

TY LANGSTON

By
Sunset

A DRAGON RACES TALE



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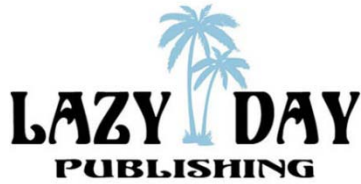
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Dedication

To, Effie, Gert, Johnnie and Grandma.

Thank you for letting me believe that all things are possible and
that all of us should strive to be all that you can be.

BY SUNSET - A DRAGON RACES TALE

BY

TY LANGSTON

Prologue

Swimming alone, the young woman enjoyed her mid-afternoon swim along the shoreline of Elderon Lake.

On one of the hottest days she had ever experienced, the large lake and forest were one of the three borders between her kingdom of Kergan and the enemy state of Tacorian.

She adored the solitude, making a point to take an occasional break from her duties as a lady-in-waiting to the youngest heir of Kergan, Princess Isabelle, to relax, reflect and perhaps enjoy some sporadic company with a young border soldier needing his own afternoon stress reliever.

It didn't matter who they were or if they were from enemy territory. Both royal families of Kergan and Tacorian had more than their equal share of handsome and lustful men on each side that provided her with several hours of pleasure.

Wrapping around the curves of her pale, bare breasts as if it were a winter blanket, the dark water felt amazing against her warm skin.

Floating on her stomach, she flipped herself over onto her back watching the blue sky for several minutes. Her cascading ebony mane and feet occasionally would make a brief appearance through the water's surface.

On this day, she contemplated everything. From when her nation's current drought would end, to helping her country's eldest son, Prince Julian, win the upcoming Dragon Race. She prayed that with her assistance, doing this would finally release their nation of Kergan from a mounting economic debt, thanks in part to Tacorian.

In her opinion, she was getting faster by the year. It was only by sheer luck that the Tacorian team won.

Their dragon, Hera, apparently knew the course better.

Unfortunately, because of her win, it may have cost the Dragon her life.

She was concerned for Julian and the royal family she served. People were blaming him for the murder which occurred a couple of nights ago while the Dragon slept in her lair.

Knowing Julian for her entire life, she knew that he wasn't capable of such a horrendous act.

She turned onto her stomach and dove deeper into the lake swimming underwater for several yards.

Coming up for air was when she noticed him only several feet in front of her.

Lying on the grass, the young man's ivory shirt was trimmed at the bottom with the crimson and gray colors of the Tacorian.

Her curiosity was peaked. She knew the military garments of the Tacorian army. This wasn't it. Their coats, their vests, were of red, black and gray.

They never wore white, but for some reason, he did.

His shirt was opened, revealing his tanned skin. He had shoulder-length light brown hair and green eyes.

She swam towards him. The closer she got to him, the more taken she was by him.

He had an athletic build. His length, especially his legs were long and lean.

She had a feeling he was a member of the Royal Dragon Racers, though she had never talked to one of them before.

She swam up to the muddied, solid wall that stood between herself and the grass he laid on, resting her arms on either side. Looking at him, her blue eyes locked into his. She replied.

"Hello."

The young man smiled in return. “Hello.”

“Taking a break?” she asked.

He continued to lie on the grass. His arm now rested underneath his cleft chin.

“A much needed one. I’m debating whether or not to take a swim. How’s the water?”

“Cool and calming. Come on in.” She told him.

She became aware of how he watched her body, envisioning what she looked like without being concealed by the water. He couldn’t help but to speculate what she felt like against him, underneath him.

She was born with a gift of reading people’s thoughts. She could also talk with them as well if they shared a similar gift. Today, there would be no such luck.

His emerald stare was still fixed onto hers as he stood up and pulled off his shirt to reveal an upper torso and six-pack abs that seemed to be carved from stone.

He walked towards the banks of the lake, tossing his shoes and trousers alongside his shirt, diving in next to her.

She turned around in an attempt to see him but the water was too dark. Turning around back towards the shoreline’s walls chest first, she again placed both arms on either side of the wall, placing her chin on the top of the wall while her legs gently kicked at the water behind her.

Underwater, he loved what he saw from the back. From her long hair that draped along the small of her back, to her tight, round ass; all of what he had heard from the other soldiers was true.

She felt his hand gently touch the back of her leg. She decided not to turn around, instead just letting the circumstances fall where they may.

She could hear him rise towards the surface, taking in gulp of air as he now stood

alongside her.

“It’s nice huh?” she asked turning towards him.

“This is great. I’ve never been here before.”

“The lake of Elderon is one of the prettiest and most peaceful in the galaxy. It’s probably one of the few places besides Gaea where Tacorians and Kergans can talk in peace to one another.”

He raked his hand through his hair. “So I see. I have heard about this place, but I’ve never been here. I’ve only been up to the border past the forest.”

She chuckled. She was surprised that he had never been here before like so many of his peers.

“Really?”

He shrugged. “I suppose I have too many responsibilities that occupy my time.”

“Everyone needs a break every now and then. I’m a lady-in-waiting for the Royal Family and I completely understand how crazy things at court can be.”

He let out a huge belly laugh. “Same here, you have no idea how much I sympathize with what you’re saying.”

“Everyone wants everything yesterday. Everyone wants to get their points across. Good, bad or some just plain bizarre. But, it gets tiring when all of them in varied ways come at you all at once.”

He nodded in complete agreement and added. “And of course, no one is thinking of how the other party will be affected or even if there are or will be long-term consequences.”

She smiled. “So you do know then?”

He smirked. “I have a lot of experience with the Royals, on *both* sides.”

“Oh you work for them?”

He corrected her. “Not for them. I work alongside them.”

Despite being in the water, she felt the heat creep up her body. She ducked underneath for a couple of minutes, swimming around the mysterious subject of the royal family.

Coming up for air, her round breasts poked up briefly from the surface of the water. Moving towards the shoreline again, she rested her naked side against the shoreline walls.

“I needed that. I was getting warm again. You said you worked alongside the royal family. Just what is it that you do?”

“Just try to keep the peace. Make the family as comfortable as possible.”

“How does one keep a family like theirs comfortable? I’ve heard they’re quite a handful.” She smirked.

“You attend to their needs in every way. Make them happy, they make you happy. Make them mad, well then...”

She raised her eyebrows. “Oh...”

“But I don’t want to talk about them for now if you don’t mind. I came here to get away from them for a bit.”

She touched his arm. “What do you want to talk about then?”

His hand cupped one of her butt cheeks firmly, she gasped. “I’d rather not talk at all.” He told her firmly.

As much as she liked where his hand position was, she used all her will power by pulling it away.

“Maybe I do, even if it’s only for a little bit.” She said.

He waded closer towards her through the dark water. With each stroke, his erection grew

harder and harder for the stunning beauty.

“Fine, then what would you like to talk about?”

“Destiny. Do you believe in it?”

“Depends on what it is. Why?”

“Don’t you think that it is strange that you decided to come here after all this time only for us to meet and take an interest in one another?”

“You’re saying this was meant to be.”

“Sir, I’ve been here several times and I have never laid my eyes on you before. For you to decide to come here for whatever the reason is proof that destiny exists.”

“Or coincidence. Not everything has to be predetermined by some force. Things can happen for a number of reasons.” He told her.

“Yes they can. Things can happen big or small leading up to a perhaps, bigger or maybe a lesser solution.”

He quipped. “After today my lady, we’ll probably never see one another again.”

“You could be possibly right. But I just have this feeling that we’ll see each other soon.” She told him.

He could feel her warm tiny fingers move stealthily down his flat stomach, tracing the creases around his six-pack abs.

He breathed heavily as they made their way towards his swollen cock, deciding to guide them by placing them on his shaft.

Taking over, her hands began to slide up and down his swollen member for several minutes, his emerald eyes were glazed over from being so close to the brink.

His low voice quivering, he said.

“The only thing I know my lady is what’s happening *now*.”

He removed her hands from his member placing them underneath the water back on either side of her. He was too excited to take her at that moment, deciding to let his member rest for a bit along his inner thigh.

Pushing her back firmly against the shoreline walls, he bent down and kissed her hard on the lips, enjoying their sweet taste as if it were a drug.

Her kisses went from his mouth down the cleft of his chin and on the side of his neck.

Despite the water’s cold, she could feel the tip of his long hard member between them, making her grow warm with desire.

His hands wrapped themselves down her back. His ever-growing cock continued to strain itself between them while she arched her back and wrapped her legs around his torso.

Her breasts heaved as her breath became even shallower.

Pulling her away from a moment, he bent down and took her nipple in his mouth, nibbling at it gently.

Although her back was against the muddied wall she found herself continuing to arch; raking her hands down his muscular backside.

“Please. Oh please.” She begged.

Suddenly he stopped. His member was swollen to the core, begging for entry. “Maybe destiny is ours. *For this*.” He told her as he entered her.

The two of them held onto one another as he plunged himself deeper and deeper inside her until the young woman nearly passed out from sheer pleasure.

Using his hands as support, he gripped onto her tightly as she pulled him closer to her...Too slick to continue, he decided to pull out of her briefly; her bare bottom enjoying the

tease of his huge swollen head rubbing between her legs and up the crack of her buttocks.

It was taking all self-control not to re-enter her now.

Kissing her damp bare shoulder, he continued to hold her tightly around her waist.

She pleaded for him to enter her again. His cock was unrelenting in its taunt for entrance.

“Take me... Please.”

With one last tender kiss on the side of her neck, he could no longer take her pleas. In one movement, he turned her around with her back towards him, taking her hard from behind.

The two of them moaned as the muscles of her tight entry clamped themselves around his swollen member.

“Ahh...” He groaned.

Facing the shoreline, her chin rested on the top of the wall. His thrusts were so intense that her fingers gripped the muddied edges of either side of the wall so tightly that the color was gone out of them.

She tried to look at the beauty in front of her, but her dazed eyes could only focus on the pleasure he was giving her.

Plunging into her slowly, the two of them increasingly began to move with one another rhythmically, as if they had known one another a lifetime.

“Oh...more, more...” She pleaded.

Never had he felt such a need to be with someone. If time permitted, he would be inside her forever. Feeling as if he were going to explode, he pumped deeper and deeper into her until he could no longer control himself, emptying his seed inside her. Exhausted, his large body collapsed on top of hers.

It took the two of them several minutes before they could collect their wits about them,

eventually he pulled himself out of her and promptly jumped back onto the shore.

She looked up at him looking both relieved and remorseful that they didn't have enough time to repeat their actions.

Putting on his trousers, his body had never felt so sated. Both of them had experienced conquests before, but none done with such a fervent need.

She looked up towards the sky. Sundown was fast approaching. She knew she had to leave now and quickly. She began to swim downstream, only stopping for a brief moment to say goodbye.

"Thank you sir."

Now lying on the grass drying himself he snickered.

"It was my pleasure my lady. Leaving so quickly?"

"Yes, it's near sunset. I must go and attend to the Princess."

"Will you be back?" He asked her.

"I always come back." She told him as she began to swim.

He stood up and began to yell. "When?"

"You'll know." She yelled back to him, diving underwater.

Minutes later she arose from the surface on Kergan's side of the border. Sunset was upon her as she plopped her naked body back onto the grassy shore.

With her arms and legs stretched out, her arms began to lengthen against the shadow of the sunset, her soft skin began to turn black and scaly, her slender legs began to thicken and grow where her toes were.

Her sapphire blue eyes glowed towards the night sky as her arms transformed themselves into wings.

Princess Isabelle, a precocious teenager that loved her family fiercely, ran towards the familiar creature.

“There you are. Everyone’s been looking all over for you.”

She was unsure of what the girl was talking about. She tilted her head.

Isabelle wrapped her long blonde mane around her ears.

“Julian was looking for you. They’ve announced the next Dragon Race. It’s in two days time. He’s in Gaea now with Father and Elena.”

She bent her head down. Isabelle kissed her on the cheek.

“Now that Hera is gone, everyone says that you are the favorite.”

She looked at the ground sadly. Isabelle touched one of her wings which was now the length of a football field. Isabelle continued.

“I know Hera was your sister, but there are rumors today that Caleb was here in Kergan hunting you down. Maybe it *was* best that you were gone for a bit.”

The Dragon bent her head down in despair over the whole ordeal. She was convinced that the drama between the royal families would never end. .

“We better go. Father and Julian are expecting us.” Isabelle told her friend as she got up on her back.

Before launching, the creature in sadness, ignited a huge fireball into the sky as she and the princess headed towards the lavender sky and into the direction of the neutral Nation of Gaea...Already beginning to forget what had happened between her and the mysterious stranger moments before...

Chapter One

Gaea-Monarcha Galaxy

The late afternoon sun was luminous throughout the lady's bedchamber as she and her beloved prince lay quietly next to one another.

Stolen but precious moments, it was these times that the young couple both loved and hated.

