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Tyler paced around the pack house angrily. He was demanding blood! His wolf was demanding blood! No one touches what belongs to him! They took his mate. He wanted them to pay. He wanted to go after her with the force of his pack, but Cedric had promised that they would not hurt her. He told Tyler why waste lives senselessly when they could get her back with the guardian. Cedric explained that she was taken by centaurs and he had no idea how big their clan was. It would not be an easy battle and there would be dozens of lives lost in the process. So, here he was, waiting for some guardian to show up, so they could go and get Lilly. He hated waiting!

“ARGH! I can’t believe she was taken! How dare they take my Luna!” Tyler growled making Kade and Cedric jump a bit at his outburst.

“Calm down! The centaurs would not hurt her, I gather she was taken as an act of protection. Now that they have her though, they won’t give her up to just anyone.” Cedric sipped his drink and sighed as he looked down at the liquid in his cup.

“She’s mine! What right do they have to take her?” Tyler scowled as he punched the countertop. “I’m tired of waiting. I’m going for her.” Tyler gritted his teeth and stared up at Cedric and Kade.

“Believe it or not, they have their reasons for taking her. Lilly is important... she is more important than just a pack’s Luna.” Cedric’s eyes met with Tyler’s. “There is something I am going to tell you about Lilly. Something you need to know, since she is your Luna. It is time to tell you exactly who Lilly is and what is after her. You need to know that having Lilly here is a direct threat to the pack. I think you should be informed before we go after her. This way, you can make the best decision on both of your behalf’s.”

“Yes, it is time you explain everything to me.” Tyler took a seat across from Cedric and stared at him intently. He wanted to know what was after Lilly and how strong it was.

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Lilly washed her hands up at the sink. The clear water tinged red for a moment before running clear again. She let out a deep breath and sighed with relief. She did it; she saved his life. She wiped her forehead with a towel before walking back out into the room.

“That was amazing. Not only are you special but you are also a skilled doctor; you are a treasure.” Drake’s eyes flickered at her greedily, he wanted to keep such a prize. Drake was not malicious though; he would only keep her if she wanted to stay there. For now, he was only keeping her in order to protect her.

“I’m glad I was able to help. I just hope you do not judge all werewolves on your experiences with rogues. There is a difference.” Lilly’s green eyes pierced into Drake’s.

Werewolves worked best in a pack where there was an established pecking order, where rogues did what they wanted. The viciousness and unpredictability of rogues is not how all werewolves were.

“Noted.” He was not a fan of werewolves but would try to be a bit more open minded in the future.

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It had been four days since Lilly had been taken. The mist from the waterfall landed on Lilly’s face as she sat near the small pool of water. She looked into the clear water and stared at her reflection. No one had come for her. Deep down, she really thought her pack would come for her. She was glad in a sense that they didn’t. She did not want to see blood shed on either side, but there was the painful realization that she had been abandoned.

‘Why do I care anyways? After all, Tyler had hurt me again. I should go and be where I am wanted.’ Lilly reasoned in her head. ‘You care because you want to be with him. You also know he cares for you too.’ Kira reminded her quietly even though she was also feeling a bit abandoned at this point. ‘Maybe they can’t find us? Maybe there is a barrier around us?’ Kira was determined to think of a logical explanation.

‘Or the centaurs did Tyler a favor’... Lilly’s shoulders dropped as she looked up the waterfall. She had been well taken care of among the centaurs. They treated her better, like she was their precious guest. Occasionally the tugging in Lilly’s head would come back, but then disappear again. She could feel that her inner shell was crumbling and soon would tug free.

A couple centaur children were playing near the pond. They were racing each other up and down the sides trying to see who was the fastest. Lilly smiled at how carefree their lives were. How simple life was for them. She stood up and walked over to them as another young centaur raced by her to meet up with the other children. As he did he accidentally clipped her causing her to lose her footing.

SPLASH

Lilly ended up in the cold pond as the young centaur came back with fear in his eyes. She laughed it off and climbed out of the water.

“Don’t be frightened. It was an accident. It is just a bit of water, nothing to be worried about. Go ahead and play with your friends.” Lilly watched as the boy’s eyes lit up at not being scolded. He rode away and Lilly looked over herself. She had been wearing the same dress since she was captured due to the fact that the women only wore tops... if you could call them tops. They wore just enough to cover their honest lady goods.

Lilly dripped her way back to the cabin that had been designated for her. She was going to have to set her dress up near a fire to dry.

"What happened to you? A bit chilly for a swim today, don't you think?" Drake trotted up looking at the sopping wet Lilly.

"Yeah, it's chillier than I thought." Lilly giggled as she looked over herself.

"I'll bring you over something to wear while you dry your dress out. Just wait one moment." Drake turned and rode off to some of the nearby houses.

The wind picked up and Lilly shivered under its breeze. She turned and walked into her house. The houses were built for centaurs. The doors and ceilings were tall, and everything was spaced widely enough for ... well for creatures the size of horses to move around comfortably. Lilly took her dress off and wrapped a blanket around herself so she would no longer be cold. She walked over to the fireplace and sat her dress near it to slowly dry.

The door to her house opened and Drake came in holding a few garments in his hands. "I think we have enough here that you will be able to throw something together."

His eyes lifted up from the clothes and looked over at Lilly. He could not help but feel desire for her as she stood there holding the blanket around herself.

"You know... if you wanted, you could always remain here with us. I would take care of you. Always." The warm tone of his voice and the lust in his eyes took Lilly by surprise. He was talking about more than just her remaining there.

Lilly walked up and took the clothing off of him. "Thank you. I appreciate it. I have a pack to get back to, and a mate." Lilly added the last part to make her position clear without having to get into anything uncomfortable.

"There has been no sign of your pack. Do they even care that you are missing? Why would you want to return to a pack or a mate who doesn't even care if you are gone?"

His words hit her right in the gut. This was what she had been internally fighting and her stomach flipped at the truth in his words. She met with Drake's eyes and smiled.

"I will not assume anything. Maybe they are having a hard time finding me? Or there could be another reason that is keeping them. They could trust in my abilities to make it back to them on my own. I do not know why, but I know they care." The words came out of Lilly's mouth confidently. Whether she believed it or not, she sounded like she did.

His dark eyes settled onto her. He was staring at her gently and a small smile rested on his face. "Sorry, I should not have said such things. I just want you to think about it. Know that living here is an option for you."

“Thank-you. I appreciate it. I will keep that notion in the back of my mind, but just so you know that as of now, I want to go back to my pack.” Lilly did appreciate his kindness and they have treated her well, though he did take her forcibly in the first place and then would not allow her to leave... Hmmm. Maybe centaurs weren’t as different from werewolves as they thought.

“I’ll leave you to get changed.” Drake turned and left the house leaving Lilly to put on the clothes she had been given.

Lilly looked herself over in the mirror. The top was no more than a bra that left little to the imagination. This was classic attire for the women in the tribe. Then the bottoms were something that was make shifted out of a baby blanket. It was a light tan mini skirt that revealed her lower butt cheeks. It was a good thing Lilly was comfortable with nudity because she was really sporting the goods.

Before leaving the house, she pulled her hair up in a high ponytail. She wanted to reveal her mating mark, even though there were no werewolves around, the clan members would know what it was. She was getting the feeling they were wanting to keep her around for more than just her protection. This was a simple gesture she was making to show that she belonged to someone else.

She walked out of the door to be greeted with four centaurs on guard. This was different.

“We need you to stay here.” One of the centaurs said. For the first time, she felt like a prisoner. What was with the sudden change? Then she heard it. A monstrous roar that boomed through the encampment. She knew that roar. It was Tyler.

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Tyler stood facing off with Drake at the entrance to the village. Cedric and Kade stood at his flank as Tyler growled again to Drake.

“You have my mate here. If you won’t let me pass, then bring her to me.” His eyes flickered wildly as he stared the centaur down. Somewhere in this encampment was Lilly.

It had taken them days to track her down. The trail was well disguised and there was no trace of her scent. If it wasn’t for the guardian’s network of information, he may not have been able to find her. Tyler scowled, the damn guardian was supposed to meet them at the entrance, but Tyler could not wait any longer for him. Not when he knew that Lilly was there. It had been too long since he last saw her , since he last held her, since he last heard her voice. She was here and he needed to see her, now!

“I’m afraid I can’t release her to you. She stays here with us.” Drake stood in front; behind him a wall of centaurs was lined up to face the intruder.

"She's mine. My mate." Tyler growled as he paced side to side.

"I do not care who she WAS to you. She was out alone and unprotected. You do not deserve her. I am keeping her for myself." Drake stomped his hoof and stared back at Tyler.

His eyes widened with rage. "What do you mean keep her for yourself?" Tyler was all but snarling out.

"Now, I don't think werewolves are so dumb that you don't understand what I mean by that." Drake smirked as he provoked Tyler. He knew what he was doing. He was purposely provoking him, all but daring him to fight.

Tyler roared angrily and narrowed his eyes onto Drake. He wanted to kill him.

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Lilly heard another angry roar that came from Tyler. She couldn't just stand there. She needed to make sure there was no fighting. She needed to make sure he was okay. The need to see him was suddenly overwhelming. She glanced over the warriors in front of her. She took in a shaky breath and then bolted. She ran through a small opening and then dashed to where she heard Tyler's roars. The sound of hooves was close behind her. She pushed with everything she had. She needed to see him.

She rounded the bend and looked down into the small valley below her. She saw rows of centaurs and in front of them was Drake. Her breath caught and she felt a small whimper leave her throat. In front of Drake was Tyler, Cedric and Kade. She looked at Tyler, her mate. He only had a pair of shorts on, showing that he had been in werewolf form. He had come for her and she felt her heart fluttering in her chest. She had not sorted through all of her feelings yet. She was still upset over what happened just before she was taken. Still, she wanted to be closer, to see him closer.

