

The Vampires Promised Bride Chapter 41

Lucy stared at the wolf in front of her. This was a nice distraction from the inward spiral she was feeling. How was this even possible? Abaddon was dead... right? She watched as the wolf transformed into a muscular man with black hair and dark eyes, a mixture of a deep brown and darkness. He was fully clothed, setting the ensemble off with a black cape. She watched as he took another step towards her and she stood there just looking at him. This? This was the half-demon that terrorized her family? She wasn't impressed. And what was weird... is she didn't sense any malcontent from him.

"You are very interesting princess." Abaddon said as a smile spread across his lips.

"I'm pretty sure my Aunt Rhea killed you. At least so I've been told. Care to explain?" Lucy wasn't afraid of him. She had no doubt that she could take him out if needed. So she walked past him and sat on the edge of the fountain. She also wasn't stupid. If Abaddon was here the vampires already knew it.

"I did die. This." He motioned over his body. "This is my soul. Rather than cease to exist I chose servitude. The vampires can claim souls as servants. But it isn't quite that simple. I am bound to the royal family for all eternity. I can't ever betray them... it is impossible. Trust me... I tried." He chuckled and shrugged. "I'm a half-demon, not a saint. I am bound by their blood... a blood oath. I exist but only as their servant and protector. Being soul bound now though I can instantaneously travel and have handy powers."

"So you are the one traveling back and forth for the prince." Lucy finally understood why Jasper didn't mention who the other servant was. Still... this shouldn't have been kept secret. Regardless of whether he was harmless or not.

"It beats not existing. And I am no longer plagued with the power greed I had before. You know the reason I went after the fairy princesses." His voice trailed off quietly.

"That was really pathetic and gross. And this is really weird talking to you. I'm not sure how I am supposed to feel about you..." He was the servant to the vampire royals but he was also an old enemy to her family. But right now... he seemed harmless.

Abaddon chuckled. "Well, we might as well get along since you will be my new master soon too. Look I can't do anything unless one of the royals commands it. I can only act based on their will. I won't excuse my past. But I would like to work towards my penance."

"You are different from what I expected."

"I am different..." Abaddon looked away and shook his head. "I was poisoned before and blinded by power and greed... well that's not important. In a way... when your aunt killed me and the vampires claimed my soul... it saved me. I can see things differently. No longer blind. And now bound by servitude... I feel like I am really living now. I am different. I am not that person. And I want to prove that to you. Since it is your lineage I have harmed the most. I won't ask for forgiveness since it isn't something I can ever dream to obtain. Just an acceptance of my existence."

"I guess time will tell who you truly are." Lucy wasn't interested in adding a psycho demon as her new BFF. But maybe she could use him... "What types of skills do you have?" She watched a smile slither over his face. "Can you hide my presence so I can't be found?"

Abaddon frowned and furrowed his brows. "I can... but I can't allow you to leave here. If you stay here I can do that for you. However, Derek's orders are for me to keep you safe here until you leave."

"I'm not leaving. I just don't want to be found right now."

"It's done." Abaddon said effortlessly. "You know... about the woman Stella..."

Lucy glared at him. "Don't. No matter what you say I can't believe a word that comes out of your mouth. So just don't talk." She watched as Abaddon nodded his head in understanding. "You are still strong in this form aren't you? So why can't you just pop in there and kill this witch?"

A dark chuckle resounded from the half-demon. "I'd love to... The most I can do is protect and shield. I can even do damage... but I can't kill. If I kill someone I will basically die all over again. One of the rules I am bound by. Guess most don't want to contract a demon soul and allow them the ability to kill."

"Makes sense." Lucy said with a faint smile if this was true then he was pretty harmless. Self-preservation is a driving factor for him. Especially if he agreed to an eternity of servitude.

Whatever, soul-bound servant Abaddon wasn't a concern right now. She leaned back on her hands pressing them into the cool stone around the fountain. The whole situation was actually a mess. Whether there was truth or not. If it was truth... oh there was going to be some casualties on the vampire side. And if it wasn't true... when Derek announces himself as the real prince then they will be thinking the prince was messing around. It is a rumor that will circulate quickly. Since this Stella seems to love showing their pictures together to everyone. Which made her doubt the integrity of her story. However... the why comes back.

Stella doesn't know Ryan is the prince so what does she gain by lying? And her cousin was Sabrina so she had plenty of opportunities to meet up with 'Ryan' and get to know him. But... hmmm. Sabrina insinuated that she wanted to get with 'Ryan'. Would she still think that way if her cousin was dating him? There is that Freya logic seeping through again. Logically it doesn't add up. Her mother had taught her to think well and analyze.

She trusted Derek. End of story. She trusted and believed him. And would keep her faith in him. On top of that it didn't make sense. Tonya had said that Ryan wasn't with anyone. And he was faithfully waiting for his mate. All signs pointed to this Stella lying... but she wasn't sure as to the why. Maybe she had a crush on him? And she asked him for the picture?

Now she had to figure out how to deal with the deceit without blowing Derek's cover. She inhaled deeply and looked forward to see Abaddon watching her thoughtfully.

"What is the best way to deal with something that could soon become a vicious rumor... but without exposing the secret itself?"

Abaddon smirked. "Quite impressive. You are more clever than your predecessors. Though the solution is more clear than actually reaching the truth. Which I am curious how you deduced what was a lie and what wasn't..."

Lucy looked up at Abaddon annoyed. "What is the solution?"

Abaddon clicked his tongue. "Jasper. He will handle the rest."

Lucy froze and furrowed her brows. She didn't want to tell Jasper. She was honestly worried about how he would react. It wasn't like the girl knew she was doing this against the prince though so maybe it would be okay. The sound of Abaddon's laughter snapped Lucy from her thoughts. She lifted her eyes up to him.

“You are afraid of what Jasper may do?” Abaddon smirked and shrugged. “It’s the easiest and most simple solution. It really is the killer choice.” He snickered at his own lame joke.

Lucy rubbed her head slightly as a weird pain washed over her. It came and went quickly. She looked up to see Abaddon’s eyes grow darker looking at her.

“Where is your guardian princess?” His low growl rippled out angrily.

“He is still being trained. How did you know I would have a guardian?”

“It was my life mission searching for the fairy princess. I recognize your scent like my own...” He sighed. “You are going to need a guardian with you. You are still waking up and without a guardian... the pain will be severe.”

“We are planning to leave this evening to go to the dragon kingdom.” Lucy waved her hand off dismissively. “But I need to figure out how to solve this issue first.”

“I already told you how to handle it.” Abaddon then frowned. “Sorry princess... I can’t ignore orders.”

She watched as Abaddon vanished for a moment and then a minute later he returned with Jasper.

