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MARISA CHENERY

Egyptian Shifters 2

**JUDGMENT BY
ANUBIS**

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Marisa Chenery

EROTIC ROMANCE



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JUDGMENT BY ANUBIS

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DEDICATION

For my family.

JUDGMENT BY ANUBIS

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MARISA CHENERY

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Chapter 1

Jinny Hunter placed the open sign inside the window of her small bookstore and unlocked the door. She gave the store a final look before she moved back to stand behind the counter. Today she'd arranged to have a psychic come and do free tarot card readings for all the customers who came to her store. She'd sent out flyers to the surrounding neighborhoods, and splurged by putting an ad in the local newspaper in the hopes of drawing in a bigger crowd.

It wasn't as if her store did badly. She had a few regular steady customers, but it by no means earned her the money some of the larger bookstore chains did. Situated on College Street in the city of Toronto, her store was close to both the University of Toronto and Ryerson University, as well as the Royal Ontario Museum. So she usually had a trickle of customers each day.

The bell that hung on the front entrance door jingled. Jinny looked over and smiled at the older woman she'd arranged to come for the day to give the tarot readings. Nepha smiled back as she walked over to where Jinny stood. Jinny came around the counter to greet her.

"You're right on time, Nepha. I'm really looking forward to today. I still wish you'd let me pay you for your time."

Nepha shook her head and said in her Egyptian-accented English, “I don’t want your money, Jinny. I’m doing this to help drum up local business. It doesn’t make much sense for you to go to all this trouble to bring in customers, and then have to pay me the extra profits you’ll make from this day. Keep your money.”

“I still feel as if I’m taking advantage of you. I’ll have to think of way to pay you back some other way.” It had been Nepha’s idea for her to come and do the readings. She’d been coming to the bookstore for the last couple of months, at least once a week, and they’d struck up a friendship.

“It’s all right, Jinny. I’m doing this because you’re my friend. Now where do you want me to set up?”

Jinny pointed to the small table near the counter that she’d moved there the night before. Nepha went over to it and sat down in one of the chairs. She dug around in her large purse and pulled out her deck of tarot cards. She then put the purse down on the floor at her feet. Jinny watched Nepha take the cards out of their box and shuffle them in preparation for the first customers to arrive. The older woman handled the cards gently, careful not to bend the corners. Nepha had to be at least sixty in Jinny’s estimation. She really didn’t know much about her. She knew Nepha had immigrated to Canada from Egypt, and that she had a son who still lived in that country. Other than the fact that Nepha claimed to be psychic and could read tarot cards, Jinny didn’t know that much else about her.

The bell on the door jingled as the first customer of the day arrived. Jinny left Nepha to greet the young woman. After explaining about the free readings, Jinny left her to roam the store on her own.

Much to Jinny’s pleasure the bookstore did a fair amount of business that day with a steady stream of customers. Some of the customers had come just to have their cards read by Nepha, but Jinny didn’t mind. At least they’d come to her bookstore and there could be a chance they would return to make a purchase another day.

As the last customers of the day left the bookstore, Jinny locked the door behind them. She took the open sign out of the window, which she replaced with a closed sign, and brought it back to the counter. Nepha still sat at the small table where she'd been all day. "Well, I have to say the day turned out to be a rousing success, thanks to you," Jinny said to the older woman.

"I have a feeling you'll have some repeat customers."

"I hope so."

Nepha waved her over to the table. "Come sit down, dear. You've been on your feet all day. Come, I'll read your cards."

Jinny went and sat down in the chair across from Nepha. She sighed with pleasure. "It is nice to get off my feet. You don't have to do a reading for me. You did more than your share of readings today."

"I insist. I'll just do a mini reading for you with one card only. That way it won't take very long. It's getting late and I know you want to go home." Nepha gathered up the familiar Rider-Waite tarot cards she'd used for the customers. She returned the cards to their box and put it back inside her purse. She gave Jinny a smile as she pulled out another deck of tarot cards. "I'm going to use my special cards for you. This is my Egyptian tarot deck that I only use for family and friends."

Nepha pushed the deck in her direction. Jinny picked it up and looked through the tarots. They had a black background with what looked like a piece of papyrus in the center. On the papyrus, the representation of each card had been drawn using an Egyptian theme. Jinny put the cards back together and passed them back to Nepha. "They're beautiful."

"Thank you. Now let's do your reading." Nepha shuffled the cards before she split the deck in half and put the bottom cards on the top. She held her hand over the deck for a few seconds, then pulled the top card and placed it face up on the table.

Jinny looked down at the card. On the top right of the card she read the word death. Jinny didn't know much about tarots, but she

didn't think getting the death card could be anything but bad. "The death card," she said with some disappointment.

Nepha tiskied. "The death card does not necessarily mean literal death. It can mean the end of your old life and the start of a new one."

Pulling the card closer to her, Jinny studied it. On the card stood the Egyptian god Anubis in his half human/half jackal form. In one hand he held a jar and in his other a scroll. Behind him stood a very large set of scales. On one scale sat a feather and on the other the figure of a mummified person. If Jinny remembered correctly from the number of times she'd gone through the Egyptian section of the ROM, the museum, Anubis had the job of weighing the hearts of the dead against the feather of truth. If the soul was found guilty, he'd then give it to Ammut to consume and the soul went on to their final death.

"But isn't Anubis associated with death in the physical sense?" Jinny asked Nepha.

"Yes, he could best be described as a death god, but for you that isn't the case. The death card marks a new beginning in your life, and Anubis is the key."

"Then I guess having the death card drawn for me means things should start looking up for me. Maybe there'll even be a new man in my life."

Nepha chuckled. "There just may be." She gathered the cards together and picked up her purse. "I'll leave you to finish closing for the day. I can let myself out. I'll see you next week."

Jinny thanked the older woman then grabbed one of the chairs to take to the backroom. When she returned for the second, Nepha had already left. She hefted the table to the back of the store and went to the counter to collect her purse and keys. As she reached for the ring of keys that sat on top of the counter, Jinny found the death card from Nepha's Egyptian tarot deck sitting beside them. She looked in the direction of the door, but Nepha would more than likely already be long gone. Picking the card up, she slipped it into the pocket of her

jacket. Jinny figured she'd have to wait until she saw Nepha next week to return it. She didn't have a telephone number to contact her. And now that she thought about it, Jinny realized she didn't even know Nepha's last name.

Locking the door behind her, Jinny headed for the small parking lot behind the bookstore. The night air felt cool, smelling as if fall would not be too far off. The early part of September in southern Ontario could be counted on to have a wide range of weather. One day it could be hot as any summer day, then the next rainy and cool. Pulling her lightweight jacket closer around herself against the chill, Jinny headed for her car.

She managed to make it almost home to her apartment when a black cat streaked out in front of her car. Jinny didn't see it until she was almost on it. Acting on instinct, she swerved to avoid hitting it, which put her in the opposite oncoming lane of traffic. She only had a split second to register the fact that the bright lights headed her way belonged to another car before it rammed into her head-on. Jinny screamed then her world went black.

