Kuran.” Derek said, and I agree.

“Now can I call King Draco?” I asked him.

“Maybe I should call him. He may not know that Theo wasn’t his blood son.” Derek said, and I nodded.

“Wyatt, being a vampire hybrid, how is the blood lust?” I asked him, turning my attention back to him.

“I don’t have it. I can drink blood and it strengthens me, but it’s not a need,” he explained.

“Thank you, Wyatt. I really appreciate your help.” I told him.

“It’s my pleasure, Ashlyn. Whatever you need.” He said, standing from his chair.

“Have you started training? And is there anything that you’d like to do?” I asked him.

“Liam and Brandon have started training us. And I would like to explore the world after this,” he answered.

“I can make that happen.” I told him. He thanked me before he left the library.

“Help.” Mason whispered, pulling my attention away from my thoughts. James and now Gabby were asleep on him. He looked so adorable holding our babies. I went over to him and picked up Gabby, laying her down on the couch. While Mason stood up with James.

“You two go put our babies to bed and I’ll go find Sage. I want to have Gabby’s room moved to our wing.” I told them. Derek scooped Gabby up off the couch.

“I’ll just lay her on the couch in James’ room until we have her room set up,” Derek said, kissing me.

“Thank you,” I breathed out.

“Mason, you should probably bring the book with you. Gabby will probably want you to finish it.” I told him, picking the book from the side table where he had left it.

“Good idea,” he said, taking the book and kissing me before they both left the library, with our kids. Leaving the library myself, I went to go find Sage. With a now clear head, I understand why Mason was so upset. I needed to be here not just for James, but for Gabby. She needed me more than anyone, and I couldn’t leave her. She has lost too much in her short life and I would not cause any more of her pain. I really needed this all to be over so we could all move on with our lives.

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Finally, I found Sage. I need to remember to have my phone with me, or we need an intercom. She was in the kitchen with some of the hybrids, teaching them how to use the stove and other kitchen gadgets.

“Sage, where is Gabby’s room?” I asked her, taking a seat at the kitchen island.

“I put her with the others that came with her. Why?” She asked me.

“I need it moved to our wing.” I told her and she raised an eyebrow at me.

“Why?” She asked again.

“I’m adopting her.” I told her, and a few of the others gasped.

“Really?” Charlotte, Liam’s mate, exclaimed.

“Yes, I love her and I know you were all taking care of her, but she has asked to stay with me.” I told them.

“And your mates?” Hazel, Matt’s mate, asked.

“Happy.” I told them.

“Ashlyn, are you sure about this?” Sage asked me, concerned.

“Yes.” I told her.

“So you’re not planning on running into the vampire kingdom?” She asked me and I sighed.

“I wasn’t planning on going there to start a war. I needed information. And I still need that information, but Derek said that he would call him.” I told her.

“What information?” She asked me.

“Theo’s blood was red.” I told her. She looked at me, confused, until the light bulb went on.

“He’s not king Draco’s son.” She exclaimed, and I nodded.

“Well, fvck!” She cursed.

“Yeah, and right now Derek is waiting for a call from Jordan,” I told her.

“And now you say that you are adopting an eight-year-old girl?” She asked me, and I nodded.

“It’s never a dull moment with you, sister.” She sighed, and I giggled.

“I’m younger. That’s why I can get away with this shit.” I told her and she threw a spoon at me, which I dodged, laughing.

“You’re a pain in my a*ss. That’s what you are.” She huffed, and I just grinned at her.

“But you love me.” I sang out.

“Yeah, yeah. Let’s go find a room for your new daughter.” She said, coming around the counter. As we made it to the hybrid wing, Sage wouldn’t stop asking me questions.

“Are you sure Mason and Derek are okay with this?”

“Yes, they are okay with adopting Gabby.” I told her.

“Are you and Mason even talking after this morning?”

“Yes, we made up.” I told her.

“fvck, you are hot and cold.” She huffed.

“I’m trying.” I told her.

“I know. And I know this is all new to you. You didn’t grow up in this environment, but you have to be patient.” She told me.

“But Derek and Mason don’t?” I asked her and she sighed.

“I know what you are fighting. I’ve been fighting it my entire life. Nathan could get away with murder, but I couldn’t wear a skirt that went above my knees. But getting yourself killed will not help, now will it?” She said, and I shook my head.

“I get it and I’ll try to be more responsible. I have James and Gabby to think about,” I told her.

“Good, now let’s go get your girl’s room set up.” She said as we entered Gabby’s room. It was simple and there wasn’t much. I’m going online tonight with her and ordering everything she can want for her new room.

