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Egyptian Shifters

TURQUOISE
EYE OF H👁 RUS

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Marisa Chenery

EROTIC ROMANCE



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TURQUOISE EYE OF HORUS

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PUBLISHER

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DEDICATION

To my family.

TURQUOISE EYE OF HORUS

Egyptian Shifters 1

MARISA CHENERY

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Chapter 1

Codie Marks was hopelessly lost. Just thinking about it sent a shiver of unease running down her spine. Being lost in Egypt's Wadi el Gemal National Park, in the Eastern Desert, could not in any way be considered an ideal situation for a lone Canadian woman to be in.

She had planned this trip for months. She had scrimped and saved every extra penny she made as a secretary to pay for this vacation. It had seemed as if she'd thought of everything when she had mapped out her trip to Wadi el Gemal. She decided to spend one week at the national park's Eco-lodge, a tented camp set up in the heart of the park. She would go on guided tours through the desert, and maybe see some of the many sooty falcons that lived there. Getting lost in the middle of a desert had not been on her list of things to do while in Egypt.

Hefting her backpack higher up on her shoulders, Codie turned in a circle hoping to find some sign of the tour she had been with. A freak sand storm had blown up suddenly, causing her to become separated from the rest of the group. But Codie saw only sandy desert as far as the eye could see. She knew she was in trouble. "This is so not good." Feeling herself starting to panic, she reached up and wrapped her hand around the pendant she wore on her neck.

The pendant had been a gift from her grandmother when she turned thirteen. The pendant was a golden Eye of Horus. The eye in the center of it held a large turquoise—her birth stone. Codie never took it off. From the moment she had first put it on she'd felt that as long as she wore it, she would be protected. When she had done some research to find out what the Eye of Horus meant, Codie had not been surprised to learn the ancient Egyptians used it to protect against evil.

With a tight grip on her pendant, Codie felt some of her panic recede. She forced herself to keep her breathing even. "Calm down, Codie." Hyperventilating would not make her situation any better. She knew the tour guide would eventually notice her missing. When he did, a search party would be sent out for her. She couldn't have wandered that far into the desert. At least she hoped she hadn't.

Codie took stock of her situation. She had been wandering on her own for at least an hour before she'd finally admitted she was lost. She found herself out in the open with the sun beating down on her, but at night she knew the temperature would drop, becoming quite cold. There could be a slim chance she wouldn't be rescued before night fell. If that happened, Codie didn't want to be stuck out in the open without any kind of shelter. She did have a sleeping bag with her backpack, but she didn't have a tent. She needed to find some kind of vegetation big enough to shade her from the sun's rays during the day, and offer her some kind of shelter at night. That left her only one option—she would have to start looking for such a place.

She knew she would be doing what all the experts said not to do when you got lost, but she didn't think she had any other option. Rubbing her thumb across the surface of the turquoise, Codie pulled her baseball cap lower on her forehead and started walking.

The day grew hotter. Thankfully she'd had the foresight to don a light-weight long-sleeved shirt and pants. Having natural auburn hair, she had the fair skin to go along with it. She would have already been burnt to a crisp if she had been in a tank top and shorts. As it stood now, she could feel her face slowly getting sunburned.

After another hour of walking, Codie found what she had been looking for. About sixty feet in front of her stood some kind of tall, shrubby tree that she had no name for. No other vegetation grew around the tree. It would have to do. She couldn't keep wandering around the desert. She already felt thirsty. Luckily she had put two large bottles of water in her backpack that morning before she had set out on the tour. If she rationed herself wisely, she should have enough water to last her for a day or so.

Once in the shade of the shrubby tree, Codie took off her backpack and took out one of the water bottles. She drank the water sparingly. Deciding to set up her 'camp', she untied her sleeping bag from her pack and placed it under the tree. She scanned the area, surprised to find a fair amount of deadwood littered on the ground. Having known how cold the desert got at night, Codie had made sure to bring a lighter with her even though she didn't smoke. With that and the deadwood, she'd be able to have a fire that night.

Collecting a pile of wood, Codie arranged it near her sleeping bag. With her 'camp' arranged, she could do nothing else but sit and wait.

The remaining hours of the day slowly ticked by. Whenever she felt herself starting to panic, Codie reached for her Eye of Horus pendant. With the turquoise nestled in the palm of her hand, she sent out a silent prayer that someone would find her. When night started to descend, she even sent out a prayer to the Egyptian god, Horus.

Just before it grew completely dark, Codie managed to start a small fire. Knowing she would have to wake up every few hours to add more wood to the fire, she crawled into her sleeping bag. The stress of the day had finally taken its toll. Codie's eyes started to flutter shut. Before sleep claimed her, she reached up to stroke the turquoise hanging around her neck. But as tired as she felt, she almost didn't notice the heat that radiated off the blue stone and seeped into her fingertips. Gripping the pendant in her hand, she drifted off to sleep.

* * * *

It had to be a dream. Codie stared around the luxurious room she found herself in. The walls had been painted in jewel tones with Egyptian hieroglyphs carved into the stone. Off to one side, a huge bed sat on top of a platform with sheer drapes surrounding it. A couple of smoking braziers gave off the scent of the incense that had been thrown onto the hot coals. Moving farther into the room, Codie let her gaze skip over the mound of brightly colored pillows thrown on the floor near one of the braziers. Not until she looked at the very back of the room did she draw up short. There sat a large throne-like chair placed upon a raised dais. And sitting on the chair sat a man quietly watching her.

When he stood and slowly walked toward her, Codie could only stand there and stare. He was like no other man she had ever encountered before. He looked as if he had stepped out of one of the ancient Egyptian pictures painted on the walls. He wore only a white linen kilt, which left most of his body bared. He was so muscular Codie could see the muscles bunching under his bronzed skin as he walked. Unable to look away, she dragged her eyes across the wide expanse of his chest and down to his well defined abs. Codie's mouth went dry. She always found herself to be attracted to muscular men, the bigger the muscles the more she wanted the man. Just looking at his half naked body caused her knees to go weak, and she hadn't even had a good look at his face yet.

Pulling her eyes back up his body, Codie looked up at his face as he came to stand in front of her. Her breath caught in her lungs. He had a face to match his body. Swallowing hard, she let her eyes skim over the hard planes and angles of his face. Taking him all in, she noted his shoulder length straight black hair and dark brown eyes. His firm lips were formed in a half smile. And he appeared to be tall, well over six feet, which was something else she liked in a man. Being five

foot ten, she rarely found herself in the position of having to look up at a man, as she had to do with this one.

Codie licked her dry lips. His eyes drifted down to her mouth and stayed there. “Hi.” When her voice broke, she cleared her throat and tried again. “Hi.”

“Hello.” He spoke in heavily accented English. Dragging his gaze up to her eyes, he asked, “You have need of me?”