Chapter 2

Jinny blinked as she found herself hovering above a group of what looked like doctors and nurses in a room that had to be a hospital emergency room. They busily worked on whoever lay limp on the bed. Monitors and other machines beeped as one doctor ordered a nurse to prep the patient for a series of tests he wanted done. She hovered closer, wanting to get a better look at the patient. What she saw had her shaking her head in denial.

Her body lay bloody and limp on the bed. A tube stuck out of her mouth as one nurse squeezed air into her lungs. IV lines ran out of both her arms, while lines leading to some of the machines had been attached to her chest. It didn't look good, especially since she had somehow come to be outside her body. Jinny heard one of the doctors say she'd slipped into a coma. Wanting back inside her body, she tried to get closer, but something started to pull her away. All of a sudden her world went dark once more.

When the black receded, Jinny found she was no longer in the hospital room. She stood in the middle of a large shadowed room. Looking down at herself, she saw she still wore the jeans and long sleeved t-shirt she'd put on that morning. She shook her arms and legs, which felt to be all in one piece. She didn't feel any pain either. Jinny didn't know if she should take that as a good or bad sign.

Unsure of exactly where she was now, she looked around the room. The walls and floor appeared to be stone. On the walls, what looked to be Egyptian hieroglyphs had been painted or carved into the stone. This couldn't be right. The more she saw the more she couldn't

help but think this room resembled an ancient Egyptian temple, or a tomb.

A sound drew her attention away from the walls. Spinning in the direction it had come from, Jinny froze in place. It couldn't be. This couldn't be real. This had to be something her injured brain had conjured while in its coma state. In no way could that be the Egyptian god Anubis who stood a foot away from her quietly watching. In half human/half jackal form he towered over her. His body appeared to be covered in shiny black fur. He wore a snow-white linen kilt around his hips. Dark brown eyes stared back at her.

Anubis reached out with one of his hands to her. "Come." His deep voice seemed to fill the room.

Jinny shook her head. "You're not real and I'm not dead."

He closed the distance between them and picked up her hand in his. "I'm very real." Anubis cocked his jackal head as he stared down at her. "And you are correct. You aren't dead."

She had to crane her neck to look up at him now that Anubis stood so close. At five foot four, she had to look up at most people, but he had to be at least six foot eight. "Then why am I here if I'm not dead?"

"I'm not sure, but now that you are here I still must judge you. You have one foot in the realm of the living and one here in the underworld. It will be my choice either to send you back to the living realm or let you move on."

She drew herself up straighter. "I want to go back to the realm of the living, thank you very much. I'm only thirty, I still have lots of living to do, and I'm not going to give that up without a fight."

Jinny wondered if she'd gone a little too far when Anubis released her hand and took a step back. Pissing off a god probably wouldn't win her any brownie points, but at the moment she didn't care. And then there was the question if this place actually existed outside her head.

Anubis' body began to waver and blur bringing Jinny out of her thoughts. In seconds Anubis the man stood in the half human/half jackal's place. She slowly took in his long black hair and muscular build. He still towered over her even in human form. He wore the same snow-white kilt low on his narrow hips. It made her wonder what he had under it. Dragging her gaze up to his face, she felt her heart start to pound in her chest. For the god of death, Anubis had a face women would go ga ga over. Not unaffected herself, Jinny's nipples grew taut beneath her shirt as her pussy throbbed. Feeling wetness form between her legs, she knew she was most definitely still alive.

Anubis looked down at the mortal woman who stared hungrily back up at him with her light green eyes. She intrigued him. Most souls that arrived in the underworld were intimidated by him, especially seeing him in his half human/half jackal form that he used when he judged souls. But not this mortal woman. She not only told him he couldn't be real, she even went so far as to tell him he *had* to send her back to the living realm. And he had the feeling she would fight him if he decided otherwise.

She really was a small thing. She had to be at least a foot shorter than him. She had a slim, athletic build, curved in all the right places from what he could tell. Her looks could only be described as classically beautiful, but she didn't look to be the type of woman who flaunted it. He let his gaze skim her long dark brown hair, down her body to her feet. He could see her nipples had pebbled beneath the shirt she wore. He smiled.

"What is your name?"

"Jinny." She continued to stare at him with longing. "And you're the Egyptian god Anubis."

"Yes." His cock stirred as her gaze quickly flicked down to his kilt for a second time. He could smell her arousal mixing in the air. Much to his surprise, he felt his cock lengthen and thicken beneath his

kilt. She affected him in ways no mortal had before. He found himself attracted to her. Thoughts of what it would be like to take her to his bed flashed in his head. Usually for him sex was something he only occasionally indulged in, and never with a mortal. “What should I do with you?”

Her gaze came back up to focus on his face. “Send me back?”

He shook his head. That he couldn’t do just yet. He needed time to not only make the right decision, but to get to know this mortal woman who drew him to her. “No. My decision can’t be taken lightly. I must have the time to think the matter over. You will stay here with me for now.”

Anubis watched as Jinny looked around the sparsely furnished chamber. She then gave him a questioning look. “Here? You want me to stay here?”

He chuckled. From her tone of voice, he could tell Jinny didn’t relish the idea of having to stay in this chamber. “I don’t mean exactly right here. This is the chamber where I judge souls. I have my own private chamber, which I think you’ll like much better.”

Jinny blushed. “Sorry. I didn’t mean to be rude. It’s just kind of dark and gloomy in here.”

“Then let me take you to my chamber.”

Anubis led Jinny to the back of the chamber and through a small doorway that connected the judging chamber to his personal one. He took a quick look behind him to make sure Jinny followed and found her staring at his ass. His cock jumped as the tip of her tongue came out to wet her bottom lip.

He stepped aside and allowed Jinny to walk further into the chamber ahead of him. She stopped in the middle of the chamber and slowly turned in a circle. Her gaze lingered on his large bed before she moved on. Anubis could think of a number of things he’d like to do to Jinny once he got her into that bed. And it wasn’t a question of would he get her there, but when.

He knew exactly when she found his bathing pool. With a sound of pleasure, Jinny walked over to the pool and looked down at it longingly. His thoughts shifted direction. The pool would do just as well as the bed.

Chapter 3

She felt Anubis watching her as she walked over to the large bathing pool. At the edge, Jinny squatted down and dipped her hand into the water. It was warm. Large lotus blooms floated on the pool's surface, perfuming the water with their scent. She could just imagine how good it would feel to strip naked and have a good long soak in the pool.

"By all means, take your clothes off and make use of my bathing pool."

Jinny stood and turned around to find Anubis had come up behind her. "You read my mind?"

"Even if I couldn't, I'd still be able to tell what you were thinking from the look of pleasure you wore on your face."

She swallowed. Anubis stood so close she could feel the warmth coming off his body. She licked her suddenly dry lips. The movement drew Anubis' eyes to her mouth. Jinny could see the look of hunger that lurked in his dark brown eyes. He wanted her. Her pussy started to ache, wanting to be filled. She let her gaze drop to his wide, muscular chest, then over his washboard abs. The thought of being able to lick and caress every inch of that bared flesh caused her to start breathing heavy. Going even lower, she encountered the very large bulge that tented the front of Anubis' kilt. She most definitely wanted to get a better look at what he had under that snow-white material.

