

Chapter 131 - Dr.Luna

There were muffled voices sounding in Rhea's head. At some point she fell unconscious. Her thoughts were about Lumi, her wolf. Being able to feel her was such a fulfilling filling. Now that she was gone again the void inside of her felt even bigger. Lumi's strength had saved her. The two of them together were able to come back from the brink of death. She had this overwhelming lonely feeling inside of her.

"Rhea?"

The muffled voices stopped, and she felt a warm hand brush against her face. It was damp. No. Her face was damp. She was crying.

"Rhea..."

She heard Lee call out to her almost sounding desperate. It was hard to fight through the exhaustion but painstakingly she opened her eyes. She had to open her eyes. She could hear his worry and she wanted to see him. Her eyes bounced around at everyone. She saw Cody and Kelsie looking instantly relieved. Next, she looked at Titus whose posture looked to be irritated but his eyes looked gentle towards her. Further back she noticed Freya who had a soft smile on her face looking at her. She looked upwards at the man holding her in his arms. His eyes had so much emotion in them. Relief, anger, and most importantly love. She gave him a weak smile to show him she was okay.

"Rhea, are you in pain?" Lee softly cooed near her ear.

"No."

"Why are you crying?" Lee prodded his nose against her neck as he took in small whiffs of her scent.

Rhea opened her mouth to say something but decided to wait. She was not sure what all Freya had informed them. She would have to explain meeting Lumi and wanted to wait before she got into that.

"Freya, are they bullying you?" Rhea knew that the overprotective bunch would most likely be looking at her skeptically. She would be a person of suspicion until proven otherwise.

Freya smirked. "Eh, nothing I can't handle."

“So how much of story time did I miss?” Rhea was waking up more and more by the second. Enough that she was ready to engage in the discussion they were having prior to her waking up.

“I already covered all of it... mostly. I at least covered everything I knew.” Freya looked at Rhea with interest and expectation.

“On a scale of one to ten how mad are you?” Rhea glanced up to Lee with a sheepish smile.

“Oh, it is a ten right now and we will be speaking about it later, privately.” Lee let his tone drop a bit threateningly at the last part.

She smiled a bit looking at him. A punishment? I’ll take whatever punishment you’ll give me. She thought with amusement. He seemed to already know what she was thinking as a crooked grin rose on his face.

“What am I going to do with you?” He leaned down and kissed her forehead. Damn her ways and managing to spin everything around so he wasn’t mad.

“So, Rhea... I’ve seen a lot of things. A lot of different things of all different types of nature. What I haven’t seen was what you pulled off. You were engulfed by death. I felt it. You were almost gone. How did you come back from that?” Freya finally decided to ask what Rhea had not volunteered to answer.

Rhea felt Lee’s arms tighten on her as Freya mentioned how she was close to death. Geez, Freya. You could have omitted that part. Or at least sugar coated it. Wow! You were really out of it. Or that was amazing how you were able to beat the darkness like that. Pick one... say anything but not about me almost meeting the Grim Reaper. Not with the crowd of people I am surrounded by. I’m going to be packaged in bubble wrap and left to pop my own bubbles for entertainment. I must save myself here.

“I mean... sure it was rough, but I wasn’t almost dead or anything.” Rhea tried to ease the weight of it. However, life always had a way a kicking Rhea and laughing. And once again it pulled the rug and held her head under the water.

“I know what someone looks like when they are dead or near death. And trust me you were there. Honestly, I was shocked to see you alive. I don’t believe in miracles. God’s don’t care enough to perform them but you... you are as close to a miracle as I have ever seen. You might even be one.” Freya trailed off thinking about how it was the Moon Goddess who had sealed them so maybe she saved Rhea.

Rhea’s eyes bounced around her and she let out a nervous air chuckle. She could see the looks on all of their faces. She didn’t need to look at Lee... she could feel it in the possessive way he was holding her. Maybe life in a bubble won’t be too bad. Rhea looked up at Freya. She had no idea that she had done anything detrimental. Rhea bit the bottom of her lip. So much for downplaying it.

“It wasn’t a miracle.” Rhea finally conceded and figured it was best to just come out with everything. “When I felt it, the darkness capturing me, I had a lot of things going through my mind. I had spent up my energy purifying you and I knew I didn’t have much left. But I began to think of everyone waiting for me.” Rhea glanced up to Lee and smiled. “I knew I couldn’t leave them. I had to protect everyone, even if they don’t think I am here to protect them, I am. Then I felt her. My wolf, Lumi, surged out and together we eliminated the darkness, effortlessly. She is still sealed though. It was nice... I was able to talk to her. Now that I can’t feel her again it feels empty inside. It’s a lonely feeling.” Rhea said quietly as she felt her eyes water up again.

Lee lowered Rhea to her feet but pulled her body into his chest as he continued to hold her.

“Why is she still sealed?” Cody felt frustrated for his sister. He was one and the same with his beast. But he knew from others that their wolves were like their other half. He could see that it pained Rhea not to be able to communicate with her.

“I don’t know exactly. I guess she had to grow with me. She said she was with me since the moment I was conceived. She said she would be ready soon. It has taken her longer to develop and be ready because she is special.” Rhea didn’t know anything except that the two of them would be stronger because of their bond. She couldn’t wait until she was always with her.

She leaned her head into Lee. She was glad Lumi was able to break through when she did. She couldn’t leave Lee all alone. It would have been too cruel after they had just gotten together. Besides, they were still unmated. She couldn’t die without fulfilling that aspect of her life. It was only the moment she had dreamed about continually since she was sixteen.

“I know you have called me here for a reason. However, I have decided to dedicate my life to Rhea.” Freya’s green eyes locked onto Rhea’s eyes. “Rhea, you saved my life, and I will use my life to serve you.”

Rhea smiled at Freya. She started to pull to walk towards her, but Lee wouldn’t let her leave his side. Instead, he tucked her into his side and walked her over to her. He made that mistake once. It wasn’t going to happen again.

“Freya. Your life is your own. You are free to live it as you choose. However, I would like to have you as a friend? And as a friend there is something that you can do for me.”

A friend? This girl wanted to be her friend? No one wanted to be her friend. In truth, she had never had a friend before. She looked at Rhea and her eyes began to mist though she fought back the tears that threatened. She didn’t cry either. At least she hadn’t in the longest time.

Kelsie understood the look on Freya’s face. She knew it all too well. Rhea was her friend. Her only friend at first. It was because of Rhea that her acceptance of others broadened. To the point of becoming attracted to Cody, something that never would have happened before. Rhea saw worth in her, she saw worth in Freya. Kelsie let her arm brush into Cody content just to feel his touch. She understood. This girl was actually someone who was not unlike herself. She wasn’t someone she needed to be afraid of. They were kindred spirits.

Freya smiled and nodded her head. If that is what the girl who saved her life wanted, then that is what she would get. She did not know much about friendships, but she would try her best to be one for Rhea. “I don’t know how being friends work, I might make mistakes, but I am willing to try.”

“All friends make mistakes sometimes and we are all constantly learning from one another.” Rhea knew it deep inside. That this girl was meant to be one of her friends. They were connected.

Freya nodded. “What is it that you need?”

“First, don’t think that you have to. Being a friend means you can say no. But there are demons that might be going after my old pack. Two of my brothers are there, one of them is the Alpha of the pack. I was hoping you could go and help keep an eye out for me.” Rhea bit her bottom lip nervously.

“There is also a specific demon who might show up who is after Rhea. His name is Abaddon, in case you would like to know.” Kelsie added with a smirk. Naturally, you would want to kill the enemy of the person who saved you. And she could see it in Freya’s eyes, they immediately hungered for Abaddon’s head.

“I’ll go and keep an eye on your pack along with your brothers. If I hear of this Abaddon, I will take care of him as well. Is there something I need to have so that your brothers will know that I am sent by you? I’ve encountered werewolf packs before, and they don’t take kindly to trespassers.” Freya had to take out a small pack of wolves before because they decided to attack her for trespassing. They were not the most levelheaded species she had encountered. Maybe if they had more sense, they wouldn’t needlessly attack a stranger who was only passing through. Of course, they probably never imagined that the person they were attacking was more powerful than the four werewolves.

“I will send a letter with you plus my friend here will let them know you will be around.” Rhea motioned over towards Kelsie.

Freya studied the girl. She took in her stance, her features and her smell. It did not take her long to put together who the girl was and how she would manage to beat her there. Freya nodded in understanding. “Give me directions and I will head out immediately.”

Rhea frowned. “But it is late. You need to rest and-”

“I travel best in the cover of the night. Trust me, now that the curse is gone, I feel amazing. I never realized how draining it actually was.”

“If that’s what you really want to do. Just be careful. And don’t do anything too dangerous. Abaddon tends to keep demons around him in numbers. Be careful and tell Wyatt and Jason to be careful for me too.” Rhea smiled behind the pain she was feeling. She wanted to be there too. She wanted to be with her pack and her brothers.

“Don’t worry, Rhea. There is a reason I am the most sought out. When it comes to demon hunting there isn’t anyone better than me. When I have the demons taken care of, I will come back to you. I’ll help protect you and I will fight for your secret...” Freya gave Rhea a sad smile. “My parents were what you would call forbidden lovers too. It might not be much, but you have an ally in me.”

“Now you are acting like a true friend already.” Rhea beamed; this time Lee allowed her out of his arms so she could embrace her new friend.

Freya stiffened at first. It had been so long since she had been hugged. She could feel the genuineness in her hug. A small smile formed on her lips and she gently hugged her back. It was like a light that was once burned out had lit up again inside of her. The feeling of having someone. Of having someone who cared. It had been too long since anyone had cared about her. Not only did Rhea save her life but she is the first person to care about her since she lost her parents. No matter what... she would protect this girl. In her mind she decided that Rhea would be her family.

“I’ll show her out and I’ll head over to the Diamond pack.” Kelsie offered out quietly. She was touched by the exchange in front of her. She was shocked herself that she wasn’t jealous. She had always gotten jealous of who Rhea was close with. Instead... she wanted to extend her hand in friendship to Freya as well. She would take the few moments they would be alone to talk with her.

“Oh, wait one second first. Cody come with me.” Rhea ran and grabbed some paper out of the drawer and scribble some things down and then allowed Cody to write a few words as well. “Here.” Rhea handed the folded-up paper to Freya. “Give this to Wyatt and Jason. Thank you.”

Freya nodded and tucked the paper away. She then looked up at Kelsie expectantly. “Ready?”

Kelsie smiled. This girl gets straight to it. “Yes, let’s go.”

Book 2

Chapter 50 Run

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Lee grabbed Rhea by the hand after Kelsie and Freya had left. “Excuse us, we need to talk.” Lee tugged on her and led her to his bedroom. He shut the door to the room and then turned to look at her.

“Is this going to be a new thing for you? See how close you can push it without dying? It seems that since you have left Elysium that is all you have been doing.” Lee’s voice was dripping with irritation. “Tell me...” This time he softened his voice and met her sapphire eyes with his baby blue ones. “I want the truth... did you think you were going to die?”

At first Rhea wanted to lie but she knew better. He already knew the answer to the question he was asking. “For a moment, yes.” She heard a sharp intake of his breath. She watched as he slowly walked over to her. Then right in front of her he dropped to his knees and reached his arms out, hugging her into him at the waist.

“I can’t baby, I can’t lose you Rhea. I just can’t. I know you are trying to help, and I don’t want to stop you from helping others. Please though, don’t risk your life anymore. I can’t continue this life without you.”

There was so much tenderness and vulnerability in his voice. Her heart was aching for him. Her chest was burning, and her nose stung as a small tear crept down her cheek. He looked so vulnerable as he clung to her on his knees. This mighty deity was crumbling apart at the thought of almost losing her. And as much as this pained her it also made her heart swell with love. For him to care about her so much truly touched her.

She reached out her hands and wrapped them around him. “I’m so sorry. I’m sorry I scared you. My sweet Lee. It’s okay. I am right here, and I will not leave you. How could I leave you alone here? I came back from death for you Lee.” His hands tightened around her legs and he hoisted her upwards, carrying her to the bed. Her heart fluttered in excitement as they got closer to the mattress. Then he spun around so that his back was to the bed. He leaned backwards taking them both down on the bed with her on top of him. He held her tight against him and breathed in her scent.

