



*Love at
First Flight*

RACHELLE
STEVENSEN


LOVE AT FIRST FLIGHT

RACHELLE STEVENSEN

Copyright © 2020 by Rachelle Stevensen

All rights reserved.

No part of this book may be reproduced in any form or by any electronic or mechanical means, including information storage and retrieval systems, without written permission from the author, except for the use of brief quotations in a book review.

 Created with Vellum

CONTENTS

[Prologue](#)

[Chapter 1](#)

[Chapter 2](#)

[Chapter 3](#)

[Chapter 4](#)

[Chapter 5](#)

[Chapter 6](#)

[Chapter 7](#)

[Chapter 8](#)

[Chapter 9](#)

[Chapter 10](#)

[Chapter 11](#)

[Chapter 12](#)

[Chapter 13](#)

[Chapter 14](#)

[Epilogue](#)

[Epilogue](#)

[Acknowledgments](#)

Love at
First Flight

RACHELLE
STEVENSEN

BLURB

Raiden Daniels has held out hope that he will find the girl meant for him. And he finds her in the most unlikely place. Yelling at his best friend for hurting hers. He knows that he will do anything for his Fairy and will give her the life she always dreamed of. He just has to convince her of that. Easier said than done right?

Kadence Reeves knew that there was a man that would fit the mold of her perfect guy. Except the guy she meets is overbearing and unbelievably sexy. And he is dead set on giving her the world. Is he really as perfect as he seems? Will she take the leap?

PROLOGUE

Raiden



When Raiden was younger, around the age of twelve, he knew without a doubt that girls were gross.

They just weren't his girl, no matter how cute and he didn't like any of them. He always felt that way. Genna was nice, sure. But she and Rickie were pretty much the only girls who didn't drive him and Gunner nuts.

His mom would always let him know that girls were fine and perfectly nice if he got to know them. but that he didn't need to stress about girls yet if he didn't want to.

His mom, Rachel knew best and he loved that she always had good advice to give. Which he listened to with open ears. He wanted her advice.

His dad, Richard, was the man who taught him how to treat girls. That even if the girls weren't his, he still had to treat them with kindness and that one day he would find the one girl meant for him.

He didn't doubt it for a minute. Which was a big reason why he never pursued any girls. They never gave him the spark in his chest that his dad had described, so he let it go.

His best friend Gunner thought that too. And they used to have a clubhouse and would declare that girls were not for them yet and they wanted nothing to do with the opposite gender.

For some reason, it stuck. They grew older, but they still never found a girl that made them turn their heads and want

everything.

Yes, they had friends who were more than happy to stick their dick in any wet hole, which they thought was disgusting and they wanted nothing to do with it. And then inevitably, yes, they would have to listen as those boys would complain about girls being too clingy, too needy.

As it was, they were happy and content just being alone.

They did hang out with Rickie and Genna. Though that was as close to the opposite sex they wanted to get.

Genna met Luke, when they were both seniors in high school and no matter what Gunner and he did to scare Luke away, Luke was having none of it.

And so they reluctantly welcomed Luke with open arms. It was a wise decision and they were grateful that he had stuck around, as he was the best man to be with Genna.

Rickie wanted to date, but was shy and quiet. People intimidated her and because she was small and curvy, boys would mock her for it.

He hated it and Rickie would often cry about it, until Genna heard about the teasing and would come in, anger flashing in her eyes, letting Rickie know that she was a beautiful goddess and that her curves were something to be envied, not to be ashamed of.

So Rickie clung to Genna's advice, ignoring anyone who tried to tease her, and Raiden was grateful he didn't have to kick anyone's ass.

Rickie was happy to be alone, deciding that most guys weren't worth her time and with her being not quite four years younger than him, he was glad for it, because he knew no one was good enough for her and he wasn't around to protect her.

It hadn't been a shock that even with Genna being Rickie's age, Genna had gotten married right out of high school.

It had been right for them. Their love was something to be envied. Genna wanted to get pregnant right away, but it had

taken a few months of trying, but they now had a beautiful daughter named Cassidy.

He, Gunner and Rickie had all been at the hospital when she had been born and that tiny girl had them wrapped around her finger.

Gunner may have been her true Uncle, but he and Rickie were just as involved in Cassidy's life.

They loved that sweet sprite of a girl and he had been at her birthday party a few weeks ago when she had a real mermaid come and swim.

He had met Arielle and knew that she was so perfect for Gunner it wasn't even funny but he wanted to hold it over Gunner's head, so he hadn't said a word about her.

Gunner had been pissed that he had missed the party, understandably so, as he was normally at every important function in her young life, but sweet Cassidy was forgiving, as was Genna.

And, once again, knowing that he had met the girl that he knew Gunner was going to love was something else.

Raiden had so badly wanted to tell his best friend that he had found the girl meant for him, but had kept his mouth shut about it.

It was harder than he realized though and by the time it was Halloween, Raiden had almost broken down and told him.

Especially when he spied that the lock screen and the homescreen on Gunner's phone had a few pictures of Arielle.

He had to swallow down the secret that she was going to be at the surprise Halloween party and it was so hard Raiden had to keep talking about the latest project he was working on.

Rickie had talked to Arielle at the party as well and Arielle told Rickie that she was more than welcome to come to their store and she would make Rickie the dress of her dreams.

Rickie had nodded and Raiden knew that she most likely wouldn't go, as she got intimidated by new people, but he hoped that she would make new friends.

She needed to get out of her shell more. So to speak. She often told him that she was lonely and always wished for more.

He too was getting lonely and wishing for something more as the years flew by, but he hadn't found the woman that made him want it all.

Instead, he just worked, and lived his life with his best friend, his sister, his crew, and the friends that kept him going.

Gunner often talked about how lonely he was as well, and Raiden knew that he too longed for the woman that was meant for him.

To find her, claim her and have the life they always dreamed of.

Gunner had told him once that he had to keep busy or the stress and struggle of being alone would become too much, so he had started his real estate firm and had built it from the ground up, making millions and never having time to breathe, let alone date.

He was the same. Except, he started a construction company specializing in million-dollar homes, custom rebuilds and small businesses.

He loved it, he had a great team, good designers and had never gotten a single complaint.

He worked hard with his crew, not letting them do it alone.

He too got his hands dirty with the build. He liked to work with wood and more often than not, he would help the men making the cabinets for the custom homes.

He also loved demolition. Any kind, he was there for it. Getting out his sledgehammer, he would be pointed at the wall that needed to come down and then down it would fall.

It was a freeing feeling, being able to knock something to the ground, and also something they didn't get to do much of.

Raiden didn't get to help as much as he wanted, he had to go to the office and do things there, stupid paperwork that seemed never ending, and such, but as often as he could, he

was with the crew that helped him start his business in the first place.

They were all extremely well off, and didn't have to work again in their lives if they didn't want to, but each and every one of his crew was loyal to him and loved their jobs.

He rewarded them often with bonuses and was the sort of man and boss who cared when his employees had complaints. Not that there were any of those.

He did all he could to make their lives happy and had done very well for himself because of it.

He went home each night, his body would be sore and yet, he would feel such a wave of accomplishment it was what kept him going.

His company was so sought after that they chose which projects they wanted and Raiden was grateful that they had the choices.

He and his crew helped him to build his house years ago, and he knew at the time that it was much too big for one person, but he hoped that someday the extra bedrooms he had built would be full of kids and his wife would be by his side as they watched their family grow.

He longed for that day and knew that somewhere, out in this world he would find her.

CHAPTER ONE

Raiden



Today had been a long day. It was Halloween, and the surprise party was tonight.

He still thought it was hilarious that Gunner had no idea was happening.

Raiden pushed his blonde hair out of his brown eyes, and knew he needed it cut, but hadn't the time yet.

He kept it long on top, in a faux hawk and buzzed short on the sides normally.

It was much shaggier now, and yet it worked for the costume he was wearing.

He was a Viking. And Rickie had braided tight small braids along the edge of his hair cut and it looked good. If he said so himself.

Rickie had laughed and helped him into the brown leather vest, and he'd had a hell of a time putting on the leather pants by himself.

Rickie then helped him pin the fake fur cloak together and he gathered his sister in for a hug.

“Are you excited for the party tonight?”

She nodded, “I love parties. Although, most of the time I will probably just sit in the corner and not talk to anyone.”

Raiden smiled, “I will stay with you the entire time. And besides, Genna will be there. I doubt that she will let you sit quietly and not want to pull you into the middle of it all.”

Rickie laughed, “So true. I am excited to see Arielle. Is Gunner really head over heels for her?”

He smiled, “Oh yeah. He has her picture as the lock screen and the home screen of his phone. He also has one on his desk, as well as both of his monitors in his office. According to Miles.”

Rickie smiled, “That makes me happy. Gunner deserves a great woman and Arielle certainly fits that bill.”

He leaned down to kiss his sisters cheek, “You deserve to find a good man. Have you been looking?”

She huffed, “No.”

He laughed, “You have! I can totally tell.”

She threw a swat at him, “No you can’t. And there is nothing to tell anyway.”

Her face was flushed pink and Raiden tapped her nose, “You always get so defensive when you lie. Don’t worry, I will leave it alone, for now.”

She rolled her eyes and then smiled, “What about you? Where is your girl?”

He shrugged, “Alas, my fair maiden hasn’t come to let me plunder her lands.”

She laughed and covered her eyes, “Gag! You are my brother! I don’t want to hear about that.”

He threw back his head, “Hey if the costume fits.”

She shook her head, but was smiling. “You are silly.”

He took her hand, “Come. Let us go to the party little Miss Riding Hood.”

Rickie laughed, “I better not find any wolves.”

Raiden put her arm through his, “That is what your big brother is for. To chase them away.”

He winked down at her and she smiled.

The party was beautiful and Arielle was such a hit with all the kids.

That is until Gunner got there and went all caveman about the grown men looking at his girl.

He got so pissed about it, much to Arielle's irritation at him, and Raiden, Rickie and Genna gently led the onlookers of men away from the pool and into the house.

Raiden knew it was coming, but at the same time, was jealous of his best friend. He wanted to find what Gunner and Arielle had.

He stayed by Rickie the entire time at the party and when Cassidy found them standing in the corner, she pulled them into her room, where she dumped out her bag of candy and showed them her and he quoted, 'loot'.

Raiden was very attentive and as Cassidy told them about trick or treating, he would smile and ooh when it was necessary.

Rickie would smile along as well and Cassidy sat in her lap, showing her each and every piece of candy.

Rickie only let her eat one and when Genna found them in Cassidy's room a little later, Cassidy had given them each a piece and Rickie had helped her change into her nightdress.

"Mama, I want to say goodnight to Arielle. Uncle Gunner didn't let anyone out to see her at the party."

Genna bit her lip to keep from laughing, "You are right. Silly Uncle Gunner. Doesn't he know that Arielle is a mermaid who swims? And goes to parties?"

Cassidy put her hands on her hips, "He doesn't. Come on Mama. Let's go say goodnight."

Genna smiled at them and Raiden stood to his full height of six feet and three inches, which had been hard to fit into the tiny chair Cassidy had directed him to.

"Come on, I think the party is over for Gunner. Do you want to stay for a little longer?"

Rickie shook her head, "I have to work tomorrow morning. Do you mind taking me home?"

Raiden shook his head, “You work too much.”

Rickie smiled, “Not all of us can start a million dollar company when we are nineteen.”

Raiden sighed, “How many times have I told you to come work for me? With me? I will pay you better than your job right now. I need someone to keep the books. It’s getting to be a full time job and I just want to work with my crew.”

She laughed, “I will think about it.”

Raiden drove her to her house that he helped build for her and then kissed her on her cheek.

“See you tomorrow night? I will cook dinner.” She said, and he grinned, “I will be there. Can’t ever turn down dinner from you.”

He went home, his large empty house seemingly even more so than before.

He went to his room and took off the leather costume, with much grunting, getting stuck and a few issues as he did so.

More than one swear word slipped free also before the pants were finally off and then he went down to the small gym he had built in his house.

He put the same one in Gunner’s house when Gunner had come to him to design his house as well, and Raiden was grateful for it now.

He didn’t work out as often as he wanted, but with his hands on work on the job sites, he wasn’t hurting for workouts.

They just weren’t the traditional type.

As Raiden went through the motions he thought about his night with his friends.

He was beyond thrilled that Gunner finally found his girl and to him, it was all that mattered.

CHAPTER TWO

Kadence



When she was younger, Kadence Reeves was full of fanciful notions about dating and love, she knew exactly what she wanted in a man.

For one, she wanted him to be tall, but not too tall as she herself was only five foot nothing.

Two, she wanted him to have dark brown hair and three, and most important of all, for him to not be overbearing.

That was it. She wanted to live her life and have him be part of it, but not overtake her decisions.

She knew it was a long shot, and that was why she hadn't found him yet.

She had gone on a few dates in high school with a few boys that she assumed would fit the profile she had in her head, but they were all duds and she didn't accept a second date, nor did she let them have anything from her, such as a kiss.

Two had tried and she had shut it down fast. She wasn't about that and didn't like it.

In fact, to this day, being twenty three, almost twenty four, she hadn't yet kissed anyone.

She hated that knowledge and wanted a kiss so badly. Not just any kiss though, one that would take her breath away and blow any of the other kisses she had seen on television out of the water.

She would daydream about it when she worked in the store and while she sewed or worked on the dresses that she had lined up.

Arielle would be so far gone in her work that she never noticed Kadence not working as quickly, stuck in her fanciful dreaming.

Kadence kept her thoughts of love and her perfect man locked deep down and truly wanted to believe she was actually quite content in her life.

She loved her job with Arielle sewing and creating the dresses that made the little girl's dreams come true and she loved dressing up as a princess when she was needed.

With her blonde hair that hung to her waist in soft ringlets, she would often go as Rapunzel, Aurora, Elsa, or her personal favorite, Tinkerbell.

In fact, being that small sprite was something she looked forward to the most.

She had gone more than once with Arielle to the children's hospital and had taken pictures with the kids there.

They had all different kinds of sicknesses and it broke her heart to see them in such pain, but those kids had an inner strength that was something else. They were always so full of hope and love.

It was her favorite thing to do and her favorite place to visit. They hadn't had the time to go lately, as their business was booming and it was busy for them to keep up with, but she longed to go back.

Lately she felt she needed to go and soak up their hope, their love.

It helped with her loneliness. Either she needed to go see those sweet souls, or she needed to book a party. She loved going to see those sweet girls as well.

They always truly believed you were that princess and it was a feeling unlike any other to see that they believed in the magic still.

It was a feeling that she missed. She hoped it would change soon.

She came to the store early knowing that they had a long day of last minute costumes to sell and she was excited.

Until the stupid man from the real estate company came around.

