

## Chosen by Fate 551

### Chapter 551 - Reece – The End Of The War (VOLUME 3)

Reece

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I did my best to not hurt Vincent even more as I pulled the large snake's fangs from his body. The long, thin fangs had pierced him through the center of his chest and right above his belly button. Blood was pouring out of him from both wounds, front and back.

The fangs had pierced right through his body, coming out his back and dripping venom onto the ground that was so strong it burned the grass. I knew that couldn't be good, the wounds or the poison. Both of them could potentially kill the man and I couldn't let that happen.

It took me a few minutes, but I managed to pull the fangs from Vincent's body. The entire time, he just laid there and groaned in pain. He didn't scream. He didn't say anything. He barely even looked at me while I tried not to cause him to feel even more pain than before.

"I'm sorry, Vincent. Just hang in there, buddy. I'm taking these out and David is getting someone to help you. It will be alright."

There was pain in Vincent's eyes when I looked into his face. With tears wavering in his eyes, I saw that he was trying to speak.

"P..pl..pl..please t..t..tell H..H..Hea..Heather and th..th..the k..k..kids th..th..that I..I..I l..love th..th..them." With every attempt he made to form a word I saw the pain intensify in his eyes. "A..a..and t..t..tell T..T..Tr..Trin..Trin..Trinity th..that I..I..I'm s..s..sorry. I..I..I'm s..so..sorry th..th..that I..I..I f..f..failed h..h..her." A tear rolled down his cheek as he spoke.

"You can tell them that yourself, Vincent. I am not going to let you die. I forbid you from dying. Do you hear me, Vincent? You are not allowed to die. Heather needs you. Your kids need you. Trinity needs you. I need you. You can't die, Vincent, you can't!"

Dammit. I was getting emotional. I didn't want this man to die. I didn't want to see a close personal friend pass away and leave his wife and kids in despair. I didn't want to see my Little Bunny's first ally, after becoming my mate, leave her. They have been working together for years now and I know that she will blame herself if he were to die. He was too important to us all to die.

As I was looking into the man's pain stricken face, I saw something blurred coming toward me. There was no sound accompanying that blur, but I knew what it was already. It had only been about five minutes at most, most likely less, but I knew that it was David coming back with someone to help Vincent.

"I went as quickly as I could." David said, not even out of breath when he stopped next to us. He had literally just sat down a very disoriented Griffin whom he had apparently carried the entire way here. "Griffin is the best healer I could think of." I didn't blame him for thinking that. Griffin had been blessed by Trinity and had abilities that not many people were capable of.

"Th..that was a little, uhm, unique." Griffin was trying to regain his bearings as quickly as possible. He shook his head a couple of times to physically shake off the dizziness that he must have been feeling from the run. "What happened here?" He asked when he saw Vincent sitting next to me, bleeding like crazy.

"He was bitten." I told him before pointing at the python's head. "By that."

"And I am guessing that thing is venomous." He said, already on his knees on the other side of Vincent and ripping open the man's shirt.

"Yeah, the venom was dripping onto the ground. I saw it leaving scorch marks where it touched."

"That's not good at all." Griffin didn't need to state that obvious fact for me to know that it was bad. Venom wasn't supposed to burn the ground like that. That was just some sort of overkill that these fucking dark Fae had cooked up. Dammit.

"G..Gr..Gr..Grif..Griff..Griffin, a..a..am I..I..I g..g..go..going t..t..to d..d..die?" Vincent was already preparing for that to happen. He just wanted Griffin to tell him.

"I hope not, Vincent." I saw light moving from Griffin's finger as he assessed and healed Vincent at the same time. "I don't want you to die."

I wanted to keep watching the scene. I wanted to watch Griffin heal Vincent and save the day, but I couldn't. I couldn't bring myself to watch them for fear that the worst case scenario would come true.

As I turned away from them, I looked at the battle around me. Or should I say, the last stragglers of the fight that was happening around me. There were maybe a dozen dark Fae still clinging to the fight. The majority had either been killed or captured.

Most of the people that we were close to, the onlookers that is, were people we knew. Gloriana, Trevor, Landon, Dietrich, Shawn, Shane, David, and several other members of the council. They were all watching on to see if Vincent was going to make it. There was pain and sorrow in every face that I saw around us.

The battle was over. The war was most likely ending. But the victory was hollow without Trinity and Vincent. Where was my wife? And, would Vincent live? Those were things that I needed to know.

I was glad that the war was over. I was glad that the fighting was ending. But how many lives had we lost? Over these last couple of days, throughout every wave of this battle, how many people had we all lost in this fight?

Too many. If even one person, Fae, shifter, vampire, magic user, and of the people we called in for this war, if even one of them died then it was too many. This was a war that needn't have happened. This was a war that was started because someone was stupid and petty and over all just plain evil.

We needed to do something about this world. We needed to stop more people from dying senselessly like this.

"How many children have lost a parent? How many parents have lost a child? How many people have lost a lover? How much will all this carnage affect our world?" I hadn't meant to say those words out

loud. I hadn't meant for anyone to hear the sorrow filled words as they escaped, unhindered, from my lips.

"I don't know, Reece." Trevor came to my side, Gloriana with him.

"I am sorry, Reece. I should have been more careful. I should have been paying closer attention. I should have made it so that Vincent didn't have to save me. This is all my fault."

"It's not your fault, Gloriana." I assured her. She was not used to fighting, she was not accustomed to battles like this. Even so, she had done an amazing job over the last few days. "Vincent did his job and protected you. He knew that Trinity would have been upset if you were hurt. He was just protecting Trinity by protecting you."

"But, if he dies, won't Trinity be-."

"Yes, she will be devastated." I nodded, not even needing her to finish her question."

I could only think of two things at the moment, 'Hurry back, Little Bunny' and 'Please don't die, Vincent'. Those were the only thoughts in my head at the moment. That was all I could process at the moment while I watched Griffin pour a bright healing light into Vincent. The problem was, Griffin didn't look too hopeful.

"Come back, Little Bunny." I whispered the words. "Please, come back."

### **Chapter 552 - Trinity – Returning To The Surface (VOLUME 3)**

7-8 minutes

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Trinity

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I didn't want to carry that frozen head in my hands all the way back to the battle. At least, I didn't want to carry it in my hands. I didn't want to touch any part of that crazy bitch that had caused all of this. So, instead of touching her at all, stabbed my sword through the bottom of her neck.

The tip of my blade slid in effortlessly past the ice, skin, bone, and everything else that was in between it and the brain. I knew for a fact that the blade had slid in far enough so that it was planted firmly in the soft, vital organ.

Now that her head was skewered enough for me to carry it, I put my sword over my shoulder and walked back toward the barrier that separated me from the outside world. I had an image of someone with a hobo stick walking through the dark countryside as I made my way out of this place.