Oh, she needed him all right. She’d be more than happy to have him in her bed taking care of her needs, all night long. He chuckled, almost as if he had read her thoughts. Codie tried to pull her mind out of the gutter, but she couldn’t completely manage it with that gorgeous male body in front of her. Her fingers itched to touch every inch of him, including what he had under his kilt. When he chuckled again, she forced herself to speak.

“I’m not sure. I know this is a dream, and that I’ve made this all up in my head.”

“Yes, this is a dream. You called me to you.”

“I did? I don’t even know who you are.” Without thinking about it, Codie reached up to touch her pendant. His eyes followed her movement.

“Yes, you did.” Brushing her fingers aside, he lifted the pendant away from her skin. “You wear my eye. You used the pendant to call me.”

“You’re Horus? The Egyptian god, Horus?” Now she knew for sure this all had to be a figment of her imagination. Her subconscious had created this other place to help her cope with the extreme situation she found herself in.

“I am. And you are?”

“Codie. My name is Codie.”

“It has been many years since a mortal has called out to me, intentionally or unintentionally.”

“It has?” Codie’s heart raced as he took another step closer to her. There was barely an inch between their bodies now. For a dream, her

mind had done a pretty good job of imagining what Horus would look like. It only seemed right that an Egyptian god would have a perfect face and body.

“Since you have called out for me, I assume there is an urgent need for my assistance.” Horus looked her suggestively up and down.

Codie’s insides turned to jelly. She knew exactly what he referred to—sex. That a man of his caliber could be interested in *that* way did a lot for her ego. Normally, in real life, guys like Horus wouldn’t give her the time of day. Her looks could only be called average, like most things about her. The only thing that made her stand out was her height.

She usually didn’t jump into the sack with a man she had met minutes before, but this was her dream and being such, she could do whatever she wanted with no reprisals. And right now, she found herself to be more than willing to have Horus take her to bed.

With more daring than the Codie in the real world would have had, she closed the remaining distance between them until the toes of her hiking boots touched his sandaled feet and placed a hand on his hard chest. “There is one need I think you’re more than capable of satisfying.”

Horus placed his large hand on top of her hand. “More than capable.” Leaning forward, he gently brushed her lips with his.

Letting her eyes drift close, Codie sighed when his lips returned to take full possession of her mouth. His firm lips moved over hers gently at first. His lips became more demanding only when she returned his kiss.

When his tongue licked along the seam of her mouth, Codie parted her lips for him. His tongue dueled with hers before he sucked her tongue into his mouth. Codie moaned. At the sound, Horus released her hand and wrapped his arms around her waist, pulling her up against his hard body. The hard length of his cock pressed against her belly. Clutching at his shoulders, she pressed even closer as an

ache began to build between her legs. Her pussy grew wet in anticipation of what was to come.

Horus left her mouth and trailed his lips along her jaw, down to the side of her neck. He licked and kissed his way farther down to the hollow of her throat. Holding her tight against him, he bent her slightly over his arm, giving himself better access to her breasts. He tongued her nipples through the material of her shirt. Her nipples pebbled beneath his tongue, and her breasts grew heavy. A gasp escaped her lips when Horus took a nipple between his teeth and gently tugged.

Even though Horus had fanned the flames of her desire ever higher, a sudden chill swept through Codie's body. Pulling Horus back up to her mouth, she pressed closer to him so their bodies touched from chest to thigh. The heat of his body soaked into hers, but it did nothing to stop her body from shivering with cold. Codie moaned, but not with desire. She felt too cold. Her body began to shiver uncontrollably.

Sensing something had to be wrong, Horus pulled away to look down at her. "What is the matter?"

"Cold. So very cold."

Even as she said the words, Codie felt herself slipping away from this dream world. Knowing she was going to wake up alone, lost in the desert, Codie let the fear she felt show in her eyes. Horus' brows drew together in concern. Desperately wanting to stay with him, she tried to keep her hold on him, but her fingers lost their solidity. With a whimper of anguish, the room fell away leaving nothing but darkness surrounding her.

Chapter 2

Her body wracked with chills, Codie woke with a start. The harsh reality of being lost and alone crashed in on her. Being held in Horus' warm arms one minute, even if it had been a dream, and then thrust back to her present circumstances, made what she had to endure that much worse.

Sitting up in her sleeping bag, Codie clenched her jaw so her teeth wouldn't chatter from the cold. "Well, crap," she said out loud to herself. She peered over at the small fire she had started before lying down to sleep. Only a few coals remained. Codie dragged herself out of her sleeping bag, and with fingers stiff from the cold, clumsily pushed some small twigs she had gathered earlier into the hot embers. Gently, she blew on them, forcing the twigs to ignite. Once flames greedily licked at them, she placed some larger pieces of wood onto the fire.

Now that she had the fire going again, she held her hands over its welcoming heat. She looked up at the sky. From the lightening of the sky she knew it had to be almost dawn. Somehow she had managed to survive her first night out in the desert.

Daring to sit as close as she could to the fire, Codie pulled a water bottle out of her backpack. She drained what remained from the day before. That left her with only one bottle of water. If a search party didn't find her today, Codie knew she would be in dire straits. Without water, her chances of survival would be next to nil.

* * * *

Horus let his arms drop back down to his sides now that he no longer held Codie in them. Her vanishing meant she had left her dreams and had returned to the mortal realm, much to his disappointment. His cock throbbed beneath the kilt he wore. Never before had a mortal woman aroused him so quickly, or so strongly.

Focusing intently inside himself, he searched the mortal realm for Codie. Something had to wrong. She may not have known what she had done when she had called out to him for help, but her doing so had not been done on a mere whim. The fear he had seen in her eyes before she had vanished had been all too real.

That she wore his turquoise eye around her neck made it easier to find her. He homed in on the stone, getting a clear picture of Codie inside his head. His body stiffened as he took in her surroundings. Connected to her through the stone, he could feel the fear she wouldn't allow to take hold of her. Touching her mind, Horus knew she was lost out in the desert, alone, with no food and a minimal amount of water. That she hadn't allowed herself to panic spoke volumes of her inner strength.

He wanted to go to her, but he knew he couldn't. If he appeared to her in the mortal realm, it would only draw the unwanted attention of his uncle. Seth and he had become enemies the day his uncle had killed and dismembered his father, Osiris. To this day they remained enemies, having fought a number of battles over the centuries. If Horus showed any sign of interest in Codie, in any way, Seth would try to use her against him.

As the sun slowly climbed higher in the sky, Horus tried to will Codie to sleep, the only time he could come to her, but she refused to give in. He easily read the worry she felt. She worried that if she slept, those who would come looking for her would miss seeing her.

By the time the sun rose to its hottest, Horus could no longer stand by and watch helplessly as Codie suffered. There had to be something special about this mortal woman that made him want to protect her as

if she belonged to him. Using the only option open to him, Horus embraced the falcon in him.

