

The
Lost Lyken

C. A. SALO

OTHER KIN BOOK III

Table of Contents

[Title Page](#)

[Chapter 1](#)

[Chapter 2](#)

[Chapter 3](#)

[Chapter 4](#)

[Chapter 5](#)

[Chapter 6](#)

OTHER KIN BOOK 3: THE LOST LYKEN

by

C.A. Salo

TORRID BOOKS

www.torridbooks.com

Published by

TORRID BOOKS

www.torridbooks.com

An Imprint of Whiskey Creek Press LLC

Whiskey Creek Press
PO Box 51052
Casper, WY 82605-1052

Copyright © 2013 by C.A. Salo

Warning: The unauthorized reproduction or distribution of this copyrighted work is illegal. Criminal copyright infringement, including infringement without monetary gain, is investigated by the FBI and is punishable by up to 5 (five) years in federal prison and a fine of \$250,000.

Names, characters and incidents depicted in this book are products of the author's imagination or are used

fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, organizations, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental and beyond the intent of the author or the publisher.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

ISBN 978-1-61160-707-9

Credits

Cover Artist: Gemini Judson

Editor: Sara Kent

Printed in the United States of America

**WHAT THEY ARE
SAYING ABOUT
*A SLAVE'S WAY OUT***

“C.A. Salo has outdone herself and I trust this is only the beginning of a bookshelf overflowing with sexy sci-fi treats. I hope there will be a story showcasing Trea and Daniel since their characters made such a lasting impression and added to what was already an outstanding read which I definitely recommend to the masses.”

Indy

Joyfully Reviewed

“I’ve read a lot of books over the years, but *A Slave’s Way Out* is one of the hottest I’ve read in a long time. It isn’t just the chemistry between Catrin and Niko, which explodes off the pages, or the dynamics of the secondary characters. It’s that C A Salo shows a woman can be not only outstanding in her job that she fights for but also that she can be dominated by her lover and not look weak. When the reader first starts reading this book they are sucked into a different time and space right off the bat and aren’t let go of until the last word is read. They realize the voyage is over. I hope C A Salo writes more about

these characters as the world she's created is one you'll want to visit over and over again to see how each one is doing. This is definitely going on my keeper shelf and I am looking for more of her stories."

Donna

FAR

WHAT THEY ARE SAYING ABOUT *THE DEVIL HIMSELF*

"I really enjoyed the author's unique approach to a classic love story. This wasn't an ordinary boy-meets-girl story as it featured a creature that some might find hard to love, yet the author was able to humanize the beast in the story and

make me, the reader, fall for him as well despite what some might consider imperfections. I found the author's use of an imperfect hero, at least when it comes to looks, refreshing and interesting.

“This was a very touching love story that I would definitely recommend to those looking for something a bit different.”

Lilac

Whipped Cream Review

Rating: 4.5 Cherries

**WHAT THEY ARE SAYING
ABOUT**

A WARRIOR'S LONGING

“A Warriors Longing is definitely steamy. The chemistry between Lord Gage and Meiken is strong enough to raise anyone’s blood pressure. C.A. Salo did an excellent job blending the sci-fi, romance and erotica genres. Not everyone can do it so seamlessly.”

Victoria Cross

Night Owl Reviews

**Other Books by Author
Available at Torrid Books:**

www.torridbooks.com

A Slave’s Way Out

The Devil Himself

A Lady's Challenge

A Warrior's Longing

The Mercenaries of Neris Series

*The Werewolf's Mate – Other Kin
Series – Book 1*

*The Dragon's Vamp – Other Kin
Series – Book 2*

Dedication

Shawn, you're not only the best brother in the world but an awesome dad as well! I am so proud of you! Thanks for always being there for me, whether for your words of wisdom, when I need you to give me the truth straight up, or simply when I text you out of nowhere to

pick your brain about guns. 😊 I wuv ya
boy!!

Chapter 1

His nostrils flared the moment her scent reached his nose. Glancing up, Evan noticed the average hometown girl walking into the coffee shop and smiled as he handed the customer in front of him their coffee. “Thanks and have a great day.” The moment he met his newest customer’s gaze his cock reared up. Stepping to the side to relieve the pressure he gave her a short smile. “Ms. Decker, how are you today?”

“I’m fine, Evan, how are you this morning?”

“Staying warm. Your regular?”

“Yes please.”

Evan didn't know why he let her bother him so much, after all she was only human, but with her soft voice, dark hazel eyes and her sweet womanly scent, she drove his senses crazy every time he caught her scent. "How's your cat doing?" he asked, turning in time to see her soft smile. He steeled himself against the arcs of lightning shooting through his system.

"Oh, Marabell's doing well. She wasn't very happy with me yesterday after her shots at the vet's and hid most of the night, but she came out when I filled her bowl this morning. Although she stuck her nose up at me and gave me her backside."

Evan slid the to-go cup along the counter, taking the two dollars she'd laid down. "Ah I'm sure she'll be over the whole incident by the time you get home tonight."

"Probably, but can't say as I blame her, I hate going to the doctor's for shots too."

Evan choked back a growl when the top of her nose crinkled with her smile. Clearing his throat, he handed her the change. "Right."

"Thanks, Evan, see you in the morning."

His gaze narrowed as she turned, lowering to her bottom and the slight sway of her hips.

“Why do you torture yourself?” Winn asked.

Evan glanced over at the owner of the coffee shop and growled from the corner of his mouth. “Why can’t you tell her to stop coming in?”

“She’s a loyal customer.”

“She’s human.”

“And a loyal customer. Why not just take her to bed and be done with it?”

“You wouldn’t understand.”

Winn’s smile softened as she laid a hand on his arm. “Honey, I understand more than you give me credit for, now get back to work, more customers are

coming in.”

Evan shook his head as he turned with a smile to the newcomers. He knew taking Kasey to bed would be a mistake, for something deep down told him once he did, he wouldn't want to give her up, and that was something he wasn't looking for—especially with a human who couldn't protect herself against his kind if she had to.

Working the day, Evan closed the shop and headed home. Sighing, he followed the steam his hot breath made as it hit the cold air. Winter was upon them and he loved the cooler weather. Although he had to wear a jacket when out in public with the humans, he didn't

really need one with his inner body heat. Taking a left, he waited until a car went by before crossing the road to the other sidewalk. He shoved his hands in his pockets as he slowed down to see holiday shoppers strolling in and out of the Main Street stores. Sighing as his brother came to mind, Evan called once a month if not more to talk with Drake and see how the family was doing. He felt bad for the way he took off like he did five years ago, leaving his post as Alpha and dropping it all in Drake's lap, but he couldn't stay there, not after losing his mate and his child in one fatal battle with an enemy of his people.

“Hey you, what's the gloomy face for? It's the holidays,” Kasey said.

Evan stopped suddenly, staring at her until what she said registered. “Thinking about family.” It just came out. Damn it. He knew he’d made a mistake when her eyes lit up and he wished he could take it back.

“Oh, are they near here?”

“No.” Evan shook his head, knowing her fascination with Alston and the strange happenings in the area five years ago.

“Oh, have you called them?”

“No, not for about a month,” he said as he rocked back on his heels.

“I know what you mean. I haven’t either, I’m trying to get out of going

home for Christmas, and I know if I call, they'll talk me into it, especially my brother."

Evan's interest was piqued, although it shouldn't be. "Why's that?" he asked before he could stop himself.

"Don't get me wrong, I love my family and everything, but my brother and I don't go around much. Long story short, my parents don't get along and we don't like our older sister very well. The only reason I'd go is to see my grandma and dad. Even they don't want to be around my mom." Kasey smiled as she held her breath.

Evan's brow lifted. "And?"

"And, my mother thinks I'm seeing

someone, and would hound me until I showed up with him in tow.”

“And you’re not?”

“Nope. Just said it to get her off my back and now it’s backfired. Yay me.” She grinned.

“Yeah, that’s one way to get busted.” He couldn’t help it, he started laughing.

“Oh yeah thanks, laugh at me. No that’s all right, go ahead, I deserve it.”

“Just tell them he’s with his family or something and couldn’t make it.”

“Unfortunately I’ve done that for the last two years and it’s wearing off. My dad knows, he’s gone along with me, and I’ve thought about telling my mom

that I broke it off, but she'd just try to fix me up with Gilford Weram."

"That bad, huh?"

"Oh yes, that bad." Kasey chuckled then shivered. "Well, I better let you go. It's getting chilly out here."

"Sure."

"It was nice talking with you, Evan."

"You too."

"Night then."

"Night," he replied, liking how she lowered her eyes to him before walking away. Ms. Kasey may not realize it, but he knew she wouldn't have any problems submitting to him and his

Alpha tendencies. “Christ,” he growled. That was not an image he wanted etched on his brain.

* * * *

Evan turned the moment he scented Kasey. It had been three days since he talked to her and that was odd as she came in every day. His eyes narrowed when he noticed her hair was down and covering one side of her face—something was up. That was not typical Kasey style.

“What happened?” The question had come out more rough than intended, his eyes widening at the hint of the bruise on her right cheek. Reaching across the counter he touched her before she had a

chance to back up, and moved her hair away. “Holy shit, Kasey, who did this?” he asked, his gaze going to her blackened eye.

Kasey glanced around quickly, lifting her hand to his and lowering it to the counter. “It’s taken care of,” she said softly.

Evan met her eyes as the wolf in him reared up to protect. “Who did it?” he asked slowly.

“I don’t know, I’ve already told the police everything.”

“When?”

“Ah, the night I ran into you on the street.”

Evan's gaze narrowed as she glanced downward. "What aren't you telling me? And don't lie because I'll know."

Kasey's eyes flew up to his again. "You'll know?" she exclaimed breathlessly. "And how's that? The only time we've really talked was the other night on the street. You know nothing about me and vice versa. Why are you all of a sudden all over me when we both know you really don't like me?"

Evan stepped back as her voice rose slightly. "That's not true," he answered softly.

"Yes, it is. Ever since you started working here, every time I come in you

can barely stand to help me. Just like the other night on the street, if I hadn't initiated conversation, you would have just kept on walking, and you didn't really want to tell me about your family. That's okay though, I'm not your type, and I understand that. I just thought talking to you and being a recognizable face might help you acclimate to moving here a little easier, because I remember what it was like for me to only know one person in town. And I'm blabbering, sorry, it's been a long couple of days, can I just have my coffee please?"

Evan didn't know what to say as a coffee came from around him on the counter, and watched as she picked it up, laid a few bills down and left.

“Did you notice how she skirted your question?” Winn asked with a smile as she leaned on the counter.

“What?” He frowned.

“She skirted your question, turning it back on you to throw you off.”

“Damn it,” Evan growled, his fist coming down on the counter as Winn chuckled.

* * * *

Evan patiently waited in the dark shadows. He knew Kasey walked home every night and at different hours. It just depended on what time she left the newspaper office she worked for as a research assistant and tonight proved to

be a late one. He'd been following her for the past few nights to make sure she arrived at her apartment safely, but tonight was different—he had a bad feeling twisting his gut. Silently he stayed to the shadows as she walked by, his senses open to everything around them. He stopped when she did, staying still as she turned looking around, her eyes narrowed and nostrils flaring. He liked that she knew something wasn't right; she was listening to her gut, her survival instinct. Hanging back a bit more he gave her some space as she continued home. About a block away from her apartment his ears twitched and nostrils flared as she was grabbed and yanked into an alley. Flash-stepping, he

was there in a moment, catching the hand that went to strike her face. “Bad idea,” he growled, shoving the man back hard enough that he hit the building on the opposite side. Evan stepped in front of Kasey to protect her fully. “Are you alright?”

“Y-yeah.”

Evan’s gaze narrowed when the man stood. So he wasn’t human, he was Other Kin, an Orc by the raunchy smell.

“I, I think he’s the one who attacked me before, he smells the same,” Kasey whispered.

Evan strolled over, yanking the Orc up by his shirt.

“You, why are you protecting this human?” the Orc asked.

“Why are you touching what’s mine?” Evan growled.

“Why isn’t your smell on her then?”

Evan’s arm swung out when Kasey went to step forward. Evan turned, knowing his eyes shimmered. “Stay behind me!” he growled, his canines elongating. He turned quickly when the Orc attacked. Bringing his arm up, he deflected the hit as his other fist came up, knocking the Orc three feet off the ground to hit the building again. Evan heard Kasey’s gasp as the Orc’s camouflage twinkle faltered and his true self showed for an instant. Stepping

forward Evan lifted the Orc up by his neck. “Are you the one who attacked her before?”

“Yes, but she got away. I didn’t like her talking to you, I want her. You haven’t scented her, so she’s free game.”

Evan kept his voice low to keep Kasey from hearing what they were saying. “She’s mine, stay away from her. If I catch your scent near her again, I’ll kill you.” Tossing him to the end of the alleyway, he turned to see Kasey’s eyes widened and her back flat up against the brick building. Stepping up to her, he wrapped his arms around her waist. “Hold on,” he said as he flash-stepped up to her apartment door.

Evan smiled as he looked down at her, her face buried in the crook of his neck, and her arms wrapped around his waist, gripping him tightly. “You’re home. I need your keys.”

“Huh, oh.”

Evan chuckled and caught her as she swayed. “Easy there, here let me.” Taking the keys from her, he opened the door, shuffled her in, and shut it behind them. “Are you going to be sick?” he asked knowing flash-stepping could aggravate sensitive stomachs.

“No, no I’m alright, just a little dizzy,” she mumbled as he set her on the sofa.

Evan knelt down in front of her,

laying his hand on her knee. “Would you like a glass of water?”

“Ah, no.” Grabbing his hand when he went to get up, she met his gaze. “You...what...who are you? What the hell was he?”

“He must have hit your head against that building harder than I thought.” Slowly he removed her jacket and laid her purse on the sofa next to her, hoping she’d take his explanation and leave it alone. Evan smiled when Marabell growled at him from the corner. “Come cat, I will not harm you or your lady.” Lowering his hand palm up he let the black and white tuxedo female approach him slowly and sniff. When he glanced

back up he met Kasey's gaze as she stared at him, and he knew she was trying to figure everything out. "Do you need to go to the hospital?" Slowly lifting his hand away from the cat, he moved his fingers to the back of Kasey's head, gently probing through her silken hair to her skull to make sure there really weren't any wounds.

"No, I, I'm alright. Are we going to call the police?"

"No need. He won't bother you anymore." Gently he maneuvered her head down, so she was looking at his lap as he visually checked the back of her head. "What did he say to you the first night he attacked you? It had to do with

me, didn't it?"