With his world so chaotic, he enjoyed any free time they could spare. Veiled in sunlight, her petite frame faced his, welcoming him once more to be inside her.

The love they shared enveloped him. In their short years together, the two of them had been through what most couples did in a lifetime. He was never so content with anyone in his life.

It was the opposite for her. She hated the silence. It was an eerie calm that meant the visions she was seeing would return and only get worse. Fire and destruction was seen when she closed her eyes. She needed him to keep her mind occupied with talk of their upcoming wedding but knew if she pushed, he'd either stay quiet or they'd quarrel about the upcoming Dragon Race being held in a couple of nights.

Dampened by their lovemaking, the prince began to play with a stray blonde curl that lay against his lover's chest. When she didn't respond, he couldn't help but to notice the concern on her face. "What is it my love?"

She told him pointedly. "I hate the races."

Reassuring her, he gently kissed the top of her forehead, smoothing her hair back in an

attempt to reassure her. “No, you don’t.”

She played with the cascade of dark brown waves that flowed around his chiseled face. She smiled at him weakly. “Yes, I do Julian.”

He rolled his eyes in aggravation. He had a feeling something was wrong but for now he only wanted to cherish the few hours they had left together before he rode in the race in a couple of days.

“My visions tell me of fire and destruction. They grow more intense as the Races approach.” She warned.

He took her tiny hand that was playing with his hair and brought it to his lips. “Must we do this now Elena?”

Her eyes welled with tears. She cried. “I am concerned about you. I don’t know where these visions are coming from. Please, do not race this time.”

“Must we quarrel about this now? You know I have to race.” He insisted.

“Why must we quarrel? All I ask of you is to not run this time.”

Fluffing up a pillow, he turned from her, leaning his well-built body against it. His steel-blue eyes stared in frustration at the sheer white canopy surrounding them.

“Julian, please hear me out. I feel there is something very wrong.”

“Elena, with you there is a problem with every race.”

“That’s not true. I love the races. But you know as well as I do that the races have gotten more dangerous with each year. Instead of being for entertainment, they are now meant as a revenge tactic from the Tacorians. All of that nonsense between your families is meaningless.”

Suddenly, he felt a chill creep up his spine. He placed a blanket over his torso.

“Meaningless? How could racing for my country’s royal jewels be meaningless?” He

snapped.

“Not by you Julian, but by Caleb. You know as well as I do that he’ll do anything to win.”

Julian smiled impishly. His blue eyes danced with delight just thinking about Caleb’s racing inexperience. “Oh please, Caleb? Think I am worried about him? He can be mad at me all he wants for Hera’s murder, but everyone who knows me also knows that I’d never kill a dragon.”

Elena took a deep breath. She moved her body on top of his and placed her chin on his flat stomach.

“I know you didn’t. But I see buildings burning to the ground, people screaming...*death*. Julian, I fear for both you and Olivia. Caleb is a Tacorian. He doesn’t think like our families do. He is much like his father, Valorian. Retaliation first, common sense, much later.”

Listening to her intently, he again played with her hair as she showered his lower stomach with kisses. Feeling his shaft underneath the sheet grow hard, he shifted his weight towards hers, groaning in pleasure.

“I hate Valorian more than Caleb. Caleb is nothing more than a spoiled prince that unlike me never had to fight for anything he wanted or believed in. I need to win this so that my family’s royal jewels can restore Kergan back to its former glory. The ongoing sentence from your Kingdom’s High Council has now made it difficult for our family to run the day to day operations of our kingdom. It is despicable that we have been borrowing money that is rightly ours from that bastard Valorian for the last two years.”

“Dragons are sacred here in our galaxy. They are known as protectors and nurturers. Look at Olivia with you. She is so devoted to you that she’d give her life to protect yours. Can’t

imagine why anyone would want to murder one of them.”

“It is unspeakable. Punishable by death. Why anyone would think that I would risk losing my family’s legacy on a senseless murder is as crazy as Valorian. It would make no sense.”

Julian said softly.

Elena’s eyebrows arched in shock as she heard Julian’s remarks.

“Some would say my love that you would have nothing to lose by murdering Hera. Since your family has nothing to its name but its dragons and titles.”

“I’d lose everything. I’d lose the respect of my subjects, the dragons, my men, my family, my life...*I’d lose you.*”

She shook her head. “I didn’t know until just now it was a capital offense. It was previously a high crime, never a death sentence.”

“Hera’s death was done with such brutality that your father told me they had no other choice but to make an amendment to the existing law.”

“I can’t help but to wonder why it was done, especially with a Dragon’s sword. I didn’t know they still made them. I supposed that I have been so preoccupied with our wedding details and he on charting out the race course, that I didn’t even bother to ask him about any changing legislation.”

“Elena, if Caleb decides to murder Olivia or attempts to kill me, he’s a dead man himself.” Julian said smugly.

Elena snickered. “Well, if he did try, it’d be interesting to see how Valorian would try to get him out of it. Father will be in such a state.”

Julian laughed. “Poor Reddick. Dealing with that family has got to be the worst experience. My father or I could look at someone wrong and Valorian would be going to the

High Council looking to find out where and why we looked at that person the way we did and to boot try to fine us for it.”

Elena giggled. “True. Do you think Olivia is fast enough?”

His thoughts went to his dragon and best friend proudly. He nodded. “I do. Since the two of us only run at night and since she’s much younger, her vision is sharper than Hera’s was when we last raced. Olivia nearly beat her. The only reason Hera and Markkos won was because Hera just happened to have known the race course that we were racing a little better.

“Hera was a fast one.” Elena said.

“Yes she was. However, Caleb’s Dragon, Orion, is slower and older than both Hera and Olivia. She physically appears stronger but Olivia’s quicker. She can run circles around her flight-wise.”

“Olivia needs to be cautious of her sister. Orion’s got a mean streak. There is much anger in her.”

“Unfortunately, that’s how their former trainer raised her to be. Why they bring their dragons up to be angry to others I’ll never know.”

“I don’t think they know how to be anything else. Out of all of them, I think Marrkos is the only one who has some resemblance of a soul.” Elena said.

“If I win, father could finally be happy. All that nonsense in the past will be finally left where it belongs, in the past.”

“Still think your father was framed for selling secrets to the Peglan Galaxy back then?”

Julian nodded. “I do. He’s insistent that the letters written to King Peglan by him were not him at all.”

“Father doesn’t think so either. Neither does Petras if that eases your mind any.”

“It does. However, without proof, those charges will stick to he and my mother. If I win, Valorian can no longer speak about my father’s affair with Queen Nysa and continue the sanctions because of it. We can deal with treason charges after we have a win underneath us.”

He was going to race whether she hated it or not. Rolling her eyes in defeat, she replied.

“All right then, since you’re going to race despite my concerns, promise me that you will be careful?”

He agreed. “I will and I’ll only do so because of some royal wedding that’s being held after the race is over.”

She chuckled. “The only reason? Not because of something like, love?”

He scooped her up from his stomach and placed her down flat on her back. She squealed with delight as she felt his hard shaft press against the inside of her firm thigh. He said softly.

“Maybe love has got a little bit to do with it.”

Elena gently touched his shoulder.

“I love you.” She told him.

His eyes melted at the sight of her. “Now, since that argument is all over and done with. Can we can spend the rest of our time together doing more productive things?”

“Hmmm. I wonder what we could do?” She teased.

His eyes were dark with passion. He bent down and kissed her hard on the lips. With his cock straining against her, he parted her legs with his strong thighs and entered her.

She gasped at the force of his entry. “*Oh the gods Julian!*”

Their passion consumed them. She held onto him as he thrust into her again and again. Meeting his thrusts with equal rhythm, the two became one spiraling out of control.

Lying next to one another, Elena hoped that when she closed her eyes like Julian had

done; the visions would be gone as well.

Chapter Two

A couple of days later as the sun set against the seaside Dragon's launch pad of Gaea's High Council Hall, shades of purples, pinks and blues painted the sky like a tapestry.

It was the first evening of the Sun Festival, which not only celebrated the Sun's Birth of the Mother Dragon, but also for the last twenty-five years, was the home one of the most dangerous and eagerly awaited races of the year, the Dragon Races of the Monarcha Galaxy.

Each year, thousands of people from all over the Galaxy came to witness the start and finish of the Dragon Races in the marbled hallway of the High Council at Gaea.

Since the race was moments from now, Elena decided to talk to her father while they walked toward Council Hall.

She was wearing a light purple dress with silver lace trimmed on its long sleeves, jeweled bodice and long train.

She wore the pink and black diamond engagement necklace draped in silver that Julian gave her along with a simple silver headdress given as a gift to her by her father.

As the youngest elder of the High Council met his daughter in the middle of the corridor, Reddick smiled at her proudly. He approved of his future son-in-law a great deal. Julian reminded him of the way he was with Elena's mother during their courtship. Intense, flirtatious, and loving.

He could sense her concern as she approached. Their strong intuition could be both a blessing and curse. As much he loved Julian like a son, he knew from what he saw in her daughter's future there would always be both danger and sadness for them. .

For his family's sake, Reddick decided to not interfere and let the young ones chart

their own destiny. He had hoped his visions were wrong.

Kissing her gently on the cheek, he greeted her.

“My darling, you look beautiful.”

“Thank you Father.”

The two began to walk towards the Council Hall.

“Father, I come to you with concern for my love’s safety.”

Reddick held his daughter’s hand in an attempt to reassure her. “Elena, now you know as well as I do that the races are dangerous.”

“But the visions I’ve been having father are much more frightening than a race course. Can you tell me where the assets are?”

Reddick shook his head. His hazel eyes flared. “No, I cannot. You know the rules.”

“Wherever the destination is...There are buildings on fire and people, earthlings I do believe that are dying or will.”

“Did you tell Julian of your concerns, darling?”

She nodded. “Yes. He’s insistent on running the race.”

Reddick smirked. “It figures. His family’s royal stones are what he needs to retrieve and bring back here before Caleb does.”

She was shocked at her father’s attitude.

“And Caleb? You’re not concerned about him wanting to hurt Julian or Olivia because of Hera?”

Reddick stopped dead in his tracks. He turned towards Elena, who appeared to be frustrated by everyone’s lack of apprehension.

“If he tries to hurt Olivia or Julian, he’s dead. It is that simple.”

“Is it? Besides our family, aren’t the Tacorians one of the wealthiest in the galaxy? It would take nothing for Valorian to bribe some of the other elders into taking Caleb’s side.”

Reddick was angry. He refused to listen to his daughter speak with disrespect about the other elders in this fashion. Since his father was the former Emperor of Gaea, Reddick after his death several years ago, hand-picked men he knew would govern the galaxy much like his father did with neutrality. Anyone caught taking a bribe would be subject to a lifetime prison sentence.

“Take it back Elena! They would not!”

Elena shook her head. “I won’t father! Whatever Valorian wants, he gets. Julian told me that his family is borrowing money from Valorian now to simply run the day-to-day functions of their kingdom.”

Reddick looked blankly at her.

“You didn’t know? Every time Valorian jumps; the High Council jumps with him.”

Reddick shook his head in disbelief.

“Not true!”

“It is true! Think that if Caleb kills Julian or Olivia for Hera he’ll go free? I do.”

”Elena stop!” Reddick yelled.

Her pleas rang throughout the hall.

“Father, you know I’m right. If Caleb hurts Julian or Olivia you all have to sentence him to death.”

Reddick began to walk again towards the launch pad.

“Julian will be your son-in-law! I have never asked you for special treatment on his behalf because if he knew I went to you, he’d never take it! But I am begging you to sentence

Caleb if he hurts him...*Please!*” She cried as he turned around and walked the opposite way and up the balcony steps of the Council Hall.

Reddick looked up at her as she watched him now over the balcony. As the crowd began to fill the hall. He closed his eyes. *‘What would you do if we didn’t sentence him Elena?’* he asked her in silence.

She stood there blankly touching her necklace.

He opened his eyes. He got his answer with a glance so chilling that he did briefly have to consider her concerns for her future husband.

‘Revenge doesn’t suit you well daughter. Not at all.’ He thought.

Julian’s younger sister, Isabelle wearing a pale pink gown and black hooded cloak with pink trim, her royal family’s colors, joined her future-sister-in law on the balcony.

She was a breathtaking beauty with blonde hair and blue eyes that resembled her brother’s.

Ever the royal daughter, she loved her family and would protect her family from harm during war or attack if necessary.

But like her mother, Isabelle tried to seek another alternative for the constant racing that was becoming more dangerous with every win the Tacorians achieved. To her, there was always another way to achieve peace. A solution that would mutually benefit both families so that they can could both rule without fear or repercussions from the one another.

Taking Elena’s hand in hers, she whispered softly.

“Quarreling with your father?”

“Only because I am very concerned for your brother’s safety. You know of Caleb’s vow to kill Olivia to avenge Hera?” Elena asked.