* * * *

The day continued to torment her. The heat coming off the sand rolled over Codie in hot waves, sucking all the moisture out of her. Dying of thirst, she wouldn't allow herself to drink the amount of water she would need to quench it. The few sips of water she had each time had been barely enough to wet her tongue.

Shading her eyes with her hand, Codie scanned the endless sea of sand. "Where can they be?" She couldn't understand why no one came for her. They surely had to have noticed her missing by now. She couldn't shake the feeling that someone, or something, purposely kept her out here in the desert.

She closed her eyes, wanting nothing more than to lie back down in her sleeping bag and go to sleep. She fought the urge. She needed to stay awake, to keep looking for any signs of a rescue party. She now knew why the local tribes did nothing during the hottest part of the day. The heat became almost unbearable. Just breathing felt like a chore. The heat, so intense it felt as if a heavy weight sat on her chest, didn't allow her to take a deep breath.

The cries of a falcon had Codie searching the sky, trying to catch a glimpse of it. When she spotted it, she watched in surprised as it set a course toward her. It circled above her twice before it landed on one of the branches of the tree she sat under. Craning her neck, Codie looked up at it.

It was a sooty falcon. A population of them could be found on Wadi El Gemal Island, so seeing one at the national park would not be much of a surprise. What really surprised her was seeing one so far out in the desert. The falcons usually kept to the rocky coast of the Red Sea.

The falcon hopped to the end of the branch it had perched on and stared back at her. From its size, Codie guessed it to be a male of the species. The females were larger than the males. She smiled up at it, welcome for this small distraction. "Hello, there." The falcon let out another cry, then jumped off the branch to land on the ground at Codie's feet.

Codie blinked in surprise. This had to be a wild falcon. It should have wanted to move farther away from her, not want to get closer. Slowly, to avoid startling it, she pulled her legs up and under her. She kept an eye on his sharp beak and talons. She didn't want to be on the receiving end of either of those. They could quite easily rip her skin to shreds.

Unbelievably, the falcon hopped even closer. He came so close Codie could reach out her hand and stroke the slate-grey feathers covering his chest. As that thought came to mind, Codie had the urge to do just that. Licking her dry, cracked lips, she cautiously held out her hand. Before her fingers made contact, the falcon hopped onto her outstretched arm.

Stunned, Codie froze. She had a wild falcon perched on her arm. She waited for his talons to dig into her wrist, but the falcon only gripped her lightly. Her arm soon grew tired of being held out for so long. Smoothly as she could manage, Codie pulled her arm back up against her side with her forearm still held out. The falcon stayed where he perched, unperturbed by the movement.

Codie shook her head and smiled. "Have you come to keep me company, or are you as lost in the desert as I am?" The falcon shifted on her arm and turned his head to stare at her. "You're obviously not afraid of humans. I wonder why."

Looking into the falcon's eyes, Codie thought she saw intelligence lurking in their depths. She shook her head. The heat must be getting to her if she thought the falcon had understood what she had said. But she wished he could. How much easier it would be to be able to tell

him to go and get help for her, instead of sitting here waiting for help to come to her.

As the minutes ticked by and the falcon didn't seem to have any interest in leaving, Codie decided he was more than welcome to stay with her. Needing to have some more water, she reached for her backpack one handed. She managed to unzip it and take out the water bottle, but with the falcon sitting on her arm it made it difficult for her to get the lid off. Shifting once again so that she now sat on her bottom, Codie held the bottle between her legs and twisted off the cap.

After taking a few small sips, she held the bottle up to see how much water remained. She had drunk over half the bottle. Codie turned to look at the falcon. It appeared as if he too peered at the water. She shook her head. "Sorry, my friend, but that's all I have. I can't give you any of it. There is barely enough there for me as it is. If you're thirsty, you'll have to go find some for yourself. Same goes for food. I haven't had anything to eat since early yesterday."

The falcon let out a cry before he launched himself in the air. Startled by his sudden leave-taking, Codie just about jumped out of her skin. She watched the falcon fly off until it appeared to be nothing more than a small speck in the sky. "Was it something I said?" she called after him.

The day grew later and Codie resigned herself to spending another night out in the desert. She gathered some more of the wood around her and got it ready to light once darkness fell. Her stomach rumbled, protesting the lack of food. Codie didn't know if she could survive another day out in the baking sun with no food and little to no water. It would be a matter of time before she broke down mentally. If only the falcon would come back. She hadn't felt so alone with him near her.

* * * *

Horus soared through the air, quickly winging his way to the Red Sea coast. Codie's plight could only be described as dire. She needed food and water if she hoped to survive many more days out in the desert. As an Egyptian god he didn't need neither food nor water, but he knew mortals needed both to sustain their lives.

Seeing the sparkling water of the sea ahead of him, Horus increased his speed. He flew over the water to a spot where it would be very deep. Hovering over it, he used his powers to call a fish to the surface. A true falcon didn't catch fish. They mostly ate insects and lizards, but Horus didn't think Codie would eat any of those things, no matter how hungry she became.

It didn't take long for a large fish to answer his summons. As it came to the surface, he snatched it out of the water with his sharp talons. Flapping his strong wings, he rose up into the air and used his sharp beak to kill the fish.

Darkness had slowly started to descend when he reached Codie's small camp. She sat before the fire she had built, staring forlornly at the flames. At his cry, she looked up and smiled brightly. He circled her once before he flew close to the fire and threw the fish into the hot coals at the very edge of it. Satisfied that Codie would easily be able to retrieve the fish after it cooked, Horus carefully landed on her shoulder. Codie tentatively reached up and stroked his chest.

"You came back, and you brought me a present as well. I'm beginning to think you're no ordinary falcon."

Horus rubbed his feathered head against her ear. For now, he would let her believe he was one of the many wild falcons in the area. When the fish had sat long enough in the coals to be fully cooked, he watched Codie drag it out and hungrily pull it apart with her bare hands to get at the meat. As she ate, he sent out his senses. There had to be something not right about this whole situation. He knew this area belonged to the national park. There should have been other mortals around, at the very least some of the local tribes should have been nearby, but there appeared to be no one else around. Searching

deeper, Horus stiffened. His senses picked up something that shouldn't have been there.

Something invisible, like a shield, surrounded Codie and her camp. The shield would be enough to physically stop others from coming near her, and for her to be overlooked, as if she really wasn't there. He picked up on a spell that had been added to the barrier, one that would make anything or anyone coming near it turn away before they got too close. The whole thing reeked of his uncle's handiwork. Seth had for some reason singled Codie out. Why he had done so, Horus could not say.

After Codie finished her meal, Horus hopped off her shoulder and fluttered to the ground. She placed more wood on the fire before she climbed into her sleeping bag. Once she fell into a deep sleep, he closed his eyes and joined her in her dream.

Chapter 3

She found herself back in the room she had dreamed of the night before. Everything about it appeared to be exactly the same, even down to having the god Horus who stood near the large platform bed seemingly waiting for her. Codie reached up and touched her pendant. He had said the last time that she had called him by using his eye. Codie didn't think she had done so this time. She had hoped she would see him in her dreams again just before sleep claimed her. That could be one reason why she found herself here once again.