“Can you promise not to do anything dangerous? Especially while I am away....” Lee’s voice trailed off quietly.

Rhea jolted upright and looked down at him. “Away? Where are you going? How long will you be gone?”

Lee grinned and flashed his teeth at her in a dazzling smile. “Are you going to miss me that much?”

Rhea sat on his stomach and pouted down at him. “Of course, I am.”

He sat up moving her to his lap and wrapped his arms around her. “I can’t take not being able to claim you in public, Rhea. I am going to speak with the council. I want to try excluding fairies and witches from being involved with deities. Both are connected to the earth and understand it’s balance. I’m hoping to only be gone for a couple days. It will probably be something that gets brought up and then addressed again later, but I have to start this process now. I can’t not have you by my side because I am afraid who will see.” Lee brushed his lips against her neck and began trailing gentle butterfly kisses against her skin.

“When are you leaving?” Rhea asked again quietly. Her heart was already aching at the thought of him not being around. She had gotten used to being around him already.

“In a day or two. I’m a bit hesitant to leave immediately with there being a traitor here.” Lee reached up and brushed his hand against her face. “I’m going to miss you too.”

“Can’t you at least come back at night? Since you can instantly teleport and all.” Rhea smiled with her nose scrunched up. She felt his chest vibrations as his nose nuzzled into her mark.

“How can I deny that? If my sweet princess is going to miss me that badly then I’ll come back to spend our nights together.” He nipped at her neck and flicked his tongue over his mark on her.

Rhea sighed under the heat of his intoxicating touch. If he was trying to drive her insane it was working. “Well Lee, are you ready to make me fully yours?” She taunted at him in a coquettish tone.

He let out a low chuckle. “Soon...”

Rhea smirked and spun her head to the side to look at him. “I told myself I couldn’t possibly die back there. Not when you haven’t completed the mating bond with me yet.” She watched his eyes battle in color from his light blue to dark to light blue again.

“Not yet.” His voice was hushed and hoarse. “Not until after we don’t have to keep this a secret. Honestly, baby... I am barely controlling myself now. It’s just that once our bond is complete there is no way I can’t have you by my side. There is also a good chance I’ll kill anyone who looks at you. Just a bit longer.” He kissed her nose and then fanned his way to her cheek. The just a bit longer part was really for himself. No matter what the beautiful woman on his lap was thinking, this was way harder for him. It was taking every ounce of strength to fight off his animal instinct to claim what was his. He already lost to his animal once by branding her. He couldn’t lose himself again.

Rhea smiled under his barrage of sweet kisses. She understood that in the long run this would make more sense. “Hey Lee.”

“Hmm?” He continued to plant soft kisses over her neck now. Savoring his sweet fairy.

“Do you think that after everything is okay, for us to be together that you would give me a ride? I’m sure it is way different then riding a hippogryph.”

Lee chuckled. “Baby, anything you want from me you can have. Once everything is allowed out in the open, I am completely at your beck and call.” He smiled against her skin. She was so cute and sweet. That was what she wanted? Him to fly her around in his dragon form? Yes, she had to be the most precious person ever. And she was his.

Rhea leaned into him and kissed his cheek, then nuzzled herself under his chin so she could lean against his chest.

“I like Freya. We are going to be good friends; I can feel it.”

“She’s more dangerous than she looks.” Lee still wasn’t completely convinced how good of a friend the Dhampir could be.

“I’m more dangerous than I look too.”

Lee squeezed his arms around Rhea and chuckled. “You’re deadly.”

“Hey!” Rhea tried to pull away from him, but he held her captive in his arms. She snuffed out a breath of air. “Are you making fun of me?” She furrowed her eyes down and felt the small vibrations from his chest behind her.

“Never. I wouldn’t dream of it.” He smiled into the back of her hair as he felt her twist trying to get out from his grip on her.

Rhea pressed her lips together and then got a devilish idea. She flicked her finger and sent a jolt of water at Lee. The moment he loosened his grip to block the water she hopped away from him.

His eyes widen and he had a big mischievous grin on his face. “Did you just use the element that I bestowed upon you against me?”

“Awe, Lee. I didn’t realize you weren’t very smart. Yes, Lee that was the element water. Say it with me waa—teeerrr.”

Lee chuckled. “Oh, you are getting punished for that little girl.”

Rhea tilted her head up to him. “Little girl? Is it little girl or woman? Because just a few moments ago I am pretty sure you weren’t looking at me like a little girl.” She watched his eyes flicker at her.

Every person, every animal... everything has the thing inside of them that screams out to them right before a predator strikes. Rhea’s senses were tingling. She wasn’t going to wait for him to strike though. She swiftly took off running and swung the door open to the room. Lee was at her heels as she took off running into the great room. She squealed and giggled knowing who was right behind her. She ran past Titus and shoved him into Lee to slow him down, it worked.

“Wow Levi I never knew you cared so much.” Titus batted his eyes up at Lee. Lee gave him a hard shove out of the way.

“Yep, I knew it. You only love me at night.” Titus continued and gave Lee a crooked smile.

Lee looked up to see Rhea safely hiding behind Cody. His eyes met with Cody’s curious as to which position, he would take. Cody grinned and looked down at Rhea. “Sorry Rhea... but this is guy code.” He then winked at Lee and stepped aside.

“Traitor.” Rhea hissed out. Just then Kelsie popped up from the stairs. “Kelsie!” Rhea dove next to her friend. “Save me Kelsie!” She squealed.

Kelsie looked up at Lee who stopped a few feet away from them. Her eyes were beaded dark. She took a protective stance in front of Rhea and through the slits in her eyes all but dared Lee to come for the girl.

Cody ran in from the side and scooped Kelsie up into his arms. “I got this one. Hurry before she gets away!” Cody grinned as Kelsie yelped in his arms. She had no idea what was going on, but she quickly melted under Cody’s touch. He cradled her in his arms and smiled down at her.

“Wait... when did this happen? Was this always a thing? Gosh, no one tells me anything.” Titus held his arms out motioning to Kelsie and Cody.

They ignored him. Lee focused on Rhea in front of him with a taunting smirk. “No one left to save you now.”

“See, that’s the thing Lee... you are still looking at me like a girl who needs to be saved.” Rhea winked and sent a surge of water at Lee. It was the split second she needed so that she could escape the corner she had ran herself into.

Lee chuckled. Time to catch my fairy.

Rhea was encircled by a wall of dark water. It was like she was put in a cube of some sort. The water was so dark that it was almost black. She couldn’t see past the water barrier that had enclosed completely around her. From her side she watched Lee walk into the water prison with a triumphant grin on his face.

“There’s no escaping me princess. I’m the winner here.” Lee flashed a big smile at her as he stepped in front of her.

“Oh? How much do you want to bet I can get you to beg for mercy first?” She trailed her hands up his chest and settled them around his neck. Her fingers tickled his back, and she gave him a wry grin. She felt him shudder under her touch. It was the reaction she was looking for. She pressed herself forward into him, bringing his head lower as she raised to her tiptoes. She pulled his bottom lip into her mouth and began to suck on it while she tickled it with her tongue. He moaned into her lips as she continued her game.

“Mmm, Rhea.” His hot breath fanned her skin then she took charge and pressed her lips against him. She deepened the kiss and nipped at his bottom lip. Her tongue began to dance with his. He was finding it harder and harder to stay in control. If he was even in control now to begin with. When she began to suck on his tongue, he knew he was losing. He was willing to give her anything she wanted right then. Consequences be damned.

Rhea pulled away from him. She looked into his dark glossy eyes and smiled. “See Lee, I’m the winner here.” She winked at him and giggled. She knew the effect she had on him in that moment.

My dirty little temptress. Soon this is a game that she won’t be able to win. “Baby, I am going to pay you back for this very soon.” He whispered against her lips, pecking her nose one last time before he brought the water barrier completely down.

“The men are the victors!” Cody said triumphantly as he held Kelsie against his side.

“Hmmm.... I don’t know. Were you the victor Lee?” Rhea blinked her eyes at him innocently.

Lee shook his head side to side with a low growl. “Not this time, but next time I won’t lose.” There was a thrilling threat in his voice. One that sent a promising tingle through Rhea’s body. She couldn’t wait either. She could not wait to lose next time.

Book 2

Chapter 51 Leoric

Chapter 133 - Dr.Luna

“Okay, I don’t want to know what happened in that bubble... but all I am going to say is... Levi, can I call you Levi? I think we are on good enough terms for that.” Cody said to himself thinking out loud. “Levi, you are whipped bro. If you keep going down this road she will have you turning tricks for treats in no time.”

Lee smiled and chuckled nodding his head. She could have him doing tricks right now if she wanted. Besides, who said being whipped is a bad thing?

“Alright. Enough. Everyone stop, right now. I want some answers.” Titus held up his hands in a T formation. “Time out. When did this happen?” He then pointed again at Cody and Kelsie.

“What are you talking about Titus? They’ve always been a thing?” Rhea arched her eyes at Titus like he was crazy.

“No... nuh uh. You’re messing with my head princess.” Titus watched the laughing faces around him.

“It happened. Does it matter when?” Cody smirked at Kelsie and held her tight to him.

“Ooohhh, so is there a label on this now?” Rhea poked with fun seeing their faces heat up in embarrassment.

“Rhea, quit causing them trouble.” Lee scolded playfully. Her eyes flashed up to him with amusement and she smiled biting on her tongue.

“Umm... no labels right now.” Kelsie said quietly and with some embarrassment.

Rhea thought her friend was adorable how suddenly the fierce kelpie seemed vulnerable. Cody must have felt the same way too because he grinned and wrapped his arms around her, hugging her from the back. She was happy for them both. Inwardly she smiled at the irony of everything. Her having a forbidden love and her guardian having a significant other. It wasn't forbidden for a guardian, but it was unconventional. However, more then ever, it made sense. With her love being a deity, it was almost arguable that she didn't need a guardian. Who could protect her better than an all-powerful god? Not that she was dismissing Cody as her guardian, but she meant that he had the slack to have a relationship. Especially one being with Kelsie. She wouldn't get jealous of Cody being concerned about her. She already understood it and in fact, she was overly concerned for her as well. They really are the perfect match.

“Kelsie how did the trip go? Did you see Wyatt and Jason?” Rhea asked remembering she had left to go to the Diamond pack.

“Yes. Everything is good. They will be prepared and ready. They weren't very keen on you sending a stranger. But I told them we trusted her and that she would be there soon.”

“Thank you Kelsie.”

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His red eyes locked onto the man who smelled of licorice. “Are you seriously still on this fairy princess thing?” The man sneered curling his lips in distaste.

“This is personal for me now. By having a taste of her, by making her moan beneath me... it is like conquering them all. Mmmm having a fairy as my mate will be so sweet. Nothing at all like the nights I have spent with demons and shewolves. She's my reward. She will be my own personal toy and I can't fucking wait.” Abaddon licked his lips thinking about her. He had missed two fairy princesses... he wouldn't lose the third. With her by his side they will give birth to a new breed of fairies. A more powerful species. Yes, all he needed was the girl and he would have her.

“Do what you want... I can't believe we are half-brothers.” Leoric rubbed his temples with his fingers. If it wasn't for his father he would have killed his half brother years ago. He had no love for him. He tolerated him. Still, when Abaddon came to him with the idea of taking over Elysium it had his wheels turning. No, he did not need to go with the lame idea of taking a fairy princess as a mate. Disgusting. Revolting. But the idea of eliminating the weak sounded nice. Taking over the above territories was something he couldn't ignore. Was he using his brother? Sure, but he

was a half wit with undeveloped ideas. They could conquer them all if they were strategic enough. They needed to have some secrecy about it though. The dark priestess would interfere if she found out. She was all about balance... annoying creature. If she found out, she had the power to put a stop to it by gathering the elder demons who still followed her ways. Fools.

They could pave a path for the demons to be the ultimate rulers. Once the path has been set, he was sure he could get the elders backing. Then they would take the dragons and deities under their rule as well. Leoric rolled his eyes as he heard the ramblings of his HALF brother going on and on about the fairy princess. "Do want you want. Just don't involve me or expect me to bail you out. Last time you came back dragging yourself back. I'm not here to save you. Pathetic to let yourself be almost killed by one of them." He snarled at the pathetic excuse of a half demon in front of him. He clearly took after his mother. Weak.

