



NERYNTH

CHANGE
OF THE
SIX

AMARIS RICCI

Nerynth - Change of The Six

Amaris Ricci

© Copyright Amaris Ricci 2015

This is a legally distributed free edition from www.obooko.com
Although you do not have to pay for this book, the author's intellectual property rights remain fully protected by international Copyright law. You are licensed to use this digital copy strictly for your personal enjoyment only. This edition must not be hosted or redistributed on other websites without the author's written permission nor offered for sale in any form. If you paid for this book, or to gain access to it, we suggest you demand an immediate refund and report the transaction to the author.

Prologue

“Triduite, I am Nerynth Give me Sight.”

The Jade cube glowed and lit up the entire room. The hybrid staring at it was known as Jacobi Carter, 4th in line to inherit powers from his ancestors.

As he stared into the Triduite, he saw the woman who would become his wife. He had 3 days to complete the process and all he needed to do was convince her that she was made for him. That will take a miracle in itself but hey he was a Nerynth.

Chapter ONE

Arissa McCrea was an average young woman, single, good job, lived alone, only had one lover. She was perfect. Jacobi watched her as she crossed the park and into the restaurant she frequented every day. He crossed behind her and when he pushed the door she was 3rd in line to order. He stood behind her and waited patiently. When it was her turn, he stood closer to her, so when she turned she would bump into him. Too predictable. She placed her order and took the items but when she turned, she emptied her juice onto his lily white shirt.

“OH MY GOSH!”

“It’s okay miss, it’s only juice, I’m just glad it was not hot coffee.”

“I will clean it for you, I live nearby. What were you going to have for breakfast?”

“A tuna sub and a fruit infusion.”

“I will pay for that. Mickey, can you give this gentleman what he wants!”

“Not a probRissy.”

“It’s the least I can do. Be right back Mickey. Come with me sir.”

Jacobi smiled, this was easier than he thought.

He followed her to her apartment and when she stood at the door, she turned to face him.

“Wait, are you a stalker, let me warn you now, I don’t have anything worth stealing and I know Judo. What’s your name?”

“Jacobi Carter and I’m as nice as they come, I’m not a stalker or a thief. What’s your name in case you are the psycho?” As if she could be even a minor threat.

“Arissa. Nice to meet you Jacobi Carter.” She held out her hand. He shook it. She opened the door and stepped back for him to go inside. The place was nicely decorated and it had a nice warm homey feeling to it. She disappeared into the bedroom and reappeared with a shirt and pants.

“Here, these were my brother’s, change into them while I get your clothes cleaned. The bathroom is down the hall on the left.” She handed them to him and disappeared into the kitchen.

Jacobi took in his surroundings, every item he memorized, every door, drawer, shelf, closet. He went into the bathroom and took off his pants and shirt and changed into the ones she provided for him.

She knocked on the door and waited. Jacobi opened the door slightly and handed her his clothes through the crack. Jacobi could hear her thoughts clearly.

‘He is so sexy but I would never appeal to someone like him. Oh well, I will just get the clothes cleaned and he will be gone. I would love to just kiss those lips and his eyes are so unique. I wonder what it would feel like to make love to someone like him.’

She smiled, took the clothes and left.

Just then he heard singing and followed the lovely sound. Arissa was washing his clothes by hand in a laundry tub next to her washing machine.

“Have a seat. I have a dryer so it shouldn’t be more than 15 minutes on high.”

“I’m in no hurry. I think you are beautiful Arissa.” She blushed and turned away.

“You are just saying that to make me feel better about drowning you with juice.”

“Actually, I’d like to make love to you.”

“What? We just met, how do you know I’m not plagued with diseases or have a nutcase for a boyfriend?”

“If I tell you how I know none of those things are true would you believe me?”

“Yes, your eyes are sincere and I think if you wanted to hurt me you would have. Tell me.”

“I’m not human, do not be afraid, no harm will come to you. I have a few days before I pass onto another life and I need a woman to carry my son.”

Chapter TWO

Arissa paused and turned to face Jacobi.

“Okay! Would you like to do it now?”

“No questions?”

“People live their lives hoping and praying something fantastic will happen to them. I live a pretty normal life, maybe this is my time. I won’t just hop into bed with you though, you need to prove what you say.”

“You are safe, no harm will come to you.”

Jacobi shook his head and he changed into a werewolf.

Arissa covered her mouth to smother her scream. Jacobi stuck his left paw out and bowed his head low onto it, showing her he wouldn't hurt her. Then he shook his head and changed back.

Arissa stood rooted to the floor, wet shirt in hand dripping onto the table. Jacobi thought she would faint and he was fast enough to catch her but she just stood there with her hand over her mouth, eyes wide open.

"I'm sorry, I had to be convincing. I promise you I would never hurt you, believe me please. I know this is a lot to ask of you but I couldn't wait three more days. I would rather take the chance that you be what I need."

"Why me? I am a normal person, I'm not pretty and I work for less than \$300 a week. How is this even possible? Werewolves don't exist."

"Well clearly you can see that we do. Humanity can't fathom the origin of our existence, nor can they understand that although we may be an abomination in their eyes, we are more powerful than any human can ever be. I watched you help an old man across the street, the children are happy when you are around. The guy at the coffee shop cherishes you. Why not?"

"You promise you won't hurt me?"

"I promise. Let me warn you though, you will get pregnant when we make love, I will die soon after but you will have enough money to last until you die. The child will be a boy. I will give you everything you need to raise him without me. He will take my place in line and you won't need to explain anything to him."

"Wow, I guess I am lucky that you chose me, this is kind of a fairy tale. I have to shower first, do you mind?"

"No, you smell just fine, your scent is quite intoxicating to me."

"This was never about me spilling the juice was it?"

"No sorry, I timed it just right."

"Okay, let's get this over with."

"Did I mention I don't get tired? We have all day, unless you have to go to work."

"Actually, I will go get the breakfast I ordered for you and be back in a bit, put the clothes in the dryer and make yourself at home."

"You aren't going to run are you?"

"No I'm not."

"I know, I can read your mind and yes it will be as fantastic as you dreamed of." Jacobi smiled and Arissa blushed to her toes.

"Be right back Jacobi. My bedroom is that way."

Chapter THREE

Arissa left Jacobi, went back to the coffee shop and got the breakfast. She told her boss, she would be back to work the evening shift, if he didn't need her. All the time she was away from her apartment, she fantasized about the sexy man who wanted her to have his child. Was she crazy? She asked herself a thousand times. "No I'm not crazy and even if I were, it can't hurt. How often does this happen to people like me? I will enjoy myself and have a good life, at least I will have a baby and money to support him.

When she got back inside the apartment, Jacobi had dried his clothes and they were hanging on the back of her chair. She tiptoed into the bedroom and if someone had told her that the side of beef laying stark naked on her bed was for her, she would have punched them in the face for telling such a bold face lie.

"Jesus you are so sexy."

"So are you, let me show you how sexy you are."

Jacobi got up, walked over to her and took her in his arms.

"I won't force you Arissa, you need to be sure this is what you want before I go any further. Your life is going to change forever if we do this."

"I'm not sure of anything, I never thought werewolves existed but for some reason I trust you, your eyes tell me I will be safe. So please, make love to me. Give me your baby."

Jacobi growled softly and kissed Arissa. His tongue expertly caressed hers into opening her mouth. She was already aroused from imagining what he would be like and the scent of her was driving him nuts. He wanted to rip her clothes off.

"I will try not to be rough but you are invading my senses."

"Rough is good, I promise I won't break."

He growled again and within seconds her clothes were off.

"God woman, I can't wait, this is madness, bare with me."

Jacobi lifted her up and lay her on the bed. He positioned himself between her legs and waited for her signal. She nodded. Jacobi filled her up in one thrust. Arissa almost screamed.

"Sorry my sweet."

"Oh my! That feels wonderful. More please."

He wanted to take his time, he wanted to do it quickly, he wanted to go slow, fast.....Too many feelings, thoughts. He needed to pass this phase and then make love to her as she needed. He pulled back and surged forward again with the force of a man gone mad. Arissa hooked her arms under her knees and spread her legs wide. This only encouraged Jacobi to push harder and faster. Neither of them wanted it to be over but it had to be, the release had to come, they needed to be set free, to become as one, to create a life together.

“Hold on my sweet.”

A few hard thrusts and Jacobi pushed himself as far as he could go. Arissa felt a small measure of pain but her orgasm made it worth it. She had never had one before and everything she was thinking on the way back came true. This was the pleasure she sought. Her entire body went haywire. Jacobi felt her contract around him as she squeezed every last drop of him.

“Jesus woman.”

“I know, Jacobi, I know.”

Jacobi still inside her pulled them to a sitting position. He put his hand between them and began to speak.

“I am Nerynth, I grant this to Arissa my mate all that is mine, now and forever.”

Arissa saw his eyes glowing green and she felt a warmth come over her originating from her core.

“It’s happening isn’t it?”

“Yes, my baby is already 3 weeks old inside you, I have to take you back to my home, you will give birth to him there. Don’t worry, whatever you tell your boss he will believe. I would rather you tell him you fell in love with someone and you got pregnant and you will be going away for a while.”

“Whatever you want I will do. I can feel him Jacobi, he’s talking to me. My baby is talking to me. Oh thank you.”

“I have lots to tell you and we only have three days. You will have to give up your apartment and live with me. Actually, with the money I am leaving you, you can buy the whole building. Now, let me make love to you as you have always dreamt.”

That he did, for the next 4 hours. By the time he was finished, Arissa was completely satiated with no urge to move from the bed.

“I am never leaving this bed, Jacobi you are awesome, why did you wait so long to come into my life?”

“Things happen only when they were supposed to.” He grinned and she yawned.

“I have to leave you for a while and prepare for your stay. You can leave everything here for when you return, I will buy all you need when we get to my home. Come, pack a small bag, we leave in an hour. I will pick you up downstairs. Let the Land Lady know you will be gone for a while, I will have the rent for that time when I get back, how much is it?”

“It’s 650 per month.”

“Okay. See you in a bit.” Jacobi got up and got dressed. Kissed her on the lips and left.

Arissa was on cloud nine, she wanted to call her family and tell them she was going away but she was too sleepy. She drifted off and it’s only when she heard Jacobi whispering to her, she got up and blinked at him.

“It’s not a dream?”

“No my sweet, I am as real as the baby inside you.”

“My baby. I’m gonna have your baby.” She began to cry. Jacobi sat down on the bed and lifted her in his arms and let her cry.

When she was finished she hugged him tightly and got up and got dressed. She packed the bare essentials and held out her hand.

“I paid the land lady, are you ready? You can call your family when we get home.” What he didn’t tell her is that she would not be coming back and he paid the woman for two months and told her she could sell the stuff.

“Okay.”

Jacobi took her out held hand, closed the door to the apartment and went to down to Jacobi’s SUV.

“This is yours?”

“Yep. I like big things, makes me feel safe.”

“Well duh it’s a Toyota.”

They got in in and drove away. Jacobi was lying to Arissa. He could not tell her he saw her dead twice. He could not tell her she would never see her baby grow up or get married. He could not tell her he would be the last person she saw before she died. The only comfort was that his child would survive and carry on the Nerynth lineage.

Chapter FOUR

When Jacobi pulled up to the building he called home. Arissa was awestruck.

“Jacobi this is not a house, it’s it’s a, a.....”

“Mansion yes, took me many years to build it. Come, you can meet the staff and prepare for the baby.”

“Today?”

“We have to start early, the baby will be born in 2 days, this house is in a time warp so to speak. You will grow steadily for the next couple of hours. The room just needs a few more things and we will be ready.”

“He says he can’t wait.” She smiled broadly then she frowned.

“You are lying to me, why?”

“Why do you say that?”

“Your eyes have changed. It can’t be anything good if you are lying.”

“Our baby is changing your perception skills, so I won’t be able to lie to you as my mate. I can see into the future, are you sure you want to know?”

“Yes.”

“You won’t get to see raise our baby, you will die in child birth. I will be the last person you see before you breathe your last breath. Our son will live to be 400 years old and he will go through this process with his mate as well.”

“Can I tell my family something before I go?”

“Yes, we will spend tomorrow creating a believable story since neither of us will be around to verify it.”

“Okay, our baby says he will make me proud and you as well. He says he is glad you chose me, he can feel that I love him already.”

“I am sorry this will not turn out how you expected. You were going to be killed in a car accident, I took a chance that you would give in to me and die having my baby.”

“I agree, this is way better. Will it be painful?”

“A bit at first but that’s normal for any pregnancy. Your death will be peaceful though.”

“Okay. Ooh.”

“Baby moving?”

“Seems so, how far am I now?”

“Three months, by tomorrow night you will be six and eight by the next afternoon.”

“I see. Can you make love to me again?”

Jacobi laughed. “Yes, let me show you to your room.”

“Aren’t we sleeping together?”

“You will sleep, I have things to arrange for my death and yours, I will die soon after you. Don’t look so sad, we have created something wonderful and he will leave a legacy. Come, let me satisfy that appetite of yours once more.”

True to his word, Jacobi and Arissa made love until she was too tired to do anything but sleep. He got up, covered her with the sheet and left. His staff knew what they had to do as they were all immortals and kept away from society with good reason. His chamber was already prepared and Arissa’s death bed would lay next to his. On the day of their son’s birth, everyone had their instructions but something unexpected happened. A window was left ajar and a spider crawled into the room and crawled under the pillows. When Arissa was giving birth, the shifting of her body disturbed him and he crawled out and bit her on her back. Her screams were thought to be from the contractions. It was only after the baby came and they were preparing her for her coffin, they noticed the spider dead under her and the bite on her back. Jacobi, took his son and packed everything he needed for his journey. He had a few hours left and he spent it talking to his son. He told him what he needed to know to get him through the first eight years.

Jacobi handed his son to the woman he called Mama and she took him from the mansion to an orphanage and left him on the door step. By the time she got back, Jacobi had died and was resting in his chamber next to Arissa. The door was sealed and they went back to their duties of running a guest house for immortals.

Chapter FIVE

Nerynth was the sexiest man alive, well according to his lovely and talented wife. He was the 5th Nerynth to ever exist and with each generation, their powers changed, and their abilities as well. He knew he would only have one wife and she would die at 92. His son would take his place and become the 6th Nerynth in line. He knew he had reached his potential where his powers were concerned. He could control matter, he could fly, shape-shift, cast spells. He had healing powers, and the ability to see 1000 years into the future. His favourite though was his werewolf.

He and his wife Amarita owned and ran JaTari Nature Sanctuary. The biggest in the US. He started understanding animals when he was just a baby. The orphanage where Mama had dropped him off, was on the outskirts of Prospect Park and a puppy lived at the house next to it. The owner only fed him 3 times a week and the puppy would cry from hunger everyday especially through the night and so would Jacobi. It's only when one of the nannies took him outside to calm him down as she thought he was hot and she threw a piece of left-over meat to the puppy who dragged himself over to it. Jacobi stopped crying immediate. She thought nothing of it until the next night. She took him outside with her to throw the meat and he and the puppy stopped crying.