Horus reached a hand out to her. "Codie, come to me."

The sound of his deep, accented voice saying her name sent shivers of awareness through her body. Codie crossed the distance between them and slipped her hand into his. Horus pulled her close, holding her tightly against him. Codie closed her eyes, savoring the feel of just being held. She needed this more than anything—the contact, the feel of someone wanting to hold her protectively.

He soon released her and pushed her to sit down on the bed. Horus then set to work removing her hiking boots and socks. Pulling her to her feet once again, he slowly stripped off her shirt and pants. His eyes greedily took in the sight of her standing only in her bra and panties. When he moved away and went to one of the smoking braziers, Codie wondered what Horus could be up to.

He picked up a large bowl. He soon returned to the bed and placed the bowl on the floor at their feet. Codie realized what Horus intended to do when she saw the steaming water in it. A lotus bloom floated on its surface, filling the air with its scent. Horus plucked out the cloth

that had been soaking in the water and wrung it out. Turning to her, he gently ran the wet cloth against her face.

Codie felt her body flare to life. She found the simple task of this man, this god, washing her face, to be highly erotic. Her pulse quickened as he slowly moved the cloth down her throat to her chest. He dipped the cloth back into the bowl and wrung it out before swiping it across her upper chest. He seemed to falter when he encountered her bra. She had a feeling he wanted to remove it, but didn't have any idea how to go about it. Codie took matters into her own hands. Reaching behind her, she quickly unhooked her bra and let it drop to the floor.

Horus wiped the wet cloth over both her breasts. Her nipples tightened into buds, begging for attention. Codie wanted to feel his mouth on her skin, but he frustratingly continued to touch her only with the cloth.

He thoroughly washed each of her arms before he once again focused his attention back to her breasts. Codie took her bottom lip between her teeth as Horus bent and swirled his tongue around each tight peak. She tried to press her body closer to him, but he didn't allow it.

"Let me do this first for you, Codie. It will make you feel better. Lie down on the bed."

Codie did as he asked. Horus dipped the cloth back into the bowl and continued to wash her. It did feel good, but Codie wanted more. As the cloth moved across her ribcage and down to her stomach, she clutched at the sheets beneath her. Goose bumps broke out along her skin when Horus blew across her damp flesh.

At her hips, Horus shifted the cloth to wipe one of her legs. Codie barely suppressed a groan of frustration. He looked up at her and smiled knowingly before turning back to run the cloth over her other leg. Once he finished with her legs, he urged her over onto her stomach.

Pushing her hair aside, he washed her back and the back of her legs. At the feel of the cloth being run along the inside of her thighs, Codie held her breath, waiting for Horus to touch her in the most intimate of places. She gasped as his knuckles brushed up against her hot opening.

Having finished the task at hand, Horus dropped the cloth back into the bowl and had Codie turn over onto her back. He stared down at her with longing in his eyes. Codie reached up, wrapped her hand around the back of his neck and pulled him to her.

Aroused from his ministrations with the cloth, Codie pressed her lips to his. Slanting her mouth over his, she kissed him deeply. Still kissing her, Horus shifted until he lay on his side next to her. Codie moaned into his mouth as one of his large hands covered her breast.

Horus increased the pressure of his lips and used his tongue to urge her to open for him. Parting her lips, she moved her hands to his wide shoulders, holding him close. He stroked the inside of her mouth, thoroughly tasting her. In response, her pussy pulsed with need.

Dragging his lips from hers, he moved them down along her jaw to her throat. As he pressed against her, Codie felt the hard length of his cock against her hip. He continued downward. Cupping her breast, he lifted it to his mouth. With the tip of his tongue, he flicked it a couple of times against her nipple before he sucked it deep inside his mouth. Codie moaned again.

Moving to her other breast, Horus stroked his hand down across her flat stomach. He pushed his hand under the waistband of her panties, then delved deeper. Using a finger he stroked her clit before he pushed it slowly into her wet opening. Codie arched her hips. Squeezing down on his finger, she rode it as he moved it in and out of her.

Claiming her lips in a searing kiss, Horus removed his finger, took hold of the top of her panties and pulled them all the way off. Codie could no longer hold herself back from touching him. Shifting so she

lay on her side, she reached between them and stroked his cock through the material of his kilt. It jumped beneath her fingers.

Horus lifted himself slightly away from her as he made short work of removing his kilt and the loincloth he wore beneath it. Now completely naked as she, he took her hand and led it to his fully erect cock. He groaned when Codie wrapped her fingers around his thick shaft and squeezed him.

Codie stroked her hand up and down him, moaning at the thought of how good it would feel to have his hard length buried deep inside her. Wetness pooled between her legs. She ached to have him possess her.

Horus soon pulled her hand away and rolled her onto her back. Releasing her mouth, he slid down the length of her body, placing kisses across her stomach and hips as he went. Using his upper body, he spread her legs further apart, exposing her slick opening to his view. Cupping her bottom in his hands, he lifted her to him and licked her pussy with the flat of his tongue.

Codie let her eyes fall shut as he licked and sucked. Moaning, she rocked her hips into him as he alternated between flicking her clit with his tongue and sucking on it. Not until he pushed two of his fingers inside her, moving them in and out as he sucked on her clit, did Codie feel the pressure build inside her. She knew she couldn't take much more of this without climaxing. But she didn't want to come this way. She wanted him inside her when she found her release.

Yanking on Horus' hair, she pulled him back up her body. Threading her fingers through his black hair, she kissed him passionately. With her free hand, she took hold of his hard cock and led it to the opening of her body. Horus rubbed the head of it against her, coating himself with her juices. Then inch by slow inch, he pushed inside her. They both moaned once he had completely sheathed himself to the hilt.

Codie luxuriated in the feel of him stretching her, filling her to capacity. It felt so good. Then he moved inside her and she forgot to breath. Pressing the flat of her feet on the mattress, she matched his strokes. He pumped into her slowly at first, until he had her clawing at his back.

Increasing his pace, Horus placed his hands beneath her, and angled her hips so his hard shaft rubbed her clit with each stroke. Codie clutched at him as she squeezed her inner muscles around him. She could feel her release inching ever closer.

Horus rode her faster, and she felt his cock grow even harder. She whimpered as her release crashed through her. Horus continued to move inside her as her body rhythmically squeezed his thick length. When her body started to come back down to earth, he pumped his hips into her twice before he found his own release. His cock pulsed deep inside her, filling her with his cum.

Keeping their bodies joined, Horus rolled them to their sides. He pulled Codie close and kissed her sweaty forehead. "You are mine now."

Codie snuggled close, but now that they were no longer making love, she felt a chill come over body. Not wanting to leave Horus, she looked up at him. "I feel the cold. The fire must be out. I don't want this dream to end. What if I can't come back?"