"I don't need you to save me. I will get her on my own. This time it will be different." Abaddon snapped back at his brother.

"Just get the hell out of my sight. I can't stand your half breed stench." Leoric growled whipping his hand up and pointing to the outside.

Abaddon knew better then to push his brother. He was very powerful. So, he turned and left without saying a word. His brother had no vision. He couldn't see what they could create. His brother thought mixing demon blood would make them weak, but he was wrong. Mixing demon blood with the fairies would bring about a new powerful race. He didn't need his brother. He had allies helping him on the inside. They would help him in capturing his fairy.

Walking back out into the night air he looked up to the mountains in the distance. He glowered at the place through the darkness. He couldn't wait to taste her. He licked his lips again as he thought about his prize. The problem was her having a damn dragon as a mate. And not just any dragon, the king! Yes... this would be the biggest obstacle he would need to overcome. Timing would mean everything.

He could admit it. Her mother was scary. Her power was tempting but her attitude was too dominant. She wouldn't make a good submissive mate. This princess didn't have her wolf. She was weak. He would dominate her in every aspect. Mmmmm, I will taste her soon.

Rhea woke up snuggled up in Lee's arms. The last week had been a reply of the same thing. She spent her days around the castle and Lee would go back up to the council for discussions. He didn't talk much about it but it seemed to not be going as well as he would like. Yes, they still did not complete the mating bond. That still didn't mean they didn't have scorching make out sessions before bed. Waking up in his arms was something she never wanted to go without again. The way she felt completely refreshed and calm. Being with him let her forget her troubles. Everything was right with the world. She could hear the rhythmic beating of his heart. It naturally comforted her.

“I see you are finally awake.”

Rhea lifted her eyes up to see his baby blues staring back down at her. “How long have you been awake?” She snuggled her head back into his chest feeling his chest rise and fall with each breath.

“Maybe a half an hour or so, I need to get going soon.”

Rhea let out a pouty whimper and wrapped her hands around him tighter. “Nuh uh.”

He chuckled at his adorable fairy. He reached down and lifted her chin up to him. Then he gently pressed his lips against hers. “I don’t want to leave you either, but I have to.”

“Lee, do you think you’ll be able to convince them.” She has been wondering more and more how she was going to manage to get the Ocean’s Tear if he couldn’t. She knew she was being watched now and Abaddon would know if she let the dragon kingdom.

He kissed her forehead and pulled her upwards as he sat up. “Don’t worry about it love. I’ll be able to do it eventually.” He smiled at her as he stood up from the bed. Honestly, it wasn’t looking good. He couldn’t tell her that though. He didn’t want her to worry about what they would do. He would figure it out, somehow. They couldn’t go on keeping their relationship a secret forever. That wouldn’t be fair to her. And he honestly wasn’t sure he could continue pretending she wasn’t his. Not when his possessive beast demanded to let everyone know she belonged to him.

Rhea stood up next to him and wrapped her arms around his waist. She tilted her head up to him inviting him to kiss her which he gladly obliged. His lips singed her lips as his hot tongue burned her mouth. The sensation was never painful, but exciting and addicting. She wanted to be burned by him more... and deeper. This was the worst part of her day. Saying goodbye to him. The days always felt so long, and she felt like a piece of her was gone. She knew she could always summon him instantly if she needed to. Since he was her summon, they were connected like that. She could hardly justify summoning him just because she missed him even though at times she wanted to. The steamy kiss broke apart. It would have to do until she would see him later.

“I love you Lee.”

“I love you my sweet fairy.” Lee gazed at her longingly for a moment. “I’ll be back soon.” He gave her one more quick peck before he vanished in front of her.

Rhea sighed and turned to the door. She was supposed to meet with Ruby today for sandwiches and tea. They have met up a couple times already and they were getting along pretty well. Even Kelsie was becoming friends with her.

Kelsie and Cody have been on each other non-stop. And she does mean on each other. They have upgraded to sharing a room. Yep, even though she is mated to Lee she is still unmated while they have made the home run trip many times already. Besides her mild bitterness of that, she was

happy for them. They really were cute together. Kelsie still teased him, only there was more of a flirtatious undertone and sexual innuendos with it. Kelsie even tried to tell her how her brother was a very sexual being. Puke. In no way did she want to hear about how her brother was when it came to romp time with her best friend.

Rhea quickly put her clothes on and walked out into the great room. She quickly averted her gaze when she saw Cody and Kelsie making out on the couch. Okay, they had a room for that. This was just bragging about how they were getting some and she wasn't... well it felt that way at least.

"Ummm.... Sister present." Rhea said shielding her eyes as she walked to the kitchen for a banana. She heard some scuffling and out of the corner of her eye she saw Kelsie buttoning up her blouse. Ugh, seriously their room was just on the other side.

"Sorry Rhea. We just got caught up in the moment." Cody cleared his throat and then stood up smiling, walking up to Rhea pulling Kelsie beside him. "I just asked her to be officially my girl and she has agreed. Looks like you're stuck with us for the long haul."

Rhea smiled widely. "Oh my gosh guys that's great! I'm so happy for you." Rhea bounced over and gave them both a hug.

"So..." Cody cleared his throat. "If it isn't a big deal I was hoping to spend the day with Kelsie... I...um... want to officially claim her as my mat-"

"Lalalalala can't hear you lalalalala yep I don't need you around. Reese is always with me and I'll be with Ruby so lalalalala I don't want to know anything more lalalala" Rhea put her fingers in her ears and shook her head closing her eyes. She did not want to hear about her brother claiming Kelsie as his mate. She knew what all that meant. He was her brother. There is a line you don't cross. Need to know basis. A simple he wants to spend some time with Kelsie would suffice.

"Happy for you guys. I'll see you much later." Rhea said when she reached the stairs then immediately descended, shutting the door. She smiled and shook her head. She walked down the steps happily. She was happy her brother was taking a mate. She didn't need to know when he planned to mark her as one, but she was happy for him. She was happy for Kelsie too. Honestly, it just made everything that much better. She opened the door when she reached the bottom and bumped right into someone.

"Hey pretty lady."

Book 2

Chapter 52 Double Edge Sword

Chapter 134 - Dr.Luna

Rhea was not completely paying attention when she walked out of the door. She never imagined someone would be standing right there. The moment she felt herself bump into someone she squinted her eyes. Oh please don't let it be the horrible purple raison man. When she heard the voice she opened her eyes and smiled. She recognized his voice immediately.

"Sorry Reese." Rhea smiled with her nose scrunched up as she looked at Titus's cousin. Titus had been very busy lately and had insisted that Reese always stayed with her once she left the upstairs. Though he usually wasn't standing right by the door.

"You crazy? You bumping into me is a bonus for my day." Reese winked at her and grinned. They had gotten pretty comfortable with each other now. Though he still had to watch himself in front of his cousin. He was still overprotective and possessive with Rhea, so he was constantly getting growled at by Titus. "Where is the rest of your party?" He looked behind her noticing she had closed the door and was alone.

"They aren't coming with me today."

"Ah... I see. The two of them are taking a day to study the human body." Reese grinned knowingly. Kelsie and Cody have openly been affectionate with each other no matter where they were at. It was obvious to anyone who saw them that they were together.

Rhea giggled. "They've already been studying that. This must be extra credit."

Reese laughed. "So, what is on our agenda today?"

"I'm meeting with Ruby for lunch. I think Grayson is supposed to join us too. Then after that I am sure I can find something I can stir up trouble in." Rhea gave him a wry smile.

Reese shook his head with his silly side grin. "Please don't cause me any trouble. I don't think you realize how close you are to getting me barbequed by that mate of yours."

"Awe, my little lizard wouldn't hurt anyone. Someone that adorable couldn't possibly be as mean as you insist, he is." Rhea had gotten used to playing her part. Actually, she just pretended it was Lee she was talking about.

"You think I'm adorable?"

Hot hands snaked around her from the back, pulling her deep into his embrace. She leaned her head back and looked up smiling at Titus. "What makes you think I was talking about you?"

Titus lowered his head down and kissed her forehead. "You better be talking about me or I guess we will find out if I have it in me to barbeque anyone." His eyes flickered up to Reese's letting him know that he heard what he had said. Reese cleared his throat and looked up to the ceiling.

"Where are you off to? And where is that damn bear of yours?" Titus looked around half annoyed.

"I am off to meet Ruby and Grayson for lunch. And um... I believe he is making things official with Kelsie... so he will be indisposed today."

Titus raised his eyes and then glanced upwards. "They better not be destroying the place up there. I have some time now. I'll join you Rhea. Reese you are dismissed for now." Titus watched as Reese bowed his head and walked away. He wrapped Rhea into his side and then sighed. "I understand about Cody... but I don't like you going around the place with out him. I know Reese is here, but I would feel safer if he was around too."

"I was going to be with Ruby and Grayson. I'll be safe with them." Rhea smiled up at him and he nodded.

"That is true. No one would dare mess with you if you are with that blood thirsty reptile." The truth is that Grayson wasn't all sweet. He was blood thirsty and his curse amplified his blood lust. Sure, he was all tame around Ruby and Rhea, but deep down he was a powerful killer. All the kings and princes were strong. They had extra abilities as royals that the other dragons did not have. They had to have something extra in order to lead such a powerful force. Their dragons were bigger than the other dragons. Their body's and fire were stronger and they each had their own unique abilities.

"Blood thirsty? Really? Huh... I mean... I guess he does emit a darker aura under his other one. But nothing ever felt threatening to me." Rhea felt like she was a decent judge of character. She never felt that Grayson was a scary person. Even when he was being avoided like the plague.

"You wouldn't feel threatened around him though because he wouldn't hurt you." Titus strolled with her towards the overlook where they were going to have lunch.

"Which one is stronger? I mean... between the four kingdom's rulers. Which one of you would win in a fight?" Rhea tilted her head up to him. "And before you instantly answer yourself, I want a real truthful honest answer."

"Hahaha, I wasn't going to come out and say myself. Honestly, we are all strong in different ways. I also don't know all of their skills. Weston's skills are still developing, and some won't be realized until he becomes the king. Dex... well he has the tendency to be cruel... I know he has some mind control powers. I mean... they wouldn't work on someone like me though. Haha... Honestly. I would be most intimidated to fight Grayson. He is fierce and has the experience. I think that while we are all very capable, he would be the one to worry about in a one on one."

"So, others can't touch you, is that one of your abilities?"

“I guess in a sense. But it is more like a passive defense mechanism. One that keeps the lower-level dragons away.”

“How many other abilities do you have?” Rhea was really curious about Titus and his abilities.

He looked down at her and grinned. “How many do you have?”

Rhea frowned slightly. “I don’t know. I guess I have premonitions and I can heal curses. But I don’t know all of them. I would guess I can heal too, but just haven’t learned to yet. I don’t get them all at once, so I have to just wait and see. I mean... I do have a couple other little things. I can make someone disoriented temporarily. I found a way that I can manipulate my elemental skill with my fairy magic. Like I can create a frost sword that shoots out water daggers. It’s sort of cool. And... umm...” Rhea stopped walking as they reached the overlook doors. Titus was staring down at her curiously. “There is something else too.” She said in almost a whisper.

“Are you not going to tell me?” He gave her a crooked grin and watched her face turn solemn.

“I haven’t told anyone... except Wyatt.” Rhea sucked in the air through her nose. Truthfully, she liked to pretend that she didn’t know about it.

“Well... now you have to tell me. It’ll be our secret... just between us.”

Rhea hesitated she really didn’t want anyone knowing she had this ability. On the other hand... it would be nice for someone else to know. She looked up to Titus and stared into his calming topaz eyes. She lifted up her hand and extended her pinky. “Pinky promise?”

Titus chuckled. Her childlike adorableness was touching. He knew this also warmed Levi’s heart. She was so pure and innocent. He lifted up his hand and locked his pinky with hers. “Pinky promise.”

Rhea glanced around making sure they were alone. She then leaned up on her tip toes and wrapped her arms around Titus’ neck tilting his head lower to his ears. She leaned her mouth close to his ear so that she could whisper very quietly. “I have a sort of double edge sword ability. Wyatt and I together can... I guess you can say we can use a power together but by doing so it would use everything we had.” Rhea bit her lip and then said the words only her and Wyatt had discussed. “If things get too bad... Wyatt and I will protect everyone no matter what.”