Anubis reached out and brushed the back of his hand against her cheek. Once Jinny looked up, he brought his hand around the back of her neck and pulled her to him. As he lowered his mouth to hers, she

angled her head up to meet him halfway. No other man aroused her as much as Anubis did, or so fast. The few boyfriends she'd had in the past had been lukewarm compared to what this Egyptian god made her feel.

At the first brush of Anubis' lips, Jinny sighed and tentatively placed her hand on his chest. She felt his heart pounding beneath her palm. Needing to be closer, she took a step in until the tips of her breasts brushed against his skin. She brushed them back and forth, which sent shockwaves of pleasure to her pussy. With a growl, Anubis' other arm snaked around her waist and yanked her against him. His lips slanted against hers as he pushed his way inside her mouth.

She felt every hard inch of Anubis as he held her firmly to him. The hard ridge of his cock lay nestled against her stomach. Jinny reached between them and cupped his erection in her hand. It jumped as she squeezed him.

Anubis lifted his head and pulled away. "How about we continue this in the bathing pool?" He took her hand and led her to the one end of the pool that had steps leading into it.

Jinny kicked off her shoes. She then reached for the hem of her shirt. Anubis placed a hand on hers before she could lift it. He shook his head and moved her hands aside. "Let me do it." She nodded and took her bottom lip between her teeth as he slowly pulled her shirt up her body, over her head and dropped it to the floor. He reached out with a finger and swirled the tip around each of her nipples through the lace cups of her bra. Jinny bit back a moan as Anubis took a taut nipple between his fingers and rolled it with a slight tug.

When he removed his hand and seemed to hesitate as if he didn't how to remove her bra, Jinny reached around her back and unhooked it. She pulled the straps over her shoulders and let it slip off her arms to join her shirt on the ground. Anubis smiled as he cupped one of her bare breasts in his large hand. Bending his head, he flicked her nipple with his tongue. Jinny couldn't hold back the moan that slipped past

her lips. Arching her back, she pressed closer in invitation, wanting to feel Anubis' warm mouth against her skin. He made a sound of encouragement as he laved her nipple with his tongue before he sucked it deep inside his mouth.

Jinny nearly went up on her toes as he sucked at her breast. With each hard pull of his mouth, she felt it deep inside her womb. The wetness between her legs increased, dampening the material of her panties. Anubis shifted to her other breast, giving it the same attention. Jinny tunneled her fingers through his long black hair.

Inching lower, Anubis dragged his tongue along her ribs then nibbled a trail down to her belly button. There, he swirled his tongue inside it. Going down on his knees before her, he undid the button and zipper of her jeans. He took hold of the waistband and slowly inched them down her hips. He tugged them down her legs and off, taking her socks with them. Now only in her panties, Jinny gazed down at Anubis. He stared back up at her as he brushed her clit with the back of his knuckles. She felt her own wetness as he rubbed them back and forth against her panties.

Anubis pulled his gaze away and hooked the top of her panties with his fingers as he pulled them down her legs. Jinny kicked them away. He ran his hands down the tops of her thighs then back up the inside, spreading her legs slightly. A finger ran along her pussy.

"I want to see if you taste as sweet as you smell." His voice sounded rough with need. He bent his head and laved her clit with his tongue as he held her legs open. "Hmm, you do taste sweet." He then buried his face between her legs.

Jinny moaned as she clutched at Anubis' wide shoulders. Her legs started to shake as he licked her pussy. She rocked her hips against his mouth as he flicked her clit with the tip of his tongue before he sucked on it. Jinny felt her orgasm racing up to meet her. She was so close to coming. As if he sensed it, Anubis moved away and stood up. Jinny whimpered.

Anubis reached for his kilt. With swift motions, he pulled it free of his body. He then removed the loincloth he wore under it. Jinny felt her inner walls clench as he stood there gloriously naked. He was all muscle. His large cock jutted out from his body, fully engorged. As she watched, Anubis took hold of himself and ran his hand up and down his length a couple of times before he took her hand and led her into the water.

The warm water rose higher as she walked down the stairs beside Anubis. At the bottom, the water came to sit just beneath her breasts. When Anubis moved to the center of the pool and ducked under the water, Jinny sunk down into it as well. Breaking the surface, she watched him glide through the water toward her. He'd slicked back his wet hair, allowing her to see more of his rugged, handsome face.

He reached for her and pulled her through the water, bringing her close so he could hold her against him. Jinny shifted until she had the hot, hard length of him between her legs. Leaning up to take Anubis' mouth in a heated kiss, she rubbed herself along the length of his shaft. She moaned as she thought of how good it would feel to have it buried inside her, stretching her, filling her.

Already completely aroused, Jinny clutched at his shoulders as she wrapped her legs around his waist. She whimpered with need as she angled her hips, trying to get the tip of his cock to the opening of her body. Anubis grabbed her bottom and stilled her movements. He continued to kiss her as he walked over to the stairs. Reaching the second step from the top, he turned and sat down. The water lapped at his sides as he positioned her knees on the step on either side of his hips.

No longer able to wait, Jinny broke their kiss to rise up on her knees as Anubis took hold of his cock and led it to the entrance of her body. With her bottom lip between her teeth, she slowly impaled herself on his thick shaft. They both moaned as he filled her to the hilt. Lifting up on her knees, Jinny pulled back until he was almost free of her body before she sank back down on him once again. She

tortured them both a few more times with slow, lazy strokes. She clamped her inner walls around his shaft as she picked up the pace. Her breasts jiggled as she rode him harder. All too soon her climax overtook her. Moaning loudly, she came as her inner muscles clutched at his hard length.

When the last spasm receded, Anubis rose up with Jinny in his arms, their bodies still joined together. He walked over to his bed. She wrapped her legs around his waist as he followed her down onto the bed. Once he settled his weight above her, he started to move inside her. Even though she'd already come, Jinny felt another orgasm start to build as he plunged into her. His pace grew faster as his cock grew harder inside her body. She felt the head of his shaft hit her womb with each stroke in. Shifting higher up on her, Anubis angled his hips so his thickness rubbed her clit as he pumped his hips in and out of her. Jinny pushed her head down on the mattress and lifted her hips to match Anubis' pace. He stiffened above her and groaned as his cock pulsed deep inside her body as he came. She quickly followed, crying out as an intense orgasm swept through her.

Anubis collapsed on top of her. Jinny wrapped her arms around him and held him tight. He soon rolled to his side and tucked her head under his chin as his now flaccid manhood slipped free of her body. Resting her head against his shoulder, Jinny let her eyes flutter shut. A wave of contentment washed over her as she snuggled closer to Anubis. Satiated and completely relaxed, she drifted off to sleep.

Chapter 4

Anubis looked down at the small mortal woman he held in his arms. Never before had he felt such pleasure, such a connection to another. Whenever he'd indulged in sex in the past he'd enjoyed it, but it by no means compared to making love to Jinny. Hearing her cry out as her body shattered around his only increased his desire. His own release had been so intense it seemed to go on and on. Brushing a lock of Jinny's damp hair away from her face, he kissed her forehead. She didn't stir. The longer he watched her sleep, something swelled deep inside his chest that made his breath catch.