I remembered which way I had come, so it didn't take me long to get to the fog barrier. I just needed to pass by all the unpleasant looking scenery along the way. I tried not to think of that sea of bloody water as I passed by, hoping that the battle up above hadn't turned into something that resembled that hideous body of water.

When I did finally make it to that hazy, foggy divider between me and the exit, I took a deep breath. I needed to brace myself as I pushed into the thick, clingy, nasty substance. I knew that it would be gone soon. And I knew that it wouldn't cling to me when I was through it, but that didn't make it any easier for me to push my way through it. It felt disgusting and unnatural.

Finally, after a few moments, I was able to pass through that ten foot stretch of the tunnel. I was finally looking up at the exit and ready to leave. There was only one problem. I didn't know how to get out of here.

As soon as I thought that while looking up at the light above me, I felt myself being lifted. It was once again that gentle and slow movement that didn't make me feel the least bit nervous or scared. It was like the magic was fully welcoming of my presence and was assisting me. There was nothing at all hurried or terrifying about the way I was flying up and up and up.

After what felt like several minutes, I could see the end of that long tunnel. I was almost out of here. I was almost back to where everyone else was. I wonder if Reece was going to be mad that I ran off like that?

I felt myself fly effortless out of that crack in the barrier and land gently on my feet. I was now out in the bright afternoon light and the sudden change had me squinting in an attempt to see what was around me. When I had gone in through the barrier it was in the morning. I don't know how long I was in the dark Fae realm, but it was five times longer out here than it was in there. Yeah, Reece was going to be angry for sure.

As my eyes adjusted to the light, I saw that the battle seemed to be over for the most part. Most of the people that were near me, near the boulder, were all just standing around and staring at something.

'What are they looking at?' I asked myself silently as I started to walk forward. 'What the hell is going on here?'

As the people around me saw that I was back from the dark realm, they were pointing and whispering. I hadn't felt this uncomfortable since I attended pack meetings as an ostracized teenager who was the ridicule of the entire pack. Huh, to think that I went from being worth nothing to the pack to being the most sought-after shifter in the world. That was kind of funny if you think about it.

"The Queen is back."

"Look at that sword."

"What happened to her?"

"Where did she go?"

The whispers were following me and making me feel even more uncomfortable with each passing second. This just didn't seem right. It didn't seem normal. What was really going on here?

As I passed by the edge of a group of Fae that were huddled together, I saw several people that I recognized. Reece was there and so were Dietrich, Shawn, Shane, David, and Griffin.

"Where is Vincent?" I asked myself softly as I looked at the group of them.

I saw that Griffin was worried about something, so was Reece based on the set of his shoulders. There was a man lying on the ground between them. He was covered in blood and groaning in pain.

That was when it hit me.

'I recognize that voice.' I told myself as I walked closer to them. 'I know that voice.' I said again when he groaned once more. 'Oh please Goddess, don't let this be what I think it is.' I begged as I took off running toward the group of people.

I could see more friends, more allies. Trevor and Aunt Glory, Athair mòr and Daciana, Rahim, Nathair, Leelin, Crawford, Anastasia, Analise, Reef, Arno, Kayda, Riley, Rawlynne, and all of the rest of my council members were there along with all of my guards. But I couldn't see Vincent anywhere.

Reece seemed to sense me when I was close enough. He looked up to see me running at him, sword in hand.

"Reece?" I yelled out to him as he leapt to his feet to catch me.

"Trinity!" I could hear the emotions that were thickening his voice. "Oh Goddess, Trinity, I am so glad that you're back." He was relieved but still worried.

"What happened, Reece? What happened to Vincent?" I pushed myself away from him, away from the hug and dropped to my knees next to the man that was laying on the ground. "Vincent?"

I took my guard's, my friend's, hand in my own and squeezed it tight.

"I..I..I'm s..s..so..so..sorry, T..T..Tr..Trin..Trinity." Vincent was having trouble speaking and I could tell he was in pain.

I was instantly saddened by the sight before me. Vincent's complexion had been sapped of all color. His eyes were losing their light. Even his lips were turning blue as I watched. He was dying. I could see it. Vincent was dying right before me.

"Vincent?" I sobbed as I pulled his hand closer to my face. "Vincent, don't leave me." I begged him.

I couldn't lose Vincent. I just couldn't. He was my friend. He was the first person that I had truly bonded with when my life had changed. He had been there with me every single step of the way since I found out that Reece was my mate.

"I can't lose you, Vincent. Heather can't lose you either. You need to fight it. You need to get better. You need to be there for your kids. They all need you. Please, Vincent, don't give up."

"T..T..Tri..Trinity, I..I..I've a..a..al..always l..loved y..you I..I..like a..a s..si..sis..sister. I..I h..hope y..yo..you kn..know th..that." He weakly gripped my hand back, as I held it against my cheek.

"I love you too, Vincent. You're my family, I have always thought that. That's why I need you. Please, don't give up.. Don't leave me."

### **Chapter 553 - Trinity – Don't Go Vincent (VOLUME 3)**

7-8 minutes

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Trinity

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"T..t..take c..c..care of H..H..Hea..Heather a..and th..th..the k..k..kids f..for m..m..me p..pl..ple..please." He was giving up. He was just going to let himself die.

"You haven't completed your job yet, Vincent. You're not done yet. You're supposed to guard me for as long as I am Queen. You're in my Goddess Guard, you can't just quit now." I watched him try to smirk and I decided to push it just a little further. "I told you if any of you got hurt in this battle that I would kill you. You don't want me to have to do that now do you." He laughed a little at my joke and immediately started to cough, blood flying from his lips and landing on his cheeks.

"Vincent?" Reece called out to him, kneeling next to me. "Don't talk anymore. We're going to fix this. Just hang in there a little longer man."

"R..R..Ree..Reece, y..yo..yo..you w..w..we..were a..a g..go..good fr..fri..friend a..and a..an a..a..am..amaz..amazing A..Al..Alph..Alpha. I..I kn..kn..know th..that y..yo..you wi..wi..will p..pro..protect T..Tri..Trin-."

"Stop it, Vincent." I sobbed as I tried to silence his goodbyes. "Hush, Vincent. You can't leave. You can't go. I won't let you."

I threw myself forward, hugging him to me as I sobbed louder and louder.

"Please, don't die. Don't take him from me. I don't want to lose someone so close to me. I can't. I just can't. Please, Nehalennia. Please, Thoth. Please, Danu. Please, please help me. Save him for me. Please."

As I begged the God and Goddesses for help, I felt the tugging that usually told me that I was going to the celestial realm.

'No, don't make me leave his side. Don't make me leave my friend.' I begged them once more. The tugging stopped and there was not a bright light filling the battlefield. Actually, there were three bright lights.