Titus felt her drift away from his ear and he looked down at her. “How did you find out something like that?”

“When we were sixteen... we could feel it when we grabbed hands. Some abilities you just know and recognize. It is something we can only do with the other though.”

“Don’t...ever... use it. Ever. I don’t care how bad it looks. I won’t let you Rhea. I would never allow it.” Titus reached his hands and rested them on her shoulder. She was precious to him. He was pulled to her. It was a strong magnetic pull. It wasn’t something he could really explain

except that she felt like a part of him. They were connected. He didn't know how, but they were. He was linked to her. Losing her would be like losing a piece of himself.

Rhea smiled and nodded. "I can't leave Lee alone, can I?"

Titus smiled and nodded in agreement. "No, you can't. You can't leave any of us alone." He leaned in and rested his head on her forehead. It was comforting. Being with her was comforting.

"Save it for the bedroom." Grayson called out as him and Ruby walked up to them. Titus smiled looking at Rhea and then turned to look at their approaching friends.

"You should know better than to interrupt a dragon's intimate moments." Titus smirked and pushed the door open to the look out. "I'm going to join you guys for lunch."

"Awe, we have to share Rhea with her mate." Ruby pouted and tugged on Grayson's shirt.

He chuckled. "Nothing I can do about that. He is her mate. We will just have to share her with him."

Titus growled and pulled Rhea tightly into him as they walked out to their table. "I don't like you two talking about her like she is yours." He grumbled with his brows furrowed. He grabbed Rhea's chair and pulled it closer to his own seat and away from theirs.

"Haha. No, we just know you have a hard time sharing her attention with others." Grayson said with a smug smile as him and Ruby took their seats across from them.

"Humph, I shouldn't have to share her." Titus snorted and took a sip of his drink. His eyes then flickered up to Grayson. "Have you heard anything?"

"No... it has been very quiet. I think whoever it is... is being incredibly cautious. They might even suspect that we are suspicious. Not to worry though. I have my most trusted men on it. Weston does as well and then along with yours... well we are bound to hear of anything before it happens." Grayson's tone was serious. There was a scary confidence about him, and his eyes looked at Rhea with a possessiveness. A look that made Titus wrap his arm around her. "I won't let anything happen to her. Not our angel." He then smiled to Ruby who nodded back confidently.

"I know it may seem weird... but we are bonded to Rhea. She is someone we owe everything to. She is important to us too." Ruby smiled at Rhea and then looked to Titus. She might be his mate, but Rhea was important to them too. She risked her life to remove the curse from Grayson. Someone she did not even know she risked her life for. She saved two lives that day. Ruby was struggling so hard not being able to be with Grayson. And she could not imagine how badly Grayson had battled. Rhea stopped the never ending hurt and pain they experienced daily. They owed her everything.

“Thank you. Thank you for looking out for her. It means a lot to me that you both accept her. Not only accept her, but also would protect her. I don’t know what I would do if something happened to her.” Titus shocked everyone by saying something out of his character. He wanted them to know that he really did appreciate them for that. He meant it.

Rhea bumped her shoulder playfully into Titus. “Okay, fun talk time and food time.” Rhea grinned and he chuckled at her.

There it was again. Her childlike adorableness. There was just something about her that made his beast want to shield her. As he watched her laugh and talk with Ruby his chest tightened at the thought of the demon after her. He would protect her no matter what. It was weird... but at times he felt like a part of him was calling out to her. What was calling out and what were they calling for?

All he knew is that at that moment... the urge to protect her felt even stronger.

Book 2

Chapter 53 A Guardian is Born

Chapter 135 - Dr.Luna

Meanwhile....

The steam was thick in the air from the hot water in the tub. Cody lathered soap into the loofa in his hand working up a thick lather. He had been taking his time with Kelsie. Thoroughly pampering her body. First, he was starting out with a bath that he drew for her. Where he insisted on scrubbing her body for her. He grabbed her hands when she tried to do it herself. He then kissed each one of her fingers and nipped at the ends of them playfully.

“No. Let me do this for you.” He held up the loofa and gently swirled it over her delicate body. He took his time as he scrubbed every inch of her. Taking his time with slow circular motions. Kelsie tried to pull him to her wanting to kiss him, but he effortlessly held himself away from her. “Not yet Kels.” He smirked at her eagerness and continued the tantalizing slow washing motions over her. He was warming her up for the main event.

He trickled the warm water over her body washing the foaming bubbles away. He massaged his hands over her front and around her breasts. He had to stop there though because his desire for her was increasing as well.

He stood up from the tub and dried off with a towel. Then he held up another towel and wrapped Kelsie in it. He very gently patted her body dry with the fluffy linen. She giggled as he went over

her feet. When he was satisfied that she was dry enough he lifted her up and carried her bridal style to his bed... their bed. He laid her down and asked her to roll onto her stomach. She obeyed him and he began to rub and caress her skin. He began massaging her shoulders and then worked his way down. He gave her small kisses over her neck as he continued to work his magic with his hands.

He wanted to completely appreciate her, and he needed her to know he did. He wanted her to know how special this moment meant to him. A guardian didn't take a mate. It was just so rarely done because of all the complications that could arise. Well, that is what he had been told at least. So, he grew up thinking he would never have a family or a relationship. He would just completely dedicate his life to Rhea.

He had always been attracted to Kelsie. She was beautiful and a spit fire, which secretly made his insides burn for her. Just seeing her reactions gave him a thrill so he set out to tease her constantly. He wanted to annoy her so he could see her attitude. It was always just for fun. He never planned for it to become more than it had. It just did. Little by little things were shifting for him. He found himself thinking about her often and even wondered if it could ever be a possibility. The fact that she was also protective of Rhea was a huge plus for him.

That day Rhea left them in the kitchen they got into a heated argument about something. Hell, he can't even remember what it was, but he was glad that it happened. One minute they were yelling inches away from each other and then the next he had crushed his lips onto hers. To his surprise she immediately responded back to his kisses. The heat intensified which led them to a steamy encounter on the kitchen table.

Afterwards, there was no denying the attraction they had for one another. Cody just wasn't sure how it could work out. He even almost cut it off immediately after Abaddon had showed up. He wasn't with Rhea then because he was with Kelsie. If it wasn't for his wonderful sister, he would have made the greatest mistake of his life. Finding out that Rhea knew and approved was the blessing he needed inside.

Kelsie is the person he never thought he would have. She would be his life partner... his mate. It might seem fast, but it wasn't. He just had his feelings for her buried and hidden. She had been the same way. She said she never told him how she felt because she didn't want to get rejected by him. She knew guardians didn't take mates, so she was trying to spare herself the humiliation.

He was anxious and scared earlier today but he had to ask her what was on his heart. They had wasted so much time already that he didn't want to waste anymore. He asked her if she would bear his mark and agree to be his mate. She was so excited and then it led into a heavy make out session that his sister walked in on. That was becoming a trend that he would need to make sure did not continue. It was a bit embarrassing.

After Rhea left them alone, he decided he was going to take his time with Kelsie. He wanted to pamper her body and let her know how much he appreciated her. So, when she turned to him to continue where they left off he stopped her and took her to the bath.

He rubbed his hands along her back and then to her waist. Continuing his delicate pecks over her neck. He could feel her shudder underneath him. She squirmed a bit and let out a little whimper.

“Mmmm Cody. Please... now?” Kelsie breathed out. It felt good being pampered but now this was starting to become a sensual torture. She needed him. She wanted him to claim her.

She felt him lean his head down to her neck and felt him flick his tongue over it. Then suddenly, he flipped her back over and stared down at her under hooded eyes. It seemed like she wasn't the only one who was ready. His eyes held a primal gaze on her. His animal was now emerging with excitement about claiming a mate.

He straddled himself over her body and licked at her neck. He began to nip at her delicate skin and tug it back between his teeth. He was preparing the area for his mark. He then returned up to her lips and gently suckled on her bottom lip.

“Kelsie... baby. This may hurt a bit.” He looked down at her and she gave him a small nod to continue. He felt her breath hitch as he slid back down to her neck. He licked her neck again and felt his fangs come down. He lightly grazed her neck with them before he sank them down into her neck. At the same time, he thrust himself inside of her creating a pool of ecstasy for her.

She gasped as there was an immediate sharp pain, but she couldn't concentrate on that. Since at the same time there was so much pleasure surging through her as he continued to ride her. She moaned loudly, unable to hold it in from the intensity of their mating. Swirling pools of heat mixed with her body as she was thrown into delicious ecstasy. There was their intimate pleasure and a new warming heat surging through her neck. Then when she felt his fangs pull out of her neck another course of pleasure hit her. She clung to his shoulders and gasped out his name as they both rode out their highs together.

It was incredible. The buildup... the moment. It was overwhelmingly satisfying. Her body had a wave of contentment flood over her as it accepted it's new role. She was now marked and mated. She felt him cradle her into him and gently kiss her forehead. “Are you okay?”

“Mmmhmm.” She managed to hum out quietly. She felt divine. Cody had made sure to make this moment special for both of them. She felt giddy inside that she now belonged to him. She was so independent, but she wanted to be his and for him to be hers. She was lucky that he was her mate. She might be a kelpie, but kelpies were assholes. Eh, she could admit it. They were always dominating the other. Cody cared about her and made sure she knew it. Even this moment, he tried to make it special for her. And he did.

As she was laying there, she felt a warmth in her chest. The warmth was surging from her neck and throughout her body. A strange wave of emotions flooded through her and she suddenly felt something inside of her. As she tried to focus on what she was feeling she could feel it. She was able to feel a connection with Cody. She could feel how she was now his mate.

Kelsie

Kelsie looked at Cody's smiling face. "Are you able to mind link with me?"

His grin widened. "I guess I am. That is awesome. I didn't know we would be connected through a mind link now."

Kelsie concentrated on Cody's presence in her mind and called out to him, Cody?

Yes, my love?

She felt her cheeks heat up. She always felt embarrassed when he was so sweet with her. She was going to do her best to try to be the mate he deserved. Being able to feel his presence in her mind brought a smile to her face. It was real. She was now mated to Cody.

Suddenly Kelsie shot up and furrowed her eyes.

Cody was immediately worried about Kelsie. He sat up beside her and drew her into his chest. He was worried something was going wrong. Maybe he shouldn't have marked her. He was afraid there was some sort of reaction to a guardian choosing a mate. What if it was hurting her? Maybe that is why they really are not supposed to take mates. Maybe it was because of their gift from the fairy queen that it left no room for mates.

"Kelsie... baby what is it? Are you hurting? Is my mark hurting you? Tell me what I neemmmph--"

Kelsie shoved her hand over Cody's mouth. "Shhhh." She couldn't concentrate with his panicked voice. She took in a breath as she felt a new tingling sensation. It felt like a flower was blooming inside of her. It was extending throughout her body. She could almost smell the fragrance. Wait... she recognized this fragrance. As she felt it come to completion, she could feel a new strength inside of her. It wasn't just that though. She could feel something else.

Kelsie removed her hand from Cody and looked at him shocked. "I can... I can feel Rhea. Cody... I think I am her guardian now too!"

Cody's mouth opened as he stared at her in shock. "You can feel Rhea in there too?"

Kelsie nodded her head. "I can feel her presence and I also feel stronger now. I feel like a new strength was bestowed upon me. When it happened I could smell her... I could smell the Queen. It had her scent to it. Maybe when she made you a guardian those same powers flowed into me?"

Cody sighed and smiled. Of course, his mother would make sure that if they ever took a mate, they would also become a guardian. Her mother must have planned that if they ever took a mate it would pull the mate into being a guardian. This would help protect their relationship with their mate. Of course, that wasn't needed with Kelsie, but it would be good to know in case Jason ever wanted to take a mate.

“How do things feel with Rhea?” Cody was curious if it changed anything as far as her feelings for Rhea goes.

“I feel like... it’s strange. I was already protective of her but now... I feel like she’s family.” Kelsie held her hand up over her chest. “It feels nice. I feel like she is here with me. It is a warm gentle light inside of me.”

Cody kissed Kelsie’s head and pulled her deep into his embrace. “You are family now. You are my mate.”

“That warm light is Rhea. It is how we find her. We follow the pull towards her. That warm gentle light is who Rhea is. It is why it is so comforting being around her. That is the feeling she emanates from her body.” This was better than anything Cody ever expected. They were now guardians together. They were bonded on so many different levels.