The guards were almost on her, but she was so close. The hill was steep, but it didn't stop her. Without hesitation, she plunged forward. It was now or never. She had to get as close as the barrier would allow her. She was never able to go near the tunnel opening that led to the outside; they were just on the outer part of the tunnel. She could at least get that close. She felt herself losing her footing and was suddenly airborne. She never hit the ground though. One of the guards clamped on her wrist and pulled her into his arms.

"Thanks for catching me. Would you put me down now please?" Lilly had to try being kind first. He had just caught her from falling. The centaur looked away from her not acknowledging her request. "PUT ME DOWN!" Lilly yelled as she struggled in his arms. "Please, let me go." Lilly whimpered as she wrestled herself free. She took a few steps backwards as she faced off with the guards that had circled her.

“LILLY!” Tyler yelled hearing her voice. He could not see her through the wall of bodies, but she was close.

Drake sighed in irritation and glanced behind him. He saw Lilly standing there facing off with his four guards who had surrounded her. She was definitely a handful.

“Can I at least go see her?” Cedric asked stepping forward. If they were going to allow anyone in, it would be someone who was part fairy.

Drake eyed him curiously for a moment. “Where do your loyalties lie?”

Cedric smiled. “I’m loyal to the princess of course.”

“Even over your Alpha?” Drake knew that it was normal for wolves to remain loyal to their Alpha’s to a fault.

Cedric chuckled. “Easily. Her safety and happiness are my number one priority.”

This seemed to have appeased Drake. “You can enter, you two mutts cannot.” Drake looked at Tyler and Kade and met their gaze with a challenge.

Cedric nodded to Tyler and then crept by the centaurs cautiously. Once he got past the small army, he saw where Lilly was being trapped by more centaurs. He felt his shoulders relax with relief. He had been tense ever since she vanished.

“Now this looks like just a bit much for just one girl!” He walked up through her guards and stood facing her. She looked well. He took in her attire and inwardly laughed. Tyler was not going to be happy seeing her in that.

“Cedric!” Lilly jumped into the familiar arms wrapping her arms around him, as he did the same to her. She buried her head into his chest. It felt wonderful being in familiar arms again, even if they weren’t Tyler’s.

“How are you doing princess?” Cedric rubbed her back soothingly. Her eyes looked up to his and she nodded she was okay.

“They wouldn’t let me leave. I didn’t know if anyone was coming for me... they wouldn’t let me leave. They bound me to this place so I can’t leave through the tunnels.” Lilly sniffled as she felt herself feeling emotional.

“Don’t worry. We are here to take you home. Everything is okay now. We are bringing you home.” Cedric smiled at her as he took in her delicate face. His poor princess had been through so much and was worrying. “Lilly, know that I will always come for you. No matter where you are, I promise, I will come for you.” No matter what happens in the future, he never wanted her to think that she wasn’t being looked for. He would always come to her aid.

Lilly had so many things she wanted to say. She was happy to see him and was touched that they had come for her. Still, she did not know how they would be able to take her. Drake had made it clear that he was not going to allow her to leave. She glanced in the distance where she knew Tyler was, beyond the barrier of centaurs. She wanted to go to him. He was so close, but she was being blocked and not able to go near him. She felt her anger rising up inside of her. Was it really necessary to block him from seeing her? Even if they did plan to keep her, why couldn't she go to him?

"Drake! Is this really necessary?" Lilly shouted towards the group of centaurs in the distance. "This is ridiculous! I'm coming up there." Lilly furrowed her brows and pushed through the centaurs.

Drake chuckled as he turned his head to the fiery young lady. She was stomping her way up to them. Drake nodded for the guards to let her pass. He had other intentions in mind. He watched as she shoved through his warriors and as she drew closer, he reached his hand out and pulled her up to him.

Tyler growled loudly as he looked at the centaur holding onto Lilly. It was the first time he had seen her in days, and he wanted to hold her. As he looked her over his eyes went dark as he took in what she was wearing... or the lack of clothes she was wearing. He could feel his little control over his anger snapping.

"Drake! What are you doing? Let go of my arm. What sort of stunt are you trying to pull here?" Lilly pulled her hand back as she stared defiantly up at Drake. He looked down at her and smirked. It became clear what his intentions were. He was trying to get Tyler to lose his temper. He was purposely provoking him into a fight.

Drake pulled Lilly closer so that she was being held tightly in his arms. Lilly heard another growl rip through Tyler's throat; she knew he was fighting for control. She looked up at Drake and then whispered quietly. "Why are you being so disrespectful towards me?"

The words pierced at his heart and immediately he ended the game he was playing. He dropped his hands from her side and looked at her with apologetic eyes.

"I'm sorry... please forgive me. I was testing his self-control; I did not mean to offend you though. Please don't be upset with me." Drake was remorseful. He did not want Lilly to hate him.

"I think this situation could have been handled more tastefully, don't you?" Lilly rubbed her head which was beginning to hurt again. Her headaches have been coming on more frequently. Finally, Lilly turned around to look at Tyler and Kade. They were just a few feet in front of her. She sighed as she looked them over seeing they were okay. There was an intense silence as she met with Tyler's eyes. When she had left, they were fighting, but he still came for her. She wanted to go into his arms and take in his intoxicating scent. She couldn't make it that easy for him, though. She wasn't some

lovesick puppy that would just forget everything without an apology. And he owed her an apology and an explanation. Jessica was a problem for her, too. She wanted him to know that she would not compete with Jessica. If he couldn't keep a platonic relationship with her, then she would not stay there. After a few moments of quiet, Lilly was the first to break the silence.

"It took you long enough didn't it?" Lilly smirked as she taunted Tyler playfully.

He stared at Lilly wordlessly for a moment before allowing a tired smile to rest on his lips. He was finally able to see she was okay. A wave of worry left him in that moment. She looked well and her eyes still sparkled like the emeralds they were. He wanted to hold her in his arms and to carry her away from this place. He needed her with him.

"This wasn't exactly the easiest place to find. It took a lot of effort in order to track down her location. My guess is that your friends here never planned on you being found." Kade looked up at Drake accusingly.

"Eh, guilty." Drake shrugged not denying that they purposefully tried to make sure she couldn't be found. "To be fair though, we were making sure that she stayed safe. If we allowed her trail to be noticeable, then she could have been in danger. I'm actually surprised you found us. How did you find us without a guardian?"

A monstrous growl was heard through the tunnel. Then, after a moment, a figure began to pop out from the darkness. A large being stepped into the light and glared at Drake. Lilly stared up in shock and noticed Drake take a nervous step backwards.

"Who said they didn't have the help of a guardian?" The voice boomed out as he glared at Drake. It was more than just an intimidating glare. It was more like an authoritative challenge that Drake lowered his eyes and submitted to.

He then turned his attention to Lilly and pinned his gaze onto her.

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"Thanks for waiting for me, boneheads." Tristan snarled as he turned to look at Tyler.

"Well, you were taking too long." Tyler shrugged, not feeling guilty at all.

Lilly stared at Tristan and felt completely confused. She looked and glanced at Cedric by her side and then back to Tristan. "Wait... you're the guardian?"

Tristan chuckled and then walked up to Lilly. "I am not just the guardian, but I am your guardian."

Tyler growled at Tristan's close proximity and Tristan turned and snapped at him "Shut up wolf."

Lilly could feel the agitation rising inside of her and on top of that, her head was starting to pound.

"How long have you known you were a guardian?" Why did it feel like her life was one big secret that everyone had been in on but her?

"I've always known."

TUG...TUG.... TUG....

Lilly rubbed her temples as she tried to sort out her thoughts.

"Wait... Are you a werewolf?" Lilly watched him shake his head no. "What about James?"

"James is. We are not real brothers. It's a long story, Lilly." Tristan could see the confusion in Lilly's eyes and was noticing her agitation.

"So that summer I went to stay with the Ashen pack... it had nothing to do with my mother's family, did it?" Why was she never told any of this?

"You were sent to spend time with me, your guardian. I was not ready to stay by your side then, but we needed to get to know each other. It has taken me a lot longer to get myself under control. Finally, now I can be by your side." Tristan went to reach out towards Lilly, but she took a step back. His eyes were hurt when he saw her retreat from him.

He was her friend because he was her guardian. It felt like a lie. He knew who she was and because of that, befriended her. Cedric befriended her because he knew who she was. Tyler was attracted to her since she was his mate. The centaurs were protective over her because of who she was. Her father and brother were family. Mattie accepted her as her brother's beta, same with Kade as Tyler's beta. Were her relationships based on something else? This troubling reality flashed through her head. There was more to her than that. She wasn't just a mate, a sister, a daughter, an obligation, a fairy, she was more than that. She looked over the people around her that were staring over her with concern. Who were they concerned about? She felt indignant.

She felt the shell begin to crack from the constant tugging in the back of her head. She tried to pull it together and bury it down. She needed a moment of quiet to reflect. There was still more information that would be coming at her and she needed to settle her thoughts on this information first. She took another retreating step backwards and felt the heat from Drake behind her back.

"I need a moment alone." Lilly whispered out before turning and making her way through the centaurs behind her. Once through, she continued walking without looking back. She needed to organize her thoughts.

"She's angry." Tristan frowned and kicked at the ground like a child who had been punished. She had never been angry with him and he was now sulking because of it.

"I should go to her. I can help her." Tyler's heart was breaking as he saw her confused face. He could help calm her emotions down by being near her. He needed to be near her for him too. He was feeling antsy being so close to her and not touching her. Now she was out of his sight again and he could feel Jax pacing around in his head. They needed their mate.

"No, I think she really needs a moment to herself." Cedric frowned as he stared off in the distance where she had disappeared too. The look on her face was more than confusion. She looked hurt. Why was she hurting?

"What is it Cedric?" Kade asked. He was also pondering something quietly to himself and it looked like the two of them were thinking along the same tracks. "She looked hurt to you too, didn't she?"

"Mmmhmm."

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Lilly mindlessly found herself at the waterfall at the far side of the village. It was a favorite spot of hers. The cool water poured freely into the pool; she watched the ripples in the pond from the falling water's impact.

Nearby a few centaur children were playing. They were kicking a ball back and forth between them. Three of them were the same ones who were racing together earlier.