“You can teleport with people?!” Lucy was immediately thinking of Derek and teleporting to him.

“Only short distances so what you are thinking can’t work.” Abaddon laughed. “Well I guess this is where I leave you for now.” He looked at Jasper’s dark eyes and bowed slightly before he vanished.

“Lucy what happened?” Jasper’s eyes were almost black as he approached her. “Why did you have Abaddon hide your presence?”

Lucy scoffed. “How about oh sorry you found out about Abaddon being kept as the vampire’s slave. I think that is a big detail my family missed.”

His eyes flickered slightly. “I’m sorry. It was a discussion that needed to happen a long time ago. When the vampires agreed to keep his soul as a servant they had no clue about your family and how he was an enemy. And afterward, I think they were

afraid it would ruin the treaty so they kept it quiet. I was going to tell you about him though. He isn't the same anymore and you don't have to worry about him."

Lucy chuckled and folded her arms over her chest. "I'm not worried about him." She watched as his eyes turned dark.

"Who said something to upset you? What happened?"

This time Lucy could feel a strange energy emanating from Jasper. Green energy swirled out from him... it was something she had never seen before. She stood up and stepped into Jasper so that she could feel this strange energy. She ran her fingers through the energy. It felt as if it had a life of its own. Her actions must have startled Jasper as the energy started quickly fading but she needed to see it more.

"Yes someone did say something..." She said quietly as the energy flowed out again. Maybe if she grabbed onto it...

"Lucy, don't!" Abaddon suddenly appeared and pulled Lucy backwards from Jasper. He watched as Jasper's eyes flickered back to normal before he dropped his protective stance. He turned and glared at Lucy. "What were you thinking?! Do you know what you were about to do?"

"What is it? You know what it is..." She looked at Jasper who seemed to be coming out from a fog. "What is controlling him..."

"It isn't quite like that..." Jasper answered in barely a whisper.

"You said no more secrets between us right?" Lucy said, raising her eyes at him expectantly.

"When the two vampire princes were born the great vampire king planted something in the youngest. It was something to make sure he never tried to take the throne for himself. And made him completely loyal to the royal bloodline. So loyal that he would kill without question. Once Derek was born it subsided in Jester and was passed on to his son..." Abaddon said quietly while watching Jasper making sure what he was saying was allowed.

"Oh my gosh that is horrible... what is it?" Lucy gasped looking at Jasper with pity.

“It is a djinn... a type of demon that is bound to its master. The master, in this case, is the vampire royals. But it isn’t that bad. I make my own choices. It’s just sometimes it’s bloodlust can take over.” Jasper admitted quietly.

“And you were about to grab onto the djinns energy, Lucy. It would have directed its sights on you.” Abaddon said with a loud sigh.

“Let it.” Lucy said confidently. Making Abaddon and Jasper’s eyes widen. “Let it put its focus on me. This djinn seeks a master, right? Which is why it serves the royals. That means it can be controlled. Maybe I can rein it in. I won’t have you disappearing like your father did.”

Jasper shook his head. “It’s powerful Lucy. Just let it be. I’ll be fine.”

Aiden and Ryan showed up in the clearing. Aiden looked curiously at the stranger next to Lucy but was relieved to see his sister was fine.

“Ah, reinforcements. This is the perfect time. Besides, it’s this guy’s job to keep me safe right?” Lucy said, smirking at Abaddon.

He let out a low growl and nodded his head. “By doing this you can speed up what is happening to you...”

“I’m not worrying about it. I’m helping Jasper.” Lucy said confidently.

“Lucy you have only just started being a fairy princess-“ Jasper interjected, shaking his head.

“But I’ve always been a fairy. Jasper... just let me try... please.”

“Okay I walked in on the test but missed the lecture. What is going on?” Aiden said with a low growl. Whatever it was he deduced this could be dangerous to Lucy.

“Jasper has a djinn in him and I am going to try to help. I don’t know what I can do but... as a fairy princess...” Lucy pleaded with Aiden. We have to help him. It takes over sometimes and he kills... I can’t leave him like this. She linked with him locking eyes with her brother.

Aiden scowled and looked at the stranger next to Lucy. “Who are you?”

Abaddon smirked. “You remind me of your grandfather a lot. You have his arrogance... but I dare say you are stronger than he was... yes much stronger...”

“Long story short... he is a soul bound by servitude to the vampires... oh and he also happens to be Abaddon...” Lucy said and scrunched her face up slightly. Aiden’s eyes flickered to the half-demon. “He isn’t a danger to the fairies anymore... he isn’t what is important right now. So Aiden...”

“Okay fine. Give it a shot. But after this, we are getting the hell out of this place. I’m putting you under Aunt Rhea and Uncle Levi’s care. Let them handle my headache for a while.” Aiden smirked. The whole Abaddon thing was whatever. He didn’t know the demon personally. He didn’t understand much of it, just that he was a servant now. Jasper was family to him. If he needed help they would help him. He just hoped things didn’t go wrong.

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Lucy readied herself to provoke the energy from Jasper again as Aiden, Abaddon and Ryan stayed close. She was about to speak when a small pale young woman with ivory hair appeared in front of them.

“What are your plans?” Mira the banshee asked.

“Well we are going to try to-” Lucy started but the banshee hissed louder and over her.

“Not what you are about to do! What are your plans afterwards?” Mira looked over at Abaddon. “You did tell them right?”

Abaddon shrugged. “It doesn’t change anything. They are going to do what they are going to do. I don’t think they trust my words anyways.”

Mira clicked her tongue loudly. “Careful. You do know it is within my power to disintegrate your soul?”

“Like you could ever let me forget.” He bit back angrily.

“What didn’t he say?” Jasper turned his gaze to Abaddon harshly.

“Pacifying a djinn isn’t easy. It exists as part of you now. Almost like a part of your soul. You can’t vanquish it without killing yourself. The djinn has to willingly leave its host for another but only if it accepts a new master. So your options? To control it as a master slave relationship. Or to bind it to someone else. By binding it to them...” Abaddon turned his gaze to Lucy.

“You can bind the demon to you, making the djinn yours. Making Jasper yours or the new owner yours. The previous djinn was bound by the late vampire king. After his tragic death the demon could no longer control his blood lust. When Jester became angry on behalf of his brother he killed. The same thing is now happening with Jasper.” Mira frowned and looked at Jasper.

“Can I bind it to myself?” Lucy asked quietly.

“NO!”

“NO!”

“NO!”

Aiden, Jasper, and Ryan all yelled simultaneously.

Abaddon chuckled. “Hardly. The fairy princess can’t be a suitable host for a demon. It would never choose to live inside of you.”

“What about you then?” Lucy asked, turning her attention to Abaddon.