"Yes. He told me I was his and he had better not see me talking to any man, especially you. He said...he said he didn't like alphas in his territory."

Evan snorted. "Yeah, well he saw how much I liked him hurting you, didn't he?"

"I think we should call the cops," Kasey said as she lifted her head. Jolts of pleasure tingles screamed through her body as his fingers caressed their way out of her shoulder length hair. "He might come back and, and you can't be there all the time. I'm just lucky you were walking by tonight."

"Trust me, he won't come back."

“You can’t know that.”

“I do, trust me on this, Kasey,” he said as he cupped her cheek. “He won’t bother you again.” Leaning forward, he knew he should stop, but damn, just one taste, one taste of her beautiful mouth. Gently, so as not to scare her, Evan lowered his lips to hers, even as the wolf in him screamed at him to take her and make her his. When she responded, he added just a slight amount more pressure. Damn she tasted good. Her lips were soft, so soft. Evan jerked back at her soft sigh, his eyes wide as her heavy lids fluttered open. “Sorry.” Jumping up, he stepped back. “I-ah...” Running a hand through the top of his

hair, he stepped back toward the door. “See it’s not that I don’t like you...it’s that I like you too much. And I’m not... I’m not looking for this, not now, maybe not ever again. I’m sorry, Kasey.” Almost tripping over his feet, he grabbed the doorknob and opened it quickly. “Like I said, don’t worry about that guy, he won’t bother you anymore. Okay, right. Bye.” Sliding out the door, he heard the lock click and flash-stepped out of there.

* * * *

“You just can’t keep yourself out of trouble can you?” Winn asked.

“You just can’t keep your nose out of my pocket can you?” Evan said, turning

as she leaned on the counter.

“Her scent is on you and that of her cat. Let the kitty lick you, huh?”

“That is just wrong in so many ways,” he grumbled.

Winn chuckled. “Well you know I’m a Hind, which means, I’m prey to you Lykens...”

Evan snorted as he wiped the counter down. “Yeah right, like I could catch your ass.”

“That’s beside the point I’m trying to make here. Anyway, before I was so rudely interrupted—I can smell the wolf wanting to get out, your other half is itching for release, Evan, and I suggest

you let him run.”

“He wants to get out and...mate, and that’s not going to happen.”

“Ah, you mean besides a full moon fuck. Then he’s chosen his life mate.”

Evan whipped around on her, anger making his eyes glow. “No, he has not!” he seethed.

Winn held her ground. “I know what you went through, Evan, and I’m not saying it would ever be forgotten, but you need to let it go. You need to start living again. It’s been five years, and if your wolf has chosen a mate then you need to man up, pull up your big boy pants, and accept his decision,” she said with a calm even tone.

“It’s not only his choice! I don’t want another life mate. My soul mate was taken from me along with my child and I won’t go through that again. Besides, she’s human, Winn! She couldn’t protect herself against an Orc, how could she protect herself against an enemy like the darkness? Hell, I couldn’t even protect Sophia and she was one of the strongest females I knew. Besides, Kasey’s too fascinated with Alston for me to ever, ever tell her the truth, or bring her there.”

Winn’s head tilted. “You need to go for a run and listen to what your wolf is telling you. He would never lead you somewhere if you weren’t ready to go.

And who the hell cares if she's human? If she's the one for you then no one, not even the ancients, have a right to step in and say otherwise."

Evan growled just as the front door opened and he turned to see Kasey stepping in. She stopped when their gazes met.

"Ah, sorry, didn't mean to interrupt, I'll just..." Kasey muttered.

"Kasey, how are you?" Winn asked with a huge grin. "Come on in, your coffee's almost ready."

"But it looks like—well I don't want to interrupt your conversation," Kasey whispered.

Evan turned his back to her. Even though he sensed Kasey's disappointment at his action he couldn't help it, he had to get himself back under control before he faced her again. Stepping to the back, he mumbled something about boxes and disappeared through the door as he willed his canines to ascend. Leaning back against the wall, he closed his eyes, breathing deeply. His nostrils widened as he took large breaths into his lungs, letting them out slowly.

* * * *

Evan lunged up, his body shaking, sweat glistening off his chest as he gasped for air. "Sophie!" he shouted, his hands covering his face before his

fingers threaded into his hair. He sat there on his bed breathing heavily. He hadn't had that particular dream for quite a while. It was the one where he relived the moment he burst into the foyer of Roven Manor to see the darkness flinging his hand and Sophia flying through the air. Blood gushed out of Sophia's chest as she slid across the floor gasping for her last breath as his niece Olivia ran to try and save her with her healing powers. Evan charged the creature, finding himself tossed away with gashes running down his chest, his life's blood pouring from him as well, right as their friend Mari, Alston's guardian, came flying in the door. He thought for sure he was dead, wished he

had died, for that day he lost his mate and unborn child residing within her womb. After he'd awoke to find out that she hadn't been saved, the moment he could get out of bed and walk, he handed the responsibilities of Alpha over to his brother Drake and left. He left behind everything he'd ever known and loved. He'd been too dead inside to stay and do his clan any good.

Flinging the sheets off him, he reached for his cell and called Winn, leaving a voice mail. "Hey, I'm going to Sanctuary for a few days. I think you were right about needing that run. 'Kay, bye."

* * * *

Kasey smiled as she stepped into the coffee shop and Winn grinned at her from the other side of the counter. “Hey, Winn.”

“Hey girl, how are ya?”

“Oh, alright I guess.” Glancing around as Winn turned to make her coffee she didn’t see or hear Evan anywhere. “So, ah, where’s your helper?” Her gaze shot up to Winn’s grin as a cup suddenly appeared in front of her. *Damn. Caught.*

“If you’re talking about Mr. Hot and Brooding, he’s taking a few days off.”

“Oh, I ah...”

Winn chuckled. “Oh girl, don’t

worry, it has nothing to do with you. Oh ok maybe it does a little—ok a lot. No, now don't go sad faced on me.”

“Well then, what are you trying to get at?”

“Evan has some things he needs to work out before he can let himself be involved again, so he went to Sanctuary for a few days.”

Kasey lowered her gaze glancing to the right. “Yeah, he mentioned something about that.”

“He did?” Winn asked as she leaned on the counter. “Like what?”

“Well, the night he helped me he—we...well, he kissed me and then

jumped back saying he liked me...a lot, but he didn't know if he wanted this again, and maybe not ever. I took it to mean he was in a bad relationship or he was hurting really bad."

"You're right."

Kasey looked up meeting her gaze.

"Evan lost his wife and unborn child five years ago. It devastated him and he gave up everything he had, leaving everyone he loved behind when he found out they hadn't survived."

Kasey gasped, her hand going to her throat. "Oh my God, I didn't realize it was something like that. No wonder he doesn't want anything to do with me."

“Oh honey, that’s just it.” Winn smiled. “He does want you. Forgive the pun, but whenever you’re near, he has to fight the beast from getting out and making you his, if you know what I mean.”

“But, well, oh...really?” She smiled.

“Yes, now get going before you’re late.”

Kasey smiled as she headed for the door. So Mr. Dark and Sexy did like her.

* * * *

Kasey sat in front of her computer, thumbnail between her teeth as she scanned all the deaths five years ago involving an Evan Smith and found

nothing. “Damn it,” she muttered as she typed in just the name Evan.

“What are you working on kiddo?” Henry asked as he leaned over her cube wall.

“A death five years ago, but I can’t seem to find anything, not even a mention.”

“And this would be a big story because...”

“Well, a man lost his wife and unborn child and I was just trying to see what I could find out. You know,” she said as she glanced from the computer screen to him and back, “So I don’t say the wrong thing or anything,” she muttered.

“Are you telling me you’re interested in someone and you’re back checking them?” he smiled.

“Yeah.”

“Well, nothing like that local has happened in the last five years, so he must have lived in a different city, but who’s to say where it happened or if it was reported about.”

“Yeah I guess you’re right.” Sitting back she stuck a pencil between her teeth. “I just wanted to try and get a heads up so I don’t open mouth and insert foot, if you know what I mean.”

“I do. So does momma know about your new fella?”

Kasey choked. “God no, and hopefully he’ll never have to meet her manipulating self.”

“It wouldn’t happen to be that fella working down at Winn’s coffee shop, would it?”

“What makes you say that?”

“Well, you know I am considered the best researcher in the business, and I’ve noticed that since he started working there you go in every day now instead of three times a week.”

Kasey groaned at his smile. “Alright, alright, yes. I like Evan and I know half the city does as well, but, well you never know, I may have a chance.”

“Girl, I’d rather see him with you than that Jenny Pickleman upstairs, he’s all she talks about.”

“Oh yeah Jenny, I forgot about her.”

“Now don’t go losing all hope. She’s a slut, and he probably knows it.”

Kasey busted out a laugh. “Henry, you potty mouth!”

“I’m old enough, I can say what I want. Now get back to work.”

“Yes sir,” she chuckled as he walked away.

* * * *

Kasey glanced up when a shadow fell across her book and she set her

sandwich down. “Jenny, what can I do for you?”

“Why is it when I ask the owner of the coffee shop where Evan is, she tells me to ask you?”

Kasey frowned as Jenny put a hand on her non-existent hip. She didn’t care how many times people argued with her, sizes zero to six do not have hips. “Why would Winn tell you to ask me?”

“Winn, is that her name?”

“Yes.”

“Well I don’t know, but *Winn* said to ask you where Evan was, with a smile on her face, as if you’d have a clue.” Jenny snorted.

Kasey's eyes narrowed as the she-bitch turned to leave. Kasey spoke and stopped Jenny dead in her tracks. "Because I do know where he is, Jenny," she said, a half-smile lifting the side of her mouth. "And frankly, it's none of your damn business." Grabbing her water, half-eaten sandwich, and book, Kasey headed for the door, listening to some chuckles and noticing some winks as she left the room.

Groaning the minute she hit her desk, Kasey sat down to finish eating. What in the hell made her stand up to Jenny? It wasn't like they were even in the same league. Well, they *were* in all actuality, but Kasey gave up that lifestyle years ago to be true to who she is. Now there

was Jenny—Miss Size Two, Miss Fashion Guru, Miss Not-A-Hair-Out-Of-Place-And-Nails-Done-To-Perfection—and then there was...“Me,” Kasey grumbled. She was a size ten with baby-bearing hips, and light brown, shoulder length hair. Jeans and a t-shirt were good for her and half the time her hair was up in a ponytail or clipped to the back of her head. Kasey smiled. She knew she wasn’t model beautiful or butt ugly, but she had a cute hometown girl next door kinda look and she was good with that. “Yep, when the zombies attack and we have to bunk down, I’ll be good for losing ten and not worrying about starving.”

“Girl, when the zombies attack shoot

for their heads,” Henry chuckled as he passed by.

Sitting up, Kasey brought up her file on Alston. “Talking about zombies,” she muttered as she ran through the current newspaper of the closest town. “Nothing out of the ordinary in today’s news.” Biting her lower lip she typed in Evan’s name and waited, she scrolled down as twenty five articles with the name Evan in them came up and sat back to read.

Chapter 2

“You are a trouble maker.” Kasey smiled. “Why would you tell Jenny Pickleman I know where Evan is?”

“Ah, she was getting on my nerves,” Winn said chuckling.

“So you send her my way, geez thanks, Winn.”

“I do my best. Besides, Evan wouldn’t touch that one with a ninety-nine and a half foot pole.”

* * * *

Kasey jumped up from her sofa a week later, looked through the peephole, and stepped back with a slight frown. Moving forward she looked again.

“What the hell?” she whispered. “Evan, is that you?”

“Yeah, it’s me, Kasey.”

Her lip lifted with a soft groan as she glanced down at her pajama bottoms. “I’m not exactly dressed, hold on a minute and let me go grab my robe.” Rushing to the bathroom, Kasey grabbed her robe off the back of the door and groaned at the wisps escaping her clipped up hair as she quickly walked back to the front door. Her chest expanded with a large breath before blowing it out slowly. She smiled as she opened the door. “Hey, what’s up?”

Evan smiled as he held up a lily. “I’m sorry.”

Kasey frowned as she slowly took the beautiful white flower with red and yellow details. “About what?”

“The way I dismissed you last week, you know, when I turned my back on you and left Winn’s. I didn’t mean to hurt you, Kasey, I just...”

“It’s alright,” Kasey blurted. “I know you probably had a lot on your mind. Winn said something about your needing some sanctuary to think things over and I respect that.”

“Thank you, and yes I did, but that was no reason for me to turn my back on you. It’s my fault with the kiss and everything, honestly I never thought—” Clearing his throat, his eyes lowered for

a brief moment. “I never thought I’d have the want to be with another woman. I know Winn told you a little of what happened and I’m fine with that, but it doesn’t excuse my behavior toward you and for that I’m sorry. Know that it will not happen again.”

Did he just say he wanted her? “Oh, well, ok,” Kasey whispered. “I...ah... would you like to come in for a hot chocolate or something”

“Hot chocolate?”

Her knees almost gave out on her when the side of his mouth lifted slightly. “Yeah,” she smiled. “It’s too late for coffee and I make a mean hot chocolate with cool whip and chocolate

syrup.”

Evan chuckled. “Sure, but it sounds like it has as much caffeine in it with all the chocolate as a coffee does.”

“That may be, my good sir, but it’s much more suited for night time.” Smiling she took his coat and hung it up by the door before heading for the small galley kitchen. When she caught him looking at her legs she whipped her robe open. “Yes, I ran for the robe to cover up my Mickey Mouse pajamas. I love the mouse.”

“Thank the Gods, because I thought you were lounging around naked or something.”

Kasey chuckled as she put water on

to heat. “Ha, too cold for that. Now I can’t promise anything when summer hits and it’s a hundred outside.”

* * * *

Kasey smiled as she sat across from Evan at a small eatery next to her work. He’d stopped by to take her out for lunch. “So tell me about this sanctuary, is it like meditation or a state of mind?”

Evan smiled. “No, it’s a place, a safe place for people to go who just need to be—themselves.”

“Is it far from here? Because I don’t remember hearing about anything like it,” she asked then met his gaze wide-eyed. “Damn, it’s not a cult or anything

is it?”

“No,” Evan chuckled. “It’s just a place some friends of mine own and they call it Sanctuary because it’s so peaceful with the woods and quietness. It’s a place where you can get back to your true self.”

“By meditation?”

“If that helps.”