“I have heard. But I wouldn’t worry yourself over it. Caleb wouldn’t know Olivia if he saw her in daylight.” Isabelle reassured her.

“And what about at night? Hera was asleep in her lair when she was killed.”

Isabelle continued. “Elena, you know as well as I do that they’re racing at night. Orion is no match for Olivia. Olivia’s much faster than her sister.”

Elena’s eyes filled with tears.

“Olivia is such a dear friend to me. I wouldn’t know what I’d do if he were to hurt her.”

“My dear Elena, Caleb can’t hurt what he can’t see. They will win. She and Julian will come back and the two of you can continue with your wedding plans. ”

Elena put her head on the young princess’ shoulder. “I hope so little one. I hope so.”

The crowd gathered on either end of the launch pads at the opposite ends of the Hall, the gates on each side opened streaming the welcoming moonlight over the Twin Seas that surrounded the exterior walls of Council Hall.

With all four Elders all standing high on the Council Platform, the crowd of at least a hundred thousand or more jumped to their feet screaming wildly.

Petras, the oldest and high- ranking member of the Council walked forward and stood onto his own platform right in front of the people.

In attempt to quiet them down, Petras, put up his hand in silence.

“Now good people of the Galaxy on behalf of the citizens of Gaea, we welcome to you the first night of the Sun Festival!”

The crowd jumped to its feet once more cheering wildly.

“As you know, with the first night of the Festival, there is also an annual tradition between the monarchs of our galaxy known as the Dragon Races. Since our racers are here, shall we begin?”

The crowd squealed with delight while the Elders smiled with joy at the start of the races.

“Kergan! Kergan! Prince Julian! For your father! Your realm! Win all back for Kergan!” Some of the crowd chanted.

“Tacorian! Caleb, justice for Hera! Win for Hera! Justice is yours.” Others in the crowd yelled.

Elena looked down at the crowd. She and Princess Isabelle sat proudly with their ladies in waiting in the balcony. Still concerned, she was not only impressed by the crowd’s size but also the huge support Julian received from them.

“Ladies and gentlemen, Prince Julian of Kergan and Prince Caleb of Tacorian!” Petras announced.

The crowd clapped as the two men, along with their majestic Dragons came from either end of the Hall walking towards the Platform.

All bowed to Petras including the Dragons.

“Majesties, Olivia, Orion. Welcome to the Races!”

Julian looked up at the balcony. Elena looked at him with sadness as she played with the pink and black diamond necklace around her neck.

Acknowledging their founding son, the stones glowed as she toyed with them. He smiled lovingly at her as he touched the upper left side of his dark-blue flight suit where his royal crest of pink, blue and black diamonds were sewn in.

The Black Dragon known as Olivia also looked up at her friend in acknowledgement. Elena stood up and bowed towards Julian and Olivia. Her ladies in waiting along with Princess Isabelle curtsied.

Going back to the opposite end of the Hall without an acknowledgment or notice was Caleb. He simply stared blankly at the couple. He appeared desperate to get the race up and going.

Wearing his black flight suit adorned with a red ruby crest symbolizing Tacorian, he turned and petted Orion, the White Dragon, in attempt to calm her nerves down.

Julian rolled his eyes. Olivia couldn't see Caleb clearly from her viewpoint, but sensed his contempt.

"He is a defiant one." The voice said.

"He is indeed Olivia." Julian told her.

The black dragon, appearing almost blue from the moonlit sky, looked at her older sister for several moments before turning back towards Julian.

"Orion has grown complacent and heavy. I can gain length from her easily."

He nodded. "I'm counting on you my friend to do just that."

"Majesty I am not worried. Neither should you. Bring on the course, bring on the race."

Julian laughed. "Most definitely my friend. Shall we go to the launch pad?"

Olivia nodded. "Yes majesty."

Julian blew Elena a kiss and walked away from the balcony and over to the launch pad.

Both men got up on their Dragons and draped their hooded riding capes over them.

Julian's was of dark blue; Caleb's was crimson red.

Petras stood once again, he proclaimed.

“And now as the races begin, Reddick is ready with your race course.”

Reddick with two pieces of paper walks over and gives one to Julian and one to Caleb.

Reddick wishes them both luck and walks back to his seat on the Council Platform. Petras continued.

“The winner of the race must not only come in first but must have the assets in hand as well. Any other combination will not do and the person coming in second will win automatically. When the assets are brought here and inspected, I will put them on the Kergan Tower that is seated on Reddick's right. If the assets are true, they will shine towards Kergan and stay on for as long as that Kingdom is being restored. If the assets are proved fakes, the racer must forfeit.

The losing team will lose use of the Mother Dragon for one year to the winning team along with the sizable entrance fee from entering the race. On that note, are the two princes ready?”

The crowd jumped to its feet as the men on their Dragon began to gallop along their long launch pads. Petras got as excited as the crowd did.

“Princes! Ready! Set! Go! Go! Go!” Petras yelled as the two men went off the platforms and over each end of the Twin Seas. Headed for Destinies unknown.

Chapter Three

Stockbridge, NY. –

The two descended upon a clear field that overlooked a lake. It appeared to be a park of some kind they were in with a large, multi-level water fountain cascading streams of water back into the lake.

Looking up at the evening sky whose stars paved their way towards the earth's galaxy; Julian Kergan looked at his surroundings and smiled. He had never been here before and could not help but to appreciate the Earth's beauty and mild summer wind blowing against his face.

He walked over to the lake, watching his reflection return the favor to him. He was strikingly handsome with waves of brown hair and blue eyes that were as clear as the Twin Seas.

Julian looked down at his flight royal crest of pink, black and blue that reminded him of the task at hand.

"Peace, prosperity and freedom." The voice said.

"Yes my friend." Julian replied.

The voice reassured him. *"Destiny is ours. We can do this. You and me."*

In the shadows, Olivia's large figure towered over Julian's tall frame.

Magnificent in size, the creature outstretched her long, black wings against the rising sun.

Smiling, Julian turned to his beloved friend.

The Dragon was as wise as her master was strong. Authorities notwithstanding, her voice

had warmth that was comforting.

Julian walked closer to her. He touched her cheek. Her sapphire blue eyes glowed in admiration of him. Looking up at the sky, the moon that had shined brightly was now fading into gradual beginnings of sunlight. Turning towards his dear friend, he patted her gently on her side.

The Dragon slowly began to morph into a raven-haired beauty. Her blue eyes danced with joy. The mischievous smile was contagious.

Her black scales transformed into porcelain skin, the heavy frame that was used to protect both her master and their Kingdom were now smooth and flawless as the royal stones her master wanted so desperately to retrieve.

She stood naked in the park, smiling at her friend with her hands on her hips. Julian smiled back. He often wondered how such a fierce creature could turn into something so beautiful.

Outstretching his hands to her, he replied.

“Morning, Olivia.”

Acknowledging him, she took her hands into his and bowed. “Your majesty.”

“You look beautiful as always,” he said.

Looking down at her slender frame, she answered, “Thank you. Sir, I need clothes. Must I remind you that Caleb and Orion will be here soon?”

“It’s only the tenth time you’ve told me since we started this race,” he retorted.

She was puzzled at his attire. She knew if he did not change soon, both of them would stick out like a sore thumb.

Curious to know why she seemed so concerned, he asked, “What?”

“You know as well as I do that your outfit will not work here. The High Council’s instructions specifically said to ‘*blend in.*’ Royal Kergan riding attire isn’t exactly what I’d call blending in,” she stated.

Already weary from her persistence, he watched the sun begin to rise over the lake for a couple of minutes before he answered.

“We’ll get clothes. We’ll get clothes.”

“*This day your majesty.*” Olivia said sarcastically.

He began to walk towards the exit of the park with Olivia walking quickly behind him.

Julian inhaled another deep breath. He seemed to be enjoying both the sights of the park along with the early summer scent of a nearby magnolia tree in bloom. .

“Ahhh. The nights are so peaceful for me. Maybe it’s because I don’t hear my Dragon nagging me as if I were a child on a constant basis.” He teased.

“Reminder sire, if I die, you do not ride again. If you lose the race, Kergan remains destitute and you’ll be even more obsessed with taking down Valorian. Besides, I’m here to help; nagging should be reserved for your soon to be wife with whom I adore.” The changeling quipped.

“The things I put up with for my Kingdom.” He smirked.

Olivia winked.

“Eric wait!” a female voice yelled.

Startled, Julian and Olivia quickly scurried into the bushes at the park’s exit.

Seconds later, a young couple stormed into the park’s view. The man, about as tall as Julian, wore a pair of blue jeans paired with a navy t-shirt. The woman, who seemed to be of average build, wore a pair of black yoga pants, a matching hoodie and white tank top.

Continuing to argue amongst one another, the couple was startled by a scream, followed by a loud splash in the lake.

Surprised, the young couple headed for the lake while Olivia flapped her arms and legs violently in the water. The man jumped in as Olivia continued to scream and flail about. Catching her, he picked her up and was mesmerized by her breathtaking beauty.

Feigning exhaustion, Olivia, closed her eyes. The young man quickly took her out of the water, gently placing her on the ground.

He couldn't help but stare at the way her damp body glistened in the summer sun. Every inch of her was curved to excellence. From the tips of her toes to her plump breasts, he began to unconsciously stroke her damp hair and then her soft cheek.

Oblivious to his girlfriend, who seemed to be both concerned for the young lady lying on the grass and angry at her boyfriend for how he was acting, she wanted to call 911, but found that she couldn't help but to stare at the woman in front of them.

Continuing to watch Olivia, the man was overwhelmed by the emotions that came over him. He was enveloped in compassion and sadness. In one involuntary motion, he knelt down and began to shake Olivia and yell at the motionless body. "Miss. Wake up!" he said.

Olivia continued to lie still on the ground. Julian stayed back in the bushes observing the events unfolding.

The man looked over to his girlfriend. "She's not waking up." He told her as he attempted to shake her one last time.

The young woman pulled out her cell phone. As the young woman lifted the receiver, Olivia's eyes began to flutter open. The man instructed his girlfriend to stop the call.

"Oh thank god!" he said. Olivia glanced at the man. She smiled at him weakly.

“Are you all right?” he asked.

Olivia laughed. “I am now.” She told him. Her blue eyes met his light brown eyes warmly. Impressed by their blue color, he was too dazed to realize that her eyes were getting bluer and bluer as he continued to stare down into their depths. His girlfriend noticed the strange phenomena and couldn’t help but to stare at her also. Seconds later, the couple was instantly frozen in time. Olivia’s eyes glowed sapphire blue. She motioned for Julian to exchange the man's clothing for his own.

Minutes later, Olivia and Julian had changed into the couple’s clothes. The two had strategically placed the lying couple close together as appearing to be snuggled in each other’s arms. When Olivia’s spell wore off, the two wouldn’t remember anything that happened in the park.

They had wasted enough time. Prince Caleb of Tacorian was getting closer. They needed to find where the stones were and return them to Gaea as soon as they could.

Chapter Four

Julian looked at Olivia's clothing with enthusiasm. "Very nice," he replied.

Olivia looked over Julian's outfit. She approved of the way the pants and shirt fit over her master's toned body. "Thank you your highness. You look good as well," she said.

The two of them walked briskly through the town. It was not what they were used to. The walkway was lined with shops brimming full of goods and wares displayed in orderly fashion. It was a departure from their world where drought and poverty plagued the landscape.

"The High Council said that the assets were displayed brilliantly in a storefront," said Julian.

Surprised by the announcement, Olivia asked. "A storefront? Why would someone display two assets like the ones we're retrieving in such plain sight?" She asked.

Casually Julian replied. "Apparently, they don't know they're ours."

Olivia sighed. She couldn't help but to be angered by the nature of earthlings.

"Earthlings can be so obnoxious. Those stones are a symbol for economic growth and freedom. Not for vanity."

"Nothing wrong with one taking a little pride in one's self Olivia, you and I wouldn't be here without it," Julian replied.

"But *ours* is for what is gone. It's for Kergan. I find it disgusting to see what the Kingdom Tacorian has done to our home. Kergan deserves to be brought back as a viable and profitable nation. Not as the kingdom whose king made a mistake years ago that he continues to pay for."

Realizing that she may have spoken to her master inappropriately, she found that she

could no longer hold in her feelings. She felt, like most in her kingdom, that Julian's parents by now had paid for their wrong deeds several times over. Even more of an annoyance was the fact that Julian and his younger sister Isabelle had to suffer because of it as well.

"Majesty, I realize that I'm speaking out of line. However, it is with both confusion and anger regarding the High Council and the nature of earthlings. I will never understand how they can place such effort into *things*. Things to me are objects. Instead of helping and concentrating on each other's needs, the earthlings have decided to display *our* assets on a storefront because to them, they are beautiful. Makes no sense." She said.