There was the golden light of Danu to my left, the red light of Thoth to my right, and in the middle of those two was the bright blue light of Nehalennia. The three celestials had joined me in this world.

"Trinity." I heard the now familiar voice of the Moon Goddess speak to me just moments before I saw her appear before me. I thought that everyone around me would be screaming in shock or joy but I noticed at that moment that everyone in the clearing seemed to have frozen. I was the only one that was moving aside from the God and Goddesses.

"Nehalennia?" I sobbed as I looked at her. Danu and Thoth appeared beside her a second later. "Thoth? Danu? Please, please don't let him die."

"Trinity, there have been many gifts over time that we have given you and your people. Do you truly expect more from us?" Thoth asked me with a look that was nearly devoid of emotion at the moment.

"I know you have done much for me already. I know you have. But I have done much for all of you as well. I never asked to be Queen. I never asked to rule the shifters or the magic users. I just wanted a normal life."

"Yes, Trinity, we know." Nehalennia looked at me with sadness in her eyes. "For that we owe you so much."

"You have helped me more than once, child. And you are a descendant of my personal bloodline. That makes you not only chosen by the other celestials, but part celestials as well." Danu was smiling at me with a soft look. "I do not feel that I have rewarded you nearly enough with all that you have done."

"We have, over time, slowed down the aging that you and all shifters have been experiencing." Thoth spoke next, the emotions no longer hidden from his face. "I am sure you have noticed that those who have reached adulthood are experiencing those effects. Some may have even experienced reverse aging."

"I could tell things were a little different, yes. But I did not know why." I didn't know what all of this had to do with the current situation, but I still had to listen to what they were saying.

"There is still one more gift that we can offer you, Trinity. One more thing aside from blessings that will allow your friend to live." Nehalennia was crouching now, almost kneeling before me so that she could look me directly in the eyes.

"What? What can be done? Please, I don't want to lose my family." There was hope and heartache both filling my voice.

"We can give our children all an equal share of immortality." She added as she looked at me.

"The Magic users." Thoth knelt next to her now, looking at me with his hand extended toward me.

"The Fae." Danu knelt on her other side, her hand extended and laying on top of Thoth's.

"And the shifters." Nehalennia put her hand on top of Danu's.

"How? What will this mean?" I asked them, confused and uncertain.

"They will all be immortal. They will all live lives like the Fae have experienced. They will cease to age normally when they reach adulthood, and they will stop aging altogether when they hit a certain point. Their lives will be eternal, just like that of the vampires and the Fae." Thoth was the one to start the explanation.

"This may be a burden on some of your people, and they may not want it, but it is not something that can be taken away without them ending their lives." Danu added.

"You need to make this decision here and now, Trinity. Make this decision for your people and we will save your friend." Nehalennia spoke forcefully for the first time since she had arrived here.

"What else will happen?" I knew that they hadn't spoken the complete truth to me. There was more to it. There had to be.

"We three will cease to exist."

"WHAT?" I couldn't believe what Nehalennia had just said to me. "How? Why? That can't be."

"We will not be truly gone. We will reside inside of you, Trinity. You will take our place. You are part of all three of us. You are a child born from all three of us. You are the one being that can, and has, united all of our people." She tried to sooth me, but I was still reeling. I didn't understand any of this.

"Will you accept our offer, Trinity? Will you take on the role as the new Goddess?" Thoth asked me, his voice firm.

"Will you lead and protect our people?" Danu's voice was firm now as well.

"You will no longer be the human extension of me, Trinity. You will now be a true Goddess. You will have the power to do what we can do. You will just need to learn to navigate that path on your own."

"I...I'll do it." I hesitated just a little bit. However, in the end I knew that I would do it anyway. I knew that I would take their offer and protect Vincent, even if it meant changing my entire life again.

"Then take our hands. Place one of your palms against my palm, and the other on the back of Thoth's hand.. Grasp our hands at the same time and take our power."

### **Chapter 554 - Trinity – Changing (VOLUME 3)**

6-8 minutes

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Trinity

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Hesitantly, I did as I was told to do. I took my hands off of Vincent for the first time since I had taken his hand in my own. I released him and reached toward the hands of the three celestial beings that were extended toward me.

The moment that I took their hands and held them between the both of mine I felt an immense surge of power. The lights that had previously radiated from each of the three Gods were back, and they were growing more intense than they had been before.

The clearing was instantly filled with a bright, intense light that I knew would be blinding to anyone looking directly at it. I was thankful at that moment that time was currently frozen. I didn't want this to harm anyone that was around me.

As that light blazed on, I saw that the three beings before me started to fade. Their eyes looked serene and calm as they smiled at me. They weren't worried about the fact that they were disappearing. They weren't concerned by the fact that they would never again see another day.

They were willingly giving their lives, their essence to me. They were making me stronger. They were making me more powerful. They were making those that I loved and cared about stronger. They were giving new life to those that were possibly at the end of theirs. And they were doing all of this because I had asked them for help.

Why? Why would they do this for me? Why would they give up their lives for a selfish request of mine? I needed to know.

"Wait! Before you leave, please tell me why? Why did you do this? Why give me your power? Why end your lives?"

"We are not ending our lives, Trinity. We will live on as the power inside of you." Danu spoke first.

"We have seen many millennia. And these years away from our loved ones have been hard on us." Thoth nearly sounded like he was crying when he spoke next.

"With this decision, we will be with you every step of the way. If you ever need to call upon the knowledge that we possess, it will be inside of you, Trinity. Our memories, our wisdom, none of them will be gone from this life. We are simply passing them onto you." Nehalennia was giving me a bittersweet smile. "We have all been looking for a worthy candidate to pass our essence onto. We have all been longing for a new way to interact with this realm. The three of us have found that person in you."

"Does that mean there are others? Other celestial beings that want to return to this world?" Their words confused me for a moment. I wasn't sure what it was that was starting to run through my mind, perhaps it wasn't even my thoughts but theirs.

"Yes, Trinity. There are many more. Maybe you can find the worthy candidates for them. Maybe you can help them to return to this world. Maybe you can help them be reborn like we are." Nehalennia smiled at me and leaned forward.

I felt her lips press against my forehead. She was barely there, nothing more than a shadow image inside the light that was her power. The others leaned forward as well. They each leaned in and kissed me on the cheek in the same manner that Nehalennia had.

I felt them there, the phantom touch of their lips pressing firm but ever so softly against my face. The feeling of that, the sensation of being loved and trusted by them completely, it made me cry. Only three tears. That was all that my body shed. One for each of them.