“So in other words it’s like going camping by yourself. You can be alone to think about things going on in your life and how you want to deal with them without anyone interrupting.”

“Exactly.”

“No cell phones allowed?”

Evan chuckled. “No cells allowed. Now tell me why Jenny Pickleman is bearing down on us with an impeccably dressed older woman.”

“What?” Kasey choked. Turning, she gasped and coughed when Evan’s hand landed hard on her back sending up the apple that had been lodged in her throat. “Oh God, I don’t need this. That bitch, I’ll...damn she’s evil.”

“Are you talking about Jenny or the one next to her?”

“Both.” Whipping around, she grabbed his hand. “Come on, let’s see if there’s a back way out of here.”

“Kasey, stop and sit down.”

“No, you don’t understand.” Glancing over, she watched as Jenny reached for the door. “That’s my *mother*.”

Evan glanced up, his left brow rising at the venomous look coming from the older lady.

“What are you doing here?” Kasey asked as she let go of Evan’s hand.

“Is that any way to greet your mother, Kasey Lynn?”

“Yes, now why are you here?”

“I’m here because I’ve heard some rather disturbing news. According to our friend Jenny here, you’ve been dating a—do I really need to say it—a coffee

shop employee. Really, Kasey, am I to believe this is the man you've been seeing for two years now? No wonder you didn't bring him home."

Kasey's ears heated with anger. "First off, *mother*, Jenny is not my friend in any sense of the word." Keeping her voice low to avert a public incident, Kasey continued. "And no, this is not the man I've been dating for the last two years, I broke it off. This is Evan and I'm not sure why Jenny's speaking badly of him when all she wants is to jump his bones. So before you go saying another nasty thing I'll remind you to hold your tongue and not make a scene. You know how father disapproves of such antics by you."

“Don’t you tell me what your father will disapprove of,” she hissed.

“Shall I call him and we’ll take a poll?” Kasey smirked.

“Are you dating him or not?”

Kasey opened her mouth to answer. “Well, Rita...”

“Yes,” Evan replied.

Kasey whipped her head around to stare at him. Meeting his gaze, she saw the sparkle in his eye and narrowed hers in response. “Evan?”

“And just because I’m helping a friend out at her coffee shop, doesn’t mean that’s my career.”

Kasey shook her head. “Evan, don’t get her going,” she whispered.

“And just what is it you do besides sling coffee all day?” Rita snarled.

Evan smiled. “I’m the Chief Operating Officer of my family’s company. Although I’m on a vacation right now, I stick my head in once a month or so.”

“How can a COO be on vacation for more than a few weeks?” Rita snipped.

“It’s a *very* tight run operation.”

Kasey’s head tilted at his low tone, it brooked no disobedience. He was used to being in charge and giving orders without having them questioned.

When her mother started with more questions, Kasey turned back to her, just catching a glimpse of Evan's gaze. "Mother, that's enough, I don't know what you intended to accomplish today, but you're done. I suggest you get back in your car and go back home."

"And what if I intended to stay?" Rita asked with a smile.

"Then I suggest you go hit the closest hotel and take your rat with you." Standing up, Kasey looked down at Evan. "Are you ready to go?"

"Sure." He smiled as he rose.

"Good." Kasey turned to her mother as Evan wrapped his hand around hers. "Lunch is your treat mother," she said

loudly, smiling at the owner of the diner as Evan started for the door and brought her along with him, his fingers entwining with her own. Kasey waited until they were outside. “You know, you didn’t have to tell her we’re dating. We’re just friends, Evan, and I...”

Evan turned, bringing her into his arms and lowered his lips to hers softly. “Just friends, huh?”

“Well, you know,” she replied breathlessly. “I didn’t want to push you or anything.”

“Consider me pushed.”

Kasey sighed as his lips met hers again.

“Now that’s something you don’t see every day. Seexxy.” Winn smiled.

“You’re like fly shit, you know that?” Evan stated.

Kasey liked how his arm wrapped around her waist as she stepped back from his embrace, smiling at Winn.

“Ya, ya because I’m everywhere, I know. But I had to see the outcome of this after Miss Prissy Pants brought the older prissy pants into the coffee shop looking for Kasey.”

“Sorry about that.” Kasey shrugged.

“Oh no kid, I feel sorry for you. Mother, huh?”

“Unfortunately, yes. I need to call my

dad and see if he can get her out of here.” Turning to Evan she smiled. “Thanks for lunch.”

“Anytime, sweetheart.”

Kasey glanced down then back up to meet his gaze, a soft smile lining her lips as she lifted up on tiptoes to kiss him quickly. A little shy, she glanced around as she lowered back to her feet. “Later then,” she said softly before glancing over at Winn and stepping away. Thrusting her hands in her pockets, she didn’t know why she’d gotten shy all of a sudden, it’s not like Evan hadn’t kissed her before, but... “It was the first time in public,” she whispered, smiling as she heard her mother call out her name.

Kasey grabbed her cell and called her dad. She listened to the ringing until her dad picked up. “Hey, Dad, did you know Mom was coming out this way today to pull a sneak attack on me?”

“What? No I did not, she told me she was going shopping with a new friend,” Donald Decker said.

“Yeah well her new friend happens to be a jealous pain in my ass from work.”

“For crying out loud, what’s she pulling this time?”

“She wanted to see who I was dating.”

“Ah, that finally wore off, huh?

Sorry, kiddo. If I knew what she was planning I would have waylaid her, you know that.”

“I know, Dad, but this is getting ridiculous. She storms in while we’re having lunch and after trying with no luck to disgrace and humiliate him and...”

“So who is this lucky fella?”

Kasey stopped about fifteen steps away from Evan, hearing the smile in her Dad’s voice. “His name’s Evan.” Turning, she smiled when she met Evan’s gaze. “He’s...I don’t know I can’t describe it.”

“Does he make your insides warm?”

“Yeah,” she whispered.

“Then bring him home for the holiday so I can meet him.”

Kasey snapped out of her daydream and turned from Evan’s gaze. “What? Are you nuts? He just met Mom one on one, he’ll never come with me now,” she said as she headed back to her office. “I’m lucky he didn’t run on sight after meeting her, Dad.”

“Does he scare that easily then?” Donald asked.

An image of Evan defending her against the man who attacked her popped into her head. “No, anything but, and I think he’d take her on just for fun because he knows he’d win. I don’t want

to subject him to Mom at Christmas time, Dad, you know how she gets.”

“I know. I was just hoping I’d get to see you this year and so was your grandmother.”

Kasey drew her bottom lip between her teeth and started biting. “I know, Dad, and I miss the both of you, but this is new for Evan and me, and I don’t want to start it off with Mom being Mom.”

“I understand totally, kiddo. Are you coming at least?”

“I’m not sure yet.”

“Keep me posted. I have to go, my two o’clock is here.”

“Kay. Love ya, Dad.”

“Love you too, baby girl.”

Kasey smiled as she hit the off button. She loved her Dad so much. He was the best father in the world. He'd always been there for her in anything she needed or wanted, but he never let her live extravagantly and for that she thanked him. He taught her the finer world of business and how to run a multi-million dollar company, but it just wasn't something she was meant to do. She loved working next to him, loved brainstorming on ideas and issues with him and her brother Graham, but the corporate world just wasn't for her and he understood that. He was the first one

to say he supported her when she told him she wanted to quit the family business and go to college for journalism. But to bring Evan into the thick of things with her mother right there underfoot every moment for a week, was she insane?

* * * *

“You don’t have to. I just thought I’d ask,” Kasey breathed as Evan glanced away.

“It’s not that I don’t want to, Kase, I just—I had other plans made before we started seeing each other.”

Kasey shrugged. “I understand, Evan, and it’s alright. Actually I don’t blame you at all. I don’t want to sit in

with my mother any longer than I have to.”

Evan met her gaze with a grin. “Babe, your mother doesn’t scare me.” Reaching across the small coffee shop table he took her hand within the warmth of his own hand. “I had already made plans to be at Sanctuary with some friends.”

“Oh, so you’re not going home?”

“No, not this time.”

Kasey glanced down at the table. “I was thinking of not going, but I miss my dad, grandma, and brother so much. I, I’m just sick of not doing things because of my mother and sister. I don’t know

why they're such bitches to me every time they see me. Hell she doesn't treat my sister like crap, although that could be because Sasha does everything my mother tells her to. Those two are two peas in a pod." Looking up she watched as Evan's gaze shifted to the side then back to hers, as if he knew a secret or something. "Evan I know you said you're a COO, but, well, you don't know my family, do you?"

"No. I've heard of your father's company, but we're not competitors or allies so I've never personally met with him or anyone from the company."

"Oh," she said softly. Shrugging her shoulders, she leaned back a bit, smiling

when he tightened his grip on her hand.

“I’ve never met any of your family, well except your mother when we were having lunch.”

Kasey smiled, giggling as he drew her close for a kiss, but the niggling little thought that he was hiding something from her slid to the back of her brain as his warm lips settled over hers softly. Laying her palm on the side of his cheek, she sighed softly as his lips worked the tingles racing through her into a frenzy. Gasping, she yanked back, her eyes heavy with desire as the voice that sparked her back to reality intruded again when Evan leaned back in toward her.

“Hey, you’re gonna be late for work,” Winn chuckled.

Kasey’s eyes flew wide. “Oh crap.” Leaning forward she planted her lips heavily on Evan’s as she grabbed her purse and then was off. “Crap, I’m going to be late.” Running out the door, she darted around several people on the sidewalk, breathing heavily as she ran through the foyer, shoved open the stairway door and flew down the steps, hitting keys on her keyboard and punching in one minute before her scheduled time. “Damn,” she breathed, flopping back into her seat.

“What, are you trying to get some exercise this morning?” Henry asked.

Kasey snorted. “Yeah right, I was lip locking with Evan and lost track of time.”

Henry smiled. “It must have been one hell of a kiss. Okay girl, get your coffee and let’s go hit the morning meeting.”

Kasey frowned as he turned. “You know, I really hate the meetings.” Grabbing her notebook and pen, she hopped up, following him to the galley kitchen and then to the conference room.

“I know, kid, I know.”

* * * *

Evan frowned as he stared Winn down. “You know why I can’t go with

Kasey to her parents for Christmas.”

“I think you’re full of shit.”

“What?” Evan roared. “You want me to go during a full moon? I’d tear into her like you with chocolate on your period.”

“Oh, you’re so gross!” Winn exclaimed. “Gross, but true. Now think about all the wonderful sex you could have.”

Evan shook his head as he grabbed a towel and started wiping down the tables. “Yeah, wonderful, great, mind blowing sex with my wolf’s pick for a soul mate. I’d take her, mate with her and make her mine. Somehow I think she’d feel a bit bruised, used and pissed

that I've been lying to her from day one."

"I think she'd understand."

Glancing back he met Winn's gaze. "And if I scare her away, what then? It's not as if she grew up knowing about us, and what if she isn't ready to commit to a relationship with me? She's human, Winn. My inner wolf may be telling me, "it's her, buddy, go get her and make her yours," but she has no idea, no idea. So why would she want to move so fast with me?"

"Because she knows being with you is right."

Evan whipped around. "Just what the hell are you getting at?"

“We may have scented that little something with her mother, but I’m telling you there’s more to Kasey than even what she knows. More than what you can get because you’re still just a little itty bitty baby pup,” Winn grinned. “To me that is. So listen to what I’m telling you. Kasey will accept you.” Shrugging, she tossed a dry cloth at his head. “Why do you think she has such an interest in Alston?”

“No clue,” Evan frowned. “And I’m sure you’re not going to tell me either.”

* * * *

Evan smiled as he walked beside Kasey at the craft fair. “So your dad’s going to love this, huh?”

“Oh yeah. It’s leather and hand bound. He’ll probably let it sit on his desk for two years before he decides it’s ok to write in it, Kasey said as she chuckled. She glanced over as Evan stopped by a jewelry table.

“These are pretty cool, what do you think?”

Kasey leaned over his shoulder. “Very nice workmanship.”

Evan chuckled as he looked back and met her gaze. “That’s it? Not your style?”

“What?” Standing up Kasey stared at him. “Ah, no, I think they’re very pretty, but, but...” She stepped back again.

Evan turned when he heard the slight rattling of the jewelry, noticing the perplexed look on the seller's face, and then it stopped. "Hey, Kasey, if you don't..."

His brows drew in when he turned and she was gone. "Kasey?"

"Over here."

Evan looked down the long aisle, frowning as she waved at him from the very end. He headed her way. Something wasn't right, he knew that for sure. For one thing jewelry didn't just start trembling on the table and stop the minute she was out of the area. "What's up with you?"

"I, ah, I'm allergic...to...silver."

“Well geez, Kase, that’s all you had to say. It doesn’t agree with me either, but I thought you might like a piece.”

Kasey wrapped her hand around his elbow. “Thank you for thinking of me, but you don’t have to buy me jewelry, Evan.”

“Can if I want,” he pouted, grinning when she glanced up at him and started laughing. “Come on you, I’m hungry.”

“Me too.”

Evan took her hand and ran with her to the fried dough stand. “Hey, two please; cinnamon and powdered sugar.”

“I thought you said hungry, not snack?”

“I did, but this will keep us until we get to the restaurant,” he said as he paid for the food.

“Oh yeah? And where’s that?”

Evan wrapped his arm around her, yanking her to his chest. “Anywhere you want to go.” Lowering his mouth to hers quickly, he smiled as he backed up.

“You’re a trouble maker.”

“How so?”

“Anywhere I want to go, huh? What if I wanted a Maine lobster?”

Evan grinned. “Then we’d be driving to Maine.”

“Seriously?”

“Yes, is that what you want?” he asked as he ran his hand up her back.

“Well, um, maybe not tonight, but I will hold you to one.”

Evan leaned in, his lips a hair away from hers. “Anytime, you just let me know.”

“Oh, ok.” The whisper barely escaped before his lips met hers. Her hand rested on his chest.

Evan groaned bringing her closer to him, his hard cock pressed up against her stomach. He darted his tongue into her mouth when her lips parted. Her body trembled. Always alert to the things around him, Evan slowly lifted his head, his eyes pinned on the female

about a hundred yards away staring at them intently. “I think our snack is done,” he whispered. Smiling, he met Kasey’s gaze as her eyes fluttered open. Lifting his eyes again, his gaze narrowed when he found the woman gone. Tilting his head slightly he breathed deeply trying to get a scent, but with him being downwind from where the woman had been, he couldn’t, not unless he went up there and followed her trail. Lowering his gaze when Kasey punched him softly, he smiled. “Sorry, hon, thought I saw someone I knew.”