He was young, maybe in his early twenties and he had dark brown hair, and brown eyes.

But while he had the hair color of the man of her dreams, he wasn't it.

He was nice enough to them, but she was good and done with all the demands and the refusals to listen.

With how they wouldn't take no for an answer and Arielle had told her more than once that she was fed up as well.

So when he came today, she was ready for him, her attitude showing through with her annoyance and she had threatened him with the police if he didn't leave them alone.

He was so shocked that he almost fell out of the door when he backed through it and she shut and locked it in his face.

That felt good, relieving in some small way.

She spent the rest of the day sewing and selling dresses whenever customers came in so Arielle could finish the bead work on a custom-made dress.

It was amazing and beautiful. And Arielle worked wonders with fabric and beads.

She was always in awe with each new piece, even though this wasn't the first time Arielle made custom dresses and it wouldn't be the last.

She just put them together and let Arielle handle the small details and all the particulars. That was her best friend's forte.

Hers was selling the dresses and apparently scaring off real estate men who wouldn't just leave it be.

Halloween was finally here, and the day had been busy, which was good, because she had nothing going on at night. She didn't have any plans for Halloween, but Arielle did.

It was a little pathetic, but she had her movies, and she was damned happy to sit in some comfy clothes, pop some popcorn and pig out in front of her television.

Arielle had to get going and left early to get ready, while she closed up the shop with Arielle's grandma Liliana.

She loved the woman immensely and always thought of her as her second grandma.

Same with Arielle's parents. Her own parents were just as amazing though.

Emmaline and Brand Reeves were the best parents around.

She was their only child, and yet it was amazing.

Her parents never spoiled her, and taught her to live the best life she could.

She took it to heart and never looked back. They let her follow her dreams and never pushed her into things that she didn't want.

Which she appreciated to no end. When Arielle had told her parents, Stephan and Ann about them wanting to start their business, they were all behind them.

They helped them in any way they could, especially Grandma Liliana, and their parents had become really good friends.

They did things together often and Arielle and Kadence loved it.

They had dinners a lot growing up and because of that, were thick as thieves.

Kadence knew that she was extremely lucky in the parent department and was indeed grateful for it.

She was able to decide for herself what she wanted to do for her career and she loved that they had never pressured her for anything.

They weren't even trying to do the parent thing where they wanted her to choose a suitor.

She loved having the choice, although she wanted something to choose from. She left for the night after cleaning up the back room and getting ready for the next day.

She had cut out the fabric for the next dresses and they were set to make more for Halloween.

Halloween was finally her, and they were as busy as ever.

Arielle had to leave to go trick or treating and for the party and Kadence was a little envious of it.

She let out a sigh and closed up the shop for the night, and then drove home.

She knew that she would have very little trick or treaters where she and Arielle lived in a tiny bungalow on the edges of the town.

She pulled into the driveway and sat in her car for a few minutes, just needing to breathe.

It had been a long few weeks to get ready for Halloween and she knew that it would be another long few weeks to prepare for the Christmas season.

She loved it and yet sometimes, the long days weren't easy. She wished she could find a good man, yet she didn't have the time for one right now.

She sighed, it seemed like it never was the time anyway.

She went inside and changed into comfy pajamas, made some chicken noodle soup and some hot chocolate and got in bed, turning on her favorite Halloween movie.

A knock sounded at the door and she gave out a few pieces of candy and then went back in her room.

She wished again that she had a man, or some body to spend the holiday with. Normally she and Arielle would binge

together, and she felt out of sorts being on her own. This had to stop. It was ridiculous. She could be alone and like it. She *would* like it.

She was determined now. Her perfect man wasn't out there.

He didn't seem to be surfacing and she let out a sigh. It was fine. She wouldn't know what to do with a man anyway.

She fell back into her pillows. She refused to wallow in this. She would enjoy her night and then she would spend her Sunday running errands and doing what she needed to before work Monday.

Arielle always went to work Sunday, trying to get caught up on things, so Kadence would help out here, do laundry, buy groceries, that sort of thing.

That was what was needed, not being upset over a fantasy that wouldn't come true.

She watched the rest of her movie before sleep claimed her.

—

The next morning, she noticed that Arielle hadn't slept in her bed, and that her things from last night were also still gone.

Kadence wanted to laugh. She was happy for her best friend and called Arielle, but didn't get an answer.

She called again and then sent a text.

Kadence: Hey, you doing okay? I noticed you didn't come home last night. Way to go. Did you finally give up your 'V' card?

When nothing came through, she was worried, but Arielle often got into a rhythm at work and didn't answer her phone.

She would when she had the chance.

Kadence did what she normally did Sunday, but by that evening, was getting worried.

Arielle still hadn't answered any of her texts or phone calls.

And she wasn't like that. Kadence was scared something had happened.

When headlights fell across the front window, she waited in the front room, wanting to see what happened.

Arielle came in a few minutes later, her face pinched and sad.

Kadence said, "You never answered your phone. We have all been worried sick."

*A*rielle put her stuff down, and then burst into tears, making Kadence hurry to her side and pull her into her arms.

Arielle told her everything, and when she was finished, Kadence told her to go take a shower, and that she would fix some food.

Arielle reluctantly did just that, and Kadence walked to the kitchen, staying as calm as she possibly could on the outside, but on the inside was another story all together. She was planning her revenge on the man that dared hurt her best friend.

When Arielle came into the kitchen, Kadence made certain she ate every single bite of her dinner and then Arielle walked to her room and Kadence heard the lock click.

Arielle cried most of the night and Kadence sat up in bed, hating that her friend had been so hurt and broken over this.

She refused to let it stand any longer and when Arielle's crying finally tapered off, she got up, and dressed.

She would get to the bottom of this if it was the last thing she did. She would give Gunner a piece of her mind.

Okay, not just a piece of her mind, oh no. She wanted nothing more than to rip into him good, and bite his head right off with her words.

Kadence drove across town to the building that housed the stupid real estate man's office.

She refused to say his name again and was beyond pissed that her best friend was hurt by him.

She got on the elevator and jabbed the button hard to his floor and rode up, muttering to herself and so angry with that man.

When the elevator opened, she went straight to the biggest office, ready to throw the doors open in her anger, and not giving the man at the outside desk another glance.

It did give her a tiny pause to see that he was the one who always came to the store to bug them about it, and when he too recognized her, she raised her eyebrow at him in challenge, and shoved the office doors open and he yelled after her and jumped to his feet, chasing after her and she ignored the other man and turned to glare at Gunner.

"How dare you burst in here like," the other man went to say and she held her hand up, "You and I will have words later. Right now, I am talking to that asshole."

Gunner raised his eyebrows higher and the man from the desk said, "This is one of the women who owns the shop."

Gunner winced and she spun back to him with one last glare at the other asshole.

She noticed that there were other men in the room, but refused to acknowledge them.

"That's right. It's hitting you. I am here for one thing, and it's because of her than I am here."

Gunner gestured for her to continue, "You are a selfish and greedy human being. Arielle and I have built that shop from the ground up and because you can't find anywhere else to build your precious mall, you felt the need to intimidate us, treat us badly and threaten us with eviction. All we were doing was making a living, like you. Helping those who were and are less fortunate. And yet, you seem to think your business is more important than ours."

She shook her head at him, “You broke my best friend’s heart. She has never even looked twice at a guy, and yet the first one she sees, he ends up being a snake and only wanted to get her to let her guard down so he could take our hard work from us. From her. I hope you sleep tonight knowing you win. That we are done and will sign over the shop to you. Thanks for breaking her heart.”

She glared one last time and turned to leave, but the office door opened and the man who walked in looked at her, then at Gunner and then back at her so fast his neck cracked.

She shook her head, then pushed past the man from the office and toward the door, but the new guy blocked her way.

“Where are you going Fairy?” He asked and she glared up at him.

“Please move. I spoke my piece, now I am leaving.”

The guy grinned at her, “Fairy, you are so cute when you are angry.”

She was angry. So true. She wanted to ask what gave it away, but didn’t, leaving the comment unsaid, and hating that this handsome man in front of her was making her body yearn for his touch, but yet, he was the enemy.

She let out a growl and crossed her arms, “Please move. Lord. What is with guys like this?”

She heard someone snort and she turned her glare on him again.

Gunner talked to her for a minute, telling her that he didn’t know it was them.

Kadence scoffed at his words about how he wanted Arielle from the beginning, “Yesterday? Nice try. I know how lust works.”

The new man, the handsome blonde, looking like a sexy Viking, with his delicious dark green eyes, the infuriating one growled, and she shook her head, doing her best to ignore him.

Gunner walked to his desk, turning his monitor around, then picking up a picture and then showing her his phone.

There were all pictures of Arielle. In different poses and different angles of her looking at the camera or swimming or just sitting with the kids and smiling.

The one he had printed out was one of Arielle and Cassidy.

He also had that one on his phone screen.

Her jaw dropped open, “When did you get this?”

Gunner told her about Cassidy’s party and that he had seen the picture then.

He told her everything else and she felt her resolve crumbling.

She let out a small sigh, “Damn it. Why do you have to be so nice? What was with the guy yesterday?”

Gunner told her and she felt the big handsome man come up behind her, his heat making her want to lean against him.

She had to fight with her body to keep from doing so.

“Fairy, what can we do to help you? To help your friend? Gunner has never in his life hurt the innocent and with your shop, we didn’t know just how much we were hurting you.”

She turned, dropping her head back and looking up at him.

Damn he was handsome. She hated it a little, and she shrugged. “I don’t know. We have been struggling to pay for what we need. And we need the shop to be fixed up better. We also need an employee that can help us with whatever. It’s hard on just Arielle and I. She works too much. Into the night a lot of days and then is back first thing in the morning.”

*A*s soon as she finished Gunner was directing the man, Raiden to start helping and she watched as Raiden nodded and grabbed her hand, “Come on Fairy. We have work to do.”

he spluttered, “But,” but they were already walking out of the office, her hand firmly held in his.

CHAPTER THREE

Raiden



*H*e got the message from Steele to come to Gunner's office and he had hurried to do what he was asked.

But when he walked in the door he was not expecting to see the most beautiful woman in the world standing there

Anger flashing in her green eyes and radiating from her entire body.

Her blonde hair was up in a large messy bun, with strands falling around her face and making him want to bury his face in that mass.

She went to leave and he blocked her, needing to keep her where he could see her.

She was tiny, only coming up to his pecs and he felt every single protective instinct in him rise, wanting, no, *needing* to keep her safe from every single thing that could cause her harm.

She sassed at him to get out of the way and yet, as she listened to Gunner and heard what he had to say, he could see her anger give way and fade.

He slowly moved toward her and when she told him about the shop and needing repairs he was ready to do anything and everything.

He grabbed her hand, unable to take not touching her a second longer and pulled her from the room.

She was spluttering, but running along behind him, and when they got to the elevator, she wrenched her hand from his, “Wait, wait. Just wait. What are we doing? I wasn’t done.”

He leaned down, pressing a kiss to her cheek, her eyes met his, “Yes you were Fairy. We have work to do. I want to see your shop and see what my crew and I can do.”

She huffed, and rolled her eyes, crossing her arms again. “Fine.”

He grinned, “That wasn’t so bad, was it?”

She walked into the elevator, refusing to look at him, but he crowded her into the corner, “So, Fairy, your name is Kadence? What is your last name?”

She sighed, “Kadence Reeves.”

*H*e held out his hand, and she took it slowly. He raised it to his lips, “I’m Raiden Daniels. I like your name. Though Fairy fits you better.”

She bit her lip, and he wanted to bite it for her.

“You can’t look so delectable Fairy.”

She raised her eyebrows at him, “What does that mean? I’m only in jeans and a sweater.”

He gazed down at her, “All of that is true, and you are still the sexiest woman I have laid eyes on.”

She rolled hers, “Wow. What a line. Does that work on all the girls you date?”

She pulled her hand from his again and he wanted to laugh at the jealousy pouring from her.

She glared at him, and he said, “I wouldn’t know. I don’t date.”

She laughed, “Yeah right. Have you seen you? Seriously. What is in the water around here? Are all of you built like tanks? Good lord.”

He threw his head back and laughed, “Thank you Fairy. I have seen me, it’s nothing special. I am only looking at you. Come on, we need to swing by my office to get my supplies. Okay?”

She nodded and he pulled her hand to his kissing it, then linking their fingers together.

She tried to pull her hand free, but he shook his head, “Don’t try to get away Fairy. You are all mine.”

Her eyes widened, and he pulled her from the building and to his car, “Wait, I drove my car.”

He shook his head, “Then we will take yours.”

She looked him up and down and he fought not to puff up his chest, “I don’t think you will fit.”

He laughed, “Fair enough, then we will take mine and come back for yours. On second thought, let me just ask one of my guys to bring it to your house.”

He pulled his phone out, texting Owen.

Raiden: Hey, I need you to do me a favor. My woman’s car needs to be dropped off at her place. Can you handle it?

Owen: Seriously? Since when do you have a woman? What the fuck?

Raiden: Since today. Can you do it or not?

Owen: Yeah.

Raiden: I am swinging by the office. We just got a new project and I am going to check it out. We will bring the keys then.

Owen: Deal

*H*e put his phone away and led her to his car, but she pulled against his hand.

“I can just drive. I swear.”

He leaned down and put his shoulder under her stomach, lifting her up and shocking her.

Then he put her in the front seat of his black four door Tundra.

When he pulled back, her eyes were wide again and he quickly buckled her seatbelt.

“Safety first.” Then he stole a quick kiss from her pink, full lips.

He shut the door and ran around to his seat, and started the truck.

He reached over and grabbed her hand again, holding hers and loving the feel of her tiny fingers in his.

His whole hand engulfed hers and he felt like he was truly holding a fairy in his arms.

She was just so tiny. He already knew that she was his, he just had to get her on board with it.

She huffed. “I can’t believe you did that.”

He laughed, “Fairy, it’s going to take longer to take your car, plus I wanted to make sure you are safe. You could get hurt.”

“I have been driving for a long time Raiden.”

It was the first time she said his name and his cock hardened in his pants at the sound of it.

“I know you have Fairy. But, for this I wanted to drive with you. You will just have to let it be.”

She let out a cute little annoyed huff and he laughed, “You know I’m right Fairy.”

She sat back and he drove to his office. He pulled into his spot, parking and hurrying to open her door before she could get out.

He lifted her from the truck and she let out a squeak.

“I can get down by myself you know.” She said indignantly.

He laughed and kissed her lips lightly. “You can, but that doesn’t mean I will let you.”

She gave a tiny laugh and he put her down, lacing their fingers together again.

He led her into his office and a few of his guys were there, his manager and the head of his crew, Harrison, stood there, going over some papers.

He looked up, gave him a smile, looked back down at the papers and then jerked his head back up fast.