"You're forgiven my friend. You wouldn't be you if I couldn't rely on your wisdom and input." said Julian.

"Thank you, majesty." She said.

The two had now walked until they stood in front of a restaurant. The pleasant smell combined with the warm air reminded the two that they had not eaten anything in several hours.

Touching his stomach, Julian replied. "Hungry?"

"Mmm, Yes. Do you think they have Gemma fish here?" Olivia asked innocently.

Julian snickered. "I'm afraid they don't. But I'm sure we can find something just as suitable for you." He told her as they entered the restaurant.

The eatery had an open family-style air to it. Wait staff brought to their tables plates of waffles and pancakes that were stacked high with butter and maple syrup. Bowls of steaming, scrambled eggs were quickly coupled with pitchers of different fruit juices and dishes full of sausages and crisp bacon. Their smell was hypnotic. The pace of the place held a hectic but friendly atmosphere that had never been experienced by either Julian or Olivia before. It definitely sparked their interest.

Curious, the two of them attempted to educate themselves on the earthling's behavior by observing them for several minutes. All of them seemed to be truly enjoying each other's company on this morning by sharing stories, laughing and eating.

'Why did they seem so happy? They were happy for no reason.'

Julian asked himself. He couldn't help but to wonder what his own home must have been like prior his parents misfortune years ago.

'Were they ever this happy? I've never seen my parents truly happy. I can't say that even I have been truly happy. There has never been any true peace. Not even with Elena.' He thought to himself as he continued to watch the people inside the restaurant.

"They seem to be a happy bunch don't they?" Olivia asked Julian.

"Mmm. They do." Julian said as he studied a couple that sat directly across from where he and Olivia were standing.

He watched the young couple laugh and tease each other while they held each other's hands tenderly underneath the table. Both of them were around Julian and Elena's age. The woman reminded him so much of Elena with her shoulder-length blonde hair and hazel eyes. The resemblance was so striking, that Julian had to remind himself that Elena was home waiting for him to return to her home of Gaea. Catching the man watching her from the door out of the corner of her eye, the young lady turned to Julian and smiled warmly. Thinking of his love, he smiled sadly at the young woman and her boyfriend. Olivia felt his heart gradually grow heavy while he thought of his beloved Lady of Gaea.

"Missing Elena?" She asked

Julian smiled weakly. "Yes. I want this over as quickly as possible...sometimes my thoughts overwhelm me with all of the things I hope to give her one day."

Olivia placed her hand on her master's shoulder in an attempt to reassure him. "She doesn't love you for the things you can give her. She loves *you* for who you are."

Julian attempted to re-focus on eating and obtaining the assets. He took a deep breath and nodded his head. "True. But don't you ever wonder about how different things would be if we had just as much power as Tacorian?"

Olivia nodded. "Sometimes as good as wealth can be, it also corrupts. I would hate for it to twist and manipulate people only for innocents like you and Isabelle to get caught up in its aftermath. Your father's affair I hope taught you that. The Kingdom of Tacorian has used its wealth and power into vengeance on its enemies. Hopefully King Valorian and family will learn very soon that what's given can be taken away. The sooner, the better in my opinion."

Olivia continued to watch as people walked towards each other freely. Seemingly without a care in the world, they greeted each other with endless chatter and smiles.

"I think what's getting to me is that they are acting as though nothing is wrong." Olivia explained to Julian.

"Because for them there isn't...At least for now." Julian replied.

Sarcastically Olivia replied. "*Must be nice.*"

A woman with long blonde hair and blue eyes came over to them with all smiles.

She introduced herself as their hostess and sat them down in a corner booth. Once they were situated, she placed in front of them two menus.

Olivia picked up her menu, glanced at it for a minute and placed it back down.

“What is it?” Julian asked her.

“We pick our food from a list?” She asked.

“Yes Olivia. We do that so that the cook knows what to prepare for us.” He replied.

“What if I change my mind?” She asked.

“Then make up your mind before the lady comes back.” Julian said.

Baffled, Olivia again picked up the menu. This was still new to her. She had tried to learn as much as possible about Earth and the earthlings, however, for her they were very complex people.

Kergan’s citizens only knew good and evil, with evil being the most prevalent. To them, evil meant survival. The more evil you were, the more feared you were by your enemies. The more feared by your enemies you were, the stronger you became.

Her master in her opinion had grown tired of people fearing him and his younger sister Isabelle.

What happened to his parents was a long time ago. She would always remain loyal to him regardless of any outcome. The High Council’s curse at times was in part a blessing to him and his family. To be a Dragon of Kergan meant she was one of the Changelings.

Dragon by night, human by day, Olivia was still a young changeling that was discovering new talents each day.

So far, she could read minds and freeze people for several minutes at a time with them waking up with little or no memory afterwards.

All of the changelings had different powers and eventually as she grew older, her powers would get even more varied and noticeable.

She continued to scan the menu before making a decision on eggs and fruit juice.

She couldn't help but to be disappointed over the fact that there were no Gemma fish here on earth.

Gemma fish were the main source of nutrition for both Dragons and changelings on both Tacorian and Kergan. She missed their salty taste and fresh sea smell.

Suddenly her senses stopped fantasizing about Gemma Fish to picking up a distinct foul order. Startled, she looked up towards Julian.

"What is it?" he asked.

"I smell Dragon's Blood." She told him pointedly.

Looking around for her enemies, Olivia saw a young man wearing a crimson hood standing behind Julian.

"Julian!" Olivia yelled as she saw Caleb's sword rise slowly from the back of Julian's chair.

Before he could swing, Olivia eyes quickly turned sapphire blue and in one swift move she had thrust Caleb into the air backwards and through the restaurant bar.

People screamed in horror out of the restaurant. Surprisingly, to greet everyone in the middle of the street was Caleb's Dragon, Orion.

Known as the White Dragon, Orion was beautiful as she was evil.

She was white with gray wings that spanned the length of a football field. Her eyes, like her younger sister Olivia were sapphire blue.

Orion was silent as she watched the people stare at her in disbelief. As Julian headed towards the door, he suddenly felt an enormous thrust hurling him backwards into the bar. Removing his hood, Caleb walked in front of the prince. His light brown hair and green eyes gazed at Julian with hatred.

Julian had hit his head on the corner of the bar. Attempting to focus, he felt a sharp-searing pain from the back of his head to the front. He placed his hand on the back of his head and felt something sticky. Pulling his hand from the back of his head, he noticed that his hand was soaked in blood. .

I see you're wasting time as usual Julian.” Caleb smirked.

Julian struggled to get up. His eyes still tried to focus, but were having a hard time doing so. “I see that you still have a need to make a grand entrance Caleb.”

“That was for killing my brother’s Dragon, Hera.”

Defiant, Julian replied. “I’m growing tired of these accusations from you. I didn’t do it. Besides, knowing you, you probably killed her yourself just to have the opportunity of running the race yourself. May I remind you that I nearly beat Markkos last year?”

With a smirk, Caleb reminded his enemy. “*Nearly*...that is the word. You *nearly* beat him Julian. To me, that means your best was not good enough as usual. So here you are again, racing for wealth and respect only to lose and be indebted to our family for another year. When I win this race, hate to say that things for you and your family will be no different than what they are now.”

Julian sneered. “Are you proud that you’ve got your Dragon sitting in the middle of the street? These people have done nothing to you.”

Caleb looked at Orion staring at the people around her. He smiled proudly. Knowing full well that with one breath she could destroy them all.

Looking smug he turned back towards Julian.

“Where’s your Dragon?” Caleb asked him.

“I’m sure you’d like to know.” Teased Julian

“Was that her that pushed me into the bar?” Caleb asked.

Julian nodded. “Nope.” He said as he took a stray piece of glass that was left on the bar and began to look through it. “Sometimes it still baffles me how something as beautiful as glass comes from plain sand. It’s so reflective, yet so sharp.” He said throwing it at Caleb who ducked.

Caleb ran up to Julian and pushed him up against the wall.

“Where is she?” Caleb asked.

“Shouldn’t you be more concerned about acquiring the assets instead of trying to hurt some creature?” Julian asked.

Caleb was getting aggravated. “Enough! Julian, I will ask you again. Where is the changeling?”

“I don’t know.” Julian shrugged.

Caleb took a deep breath. He dragged Julian outside in front of Orion. The two walked past Olivia who stood motionless within the crowd, awaiting any kind of signal from her master.

As Caleb walked by her, she only got a side glimpse of him.

He looked familiar to her. But she couldn’t place it. Maybe she had dealt with him before during one of their families many disputes.

But the hair, the cleft on his chin, she knew him. She was sure of it.

Silently she watched him storm through the crowd.

At the side of his beloved friend, he ordered.

“Orion, why don’t you show off your talents to these wonderful townspeople?”

Orion glanced around her; she then closed her eyes and took a deep breath. Seconds later, as she expelled her lungs; fire spewed quickly throughout the restaurant burning it quickly

to the ground. People began to run. Orion roared loudly. Caleb continued to hold Julian in front of the Dragon. He yelled.

“To whoever you are, you know the rules. If your rider dies; then you do as well. So why don’t you do us all a favor and come out!”

“No! Don’t you dare!” Julian commanded.

“All right changeling, don’t listen to me. Just watch as your master gets burnt to a crisp.” Caleb said. “Orion, kill him!” he demanded.

Orion roared. Before she could reach back for her fire, two fireballs came towards her, hurling her down the street and into a vacant building. Julian, breaking free from Caleb, ran towards Olivia. Before he could get to her, Orion had re-appeared. Picking up Julian, the Dragon was so angry that she threw him like a rag doll into the street.

Surprised by yet another new talent, Olivia was saddened that she was unprotected as a human. It was a part of the curse that she hated the most. As a Dragon, she couldn’t use her full power until after dark. Helpless, she ran towards her master who lay unconscious. She sobbed uncontrollably. . Caleb, putting his hand on Olivia’s shoulder replied. “Gotcha.”

Olivia turned towards Caleb in horror, quickly remembering him as the mysterious man swimming with her at the lake of Elderon.

Chapter Five

Lauren Symthe watched as Julian lie motionless on her couch.

She and her father, Ed, lived on the outskirts of Stockbridge. After what they had witnessed earlier, she knew that her home for now was probably the safest place for the young man.

Her hand touched his face; his pale skin was cool to the touch.

‘Who are you?’ she thought as she continued to watch him.

Still bewildered, Ed Smythe came in with a basin of water and a washcloth.

“Anything yet?” he asked as she took the basin from him and placed it on the coffee table.

“No. Not yet. I’m really worried.” She said.

She continued to look at the handsome man in front of her.

“The doctor will be here soon.” Ed replied. “That cut on the back of his head is a nasty one.”

Lauren agreed. “I know.” Ed sat beside his daughter. He couldn’t help but to watch the young man who minutes before was fighting with a swordsman and a Dragon.

“He’s handsome isn’t he?” Lauren said. Her father smiled grimly. “Yes Lauren, he is a striking man.”

“Why do you think they were after him?” she asked her father.

“I have *no* idea. I still cannot believe that there was *that* creature in the middle of the

road.” Ed told her.

“You mean the Dragon Dad?” Lauren said.

“Yes Lauren. The Dragon.” He said shaking his head in bewilderment.

“All of this is surreal. Like some twisted fairy tale.”

“You’re not kidding.” Ed said. “And that poor lady he was with. They took her and flew away.”

Lauren snickered at the absurdity of what she had witnessed earlier. “God only knows to where.” She said.

On her arm, she removed the rubber band that she had wrapped around her wrist and began to pull her shoulder length light brown hair into a ponytail. Her blue eyes never wavered from her handsome guest. Her mind was full of questions; however, she knew that none of the answers would be given until he woke up. Her conscious was so consumed with curiosity that neither she nor her father heard the doctor come in.

“How’s the patient?” he asked as he stood behind Ed. Startled, Ed turned to him and traded spots with him.

“Oh doctor, I didn’t hear you. He hasn’t moved yet.” Ed said.

“Mmm. Let’s take a look here.” The doctor said.

Lauren and Ed took a step backwards and watched as the doctor began to examine Julian.

The doctor began at the bottom. Checking his reflexes, he was anticipating some sort of response.

There was nothing. The doctor then motioned for Lauren and Edward to remove Julian’s shirt so that he could check for any cuts or bruises.

Watching the doctor check his heartbeat, Lauren continued to marvel at his body. He seemed as if he were chiseled out of stone. *'There wasn't an ounce of fat on him. No one could ever be this perfect. Could they?'*

His muscles were long and lean. She glanced at his six-pack abs. They were so flawless that they didn't seem real. None of it did. For the distance that the Dragon had thrown him, she couldn't help but to be puzzled as to why there wasn't a bruise on him.

"Doc, there's a nasty cut back there." Lauren said.