Even though he'd never experienced the feeling before, he knew what it meant. Jinny was his mate. The other half to his soul. Anubis pulled her closer as what she truly meant to him filled his heart. He'd longed for a mate for thousands of years. Having to judge souls, and dealing with death on a daily basis, he longed to have a mate to take away the darkness that part of his life created. But could he keep Jinny with him?

She sat in limbo. A part of her remained in the realm of the living while she dwelled here in the underworld with him. He didn't really know how long she could remain here. Most souls only stayed long enough to be judged before meeting their true death, or moving on to the next realm. What he did know for sure was he didn't want to let her go. And when he made his final judgment about Jinny that would be exactly what he would have to do. If he decided she had to pass onto the next realm, to him she would be dead. If he let her return to the realm of the living, she'd be alive, but he couldn't go there to be with her. He also had the option of making her immortal and then

taking her as his mate, but she'd have to live here with him. Could she live with death always around her? He didn't think she could. And he couldn't leave the underworld. It was forbidden.

Anubis closed his eyes and breathed in Jinny's scent. He found himself in a quandary. He didn't know if he could let Jinny go. Not wanting to think about it any longer, he held her to him as she slept, relishing the feel of her in his arms.

* * * *

Jinny stretched as she slowly came to wakefulness. The last thing she remembered before falling asleep was the feel of Anubis' strong arms holding her close. She smiled as she thought of their lovemaking. Anubis had put all the other men she'd slept with to shame.

She turned her head to look at the spot next to her and realized she slept alone in the large bed. Anubis' pillow still held the indent from where his head had lain, but when she reached out, she found the sheets on his side of the bed cool to the touch. He must have gotten up some time ago. Being an immortal and an Egyptian god, it made her wonder if he actually needed to sleep. Jinny sat up and stretched again. She glanced over at the bathing pool. Her face grew flush as she thought of what Anubis and she had done in it. She wouldn't mind having a second round in the pool with him.

Not sure where Anubis had gone, or when he would return, Jinny decided to take another dip in the bathing pool. She slipped off the bed and made her way over to the stairs. She sighed as the warm water lapped at her skin. What she wouldn't give to have one of these in her apartment. Sinking under the perfumed water, she swam the short distance to the other side of the pool. She broke the surface near where one of the lotus blooms floated. Its flowery scent filled her lungs as she bent over to smell it.

Jinny leisurely swam back over to the stairs and got out of the pool. Looking around the chamber, she found a large stack of fluffy towels piled on a table against one of the walls. She took one off the top and towed her hair and body dry. Once she no longer dripped water all over the floor, she wrapped the towel around herself. It was then that she heard voices coming from the judging chamber. Curious, Jinny quietly walked over to the entrance way that joined the two chambers and peeked around the corner. She made sure to keep most of herself hidden behind the wall.

Anubis stood in the middle of the chamber in his half human/half jackal form. A set of large scales that hadn't been in the chamber when she'd arrived stood next to him. She then noticed the small lineup of people standing before Anubis. The first person, an older man, came forward and passed him what looked to her to be a heart. Jinny silently mouthed the word *ew* as Anubis took the heart and placed it on one of the scales. On the other already sat a feather. She watched as the scales swung from one side to the other until it hung exactly in the middle perfectly balanced. The man smiled with pleasure as Anubis motioned him to move to a spot to his right. The older man then disappeared.

The next person in line also was a man, but much younger in years. As the older man had done, he too gave Anubis his heart, which in turn he placed on the scales. This time when the scales slowly stopped moving the heart weighed heavier than the feather. With a growl, Anubis took the heart off the scale and moved over to something that slunk in the dark shadows near the back wall. Jinny shivered as goose bumps rose all along her skin as whatever the thing was made a snarling noise as it took the heart from Anubis. She then heard sloppy, munching sounds. Shuddering in disgust, she quickly looked over at the man being judged. He let out a piercing scream and vanished.

Unable to look away, Jinny stayed to watch Anubis judge the two remaining souls. Luckily for them, when their hearts were weighed

they stayed balanced on the scales against the feather. After they left the chamber, she looked up to find Anubis watching her. He remained in his half human/half jackal form as he crossed the distance between them. Jinny stared up at him as he came to stand in front of her.

Jinny took in the large ears that sat atop his head and his pointed muzzle. She found he appealed to her in this form almost as much as he did in human form. Crazy, she knew, but there it was. As she gazed up into his eyes, she could see the real Anubis staring back at her. Maybe that was why she wasn't disgusted by this form. Something in his eyes drew her closer.

She wrapped her arms around his waist and rested her head against the soft black fur on his chest. "It bothers you to have to do that. To have to sentence a soul like that even if they deserve it."

Anubis wrapped his arms around her waist. "Yes. I don't enjoy having to feed the heart of a wicked soul to Ammut to be devoured. You really don't mind being around me when I'm in this form, do you?" His voice held a touch of incredulousness.

Jinny lifted her head and leaned back only far enough so she could look up at him. "Of course not. This form is a part of what you are. You make it sound as if no one has touched you when you've been in this form."

"That's because no one ever has. Most of the other gods won't even look at me when I take on this form."

"Well that is their loss. You're all soft and furry." Jinny ran her hands up his chest to his collarbones. "I could pet you like this all day."

Anubis closed his eyes and growled low in his throat. "It would be no hardship for me."

Jinny could tell he enjoyed her touching him. Growing bolder, she moved her hands higher and gently caressed the top of his muzzle. He bent his head to give her better access when she moved still higher to stroke each of his ears. She pressed her lips to the side of his muzzle as her hands drifted down the side of his neck to the tops of his broad

shoulders. Following the same path as her hands, Jinny pressed kisses along Anubis' collarbones to the slabs of muscle padding his chest.

As she moved down his chest, Anubis shifted back to his human form. Sleek fur gave way to smooth skin. Jinny circled his male flat nipples with her tongue as his kilt and the towel she wore disappeared. Pressed skin to skin, she felt the hard length of Anubis' cock against her stomach. She inched her way lower, taking the time to explore every inch of him with her lips and tongue. On her knees, Jinny reached around his body and dragged her nails down his muscled ass as she kissed a path across his rippled abs. Anubis moaned and cupped the back of her head, urging her to go lower still.

With a smile against his skin, Jinny complied. Leaving his abs, she focused her attention on his thick erection. Taking hold of his cock, she squeezed it as she ran her hand up and down the shaft. He grew harder with each pump of her hand. She kept it up until a small bead of moisture appeared on the very tip of his cock. Stilling her movement, but keeping her grip on him, Jinny leaned forward and licked the drop off with the tip of her tongue. Anubis groaned and pushed himself closer. He mumbled something that Jinny thought had to be in Egyptian because she didn't understand any of it. But from the way he spoke, she figured they had to be words of encouragement.

Not that she needed any encouragement. Desire coursed through her body as she felt wetness trickle down the inside of her thighs. Knowing her touch caused Anubis to shudder with desire only amplified her own. That she, a mere mortal, could have such an effect over a god made her want him even more.

With a firm grip on the base of his shaft, Jinny used her tongue to lick his cock from base to tip. At the tip, she circled it. Anubis' hips jerked in response. She opened her mouth and took as much of him as she could handle inside. As she squeezed him, she slid her mouth up and down his shaft, sucking hard. Anubis' fingers dug into the back of her head as he rocked into her mouth. Jinny moaned against his skin.