“That’s not a bad idea.” Mira said with a grin while Abaddon just stared at Lucy blankly. “Abaddon would have to agree to accept this though.”

Abaddon stared at Lucy blankly. “I’d become your bound servant... Are you sure you want that?”

“Well you are already that anyways right? Because of your agreement with the vampires.” Lucy shrugged.

“Yes but with some difference. I would be bonded to you. And with the djinn I would be allowed to kill. This would be taking on a new contract of sorts. Where I am loyal to the family but most to you.” He smirked and tilted his head to the side. “Are you sure you want that princesssss?”

“But your bloodlust would be under my control. You wouldn’t be able to kill unless I willed it.” Lucy challenged him back with the facts she had just learned.

“Lucy...” Aiden whispered out as she waved him off.

“I want something in return if I agree to this.” Abaddon’s eyes met with Lucy’s. Her gaze upon him was fiery, fierce and determined. There was so much confidence about her. No self doubt. She was clever and quick witted. He admired her... if it was to her... he could be bound to her as her servant. As her protector. Inwardly he laughed. He went from trying to claim the fairy princess to being claimed by the fairy princess. He was about to make an agreement that would bind him to her. It would be a devoted role to everything. A protector, a servant... he would be and do whatever it was she commanded of him. He could even kill by her command. But this type of agreement would last through the ages. And would follow her bloodline just like the djinn has been with the vampires.

“Well?” Lucy arched her brow at him and tapped her foot impatiently.

“I want your oath that the bond between our master servant relationship will be over in the event of your death. And I want my soul returned to the life circle to be born again. This is something the fairy queen can grant...”

“I have no intention of becoming the fairy queen. That position is for my cousin Alexis. My Aunt Rhea is also immortal. She would be the one to grant this. I would have to discuss it with her. But I will do what I can. In the event of my death you would not be bound anymore. I can at least do that much. But what would happen in that case?”

“I can choose my next master willingly if I do not get to be reborn.” Abaddon watched as her green eyes bore into him.

Lucy looked at her brother with a half shrug. She really didn’t see a downside to it. And Mira was also in agreement. She looked up at Jasper to see him frowning.

“What is it?” Lucy asked.

“Its just... I don’t understand why.” He looked up at Abaddon. “Why would you agree to this in the first place? I understand why you agreed to be the vampire’s servant so your soul wasn’t destroyed but this is more than that. This is becoming her person.”

“I want another chance. I want another life and she is the only one that can grant me that. Well either she can or one of her relatives. I didn’t live my life before... and I want that.” Abaddon’s voice was quiet.

“I will do what I can to hold that end of the bargain up. I don’t see how giving you another chance at life would be a bad thing. You wouldn’t retain your memories and would be starting fresh again.” Lucy shrugged, there wasn’t a downside to his request. He could be evil or good just like anyone who is born. And if he helped her out by taking this djinn from Jasper then it is worth the trade.

She knew the stories of Abaddon... he was sick and twisted. Maybe dying changed things for him? In either case, him being reborn doesn’t mean he will be a half demon again. He could be reborn as a regular human. All this does is prevent his soul from ceasing to exist.

“Binding a djinn to his soul will incapacitate him for quite some time. He will be practically useless for at least a month... maybe longer. Although... It is hard to say how it will work on a contracted soul.” Mira added, looking at Lucy.

“So no sending him off to find and kill the witch?” Lucy smiled and bit her bottom lip.

Abaddon chuckled. She wanted to order him to kill immediately. Having her as a master would be interesting. He thought back to a time when he wasn’t so corrupt. Before power and jealousy took control. He could remember it clearly... the first time he saw her...

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Abaddon watched from the bushes as the fairy princess Alice sat in a field covered in flowers. The sun shone upon her beautiful face. The light beams hugged and kissed her body. She was perfect... she looked so happy and peaceful. And for the first time in his life, he felt... happy. As if she was happiness itself and he thought to himself that he wished he had someone like her. Secretly he continued to watch her. He watched her laugh and care for others. Her light and goodness pulled him in closer like a drug. And as time went by... he fell in love with her. One day he bravely got closer to her and his wolf howled out that she was his mate. With this knowledge, he grasped the courage to approach her but she ran in fear of him.

Still, he tried again... and again... and yet again. She always would flee without giving him a chance to explain. Soon after she always had her guardian Dylan around where he could no longer approach. He started going mad. Inwardly he began to poison and fester while his wolf drove him crazy with desire. She didn't feel the mate bond like he did. She wouldn't let him get close enough to feel it. He was certain if he could just get close enough to her then she would feel it too. Or at least give him the chance to prove his affections.

He tried again...this time a confrontation ensued and he angrily vowed to capture the fairy princess as his own. The fairy queen took action and sent her daughter away. Over time he heard the fairy princess Alice married Ethan the alpha of the Silver Moon pack. This was the day he went crazy. When another wolf took her as a mate... she didn't run away from him.

He festered. It hurt. He wasn't good enough for her because he was a demon. The crushing drowning feeling invaded him. The agony consumed him. His wolf went mad. He had to have her. He needed to have her. He WOULD have her. The obsession poisoned his existence... it was no longer good enough to just have her. He would take the next fairy princess as his own. He deserved the pureness of the fairy princess. He should have had it from the beginning. His wolf was fixated that any fairy princess was his.

Then the corruption continued as he sank deeper into his insanity. He wanted to start a new species. One that was half-demon and fairy. A species that the fairies wouldn't find unworthy because they would also be fairies too. He would be able to enter into Elysium and so would his offspring. He would be accepted by them. Reality and fantasy blurred together. And the lies became truth. The fairy princess wronged him. She felt like she was too good for him. And in spite of him, she took another werewolf as her mate. Yes, she did it because she thought she was better than him.

He was crazy, he was evil, he was corrupted, and couldn't see past obtaining the fairy princess. He no longer cared if it was Alice, her daughter, her granddaughter... it didn't matter. He would have the fairy princess and produce an heir. The next fairy princess would be part demon. They could never look down on him then. He would own Elysium and a new world power would come into existence.

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“Are you ready?”

The sound of Lucy's voice brought him back from his memories. Abaddon looked up at Lucy and into her green serene eyes. She didn't look down at him. She didn't treat him like she was better than him. She didn't fear him. She challenged him as an

alpha female should. He could see the events of the past clearly now. He wronged the fairy princesses. Alice was a pacifist fairy princess who didn't have any fighting spirit in her. Seeing a half demon would have been terrifying for her. And he could forgive her for simply being scared. What he did because of this was wrong.

He was obsessed and poisoned. Jasper asked why he would do this? Why would he enter this agreement? Because... it was his penance. But they would never believe that. So he used this opportunity to ask for what he wanted. A second chance to live. To live without the poison. And whether he was granted this or not he would be happy to serve her.