Packing everything up, Sage and I could carry everything to her new room. We made it back to our wing, and I found it was closer than I expected. I’m still trying to learn the layout of the castle, but it seems all the rooms or wings are on either side and all the living space is in between the rooms.

We decided that the room across the hallway from ours would be best. Opening the door, it was beautiful with bookshelves and a window seat. It had an ensuite and an enormous closet. And there was a bigger bed in the middle of the room.

“Where did all the furniture come from?” I asked Sage, walking into the closet to put away her clothes.

“Most of it came with the castle.” She said, and I stopped what I was doing and looked out the door at her.

“Really?” I asked her, confused.

“Your magic is confusing.” She said, and I nodded.

“Very.” I said, going back to hanging what clothes she had. After I was done, I walked back to the room to find Sage making her bed.

“Sage, do you think they would let me take Gabby shopping?” I asked her and she sighed.

“Probably not now. We should probably stick to online shopping or I can go. But I think you need to stay put until we figure out this new threat,” She answered, and I sighed.

“I figured, but I thought I would see what you had to say about it. We’ll just go online tonight with her and order her some stuff for her room and some more clothes.” I told her, helping her with the sheets.

“That’s a great idea. Also, get some books and a few more tablets. I noticed they were struggling with reading and writing.” Sage said, and I nodded.

“I’ll get everything ordered tonight.” I told her. We were all done and just about to leave her room.

“Sage, thank you for all your help. I love you and I’m sorry I’m such a pain in your a*ss.” I told her, giving her a side hug.

“You know I love you and I will stand with you. I’m so happy that you found them when you did. Yes, you’re a lot of work, but I wouldn’t have it any other way.” She said, hugging me back.

Walking out of Gabby’s new room, we found her walking out of James’ room. She looked confused, as if she had just woken up.

“Mom, what are you doing?” She asked me.

“Auntie Sage and I were just making up your new room” I told her.

“Really?” She said, instantly awake. I motioned her to come over and into her new room. She entered and gasped.

“We will go shopping after I talk with King Jordan.” I told her as she looked around the room.

“Thank you, mom. I love it.” She rushed over to me, hugging her arms around my waist.

“I’m so glad you like it, and we are just across the hall from you. So if you need us, we are right there.” I told her and she nodded against my stomach.

“Come on, Gabby. Let’s go find the others while your mom gets some work done.” Sage told her, taking Gabby’s hand.

“Okay.” She said.

“I’ll come find you when I’m done. Maybe Auntie Sage can start showing you things for your room.” I said, stepping out of Gabby’s room behind them.

Gabby was asking Sage a million questions as I stepped into our bedroom. Not finding my mates, I walked into James’ room to find Mason with James.

“Did he just get up?” I asked him, and he nodded.

“Gabby was up as well, but I’ll think she went to find you,” Mason said.

“Yeah, I found her. She is now with Sage. Gabby’s new room is across the hall from ours.” I told him and he nodded.

“We have an online date planned for this evening.” I told him, sitting down on a couch. He was changing James.

“A what?” He asked me.

“I figured you and Derek wouldn’t like me taking her shopping at a mall, so we are doing some online shopping. I’m going to get her some clothes and things for her room. Also, Sage asked me to get a few tablets to help the others with their education.” I told him.

“You’re right about the mall. Just for right now. And thank you for not pushing it.” He said, bringing James over to me.

“I’m sorry, Mason. I’m just not used to not being able to do what I want. But I’ll try harder for James and Gabby.” I told him. Mason sat down beside me while I had James on my lap. He was blowing bubbles and playing with his toes.

“I know, baby. And I’m not trying to control you. I just want to keep you safe.” He said, wrapping an arm around my shoulders and kissing my temple. I love you, Mason.” I told him, resting my head on his shoulder.

“I love you, baby.”

“Where did Derek go?” I asked him, missing my other mate.

“He went to go call King Draco. Jordan texted him saying he would call a little later, something came up.” Mason said, and I nodded.

“Then maybe I should move up our shopping date.” I told Mason, but I baby talked it to James. He woke up so happy from his nap and his smiles were contagious.

Mason and I sat in James’s room playing with him until Derek was in my head.

“Babygirl, where are you?”

“James’ room.” I answered him. Not long after, Derek walked into the room. He sat beside me on the couch and kissed my cheek. He then kissed James’s head while James giggled to himself.

“Derek, Gabby is now moved to the room across the hall from us,” I told him.

“Good, she should be in our wing,” he said, and that made me smile.

“What did King Draco have to say?” Mason asked him, and I was also waiting for Derek to answer.