With the first tear, Danu disappeared. She had been the one that I had most recently met and who was the first to call me family. With the second tear, Thoth disappeared. He had been kind to me from day one and welcomed me as his Queen instantly. And finally, with the third tear, Nehalennia disappeared. She was the first to help me, the first to guide me, and the first to accept me. For years now, she had been close to my heart. She had been the one that I had felt the closest to.

"Don't leave me." I cried as their lights began to fade.

"We will never leave you." The three of them said together as their voices danced on the wind.

I felt my body lowering back to the ground. I hadn't even known that I was floating in the air, high above the ground. One moment I was suspended as if I was a marionette puppet waiting for someone to move my strings, and the next moment I was once again on my knees next to Vincent.

Vincent had not been healed yet. The celestials did not help him.

Just as I was about to panic, I realized something. I am the celestial being now. I was the one who was meant to heal him. It was up to me to do this from now on.

"Live, Vincent. You will not die today." I put my hand on his chest and instantly felt time start to move again.

I was in a different position than I had been when time froze. My abrupt change from one place to another made most of the people who had been watching the scene gasp. Even Reece, who was kneeling on the ground right next to me, fell back as he jumped in surprise.

"TRINITY!?" He gasped. "What the hell just happened!?"

I ignored him, though. I just pressed my hand more firmly against Vincent as I healed his wounds. There was a bright, shining light that started to illuminate the clearing that we were in. This light wasn't like anything that I was used to. For one it was a light purple color, like lilac. But that wasn't the only thing different about it. The light itself seemed to have golden flecks in it, almost like some sort of sparkling dust that was magically floating inside of the light.

"Trinity?" Reece breathed my name in surprise as he saw the light. He knew that it was different as well. "What is going on?"

"I am healing my brother." I turned my head slightly so that I could look at Reece as I spoke, which only made him gasp more. He apparently saw something in my face that shocked him. I could find out what that was later. For now, I was busy saving a life.

As soon as I thought that I heard a loud, sharp intake of breath. It was like Vincent was taking his first breath of his new life. He arched his back a little and lifted up from my legs, almost like there was magic involved, which there was.

The color was back to his face. His wounds were gone. He was alive and you couldn't even tell that anything had happened to him at all.

"Vincent?" I smiled and started to cry. He was really and truly alive.. "I am so happy, Vincent!" I threw my arms around him and hugged him tightly.

### **Chapter 555 - Reece – A Change In My Little Bunny (VOLUME 3)**

7-8 minutes

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Reece

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I was standing there in awe, watching my wife hug another man. This was a man that she had cried over, begged not to die and not to leave her. I should be jealous, except that I had done the same thing. Vincent was too good of a friend to lose. So, just this once, I wasn't going to be mad that she was hugging him like that.

Not to mention, there was the fact that Trinity had just saved Vincent's life. That wasn't a new thing at all. She had done that many times before. No, what was different about it this time, was the light that came from her when she did it.

Somehow, for some reason, my Little Bunny was different. Something about her had changed in the last few minutes, but I didn't know what it was. She looked the same. She had the same dark, mahogany brown hair, the same triple colored eyes that never failed to put a smile on my face. The same soft, clear, pale complexion that made her look gorgeously ethereal. All of it was the same.

I mean, there shouldn't have been anything different, right. What was it that I should be looking for as I tried to figure it all out? Her hands were the same, even though they were holding onto Vincent's shoulders at the moment.

There was nothing at all that seemed to be different. I mean, I could even see her marks and they looked.... They looked.... They looked different. Wait, WHAT?! What the hell happened to her marks?! Even when I looked at her neck just now her mate mark was different. Why? What caused her marks to change again?

"T..T..Trinity? What happened to you?" My stammering and unprompted question seemed to surprise everyone that was standing around us and immediately made them look at me like I was a weirdo. I mean, they didn't know why I was worrying about her, so they didn't understand what was going on.

"Nothing Reece. I am fine. When I followed after Solanum, I didn't end up being hurt. I am good."

"That isn't what I am referring to." I shook my head and brushed aside her words. "I am referring to what happened to you after you came back. You're different, aren't you? Something changed in you. What was it? Did you visit the gods again? Is that why you suddenly changed positions?"

I saw that she was smiling. It was like she hadn't thought that I would notice, and she was happy to see that she was wrong.

"Yes, Reece, I did." That was all she said. Seriously? She wasn't going to give us anything else?

"What happened, Trinity? Why are your marks different?"

Once I said that, everyone around us started to take a closer look at her. They were able to see that the marks that came forward over her shoulder and down to her collarbone were now gone.

"He's right." Vincent, who was sitting the closest to Trinity and should have known right away that something was off, finally realized that something was different about her. "T..T..Trinity, please tell me you didn't give up your power, your status, just to save me."

The fear and worry that filled Vincent's eyes then was unlike anything that I had ever seen before. It was clear to see that he was devastated just by the idea of her giving up so much for him. I have to admit, I was worried about that as well.

"No, Vincent, I didn't." She smiled but there was something off about the way that she was talking.

"Trinity, garinión, why are the marks gone? If you still have your power and your abilities, then why are they gone now?" Valerian had been standing next to my Little Bunny and looking at her, but he had now dropped to his knees and was looking at her full on in the face.

"I have changed, yes, but I am no less powerful than I was before."

"Does that mean you are more powerful than before?" Trevor asked, he had also caught the subtle little way that she said that.

"I believe I am, but that is something that we should save for when we get back." She smiled at us all as she slowly looked around the clearing. "It appears to me that this war is over. I think it is time that we head back to the city and rest properly. After we all get a good rest, we can talk about what happened today." She was trying to put it off for the time being.

"No." I spoke firmly and stood, pulling her to her feet with me. "We will talk about it tonight. As much as I want to get you to myself, I think this is something that we all need to talk about now, before any of the details get muddled or forgotten."

"Reece, I think that we are all tired. It would be best if everyone rested, and then we can get together tomorrow."

"Trinity!" I nearly growled the words at her.

"He is right, Trinity." Valerian agreed with me as he rose fluidly into a standing position. "We should talk about this tonight. We will head back and convene in the usual place."

"Yes, I agree." Gloriana added her voice to the mix.

"I admit, I am curious as well." Dietrich came to stand beside Trinity and looked into her eyes. "I wish to know why your essence has changed."

"Please, Trinity, tell us what happened tonight. Do not make me wait in agony."

"Alright, fine. We will talk about it tonight if you all insist. However, I would like to head back to the city and get everyone here the rest and the help that they need."

After that declaration, I saw my Little Bunny pick up a frozen sword that I had not seen before. It was small compared to my sword but large in comparison to Trinity herself. And it was clear to see that the thing had been made entirely out of ice. It was beautiful and powerful.

"Trinity, where did that come from?" I asked her as I pointed at the lethal looking blade.

"All questions will be answered at the castle. She smiled at me and took my hand. "Come on, let's go."