He looked at Kadence and then up at him, his eyes wide. Raiden put his arm around her and Harrison’s jaw dropped.

“Who is this?” Harrison finally asked, and Raiden grinned at his friend, knowing that Harrison knew just how much he avoided women.

“This is Kadence. My Fairy. Fairy, this is Harrison Anderson. My manager, my right hand man and the person aside from Gunner that knows me most of all.”

Kadence held out her tiny hand and Harrison looked down at it and then over at him and she elbowed him.

“I can shake his hand Raiden.”

*R*aiden sighed, “Fine.”

She shook Harrison’s hand and then Raiden pulled her from the room. He threw Kadence’s keys at Harrison.

“Hey, give these to Owen. And maybe you can help him with Kadence’s car?”

Harrison nodded, “Will do.”

Raiden smiled, “I’m gonna need you and the guys to help with a special project. I’m going to take a look and then we will discuss it.”

Harrison smiled, “Can’t wait. We need something new.”

H Raiden nodded, “Yep. And fixing up my Fairy’s shop is going to be our best project yet. Oh, let me get my camera. I want to be able to map out everything to show the guys.”

He kissed the top of her head and hurried to his office, he heard Harrison say, “So, um. This is new. Raiden never even gives a woman a second glance. For as long as I have known him.”

He heard her say, “How long have you known him?”

*H*arrison said, “We didn’t go to college. Just started this business up. And from then on, he just works and hangs out with Rickie, Gunner, Genna and Luke. So seeing you here, with his arm around you was a shock. I hope I didn’t offend you.”

She laughed, “I’m not offended. He has swooped in here like a big caveman and thinks he can just order me about.”

Raiden snickered, it was exactly his thinking.

Harrison laughed, “Again, I’m shocked. But not too shocked he would do that. It seems like something Raiden would do. He is overprotective to a fault with us, and his family. It wouldn’t be any different with his girl. You are his girl right?”

*R*aiden waited to hear what she would say. “I don’t know. I only met him like an hour ago. I have never met a guy like him before. So unafraid to claim what he wants and isn’t afraid to show his feelings. It’s weird. From what I have heard about guys, it’s not really normal.”

Harrison laughed again, “I guess it’s not. I wouldn’t know. I don’t date either. And again, he has never looked at women. Like, girls have thrown themselves at him, but he didn’t even give them the time of day.”

“Oh really?” She asked and he could hear the hope in her voice.

Harrison said, “Really. Most of the guys in our crew thought he was nuts. Or gay or something. That no sane man would turn down the offers he was getting, but Raiden did and never regretted it. In fact, he told me how much he hated the offers. He and Gunner. And me too. We knew that there is a girl meant for us and we haven’t needed to look elsewhere. To try to find something that wasn’t meant for us. So the fact that he has claimed you and isn’t afraid to show you his feelings shouldn’t scare you. I would embrace it. Because Raiden isn’t your typical guy.”

He walked back into the main office, “Got it. Anything happen while I was gone?”

She had a contemplative look on her face and he walked to her side, “Come on Fairy. Show me your shop.”

She looked up at him and nodded, “Okay.”

He grinned at her and then helped her into the truck and while he was buckling her into the seat, he heard her stomach growl.

He looked up at her, startled. “Are you hungry Fairy?”

She bit her lip, “I kinda didn’t eat breakfast. I knew that if Arielle knew where I was going, she wouldn’t let me go. So, I left in a hurry.”

He looked at his watch and saw it was just over twelve in the afternoon.

“That can’t go on. If you are hungry Fairy, you have to let me know. Okay? I never want to see you go without.”

She sighed and he took her lips in a soft kiss. Then he hurried around to his side and held her hand again, kissing her knuckles. “Where to? What sounds good to my hungry Fairy?”

She tapped her chin with her other hand, “Hmm. I like burgers. Fries. Anything really. I don’t like sushi. That is my only thing.”

He laughed, “No sushi. I’m not really a fan either.”

He drove to his favorite hamburger place and led her inside, where they sat at a table and when the waitress came over, Raiden wanted to groan.

This girl had been relentless in her pursuit of him and he hated it. Had let her down gently and not so gently more than once.

She still didn't take the hint, but he hoped that being with Kadence would dissuade her.

She grinned, until she saw him put his arm around Kadence and kiss the top of her head.

Then it looked like she ate a lemon.

“Oh, hey there Raiden. What can I get you?”

Raiden looked down at his Fairy. “What do you want my sweet Fairy?”

She looked at the menu, “A double cheeseburger, no onions and some fries? Oh and a large water please.”

Shay wrote it down angrily, and he said, “I will take the same. Thanks.”

Shay grit her teeth and walked off and Kadence raised her eyebrow, “What was that about?”

Raiden let out a breath, “That girl has it in her head that she and I are meant to be together. Every single time I come in here she puts her boobs in my face and refuses to listen to the word no. I hate it. So much. I haven't been here in months because of it.”

She put her hand on his, “Why did you take me here then?”

He kissed her temple, “Because this place has the best burgers in town. Like they are so good. And I have had to have my guys order them for me and bring it back because I refuse to come here.”

She gave a shocked laugh, “Oh. Well then. I guess some girls don't like being told no.”

He shook his head, “I guess not. Listen, I heard you when you were talking to Harrison. I know this seems weird to you, like you expect me to be saying these things for bad reasons, but I can assure you that isn’t me. It never has been. Hell, you are my first kiss Kadence. I want all of my first to be yours and yours alone. And I hope you know that this isn’t just something that is for now. That to me, this is forever.”

Her eyes were wide, “You truly mean that?”

He nodded, “I never say what I don’t mean.”

Shay came back and brought their food, slamming it on the table, making them jump.

“Here.”

*R*aiden felt his eyebrows raise, “Um, thank you.”

*S*hay turned and left without a word. “Here is hoping she finally gets it.” He said.

They ate in silence and Raiden could see Kadence thinking about what he said.

When they left, she was still quiet and he drove them to her small shop.

It was quaint and adorable with a few dresses in the window.

The shop was called, The Dress of your Dreams and he loved it.

They opened the door and he knew immediately that Gunner had been there. Had acted on the need to ask Arielle to be his.

There were flowers everywhere and Raiden heard some sounds coming from the small office.

He led Kadence away from there, because she didn’t need to hear that and he was jealous that his friend finally got to be

with his girl.

She showed him around, and he took pictures of every single inch of the space, aside from their office.

And when the door opened, Arielle and Gunner came out, and Gunner had half his shirt opened still.

Kadence's eyes were crawling over his bare chest and Raiden didn't like it. One bit.

CHAPTER FOUR

Kadence



When they got to the shop, she heard the noise coming from the office and she tried her best to ignore it.

Raiden was already doing funny things to her body and the sounds she heard didn't help at all.

She wanted to be doing that. But was so confused. Love at first sight wasn't real.

This was all just a fairy tale and she wasn't sure if it was fake.

She was so torn and wanted so badly to believe that she had truly found what she always wanted to find, but didn't know.

When her best friend came out, Gunner hadn't fully buttoned his shirt up and his sculpted chest was a sight to see.

Raiden covered her eyes, "Fairy, if you want to look at half naked men, I gladly volunteer, but you don't need to look at him. Only me."

She sassed back, "But, he has so much skin on display. You can't not look."

Raiden growled, and spun her to face him. "That mouth of yours fairy. It's gonna get you in trouble."

And then he kissed her. Really kissed her. Not just a soft kiss on her lips.

She gasped and threw her arms around his neck, wanting more.

He licked the seam of her lips and she opened for him, their tongues tangling and tasting each other.

It was everything she had always wanted in a kiss and she forgot where she was.

Raiden finally let her go with one final sweet kiss to her lips and she knew she was dazed.

She hurried to get away from his potent self and behind Arielle when something caught her eye.

“Is that an engagement ring?”

Arielle nodded, “I said yes.”

She shook her head, shock coursing through her. That man ripped her friend’s heart out and now they were engaged? They just met.

“What about everything? I know he wants to help us, but what about it all? You just met the other day and he broke your heart. It can’t be love. Not really.”

Arielle turned to look at her man and when he gave her a crooked grin, she turned back to look at her.

“When you know, you know. Love at first sight is real. I have seen it happen before. Not to me, but to others. My parents are real, they met and married within a few days of knowing each other, as did my grandparents. I knew he was meant to be mine from the start. Even if it seems crazy. I love him.”

Gunner explained what he already had and she felt herself wavering. Torn between anger and hope.

She felt herself deflating from her anger and looked over at Raiden.

He had his arms crossed, “See Fairy? It isn’t just me.”

She knew he was right and that she didn’t know why she was fighting it so hard.

This man wanted to give her everything and would with no hesitation.

She laughed and ran to him, where he scooped her in his arms and kissed her again.

It was right. Perfect and exactly what she was looking for. Her man.

Kissing him back and pouring all of her heart into it, she let up and then waved at her best friend as Raiden carried her from the store.

As soon as they were outside, she cupped his face, “Did you really mean what you said?”

He looked into her eyes, those dark green irises so intense as he nodded, “I meant every word. You are my Fairy. The girl I have wanted to find since I was a little kid. I used to pretend that girls were gross and I was right. Some girls are.”

She laughed and he went on, “But you? You are it for me. The one person to complete me, body and soul. To heal my heart that has never been whole. To make it finally beat, to give me a full breath. I feel like I didn’t know what I was missing until I saw you. And I don’t regret a single second of waiting. Because I got you as my reward.”

She felt the truth of his words even as she searched his eyes. They too held nothing but honest sincerity in their depths.

“So, where do we go from here?”

He laughed, “From here, I will do everything in my power to make you mine. To claim you and give you everything you have ever dreamed of.”

She kissed him, his full lips begging for hers.

She ran her hands over his hair, grasping the strands tightly as he kissed her.

Someone whistled at them and Raiden broke the kiss and he put her in his truck and drove them to his house.

He wanted to show her where she would be living and hoped she would love it.

As they pulled into his driveway, it was lined with beautiful oak trees and was what made him want the property in the first place.

Though he tore the first house down, and built the house he had in his head for months.

She let out a gasp and he could see her leaning forward, wanting a better look.

As they pulled up to his house, she let out another sound of awe.

“You live here?”

He smiled, “Nope.”

She whipped her head around and his smile widened. “We live here.”

She laughed, “You are incorrigible.”

He smiled again, “That is so true.”

He pulled into the large 4 car garage he had built and helped her from his truck.

As soon as the door was shut, he claimed her mouth in a kiss.

Then he laced their fingers together. “Come on, I will give you a tour.”

She nodded eagerly and he opened the garage door that led to his house.

Their house. It opened to a large mudroom with several built in cubby's, a bunch of hooks and things to hang up jackets, coats and other things.

There was also a small built in space of drawers. It was where he stored his gloves, scarves and hats. Not that he used many gloves, but sometimes it did get cold.

She was looking around, her eyes wide.

The tile was dark, and looked like wood. It was all throughout the lower levels of the house and he loved how easy it was to clean.

It was also sturdy. Not breaking or chipping.

Then he led her into the large kitchen. She let out a gasp when she saw the large island in the middle, with its own tiny sink and the dining room table hooked to the back of it with a large rounded bench that worked as the barstools.

The wood matched the floor and she ran her hand lovingly over the granite top and the wood of the counters.

He had built the kitchen to cook in, to entertain in. And it had barely seen use.

He led her to the living room with the large fireplace and the butter soft brown couches that encircled it.

His sister had helped him decorate it, and there was a large shag rug in deep brown on the floor.

Along with a few throws and pillows on the couches.

She had hung up some pictures she had found in an art show and they were painted of the mountains and forests that Raiden loved.

Then he showed her upstairs. He showed her his, -their-room first, the fireplace matching the one downstairs. Just smaller in scale.

His bed sat in the middle and he was grateful he had actually made his bed.

It had a dark brown and blue bedspread and he loved how comfy his California King bed was.

He then showed her the bathroom.

He built a shower big enough for four people to fit in.

There were multiple shower heads. One right in the middle and a few on the sides.

She saw the large tub he had put in and twirled.

He turned on the heated floors and loved that she sank down, feeling them.

He laughed when she let out a contented sigh and he scooped her from the floor.

“What do you think?” He asked and she put her head on his chest. “It’s beautiful. Perfect. Exactly what I would have built if I knew how.”

He grinned, “Thank you. I knew that my design would make someone happy. I have loved it.”

She looked up at him, “Your design?”

He nodded, “I had it in my head for months. And when I bought the land, the house on it was old and falling down in pieces. It was abandoned and I knew that it would take more work to fix up something that wasn’t what I truly wanted. So I tore it down and we built this instead. My crew and I did everything in the house.”

Her eyes were wide, “It’s beautiful. I love it.”

He took her to the large double doors that he had hidden behind some large black out curtains.

He put her down, “You haven’t seen the best part.”

He opened the doors and led her out to the large deck he had built.

It had its own firepit and some chairs.

He let Rickie pick the furniture and loved that she loved cozy and comfy things.

He did too. And the chairs out here were nothing short of comfortable.

He led her to the railing and she covered her mouth when she saw the small lake that connected his and Gunner’s properties.

It was secluded and perfect and he had the back lawn brought all the way down to the beach.

It was his favorite part of the house and he couldn't wait to see their family out there.

He would put in a playground for them and knew exactly where it would go.

She looked up at him and melted into his arms, "This isn't real. Stuff like this doesn't happen to girls like me. I'm asleep aren't I?"

He laughed, "You aren't asleep Fairy. Sorry to break it to you. You are exactly the type of girl this happens to. You are my love. My fairy. My life."

He turned her in his arms, "Why do you question this? I thought I already made it perfectly clear to you how I feel?"

She pulled free from his arms, "I know you have," she wrapped her arms around her stomach, "This is just so overwhelming. I went to yell at Gunner for breaking Arielle's heart, and then you come out of nowhere, wanting to give me the world, and make all of my dreams come true. Then, you have this amazing house, you are well off and it's so overwhelming. When I woke up this morning I wasn't expecting this."

He could tell that she was starting to freak out. He went up to her and cupped her face in his hands.

"Kadence, love. Stop. Don't question me. Don't question this. This is forever and while it seems fast, and it is fast, I will never feel like this with anyone else and I haven't even tried. You are it for me. You. And I know that you are overwhelmed. I am too. This is scary and crazy and again, fast. Yet it feels so right I don't want to waste any more time. I want to start our lives together. Life is too short. I have been without you for 29 years. And I don't want to be without you for another day."

She shut her eyes, and then when she opened them, she smiled at him. "You are pretty dang perfect aren't you?"

He shrugged, "Only for you. Only ever for you."

Her smile widened, "Okay," then she gave a tiny nod, "Okay. You are right. I shouldn't question this. You haven't given me a reason to and I don't think you will."