He didn't deserve forgiveness for what he put her family through. But he could only offer himself. It is all he had to offer. She could do with him as she chose. She could even destroy his soul if she wished. And in the event of her untimely death, he hoped he could be reborn. But she would be immortal so death could only come as an outside source... and as her protector, he would sacrifice his soul in exchange for her life.

The fairy princess Rhea saved him by killing his corrupt self. The vampires kept his soul as a slave. Now that his soul was free of corruption he was able to remember events clearly. And now... the next fairy princess was offering him a chance to serve as penance. The amount of contrition he felt would take him several lifetimes to perhaps earn some redemption. And he was willing to offer himself to her for eternity.

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"Lucy, I don't want you doing anything that could be dangerous." Jasper held his hand up as Lucy walked towards him. He watched as she reached forward and grasped his hand with her own. She held onto it gently and looked into his eyes.

"Jasper..." Lucy smiled at him. "Do you have faith in me?"

"That's a cheap shot Luce. You know I do but this isn't the same thing."

"Yes it is. Either you always believe in me or you only sometimes do. I'm confident in myself."

"He would never allow this." Jasper said, shaking his head.

"Well he isn't here. Besides, I am my own boss. He can't control me and my actions. So just be quiet and let me concentrate." Lucy said furrowing her brows.

“Don’t worry Jasper. I’m right here. I’ll keep her safe.” Aiden walked over to Lucy’s side. Just in case he would be ready to act if he needed to.

“She isn’t going to need any help. She can handle the djinn.” Abaddon chuckled. Things have changed so much since he died. And now he was the one believing in the fairy princess.

“Before you continue though I want to say one thing. Your kind may not like the idea of you being a master over a soul. It is a little dark for fairy culture.” Abaddon watched a smile curl over Lucy’s lips.

“Good thing I don’t plan on being the fairy princess forever right? I am going to be the vampires queen and...” Lucy looked over at the banshee and back to Abaddon. “Having various servants seems to be their thing. I don’t think any of them would think twice about me being your master. Especially since the vampires already claimed your soul as theirs.”

“Grandma and Aunt Rhea might not like it though...” Aiden watched as Lucy shrugged.

“I’m not saying they have to accept him as their family. But to understand the situation for what it is... I understand there is a history there. One that I didn’t live. But I am going to judge the person now and not the past. I can only go by what I know. And right now he is offering a way for me to help Jasper by tying himself to me. Besides... Grandma and Aunt Rhea have kind natures. It is grandpa Tyler I am most concerned about.” Lucy smiled, biting her bottom lip.

“It’s funny thinking about that alpha as a grandfather now. You know he almost killed me once...” Abaddon rubbed the back of his neck.

“Yes, that was mentioned to us before.” Aiden said, looking over at Abaddon. “I don’t really know what to think about you. But if you try anything against my family I won’t hesitate to destroy your soul.”

“I expect nothing less.” Abaddon smirked and leaned back on his heels. “So are you going to deal with this djinn or not?”

“Well if everyone is done talking now...” Lucy closed her eyes and tried focusing again on Jasper. But she couldn’t connect to the djinn inside of him. It was like it was dormant. She was going to have to aggravate it again.

“So earlier when I was sitting at the table with those other women... well one of them said something really upsetting...” Lucy whispered out. “It’s the reason I left. I didn’t know how to handle the situation. And I still don’t know.”

She watched as the green energy swirled from Jasper again. This time before she could get interrupted she latched onto it, taking it firmly in her hands. The energy bit at her scalding her hands with its heat. A green fog entered into her mind as her consciousness faded inwardly.

Lucy stared at the green smoke that wafted in a thick ball in front of her. A burnt smell stung her nose as she tried to think what she needed to do next.

“Future queen of the vampires... What is it that you want?” A deep bass voice echoed in her mind.

“I do not wish for you to be attached to Jasper or his bloodline anymore.”

The green smoke swirled around in front of her. “This arrangement has been made in order to protect the vampire line. So that no descendant of royal blood can claim the throne by betrayal.”

“But it doesn’t just work this way. Your anger makes them lose their self-control and they kill when they don’t want to. I trust Jasper and he shouldn’t have to carry this burden. I ask that you make a deal with me.”

The green smoke glowed brightly and pulsated with its light. “I can choose to make a deal with the royal line... which will include you as their future. You wish to create a new master-servant relationship then you must have a new host in mind.”

“As long as I am alive the new host won’t lose control, right?” Lucy was cautious at the demon in front of her. Though his aura seemed different. The djinn was more like a creature that depended on a host to live. So it formed master-servant relationships. And had a fierce loyalty to their master. She knew there was more to it but for now she had the basics.

“This is true. But can you handle the bond? Are you someone who can be a good master to your servant?”

This took Lucy back slightly. Was she someone who would be a good master? So it mattered to the djinn how their master treated them. This made sense. The djinn would protect her and serve her through the host. He would want to at least be treated fairly. In this case the host would be Abaddon. She can be civil with him.

Almost as if sensing what she was thinking he continued. “Can you love your servant and care for him as a valued family member? Derek loves Jasper and Alaric loves Jester... this is what keeps the master-servant relationship strong and non severable. It can only be as strong as your relationship with the servant.”

“Well... I don’t... I don’t really feel anything for the host now. But I will treat him well as long as he doesn’t give me a reason not to. I can’t promise anything more than that.”

The green smoke quit pulsating its light and moved side to side. “Know that my strength can’t come through completely until the bond is strong enough. But I will acknowledge you, the future queen. I will agree to your request. The rest is up to you.”

“Wait.” Lucy asked, watching the smoke in front of her. “What happens if I can’t form a bond with him? Then what?”

“You could lose your control. The host can claim control of their own existence.”

Was this Abaddon’s angle? Was he banking on the fact that Lucy could never accept him so that he could be free? Was this another trap of his? He is clever. But maybe he doesn’t know about this. It didn’t seem like the banshee knew about this either or she wouldn’t have suggested it. She was extremely loyal to the royal vampires.

“I don’t know what I can offer. But as long as I don’t mistreat him will we remain bound?”

“As long as the bond can grow it will not unfasten. And when the bond grows so will the servants power. Do you still wish to form a new agreement?”

Lucy watched the green smoke as it drifted in front of her. She would chance it because Jasper’s freedom was worth the risk. She understood why the previous king did what he did but it wasn’t right. Because of that Jester left his brother’s side for a long time. She wouldn’t risk the same thing happening with Jasper. And she wouldn’t rebind him to her to control his anger. She wanted him free of the djinn and his bloodline. This was a burden they shouldn’t carry. And she trusted him. For Jasper... she would take this risk.

“Yes.” Lucy said in a resounding clear voice.