“He confirmed Theo wasn’t his blood son. When he found out, he had his mate killed.” He said, and I was stunned.

“He killed his mate? But he said that she died from sickness.” I asked him.

“That was a cover story. He said that he didn’t want the truth to come out because then Theo would never be crowned king.” He explained.

“Wow.” I breathed out.

“So, who is the actual king?” Mason asked me.

“It’s actually someone we know.”

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“Milo?” I asked Derek, stunned.

“Well, I guess we’ve met his younger brother. Milo will be king if his older brother decides not to take it.” Derek told us.

“So Milo is a Kuran?” I asked him, and he nodded.

“What the hell was he doing out there?” Mason exclaimed. And I also wanted to know. Why would a royal be out there fighting with rogues?

“Okay, so this may get confusing, so keep up. Milo’s dad is King Draco’s uncle. Milo’s dad was also the head of their military for King Draco’s father,” Derek explained.

“So Milo’s dad is King Draco’s father’s brother?” I asked him, trying to piece it together.

“Yes.” He said.

“That’s an age gap,” Mason breathed out.

“Milo’s father’s first mate was killed before they had any children. He eventually took a second mate later in life.” Derek explained.

“Okay, so now all we have to do is track down Milo and find his brother. Then that solves the vampire kingdom problem.” I told them.

“And it’s a good thing the warriors took everyone’s names and rough locations, just in case we needed to find them.” Derek said with a smirk.

“Look at you being more than a pretty face.” I teased him, and Mason chuckled.

“Thanks, babygirl. Not that we needed it. I asked King Draco to invite them to the council building for a meeting with us,” Derek said.

“And King Draco is okay with all of this?” I asked Derek.

“He’s upset that it isn’t his son, but he understands. He also told me he doesn’t blame you for what you did.” Derek answered and I nodded.

“Aren’t you glad you didn’t go rushing in there?” Mason asked me.

“I could have found this out all yesterday if I had.” I grumbled and both of them chuckled.

“But this way, you are safe,” Mason said, kissing my neck.

“Yes, but now I have to keep you both safe. Clearly, someone is after you. Someone knew that I would not be at the castle and planned that attack.” I told them.

“Once King Jordan calls, we will figure out a plan. But right now, there’s not much we can do.” Derek said, and I sighed. That got me thinking, though.

“I need to find Sage.” I exclaimed, standing with James and rushing out of the room. Mason and Derek were calling out to me as I rushed down the hallway.

I found her in the living room by the kitchen and dining room. She was sitting on the couch with Gabby and they were both looking at a tablet.

“Sage?” I said, sitting with James.

“Mom, I love mermaids and cats.” Gabby exclaimed, looking up at me.

“Awe, I love them too. Tundra loved cats. We would spend hours watching funny cat videos.” I chuckled at the memory.

“The cat thing makes sense. It’s a witch thing.” Sage laughed, and it all made sense. Tundra was with a witch before me.

“Sage, I want to put a protection spell on Mason and Derek.” I told her.

“Ashlyn, doing that spell once is intense, but twice,” She said. Mason and Derek came into the room. Mason sat down beside Gabby and she was showing him all the things that she and Sage had found. It was so adorable watching him with her. Derek sat down beside me, since the couch was full.

“I know, but I have to try. Someone is after them, and I would feel better if I could protect them. James and Gabby are always going to be with me, but Mason and Derek will have to leave eventually.” I told her. And she sighed.

“I’ll show you what to do, but if it becomes too much, I’m going to make you stop. And you’re not to fight me.” She told me sternly, and I nodded.

“And if you use this much magic at once, it could take a few days to recharge.” She explained.

“Babygirl, I don’t think you should do this?” Derek said, and I looked at him.

"Then neither you nor Mason are allowed to leave the castle grounds." I told him.

"We will both have to go to work" he said, and I shook my head.

"You either let me do this to keep you both safe or you're not leaving. Choose," I told him.

"Baby, if you want to try, then you can, but I don't think it's safe for you to be without your magic," Mason said.

"I understand, but I need to keep you both safe and I'll be safe here. So please, don't fight me about this. And I have Freya." I pleaded. Mason was the first to agree.

Derek hesitated, but finally nodded.

"Gabby, what have you found?" I asked, turning my attention to her.

"So much. Can I get a cat?" She asked, and Mason gr0aned.

"How about when we go to the magic kingdom, you can pick out a special kitty? One that's connected to your magic," Sage said, and I nodded.

"I want one too," I said, and Derek gr0aned.

"What?" I asked him.

"A cat, really?" He asked, and I nodded.