"Even this one? Come on, it's not that major of a question, is it?" I laughed at the thought.

"Even this one. I am tired and want to get back to the castle. Come on Fido, it's not that long of a wait." With that she leaned her body against mine and it was clear that she had been through a lot. I wanted to know what that stuff had been, and I wanted to know how she was. I didn't want to put her through too

much more today, but this was something that all of us needed to know. Something major had happened and no one but my Little Bunny knew what it was.

With nothing but learning what the truth was, we all got the troops ready to head back to the castle. There had been temporary buildings set up to house them for the rest of the day and through the night. Once they were all healed and rested up, they could head back to their homes or wait until the banquet was over.. I just knew that there was going to be another one of those.

### **Chapter 556 - Reece – What Happened To My Little Bunny Part 1 (VOLUME 3)**

7-8 minutes

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Reece

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It took a long time to get everyone organized and back to the castle. My Little Bunny was worried about everyone and wanted a full death count by the morning. That was going to be something else that broke her apart. She hated the senseless death of people like this. This was definitely not going to be a pleasant time for any of us.

When it was finally time for our group to head back, after all the instructions and orders had been given, I could see the exhaustion starting to hit my Little Bunny hard. She was going to be dead asleep long before the night fully hit. Was it a bad idea to talk about everything tonight? I didn't want to push her, but I knew that we all needed to talk about it sooner rather than later.

"You can lean on me." I told Little Bunny as we walked through the portal back to the central plaza. It wasn't that far from there to the castle, but then we had to walk all the way to the Queen's private office. I wanted her to save some of her energy and use me if she could.

"Thank you, Reece." She smiled softly and leaned her head against my side. I wrapped my arm around her waist and stealthily helped to carry her along. To everyone else, it would look like she was just walking along. But what they wouldn't be able to tell was that I was actually carrying more than ninety percent of her weight. It was the least that I could do for my Little Bunny.

I supported her all the way across the courtyard, all the way to the castle doors, and through every hallway that we came to until we were in Gloriana's private study. When we got inside, I pulled her along with me to the usual loveseat that we sat in and then I pulled her into my lap.

I wanted to feel her in my arms, to know that she was here and safe. I hadn't forgotten the fear that I had felt when I watched her disappear through the barrier and then the anger at not being able to follow her. There were still so many raw emotions in me that I needed to calm down and the only thing that would do that was holding her close so that I could feel her warmth and smell her familiar scent.

I was just glad that she wasn't trying to fight it either. She was here to calm me, but she probably needed me to calm her down a little bit as well. The only evidence to that though, was her exhaustion

and the slight chill that was on her skin. She had been through a lot. She had earned the right to be a little vulnerable with me.

"OK, I think it's best to get straight to it and start talking about what happened. Trinity, will you please tell us what happened?" Gloriana opened the conversation.

"Before that, I have one other question that I want to have answered. Trinity, I think you told me that you would explain that." I said pointing to the sword that was still in her hand. Her left arm was dangling at her side so the sword, and the head that was stabbed through on the tip, were still there for us all to see.

"Well, I conjured this sword when I was fighting Solanum. I will start with that part of the story so that I can explain to you all what had happened while I was gone." Her voice was still strong and full of authority despite the exhaustion I saw in her eyes.

"You're referring to your time in the dark Fae realm." Gloriana asked which caused my Little Bunny to nod her head with a slight smile.

"Yes. I had constantly been scanning the battlefield for any glimpse of Solanum. I knew that if we took her out, the battle would end. I didn't know how I knew it, I just did. And I think I was right. When I finally found her, she was conjuring more of those beasts to attack everyone."

"Well, that explains why there were a lot less of them after Trinity disappeared. There were still some being sent out, but nowhere near as many." Trevor nodded as he spoke as if he were answering a question and not just making a statement.

"Yes, that would be why." Trinity didn't look at him when she spoke, she didn't look at anyone. Instead, she was staring at the fire that was roaring behind the grate. "Now, when I got there, I saw that it looked a lot like the field I had left, only different colors, and definitely full of death and decay."

"That is the lifeless part of the Fae realms, it was all that we left them when we decided to leave." Valerian didn't seem bothered by what he heard or said.

"Yeah, I gathered as much. Anyway, I knew that Solanum was in there. She was hiding somewhere so I goaded her and forced her to give away her position."

"How in the world did you do that?!" Gloriana wondered with a smile.

"I screamed at her, repeatedly calling her Granny. She really hated that." That made everyone laugh. "Anyway, I found her, and she admitted to being able to influence people for years. She is actually the one that encouraged Hibiscus to follow through with her plans. I don't want to say that she made her do it, but she might have given her the final push that she needed to actually do it all." I saw that Gloriana didn't like hearing that, but there was nothing that we could do about it now. Hibiscus was already dead. "She also corrupted Grier and Curtis. She was trying her best to get someone to open the barrier. The closest that she got to it was a crack that Hibiscus put in it. And I am assuming that the information that Hibiscus had, like the layout of the dungeon, came from Solanum. She used to be a prisoner there, as well as a resident of the castle."

This was all starting to piss me off. This bitch had done so much, not just recently but in the past. She had really deserved to die.

"A lot happened while I was in the dark realm. I learned to water walk." Trinity smiled and looked at Valerian who was smiling at the words. "The water taught me how." That made no sense to me at all but I let it slide for now. I wanted her to continue. "I used this ice sword that I made after Solanum pulled a dark and steel blade out of the air. I needed something that was more powerful than the sword I had gotten from Alloy and Sterling, not to mention, I don't even remember where I had dropped it. As I fought Solanum with this sword though, it was freezing her. Eventually, she froze completely, but she was trying to run away at the time and so she fell forward, shattering herself. I brought her head back for proof that she was dead."

"Proof is always a good thing." Valerian said as he took the head off the end of the sword and walked over to the fireplace. "Now that we have all seen that the enemy is dead, there is one last thing that I want to do." With that, he threw the head into the fire, and I heard it immediately hiss.. It was probably just the difference between the cold magic ice and the flames, but it was unnerving and made my skin crawl.

### **Chapter 557 - Reece – What Happened To My Little Bunny Part 2 (VOLUME 3)**

6-8 minutes

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Reece

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We all sat there, listening to that awful hissing sound and just watched as the head began to burn. Or should I say, as the ice started to melt, and the head disappeared with it. It was like the head itself had become ice and was melting into nothingness as the ice disappeared.

"Trinity, remind me to steer clear of that sword of yours." Trevor said as he looked at the fire, there was no hint of laughter or joking in his voice. He was being completely serious, and I could see why. If that sword could literally turn you into ice when you were cut with it, then you didn't need to deliver a fatal blow to someone. Just a scratch would do the job over time.