“Well your fried dough is going to get cold if you wait any longer.”

Evan smiled as he leaned down

kissing her softly, sucking in her lower lip before letting her go. He ran his tongue along her lower lip. “Mmmm, powdered sugar and cinnamon. The bad thing is, now I’ll smell cinnamon and think of you every time.”

“And that’s bad?” she whispered.

“It is when we’re in public.” Grinning he moved back and snatched up his dough, taking a large bite of the warm snack as he kept her gaze.

“And,” clearing her throat, Kasey took a step back, “If we weren’t?”

Evan stepped toward her until he could lean down close to her ear. “Then I’d have you undressed, laying before me, and I’d be taking my time as I licked

powdered sugar and cinnamon off every inch of your body.” Her breathing hiked and a warm breath of air hit his neck, making his dick uncomfortably hard.

“Oh.”

Meeting her gaze he could see her desire reflecting his own. “Kase...”

“It looks like you two need to go get a room,” Winn chuckled.

Evan frowned, turning his head as Kasey jumped back about a foot. “You know, for a friend, you’re really starting to piss me off.”

“Yeah, sorry about that, it’s in the blood ya know. So it looks like you two are doing well.”

“We’re fine, getting a snack before finding some real food.” Evan noticed Kasey smiling as she nodded. “Hey ah, you didn’t happen to see a silver-haired woman up there by the gazebo anywhere did you?”

“Doll, the gray hairs are all over the place, it’s a craft fair, duh.”

Evan shook his head, narrowing his eyes. “No, I mean a young-looking female with silver hair, you know, your friend, what’s her name? I thought I saw her. She may have been looking for you.” When Winn’s eyes widened a bit, he knew she caught on.

“Ohhhh yeah, we ran into each other about ten minutes ago. Funny though, she

took off real fast like she had some place to be. I told her I'd catch up with her later."

Evan nodded, knowing Winn would get up there and check it out. "Well, we're blowing this pop stand and going to dinner." Wrapping his arm around Kasey's waist, he started walking.

"Make sure he takes you some place nice, Kasey, and not the local diner."

Kasey chuckled. "I'll do that. 'Night, Winn."

"'Night, girly."

Evan smiled as Winn headed toward the gazebo. "So where would you like to go? Anything you're really wanting?"

“Actually, a burger and chocolate milk shake would be great.”

Evan chuckled as he glanced down meeting her eyes. “Sure, babe, but don’t tell Winn. She’ll have my ears boxed so fast I won’t know what hit me.”

“Our secret.”

Evan kissed her quickly as they headed toward his car.

Chapter 3

“Okay,” Kasey breathed as she rushed around the apartment, straightening it out before Evan showed up with dinner. This was the last time she’d be seeing him for a week as she was leaving tomorrow for the holiday and heading to her parents’ house. Oh my God, she wanted so much more than just the heated kisses they’d shared over the past couple of weeks. It seemed that they just couldn’t get any time alone. They’d both been working overtime because of the holiday and what little time they did have together they were so damn tired, she didn’t think they could do anything but kiss—although his jeans had been awfully tight last night when he

left. Kasey chuckled as she stopped to check her hair out in a mirror and made a face as the doorbell rang. “Coming,” she called out as she headed for the door. She smiled when she saw Evan standing there. “Well hello.”

Evan grinned. “Well hello to you too, beautiful. You look a little winded.”

“Just trying to pick up before you got here, come in,” she said shutting the door behind him as he set the take out Chinese food on the table. “Actually, really, I just want to, well, ah...shit,” she breathed as she reached out, grabbed him by his shirt, and brought him to her as her lips landed on his hotly.

“Kase, if we start this...we won’t be

eating—”

“Don’t care.”

Evan growled as he hauled her to him, his hands smacking her ass. He liked her little ‘oh’ before she pressed closer to him. Tilting his head, he thrust his tongue into her mouth, groaning as he took her hungrily. “I might get a little rough.”

Tingles shot through her head, down her spine to her convulsing pussy. “It’s okay,” she breathed, her fingers threading their way into his hair. She gripped the soft strands as she brought him back to her mouth.

Evan grunted as he lifted her against him, pressing her heated little pussy

against his aching cock and took a step to the bedroom.

“I don’t... I’m not on anything.”

“It’s ok, I’m clean, and pregnancy won’t be a problem right now,” he muttered as his mouth moved to her neck, nibbling her soft skin.

“I, I’m clean but what if...”

“No pups tonight,” he said as he laid her on the bed. “Now strip, beautiful.”

Kasey’s chest rose with anticipation as she reached for the button on her jeans. Her body trembled as his eyes followed her every move. “What about you?”

“You first, always you first.”

Lowering down to one knee, he helped draw the zipper down, glancing up as she shivered. He kept her gaze when the back of his fingers touched her warm flesh as he slowly took off her pants.

“Don’t do this slowly. Please don’t go slow.”

“You’ll find your pleasure first and then I’m going to fuck you like crazy into another orgasm, and then I’ll make love to you before we fall asleep.”

Kasey’s entire body arched, electric zaps causing the hairs on her arms to stand on end. “Oh my God, it won’t take long, especially if you talk like that.” Her brain turned to mush with the euphoric sensations he was causing. The

last thing she remembered was his smile before he lowered his mouth to her pussy, the sweet sensation of his tongue licking and sucking her clit had her soaring over the edge as she cried his name.

Her breathing was almost back to normal when his hand caressed its way up her leg. Opening heavy lids she noticed that he'd stripped. She trembled, but not from an aftershock of the greatest orgasm she'd had in a while, but from the strength and size of the man before her. "Ohhh," she exclaimed as he dragged her down so her bottom was on the very end of the bed.

Evan wasted no time getting between

her thighs. “You’ll be alright.”

“Don’t you want to make love slowly first and then go at me with that—hugeness?” she breathed, arching her back when his fingers found her swollen clit. Kasey let out a low, sultry moan when his teeth nipped her shoulder. She arched against his pleasuring fingers and felt the head of his fat cock at her entrance.

“You’ll be fine, you’re nice and wet,” he breathed as he slowly inched inside her, stretching her to accommodate his size.

“It’s been a while.”

“I know, love,” he said softly, smiling down at her as he leaned in,

entering her further as he slowly kissed her. Lifting his hands he quickly got rid of her shirt and bra.

Kasey trembled when his fingers ran over one of her nipples. *Oh please play with them.* She groaned when he met her silent request.

“You need to tell me what you like. Do you like your nipples played with?”

“Y-yes.”

“How?”

“H-hard.” Kasey cried out as he tweaked them between two fingers. Her back arched off the bed as her pussy contracted around his cock, which was half way in her body.

Evan couldn't stop his eyes from changing, he'd gone too long without her, too long without a female, and her cries of passion were bringing the beast in him out, literally. Leaning back, he moved his hands from her breasts down to her pelvis, settled them on her hips with his thumbs over her pelvic area, and massaged gently to relax her muscles as he moved more of his cock into her warmth. "Relax sweetheart, just a bit more. You can take me."

"Oh my God, you're so fucking big."

"I'll take that as a compliment."

"How in the hell am I going to get all of you in my mouth?"

Evan lifted his gaze, a loud beastly

growl followed as he thrust the rest of the way into her, his mouth landing on hers hungrily. She let out gasps of pleasure as he pounded in and out of her, stretching her to the limits. But he couldn't hold back, not now, not when her sweet little mouth wanted to suck him all the way in instead of crying and trying to get out of pleasuring him. "Wrap your legs around me."

"I, I don't know if I can." Damn he was big. She'd been surprised when her body took all of him.

Evan grabbed her thighs lifting them up and planted her feet on the bed as he lowered his mouth to her neck and bit. "Baby, I'm getting close!"

“Oh, me too, me too, oh God, Evan!” she cried, amazed that the outer edges of an orgasm were so close.

Kasey cried out, her fingernails scoring his back. Evan could feel the pressure building. His hands came up, one going to her hard nipple as the other threaded through her silky hair to the base of her scalp, clenching, drawing her head back. Her sounds of pleasure had him holding back his orgasm. Thrusting hard and deep several more times, he waited until her muscles started contracting around him and her gasps changed to low moans. “Are you ready wench? Are you ready to come for me?” he growled.

“Y-yes.”

“Not until I say, do you hear me?”

Kasey’s lips parted with a groan as electric shocks skittered across her body. “E-Evan, pleeeasse.” Arching up against him, her body started shaking.

“Hold it,” he snarled. He had to make sure she could wait until he was ready so when he took her as his mate, they came at the same time.

Kasey started panting, trying to keep her orgasm at bay. She’d never had to wait, then again, she’d never had a great orgasm from sex until Evan, and she didn’t want to disappoint him. “Evan, oh my God please! I, I can’t...”

“Come for me, Kasey, now!” Thrusting deeply as her muscles clenched and convulsed around his dick, her scream of pleasure in his ear as he bit down on the spot between her neck and shoulder finished him off. He groaned as his seed spurted out into her swollen convulsing pussy.

“Oh, oh my God,” Kasey breathed as Evan slumped on top of her heaving chest.

“Are you alright? I didn’t hurt you, did I?” Evan mumbled from the nape of her neck.

Kasey gasped as her pussy tightened. “I’m good.” Taking several more breaths, she didn’t want to ruin this, but

she had to say something. “Will you explain to me please, why your eyes shimmered silver.” She held her breath when his body tensed.

“Not now, Kasey, later okay?” he whispered.

“Promise?” she asked turning her face toward his. She met his eyes as he glanced up at her, and then his lips were on hers softly.

“Yes.” Withdrawing from her heat slowly, he inched back in.

“Already?”

Evan smiled. “Oh yeah.”

They both froze when his cell phone went off. “Are you kidding me?” Evan

breathed as he laid his forehead against hers. “Fuck them.” Moving again, he met Kasey’s gaze.

“What if it’s important?”

“They’ll leave a message.” He smiled when it stopped. “See, told ya.” Lowering his lips to hers, he groaned when she met him halfway, sucking his bottom lip in her mouth. His dick jumped when she started nibbling. “Son of a bitch!” he growled as his cell went off again.

“Just get it. They wouldn’t call back unless it was important.”

Frowning he reached down, grabbed his jeans from the side of the bed and yanked his phone out. “What!?”

“Well hello to you too,” Winn chuckled.

“Someone better be dying,” Evan snarled.

“Aahhh well, we’ll talk about what you’re doing later, but I need you to get your naked ass off Kasey and get here now. That silver-haired woman, I found her and you’re not going to like it.”

Evan straightened up. “Why?”

“I’ll tell you once you get here; I’m across from Colonial Park in the evergreens. I don’t think I need to tell you to hurry.”

Evan glanced down at Kasey who was sitting up on her elbows. “Babe,

Winn's in trouble, I need to go get her.”

“Oh my God, is she alright?” Kasey asked.

“Yeah, she's not hurt or anything, I just need to go get her, I'm sorry.” Leaning down he gently ran his lips across hers, until he heard Winn calling out ‘Sorry, Kasey!’ over the phone.

“Only for you, Winn,” Kasey called back smiling.

“Right, be right there,” Evan said before hanging up. He thrust deeply into Kasey. “Sorry babe, I'll make it up to you.”

“Ohhh, damn right you will. Oh crap, I'm so fucking horny,” she breathed,

arching up, taking him fully into her again with a moan.

“Damn, Kase,” he grunted, tossing the phone. He placed both hands above her shoulders. “Get on your hands and knees for me now.”

Kasey turned, gasping when his strong hands grabbed her hips, helping her. She groaned loudly as he thrust right up into her with no mercy. “Oh God yes.”

“It’s going to be hard and fast.”

“That’s okay, that’s okay,” she gasped, fingers gripping the sheet.

Evan was glad she faced away for him as his eyes changed and canines

elongated. This had never happened before with anyone. He'd never started the change during sex before. "Christ, Kasey!"

"Oh my God, I'm coming, Evan, I'm..." Kasey whimpered as her orgasm hit, his thrusts hard, his balls slapping against her swollen lips. Her top half fell to the mattress just as he growled loudly, and she felt the hot spurting of his semen. Turning her head, her eyes narrowed at the sight before her and she knew she was right. She shut her eyes quickly before he saw her looking.

* * * *

"So how's Kasey?" Winn smiled.

"Satisfied and on her way to

sleeping when I left, now what's going on?"

"Your silver-haired lady has an unusual scent about her, that's what made it so easy for me to track her here."

Evan frowned. "What kind of scent?"

"Kasey's."

"What?"

"Oh, it gets better, Mon Capitan. I know what she is and it's not Other Kin."

"Then what the hell is she?"

"Well, why don't you ask her?"

Winn suggested.

Evan turned when he scented the sweet smell he always associated with Kasey. His brows narrowed as the woman stood in front of them. Her scent was the same, but different; it stunk of metallic overtones, like when you sucked on your finger after cutting it and tasted the iron within your blood. “Who are you?” he asked as the woman’s face contorted with anger.

“You stay away from her, Lyken!” silver lady yelled.

Evan’s arms crossed over his chest. “Stay away from whom?”

“Her smell is all over you, how dare you touch her you, you filthy animal!”

Evan's eyes changed as his arms came down. "First off, lady, and I use that term loosely, just who in the hell do you think you are and why are you here?"

"I am your worst nightmare, Lyken. Heed my warning and stay away from Kasey Decker."

"Or what?"

"Or you'll deal with me."

"Evan!" Winn called out as the silver lady rushed his way. "Don't let her touch you!"

Evan flash-stepped away noticing the silver talons on the woman's fingertips. His eyes widened as he

deflected her attempted hits. “She has no idea, does she? Kasey has no idea what she is?” His chest heaved from the quick assaults as they stopped and squared off. “She has no idea about you.”

“You stay away from her.”

“I think that’s up to Kasey to decide.”

“If you...”

“If I what?” Evan yelled. “You, whom she has no idea exists, are going to all of a sudden appear in her life and try and tell her what to do?” Evan smirked. “Lady, you truly have no idea who Kasey Decker is.”

“She’s my...”

“Oh, I know exactly who she is to you now, but blood means nothing when you’ve been nowhere around. You left her vulnerable to any Other Kin who’d stop by and take a look at her; like that Orc when he attacked her straight out with the intent to rape her.” Evan growled, his gaze narrowed as hers faltered to the left. Looking at Winn quickly, he knew they needed to get away from her before she attacked him again. Motioning to the right, Evan flash-stepped with Winn right at his side. “This isn’t good.”