"Tundra loved kitties." I told him and he sighed.

"We can talk about getting a cat later." Mason chimed in.

"Fine, we will put a pin in this conversation. Now Sage, how do I put the protection spell on a person?" I asked her, changing the subject back to the protection spell.

"What have you done before?" She asked me.

"I draw the symbol with my blood and the magic just flows, I guess." I told her.

"Interesting," She said, thinking.

“Wait, can I attract the spell to their mark? It has the same symbol.” I asked her and she sighed.

“I don’t know, but you could try it” she said.

“Take your shirt off.” I said, turning to look at Derek.

“What?” He asked, confused.

“I need to see your mark. Take off your shirt.” I told him. He was wearing a t-shirt and I couldn’t pull the collar down far enough to place my hands over his mark.

“Mason, take James,” Sage said. Mason stood up, and I passed James to him while Derek pulled off his shirt, exposing his rock-hard chest and abs. fvck, my mate is se*xy. Derek reached up, wiping the corner of my mouth.

“Babygirl, you’re drooling.” He said with a smirk, and Sage started laughing, while Mason chuckled.

“Shut up,” I told him, rolling my eyes.

“We could go upstairs.” He said in my mind, and I gave him a smirk.

“You would like that,” I said out loud.

“I’m sure you would too,” he said with a smirk.

“Both of you stop.” Mason said, and I looked at him, blowing him a kiss and he groaned. The tablet distracted Gabby.

“I’ll watch the kids after, but I’m sure Ashlyn is going to pass out,” Sage said, and chuckled.

“I don’t think they care.” And she laughed.

“You’re probably more bearable that way.” She laughed, and I glared at her. Both Derek and Mason were trying to hold back their laughter.

You guys are so mean.” I huffed.

“I love you, mamma.” Gabby said while playing on the tablet.

“I love you, Gabby bear.” I said, glaring at my mates and sister.

“At least someone does,” I grumbled.

Before either of them could defend themselves, I placed my hand over Derek’s mark and willed the protection spell to life. My magic tingled under my palm as it glowed purple, then changing to white. I could feel my magic draining as I willed my magic into Derek. When the light faded, I fell back onto the couch, feeling exhausted.

“Babygirl?” Derek exclaimed, worried.

“I’m okay, Derek. Just tired.” I said, patting his chest.

“Ashlyn, it’s a lot,” Sage said, and I nodded.

“I’m okay.” I said, yawning.

“Okay, now switch. Mason, get over here.” I said.

“Ashlyn, no way I’m letting you do another spell.” Sage told me, but I shook my head.

“Babygirl, take a rest. Mason isn’t going anywhere.” Derek said, kissing my forehead.

“Fine, but after a nap, I’m doing Mason.” I said.

“You can do me whenever you want, baby.” Mason chuckled, and the others laughed.

“So funny.” I said, rolling my eyes. Derek pulled me to his side just as his phone rang. Pulling it out of his pocket, I looked over to see that it was King Jordan.

“King Jordan, thanks for calling me back.” Derek answered his phone.

“Gabby. you stay with Aunt Sage.” I told her and she nodded.

“Mason, I’ll take James.” Sage told him and he passed James to her.

“Lets go to the lib.rary.” I said, standing up from the couch. I felt dizzy and, luckily, Derek noticed and grabbed my waist to steady me.

“Baby?” Mason came over to help me while Derek was on the phone.

“I’m okay. Let’s get to the library so we can all talk with King Jordan.” I said, and he nodded. As we made our way to the library, Derek handed me the phone. Confused, I took it, holding it up to my ear.

“King Jordan?” I asked.

“Ashy!” Aurora squealed in my ear.

“Princess Aurora! How are you, sweetheart?” I asked her.

“It’s my birthday party and I want you to come.” She rushed out. She was clearly excited.

“I’ll be there.” I told her and she let out a loud squeal and I had to hold the phone away from my ear.

“I knew you’d come.” She exclaimed, and I giggled at her excitement.

“Ugh, daddy wants to talk to you.” She whined.

“It’s okay, Aurora. I’ll see you are at your party,” I told her.

“Okay, bye.” She rushed out, and I heard muffling on the other end.

“My Queen, Aurora, was very excited to speak with you,” King Jordan told me.

“Please, call me Ashlyn. And I was happy to talk to her, and you must send me the details of her birthday party.” I told him.

“Thank you, Ashlyn. You’re the only person she wants to invite.” he sighed, and I giggled.

“Of course, I’ll be there.” I told him, walking into the library. We all sat down and I put the phone on speaker.