This was the moment he never dreamed he would have. But even if he did dream it... this turned out better than anything he would have imagined.

She was perfect. The moment was perfect. Everything in that moment was right.

“I love you Kelsie.”

Book 2

Chapter 54 Dex

Chapter 136 - Dr.Luna

A strange sensation came over Rhea. An odd, heated wave flushed over her as an invisible string was wound around her. A new link to her had been made. This was very new and interesting. Just like how she could feel Cody’s link she could now feel one with Kelsie. She wasn’t going to interrupt things now, but she had a feeling she could now mind link with Kelsie. She was now connected to her just like she was with Cody.

She felt Titus’ hand rub down her back looking at her with interest. He noticed the slight change in her body position. Though he wasn’t sure what had happened he knew that something did. He wanted her to know he was here in case it was anything major. She smiled up at him and then carried on with the conversation like nothing had happened.

After their lunch everyone had to go their separate ways. Ruby was still getting to know the dragons of the east where she would be moving to as their queen. Grayson and Titus had more of

their business with the traitor and demon issue. Titus was waiting for Reese to show up when he got an urgent mind link. He looked down at Rhea conflicted.

“Is everything okay? Earlier something seemed to alert you.” Titus had to see to the business but he had to make sure she was okay first.

“Yes, everything is fine. I just need to check into something but will explain later.” She grinned and watched him look around for Reese.

“Titus I’ll be fine here if you need to leave.”

“Something came up and I am needed... but I can’t leave you alone.”

“Titus go. I promise I will wait in the great hall for Reese. Go do your job.” Rhea shoved him and listened to him sigh heavily.

“Please... be safe.” She watched him looking at her reluctantly and she gave him one final shove with a giggle for him to be on his way. She turned around and headed back down towards the great hall. She would be good and wait there as promised. She couldn’t head back up to her room already. She was afraid of what she might interrupt. What if they weren’t even in their own room? No, it was best to make herself busy. Maybe she would even look through the library or something.

Rhea could hear shouting in the great room. A man’s voice was bellowing loudly about someone being an idiot. Rhea walked into the room to see a towering young man pointing at a young girl who was cowering on the floor with tears streaming down her face. What the hell was wrong with these dragons?!

Rhea ran in between the girl and man. She turned and could see a tray on the floor. There were drinks spilled all over the area and some of the contents had gotten on the man. The girl looked to be in some pain from where she fell.

“Do you need help up?” Rhea asked kindly. She watched the girl shake her head and slowly rise to her feet. “Why don’t you go and get yourself cleaned up then?” The girl immediately took this chance to flee the scene.

“Hey! I wasn’t finished with her.” The man growled out angrily.

“What the hell is wrong with you? Do you think she planned to fall? You think her goal was to be humiliated? And then you have to scream at her on top of everything? Arrogant asshole.” Rhea poked the man in his chest and confidently met with his hazel eyes. The man raised his eyes at her and then leaned back on his heels and smirked.

“Seriously though. Would it have been that big of an issue to simply help her up? Poor girl. Not only was she humiliated but she hurt herself in the process. You should be ashamed of yourself.”

Rhea clicked her tongue and shook her head. The man continued smirking at Rhea this time he folded his arms across his chest as he continued to look at her with humor.

“Your disrespect is too much. I’m so sorry my lord. She is a constant problem here.” Melvin hissed out as he slithered out from the darkness.

Oh no, not this asshole again. Rhea turned and narrowed her eyes at Melvin. “I’m doing my best to tolerate you... really I am. But every time you show up I really just want to plant my fist in your face. Is this a natural reaction for everyone who sees you?” Rhea watched his eyes fume as his mouth dropped open.

“Y-y-y-you.” Melvin stuttered out.

“You need to learn your place. Who do you think YOU are speaking to? You want to find out the difference in our power then keep pushing me. I’ll teach you the lesson here.” Rhea emanated her powerful aura as she stared at Melvin. The other man was still quietly watching with the same smirk on his face.

“I’ll say this. You touch her and I will burn you alive in two seconds.”

Rhea turned to see Weston marching over towards them. His eyes were slitted and fixated on Melvin. Melvin immediately backed away. “Sorry my lord.” He vanished knowing that his life was in imminent danger.

“And you.” Weston pointed towards Rhea. “You little firecracker. Where are your guards?” He started to reach his hand out towards Rhea.

“Touch me Weston and I’m going to bloody your nose again. Last thing I need is you trying to cop a cheap feel.” Rhea raised her eyes up at Weston who put his hands up in surrender. He gave her a crooked grin with a shrug.

“How do you know that I am not getting a cheap thrill when you punch me in the nose? Maybe I am a masochist and you causing me pain is what I need for a release.” Weston smiled and winked down at Rhea.

“Eeeww gross. I do not want to know about what raises your flagpole. You’re disgusting.” If Titus or Lee heard him, he would easily be dead right now. Joking or not.

“Who has marked her?” The man asked, looking at Weston.

“Titus.” Weston smirked at the man. “She’s too good for him, right?”

“Who are you?” The man looked at Rhea with interest.

“I’m Rhea. I am the fairy princess. And who are you?” Rhea watched the guy's eyes light up with interest when he heard who she was.

“My name is Dex. I am the king of the North.”

“Oh, so you are Dex. I guess it makes sense then. I heard you can be a bit of a grump.” Rhea had met all four rulers of the dragon kingdom each in a very interesting way.

Dex belted out laughing while Weston laughed with him. “She’s something else, isn’t she?”

“That she is.” Dex nodded his head and smiled at Rhea. “I’m not a grump. I just don’t socialize with others besides the three idiots who rule the other kingdoms.”

“Hey, I am not the ruler yet.” Weston didn’t refute the idiot part though. “And he socializes with us because we are cool.”

“Yeah I am not seeing your cool factor sooo....” Rhea shrugged her shoulders and rolled her eyes at Weston.

“Ah.... I know what this is.” Weston pursed his lips together and nodded his head sympathetically to Rhea.

“What what is?” Rhea was just waiting for the moron to come out of his mouth.

“It’s dragon envy. So my sweets. I know it is hard but there is nothing that can be done. I mean... at least you get to sleep with a dragon.” His lips curled up as he flashed her a toothy grin.

Rhea rubbed her forehead and shook her head. She looked up at Dex, “I’m surprised you talk to this one? How do you handle being his friend?”

Dex chuckled. “Every group has to have that one friend that they pick on so Weston fills that role nicely.”

Rhea snickered as the look of shock fell on Weston’s face. “Hey! You two are ganging up on me. When do you take anyone else’s side but ours?”

“Since I added her to the group which naturally, she is higher up than you.” Dex listened to Weston’s dry scoff as he dramatically rolled his eyes.

“You’re adding me to the group? Awe, that means you want to be my friend.” Rhea smiled in excitement. The others made it like Dex would be the one to convince because he really did not like others.

Dex smiled and nodded. “I feel like you need a friend like me. One that is more levelheaded and isn’t busy drooling on you or making inappropriate jokes.” He side glanced over at Weston who clutched his heart with fake pain.

“Grayson doesn’t do either of those... but if you ask me he is a bit possessive over her.” Weston clicked his tongue in annoyance. Grayson was always bullying him away from ‘his angel’.

“Grayson is possessive over her? Hmm well that is interesting. What kind of strange powers have you to captivate him under your spell?” Dex looked at her very intrigue.

“She broke the curse! Ruby and him are able to be together now.” Weston was a chatterbox and wasn’t giving Rhea a moment to answer anything.

“You were able to break that curse?” Dex looked at her in awe. That curse was incredibly powerful. It would take someone more powerful to break it.

“It completely drained me, but yes I did manage to get rid of it.” Rhea really didn’t like talking about it. She wasn’t into bragging about herself unless she was teasing someone. It was just something she did and was glad she could help.

“Well then... I guess I will have to keep a close eye on you. Can’t let something happen to someone so precious.”

“We think so too. In fact, we have been waiting to talk to you about something, but we can do that with Titus and Grayson later. There is a lot going on lately and so much to fill you in on.” Weston’s silly tone was gone as his demeanor turned serious.

Dex nodded his head. He caught someone walking up to them out of the corner of his eye.

“Sorry I was late Rhea.” Reese lowered his head in respect to the royals near the princess.

“I was beginning to wonder what happened to you... though... from the looks of you it looks like you may have been indisposed?” Rhea giggled noticing his messy hair and his clothing were a bit out of place.

Reese cleared his throat and looked away. “Yeah, I found my mate and we were uhm getting acquainted.”

“I can see that. I really don’t need you to babysit me. I’ll go and hang out with Grandpa Sage so you can spend your time with your mate.”

Reese shook his head no fervently. “No way! Titus will absolutely kill me if I leave you unguarded. Besides Titus already knows I found my mate. And uh... he said that I can just be sexually frustrated for now. If he is too busy to get some then I can be too busy to get it too.”

Rhea lifted her hand and rubbed her fingers over her eyes then to her temples. “Ugh, he can be so inappropriate at times. He really needs to quit acting like a child.”

“Hahaha sorry but he is just that. You are mated to a big child.” Dex chuckled, shaking his head side to side. “He’s strong though. What he doesn’t have in brains he makes up for with brawns. So where is the man boy at?” His eyes flashed up to Weston.

“I can take you to him. I was actually sent here by him to keep an eye on Rhea until Reese got here.” Weston winked at Rhea then tilted his head to the side. Motioning for Dex to follow him.

“Nice to meet you Rhea. We will talk again soon.” Dex reached down and grabbed her hand. He lifted it up to his lips and gently kissed it.

“Yeah, don’t let her psycho mate see you do that, or he will go crazy on you. Trust me...” Weston walked away chuckling. Dex smiled at Rhea and then followed after him. Leaving Rhea and Reese alone in the large room.

Book 2

Chapter 55 Leviathan’s concubine?

Chapter 137 - Dr.Luna

Rhea turned and looked at Reese. “Well let’s go get into trouble somewhere.” She giggled and he chuckled back at her. The sound of high heels clicking towards them was heard and Rhea turned her head to see who was walking towards them. It was two of the women she saw the other day that were trying their best to flirt with Lee. They were glamourised up from head to toe.

“She probably thinks they all really like her and aren’t just playing up to politics.” The one girl said snidely to the other.

“Oh, she can’t be that naïve.” The other girl snickered not so quietly.

Rhea wasn’t about to play the game that she didn’t hear them. The Alpha bloodlines that ran through her veins wouldn’t allow it. And though she couldn’t hear Lumi, she was sure her wolf would agree. “It’s a shame... all that work to make you both presentable and you still were not able to attract a mate. I come out just wearing a t-shirt and shorts and I have them flocked around me.”

The first girl scoffed loudly. “It’s only because of who is paying attention to you. I can’t believe you really did let it go to your head.”

“If you really felt that way then why are you both so jealous?” Rhea smirked at the two girls whose eyes were now glaring at her.

“Who would be jealous of the likes of you? I am dragon nobility. The purest of the pure blood. And you” The first girl stopped as Reese took an irritated stance beside Rhea.

“Careful... choose your words carefully or they may end up being your last.” Reese snarled at the girls as his eyes darkened with anger.

“How dare you threaten us.” The second girl raised her hand over her chest horrified. “We are the great granddaughters of the old king of the Southern kingdom.”

“Yeah? Well, you are speaking to the future Queen of the west dragon kingdom and you will show her the respect she deserves.” Reese snarled in agitation. He was a guard here, but he also wasn’t a nobody. Titus was his cousin. He was also a tier 1 dragon and he was given the task to protect Rhea. To protect the king’s mate.

“And what is the queen in regards to Leviathan’s concubine?” The first girl curled with her lips in a vicious smile.

Rhea almost choked on her spit. His what? Oh hell no this girl was not suggesting that.

Reese studied her cautiously. “What do you mean? I have not heard of anything of the such.”

The second girl laughed. “Why would someone like you hear about it? Our grandfather offered us to Leviathan the other day. He told him that even gods have needs and asked him which one of us he wanted.”

“And he picked one of you?” Rhea folded her arms and looked at the girls in disbelief. She did see them talking with Lee the other day with their grandfather. She didn’t doubt that he made the offer either, but Lee never would have accepted.