“Well look at that. You are special Jacobi. I won't let anyone hurt you.” Jacobi snuggled into her arms and fell asleep. Over the next few days Amarita would feed the dog when the neighbor wasn't at home. Then she decided a dog would teach the children some responsibility and she would ask the man for the puppy. One afternoon Jacobi let out a scream the same time she heard the puppy yelp in pain. She rushed out to see the man beating the dog with a stick.

“Stop that! If you don't want him, give him over.”

The man picked up the dog and threw him at Amarita. She barely caught him. It looked like his leg was slightly bruised but some disinfectant and a bandage would fix that. She took him into the yard and when she looked back at the house, Jacobi was in his usual spot by the window. She waved and he giggled. She washed and dried the puppy and put on a bandage. She was holding onto him and he started to

wiggle as if he wanted to get down. She put him down and he took off into the house. She ran after him and spotted him tearing up the stairs in a quick limp. For some reason she knew he would go to Jacobi's room and when she got there the puppy was pawing the crib and Jacobi was laughing his head off.

"Seems you found a friend. What shall we call you?"

'Master you can choose my name.' His thoughts were clear to Jacobi but since he was too young to speak, he just looked at Amarita.

"I'm not sure if you two can understand me but here goes."

"Max." Silence.

"Blue." The puppy lay down and put his front paws over his nose.

"Mavryk." Jacobi let out a squeal and the puppy ran around in circles.

"Mavryk it is."

Chapter SIX

There were four other children in the home and one other Nanny who just hated Jacobi because Rita doted on him. What she didn't realize is that Rita doted on all the children but Jacobi was a baby and he needed a bit more attention. Her life sucked, she hated her job, which is expected since she couldn't have children. She would pinch Jacobi when Rita was out or make one of the other kids hit him. She would lock Mavryk in the bathroom and he barked up a storm until she let him out. One day Rita went out and Sonia had this brilliant idea to make Jacobi take a bath with her. She made the other children watch Mavryk and she shoved Jacobi into the bathroom and took off his clothes. Up until that day Jacobi never spoke, doctors said physically nothing was wrong with him and he would speak when he was ready. Jacobi stood quietly and watched as Sonia took off her clothes. There was no show of emotion on his face and unknown to Sonia, Jacobi had locked the door. She heard movement behind her when she turned to fill the tub. Sonia found herself facing an all back wolf with glowing red eyes. She screamed and scrambled backwards, slipped on the mat, fell and hit her head on the tub.

Jacobi changed back, unlocked the door, covered down the toilet seat and sat on it. The children burst through the door and Rita who was on her way into the house, came running after. Rita sent the eldest to call 911 and told the others to go play. She glanced at Sonia and at a naked Jacobi who remained expressionless. She held out her hand, he took it and they went into his room.

"Put on some clothes sweetie and stay here."

The ambulance arrived quickly and took Sonia away. The Police came and interviewed the children and they all admitted that Sonia abused Jacobi for quite a few months. Rita was livid. She told the cops, she found Sonia and Jacobi naked in the bathroom. She told them he wouldn't speak and they said if they needed anything else they could return. She made her way to Jacobi's bedroom and she found him sitting on the floor with Mavryk by his side. Mav was now about 52" from nose to tail and 28" high. All muscle, ran like a horse and ate like a lion. Rita spent her own money feeding him and he was a great deterrent for criminals. Mavryk also kept the other children in the neighbourhood safe.

"Mav! Door."

The obedient dog waited until his master scratched behind his ears and sauntered over to the bedroom door to stand guard.

Rita knelt in front of Jacobi, took his hands in hers.

"I'm sorry Jacobi, I promised to keep you safe and I let Sonia make your life miserable. I should have paid more attention. If you want to transfer to another home I understand."

Jacobi scooted forward and placed his hand on her face.

'I could never leave you mum.' His mouth never moved.

"I understood you, how is that possible?"

'I don't know yet but Mavryk understands me as well. I can speak, I always could but I wasn't sure you were ready to hear my voice.'

"I am not afraid, say something please."

"Thank you for being my mother and for saving Mavryk."

Hearing his name the dog snorted his approval. Jacobi had the vocal cords of a full grown man. He sounded like a cross between James Earl Jones and Dennis Hayesbert with an accent like Joseph Morgan. Rita leaned forward and hugged Jacobi tightly.

"I have waited for this day since you were brought here. I knew you were special. Did Sonia touch you?"

"Not in the way that you think, I didn't give her time and before she tells everyone what she saw, I need to show you something. Do not fear me."

Jacobi stepped back and changed into a dog form similar to Mavryk.. Rita reached out and gently stroked his jet black fur. He shook his head and changed back to his eight year old self.

"You have to leave here and take Mav with you or he will start howling."

"You won't survive without me, the cancer will kill you in less than six weeks. I can help you but we have to leave soon. I need to find out more about myself and what I can do but not in this neighbourhood, it's way too small for what I feel is about to come."

“We have to do this the right way or we will be followed for the rest of our lives. This may sound bad but no one wants you, that’s why you have been here for so long.”

“I know but you have been good to me. You have about three days to convince Child Services, I am better off with you.”

“I will give it my best shot. I will get the others transferred to another home and put the house for sale. I can get the money wherever we end up. Let’s go pack.”

“Jacobi.” He turned to face her.

“Thank you for trusting me.”

Chapter SEVEN

Rita spent the next hour making calls. The trailer showed up half hour after she booked it. The realtor came over did an assessment and gave her a price. Child Services said she would need to make an adoption application and they would see that it was pushed forward. They began packing the trailer and kept going until 6 am the next morning. Rita went inside to make breakfast and left Jacobi packing who had never-ending strength and stamina. They were almost finished when Rita’s annoying boyfriend showed up. He asked her why she was leaving with the brat and not tell him anything.

“First of all he is not a brat and second of all, you don’t love me and I suggest you go back to Sonia. You knew how she felt about Jacobi and you never said anything. He’s a child. I would rather take him than suffer through another year with you.”

“You bitch! Sonia was great in bed, she was always ready and you were always sick. You will regret this Rita, I will make sure of it.”

“You can’t handle a woman like me Sylvester, you aren’t man enough.”

Sylvester raised his hand to hit her.

Jacobi appeared in front of him and looked directly up into his eyes.

“You will get into your car and drive away. You will not remember this day and you will forget Rita and I exist. You will tell the police everything Sonia told you and you will confess to abusing other women.”

Jacobi stepped back. Rita watched as Sylvester turned, got into his car and drove away. She burst out laughing.

“Thank you sweetie, he was a creep anyway. Everything is packed. We just need food and snacks for the trip and we are

They heard a yelp, a bark and a shout. Jacobi ran to the fence and leapt over it. Rita stood by and watched. Mavryk was standing on their neighbour's chest snarling, baring all his teeth. A small puppy was laying on the ground whimpering.

"Sir, if I ever hear of you harming another animal, even if it's an ant, I will come back for you." His eyes flashed orange.

"Mav. Down boy."

Mavryk moved, went over to the puppy, picked him up by the scruff of his neck, jumped over the fence and took him to Rita. She wrapped him in a blanket and took him inside the house.

"Poor thing, looks like his leg is broken."

"Let me." Said Jacobi.

Jacobi held the dog gently and reset the bone. The dog gave a yelp. Then he stroked the wound and his eyes began to glow yellow. Within a few seconds the leg was healed.

"Is there any limit to what you can do?"

"Maybe. I'm still learning. A lot of what you see comes to me in my thoughts. I usually try something when and if the need arises."

"I'm glad I didn't give up on you. The Government would have locked you in a bunker and poked and prodded you until you died."

"Only if they figured out what my one and only weakness is."

"What's that?"

"Would you believe it's spiders?"

"Well consider me your spider killer."

Jacobi laughed and Rita followed suit.

Mavryk and the puppy also joined in with their own dog sounds.

"So who is this puppy and what shall we name him?"

"Her."

"Her. Oh dear."

"It's Mav's daughter. He didn't realize until he saw her being beaten by Stephen."

"Where are the others?" The puppy whimpered.

"All drowned and her mother went missing. She got away and wandered into Stephen's yard."

"We saw how that turned out."

"Well we have enough space for her. We leave in the morning. What name would you like sweetie?"

"She says Atira."

"Smart dog. I will get a collar for her just in case."

The spent the rest of the day cleaning the house and fixing any minor issues. Rita paid all the bills online, and applied for disconnection of services in her name.

They were sitting in the middle of the floor on a carpet when Rita coughed up blood. Atira's ears pricked up, Mav stood up and Jacobi ran to the bathroom for tissue. When he handed it to her she was crying.

“How old are you Amarita?”

“32. Why?”

“It won't make sense if I tell you now. We have to leave tonight, do you trust me?”

“For some reason yes I do.”

“Let's go then. Mav, Rita, go by the truck and wait.” The dogs left. They took the rest of the food from the refrigerator and loaded the last bit of items in the back of Rita's FJ Cruiser. They turned off the lights and locked the door. As Mavryk hopped into the truck, Rita lifted Atira and put her next to her father. Rita looked back as Jacobi got in and buckled up. She wiped a tear from her eye, got behind the wheel, swung the engine and drove away.

“Navigator, where are we headed?”

“Florida.”

“Florida it is.”

The trip lasted approximately 18 hours with rest stops, gas stops, dog stops and food stops in-between. They ended up in Tallahassee and rented an apartment for a few days. Mavryk and Atira had to stay in a kennel, since no pets were allowed. Jacobi and Rita were sitting at breakfast and Jacobi's eyes started to glow orange. He was backing the crowd so no one saw him.

“You okay sweetie?”

“We have money in a bank nearby.”

“We do?”

“Over 25 million, pen and paper quickly.”

Rita dug in her bag and pulled out a pen and a notepad.

“0113578-269-14. Bank of Tallahassee.” His eyes stopped glowing.

“Okay then. Let's eat and go see what we can find out.”

They finished breakfast and asked the waitress where the bank was. As soon as they left the diner Jacobi fell to the ground in pain.

“Jacobi!”

“You have to take me back to the apartment now, please.”

“Rita helped him up and half walked half ran back to the truck. She got him inside and drove back to the apartment. Jacobi flew out of the truck unlocked the door without a key and flew right into his bedroom and shut the door. Rita ran inside but knew he needed a bit of privacy so she paced the floor. She heard the painful moans and groans and every once in a while a growl. Just when she decided she couldn't take it anymore, she heard his voice.

“Rita, you can come now but please don't be afraid of what you see.”

Rita pushed the door and almost passed out. She propped against the door for support.

“Oh my God.....Jacobi?”

“Hi Rita, can you um get me a towel?” Jacobi seemed a bit disoriented.

Rita fled into the bathroom, grabbed a towel and paused before going back out, taking several deep breaths. She went back to Jacobi and handed him the towel and turned away.

“Sorry.” He stood up shakily and wrapped the towel around his waist and sat back down.

“You haven’t done anything wrong. Care to explain?”

Jacobi had transformed from a shy eight year old to a 6ft 4” tall, bronzed, muscled man. One thing that was also different was that now the word *Nerynth* was tattooed across his back between his shoulder blades.

“I’ve always known I would grow quickly. A voice tells me what will come but not when. The last thing I was told is that I would grow to match the age of the woman I would marry. The next thing since we got here was the money. We are to buy a house, so we can get Mav and Atira.”

“How old are you now?”

Jacobi looked up at Rita and with the softest voice he could muster, because he knew this would decide the next few minutes and said “32.”

Rita fainted and Jacobi caught her before she hit the floor. He lifted her up and put her on his bed. He began to speak to her telepathically.

“I know you are scared Amarita and I can guess a bit confused as well but know in your heart I will never hurt you. Please wake up.”

Rita slowly opened her eyes and when she saw Jacobi, she broke into tears.

“Am I that hideous Amarita?” He had not yet seen himself.

“Hideous? I don’t think I’ve ever seen a more perfect man.”

Jacobi chuckled softly.

“Far from that my love. I have lots to tell you, share with you, show you. First with my new body, I need clothes. A Jade cube came with me in my basket, do you still have it?”

“Yes I kept it with me so no one would steal it, can you get my bag please?”

Jacobi got up and went to get her bag. He handed it to her and she rummaged through it, took out a brown paper bag and handed it to him. As soon as he touched the bag it began to glow green. He opened it and took out a cube. He took a deep breath and spoke.

“I am Nerynth, 5th Jacobi Carter. I call upon my ancestors to give me insight.”

Jacobi grabbed Rita’s hand and everything he saw and felt, so did she. The Nerynths before him, their powers, places they lived, children being born. The cube slowly dimmed and when it was back to normal, Jacobi let go of her hand.

“Oh Jacobi that was wonderful, thank you but what does all this mean?”

“This is a Triduite, it is passed from one Nerynth to his son every 400 years. Each heir is born in the last century of his father’s life. The Triduite choses the woman who bares the next generation. You are 300 years too early. If you were not chosen, you would have never been able to keep the Triduite. I will get a chain so you can wear it around your neck.”

“Okay what do we do now?”

“We go get some money and buy a house, some rings and bring home our babies.”

Rita looked a bit lost.

“I’m sorry Amarita, I should have asked how you feel about this. I am sure this is not the life you ever thought you would live. The reason you were chosen was because you loved and protected me before and after you found out how special I was. What you felt for the eight year old was natural but his spirit has gone to a family who could not have children before. If you need some time to think about becoming my wife, I understand but I promise to you now that if you choose to be with me, I will give you the life you deserve and have always dreamed.”

“I have cancer Jacobi, you told me I had 6 weeks to live, what kind of life can I give you in 6 weeks?”

Jacobi walked up to Rita, took her hands and cupped his face with them.

“Honey, you no longer have cancer. When I took your hand the Triduite cured you.”

“This is too much Jacobi, I held you as a baby, I watched you grow for eight years and now you want me to be your wife? Wait, you said the cancer is gone, does that mean I can...”

“Yes you can have children.”

Rita crumbled to the floor.

“Amarita I am sorry. Unfortunately if you decide not to be my wife we will both spend the next forty years alone. If you marry me we will spend a lifetime together. Originally you would die at 92 but since I can only have one wife, we get to spend the next 300 years together. I am not sure how our son will fit into this but as always it will work out in the end.”

“Give me at least until tomorrow.”

“Fine, let’s get this ball rolling, I have until tomorrow to show you how good we can be together.”

“Start now.”

“What would you like me to do Amarita, I need you to say it out loud.”

“Kiss me.”