“Nope,” Winn muttered. “You need to keep Kasey safe and away from her, she’s no good, Evan.”

“Kasey will be heading for her parents’ house shortly.”

“Ah, so I interrupted your goodbyes?” She smiled.

“That and our first time, thank you very much,” he growled.

“I’ll make sure Kasey leaves town with no issues. You head to Sanctuary and away from Silver Mama and her talons.”

Evan nodded and took off to the left as Winn headed toward Kasey’s apartment.

* * * *

Evan sighed when he heard his brother’s deep tone answer the phone.

“It’s about time.”

“It’s three in the morning, I was sleeping. What’s up, are you alright?”

Evan smiled as worry entered his little brother’s voice. “Yeah, I’m alright, but I found something out tonight and need you to check with the historians for me.”

“Well, it must have been something big for you to be calling at this hour,” Drake said.

“Yeah it is. Remember the woman I told you about?”

“Your mate?”

“Yeah, she ah—I just found out her mother’s a Silver Alchemist and Kasey

has no idea.”

“A silver—holy shit, Evan, she could kill you with one scratch.”

“I know and Kasey has no idea. All she knows is when she’s around silver it does strange things.”

“So she hasn’t drawn any into her body?”

“No, at least I don’t think so.”

“You don’t think?” Drake yelled.

“No, okay, she hasn’t.”

“Certain?”

Evan shrugged. “Well, with the scratches she left going down my back earlier, I’d probably be dead by now.”

“By the gods, Evan!”

“I’m alright, just have the historians check to see if a match like this have ever been recorded and ask Mari too, ’kay? She might have seen something in all her travels.”

Drake sighed heavily. “So I guess she’s the one then?”

“She is.”

“Alright, now tell me about the mother.”

“She came out of nowhere. Kasey doesn’t even know her adoptive mother isn’t her own. I’m not sure about her father yet, I haven’t had a chance to scent him. This silver-haired woman just

showed up, so Winn tracked her down and tonight we had a bit of a...scuffle.”

“A bit of a scuffle...with a Silver Alchemist? Only you, my brother.”

Evan snorted. “Yeah, tell me about it.”

“I’ll get on it. Do you need back up in case she tries coming after you?”

“No, I’m good. Winn’s close by and I’m at Sanctuary. Besides, Kasey’s already left for her home.”

Drake hesitated a moment. “Livi’s been asking if you’re coming home for Christmas.”

Evan closed his eyes as he leaned his forehead against the doorjamb. “No,

not this year,” he whispered.

“She still thinks it’s her fault you know, that she couldn’t save Sophia and why you won’t come back.”

The corners of Evan’s eyes furrowed. “Gods, it’s not her fault. I don’t blame her, I blame the bastard that killed Sophie. I’ve told her that.”

“I know, but year after year when you haven’t come back—I know she still holds a heavy heart over you leaving. Besides, you have a nephew to meet and another pup on the way.”

“When?”

Drake chuckled. “We just found out yesterday.”

“Christ, Drake. Are you fathering your own pack or what?” Evan chuckled.

“It’s the what. I can’t seem to keep my hands off my mate,” he laughed. “So are you going with Kasey to her parents’?”

“I don’t think so. I mean she invited me and everything, but it’s during the full and she doesn’t know who I am yet.”

“Well if you do, text me so I know where you are in case you need me.”

“I will. And tell Livi I love her, will you?”

“You know it. Take care, my brother.”

“You too.” Evan grinned as he hung up. He missed his family like crazy and maybe once Kasey knew all about him, and if she was okay with knowing, maybe he’d go home. Smiling, he jumped up and grabbed his bag, tossing several pairs of clothes in, and took off.

Chapter 4

Kasey rolled her eyes at her brother as her mother continued worshipping Gilford Weram. “Huh, what, I’m sorry I wasn’t paying attention,” she said with a droll tone as her mother repeated her question.

“Kasey you’re being very rude to your guest,” Rita said as she stood by Gilford.

Kasey sighed loudly as she rolled her eyes to her mother, smiling when Rita frowned. “First off mother, he is your guest. I did not, nor would I ever, invite Gilford to a family event. Secondly, I take offense that both of you would scheme to even think to set me up.

Especially you Mother, when you know I'm seeing someone. You've met him and spoken with him in public."

"He was just as rude as you are."

Kasey grinned. "Good, because after you tried humiliating him, which didn't work by the way, you got your just desserts."

"You better stop talking to Mother like that, Kasey," Sasha spat.

"I'll talk to Mother any way I want, especially when she thinks she's going to inject herself into my life and try to control any aspect of it. And if you don't like it, block your ears or leave. Your choice. But don't you sit there all Miss High and Mighty and try to think you're

going to tell me what to do or how to act.”

“That’s enough,” Rita blustered.

“Yes, it is,” Donald Decker said as he entered the drawing room. “Rita, your manipulating ways are at an end. Stay out of Kasey’s life,” he said sternly.

Kasey smiled over at her dad. “Hey, Dad.”

“Hey, girl, I found something in the driveway when I pulled up and I think he belongs to you.”

Kasey frowned and then squealed with excitement when Evan strode through the door. Rushing to him, she laughed as he dropped his bag and

caught her in his arms. “I thought you couldn’t make it.”

“I changed my plans.” Evan grinned as he hugged her tightly.

“Oh my God, Kasey Lynn, have some modesty shall you?” Rita snapped.

“Rita!” Donald replied.

Kasey turned as her father gave her mother the ‘no nonsense’ look that would have them running as kids.

“I believe it’s time for dinner. Gilford, I realize you were invited to a dinner tonight and if you have nowhere else to go, then you may be Rita and Sasha’s guest. If not, then you know where the door is. I for one am starving

and heading to the dining room.”

Kasey grabbed Evan’s hand and led him right behind her dad, smiling as they stood to her dad’s left side. “Evan, this is my brother, Graham, and his wife, Carolyn.”

“Nice to meet you,” Evan said as they shook hands.

“Same here. Kase has said a bunch of good things about you, Evan. I’m glad you could make it tonight. Are you staying the rest of the week?” Graham replied before taking his seat at his dad’s right side.

“If Kasey wants me too.” He smiled.

“I’d like nothing better.” Kasey

smiled back and kept an eye on her mother as she sat at the other end with Sasha and Gilford, on the other side of Carolyn. “Dad, where’s Grandma, is she alright?”

“She had someone to see before coming, but no worries, she’ll be here.” Donald smiled.

“So Evan,” Graham said as they all sat down. “Kase and Dad tell me you’re the COO of your family’s company.”

“I am.” Evan smiled. “Although we’ve never had the pleasure of meeting in the boardroom, I’ve heard plenty of good things about Decker International.”

“Well, that’s always good to know.”

“Evan, you never said what the name of your family company is,” Rita smirked.

Kasey met Evan’s gaze briefly as he turned to look down the table at her mother.

“Roven Industries.”

Kasey’s eyes widened.

“That’s a nice company you have there,” Donald said as dinner was served. “I’ve heard a lot of good things about you as well, although they say you’re hell on wheels at the negotiation table.”

Kasey caught Evan’s smile as he turned back to her dad and saw the pride

in his eyes. So maybe she'd call him on his last name later when they were alone. Roven was the largest name of those who lived in Alston, Maine, and she wasn't about to let her mother or sister know that she had no idea what his last name was.

* * * *

After dinner, Kasey grabbed Evan by the elbow leading him off to the side. "I left your gift at home because I didn't think you were coming."

Evan leaned down with a smile. "I thought you gave it to me already?"

Kasey's brows lifted with a sensual smile on her lips. "Oh that, that was just the appetizer."

Evan growled as he ducked in for a kiss.

Kasey tossed her arms around his neck as his arms wrapped around her waist. Bringing her close, she sighed as he kissed her slowly. “Evan,” she breathed. “I think we need to talk.”

“You recognized my last name didn’t you?” he asked as he lowered his face to the nape of her neck, hugging her close.

“Yes.”

“Are you mad?”

“Irritated, but no, not mad.”

“For crying out loud, Kasey, knock it off,” Sasha scoffed.

Kasey smiled as she parted from Evan. “Stop being such a snob, Sasha.” Taking Evan’s hand, she led him to the family room where they were getting ready to give presents out. “If there was a man here who liked you, you’d be all over him.”

“Amen to that, sister,” Graham chuckled as he walked by.

Kasey smiled and followed her laughing brother.

* * * *

Kasey chuckled when Graham stopped their mom from seating Gilford between her and Evan on the love seat.

“Really, Rita, you will stop your

meddling ways with Kasey now,” Whitney said as she strode into the family room.

“Grandma!” Kasey squealed as she jumped up and gave her grandmother a hug. “I’ve missed you so much.”

“I’ve missed you too, my girl, now tell me who this striking young man is with a twinkle in his eye for you.”

Kasey’s smile broadened. “Oh, Grandma, you have to meet Evan.” Taking her hand, Kasey led her over to the love seat, smiling ear to ear as she met Evan’s gaze. “Evan, this is my Grandmother.” Her smile softened when he stood, bowing slightly to show his respect.

“It’s a pleasure to meet you,” Evan said.

“I’ve heard plenty of good things about you, young one.” Whitney smiled.

Kasey glanced to the left. Young one? Her grandmother never called anyone that, and Evan spoke to her as if he held her with the highest of regards. Glancing back up, she smiled as Grandma stared at her. “Huh, sorry I was noodle gathering.”

“Always my daydreamer. You keep this one, Kasey Lynn, and wonderful things will follow.”

Kasey’s head tilted slightly as Grandma turned and went to her father.

“Is she a seer?” Evan asked.

“Huh, no, but when she says things, we listen,” she whispered, glancing to him when his warm breath touched the side of her cheek.

“Well then,” he whispered. “Maybe we can make it come true.”

Meeting his eye, she smiled and leaned in to kiss his neck. “Sounds like a plan to me.”

* * * *

After gifts and some light drinking, Kasey took Evan’s hand. “I think we’ll see you all tomorrow, I’m about ready to hit the hay.”

“I’ll have Mr. Lane bring Evan to his

room then,” Rita said with a sarcastic smile.

“Oh don’t worry about that Mother, Evan’s staying with me.” Kasey smiled.

“I don’t think so,” Rita blustered. “You’re not married and I will not have that going on in my house.”

Kasey rolled her eyes as Rita’s hand fluttered up to her throat as if she was appalled. “Seriously, Mother?”

“Why not?” Graham chuckled. “The only time the house sees sex is when I come over.”

Kasey chuckled, as did everyone else in the room, as her mother’s neck started reddening.

“Really, Rita, if you listen you may learn a thing or two.” Whitney laughed. “He seems to be a healthy enough man to last more than once.”

Kasey laughed as she covered her face with her hands. “God, Grandma.”

“Just what are your intentions toward my daughter, Mr. Roven?” Donald chuckled.

“I plan on marrying her,” Evan replied.

Kasey whipped her head around to Evan as he smiled down at her, gasping as his arm went under her legs, sweeping her up against his chest. He took off out of the family room, stopping in the foyer to pick up his bag. “Evan?”

“Let’s go. Which room?” he asked.

“Ah, upstairs, last on the left.” She barely had it all out and gasped as dizziness surrounded her. “I, I think I had a bit too much to...” Stopping short when he did, she noticed they were in her room as he shut the door. “What the —?”

“It’s called flash-stepping, and I meant what I said.” Taking her into his arms he lowered his mouth, barely touching her lips. “I plan on marrying you—at least in the human sense of the word.”

“Evan?”

“After. I’ll explain everything after.”

He made quick work of her clothing and his, leaving piles on the floor as he lowered her to the bed. When their mouths met, it was soft and tentative, the passion holding just beneath the surface. “Is that okay, Kasey, if we talk after?”

“Yes.”

Her whisper was music to his ears. He wanted to love her, to taste her, to be gentle with her, as he should have during their first coupling. His hand trailed down her waist to her hip and thigh, loving how it trembled under his touch. His mouth lowered to hers, trying to keep the kiss gentle and undemanding, but he was losing his will power with her reactions.

“Evan, please,” Kasey pleaded, her fingers gripping his biceps.

“I want to go slow; love you right.”

Kasey jolted up, forcing him to sit back. “What does that mean?”

“It means I want to love you right, not hurried and...”

“Passionate? I happen to like that, I don’t like slow.”

Evan held back a growl, his head going back when her hand wrapped around his engorged cock. “Kase...”

“Shush,” she said rising to her knees, her hand stroking over his hardness, tightening at the tip. “You have loved me right, so don’t go getting any ideas that

you haven't. Slow is good after you've properly worn me out and I can barely move alright?" She gave him an extra squeeze for emphasis.

"Yeah, sure." He breathed heavily. "Babe—I'm not going to last long with you doing that."

Kasey smiled. "Good." She lowered her head, and the moment her tongue touched his silken shaft he groaned loudly, his hands coming to rest on top of her head.

"Tell me what you want, baby."

"Your come in my mouth."

"Gods, Kasey." He bucked, lightning shooting down his spine straight to his

cock as her warm mouth settled over his hardness.

Kasey wrapped her hand around the base of his cock and pumped her hand in time to the movement of her mouth, his light hold on her hair changed as his fingers clenched and unclenched.

Evan's balls tingled as his climax started. "Kase, holy shit," he breathed, glancing down to see her brown head over his crotch. Evan groaned as she sucked on him harder. He'd wanted to hold out, to enjoy her sweet mouth on him, but damn she was making it hard. His teeth clenched when she looked up and met his gaze, taking as much of him into her mouth as she could. She ran her

finger along his perineum to press against his anal entrance. “Kasey,” he gasped, jerking forward. His eyes rolled back as his cock exploded, semen spurting down her throat.

Kasey swallowed everything he gave her and smiled as he crashed backwards onto the bed. Running her hand up his thigh, she straddled him, meeting his gaze when he peeped an eye open.

“Woman, we need to have a talk.”

Kasey chuckled as she leaned over his heaving chest. “Later. You liked it, I liked doing it, and I like having it done.”

Evan wrapped his arms around her and rolled. Landing between her legs, he

thrust himself up into her wet pussy. “Good, because I plan on sticking my cock up your ass.”

“Your fat cock?” she breathed.

“Yes.”

“Your big fat cock?”

“Yes,” he growled, thrusting into her deeply.

Kasey arched as he leaned up, shoving a pillow under her ass and her legs over his thighs. “Evan?”