“Then choose.” The deep bass voice boomed.

The darkness faded and she could see everyone around her clearly. The green fog came into existence as well. She turned to Abaddon and inhaled deeply.

“I choose him.” Once again her voice rang clear. Instantly the green engulfed Abaddon. It absorbed into his body until the green was no longer seen. The moment this happened Lucy felt an invisible rope form around her and it pulled her towards Abaddon connecting her to him. It was a strange feeling. It was like being able to feel him like a pack member. She looked at his eyes... the eyes of her new servant. They seemed happy but his face looked a bit strained as if he was in pain.

“Are you okay?” Lucy asked as she watched a smile spread over his lips and he nodded his head. She turned her attention to Jasper. His brown eyes looked so clear and overall he looked relieved. As if a heavy burden was lifted off of him. “How do you feel?”

“It’s not heavy anymore. The pressure is gone.” Jasper smiled widely. “I was always worried about what I might do... it’s gone, Lucy. I don’t have to worry anymore... Thank you.”

She watched his eyes begin to water and she wrapped her arms around him.

“Maybe we should test it?” Ryan asked.

“Yes, tell me what had bothered you earlier.” Jasper looked at Lucy. It was something he was needing to know. If someone disrespected her he would deal with them even without the djinn guiding him.

“Well, when I was sitting at the table earlier...” She turned back to look at Abaddon. She wanted to make sure he was still good. Now that he was connected to her as a servant, how was he feeling? She frowned slightly at his very pale face. He stood there stoic and unmoving but he looked exhausted and drained. “Abaddon... Mira mentioned that this would be draining on you and it looks like it is taking its toll. Please go and take the time you need to recover. I’ll be leaving soon to go to the dragon kingdom but you can stay here and rest. I will see you upon my return.”

“You wish for me to stay apart from you during that time?”

She watched as a frown formed on his face. And he almost looked hurt as well. “You will need time to recover right? It is hard to say because of you being a soul but I’m sure you still need to recuperate, right? I should be back as you are finished recovering. Just stay here and rest. I’ll have Jasper notify the king and queen that your arrangement with them has changed.”

“Not completely. You are my master now but I am still secondly the royal’s servant. The original agreement will stay for now. Until you reign as queen. But you are of higher importance and priority.”

“Well, they at least need to know you are out of commission for now while you recover. Please go... and thank you.” It was only right to thank him for taking the djinn on regardless of his reasons. She wouldn’t worry about it. If she had to, she would handle it.

Abaddon bowed his head slightly. He lifted his head up and looked into Lucy’s green eyes. “I’ll wait for your return.”

With that he vanished. Lucy turned her attention back to the others. “As I was saying...-”

“Wow Lucy... you were really considerate with him. I’m actually surprised.” Ryan said.

“Abaddon is a part of me now. And he has taken a burden on he didn’t have to. I can at least show him the respect he deserves for that. For now, we will take our relationship one day at a time...” She looked back at Jasper. “The girl Stella... Sabrina’s cousin.” Lucy watched Jasper nod his head knowing who she was talking about. “Well... she has pictures on her phone of her and... Ryan...of my Ryan... selfie pictures of the two of them together. She is also claiming they are a couple.” She watched as Jasper’s eyes darkened but not like before.

Jasper shook his head harshly. “No. It isn’t true. I promise you.” His eyes met with Aiden and then Lucy. “There is no one else... no one. Please don’t think that-”

“Jasper...” Lucy smiled. “I trust him. But you do realize this is another problem right? And how should it get handled without...” She looked at Ryan then. How was it supposed to be handled without revealing the guy she calls Ryan is actually Derek. And how many people are going to think when the real Derek comes back that he has been playing around with Stella undercover.

Jasper ran his hand through his hair. “He is going to be so pissed... thank goodness you have faith in him. This could have been a disaster.”

“Well... how do you want to proceed?” Lucy asked with a small frown. They needed to start damage control immediately but how exactly do they do that? One thing was for sure... she was not going to have his name dragged down. When he returns as Derek the rumors will be all over the place. They needed to get it under wraps now... before that.

The Vampires Promised Bride Chapter 44

The four of them returned back to the celebration. People were dancing and enjoying their food. Lucy was surprised that no one seemed to notice their disappearance.

“It’s normal for us to have to leave sometimes abruptly. No one thinks anything of it.” Jasper said, winking at Lucy. He looked at the table where Stella was still seated. The group decided the best way to handle it would be for Jasper to act confused over it. And insinuate that Ryan has another girlfriend. And even bring up he would go to Ryan over them being together. That should be enough for her to backtrack her story.

Lucy took the lead and left the three men to go and sit back at the table. While she waited for Ryan (the real one) to come and suggest they take a selfie together. A way to initiate the conversation.

“Lucy.” Ryan slid his hand on her shoulder. “Let’s take some pictures. I want to have lots of memories to show our children one day.”

She giggled up at him. “Children? How many do you plan for me to have?”

“As many as you’ll let me make.” Ryan grinned down at her holding his phone out.

“Here I’ll take them for you.” Jasper said, walking up with Aiden.

“This is my brother Aiden. He is single by the way.” Lucy winked at the girls sitting at the table while Aiden made his move.

“You care for a dance?” Aiden smiled as Stella tilted his head over to the dance floor.

“You can’t have her, Aiden. She has a boyfriend.” Lucy watched as another girl jumped up and walked over to Aiden.

“I’ll dance with you though.” Updated by Jobnib.com, visit for more free novels. The girl said, grabbing onto Aiden’s hand leading him to the dance floor. Lucy smiled. That part wasn’t part of the plan but that is where improvising comes in.

“You have a boyfriend Stella, who?” Jasper asked.

Stella took the bait and excitedly brought her phone out. The rest of the girls at the table groaned and got up. They didn't want to relive her mushy stories. She flipped to the pictures of her and Derek and showed them to Jasper. Lucy watched as his brows furrowed as he analyzed the pictures.

"You are dating Ryan?" Jasper looked up at her as she smiled bashfully. "Are you sure you two are a couple? Because I think he has a girlfriend."

Stella giggled. "That's me. I'm his girlfriend. You can go ahead and flip through the pictures there. I even have some videos too."

Lucy felt her confidence dwindling by the second. She was so certain before that this was all untrue. By somewhere deep inside of her doubt was cracking. She kept trying to tell herself she trusted Derek. But when there is video evidence too... what do you do with that? She watched Jasper's face closely. She could see he seemed a bit confused with what he was looking at. She stood up so that she could view the phone from behind his back. She watched the pictures flipping through the screen until a play button appeared. It was a video.