Anubis suddenly reared back and reached for her. He picked her up in his arms and took her mouth in a demanding kiss. He walked with her until he had her pinned against the wall. As his tongue tangled with hers, he reached between them, positioned himself, and entered her in one hard stroke. Jinny locked her ankles around his waist and held on as Anubis started to ram into her. The stone wall dug into her back, but she didn't care. All that mattered was the pressure that started to build inside her as Anubis pumped his hips between her legs.

As he rode her, he cupped her bottom with one hand and reached between them with his other to rub her clit. "Come for me, Jinny. I need to feel your body clutching mine as you come. You feel so good."

He rammed into her hard as he continued to work her clit. Jinny squeezed her inner muscles around his thick cock as he filled her over and over again. With a keening moan, her body started to climax. Anubis slammed into her one final time as he held her to him. Jinny felt the splash of hot liquid as his cock pulsed deep inside her.

When Anubis let her stand on her own two feet, Jinny found her legs shook. She didn't know if she'd be able to walk. Anubis scooped her up in his arms and took her to the bed. As her head hit the pillow, she suddenly felt utterly exhausted. She didn't think she could move even if her life depended upon it. It felt as if someone had dropped a heavy sheet of metal on top of her, pinning her where she lay. Tiredness sucked at her, pulling her ever deeper. She vaguely noticed when Anubis slipped into the bed beside her and lay on his side next to her. On her back, Jinny wanted to roll over to her side and snuggle against him, but it seemed like too much work for her. Giving up the fight, she fell into a deep, dreamless sleep.

Chapter 5

There really was no night and day in the underworld. Anubis usually only slept the few hours his body required when he felt tired. With Jinny asleep at his side, he let himself relax. He ended up sleeping for almost two hours. When he awoke, he found Jinny still asleep. He knew mortals needed a lot more sleep than immortals, and he figured that with part of her still in the realm of the living, she would need to sleep longer than he had. Even though he didn't need any more sleep, Anubis didn't get out of bed. He wanted to stay close to Jinny.

He didn't want to give her up, especially now. What he'd told her that no one ever touched him in his half human/half jackal form had been the truth. That form was too closely associated with death. The other immortals in particular didn't want to deal with any aspect of mortal death. That Jinny didn't mind that part of him, and actually could bring herself to touch and kiss him in that form, filled a lonely, dark place in his heart. He wanted forever with her, but he couldn't expect her to live in the underworld. He knew she wouldn't be able to thrive here, with the souls of the dead who came to be judged.

Looking down at Jinny, he caressed her cheek with the tip of his finger. Her skin felt a little cool to the touch. His brows drew together in concern. Anubis pulled her to him. She didn't stir. He put his hand over her heart. It beat in a steady rhythm, skipped a beat then went back to a steady beat again.

Putting Jinny back down flat on the bed, Anubis shook her. "Jinny, wake up." When she didn't respond, he shook her harder. "Jinny, you have to wake up now."

She finally took a deep breath. Color appeared on her cheeks as she blinked her eyes up at him. "I'm so tired, Anubis. Can't you let me sleep a little bit longer?"

Jinny's eyes started to drift shut again, but he didn't allow her to go back to sleep. "No, you can't sleep anymore. You have to stay awake."

She must have picked up on the urgency in his voice because her eyes snapped open. "What's wrong? Why do I have the feeling my being so tired is a bad thing?"

Anubis sat up in the bed and pulled her into his lap so her head rested against his chest as he held her tight. "Souls aren't supposed to remain here in the underworld, Jinny. This is just a stopover point, the way station if you like, before the soul moves on to the next realm or meets final death. The longer you stay here, the weaker you are going to become. Already it's having an effect on you. That's why you're so tired, and why your skin felt cool to the touch."

Jinny reached up and caressed his cheek with her palm. "What would happen if I stayed?"

He shook his head. "I really don't know. You are the first soul that has stayed here for any length of time. But I have a feeling it will weaken you until you'll no longer exist in any realm."

"That isn't good." She slipped off his lap to kneel beside him on the bed. She cupped his face in her hands. "I don't want to leave you, Anubis. I know this is going to sound cornball, but I think I love you. I think from the first time you touched me. Can't we be together in some way?"

Anubis sadly shook his head. "No, we can't. If I let you go on to the next realm, you'll be dead to me."

"What about if you send me back to the realm of the living? Can't you come to me there?"

"It's forbidden, Jinny. I can't leave the underworld. It's my task to judge all the souls that come to the underworld. Mine alone."

“So you’re going to give me up.” She said it as a statement rather than a question.

“I don’t want to. I love you as well. We are meant to be together. You’re my mate. I have waited centuries for you. But I’d rather give you up than let you become a lost soul.”

He could see tears well in Jinny’s eyes as she came to terms with what he must do. Leaning toward her, Anubis kissed her like a starved man before he got out of the bed. He needed to be alone while he decided what his final judgment would be for Jinny. He gave her one last look of longing, willed his kilt back on his body then left her alone.

* * * *

Jinny roughly brushed away a lone tear that slipped down her cheek. She then punched the mattress. It was all so unfair. She finally found a man she wanted to spend a lifetime with, and she couldn’t keep him. She didn’t want to leave the underworld, but she had to agree with Anubis. She already felt herself growing weaker the longer she stayed, and she would only grow weaker.

Tears threatened to rise as she thought of not ever seeing Anubis again once she left here. Even though they’d really only been together for a short period of time, she felt a connection to him. He’d become a part of her. When she left the underworld, it would be like she’d left a piece of her behind. It would hurt like hell. One thing Jinny knew for sure—she’d never forget Anubis. Ever. And she doubted there would ever be another man in her life. How could she love an ordinary man when she’d already given her heart to an Egyptian god? She couldn’t.

Time ticked by and Anubis didn’t return. Jinny knew he’d gone to be by himself, to decide what would be her fate. This would take a toll on both of them. As she waited, she started to feel lethargic. It would be all too easy to let it sweep her away, but she fought its pull. Getting up, she got back into the bathing pool, hoping the water

would help keep her awake. She did lengths under the water. It helped a little, but she still felt it on the very edge of her consciousness, waiting to claim her.

Jinny climbed out of the pool and vigorously dried her hair and body. Looking around, she tried to see what had happened to her clothes. She spotted them neatly folded at the end of the bed. They hadn't been there before she'd gone into the pool. She pulled them on and looked up to find Anubis standing in the doorway in his half human/half jackal form watching her. The time of her judgment had arrived.

* * * *

Jinny followed Anubis out into the judging chamber. As always, it was cloaked in shadows. She pointedly ignored the dark corner where Ammut had been when Anubis had judged the other souls earlier. Once they reached the middle of the room, Anubis turned to face her a short distance away. Jinny swallowed hard. She fisted her hands at her sides, her fingernails biting into the palms of her hands. She would get through this without crying. Anubis' last memory of her deserved to be of her looking at him with all the love she felt for him in her eyes, not her blubbering like an idiot.

"No scales?" Jinny asked him softly. "I thought you needed them when you judged souls."

Anubis shook his head. "I don't need them this time. The scales are for souls that need to be judged before they can be let into the realm after death."