“You don’t control this, I do.” His ears twitched and he glanced back at the door quickly to see a shadow stop and then walk by slowly. Smiling he turned back to Kasey, thrusting in deep to elicit

a moaning gasp from her sweet lips. He leaned down close to her ear. “We have an eavesdropper,” he whispered. He slapped his hand over her mouth when her eyes popped open. Shaking his head slowly he grinned, closed his eyes and inhaled deeply. “Your sister and,” his eyes popped open as he belted out a laugh, “Gilford,” He said as he chuckled into her ear.

Kasey lifted her hands to his biceps and shoved, her hips tilted up bringing his hard dick further into her making her groan.

“That’s it, baby,” he said loudly. Lifting his hand he tweaked her nipple, smiling down when her dazed eyes met

his. “You will not come until I give you permission.”

Kasey was not about to argue with him. If someone wanted to listen then fuck them. She was an adult and would do what she wanted. Kasey gasped as Evan gave another deep thrust. He was thick, and so hard. Concentrating, she tightened her pussy muscles around him, smiling when a tremor shook him. She loved that she affected him the same way he did her. Her lips parted with his next thrust, a low keening moan escaped as he changed his rhythm to slow and steady. “Evan, please.”

“Please what?”

“Faster, harder,” she breathed as she

thrust her hips at him. His smile was lecherous as he bent, took a nipple in his mouth and sucked hard. She locked on his gaze as her pussy contracted around his dick. A gasp escaped her parting lips. Evan released her nipple and blew cool air on her wet bud, encouraging the areola to swell. Kasey sucked in a ragged breath as he thrust into her core deeply.

“You are so beautiful,” Evan murmured as he ran his hand down from her breast to her hip, not breaking his thrusting. “And you are mine.”

Kasey gasped as his eyes shimmered like silver, his cock thickening inside her. She reached up when he would have

turned away, and pulled his head down. “As you are mine,” she whispered against his lips. “Don’t you ever turn from me, your eyes are beautiful.” Searing her lips over his, she thrust her tongue in, mimicking the thrusts of his cock. Small sparks of lightning coursed through her. She had to breathe deeply to hold back her orgasm. Breaking away, she gasped for breath as he attacked her neck, nipping and biting her, which wasn’t helping her hold back her release. “Oh God, Evan!”

Evan thrust faster, harder. He leaned at the waist and thrust into her upturned pelvis to give her every sensation she could handle. Her panting and cries of passion drove him crazy. “Hold for me,

love,” he groaned.

The sound of skin slapping skin heightened her desire as she bit his ear lobe. “Please, Evan, please,” she begged, her toes curling, not knowing how much longer she could last.

“Now,” he growled. “Now, Kasey!”

Her vision blurred, her body tensed, spasms taking over as she lay under his hot, rigid body. Kasey cried out Evan’s name as Evan let out a roar. Hot and heavy by her ear, his body tensed and she felt the hot spurts of his release inside her body as he slowed and thrust a few more times. He lowered himself to her side and snuggled against her, tossing a leg over her thigh. Their harsh

breathing was the only thing that could be heard in the silent room. When the creak of the floorboards outside her room sounded, a laugh escaped her lips.

Evan sat up on his elbow with a smile. “Maybe we should give lessons?”

“The hell you say. You’re mine and I’m not a sharer.”

Evan rubbed his nose against hers. “No?”

“No.”

Chuckling, he wrapped his arms around her and brought her to rest half on his chest as he lay back on the bed. The smile still on his face, he knew what he had to do and by the sounds and smell

of it, no one was near the door anymore. “Kase, I need to tell you something and I’m not sure how you’re going to take it.”

“Just spill it then.”

Drawing a deep breath, she rose with his chest. “There are several parts to it actually. I meant what I said earlier when I announced I wanted to marry you. I want you as my mate.”

“Mate huh?”

“Yeah.”

“So, I guess the mate, flash-stepping, elongated canines, and silver eyes all have something to do with what you have to tell me.”

Evan's body tensed. When had she seen any of that except for tonight? "Yeah." His gaze met hers as she sat up on her elbow, her long hair swaying. "I've never had to tell anyone. The people I grew up with, lived with my entire life, they all knew. My family is like me, well except Kalana because she married into the family, but she grew up with us."

Kasey smiled, running her hand on his chest. "Then let me help explain, because I've never seen you this nervous."

Evan frowned. "Nervous, I'm not nervous."

Kasey chuckled. "Yes you are."

“No, I’m not,” Evan retorted sitting up.

“Really. Then what else is stopping you from telling me you’re a werewolf?”

Evan snorted. ““Werewolf: such a human word. Lyken, okay. I’m a Lyken,” he scoffed before his head whipped around, his eyes wide as he met her smiling ones.

“I know. I kind of guessed,” she said softly, lifting her hand to the side of his face.

After a moment Evan relaxed and nudged her hand with a movement of his head. “When?”

“I knew something was up and

started putting the pieces together from the moment you saved me from that guy until the other night when you...kinda starting changing while we were making love.”

“Yeah...” Evan ran a hand through his hair before taking her hands and lifting them, kissing them softly. “That’s never happened before.”

“Really,” she grinned. “Soooo, I’m special?”

Evan chuckled as he drew her close and had her straddle his lap. “Yes, you are.” His smile faltered for a moment before he softly kissed her lips.

“What was that?”

“What was what?”

“You, you...” Backing up she met his gaze. “You stopped smiling right before you kissed me.”

“You don’t miss much do you?”

“I try not to. What’s the matter, is it me, is it because I’m not like you?”

“Oh, baby,” Evan whispered as he hugged her to him, her head cradled under his chin. Her eyes had lowered and bottom lip trembled slightly. “It’s not how you’re thinking. Yes, we are different, but not so much that it will affect us. There are other things going on, other things that I’ve noticed and scented, but until I know for sure, I’m not going to tell you alright?”

“Why?”

Evan sighed. “Because, my sweet, it’s not my place. We, on the other hand, have us to think about and there’s a lot more I need to tell you before tonight.”

Kasey lifted her head. “What’s tonight except for Christmas?”

Evan smiled. “The full moon.”

Chapter 5

Kasey stared at Evan's grin as she sat across the bed from him. "So what you're telling me is that beside the fact that you need to have sex on the full moon, you can only take a mate, which is like marriage. And you want me to agree to let you claim me, otherwise we have to wait another month?"

"Yes."

Kasey shook her head trying to understand. "But why can't we just keep doing what we're doing?"

Evan sat forward taking her hands within his large ones. "Because my inner wolf has chosen you for my mate, Kase.

I want you for my mate, and I know it seems fast for you, but for me it's the way it happens. I tried to fight it since the first day we met, that's why I was so distant with you. My wolf had to beat it into me that I was ready, that it doesn't matter if you're human or otherwise, you are my mate. Once we choose a mate, it's damn hard to keep ourselves under control especially during a full moon. If I'm near you on the full I will end up taking you and marking you as mine."

Kasey frowned. "Marking. You're not going to pee on my leg are you?"

"Damn smart ass, no." He growled at her smile. Christ he loved her sense of humor. "That's for a hot session of

erotic, kinky sex.”

Kasey’s eyes widened for a moment and then she smiled. “Really, you mean like BDSM. That’s something I’ve never tried.”

Evan grabbed her to him, her naked breasts bounced against his chest, exciting his cock. “You’re a natural under me.”

“I like when you control me,” she breathed, then realized what she’d said. “You know, in bed, because I won’t put up with that anywhere else, unless we’re having sex in the kitchen or living room or something.”

Evan chuckled as he clasped both her wrists behind her back with one of

his, thrusting her chest against him and moving her pussy along his thickening dick. “I love your independent self.” Lowering his mouth to her shoulder he nipped, loving the little sound of pleasure from her mouth, and then ran his tongue over the area. “If you let me claim you, I need to go for a run after. I usually do it first, but I need to wait until your family is asleep.”

Kasey moaned. “I have a solution to that: guest cabin in the woods.”

“The other thing that’s really important, and I hate to bring this up because you haven’t opened up to me about it yet...” Lifting his head, he met her gaze. “If you take silver into your

body, you could kill me if you scratch me with your nails during sex.”

Kasey jolted. She hadn't been expecting him to say that. “Wh-what, I ah...”

Evan took her face between his hands, holding her head. “Silver will poison me. It can make me very sick, and worst case, I will die from it. I'm not close enough to a pack to get the proper treatment in case I'm infected.”

All the air left her lungs as she stared at him, her eyes watered with unshed tears. How did he know? “Evan?” she gasped.

“It's okay, baby, breathe,” he cooed softly.

Kasey's body shook. "I don't know why that happens to me. I stay away from it, there's not a drop in the house. Daddy won't allow it," she said as he wrapped his arms around her drawing her close.

"You're a Silver Alchemist."

"A, a what?"

"A Silver Alchemist. They're not Other Kin like me or vampires or fairies. Alchemists are humans with special gifts who can live a very long time. They have a natural binding to certain elements, yours just happens to be silver. An alchemist can take their element into their body, absorbing it, and

can use it to their needs. If we were fighting, you could encase your fingernails with the silver and try to strike me. I've even heard of a story where one was so powerful they shot silver bullets out with a wave of their hand."

Kasey sat up. "My God, Evan, I could really hurt you, especially since I have no idea how to control anything. I took it into me once when I was younger—about ten—and I was so out of control Daddy and Grandma said they had to hold me down and tie me to the bed for three days until it seeped out of my system...and all I touched was a small heart locket."

“Listen. I have my brother, our historians and a very close family friend looking into this. Just because you were born a Silver Alchemist doesn’t mean you have to take it within you. It’s your choice, Kasey. You can deny it from entering your body.”

“And you want to mate with me? Are you fucking crazy? Have you lost your ever-loving mind, Evan Roven?” She breathed erratically as she moved away from his embrace. “There’s no way in hell I’m going to mate with you, especially if I can hurt you.”

Evan’s face darkened as he yanked her back. “You listen to me, Kasey Decker. I am *not* going to allow you to

shove me away. Do you understand me?"

Kasey stared at him as he shook her slightly. "But why?" she whispered. "Why would you want me when you know I could hurt you?" She lifted her hand to the side of his face.

"Because you're my mate," he whispered. "It's hard for me to explain to you how I know, but my entire body knows it's you. You were meant for me, Kasey. The Gods and Ancients have shown me that you are to be with me, and I've fallen in love with you, Kasey Decker."

Kasey's lips parted with an inaudible gasp. "Evan?" she whispered.

He loved her. He'd fallen in love with her. This powerful man was hers. Lowering her lips to his, she kissed him with all the passion she had. His arms wrapped around her again, seating her on his lap.

Evan lowered her to the bed, sliding down between her thighs. His nostrils flared at the scent of his release and hers. He skimmed the surface of her heat with his tongue, her body arching as he found her bud.

Kasey whimpered with joy as her fingers found his hair and tightened, trying to pull him closer.

Evan thrust his tongue into her heat, withdrawing and drawing circles before

doing so again and again. His hands slid under her bottom, grasping both cheeks as he nipped her clit.

“Oh my God, Evan, please. Get inside me, please,” she gasped.

Evan moved up, his knees spreading her thighs even further and thrust into her to the hilt. Both groaned from the sheer pleasure, holding still to savor it for one moment and then they broke loose. Evan lowered his mouth to her neck, biting and sucking as he thrust in deep and hard. Kasey’s fingers tightened and dug in wherever they were on his body.

Realizing the bed was shaking, Kasey gasped as Evan’s arm flew up to the headboard in time to keep her from

hitting it. Their grunts and groans were not muffled by any means as he began thrusting upward with a vigorous pace. Kasey had never liked missionary, she didn't feel as though she felt enough of her man or he suffocated her, but not with Evan. He knew how to hold himself so not to squish her and to move so she enjoyed and could feel every inch of him as the tingles raced from her head to her pussy. "Oh my God, Evan, I don't think I'm going to..."

"Come for me, Kasey, come now!" he groaned as her walls started convulsing around him. Her cries of fulfillment sent him over the edge; his growls grew louder as he spurted his essence into her warmth. "Mine, Kasey,

you're mine."

Kasey panted for air as he collapsed beside her, his chest heaving as well. "Ok," she breathed heavily. "But, you're mine too," she whispered laying her hand on his abdomen before drifting off.

* * * *

Kasey leaned against the butcher block and smiled as she stood across from her brother and sister in the kitchen. Evan came to stand behind her, his hands placed softly on her hips. Her Grandma had just left making a comment about more than twice and some growling going on around three this morning.

"Disgusting," Sasha spat.

“What’s disgusting, Sasha, is you and *Gilford* eavesdropping at our door like a couple of pervs.” Kasey’s brow lifted at her sister’s red face.

“Seriously?” Graham chuckled. “Didn’t you have anything better to do?”

“Shut-up!” Sasha snapped.

“Daddy!” Kasey yelled. “I think you better get the shotgun, there’s gonna be a weddin’.”

“You’re such a bitch!” Sasha yelled as she threw her mug in the sink, breaking it. “You’re not even a part of this family, you were adopted!”

Evan’s hands tightened on Kasey’s hips, bringing her to stand up as Graham

stopped laughing.

“That’s enough, Sasha,” Graham growled.

“No it’s not, I’m sick of this. I’m sick of everyone pussy-footing around because poor little Kasey was abandoned and we took her in.”

Kasey tensed. “You’re such a bitch, Sasha. That might have worked when I was twelve, but seriously give it up.”

“No seriously, stupid, you’re not one of us...”

“Sasha!” Graham yelled.

“You’re not of our blood, you are not a Decker! Daddy and Grandma found you on the doorstep! How do you like

that, Mr. Roven of Roven Industries? Think your rich family will want anything to do with her now that it's out that she's a penniless little bastard?"

Kasey's breathing stopped as she looked from Sasha to Graham and the anger on his face. Her head shook back and forth several times before a warm strength encased her from behind. "That's not true, I am too a Decker."

"No you're not! Why do you think Mom hates you? It's because Dad and Grandma care more about you than her or me."

"You're so full of shit!" Graham yelled. "You're such a jealous bitch, Sasha, and so is Mom! Neither of you

has ever accepted Kasey. You've made your own beds with your manipulative and jealous ways! Kasey is a Decker, and she's more of a sister to me than you'll ever be!"

Kasey's body shook with the knowledge Graham just spurted out and she was glad Evan stood behind her as shock swirled through her like a tornado. "Graham?" she whispered, his face softening as he met her gaze.

"You are my sister, Kasey. Don't ever doubt that, do you understand? I love you and that will never change."