One of the videos was of Derek laughing with Chaz and Enzo as Lenny struggled to stand after drinking too much. She saw another video of Tonya and Zach dancing around a campfire. Then she could hear a voice that sounded like Sabrina talking as the video continued. It was clear Sabrina was now recording on the phone with her minorly slurred voice. There was a part that zoomed in on Derek poking a stick at the fire while Stella sat at his side. And as the camera moved at the very end you could see Stella's head lean onto Derek's arm. They were no longer in the picture at this point as Sabrina tripped and quit recording.

Jasper moved to a final video. It was of another day and the elite soldiers were getting ready to depart. The video moved as Stella walked around saying her goodbyes to everyone. When she got to Derek the video moved off him as she wrapped her arms around his neck. The phone was now pointing down at the ground but the voices continued to record. You could hear her say "I'm going to miss you."

A male voice was heard saying, "I will think about you every day." Was this Derek's voice? It was hard to tell.

"Last night was incredible. I'll hold onto the memory until we can be together again." Stella's voice rang through sweetly.

Lucy watched as Jasper's grip on the phone tightened. His eyes flickered dark as he stared at the video.

“Wait for me... I love you.”

Lucy felt numb as those words echoed into her ears. Jasper growled and looked up at Stella.

“That isn’t Ryan’s voice.” He said angrily.

Stella giggled. “Whose voice is it then?”

A low lethal snarl crept from Jasper. “I want the truth.”

Stella tilted her head to the side and took her phone back. “I’m sorry... were you interested in me? I’m sorry... but I am with Ryan.”

The noise in the area began to fade. Flashes of the pictures of Stella and Derek entered Lucy’s head. And then the sound of his voice saying he loved her on the video. She felt sick. Physically nauseous. A storm slowly raged inside of her, but she couldn’t see to navigate her way out of it. She was becoming lost inside of herself. Doubt seized her and poked at her. Did she really know Derek? She wanted to know Derek. She wanted to trust Derek... but could she?

Lucy’s fears surfaced inside of her as anguish took refuge in her chest then a wave of rage crashed together. An emotional storm brewed and grasped a hold of her.

Was it all pretend for the sake of the treaty? Did Derek only tell her what he thought she wanted to hear? What he could feel she needed to hear? She didn’t have any experience with relationships. She was naïve. She thought she could have love... but at the end of the day, it was just an arranged marriage. Derek had already found his person and he loved her. Something inside of her cracked and she felt a stabbing pain inside. Her vision blurred and it became harder to breathe. She wanted to think logically about everything but the emotions were suffocating her.

Lucy felt arms embrace her and then in a flash, she was inside the castle. She blinked blankly and then looked at the body that retreated from her. His dark hair and dark eyes slowly came into focus. He looked at her with concern.

“Deep breaths,” Abaddon said quietly.

“Am I...broken?” Lucy’s breath staggered as she felt her insides being torn apart as another wave of nauseousness hit her. This time she swallowed the bile down, it burnt her throat. She looked up to see Abaddon’s legs trembling slightly. She remembered he needed to be resting and used his energy to teleport her inside. “I told you to rest.” Her voice said quietly.

“You needed me.”

She nodded her head with a smile. She relied on others too much. She needed to be more like how her mother was as a huntress. She didn’t need anyone. She relied on no one. She never had to feel herself being destroyed... not after the loss of her parents. “I’m weak aren’t I?” She looked up to Abaddon’s dark eyes as hers watered. “I don’t know what I’m supposed to believe. How can I be this weak? Why can’t I just believe in someone? Why do I have to doubt? Why is this fear gripping me and why am I saying all of this to you?” She bit her bottom lip and inhaled a deep breath. “You need to go rest. I’m going to go to visit my family now... thank you for pulling me away from that situation. Really... thank you.”

Her nose and eyes burned but she blinked the tears back. Jasper would probably be coming soon. She needed to bury her feelings like she used to. She didn’t want to feel any of this. A strange numbness began to creep through her body.

“Don’t do it to yourself, Lucy.” Abaddon’s voice was quiet and gentle. He watched her eyes look at him. She looked broken. But he knew where that road could lead. “Don’t lose yourself... you could end up down a very dangerous path that spirals out of your control... trust me...I know.” He met her gaze and gave her a small smile. “Having someone to lean on is a strength. One that not everyone has. Use that strength Lucy. And discover what the truth is. Once you have the undeniable truth go from there.”

A single crystal trickled from her right eye. She reached up and slowly wiped it away. “It’s so hard being apart from him. I find myself doubting the bond the longer we are apart.” She reached up and touched her bare neck. “Was it real? Did I really feel it? I have nothing to prove it is there. What if it wasn’t real? What if it was a clever spell? And what if... what if I am not who he wants? I don’t like this.” Her voice was an icy whisper as she hated the person she was being right now.

“Don’t do this to yourself... I... I understand how this all feels. It’s a painful feeling. To wonder why you weren’t good enough. To wonder why you couldn’t be the one. And why someone else ended up being the right one. Why them? What is wrong with me? You aren’t even given a fair chance and then the poison latches onto your soul and before you know it...” Abaddon looked away from her. “Before you know it you are no longer the person you were. You are the poison you create.” He looked back at her. “All I know is he always talked of you. I wasn’t always around him when he was here but when I was

his focus was you. Don't fall into darkness. We have enough demons in this world. We could use more fairy princesses. I know things seem bleak right now... but search for the light. And if you can't find it then create your own."

Abaddon had a chance there to kick her further into darkness and instead he ended up throwing her a life preserve. A faint smile spread across her lips. The pain was still there and she still needed to sort through her feelings but she wasn't going to shut everyone out. She wouldn't lock away her emotions. "Thank you..." She stared at his eyes. At one point he was evil and deserved the death he got. But this soul of his had to be different. Maybe this was who he could have been if he would have chosen a different path.

A sharp pain tore across her stomach. It was like being ripped apart by a hot sword. She threw herself backwards and clutched her stomach. She slid down the wall as a whimper escaped her throat.

"Shit... I was afraid of this." Abaddon said as Aiden came running in.

"Lucy...Oh HELL." Aiden shook his head and muttered several choice words of profanity. He walked up to Lucy and put his hand on her shoulder.

"I think the shock of everything plus her new fairy powers is the cause of this." Abaddon shook his head angrily. "You need to get her to a guardian."

"Lucy! What happened? Abaddon, why did you take her?" Jasper ran down the hall with Ryan at his side.

"What's wrong with her?" Jasper asked as he slid down to her side. He watched as she curled into a ball on the floor. A cry escaped her lips as her body shook in pain.

"She is in heat..." Aiden squeezed his fists together. "This is why she should have been marked already. After finding your mate... and the shock of everything that has happened..." Aiden looked up at Jasper angrily. He was livid with Derek. And he would personally see to his cheating self for hurting his sister.