He shook his head, “I wouldn’t ever give you any reason to be hurt Fairy. You are my most important reason and the one I need to protect most of all.”

She sighed, “I’m sorry for questioning this. It’s just something I wasn’t prepared for. But I doubt I could prepare for you anyway.”

He laughed, “Nope. Come on, let’s go make some dinner. Otherwise, I will claim every single inch of you in our room. On our bed.”

Her eyes widened again and she let out a laugh, “Oh really? What if I want that?”

He shook his head, “I don’t think you are. You need to be on my same page.”

She gave a pout, “But, I want to.”

He groaned, “Trying to be a respectful gentleman babe.”

She laughed, and he led her back inside and she sighed when she saw the bed.

“Can I use the bathroom first?”

He pointed the way to the room that had the toilet. “I will be down in the kitchen.”

She nodded and he kissed her.

CHAPTER FIVE

Kadence



*A*fter Raiden left the room, she put a plan in place. She had freaked out that he wouldn't want her after all was said and done and he once again reassured her that he did.

She wanted to prove to him that she was in this. That she wanted it all with him.

She hurried to the bathroom, and shut the door.

Once again marvelling at all he had done and created.

It was beautiful and she longed to soak in the tub that was calling her name.

Later. She would use that tub later. She looked in the mirror and pulled off every single stitch of clothing she wore, aside from her panties and bra.

Then she walked to his closet, which she had seen from the bathroom.

She pulled down one of his dress shirts and slipped it on, buttoning the button just between her breasts and leaving the rest undone.

She let her hair out of it's bun and shook it out, finding his comb and brushing the long length of hair.

She took a deep breath, "You can do this. He is yours. Your everything. You know he is. Don't let your fears, your unfounded fears lose the best thing that ever happened to you. You would always regret it."

She nodded to herself and then opened the door, hearing Raiden moving downstairs.

She walked down the stairs and his back was to her when she made it to the kitchen.

He was putting a pan on the stove and humming something, which made her smile.

He heard her give a soft laugh and he turned, a smile on his face as well.

He went completely still when his eyes made their way down her body and then back to her face.

They were full of heat and promise and love. She could tell he wasn't just saying something to get her into bed and was doing his best to respect her.

Well, she didn't want that. She walked to his side and he was still frozen in place.

She brushed against him and stood on tiptoe.

Then she kissed him, and the empty pan and the spoon he was holding clattered to the floor at their feet.

He picked her up and she wrapped her legs around his waist, and she felt her back being pressed up against the wall.

He pulled back from kissing her and then put her down, as if sensing that he went too far.

He backed away from her and he was panting.

He shut his eyes, "Fairy, what are you doing? I knew that you weren't ready for that step. I never wanted to push you into something like that. It's why I left and came down here. I don't ever want you to have regrets."

She walked toward him and he opened his eyes and held his hands out, trying to keep her at bay.

"You don't want this? Me?"

"Fairy, I have wanted nothing but you from the second I saw you. You are mine, and I am yours. I just don't want to rush this. We have forever, and I want to make sure that we do

this right. I haven't done something like this before and I will do right by you. Even if you are a wet dream come to life."

She looked down, and he put his finger under her chin, "I'm not saying no, I'm just saying that we slow down and see for you if this is what you want. Let's have dinner, and have a conversation and make certain that I am what you decide on. If not, I will take you home and keep doing my best to show you that you are mine."

She let out a soft sigh as he leaned down and softly kissed her.

She reached up and touched his cheek, "Why are you so perfect? And so wonderful?"

He kissed her palm, "Because you give me a reason to be. Because I want forever with you, a family, a life. Not just one night where it feels as if it was rushed and that I pushed you. So, we are going to have dinner, then we will see where the rest of the evening goes."

She smiled at him and he put her on the counter.

"Should I get changed?" She asked, and he shook his head, "Not a chance. I want to look at you in my shirt for the rest of my life. It's a good look on you."

She laughed and he picked up the pan and the spoon and then started cooking.

He made them some steak and mashed potatoes and she helped to make a salad.

They sat and talked for hours while they cooked and ate.

About everything and nothing. She found out about his likes and dislikes, his family, his business and how lonely he had truly been.

She told him the same. And they talked about so much more. Just getting to know the other person as if this was their first date. It felt like it to her and with each revelation that Raiden told her about his life, she fell even more in love with him.

They went to his room and sat outside by the firepit and talked more.

This time it was more intimate, like what kind of wedding they wanted to have, if she had thought about a ring that she wanted and if they wanted kids.

And, how many kids did they want?

They each wanted at least two to start and then to see how they felt from there.

She loved it. Loved learning about this man that quickly stole her heart.

He got a big blanket and wrapped her in it while she snuggled in his lap and it felt like she had known him forever.

They sat in silence for a bit and she had her head leaned against his hard chest, and her eyes kept drooping shut.

He looked down and must have seen her, and chuckled, "Come on love, let's go to bed."

She nodded and he stood, walking into the room and putting her on the bed and then doing what he needed to to get ready for bed himself.

She shut her eyes, and when she felt him climb in behind her, she sighed and snuggled into his arms.

It felt as if she had always fit right there and she was asleep within seconds.

CHAPTER SIX

Raiden



When he woke the next morning, his Fairy was fast asleep in his arms, and had her head pillowed on his chest.

He couldn't remember the last time he had slept so solidly.

She was moving against him, like she too was waking up and her leg innocently brushed against the hard-on he had been fighting with since yesterday.

He tried to muffle the groan that wanted to come out of his throat, but must not have done a good job, because it came out anyway.

She went still in his arms and then her head came up, her eyes still sleepy and her hair fanned around her head in messy waves.

She smiled at him, and then yawned, and stretched.

“Your bed is the most comfortable bed I have ever been in.”

He let out a growl and she laughed, “You know what I meant.”

He rolled her over and caged her in his arms.

She looked up at him, still in his shirt and still looking like his wet dream came to life.

Her eyes were heavy lidded and he could take it no longer, taking her lips in a hard kiss that stole her breath.

He settled his body on top of hers, and then groaned into their kiss as his cock fit perfectly between her spread thighs.

She cried out when he rubbed over her mound and it felt so good, he did it again.

Her hands had come up to his shoulders and she dug her nails into the skin there, and he loved every single second of it.

He lifted his head, breaking their kiss and breathing hard.

She opened her eyes, “Are you going to claim me now?”

He felt his cock jerk at her huskily said words and he nodded, “Absolutely. Are you sure you want this? Want me?”

She nodded without hesitation and he took her mouth in another kiss.

Then he lifted his body off hers, making her moan.

He pulled away from the kiss and then he undid the two buttons she had done up on his shirt, revealing the fact that she had some time in the night taken off her bra.

Her bare breasts were full and lush, topped with dark pink nipples that had hardened in the cool air.

He took one in his mouth, needing the taste of her on his tongue and making her cry out as she buried her fingers in his hair.

He switched sides and sucked the neglected tip into his mouth and she let out a gasp as he used his hand to shape and plump her other nipple.

He kissed his way down her body and peeled her panties off her legs when he coaxed her to lift her hips for him.

He spread her legs again with his broad shoulders and she looked down at him, her hands fluttering as if she wanted to stop him or keep him going.

“Do you want this Fairy? For me to keep going?”

She nodded and he leaned down, nuzzling her sex with his face and then licking up her folds to the clit peeking free.

She moaned, throwing her head back as he started tasting her, loving her flavor of musk and woman.

He had never done this before, but he licked each soft fold, dove deep in her center with his tongue and then flicked her clit over and over until she was grasping the bed sheets with one hand and pinching her nipple with the other.

The sight was so hot, he almost came on the spot, but did his best to keep his orgasm at bay.

He flicked his tongue over her clit, until her back bowed and she screamed out his name.

He sat up, getting on his knees and back between her legs where he pushed his jogging pants down.

His cock slapped against his stomach and left a smear of wetness behind.

She had opened her eyes and he watched as they widened as she looked down at his hard cock.

He put the tip at her entrance, “We will fit love, if you are worried.”

She shook her head, “I just want it inside me.”

“Your wish is my command.”

Then he surged inside her in one thrust. She made a tiny squeak, but that was it.

“I thought it was going to hurt more,” she said and he wanted to chuckle at the awe in her voice, “It just feels like I am so full.”

“Move babe, you have to move, it aches.” She said, her voice husky with need.

He did as she asked, pulling out to the tip and then surging back in.

He let out a groan and her fingernails dug into his back.

He started thrusting in and out of her, starting to move faster and faster and making her cry out with each hard thrust of his hips.

He could feel her starting to clench around him, and it made him want to move faster, which he did.

He was on his knees, her hips held in his hands and surging in and out, hard and fast.

She was clutching at him, her moans and mewls coming from her making his orgasm want to come that much faster.

He watched as she reached between them, rubbing her clit in fast, hard circles for a few moments, and then she was coming around him, the tight sheath surrounding him even tighter as she came, making his climax barrel out of him in hard waves.

He groaned out his release and then collapsed on top of her, trying to be careful not to crush her.

He rolled to the side and held her tight to him, not wanting to lose their connection.

He kissed her forehead and then her lips and then put his head on hers, just breathing.

Still just reveling in the fact that they had made love.

She kissed his chest softly, "I love you Raiden."

He went still and looked down at her, searching her eyes, "You do?"

She nodded, "I really do."

He grinned, "I love you too my Fairy. I wanted to tell you yesterday, but I was too scared."

She laughed, "You are the cutest ever."

She looked at the clock on his nightstand and let out a shocked gasp, "Oh no! I have to get to work."

He reluctantly let her go, knowing that he too had to get to work to start on the designs he wanted to use in her shop.

He helped her turn on the shower and did his best to keep from touching her while she showered.

He knew if he touched her at all, that they wouldn't be going to work at all.

He gave her one of his shirts and a hoodie he had gotten in high school, which drowned her, but looked adorable as fuck on her.

Then he drove her to her store and kissed her soundly, “I will be back later to show you the designs we have come up with for your shop.”

She grinned, “Okay.”

Then he kissed her again and drove off.

His phone rang and he looked down, seeing it was Rickie.

“Hey there! How are you?”

“Raiden, I think there is something wrong.”

He went still, pulling his truck to the side of the road, needing to pay attention to exactly what she needed to tell him. “What do you mean?”

“I mean, I think something is wrong. That someone might try to rob the bank.”

“What? How do you know something like that?”

She let out a soft breath and he waited until she went on, “A few weeks ago, I helped a man at the bank to open a safety deposit box, but he was super weird and didn’t finish filling out the paperwork, so I had to turn him away.”

He could hear the fear in her voice when she went on, “And since then I have seen him in the parking lot across the street and parked at a house that is next door. But the man doesn’t live there. A couple in their forties do. I have seen them a few times working in their yard, so I know it’s not his house. When they leave for work though, he sits on their porch and watches what goes on in the bank. He even seems to have a pair of binoculars he looks through.”

Raiden cursed, “Have you told Steele? Or his team?”

She scoffs, “Of course not. I don’t know Steele, but you do. I just don’t feel comfortable enough to do that. And while he protects the bank, he has never spoken to me. He doesn’t come to socialize with the tellers. He has told my boss that

before. So I am telling you about it. I have to tell someone. No one else here believes me. It could be nothing. And yet, I worry. We have had threats before, and the man hasn't done anything. Just sits there and watches the bank. Day after day. But there has to be a reason. No one just sits there and studies a bank like that. Not a good person anyway."

Raiden sat back in his seat, "I don't know what to say, but I need to talk to Steele. Don't go near that bad man, whatever you do. Okay? And hopefully Steele and his team will stop it."

She sighed, "I hope so. And again, it could be nothing, but I don't think so. It scares me. What if someone got hurt or something?"

"I agree. Let me call Steele and have him talk to you."

"Um, okay. Or you can just tell him what I said. It is the same."

Raiden raised his eyebrow, "Okay."

"Thank you Raiden. I just have to make sure. I told my supervisor, but they don't believe me. They all think it's crazy. That the bank is so high end that no one would be dumb enough to try to rob it. No matter what I say."

"Well, I am glad you told me. I will call Steele. If he has any questions I will have him talk to you. Okay?"

"Okay."

She let out a soft breath, "I just hope it doesn't come down to that. I get super nervous around men."

He laughed, "I know you do. But Steele is a good guy. I promise. He won't bite."

She gave a soft uncomfortable laugh, and he went on, "I will talk to him. It is his job. I know his company was hired to protect that bank."

"Yeah they were. I just don't think anyone noticed. I wouldn't have if he hadn't stayed in his car and not gone up to the porch of that couple. They are never home during the day in the week and yet he just sits there, like he owns the place. I know he isn't their son, he is too old."

“Hmm. That is weird.”

“Yeah. Really weird. It’s like he wanted to get caught. But no one sees it but me. I tried to talk to one of the girls here, but they don’t really like me. I’m not in their group. So she didn’t care.”

Raiden growled, “Damn it. Okay. I will be calling back. Don’t go anywhere.”

“I will be off break. I just came out to my car and had to tell you. I couldn’t keep it in anymore.”

“I appreciate that. Call me when you get off work. I have some news to tell you.”

“Really? Good or bad?”

He laughed, “Good. I swear it.”

“Good. I can’t wait.”

“Love you.”

“Love you too.”

He hung up and immediately dialed Steele’s number.

He picked up after one ring, “Steele here.”

Raiden smiled at the man’s tone. He was always so rough and to the point.

“Steele, this is Raiden. I need your help.”

“I’m all ears. What’s going on Raiden?”

Raiden told him everything that Rickie just told him about the man and how she was worried about him potentially robbing the bank. It was possible.

Steele listened to it all, and then Raiden could hear him barking orders to his men.

“I will be looking into this. We do for every single tip that is called in. It sounds as if this one could be legit though. So thank whoever told you.”

“I will let Rickie know. Thanks Steele.”

“You are welcome.”

Then he hung up the phone. Raiden laughed, he was always impressed by Steele and his team.

He and Gunner had been some of the first to invest in Steele's company.

And damn if he wasn't thrilled with it. Steele, Crew, Jet, and Scout were pretty much the best of the best and didn't fool around when it came to their job.

They had turned their company into something that people clamored for.

Their protection was needed a lot and they had helped with Gunner and Arielle.

And Raiden knew that they would look into Rickie's tip.

He sent her a text and let her know he had talked to Steele and that they would be looking into it.

He was glad she had told him. He hated that no one had believed her, but apparently she hadn't told the right people and he was glad she had come to him.

Raiden drove the rest of the way to his office and when he stepped inside, his crew was there.

He grinned, "Glad you are all here. I wanted to go over the next project I just got."

He went over the pictures and videos he had taken of the shop and showed them the layout and told them the ideas he had.

Harrison jumped in and added more and Owen did the same.

