

Hiding Away

Amethyst Ayesha *Coming awake, she gasped, choked. A scream was lodged in her throat, tears pouring down her cheeks. Scrabbling for the light switch, the low glow illuminated her bedroom, the vision of home swimming in her head. Strangely, it wasn't until she turned, her arm brushing against Turstin's that she calmed, finally able to suck in lungfuls of fresh air. She'd tried to sleep in the guest room, but nightmares had wracked her, kept her awake. Turstin still hadn't woken up, and she feared the worst...it had only been a few days, and Illy had been running interference, so had Arya, so neither of them had been healed yet. Worry for Turstin had kept her at his side, whether he'd appreciate it when he regained consciousness remained to be seen. She just didn't want him waking up in a strange place without anyone he knew.

Amethyst Ayesha *Trying to steady her heart rate, she laid back down, staring at the ceiling. The dreams wouldn't stop, they just kept coming. She relived every moment of that horrid place every time she closed her eyes. Instead she had spent her days lost in thought, wondering what the other weres were doing, how they were getting along. Wondering if they were as lost as she was. Her thoughts began to turn to the man lying so still and silent next to her. Debating if she should tell Illy who he was, before Illy bulled her way into the room and realized. Wondering if they could find their other siblings, or if it was too late. Shuddering, she pulled a pillow closer, wrapping her arms around it. She should get up. Call Kaden and Arya. Talk to Illy. Call Selene, who was probably worried sick. Yet each time she had tried, either the fear struck or the pain did. At least in here, she was safe. At least in here, she could pretend she was still whole, unblemished. Pretend the things she did for her job didn't leave a stain on her soul that she wasn't sure would ever leave her.*

Kaden Kaleva *Groaning, he paced outside the bedroom door. He wouldn't force his way in, and she damn well knew that.* Amethyst, open up this fucking door. You can't hide in there forever. You need healed. So does the male you dragged with you. *Fuck, he didn't need this shit. He'd spent a great birthday with his woman, and now had to deal with his stubborn partner refusing any and all contact. Hell, she wouldn't even answer him, yet he could hear her moving so he damn well knew she was in there.* You're seriously going to hide away, pretend the boogey man won't get you in there? You are better than that, Amethyst. Stop being a cry baby and get your ass out of that room right this fucking minute. So you got roughed up a bit, put on your big girl fucking panties and deal with it. You wanted to go undercover and prove yourself. So prove it. Come out and face the world, otherwise you're just letting it beat you. *Hearing a soft snuffle from behind the door, he inwardly cursed himself. Arya had told him to be gentle, and of course, he'd come in screaming* Dammit, Am. Just come out. Let me make sure you are okay, for fucks sake. *Hearing soft footsteps padding away from the door, he cursed, running his fingers through his hair in agitation. How the hell was he supposed to be nice when she was pissing him the fuck off!?!?!?!*!

Turstin Ryann *As Turstin begins to wake, he holds his breath and waits for the horrid, rancid pain to return. When only a sharp ache greets him, he slowly opens his swollen eyes. Dull, morning light spills into a unfamiliar bedroom and for a solid moment, Turstin thinks he has finally died. That thought comes to the fore front when he feels a warm body snuggled against his. Glancing down, he instantly knows its the woman from the barracks. At first he thought of just bailing, who knows who's side she is actually on but then the thought of his sister stops him. This woman knows Illy. Reaching a hand out, he is about to wake her when he senses her shaking, little sniffles emanating from her. After a small pause, he pulls his hand back* Are you...okay? *His voice was low and raw sounding from his torture. He hoped the insanity he felt deep inside wasn't obvious to her*

Amethyst Ayesha *Blinking, she jerked away from him, her wide eyes meeting his* You're awake! *Quickly brushing her hands over her face so he wouldn't see that she'd been crying, she drags herself from the bed, going to the bathroom to get a glass of cold water and a wet washcloth. Coming back to his side, she pushes her hair behind her ears, holding both out to him* I..well, I tried to get some of the blood and things off of you. But, there were places I couldn't reach. *She can feel heat staining her cheeks as his eyes narrowed a bit. Was he mad that she had tried to clean him? Maybe she should have left it alone. Trying to make amends, she offered the items to him again* I'm Amethyst...do you remember me? Even a little bit? *Biting her lower lip, she eyed him. He looked...frantic. Decidedly unhappy to be here, in her presence.* I'm sorry.... I didn't want to leave you there.