“Jacobi stepped up to her and enfolded her in his arms. His hard body meshed into hers. His other body part had a mind of it’s own and responded immediately.

“Oh dear!” Rita whispered.

“Sorry Amarita. Now that I have bonded with you, my body will respond and react to only you always.”

“That’s a good thing, I won’t have to worry about infidelity.”

“We aren’t allowed to take more than one mate, so no fear of that. I can’t kiss you, I won’t be able to stop since it’s my first time.”

“It’s mine too, I never…….”

“I know honey, that’s another reason you were chosen. Now I need some clothes, there is a shop across the street. A pair of jeans, boxers, socks, sneakers and a polo shirt will do just fine, oh and a brown belt. We can buy some more later.” Rita hugged him closer.

“I don’t want to let go, you feel so good in my arms.”

“It will get better my love, now let’s go before I forget leaving this apartment.”

“Do you want me that bad or are you under instructions?”

“Honestly, both. This is how it works. Women have the true power. When a woman is chosen, that’s it for us. Everything we do is for her and when the baby comes, for you both. It is engrained into our system to love you and only you, to respond to you, to feel your pain, hear your thoughts and solve your problems where possible. We only survive by your strength. If weak women were chosen our lineage would suffer greatly. Everything I feel for you started from the day you took me in and although that child is gone now, I know the love that drew you to be chosen. I know this is difficult for you to make the distinction but all you need to realize is that I love you with all my heart and this will never change. The rest of my body knows this and will respond according to your needs.”

“I’m sold. I still want to give you my answer tomorrow.”

“That is quite okay.”

Chapter EIGHT

Rita left the apartment on a high. She knew she would agree to marry him but for the first time, she was scared, not of him but of what was expected of her. She bought the items he needed and went back to the apartment. Jacobi had packed their over-night bags. He got dressed and they re-hitched the trailer to the truck.

“We buy a house today, our dogs are getting restless.”

“Okay let’s go.”

When they got to the kennel, the first thing they noticed was that half the animals were gone. When they enquired as to why, the owner said their grace period of

being adopted was up and it was getting harder to maintain all the animals. Jacobi told him he would take the rest of the animals but it would take him a few weeks.

“How do I know you will come back? You are a stranger to me.”

“Take my fiancée’s number. I have to do some business today, we will be back later. Actually, how would you like to transfer these facilities to our place when we get one. I can take over from you and you won’t have to work so hard. I have the funds to care for lots of animals.”

“How did you know?”

“I can sense when people are ready to give up something they love. The place is clean but you haven’t upgraded.”

“Keen eye. Okay you have a deal. I want to spend more time with my family, this is a 24 hour job and at 50 time is of my essence. I will see you when you get back son.”

They took Mavryk and Atira and left to go house hunting. It took them about half hour, then as they passed a lone house at the end of a cul-de-sac, Mav started barking.

“I agree buddy this is what we need. Honey, would you like to take a look?”

“Sure.”

Rita pulled up to the house and funny enough, as they stopped the door flew open.

“Good morning. Are you here to look at the house?”

“Yes we saw the sign and decided to look around. I am Jacobi, this is my fiancée Amarita and the two in the back are Mavryk and Atira.”

“My name is Sandra, I’m in charge of the sales for this entire lot. The developers are abandoning it because it doesn’t suit housing. More like a zoo since it’s so near to the forest. Come on in, I was going to leave in a bit so you are lucky.”

“The property borders on Osceola National Forest. The house is a four bedroom, split level with a pool, stables, aviary, green house, orchard, a small lake that feeds into the forest and a huge dog house. The house is in great shape, it’s only about 2 years old. The previous owners were the first out here and it was kind of lonely. The asking price is a mere \$150,000 as they are an old couple and they just want it sold.”

“We will take it. Are the other lots for sale?” Jacobi asked.

“Yes all of them actually, are you interested in those as well?”

“How many are there?”

“Twenty in all, including the parking lot, and a part of the forest.”

“I want all of them, name your price.”

“\$650,00 if you purchase all of them or \$30,000 separately for each lot.”

“What’s your commission on each option?”

“If I sell all 21 properties at one time, I get 15%. If I sell each one separately, I get 10% of each sale.”

“So you either make \$97,500 or \$75,000.”

“Yes that about sums it up.”

“How about this. Come and work for us as Property Manager and I will double your commission on the sale. Your Salary will be about \$5000 per month, a company vehicle you can own if you stay with us for over a year. Life and health insurance for you and your household. Your salary will increase as we will be expanding over time. You will also have a pension plan that does not expire if you decide to leave.”

Sandra was speechless. She was staring at Jacobi as if he had grown three heads.

“Deal.” She stuck out her hand. Jacobi took it and shook firmly.

“Have the documents for us to sign as soon as possible.”

“Okay, I will get right on it. If I am going to be working for you, I need a list of all the things you want done as several things may cross over into different departments. I don’t use the normal channels and I get things faster that way. Nothing underhanded, I just know who to ask for what. The surrounding areas are overgrown with grass and bush but that’s easy to clear off. I can have that done for you today if you want.”

“That would be great. I will have your list by tomorrow. Right, now we need an apartment to stay in until the house is ready.”

“I can have the house cleaned today, my brother owns a construction company, he can do both the clearing and the cleaning and you can move in tonight.”

“That’s great, what do you think honey?”

Rita, looked up at Jacobi as if he had spoken to her in French.

“Me? So far, you have everything covered and Sandra seems to be a professional at what she does. I would love if we could move in tonight though, the dogs needs a safe place and I wanna’ sleep in my own bed.”

“Done. I will make all the calls necessary. Are you going shopping?”

“Yes, we have to go to the bank first, get Jacobi some clothes, groceries and some extra things for the house.”

“I can stay here to receive them while the guys are cleaning up.”

“Okay, we will try to be back soon.”

They unhitched the trailer and left to go to the bank. Rita suddenly realized, Jacobi had no ID as an adult and said he would need to get one done first.

“It’s not a problem honey, let’s go inside.”

Chapter NINE

As soon as Jacobi stepped on the Welcome mat and alarm went off. He squeezed Rita's hand and kept walking.

He made his way to a vacant teller and handed her the account number.

“Good morning, I would like to access this account please.”

“Good Morning sir, not a problem, walk this way please.”

She took them to a small cubicle and handed him a portable encoder.

“Enter your passcode please.”

Jacobi punched the code and a green button on the machine lit up and said ‘Accepted’.

Rita looked up to see the teller, staring at Jacobi. When he handed back the encoder, the teller let her hands touch his.

Rita tried to remain calm but her thought ran rampant through her mind. Why was this hussy flirting with her man? Wait, her man? Since when?

‘Mental note to Rita's self. Punch teller in face.’

When she realized Jacobi was his cool self, she tried to calm down inside.

‘I love you honey always remember that.’

Rita glanced at him and realised he had read her thoughts. Jacobi stepped away from the teller and took Rita's hand again.

“The Manager will be with you in a minute, go through the vault door and have a seat.”

“Thank you.” Jacobi started to walk towards the vault door and the teller interrupted.

“Sir, only your name is on the account, she can't be allowed inside the vault.”

“Oh really! Either she comes with me or I close the account and go elsewhere.”

The teller knew they couldn't let him close out his account, the deposit box had been the first one to be opened. She nodded silently and walked away.

“I figured so.”

Jacobi entered the vault and pulled out a chair for Rita. As she was sitting down, the bank manager came in, looking nervous.

“Good Morning Mr. Carter, miss.....?”

“AmaritaMayers.”

“A pleasure to meet you both.”

The manager went to the first box on the left in the top row, punched in a code and the box pushed out slightly. He pulled it out and placed it in front of Rita. Just then the manager thought to himself ‘There is no harm here Nerynth, you are safe.’

‘I understand.’

“How many more boxes are there?”

“Eleven. Your pass code will open the others as well. I will leave you to it.”

“Thank you and if I ever catch you stealing from me again, you will not be able to bare the consequences of your actions.” His eyes glowed yellow.

Milton Sievers stared at Jacobi in horror.

“How did you know?”

“I am a Nerynth, you tried to mask your thoughts by reciting the Warlock welcome. I may not be one of you but my forefathers have never caused your kind any harm. If you do right by me I will reciprocate. You do not have to steal. How much do you need for you mother to have the operation?”

Milton lowered his head.

“\$75,000. The bank won’t loan me anymore as I already had two loans to pay her medical bills.”

“I will pay back your loans if you handle all my accounting. You are a brilliant man, why stoop so low?”

“My mother is a wicked old witch. She put a spell on me right before she had a stroke two years ago. The stroke took her memory away, and I don’t know of anyone who can undo it. The doctors won’t operate unless I have all the money. Her last set of treatment took everything I had. I wanted to mortgage the house but it’s in her name. I was desperate. As the manager, I control all the codes to the boxes. I took one of the diamonds to sell it but no one would give me what it’s worth so I returned it.”

“If you promise me you won’t steal anymore, I will help you. If you don’t, you know quite well what I can do to you.”

“I promise. Your father told me you would come the day before he died but didn’t say when. He told me if I needed help I could ask you but I got depressed.”

“Well I am here now and your mother’s spell is no match for me. I will go see her tonight. Now, I have to go get some cash. Do you know where this address is?”

“Yes, I will write the directions down for you.” He scribbled on the back of a deposit slip and handed it to Jacobi.

Jacobi went to the other eleven boxes in the top row and pulled them out. Just then the Triduite started to glow and one by one all twelve of the boxes clicked open. Rita’s eyes opened wide and she put her hand to her cheek. Jacobi remained calm as usual.

“Milton, empty all these boxes into that bag and we will collect it when we get back.”

The boxes contained, diamonds, rubies, emerald, sapphires, bonds, a stamp collection, a few artifacts that would be considered priceless. There was also about a hundred and fifty thousand in cash.

“Will do. If you are going to the container, you will need something to transport the money in. I have some travel cases you can use.”

Jacobi took a hundred thousand in cash and handed it to Milton.

“That is yours.. We shall see you when we return.”

He held out his hand to a still stunned Rita.

“Come on honey let’s go.”

They left the bank and followed the directions Milton gave them. They parked next to what looked like a container office.

“Honey can I ask you something?”

“Sure Jacobi.”

“Why are you so quiet when I am dealing with people?”

Rita lowered her head to her chin.

“You can tell me honey, don’t hide from me.”

“I feel so inadequate. You can read people’s minds and determine how you should proceed. I was ready to tear that cashier’s limbs off just for smiling at you. I can’t keep up. I know you will always have our best interest at heart and you would never set out to harm me but I just don’t know how to embrace all of this as yet. I’m sorry.”

“My love, it is okay, I don’t expect you to be all gung ho, one day at a time. The reason I am moving so fast is because I have a few more changes to over-come and we need to be ready. Things will slow down eventually and we can take life as it comes. Let’s go.”

They got out of the truck and when they approached the glass door to the office, it buzzed and opened.

“Good morning, how can I help you?”

“My name is Jacobi Carter and this is my fiancée Amarita. We have a container here and we would like to see it.

The woman glanced at Rita and quickly looked away. She smiled broadly at Jacobi and opened a drawer with some files and pulled out his.

“This hasn’t been used recently..... wait. Give me a minute.”

She went into her bag and in a few seconds, she pulled out a piece of paper and showed it to Jacobi.

“Are you the Nerynth?”

“Yes I am. Why?”

“Your father gave this to me and said when you came everything would change for the better. Let me show you your container. Follow me.”

They followed her across the lot to a white container.

“This is yours, it’s bought and paid for. Your father said “Tell my son, to take it away from here, the circumstances remain the same”. Do you know what he meant?”

“Yes, I need to move the container to the house we are buying. Thank you we will take it from here.”

“If you need any help, just let me know.” She looked at Jacobi and her face flushed.”

‘Mental note to Rita’s self – punch container lady in the face.’

‘Now now, my little tom cat, her husband died recently and she is lonely. I am the same height and complexion as he was, she is longing for him not me.’

“Sorry.”

Jacobi waited until the lady was out of ear shot and grinned at Rita.

“I love it when you get jealous and only I can hear your thoughts. If they only knew.” He bent to kiss her forehead.

Jacobi punched in the passcode and the door opened with a slight screech. He touched a light switch to his right and much to Rita’s surprise the container was empty.

“I am Nerynth, Reveal.”

Rita gasped when she saw the rows and rows of hundred dollar bills.

“How much do you think it is?”

“Forty million to be exact. I assume my father put a replenish spell on it as well, so whatever we take, the exact amount will reappear.”

“Awesome.” Jacobi laughed.

“How much do we need?”

“About 2 million for now. We will take the container back to the house after we bought a high quality safe.”

“Okay, let me go get the bags.”

Rita went to get the bags and Jacobi watched her from the container door.

‘I love the way you walk honey.’

‘Quit ogling me.’

Jacobi growled softly.

She came back with the bags and they packed the money they needed. When they were finished, Jacobi recast the hidden spell over the money and locked the container. They put the bags in the car and went back to the office. The lady smiled when she saw Jacobi.

“All to your satisfaction Mr. Carter?”

“Yes, what is your name?”

“Shaun.”

“Do you like animals?”

“I love them.”

“Would you like to come and work for us? We will be opening an animal habitat in a few weeks and we will need a secretary.”

“Yes.”

“No questions asked?”

“Your father told me to trust you.”

“Okay.” Jacobi reached into his pocket and pulled out a stack of bills and handed it to Shaun.”

“Sir?”

“This is to get you started and to finish up any loose ends you may have. Your salary will start at \$4000 per month and as we expand, we can negotiate pay increases, you get insurance benefits for you and your family. We will also assist with current loans. You will get a company vehicle with an option to purchase it in a year. You will wear a few hats so be prepared to act in any capacity. If you or your family want to study, we will pay the full fees but they have to work for us for a year. We can discuss anything else the week before you begin. We have to go now. We will be in touch.”

“Thank you so much and I look forward to working with you. It was nice meeting you Amarita.”

“You as well. Bye.”

Shaun watched as Jacobi took Rita’s hand and they went back to the truck. He kissed her hand before he opened the door and she sat down. Shaun missed her husband dearly and it’s times like these she thought about getting involved but her son meant the world to her and she wasn’t about to disrupt it any further. Just then the owner of the container lot pulled up in his rust bucket.

“Mark, I got a job offer!”

“Finally! You know I would never fire you but I am glad to see something good happen in your life. When do you start?”

“In a few weeks, I won’t leave you hanging though.”

“That’s quite alright I will just get Cassie to come down until we find someone. Tell you what, take the rest of the week off and come back Monday, business is slow and I can handle a few days without you.”

“Oh Mark, thank you!” She hugged him and packed her bag and locked up the office.

She got into her own rust bucket and took the money from her bag. It was only then she realized how much money it was. Ten thousand.

“No, there is no way he could have known, could he?”