Asher wrote it all down and then started putting the specs in his computer.

When they were all done troubleshooting, Asher had the layout and the new design almost ready.

"I will have this ready to go by lunch."

Raiden nodded, "Sounds good."

He looked around, “When he is done, we will all need to do what needs to be done. This business can’t shut down while we work, and we need to do it as quickly as possible. So, Asher, get the specs for the cabinets, and the shelving first and then Dirk and I will get started.

Dirk nodded and Asher did as well.

“I want the wood in a dark cherry. It seems more classy. I will be paying for everything on this remodel. So just know that nothing is off limits.”

Dirk raised his eyebrow, “Alright then.”

Raiden winked at him, “We are going to be fixing up the other shops as well. Let’s do it right. Okay?”

Dirk nodded and Owen, Harrison and Asher got to work until Asher finished the specs.

Once he was done, Raiden immediately knew that Kadence would love it.

He would do exactly what was needed to give their shop the best chance.

CHAPTER SEVEN

Kadence



Going into work that day was something that she didn't want to do, but she did because she couldn't leave Arielle to do the work alone.

When she got there, she kissed Raiden goodbye and wanted to count down the minutes until he got back.

She went in the door and Arielle was there, putting up a new dress in the window.

Arielle turned and grinned, "Raiden just dropped you off. After you were gone all night. You haven't been answering your phone."

Kadence laughed, "Are you fishing?"

Arielle got out of the window and came over, hugging her.

"Of course. My best friend kissed the crap out of Raiden yesterday and didn't sleep at home. I want to know it all."

Kadence smiled, "Okay, okay. He is the best thing ever Ari. Like, hands down the sexiest, sweetest man I have ever seen. He was and is so respectful of me, even when I tried to seduce him. And damn it, I love him. I just met him yesterday! How in the hell is that sane?"

Arielle laughed, "I feel the same way about Gunner. I had no idea I could love him like I do. I have only known him a little longer than you have."

Kadence laughed, "Are we hopeless? How will anyone believe this is real love?"

Arielle looked down, and then back up, “I don’t even care what anyone thinks. I know the truth. I know that he loves me and will always love me, and do what is best for me. And I know that Raiden is cut from the same cloth. I know that he will always be there for you. And more importantly, I know he will love you. Yes, it’s crazy and fast, but why would we want it to take months? Years? I know I wouldn’t want that. To fall in love slowly and be unhappy with life. I would rather fall in love, and know that he is meant to be mine than to let him slip through my fingers.”

Kadence sat at her station, “I know you are right and I know he is right. I just get it in my head that someone is going to care, or judge us or something.”

Arielle shrugged, “And if they judge, then let them judge. They are sad and lonely people who want to find happiness but can’t. You need to pick your happiness. To choose if you want this, or if you want to let Raiden go.”

Her stomach clenched at the thought and the night before flashed in her mind, his face fierce as his expression and his voice steady as he told her he wanted it all with her.

Then this morning, after they had made love and she had been the one to tell him that she loved him.

Because she did. Arielle was right and so was her heart. So what if small minded people wanted to hate? Let them hate. She knew that Raiden would love her, protect her and take care of her for the rest of their lives and she wanted that.

Wanted the future she could only see with him.

She pulled out her phone, and saw that her parents had texted, and called and that Arielle had more than once.

She laughed, and called her parents, her mom answered on the first ring.

“Hey there you stranger. Did you drop off the face of the planet?”

Kadence smiled, “Sorry, I met the love of my life yesterday and I was spending time with him.”

Her mom laughed, “Oh really? The love of your life? Well, since you have never brought up boys your entire life, this is new. Am I going to like him?”

Kadence’s smile grew, “Nope. You will love him. I do. He is perfect mom. So wonderful and kind and exactly the man I always wanted for myself but never knew I needed. And I can’t wait for more.”

“Well, you best bring him by sooner rather than later yes? Your father and I can’t wait to meet him. What’s his name?”

“Raiden Daniels.”

“I have heard of him. Several of my friends have had their houses designed by him and his crew. He is very talented and very sought after by the ladies of the town.”

Kadence laughed, “I know that. He is a handsome man and he is brilliant in his art. But hate to break it to them, he is all mine.”

Her mom laughed, “Good. Bring him soon, and I will cook okay?”

She smiled, “Okay. He will love your cooking. Everyone does.”

Then she hung up and hugged Arielle. “Thank you. For everything.”

Arielle hugged her back, “Gunner told me he really likes you. That you are feisty and exactly what Raiden needs.”

Kadence smiled, “I’m super feisty that’s for sure. Gotta look after my best friend. Come on, I will cut, you sew.”

They worked for a few hours and thankfully, caught up on most of their orders when the bell on the door dinged.

She looked up to see Raiden walking in with Harrison and a few other men.

They all had hard hats, and tool belts and it was a sight to see.

Raiden came straight for her and lifted her from her chair, kissing her and she wrapped her arms and legs around him.

Arielle clapped and cheered and then Raiden pulled apart from her.

“Well, that was fun.” She said and he laughed.

“I couldn’t resist. My little Fairy is over here all domestic and sewing up a storm and if it wasn’t the sexiest thing.”

She smiled, “You think that’s sexy? Boy are you easy to please.”

He grinned and tickled her side softly. “You little imp. You know every single damn thing about you is sexy.”

She laughed, “Fine. Alright. I concede to your point. You came to show us something?”

Raiden nodded, “This is Asher. He is my tech guy and the man who plans everything on his computer so we know what we are doing before we come in and do it. He has -with the help of all of our ideas- come up with the look of your new store.”

Kadence looked at Arielle who had her eyebrows raised high. “Okay. Can we see it?”

Raiden laughed, “Of course love, we are just waiting on Gunner. He wanted to be here for it.”

Gunner was walking in the door right then and Arielle ran to him, jumping in his arms and kissing him.

Kadence smiled and then Gunner put Arielle on her feet and he headed their way.

“Alright, I’m here. Show me.”

Raiden smiled, “Go for it Asher.”

Asher walked to where they were standing and put his large laptop on the desk.

Then he showed them all the new improvements on the shop and talked them through it.

Showing them what the cabinets would look like and what the drawers would look like.

The girls oohed and aahed and by the time Asher was done they were almost jumping up and down with excitement.

She looked up at Raiden and then hugged him, “It’s so beautiful. I can’t wait to see it fully done.”

Arielle nodded, “Yeah. What she said. I can’t believe that will be our shop.”

Gunner kissed her, “Believe it baby. Raiden and his crew will also be fixing up the other shops and I will be offering them rent for a very reasonable price range. So there is that.”

Arielle hugged him and then thanked Raiden.

Kadence kissed him, “When will it be done?”

Raiden looked at Asher, “We have already started on the cabinets and the shelves, I am hoping we can get it done in less than two weeks. It seems long, but I swear it will probably be done before that.”

Kadence hugged him tighter and the men left after getting a few last minute measurements.

Harrison stayed behind with Owen and they started carefully taking down things that they could.

And Harrison had a few paint swatches for them to choose from.

Arielle and Kadence both settled on a light pink and a light lemon yellow for the different walls and she couldn’t wait to see it done.

Then the men left and Arielle took her hands, “Our shop is going to be the shop of our dreams!”

Kadence grinned, “I know! I can’t wait!”

Arielle laughed, “These men. They are something else aren’t they?”

“That is an understatement. Come on, let’s get these dresses done so we can spend time with them.”

Arielle laughed, “Deal.”

They finished what they needed to and Kadence went back to her bungalow, knowing that she wanted a few things if she was going to spend the night with Raiden again.

He texted her.

Raiden: Love, do you want me to come pick you up? I made dinner again.

Kadence: I will drive over. That way you don't have to leave.

Raiden: Fine. But I don't like it.

Kadence: Caveman. I will be there soon. Just grabbing a few things for your house. Hope that's okay.

Raiden: Fairy, I want all of your stuff at my house. Of course it's okay.

Kadence: Alright then. See you soon.

She hurried around her room and packed a few more things and then she locked the house and drove to Raiden's.

She loved his house and couldn't wait to explore it all. She wanted to swim in the lake and knew that summer would be pure bliss.

She pulled into the driveway and then saw that one of the garages was open and empty. She didn't know what to do, so she parked in the driveway and then knocked on the front door.

Raiden opened it, wearing a pair of black sweat pants and that was it.

He was barefoot as well and his hair was still wet from the shower.

He raised his eyebrow and cleared his throat when she didn't move.

She felt the blush creep up her cheeks. This was silly. She had seen the man naked.

Had made love to him this morning. He was just all sorts of yummy.

“You gonna stare at me all night out here? Or do you want to take your fill while you are in our house?”

She nodded and he laughed, and pulled her in the house. “Why didn’t you walk in? I thought you were going to park in the garage.”

Her mouth dropped open, “I didn’t know I was supposed to park there.”

He leaned down and kissed her, “Fairy, that is your spot from now on. It’s the closest to the main door in the house and I wanted you to have it. This house is yours now. Even if you don’t live here fully yet, what’s mine is yours.”

She smiled at him and he kissed her, “I have been missing that mouth of yours.”

She kissed him again, “I missed it too.”

He pulled her into his arms and just hugged her tightly against him and she snuggled up to his hard chest and it felt so good and right.

She shut her eyes and just savored being in his arms.

Then he kissed her one more time and pointed at her bag, “Do you want to put that in our room? I will move your car.”

She grinned and he took the keys from her. And then he went out front and she hurried to put her bag in their room.

What a novel concept. She loved it.

She kicked off her shoes and pulled on some comfy pajamas before she went downstairs and when she walked back in the kitchen, Raiden was at the stove, his back to her.

She studied his broad back and just watched him move through the kitchen.

He winked over at her, “See something you like?”

She shook her head, “Nope, I see something I love.”

He grinned so wide and then stepped over to where she was standing, and kissed her. “I love you too Fairy. Have a seat. You hungry?”

She nodded and he put their food on two plates.

“Where did you learn to cook?” She asked and he smiled, “My mom taught me. Rickie and I always were under her feet wanting to learn. And it’s a skill that has come in handy. It has saved me money over the years. Gunner is also quite adept in the kitchen if he ever has time to cook.”

She laughed, “I will have to tell Arielle. She loves to cook, but also doesn’t have a lot of time.”

He smiled, “And what about you?”

She winked at him, “I guess we will see.”

He chuckled, “You are a little imp. I love it.”

“Only for you babe.”

He smiled and they ate the delicious food he had made.

CHAPTER EIGHT

Raiden



They spent the night in each other's arms again and when they woke, Raiden once again feasted on his woman's delicious body.

He was quickly becoming addicted to her and he didn't hate it.

When she drove off to go to work it wasn't easy. He didn't love it and yet he knew he would be seeing her soon.

He loved the new project and hurried to his office so he could get to work with Dirk.

When he got there, Dirk already had all of the wood cut and ready to be put together for the cabinets and Raiden walked over, grabbing the nail gun and some wood glue.

Dirk let him put a few together, while he did the other half.

They had been at work for over an hour when Asher came into the shop, which was part of their building.

He had his phone out, "Raiden. You need to answer your phone right now. There is a situation with Rickie."

Raiden felt his blood go cold and whipped his phone out of his pocket.

He had put on some sound cancelling headphones because the compressor was loud and Dirk still needed to use the saw.

There were three missed calls from Rickie and two from Steele.

Raiden called Rickie, but her phone went to voicemail and then he tried Steele.

“Steele here, kinda busy Raiden. I will call back.”

Then he hung up and Raiden ran to his truck, Harrison and Dirk behind him.

“We are going with you Raiden.”

Raiden nodded, “Get in, we have to hurry.”

They jumped in the truck and Raiden peeled out of the parking lot and drove as quickly as he could to the bank Rickie worked at.

It was surrounded by cops and there was a barrier up, preventing him from running up to find his sister.

He cursed and his phone rang, “Raiden, that intel you gave me proved to be prophetic. While my crew and I came to check out the bank this morning, a man came in with a small crew, trying to rob the bank. We are all at a standstill. There are still workers, and we are trying to be smart. We will handle this.”

Raiden wanted to say more, but Steele hung up.”Shit.”

His phone rang again, “Steele?”

“No, it’s Kadence. What’s going on love?”

Raiden blew out a breath, “Rickie’s bank is getting robbed. Or some men are trying to rob it anyway.”

She let out a gasp, “Where?”

He told her, “It’s on the corner of Main. The big trust bank.”

“I’m on my way.”

“Fairy,” he said and she cut him off, “No Raiden. I am on my way. You need me. So does Rickie. I am coming.”

He heard her rustling around and then her car started, “I will watch for you.”

“Love you.” She said and he gave a small smile, “I love you too, drive safely my fairy.”

He hung up and then turned back, grateful he had packed his truck with a lot of non essential items, such as binoculars and he lifted them, watching from the windows the men inside waving guns back and forth and hating the entire thing.

He could see Steele crouched with the workers and wished he could hear what was happening.

One of the men dressed in black with a ski mask over his face walked by where Steele was crouching and the man went down hard, knocked unconscious.

Raiden saw Steele grab the man's gun and then slowly rose to his feet, where he hadn't been seen taking the man out.

The workers pushed the man's body behind a pillar and the other men were too busy trying to open the vault, then to see that one of their comrades was out for the count.

Steele walked around slowly, nodding at his men, and one by one, they slowly started taking the bad guys down in what Raiden guessed to be a silent manner as the other men never even looked around when all this was happening.

Steele's men had gotten each of the bad men until only the two men working on the vault could be seen.

Raiden watched as one of them called out, but got no answer from his crew and when he turned, he was met with guns.

Steele, Crew, Jet and Scout were armed to the teeth and the two men dropped their guns and put their hands in the air.

Raiden could see they were cursing and shouting, and then one of them bent down, and pulled a gun from a holster he had hidden under his pants pocket.

He shot twice, hitting Steele in the shoulder and the other shot going wide, and Steele's men took him out.

Steele was holding a hand to his arm, blood was pouring from his fingers, but he waved his men off and Crew and Jet hurried to open the front doors of the bank, and the police rushed inside.

They picked up all the men, putting them in handcuffs and then covering the dead body of the last man.

The police helped the men and women from the building and one by one they all gave their statements.

Rickie was done first and she kept looking back into the bank, worry stamped across her face and when she was able to leave hurried to his side.

He crushed her in a hug, holding his sister tightly for a few minutes.

Then he cupped her face in his hands, "Are you okay? Steele called me, and you called me, and I'm so sorry, I was in the shop making cabinets. I didn't hear my phone."

She nodded, "I am fine. I swear. It was so scary. They all came in, shooting, and making us all get in a big circle in the middle. Steele was there, he looked like he was one of us, as did his crew. I still don't understand how they didn't realize that they weren't part of our team."