"You're sending me back?"

"I can't say that out loud yet. If I do, you'll leave."

Unable to stay away any longer, Jinny crossed the small distance between them and threw herself into Anubis' arms. "I don't know if my heart can take it. It's already starting to hurt and I haven't even left yet." She rubbed her cheek against the black fur on his chest.

He wrapped his arms around her and rested his jackal head on top of hers. “You’ll be okay, Jinny. Just remember, I’ll never forget you. You will always be my mate.”

Gently, Anubis pushed her away. Jinny’s eyes blurred with unshed tears. “I will always love you, Anubis.”

Their gazes collided then Anubis said the words to send her back to the realm of the living.

“I now give my final judgment of this soul. It is not her time. I return her to the realm of the living.”

Jinny called out Anubis’ name as she suddenly was pulled out of the judging chamber.

Chapter 6

Jinny came awake and started to choke on the tube that had been put down her throat to help her breathe. Panicking, she groped for the tube. In her weakened condition, she only managed to dislodge one of the lines that were stuck to her chest. A machine started to beep loudly as an alarm went off. A couple of nurses came running into her hospital room a few seconds later.

One of the nurses rushed over to her as the other went to shut off the alarm. Jinny continued to choke as she fought to breathe against the tube. The nurse pulled her hands away. “Relax, dear. You have to breathe with the machine until we can get the tube removed.”

Unable to get past the sensation of choking, Jinny’s heart started to race. The nurse that hovered over her yelled for the other to get a doctor. The doctor arrived in no time at all with a syringe in his hand. He quickly stuck the needle into one of her IV lines and pushed the plunger home. Jinny instantly grew still as whatever the doctor had given her started to take effect. A second later, her eyes closed and her world went black.

* * * *

The next time Jinny awakened the tube had been removed from her throat, allowing her to breathe on her own. She spent the next two weeks in the hospital recovering from her injuries. She’d been lucky, or so the nurses told her. All she’d really sustained from the accident was a really good bump on the head that had put her in a coma. Her car had been a total write-off.

While recuperating in the hospital, she had a lot of time to think about Anubis. She wanted to be with him so much. At times it hurt worse than the leftover headache from her head wound. But she would never see him again. She knew that. It would just take her a while, if ever, to come to terms with it.

When she finally could leave the hospital, Jinny went home to her lonely apartment. She had no family. She'd grown up in an orphanage. All she knew about her birth parents was that they'd both been teenagers at her birth and had chosen to give her up. They also had made it quite clear when they signed the legal papers to have her put into the orphanage that they wanted no contact with her once she came of age. Having basically lived alone for most of her life, Jinny never forced the issue.

As per her doctor's orders, she waited a couple of days before she opened her bookstore again. It had sat closed the whole time she'd been in the hospital, since she couldn't afford to hire someone to work there with her. The loss of business while she'd been laid up would hurt, but she hoped to make up for the lost time.

Jinny arrived at her bookstore bright and early. Fall had arrived while she'd been in the hospital, bringing a definite chill to the air even during the day. Stepping inside the store, she didn't feel much difference between the inside temperature from that of outside. After she flipped on the lights, she headed to the back of the store to the thermostat. She cranked on the heat and rubbed her arms against the chill. Jinny decided to leave her jacket on until the store warmed up. Heading over to the counter, she went to store her purse beneath it. Once she got behind it, something that sat on top of the counter caught her eye.

With her eyes focused on the object, she put her purse away. Her hand shook slightly as she picked up the Egyptian tarot card. It was the same death card that Nepha had left behind the night of her car accident. Jinny wondered how it came to be back here. She distinctly remembered putting the card in her jacket pocket before she left the

store that evening. The card had been lost. One of the nurses at the hospital had taken her jacket in to be dry cleaned to remove the blood from her accident. When she'd returned it, Jinny couldn't find the tarot card in her pocket.

Jinny lovingly traced the figure of Anubis on the tarot card with her finger. She blinked back the tears that threatened to rise to the surface. The artist had done an excellent job of capturing Anubis in his half human/half jackal form. Taking a deep breath, she put the card back down. She knew she'd have to give the card back to Nepha when she eventually came back to the bookstore, but Jinny found herself reluctant to do it. She wanted to keep the card for herself.

A steady trickle of customers came to the bookstore throughout the day, which made Jinny feel a bit better about her finances. Every little bit helped. An hour before closing time, the bell jingled above the front door announcing the arrival of a customer. Jinny looked up from the stack of invoices she'd been going through. Nepha hurried over to her, came around the counter and pulled Jinny into her arms for a hug.

"I have been so worried about you, Jinny dear. Are you okay?"

Jinny gave Nepha another hug before she stepped out of her embrace. "I'm okay now. I guess it had been a bit touch and go in the beginning. How did you know about my accident?"

"I read about it in the newspaper right after it happened. I would have come to visit you in the hospital, but I thought it best to let you recuperate in peace."

"It's the thought that counts, Nepha." Reluctantly, Jinny picked up the Egyptian tarot card off the counter and held it out to the older woman. "You left this behind the day you did the tarot card readings."

Nepha shook her head and pushed it back toward Jinny. "You keep it."

"I can't do that. If I keep it, it will break up your deck."

"I insist. Don't worry about it. I can always get another deck. I think the card means more to you than it does to me. Am I right?"

Jinny nodded not trusting her voice at first. “Yes. It has come to mean a great deal to me.”

Nepha looked at her closely. “You’ve met a man. One you’ve come to love.”

“Yes, I have. We just can’t be together. I guess it wasn’t meant to be.”

“Nonsense. If he felt just as strongly about you, the both of you should try and work something out.”

“It’s a bit more complicated than that.”

Nepha patted her cheek and smiled. “Don’t mourn, Jinny. Your mate will come for you.”

After that cryptic remark, Nepha left the bookstore, leaving Jinny to wonder how she could have known that only one person had ever called her his mate—Anubis.

* * * *

Anubis couldn’t stop thinking about Jinny. He missed her, more than he thought he would. He longed to be with his mate. It sometimes overshadowed everything else in his life. She’d already been gone a few weeks and he didn’t know how he’d last an eternity without her by his side. He’d also come to realize how lonely his life had been before she’d come into it. Now, his life had become repetitive and dark. He no longer wanted to judge the souls that arrived in the underworld. Being around death day after day started to take its toll on him. He’d had a taste of the light in the form of Jinny and he wanted it back.

With a sigh of longing, Anubis pushed thoughts of Jinny aside as he faced the latest batch of souls to arrive. He reached for the heart of the first soul and placed it on the scale. When the scales balanced, he sent the soul on to the next realm. As the last man stepped forward and offered him his heart, Anubis barely gave him a glance. When the scale dipped, showing that the heart weighed more than the feather, he

felt no emotion at all as he gave it to Ammut to consume. Nor did he react when the soul screamed in terror just before he disappeared.

Anubis shifted back to human form and headed for his personal chamber. He quickly shed his kilt and got into the bathing pool. He needed to wash away the taint of death. He knew it was a figment of his imagination, that the souls didn't carry the scent of death on them when they came to be judged, but that didn't stop his skin from crawling.