"They wouldn't let me play. They said I would be in the way." A little centaur girl came up to Lilly pouting.

"Awe they did? Well, why don't you join a better game?" Lilly asked the girl, with a soft smile on her lips.

"I want to play with them, they're my friends." The little girl frowned as she looked over at the boys playing.

"They don't sound like very nice friends if they are leaving you out." Lilly watched the girl beam a smile up towards her.

"They are the best friends. They just go into boy mode sometimes... I wish you could stay here. You are my best friend too." The little girls' eyes were shining up towards Lilly.

"If I wasn't a fairy you never would have met me. Are you sure you want to be friends with me?" Lilly was half teasing the girl, but a bit of what she said was the truth she was feeling.

The girl tilted her head to the side. "I don't like you just because you are a fairy though. I have met other fairies and not liked them. I may have met you because you are a fairy, but I am choosing for you to be my friend." The little girl then charged towards the boys and skidded into the ball forcibly joining their game.

Lilly watched the children playing quietly. Sometimes a child was able to put things so simply. Her adult head was making a mess out of a simple situation. Everyone meets under one circumstance or another. Then they decided from there if they want to form a friendship. There are mates who have rejected each other and packs who don't get along with their own members. Such a simple truth from the centaur child made Lilly feel completely silly. What did it matter what circumstances brought everyone together? They weren't just friends with her because of that. She could always tell when people were being fake. Many people treated her that way when they were in front of her brother or father, like Cadence. She always knew that she didn't like her though.

Sometimes she could be so silly with how she was thinking. She reasoned this was because it was something she wanted so badly, to belong. She always felt like she could not have it and here she was, she had it, and was sabotaging it. This is why it is so important to take time to reflect; you can sometimes see things much clearer. At least this was no longer on her list of issues to deal with.

"Oh NO! Now we will never get it back." One of the boy centaurs yelled out sadly.

Lilly walked over to the children and looked at their sorrowful expressions. "What's wrong?"

"The ball landed up there." The little girl from earlier frowned as she pointed to the rocky hillside.

The outer valley consisted of large boulders and jagged rocks, making it impossible for a centaur to climb up. It was great for protection, but not so much for climbing, at least, not if you were a centaur, which Lilly was not.

"I'll get it for you." Lilly assessed the terrain in front of her. She wished she had different clothes on for the climb. Climbing in a mini skirt was definitely not ideal. Of course, she could always climb in wolf form, but she did not want to alarm anyone, especially the children.

"I'm going to need you young colts to turn around though." Lilly winked at the boys as she walked up to the cliff side. In bare feet she began to make the difficult climb. She secured her footing over the ridged rocks and loose ground. Small sweat beads balled up on her forehead as she struggled with the steep climb. She winced as she felt the

sharp stones cut into her tender flesh. Red liquid trickled down her arms, but she was determined to retrieve the ball for the kids. She felt like she at least owed it to the little girl for the clarity she gave her.

She held her breath as she zig-zagged around the treacherous landscape. Her palms were now starting to sweat, making it difficult to maintain her grip on the rocky edges. She was almost there, but the thought raced through her mind that she should have just bought the kids a new ball. The climb was more difficult than she had anticipated, and her body was protesting from the abuse. She could hear the cheers from the little girl encouraging her from below.

Part of the rock she was holding onto broke, slicing her hand and arm. The blood made it difficult to maintain her grip as it created a slippery barrier. She kicked off strongly with her foot and finally managed to reach the ledge where the ball had landed.

Lilly laid on the edge for a moment trying to catch her breath. She was no rock-climbing expert and her body's abuse proved as much. Luckily, she was a werewolf, and everything would be healed in a day. Lilly sat up and grabbed the ball, tossing it down towards the waiting children.

"Thank you, Lilly!" The children yelled as they waved up to her.

"You're welcome." Lilly panted out. Her hands and feet were stinging, and her arm was aching.

"Are you coming down?" The little girl asked with worry as she looked at Lilly sitting on the ledge.

Lilly laughed and wiped her forehead with her hand, she was exhausted. "I think I'm going to pitch a tent here." Lilly teased and then flopped backwards. She needed to catch her breath before attempting to climb down. She also needed her hand to stop bleeding so she wouldn't slip.

She stared up at the blue sky as the sun gently warmed her body. The lack of clothing let her cut up most of her skin. Her stomach had cuts all over it and little red stains smeared over her skin. She laughed to herself. All over a ball. Lilly took in a deep breath and relaxed her body. She could not wait to go back home and soak in the tub... home. It was the first time she had thought of home that she immediately thought of the Diamond pack house.

She couldn't help the smile that spread upon her face. Such a simple thought, but it was more than that. It was the idea that she really did find a place that she could always call home.

A loud commotion was being heard coming her way. There were mixtures of shouts and she could not make out anything through the raised voices. Relaxation time was over already. She sat up and looked down over the ledge to see what the commotion was.

Uh Oh

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Lilly looked down at the men looking at the hillside with urgency. They were all there. The centaurs, the werewolves, and the guardian.

“Ummm... what’s wrong?” Lilly yelled down to the men.

“Lilly, what happened to you?” Tristan yelled up to Lilly as he looked at her appearance. She had blood covered over her face and her arms were bleeding as well. She looked as if she had been in a vicious fight.

Lilly looked herself over and shrugged. She noticed the little centaur girl nearby and put together what had happened. The girl went for help because she was worried about her. She better let them know she is fine.

“I’m fine. It’s just a few scrapes and cuts nothing serious. I was just trying to catch my breath before the climb down.” Lilly gave them a sheepish smile and a wave to show she was okay. However, what she showed was the arm that had been cut deeply from the broken rock and still had crimson drops oozing out.

Instantly, Tyler shifted into his wolf and in effortless leaps was on the ledge with Lilly. He stood in front of her and was looking her over intently.

Lilly smirked, sure make the climb easy with your wolf, she could have done that too. She scooted back towards the edge of the rocks so she could rest her back against the stone wall. She then patted the ground beside her for him to lay. His eyes met with hers before he obliged her and obeyed. He curled up next to her and rested his head on her lap. Gently, she began to rub his head and pet him.

“I told you I was okay. I was just climbing up here to get their ball. It’s just a few cuts, they’ll heal.” Lilly rubbed his ear, and he leaned his head into her.

You should see what you look like. You have blood all over your face. How couldn’t I be worried? Tyler’s mind linked to her.

Oh yeah. She forgot she could mind link with him. Mentally hearing his voice made her stomach tighten in response. She had really missed him. She leaned down and hugged him around his soft neck, closing her eyes as she savored his touch. His fur was warm and soft, like her own personal blanket.

"I didn't know if you were coming for me." She quietly spoke into his neck. As she held him, he began to feel different. She was no longer touching fur. He had shifted back to his human self.

Her heart began to race as she stared into his eyes. She still had her arms around him, and she felt her chest clench. How did she not realize just how much she missed him? Her eyes watered up as he wrapped his arms around her, pulling her deep into his embrace. He held her tightly, not leaving any gaps between them.

"Of course, I came for you, silly girl. How could you ever think I wouldn't?" Tyler whispered into her ear.

"Well you did hold a pack meeting with out me..." Lilly sniffed bitterly.

Tyler kissed the side of her head sending tingling sensations down her body.

"I wanted them to speak honestly and I was afraid they wouldn't with you there. I also told them that if they didn't want you in the pack that they would have to find a new Alpha, because my place is with you." Tyler smiled as she pulled back and looked at him with wide eyes.

"You said what? You couldn't do that. That's your pack-"

"And you're my mate. It's simple, I won't be without you. No matter what, you are mine. I told you that already Lills, you belong to me. What do I need to do to get that in your head?"

"...What about Jessica?" Lilly bit her bottom lip as she stared anxiously into his eyes.

Tyler looked at her sadly. "Have you been worried about her?"

Lilly nodded at him slightly. How could she not worry about her? She was his fiancé and then she keeps catching them together. Always acting closer than just friends.

Tyler crushed her body back into his and held onto her body tightly. "I'm sorry Lilly. I should have explained things better before so that this was never a worry. I don't love Jessica, I never did. Her brother died while protecting me and I always felt guilty towards her over that. When I didn't think I would ever find my mate I obliged her since I knew she wanted to be with me. I was wrong and should not have done that. I misled her. I set everything straight though. I told her she will never be my mate and that from now on she needed to treat me like her mated Alpha. I am no longer someone she can treat like a fiancé. I also told her if she can't accept you as her Luna, then she had to leave. You are it for me Lilly. You are the one who occupies my thoughts and my mind."

"Really? I'm not just some delicate fairy?" Lilly pulled back and gave Tyler a crooked smiled.

Tyler chuckled. "I was jealous. I didn't like how attentive you were being with another guy. I know you are a doctor, but I want all of your touches for myself. I got envious and acted childish. Won't be the first or last time Lilly, I hope you can put up with those imperfections of mine."

Lilly's eyes glistened as she stared at him. He had apologized and smoothed over most of the things she had been worrying about. A small tear trickled down her face. "If you can put up with mine, then I can put up with yours."

Tyler stared into the green shining pools. He reached his hand up and gently cupped her cheek in his hand. He felt her lean into it and the moisture that had been running down her face. His heart wrenched as he thought how she didn't know if he was coming for her. Not come for her? He could barely breathe without her. He needed her and the fact that she didn't know how much he needed her saddened him. If she could only feel the way he felt about her, then she would have no doubts.

"Man, Lilly... I've missed you so much." Tyler's eyes trailed from hers and to her lips.

She felt her breath grow heavy under his intense gaze. He was staring at her, wanting her lips, but he wasn't closing the gap. The gap she suddenly desperately needed closed. She couldn't wait for him to close it. She could not deprive herself for a second longer. She moved in, wrapping her arms around his neck, pressing her lips into his. She felt him greedily respond to her and the two were soon wrestling for dominance with their tongues. Small sparks were tingling through her body, her heart rate was quickening, and she was feeling breathless.