She picked up her cell phone and called the bank.

“Hi, this is Shaun Cassidy. I will be coming in tomorrow to make a payment on my mortgage, can you make a note of it in my file please?”

“Sorry Mrs. Cassidy but you need to come in today, your payments are already lapsed and as of 8am tomorrow, your house will be foreclosed. So please make an effort to come in within the next two hours.”

“Okay I will.”

She hung up and dialed her son’s number.

“Hey momma, are you coming to pick me up?”

“I have to go pay the bank today or we will be out of a home shug, can you go over to grandma’s and wait for me there? I will make it up to you I promise.”

“It’s okay momma, I know you would pick me up if you could. I will go to gran’s house. If you have any money left over can I get pizza?”

“I’m pretty sure you can have pizza tonight shug. I will see you in a bit.”

She hung up from Shain and made her way to the bank. Her arrears were \$7,500 including the interest, she paid the exact amount and put next two month’s payment of \$975. Left with \$1,525, she drove over to Evi Mart. When she stepped through the door, she asked the cashier if he was around.

“In his dungeon Shaun.”

Shaun laughed and walked over to the red office door. She knocked and waited.

“Come in Shaun.”

“Hey sweetie, I’ve come to clear my balance with you.”

“Did you win lotto?”

“Ha ha, no, my new boss gave me an advance and I was able to pay my mortgage and I have enough to clear with you and get Shain some pizza.”

“You don’t have to, business has been great in the last few months and the items you take can’t put a dent in sales. Ah to hell with it. You are family and you have been good to my children since Anya died. Don’t worry about the money, take what you need for at least two weeks on me, you never charged me for babysitting so we are even.”

“Are you sure? I don’t want to take advantage of your kindness.”

“Not at all, come by for dinner some time, the children miss you.”

“Only the children?”

“Shaun, don’t go there, you know how I feel about you but we can’t.”

“Why not? Shain told me to my face he would love to have you as a father, he would get the best of both worlds.”

“He said that? Smart kid.”

“Won’t you even try? The children will be leaving for college soon and so will Shain. Why can’t we be together? Evin has been gone for almost three years, I get lonely not to mention, I haven’t been with anyone since him. At least think about it.”

Evi got up from behind his desk, walked over to Shaun and kissed her warmly on the lips.

“I have to talk to the children about this.”

“No you don’t, they knew how we felt before we did. I was home with them one night you were late and they all sat down with me and it was all over. They wanted to know when we were gonna get married and they didn’t mean to

disrespect their uncle Evin or their mother but they know we love each other and we would be happy.”

“Well I guess that’s settled then. Go get what you need, I will come over for pizza and bring the other rug rats with me.”

“Deal, ummm, can you kiss me again please?”

Evi, wrapped his arms around her and drew her in for a hot kiss. When he pulled back they were both a wreck.

“Oh you temptress, get out before I lay you over my desk and get you pregnant.”

“You want another child?”

“Woman, go before I answer you my way.”

“Going, going.”

She left his office and browsed through the supermarket for what she needed.

She packed up the car and drove over to her mother-in-law’s house.

Shain was sitting on the floor laying with one of his cousins on the Wii their grandmother had bought for them to play with when they came over. He spotted his mom coming up the pathway and paused the game to go meet her.

Shaun opened the door and was immediately hugged and squeezed by her 15 year old son.

“Oh geeze boy, you’re gonna kill your old mother.”

“Old! Mom you aren’t even 40 yet.”

“Yeh but you make me feel it, you keep growing so fast. Where’s gran at?”

“In the kitchen making pizza. She said she didn’t want you bothering.”

“Such a sweet woman. I need to talk to her for a bit so keep out of the kitchen will ya.”

“Sure momma.” He kissed her on the cheek and went back to his game.

Shaun pushed the kitchen door and Evelyn was up to her eyebrows in pizza shenanigans.

“You finally decide to make a go with my other son?”

“How did you know?”

“You gave my son 13 years of happiness. Now you will give the other one as many as the Lord allows. Now, help me get this pizza in the oven.”

“Why did you make pizza, I was gonna take Shain out later.”

“I didn’t want you trying to get what you couldn’t afford and didn’t wanna tell him no.”

“Ahh but this time, I have money. Got a new job and the boss gave me an advance. I cleared the arrears on the mortgage and Evi cancelled my account with him. Ah who cares, your pizza always tastes better. I will leave some money with you as well.”

“Don’t insult me little girl. I am not desolate that I can’t do pizza for my family.”

“It’s not for the pizza mum, you have always been here for me since....”

“I know sugar pie, we all loved him but you have a second chance to be happy and you should go for it. I’m getting down now and nothing would make me happier than to see you and Evi bring the family together. I have left everything for Evi in my will and it will be yours as well. There is money to bury me and still have some left to get you by for at least a year or two. The house is in good condition and Evi can rent it out if he wants. Now enough of that. How are you gonna get Evi to propose?”

Shaun and her mother-in-law sat and plotted how they would get Evi to propose. They ate pizza and then Shaun took a sleepy son home.

Chapter TEN

Jacobi and Rita went on a shopping spree. He got an entire wardrobe and some colognes, under garments and shoes. Rita didn’t need anything so she shopped for the house. All the stores they bought from promised to have their purchases delivered by 6 that evening. Sandra called and said they already started arriving. Sandra called back as they were making their last purchase and said the cleanup was almost done.

“We will be there in a few minutes, I will have the funds to pay the guys.”

Rita was staring at him from across the table of the diner they were eating at.

“What honey? “

“How do you do that?”

“What? Get people to do what I want?”

“Yes!”

“Nerynths give off an aura. Babies and dogs actually see it but humans just have this ‘feeling’ that I can be trusted. Unfortunately it doesn’t work on everyone.”

“What do you mean? Are some people immune?”

“Apparently so, you haven’t said yes.”

“Does that bother you?”

“No, but your doubts about making me happy do. You can’t imagine how happy I already am and I would love to show you but you need to have confidence in yourself before I even touch you. My body aches for you Amarita but I won’t force you, although I could.”

“Try.”

“No, I never tamper with free will, at least not in your case.”

“If you want me to be your wife, I need to know what you are capable of.”

Jacobi looked directly into Rita's eyes and began to speak.

"You will come over to me, sit on my lap, kiss me on the lips and tell me you will marry me. You will remember what you did in a few minutes."

Rita got up and did exactly as Jacobi suggested. She could feel herself moving and speaking as if she were inside someone else's body. When she was sitting back in her seat, Jacobi relaxed his stare and gave her back control.

"Wow. I am amazed."

"I won't ever do that to you again, understand me?" He seemed angry.

"Did I do something wrong?"

"My mate is for life, she is never to be treated as I would another woman. A Nerynth does not force his mate to do anything."

"Honey it's okay, it was my choice and I know you would never deliberately hurt me."

"I know but still....."

"Let's go take the rest of the money to the bank and go home.

They paid the tab and went to the truck. They returned to the bank, deposited the money and once again Jacobi encountered resistance.

"Mr. Carter, Ms. Mayers, glad to have you back. Follow me please."

"You can count what you want to deposit and I will send you a handler for your account."

The handler happened to be a young fresh out of college accountant. He made the mistake of looking at Rita a millisecond longer than he should. Jacobi growled softly.

"Good Morning Mr. and Mrs. Carter, my name is Marlan and I will be handling your account from now on. Whenever you visit the bank ask for me and if I am not here the manager will assist you."

'Note to Rita, if he looks at you that way any longer I will turn him into a beetle.'

'I can handle this honey.'

"Good morning Marlan, first of all, never assume two people are married unless they inform you. Second of all, if you look at me that way ever again, Mr. Carter will pound you into the floor. My name is Amarita, you can call me Rita."

"Yes ma'am." Marlan stared at the floor.

"Good, let's get busy."

He placed a cash counter on the table and began loading the hundred dollar bills into it. It took them about half hour.

Marlan filled out the forms and wrote in the amount verified by Jacobi.

When Jacob signed the forms and handed them back, Marlan attempted to voice his concerns.

"Uh Sir, her name is Ms. Mayers not Carter."

“No, we are getting married soon, she won’t have to change her name, she can just come in and sign the form.”

“Yes Sir.”

“I need two ATM cards and.....” Rita’s cell phone rang in his pocket.

“Yes Sandra.”

“Okay no problem, what’s their fee? If he gives me a fair price, I will retain him for all our projects.”

He heard Sandra ask someone what was the fee for the Carters.

“\$25,000 sir.”

“Done. Do you have the papers for the house? I can pay you as well for the full amount.”

“I won’t have those until tomorrow sir.”

“That’s fine.”

“I am overseeing the cleanup, it’s my brother’s company.”

“We will be home soon, wait until we get there.”

Jacobi looks back at Marlan.

“I need two ATM cards, a manager’s check for \$25,000 and one for 1.5 million and fill out an application for a Centurion Credit Card.”

“Um Sir, your account cannot cover the Centurion Card. The minimum balance for that brand of Credit card is \$25 million, after the two checks, you are currently short by 1,570,000.00.”

“Simple, what’s your interest rate per annum?”

“8%.”

“That’s 1,878,000, when I make my next deposit, deduct it and it should not be an issue.”

“Sir, that’s against company policy.”

“Let me get this straight. This account is older than you are, it’s balance has been over 15 million from before you were born, I just deposited 2 more million and you are complaining about what again?”

Just then the manager came in to see if everything was going well. He heard Marlan say against company policy and immediately quelled the situation.

“Marlan, if there is one account that can overrule most of our policies is this one. The original bearer was the first account we ever had and I would like to keep our good standing with the Carter family. Now do as Mr. Carter asks and let us get on with business.”

“But Sir, he doesn’t have the required amount to even apply for a Centurion Card. He wants us to debit his account with the money until he makes his next deposit. That has never been done.”

“Young man, do as I say or lose your job. It’s that simple. I will accept reliability for Mr. Carter.”

“Fine, but you will have to sign off on this.”

“Not an issue. Sorry Mr. Carter, he hasn’t been here long enough to understand how banks work with long standing customers.”

They finished up and left the bank.

Chapter ELEVEN

The drive to kennel was quiet until Rita spoke.

“I’m confused.”

“The reason I took the money from the container and deposited it into the account is to make it active. The last Nerynth used the account when I was born eight years ago. The account levels off at 25mil. For the time I am alive, I will increase it to 30 for the next Nerynth.

The dogs were waiting patiently. They wanted to go to the park for a run. Rita had seen a park nearby and remembered the route. When they pulled up, there was a little food cart at the entrance to the park. They stopped to get a snack and drinks.

Vinni the owner, gave the dogs treats from his left overs.

“How old are you?”

“22 Sir.”

“Why aren’t you in college or working at a firm, I can tell you are very intelligent.”

“I was careless and got my girlfriend pregnant. I married her and we live at the home my parents left me. She prepared all the stuff you see here. She wanted to stay home with the baby until she was old enough. I took the money my parents left for college and bought this stand, it’s what keeps us going.”

Rita saw it coming.

“How would you like a bigger operation and a steady income?”

“I’ll have to run that by the wife first, I don’t make any decisions without her.”

“Sure, take Rita’s number and call us soon. We can discuss your options then.”

They took their food and walked over to a bench nearby and asked Vinni to watch the truck.

“Say yes Rita, your thoughts are so clear, why do you fight me so?”

“I’m scared Jacobi. Honest to goodness scared. You have such a huge heart and I can’t compare to that.”

“This coming from the woman who sold everything and moved away so an eight year old and two dogs could have a better life! Who do you think I learnt all this

from? I remember your smile when you found me on the front step. I remember the days you were in the yard and you waved at me. I love you because you loved me first, don't you get that? "

Jacobi took the leashes off the dogs and let them go. They took off across the park at top speed. Of course Mavryk left Atira by far but she kept on running. He ran back to her and they rolled around playfully. Atira was a carbon copy of her father, all black from nose to tail with a white diamond on her forehead. They were playing so carefree they didn't notice two men creeping up from behind some bushes but Jacobi sensed them. There were dog snatchers and both dogs would fetch a hefty sum.

'Both of you, now!'

Mavryk didn't pause, he went from playing to snatching Atira by her neck and took off to where Jacobi and Rita were sitting quietly. He put her down gently and nuzzled her.

Rita picked her up, she was trembling from fright.

"It's okay sweetie, momma's got you. I think we better go home now Jacobi." He didn't respond but got up and started walking toward the truck without a word. Clearly he was deep in thought.

They said good bye to Vinni and made their way home. Much to their surprise, Sandra had completely emptied the trailer and decorated the house with the help of the cleanup crew. All the deliveries were well placed and anything personal was stored in an empty bedroom upstairs.

"Oh gosh Sandra thank you so much, you have saved me a world of back ache."

The dogs graduated to their house while the crew packed up and left. Jacobi was talking to Sandra and they were laughing. A surge of jealousy flooded Rita's entire body as she watched. She tried to block her thoughts but it was too late.

'How can you be so jealous yet you refuse to marry me? I only want you Amarita, only you.'

She turned and walked away to find food. They had used up all in the last week.

She sat at the kitchen table and waited until Jacobi had finished talking to Sandra.

'If you don't snap out of that mood, I will make love to you on the counter.'

"Oh stop it."

She looked up and saw him at the doorway.

"We need to get groceries, I think Shaun mentioned Evi Mart. We should go now before they close."

"I don't need food, I need you Amarita. I can feel your turmoil inside, your thoughts torment me. Can you tell me why?"

"I've already told you, can we just go please?"

"No. We are not leaving until you say yes."

"Yes Jacobi, I will marry you."

“Try again. We will have this discussion when we get back.”

“I thought you said.....”

“I said lots of things, let’s go. The dogs will guard the house.”

They followed Shaun’s directions and pretty soon they pulled up to Evi’s. They inquired of him and were sent to his office.

Jacobi entered Evi’s office and let out a growl.

“There is no harm here Nerynth, you are safe.”

“A warlock, interesting.”

“A Nerynth, even more interesting. How can I help?”

“Shaun Cassidy told us we could do business with you.”

“She was right, I provide homes with a 24 hr grocery service. You can deposit money and we deduct as you purchase, or you can take on a weekly basis and pay at the end of the week.”

“Sounds fair enough. How about we give you a million dollars and you send us a statement every month? We will be needing a constant supply of items and we don’t need the hassle of cash changing hands.”

“Fine by me, don’t spend any cash now, take what you need for the week, consider it a welcome gift. I am sure you can be trusted. I assume you are Shaun’s new bosses?”

“Yes we are. How do you know I can be trusted?”

“Your eyes show sincerity that cannot be faked. She made a good choice, your father was a good man.”

“I wish here were here but it is not allowed.”

“Understood. Have a great evening.”

“You as well.”

“Sorry, forgetting my manners, this is my fiancée Amarita, she will be handling our account most of the time.”