“He said he would have to try us each out in order to make a decision there.” The second girl spewed her poison with her sickening sweet smile on her face.

“And he still hasn’t, huh?” Reese’s voice was dripping in disbelief. He was not buying their story.

“Oh no... he has. Just not with both of us yet. Only with my sister he had to make time for her during the day because apparently, he has had business overnight. He said he has been busy this week but promised he would get to me soon.”

The timing actually made sense. Rhea couldn’t help the insecure thoughts that began to bubble in her mind. She felt nauseous. He wouldn’t play her... right? The timing was right though. He had been busy at night because he had been with her. He left so often during the day that it would have been his best time.

The girl who is claiming to have slept with Lee pulled out something from her handbag. “He left this by accident after we were together...” She pulled out an undershirt that she had kept folded up in her bag. “I’m sure you recognize his scent.” The girl smiled and looked at Reese.

Rhea noticed how Reese shifted his weight on his feet. Showing that he was feeling a bit nervous. His finger was now twitching as he played with the ends of his fingers.

Rhea looked at the girl in front of her. No... I won’t believe it. I trust Lee. Rhea took in a gentle relaxing breath. If you do not have trust in your relationship, then you have nothing. She could feel the love Lee had for her. She did not think him capable of seeking out fulfillment elsewhere. She had been all too willing. He was the one who wanted to wait. She would believe in him. She loved him. Besides Lee and Titus were close. If something amiss was going on Titus would have known about it. Yeah, he probably does know about it. Why would he tell you? You are pissing me off. Wait...I am pissing me off. Anyways, we are not going to doubt him... But she has his undershirt. So what? She is a creeper. Good point. She probably stole it out of his room. Hmmm but how would she get down that hall. It is off limits. So we are back to doubting again? No. Ugh. I’m getting no where talking to myself... which is probably something I really need to knock off.

Rhea pulled herself away from her self-dialogue. This was not Cody telling her he saw Lee with someone. No, it was not someone she trusted at all. Did the girl have a convincing story? Yes. That was all she had though, a story. So, she would push the Lee thing aside. Sure, she would bring it up to him. If for any reason he needed to know what was being said about him. However, there was another problem right now. She was internally beginning to fume over someone talking that way about Lee. How dare they insinuate such things. And who knows how many people they have told this too? Her blood was beginning to boil. She was not sure how she should proceed. How about with a left hook? It was sound advice if she wasn’t trying to be diplomatic. And how does she explain why she was so angry? Why should them talking about Lee make her upset? She can’t say that she is his mate. Though she would love to. She would love to watch their jaw drop.

“Awful quiet, now aren’t you?” The girl who claimed to have slept with Lee hissed.

Rhea met the girl in the eyes confidently. “I was just wondering how much trouble you would get in for lying about sleeping with Lee-viathan.” She had to correct herself from just calling him Lee.

“How dare you accuse us of lying.” The girl scoffed in agitation.

Rhea shrugged. “And then there is the part where you went down the king’s private hall in order to steal one of his shirts to make your story more convincing . Tsk Tsk Tsk... I can’t imagine that will go over well. I wonder what your deity would think?”

“Why don’t you go ahead and ask him?” The girl smirked.

Rhea grinned at the girl and nodded her head. "That's exactly what I plan to do." She was going to call this girl's bluff. She watched for any signs of nervousness from the girls, but they were not showing any. Either they are really confident in their story...or

"Good and when you talk to him remind him that I am available whenever it is convenient for him." The other girl chimed in as she batted her eyes to Rhea.

"It's not like she can actually talk to him anyway." The girl rolled her eyes and the two snickered together.

"She is the future queen of this kingdom. She has spoken to Leviathan before and there is no reason why she can't speak to him." Reese stuck up for Rhea. The moment the words came out of his mouth the girls snicker quieted down. There was now a small glint in their eyes. "If you'll excuse us ladies, we have other matters to attend to." Reese motioned for Rhea to continue down the hall which she slowly obliged. She honestly wasn't ready to leave. She wanted to see where the conversation was going next. She looked up to Reese waiting for an explanation.

When they were further away Reese rolled his eyes a bit and looked over at Rhea. "Those two have always been trouble. Spoiled brats who always get their way. There is no talking to them."

"I was curious how much deeper they were going to dig their graves." Rhea raised her shoulders slightly.

"What makes you think they are lying? I mean... the offer is not unheard of." Reese was curious why Rhea was so confident that the girls were not being honest.

"Oh, Reese. Seriously? Do you really think that your deity has that bad of taste in women?" He better say no! Rhea raised an eyebrow as she stopped to look at him.

Reese nodded his head and chuckled. "You're right. I never really thought about it like that. If I know better than to get involved with them then he would definitely know better."

She could see the instant relief in his eyes. Rhea giggled. "Were you nervous about it?"

"Well, yeah. I mean if one of them end up with the deity that would be hell for all of us. I mean they would basically be in charge of everything. Who would dare go against the deity's mate?" Reese chuckled as Rhea quietly understood the true meaning of being Lee's mate. It would put her in a position even above Titus. She would have to be careful on who she trusted. People would try to use her to get to him. Lee had been around and was smart. She was just a young girl just learning about the world. She would need to be cautious so that she could protect him.

"I think that is why he has never taken a mate. He never wanted that to become a problem." Reese smiled sadly. "It must be lonely don't you think? Forced to live in this world for eternity with no one by your side."

Rhea felt her chest tighten as she thought about it. Her poor Lee... had he been lonely? She had been thinking about herself so much lately. Been thinking about her needs and wants. How much harder it must have been for Lee to deny himself of what he wanted. Even now he continued to be smart and practical even with his mate pull. He was so much stronger than her emotionally. She took in a gentle breath and smiled. He wasn't alone now. She would be with him and would do whatever she could to be an asset to him. One thing she could promise... She would always be there for him. Whatever he faces, she would be there to face it with him.

How was she lucky enough to end up being his mate? No matter what happens in the future... she didn't want Lee to ever be lonely again. He is immortal. She didn't want to have to take his immortality away from him. In her head, the Ocean's Tear was the last resort. So, knowing that one day she will die she wanted him to be happy. Which got her thinking... If they had children... would they be immortal children or would they have a mortal life? If they had children would they always be able to be by Lee's side.

She blushed slightly thinking about having Lee's children. Now... how to ask him about the topic without seeming over eager?

Yeah Rhea... I think you are getting ahead of yourself. You haven't even sealed the deal yet.... YET.

Book 2

Chapter 56 war between dragons and fairies

Chapter 138 - Dr.Luna

Rhea squinted her eyes and stared at Reese with hatred. How evil can a person be? She was trying to count to ten and regain her composure. But it was hard. She had to force herself not to douse him with her water elemental skills. Though evilly in her head she replayed how the scene would go down.

"Well? Just do it already." Reese folded his arms over his head and a cocky grin spread across his face.

Asshole. Rhea looked at him beneath her eyelids not hiding how irritated she was with him. With a shaky hand she reached her fingers up and brought them closer to Reese. She hesitated there for a moment. Breathe Rhea... breathe. You can do this. She locked eyes with Reese who continued to smirk at her. He was daring her to continue. Ugh, she never realized how much of an asshole he was until now. He was practically Titus just in another body. She squinted her eyes and moved her hand the rest of the way forward. Seizing the small card in her hand and drawing it back to herself.

She opened her eyes as she flipped the card around. “NOOO!!!!” She yelled as Reese laughed heartily. She got the Old Maid again. How?! How did she lose every single time? This was getting ridiculous. And Reese was such a sore winner. He was now standing up and clamped his hands together over his head, shaking them as in victory. She sat there looking at him with the utmost annoyance.

“Aww poor little fairy. You want me to let you win a round?” Reese flashed her an evil grin.

Fuse....lit. Rhea grabbed the bowl of fruit on the table and began launching them at Reese. He took off running laughing and dodging the raining fruit. Rhea sped off after him determined to at least hit him once. It was the only thing that would make her feel a little bit better at this point.

He grabbed his own bowl of fruit and flipped a rectangular wooden table over to form a shield. “Better run princess. It is counterattack time.”

Pfft run. Never. Rhea flipped over her own table. The war between dragons and fairies has begun....

“Maybe if you apologize, I’ll go easy on you.” Reese chuckled trying to provoke the princess.

Rhea let out an irritated chuckle. “You need to be praying to your deity that I go easy on you.” She launched an assault of grenade apples and oranges. Unfortunately, they all narrowly missed their target. Next, she was under siege. She dodged side to side as the bananas and grapes floated over top of her.

They were getting nowhere like this. It was a stalemate between the barrage of fruits flying all over the place. She was on her last bowl and ammunition was running low. Yes... there comes a time when you know what must be done. An ultimate sacrifice... a dangerous maneuver but it was her only chance now. She would try to take him by surprise by sprinting at him. She would wait and attack right after his next launch of fruit. She took in a deep breath. She knew she would have to be fast and she would only get one shot at victory. It is moments like this that you know you have to dig deep inside and reach the warrior inside. She grabbed her last few pieces of fruit. Fly swiftly and true. She crouched and braced herself for her opportunity.

She waited until he threw his next wave of grenades and went for it. She leaped over her table and sprinted towards him. She heard his shocked gasp, but it was too late. She smirked to herself as she torpedoed her fruit towards him. DIRECT HIT! She watched the fruit smashed into his side and an apple landed right across his cheek. Sweet victory... almost. She did not take into account the littered fruit over the ground. She landed her foot on an apple and her body was launched forward. She closed her eyes and braced herself for the hard impact. ‘Oooof’

She landed in something firm and warm. It was not hard and cold like the floor or wall would have been. She opened her scrunched-up eyes to see herself being firmly held.

“Are you okay?”

Rhea looked up to see Dex looking down at her in concern. She gave him a sheepish grin and nodded. "Thanks to you I am unharmed." She heard him let out a sigh in relief. He helped her to her feet but still kept his arms around her. He continued to inspect her until he was convinced she was fine. He kept his arm resting around her protectively though.

"What happened here?" Dex raised an eye as he looked at the fruit hurricane in the room.

"Rhea, are you alright?" Reese walked up to her with a worried guilty expression.

She giggled and nodded. "We had a fruit fight." She answered Dex then continued to giggle at Reese. "You should see your face. It has the imprint of an apple on the side."

Reese reached up and chuckled as he wiped his cheek.

"Dang, I joined the wrong party." Dex laughed as he looked around the room. "This looked like a lot more fun."

"It was probably best that you didn't after all it would look pretty bad to be bested by a girl. Just like Reese was." She grinned triumphantly and watched a side smirk grow on Dex's face.

"Sweetheart, beating Reese here is one thing. Beating me, would be something entirely different."

"Sorry, this isn't a political talk and fancy drink category. This isn't something you would excel at. Best to know your limits." Rhea teased her new friend.

Dex looked down at her with amusement. "Are you provoking me, little fairy bug?"

"Umm... bug? And there is nothing to provoke." Rhea glanced around the war zone. "We ran out of ammunition." She looked up at Dex and saw his continued amusement. "What is so funny?"

"You really think you can beat me... don't you?" He had a cocky grin over his face... just like Reese had before.

"You dragons are just too adorable. You all think you are impervious to losing. It makes it all the better when you do lose." Rhea liked provoking the dragons with their arrogant nature.

"We are hosting one of the biggest gatherings here. Do you really think we are out of fruit?" Dex said with a mischievous smile.

Rhea's eyes perked up. "Are you sure your royal pampered self can handle it?"

Dex grinned. "Reese, come with me. We have some fruit to gather." He took his arm away from Rhea and the two men left. It was time to prepare for war.

Rhea grinned as they hauled several large baskets full of fruit. Oh, this is going to be brutal. One of the best things about Dex joining in is that all the blame would now fall on him. One thought did slip into her mind though... Is this going to be dragons verse the fairy sort of thing?

She watched as another table was prepared as a third barrier. "So, is this just a free for all? Or am I going to be fighting two brutes off?" She played the weak innocent girl routine and raised her hand over her chest.

Dex chuckled at her innocent act. "It wouldn't be fun just picking on a weak fairy now would it?"

Oh, he is going to hurt for that one. Rhea made a silent promise to herself as she positioned herself behind her table. It was funny how a spontaneous game earlier was now a methodical match now.

"You sure you don't want to back out? You won't get another lucky shot on me again." Reese grinned at her as he tossed a pear in the air.