“King Jordan, we need your help in finding a man named Ryan. We believe he’s a Fae or a warlock.” Derek told him.

“Give me the details and I’ll see what I can do.”

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After we finished speaking with King Jordan, he assured us he would investigate anyone leaving and entering his kingdom over the last couple of days. He also wasn't sure who this Ryan guy was, but we really had little to go on with him. Liam also came into the library after we finished on the phone and we went through the student IDs of everyone named Ryan. It was a long list, but none of them were the Ryan that I met.

We even went back a few years to make sure, but nothing. It was like looking for a needle in a haystack; we wouldn't find him until he stabbed one of us.

When I finished, I went to spend some time with Gabby and James. I was still feeling drained from earlier, but I figured I'd go to bed early and then tomorrow I would place the same spell on Mason. Then, hopefully, I'll be recharged by the time we head to the Fae Kingdom for Aurora's birthday party. It's in a few days, on the weekend, and I was excited about seeing her. I was also excited for her to meet Gabby. I knew they would be great friends, as Gabby reminds me a lot of Aurora.

Now, all that was left to do was order her a present and everything else that I needed. I went into my room to find my card before I went searching for my two babies. I was just about to leave when my old phone started ringing. It was on a side table beside our bed. Picking it up, I saw Ian's name on the screen.

"Hey Ian, what's up?" I answered.

"Ashlyn, I just wanted to make sure that you were okay." He answered.

"Yeah, I'm okay Ian. Just been busy. We are now living where the old council building was." I told him.

"It's been rebuilt already?" He asked me, confused.

"My magic is weird. I actually found a hidden tomb underneath the old building. When I went down there, I found ten other hybrids that were trapped there. I also now have an ice dragon," I said.

"You found people alive in a tomb under the council building?" He asked me.

"Yeah, their families were trapped there over 300 years ago. It was a safe place until the magic started to fade. Some of them have already found their mates," I explained.

“And you have a dragon?” He asked.

“Yeah, her name is Freya, and she knew Tundra.

They both fought in the great war. Freya’s witch half betrayed them and that was how they got stuck down there. Also, she couldn’t attach herself to any of the other hybrids because none of them had dragon blood, but with me being mated to Derek, she could attach herself to me.” I told him and there was a pause on his side of the phone.

“Ian?” I asked him.

“Yeah, I’m still here. Anything else?” He asked me.

“I also adopted an eight-year-old girl that lost her parents. She is the youngest hybrid that I found there.” I said.

“Wow, I wasn’t expecting that.” He said, stunned.

“And Mason and Derek are okay with this?” He asked me.

“They are, and she is just wonderful. Her name is Gabby, and she is a wolf witch.” I told him.

“Anyway, how are you? How are you and Ava?” I asked him, curious about his relationship with his mate.

“We are good, she marked me, but Jax isn’t ready to mark her yet.” Ian answered.

“And how does Ava feel about that?” I asked him.

“She said that she’s okay, but I can tell that she’s hurt.” He said.

“What does Jax say?”

“He still misses you and Tundra,” he told me and I sighed.

“I miss Tundra as well. And it’s weird to have a dragon instead of my wolf, but I saw Tundra after I rescued the hybrids. I know she would be so happy that Jax found his mate. And I think he should give Ava a chance. She has clearly won you over,” I told him.

“Is this hard for you?” He asked, and I sighed.

“Are you happy?” I asked him.

“I feel happy,” he answered.

“That’s all that matters, Ian. Both of our lives have changed so much. And if Jax is listening, I love you, Jax, and I want you to be happy. And don’t let Ian fvck it up.” I told him with a giggle.

“He’s laughing in my head,” Ian said.

“He’ll come around. Maybe going for a run with her wolf will help.” I told him and he sighed.

“I’ve been trying, but he refuses to shift if she’s around,” he said, sounding defeated.

“He’s just as stubborn as you,” I told him.

“More, I think.” Ian sighed.

“Ian, everything will work out. Jax will come around and soon you’ll have pups and everything will be surreal.” I told him.

“Is that how life feels for you?” He asked.

“It does. I never thought at 18 I would have two babies, one being eight years old, but I couldn’t imagine my life without her now. And when she asked to call me mom, I almost burst into tears. Maybe next weekend, you and Ava can come for a visit. We have more than enough space and I would love to meet her and for you to meet everyone. And bring Alex. Maybe I found his mate, like I did for Liam and Matt.” I told him.

“I know she is dying to meet you. She’s your biggest fan. The first female Alpha.” He said.

“Awe, Mason, and Derek could be my lunas.” I laughed.

“You are the one in charge, my queen.” He chuckled, and I groaned.