The doctor took a closer look at it. "It's only a flesh wound." He told them. Lauren stood up appearing stunned. "Then why won't he wake up?" She asked.

"I'm not sure. We'd need to take him to a hospital to make a better determination.

He could have a concussion."

"It's not an option." She told them. "I have a feeling that man and his *'thing'* would find him easily if we decided to move him."

Looking at Julian's blue eyes through his light pen, the doctor determined, "He seems to be in some sort of coma." He continued. "Ed, you said he was thrown?"

"Yes doc, he was thrown several feet. I'm surprised he survived."

"His heartbeat is strong. Yet there are no bruises or cuts. Except for the one on the back of his head, I am honestly puzzled by this. He really should be taken to the hospital for a more thorough examination." The doctor told them.

"No!" Lauren and Ed said in unison.

"It could help us further determine the cause." The doctor said.

"Doc, we can't. A lot of us watched as he was nearly killed this morning. His girlfriend was also kidnapped. While we were all trying to help the young man and his girlfriend, the man

who kidnapped her along with his Dragon proceeded to go on a rampage shooting fire on anything and anyone that got in their way. I have no doubt they'll be looking for him. They were looking for him after the havoc they wreaked but dad and I hid him in an abandoned building. If there wasn't anything else wrong with him, I just wished that he'd wake up. Lauren said.

“All of us do Lauren.” Ed said.

The three of them watched the handsome yet mysterious man sleep with blatant interest. All of them still full of questions, but unfortunately, no answers.

Chapter Six

Thirty miles from town, Caleb and Orion had brought Olivia to a quarry they had found.

Surrounded by a large body of water and a dense forest, the quarry was a place for not only providing shade on this warm afternoon, but to also conceal Orion and Olivia from inquisitive onlookers.

Caleb knew that time was running out. For now, Olivia was bound against a tree. If he did not kill her within a few hours time, she'd be back into her Dragon form only to kill him for his deeds.

He couldn't help but to stare at the petite woman in front of him.

It was only a couple of days before the race where the two of them spent the afternoon together swimming and screwing each other into oblivion.

She was different than he imagined her to be. Perhaps she had cast a spell on him that day. Her eyes were such a sapphire blue that he couldn't help but to be intrigued by them. Even after a couple of days, her eyes still remained with him.

Despite knowing what he had to do, he found himself hesitating. He normally never doubted himself. But for reasons unknown, his feelings were so off kilter that he realized that he had no idea where to even go to look for the assets. .

He had been so hell bent on getting revenge for Hera's death that he didn't follow the race route or the clues provided by the High Council to win the race. He had never been this foolish.

The whole time he was on his way to earth, he was curious to know what a

changeling had looked like. He had heard stories of their great beauty and of their telekinetic abilities, but as an enemy he had never seen what they were truly capable of until a couple of days ago.

‘Must stay focused. They are known as bewitchers.’ He thought to himself.

Olivia was distraught. Her beautiful, blue eyes were red from crying. Helpless without her master, she found that her powers would not work on Caleb.

“Why didn’t you tell me who you were at the lake?” He asked her.

“It wouldn’t have stopped you.”

“It would have.”

“And you would have tried to kill me. And before you would have attempted to murder me, you would have tried to have your way with me.”

He tried not to look at her again, for fear he’d wind up taking her again.

Walking over to the side of the tree, he asked,

“Where are the assets?”

“I don’t know.” She replied.

“I think you do.” He told her.

Appearing cross she replied. “Don’t you think if I knew, I would have told you? Caleb, I told you that we would see each other again. I saw a different side of you. Why did you hurt him so?”

Bemused Caleb walked over to her, touching her face, his fingers trailed down between the folds of the fabric that were between his fingers and her bare breasts. Reminiscing over how soft and full her breasts were, his mind went back to that moment when he enjoying teasing her before putting himself inside her.

Leaning against the side of the tree he got so close to her that he could smell the faint scent of the wildflowers that grew along the banks of Elderon Lake alongside her neck.

“Please, you’re alive. So is he. I assure you changeling that Orion did not hurt him. Your sympathies should be focused on more competitive and if you’d like more physical pursuits.”

“Hurting someone is competitive majesty?” Olivia retorted.

Caleb pulled away, his green eyes flared like daggers in her direction.

“They hurt another family member we cared for political gain. It is all about power Changeling. Julian wants what he’ll never have.” Caleb said.

Tired of arguing with him for now, Olivia closed her eyes.

‘Oh why don’t you answer? I’m in the quarry. Prince Julian, please answer me...Please?’ she begged.

“Not answering you huh?” Caleb asked her. He turned to Orion. “Wow, you clocked him good.” Caleb snickered. “Maybe next time he’ll think twice about hurting my family.”

“For the 100th time majesty, Prince Julian did not kill your brother’s Dragon, Hera.” Olivia said.

“Well one of you did.” Caleb said.

“Let me ask you Prince Caleb. Why would he? You and your family have taken everything that was once theirs. If you think about it, they need Hera more alive than dead. They won’t risk being punished by the High Council by hurting you. Not again.” She told him.

Caleb was impressed by the changeling’s loyalty to her master. He admired and respected it.

For a brief moment, there was even some sympathy for her and for what he needed to do later. Quickly, his thoughts turned back to vengeance.

“Have you thought changeling that the reason why your master killed my brother’s dragon was for pure gain? Hera was the fastest in the galaxy and beloved in our kingdom. If he wins this race, he gets a sizeable amount of freedom and wealth back for Kergan. And if he’s anything like his parents that can never happen.”

“Let me ask you a question. Why did you go to the lake of Elderon? You had never been there before. Princess Isabelle had said that you were coming to Kergan to kill me.”

“So you *did* know that was me?”

She shook her head. “No. I didn’t. I didn’t know until I saw you in town today. She told me that Julian was looking for me. I tend to go to the lake to get away for a bit. A lot of the ladies-in-waiting do. I usually will talk to one of the border guards.”

He began to laugh. “One of my brothers in arms told me about this beautiful lady who swims in the lake on occasion. He told me that if you are nice to her, then she’ll reward you nicely in return.”

Her eyes narrowed.

“So, you came to have me?”

“Yes. I needed a break for a bit.”

“You lied to me Caleb.”

“About what?”

“You said you worked for the royal family.”

He shook his head. “No, I told you that I work alongside of them. And that day, I had gotten into an argument with my youngest brother Tristan. He wants to negotiate a peace treaty

between our kingdoms but father was against it.”

Olivia studied his body language. She sensed his conflict. . He didn’t know how to deal with his actions over the last couple of days. How could he kill someone he had made love to only days before? What if this was a spell she had put him under? What if she was lying to save her master?

“What do you want Caleb? Do you want peace? Is that why you were taking a break?”

He took a deep breath and raked his hands through his hair.

“It’s too late for peace between our families changeling. My parents fight is now my fight. I love my father and will always remain loyal to him.”

She began to cry again.

“And I will with Julian. Caleb, he didn’t do it.” said Olivia.

“People saw a man wearing a Kergan riding cloak that matched Julian’s description. The man walked into Hera’s lair as she slept and stabbed her with a Dragon Sword.”

“Julian has never owned a Dragon Sword. They are forbidden in Kergan. If he had that sword, he would have killed my sister Orion today and before that he would have killed me and kidnapped our Mother Dragon that lives among the Twin Seas ages ago.” Olivia stated.

Caleb glimpsed at Olivia. She brought up a valid point. If Julian had the sword on him, he wouldn’t have hesitated to kill Orion earlier.

“I understand your point, but I still cannot let you or Julian leave with the assets.”

Her blue eyes filled with tears. “Then kill me then.” She said.

Caleb’s mind was spinning out of control as Olivia continued through sobs. “If I die, you can leave him here on earth. He won’t be able to go home, but at least he’ll be alive. If you must do this, do it now. ” She cried.

“No.” Caleb said softly. “Not yet. I need more answers.”

“Well I have none. Maybe you should have asked him that before you had my sister throw him clear across town.” Olivia told him.

“Maybe I should ask Lady Elena. Perhaps she hid the sword for him.”

“You stay away from Lady Elena!” Olivia screamed.

“Or what? You’ll be dead by the time I get the truth from her and Julian will be stranded here on earth.” Caleb replied.

Olivia closed her eyes. Elena was her only hope of getting a message to her master. *‘My lady, it is Olivia. Julian has been hurt and Prince Caleb of Tacorian has kidnapped me. Please answer.’*

There was only silence.

“You’re begging is excruciating. It’s giving me a headache.” Caleb replied as he walked away. He passed by Orion who was watching the dispute intently.

Orion was a neck length from the tree. She glanced over at Olivia and tilted her head. Olivia turned towards her sister with rage.

“My sister, your behavior saddens me greatly. You have turned so evil.” Olivia told her. “Mother birthed all of her children to be protectors and peacemakers. Not terrorists.” She retorted.

Orion’s blue eyes flashed angrily back at her sister. She took a deep breath and hurled fire at the sky.

Ed and Lauren Symthe owned Symthe Jewelers in Town Square. Ed went back to town for a brief moment to survey the damage done.

The store was in shambles. Glass cases were overthrown; shattered in pieces throughout the store. The safe was opened and looted... But the diamonds, one pink and one black, stood perfectly in their display in the front of the store.

They were rare. Their size was as large as a small fist. Ed was pleasantly surprised to see them.

Seeing the stones brought back memories of when he first found them awash on shore at a local beach in Stockbridge.

Enamored by their beauty, he attempted several times over the years to find out how the stones came to their town.

Unfortunately, he never found an answer. As a reminder to both the townspeople and his family that even the rarest of things can happen in the smallest of towns, he decided to display the stones in their own glass case front and center.

Ed opened the case and took out the stones. *'Amazing.'* He thought. *"Everything else is gone. Why not the two of you?"* The two stones suddenly began to glow white. With each passing minute the glow got gradually brighter. Stunned, Ed put the diamonds back in their case and locked it shut. Content that they were safe; he never saw the shadow behind him. Watching and waiting.

He welcomed her with warmth and tenderness. She appeared to be even more beautiful than ever as she pleaded for him to awaken.

Her hazel eyes watched over him with worry. Her soft voice pleaded with him to give her any sign that he was going to be all right.

"My love, please wake up. Olivia reached out to me. Our old friend needs you more

than ever. She told me that both Caleb and Orion have kidnapped her. I didn't answer her for fear that Caleb could pick up my pleas to you. I can't sense him near either of you so I decided that now was the right time to contact you.'

'Elena, it is you? Are you here with me? Am I home?' Julian answered.

The petite Lady of Gaea appeared to him dressed elegantly in a pale pink dress with matching hooded robe. Tears of joy streamed down her cheeks as he called for her.

'Julian, I am here. Please come back to me.' She begged.

'I would never leave you. I love you.' He told her.

'Olivia needs you. Help her please so that both of you can return home.'

'The race?' he told her.

'I understand your needs for wanting to race. But for this one time, I ask you to end this and come home. There will be other races. More chances to prove yourself to my father and the other elders on the High Council here in Gaea. I worry for you so much. It seems that each race is now getting more difficult as time goes on. And Caleb not racing for the right reasons makes this even more dangerous for you.'

'He's convinced I killed Hera.' Julian told his love.

'I know. I picked up on some of his thoughts as he spoke to Olivia.'

'He probably did it himself to run the race. He always was jealous of Markkos.' Julian told her.

'Perhaps, but have you ever thought that maybe someone in your kingdom has a Dragon Sword? When you get home, we have to contend with Hera's death.'

'I don't know anyone in Kergan that would have a need or a use for a Dragon Sword.' Julian told her.

'Someone does. The killer wore a Kergan riding cloak'.

'What is going on?' Julian told her.

'I'm watching Olivia and Orion through our Elders Time Glass here on Gaea. Julian, please rescue Olivia before nightfall. There is not much time left.' She told him.

'I'll find her.' He told her.

Still concerned for him, she walked over to him. She smoothed back his wavy hair. Tenderly, she placed her warm lips on his. Missing the taste of her, Elena disappeared as quickly as she appeared.

Watching him quietly, Lauren was startled as she saw his blue eyes jolt open. He quickly sat up and began to survey his location. He turned towards the woman staring at her blankly.

"Who are you?" he asked.

"Who are you?" she asked him.

Julian continued to look around the room. Across from them was a table with a basin of water on it. Scanning the room, he noticed photographs on the wall and a chair seated next to him.

Outstretching her hand, she smiled. "I'm Lauren." She told him. He continued without emotion to stare at her.

"You're in my home. My dad and I brought you here. We thought it'd be safer."

Still adjusting to his surroundings, he continued to look around the room.

Lauren watched him as he continued to study the room. His eyes were so blue. The look of curiosity he had towards his location seemed to gradually turn to concern. *'Where was Olivia?'* He thought as he raked his hands through his wavy-hair. He winced in pain as his

fingers caught the flesh wound on the back of his head.