"I am still not sure how this sword works just yet." She said as she looked at the blade. "But I think that it's time that I put it away."

"Great. And how do you plan to do that?" Vincent looked at her with curious eyes.

"I am not sure." She grinned as if that was funny. I guess in a way it was, none of us knew anything about this situation and this just seemed like the comical icing on the cake.

For a moment we all just watched my Little Bunny as she stared at her sword. It was like she was trying to make it shrink just by looking at it. I mean, I did something similar with my sword, I just thought that it was time to put it away and then it disappeared. It didn't take too much effort, and it definitely didn't shrink... What the hell!

As I watched my Little Bunny sitting on my lap, her sword started to become smaller. All the extra bits of ice that were covering the blade shrunk away. After a few moments, we were looking at a normal sword

that was made of pure ice. It didn't look all that different from the swords that Alloy and Sterling had provided for us, except for, you know, it was made of pure ice and had a blueish tint to it.

"Does anyone have a scabbard?" Little Bunny asked without taking her eyes off the blade.

"We don't tend to just leave them sitting around." Valerian sounded a little shocked at the moment. He wasn't the only one.

"No worries."

Now, as we watched, there was a sparkling of light that was shining next to my Little Bunny's left hip. It wasn't much and it didn't last long but it was there.

When it was gone, though, there was a brand new, white leather scabbard on her side. The bindings that were on this particular scabbard were gold and it looked as if it had been sewn together with golden thread as well. The thing was beautiful, that was for sure.

"That is beautiful, and just what I would expect from someone getting used to using Fae magic." Gloriana smiled at her. "Well done Trinity, well done. There is not a single flaw to your magic. I think you will even surpass me and Valerian with your natural ability." There was nothing but joy in Gloriana's words, but I saw that despite that fact, my Little Bunny didn't seem too thrilled.

"Thank, Aunt Glory, it was a necessity." At that my Little Bunny shifted a little, pressing her body to mine more as she leaned into an angle that was better suited for sheathing the ice sword. The blade slid in easily and seemed like it was a perfect fit.

There was another thing that surprised me as well. The sword seemed to cloak itself so that its handle looked just like any other sword. A moment ago, the sword had a handle made of ice, now it looked like steel and leather just like any other blade.

"So, you plan to keep it with you then?" Vincent asked her after the blade had been put away.

"I think that it will come in handy at times. And unlike Reece's flame sword, mine is solid so it cannot be sent away so easily. I could probably hide it magically and pull it out when I need it, but that is what Solanum did and I don't like the idea of doing that. I am also sure that Reece could store his sword like mine if he wanted to."

She was talking like we were in more medieval times, like wearing a sword on your hip was common in our daily lives. OK, I admit it, the soldiers at the castle did, but not when they left the grounds because they couldn't hide it.

"Now that I think about it, concealing a sword like that would be good for others." She said as if she had been reading my mind.

"Trinity, what else happened to you. Not in the dark realm, but on the battlefield. You seem different to me. Not just your marks but you yourself. You're different." I wrapped my arms around her, holding her close to me and fearing that I was going to lose her if I ever let go.

"Well, you all heard me ask Nehalennia, Thoth, and Danu for help saving Vincent."

"Yes, we all heard that." Dietrich smiled as he leaned in close to Shawn, holding him in a similar fashion to how I was holding my Little Bunny, only Shawn was next to Dietrich and not on his lap.

"Well, I didn't think that they would actually help me. I wanted them to, but it was a stretch. I knew that, at the time, my magic wouldn't have been enough to save him. He was already dying, and I didn't want him to be lost to me. He is like family to me. He is actually like a symbol to me, a symbol that represents the time that I first became the Luna. He was there for me, my first ally in the strange new world that I had been thrust into. That is why I don't want to do this whole Luna Queen thing without him. I need him just like I need all my guards. You're all important to me, special in ways that you will never be able to know."

I watched as she looked around the room at the men that had been protecting her for years now. All of her core guards were here. The new ones weren't present but the original four, the main ones, were all here. While she openly showed them how much she needed them, Valerian, Daciana, Gloriana, Trevor, Dietrich and I were all forced to just watch the exchange.

"I would do anything to protect you all. Not just my guards but every single person in this room. You are all family to me in one way or another, and I love you all. I would do anything for you. I would take on any enemy or challenge that was presented to me. I would make sure that I was strong enough to do anything that was expected of me. That is why I chose to accept the offer that was presented to me by Nehalennia, Thoth, and Danu.. I chose to become a true Goddess."

### **Chapter 558 - Reece – What Happened To My Little Bunny Part 3 (VOLUME 3)**

7-9 minutes

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Reece

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"WHAT THE HELL DID YOU JUST SAY?" I couldn't contain that outburst when I heard what my mate had just said. "What do you mean you accepted their offer to become a true Goddess?"

"Trinity, what is going? You can't be a Goddess." Gloriana looked just as worried and scared as I felt.

"Trinity, is this the difference that I sense in your essence?" Dietrich asked her. The whole room had basically exploded as everyone started to ask her what was going on.

"Trinity, tell me you didn't do something that will eventually hurt you. Not for my sake, please." Vincent looked like he was the most devastated by this news.

"Aren't you just the Goddess Incarnate? How can you become a true Goddess, Trinity? I don't understand." Shawn, like Dietrich, could most likely sense the difference in Trinity's essence but hadn't known what it meant like Dietrich did.

"No, Trinity, you didn't. Why would you do something like that?" David looked as concerned as Vincent did.

"Hell fucking yes, I think that my Luna and Queen ascending once more is awesome. Why are you all so fucking worried about this? This is Trinity we are talking about. She is the most badass bitch that I have ever met. If anyone was going to become a Goddess, then it's got to be her. Congratulations Trinity, and I do expect you to tell us all what it is that actually went down." Shane was the only one that was in full support of this situation right now.

"Thank you, Shane. And yes, if you would all settle down a little bit, I will most definitely tell you what happened to cause this. And I will tell you what I think it all means."

"There's more to it than you just being a Goddess now?" I asked her, my heart sinking and practically flying out of my throat at the same time. GAH! What did my Little Bunny do now?

"Yes, there is more to it."

There was a somber look in her eyes, something that told me that she hadn't been too happy to accept the offer, but also that she knew it needed to be done. Once we were all silent, and ready to listen, my Little Bunny took a deep breath and started to explain to us what it was that had happened.

"I had asked for help. I didn't want Vincent to die. But when I felt them tugging at me, pulling me away from him, I refused to go. That was when the three celestials came to me. Nehalennia, Thoth, and Danu appeared in the clearing and time froze."

She took a deep breath as she assessed the looks on our faces. I think that she was trying to make sure that none of us were going to interrupt her when she started to speak again.