Like every other time he'd gone into the pool, Anubis remembered what he and Jinny had done in and around it. He stood in the middle of the pool and closed his eyes as his body became aroused. Inside his head he could hear the cries Jinny made as she came beneath him. His cock jerked under the water as he remembered how it had felt when she'd taken him inside her mouth, how it had felt to sink into her warm body as she cried out her pleasure. He resisted the urge to reach down and give himself some relief, but it wouldn't be the same. Opening his eyes, he cursed as he slapped the surface of the water with his hand.

He ducked under the water and swam to the stairs. As Anubis broke the surface, he saw he was no longer alone. His father, Osiris, stood at the bathing pool's edge watching him. Not caring that his father would easily be able to see how aroused he'd become, Anubis got out of the water, walked by him and picked up a towel to dry himself with.

"Shall I come back at a better time?" Osiris asked with a smile on his face as he eyed the state of Anubis' body.

Anubis wrapped the towel around his waist. "No, Father. Why have you come?"

"Do I need a reason to visit my son?" Seeing Anubis' raised brow, Osiris shook his head. "I'll admit I don't come to see you enough. I decided to come see you because I've felt your unhappiness."

"There's nothing you can do, Father."

“I beg to differ. I know you had to give up your mate. I’ve come to make you a proposition.”

That Osiris knew about Jinny didn’t surprise Anubis. His father knew most of what happened in the underworld. “And what would that be?”

“I’m willing to take your place here in the underworld. I can take your place as the caretaker and protector of the dead. That way, you may go to your mortal mate and live with her in the realm of the living, permanently.”

Anubis’s heart started to race at the possibility of being able to live with Jinny. “Why would you do this for me?”

Osiris shook his head. “Must there be a reason? I’m only thinking of my child’s happiness. Your childhood wasn’t the best.”

His childhood had been strained at its best. His birth mother had tricked Osiris into her bed, where she became pregnant with him. After giving birth, his mother had given him to Osiris and his wife, Isis, to be raised as their own. “If I accept, when would you release me of my duties?”

“As of right now. You’d be free to leave to go to your mate whenever you wanted to. And before you can ask, you’ll retain your godhood and immortality even though you’ll live among mortals. You’ll lose none of your powers.”

With a nod, Anubis whipped off the towel he wore and willed a kilt onto his body. “Then I accept.”

Osiris smiled. “I wish you much happiness with your mate, my son.”

Anubis bent his head in his father’s direction then flashed himself to the realm of the living.

Chapter 7

Most of another week went by. Jinny slipped back into her old routine of life. She got up in the morning, opened the bookstore for business, stayed until night then returned to her apartment to watch a few hours of television before going to bed. She'd wake up the next morning to start all over again. Her life hadn't seemed boring to her until now. A big chunk of herself seemed to be missing, and no matter what she thought to do to compensate for it, it remained as an empty hole in her soul.

Jinny stood by the bookstore's front window and eyed the new display of books she'd been arranging. She tried to change the display once every couple of weeks, in the hopes to lure customers into the store if a particular book caught their eye. Happy with the display, she looked out the large window. Evening had started to descend. She watched the heavy traffic go by as people rushed to go home after a long day at work. She envied those that had husbands or wives at home waiting for them to return. All that waited at home for her was her television set.

Business had been kind of on the slow side that day. Even though she had no big plans for the rest of her night, Jinny decided to close the bookstore early. With a sigh, she went to the back of the store and turned off the lights, then turned on the dim security lights that she left on after closing. As she turned back around, Jinny's breath caught in her throat. There in the middle of the bookstore stood what at first glance she thought had to be a dog. But after a second look, she knew it couldn't be a dog. The animal's legs were too lanky for a dog's. It had large pointed ears on top its head, and its elongated jaw made

Jinny think it had to be a jackal, an Egyptian jackal to be exact. She'd done enough research on the internet about Egyptian jackals since her return from the underworld that she knew she had to be right in her thinking. The only difference between this jackal and the ones she'd researched was the color of the fur. Most Egyptian jackals had fur ranging from grey-beige to dirty yellow. This jackal had fur black as midnight.

"Anubis?" Jinny whispered not daring to hope it could actually be him.

The jackal bent his head slightly. Jinny sucked in a breath then quickly went and put the closed sign out in the bookstore's window. She turned back from locking the door to see the jackal watched her intently. It had to be Anubis. The dark brown eyes that looked back at her were the same.

"Let's go to the back room," Jinny said to the jackal. "Even with the lights off too many people can see inside the bookstore."

The jackal followed on her heels as she walked to the back room, flipped on the light, and closed the door that connected the back from the front of the bookstore. Her heart pounded in her chest as the jackal's form started to waver and blur. Her chest rapidly rose and fell as Anubis the man took the jackal's place.

"Are you really here? I thought you couldn't leave the underworld."

Anubis' gaze hungrily raked her body before he looked into her eyes. Jinny gasped at the intense longing that lurked in their depths.

"I'm really here, Jinny. And I'm here to stay, to claim you as my mate. If you'll still have me. My father, Osiris, relieved me of my duties so I no longer have to remain in the underworld. I can stay in the mortal realm with you forever. Will you have me as your mate, Jinny?" Anubis opened his arms wide.

With a cry of joy, she threw herself into his arms. "Of course I'll have you as my mate. I just can't believe you're actually here."

Anubis cupped her face in his hands and made her look up at him. “Then I will accept nothing less than an eternity with you.”

Out of the corner of her eyes, Jinny noticed Anubis’ hands started to glow. A surge of power jolted through her where he touched her. It zipped through her, seeming to fill every cell in her body. She looked up at Anubis with wonder in her eyes. “Did you just make me like you? I don’t feel any different on the inside, but I definitely felt you do something to me.”

Anubis smiled and brushed his lips against hers. “You’re immortal now, Jinny. I won’t have anything separate us now, not even death.”

A shudder of longing wracked Jinny’s body at Anubis’s words. Her blood heated as wetness started to pool between her legs. She would no longer be alone. She’d have forever with the man she loved. Leaning forward, she kissed Anubis with everything she had to show him how much she’d missed him.

With a growl, Anubis moved his hands down to her waist and hauled her up against him. Their tongues dueled as Jinny reached up to thread her fingers through his long black hair. His erection nestled against her stomach. She ached to have the hard length of his cock buried inside her pussy. It didn’t matter that they were in the back room of her bookstore. All that mattered was getting him inside her, riding her hard as she called out his name.

Anubis lifted his head and smiled at the stark desire that had to be showing in her eyes. “I need to be inside you, Jinny. I’m going to pleasure you until all you can think of is having my cock buried deep inside you. You won’t know where you end and I begin. But first I want to taste you as you come against my mouth.”

Jinny’s breath caught as the erotic images that Anubis described filled her head. He backed her up until her bottom hit the edge of the office desk she’d set up in the back room. He roughly shoved what sat on top of it to the opposite side perilously close to the edge. Jinny only had time to be thankful her computer sat on a small table next to

the desk before Anubis reached for the buttons of her blouse and opened them one by one. He yanked off her blouse then undid her jeans. They too quickly ended up in a pile on the floor at her feet. Her bra and panties followed suit.