Lauren kneeled down next to him. “That man with the light brown hair threw you against the bar. That’s how you got that.”

Julian nodded in acknowledgment. Gradually, he began to remember what had happened. He became overcome with sadness, his eyes filled with tears. Lauren touched his shoulder.

“Did he get her?” He asked Lauren.

“The woman you were with? Yes.” She said sadly.

Julian felt an enormous weight envelope him. Its depths so heavy, it nearly smothered him.

“We have to get her back. He’ll kill her.” He explained to Lauren as he got up from the couch looking for his shirt.

“Wait, you just woke up! You’ve been unconscious for hours.” Lauren pleaded.

“There’s no time. He’s a dangerous man. I swear, he’ll be back, take what your town has and destroy all of us.” Julian said.

Chapter Seven

Julian found his shirt on an armchair across the room. He picked it up and threw it on. He didn't care what he looked like or what the woman thought of him. His concern was for Olivia only. He turned towards Lauren.

"My name is Julian by the way. After I was thrown, did you see which way the man and his dragon went with the woman I was with?"

Lauren shook her head. "No."

"Oh the gods!" Julian said in frustration. He threw up his hands, closed his eyes. He was amazed that he hadn't heard from her.

'Where are you?' he asked. *'Olivia? Olivia, speak to me please?'* He pleaded.

There was no answer. Opening his eyes, he sprinted towards the front door. He turned towards Lauren. He smiled weakly. "Thank you for everything. I have to find her."

"Wait!" Lauren said running behind him. "You have no idea of where you're going. Let me go with you."

"No. I can't. You don't know this man. He will kill you without hesitation. Stay here please." He said softly.

"No!" she said. "You have no idea where you're going and I can help you. Besides, I don't know where you're from, but you're not going to tell me what I can and can't do!" she said.

'Majesty?' a faint female voice said. Julian closed his eyes. *'Sire, it was you and not a dream.'* Julian sighed in relief. The voice continued. *'I'm in a quarry tied against a tree. Orion has surrounded me. She sleeps now, which is why I am able to communicate with you.'*

Olivia said.

'A quarry?' Julian asked.

"Yes sir. That's what it looks like. It will be sunset soon. I can't find the jewels. I'm so sorry sire." Olivia told him.

"They called for me while I was out. They glowed so brightly in my dreams. I do believe they are still in town." Julian told her.

'I'm sure Caleb knows where they are. He's gone.'

'I'm coming for you now.' He told her.

Olivia was relieved. *'Thank you majesty.'* She said.

Julian opened his eyes. He turned towards Lauren. "Okay, if you want to help me, let me ask you. Is there a quarry around here?"

"Yes. It's about 30 miles from town," she said.

"That's where they have her." He told her.

Confused, Lauren stopped dead in her tracks. "Wait a minute. I thought you didn't know where she was -" Julian interrupted.

"Help me find the quarry! Now!" he commanded.

Lauren looked at him blankly. She refused to deal with someone so arrogant.

Julian snickered. "Please Miss Lauren, *could* you help me find the quarry."

Lauren replied. "Of course."

The two walked out of the house and began walking down the street.

"So, are you going to tell me why a gorgeous brown-haired guy who along with his dragon hurled you clear across town?"

Julian shook his head. “Nope.”

“Are you going to tell me why you’re here?”

Julian looked over at her and again shook his head. “Nope.” At that moment, Lauren stopped and looked at the houses and building surrounding her.

All of them looked as if they had been either burned or trampled on.

“Wait a minute! No? Are you kidding me?” She yelled.

“Let’s go.” He told her.

“Not until I get some answers.” She said. “You and this other person come into our town, destroy most of it; I then hide you because I think you need help and now you won’t tell me how or why you’re here? Go to hell!” She flared.

Julian rolled his eyes. He had never had this much ambivalence before from a person. It angered, yet appealed to him as well.

He had to admit he was quite taken by her. She was very pretty and head- strong like Elena, his little sister, Isabelle and his mother Glynis were. He also knew that she was right, but in his opinion, the less she knew, the safer she was for now. .

“You’ll have all your answers when we rescue my friend Olivia.” He told her.

“Fine.” Lauren said as she began to walk again. Julian laughed. “You okay with that?” He asked.

“I can live with that.” She said looking at him cautiously.

“Okay then. Let’s go.” Julian said.

Chapter Eight

Anxiously awaiting Julian's arrival, Olivia, still tied to a tree, began to look at the sky.

'It's getting late. Nightfall will be here shortly. Time is running out.' She thought to herself.

Thankfully Orion was still asleep. Olivia was grateful for that. In times of sleep or unconscious thought, both Dragons and changelings who speak with their masters couldn't listen or communicate with one another.

Looking around, she wondered where Caleb was. He had been gone for awhile now. If Julian had any inkling of where the assets were, chances were that he too had the same feeling.

The freedom that these family stones lost so long ago meant so much to her. Olivia closed her eyes as she dreamt of Julian coming home proudly with the stones.

'His father has suffered enough for his mistakes. King Xavier understands that his past actions have had far reaching consequences that no one ever expected. Innocent people were hurt by the affair he had with Queen Nysa of Tacorian and the lies told by the two of them upon capture by King Valorian of Tacorian.'

She saw her master's country. Poor subjects prompting to take slavery over starvation just to survive. King Xavier with his own household was, now feeling a great deal of economic strain due to having to borrow funds from his mortal enemy Valorian to run the day to day operations of his Kingdom. Olivia knew that once the stones were returned to Kergan upon inspection from the High Council of Gaea, they would be placed upon the Kergan Tower. The kingdom according to legend would immediately begin its transformation back to its former splendor and her Mother, the Dragon of the Twin Seas of Tacorian, would stay for one year on

Kergan and hatch a new pair of sisters to protect her home.

King Xavier and Queen Glynis could be proud once again of their nation. Finally, they would be free.

“Wake up changeling. I brought you food.” Caleb flared.

In his hands were a couple of pieces of fried fish. Olivia opened her eyes. She looked at the food blankly.

“Not quite Gemma fish, but Orion seems to like it.” Caleb told her.

She turned to Orion who was now awake, chomping heartily on the fish. She was starving but understandably hesitant. Cautiously, she continued to look at the food.

“It’s not poisoned.” He re-assured her.

“How would I know? After all, you did vow to kill me.” She said.

Caleb nodded. “True. I know you haven’t eaten anything. Besides, I told you that I would wait until there was more information. I’m known for being impulsive. I tend not to think before I do things.”

“I do know. Remember?” she smirked.

“How could I forget?”

“Why are you being so nice? You’re reminding me of the man I met that day at the Lake.” She asked him.

“I was hungry so I got food. Restaurant is gone so I had to go into the next town.” He said.

“Brilliant.” Olivia snarked. “Maybe if you and my sister hadn’t destroyed most of Stockbridge, then maybe you could have gotten something to eat.”

Caleb snickered. “True. Anyone ever tell you that for your kind, you’re very bold to

speak to a member of the royal family like this?”

“Never.” Olivia said.

Caleb raised his eyebrows. “No?”

Olivia teased. “No. Maybe it’s because I’m usually right.”

Caleb laughed. “You must drive Julian to his last nerve.”

Olivia smiled weakly through tears. “He is my friend, as well as my master. He understands me more than any other.”

Caleb placed the food in front of her as he tended to Orion.

Orion looked at her master proudly. He touched her wing tenderly. He understood the changeling more than he realized.

Orion bowed her head against Caleb.

“Majesty. She is right. All she says is right.” Orion said lovingly through her thoughts.

He looked up at her. *“A member of their family hurt a member of my family.”*

“And mine too. And hers.” Orion said. *“Hera was our sister; my friend as well. Her loss was so great. I feel within me sir that Prince Julian did not kill our beloved Hera. His people have suffered enough.”*

‘But perhaps in his desperation he murdered her to win.’?” Caleb explained to his friend.

‘In his desperation, there was a desire for him and my sister to win fair and square. There was no malicious intent. I will be always be loyal to you and to the crown, but also wanted to express my thoughts and my disagreement with the way you’ve handled the race.’ Orion said.

Olivia listened to her sister. She continued to cry as Caleb looked over at her.

‘You kill her Prince Caleb and you continue the terror and despair that is now Kergan’s Legacy. You kill her and it may not bring you or your family the justice you seek’

Orion retorted.

Olivia’s eyes pleaded with his. She sympathized with his anger and his love for his family. He and Hera were now the latest casualties in the ongoing battle that was actually between his parents and Julian’s. . . .

She wondered when and if all of this would end.

“If you kill me what will that make you?” Olivia asked him.

Tired of the changeling’s whining, Caleb rolled his eyes.

“Not a champion. Not a warrior. Simply a Dragon Killer. Remind me, but isn’t that a crime far worse than any crime that Julian’s parents *ever* committed against your family so long ago?” Olivia asked.

“She is right. Majesty. That is why I feel Prince Julian did not do this. He would have too much to lose.” Orion said.

Caleb looked down at his cloak. Cautiously, he went into his pocket and took out the pink and black diamonds that were encased at Smythe’s Jewelers.

He held them up and watched as they glowed brightly towards the sky. The light was so bright enough to attract Julian and Lauren to the end of the quarry where the three of them were located.

Olivia’s eyes widened. They were beautiful. Since Caleb had them, the powers of the stones had blocked her thoughts from locating them. They beamed now, calling for their owner Julian to bring them home.

“They are beautiful.” She conceded.

Caleb looked at them closely. “Indeed.”

Sadness again filled Olivia’s eyes as she saw Caleb with the diamonds.

Not only had their beauty entranced Caleb, but also the pink-hued beacon light that glowed from them towards the sky. He continued to stare at them as Julian crept up behind him.

“Those would be mine.” Julian told him.

Lauren’s eyes filled with terror as she saw Orion’s full length. Continuing to stare at the stones, Caleb said. “She won’t hurt you. Not without my orders.”

Lauren eyes couldn’t detract from the creature. She was beautiful. Pure white with pale gray wings. Her eyes were as blue as the sapphires that she and her father carried in their jewelry store. Suddenly her thoughts turned to her father. *‘Dad never came back. He went to check on the store.’*

“Caleb, give them to me. Now.” Julian commanded.

Caleb looked at him sarcastically. He nodded. “Sorry Julian, I can’t do it.”

Lauren went over and looked at the stones. She looked concerned.

“These are my father’s diamonds. They were in our store.”

“They belong to my family.” Julian told her.

“Did. The word is *Did*.” Caleb said.

Olivia’s eyes narrowed as they began to glow again in acknowledgement of Julian’s presence. Orion threw a small fireball at her, not only breaking her free from the tree, but also breaking her concentration on freezing Caleb.

“Stop it young sister! It is between them now.” Orion demanded Olivia through her thoughts. ..

Olivia ran behind Julian. She wrapped her arms around his waist. She was grateful that

they were together once more.

Julian smiled. He touched her hands warmly, slowly breaking free of her embrace.

“It is all right Olivia. Orion’s right. It’s between Caleb and me now.” Julian said.

Olivia stepped back. She again looked at the sky. Orion did as well. Slowly the sun was beginning to set.

Hands on her hips, Lauren stomped over to the two men.

“Gentleman, those stones belong to my father. He found them on a beach when I was a child. They do not belong to either of you.” She said, taking the stones from Caleb's hands and beginning to walk away with them.

“Miss Lauren no!” Julian said walking toward her.

Quickly, Olivia’s eyes narrowed and glowed sapphire blue. She turned towards Lauren who looked at her. The receiving look froze the young jeweler solid.

Julian walked up to Lauren and simply picked the stones out of her hands. Caleb rolled his eyes. “Stupid earthling. She’s as ignorant as that man was in the store where I took them.”

“What did you do to him?” Olivia flared.

“Nothing. He passed away on his own while I retrieved the stones.” He replied.

“On his own?” Julian asked. Olivia’s eyes widened.

“Yes. He was in the store putting the assets back when he saw me. Apparently I startled him so much that he fell backwards clutching his chest.”

“You scared him to death?” Olivia glared in horror.

Caleb sighed. “So it seems changeling.”

Julian looked at him in disgust. “No, he didn’t Olivia. He’s despicable. He used a scare spell.”

Olivia's sympathy for Caleb now returned back to hatred. As nightfall began to approach, her eyes glowed involuntarily looking towards the sky. The sun was setting now. The time was close for the change.

Caleb turned towards the changeling. He could not fight Julian. The sympathy and guilt he felt for hurting Olivia went through him.

"She's changing. You'll need the Gods to help you and Orion when it's all complete." Julian told him.

Olivia looked at her arms as they began to turn dark.

Caleb still refused to fight back. He stayed silent as he continued to watch the change.

Her eyes met his sadly as her change continued.