"You're just like Dad!" Sasha yelled.

"Sasha, what did you do?" Rita

gasped.

Kasey looked over and realized that her mom, dad, and grandma stood in the doorway.

“I told the stupid bitch the truth that she’s adopted.” Sasha smirked. “Finally after all these years the truth is out and we can make her leave! She has no business being here anymore.”

Kasey gasped at the realization of how much Sasha truly hated her here. Their entire life Sasha had tormented her, but she’d thought it was just what big sisters did until now. Glancing over at her dad, she leaned back against Evan. Her dad’s ears were red, which was never a good sign. Oh God, he’s going to

kick me out. Her breath came out raspy as Evan wrapped his arms around her shivering body.

“You are wrong, Sasha,” Donald said calmly. “Kasey is Decker blood, she’s my blood, my daughter, and she’s not going anywhere. You are.”

“What?” Sasha breathed.

“From today on, you are on your own. All the credit cards will be canceled, you can leave the keys to my car on the sideboard, and you can find your own place to live. I am through supporting you and your spending habits. The things you’ve been given through your life are not a right, Sasha, they are a privilege. I suggest you go get a job or

find a man to support you, because I'm done."

Kasey's eyes grew wide as her mom and Sasha started arguing with her father.

"Enough!" Donald yelled. "Rita, you can leave as well. Our pre-nup still holds so don't try your shit. Sasha grew up hating Kasey because you instilled that into her the moment Kasey was brought into this house and I'm done with it!"

"Well, how did you expect me to act?" Rita yelled. "You bring your dirty little bastard into my house and expect me to raise her for you?"

Kasey tilted her head when her dad

smiled.

“You’re one to talk, Rita. I knew Sasha wasn’t mine from the moment you told me you were pregnant. After all, you couldn’t get pregnant when we didn’t have sex.”

Kasey’s eyes widened and her mouth gaped as her eyes moved from her dad to her mom to her sister. Her mom called her dad a bastard before grabbing Sasha’s hand and yanking her out of the kitchen. “I think I need another coffee.”

Donald smiled. “Me too, kiddo.”

“Daddy, is what you said true?”

“Yes, all of it, and I’m sure Evan picked up on it the moment he was

within distance of us.”

Kasey’s head tilted as she leaned forward. “Explain that,” she said, knowing she’d never give away the facts Evan had trusted her with last night.

Donald grinned. “He’s Other Kin, a Lyken, and an Alpha if I’m not mistaken. Isn’t that right, Whitney?”

Grandma smiled. “That’s what I’ve noticed.”

Kasey gasped, and started sputtering. “What, I have no idea—what do you—you’ve lost it, Dad. Seriously, Dad, are you serious?” She snorted, glancing up at Evan nervously.

“Sweetheart, Whitney and I have

some things to speak with you about, but not now. I figured out I couldn't trust Rita right after she became pregnant with Graham."

"So," Kasey started cautiously, "She's really not my mom?"

"After they're gone, we'll all sit down."

Kasey waited until they were alone in the kitchen before turning to Evan. "Did you know? Is that why you told me last night there's more to it, but you couldn't say?"

"Yeah. Don't be mad, Kase, and I'm sorry you found out this way. When your mother, Rita, first approached us at the diner, I scented right off that she wasn't

your blood mother. When I met your Dad, I knew you were his, and I also scented that Sasha was not your father's."

"Are they human?" she whispered.

"Yes, but Grandma's like you."

"She's a Silver Alchemist?"

Evan drew her into his embrace, whispering in her ear. "Yes, now shush," he said, holding her close as Sasha walked back into the kitchen, mascara lines down her face.

"It's all your fault, you stupid bitch," Sasha cried.

When Kasey went to break free, Evan held her in place. "We're not

starting this again, so leave.”

“Fuck you!”

Kasey’s eyes widened as Evan moved like lightning away from her to Sasha and thrust her against the wall, her feet leaving the floor.

“I’ll say it only once more,” Evan said with a low tone. “After that you get no more warnings. Leave Kasey alone, do not approach her, do not talk to her. If you do so again I will not be as gentle with you, do you understand this, woman?”

“Y-yes,” Sasha gasped.

Kasey stepped over when Evan released Sasha, her hand going to his

back as Sasha ran out. “Hey there, big boy, that was a little rough.”

“She will not disrespect you or me again.”

“I think she got the message.” Kasey smiled as Evan turned. “So, Alpha huh?”

Evan grinned. “Yeah, gave up my post to my little brother Drake, but the blood lines still hold strong.”

“Thank the Gods for that.” Kasey chuckled as she leaned in to kiss him quickly.

“Uh-huh, you’re not going anywhere, woman,” Evan mumbled against her lips when she tried moving back. Grabbing her butt, he lifted her to the butcher

block and settled between her legs.

Kasey groaned as he rubbed his hard cock against the seam of her jeans, sending shivers racing throughout her tingling pussy. “Not here, Evan.”

“Sorry, Full’s tonight, hormones are up.”

“Yeah, I guess so,” she said, eyebrows lifting as his eyes glowed silver.

“Sorry ’bout all that.”

Kasey tilted her head as they went back to normal. “I like it, but until we’re alone, I’m a little over protective of you.”

Evan chuckled. “You are, huh?”

“That’s right. You are my mate, after all.”

Evan’s grin reached her toes as his facial features softened. “You’ll let me claim you tonight?”

“Yes, for you see—I’ve fallen in love with you, too.”

“Merry Christmas to me,” Evan said before he met her lips, thrusting his tongue into her mouth to duel.

“Okay you two, Dad said they’re gone.” Graham smiled. “And no mating until tonight, wolf man.”

“I’ll wolf man your ass,” Evan stated as he wrapped Kasey’s legs around his hips.

Graham chuckled.

“Evan, I can walk.” Kasey said as they left the kitchen.

“Yeah, but I like the feel of your hot little pussy pressing against my cock.”

* * * *

Kasey stared at her father. “So let me get this straight. You had an affair with my mother, who is one of these Silver Alchemists, and Grandma isn’t your mom, she’s my mom’s mom and a Silver Alchemist?”

“Yeah, that about sums it up.”
Graham chuckled.

“And you, Graham, knew this all along?”

“I was ten when Dad brought you and Grandma home, Kasey. I found out one way or another what was going on and have held that secret ever since.”

“You mean snooped around.”
Donald smiled.

“I knew something was up and I meant to find out what was going on.”

“So,” Kasey looked at Grandma, “You’re my mother’s mom?”

“Yes.” Grandma smiled.

“And a Silver Alchemist?”

“Yes.”

“Then why didn’t you teach me how to control any of it? Why didn’t you ever

tell me and why did my real mom just give me up?"

Grandma sighed. "Your mother, my daughter...her name is Kisha. I didn't know she was seeing your father for she hid it well. She knew the troubles of being with a human and she did so anyway to spite her clan, her culture, and me. She was a troublesome girl, always in trouble. Not just any trouble, but disastrous trouble. If she could find someone to join her then she did and didn't look back with any kind of conscience. I don't mean to sound cruel, but I'm going to give it to you like it happened. Right before you were born, she told me of your father and of you on the way. She told me the midwives had

already been notified that when she gave birth they were to destroy the Halfling growing inside her, for she wanted no half-human baby in her life.”

Kasey sat back, eyes wide as Evan laid a hand on her thigh. “She wanted me dead?”

“She is a cruel creature, Kasey. She only thinks of herself and what others can do for her enjoyment. I don’t know where I went wrong with that child. She had a good life, a loving family—maybe the death of her father is what drove her over the edge, I don’t know, but I wasn’t going to leave you to the future she wanted for you. I knew the midwives and told them to bring you to me, I found

out who your father was and well...here we are.”

“Do you...so you know where she is?”

“No, child...”

“That’s not entirely true,” Evan said as he sat forward.

“What?” Kasey gasped as she turned his way.

“Winn and I had a run in with her a few days ago.”

“What?” Kasey was glad the rest of her family echoed her question, which meant they were not hiding that from her amongst everything else. “What do you mean you had a run in with her, Evan?”

Evan met her gaze. “The night we—well...” clearing his throat, “The night Winn called and needed me to go help her out.”

“Yeah?”

“The day of the fair when we were outside waiting for our fried dough, I spotted a woman with silver hair glaring at us. At first I thought she was just an Other Kin who’d shown up, but I couldn’t catch her scent from where we stood.”

Kasey glanced to the right. “You had Winn go after her, didn’t you?”

“She gave me a real uncomfortable feeling.”

“What happened?” Grandma asked.

“We caught up with her a few days ago. She warned me to stay away from Kasey. I didn’t know until that night who she was, I caught her scent right before she attacked me.”

“What?” Kasey yelled. Jumping off the couch she stared down at him. “She went after you, silver claws and all?” Hands in the air she made a clawing action as he nodded his head. “My God, Evan, what were you thinking going up against someone who could kill you? Why didn’t you just back down or something?” Her voice rose but she didn’t care. “And Winn, what does she have to do with all this, she knows

you're a Lyken?"

Evan smiled as he took her hands within his own. "Yes, Winn knows. We've been friends for a very long time, and it's not the first time I've been up against something that could kill me, hence the scars on my chest."

"I don't care! Why, why is she back and going after Evan?" Kasey whipped around to look at her grandmother.

"I don't know, child, but I can guarantee that it's for no good."

"Evan, what are we going to do?" Kasey asked as he drew her down to his lap.

"We live, sweetheart. There's

always someone out there who wants a piece of me because of who I am.”

“Then where in the hell are your bodyguards or whatever?”

Evan chuckled. “I do pretty well on my own. Besides, I put in a call to my brother before coming here. He knows what’s going on.”

“So what if you don’t call for like a month, he won’t check up on you?” Kasey snorted. “Well, that’s really fucking dandy. You could be dead or something and he wouldn’t even know.”

Evan hugged her to him with a smile. “Drake is the most obsessive pain in my ass for security I’ve ever known. I can bet you ten bucks he’s had someone

watching me the minute I walked off Alston lands. I can guarantee he knew of my little encounter with your mother the moment it happened, and although I can't see or scent them, I know they're here. There's no way he'd let me go up against your mother again without having back up."

"Well, I hope the hell you're right." She pouted before looking up at her dad. "Daddy, we'll be going to the guest house tonight, if that's alright?"

"Of course, I had it cleaned and ready for your arrival. I thought you'd prefer a little privacy away from everyone."

"Thanks, Dad."

Chapter 6

“I don’t want to scare you,” Evan said as he met her gaze.

“I have to see you sometime.”

“I know but...” he sighed, “I...”

Kasey smiled as she stepped up, wrapping her arms around his waist. “It’s not like you’re going to take me while you’re in wolf form, so just transform.”

Evan chuckled. “I just might if you’re naked with your ass in the air.” Evan grinned when she backed up to meet his eye. “Just saying, babe, it’s the full and the wolf wants out to play with his mate.”

“Yeah well, you just make sure Mr. Wolfy behaves until you’re in this shape again.” Patting him on the chest, she backed up. “Go for it, Mr. Roven.”

Evan smiled as he stripped.

“You’re making me horny just watching you take your clothes off.”

“Good.”

Kasey didn’t take her eyes off him as he started to transform. There were no bright lights or movie magic taking place, his shift was quick and before she knew it he had changed into a large, dark brown wolf—and by large she meant large, the size of a lion at least. “Wow.”

Evan smiled.

“Is that? Are...are you smiling at me?” Leaning in she chuckled when he nodded his head. “You’re one big boy, aren’t you?” she asked as he turned to the door. “Oh, I’ll get that, hold on.” Releasing the lock, she was just opening the door when a cold nose moved her skirt aside. “Oh!” Whipping around, Evan bared his teeth in a toothy grin. “You horn dog, I mean wolf, you horn wolf.” Backing up when his tongue came out she stopped against the doorjamb chuckling. “Evan!” His nose was just inches from her pussy. “I’ll smack your snout! Now go for your run while I get naked for you.” His head tilted and ears perked. “Yes,” she smiled, “But I’m shutting the door, so you’ll have to

change back to open it.” Kasey chuckled at the groaning sound he made as he headed out the door, stopped, turned to meet her gaze and then he was off. “What have I gotten myself into?” Smiling, she turned and headed to the bathroom and a nice hot bath.

* * * *

Kasey gasped slightly when Evan appeared behind her. He grasped her hair in one hand as the other wrapped around her waist and drew her to his length.

“Hello, beautiful,” he murmured. Nose to her throat he inhaled deeply.

“Evan,” she whispered.

“Are you ready, Kasey? Are you ready to be mine forever?”

“Yes.” The touch of his lips on her heated skin sent tingles racing to her brain and trembled within his grasp.

“Tell me if I get rough, I’ll try to back off, but I can’t guarantee that will happen.”

“Oh, okay.”

Nuzzling her shoulder, he nipped along her collarbone up to the crook of her neck, inhaled her sweet scent, his cock thick, and pressed against her lower back. When one of her hands grazed his thigh his cock stiffened painfully as lightning strummed through his body. Grabbing her hands with a

groan, he held them behind her back and pressed them down. “Push your chest out and spread your legs.” A low growl emerged when she did so without hesitation. “When I mark you, it will hurt, but it will quickly change to pleasure and send you into your orgasm.” Running his hand up her side, he caressed the underside of her breast before tweaking her nipple. His nostrils flared with the scent of her desire. “You cannot climax until I say. If you do so without me, our joining will not hold and the mind marking will not take place.”

“Mind marking?” Kasey asked as his hand continued to caress her body. “How do I know if I did it right?”

Evan smiled as he nipped her shoulder. “You’ll see images of me from being a child to present. It’s the sign that we are with our soul mate.” He led her over to the bed. “Get in the middle before I take you on the floor.”

Kasey turned and crawled on the bed as his hands settled on her hips stopping her. She moaned the moment his tongue swiped her pussy.

“It won’t take me long. Your sweet body has me ready to blow.”

Kasey gasped as he lay under her, yanking her pussy down to his face. “Oh God.” A low keening moan left her lips when his fingers tugged on a nipple. “Evan, oh Evan, don’t make me wait too

long,” she panted. Her eyes whipped open with a gasp and a small ‘oh’ as his finger slipped into her tight ass. Moving down to him, she took his finger deeper as his tongue played havoc with her clit. Kasey’s body heated, tingled. “Evan, Evan stop before I...”

With a growl, he shifted over her. Turning her to lie on her back he pushed her up against the pillows and headboard so she was in a half-sitting position with her legs over his. He thrust into her with a feral growl, his thumb finding and caressing her clit.