They pulled apart for air but kept their eyes firmly on each other. Tyler leaned in and kissed her gently on her forehead before leaning his head onto hers. We have to stop for now. I am naked. Anymore and I am not going to have the self-control to not devour you right here, right now.

A small blush crept over her cheeks. She had forgotten that he was naked after shifting. She nodded to him and he gave her a crooked smile.

He looked over her arms and examined the small cuts she had over her body. "All this for a child's ball? Lilly, you need to be more careful." Tyler frowned as he looked over her body.

"Good thing I am part werewolf, and these will all be healed soon." Lilly winked and stuck her tongue out at him.

"That's not the point Lill." Tyler snorted at her.

"Yes, yes... I know." Lilly leaned forward and pecked his lips lightly.

"Let's get you down from here." Tyler shifted back into his wolf and then stared at Lilly. You waiting for an invitation? Hop on.

"I get a ride!" Lilly squealed acting like a child getting her first pony ride. Lilly pulled herself onto his back and giggled.

Hold on tight, I don't need you falling. Tyler's voice spoke gently in her mind. She tightened her grip and then felt him move closer to the edge. She looked down to see the crowd of men still waiting for them at the bottom. She had forgotten about everyone else. It was as if it was only her and Tyler who had existed. She felt him leap into the air and in three easy bounds he was back onto the ground.

"Awe, is the ride over already?" Lilly pouted like a child.

At least until I can get you home and back in bed. Then I promise you another fun ride. Tyler's voice was low and promising.

She felt her cheeks heat up and then slid off of his back. Kade walked over and launched a pair of shorts to Tyler. He then walked up to Lilly and wrapped his arms around her.

"I've been so worried about you. Don't get kidnapped again." Kade scolded playfully.

"I'll scratch it off my to do list." Lilly smiled as she leaned into his hug. She couldn't explain it, but it felt like having a bit of home. Lilly felt an arm snatch hers and pull her backwards. She was now leaning into Tyler's side again.

"That's enough Kade. I haven't seen her in days and don't plan on sharing her." Tyler leaned his head down and breathed in her scent.

"So possessive." Kade snorted and looked at Cedric with a grin. She was acting normal again. Whatever was bothering her did not seem like it was anymore.

"Lilly?" Tristan walked up and stood in front of her, a small frown on his face.

Oh yeah... Tristan. She was so caught up in Tyler that she had forgotten about the whole guardian thing.

"Are you mad at me?" Tristan asked sullenly.

She was at first, but she was just confused. She still was confused, but she was not angry at him.

"No, but the next time you're my guardian just tell me. I don't like all these secrets." Lilly watched his eyes and felt Tyler's arms shift around her. She glanced over at Kade and Cedric and then over to Drake. Yeah, there was still something she was being left in the

dark over. "More secrets?" Lilly whined and pushed her back into Tyler's chest. This whole secret thing was getting old.

"Just a few." Tristan watched as she rubbed the sides of her head. "Are the headaches getting bad?"

Lilly nodded. "They've been coming and going but getting more intense."

"They will get worse, especially if you were awakening on your own. I can help you with that though. I can help ease it for you."

"I'm going to have to remember... something unpleasant, aren't I?" Lilly knew her memories of her mother's death were always fuzzy. She was sure that this was the reason why.

"Yes." Tristan gazed into her green eyes. "There is still a lot to talk about. Let's just take things slow. We will get you back home first. Then worry about the rest."

Lilly smiled up at Tristan in appreciation. "Good, I can't wait to be back home." She felt Tyler's arms squeeze around her in agreement. She felt like she had been gone forever. Soon, she would finally get to go back home.

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"I like your outfit Lilly... It shows a lot of personality." Tristan teased as Tyler stared at him with dark eyes.

"Shut up, Tristan. I fell in the pond and my dress got all wet. My dress is probably dry now, I'm going to change before we leave. Be back in a flash." Lilly sped off to a house in the distance.

Lilly was thankful to see that her dress was indeed dry. She felt like she was a native out in a jungle encampment. It's fine for going swimming but not for everyday attire. She discarded the 'clothing' she was wearing and then slipped her dress back on. Before she left, she walked up to the sink and washed the dried blood off of her arms and face. Then she turned and shut the door to her temporary home and walked back towards Tyler.

She saw Drake talking with Tyler and Tristan as she approached. Cedric and Kade were standing off to the side and she walked up to them first.

"You look much better Lilly. The blood on you made you look like a witch doctor or something." Kade teased and Lilly shoved him playfully.

“How are you feeling?” Cedric was concerned for her. He knew that she could have a tough time during her awakening. They kept calling it an awakening, but it was actually something a bit different.

“I’m doing okay. There is only a slight headache right now. I’m just ready to be back home.”

“These last few days have been crazy. I am definitely ready for some down time. I have a date with a lemonade and a hammock.” Kade flashed a toothy smile towards Lilly.

“I think we should put the theatre room to good use. I say we binge on pizza and movies. I could go for a good food coma.” Lilly felt excited getting to spend time together with everyone. She wanted to experience normal fun.

“What movies? I’m not into chic flicks.” Cedric rolled his eyes at her thinking that’s what she would have in store.

“Wow... my company isn’t good enough? You have to pick the movie too? Talk about greedy...Anyways, I was thinking like having a movie roulette? We all put the movies we want up on the wheel and then we watch whatever it lands on.” Lilly could be fair about it. After all, it wasn’t so much about the movie as it was about spending time together.

“I can deal with the outcome of that.” It sounded like a decent plan to Cedric. Who doesn’t want to lounge around eating food and watching movies? And after the few days they had been through it sounded like the perfect reward.

Drake then galloped up to Lilly. “We hate to see you go.”

“Thank you for taking good care of me... even if you were keeping me here against my will.” Lilly smiled as she looked at Drake’s sheepish grin.

“You are welcome here anytime. If you ever are in need of our assistance, you only have to ask, and we will be there.” Drake was sad to see her go. He wished she would have stayed there with them. He had no right to keep her though, especially since her guardian showed up. He knew he would see her again someday.

“Ready to go home?” Tyler swooped his arm around Lilly, and she beamed up at him in excitement.

“Yes.”

“You are all set to leave. You are no longer bound to this place. Have a safe trip.” Drake said as he walked them to the tunnel exit.

—

Lilly held onto Tyler's hand as they walked out through the wooded area. Their fingers were intertwined together and their shoulders were brushing from the close proximity as they walked. Tyler had gotten Lilly back and was now getting ready to take her home. Tristan had a vehicle waiting for them not far from where they were. They just had to walk a short way to get to it.

"I can't wait to go home and wash the days of dirt off of me." Kade lifted his arms up inspecting the filth.

"You guys haven't been back in days?" Lilly knew they were looking for her, but she thought they would at least go home and then back out the next morning.

"Tyler did not let us go back to even refill on supplies! Once we set out to look for you, there was no going back. Tristan finally left to get coordinates for the centaur's location, since we couldn't find it. As soon as he told us where it was at though, Tyler wasn't waiting... even though that was what was agreed upon." Kade rolled his eyes at his impatient Alpha.

"I need some good food, a shower, and a few days of sleep." Cedric spoke wistfully to himself as he tried to think of what he wanted to eat first.

"I'm sorry. I had no idea. I was unconscious when I was taken, so I had no idea how the trail was. Here I thought you guys just abandoned me." Lilly chuckled to herself, but no one joined in. They all gave her their own irritating glare.

"You were unconscious?" Cedric quietly asked.

"Yeah, he drugged me. There is no way he could have taken me if he hadn't." Lilly snorted out angrily. Tyler let out a throaty growl followed by Tristan.

"Damn nags, I should have laid into them. I didn't realize they drugged you too." Tristan growled through his teeth. The idea that someone had taken her was already bad enough, but to drug her too... he did not care what their reason was.

"I know what they did was wrong, but I am hoping we can maybe form an understanding or an alliance with them. There has never been one between them and werewolves. Maybe I can be the bond between them."

"You're very special Lilly. You can be the bridge for your pack and reach where no one else ever could. The Diamond pack is very fortunate to have you." Tristan glanced back to Tyler with a knowing look.

"Not just the pack, I am lucky to have her." Tyler dropped Lilly's hand and swung his arm around her shoulders, squeezing her into his body.

"There's the truck." Tristan pointed into the distance where a large dark grey extended cab truck was sitting.

Lilly sat in the front seat squeezed between Tristan and Tyler. There was an intimidating aura between the two of them. It was like sitting between two Alpha's. What was Tristan exactly? He only said he wasn't a werewolf but did not elaborate. Just another thing she would have to ask him about later. Maybe he is like a powerful wizard and can conjure the elements, or something cool like that. It at least gave her something interesting to think about during the ride home.

"How does all this work out now... are you going to be living with us now?" If Tristan was her guardian, did that mean he would always be around her now?

"Yes, that has all already been discussed. My place is with you. Your pup over here doesn't mind since it is another protector for you." Tristan grinned as he noticed the small annoyance coming from Tyler.

"Are you two going to be able to get along?" Lilly glanced between the two nervously.

The two men started laughing, followed by the two in the back. "Can't you tell we are best friends?" Tyler teased. "We have an understanding between us. You are our first priority. No promises that we won't fight or disagree, but we will manage."

"I think we are going to end up being good friends. I can feel how much you love me already." Tristan teased again and listened to the scoff out of Tyler's mouth. They both had clashing personalities but united under a common goal. Protect Lilly and keep her safe. Tristan often fought with James, but the two had formed a strong friendship together. He was certain that in time Tyler and him would also form a bond together. Especially since he wasn't going anywhere. He would be there until his or Lilly's end.

"I bet you two had an interesting meeting." Lilly scooted into Tyler's side. He wrapped his arm around her, and she leaned her head onto him.

"I was definitely not expecting to see Tristan... I had a lot of questions for him." Tyler chuckled as he thought about his shock.

"Interrogation would be more accurate," Tristan quipped in with a small smile.