“Nice to meet you ma’am.”

“Shaun spoke highly of you, she is a lovely lady.”

“Yes she is, I just have to convince her to marry me and put us both out of our misery.”

“Oh you have that problem as well?”

“Don’t I though? Bah, women.”

Jacobi laughed and left the office.

They looked around and took what they needed and left. The short ride back home was quiet and tensed.

“It’s funny, you keep referring to me as your fiancée.”

“I proposed.”

“I haven’t said yes.”

“You will and you know it and I am trying to show you that we were meant to be but you would rather suffer than be happy, that I will never understand. Women for centuries have had to put themselves on display to find a husband, you have one literally begging you to be his wife and you don’t seem to care how it affects me. You get jealous and want to take people’s heads off but marrying me seems like the hardest thing in the world for you.”

“I’m sorry you feel that way.”

“Sure you are.”

“Jacobi..... Don’t make me feel bad about waiting.”

“Waiting? You have waited all your life to be loved and here I am loving you and you can’t see it. I won’t beg Amarita.”

Rita pulled up to the house and the dogs bounded down the driveway to meet them. Mavryk sensed the tension and whimpered.

‘It’s okay buddy, this will blow over soon.’

They went inside and Rita took a shower and while Jacobi took his, she made a light dinner and fed the dogs.

Jacobi made his way to the living area where Rita had a Chinese table set up. She was sitting on the floor waiting on him. She looked up and started to put food on his plate. She had chosen chicken samosas, tuna dip, crackers and salad.

“Jacobi?”

“Yes honey?”

“Yes.”

“Why? Be honest my love.”

“I need you in my life, we’ve been through a lot in the last few weeks. You are right, I’ve wanted the love of a good man all my life and here you are offering it to me and I can’t see it. I fell in love with you but I feel so insecure with you even with all you have told me. I can’t imagine my life without you. What Evi said was true, your sincerity shows in your eyes.”

“How soon, I don’t think I can wait much longer to touch you.”

“I want you tonight, I don’t need to wait until we are married.”

“I know I’ve been anxious but I don’t want you to do this because it’s what I want.”

“That’s just it, you do things with me in mind, and you cater to my needs without me telling you. You bought a house without me saying yes. This is what I need, you are what I need. I’ve been telling myself, I am not good enough for you but as far as I can see, you didn’t ask anyone else to marry you. So my answer is a definite yes. Let’s eat and go to our room.”

“I need to warn you first, I’ve never been with a woman before, I don’t know how I will react to you but I will try not to hurt you.”

“I trust you Jacobi.”

They ate and chatted about the plans for the habitat and Rita was getting more and more turned on by his voice, she was more aware of how it sounded. Jacobi noticed the change in her since she said yes and he realized that his body was changing as well, not only was he aroused but he could smell her and he could sense a bit of danger.

Chapter TWELVE

Rita seemed to sense it as well but she brushed it aside as a case of nerves for both of them. They cleaned up together and Rita left to put on something sexy. When Jacobi came into the bedroom she was sitting on the bed, head down, ankles crossed and hands on either side of her legs.

“Rita honey, are you doing this before we are married because you think I will leave you if you don’t?”

She didn’t answer.

“How is it that a woman as beautiful as you is so self-conscious and unaware of her own strengths?”

“I had cancer Jacobi, the thought of never having children, never getting married, never knowing when that day would come. It’s been hard but no, I do really need you right now.”

Jacobi walked over to her and knelt at her feet and held her hands.

“I am Nerynth, give me sight.” The Triduite resting between her cleavage began to glow.

Rita saw what their lives would be like, the child they would have, and she was happy, he was happy. The Jade cube went back to normal and when Jacobi looked up, his eyes were red and he let out a growl.

“Honey, I need to go outside now.” He got up and ran through the bedroom door.

Rita jumped up and ran after him. When she got to him in the back yard he was shirtless and kneeling down on the grass clearly in a great deal of pain. Mavryk was crouching on his front paws and whimpering.

“It’s okay buddy, this will soon pass.” He let out another groan and dug his hands into the earth.

Then, as if it were a natural everyday occurrence, something started to grow out of his back. He was getting his wings. He reached out his hand to Rita, she grabbed it, sat down underneath him and wrapped her arms around his waist. The process took about half hour but seemed like half a day. When the appendages were fully formed, Jacobi collapsed onto Rita.

“That was interesting. Honey you have wings, how awesome is that?”

“Pretty awesome I think and I owe it to you.”

“ME?”

“Haven’t you realized that every time you accept another part of your life with me, I get one more ability? Your love for me activates the Triduite. Now, I need to dry and test these babies. You three get back to the porch, I’m not sure how powerful the span is as yet.”

Rita kissed him on his cheek and let go. She took the dogs to the porch and waited. Jacobi stood up shakily and when he flapped those babies, Rita had to hold on the post with both her arms.

Jacobi looked up and leapt into the air. Rita and the dogs watched him until they couldn’t see or hear him anymore. Rita sat down and the dogs kept watch. She drifted off to sleep but for some reason she dreamt about flying and then she felt cold and warm at the same time. She felt her body dip. When Rita opened her eyes the world rushed past her. Jacobi had picked her up still asleep and taken her for a trip.

“Oh gosh hon, this is lovely, where are we?”

“Egypt.”

“I don’t have my passport.”

Jacobi laughed.

“I could think of no one better to share this with my love.”

“Thank you Jacobi, this means a lot to me.”

“Think of all the places we could fly to.”

“Definitely but can we go somewhere?”

“Ah I see. I know just the place.”

He made a u-turn and Rita watch the city of Tanta grow small.

“Close your eyes honey.”

She did as she was told.

“Open them now.”

Rita opened her eyes to find that they were floating down to a secluded beach. The beach was by the Marieta Islands in Puerto Vallarta, just a few miles off the coast of Mexico. The moonlight provided them with just enough glow to complete the ambiance.

Jacobi landed safely and kept Rita wrapped in his arms.

“Oh this is wonderful, where are we?”

“Mexico.”

“Beautiful. Now please, don’t make me wait anymore.”

“As you wish.”

He waved his right wing and brushed away any small rocks or debris in the sand.

“Don’t go anywhere, I will be right back.” He flew off and a few minutes later he came back with some palm tree branches. He made a soft bed for them and he lay Rita down and stood over her.

“Come to me honey.”

Jacobi lay down next to her and for the first time since he changed into an adult, he kissed her on the lips. Rita silently exploded. His tongue was warm and soft. He pulled away to kiss her neck and trail kisses around her face.

“My Amarita I love you so.”

“I love you to Jacobi. I’ve waited so long, take me now please!”

“Ah my love, we have all night, I need to prepare you if not you will be hurt.”

Rita shuddered at the thought of what was to come.

“No my love, the pain won’t last and the pleasure after will take you to the unknown. I have waited long too, let me love you.”

Jacobi really, really wanted to drive himself into her, he was ready from the day he changed from 8 years to 32. This will not be easy for him or her. He continued to trail kisses all over her, while removing her clothing. She was still wearing the sexy lingerie.

“Red is your colour, brings out the heat from within you.”

“I don’t know what to do.”

“We will learn together honey, now shush.”

Rita was now naked under the moonlight and her nipples perked up and goose bumps spread all over her. Jacobi was loving her reactions to everything he did. He touched her intimately and she arched against his hand.

“Oh..... I need you please.”

“Open your eyes and look at me honey.”

Rita opened her eyes and closed them again.

“No way!”

“Yes way, don’t be scared, you will adjust soon. Touch me if you like.”

Rita sat up and reached out her hand to touch his manhood which looked like a log sticking out. He gasped as her fingers wrapped around him. A few strokes and he grew a bit more.

“Jacobi.....”

“Amarita.....”

“Please, I need to feel you.”

Jacobi removed her hand from around him and pushed her gently against their nature-made bed. He positioned himself above her and slowly pushed against her. She went stiff. The Triduite began to glow.

“Relax honey.” He kissed her eyes, her lips, ears, forehead and with each kiss he pushed farther. When he met with her virginity, he pushed quickly and stopped.

“Jacobi! Make it stop, it hurts.”

“Sorry honey, relax and it will pass.” He rested his hand on her abdomen and moved it in a circle.

Rita’s breath was coming in spurts, she was in more pain than she expected. She looked up at Jacobi and he was straining not to move. His arms were shaking and he was trying to relax as well while massaging her. Soon her breathing slowed and the pain drifted away.

“I’m ready now love.”

Without a sound Jacobi slowly moved in and out of her, feeling her warmth envelope him each time. He almost forgot Rita was a mortal and she would not be able to withstand it if he let go fully.

Rita was moaning periodically. She had heard people talk about sex and she never thought she would be able to enjoy it but this was something to tell the girlfriends on ladies night, if she ever had any.

“Why are you holding back honey?”

“I have to, or you won’t be able to get up far less walk.”

“I can take it.”

“Don’t tempt me woman.”

“Try me. I’m not made of..... Oh god yes.”

Jacobi shoved himself inside her until his pelvis met hers.

“You surprise me Amarita.”

“Not really, the Triduite is glowing. I feel as if I am opening up just for you. Do that again.”

Jacobi obliged and Rita welcomed it. She felt her body heat up to the point where she was perspiring all over.

“Yes my love, feel it take over you. You are mine forever Amarita, mine.”

“Yes, yours, always..... Oh yes deeper please, I need all of you.”

Jacobi picked up the pace as Rita’s orgasm shook her body. She clenched around him tightly and screamed his name into the night. Jacobi knew she had fainted but he needed to complete the union. He held onto her and emptied himself inside of her. He felt his life force flow into her and bind them together for life. He whispered into her ear.

“I am Nerynth, I give to you Amarita all that I am, we are now one, forever.”

Rita opened her eyes and they glowed yellow as his were. As the process continued, another orgasm took over her body but this time it was the power of Jacobi that multiplied it ten times over.

The Triduite glowed for a few seconds more and then it stopped.

Rita swore she passed out. She did. When she awoke, she was back home, in their bed and Jacobi was sitting at the edge of the bed watching her.

“Hi honey, how long was I asleep?”

“You didn’t fall asleep, you fainted.”

“I did, wow that’s strange.”

“No, you fainted because your body couldn’t handle the shock of our love making. How do you get me to give you what you want when I know it will put you in harm’s way?”

“Jacobi honey, you would never hurt me intentionally, you convinced me of that. I’m fine, a bit sore but I am fine. You can’t treat me like a glass doll. I am going to be your wife, I need to be strong too.”

“I know my love and I don’t mean to spoil our first night.”

“What I would really like is to do that again.” Rita blushed.

“Not yet, your body needs a few hours to heal, I was a bit rough.”

“I happen to like your kind of rough.” She giggled.

Jacobi groaned as he felt his body get rock hard.

“Rita.....”

“Yes honey, oh you started this, make love to me again please. You can be gentle this time.”

“Do I have a choice?”

“You always do.”

“Actually no I don’t. Now that we are bonded, my body will respond to you always.”

“Ohhhhhreaaaaaly.” Rita grinned like a cat.

“I’ve created a monster.”

“Your monster. Can I ask you something?”

“Anything.” He saw a look of concern on her face.

“Can we have a baby soon? All of a sudden I feel the need to be a mother to your child.”

“That’s not it I can read your mind remember!”

“I’m not lying but yes there is more. I feel so insecure, even though you have never given me any reason to be. I have this deep seated feeling a baby will tie me to you forever.”

“It will and I can never mate with anyone else while I am with you. No baby yet, we have to wait two years. What you are really feeling is that some of my powers transferred to you. We will test them soon to see what you have gained and strengthen them to match mine.”

“Can we make love again please, I feel I could do this until next week.”

“Oh goodness, this must a side effect. It’s a good thing I don’t get tired or you would wear me out. Fine but this time you get to do whatever you want with no help from me.”

Jacobi lay down on the bed, arms under his head and relaxed. He thought that was his plan but when Rita started touching him he was a goner. They made love until the sun came up and pretty soon the crews were gathering their tasks for the day.

Around 7 Rita woke with every muscle in her body crying out for a massage. She felt wonderful. Atira was on the floor next to the bed.

‘Well hello there, are you my body guard?’

‘Yes ma’am.’

“Well let’s get some breakfast and tackle the day.”

Atira made a happy sound.

She took a shower, put on a pair of blue jeans and a Baby-T and went down to breakfast. She looked outside and there was Jacobi. Mavryk at one side and Sandra at the next.

‘Good morning love of my life, are you gonna stand there and watch me all day or are you gonna come and kiss me good morning?’

Jacobi continued speaking to Sandra about the plans for the property. Rita thought she was a little bit too close for her liking.

‘Don’t honey. I got this.’

‘You better.’

Rita came out of the house and walked up behind them without making a sound.

“Good morning honey, did you have breakfast?” Jacobi asked Rita without turning around.

“Morning Sandra, morning honey, how did you know I was here?”

“When a man loves his wife as much as I love you, he just knows.”

“Makes perfect sense. Thanks for making me breakfast and putting my body guard at the door.” She walked up to him and kissed him soundly on the lips. They forgot all about Sandra until they heard a slight cough.

“Ahem, Mr. Carter, I have to get going, your projects are not small ones. Do you need me to anything else?”

Without taking his lips from Rita's, he waved his hand at Sandra, dismissing her.

"You have no need to be jealous my love, Sandra is lonely and I have no interest in her."

"Sorry I know she is a professional but the way she hangs on your every word gets to me."

"Understood, just remember your place in my life, there is no other for me."

"Okay, what are we doing today?"

"We need to finalise the plans for the habitat and contact all the Kennel owners in the area."

"Shoot, wait I need to talk to Sandra, be right back."

"Sandra!" Amarita shouted to her across the lawn.

"Yes?"

"I need a play park built on the larger lawn and plant a tree so that by the time our son is old enough, I can put a swing on it. Also, we need to find a priest and we need to get our marriage license."

"I thought you were already married, Mr. Carter refers to you as his wife."

"He says that's the way he thinks of me and no amount of laws or paper can change that." Amarita said it with a hint of annoyance in her voice.

"I see. Okay I will get on it."

Rita rattled off a list of extra things to be done and Sandra put them in her tablet.

Rita turned away from Sandra and spotted Jacobi waiting for her.

Sandra got into her Dodge and glanced at the couple kissing each other.

"I am going to have him one way or another, I just need the right opportunity." She drove off and started making phone calls to the appropriate departments.

"I don't trust her honey."

"Neither do I but she is a professional and right now she is the only person we know around here. She is planning to seduce me and I plan to let her try. She will quickly find out my body only responds to you."

"If I don't take her head of first."

"Ah my little tom cat, sometimes we have to let people show their true colours before we show them we have the upper hand. She is a troubled woman, we will soon find out. We need to order some supplies from Staples, we need a pool guy and"

"A landscaper and an animal trainer and yeh I gave Sandra the list."