She shook her head, her face showing her bafflement, "I recognized the main guy. He was the one who was watching the bank, but he didn't give any one of us a second glance. Just wanted to get into the vault. He must have gotten the codes from somewhere, but since I told you, my manager and Steele had the codes changed. The guy was freaking out and kept trying to get in, but it wouldn't work and yet he didn't think to have my boss help him out. Or maybe he would have, but Steele got there first. And then he got shot. Raiden! I am so worried about him. He just took the hit like it was nothing."

Raiden shook his head and kissed her forehead, hugging her tightly again. "I know. It's going to be okay sweetheart. He will be just fine."

Rickie nodded, her face still buried in his chest and they heard a throat clear behind them and they both turned to see Crew.

"It was you that told Steele about the robbery wasn't it?"

Raiden nodded, "I did. But Rickie was the one to tell me. She noticed the man days ago, but she says he must have been

watching the bank for a while.”

Crew held out his hand to Rickie, and she took it shyly. “Well, we appreciate the intel. It wouldn’t look good on our company had we failed to save the bank today.”

She let out a soft laugh, “So true. Is, um. Is Steele okay?”

Crew nodded, “It was a through and through. He will be just fine.”

She thanked him and Crew shook his hand as well, “Thanks Raiden. How is your friend Gunner? And his girl?”

Raiden smiled, “They are just fine. Got engaged and are happy. Thanks for your help.”

Crew laughed, “You are welcome. It’s what we do.” Then he winked and walked back over to his small crew, and they all waved over at him.

Raiden hugged Rickie again and then let out a curse, “Oh fuck. I have to look for Kadence. She was coming to see if we were okay.”

He looked around and saw Kadence there, standing next to Harrison. She smiled at him and he led Rickie to her side.

CHAPTER NINE

Kadence



*A*fter Raiden had told her about Rickie's bank being robbed, she had dropped everything and hurried to see him.

When she got there, everything was pure chaos, and she found Harrison, but there was no sign of Raiden.

Harrison stood by her, guarding her from anything and everything as she watched the ending of the stand off in the building.

She gasped when the man got shot, and she shut her eyes, not wanting to see any more.

She turned around, needing a minute, never having seen anyone get shot before.

There was a lot of blood and when she looked up, Harrison was looking down at her, his eyebrow raised, "Are you okay?"

She nodded, "I just needed a second."

He nodded, "Looks like they are letting the workers free and the police are there."

She turned back around just in time to see a beautiful, curvaceous young woman run into Raiden's open arms.

She was in shock, and watched as Raider held the girl tenderly in his arms.

Then he cupped her face in his hand and after a few seconds kissed her forehead.

She knew something was off, and when she looked up to find Harrison, he was distracted by some of the cops and then a softly hissed voice next to her said, “How does it feel to see the man you love, love another? Huh? Does it feel good?”

Kadence turned to see Shay, the woman from the burger place glaring at her.

“What?” She asked, confused.

“How does it feel to see the man you love hug and kiss another? Huh? His mistress sure is a beauty. I have seen her around for years and he is always touching her and kissing her like that. Feels horrible doesn’t it? That he is such a little liar?”

Kadence raised her eyebrows, “Raiden isn’t that way at all. He is a good man and if you believe that about him, you don’t know him.”

Shay sneered, “And you know him so well?”

Kadence shrugged, “I know enough to know that you are lying.”

Shay scoffed, “You haven’t even been around long enough to know anything about anything.”

Harrison stepped in, “She may not have been around that long, but I have. You are a horrible woman Shay. Trying to make up lies about Raiden. You have always wanted him and made it no secret either. He didn’t want you then and he doesn’t want you now.”

She shook her head, “He is mine! This stupid slut can’t just come in here and take what is mine.”

Harrison held up his hand, “Don’t even start with that shit. Raiden isn’t yours and never has been. He doesn’t like you. You aren’t a good person. You have stalked him, broke into his house and tried to attack him. It’s a wonder he is still nice to you. Just leave it be. He is taken, and it isn’t by you. I would leave now before I have one of these very nice cops here arrest you for harassment. You know Raiden has been kind to you up to this point and hasn’t gotten a restraining order against you, but he could after this. So just walk away.”

Shay went to say something else and Kadence shook her head, “I get it. He is handsome and wonderful, but that doesn’t give you the right to treat him like property. To act this way. Find a guy who will see you for you. Who wants you as much as you want him. Don’t be this girl. You are better than that.”

Shay looked over at her and slowly her anger deflated. “You are right. I just saw him, and he is handsome. The most handsome guy I have seen, and he was nice to me. Like his crew. Some guys think because I’m a waitress that they can treat me badly. But he never has. I just thought if I got him to notice me, he would want me too. I know I went too far.”

Kadence hugged her, “It’s okay. He let it go, and so should you. There are plenty of men out there and ones that are worth your while. I know that you will find the man meant for you. I just know it.”

Shay hugged her back, “Really?”

Kadence smiled, “Really. You are a beautiful girl Shay. And I say that with absolute certainty. You are stunning. Don’t waste your time on a guy who is already taken. Find the one that will see only you, will want only you. You deserve that. Raiden was never going to be that guy.”

Shay sighed, “I guess you are right. I do deserve to find a guy worthy of me.”

Kadence smiled at her, “There you go. I just know you will find the right guy.”

Shay smiled back, “Thanks. For being nice to me. Even when I didn’t deserve it.”

Kadence laughed, “You just got a little lost. I get it. And it’s okay. Just know that there is a guy for you. And I hope one day we can be friends. Okay?”

Shay looked up, hope in her eyes, “Really? I don’t have any friends. I’m really quiet normally.”

Kadence shook her head, “You got me and my friend Arielle now.”

Shay pulled her phone out and Kadence gave her her number and Shay gave her hers.

Then Shay turned and left, and Kadence felt happy. Free.

Raiden looked over at her and she smiled at him and Harrison looked down at her, “How can you be her friend after all of that?”

Kadence shrugged, “She is a lonely girl looking for love in all the wrong places. But she isn’t a bad girl. She just needs somebody and if I can help her and be her friend, I would rather do that. This world needs more love and less hate don’t you think?”

Harrison gaped down at her and she laughed and Raiden pulled the girl up to them.

He leaned down and kissed Kadence’s lips and she kissed him back, and then he said, “Kadence, this is my little sister Rickie. Her real name is Rickell, but it’s too stuffy. She is most definitely a Rickie.”

Kadence smiled at her and Rickie pulled her in for a hug, “Hi. It’s so nice to meet you.”

Kadence hugged her back, and when Rickie pulled back, Kadence held her hand, “Are you okay? I am sorry this whole thing happened to you.”

Rickie nodded, “I will be. It was really scary and not something I was expecting today. I knew something would happen, just wasn’t sure when.”

Kadence felt her eyebrows raise in shock. “Wow. Okay, that’s crazy. Raiden didn’t tell me.”

Raiden smiled, “Sorry Fairy. It slipped my mind.”

Kadence shook her head, “It’s fine. Do you need to talk to the police at all?”

Rickie shook her head, “They already took my statement.”

Kadence led her away and then Raiden helped them into his truck.

Kadence laughed, “Let me just drive. Can we have Rickie stay for a while?”

Raiden nodded, “Of course Fairy.”

She kissed him and then drove behind his truck to their house.

She pulled into her spot in the garage and Raiden opened her door and led them both into the house.

She went to the kitchen and started to make grilled cheese sandwiches and stuff for them to eat and Rickie sat next to her brother while she told them all that happened.

How even though Raiden had seen most of the ending, he hadn't seen the beginning when they were all threatened and one of her male co-workers had almost been shot by one of the men.

He had tried so desperately to be a hero, but had been hit across the face with a gun and threatened. Steele had finally stepped in and had de-escalated the situation.

Thank heavens for Steele.

Rickie told her that Steele and his men had sat with them and had come up with a plan to bring the men down and she told them how she had watched in awe as Steele had effortlessly brought down the first one.

And how his team moved like they were completely at ease with the situation.

Rickie hated that Steele had been shot, but she knew he would have rather taken the bullet himself than to allow anyone else to be injured.

He was just the sort of man to be like that.

Kadence could see her blushing and she had a feeling that Rickie had a thing for Steele.

If so, that Steele was a lucky man.

Rickie finished her tale and Raiden put his arm around her, “You can stay here tonight. We don't want you to be alone.”

Rickie nodded, eating a bite of the finished sandwich that Kadence had put in front of her. “Thanks. I feel bad. Knowing you two just are starting out.”

Raiden shook his head, “We know this is forever. And Kadence and I both want you here.”

Kadence nodded, “Rickie, you are more than welcome here. Our house is yours. You just went through a crazy ordeal. Of course we want you here.”

Rickie smiled, “Thanks. Can I take my regular room?”

Raiden nodded, “Yep. It’s all yours. Still has a few clothes from the last time I think.”

Rickie laughed, “Alright. Thanks. And thank you for the sandwich. It was just what I needed.”

Kadence went to her side and hugged her. “You are welcome. Let us know if you need anything.”

Rickie nodded and then went to her room that was across the house from their bedroom.

Kadence turned to Raiden, pulling on his hand, “Help me clean up from dinner and then I want you upstairs with me.”

He raised his eyebrow, “Oh, what for?”

She smiled, “You know what for.”

He grinned and they cleaned up the kitchen together.

CHAPTER TEN

Raiden



When they finished cleaning, he chased his fairy up the stairs.

She let out a soft squeal and he picked her up, putting her over his shoulder much like he had before.

She laughed and he threw her on the bed, following her down.

He took her mouth in a possessive kiss, and held her close.

She wrapped her arms around his neck and kissed him back.

He plunged his tongue into her mouth and she let out a soft moan as he tasted her.

He pulled back, kissing down her neck and in between her breast that he could reach.

He finally could take it no longer and helped her sit up, pulling her shirt off and then fumbling with the clasp on her bra.

It took a few tries, but he finally got it undone.

When it fell away, he gently shaped the globes of her breasts in his hands, and he lifted one to his mouth, sucking on the tip, and loving her moans and cries.

She buried her fingers in his hair and he switched sides and sucked the neglected tip.

He kissed the undersides of her breasts, and then down her body to her jeans.

He unbuttoned them and then jerked them off, making her laugh as he did so.

He stood on the side of the bed, stripping off his clothes and then climbing back on the bed.

He turned her gently to her hands and knees. And she watched him over her shoulder as he gripped her hips, “Are you ready for me?” he asked and she nodded, “I have been for a long time.

He guided his cock into her body, thrusting to the hilt inside her.

She fell to her elbows and he started thrusting in and out, making her gasp with how hard he was taking her.

He knew he needed to slow down and be more careful with his Fairy, but he was too lost.

He wanted nothing more than to make her come and feel her clench around him.

He gripped her hips harder, needing to feel it and she cried out.

He hoped he didn't leave bruises, but at this point he didn't care.

She reached between her legs and started touching her clit, which he felt with each thrust and then she was coming apart, screaming his name into the sheets.

He pumped into her three more times, and came hard.

Filling her and hoping against hope that he got her pregnant.

He was breathing hard and he slowly pulled out of her, and then collapsed on the bed, pulling her into his arms.

She turned in his arms and kissed his chest and then looked up at him, “I love you.”

He smiled and then kissed her, “I love you too my fairy.”

She shut her eyes and then was out. And he breathed her scent in and shut his eyes.

He loved being here. Just days ago he had no idea she existed, and now? She was his everything.

He pulled her in just a little tighter and she let out a soft sigh.

He kissed the top of her head and he knew that he had found his home. Finally.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

Kadence



The next morning, she went to work and Rickie came along to see what she did.

Kadence really connected with Raiden's little sister. The girl was a bombshell.

She was curvy and absolutely stunning. She didn't even know how beautiful she was and Kadence loved her quiet confidence and how she owned her curves.

Wasn't ashamed of them. Rickie may have been quiet, but that didn't mean she wasn't confident and didn't appreciate the body she was given.

Her parents had been at the core of that. Her mom was loving and kind, and her dad supported every decision his children made.

They were having dinner with them tonight and Kadence was nervous. She hadn't met a guy's parents before.

She hadn't gone on a date before she met Raiden. She and Arielle both didn't go to prom with traditional dates.

They went together so they could have the experience and had loved it.

Their parents had taken them out to a fancy restaurant and they had loved every single moment of it.

It was one of her favorite memories and she had told Raiden that when they were getting to know each other that first night.

It was sweet that he cared that much about her and damn if it didn't make her love him more.

Kadence shook herself free from her thoughts and opened the door to the shop, where Harrison was there, along with a man named Dirk and Owen.

Dirk was installing the new cabinets and Owen was installing the new shelving.

Harrison was painting one of the walls and it looked so good already.

"Hey there girls," Harrison called out and they both smiled.

"Is Arielle in the back room?" Kadence asked and Harrison nodded, "She is. But Gunner is here. So knock first."

Kadence laughed and knocked on the office door.

It took a second, but Arielle was heard shoing Gunner away from her so she could open the door.

Kadence was grinning and Rickie was smothering her laughter behind her hand.

Arielle opened the door and her hair was a mess of her red curls and her lip gloss was gone.

It looked to be on Gunner though. Kadence snorted and then looked at Rickie, who looked at her and they both started laughing.

Arielle started laughing as well and Gunner chuckled when he saw the evidence his girl left behind. He quickly wiped it away and shrugged, "What can I say? I needed a taste of my girl and apparently wanted to take it with me."

Kadence laughed again, "Apparently."

Gunner hugged Arielle and then hugged Rickie. Arielle raised her eyebrow, and Rickie went forward and hugged her, "Do you remember me from the parties?"

Arielle grinned, and recognition dawned, "Oh yes, of course!! I forgot, I'm so sorry. I have to say, you are absolutely stunning."

Rickie smiled, “Thanks, you are too. I am so happy for you and Gunner. We have been on him and Raiden for years to find a girl and settle down. I guess it finally happened.”

Rickie gave Gunner a look which made him chuckle again and hold up his hands, “I know. I know. But, if I hadn’t waited, I wouldn’t have found my mermaid. You wouldn’t want me to have ended up with the wrong girl would you?”

He gave Rickie a pout and she shook her head and laughed, “You and Raiden both. Heavens. I am so glad Genna and I have someone else here to deal with this ridiculousness.”

Kadence looked at Arielle and she was smiling, “You sure do. You have to go to work babe, or you will be late for your meeting. Again.”

Gunner let out a groan, “But, Siren, I don’t want to go.”

She laughed, “You have to. Someone has to make the big bucks.”

He snorted, “Fine. You win. I love you my Siren.”

“I love you too. Pick me up later.”

He kissed Arielle really quick, and then left.

Arielle let out a sigh and Kadence smiled, “Come on, we have work to do. I told Rickie she could hang out with us.”