“Don’t you start with me,” I told him.

“Ashlyn?”

“Yeah, Ian?”

“Thank you for this,” he said.

“Anytime, Ian. I’m always here if you need me.” I told him, meaning every word.

“I’ll let you go. I just wanted to make sure you were okay,” he said.

“Thank you Ian. Hopefully, I’ll see you next week.” I told him, before ending the call. Sighing, I finally stood up from bed to go find my babies. I didn’t expect Ian to call or to tell me that Ava had marked him. Ian is such a better person with her and it made me jealous that he couldn’t be that way with me.

I had to remind myself that I’m happy with my life now, and I am, but there was a part of me that wanted to spend my life with Ian. fvck, feelings are hard. I found everyone in the living room. Gabby was sitting on the floor with James. He was having some tummy time, and she was showing him all the fun games on the tablet. I sat down beside her, putting James in my lap, holding him tight. Mason and Derek were both watching me while I watched Gabby play her game.

James had found his toes and was playing with them.

“Babygirl, what’s wrong?” Derek asked me.

“I’m just tired.” I told him, giving him a small smile.

“Baby, we can feel you,” Mason said, and I sighed.

“Ian called while I was getting my card so I could do some shopping,” I told them.

“And that is why you feel weird?” Derek asked me.

“I invited Ava and him out here next weekend.” I said.

“And?” Mason pushed.

“And nothing. He was calling to see how I was doing. Jax is having a hard time accepting Ava. He really misses Tundra.” I told them.

“And you?” Derek said, and I nodded.

“And me. Ava marked Ian, but Jax wasn’t ready to mark her,” I said.

“And that’s why you feel weird. He’s marked.” Mason said, and I felt he was upset.

“It’s not like that, Mason. I’m happy for him and I love my life with the four of you. Ian and I are no longer the same people we were. I don’t know, it’s hard to explain,” I told him.

“She’s upset because he wouldn’t change for her.” Sage said, coming into the living room and taking a seat on the other couch.

“How long have you been listening?” I asked her.

“Is she right?” Derek asked me.

“Maybe, I don’t know. I’m probably just tired and overthinking.” I sighed.

“You feel you weren’t good enough for him to change?” Derek asked. And I didn’t answer him.

“Baby?” Mason asked, sighing. I nodded.

“It’s weird because with him not changing, I met you and then Derek, but it still stings.” I admitted.

“He’s an idiot to think that he could do better than you, even if he found his mate,” Sage said.

“Really, Sage?” I chuckled.

“It’s just like these two. They could never do better than you. Also, Brandon could never do better than me. We are just so fantastic.” She giggled. I laughed, shaking my head.

“Babygirl, why would you invite him here, if that’s how you feel?” Derek asked me.

“To normalize things, I guess. And I want to meet Ava and I am glad that she could get him to grow up. Feelings just suck.” I answered.

“Look at you being all mature.” Sage teased.

“Mom, I like this.” Gabby said, pulling me from my conversation with the others. I looked down at the tablet to see her pointing at a mermaid bed set.

“I love it, sweetie. Did you and auntie Sage find anything else?” I asked her and she nodded, trying to pull up the internet browser.

“Baby, come sit down,” Mason said, moving over on the couch. He patted the space between him and Derek. I stood up with James and sat down between them.

“Gabby?” Mason said, getting her attention. She stood up, still holding the tablet, and climbed into Mason’s lap. Gabby started showing him all the things that she and Sage found.

Derek wrapped his arms around me and James, pulling me to his side.

“I understand, Babygirl.” He whispered, kissing my temple. James leaned forward, sucking on Derek’s forearm.

“I think he’s hungry” Derek chuckled, and I laughed.

“Or someone doesn’t like it when daddy touches his momma.” I giggled.

“If I didn’t touch your momma, little man, you wouldn’t be here.” Derek told James, and we all laughed, except Gabby, who wasn’t paying any attention to us.

“Gabby, you and Mason should find the Fae Princess a birthday gift. We are going to her birthday party in a few days. I’m just going to get James’ feed and in bed and then we can have dinner. Okay?” I asked her, and she nodded.

“What does she like? I don’t think I have time to make her anything?” Gabby said, looking up at me.

“I’m sure she’ll love anything you make or buy for her.” I told her, kissing her forehead. Kissing Mason before, I stood up with James, making my way into the kitchen, with Derek following me.

“You’re so go with her.” He told me, taking James from me so I could make a bottle.

“I know how it is to lose your parents. And I just want her to feel as much love as possible.” I told him, while getting the bottle ready.