Jacobi growled his approval.

It took a few days to get the marriage license and a week after Jacobi and Amarita were married with Sandra as their witness along with Max and Atira.

They decided to take a walk in the forest. Just as Jacobi stopped and turned his lovely wife to kiss her under the stars, the clouds parted and the biggest and brightest moon Amarita had ever seen revealed itself. Amarita was so enchanted, while staring at it she didn't notice Jacobi's face.

"Get back to the house now." He managed to speak.

"Are we in danger?" She turned to walk away but Jacobi let go of her hand.

"I'm not but you maybe." A pain overtook his body and he dropped to the ground. He was changing into a werewolf for the first time as an adult.

Chapter THIRTEEN

"This is my first change to my wolf as an adult, I don't know how it will affect me, so please go, don't take the chance that I will recognise you. GO!"

Jacobi's eyes flashed bright red and he bared his teeth. His bones began to take shape and his body contorted to accommodate what he would become. As Rita was running she heard his thoughts.

'I love you Amarita. See you soon.'

She didn't respond because the connection shut off and she could hear her husband scream in pain. She got to the house and called for the dogs. They came bounding in and she locked every door and window and went to the sofa and sat down. The night became deathly silent and then she heard a howl. A few moments later, Mavryk's ears pricked up and he stood with his back straight and he let out a low growl at the door. Atira leapt up into Rita's lap and hid her head under her armpits.

"It's okay sweetie, we are safe. I hope." She heard scratching at the door. Then nothing. She tried to reach Jacobi with her mind but she got silence. The three of them stayed there until morning. Mav awoke first and ran to the back door, wanting to be let out.

When Rita unlocked it and opened it, Jacobi was laying on the back porch curled up in a ball, stark naked and shivering. She reached into the closet by the door for a blanket and covered him up. It was still very early and the crews weren't around as yet.

She helped him up and took him inside to the kitchen. The dogs followed silently. As he sat down, Rita took the coffee from the percolator and poured some into a cup.

Jacobi looked up.

"Thanks honey. Is everyone okay?"

"We all are, what about you?"

"I need a shower first, I feel kind of icky. Let the dogs out and start breakfast I will be back in a few."

"Okay." Rita let the dogs out and put chow for them. She decided quick and easy was the order for breakfast. She took out a bagel, cream cheese, ham and some cereal. Jacobi was just coming in to the kitchen when the microwave went off.

"I have to go shower, be right back."

Rita was nervous. Jacobi's thought were now blocked from hers. No matter how hard she tried, he was silent.

She put on a floral jersey sun dress and matching bra and panties and went back to the kitchen.

Jacobi had finished eating and was waiting for her. She sat down and ate quietly. Jacobi could hear her thoughts clearly but he kept his blocked. When she was finished she put the dishes in the sink. She felt a hot body up against her back.

"Good Morning Mrs. Carter."

He didn't wait for a reply, he spun her around and kissed her.

"I need you."

She nodded. What happened next was enough to make a new bride run to her mother crying.

In one smooth movement, Jacobi grabbed Rita's dress and ripped it into two. She staggered a bit in surprise but he continued. He ripped her panty and bra off in a flash and when Rita tried to cover herself, he grabbed her hands.

"Don't." He sounded dangerous.

"Jacobi?"

"Shush woman."

He yanked off his towel and Rita gasped. He looked different. He was thicker somehow and he twitched. She reached out to touch him in curiosity.

"Don't."

Rita was becoming scared.

Jacobi ignored her racing thoughts and as he lifted her, he walked over to the nearest wall and leaned her up against it. Then with one hand he grabbed his massive erection and shoved himself inside Rita. She opened her mouth to scream but he captured the sound with his own lips.

Then it began. There were no endearments, soft caresses, no whispers of love or intimate touches. It was as if he was trying to crawl inside her. Rita couldn't understand what was happening as he had never been so unfeeling before. She remained silent and tried to endure it but her body betrayed her. The Triduite glowed and once again she felt herself opening up to him, adjusting to his size. A mixture of pleasure and pain began to engulf her, she knew her release would come soon. She wanted to open her eyes and she tried to.

"Keep them closed." The voice was unfamiliar to her and she was still closed out to his thoughts.

'This is not Jacobi.' She thought.

"It's me, only me, now let go."

It was if the voice commanded her to release the feelings building inside her. She held onto to him as she fell. Her body clenched around him and tremors took over. When the shaking subsided, it was only then she realise Jacobi had stopped moving. Afraid to speak or even look at him, she rested her head on his shoulder.

"Bare with me." The same voice spoke to her. Jacobi started again, this time more brutal than before, his thrusts seem to reverberate though her entire body, forcing her to accept him.

It didn't last long, and with one final thrust Jacobi let go. He held on to his wife and squeezed. He collapsed onto the floor taking Rita with him. She was crying and trembling badly. It's only when he felt the wetness on his chest he came out of his trance.

"Please don't cry, I know it hurts, let me help."

"No, don't I just need to get up." Jacobi tried to hold onto her but she pushed him away.

"Just don't Jacobi."

She eased herself from him and half limped to the bathroom. She filled the tub with warm water and poured some Epsom salts into it and a few drops of peppermint oil. She sunk into the water and continue to let the tears flow.

Her body was throbbing. She felt as if her most intimate parts were on fire. Add that to the emotional confusion, Rita was a mess. She heard the door open and a sad faced Jacobi walked in with his towel around his waist.

"Leave me alone."

"You are my wife Amarita." Jacobi's voice was stern and commanding.

"Am I? Is what you did to me just now the way to treat someone you claim to love? I feel like a whore, someone you picked up off the streets to satisfy a need." She looked up at him and spoke in hoarse child-like tone.

"I'm sorry, I didn't expect it would be that strong. After I changed I ran until I got to the edge of the forest and all I could smell was you. I needed to feed but I managed to fight it off. That's what happened. I didn't feed, so mating with my wife was the only option, let me stop the pain."

"No, don't touch me."

"You don't love me anymore?"

"Jacobi 'Nerynth' Carter of all the things I have seen and been through with you, you bring my feelings down to not loving you? I love you and I love being with you but sometimes you are too much for me and this is one of those times now could you please just go."

"No." He grabbed both her hands and put them in one of his. He rested the other hand on her tummy. She struggled a bit but Jacobi emitted a low growl that made her stop. Pretty soon the pain stopped and the soreness eased away. Then He let her go.

"Thank you."

"Let me make it up to you honey, I promise I won't hurt you anymore." He knelt next to the tub and bowed his head.

"I am Nerynth, I vow to protect you with my life. I ask your forgiveness and promise never to hurt you again."

"I forgive you and I believe you and yes you can make it up to me."

Jacobi snatched her up from the tub and rushed to the bedroom. He lay her on the bed gently and kissed every inch of her body. When he paused to look at the soft hair between her legs, she propped up on her elbows.

"This is what brought me home, your scent is the most powerful thing to me." For the first time since they became intimate, Jacobi tasted her.

Chapter FOURTEEN

As time went on Jacobi and Amarita settled into a comfortable life, there were no more changes or forced sexual encounters from him.

The sanctuary was almost finished but something kept niggling at Amarita. Sandra was going out of her way to get close to Jacobi and even though Amarita knew Jacobi would never touch her, she was pissed all the same.

Sandra had an agenda and she had all plans to carry them out. She was waiting for the perfect opportunity to seduce Jacobi and it presented itself without her even trying.

Jacobi had set up an external office for JaTari not too far from the house so no one would have a reason to invade their personal space. Rita was on her way to pick up some purchases she made instead of waiting a few hours for the delivery truck.

When Sandra arrived Rita had already left. Sandra made her way into the house quietly and as she already knew where the bedroom was, she sneaked upstairs and saw the door slightly ajar. When she pushed it Jacobi was on the bed on his back in a pair of boxers.

She licked her lips and ever so quietly stripped her clothes all the way down to her panties and bra. Unknown to her Jacobi tuned into her thoughts from the time she pulled into the driveway.

Sandra walked over to the bed and sat next to Jacobi. He stirred a bit and she froze. Her bravery took over and she reached out to touch him through his boxers. Jacobi did not respond, not even a little bit.

Sandra decided to try a different tactic. She stood up, crawled onto the bed and straddle him and began rubbing herself against him. Still nothing. She bent over to kiss him and the voice behind her sounded nonetheless too pleased.

"I think that's enough." It was Rita.

Jacobi opened his eyes and when he saw Sandra sitting on top of him, he sighed.

Sandra flew off Jacobi and made a dash for her clothes which she only then realised were in Rita's hands.

"Jacobi would you like to explain this to me?"

"No, I wouldn't, I'm sure Sandra will tell you everything. I am going for something to eat." Jacobi stood up but before he could pull on his pants. Rita, still holding Sandra's clothes, walked up to her husband and kissed him deeply on the lips without even touching him. Jacobi got an instant erection and when Rita moved away it was quite clear to Sandra the mistake she made.

"Now you can go."

"Bye honey, go easy on her." Jacobi whispered as he kissed his wife on her cheek.

"Here." She threw Sandra's clothes at her.

Sandra quickly put them on and waited.

"Go to the office and wait for me, don't even speak to my husband on the way out."

Sandra flew through the door. Rita slumped on the bed and wondered what she would say.

'She has many problems my love, let her talk and be objective, she can't hide the truth from you remember that.'

Rita made her way downstairs and when she got to the kitchen she just had to hug her husband.

"I love you so much Jacobi."

"I know honey, I know."

"A little bit."

Jacobi unzipped his shorts and freed himself. Rita straddled her husband while pulling her panties aside and as he entered her Rita gasped for breath.

"You belong to me Jacobi, no one else."

"Of that I am sure. Now go talk to Sandra." He eased her from his lap and fixed her clothes. They kissed and she left.

Sandra was sitting in her cubicle waiting to be fired. When Rita pulled the door, she stood up straight.

"Sit and listen to me very carefully."

Sandra sat quickly.

"If you ever try that stunt again, not only will I fire you but I will see to it you never work for anyone again. We have trusted you from the day we met you and this is how you repay us by trying to sleep with my husband? I don't want to hear any excuses, reasons or rehearsed speeches, I want the truth. What the hell were you thinking?"

“I sleep with married men for money, most of them high profilers like Jacobi. I have a family to feed and this is the only way I know how. Men see me and decide that’s all I’m good for – sex. I have a BSc. in Business Management, A Masters in Property Management and Real Estate Law and I am a certified Chef and accountant and yet all they see is what’s between my legs or the potential of making them feel like men.”

Rita sat down and continued to listen.

“When I was 15 the man my mother married raped me and got me pregnant. She threw me out and I took my little brother with me as my stepfather used to beat him a lot. I always knew she would do it, so I saved as much money as I could. I used to live in Montreal, Canada and somehow made it all the way here. I realised men would always pay attention to me and I used it to my advantage. I lied about my age and I would go out with them and they would pay me large sums of money. When I started to show, I stopped. I left home days before my 16 birthday and within 3 months I had enough money to start college and pay a baby sitter for my brother. Imagine that, I made more money than the hookers on the street simply because of my looks. They never cared how old I was.

I started studying and within 10 years I had all my degrees. For each of those years I was involved with one man at a time. My son is now 15 and my brother is 24. I started working selling real estate and I haven’t stopped, my other degrees I use to offer extra services. I was glad when Mr. Carter asked me to work for him, it would be monthly income and I wouldn’t have to work ungodly hours. He never responded to me. I tried but yet when you barely kissed him, he got aroused.

“My husband isn’t interested in anyone else Sandra, that is quite evident. Do you know what love is? That’s what Jacobi and I have, he responds to only me and I to only him. It’s funny, he told me to go easy on you, that means that he trusts me to make the right decision where you’re concerned, if I fired you he would not object and if I let you stay he wouldn’t object either.”

“No I don’t know what love is.”

“Yes you do. You ran from the only home you knew with a baby on the way and an extra mouth to feed. You sacrificed your morals to feed your family and I get that but like I said, if you ever go near my husband like that again I won’t be talking to you at all. I am sure your son and brother love you. You owe my husband an apology.”

Sandra looked up.

“You’re not firing me?”

“No Sandra, I am giving you the opportunity to change your life around and when these married men come to you with their crap, you find it in yourself to tell them go to hell. We pay you enough that you don’t need to depend on any man for

anything. Jacobi told you what your package was, that's more than enough for you to live on."

"I have no savings left, my mortgage takes everything. With the money you paid me so far cleared it, so if anything happened my family would have a permanent place to live."

"I have a few projects which would help and in the future, just ask, my husband and I aren't monsters."

"Yes I know that and thank you for not letting me go. I will apologise to Mr. Carter."

Rita turned to leave the office and Sandra rushed over to her and hugged her. She turned to face her and hugged back.

"I'm sorry, I'm sorry." Sandra began to cry.

"Hey, we all have our demons to face and you faced yours today, it's all up to you now. " She let her go and left.

Jacobi was sitting in the kitchen where Rita left him.

"Hi honey, is she okay now?"

"I think she will be. I couldn't hear your thoughts when I was talking to her, why?"

"I chose not to. I knew Sandra had a rough past but I didn't know exactly what happened and I didn't want to invade her privacy and you don't have to tell me."

"I don't hide anything from you, we will talk about it later. I am so lucky you chose me Jacobi. After being sick and then the inconsiderate men I've been with, I found a love I never thought existed. Thank you."

Rita walked over to her husband and dipped her head to kiss him. Jacobi stood up quickly, grabbed her and spun her around, she squealed with delight. Just then the door to the kitchen opened and Sandra stepped in.

"Sorry to interrupt but I needed to apologise to you Mr. Carter."

"I understand Sandra and you know what will happen if you try that again, so don't."

"It won't I promise. Your wife is a wonderful woman."

"Of that I am sure. The crews are here, go and find out what they need and make the orders, I want to be finished in two weeks. Rita will be out to tell you what she needs done today."

Just as Jacobi said, the sanctuary was completed in two weeks, Rita had given Sandra the tasks of PR and Marketing and she handled it beautifully. People were calling from all over to report missing animals, abused animals and people looking for work.

The first thing Jacobi did was transfer all the animals at the shelter were Atira and Mavryk had stayed and he brought on the previous owner as caretaker from 9 until 2. He hired someone younger for the 2 – 10 shift and they would close until the next day. Jacobi could handle the graveyard shift without a hindrance. The animals understood him and he put Mav and Atira to roam the property at leisure.

A year had passed and things were going nicely. Vinni and his wife set up on the opposite side of the sanctuary and they could never have enough food and by the time they were ready to close up each evening they had completely sold out.

Shaun took over from Rita as Office Manager and she stepped up to the bar like a boss.