Horus stroked the side of her face. "You will come back to me." He placed his hand on the turquoise eye she wore around her neck. "As long as you wear this, I can find you. Don't fear, Codie, you aren't alone. Whenever you sleep I'll be here waiting for you."

She could feel herself slipping away. She quickly pressed her lips to his, hoping that what Horus said wouldn't turn out to be untrue. That she could return to him whenever she slept. He had become her lifeline now. If she lost him, she didn't know what she would do.

* * * *

After Codie disappeared, Horus let out a groan of frustration. He wanted her still. The one time had not satisfied his longing for her. He wanted her here, lying in the bed next to him as she pressed her naked body to his. He could still taste her on his tongue, and smell her scent on his body. Yes, his turquoise eye tied them together, but it was much more than that. Codie completed him. Making love to her had proved how right it felt to have her in his arms, their bodies joined as one.

Horus quickly rolled off the bed. It didn't take him long to don his loin cloth and kilt. He needed to return to Codie in his falcon form. If Seth did have plans for Codie, he didn't want her to be alone. He had claimed her as his. He couldn't allow his uncle to have her.

Chapter 4

Codie drank what remained of her water. It hadn't been enough. She knew she was getting severely dehydrated. Her tongue felt thick and her lips had cracked. She could barely work up enough saliva to swallow.

Placing the empty water bottle back in her pack, Codie went and lay down on her sleeping bag. She had given up hope of ever being found. She briefly thought of trying to find her own way out of the desert, but quickly decided against it. With no water, being out in the open would be a sure way to die. Besides that, she felt too weak to even try. The lack of water had made her lethargic.

She scanned the skies. The falcon had been gone when she had awakened. She'd had to fight back the tears that threatened to spill over when she noticed he had left her. Crying over a bird would not do her any good. Nor would losing what moisture she had left in her body by shedding useless tears. Codie closed her eyes and held onto her pendant. She wanted to sleep, to return to her dream lover, but sleep eluded her. Instead, she whispered Horus' name, wishing he was as real as the Horus she had made love to while asleep. If he were a real god and not part of her delusional fantasy, he certainly would have been able to get her out of the desert.

The cry of a falcon had her quickly trying to sit up. Not wanting to get her hopes up that it would be her falcon, as she had come to think of him, Codie shaded her eyes and watched a dark spot move ever closer. Seeing that it indeed appeared to be the same falcon, and that he had brought her another fish, she squashed the tears of relief that burned behind her eyes.

The falcon swooped in and dropped the fish so it landed on the ground next to her. He circled back and came to land close to where she sat. Codie reached out her arm and smiled as he hopped up onto it.

With the back of her hand, she stroked the feathers on his chest. “So that’s where you have been. You went fishing for me again.” Almost as if he understood her, the falcon bobbed his head at her. Codie smiled.

Turning to look at the large fish, she debated whether or not to relight the fire. She didn’t like to eat sushi, but with her wood supply so low, she really didn’t have much choice in the matter. She had been snapping off branches of the tree that she used for shelter. She couldn’t afford to lose its shade.

With a gulp, Codie brought the fish closer to her. Luckily for her, the falcon had already killed it. Reaching into her pack, she pulled out the multi-tool she had brought with her. After watching a few survival type shows, and seeing how it had helped the survivors in many ways, she had gone out and picked one up. Also from watching one of those shows she had learned that eating raw fish helped replace some of the moisture in one’s body. It seemed all well and good to know that information, but actually having to eat the raw fish would be another matter entirely.

Flipping open the knife in the multi-tool, Codie slowly cut a slit down the fish’s belly. As she worked, the falcon moved to perch on her shoulder. Trying not to gag, she pulled out the guts. She threw them away from her, to be buried in the sand as she had done with the remnants of the fish from the day before. Once she cut one side of the fish off, she cut a small section away. Before she could really think about what she would be eating, Codie popped the raw fish into her mouth and chewed as quickly as she could. It took her a couple of tries to get it all down, but at least it stayed down.

She managed to just about finish a quarter of the fish before her stomach started to rebel. Not wanting to throw up the much needed

nourishment, Codie set the fish aside. She didn't know what to do with the rest of it. Thinking maybe the falcon would eat what remained, she cut a piece from it and offered it to the bird. Not interested in the food, he turned his head away.

With a shrug, she said, "At least you can afford to be picky." Codie set about clearing away the mess. Once finished, she used sand and charcoal to clean the fish from her hands. The falcon screamed, hopped off her shoulder and then suddenly took to the air. Wondering what had upset him, Codie looked in the direction the falcon had flown. In the distance, she could see what looked like a brown wave headed in her direction. It took a few minutes for her brain to process what she looked at. Another sand storm had moved in.

The falcon dive bombed her, pushing her back toward her sleeping bag. Realizing the sleeping bag would be the only cover available to her, Codie quickly got into it and zipped it around her. Scrunching down until it covered her head, she pulled the ends in. She heard the falcon cry again seconds before the sand storm hit. Lying, listening to the wind howling around her, Codie hoped the falcon had managed to fly away in time.

Codie lost all track of time. She had no idea how long the sand storm lasted. When the wind finally subsided and she no longer felt the sand buffeting her, she slowly pulled the sleeping bag away from her head. The sight that met her eyes made her want to cry. The sand had torn through her camp obliterating everything in its path. The tree, her only respite from the sun's burning rays, had taken the most damage. Most of its branches had been ripped away, leaving her exposed.

Disheartened, Codie pulled the sleeping bag back over her head. Defeated, she touched the turquoise around her neck and willed herself to sleep.

* * * *

Horus sensed the instant Codie fell asleep. In mid-flight, he willed himself to her. She stood in the middle of his chamber looking lost and forlorn. The sand storm had taken its toll on her. His temper flared. He fisted his hands at his sides. As soon as the storm hit, he had known it had been his uncle's handiwork. Somehow Seth must have realized he had come to help Codie in his falcon form. Horus quickly pushed back his anger when Codie turned to face him. At the sight of a lone tear streaking down her cheek, he held open his arms to her. She quickly crossed the distance between them and threw herself at him.

She held him tightly, almost as if she were afraid to let him go. "I can't do this anymore, Horus. It's too much. I don't want to ever wake up."

Taking her by the arms, Horus pulled Codie away from him so he could look in her eyes. "Don't say that. You must not give up hope. You will survive this."

"How can I? It's all gone. I don't have any more water. The sand storm took away the only shade I had. I'm going to roast out in the sun. Please. I just want to stay here with you."

Horus felt Codie slipping away. Not back to the mortal realm, but to the place that would only lead to her death. Knowing of one way to keep her here with him, he pulled her up against him and claimed her lips in a searing kiss. He poured all that he felt for her into it. Knowing how easily he could lose her, he knew he could never let her go. He loved her as he had never loved anything in his very long life. She made him feel things he had never felt before. She would survive this, and once she returned to safety, he'd come to her and claim her as his mate in the real world.