Turstin Ryann *His eyes move from the cloth and glass of water to her face* I remember you. I'm uh...Turstin. *Taking the items from her, he sits up slowly and winces* I am just a little surprised, I honestly didn't think you'd come back for me. *Seeing the bruises on her face, he frowns deeply* Did the guards get to you? I tried to stall them but they got a few good punches in then I kind of forgot what was happening for a little while.

Amethyst Ayesha *Lowering her head so he doesn't look too carefully, she mutters a denial* You kept them away from me. Thank you. I didn't expect to run into Stefan when I made it back to the house. It was my mistake. *Knowing Kaden was still there, she barely resisted rolling her eyes* My partner and his girlfriend came, they stormed the island. The weres were all freed, but I promised you I wouldn't leave you there. Um...on the way back to find you, I was blindsided by the bastard again. *Tilting her chin up a tiny bit, she hoped and prayed he wouldn't judge her* I killed him. And then had you brought here.

Turstin Ryann *Drinking the cold water in one gulp, he nods* Stefan is the clean smelling one with the cow prong right? *Seeing her wide eyes, he mentally kicks himself. He knows he is an ass and an animal but she doesn't deserve that. Clearing his throat* Sorry. I hope you made it hurt. Fucking bastard. *Wiping some blood off of his mouth, he glances up at her* There didn't happen to be a bald man in black that got ran over or anything right?

Amethyst Ayesha *Visualizing what he must have been through, she ignores his apology, for once the nightmares are at bay and she has time to wish she would have made Stefan suffer, for him.* I should have. Unfortunately, when he decided to stomp on my stomach, I didn't have time to devise anything truly painful like the monster deserved. *Scowling, she curled her hands into fists before relaxing them.* A bullet to the head was too kind for him. *At his words, she turns, trying to think. Someone had slid the official report and the private reports under the door for her to read* Umm. Bald head? *vaguely she recalled reading Kaden's statements about being attacked* Oh! I think my partner made THAT one hurt. *Taking the empty glass, she couldn't help but to let her gaze run over the flesh bared as he sat up, unclothed to the waist.* Are you sure you're okay? I could..well, I could call someone?

Turstin Ryann *He closes his eyes at her words. Good, he hoped that fucker suffered a thousands deaths. Leaning back against the pillow, he slowly stretches his back muscles, feeling his abdomen muscles pull, he lets out a grunt* I have no one for you to call. I had a dog, but I think it's dead. *Pulling the blankets off himself, he tries to stand but fails and falls sideways on the bed. His pants dip low as he lays back onto his back, arms above his head* I guess I'll just stay here.

Amethyst Ayesha *Watching as he goes to stand, her mouth waters at the sight of taunt muscles rippling as he tries to steady himself. Must. Not. Touch. Forcing herself to stop staring, she reaches out, brushing her fingertip lightly over a wicked looking electrical burn across him stomach.* Prong? No, don't tell me. I don't want to know. I didn't mean someone for me to call to let them know you're here. I meant...ugh. *Standing, she walked over, yanking the door open as Kaden starting yelling again. If he told her that she was being weak one more time she was going to knee him.* Tell you what Kaden, if you don't shut up, I swear I will ask for a transfer. Or...*giving him a snide smile* I'll do you one better. I will tell Arya on you. *Making a face as he started patting her stomach and chest, inspecting every part he could reach for injuries, she suffered through it until she heard Turstin's voice from behind them, saying he'd leave them in peace but he couldn't move. Slapping Kaden's hands away from her, she motioned him towards the bed* I don't give a damn about my injuries. I can move. Heal him.