"When they came to me, I asked them to save Vincent. They told me that they had done so much for me already and asked if I truly wanted to have them do more. Even though I knew it was selfish of me, I told them yes. That was when they told me what it was that they could do. What it would mean if they gave me their help again."

"What was it, Trinity? What did they do?" I had to ask. I knew she would probably tell us without prompting but I needed to speak the words nonetheless.

"They told me that they could make the supernaturals more equal when it came to lifespans. They told me that the shifters of all types, the Fae, and the magic users would seemingly be immortal. So now, barring any life threatening injuries, our kind will not die. None of us. The Fae and the Vampires were already immortal, but the others weren't. The magic users had longer lives, but they eventually aged and died. The shifters didn't have that advantage. Now we're all equal when it comes to lifespans."

"We're immortal now?" Shane looked at her with wide eyes. "We won't age?" He looked completely flabbergasted but also somewhat happy.

"That's right."

"There has to be more to it than that, though." I was looking down at her after she answered Shane's question.

"That is all that changed with everyone. The only other changes took place within me." She avoided my eyes, and the eyes of everyone else for that matter.

"What changes? Come on, tell me. If you don't just tell me then I will call for Nehalennia, Thoth and Danu to come here and explain it to us." I meant it to be a joke, but she didn't see it as that. Something had really happened while she was gone.

"They can't." She looked like she was on the verge of tears when she said that. "They can never come here or call me to see them ever again."

"Trinity, what happened to the Gods?" Valerian sounded as if he didn't truly want to know.

"What happened to mother?" Gloriana was even more emotional when she spoke.

Fear was written all over Gloriana's face, and likewise all over my Little Bunny's face. She was scared to tell us what happened to them, but she was going to push through regardless. She was going to tell us what happened because we all needed to know.

"They are gone but not gone."

"That is cryptic." Trevor looked a little upset by her response. "What does that mean?"

"They are no longer the beings that they were. Instead, they gave me their essence, their lives, to make me a Goddess. It was of their own insistence though. I didn't ask for it. In fact, I tried to say no."

Did she think that we were going to judge her for it? Did she think that we were going to be mad, angry, upset, afraid? I don't know what was going through her head, but I was feeling more shock and in awe than anything else.

"M..m..mother is gone?" Gloriana was the only one truly upset about this.

"Yes and no." My Little Bunny answered her. "She isn't a Goddess anymore, but she lives within me. They also said that I would have access to them at times as well. So, she is inside of me, waiting to help us all here in this world. She was so upset about being so limited in her ability to help us. I don't think any of them were happy living in the celestial realm. They missed this world and wanted to come back to it."

"So, you're a Goddess now, living among mortals?" I tilted my head and wondered what this would mean for her in the future.

"There may be more ascended people later. I was told that there are other Gods wishing to return to this world. I was actually charged with helping them to do that." She looked embarrassed, like she didn't want to be the one responsible for doing that.

"I think you would be the best person to pick people for doing that." Vincent smiled at her. "You are our Goddess, Trinity, you always have been."

The conversation seemed to be coming to a close. That was good too, considering how tired my Little Bunny was looking. After a little more explaining and asking questions that had no answers to them right now, I decided it was time for us to head back to our residence. No one objected to that idea either.

We gathered ourselves and left. This time, I didn't even hide the fact that I was carrying my Little Bunny.. I just scooped her up into my arms as I stood and carried her all the way back to the house that we had inside the castle.

## Chapter 559 - Reece – Holding Onto My Little Bunny Part 1 (VOLUME 3)

6-8 minutes

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Reece

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I carried my Little Bunny in my arms all the way through the communal space of the residence. I could feel the eyes of everyone else on us as I silently left them all behind and went up the stairs with her in my arms. They were all fine and no one was likely to die tonight so they didn't need to worry.

I wasn't afraid that Trinity was going to die or anything like that. But I was worried that she was going to disappear on me. That somehow, she was going to leave me and I would never be able to find her again. I don't know why I was feeling this, it was just something that was there, sitting like a rock in my stomach and causing a painful ache in my heart with every beat. I can't live without her. I just can't let her go.

Once I was at the top of the stairs, I went straight into our room and to the bathroom. I knew that she would want a shower, something to relax her. Not to mention, she was shaking just a little bit. It was almost like her body was slightly in shock from everything that had happened. And that slight trembling accompanied a slight chill to her skin. A hot bath would be enough to help calm her a little bit, at least I could hope that it would.

I held her against me as long as I could, but I needed to sit her down so that I could start to fill the tub. That was when I finally put her on the marble countertop and went to turn the water on. Once it was the right temperature, I let it fill up while I returned to my mate who had been watching me.

"Why did you decide on a bath, Reece?" She looked like she hadn't understood why I did it.

"I could tell that you needed one. You need to relax and you're cold. I want to take care of you." I gave her a soft smile, trying not to show her how worried that I was about her leaving me.

"You were right, I really could use one right now. Are you going to take it with me?" She asked as she reached for my shirt. I could tell that she didn't want to be alone, but the mood was not at all romantic or intimate. This was just us showing our love for each other.

"Yes, I will be with you. I don't want to leave your side at all. So, if you don't mind, I want to bathe with you."

"Reece?" She looked at me confused. I think she was worried about the intensity of my words and the sadness in my voice. I really didn't want to worry her at all, but I was having so much trouble keeping everything to myself.

"Come on, Little Bunny, let's get these clothes off of you. The bath is almost done filling up, so you need to get in soon." I didn't say anything else for the moment. I didn't want to worry her anymore. I needed to control my emotions better. I needed to do better for her.

Silently, I started to pull her clothes off of her. I started with her jeans for some reason. I guess to avoid looking at the marks that I knew were going to be different. Once they were off, along with her shoes, I started to lift her shirt up and over her head. I wanted to get her into the tub right away, even though we still have a little bit before it was done; tubs this large took a really long time to finish filling up.

The moment that I lifted my Little Bunny's shirt I noticed something else that was different about her. All of the marks that she had on her collarbone, chest, and shoulders were gone. All of them. All the marks from the Goddesses and the God were no longer there. The mate mark that I had given her, the one that had changed several times already, had changed once again.

That mate mark was now just an elaborate and elegant looking letter 'R' that looked like someone skilled at calligraphy had given her a tattoo on her neck. It was black and in a circle like most mate marks were. I could only hope that the 'R' meant Reece, which would also mean that I was able to stay with her.

All of the other marks I had come to know and love all over her body, all the ones that I was so used to were no longer there. I immediately missed them, wishing to see them again. I guess you don't need blessings from Gods and Goddesses when you yourself are in fact a Goddess. That made sense to me at least.