'How could he kill an innocent? It was a race. No one was to get hurt.' She thought as her arms outstretched involuntarily. She began to grow taller in length and width as everyone watched.

"When we met, I thought you were my destiny. You spared me, but took the earthling's father. Another casualty of our families' civil war. I have felt your hurt... your anger. But now? The sadness and anger I feel towards you holds no bounds." She told Caleb one last time through her thoughts.

He felt guilty over how he made Olivia feel. He looked over at Orion who also bowed her head in disappointment.

Olivia was now fully changed. Caleb didn't know which part of her was more beautiful, the human form or her dragon form.

"Julian, it is getting darker. We must go. Now!" Olivia said to him.

Julian looked at the frozen body of Lauren and then to Caleb.

“Take the stones Julian. I can’t fight you. Not after what has been said between your changeling and me.”

Caleb took out his sword and placed it down on the ground.

Olivia felt Caleb’s remorse. “Majesty, we must go.” She pleaded.

Julian pointed at Lauren. “Unfreeze her first.”

If Olivia unfroze her now, in the future, Lauren could bring much trouble to them. Let her unfreeze naturally, the spell would let her forget what had occurred.

“Sire, I can’t. What if she -” Olivia said.

“Tells people what she saw? That her father is dead? Her livelihood is gone? Caleb and Orion were irresponsible with their actions. We’ll settle all of this with her.”

“I shouldn’t. I feel it will do more harm than good master.” Olivia said.

“Please Olivia. Unfreeze her now.” Julian pleaded.

Olivia bowed her head. “Yes sir.” She told him. Her eyes glowed once more, unfreezing the young lady.

Lauren gradually moved her body. Despite the warm weather, she found herself shivering. She began to walk forward out of the quarry when she noticed that her hands were empty.

“Where are the diamonds?” she asked.

“Gone. I’m afraid you’ve lost them.” Julian said.

Lauren looked down at her hand in disbelief. “But I had them. They were in my hands.” She insisted.

“We accidentally struck you when we were fighting.

Unfortunately, as a result, you must have dropped them.” He told her.

“Well you have to find them Julian. They belonged to my father.”

“They belonged to Julian Miss.” Caleb said.

“They don’t. I remember when my father found them. We were at the beach playing when I was a child when my father nearly stumbled on them along the shore. They are rare jewels. Dad for years tried to find out how they ended up here but couldn’t. So as a symbol, he placed them on display to show people that even in such a small town, the rarest things can happen.”

“The stones were put there by someone long ago. They were taken from my home as punishment for crimes my parents committed years ago. He and I are riders participating in a race to see who can bring these stones home first.” Julian explained.

Lauren looked at the two men in disbelief. She looked up at Orion.

“Where is the woman who was with you Julian?” Lauren asked.

“Behind you.” He said.

Lauren turned around. She saw the image of the Black Dragon and was shocked.

Quickly she went limp and fell to the ground.

Chapter Nine

In Gaea, the crowd waited nervously for the winners. The winners had only been gone two days earth time, 1 week in their galaxy.

Anxious for their son's outcome, Xavier and Glynis of Kergan could no longer take any more punishment from Valorian and Nysa of Tacorian. Tacorian's Prince Markkos, now a trainer for the Royal Dragon Fleet of Tacorian, hoped his younger brother did not hurt the changeling because of Hera's death.

"Awaiting another loss Xavier?" Valorian jested.

A very tall man, whose long brown hair showed subtle glimpses of silver throughout King Xavier, laughed at his enemies' ignorance.

"Who says Julian won't win?"

Wearing a gray robe with red fur trim, King Valorian unlike his enemy, Xavier, was polarizing and arrogant, dripping in silver and diamonds. He was heavy man that despite his wealth and growing power, age had treated badly.

"Me." Valorian retorted. "He's a loser like all the other Kergan riders before him. Like his father is still."

Glynis came to the side of her husband. She was a couple of years younger than her husband Xavier. Strong-willed, yet practical in her thoughts, she was beautiful with long wavy blonde hair and blue eyes like her son.

"So glib Valorian. Sad that your obsession with the past will likely spell your doom." She told him.

Valorian's green eyes narrowed into slits. He made sure that he would always have the

last to say when involved with a Kergan.

“It is also sad my dear that your blind love for your husband has cost you everything. I honestly thought you were more sensible.”

“Enough!” said Petras, High Elder of the High Council of Gaea.

“Here they come!” said Markkos.

Two shadows appeared in the moonlight overlooking the Twin Seas.

Slowly, the Mother Dragon rose from the Middle of the Seas to greet the rider and her offspring. The rider and his dragon flew over her, acknowledging her presence.

As she saw the winner, she roared with excitement. As quickly as she appeared, she disappeared into the sea.

The moon completed its trail in assisting the racers as the runway became more visible for the pair.

Elena, Xavier and Glynis screamed for joy as they saw Olivia and Julian come down the runway. The crowd was exuberant.

Stunned by the upset, the High Council stood in silence. As did Valorian and Nysa.

Olivia landed gracefully in front of the High Council’s platform. Julian got off of his Dragon and both of them bowed to the Council.

Petras, walked over to Julian. He appeared both stunned, but proud. He smiled warmly at the young prince.

“Welcome home your majesty.” Petras said.

“Thank you Petras. I am pleased to be home.”

Elena’s father, Reddick, the young elder of the High Council also greeted Julian.

“Welcome home sire.”

“Thank you,” replied Julian.

Reddick who looked towards his daughter who was beaming with pride alongside his parents said to Julian.

“I think someone else is even more pleased to see you than me.”

Not being able to contain her happiness, Elena, wearing a gray satin dress with white lace, ran directly into Julian’s arms.

Jubilant, Julian swung her around and placed her down in front of her father and next to Olivia.

The enormous crowd roared at his actions. Tenderly, he kissed her on the forehead. He was briefly embarrassed by the crowd’s reaction towards him and his love; however Elena could care less, After all they had been through to reach this point; it was time for them to plan their own lives.

She was absolutely beautiful. With her blonde hair cascading around her shoulders, she was petite, however filled with an inner strength that Julian found intoxicating. Her hazel eyes continued with happiness at the sight of her future husband.

Elena bowed her head in acknowledgement. “Majesty.”

“My love.” He bowed to her.

“Welcome home. I have missed you so.” She said as Julian pulled her close against him.

“Me too, thank you.” He whispered softly.

“Thank you?” She asked him.

“Thank you for helping me awaken.” He told her.

She nodded. “Oh that?”

Julian snickered. “Oh that.”

“You wouldn’t wake up. Olivia needed you. And you didn’t answer me at first. I was so fearful-” He placed his hand gently over her mouth. He interjected.

“I’m here now. That is all that matters.”

“True. Congratulations Julian.” She said warmly.

He bent down and kissed her lovingly. Her lips parted open savoring the taste of him.

It was easy for them to forget where they were when they were with one another. Not even the crowd clapping wildly faded them. . The two of them briefly had forgotten everyone around them. It was only Petras’ that got their attention.

“Ahem...” He said pretending to clear his throat.

The two of them continued to kiss. Xavier, Reddick and Glynis giggled.

“Elena.” Reddick said tapping his daughter.

“Umm?” she asked as she still focused on Julian.

“Majesty!” Petras said clapping his hands. Startled, the two of them looked up at the elder councilman and all around them with their faces red with embarrassment.

“Sorry.” The two of them both said together. Petras laughed as he continued looking towards Julian.

“Even though you are first, it does not mean you have won. Do you have the assets needed to complete the race?”

The crowd was silent as Julian leisurely took out of his cloak pocket the pair of pink and black diamonds.

The stones glowing brightly were greeted with loud applause from the Council.

“Hello, dear friends. Welcome home.” Petras said holding the stones in front of the crowd.

Xavier brown eyes filled with pride as he saw the symbol of his family’s crest in front of him.

“He did it!” Glynis said.

Xavier took a deep breath. He felt years of oppression leave his heavy heart. “He did indeed Glynis.”

Petras placed the stones on the Kergan Tower where they sat suspended in their old surroundings. The two stones glowed brightly as the transformation on Kergan began. As long as they were here on Gaea, the stones would glow forever, bestowing goodness and hopes of prosperity for its old nation.

Still excited over Julian’s win, the crowd did not see Caleb and Orion follow silently right behind them. .

However, Olivia did. She observed Caleb and Orion watching the events unfold while they stood quietly in the corner.

“He didn’t fight. He didn’t kill me. He had the stones, but let Julian keep them. Whether he wants to admit it or not, he has grown tired of living in the past too.” The beautiful creature thought as her master touched his friend gently.

“Thank you Olivia.” Julian whispered.

“Thank you for bringing freedom back sire.” Olivia said bowing her head to him.

Caleb clapped as he walked towards Julian.

“Congratulations.” He told Julian who looked surprised at Caleb’s demeanor. Instead of

feeling angry and hurt, he appeared calm and close to pleasant as Caleb could be.

"This was a different race for me. I didn't race it for the right reasons." Caleb told him.

"No?" Julian said looking surprised at Olivia.

Caleb smiled as he nodded his head. "No."

Valorian walked over to his son. He struck him hard across the face.

The crowd gasped. Caleb looked at his father with both confusion and rage.

"You ingrate! You speak calmly to our enemy after vowing to kill his changeling. Why didn't you do what you promised you'd do? "

"What good would it have done?" Caleb asked.

"You would have won. I've would have won if Hera and Markkos ran..."

"Why are you so sure? Kergan's Dragon is fast. Faster than Orion or Hera. This route was a difficult route that the Council put forth." Caleb told him.

"I am sure because Tacorian never loses." Valorian exclaimed.

"Well I did. And there's no reversal on that old man."

Valorian went to Petras. He was furious.

"Petras, reverse the decision. There is no way Kergan's eldest won that race."

"There will be no reversal. Prince Julian Kergan won the race. He not only came in first but also had the assets. The race is over. The task is complete." Petras said.

The crowd jumped to its feet.

Markkos went over to Caleb. He whispered to him "Glad you didn't kill her." Caleb smiled admiringly at him.

Caleb loved Markkos and his younger brother Tristan more than his life. At times, even more than his own parents. Markkos was known as the calmer, more sensible one. Tristan, the

negotiator ever the politician. Markkos always thought before he said anything and for years was quite ambivalent towards his father.

When Hera was gone, because of his wisdom, his father without hesitation picked him as Head Trainer of the Royal Fleet of Dragons of Tacorian. In his mid-thirties, Markkos had a medium build and had very short black hair and blue eyes like his mother Nysa.

“My brother, the stories are true. The changelings are beautiful creatures. She and Orion were quite persuasive on what would happen to me if I did kill her.”

“And?” Markkos asked.

“They were right. She was right. I thought a lot about it on my journey home. To get death for killing her would never bring Hera back. If Julian had the sword, he would have killed Orion with it. Orion at one point clear threw him down a street on earth.

“Careful brother the changelings are bewitchers. They can easily have men do what they want once under their spell.” Markkos warned.

“She has me under no spell. She is quite beautiful. And we need to figure why and who would want Hera dead.” He told his brother.

His smile went away as he walked towards Orion touching her gently. The two of them headed towards the runway. Markkos ran after them. Markkos mouthed the words. “She’s really that beautiful?”

Caleb turned to his brother and nodded. “Yes my brother she is.”

At the runway, he got upon his Dragon and disappeared into the night sky headed home to Tacorian.

Later in the evening at Reddick’s seaside home on the outskirts of Gaea, the celebration

continued long into the night.

Elena's father Reddick was not only the youngest elder of the High Council, but also one of the richest in the Galaxy.

Before his death, his late father was Gaea's Emperor for several generations.

As a result, his father amassed a large fortune for his family. Upon his death, Reddick dissolved the Emperor position, paving the way from complete neutrality by picking respected men that could help him control the crazy escapades of the Monarchs in their galaxy.

Reddick all with silver hair and hazel eyes, like his daughter Elena, had lost his wife long ago during childbirth. He loved to dote on his only daughter and sons when he could.

His home, especially its dining hall was beautiful with long silver canopies that bathed the guests with a shimmering glow. On the sides of the walls, various shades of light blues were draped with pale grays and white lace. The chandeliers displayed throughout the hall were silver with blue sapphires cascading gloriously down their structures.

Feasting on roasted Gemma Fish and red wine, Reddick was joined by Xavier, Glynis and Petras.

"They are a handsome couple aren't they?" Glynis said as she watched her son and future daughter-in-law proudly dance in front of them.

Taking a sip of red wine from a handcrafted crystal wine goblet, Reddick said. "Yes Queen Glynis they are indeed."

Julian and Elena continued to dance with their friends from their respective courts. Laughter roared through the dance floor as Julian's best friend Jacob began to dance drunkenly.

"Your court here at Gaea Reddick reminds me of Kergan's." Xavier said.

"Yes. I've heard you have a young court. I am looking forward to seeing it Xavier."