For some reason, Jacobi was uneasy, a few of his powers were eluding him and he suspected Rita was the cause. He knew they were supposed to wait for two years to have the baby but more and more everyday he felt as if he was about to change that. Rita trained with him at night, she learned to talk to all the animals. Jacobi had let her interview the staff as she had the power of truth. She developed green fingers and throughout the sanctuary she planted a wide variety of flowers and every single one grew to perfection. She ended up hosting flower shows every few months.

One night Jacobi wanted to make love and Rita said no she wasn't feeling well. Jacobi got upset and made a grab for her. She shifted his grasp and stood to face him.

“My body is changing Jacobi, I feel something and I don't know what it is.”

“I can sense it but I am not sure what it is either, all I know right now is that I need to be inside you, please Rita.”

“Okay.” Rita held out her hand to her husband. He shook his head.

“Here now.”

They were standing in the middle of the kitchen, the entire house was open and the crews could see inside if they focused hard enough.

Rita looked around nervously. Would he make her do it?

“Don't refuse me.”

“Please Jacobi not here, at least not with the house open.” She whispered, hoping he would understand.

“I cannot control this Rita, it needs to be here and now.” He growled deep inside his chest.

Rita lifted her hands to unbutton her dress and with each button she felt her body heating up. She dropped the dress at her feet and when she took her bra and

panties off, her earlier feeling of nervousness had completely left her but yet she lowered her head.

Jacobi surprised his wife by scooping her up in his arms and moving swiftly, he took her to their bedroom.

“I told you always trust me. I was just testing to see if you would give in.” He sunk himself inside her and Rita almost screamed from the pleasure. This was different, she could hear two voices, one was Jacobi’s and the other was smaller and it seemed as if it were coming from far away.

The Triduite glowed now and as they got caught in their passion, the world outside ceased to exist.

“I am Nerynth, to my mate I give willingly all that I am.”

When Jacobi found his release Rita’s body opened up more than ever before. She felt as if they would be physically bonded together forever and it felt wonderful.

“Jacobi, what’s happening, I can feel you, oh, Jacobi.....” Rita also found her release and once again she passed out.

Jacobi was agitated, had taught his wife to block her mind out from him as it would help if she crossed a telepath but he never figured she would hide things from him. Three nights in a row Jacobi left the house unknown to her and went for a run in his wolf form. He blazed across terrain at full speed, his muscles working at their maximum. He could see several hundred feet ahead of him so he knew where to run and where to avoid.

While running he could feel the weight of his ancestors on his shoulders. They were telling him something but he could never understand what. He wanted to look into the Triduite but Rita wore it around her neck and he told her he would never take it off but now he needed guidance if she was hiding something and if she took it off, her thoughts would be clear.

Jacobi changed back into human form and walked up the steps and pushed the back door to the kitchen. Rita was sitting at the table with the Triduite in front of her.

“You could have just asked. I wasn’t hiding from you, I was just confused about a few things and needed to sort them out before I discussed them with you. I thought you trusted me?”

“How did you know?”

“I could hear you clear across the forest as if you were whispering in my ears. All your doubts, confusion and they were all about me. I’m pregnant Jacobi.” She didn’t ease into it or give him a chance to read her mind.

Rita got up and left the room.

Jacobi picked up the cube and followed her to their bedroom.

Rita sat on the bed and watched him for a reaction. Nothing. Just when she was about to ask him how he felt, since his thoughts were now blocked from her, the Triduite started glowing right along with Jacobi's eyes. She knew what that meant. He was getting a new ability. She stayed put in case she was in danger.

This episode didn't last long but Jacobi collapsed at the end of it. Rita stayed where she was until she heard Jacobi groan. She cautiously walked over to him, picked up the cube and placed it around her neck again. She helped him on to the bed and waited.

She helped him to the bed and he fell onto it. He was shivering badly and he was whispering words as if he was chanting. Rita tried to hear him but once again she was shut out.

When he stopped he sat up on the bed and stared at her.

"I need you Rita."

Rita quickly took her clothes off and joined him on the bed. As usual his lovemaking after a change bordered on brutal but she was learning to adjust to his powerful thrusts.

"Rita..... let go."

"No, you first."

"As you wish." Jacobi pounded into her and quickly found his release.

"My turn." Rita pushed him over and sat on him. His changes always made her body burn.

"Are you okay honey?"

"Yes my love, I didn't hurt you did I?"

"Not this time, I'm handling you very well."

"I don't know what ability I received this time."

"How do we find out?"

"It will come to me when the need arises. I'm sorry."

"What for?"

"I promised to love and protect you and all those other things and I always manage to mess things up. Why do you stay?"

"Marriages are not without trials my love, we both know that and no matter what, I know that our love will pull us through as it has always done. I think what is happening is that as we are going through the changes that are new to us and our emotions get muddled up. Remember what happened when you changed your wolf for the first time, you hurt me so bad and it was as if you were someone else. I felt abused by my own husband and it tore both of us apart. I was ready this time and we both enjoyed it. I can't wait to see what you got this time."

"Rita."

"Yes honey." She snuggled up against him.

“You’re pregnant.”

Rita sat up quickly.

“Jacobi.”

“Yes honey.”

“I’m pregnant.” Rita let out a loud laugh and Jacobi joined right in. She lay back on the bed and began to cry so hard.

“I never thought, oh honey, we did it. Oh!”

“He’s talking to you.”

“Yes, that was the other voice I heard wasn’t it?”

“Yes and I think this pregnancy will be different, that’s why he is a year early.”

“I don’t understand.”

“Nerynth’s live by an unwritten code of lineage, sometimes it changes because of circumstance or the time period. I am sure I saw two years but now look. It means two things, something big is going to happen with our child and he will be born early to prevent it from happening and we will be there to help. You will carry him for the full nine months instead of the customary days or weeks. This is to facilitate being here at the sanctuary, since we can’t disappear for a few days and come back with a newborn.”

“Ah it makes sense now. A baby, thank you Jacobi.”

“Show me how much you mean it.”

Rita definitely showed him.

Hours later, they were getting something to eat and they heard a knock on the door. It was Shaun.

“Come in.”

“Morning Mr. and Mrs. Carter. Can I talk to you for a few minutes, I won’t be long.”

“Sure what’s up?”

“I think someone is stealing from you.”

“Who do you think it is?”

“Well looking at the books, I would think it’s me but I know it isn’t.” She handed them a print out of accounts for the last 8 weeks and immediately Rita spotted it.

“They stole \$25,000 in supplies and you are now bringing this to our attention?”

“I didn’t realise it until yesterday. I always order supplies from Evi, I match what I order to what is delivered. The last delivery, I came and found it in the stock room. I wasn’t here, none of us were here. Things got busy and I didn’t have the time to check back the list. Then it happened again, that’s when I noticed it. Food sales have been consistent from the day we opened give or take a few hundred dollars, so when I compared what was sold to what I know I ordered, I knew someone was stealing. I already spoke to Evi about it before I left home and he

said he is willing to help us find out who it is. The next order is due today, I will go on an errand and he will make the delivery himself.”

“Okay, I have to go into the sanctuary to deal with the flowers, Jacobi has a meeting in a few minutes with a kennel owner. Do what you have to. Next time, pay more attention. If we had found it first you would look like the guilty party.”

Jacobi still hadn't found out what ability he had received and he was very curious. He was just about to ask Rita to come back over to the house when a delivery truck pulled into the yard. The driver got out and went around to the back of the truck. When Jacobi looked across to the restaurant it was only then he knew who was stealing from them. Vinni's wife Waunita. She directed the truck driver to the storage room and he went back to the truck and two of the other staff members helped him unload the items.

Evi, glanced around wondering if the others were watching. He caught a glimpse of Rita in the office. He walked quickly back to the truck and dialed her number.

“Yes Evi, I see her, Jacobi is on his way, take your time with the last of the stock.”

Jacobi walked slowly over to the restaurant and slid inside, no one saw him, not even Evi. He kept in contact with Rita at all times. It was then he figured out what ability he had received – invisibility.

‘Honey, no one can see you.’

‘I realise that now so I can't just reappear, I need you to come through the front of the restaurant so it would look as if I came through the back.’

‘Got it, be there in a second.’

Wuanita had been working at JaTari for a few months, she mainly kept to herself and her husband. They were responsible for the running of the restaurant. Jacobi had worked it out that they got paid for both management and as a small business since that's how they got started.

The restaurant was located near the entrance to the sanctuary. You were not allowed to walk around with food as it enticed the animals and people always have the need to throw food into the pens and cages.

“Morning Waunita.” Rita shouted as she entered the building.

Wuanita saw when Rita left, Sandra had not come in as yet and Shaun was out as well, she didn't see Jacobi walking around the Sanctuary so she assumed they were all gone.

She had to work fast.

“Morning Mrs. Carter my hands are dirty give me a second.”

“Oh that won’t be necessary, Wuanita, stop what you are doing and come out to me.”

Wuanita’s heart literally stopped. She knew she had been caught. She put the box down and went out to meet Rita.

There were no security cameras at JaTari – Jacobi believed in giving people a chance, most of them would turn their lives around, if they didn’t he was quite capable of convincing them.

When Wuanita came out she was faced with Rita, Shaun, Vinni and Evi. She turned to run but Jacobi was standing behind her.

“Waun, what’s going on here?” Vinni asked.

Rita opened her mouth to speak but Jacobi told her not to.

‘I know what she is thinking but I want to see what she will actually say.’

“I’m sorry Vinni.”

“What do you mean sorry? Sorry for what? What did you do?” Vinni’s voice raised a couple notches.

“I’ve been stealing supplies and selling them.”

Vinni plunked down in the nearest chair.

“Why? We have a good thing going here why would you do such a thing?”

“We are broke Vinni.”

“That’s impossible, JaTari pays us quite enough to survive on, you are in charge of the books, and I’m in charge of almost everything else. I need an explanation, *now*.”

“I spent the money on lotto tickets.”

“Wuanita, I saved over \$50,000 and you blew it on Lotto tickets? Get out.”

“What?”

“I said get out, my name is on the lease, go pick up our child from the nursery and wait for me at home.”

Wuanita silent took off her apron, went to get her bag and left the building.

Vinni was shaking.

“Vinni.”

“Yes boss.”

“Go home with your wife and talk to her.”

“You’re firing me?”

“Did I say that? I will ask Sandra to find us some staff just for today, I expect you bright and early tomorrow, we need to discuss some things apparently.”

“I apologise on behalf of my wife, I didn’t know she was stealing from you, from us.”

“She just needs a bit of help, go on, we will talk tomorrow.”

“Thanks boss.”

Vinni got up, and followed his wife to their car, she had already gotten their baby from the nursery and was about to get in the driver’s seat.

“I’m driving.”

She got out quickly and got in the passenger side.

Vinni drove home in silence.

Wuanita took the baby inside and put her in her play pen, she was asleep in no time.

Vinni grabbed his wife’s wrist and dragged her into the bedroom.

“I thought we were going to talk.” Wuanita protested

“I suggest you be quiet.”

Wuanita was scared and excited all at once, she had never seen her husband like this, angry and sexy. He was tearing at her clothes while kissing her hard on her mouth.

Vinni was hurt, he was horny and he wanted to punish his wife in the worst way. He had never been violent towards her before and he didn’t want to start now but the need to show her what she did was wrong took over.

Wuanita was naked at the foot of the bed. Vinni spun her around and bent her over. He undid his jeans and without another word, spread her legs and plunged himself inside her. She wasn’t afraid of him, what scared her was that she liked it.

Wuanita screamed into the mattress. Vinni did not stop, his thrusts were filled with vengeance. He reached out and grabbed her hands and pulled them behind her back. He moved her feet with his own as far as they could.

“Vinni, stop please.”

“No, you will learn that your actions have consequences, now be quiet.”

Vinni continued for another minute or so, then as abruptly as he began, he stopped. He pulled out of his wife and turned her on her back,

“Promise me you won’t do this again Wuan, I need you to promise me and mean it.”

“I promise Vin.” She held out her arms to him and he hesitated.

“If you do this again I will take Marian and leave you.”

“That would kill me, please don’t!”

“Then stop stealing and stop gambling.” He knelt between her legs and slid into her.

“I love you Wuan, you don’t need to do that, don’t I take care of you enough? Is this my fault?”

“Your fault?” You have always been there for me Vin, when I got pregnant I thought you would have disappeared but you married me and you provide for us. No, I was greedy and saw an opportunity, I will make it up to you and the Carter’s

I promise, just don't leave me. I'm sorry, I'm sorry." She planted kisses all over his face and neck.

"Okay, now let me love you."

Vinni's anger was gone and he made love to his wife until Marian woke up.

"Vin."

"Mmm."

"I enjoyed that. Why have we never had rough sex before?" She whispered.

"I've never been so angry at you before. I didn't really want to hurt you."

"Maybe I should get you angry more often."

"No, not like that, if you want to play rough that's fine but not when I am angry."

The next day, Vinni got up and got dressed for work, Wuanita did the same. When they got there, Vinni sent Wuanita to start while he went to see Jacobi.

"Morning Boss, I came to find out how I can work off what Wuanita stole and I would like permission to use the restaurant for catering and I will give you a part of the profits."

"No need, here." Jacobi handed Vinni an envelope.

"Boss?" Vinni stared at the contents.

"Don't ask, just take it and you can go ahead with the catering."

"It's not right boss, my wife stole from you and you are replacing the money she spent from our savings?"

"Vinni, I know evil people when I see them, Wuanita isn't evil, she just needs to refocus and she will be just fine, you love her and she will see that and change for the better."

"I wish there were more men like you in this world boss, things would be so much better. Thanks again." Vinni stuck out his hand and Jacobi shook it and left for the office.

Jacobi had created a system whereby you could not carry anything but a camera, stroller or a bike into the sanctuary. They had bought lockers which were located near the entrance as well. You paid, put your things into the locker and were given a key. Jacobi was adamant that people not eat inside the sanctuary. It was the only rule he never bent to suit anyone's needs. There was an episode where a woman had snacks in her hand bag for her child and she transferred them to the pram. She saw the rule board but chose to ignore it. Unfortunately for the child, she handed him a bag snack while they were passing some monkeys and the biggest one, jumped over the fence and took the snack from the child. People were screaming and when one of the attendants ran over. He took the monkey by the hand and

leadhim back to his side of the fence. He then turned on the woman and asked her to leave.

“I paid my money and I am not leaving.”

The attendant went into his pocket and handed her the entrance fee.

“You aren’t authorized to do that!”

“Yes he is and as he asked, I would appreciate it if you leave the sanctuary. You broke the number one rule and I will not make an exception.” Jacobi’s voice was low and controlled.

“I will be speaking to the authorities about this!” The woman snatched the money from the attendant and pushed her child out to the locker, where she got her key, took her things and left.

Sure enough a few days later the woman turned up with her attorney, making claims that she was thrown out unlawfully.