"It isn't true." Jasper shook his head adamantly. He looked down at Lucy. "It isn't true. He never... he wouldn't ever... I know..."

Lucy couldn't even look at him. Her eyes were squeezed tight as she tried to weather the pain. She had two storms now meeting together and it was forming a massive hurricane inside of her. She felt Aiden tenderly scoop her up into his chest.

"We are leaving now. She needs to get to where someone can help." Aiden said coldly.

"Her mate can help... I can send-"

Aiden growled loudly baring his fangs at Jasper. "We are leaving. I don't want HIM near my sister."

Jasper grit his teeth and exhaled loudly. "I'm coming with you guys. Give me one second to grab a bag." He sprinted off and grabbed their things. He wouldn't push the Derek issue right now when emotions were so sensitive. He wouldn't believe it. Yes, the evidence was damning... but it couldn't be true. Not Derek... He refused to believe it. His cousin has been in love with Lucy since he was a kid. There was no way there could ever be anyone else. Never. He needed to talk with Derek and figure everything out.

The Vampires Promised Bride Chapter 45

"Is he still avoiding you?" Rhea (Wyatt's sister) watched as Lee reappeared in front of her.

"That bastard keeps giving me the slip but I'll track him down. He can't hide from me forever. I need to talk with Aken and get all of this figured out. I have a suspicion of who this Wicker might be... but I need to talk with that idiot." Lee (Levi, Leviathan, Rhea's mate) growled in agitation. He pulled Rhea into his chest and wrapped his arms around her. He leaned his head down taking in her scent to calm him down. Ever since the premonition, he has been looking for the Kraken, Aken. But he kept managing to avoid him. Yet there were times he felt like he might be close by...

"You need to face it... you are getting old papa bear." Titus (dragon king of the west) chuckled as he and Cody (Rhea's adopted brother and guardian) walked into the room. Cody rubbed his shoulder and grinned.

"I'm not getting old... I'm getting better." Cody looked up at his sister and looked around. "Are you bored without Lila and Kelsie around?"

"No, I'm outnumbered." She giggled. "At least Kelsie will be back today. Lila will be visiting her brother for a few more weeks right?"

Titus pouted and nodded his head. “They are getting things organized for the mating party that is coming up. We are hosting it this year but she is helping organize and plan events with Ciana (Lila’s sister-in-law and her brother Dex’s mate).”

“How is Justice doing with his training?” Rhea looked at Cody and Titus.

“He is doing good. His training has come a long way and surprisingly he is able to control himself very well. He is now giving Micah a run for his money. Which with how strong Micah is that is saying something. I think Micah has been the most natural raw talent the guardians have seen. And incredibly strong... Which you know I have my theories on that. I think because of Alexis being a demigod her guardian had to be stronger.” Cody was certain this is the reason Micah was so strong. Fairy magic was peculiar that way. It adjusted for its owner.

A portal opened before them and through it the sound of screams belted into the room. Aiden walked through carrying Lucy and Jasper hurried through beside them before Aiden reclosed the portal.

“Oh no...” Rhea ran up to Lucy running her hand over her forehead. She was pale and her eyes were squeezed tight.

“Hand her over here. Titus go get Justice quick!” Cody pulled Lucy from Aiden’s arms and was shocked that he was able to connect to her so easily. Almost as if she was his charge but not as strong.

“It just happened.” Aiden was almost frantic sounding as he paced in front of Cody who carried Lucy down the hallway.

“Where is her mate? We need to send for her mate. She can’t continue to endure this pain... it is worse than I expected...” Beads of sweat dripped down Cody’s forehead as he eased him and Lucy on the bed. He kept her held into him while he tried to control his breathing. He could see the pain lessened slightly on Lucy but she was still in excruciating agony and so was he.

“No.” Aiden growled angrily.

“Now Aiden wait...” Jasper said but Aiden shot him a dark look.

“I don’t trust him right now. I am not bringing someone in who might have another woman.” Aiden growled angrily.

“What?!” Lee’s voice was dark and lethal. If someone was messing around with his precious niece he didn’t care who the person was... he didn’t fear the vampires.

“I trust the prince. It was a misunderstanding, I am certain of it.” Jasper tried to reason with Aiden.

“Look what it has done to her?! Do you think that just randomly happened? This is the stress from her mate not being faithful.” Aiden snarled, balling his fists up.

“Okay. Aiden... go and get your parents they should be here right now.” Rhea said calmly as the door burst open. Titus, Alexis, Raine (Cody’s daughter), Brian (Titus’ son), Micah (Alexis guardian), and Justice all ran into the room.

Justice sprinted to the bed. He looked up at Cody who was squinting in discomfort and then down at Lucy who looked pale. She was exhausted and was whimpering quietly. He reached his arms out and took Lucy into his chest. Immediately he was being cut apart with liquid fire. It burned his skin and stabbed him internally. This wasn’t pain... this was torture. How was she even managing to endure any of it on her own?

Cody sighed and looked up at Micah. “We are going to have to take shifts among the guardians. It’s too much. I’ve never felt anything like it... Somehow I was able to connect with her... I think all of us guardians should be able to.” He looked up at Rhea. “Why is it this intense?”

“I don’t know... we need to get my parents here as well. Raine, if I open a portal for you can you go to them?” Rhea watched as Raine nodded her head while she kept her eyes glued to Lucy’s body. “Okay good. Aiden and Raine, you two need to make haste. We need to know how to proceed here. And we will need Tristan and Jason’s help with Lucy.”

“I’ll go see Grandpa Sage.” Titus turned quickly and jogged down the hall as two portals opened up. Aiden and Raine each vanished. They wouldn’t be gone long only a moment. Just the time they needed to tell the others what has happened.

Alexis walked to the edge of the bed. She watched the sweat pouring from both Lucy and Justice. “It isn’t much... but it’s all I can do.” Her eyes watered seeing them in pain but all she could do was offer some comfort. She moved her hands slightly and a cold chill flowed around them. Small sparkling blue crystals glistened and flickered through the wind she pushed around them.

“Good thinking Lex. Your ice element will be perfect here. Keep it even flowing and don’t over-exert yourself.” Rhea watched as Lucy’s body continued to tremble. But what was concerning was that it seemed like Lucy wasn’t able to maintain consciousness. She was able to cry out in pain but she wasn’t responding to any of them. “Lucy. Lucy, can you hear me?”

“Right before we went through the portal she quit talking. It was like she fainted but she didn’t... Is she going to be alright? I never knew werewolves had heats like this.” Jasper walked near the bed. His hands were trembling. “I can’t do anything. I can’t help her and it’s killing me.”

“Easy, Jasper.” Rhea patted his shoulder. “This isn’t normal. Werewolf heats can be painful but I’ve never heard of anything like this.”