There was something else, though. I noticed in the mirror that there was a mark that never used to be there. A new one right there on her back. It was done in a very dark shade of gray and in the shape of a trinity symbol. It even had a circle around it, like the one that we often used for official royal business. It also looked like another tattoo that had been beautifully done on her skin. There was nothing else, just those two marks.

She went from having so many marks, several different ones, to having only this one mark. It wasn't small though. It was quite big compared to all the others. It was there between her shoulder blades and took up the entire space. If it had actually been a real tattoo, it would have taken a long time to finish it compared to the other smaller marks.

"Your marks." I said as I ran a hand over her back.

"They're gone now, aren't they?" She sounded sad, as if to not have them made her feel empty or something.

"The ones that you did have are gone, yes. But you do have another mark. The mate mark, here, changed." I told her as I rested my hand against her neck. "And you have another mark here." I said as I placed both of my hands on the mark that was there on her back.

"A new mark?" She didn't sound all that concerned or worried about there being a new mark. "What does it look like?" When she lifted her head and our eyes met, I saw that she had tears threatening to spill down her cheeks.

"It's a trinity symbol. It's dark gray and has a circle around its outer loops."

"Just the one, and it's not even colorful. What about the mate mark?" Her voice was flat as she lowered her head until she could rest it against my chest.

"Black circle with an elaborate letter 'R' in it."

"Well, I guess I am no longer an overly tattooed rainbow freak." She tried to laugh but it ended up coming out in a sob.

"Trinity?" I didn't know what to do at the moment.. I didn't even know why she was crying. What was I supposed to do right now?

### **Chapter 560 - Reece – Holding Onto My Little Bunny Part 2 (VOLUME 3)**

7-8 minutes

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Reece

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"They're gone, Reece. They're all gone." She was still crying, pressing her face against my chest.

"You're still you, even without the marks." I didn't know what else to say.

"That's not the point." She shook her head and finally lifted her head again. "The marks being gone mean that Nehalennia, Thoth, and Danu are really gone."

"But you already knew that they were gone." I was confused.

"I know. I know that I knew it because I was there when their power became mine, but that didn't mean that I didn't hold out hope that there would still be some sort of evidence of them still with me. I hoped that their marks would still be there, on my body, to prove that they were always with me."

I think I am starting to get it now. She was afraid that they would never be there for her again.

"They are part of you now, Little Bunny, they will always be there to help you when you need it because they are you."

"I know, Reece, I know." She was still crying. There was just no stopping it right now.

Not knowing what else to do, I took off the rest of her clothes as well as my own. Once we were both naked, I held her against my body and carried her over to the tub. It was ready for us now, so I stepped into it and shut the water off.

I sat in the water and cradled my Little Bunny against me again. I didn't want to let her go. I didn't want to stop touching her. I needed this closeness with her. I needed to know that she was with me always and forever.

Neither of us moved for a while, and neither of us talked for even longer. Without breaking the silence in the room, I had eventually started to clean her up a little bit, but I was more worried with just keeping her comfortable than anything else.

After a long time had passed, I decided that I needed to be the one to speak first. I could tell that my Little Bunny just wasn't going to be the first one to say anything, not this time anyway.

"Trinity?"

"Yes, Reece?" Her voice was so quiet that I barely heard it, at least she answered, though.

"Are you alright?" Above all else, even above wanting to make sure that we were going to be always together, that's what I needed to know first.

"I don't know." That wasn't very comforting.

"Will you talk to me? Please? Just tell me what is bothering you." I didn't want her to know that I was worrying so much, I just wanted her to think that I cared about her and that was all.

"I don't think I really know who I am anymore, Reece. I don't know what to do now." That was sad to hear. I didn't like hearing how heartbroken she was.

"You're Trinity Gray. You're my wife. You're my mate. You're the Queen of the shifters and the magic users. That is who you are."

"Except, now I am the Goddess of the Fae, the shifters, and the magic users. So, what does that really make me?"

"You will still be the same person, Trinity. Nothing will change that."

"Won't you get sick and tired of all the things that have been happening to me? Won't you want to leave me because you can't take all the changes that have been happening?"

"Trinity?" I spun her around on my lap so fast that her head lolled around oddly. I didn't care though, I needed to see her face, to see her eyes, so I could try to figure out what was going on in that head of hers. "What the hell makes you think that I will EVER leave you?"

"I am such an anomaly. I have caused nothing but stress and heartache for you." She was crying. Openly crying with tears coming down her cheeks and her lip tremble, all of it.

"I won't leave you, Trinity. I have been sitting here trying to figure out a way to keep you from leaving me. Ever since we were in the clearing, I felt like you were going to disappear on me. I didn't want to let you go because I thought that I would never find you again."

"Reece?" I could see that she hadn't expected my response to her words.

"Trinity, you need to know that I will follow you wherever you go. If you become a flying purple alien, a Goddess, a normal person, an intergalactic superhero, whatever and wherever, I will be there with you. The kids and I can't live without you. I won't let you leave me so easily. I will fight to stay right here with you where I belong. I don't ever want to spend a day knowing that you and I aren't together in this life. I need you, Trinity. Please, don't leave me."

"Reece?" She was still crying but with a smile on her face now, and I was happy to see that her lip had stopped trembling.

"I love you, Little Bunny, I love you so much."

"I love you too, Fido." She threw her arms around my neck and hugged me tightly. I was warring with myself about whether I wanted this hug or to press my lips to hers. Being this close to her was a good thing as well, and I didn't want to ruin the moment that we were having.

"Come on, let's go to sleep. I can tell that you're tired."

I stood then, still holding her against my body, she even clung to me to make it easier for me to partially dry us off before we got into the bed. I didn't let her leave me at all, even after we laid down. I kept her in my arms and pressed my lips to her forehead.

I held her like that all night. I didn't so much as move a muscle all through the night. And when she fell asleep, long before me, I just laid there and watched her while I listened to the soft, steady rhythm of her breathing. This was what I needed. This closeness, this proof that she was here with me. I needed to reaffirm that she was with me forever and ever, and I needed to relearn what her body felt like in my arms.

I was glad that she wasn't going to leave me. I was glad that I didn't have to chase her across the world to make her know that I wasn't going to let her leave me. However, I couldn't believe that after all this time and everything that we've been through, she actually thought that I was going to leave her just because she became a Goddess. She was still my wife, still my mate, and that was never, ever going to change.

When I did finally drift off to sleep, all I dreamt about was my Little Bunny. All the things that we have been through so far, the good and the bad. The fighting and hating each other in the beginning, the time Edmond kidnapped her and she got her wolf, our wedding, the time we saved the missing kids and then the time in France, when she killed Edmond and brought us back his head, she did like bring us back heads, huh. Then there was everything that happened after that, everything that got the Fae involved in our lives and changed our destinies forever. I didn't leave her through any of that, I wouldn't leave her now.. Not now, not ever.