Arielle grinned, “Yeah? Okay. Tell us all about Gunner and Raiden as kids.”

Rickie laughed, “Oh, I am going to like you. Yes, yes I am.”

She told them all about the shenanigans the boys used to get into as kids and Harrison, Dirk and Owen were all laughing along with them.

Harrison even told them a few stories of when they started out on their own.

Kadence’s stomach hurt from laughing so hard and by the time they were done with their work for that day, a lot had been done in the shop.

The new cabinets were up, as was all the shelving, the painting was almost done and they had new stations going in for sewing.

Arielle had given her two cents in and Dirk had written them all down and told her that the stations would be exactly to their liking and how they wanted them to be.

It was a very productive day and Kadence absolutely adored Rickie and the men who worked for and with Raiden.

He was the owner of the company, yes, but he still got down and dirty with them.

Still worked on site with them and still helped in any capacity.

She loved that he never treated his employees badly and that he didn't think he was better than them.

In fact, Harrison told them that Raiden paid them all so well that they were even more loyal to him and would never cause him to question them.

She didn't doubt it either. She had seen how efficient they all were and she loved it.

She thanked the men and then she, Rickie and Arielle all went to their small bungalow that was slowly losing all of their things.

Kadence grabbed a few more outfits to bring to Raiden's and Arielle did the same for Gunners.

When they were ready, they sat on the couch with Rickie who had a forlorn look on her face.

Kadence touched her knee, "Hey, what is with the face?"

Rickie shook her head and Arielle stopped her, "Uh, uh. You are one of us now. Come on, tell us what's going on."

Rickie let out a sigh, "Okay, but I am kind of embarrassed about it."

They waited and Rickie said, "I am sort of in love with Steele."

Kadence felt her eyebrows raise, and Rickie nodded, “Yeah, that Steele.”

Arielle sat back, “Does Raiden know?”

Rickie shook her head, “No one does. Aside from you. I don’t know what it is about him. Why he is so perfect to me, but he is. Like I can’t handle it. When he came into the bank for the first time he was such a powerful man, so tall and imposing, but he isn’t that way. Not really.”

She shook her head, “He is sweet, and kind and yet he knows how to get the job done. They have been setting up the new system for a few weeks and every single day he comes in, my heart flutters and I want to see more of him. I don’t understand it.”

She rolled her eyes, “I know it’s so stupid, he has never even noticed me, but he stars in my dreams and my fantasies. Like my own personal knight in shining armor. I can’t get over it. And I sort of sent him a letter today thanking him for protecting the bank. They have been so busy setting up the new system that they didn’t notice the man that watched the bank for weeks. Like even though they came into the bank and worked there, they were in a room that wasn’t seen from the front and so they didn’t see him and he didn’t see them. It was so strange. How they always seemed to miss each other. But since I am a teller, I see it all. Where they are, and where that guy was. And I knew something was wrong.”

She shook her head, “I told Raiden, because I was too scared to tell Steele myself. I am terrified he will take one look at me and not like what he sees. Most men just look right through me, like I am not worth their time. I didn’t want to see that with him. So I didn’t tell him. But I sent him that letter and now I feel so stupid. I just am so overwhelmed with what happened yesterday, and him and everything. I just didn’t know what I was thinking and I can’t get it back. My mail lady picked it up first thing.”

She put her head in her hands, “What do I do?”

Kadence looked at Arielle, “Rickie, Steele is not a stupid boy that can’t see a beauty right in front of his face. He seems

like he isn't that sort of person. I haven't talked to him, but I assume he isn't that way?"

Rickie shrugged, "I don't think so."

Kadence smiled, "If I asked Raiden, I bet that would be the case. I honestly believe that Steele would see you, because you are beautiful. Inside and out. You are a good person, with a good heart and if he doesn't see all of that, then he doesn't deserve you. Let the chips fall where they may. The future might surprise you."

Rickie looked over at her, "Really?"

Kadence hugged her from one side and Arielle from the other, "Really. Arielle and I are proof of that. We had no idea that just days ago our futures would change in an instant. Don't give up on the man before you even get the chance to talk to him, I bet he will be the person you truly see. The good, kind man that works hard and helps those he can."

Rickie smiled, "You are right. I think he is."

Kadence grinned, "Come on, you want to get out of here?"

Rickie nodded and Kadence looked at Arielle, "Do you want to come see Raiden's house? You can help me get ready for dinner."

Arielle smiled, "Of course. And after you have to come see Gunner's house."

They all laughed and drove to Raiden's to get ready.

CHAPTER TWELVE

Raiden



*R*aiden had gone to talk to Kadence's parents. He knew that she would want their approval and though they hadn't been together long, Raiden couldn't wait to put a ring on her finger.

When he pulled up to their house, he was nervous, but knew that this was important and he wanted her parent's blessing.

He knocked on the door of their modest ranch style home and admired their large wrap around porch that was adorned with a few rocking chairs.

When the door opened, he turned and saw an older version of his Fairy looking at him.

She was the same height and had the same hair color and the same curls as his Fairy..

But her eyes were a different color and Raiden noted that she didn't look a day older than his Fairy.

She smiled at him, "Can I help you?"

He smiled back and held out his hand, "Hi. My name is Raiden Daniels and I want to marry your daughter."

Her mouth dropped open, "Brand? Will you come here?"

Raiden heard footsteps, and then a man that was about his height stepped up behind his wife.

He raised his eyebrow and looked down at his wife, "What's going on Emmy?"

Emmy looked up, “Well, apparently, this man says he is going to marry our daughter.”

Brand turned shocked eyes on him, “I’m sorry. I don’t think I heard my wife quite right. Did she just say that you are going to marry my Kadi girl?”

Raiden nodded, “Yes sir. I love her and want only the best for her.”

Brand looked down at his wife again, “We didn’t even know she was dating.”

Then he smiled and looked around outside, “Is this a prank? Kadence, you get your little butt out here. You scared your mom and I. This guy is really convincing.”

Raiden shook his head, “I’m afraid it isn’t a joke.”

Brand went still and Emmy looked at Raiden again.

She pushed Brand back a step, “Come in. I think we need to talk.”

Raiden nodded and warily entered their home. He didn’t mean to catch them off guard, but he didn’t want to hide their relationship either.

Emmy led them into a large living room. It was open and inviting and Raiden once again appreciated the skill and the beauty of the home.

Emmy gestured for him to sit in a chair and he did, and she and Brand sat on the couch.

He let out a silent breath, “First of all, thank you for not throwing me out and talking to me. I appreciate it. Second of all, Kadence is my world. I may not have known her that long and she may not have had the time to tell you about us and our relationship, so you are caught off guard, but I assure you, what we have is very real and I love her with all that I am.”

Brand raised his eyebrows, and then held up a hand, “Hold up, how long have you known our daughter?”

Raiden sighed, “About 5 days. Give or take a few hours.”

Emmy let out a shocked gasp, “Okay. You are pulling our legs. No.”

Raiden shook his head, “I guarantee that we are not. From the second I saw Kadence, I felt something shift in me. Like my world was finally right when it has been upside down for the entirety of it. She makes me whole. My heart, my soul and my body knew that she was the one woman meant to be ours.”

Her parents didn’t say anything, and he pushed on, “I know it seems crazy and that it’s fast, but I don’t want to and won’t waste time living without my girl now that I finally found her. She loves me as much as I love her. And while she too questioned it at first and didn’t know how to take it, she has accepted all of it. Even if we take it slowly, and don’t rush into anything that I am not going anywhere and that she and I will still end up together.”

Brand leaned forward, “This is so sudden. Kadence has never even dated a guy, let alone brought one home to meet us, so what you are saying is completely insane.”

Raiden nodded, “I know it sounds that way. Believe me, I get it. Your daughter that doesn’t date has a man wanting the world with her is a little bit crazy. But is it really so unbelievable? I love her. She is beautiful, inside and out, she has fire and sass and is full of life and all the things I could have ever hoped for in a wife, in a companion to spend my life with. She is the perfect woman. She completes me. Makes me happy and I want nothing more than to make her feel the same. To make sure that every day she wakes up and has the best life and when she goes to sleep at night, she knows that she has someone who loves her and only wants the best for her.”

Brand let out sigh, “I want to call Kadence. Is that okay?”

Raiden nodded, “Of course.”

Brand pulled out his phone and called Kadence, and after putting it on speaker, she answered, “Hey daddy. How are you?”

“We are fine honey. Your mom and I have you on speaker.”

She laughed, “Hey mom. I have missed you.”

Emmy smiled, “Hi sweet girl. I miss you too. Hey, um, we have a man here claiming to love you and that you are dating.”

Kadence when quiet, “Raider is there?”

Raider spoke up, “Hi love.”

Kadence laughed, “What are you doing there?”

Raider sighed, “I wanted to introduce myself to your parents.”

“Okay. That’s sweet of you. Why didn’t you wait for me?”

He grinned, “I have to ask them something and you can’t hear what it is.”

She laughed again, “Alright then. Mom, dad, Raider is the best guy there is. You are probably wondering why I haven’t told you about him and I wasn’t hiding him or anything, I just wanted to keep him to myself for a little bit. Dad is going to love him, because they have a lot in common and Mom, I just know you will want to know when we are getting married and having grandbabies. So I was hiding him away so he doesn’t have to hear all the crazy.”

Emmy laughed and Raider had to give a cough so he didn’t laugh as well.

Emmy said, “We were just so surprised. You have never dated before and then this handsome man comes around and is telling us he wants everything with you?”

Kadence laughed, “He certainly doesn’t hide his feelings. It scared me at first too, but he is genuine. He loves me and I love him. I was going to tell you about him, I swear. He isn’t a secret and he never will be, we just have been busy. But he is my man. And I won’t let him go.”

Raider grinned, and her mom sighed, “Okay, I like that. You are both so fierce in your love for each other.”

Kadence laughed, “We sure are. I can’t wait to see where my life goes with him.”

Then she said her goodbyes and hung up.

Raiden sat back in his chair, “See?”

Brand smiled over at him, “Well, I apologize for questioning you both. We just had to be absolutely certain. Our girl is our only child and we are over protective of her.”

Raiden nodded, “And I appreciate that. I am grateful to you for taking such care of her and loving her.”

Brand put his arm around his wife, “What can I do for you?”

Raiden gave him a small smile, “I came here to ask for your permission and for your blessing.”

They looked at each other again and Brand slowly nodded, “After hearing that our daughter loves you as much as you love her, we are happy for you both.”

Raiden felt himself relax and Emmy leaned forward and touched his hand, “Have you already bought her ring?”

Raiden nodded, “I did this morning. I knew exactly which ring was suited best for her and I just know it is going to be perfect for her.”

He pulled the ring box from his back pocket and opened it, showing them the ring he picked out for Kadence.

Emmy gasped and her eyes filled with tears, “Oh, it’s so beautiful. I know she will love it. Do you know she used to play fairies and would dress up as Tinker Bell all the time? That it was her favorite? She still dresses up as her and I love seeing my little girl still peeking through.”

Raiden nodded, “I call her my Fairy actually. From the beginning in fact. She looks just like a little sprite and I love her.”

Emmy looked at her husband and he was smiling, “Brand calls me his Fairy sometimes too.”

Brand kissed his wife’s forehead, “Sure do.”

Then he held out his hand and Raiden took it, shaking it.

“You have our blessing and our permission. We can’t wait to gain a son.”

Raiden smiled, “Thank you. I can’t wait to gain some new parents. I am planning on asking her tonight. Will you come and be part of it? I know she would love to have you there.”

They nodded and Raiden gave them the directions to his parents house. Emmy looked up, “We know your parents. Oh, it’s been so long since we have seen them, how are they?”

Raiden grinned, “They are fine. My mom is still teaching. She loves it and has been the fifth grade teacher for a long time and my dad, well he still works for the company he has always worked for, but he loves it and wouldn’t change his job.”

Emmy smiled, “It’s been so many years since we have seen them. We used to go to dinners together until life drove us apart. I have always regretted that. That they were such good friends and we didn’t keep trying.”

Raiden smiled at them, “My mom and dad are really forgiving. They will be thrilled to see you again.”

Emmy hugged him, “How is Rickell? I am sure she has grown into a beautiful young woman.”

Raiden hugged her back, “She has. Rickie works at the bank and is spending the day with Kadence.”

Brand and Emmy smiled, “Well, small world. We will be there tonight.”

Raiden nodded and left, needing to finish the decorating for the surprise he had in store for her.

He hurried to his parents’ house and they were there, along with Gunner’s mom and dad, Gabrielle and Lincoln, and Genna and Luke.

He hugged them all and got everyone started on decorating.

He wanted it to look like a Fairy wonderland and damned if they wouldn’t make it happen.

Harrison, and the rest of his crew came after Kadence, and Arielle went to Gunner’s home after work to get ready.

Rickie knew the plan and had gone with him on a dress shopping mission late last night after Kadence was asleep.

Gunner had met them there with Arielle and she told them that she could tailor any dress they found.

Raiden didn't care what it was as long as it was green. His girl looked amazing in green.

And Arielle found it. It was strapless and would fit tight around his Fairy's bust and waist and then would flare out at the bottom.

He couldn't wait to see her in it.

He shook his head, now was not the time.

With everyone hanging lights in the trees and putting them in bushes and where they could, it was starting to come together.

And he couldn't wait for her to see it.

He was shooed away when the time got closer and had to change into a tuxedo.

He did so and as he brushed his hair out of his face, and looked in the mirror, he knew that this would be the next step to her becoming his forever.

He finished getting ready and when he walked outside the entire backyard of his parents house was lit up with tiny sparkling lights.

Some hung from the trees, others were wound in branches and around pillars or the trunks.

It did look like a fairy wonderland.

He heard Arielle's car pull up and stood in his spot by the fountain. It was time.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

Kadence



When she went to drop Arielle off at Gunner's house, Arielle wanted to show her around.

And then, because she was there, Arielle told her that she wanted to play dress up and pretend it was their castle.

Kadence had laughed, but Arielle insisted and made Rickie also join in.

Rickie had agreed and Kadence did as well.

Arielle brought out a box and Kadence opened it to find a gorgeous green dress that looked as if it was made for her.

She put it on with Arielle's help and when her friend zipped her into the dress, she looked in the mirror with a gasp.

It fit her like a glove and she looked like a formal Tinker Bell.

Arielle brushed out her hair and curled it, and then put a little bit of makeup on.

Kadence loved the final look and Arielle did the same for Rickie.

Then she too got in a dress and when Arielle showed them around downstairs.

Arielle's phone went off and she checked it and Kadence saw her wink at Rickie.

Kadence shrugged off their weird interaction until Arielle came over, holding a black blindfold.

“I have a surprise for you.”