“Maybe it is her new fairy powers causing conflict?” Alexis looked over at her mother who seemed to be at a loss.

“I’ve never seen...” Rhea looked over at Cody who still was recovering and then at Justice who was doing his best to alleviate the pain for Lucy. “It’s draining the guardians...”

Almost simultaneously two portals opened up and the room was becoming crowded with people. Freya and Wyatt ran to Lucy. Jason and Jin went to encourage Justice. While Lilly, Tyler, and Tristan stood there analyzing the situation. (Lilly and Tyler are the reigning fairy king and queen and Tristan is Lilly’s guardian. Rhea is the fairy queen but hasn’t accepted her reign yet. Jason and Cody are twins and are Wyatt and Rhea’s adopted brothers plus are guardians.)

“Brian, Jasper, Raine, and Aiden, why don’t you go and get something to drink. We will call for you if there is anything.” Rhea’s voice was gentle, calm, and commanding. There were so many people in the room and everyone wanted to help. But it was best to leave this in the hands of the guardians and leaders. So a solution could come with level heads.

Jasper and Aiden stood there as the other two left. They were reluctant to leave her.

“Why isn’t she responding...” Freya turned to look at Wyatt. For the first time in a long time real fear was in her eyes.

“We need to get Derek here.” Wyatt sighed as Aiden growled menacingly.

“No!”

“Aiden. We will work out the details with him after we get him here. But...” Wyatt looked back at Lucy and shook his head. “I’ve never... even when Susan went into heat...”

“She’s being locked inside of herself. Her lycan’s heat is different from a werewolves...” Lilly said quietly.

“I’m sorry... a what?” Jasper looked up dumbfounded. This was the first time he was hearing about this.

“Aiden... please take Jasper out and explain this to him. We will take it from here.” Wyatt said calmly but his silver eyes meant business. He watched Aiden begrudgingly pat Jasper on the shoulder and walk out of the room together.

“As I was saying... her lycan’s heat mixed with her fairy powers...” Lilly rubbed Lucy’s arm gently. “There is something else there too... a strange green energy that seems to be protecting her. It won’t let me enter. I don’t think we can reach her... but a soul mate can.” She looked at Wyatt.

“Bring the boy here. But we will have a nice little chat with him before we allow him to see Lucy.” Tyler’s voice was dark.

Lee chuckled darkly. “If he has wronged Lucy you won’t have to worry about the vampires for there to be a treaty with.”

“Now you can’t go and kill all the vampires, Lee.” Rhea swatted at his arm. “But I wouldn’t be opposed to just the prince.”

“That’s my girl.” Lee chuckled. “Let me find him. It shouldn’t take me long.”

Wyatt nodded his head. “Thank you.”

Lee kissed the side of Rhea’s head. “I’ll be back as soon as I can.” Then he vanished from the room.

“Alright... let me see what we are dealing with here.” Tristan sat next to Justice on the bed. He chuckled when he saw Justice was unwilling to hand Lucy over. Guardians became naturally protective and possessive, it was their nature. “You can’t keep this going. It is best that we take shifts with her.” He reached out and Justice reluctantly handed Lucy over to him.

“Shit.” Tristan grimaced as his arms shook. “What the hell is this?”

“That bad gramps?” Jason chuckled as he helped Justice over to a chair.

“Yes... it is like nothing I have ever felt before.” Cody looked at his brother with worry. There was no way Lucy’s body could survive this on its own.

“It doesn’t make sense. A heat is supposed to help with a mate. It isn’t supposed to be this dangerous.” Freya growled.

“But for a lycan it is severe.” A gentle old voice said from the door as Grandpa Sage and Titus walked back in. “Lycan’s don’t exist anymore. Now Aiden and Lucy have magically become these stronger versions of werewolves. For self-preservation the heat for a lycan is intense. Because the need for her to reproduce is dire. But Lucy is also a fairy princess now... where an heir to the throne is also desperate. The storm created by these two rarities has put her into a deadly state and I am not saying that loosely. We aren’t even guardians but all of us can feel it... this could kill her.”

“Wyatt...” Freya whimpered as she squeezed onto Lucy’s hand. Wyatt’s hand landed on Freya’s shoulder and gripped it lightly. “What are we going to do...”

“We will talk with Derek first.” Wyatt frowned as he listened to his daughter’s cries. One of the most painful things in the world is watching your child suffer and there is nothing you can do to ease it.

“And what if it’s true... what if he does have someone else but he is the only one who can help her?” Freya tilted her head back to meet with his silver eyes.

“If he marks her will the heat stop?” Alexis asked as she continued to cool Lucy and Tristan with her ice.

“No...” Wyatt said quietly.

“He needs to mark and mate with her.” Grandpa Sage said in his elderly voice.

“But she’s unconscious!” Alexis said, outraged.

“We would make sure she consented and was awake.” Freya smiled and looked at Alexis. “But she might not be able to consent to the marking. It should be enough to break her from this state though.”

“He is the only one who can wake her? So what happens with all of this if...” Alexis looked at her mother Rhea mortified.

“That’s what we are trying to figure out.” Rhea looked over at Wyatt. “Maybe someone else can mark her and be with her. If she can’t have her fated mate. I am not about to hand her over to anyone who doesn’t know what a special treasure she is. She deserves the best. I can’t just hand her over to him if he plans to keep a mistress.”

Micah growled. “What about Jasper? Couldn’t he help her instead?”

“Do you think he would mark his prince’s and cousins’ mate?” Wyatt shook his head with a frown. “I don’t think he would... and I couldn’t ask that of him.”

Micah listened as Alexis’ voice entered his head and he chuckled slightly. He rubbed his forehead and looked back at Lucy’s pale face. “Don’t you think that’s problematic?” He arched his brow at Alexis who shook her head no.

“What is it?” Rhea asked looking at her daughter.

“I asked if Micah would do it. If her mate isn’t someone who will take care of her... if he would...” Alexis looked at him almost pleading with him.

“I think honestly the next best choice would be Brian.” Micah looked up at Titus. “I’m Alexis’s guardian. It would be a bit of a conflict for me... but Brian could. He is unrelated.” He shrugged a bit. “But I won’t let her die. There are options here. We don’t have to force her fated mate on her. But we would need to reach her...”

Freya gripped Lucy’s hand tightly. She could feel her daughter’s body trembling from the pain. She couldn’t reach her because of the green energy from her daughter. It was troubling her and a realization hit her... it was demonic.

“That light Lilly... the energy...” Freya met with Lilly’s eyes. “It’s demonic.”

“Yes... I think so too.” Lilly nodded slowly.

“What the hell happened to her in the vampire kingdom? Get Aiden back in here!” Wyatt growled.