Naked, Jinny watched Anubis' gaze rake her from head to toe. He reached for her and lifted her to sit on the edge of the desk. She tried to take hold of the kilt he wore, to pull it off him, but Anubis stepped back out of her reach. He shook his head then stepped between her spread thighs. He cupped her breasts in his hands and lifted them as he dragged the flat of his tongue across each of her taut nipples. Jinny arched her back and whimpered.

Anubis continued to tease her. He licked her nipples, swirling his tongue around each tight bud, refusing to take it into his mouth. When she couldn't take anymore, she tunneled her fingers through his hair as she rubbed a nipple against his lips in offering. Anubis growled deep in his throat as he opened his mouth and sucked the nipple deep inside. Jinny moaned and ground her pussy against the large bulge in his kilt.

As he continued to suck at her breast, Anubis took a step back. He ran a finger along her pussy. He groaned as he pushed two fingers inside her core, coating them with her wetness. Jinny whimpered as he thrust his fingers in and out of her body. She rocked her hips in time with his thrusts as her orgasm inched ever closer.

Jinny cried out as Anubis' fingers suddenly left her body. Her nipple popped out of his mouth as he went down on his knees in front of the desk. He pulled her closer to the edge of the desk and put her legs over his broad shoulders. Jinny cried out again as his mouth took the place of his fingers. He lapped at her pussy as he spread her legs even further apart. The sight of Anubis' dark head between her thighs had Jinny moaning. It wouldn't take much to send her over the edge. Unable to sit up on her own any longer, she leaned back on her hands on top of the desk. Anubis stiffened his tongue and jabbed it into her core over and over again. She rocked her hips against his mouth.

When he took her clit between his lips and sucked, Jinny let out a keening whimper as her body started to climax.

As the last spasm took her, Anubis rose up between her spread legs. His kilt disappeared. Jinny moaned at the sight of his large cock standing out from his body. A bead of moisture sat on the head of his cock. She licked her lips. Anubis groaned in response. Aching to be filled, but wanting to touch him first, Jinny sat up and rubbed the bead of pre-cum into his skin. She wrapped her hand around his thick shaft and slowly worked it up and down his length. Anubis moaned as he wrapped his hand around hers and squeezed to let her know he wanted her to increase the pressure of her grip.

Jinny inched closer until the head of his cock entered her body. Still working her hand up and down his shaft, she rocked her hips, riding the very tip of him. She squeezed her inner muscles around it and moaned. Anubis' control snapped. He pulled her hand away, positioned himself and rammed his cock deep inside her. Leaning over her, he forced her down onto her back as he took her bum in his hands and started to piston between her legs. Jinny wrapped her legs around his waist. She quickly came again as he rammed into her. He increased the pace as his cock grew even harder. When Anubis reached his climax he threw back his head and roared, holding her to him, spilling deep inside her.

It took a minute for Jinny to catch her breath. Once she could speak, she said, "Let's go home, Anubis."

He lifted himself off her and pulled free of her body. He gave her a look that said he liked the sound of that. "Home. Yes, let's go home."

His kilt was suddenly back around his hips, and she once again wore her clothes. Jinny eyed him. "It may take a bit of explaining to the taxi driver why you're walking around barely dressed in the fall."

Anubis chuckled. "We don't need a taxi, Jinny. I'm still a god. Egyptian gods do not take taxis."

"They don't?"

“No, we don’t.”

“Then how are we getting home?”

“If there is anything you need from here I suggest you go get it.”

With purse in hand, Jinny learned first hand what Anubis had meant. In a blink of an eye he had them inside her apartment. Two seconds later, Anubis swept her into his arms and took her to bed. He then proceeded to keep her too busy to ask any more questions.

Chapter 8

Two days later, Jinny couldn't be any happier than she already was. Being that Anubis arrived on a Saturday evening, and she never opened her bookstore on Sundays, they spent most of that day in bed making love. They only came up for air long enough for Jinny to get something to eat. Even though now immortal like Anubis, she wasn't a goddess, which meant she would still need to eat and sleep as she'd done as a mortal. Anubis had explained that to her after her stomach started to growl loudly after a bout of lovemaking.

That night as they sat on the couch watching television, naked, Jinny mentioned the fact that Anubis would need mortal clothing if he had a chance of fitting in. He quickly assured it that would be no problem since he could will his clothes onto his body, in any style. To prove it, he willed on a pair of tight fitting jeans and a snug long sleeved t-shirt that showed off his powerful body. Jinny then proceeded to strip them off, which lead to more lovemaking on the couch.

Now Monday, both she and Anubis were at her bookstore. He'd decided he wanted to work there with her. Sitting home alone all day while she ran the bookstore held no appeal to him, he'd said. Jinny figured it was a perfect arrangement, especially given the fact she could watch him all day. As she did right now. She leaned back against the counter as Anubis put books on a shelf. The muscles in his arms bunched with his movements.

He turned and looked at her. "If you don't stop looking at me like that I'll have to take you to the back room and put your desk to good use again."

Jinny gave him a heated look. "I'm going to close for lunch in a half hour. We can make use of my desk then."

Anubis chuckled then turned back to finish putting books on the shelf. He continued to work as the bell jingled above the door. Jinny smiled as Nepha made her way over to her.

"I see you are much happier, Jinny. I told you everything would work out in the end. I knew your mate would come for you."

Nepha turned and looked at Anubis who now stood staring at the older woman. He put the books he held down and came over to stand before her. "Mother?"

Jinny looked from Anubis to Nepha. She then stared in shock as Nepha's image wavered. One minute Nepha was the familiar older Egyptian woman she recognized as her friend, and the next there stood a much taller and younger woman in her place. Nepha the younger was also breathtakingly beautiful.

"Hello, my son."

"What are you doing here?"

"I found Jinny for you. I knew she'd be perfect as your mate. And the more I came to know her, the more I became convinced she would be the one."

Jinny couldn't stop staring. "Nepha?"

"My true name is Nephthys. I'm the Egyptian goddess of mourning."

"You made it so I had that car accident, didn't you?"

Nephthys nodded. "It couldn't think of another way to have you and Anubis meet. I'm sorry."

"Why did you do all this, Mother?" Anubis asked drawing the goddess' attention back to him.

She smiled up at him. "You deserved to be happy. I could feel your restlessness. I may have given you up to Osiris and Isis, but I have never stopped watching over you, Anubis. Now you have found your mate, and you are free to live here in the realm of living with her. Be happy, my son."

Nephthys took a step back as if she meant to leave. Jinny quickly hugged the goddess. “Thank you, Nephthys, for giving me Anubis.”

She hugged Jinny back then stepped away. “I’m proud to call you my daughter, Jinny.”

Jinny smiled as Anubis wrapped an arm around her shoulders and pulled her up against his side. “If you’re leaving now, Nephthys, you have to make me one promise before you go.”

“What would that be?”

“That you will continue to come see us at least once a week. I’ll miss you if you don’t.”

Nephthys smiled at Jinny and nodded her head. “Then I will see you next week.”

Once the goddess disappeared, Anubis turned Jinny in his arms and held her close. As Jinny snuggled against his chest, she knew her life couldn’t have turned out any better. She’d found her very own Egyptian god, and thanks to a certain death card, she would have forever with him.

THE END

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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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