Jacobi would not allow them past the entrance. He told them in no uncertain terms were they to enter as the woman was barred from the facility for life.

“You really want to go head to head with me Mr. Carter?”

“I am not doing anything, your client disobeyed the one rule I never break for anyone and she almost caused harm to her child by taking food into the sanctuary. The most dangerous monkey we have here took a snack she gave to her child.”

The attorney spun to face his client.

“Is that true?”

“Well I uh,..... he was hungry!”

“This is why I insist people eat before they go inside. It’s written in plain English.”

“Sir, my time has been wasted, I am sorry for the inconvenience. Miss, please don’t call me again and next time you hire an attorney make sure you tell the truth.”

“But..... how am I supposed to get home? You brought me here!”

The man turned and pulled money from his pocket.

“Here take a taxi.”

The man left her standing with her mouth open. Rita, hearing everything through Jacobi called a taxi. The woman left spewing profanities and threatened to get the place shut down.

“Honey let’s have an afternoon party, invite every politician, dignitary and government official.”

“When honey.”

“Two days, that will give her enough time to try something, she will show up here and the man she will be looking for will already be having lunch with us.”

“Done, I will get Sandra and Shaun to organize it, I’m feeling kind of tired today.”
“Our son is taking your energy, meet me in the bedroom in ten minutes.”

Rita was standing in their bedroom, perspiration beaded her forehead, she wanted to move but was afraid she would fall.

‘Hurry hon, I’m afraid to move.’

“I’m already here, I got here before you. Tell me what’s wrong.”

“I feel like I’m being drained, I had to sit down many times this morning.”

“Where’s the Triduite?”

Rita felt her neck. The cube was gone.

“It’s gone! How is that possible?”

“Whoever took it will not be able to access it, they will just see a jade cube and nothing else.”

“But how did they get it, I don’t ever take that off.”

“Did you faint anytime while you were in the garden this morning?”

“I don’t remember.....I felt a bit weak but I don’t remember fainting.”

“Odd, I am usually able to detect when something is wrong with you. Has the baby communicated with you today?”

Jacobi did not tell Rita she fainted and he found her laying on the ground. She was out for almost an hour and when she came to she was cleaned up. He told her she had come in for breakfast and felt tired. He knew the baby was changing her and memory loss was one of those things. The baby was preparing her for the birth which Jacobi knew would be a long and hard one since he would be carried full term.

Two Days later

“Is everything ready?”

“All set sir, I can see people showing up already.”

“Thanks Sandra. Shaun, are you staying?”

“I’m invited?”

Rita let out a laugh.

“I’m sorry, I gave you any other impression. Of course you are invited, without you and Sandra we would never have accomplished so much since we came. Now both of you can go home get changed and come back. You can bring your family if you like.”

Sandra and Shaun said thank you and left to go home.

When they both returned, Jacobi and Rita were engaged in heavy conversation with some local government officials. The debate was heated to the point where a few began shouting. Just then Sandra looked around and realised quite a few of

her friends from her past were there all in one place and suddenly she felt very uncomfortable. She attempted to walk away but Rita spotted her and called her over.

“Ladies and gentlemen, this is our right hand woman, she gets things done in quick time with little or no fuss.”

A voice in the back murmured and Jacobi heard it loud and clear.

“She’s a slut that’s why.”

Rita felt her husband squeeze her hand and she circled her finger in his palm to calm him down.

“Okay everyone, follow Shaun over to the buffet table and drink orders will be taken while you find your seats.”

“What’s wrong honey.”

“The guy in the grey suit is about to get punched if he so much as says one disrespectful word to Sandra.”

“Oh dear, I think she is feeling uncomfortable, I will handle him if he says anything. Oh look here comes trouble.”

The lady they banned from the sanctuary was there with a gentleman who turned out to be the man in charge of Health in that area.

Jacobi hooked Rita’s hand in his arm and made their way over.

“Good evening Mr. Carter, it’s nice to finally meet you, congratulations on the new addition.” The gentleman extended his hand. Jacobi took it and gave it a firm shake.

“Ah the lovely Mrs. Carter, I have heard quite a bit about you from Sandra. She is always in my office with paperwork.”

“These are the people I was telling you about honey, they banned me from the sanctuary, I’m sure they are hiding something.”

Mr. Drakes had two choices, either allow his wife to humiliate him by blurting out something stupid as she always did, or side with her and not hear about it every day.

“Honey, we are here as guests, this is not the time to discuss petty differences, I am sure the Carters have no wish to engage in adolescent banter. They have rules and you need to abide by them and I will have you know, this place has passed every single spot check, exam and random visit. Now please, let us enjoy ourselves.”

“What?”

“Don’t make me repeat myself.”

“If you are taking their side, I’m leaving.”

Mr. Drakes took his keys from his pocket and handed them to his wife.

“I will see you in the morning.” With that he walked away.

Amanda Drakes stormed off yet once again, got into the car and sped off.

Drakes was glad she left, he would have time to pursue Sandra. He said spotted her by herself and maneuvered his way over.

“Tell me you love me and I will file for divorce before I go home.”

“Don’t Allan.”

“What do I have to do to get you to say yes and be happy?”

“I’m used goods, you said so didn’t you?”

“Our baby died, I was angry. I think the world of you, Sandra you know that. Please, take me back, I promise I will never hurt you like that again.”

“I can’t, I had to go through my pregnancy alone, I spent so much money on doctor visits while taking care of my family. Yet you were out and about with Amanda. I buried our child alone. I slept with one of your friends so I could pay for the funeral arrangements. Do you have any idea how degrading that was? You didn’t even offer to help. Amanda bought a new car, she got her hair and nails done twice a week. You children are in private school and I asked nothing of you. No Allan, you don’t want me, you want how I make you feel because that old cow can’t do the things I can, oh and the baby isn’t yours either, I suggest you get a DNA test after you ask her who David Fenton is.”

Sandra walked away with tears in her eyes. When she reached the patio, she heard a voice.

“Well well, I see the slut is still in fine form.”

“Takes one to know one, leave me alone David.”

“Oh I intend to but after I get a sample of that sweet.....”

Sandra slapped him across the face and turned to run but he caught up to her and tripped her up. He turned her over and punched her across the face.

Sandra was temporarily rendered unconscious and as she was coming out of it she realised what was happening. She was being attacked, right in the middle of a high society function in her boss’s home.

Just then she felt David’s body being removed from hers. She looked up to see Jacobi and Rita and then she blacked out again.

When she came to, Rita was sitting at the bottom of the bed.

“Hey, welcome back.”

“Oh God.”

“The cops came in through the back and arrested Mr. Trenton and he went without a fuss, well after Jacobi punched him.” Rita giggled.

“I’m sorry.”

“For what? Look, He was a horrible man and I’m glad you left that life behind and even if you didn’t, Trenton was in our home, how much more disrespectful can

you get? I was coming to get you when I saw Drakes follow you and I left after you two started to talk.”

“How much did you hear?”

“Sorry your baby died. I left right after. If I had realised Drakes came back without you I may have been able to stop Trenton.”

“Is the party over?”

“No, no one knows what went on and Jacobi is keeping the guests quite entertained with his knowledge. They are hanging on his every word, especially the women.”

“You have a wonderful husband, I guess the way he is, attracts the opposite sex but it is so clear how devoted he is to you.”

“True and I can’t wait until our baby’s born.”

“I didn’t know, oh I’m so happy for you.”

“I’m gonna be showing pretty soon, I can tell he is gonna be just like his father. Now, get some sleep, the cops will be back tomorrow to chat with you and we are behind you all the way.”

“I have to get home, my brother is baby sitting.”

“Oh no Jacobi sent a car for them, Dailan is fast asleep in the guest room and we put another bed in there for Marlan as well, you can stay here until tomorrow.”

“Thank you..... I.”

“You can tell me anything.”

“I’ve been seeing someone. I’ve been in love with him for years but I didn’t know how to tell him and he felt the same way about me. I told him everything and he hugged and cried with me. Do I tell him what happened?”

“You have told him the worst and he is still around, if he really cares about you, it won’t matter. He will help you through it and in time it will be a bad memory.” Sandra nodded her head and before Rita got to the door she was out like a light.

“Well tonight was a success.”

“And it’s gonna be an even bigger success when I tell you what I found.”

“Another ability?”

Jacobi walked over to their bed and sat on it. He waved his hand and the door closed, he turned his hand and the lock clicked. Rita squealed with excitement.

“That’s not all. Watch this.”

Jacobi waved his hand again and pulled a glass from the table he had placed there when he came in. When the glass was in his hand he put his other hand over it and the water began to move. It slowly rose from the confines of the glass and drifted into midair. Then Jacobi twisted and turned his hands and the water took the shape of whatever was on his mind. Rita in all her excitement lunged for her husband and broke his concentration.

The water ended up all over them.

They both laughed and hugged each other.

“Oh Mr. Carter I do love you so.”

Rita was scared. Jacobi had shown her all that came before him. She knew that death came to parents of the next generation Nerynth. She didn't want to die, she wanted to see her son grow and love her husband until she was old.

‘Mama, for some reason things have changed, I can see our future and our ancestors have granted all that you have asked. Danger is coming and you and father cannot do it alone. I will be with you soon, have no fear.’

“Is my son talking to you gain? Tell him to hurry up.”

“Jealous?”

“Very, I cannot wait to hold him in my arms. He seems to be creating his own future, the Triduite has not communicated with us recently.”

“You fear they have abandoned you?”

“No not abandoned, they would never do that. I just fear they are telling me something and I have no idea what it is.” Jacobi shrugged as Rita slowly waddled over to him.

“Do you trust me Jacobi?”

“With my life yes.”

“We will be fine, our son told me so and I believe him.”

“I will try to put my mind at rest and face what is to come.”

“Soooo, uh.....”

“Again?”

Rita shook her head quickly but before she could voice her need, she stood naked before her husband in their bedroom.

“WHAT?”

“Well this is new.”

“Tell me!”

“I heard what you were thinking and I envisioned us in the bedroom and here we are.”

“Now that is just awesome.”

“Now, I will fulfill your request wife of mine.”

Rita was now in her final month and her son was ready.

“Jacobi!”

“I'm here my love, the room is ready for you.” Jacobi bent down to pick Rita up.

“No, let me walk, I can do this, I need to be strong for him.”

Jacobi hesitated but he knew when to back off. Instead he held out his hand and helped her.

Rita stood up and took her husband's hand and made her way to the birthing room which would be converted into a nursery afterwards.

Jacobi knew what his role was and he was ready.

Rita took off her robe and washed her hands along with Jacobi and she gently sat on the bed. She was breathing deeply as she made herself comfortable. Jacobi had sealed all the windows and he closed the door behind him. He swept Rita's hair in a bun and tied her head. He had shaved her the night before and now the only thing left was to wait for the contractions.

Jacobi circled the bed.

"They can't get in honey."

"I'm not taking any chances."

"You cleaned this room from top to bottom, they can't get in, now calm down and help me with your son."

Rita sounded agitated, which was understood. Jacobi did one last check of the room and stood next to Rita whose face was now contorted. He held her hand and began to repeat his ancestral chant.

Rita screamed when the first contraction hit her. She squeezed her husband's hand as tight as she could. He ignored the pain and continued to chant. Rita kept breathing deeply and her son was silent.

Jacobi finished his chant and checked on her.

"Okay my love he is ready as ever can be, now with the next one, give me a push."

Rita nodded and tried to smile.

"That's my girl, we can do this."

Just then she squeezed his hand and pushed as hard as she could. She dropped back onto the pillows and a sheet of perspiration engulfed her entire body.

Jacobi stood where he was and waited.

"He's so quiet, why won't he talk to me?"

"It's okay honey, he is fine, I can feel his energy, this time is hard for him as well, he will be here soon."

Another contraction and Rita pushed with all her might.

"Oh my word, look at that. I can see his head, come on honey, a little bit more."

Rita could feel the baby slowly leaving her body and for the first time in months, the Triduite glowed between her breasts. All the pain she was feeling ebbed away and she could fully concentrate on delivering their son.

Out of the corner of Jacobi's eye, he saw it and froze on the spot. Rita was in the middle of pushing when she saw the fear on her husband's face.

"Jacobi? Honey what's wrong?"

She saw him glance in the direction of the ceiling and there it was. The one thing that could bring her husband to his knees in utmost fear for his life.

Slowly drifting down from the ceiling was a big black widow spider. Rita knew what was going to happen and she also knew her husband could not save her or her son. Her son was half way through the birth canal so she could not get up. She had to wait until the moment the spider would strike and hope she found the strength to kill it.

Jacobi was rooted to the spot, he could not go near the spider or he would die. Then it occurred to him that he not only shared thoughts with his wife but some of his powers as well and one of them was spell casting.

“Rita, hold the Triduite in both hands and repeat after me.”

She did as she was told. She was trying not to harm her baby as well.

“IgniiatoIntimium!”

Rita repeated after her husband and sure enough, the spider froze in its place and burst into flames.

“Now, bring our son into this world.”

One more push and he was out. Jacobi took him, cut his cord and rested him in his cot for a moment.

“One more honey and you are done.”

Rita pushed and the afterbirth came out, she lay back on the pillow and tried not to ask about their baby, she knew her husband was quite capable of performing his duties.

Jacobi could feel his wife’s apprehension and excitement. She would want to hold their son in those precious first moments. He could also hear his son and he was just as excited as they were.

“Alright you two calm down.”

Jacobi cleaned his son up and took him to his mother, he had wiped down with a cool cloth and cleaned her up as well. He placed him in his mother’s arms and immediately he found her breast.

The Triduite glowed brighter than ever before and they knew things would turn out right in the end.

Preview

The Emperor of Darkness

The 6th Nerynth – Jacobi Carter met his father when he was born, he sensed his worry and fear.

‘Dad, it’s okay, everything is going according to my instructions. There is great danger coming and our ancestors did not want you to face it alone, we have to train mother as she will fight alongside us when the time comes but you need to make her immortal. She will not want you to but you can change her mind. We have until I turn 18 but before we begin, we need to find Mortis Lux.’

“I’ve heard that name before, what is it?”

‘Your sword’.

If you enjoyed reading my book I would be delighted if you would leave feedback on my obooko.com [download page](#).

Please note: This is an authorized free edition from www.obooko.com. If you paid for this free e-book, or to gain access to it, we suggest you demand an immediate refund and report the transaction to the author.



This is an authorized free edition from
www.obooko.com

Although you do not have to pay for this e-book, the author's intellectual property rights remain fully protected by international Copyright law. You are licensed to use this digital copy strictly for your personal enjoyment only: it must not be redistributed commercially or offered for sale in any form. If you paid for this free edition, or to gain access to it, we suggest you demand an immediate refund and report the transaction to the author and obooko.