Kasey cried out with pleasure meeting his silver-toned eyes. Her lips parted as his canines elongated. The feel

of him inside her was amazing. It still surprised her she could take him fully into her body. He stretched her to her limits, filling her, completing her, giving her everything she'd ever looked for in a man. Sweat coated her skin as her head lolled back, her body tensing. "Evan, please!"

"Are you mine, Kasey?"

"Yes, yes, I'm yours!" The feel of his claws biting into her as he moved was exhilarating. Evan leaned back bringing her to sit on his cock as he knelt on the bed, stuffing her pussy fuller than before. "Evan!" A powerful orgasm built within her, making her lightheaded as she tried to hold back. The feel of his

hot breath on her neck, the smoothness of his canines traveling down to the muscle in the crook of her neck made her body shake with the swipe of his tongue.

“Now, love, come for me now!” Evan growled, sinking his teeth into her soft flesh at the most sensitive spot between her neck and shoulder.

Kasey screamed as light flashed before her eyes. Her pussy convulsed on Evan’s cock as he released inside her heated core. She couldn’t stop her cries as she thrust herself against him over and over not wanting the best orgasm of her life to stop as pictures of him started floating through her mind. Her body twitched and she winced as he withdrew

his canines from her. A howl sounded and her hand moved to rest on his chest as her head lay on his shoulder.

Breathing heavily, Evan wrapped his arms around her. Lowering his mouth he licked the wounds he'd placed upon her beautiful skin. Smiling when she jerked against him, her head whipped up when his howl was answered. "I told you he sent backup."

"Did you see them?"

"No, but they can't hold back answering when an Alpha takes his mate." Laying her down to the bed, he slipped in behind her resting his arm over her waist.

"So now they know they blew their

cover?”

Evan chuckled. “Yes, but they still won’t come out and approach me, that would be going against Drake’s orders.”

Kasey smiled softly, her eyes fluttering. “I saw you as a child. You were a troublemaker, Evan Roven.”

Evan leaned over as a soft giggle escaped her sweet lips the moment before she drifted off to sleep. Kissing her temple he drew her close as he brought the covers up.

* * * *

Evan bolted upright, his senses alert as he tried to figure out what had woken him up. The cabin was quiet. Glancing

down he noticed Kasey sleeping peacefully. He barely turned his head in time to miss the missiles that targeted him. "Kasey!" he yelled as he grabbed her by the waist and rolled to the other side of the bed and onto the floor. "We're under attack," he stated when she woke up stunned. "Stay down."

"By who?"

His nostrils flared. "Your mother," he answered as three silver projectiles flew over his head.

"I told you to stay away from her!" Kisha yelled as she jumped on the bed.

Kasey's eyes widened at the sight of the woman leering down at them and moved in front of Evan when she struck

out with her silver tipped fingers. Kasey was not a fighter, but she was not going to stand there and watch someone hurt him without trying to stop it. Crying out from the pain, Kasey met her gaze. “You leave him alone!”

“What’s he done to you, he’s mated with you? You allowed this filthy beast to fuck you?” she screamed.

Kasey’s blood ran quick through her, the silver she’d absorbed bringing her body to life, giving her a power she hadn’t felt in a long time, and this time she wasn’t afraid of what was happening to her body. When Evan yelled for her, she turned as she stood, noticing her eyes had changed to a bright silver color

in the mirror above his head. “Get out of here,” she whispered before turning, deflecting her mother as she jumped for Evan. Kasey tossed her back across the cabin. “I said leave him alone! He’s my husband!”

“You mated a fucking Lyken!”

“I mated the man I love!” Kasey yelled, standing in front of Evan. “Who the hell are you to come here and attack us?”

“I am your mother.”

“You are not my mother! You birthed me and then wanted me dead!”

“That was a mistake. You’ve grown.”

“Into what?” Kasey yelled. “Something you want to use? Well forget it, lady! Evan, go get my grandmother.”

“Oh yeah, go get the old bitch so I can kill her where she stands.” Kisha laughed.

Kasey jumped in front of her again when she went to rush Evan, hissing as Kisha’s nails scratched down her arms. It hurt but Kasey knew the more silver she took in, the stronger she would be. “I will not let you hurt him!”

“He’s nothing. I’ve found the man you will be with. He can provide us with power, Kasey, a power like you’ve never felt before.”

Kasey’s eyes narrowed, so that was

her angle. “What’s wrong, Mommy dearest, he’s not interested in an old hag, so you thought to toss me at his feet? Well sorry, not interested.” Her eyes widened when a spear of silver came at her. Gasping, she looked up as Evan covered her with his body, taking the spear to his back. “Evan?” Her whisper drew his eyes to hers.

“You’re not strong enough to take her on, Kasey. Go get help, now.” Shoving back he reached around and yanked the spear out, partially transforming.

“I won’t leave you.”

Evan turned his head, enough to catch her eye. “I said go, woman, now

go!”

Kasey ran out the door not caring that she was naked and started for the house. Stopping, she yelled, “Help! Evan needs you, Lykens! He needs your help! *Please!* I know you’re there, please help him!” She sobbed to the sky, turning when howls sounded from all directions. Kasey whipped around when a bang sounded to see Evan flying through the cabin wall. “Evan!” Grabbing a branch off the ground she ran, striking Kisha in the side as she went to attack Evan. She yelled out as her body jerked with a stinging sensation. Her mother’s nasty smile as she raked her silver lined nails across Kasey’s stomach and sent her flying

back was chilling. Kasey gasped for breath as she landed sideways against a tree.

“I’ll pump you so full of silver that if you have a Lyken bastard in there, I’ll kill it!”

Glancing down Kasey watched as silver projectiles melted into her body, crying out with the gut wrenching pain. Kasey watched as Evan came from the side tackling her mother to the ground. “Evan! Evan!” she shouted as he roared with pain, knowing if he took too many of Kisha’s hits it could kill him. Just then a dozen large wolves emerged from the wood line as her grandmother appeared. “Grandma!”

“Stay back, Kasey,” Whitney said as she stepped between Evan and Kisha.

Kasey struggled to her feet and ran to Evan as her mother and grandma started fighting. She could see him gasping for breath as several of the wolves changed to human form. “Help him,” she cried as one of the men took a needle from a pouch and stuck it between Evan’s collarbone and heart.

“He has too much silver in him. He took too many of her hits.”

“Do something, damn it!” The hot tears ran down her face as she lifted Evan’s head. “Evan, don’t you die on me,” she cried as the man injected another needle into him on the opposite

side. “You shouldn’t have taken those hits, I told you not to,” she sobbed as she hit his chest. “I told you not to.”

“Ah, my lady, you’re crying silver on him, that’s not going to help if it gets in his body.”

Kasey jerked back as she remembered that she could reject silver from entering her body, what if she could take it into her from his wounds, drawing it out of his body? Laying her hands over the open gashes on his abdomen, she saw the silver in the wounds start to draw her way. “Turn him to his side, I have an idea.” Placing one hand on the large wound on his back from the spear and the other over his

chest, Kasey closed her eyes in concentration. Her lips parted as the silver started drawing from him into her. Her hands shook, but she didn't let go.

“Ma’am, you need to stop, you’ll draw the antidote into you as well, and that could kill you.”

Kasey knew she was transforming as the silver rushed through her. When the Lyken tried to pull her away, her eyes whipped open to see everything in a silver light. “Back off!” she growled.

“But, my lady?”

“You make sure after I pull off him you hit him with another needle, got it?”

“Yes, my lady.”

Kasey closed her eyes. The drag of the silver was one thing, but when the antidote started hitting her system it was as if she was burning from the inside. Crying out, she could hear someone yelling at her to let go, and felt as though she was floating when strong arms grabbed her from behind, yanking her from Evan. Turning she saw a large male standing there and bared her teeth, hands raised to defend.

“I’m his brother, I’m Drake! You need to go help Whitney now! I’ll take care of Evan, now go!”

Her entire body shook with the amount of silver she’d drawn in. Taking the needle from the other Lyken she

glanced over, everything was happening as if in slow motion and she saw Grandma go down. Her mother stepped up with an evil smile and a wooden spear, thrusting down. “No!” Kasey yelled as she stepped forward and the next thing she knew, she was standing in front of her mother, stopping the attack. “You will not touch her! You want me, mother, then you can have me!” Tossing the lance she ran to her mother, wrapping her arms around her as she grasped her wrists, holding them down behind Kisha’s back. “Fuck with me now you bitch!” With the feeling of a tidal wave rushing through her, Kasey disengaged all the silver in her body. Crying out with the strength of the

reversal, she didn't let go until she felt every last drop leave her and stumbled back.

“You stupid worthless bastard!” Kisha yelled and started laughing. “Don't you know the more silver I have makes me stronger?”

Kasey grunted from the force of the hit as she flew back rolling on the ground, looking up when she felt hands on her to see Grandma. “Not so stupid,” Kasey murmured as she wiped the blood from her mouth. “Are you feeling it yet, Kisha?” she asked watching as her mother's eyes went wide. Kasey rose, stumbling to her mother, and lifted the syringe she'd hid away. “Feel it now!”

Lifting the needle, she stabbed her mother right in the chest, pumping the antidote straight to her heart. She backed up as Kisha started glowing.

“Kasey, back up!” Whitney yelled.

Kasey stood right in front of Kisha, her gaze never wavering as her mother started turning grey. Her hand lifted toward Kasey and she moved out of its way. The sound reminded her of a fire crackling and she stepped back when lava-like red points started oozing from Kisha’s skin. Gasping, she turned to run when someone landed in front of her, tossing her to the ground and covering her with wings. Glancing up she saw a woman with huge red wings standing

with her back to Kisha. Suddenly, there was an explosion that sent pieces flying all around them. Then everyone was yelling to take a head count. “Thank you.”

“No problem, kid. I’m Mari, dragon shifter and protector extraordinaire.” Mari smiled.

Kasey took the hand Mari offered and stood up, feeling a bit shaky. She chuckled as Mari grabbed her by the arm. “Nice to meet you, I’m Kasey.”

“Oh yeah, kid, we know who you are.” Mari smiled as Winn walked up.

“Christ, Kasey, you made a hell of a mess out here, there’s bits and pieces of Silver Alchemist all over the place.”

Winn smiled.

“Winn...” Kasey gasped when she heard Evan’s deep voice. Turning, she ran as he was being helped off the ground by his brother, Drake. “Evan!” Kasey didn’t care, she slammed right into him rocking them back a bit as she wrapped her arms around his waist. “Are you alright?”

“Fine.”

Kasey met his gaze when he grabbed her by the upper arms, moving her back.

“Don’t you ever do something so stupid again! When I tell you to run, I mean run damn it, not stick around and play ‘let’s see how much silver I can

absorb'!"

Kasey jerked back with eyes wide as he continued to yell at her. Tilting her head, her lips thinned as she lifted her hand and poked him in the chest. "Don't you stand there yelling at me, Evan Roven! Maybe you should have taken your own advice and ran when *I* told you to!" Poking him again she didn't let up as he shut up. "I'm not the one who went up against a Silver Alchemist bitch from hell with no back-up, and I'd be damned if I was going to let mommy dearest put you six feet under! I'll jump in where and when I have to! I'm not a fighter, but I'll be damned if something's going to happen to you when I can help or prevent it! You're my husband damn it,

and don't you forget it!" Her chest heaved as she poked him once more. Everyone in the clearing stood in complete silence.

Evan grinned and pulled her to him, landing his lips on her hungrily.

Kasey sighed as she burrowed into him, her arms going around his waist as he held her close.

"You do realize you're naked, right?"

"Shhh, don't remind me."

Evan chuckled as he took a coat from Winn and draped it over Kasey's shoulders. "I love you," he whispered in her ear as he kissed her temple.

“I love you too.”

* * * *

Kasey smiled shyly as she glanced up at Evan from beneath her lashes. She'd left her job at the paper and moved with Evan to Alston shortly after the fight with her mother. She took a research position within the Roven pack with their historians. Sighing, her smile grew. Her gaze followed him as he taught his niece Livi, her gaze moving to the left as Marabell chased a grasshopper. Instead of taking up residence in Roven Manor, his once former home, he'd had a home built for them not too far away, but far enough to give them privacy. When the lesson

turned to play, she chuckled. “Evan Roven, I have something to tell you,” she called out, laughing as they both turned and Livi ran up.

“What is it, what’s he in trouble for now, Auntie Kasey?”

“Trouble, why am I always in trouble?” Evan chuckled as he picked Livi up hanging the thirteen year old upside down by her feet.

Their laughter had Kasey grinning as she leaned back onto her arms, the warm grass sliding through her fingers. “It’s a good trouble, Livi.”

“Oh yeah, good huh, of course I did it. What’d I do this time, babe?”

Kasey shook her head as she met his gaze. “You gave me a baby,” she said, watching as he stopped messing around with Livi and they both stared her way.

“I gave you a what?” he whispered.

“A baby, we’re going to have a baby.” Kasey jumped up when one of his legs went forward. “Evan, don’t drop her!” she yelled as Livi somersaulted and landed on her feet. Her heart beat a mile a minute, it would take her sometime to get used to their abilities.

“I’m good, Auntie Kasey. A baby? Sweet!” Livi yelled.

Kasey’s gaze never left Evan’s as Livi rushed to her. Hugging the teenager, Kasey smiled as Livi kissed her cheek.

“Really?” Evan asked as he stepped forward.

Kasey nodded. “Yeah.”

Evan picked Livi up by her waist. “Out of my way, squirt.” He set her to the side.

“Awwww, Uncle Evan, I’m not a squirt anymore.” Livi pouted.

“Go tell your father he has a nephew coming or something.”

Kasey wrapped her arms around him as he drew her close. “She’s already gone.”

“Really, I’m going to be a dad?”

“Really, Evan.” she whispered.

Rising up onto her toes, Kasey kissed him softly. “I’m due sometime in the late fall, October, they’re saying.”

“By the Gods, baby, I love you.”

Kasey rubbed her nose against his neck as she hugged him. “I love you too.”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Erotic Romance Author, C. A. Salo, loves to write Science Fiction and Paranormal Romances.

When not writing, C. A. enjoys home schooling her son, traveling, movie night with her family, and digging with her hands in the soil to grow flowers, organic vegetables, and herbs. She also

enjoys watching her cat and longhaired red dachshund as they run around and play like the kids they are.

*For your reading
pleasure, we invite you
to visit our web
bookstore*



TORRID BOOKS

www.torridbooks.com