“You’re doing a fantastic job, momma wolf dragon.” He chuckled, coming over to me, kissing my cheek.

“And Sage is right. Anyone who thinks they can do better than you is an idiot.”

Finding Her True Alpha Chapter 145-Mason

I spent the afternoon with Gabby, ordering her everything that she pointed at. I probably shouldn’t have, but I couldn’t help it. She has been through so much. I know what Ashlyn meant by Gabby being hers; she felt like mine as well. We may not share blood, but she was my daughter.

Gabby made our family feel complete. She hasn’t asked me to call me dad yet, but hopefully she’ll feel more comfortable soon. I love hearing her call Ashlyn mom, and I love seeing them together, with James. Gabby loves James so much already, always trying to help us take care of him. And she loves to play with him.

It was almost bedtime and Ashlyn was putting Gabby to bed while I got some work done. Laying in bed, I was going through emails while I waited for my mates to come join me in bed. I wasn’t getting much done since I was thinking about how Ashlyn was feeling earlier. I understand how she was feeling, even if it stung. It hasn’t even been a year since their relationship ended.

And as soon as she’s gone, that’s when he changes. I can see why she thinks she wasn’t enough for him. But she is more than enough for Derek and I, she is too good for us. I see her with our babies and I’m just so thankful that she is my mate and the mother to our kids.

She really is an alpha and a Luna all in one. She is strong, protective, but caring and motherly. Ashlyn always tried to make sure that everyone was safe before her. We may think that she is restless, but that’s just who she is. And she definitely keeps us on our toes.

Derek came out of the shower, wrapped in a towel, while I thought about our mate and how my life had changed. I was so lost in thought that I jumped when Derek laid his head on my chest, making him chuckle.

“What the hell are you thinking about?” He asked me. I moved my arm to wrap around his shoulders, while he rested an arm over my bare stomach.

“Just about why Ashlyn was so upset earlier.” I sighed as he traced my abs with his fingertips.

“Does it bother you she still has feelings for him?” He asked me.

“No, it bothers me that she feels like she wasn’t good enough for him.” I told him.

“She’s clearly too good for any of us.” He said, and I chuckled.

“That’s what I was just thinking. She’s the alpha and Luna of our pack. We might think she’s restless, but she’s just doing what she feels is right to keep her pack safe.” I told him and he nodded against my chest.

“How the hell did we get so lucky?” He mumbled, and I chuckled.

“I know, right? As much as that woman drives me crazy, I wouldn’t have it any other way.” I told him and he looked up at me.

“Not just with her. I got lucky with you too, Mason.” He said, leaning up, crushing his lips to mine. We were deep into tasting each other when I heard our bedroom door open and close. I pulled away from Derek to see Ashlyn staring at us.

“Don’t let me stop you.” She said, playing with her lips. Through the bond, I could feel how turned on she was.

“You can always join us.” Derek purred at her. And she stripped off her clothes. Watching her strip made me painfully hard, already hard from Derek.

“Don’t you owe Mason something?” Derek smirked at her.

“You want to help?” She moaned at him, pulling back the blanket. Derek was naked beside me, his cock digging into my thigh.

She climbed up my body from the bottom of the bed, nipping my shaft through my boxes. My hand found the back of her head as I bucked my hips into her face.

Ashlyn looked up at me through her eyelashes, smirking. Jesus, this woman is se*xy. Derek n!pped at my h!p while Ashlyn slid down my boxers, my c0ck springing free. She maintained eye control as she !cked the pre-cvm off the tip, causing me to gr0an.

“Fvck, baby.” I gr0aned, throwing my head back into the pillows. I could feel Derek svcking on my h!p. My other hand found the back of his hand and I realized how much I loved his touch on my body.

Ashlyn started bobbing her head, my c0ck hitting the back of her throat as she deep-throated me. She found a good rhythm and I was so close. Her mouth left my c0ck, I missed her touch, when Derek’s mouth wrapped around my tip.

Gr0aning, Ashlyn svcked one of my balls into her mouth. I felt like I was about to cvm as Derek bobbed his head and Ashlyn svcked harder, digging her nails into my h!ps. Gr0aning as each ribbon of my cvm hit the back of Derek’s throat as my org*asm ripped through me, goosebumps covering my body.

Derek removed his mouth and Ashlyn replaced it with hers as she made sure I was clean before she k!ssed her way up my body. She was straddling me by the time she reached her mark, k!ssing and n!pping my skin. I was instantly hard again as she rolled her h!ps down, coating my c0ck in her we*tness that seeped from her pvssy.