He scooped her up in his arms and carried her to the bed. Placing her on it, he followed her down so he lay half on top of her. Continuing to kiss her, he urged her lips apart needing to taste her. She moaned into his mouth, telling as nothing else would that she had completely returned to him.

Not having the patience to do it the mortal way, Horus willed their clothes away. The feel of her naked skin pressed to him sent his senses reeling. Cupping her full breast in his hand, he left her mouth and flicked his tongue against her taut nipple. Codie moaned again as she clutched at his shoulders. He tongued her nipple again and then sucked it deep inside his mouth. Codie threaded her fingers through his hair, holding him to her as he sucked at her breast.

Releasing her nipple, Horus dragged his tongue up her chest to her chin, nipping it with his teeth. "Touch me, Codie. I need to feel your hands on my body."

Codie traced a finger along his lips. "I want to touch you. Just the thought of having you on your back, letting me have my way with you turns me on like nothing else. I didn't get a chance the last time."

His cock jumped at the thought of having Codie on top of him as she ran her mouth and tongue over every inch of his body. Rolling onto his back, he pulled her so she lay sprawled atop him. "Now's your chance to torture me with that sweet tasting mouth of yours."

A small smile played on Codie's lips. "Oh, I intend to do just that."

Sitting up so she straddled his hips, Codie traced the muscles of his chest with heavy lidded eyes. She had thrown her long auburn hair back over her shoulders, giving him an unobstructed view of her full breasts. He circled her rose hued nipples with the tip of his finger. Codie pushed his hand away.

"You're not going to distract me. I haven't even begun yet."

Codie leaned forward and placed small kisses across the width of his chest. When she reached his male flat nipples, she dragged the flat of her tongue across them. Then with maddening slowness, she inched lower down on his body. She pressed her lips to his skin, flicking her tongue against it. The lower she went the more his cock throbbed.

At the first touch of her fingers on his hard cock, Horus groaned. It felt like torture. He resisted the urge to flip Codie onto her back and

ram into her welcoming heat. He could tell she enjoyed what she did to him. He didn't want to take that pleasure away from her.

Gently she dragged her nails up his full length. At the tip, she used her finger to rub the bead of moisture she found there into his skin. She licked her lips, took a firm hold of his cock, and bent to circle the head with her tongue. Horus moaned. The feel of her mouth on him, pleasuring him, almost became too much. The feeling increased when Codie opened her mouth and took as much of his cock into her mouth as she could manage. He flexed his hips as she alternated between sucking and swirling her tongue around the head of his cock.

Just before he reached the point of no return, Horus tugged at Codie's arm. Knowing what he wanted, she released him and shifted so his cock nestled against her dripping pussy. She shifted again and positioned herself. When she had him where she wanted him, she slowly pushed down, impaling herself on his hard shaft.

With her bottom lip between her teeth, Codie sat up and slowly started to ride him. Finding her pace, she arched her hips as she slid up and down his thick shaft. In this position, he was buried so deeply inside her the head of his cock hit her womb with each stroke in. Her strong inner muscles clutched around him, squeezing him. Her breasts bounced slightly as she moved on him.

Horus felt his climax build, but he wanted Codie to come first. Placing a finger where their two bodies joined together, he rubbed her clit. Codie's movements grew jerky. Soon a keening moan slipped past her lips as her orgasm took her over. With her body clutching at his, Horus could no longer hold back his release. With a firm hold on Codie's hips, he held her steady as he rammed up into her. As an intense orgasm tore through him, he arched up into her, almost lifting her off the bed.

Codie collapsed on top of him. Horus wrapped his arms around her, holding her close. Slowly their breathing returned to normal. He gently pushed her hair away from her face. Codie turned her head and

placed a kiss on his chest. She propped her chin on it so she could look up at him.

“I don’t want to go back, Horus. It feels too good to be here like this with you.”

“I’d like nothing more than for you to stay here with me, Codie, but you must return. You are my mate. I won’t give you up without a fight. I will not allow death to take you from me.”

“I want to be your mate. But no one has found me and my time is running out. Why haven’t they found me?”

Before Horus could answer her, he stiffened beneath her. Something felt wrong. He sucked in a breath as an image flashed inside his head. Taking Codie’s face between both his hands, he stared into her eyes. “You have to wake up now, Codie. When you do, don’t move until I come to you. Do you understand?”

Codie nodded her head. Hoping she would do as he had asked, Horus gave her a mental push that would send her back to her body and wakefulness.

Chapter 5

Suddenly awake, Codie found herself back in the stifling confines of her sleeping bag. Drenched in sweat, she felt as if she couldn't get enough oxygen. Even though in her dream Horus had told her not to move, Codie needed air. Not really knowing why Horus would have wanted her to remain still, she slowly pushed her head out of the sleeping bag. The instant her head cleared the top of the bag, she froze.

Not a foot away from where she lay sat a sand viper, coiled, ready to strike. Taking shallow breaths, so as not to cause the viper to strike, Codie stared at it in horror. The sand viper was one of the most poisonous snakes in Egypt. She felt pretty sure one bite from it would be enough to kill.

The viper's tongue flicked in and out, scenting the air. Her muscles clenched from the effort it took not to move. Her brain screamed at her to run, but she knew that would be the worst thing to do. Horus had said to wait for him to come to her before he had sent her back. Realistically, Codie didn't think she had a chance in hell of having a real Egyptian god come to her rescue. She only hoped if she stayed still long enough the viper would lose interest in her and be on its way.

When the viper coiled its body tighter, Codie knew her luck had run out. Just as she expected the viper to strike, her falcon swooped down and snatched it up in his sharp talons. Dropping to the sand a short distance away, he jabbed his sharp beak through the snake's head, killing it instantly.

Codie unzipped her sleeping bag and sat up. The falcon picked the dead snake up in its beak and threw it away. She watched it hop toward her. He had swooped out of the sky, honing directly on the snake. Codie realized this couldn't be an ordinary falcon.

It couldn't be a coincidence that she wore the Eye of Horus around her neck, and that a falcon had come to her in her time of need. Nor the fact that every time she slept she had dreams of Horus, and erotic ones at that. In ancient Egyptian art Horus was represented as a falcon-headed god, or just as a falcon. Could this falcon really be *the* Horus?

Codie studied the falcon as he came and hopped up onto her outstretched arm. "Horus?" she whispered. The falcon cocked his head to the side and stared back at her. Codie shook her head at her foolishness. This had to be a wild sooty falcon, one that for some reason had attached himself to her. He probably sensed she needed help. Wild dolphins had been documented helping survivors whose ships had sunk in the ocean. And reportedly, some of those dolphins even managed to drive away sharks before they could attack the people they protected. The falcon had to have done the same thing for her when he killed the sand viper.