Kadence laughed, “Do I really need to be blindfolded?”

Arielle laughed, “You sure do.”

Kadence smiled, and Arielle took her hand and led her somewhere.

The sound was echo like and then Arielle was opening her car.

Kadence was laughing as the girls helped her get in the car and when she was situated, Arielle started the car and Kadence wanted so badly to lift the blindfold.

They drove in silence for a few minutes and then they were slowing and then stopping.

Kadence laughed, “Where are we? I thought we were going to meet up with the guys?”

Arielle and Rickie laughed, “We had a change of plans. But you will like it. I promise.”

Kadence grinned, “Okay. Can I take the blindfold off yet?”

Arielle chuckled, “So impatient. Not yet.”

Then the car was opening and someone touched her hand softly.

They helped her from the car and then they were leading her somewhere.

She clutched the arm that was leading her and knew it wasn't Arielle.

It was someone with a suit jacket on.

She didn't know who it was, but she knew it wasn't Raiden.

The man leading her didn't have the same scent as Raiden.

When the man stopped walking, he gently reached up and untied the blindfold and she blinked at the soft lighting coming from a head.

When she turned, the person was gone and she was alone.

She looked down and saw the path to the backyard.

She walked toward the lights, grateful that Arielle had given her small green wedge shoes.

When she made it to the lights, she let out a gasp when she saw the trees and the bushes lit up with tiny twinkling lights.

She turned in a circle and looked around in awe. And then she watched as people melted from the trees, each person holding a lit candle.

Her eyes filled with tears as she recognized each person.

Her parents, Arielle's parents, Arielle, Gunner, Rickie, the guys from Raiden's crew, Steele, and his crew, Genna, Luke, Cassidy and what she assumed were Raiden's parents.

But she didn't see Raiden. Until the people parted for her and there he was, dressed in a black tuxedo.

His hair was brushed back, in his faux hawk and he was smiling at her.

Her breath caught in her throat and he stepped forward, holding her hands in his and kissing her lightly.

Then he slowly dropped to one knee, and she fought to keep the tears from her eyes.

“My Fairy, my love. When I met you, I knew that my life would never be the same. And I embraced it. Knew that it was what I wanted and what I searched for. You gave me purpose and a reason to continue my life, and I can't wait to see what our life together will bring. I love you, have from the second I walked into my best friend's office and there you were, yelling at him and being your beautiful, sassy self.”

He chuckled and then went on, “I just knew you were my Fairy. My one love that I couldn't wait to give my heart to, to get your heart in return. I want to start our lives together, to make children with you, to raise a family, to build a life with you and to grow old, side by side. I want to love you every single day for the rest of my life, I want to fight with you, make love with you and be happy with you in it all. I love you.

Will you marry me? Make me the happiest man in the world? Be mine, my Fairy?"

She nodded, the tears falling free now and he grinned up at her, his handsome face splitting with that grin, he stood, kissing her and swinging her around in a circle.

Their friends and family started clapping and he broke apart from her, and slid the ring on her finger.

She looked down at it, and fell in love with it.

The ring was silver and it looked like vines and they twisted and turned on the band.

In the center was an emerald cut diamond and the leaves of the vines were small emeralds.

It suited her perfectly and she looked up at her fiance and stood on tiptoe to kiss him.

He kissed her back and then they were surrounded by their families.

She was pulled into a hug by her mom, and then Arielle and Arielle's mom.

Then she was hugged by Rickie and she heard Raiden getting congratulated and being slapped on the back.

She hugged the guys next, even shockingly, Steele and his crew of men. They were very sweet and Steele gave her a soft kiss on the back of her hand.

Raiden came up behind her and she leaned back into his strong embrace and looked around the backyard, seeing their friends and family all talking and laughing.

It was something she would never forget. And she couldn't wait for the future with the man who loved her.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

Raiden



*A*fter everyone gave them congratulations, and they had a nice dinner together, Raiden could stand it no longer.

He wanted to claim his girl once and for all. She was wearing his ring and he wanted nothing more than to take her.

He had been patient this far, but no longer.

He drove them to his house and Kadence was still grinning, talking happily to him and with each second that passed and he wasn't inside her hurt.

Physically hurt him. His cock was hard as a rock and aching to be buried deep inside her.

He finally pulled into their garage with a sigh.

She had been oblivious to his condition until he got her out of the truck and slid her down his body.

Her open legs caught on his erection and she let out a moan.

Then she cupped him, "Has this been like this for a while?"

He nodded, "Since you said yes to me. It needs you."

Her eyes flared with heat, and she leaned up on her toes and kissed him.

He fisted his hand in her hair and tilted her head back, claiming her mouth.

He picked her up in his arms without breaking the kiss and brought her upstairs to their room.

Then he stood her by the bed. “Take that dress off before I rip it from you.”

She was panting and reached behind her, unzipping the silky green dress and letting it fall to the floor in a whisper.

She was wearing a black strapless bra and barely there black panties and when she turned, he saw that it was a thong.

It showed the globes of her ass off to perfection and it made him groan, deep in his throat.

Then she bent over, unhooking the straps on her shoes, and showing him the curve of her ass and just the hint of the shadow still hidden by her panties.

He let out the growl that had been trapped in his throat and she kicked the shoes off, and then stood, her back still to him and she hooked her thumbs in the sides of her panties and slid them off her ass, and he watched them fall to the floor.

Then her bra came free and she turned to him, cupping her breasts in her hands and running her thumbs over the hard tips.

He walked to her, and fell to his knees in front of her, his hands coming up to cup her ass and drag her to him.

He kissed her stomach and then nuzzled into the thatch of blonde curls there.

His tongue came out, searching for her heat and wetness and she let out a moan, as he flicked her clit softly.

Her hands buried themselves in his hair and she pulled, lost in her pleasure.

He loved the bit of pain as she pulled harder and sucked her clit in his mouth, flicking it over and over until she was shaking and screaming his name into the room.

Then she collapsed in his arms and he lifted her, putting her on the bed and standing before her, still fully clothed.

She panted for a second and then raised on her elbows, “What are you waiting for? Come claim me.”

He pulled at the tie and then reached for her hands, wrapping them around one of the posts of his bed and tying them to it.

She let out a moan as he slowly moved down her body, sucking at her nipples and biting them softly, making her cry out.

Then he sucked and nipped between her legs again and she cried out, "Raiden, I need you. I need you inside me."

He couldn't refuse her pleas and pulled his jacket off, dropping it to the floor, uncaring that it cost him over two grand.

Then he ripped his shirt from his body, the buttons flying everywhere and then his belt came free and his slacks hit the floor next.

He had kicked off his shoes, and his socks and stood before her, naked.

Her eyes heated and her hands tightened in the ties.

He prowled up her body, sucking her clit for a second and then moving up to her nipples and then kissing her perfect, swollen mouth.

She kissed him back and he lined his cock up with her wet entrance and pushed in, going balls deep in one thrust.

She ripped her mouth away from his as her body stretched around him and she let out a gasp.

Then he started thrusting. In and out, faster, harder, deeper.

He pulled her legs up to his hips and then wanting to go deeper, put them up on his shoulders.

She was gasping, moaning and when he went deep, she screamed out in ecstasy.

He was so deep inside her and he pounded in and out, feeling his climax tingling in the base of his spine.

He touched her clit, circling it, over and over, until she was screaming his name and her sheath clenched hard on him, milking his seed from him.

He gave in, coming deep inside her and letting her legs fall from his shoulders, back to his hips.

She was panting, and he untied the tie and she collapsed into his arms.

“I love you Fairy.”

She smiled, “I love you too. My viking.”

He grinned and she looked up at him, “What?”

“I was a Viking for Halloween. Seems appropriate.”

Her eyes went hot, “You were? I want to see it.”

He laughed, “Now?”

She shook her head, “Tomorrow. I will dress up in my costume too.”

He groaned, his cock jumping back to life and she smiled as he claimed her all over again.



The next day, true to his word, he dressed in his costume for her, and she in hers.

Seeing her come out in that tiny green dress, and all of her beautiful hair in a perfect bun on the top of her head made his cock leap to life.

She looked him up and down in his leather pants, and leather vest and ran at him, and the sex they had?

It was the hottest, dirtiest sex yet.

He took her from behind, leaving that dress on her, but flipping it up and leaving her butt bare for him.

He only pulled his cock out of his pants and fucked her hard from behind, her cries and moans making him fuck her that much harder and when they both came, it was glorious.

He held her tightly in his arms until she came back to herself and he loved it.

His life with his Fairy was never going to be quiet or without adventure and he couldn't wait for it.

EPILOGUE

Raiden



A little over a week after Gunner officially met Arielle, they married in a quick ceremony in the backyard of his parents house.

It was already decorated from their engagement and Arielle had found her dress and had altered it herself.

It was the perfect ceremony and then Gunner took his girl on a honeymoon, needing time with her.

Raiden was envious, but knew that Kadence was his and that it would be their turn when Gunner and Arielle got back.

Kadence wanted their wedding in their backyard and he would honor her request.

His crew, and Steele and his crew came and helped him string lights, put up chairs and make it the wonderland of her dreams. Again.

She loved it and Rickie had helped her with the rest of the planning.

Raiden saw Steele stealing looks at Rickie as if he knew her, but couldn't quite place her and it made Raiden smile.

He knew Steele would be perfect for his little sister and could only pray the man did something about it.

When Gunner and Arielle got back from their honeymoon, Arielle found out she was pregnant and they were both happy for their friends.

Raiden had hugged his best friend in their own manly fashion and Gunner had laughed, and hugged him back.

And then it was time for their wedding. It was getting colder, but because it was California, it was still nice outside.

Raiden stood at the end of the aisle, waiting for his girl.

She came out in a cream colored dress, and the top was all sequins and gems.

It had a large 'V' in the front that showed the perfect amount of cleavage and the sleeves were like a tank top and a little off the shoulder.


The top bled into a wide skirt that had a layer as if it was made from stardust or Fairy dust.

It was so beautiful on her and her hair was pinned up on the back of her head and she wore a tiny crown on the top of her head.

It fit her so perfectly. And when she made it to his side, he was so excited that she was finally his.

It was his turn to say his vows and he said, "My Fairy. My world. You shook up my world from the start and I am so happy that you came into my life that way. That you made me see what I was missing. That it was a lonely life until you came and brought the magic into it. I love you Fairy. I have from the start and I will until I leave this earth."

She smiled up at him, "Raiden, my viking, my love. You raided your way into my life like the Viking you are. Not backing down and knowing exactly what you wanted from the get go. You have never wavered and never gave up on me. You stole my heart and gave me yours in return and it was all I ever wanted it to be. I love you my viking. My love."

hey were pronounced man and wife and he kissed her, claiming her in front of all their friends and family.

Life was perfect. His Fairy was his, and he was hers.

Perfect indeed.

EPILOGUE

Kadence



Waking up a few weeks after their wedding was hard. She was so tired and didn't want to leave their bed.

She didn't know why it was so hard to wake up and why it hit her so hard during the day that she was exhausted.

Her breasts hurt and were so sensitive to touch that Raiden almost wasn't able to play with them like he normally did.

Almost. Because since they were so sensitive, it caused her to almost orgasm just from him sucking her nipples.

It wasn't horrible. And she knew deep down that she must be carrying his baby.

She hurried to work and Arielle was there, already working. Their new store was doing better than ever and they loved it and their new employees.

It gave them time to themselves more and she loved it.

Arielle's stomach had started to really show and Kadence couldn't wait for hers to as well.

They had found out that Arielle and Gunner were having a little girl and Kadence was so excited to be an aunt.

She already kinda was now that she had married Raiden.

Cassidy loved them all and a few days after their wedding, Genna and Luke had a baby boy.

His name was Connor Lucas and he had a head full of dark hair.

Every single chance they got, she and Arielle went to play with Cassidy and hold Connor.

She knew she needed to take a test to confirm her pregnancy and knew that Arielle had a few in the bathroom here.

She hurried to it and found one, and peed on it. Then shut her eyes while she washed her hands, trying to ignore the test on the sink.

When she could take it no longer, she opened her eyes and saw two lines across the window.

She let out a squeal and hurried out to show her best friend.

Arielle let out a scream too and they started hugging and jumping up and down, excited.

The bell dinged and Gunner came running into the back room, his eyes wild with shock.

He saw them and let out a sigh, "I heard you scream my Siren. Is everything okay?"

Arielle nodded, "Yes, I was just excited."

Gunner walked to her side and put his palm over the baby bump, "Is my girl giving you trouble? Or did you feel her kick again?"

Arielle shook her head and Gunner laughed and looked over at Kadence. Who held up the test.

And then his eyebrows raised, "Oh, Raiden will be thrilled. Congratulations Kadence."

Kadence hugged Gunner, he was like her brother now and smiled, "I'm gonna go show him. Okay?"

Arielle nodded, "Go."

Kadence hurried to her car and drove to Raiden's office.

All the guys were there and she smiled, and walked into the main office, Raiden wasn't in his, and she knew he must be in the shop.

Harrison walked out of his, a stack of paperwork in his hands and when he saw her, he smiled.

“Hey there Kadi. What’s up?”

She smiled, “Is Raiden in the shop?”

He nodded, “He and Dirk are working on some cabinets for the new house we have been working on.”

She nodded, “Oh yeah.”

He led her to it and she opened the door, and there was Raiden, covered in sawdust and looking as delicious as ever.

He was cutting some wood at the saw and she waited until it turned off and he looked up.

He grinned when he saw her there, hurrying to her side.

He kissed her and she laughed, brushing off some of the dust.

He raised his safety glasses off his eyes and then took his earplugs off his ears, and led her back to his office.

Once the door was shut he looked down at her, “What’s up? I am so glad you are here.”

She hugged him, “We are going to have a baby.”

He went still, and then pulled her away from him so he could look down into her eyes. “What? Really?”

She nodded and he dropped to his knees in front of her, and put his palm to her stomach.

Then he kissed her there and looked up at her, his eyes shining with love.

“You are having my baby. My Fairy is pregnant with my child.”

She smiled and ran her fingers through his hair, “I sure am.”

He kissed her stomach again and then stood, kissing her lips. “I love you Fairy.”

“I love you too.”

Their life was only beginning and she couldn't wait to see what came next.

The End.

For them.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



My hubby. Love you.

My kids and their amazing friends. Thanks for keeping me on my toes.

My girls: My Tribe. My people. MK, Amy, Iannah, Lizzie, Brooke, Cassie, Candice, Lindsay and my amazing tribe of girls in my writers group. You all rock so hard.

My readers! You are the best ever and I love each and every single one of you!

My author friends. You are amazing and I can't thank you enough for being such great mentors and for helping me through this journey.

Thank you all for all you do!!!!!!!!!!

Elisa, You are amazing and the best cover designer ever.