Derek moved up, k!ssing up Ashlyn’s arm. She was m0aning as my tip rubbed against her cl!t. She moved her hands to my shoulders, grinding hard against me.

Her hand moved over my mark and a purple light engulfed her body. I watched as the purple of her eyes dulled until she collapsed on my chest. I looked at Derek, and he looked just as panicked as I felt. What the hell happened?

“Baby?” I yelled, rolling her off of me. I pushed my ear into her chest and her heart was still beating.

“Babygirl?” Derek was trying to wake her.

“What the hell happened?” I yelled out.

"I don't know, but I think we need Sage," he said, rushing into the closet. He came out and threw me a pair of sweatpants as I covered Ashlyn with the blanket.

"Brandon, I need Sage. Something happened to Ashlyn." I mindlinked him.

"Room?" He asked.

"Yes." I told him while I pulled on my sweatpants.

Sage burst through the door moments later, with Brandon on her heels.

"What the hell happened?" Sage yelled, rushing to Ashlyn's side.

"I don't know. She was on top of me and when her palm touched my mark, a purple light engulfed her. And then she collapsed." I rushed out. Sage touched Ashlyn's hand and her eyes turned white. My stomach was in knots as we waited for Sage to tell us what was going on. Sage finally shook her head, coming out of whatever she was doing.

"She placed the protection spell on you. I'm not sure how she did it, but as soon as her magic touched the mark, it's like the mark absorbed the spell," Sage explained.

"Is she going to be okay?" Derek rushed out, and I wanted to know as well.

"She's exhausted. But she will be okay." Sage said, and I blew out a breath. Just then Ashlyn let out a groan, moving her hand up to her face.

"Sweetie, how are you feeling?" Sage asked, leaning closer to her. Derek and I both sat down on the other side of the bed.

"Like a truck hit me." She groaned and Sage giggled.

"Ashlyn, you used too much magic. And now you need to rest." She told her, and Ashlyn opened her eyes.

They were now a dull purple instead of the bright purple they were before.

"I don't understand. I wasn't trying to." Ashlyn told Sage.

"I'm not sure, but now Derek and Mason have a protection spell on them." She said, and Ashlyn chuckled.

"That's a plus," Ashlyn said, before she rushed out of bed and into the bathroom to empty her stomach. She was na*ked, and I noticed Brandon was now looking at the ceiling. Sage followed her in to the bathroom and now I was even more worried about what she had put her body through.

Finally, Sage and Ashlyn came out of the bathroom.

Now wrapped in a robe, Sage helped her over to the bed to lie down.

"Baby?"

"I'm okay, Mason. Just tired." She mumbled, lying down.

"She will be okay. That was normal." Sage said, covering Ashlyn with the blanket. Looking at Ashlyn, I already knew that she was asleep.

"Let her rest and she will be better in the morning. It will probably take her magic a few days to recharge, but she will be okay." Sage said before she and Brandon left our room.

"That was intense." Derek said, as we both climbed into bed beside her.

"Yeah," I breathed out, snuggling into her.

"Mason, are you okay with earlier?" Derek mumbled, cuddled into Ashlyn's back.

"Yeah, Derek. But hopefully, next time, we don't almost kill our mate." I told him and he chuckled.

"That's a little over dramatic." He chuckled.

"I saw her eye color dull. She scared the hell out of me," I told him, and he grabbed my hand that was resting on her h!p.

"She clearly wanted you protected. Maybe it's because she was so relaxed that the magic just flowed out of her?" Derek said.

"I don't know but I'm glad its done and hopefully her magic will be back by the time we leave for the Fae Kingdom. Ashlyn will never miss Aurora's birthday party." I told him.

“We will be there, and so will some of the others. She will be okay, as long as one of us is with her at all times,” Derek said, and I hope that he was right. I was now feeling anxious about leaving the safety of the castle.

Here I knew she was protected, with her spell that she placed over the castle grounds. I know she has Freya, but it still makes me nervous.

“She scared the hell out of me too, Mason. Even if her magic ruined the moment.” Derek chuckled.

“The magic has the worst timing.” I chuckled while moving the stray hairs off of Ashlyn’s face. She was now sound asleep and I thought nothing would wake her.

“Mason, she will be okay, and we can always finish what we started tomorrow,” Derek said. I looked over to see that he was watching me over Ashlyn’s body.

“Yeah, but now I won’t be able to sleep.” I told him.

“If you need, go get some work done. I’ll stay with her.” he said, but I shook my head.

“I know she’s okay, but there’s no way I can leave her.” I told him.

“Everything will be better in the morning, Mason. Just try to get some sleep.”