The day wore on. Her thirst grew more intense as the hours ticked by. Without the tree's shade, the heat felt that much worse. Her baseball cap did little to block the sun's rays. Codie wanted nothing more than to lie back and go to sleep, but each time she tried to do just that, the falcon would scream in warning. The first time he did it, she thought another sand viper had once again found her. She searched the camp frantically, only to realize there was nothing there. The third time she had tried to sleep, the falcon screamed the instant her head hit her sleeping bag. It dawned on Codie that he did it on purpose to keep her awake.

By late afternoon, Codie started to feel really ill. She felt pretty sure she was near to having sun stroke, if she didn't already have it.

Even though it was extremely hot, her body was wracked with chills. She found it hard to think straight.

The falcon had at one point moved off her arm and sat on the sleeping bag next to her. Not once had he left her side, not even when the sun burned at its hottest and he could have gone to find some respite from the heat. Unable to focus her thoughts in her muddled brain, Codie's head bobbed as she grew more lethargic. The falcon screamed. This time when she looked over at him to tell him he annoyed her each time he did that, she surprisingly found him not looking at her but at something in the distance. Trying to focus her eyes, Codie searched the sand to see what had caught the falcon's attention.

At first she couldn't see anything. Slowly, she focused her eyes on what looked like a small funnel of whirling sand. Shading her eyes to get an even better look, she didn't think it could be another sand storm brewing. It seemed too small and too compact. She watched as it came ever closer. "Oh, shit." The falcon hopped off the sleeping bag and moved until he positioned himself in front of her at her feet.

Once the swirling funnel of sand arrived, it stopped in the middle of her camp. Unbelievably, it stayed in one spot as it hovered a few inches above the ground. The falcon spread his wings, almost as if he wanted to hold the funnel back and would not allow it to come near her. In reaction, the sand funnel started to change. It grew taller as the sand slowly dropped to the ground. Slowly, the shape of a man began to appear inside the swirling sand. Codie rubbed her eyes, thinking they had to be playing a trick on her. But the longer she looked, the more the man took shape, taking on solidity bit by bit until he stood tall and strong before her.

Codie stared. The man looked like an ancient Egyptian, dressed in a similar fashion as Horus had been in her dreams. He wore nothing but a pristine white linen kilt. Letting her eyes travel up his body, she noted he was just as muscular as Horus. At his face the similarities ended. He would be considered good looking, but he had a cruel look

about him. His dark brown eyes stared down at her. He had to be able to see how much of a dire situation she found herself in, but from the satisfied smile he wore, she could tell it thrilled him to see her in such a condition.

She jumped as he threw back his head and laughed. He then stared down at the falcon. “Well, well, isn’t this a nice surprise. Actually it isn’t that much of a surprise. I knew when I first saw her, and saw that she wore your eye around her neck, that you wouldn’t be able to resist her. But this has worked out far better than I thought it would. How has it felt to watch the one you have sought to protect slowly waste away and not be able to do anything to save her, Horus? I know I’ve enjoyed watching your pathetic attempts to keep her alive.”

Codie sucked in a breath. He had called her falcon Horus. She so very much wanted it to be the truth. She held her breath as the falcon’s image wavered. Then, in a matter of seconds, the Horus from her dreams stood in the falcon’s place. He stood with his back to her as he faced down the other man.

“I won’t allow you to harm her, Seth. She is mine.”

Codie’s mind was reeling. *Horus was real?* Even though her mind had a hard time accepting that he was real, she couldn’t discount the fact that he stood in front of her, or the fact that his uncle, Seth, stood there as well. But then again, it could all be a hallucination.

“You’ve claimed a mortal as your mate? Hmm, that changes a few of the plans I had for the woman. I think now instead of ending her pathetic life, I’ll take her from you instead.”

“That, I will never allow.” Out of thin air, a sword appeared in Horus’ hand. “You won’t win this time.”

Seth smiled as a sword similar to the one Horus held, appeared in his hand. “We shall see who the victor is, Horus.”

Codie scooted away from the two men as their swords clanged together. They both moved with lethal grace, both intent on doing the most damage to the other. Forgotten, she could only watch silently and hope Horus ended up the winner. If she ended up being in Seth’s

clutches, she had a feeling things would be far worse for her than what she had been dealing with for the last few days.

The men parried and thrust. The sounds of their clashing swords filled the air. They seemed to be equally matched in strength and skill. When it seemed neither one would gain the upper hand, Horus blocked Seth's sword and rammed his body into his uncle. Horus grappled Seth to the ground, pinning him there as he held the tip of his sword against Seth's throat.

"Surrender. It's over, Seth. Remove the spell you placed around Codie that has kept her trapped here," Horus growled at his uncle. "Now this can work either of two ways. You can remove the spell now or I can take your head, ensuring Codie's safety." Horus moved the tip of his sword to one of Seth's eyes. "Or better yet, I can return the favor and take your eye as you took mine."

Codie held her breath. She knew exactly what Horus meant by returning the favor. According to ancient Egyptian myth, Seth had killed and dismembered Horus' father, Osiris, wanting to claim the Egyptian throne for his own. Wanting revenge, Horus challenged his uncle to a fight. During the ensuing battle, Seth tore out one of Horus' eyes. After the fight, Thot, the moon god, returned and healed Horus' eye. The symbol of the Eye of Horus came to be after Horus had lost his eye.

Seth snarled up at his nephew. "You win this time. I've removed the spell, but let's see if you can still save your mate."

Seth waved a hand in Codie's direction. Pain tore through her body. The chills that wracked her body increased tenfold. Dizziness assailed her. No longer able to remain upright, she sank down onto her sleeping bag. Before darkness rose up to claim her, Codie reached out to Horus and whispered his name.

* * * *

Horus quickly spun around to look at Codie. The moment he removed his attention from his uncle, Seth disappeared. Horus quickly checked to make sure Seth had indeed removed his spell as he rushed to Codie's side. Thankfully, he could no longer detect it.

Lifting Codie up in his arms, Horus felt her shake uncontrollably. He could also feel her life slipping away. Sending his senses out, he searched until he found the rescue party that had been looking for Codie since she'd become separated from her tour group. He sent them a mental push to come as quickly as they could.

When the rescuers were almost upon them, Horus laid Codie back down onto the sleeping bag. He didn't want to leave her there, but he wanted her to return to her old life before he took the final step that would well and truly make her his mate. He had to allow her to make the final decision of her own freewill.

Placing a kiss on Codie's fevered brow, Horus quietly promised her he would return to her very soon. He disappeared as the rescue party came into sight in the distance.

Chapter 6

Codie woke up a day later in a hospital bed. She didn't feel completely like her old self, but she knew it would only be a matter of time before she did now that she had been taken out of the desert. The doctor had told her she'd been lucky. If the search party hadn't found her when they had, she would have been dead in a matter of hours.

She really didn't remember much about being found by the search party. Her memory of it blurred together. They had barely managed to rouse her enough to get some much needed water into her before they headed out of the desert. That was about all she could recall.