Knowing Tyler, there was a lot of shouting going on. Lilly soaked in the warmth next to her, the gentle hum of the truck and voices began to meld together. Her head was hurting again. She held open her hand and stared at it, it was tingling. It had the sensation that her hand was being held, but it wasn't, she stared at her empty hand. Then the flashing images started. Images flashed through her mind, but it was blurry... was it a memory? The sound of children's laughter echoed loudly in her ears as she saw two children running through a field hand in hand. The sun was shining brightly on

the tall grass that covered most of the children's body's as they ran through it. It felt warm. She could feel the vision in her soul; it was happy.

The sun then vanished. That's when a rumble rolled across the sky. Darkness sprawled across the sky billowing over the area bringing an ominous feeling with it. The air was growing heavy and suffocating as another crack was heard above. The thunder was not the only snap that was being heard. The loud snap of heavy steps approaching sent a chill down her spine.

Then there was nothing, but the deafening sound of silence. Everything was black, a blanket of darkness had enveloped her.

I've found you.

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'I've found you.'

A deep chilling voice rumbled out in her head. The sound echoed in her mind; she shook her head and blinked trying to regain focus. The humming sound of the vehicle began to sound as clarity was being restored. What the hell was that? Was it a memory that she had forgotten? Or was it a voice she heard just now? She could feel the tugging, pulling in her head, creating a throbbing sensation.

She felt like something was watching her. Kira paced about in Lilly's head; she was antsy. She looked out the window and to the trees.

"You've been incredibly quiet." Tyler squeezed her arm. She was staring blankly out the window and had been quiet for quite some time.

"Mmmhmm." She answered quietly as she continued to analyze the presence she was feeling.

Cedric leaned forward. "Lilly, give me your hand." He reached his hand out to her and all but grabbed it.

His touch was like liquid fire that pulsated up her arm through her veins. Burning ribbons were stinging her body, devouring her skin with an intense inferno. The heat was oppressive, binding her down, enveloping her into a prison threatening to cook her.

He reached his other hand up and leaned her head backwards so that he could place his forehead on hers. "Easy, Lilly. Don't fight me. Just bare it a little longer."

The pain was no longer bothering her. It was the darkness she could feel out in the distance. It was menacing. It seemed to be frantically searching. It had lost what it was looking for and was menacing the area with its presence.

As they continued to drive away the presence grew even more faint. The moment they were back in her packs territory she could no longer feel it. Her body felt like it was ablaze, hot knives lashed at her skin and she had to bite her bottom lip as she bore it.

What was moments, felt like an eternity, before Cedric finally released his grip on her. She greedily gulped for air that she was not able to consume. She did not say a word, she just closed her eyes and tried to gather her senses.

After a moment she tilted her head so that she could look at Cedric. His eyes were closed, his face contorted, he looked to be suffering. She did not know what was going on, but she felt concerned for him.

"Cedric... are you okay?" Lilly watched as he peaked out to her through one eye. His lips curled up halfway over his face.

"What are you doing worrying about me? Are you okay?" Cedric knew that she had to have been in immense pain. They both were. Her body's magic was fighting him back. He held on as long as he could, but he would not be able to continue to do that.

She let out a breath through her nose. "I thought I was going to burn to death. It was like a fire was burning inside of me and holding me down at the same time. What were you doing?"

Tyler pulled her into his side so he could inspect her body. He tenderly rubbed her arm and smoothed her hair. He wanted to pull her away from Cedric when he saw her in pain, but he knew he was protecting her. They had a few days together in the woods and Cedric had explained several things to Tyler. It helped him have a better understanding of the situation and what he could expect.

"He was suppressing your presence." Tristan was looking angry as he stared at the road in front of him. "It's a good thing we got to you when we did. You were being searched for..."

"Is that the darkness that has been watching me?" Lilly asked and got a shocked glance from Tristan.

"You could feel it?" Tristan looked back over at her and furrowed his eyes.

"Vaguely. It's like when you know you are being watched. I could feel a presence that seemed threatening." Lilly watched as Tristan frowned a bit.

"I'm glad we are back in pack territory." Kade whistled out in relief as they pulled up to the pack house.

"Lilly, are you okay?" Tyler was looking over her with concern. He was not sure how she would be feeling after something like that.

"Mmmhmm, just feel really tired, drained." Lilly's body felt like rubber, every movement was heavy and brutal.

Tyler hopped out of the truck and turned and pulled Lilly into his arms. He held her bridal style against his chest.

"I don't want you getting bothered by other pack members. I know they will be excited to see you are back, but you can greet them later. For now, let's get you in bed for a nap." Tyler felt Lilly lean her head into his chest. She was not arguing with him, this showed him exactly how exhausted she was.

Tyler led the way into the pack house. When he entered Avery immediately ran up to see Lilly.

"Later Avery." Tyler said tersely and continued to brush past her.

Avery pouted and turned and looked at Kade. "Well now he is just being out right selfish. She is my friend too." She crossed her arms and pouted as she watched after Tyler.

"She's been through a lot Avey. Once she is rested, I'm sure he will share her again... maybe a tiny bit." Kade chuckled knowing all too well how possessive Tyler was over Lilly. It is even worse now with everything that had happened and what he has learned.

He carried Lilly effortlessly up the stairs and down the hall to his room. He gently laid her onto the bed and pulled a thin blanket over top of her.

"I want to get a bath." Lilly's groggy voice whispered out. She smelled the clean linens on the bed and closed her eyes as she nestled into them.

"Rest first, then you can get your bath." Tyler scooted into the bed beside her and pulled her into his chest. This was the first time she had been back in his bed since he marked her. The memory of that night stirred his desire for her deep down. He wanted nothing more than to be able to taste her again. He had time though. She was back and he made a resolve that he would never lose her again.

He leaned his head on hers and listened to the sound of her rhythmic breathing. She had fallen asleep so quickly as Tyler laid there holding her. The past few days were a nightmare for him that he never wished to experience again. She was so precious to him. She was home and safe for now, but it wasn't over. There was still a threat out there after his angel. They would not be able to be at total peace until the threat was eliminated, something that would not be an easy feat. That was another day's problem to deal with. Lilly was home and they have worked out the problems they were having. He was going to enjoy this time and enjoy her. His body relaxed as he melded into her side, slowly drifting off to sleep with her.

Lilly began to stir ever so slightly causing Tyler to wake up. They were both exhausted and slept through the evening and until the following morning. He looked down on her delicate face as she buried her head deeper into his chest. He kissed her forehead and gently pulled away from her. He chuckled as he heard her whimper in protest.

"I'm going to get your bath water going. Then I need to check on the pack business. What do you want to have for dinner tonight?" Tyler tucked her hair away from her face as he watched her eyes pop open.

"Pizza. We are having a pizza and movie night in the game room." Lilly's eye lit up as she remembered the plans she had made the day before.

"Oh? We are?" Tyler watched her nod her head and smiled up to him.

"Cedric, Kade and I decided on it yesterday. Your job is to make sure you supply plenty of pizza... Oh, and breadsticks too, with sauce." Lilly was making herself hungry thinking of her dinner plans.

Tyler chuckled quietly. "Alright, sounds like a plan." He walked into the bathroom and turned on the water before walking back over to the bed. "Enjoy your bath and I will see you soon." He leaned down and kissed her lips tenderly before reluctantly pulling away. With one last longing glance, he turned and left the room.

Lilly stretched her arms over her head and sighed with happiness as she heard the tub filling up. She was going to enjoy this bath. She had been dreaming of it and was going to relax in the pooling warmth. She walked into the steamy bathroom and slipped her clothes off. She dipped her toe in to test the water out first before she eased herself into the heavenly warmth. She slid herself down into the water. Its heat hugged and soothed her body. This was a much needed bath.

After soaking until she was wrinkled and flushed, she finally parted from the water, but promised she would visit again soon. She quickly got dressed and made her way downstairs.

Before she had even fully found her footing on the first floor, she was pounced on by Avery.

"I was so worried about you. Are you alright? How were you treated? What was it like? You have to tell me everything!" Avery excitedly held onto Lilly's hands as she spewed a barrage of questions.

Lilly giggled. "Let's start with I missed you too, Avery."

"How are you feeling?" Tristan walked up to her from behind.

“Rejuvenated and refreshed!” Lilly turned her head and beamed up at him. “Where is everyone else?”

“Tyler and Kade are out doing whatever it is your puppy leaders do. Cedric is still resting. That took a lot out of him.”

“You said he was suppressing my presence earlier? So, was he covering mine up or just blocking it? It felt like I had a fiery veil over me.” Lilly thought about the painful experience and how the radiating power felt.

“Cedric’s specialties are barriers, among other things. He had put a barrier on you to block your presence from being detected. The problem is, that you are stronger than Cedric, so it was difficult to put a barrier on you. He is not able to hold that barrier for very long and it may be almost impossible for him to do it again. He had to link himself to you to even accomplish what he did this time.” Tristan tried his best to explain to Lilly, though it was a phenomenon that was hard to describe.

“How do you know all of this stuff? Are you a fairy too?” Lilly was still trying to figure out how Tristan was connected with everything. He was her guardian, but what did that mean?

“Hahaha, no. I am not a fairy. I can see it, sense it, plus, I have studied everything. I know what types of fairies can do what. I know who are allies of fairies and who are not. I am called the colossal enforcer, but my job is a bit different from the others. I am your enforcer. My responsibility is to protect you, not all of fairy kind.”

“Wow so you are like her own personal bodyguard. Man, my envy for you keeps on growing toots. You get to eye that piece of flesh anytime you want to.” Avery pouted with a slight whine.

“Hahaha, Avery, you have Caleb.” Lilly giggled, reminding Avery of her mate.

“Oh, I know, but I still like to look.” Avery shrugged. “I’ve gotta run out for a bit. I’m getting refreshments for tonight, Alpha’s orders. I’d take you with me, but Tyler said you aren’t allowed to leave, so I’ll see you soon.”

Lilly watched her energetic friend skip out of the pack doors. She looked back at Tristan and shrugged. “Since I am on pack territory arrest, do you want to go for a walk?”