"I bet you would love that, so you won't have to be humiliated again." Rhea smirked and raised her eyes in triumph.

"Well, if you two lambs are ready it is time for the slaughter." Dex ducked down behind his table in excitement.

It was funny. These big scary dragons were just a couple of kids. They were no different from the brothers she grew up with. Maybe that was why she got along with them so fast and quickly. Being around them sort of felt like... home.

The first fruit was thrown, and it was on. There was no going back now. The shadows of fruit were seen over the ground as they each made plopping and pounding noises as they landed. Fruit met with fruit in the air and splattered their fragments over the battlefield. Reese sent a menacing barrage of attacks towards Dex who countered back magnificently. Meanwhile, Rhea sent deadly shots of fruit towards both distracted men. An orange clipped Reese in the arm and an over ripe apple splattered on Dex.

Both men turned and glowered towards her with an intense desire to maim. Rhea gulped. She was now the pinnacle of their attention. The fruit soared towards her in every direction. She leaned close to the table to try to avoid the deadly siege. She went to cautiously peek over her barricade when it happened. A lemon that Dex had thrown hit the corner of her table. The lemon splatted and the juice went right into Rhea's eye.

She grabbed onto her eye and took in sharp intake of air. Ugh, woman down. The tears were instantly pouring out. She squinted her eye shut and began waving her hands frantically trying to fan her eye out.

“Ugh. Sorry about that. Are you okay? Here let me help.” Dex grabbed onto Rhea’s hand and tilted her chin up blowing towards her eye.

“Do you want a cold washcloth Rhea?” Reese watched her as she began to giggle at herself sympathetically.

“No no I’m fine. No Dex... you’re making it worse.” Rhea tried pulling back from Dex but he held her firmly so there was no escape.

“What happened in here?” A low snarl was made by the door.

Rhea looked up from her good eye to the doorway and met with Titus’s eyes. Through her blurry tears she could see someone else was behind him. It was Lee and he did not look happy. Titus was now glaring at Dex and his hand on Rhea. A gesture that Dex did not miss.

“Is he possessive much?” Dex chuckled as he watched Titus stomp over towards them.

Titus reached out and gently took Rhea into his arms. “What happened in here? Are you okay?” He reached his hand up and began wiping her tears away.

“Ouch no no. It still burns. Don’t touch it.” Rhea pouted and rubbed her eye. “Geez Dex you are such a sore loser.”

“Awe, come on. I didn’t mean for that to happen.” Dex smiled at her, though still looking at her with concern.

She squinted up to Titus. “I got lemon juice in my eye.”

Titus reached his hand up and wiped her eyes. He ran his palm over her gently trying to make sure all the juice was gone. He then shot a dark look towards Reese. “Go and get a wet cloth already!” He growled angrily. Reese shot out of the room in a sprint in fear of his life.

“Titus. He offered to get me a cloth and I told him I was okay.” Her voice was quiet and she gave him a soft smile.

“He should have gotten it anyways. Let me see your eye.” Titus was examining her eye that was red from being irritated. Reese handed Titus the damp cloth and quickly backed away. “Why were you throwing food at my mate?!” Titus turned his head glaring at the two men.

Rhea giggled and cupped her hands-on Titus’s face. “Will you calm down grouch? We were having fun. It was a game. Besides, you would be proud of me. I drew first blood. Oh, don’t you even look at me like that mister. I can already tell you are way more competitive than me. You would have done the same thing in my shoes. Spare me the lecture because I am not listening.”

Titus chuckled at her and shook his head. “What am I going to do with you?”

“Hmm, how about joining in the next time there is a fruit fight?” Rhea scrunched her nose up and bit her bottom lip.

“Sweets playing with them is not like playing with me. That’s like going from the amateur division straight to professional.” Titus rolled his shoulders back smugly.

Rhea scoffed and tilted her head over to Dex and Reese. “He’s calling you guys amateurs.

“I heard.” Dex scoffed and folded his arms across his chest. He raised his eyes with a smirk. “Care to put that to the test.”

Titus chuckled darkly. “Bring it on.”

Book 2

Chapter 57 Taking the games too far

Chapter 139 - Dr.Luna

Rhea stomped across the room pouting and leaned against the wall close to Lee. She let out a loud sigh and furrowed her brows. She could hear the few chuckles that escaped from his mouth. She was glad he thought this was funny. She watched the other three men prepare themselves in the respective positions. “They won’t let me participate... that’s not fair. It’s my game.” She mumbled quietly. A small smile rose on her face as she inched closer to Lee. Her arms were leaning against the wall and she looked like she was casually watching the battle. She inched her finger over and wrapped her pinky finger around Lee’s. She looked at him from the corner of her eye and noticed the small smile that rose on his face.

“You sure you don’t want to get in on the match?” Rhea watched as the battle stations were being prepared.

Lee tilted his head over towards her and raised his eyes.

“Oh... I see. You are afraid you might lose and that would look bad on your part huh?” Rhea could see from the look on his face he felt above it. He needed to have a little bit of fun so she decided she would provoke him a bit. A deep chuckle sounded from his throat.

“If you were able to strike first blood then it hardly seems like it would be a match for me.” Lee smirked and Rhea’s eyes twitched from his jab.

Arrogant... pompous... damn these dragons and their deity. “I see... because there is no way they could be any good if I was able to beat them. Right?” Rhea clicked her tongue. “I

understand now.” She spoke louder now making sure the other men heard what she was about to say next. “You are afraid to join in now that Titus is playing since he could actually beat you.”

Lee was giving her an unreadable side glare. Two of the men froze while Titus laughed loudly. “It’s okay Rhea. Let him keep his integrity intact.”

Lee growled and took a few steps forward before turning to Rhea. “You aren’t participating so just stay right there.” Then marched forward to claim a position of his own. Rhea grinned and leaned back. Got him.

Titus grinned at Rhea. He knew Lee liked to act like a proper deity but deep down he enjoyed having fun too. It was just an act he liked to put on. He knew that something like this was actually right up his alley. He turned his attention to Lee and flashed him a smile. “I’m not going to go easy on you just because you are a deity.”

Lee scoffed. “You’re dead already. You just don’t know it yet.” His words sounded so chilling and convincing. This game was something he was taking seriously.

Reese seemed a bit nervous to engage in a battle with their respected deity. Rhea could already see him squeezing his hands together and flickering his eyes around nervously. While Dex was relishing in the opportunity. It might be a game, but this would be the best chance he would ever have at evaluating his skills.

Rhea leaned back against the wall watching with interest. Sure, she wanted to play too but this would still be entertaining. Titus took off his over shirt leaving his undershirt on. Lee also followed suit. She watched as his broad shoulder muscles flexed as he tossed his shirt aside. Don’t drool Rhea...don’t drool. It’s all yours anyways... She couldn’t help her gaze. She was greedily looking over Lee’s body and she could admit it... there was not a pure thought in her body at that moment. Thank goodness they were all too busy focusing on each other to notice her. She was not playing her role as Titus’s mate right there. She was glued to the only male that existed in her mind. And he was pure eye candy.

“Rhea... aren’t you going to wish me luck?” Titus grinned and pointed to his cheek for a good luck kiss. He was going to provoke Lee so that he was angry. Then he wouldn’t be thinking as clearly. Was it dirty? Eh, all is fair with war.

She was interrupted from her thoughts. She looked at Titus and folded her arms. She knew exactly what he was doing. Pfft. “No, I’m mad at you for not letting me play.” She pretended to pout. It sounded like a good enough reason to her for refusing him.

Titus smirked and his eyes flashed over to Lee. “You know sweetheart... at the dinner tomorrow night we are to share a formal dance. We are also to seal the end of our joining dance with a mate acceptance kiss.”

“What does that have to do with anything Titus? Let’s start this already.” Dex shook his head not understanding what Titus was doing. He could talk about that crap later. Lee had a fixated stare

on Titus. Both males had a slight glaze over their eyes as a linked conversation was being played out between the two of them.

“Umm... what is a mate acceptance kiss?” Rhea looked to Dex. She watched him look up to the ceiling and a crooked smile spread over his lips.

“Umm... well basically it is where you publicly either mark or remark your mate for all to see and accept.” Dex looked at Rhea who looked horrified.

“Wait... publicly? In front of everyone? Umm... isn’t that kind of too intimate.” Rhea was struggling with some sort of excuse. No. No way. Nope. Titus is not slobbering all over her neck. There is no way Lee would allow that to happen either... right? Her eyes darted between Lee and Titus who were both locked in conversation.

“It is necessary for the king to publicly brand his mate. It is just a moment.” Dex still refused to look Rhea in the eyes.

Pfft. Just a moment but he knows it would be embarrassing as hell that’s why he won’t look at her. She could manage it if it was Lee... but there is no way it can happen with Titus. Nope. None. Please...

Titus broke his gaze from Lee and looked at Rhea. “Sorry. It can’t be helped. It won’t be more than a moment of the night and that is it.”

“Titus.” Rhea had a low threatening tone in her voice. These damn dragons are just going to do whatever the hell they wanted. She was a person with feelings and was not going to be a live spectacle. “If you even come close to pressing your lips on my neck publicly tomorrow...” Her eyes narrowed on him. “You will learn exactly what happens when you piss me off.” She could see the shocked look in Titus’s eyes at her very real threat. While Lee’s eyes flickered with pride for her.

Titus’s eyes softened and he gave her an apologetic smile. “I’m sorry. There isn’t a way around it.”

Rhea made sure she met with all of their eyes, so she wasn’t just looking at Lee’s. Lee was fuming. But he also wasn’t refuting what was being said. Was he just going to allow this to happen? So wait? I don’t get a say in this? I HAVE to let him mark my neck or at least pretend to mark my neck. She could feel her anger rising. This was never even once talked about. She knew why Titus brought it up at this moment but why was it never brought up before? She liked Titus well enough but the mark on her neck was special to her. It was something very intimate that she shared with Lee. She couldn’t let someone else touch her there.

“No one really thinks much of it. He is your mate, so it is natural. He has to make a very public showing as the king. It is the initiation that needs done for acceptance. The moment is a bit intimate, but it is necessary. The people will need to see this now more than ever because you are not a dragon. It is a powerful statement being made to have the king claiming you so publicly.”

Dex finally met with Rhea's eyes. He could feel some hesitation in her. Sure, it was an intimate moment. But it was very much necessary, especially in her case.

Rhea took in a deep breath as she tried to control her emotions. She was trying to think about this logically and how she could avoid this situation. In order to protect her and Lee's relationship it would be necessary. It was necessary for this to be done for the dragons to accept a non-dragon mate. The problem is it was with the wrong dragon. The more she thought about it... something that public there was no way he could only pretend. And while Lee's mark was already there and couldn't be marked over it would still feel very wrong even as a farce. It would be wrong. And then there was another fear... what if she liked it? What if it stirred something else inside of her? Unconsciously she reached up and covered her precious marking. It was her constant proof that he had chosen her as his mate. It belonged to him... she belonged to him.

She wanted to go to him. To ask him about this. She wanted to really hear his thoughts. Was she being ridiculous? It was only for a moment... maybe she was the one making a big deal out of it. The gut wrenching feeling she had in her stomach was telling her otherwise. Her eyes looked up and naturally landed on Lee. Before she could discern what emotions were in his eyes the door opened. In walked the two wicked bitches of the west along with their great grandfather. Perfect. Rhea thought sarcastically.

The old man looked around the room curiously at the fruit scattered all over the place. Then his eyes landed on Lee and he grinned, walking towards him with his two grand hags in tow. "Have you given more thought about what we talked about?" The two women had a half smirk on their faces as they met with Rhea's eyes.

Lee turned and glared at the old man. He took in a sharp breath. "I had already given you my answer. I would not ask again... I am not in the mood to be lenient today." Lee's voice dripped with ice as he spoke. The hostility was not missed by anyone. A clear sign at how much he was annoyed over the mate acceptance kiss.

"I-I-I was just offering... since they are both unmated..." The old man stammered a bit as he continued.

Lee chuckled darkly and then something flashed over his eyes. They flickered upwards towards Rhea and then back to the old man. "You think that matters? I can have anyone I want. ANYONE. Whether they are mated or not. Hell... I can even have her if I want and nothing can be done about it." He waved his hand over towards Rhea and pinned his gaze on her. He grinned at the older man. "And just to prove my point..." Lee took bold steps towards Rhea. His eyes were fixated on her like a predator. He grabbed onto the back of her neck and roughly pushed her into him.