Now awake and hooked up to an IV, she slowly felt her strength returning. And with it came uncertainties. Her dreams had seemed so real, as had seeing Horus coming to defend her that last day she had been lost. She so much wanted to believe it hadn't all been a product of her imagination. She didn't want to think she had fallen in love with a man her brain had made up. But she had to admit that near the end there, with her body failing and wracked with fever, she could have been hallucinating when the battle between Horus and Seth took place.

She didn't want to face reality, to discover Horus did not exist. Codie debated whether or not to try using her pendant to call him as she had supposedly done when she'd first seen him. But in the end, she couldn't take the not knowing. Waiting until she was alone in her hospital room, Codie clutched her turquoise Eye of Horus pendant in her hand and closed her eyes. She focused her mind on the image of the Horus who had walked into her dreams as she called out to him. Nothing happened. The turquoise stone in the middle of the eye

remained cool. That was it then. It hadn't been real. Feeling as if she had just lost the only man she would ever love, Codie swiped at the lone tear that slid down her cheek.

Two days later, the doctor informed her she had fully recovered and could go home. Codie felt happy to be released from the hospital, but she knew she couldn't return to the national park. One of the staff there had kindly packed up her belongings and had brought them to her, so she really had no reason to return there.

Before she left the hospital, Codie phoned the airport. She still had one more day left before she had to catch her flight back home to Canada, but she wanted to go home now. Surprisingly, she found it an easy task to have her flight changed to one that left later that very day. She had been prepared to give the whole sob story of her being lost in the desert for days if the airline had refused to change her flight. But that hadn't been necessary. Once she told the woman on the phone her name, the woman had known right away what had happened to her. Apparently her story had been all over the news. Codie felt glad that she didn't have any family left alive. They would have been worried sick about her.

Codie found the trip back to Toronto, Ontario, Canada to be a rough one. Though she'd seemingly had recovered from her ordeal in the desert, she found she grew tired more easily. By the time she reached her apartment all she wanted to do was sleep.

After spending another night without seeing Horus in her dreams, Codie took a long hot shower before rummaging in her kitchen to find something to eat for breakfast. Before leaving to go on her holiday in Egypt she had pretty much cleaned out her fridge, leaving only the things that wouldn't go bad in her absence. That left her choices pretty limited. In the end, she decided to only have tea, which she had to drink plain since she had no milk to put in it.

Once the kettle boiled and the tea sat steeping in the teapot, she went into her small living room and turned on the television. She

pulled open the curtains to the sliding glass doors that lead to her balcony and sat down on the couch.

Flipping through the channels, she grimaced as she caught the tail end of a news story about her rescue in Egypt. She continued to change the channel until she found a cooking show. She didn't normally watch television during the day. Talk shows were not her thing, so the cooking show would have to do.

At first she thought her mind played tricks on her. She heard the cry of a falcon coming from outside her balcony door. But when Codie heard it a second time, she knew she had to look. Crossing the short distance to the balcony door, she looked through the glass. She blinked, then rubbed her eyes and blinked again. Perched on the railing of her balcony sat a sooty falcon. As far as she knew Toronto didn't have any sooty falcons.

Slowly, she unlocked the sliding door and pushed it open. The falcon remained where it perched as it eyed her. Codie slid opened the screen door about to step out onto the balcony when the falcon jumped off the railing and flew past her into her apartment.

Swinging back around, Codie found the falcon calmly standing in the middle of her living room staring at her. Codie shook her head. "Oh, no you don't. You can't stay here. Out you go." She pushed the screen door open wider, hoping the falcon would take the hint and leave. She didn't want to chase the poor thing out of her apartment.

When the falcon didn't as much as move, Codie took a step toward it. She quickly drew up short as the falcon's image started to shift and change. Codie sucked in a deep breath as she watched her dream Horus take the falcon's place. She shook her head, not daring to believe he could actually be there in her apartment. Breathing rapidly, she backed away and closed the glass balcony door as she pulled the curtains shut. If she was going to have a break down, she didn't want the whole world to see. Not that anyone would have seen considering she lived on the sixteenth floor of her apartment building.

Horus smiled at her and held out his hand. "Come to me, Codie?"

Codie shook her head. The air rasped in and out of her lungs as she started to breathe rapidly. "You're not real. I know you aren't real. I made you up. All the time spent out in the hot sun must have fried my brain."

"I'm real, Codie. As real as everything that happened out in the desert. Touch me and you'll know I'm not a figment of your imagination."

"Okay."

Codie took a tentative step toward Horus. If she touched him and he disappeared, she would know she had a screw loose in her head. If she touched him and he was real...She didn't let her mind go down that road just yet.

Taking the last remaining steps that brought her to stand before him, she could feel herself starting to hyperventilate. Codie took a deep breath trying to slow down her breathing. It didn't do any good. Still she hesitated. Horus shook his head at her reluctance, grabbed her hand and placed it on his chest.

At the feel of his heart thumping beneath her hand, Codie really began to lose control. "Oh, god, oh, god. You're real."

Horus pulled her into his arms and pressed her face to his chest. "It's okay, Codie. Breathe."

Codie pressed herself closer to Horus. "I thought I would never see you again. I so much wanted you to be real. When I tried calling to you while in the hospital and you didn't come, I thought for sure I made you up."

Placing a finger under her chin, Horus tipped her head back. "I heard you call to me, but I wanted to give you the time to recover from your ordeal. I'm sorry if I made you think I did not hear you. You're my mate. I will never leave you. I love you."

Codie felt all the air leave her lungs in a whoosh at Horus' confession. "Then why didn't you come to me?"

"I wanted you better before you had to make the decision of whether you would want to be my mate or not."

“Of course I want to be...”

Horus placed a finger against her lips before she could finish her sentence. “This is a decision you cannot make lightly, Codie. I want you as a true mate. You would have to give up your life in the mortal realm. Your friends, your family. I’d make you an immortal as I am. I could never let you go once you chose to live with me as my mate.”

Codie pulled Horus’ finger away. “I want to be your mate, Horus. I love you, more than I’ve loved anyone else. I have no family. They’re all gone. I was raised by my grandmother, and she died years ago. All I have is you.”

With a groan, Horus bent his head and claimed Codie’s lips in a searing kiss. She clung to him, desperately kissing him back. As their clothes disappeared, Codie yanked on his thick black hair and practically climbed up Horus’ body, needing him inside her. When the floor rose up to meet her and Horus came down on top of her, Codie knew she would never give up this man, this Egyptian god. At the feel of his hard cock pushing deep inside her, she didn’t think an eternity together would be long enough.

THE END

www.marisachenery.com

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Marisa Chenery was always a lover of books, but after reading her first historical romance novel, she found herself hooked. Having inherited a love for the written word, she soon started writing her own novels.

After trying her hand at writing historicals, she now also writes paranormals. Marisa lives in Ontario, Canada with her husband and four children. She would love to hear from you, so stop by her website and send her an email while you're there.



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