“Yeah, a walk sounds refreshing.” Tristan smiled down at her as he watched her bounce over to the kitchen. There was still a lot to discuss and there was a seal on her that needed broken.

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Lilly quickly grabbed an apple to snack on and walked out the door with Tristan. He towered beside her as they walked together.

“Tristan...?”

“Mmm?”

“When we were in the car, when I felt that presence...I was having, I think memory flashbacks but of memories I don’t remember. Then, at the end, I heard a voice. I don’t know if the voice was from my memories or if it happened then.” Lilly watched as Tristan eyed her with a look of concern.

“What did the voice say?” Tristan stopped walking and turned to face her.

The first thing he asked was what the voice said. Funny, most people would be more concerned with her hearing a voice in her head in the first place. Especially one that was not part of her pack.

“It said... I’ve found you.” Lilly’s voice was quiet as she remembered the voice. She watched as Tristan’s eyes grew black and an aura of anger rose from his body. He was visibly shaking with anger. She reached her hand to his arm and gently rested it on him. “Hey, calm your anger. It’s a bit over the top don’t you think?” Lilly looked up to him beneath her eyelids and gave him a crooked smile.

He chuckled and took in a deep breath. “This anger is for you. Sure, I have a temper, but my feelings revolve around you the most. If I am sad, it is for you. If I am happy, it is for you. If I am angry, it is for you.”

“That sounds a lot like a mate...”

“In a sense, the feelings work the same way. The difference is that my bond is stronger. A mating bond can get damaged, broken, and rejected. My bond to you is impermeable, but don’t misunderstand it. It isn’t like the lust attraction that you werewolves have with your mates... Anyways, just know that I am a constant in your life now. Protecting you is my purpose...” Tristan paused and then continued. “The voice... how did it sound?”

“It was a deep voice that made my body tense up at the sound. It had a chill to it and was dripping with malcontent...” Lilly looked at Tristan’s worried eyes and could feel a bit of insecurities creep inside of her. “Is it that dangerous?” If her colossal enforcer looked worried, then what exactly was after her?

“Yes, it is very dangerous. Don’t worry though, I am not going to let anything happen to you.” Tristan placed his hand on her shoulder to reassure her. There was no question about it; they needed to break the seal today. She would need all of her strength especially if he has found her. Lilly did not realize it yet, but she had a lot of powers at

her disposal. She was going to need everything she had in order to get through this next challenge.

Lilly linked her arm with his and the two of them strolled through the nearby woods together.

“Leaving without me?” Cedric called out as he approached them.

His face looked tired and paler than usual. However, his eyes were still warm, and he wore a welcoming smile on his face.

Lilly was happy to see him, she had been worrying about him after yesterday. “Just going for a walk, you up to joining us?”

Cedric grinned widely. “That was my full intention.”

Lilly felt something stirring within her. A gentle warm embrace that kept tugging her forward.

TUG TUG TUG

Her feet were walking for her, taking her somewhere. She stopped at a large field that was just within the pack territory. The sun was skipping on the tall golden weeds as they swayed in the wind.

“Lilly?” Tristan was watching her reaction. She looked calm but something inside of her was changing. She was being woken up. Someone else was waking her up and calling for her to wake up. He wasn’t the only one who felt like it was time.

Lilly didn’t answer him as she rested her hand on her chest. She closed her eyes and felt the wind tickle her skin and play with her hair. Instinctively she took a few more steps further into the open field. Something inside of her was taking over. A crack had been opened and beckoned her to respond.

Then in the silence, she opened her mouth. She began to sing a song she knew by heart but had forgotten. As she sang, the sun shone on her brightly and creatures began to congregate towards the sound, watching from a distance.

The light that dances in the sun

It lurks in the leaves before they fall

In every corner of the world

You’re dancing and listening to my song

The flowers that bloom, it blooms for you.
The song brings you closer towards me.
Almost connecting our hearts as one
We are singing together, though distantly
The voices are calling to me
From way over yonder, from far I can hear
Voices of laughter
Voices of singing
Echoing voices on the wind
There's a voice calling out from far away
It guides me onward everyday
As if it smiles as if it sings
The sound of wind echoes
Your voice that it brings
In happiness and in sadness
We reach for the distance
The uniting of our lands
Your hand in my hand
Together, under the same sun
Can you hear the song I sing?
Bringing us closer to everything
Now the moment has come at last
Remembering the memories forgot in the past

The tears streamed down her face as a warm glow formed inside of her. Her singing had attracted a crowd of both werewolves and fairies (also some other creatures). Tyler began to walk up to her, but Tristan put a firm hand on his shoulder. "Wait."

\\\Can you hear my voice? Time to wake up and know who you are. Born to unite two worlds forever. Wake up!\\ A gentle voice suddenly commanded and Lilly felt a burst in her chest.

She fell to her knees as a strong light and wind flew upwards around her, it created a barrier around her body. One was able to get through the barrier though, strong arms braced her shoulders. She couldn't look, but knew that it was Tristan, she recognized his hands. Her insides felt like they were being branded with a hot iron, her mind was conceding to the torment and her final barrier erupted. Her knuckles were white as they gripped at the ground in front of her, her cheeks were red as the silent tears dripped onto the ground beneath her. The rawness of suppressed memories began to invade.

Visions began to playback in her mind like a movie projector. There were memories of her childhood that she had forgotten. She was always playing with a little boy when she went for walks with her mother. Her mother told her that he was a special friend because he was her kind. The more she saw his face the more she knew, it was Cedric.

The memory near her mother's death began to play in her mind, stirring up a deep pain and sorrow that had been repressed deep within.

"Lilly, you are very special. You are the daughter of an Alpha and daughter of the Queen of the fairies. You are the bond that will unite our worlds. My little fairy princess." Lilly's mother spoke to her softly as they walked through a field. Small lights flickered around them, dancing and singing in happiness at their presence.

Another memory entered soon after that. "A darkness is after us. A demon who thirsts for our blood. He desires a unity with you. He will not have you, you are meant for much more. I'm going to have to leave you for awhile in order to protect you. I am going to dissolve this human life in order to shield yours. This way, the darkness will not be able to find you, not until you are old enough to face it." Her mother's words were quick and filled with sorrow. She looked at her, knowing that she was going to be leaving her.

"I will see you again. I will be waiting for you in Elysium." She then threw a cloak over Lilly and walked out away from her.

Under the cloak she saw her mother vanish as the wolves lunged towards her. She was not ripped apart like her false memory had shown. Beside her was Cedric, he wrapped his arms around her, holding her hand. He was shielding her and hiding her aura. He was there that day. She had forgotten such an important friend, though she did not truly forget him, but her memories were shielded from her. As an effort to bury her powers and lock them down deep, she had to forget important moments and people. The wolves ran off in the distance and she began to come back to the present.

The swirling had stopped. Tyler was in front of her instantly, holding her hands gently. There were so many things she wanted to say, but they were stuck in her throat. She wanted to cry, to shout, to laugh... she was kept in the dark to keep her safe, but it was painful not knowing the truth. There is no light without the dark. In order to keep her light, they had to put her in the dark. She understood it, but just needed a moment to accept it. Her mother was alive? She was the fairy princess... Cedric... Cedric was her childhood friend.

She looked up from the ground and searched for Cedric. He was standing only a few feet away. He had saved her that day but had to disappear from her life in order to protect her. Then, when he met her again, he still couldn't tell her because he didn't want to stir the memories that would break the seal. It must have been tough for him. He still remembered her.

Their eyes met and there was a small moment between them. She gave him a small smile of understanding to show that she did not bear him any ill feelings. She took in a deep breath and looked up into Tyler's eyes. Life was getting complicated.

She was the one and only, fairy princess.

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She felt the arms on her shoulders drift down and she looked back to Tristan.

"Are you okay? You were taking the pain away... weren't you?" Lilly watched him beam a crooked smile to her.

"That's my job. To take your pain away. Of course, I am fine." Tristan gave her a reassuring smile, but the sweat beads on his forehead was showing how much pain he was enduring.

She looked back to Tyler. She now had to explain to him a lot more and also ask something else of him now. Unlocking her memories revealed so much to her. She knew her duty and what she had to do.

"I already know who you are so don't worry about my reaction." Tyler smiled at her and pulled her into his arms.

"Wait... how do you know?"

"Tristan and Cedric explained everything before we went out to look for you. It's the only reason why I have accepted Tristan living among our pack." Tyler gave Tristan an irritated look which he chuckled at.

"Oh... you don't mind at all? It doesn't bother you?" Lilly wanted to make sure he was okay with who she was. After all, it was a big deal.

"Lilly, I don't care who you are. You are mine. It is as simple as that." Tyler talked into her hair and left gentle kisses on her head.

"Tyler..." She leaned back so that she could stare into his face. "Do you not only accept me, but my people? All of them?" This was important to her. She was the princess of the fairies and it was her duty to take care of them.

"Look how serious you look. Of course Lilly." Tyler thought she was being adorable with her questions.

"Tyler, I mean it. This isn't something to half heartedly answer. There is only one kingdom and I am the only princess. Being with me and accepting that is a big responsibility... a burden to you."

He reached out and cupped her face, smiling at her. "Lilly, my kind are your kind and your kind are mine. You are not a burden to me; you are the most precious gift I could have ever wished for."

"Lilly, I think you just need to come out and explain to him what you are trying to find out." Tristan knew what Lilly was beating around the bush trying to say. It was easier to just come out with it.

Lilly nodded. She gnawed on her bottom lip feeling oddly anxious. She felt like this is how a guy feels when they ask a girl to marry them. You are pretty hopeful they will say yes, but that slim chance that they will say no is the only part that consumes your mind.

"Tyler, I am your people's Luna which is what connects me to your pack. In order to connect you to the fairies... do you agree to become their prince? Their future king?" Lilly watched as Tyler finally understood what she was trying to say to him.

"Before you answer, I need to say something else. Not now, but in the distant future, it would require us to move to the fairy kingdom. This wouldn't have to happen until after there is an heir here for the diamond pack." Lilly wanted him to know that if he accepted being the fairy kingdom's future king, that would mean that he would eventually have to leave.