It was hot. It was rough. It was needy. Mmmm... It was delicious. He marked her lips with his furious need. His beast was enraged and was greedily staking his claim. He burned her lips and bit on her bottom lip. He forced her mouth open and plunged his tongue in her mouth. He squeezed her into him, demanding the response to his kisses. She gave him what he needed

obediently. Willingly. He pulled away from her, panting just in front of her lips. Then he composed himself and fixated his gaze on Titus.

All eyes were now watching Titus. How was he going to react? His mate was just kissed, but it was by someone who he couldn't fight. Titus played his role to perfection. He squeezed his hand and balled up his fists. His eyes were dark, and his lips were almost curled into a growl. He stood firm and held his gaze onto Lee. Lee smirked and then turned his head to look at the shocked old man.

"Like I said. If I want it... it's already mine." Lee looked back to Titus. "You can blame the old man here for this. It's his fault for angering me." Lee then turned and stormed out of the room.

Titus quickly ran up to Rhea and pulled her into his chest. "Did he hurt you?" Concern was laced in his voice. It wasn't just fake concern either. He could see just how angry he was and was afraid he was too rough on her.

"I'm okay." Rhea's head was spinning. His rough passionate kiss left her reeling and wanting more. She leaned her head into Titus's chest covering her flushed face. Inwardly, she was also elated that he kissed her in front of those two snotty women. She caught the look on their shell-shocked faces. Their jaw was still dragging on the floor.

Titus looked over at the old man. "It would be best if you and your granddaughters keep their distance from me and Leviathan for the remainder of your stay." He then tugged Rhea along and slammed the door behind him as he left the room.

Book 2

Chapter 58 Acceptance Kiss

Chapter 140 - Dr.Luna

Titus led Rhea down to the hall where their rooms were before they moved upstairs. He entered the one across from her room, which was Lee's room. Lee looked up the moment they entered the room. Once the door was shut, he pulled her from Titus and into his arms.

"I'm sorry Rhea. I'm so sorry... are you okay?" Lee didn't mean to be so forceful with her. He let his anger get away from himself. His inner beast was so enraged over another male touching his mark that he was no longer able to hold in his composure. When the opportunity came, he used it to lay claim over her lips.

Rhea rested her head against Lee. Her hands were sprawled over his chest. He was apologizing to her. There was nothing to apologize for. She had craved his urgency. She was glad he showed

the intense desire for her in front of everyone. And he was able to do it in a way without causing suspicion. She tilted her head up to him and smiled. "Lee..." She reached her hand up and rested it on his face. He closed his eyes and leaned into her hand. "I'm fine. Don't apologize for that... please."

"No, you should be apologizing to me for embarrassing me back there. Man, now I have to think how to play this all off." Titus rubbed his temples. They would be expecting him to have some animosity with Levi over what had just happened.

"This is your fault first Titus. You are the one who made him mad on purpose to mess with his head. And what is with this whole mate acceptance kiss? I'm not okay with this." Rhea pulled back and looked between both men.

"I'm not okay with it either." Lee snarled angrily.

"What am I supposed to do here Levi? If I refuse to mark her publicly then it would be like refusing her. I'm at a loss as to what to do." Titus raised his hands and dropped them to his side.

Rhea understood what was at stake here. They need the dragon's acceptance. And if Titus doesn't publicly mark her she wouldn't get it. Then there is the whole problem of him marking someone not his mate. But if he doesn't claim her as his mate then the question would arise who her mate was. On top of that there was the emotional struggle for her and Lee to allow Titus to mark her neck. It wasn't really marking it since he can't mark over Lee's mark. But it would be the same act as marking. Rhea rubbed her hand over her forehead and groaned quietly. She had to choose a poison.

"So now what?" She looked up to Lee and pursed her lips together. None of the choices here were going to be good ones.

"There is no now what. We continue on with what we have been doing. You have to keep playing the role as my mate for now. We can't risk it the other way." Titus's voice whispered out quietly. Lee winced and clenched his fists.

Rhea reached out and grabbed his hand. He tugged her into his hold and rested his head upon hers.

"I can't. We will just have to call off the charade because there is no way I can allow you to touch her." Lee kissed the top of her hair. How could he possibly let him intimately touch her like that?

"Levi, man you can't risk it. It won't mean anything. It is just an act. It's acting. One moment and it is done. And we can keep this going until you can get things worked out. Rhea..." Titus looked at Rhea hoping to convince her. "If we don't do this you could lose him."

"Maybe there is another way to get the deities to accept us if Lee is unable to convince them." She knew there was but she was fishing to see if Lee would even bring it up.

“No, we need their acceptance.” Lee said quietly.

“So your options are you either go through with this charade. Or you don’t. Then you have to keep trying to hide who your mate is while everyone will be wondering who I was protecting. Or they think you are my mate but I don’t accept you.” Titus shook his head. “It’s obvious. There is only one solution here unless you want to risk it.”

Rhea was frustrated. Did Lee not even think about the Ocean’s Tear or was it really something that was out of the question for him? Was it because of how dangerous the merrow queen was? Or did it have to do with losing his immortality? She wasn’t afraid of the merrow queen. If only she could just talk with him over it. She knew Grandpa Sage was right though. If he suspected Rhea knew about the Ocean’s Tear he would make certain she couldn’t go after it. He should know that the merrow queen would be no match for her... right? Or did he really think she was that weak? She let out a sigh. Lee was not giving her any other option right now. She couldn’t risk losing him. For just one moment... she would have to put up with something uncomfortable.

“Okay... I guess there isn’t a choice then.” She tilted her head up to look at Lee. “I’ll just close my eyes and pretend it’s you.”

“I can’t be here then... I can’t be here to see it. I won’t be able to handle it. I’m sorry Rhea. I’m not strong enough to be here for you. I just can’t.” His voice was pained as he spoke.

“Levi... it is a royal mate. Your presence will be required.” Titus said very quietly.

“Then I’ll come afterwards to bless the union. Trust me... you don’t want me where I can see you or you might not live through it.” Lee’s voice dripped with a lethal threat.

“I don’t know how to say what I am trying to say... I promise it will be done tastefully....” Titus looked down unable to make eye contact with Lee. In all honesty this moment caught up to him and he had forgotten about the mating kiss until earlier today. He was dumb to bring it up like he did earlier. The more he thought about it he realized how insensitive it was of him. He could see Levi was torn and hurting over what would have to happen. And that Rhea was upset as well. All he could promise to do was make it as less intimate as possible. They couldn’t risk them getting found out. He couldn’t risk losing Levi.

“It won’t change anything Lee. I can’t risk losing you, not when we have an easy way to keep us off the radar... I guess this is just another one of those stupid dragon things...” Or she could just run off and get that damn Ocean’s Tear; tell the damn Merrow to cough it up. If it wasn’t for Lee being able to find her because of his connection to her as a summon she could do that.

Lee cupped her face in his hands. “Of course, it won’t change anything. I’m just sorry that I have to subject you to something like this. You’re the one who has to let him touch you. I am sure the idea is dirty to you.” He gazed into her eyes and kissed her forehead gently. He didn’t want her to even think for a moment that it would change anything between them. He wouldn’t think of her any differently. He was just upset that this was going to be his fault. Because this whole situation was his fault for marking her when he did.

Titus stood there with his arms folded over his chest and with his brows furrowed. “Subjected to this? The idea of me doing a favor for you guys is dirty? Well... I guess that says about everything. I mean it is not like I have halitosis or anything. I brush, floss and mouthwash.”

Rhea turned her head and then giggled to Titus. “Sorry Titus. We don’t mean anything by it. Honestly, if I do have to have someone else mark my neck or pretend to mark my neck, I am glad that it is you. But even still... the idea of anyone else touching me besides Lee... It’s just not a good feeling. But I trust you...” She looked up to Lee and smiled. “We trust you.”

Titus grinned and couldn’t help himself. “So... you’re saying I’m your second-choice mate then?”

Lee growled out in agitation while Rhea shook her head with a smile. He was always such a flirt, but she trusted him. She was comfortable with him. There was something about Titus that she couldn’t explain. She always felt drawn to him and connected in a way. Not that she wanted him slobbering all over her neck. She was loyal to Lee. If she did have to have someone else touch her... it would be Titus.

“I swear you better not enjoy it at all Titus.” Lee snorted out angrily.

“Well, I’m not exactly going to be grossed out by it. What about her? I can’t help it if she enjoys it.” Titus shrugged and then flashed a big grin towards them.

“He knows better. He knows his is the only touch I would enjoy.” Rhea looked into Lee’s light blue eyes as he gazed back into hers.

“Your lovey dovey stuff is making me sick.” Titus fake gagged to the side.

“Yours is the only touch I want too Rhea.” Lee smiled as he stared at his beautiful mate.

Rhea’s eyes widened. “Oh that reminds me!” She was going to bring up what the other women had said earlier about him. “Those two women back there. They told me something interesting today.” Rhea stepped back from Lee and she eyed him in fake accusation. “One of them had a t-shirt of yours and she claims that you have slept together. And that you are planning to sleep with the other one as well. They said you are picking one of them to be by your side.”

“Damn, Levi you are a whore.” Titus chuckled noticing that Rhea didn’t take the women seriously.

Lee scoffed and stared down at Rhea. His eyes were dark and stormy. “They had a shirt of mine? And said that I actually slept with one of them?” He was snarling as he spoke now. “Rhea... I don’t know how they got a shirt of mine. I would never-”

Rhea giggled. “Lee... don’t you know I trust you more than that? I’ll always believe in you.”

Lee reached out and pulled her up to him. An instant relief passed over him. "You're amazing." He lowered his head down and he lovingly took her lips. It was warm, sweet and tender. "Thank you for believing in me." He then looked at Titus. "I won't have it, Titus. I will not have rumors spreading about me sleeping with other women. I won't have them using me so that they can get their way. Have Weston deal with them... and tell him that this is his chance to handle it. Otherwise... I will." His voice was low and angry. The threat in his tone could not be missed. He was livid. Beyond angry. What if Rhea wasn't so trusting? They could have damaged his relationship with his mate. Then there was a problem with them soiling his good name. He was the deity here. How dare they degrade him by spreading rumors about him. As if he would let those nasty creatures touch him.

"I'll make sure I speak with Weston. We can't have anyone spreading rumors like that about you. It does not bode well for all of us dragons. They are lucky they are not from my kingdom. I'm sure Weston will handle it properly. Those women are his cousins and should know better. It wasn't like they just made up a lie about sleeping with one of the kings... which would be bad enough. They said it about you. How foolish." Titus agreed. Insinuating that you were sleeping with the dragon deity was a deadly offence. Their lives would only be spared because of who they are. However, their punishment would still be severe. He imagined they would be stripped of their social standing and no longer able to attend mating parties. Whatever was decided... it would be up to Weston.

"Hmmm... so what happens to me then?" Rhea tilted her head over to look at Titus. "I am telling everyone that I am sleeping with you but I'm not."

Lee chuckled. "You are my mate, Rhea. That means you are immune to a king's judgement. No one can touch you once you are announced as my mate. You will be above all except me."

Rhea looked up to Lee and then back to Titus. "So... I'll be above all the kings? Just because I am with you?"

"Rhea... I have never taken a mate. It is a big deal for a deity to take a mate. My mate will have an equal position as me. Which means you... you stand with me Rhea. You are untouchable."

"I see. So, I can kiss someone else's mate and not get in trouble." Rhea gave him a playful wicked smile. Since that is what he did to Titus. He kissed Rhea... who everyone thinks is Titus's mate.

"The thing is my dear. While nothing will happen to you..." He pulled her close and gripped her chin with his fingers. "I will kill anyone else who touches your lips."

"Talk about the kiss of death." Titus laughed. "Except for me who gets to kiss your neck tomorrow." Titus winked playfully. He caught the deadly eyes of Lee locked on him. "Too soon?"

“Yes... it will always be too soon.” Lee sighed. He will never be able to listen to Titus talk about kissing his mate’s neck. The very idea of letting him touch what is his was driving him mad. He knew he could not be anywhere near the area when he did it. He would lose control for sure.

Book 2