Reddick said.

“Aww...to be young and noble. The fun we had back then was so intoxicating. Now that the jewels are back where they belong on the Kergan Tower in the Council Hall, our kingdom will be back to its glorious state.” Xavier said.

“Julian told me that the last couple of years were difficult for your Majesty?” Reddick asked.

“We had begun to finance and ultimately negotiate some of the day-to-day operations of the Kergan household with Tacorian. In fact, Julian did. I believe that he hates Valorian more than I do after what that man put him through.”

“Those times, my old friend, are over. The assets are home and wealth will immediately be returned to Kergan.” Petras reassured him.

“I wish you had said something Xavier, after all, our children are going to be married to one another soon and I would have been more than happy to-”Reddick said.

“Glynis touched his hand as she interrupted. “Do Nothing. We would not think of it. Do you remember Reddick how Julian was with Elena when they first met?”

“We never would take money from you. Ever.” Xavier said.

All of them watched as Julian picked up Elena and swung her around. Dizzy from indulging a little too much, Elena tripped a bit as Julian placed her down. Julian let out a huge belly laugh at the site of her losing her balance.

“Oh the Gods! You laugh!” She squealed.

Julian continued to laugh loudly with his friends.

“Aww. My love are you all right?” He asked.

“No thanks to you.” She said sarcastically.

“I’m sorry sweetheart. I tried to grab you but you fell before I could even make an attempt.” He said laughing hysterically.

“I swear I hate you sometimes Julian Kergan.” She said walking away from him.

He followed quickly behind her.

“Oh Elena stop. I’m only having a bit of fun.”

“At my expense.” She said.

“That was funny. Admit it. Look, we’ve all been drinking a lot this evening. Look at my best man Jacob; you were even laughing at him yourself a little while ago.”

Elena looked over at Julian’s best friend Jacob, who was still stumbling over himself while trying to dance with one of Elena’s ladies in waiting.

Elena rolled her eyes.

“And if he falls again. I will laugh again.”

“See, he’ll be a mess tomorrow. I bet he won’t even remember himself doing half of what he’s doing.” Julian snickered.

She wore a semi-off the shoulder evening gown of midnight blue. Her silver headdress of sapphires and diamonds perfectly framed her flowing blond hair. Elena was a stunning beauty. He was proud to have her one day as his future wife. He looked at her with admiration.

“You look absolutely beautiful tonight.” He said as he touched one of her bare shoulders.

“Thank you majesty. You look very handsome.”

He held out his hand to her. “Come back with me. Please.”

“I am feeling tired Julian.” She told him.

“My lady. One more dance. Please?” He said now holding her hand.

“She took a deep breath as she walked by her father’s table as she headed back towards Julian. She took her father’s half-full glass of wine and gulped it down. She smiled warmly at her father who smiled back at her.

“You all right sweetheart?” Reddick asked.

“Yes father I am well. One more dance with my future husband and I think I shall retire for the night.”

Reddick and the others giggled at their older children’s behavior.

“Very well daughter.” Reddick said.

Elena ran into Julian’s arms. She wrapped herself so tightly around him that he gasped for air.

“Oh, I am so sorry Julian. I’d love to dance to with you once more.” She said.

“I think you’ll be sorry when you wake up in the morning.” He mumbled to her.

She began playing with his wavy hair.

“Why worry about tomorrow when we have the rest of the night.” She whispered.

“You’re going to be miserable tomorrow. You and Jacob both. But I still love you. So much that it drives me at times to insanity.” He told her.

“I’m not drunk Julian. I’m just happy. Every day I’m around you I feel complete and utter happiness. Now that the race is over, I cannot wait to become your wife.” She told him as she pulled him towards her planting a kiss firmly on his lips.

“I will bet that you’ll be hung over tomorrow.”

“I will not.” She said.

“If you wake up miserable, then father and I will go on a three-day hunting trip.”

“Awww. You’ll do anything to get out of being part of any wedding planning. If I win,

then you have to be with me to finish up every aspect of the wedding details.”

Julian’s face went white. “Oh the god’s no. Want a drink?” he teased.

Elena laughed. “I love you Julian.” She said kissing him on the cheek.

Two days later on Kergan.

The messenger came to Olivia at court with a note. It read.

‘I am at the Bridge of Elderon. Need to speak to you.-Caleb.’

Olivia folded the note discreetly into a small pocket on her dress. She kept it close to her.

Lady Elena of Gaea, now at Kergan’s court with her ladies in waiting to prepare for her upcoming wedding to Julian, noticed what had transpired.

“Olivia is everything all right?” she inquired.

Olivia dressed in a beautiful day dress of royal blue and satin, smiled gently at her master's future wife. She replied.

"All is well my lady."

Elena got up and hugged her dear friend.

“Be careful of him. I fear he will hurt you."

Olivia’s eyes widened with fear. *‘Did he really mean to kill her now?’*

In an attempt for reassurance, Elena put her arm around her friend. The two began to walk towards the gardens.

“I know that you lay with him once by the lake of Elderon. I will not tell Julian. He would kill him if he knew. But I think he desires you again. Although I don’t think he’d hurt you physically, but with his heart, yes.”

Olivia looked at Elena oddly.

"He's a volatile young man, not calm like Julian. He was born out of anger and retaliation. Not love and kindness." Elena told her.

"But can't he change? Markkos or even Tristan don't appear to be like their parents." Olivia said.

Elena took in a deep breath; her thoughts began to scroll through the turbulent history between the warring families.

Markkos has always been wise beyond his years. He has defied his father many a time with mixed results. Tristan is still a teenager; he is fiercely loyal to his father and will do anything for him... Anything.

"Caleb can't?" Olivia asked.

"Not sure. Time will tell. He loves his parents so. He loves to make them proud and has always done what was necessary to do just that. If they knew about this letter, it would break them. Especially Valorian."

Olivia began to laugh. "Maybe we're jumping ahead of ourselves a bit. All he asked to do is to meet me."

"And I'll make sure that you have company when you do." Elena replied.

Olivia's eyes widened. Elena winked and gave her a sly smile.

"My Lady Elena! No!" Olivia told her.

"Olivia, I don't want him to hurt you. Something in my heart tells me he may." Elena warned.

"It's just a talk." Olivia said.

Fear crept slowly up Elena's spine. She tried to shake it off but couldn't.

"With Julian away on his hunting trip thanks to my long but 'happy' evening at my father's home a couple days ago makes me concerned that Caleb is the only one on Tacorian that knows your human form. I sense that this problem may cause us all harm now that he is here on Kergan."

Olivia nodded. "I understand. But what if he finds you?"

Elena laughed. "He'll do nothing. Trying to harm me when my father is the one of the Elders of a kingdom who has done nothing but side with he and his family will do nothing for him. My father will have his head."

Olivia's eyes narrowed. "True. Being the daughter of an Elder of Gaea has its privileges."

"And non-privileges. Why it is that I can feel and know things about everyone around me, but yet know nothing about myself and Julian's destiny?"

"Miss him?"

"Terribly. And it's only been a couple of days. I can't believe we have another day to go. I can't believe I lost that bet. Regardless, I love him so. Before he left I did tell him that I was very pleased that he and his family could now construct mines so that commerce could return to Kergan. Freeing the slaves and providing them with wages not only helps out our future by letting them build homes, but Kergan can now put land owners to work. Managers can now re-open their stores and people can now purchase goods and services needed for their homes. All of this promotes the long-term economic state for Kergan. This is a happy time for everyone."

Olivia smiled. "The two of you will make such a wonderful king and queen. I cannot wait for the wedding. It will be such an event."

Elena chuckled with glee. "It will be so much fun. Our families have planned games and a Dragon Race for the youngest members at Court."

Olivia's eyes widened with delight. "You're kidding? A race?"

Elena replied. "Yes. It is only a scavenger hunt for the new Dragon's egg through Kergan, but it will be fun for the young ones."

"Yes it will be." Olivia beamed.

"I hope so. Kergan is such a beautiful place. The assets have done so much for everyone so quickly. I surely hope that our enemies will not try to take what they think is theirs." Elena said.

"Like Caleb?" Olivia asked.

Elena raised an eyebrow. "Not so much him. The people around him. They are what concern me."

The two finished walking through the Garden, they headed towards the Bridge of Elderon.

Chapter 10

Caleb waited nervously for Olivia at the bottom of the Bridge.

With him being a sworn enemy to Kergan, he was very discreet with his entrance into the kingdom.

To his surprise, he found that Kergan was beautiful.

From what his royal court had described to him in the past, he fully expected darkness, drought and utter destruction. However, the truth was far from that tall tale.

Progressing from their win of the race, the citizens were hard at work re-opening old businesses and setting up new ones for anticipation for the new diamond mines that were being constructed throughout the city.

Lilacs and Peonies intoxicated the air.

He was impressed as he looked over the large valley that was adjacent to the covered bridge one last time.

A young female with waist-length black hair wearing a satin royal blue dress walked towards him on their sun-filled morning.

"It is beautiful isn't it?" the female voice replied.

Caleb turned around and noticed Olivia smiling warmly in front of him.

She was even more beautiful that he remembered. Her pale-white skin complimented her sapphire blue eyes to the point where he could not look at another thing.

"Yes, it is. I'm impressed." he told her.

Remembering what Elena had told her, she hesitated for a moment before she walked over to him.

"Welcome to my home," she said to him as she looked around.

"Orion is across from us in the Elderon Forest if you're wondering."

Olivia nodded. "I was. What brings you here?" she asked him.

"A couple of things. The first is to apologize to you for frightening you like I did. When I think back on it, I regret the way I hurt you."

"Thank you. Thank you for sparing my life majesty."

He looked down at the grass at his feet. "I realized like my brother Markkos did that the war between our families is between our parents and not the children."

"You are right. I saw your father hit you. That was horrible. Why did he do that?" she asked.

"Because I lost. Our family, as you know, have always won these races. And for the first time, I didn't care if I won or lost. I just wanted to hurt who I thought was responsible for Hera's murder."

Olivia looked sadly at him. "I do understand. I truly do. Hera was my older sister. It devastated me when she was murdered. I loved racing with her."

Caleb eyes widened. "There was no animosity between the two of you?"

Olivia shook her head. "Absolutely not. We communicated well wishes over the years with one other. She and I kept it a secret from Markkos and Julian. I will also add that Markkos was always cordial with the Prince when we saw him during the race route."

He sensed an inner peace with her.

'If it wasn't him, then who masqueraded themselves in a Royal Kergan riding cloak?' he thought.

"I wish I knew who hurt her too. All of us in some way were hurt by the loss. She was a

great competitor and friend." Olivia told him.

Caleb snickered for a moment when he realized that she had picked up his thoughts. "I forgot you could read thoughts."

"Among other things." She teased.

"Your secret is safe with me. No one knows on Tacorian what you look like." he replied.

"I believe you." She said. She continued. "You said there was another reason why you were here?" She asked.

Caleb nodded. "Yes. I wanted to see if..."

"Olivia!" The voice yelled from the top of the bridge.

Caleb and Olivia looked up at the top of the bridge. There stood two men on either side of Elena with each holding Dragon swords to her throat.

Caleb was horrified. The men were dressed in his Kingdom's Black Army uniform with masks concealing their identity.

The Black Army of Tacorian was the most feared Army in the galaxy. Created by King Valorian generations ago, he outlawed the group when they decided that they no longer liked the way the King ruled. Attempting a coup, they failed and were banished from the kingdom only to ensure a twisted justice only they could understand.

He and Olivia attempted to go up to the Bridge.

The man with the Dragon Sword pointed it towards Olivia.

"Come near me changeling and you'll be as dead as your sister." He stated firmly.

Olivia stopped dead. Elena shook her head. "Stay where you are Olivia." Elena looked over at Caleb. He appeared as stunned as she was at what was occurring.

Taking out his sword, he pointed it towards the men. He replied "Stop it now!"

The man laughed. "And what will you do Prince Caleb? Arrest me?"

Olivia tried to look into their eyes. But the men were sure to never make eye contact with her."

"Why are you here? What do you want?" Olivia asked

"Justice." The men both replied as they disappeared in a cloud of black smoke with Elena in tow.

The End

About the Author

Born and raised in Upstate, New York, Ty loved to read about Dragons and Knights so much as a child that her grandmother simply told her one day to ‘just write about them.’ So she did.

From that day forward, she never left home without her pen, a notebook or some kind of music playing in the background.

Her love of reading expanded from Fantasy, towards Science Fiction and finally paranormal romance enjoying different works from George Martin, Anne McCaffrey, Stephen King and Sherrilyn Kenyon.

However, some of Ty’s favorite writers are from the world of TV and film namely, Tudors creator Michael Hirst and the late John Hughes.

Ty has a certificate in Broadcast Journalism along with a degree in Business Administration.

She is single and enjoys spending time with friends and family.