Tyler stared at her for a second and then a large smile spread across his face. "So, you are going to have my babies?" Tyler thought about how she mentioned an heir taking over for his pack. The idea of her having his children gave him a sense of pride and longing towards her.

Lilly blushed openly realizing what she had just admitted. She shyly nodded towards him. "The first-born male of an Alpha becomes their future leader... likewise the first-born daughter becomes the future for the fairy kingdom. Traditionally, the fairy queen always gives birth to a daughter first."

“The idea of having a family with you is more than I could ever ask for. Lilly, I will follow you anywhere. I’ll accept being your prince and king, as long as it means that I can always be by your side.”

Lilly’s eyes lit up at his answer. This is what she was hoping for but wanted to make sure he was okay with it. She stood up and pressed his shoulders down, stopping him from standing with her.

“I am accepting you as my present and future and prince to fairy kind.” She then leaned down and kissed his forehead and then his eyes.

He felt a warmth flow over him, like warm water being poured over his body. He felt a power form inside of him. Both he and his wolf were now stronger. Jax was pleased with his new strength and he pranced happily around in Tyler’s head. When Tyler opened his eyes, Lilly was smiling down at him.

“Tristan, allow the fairies to enter. They wish to meet their princess and new prince.” Lilly watched as Tristan nodded and she grabbed Tyler’s hand.

He stood at her side and turned with her to face the distance. As he turned, he noticed Cedric lowered his head in reverence to him, a gesture he had never done to him before. He was acknowledging him as his leader. He looked Cedric over, he was indeed covered in a gold dust that Lilly had mentioned before.

As he stared out in the distance, there were creatures coming into vision that he had not noticed before. Some of them were just walking into view, but there were smaller ones closer that seemed to just pop up. He turned and looked at Lilly, a bit confused.

“You have been recognized as the fairy prince. Because of that, I was able to bestow upon you certain powers. You can now hear and see the fairies that were not visible to you before.” Lilly smiled as she pulled him a few steps forward watching his eyes look around in amazement. A gathering audience of fairies and different creatures were arriving to greet them. She squeezed her hand tightly around his. “This is still pretty new to me too.”

Tyler was astonished! He never realized how many fairies were around but not visible. His eyes were opened to a whole other world.

“How do I know which ones are visible to me and not everyone else.” Tyler whispered under his breath to Lilly giving her a crooked grin.

“Most of those little rug rats down there are invisible. Some of them can go in and out of visibility, depending on if they want to be seen or not. Pay attention to their glow. If there is a purple hue around them, then they are not visible to anyone else.” Cedric walked up behind them and pointed around at the fairies.

“So, what does your light mean?” Tyler looked back at him staring at the soft glow that emitted from him.

“Heh, I guess it makes sense that you can see it too. That’s a secret we will have to talk about later.” A sheepish smile spread over Cedric’s lips and he lowered his hand showing that he kept it on the down low.

Lilly already knew what it was and what it did. His own personal woman attractant. If Kade only knew he wouldn’t feel so insecure about himself. It was a secret, even among fairies. Being royalty meant you were entitled to certain privileges and knowledge. She wondered how Tyler would feel about it when he found out.

A couple of sprites ran up to Lilly and began to tug at her foot excitedly. They were wanting her to lift them up so they could see her better. A low growl trickled out of Tristan’s throat and the sprites froze in fear.

“Tristan, it’s okay. They are just curious.” Lilly lowered her hand down and picked two of them up. She turned and looked at Cedric curiously. She remembered seeing them when she was younger, but was a bit fuzzy on what they were called.

“I won’t tolerate disrespect.” Tristan grumbled out and folded his arms while he glared at the sprites.

“Those are sprites, Lilly. They are little troublemakers too. They can’t help but get into mischief.” Cedric watched Lilly and could tell she thought they were cute and rolled his eyes. Sprites were tiny like brownies, but they had wings. They also had similar features to a human only tinier. They liked to make items disappear when you are looking for them, or untie your shoelaces, or cause you to trip when you are running or walking. As far as Cedric was concerned, they were all pests.

Tyler saw some little fairies run up to him and he knelt down near them. They were brownies and they took that opportunity to climb into his hand. It was fascinating. These were creatures he never knew existed, yet here they were, and he was now holding them.

“Man, I am missing out on so much, I can’t see a thing.” Kade frowned as he walked up closer. He felt like he was left out of an exclusive club.

“You’ll have to marry a fairy then, so you can gain entry.” Cedric teased.

“You offering?” Kade laughed, as Cedric raised his hands and stepped away. “Wait... what the hell is that?” Kade lifted his hand and pointed to orange eyes slithering towards them. This creature was not invisible, and it looked very dangerous.

Tristan took a few protective steps in front of Lilly and braced himself for what was incoming, not knowing yet if it was friend or foe. He growled at it while it came closer. Its

eyes were fixated on Tyler. It was not readily accepting him and was looking on him as easy prey. Tristan took a threatening step towards the creature. This time it stopped and sized up Tristan before he bellowed back at him loudly. He was challenging Tristan to a fight.

Tristan chuckled as he began to take his shirt off accepting his challenge. "Time to learn your place, Wyrms."

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The Wyrms roared loudly flailing his tail around in defiance. It showed its fangs in intimidation and flickered his tongue as it hissed. The sounds it was making began to bring in a crowd, not a crowd of fairies and werewolves though. They were relatives of the dragon family that began to pour in to watch the challenge. The dragon family banded together with those that were kin. They would watch this match and accept the outcome as a unit. They could not readily accept an outsider. This was how dragons have existed and kept safe. The knowledge of their whereabouts have always been very secretive. An outsider could expose their lairs and jeopardize their kind. This was something they could not allow. So, in true dragon fashion, a duel would settle the matter at hand. The loser would accept the outcome.

Drakes, Wyverns, Kirin, and Fae dragons all began to trickle in to watch the battle. Fae dragons being the smallest. They could fit in the palm of your hand and were as much kin to fairies as they were to dragons. Dragons were not fairies but were creatures welcomed by the fairy kingdom. As such, they could challenge situations, even a decision made by the royal family. After all, dragons had their own lords and royalty.

"Kade... some of these you can see, but some you can't. I think you should be feeling thankful for what you can't see." Tyler looked around as the creatures began circling the area. Some perching on nearby trees that were big enough to support their weight.

"I always thought fairies would be like a rated X show. I'd get to see half naked women flying all over the place. This is not at all what I pictured and had I paid I would have wanted my money back." Kade looked around hesitantly and then back towards the other pack members who were on high alert. "I'll fall back and keep them calm."

Lilly watched as Tristan and the Wyrms squared off with one another. She had to stop the fight. "I can't let this continue. I am putting a stop to this-"

"No, Lilly. You can't stop this, it is important. What is even more important is that a guardian is about to fight on behalf of Tyler, your chosen prince. He isn't fighting on your behalf, but to protect him. This shows that he is fully accepted by the fairies. He is your mate, so obviously you are going to accept him. The outcome of this fight will determine Tyler's acceptance among the dragons." Cedric looked up at Tristan and then back towards Lilly. "You are about to find out exactly why guardians are so terrifying."

“Are there any dragon dragons?” Tyler asked as his eyes scanned over the different kinds that had assembled. The animals were flocking around in a growing number. These were creatures that did not exist to him before today. He wasn’t afraid but was very intrigued to say the least.

“We won’t see them here, but if you are asking if they exist, then yes. They exist like werewolves do.” Cedric watched as Tyler nodded absent mindedly as their focus was pulled back to the center ring.

Lilly watched nervously as Tristan squared off against the towering Wyrms that were bellowing loudly at him. The other dragon kin raised their voices in a thundering sound answering the Wyrms’ call. She noticed Tristan as he glanced back towards her.

When Tristan saw her nervous eyes, he gave her a flashy grin. He was about to show her what he really was.

Lilly watched as Tristan began to transform in front of her. A dark brown fur enveloped him as he grew in size. Tristan was already very tall in stature, but the creature he was turning into was likely more than five times larger than her wolf, Kira. His arms turned into massive paws with long claws on the ends. His ginormous head roared loudly as his transformation completed. Tristan was a werebear and had he not been on her side, she would have been terrified.

The fairy creatures headed away to distantly watch the fight, not wanting to get caught up in the crossfire. The dragon kin were becoming increasingly excited and began roaring and stomping loudly, creating a commotion around them. The large size of Tristan’s bear faced off with the angry Wyrms. The Wyrms’ fangs dripped with saliva as it growled and hissed at Tristan. The gold eyes locked onto the brown ones in front of him, neither conceding.

Tyler reached for Lilly and pulled her backwards, forcing her to retreat further away from the incoming battle. Judging from the size of the two monsters, it would be best to get some distance. When he felt like they were far enough back, he stopped, but kept Lilly locked in at his side. He didn’t know what to expect, but wanted to make sure she was safe.

The Wyrms creature suddenly struck out, like a snake lunging for its prey. Tristan raised his monstrous paw and swatted at the head letting out a powerful roar. The creature coiled itself back up and hissed at the bear. It bared its teeth as its eyes glowered towards the werebear. Quickly he struck at him again but when he did he stopped short and flailed his tail around hitting the broad side of Tristan with a terrifying force. The moment he lost his balance the head struck back at him and sunk his teeth in Tristan’s shoulder. The bear roared loudly in pain as he managed to shake the Wyrms free.

Lilly watched the blood dripping down from the wound and splatter into pools on the ground. She let out a small whimper as she worried for Tristan and the outcome of this battle.

The bear glanced towards her. His warm chocolate eyes smiled at her reaction.

I would never lose to the likes of him. Don't be worried princess.

Lilly heard Tristan's voice inside of her head. She was shocked, how was he able to communicate with her telepathically? She thought she could only mind link with members of her pack. She was not able to analyze the reasons behind it since the dragon creature lunged again at Tristan.

The likes of him, the likes of the Wyrms was an opponent he would never lose to? The vicious monster in front of her did not look to be merciful and attacked with deadly aggression. She couldn't help but to be worried for Tristan, it would only take one mistake, one wrong move and he could very easily lose his life.

The monstrous animals watching, roared violently and loudly as they observed the fight. It was as if their roars were cheers for their champion. It was a lot for Lilly to take in. These creatures were friends of the fairies but had rejected Tyler. She felt a bit of bitterness towards them for that. Who were they to dictate who she chose to stand by her side? She knew that Cedric said the fight was necessary, that they would accept the outcome of this fight, but she hoped to prevent an incident like this in the future. Sure, she could have stopped the fight from happening, but then if there was ever a moment Tyler wasn't with her and a dragon type was around, he would have been attacked. Tristan fighting and winning would prevent an incident like that from ever happening.

She had recovered the memory of her mother when she had mentioned that some dragons even walked among us. They gave up their constant form to be able to shift much like werewolves do. The great dragon sage is one of the ones who had become a shifter, he was in charge of the dragons, right below their king who was also a shifter. One day, she would travel to the dragon sage and work out a diplomatic agreement between them. That unless there was any real reason, their kind would accept the fairy royalties' decisions.

Tristan charged into the Wyrms and sunk his claws and teeth into its body. The creature roared loudly and recoiled its body away, managing to wiggle itself free.

"He's just playing around. Seriously end it already." Tyler looked bored watching the fight in front of him.

Lilly looked up at him in confusion. "What are you talking about?"

Tyler smirked and looked down at her worried face. "It's obvious that Tristan is just toying with him, he is enjoying the fight. This match was over before it started. He is just having too much fun."

"But he has been injured? If it was so easy, he wouldn't have been hurt!" Lilly defended him as she looked back out over the battle.

"They're just flesh wounds Lill. Trust me, he can end it whenever he wants to." Tyler squeezed her shoulder reassuringly and nodded back out towards the fight in front of them.

Blood was now dripping from both of their bodies. The Wyrmling looked over his injuries and roared. It snapped around its tail and glowered towards Tristan. It was clearly infuriated and was desperate to take down his opponent.

The Wyrmling swirled around creating a pile of dust in the air. It used that moment to throw its body towards Tristan's wrapping itself around him. Lilly managed to see it sink its teeth into one of Tristan's legs before the dust particles overtook them. The two animals were growling ferociously at each other. The sound of thrashing and teeth clashing were heard, and only brief sightings of their intertwined bodies were seen through the dust. Then suddenly it went quiet, even the dragon kin silenced their sounds. Everyone was watching intensely as they waited to see the outcome of the battle.

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Lilly was standing on the tiptoes of her feet as she waited for the dirt to settle. Then she heard a mighty roar come out of Tristan. The dust settled to reveal him standing overtop of the Wyrmling, inches away from his face. His teeth were bared and he waited there until the Wyrmling accepted defeat. He slowly backed away and the Wyrmling slithered upright.

The Wyrmling was dripping with blood, both his and Tristan's. It then redirected its gaze towards Tyler. It made a gesture of lowering its head showing acknowledgement towards him. The moment he did, the rest of the dragon kind followed suit. Tyler was now accepted by the dragons. They began to trickle away, back to the hidden depths where they had come from. Lastly, the Wyrmling slithered away, the only dragon kin left were the Fae dragons.

Lilly quickly ran up towards Tristan and looked over the wounds on the massive bear in front of her. Did he have accelerated healing too? She reached her hand up and rubbed his head that he lowered down to her.

"Do you heal quickly too?" Lilly looked into his autumn eyes with concern for the deep wounds he had suffered.

Lilly, don't worry so much. I'm a guardian... that means a few things. Yes, I also have accelerated healing. Yes, I have the ability to communicate with you and other fairy kind telepathically, including Tyler now.

"It must hurt so bad." Lilly frowned as she looked over his wounds again. The blood was oozing down, dripping onto the dirt. His dark luscious fur was damp with blood.

Tyler walked up and smiled. "Look at those wounds? I thought you were supposed to be some powerful guardian?" Tyler teased and Tristan grunted in response. "Next time don't play around so much, you had Lilly worried for no reason. She didn't understand that you were a cat playing with its mouse."

"So, you weren't in any danger?" Lilly looked up at Tristan staring into his eyes.

The bear snorted Not at all. Tristan answered with almost a laugh.

He told her not to worry, but she had anyways. Now she felt annoyed that she was worrying for nothing. She admitted it was her fault though for not understanding a guardian's capabilities. Though, to be honest, even after regaining her memories she didn't know much about them. What were their capabilities? And why were they guardians? They weren't fairies but had taken on the role as their guardians. What makes a guardian? If there were only three then it didn't mean that all werebears were guardians. There were a lot of questions that needed to be asked. She needed answers.

Then, there was also the issue with the evil after her. She remembered that her mother had said he was half werewolf and half demon. She did not know what he wanted though.

It really didn't matter. She was not about to give him what he was after, since he obviously had bad intentions. She knew he was dangerous and powerful, but so was she. She just had to learn more about herself and what she was capable of. She was the Alpha's daughter, the Luna of the Diamond pack and the future queen of the fairies. Oh yeah, world domination was at her fingertips.

Her mother was not a violent person by nature. This is why she never fought and engaged in battles. She was more defensive than offensive. Lilly was not like this, maybe it was her werewolf nature, or just who she was. Lilly and her wolf Kira had no problem fighting and killing if it was necessary. This demon might be strong be he had no idea who he was messing with. Lilly had strong bloodlines running through her veins. He was part werewolf, but from her knowledge not part of an Alpha line. This already would set him at a disadvantage, as far as the wolf side was concerned. What she didn't know about was demons. She had no idea how powerful they were, so that would be hard to guage.

"Tristan, what is your bears name?" Lilly finally asked after thinking about Kira.

She heard Tristan chuckle in her mind. Tristan. It is just me but in bear form. Your wolves are gifts from the moon goddess another consciousness that aids you, but still allows for you to be in control during both forms. Werebears are not like that. There is not another consciousness inside of us, it is just our mind in a different appearance.

“Oh I see...” Lilly looked over his wounds again and sighed. “I know you heal fast, but I’d still like to treat your wounds anyway. Let’s head back to the pack house. I think I’ve had enough meet and greet for one day.”

“Yeah, I agree. I need to digest this a bit.” Tyler was now opened up to a world that he only just realized existed. So many creatures that he thought had only existed in myths were actually very real. He did not feel overwhelmed or intimidated though. He felt excited, like a child again who believed in magic.

“I sent the pack members back to their homes. I told them that you would address the pack later. Obviously, they have a lot of concerns and questions as to what it means for their Alpha to also be part of the fairy world. You will need to reassure them that you are here for them still.” Kade walked up to Tyler, who sighed nodding his head.

Kade was right. He would need to address the pack and alleviate any worries or fears they may have. As far as he was concerned, this was a very good thing. He was now stronger and could see what he couldn’t before. This is only going to help their pack in the future, especially if he one day has a son who would automatically have these gifts, since he would be half fairy. His pack was now more powerful, and it was all thanks to Lilly.

“I will address the pack shortly.” Tyler then turned to Tristan. “Hey, next time a dragon monster comes for me let me fight him. I wouldn’t mind to go all out against one.”

“Uhhh there better not be a next time!” Lilly huffed and grabbed onto Tyler’s arm. “What is it with you men and wanting to flex your muscles?” Lilly asked as she pulled Tyler along.

“I swear Tristan next time don’t play around and just end it. I can’t take watching those types of drawn out fights.” Lilly turned and eyed Tristan as he followed behind them.

“Ah, one of those girls.” Kade said and Tristan grunted in response.

“What’s that supposed to mean?” Lilly raised her eyes and listened to Tyler chuckling at her.

“You’re the girl that when she watches a sport wants it to be a total blow out instead of a tight exciting game.” Kade said nonchalantly.

“... Yes, I guess that is exactly how I am.” Lilly shrugged. She was the type of person who wanted to know the outcome as soon as possible. If you had the power to win then

you should just do it instead of giving the other person (or team) false hope. "I mean if you don't go all in when others are watching then how do they know how good you are? You can say you are strong and that you were just trying to make it interesting, but how does anyone watching know that is the case? Making it that close just makes it look like you weren't as good as you said you were." Lilly turned and gave Tristan a cheeky grin. She was teasing him making it sound like he wasn't as tough as he claimed he was because of how long the fight took.

"You don't have enough bloodlust to enjoy the slow torture of toying with your prey. Watching them think they stand a chance to win and then to utterly crush them the moment you decide it is over." Tyler smiled knowing the feeling all too well.

Cheeky princess. Tristan said to both Lilly and Tyler in their minds.

Tyler turned his head and looked at him. "Wait a minute... you can mind link with me now too?! Nice. We should definitely get some sparring in. Now that I know we can mind link it is doable. It will be nice to have a challenge."

A challenge for you maybe... I'll still be playing the toying game. Tristan chuckled in their heads and Tyler let out a dark chuckle.

"We will see how well you can hang with this toy." Tyler may not win against a guardian, but he was no pushover. He couldn't wait to challenge himself and test out his new abilities.

"Not today though boys. Today is my movie night." Lilly grinned as she heard them both sigh defeatedly. "Tomorrow though. And I will join you."

Kade, Tyler and Tristan all stopped in their tracks and stared at Lilly.

"Not happening Lills." Tyler said with a half shrug.

Yeah, I don't want you getting hurt. Your mutt here is one thing, you are another one entirely.

"You guys must be joking right? I have a demon after me. I think it is best that I hone my skills. Yes, I am joining you and if any of you argue this with me, I am shutting you out for the rest of the day." Lilly folded her arms and walked away from the three.

You've got yourself a handful. That's for sure. Tristan clicked his tongue and smiled at the fiery young girl stomping away.

"Yea... but I wouldn't have her any other way." She was his and he was hers. He was not just drawn to her as his mate, but had fallen for her. Everything about her was amazing. It was time he let her know... that he loved her with his entirety.