Kaden Kaleva *Frustrated, angry, feeling incompetent, he growled at Am as she forced him away from her* I don't give a damn about anyone else, I want you healed. *Spotting the obstinate look on her face, he let out another growl, finally turning towards the bed. When he'd first seen the guy, he'd been tore up, swollen, bruised and bloody. Now that he was a bit cleaner, not as bad off, he jaw almost dropped in recognition. It couldn't be. He moved to lean next to him on the bed* T? *Reaching out, he pressed his fingers against Turstin's wrist, feeling a strong, steady pulse* Fucking hell man. *Dropping to his knees, he grabbed both of Turstin's wrists in his, closing his eyes and letting the biokinetic powers sweep through him. With every new injury his mind found and healed, he got more and more pissed off. Finally, he dropped T's wrists. jaw clenched tight* I didn't know. Fuck!

Turstin Ryann *Turstin watches as Amethyst goes to her door and opens it to reveal a man there. His eyes are swollen shut too much to make him out at this distance. He resists the urge to growl as the man begins to grope her* I'd happily leave you two in peace to do your group time but I kind of can't move. *He ignores them as they fight but when he hears a familiar voice, he tries to open his eyes again. Instead he feels the man touch him and soon his wounds begin to heal. Finally he can make out the man's face* Kaden? *Sitting up, Turstin pulls Kaden towards himself* No fucking way..how are you here...where the hell...I called you.

Amethyst Ayesha *Narrowing her eyes, she stayed out of the way, watching this new development. They knew each other? When the hell had that happened?!?!?!? Why was she always the last to know these things? Deciding to be quiet for once and just listen, she crosses her arms over her chest, staying out of their line of sight in the hopes they wouldn't realize she was eavesdropping.*

Kaden Kaleva *Letting Turstin pull him closer by fisting his shirt, he just shakes his head. Words seemed to fail him. Finally, he manages to remember that T had asked questions.* I've been here. Shit, I know you called me. I tried to trace it, tried to find you. Couldn't find a fucking trace except an apartment with a rabid animal in it, put it in a kennel boarding place. *Numb, he tries to think of something, anything else to say. Finally he gives up, wrapping one arm around Turstin's shoulders, giving a quick squeeze. It was a close to a man hug he was ever going to fucking get to the guy.* I didn't think we'd find you. Not after I got a call saying my fucking partner did an 86 and ran off undercover on her own. Thought I'd missed my chance to track your hairy ass down.

Turstin Ryann *For the first time in his life, Turstin lets a man hug him. Memories of his captivity try to override him but he pushes them aside* I don't blame you, man. Honestly. I just wanted to give you a heads up about the were in my morgue. I didn't think you'd get to me in time. Though, *Pulling back, he looks at Kaden* Do you know my sister too? Amethyst says they are roommates.

Kaden Kaleva *Nearly choking, he looks between Amethyst and Turstin.* Oh fuck no. *Pointing a finger accusingly at Amethyst* You did this. This is all your fault. Now I have two of them, and I'm going to get blamed for this, I fucking know it. *Turning back to Turstin, he just backed off* Dude, take my suggestion. Run. Your hair ain't gray yet. You don't want any part of those two. I watched over them when they were in college together. Now they're roommates from hell. *Eyeing the window, he leaned forward to peer out* It's only about 20 feet or so. I bet we could make it, I can just heal your lame ass once we land. We might be able to get out before Amethyst can call for her partner in crime.

Amethyst Ayesha *Shoving Kaden, she finally gave in to the urge to roll her eyes, even though the push she gave him caused an involuntary gasp of pain. Freezing as two pairs of male eyes found their way to her, she felt herself blushing again. Kaden's scrutiny didn't bother her at all, but for some reason Turstin's did.* Stop looking at me like that. It's...it's disconcerting. *Noticing Kaden's gaze sharpen on her, she shifted uncomfortably* Look, just...go, will you Kaden? You're not helping. Stop telling him Illy is some kind of hellion. She's a great woman. *Reaching out to lightly touch Turstin's hand, she ignored Kaden's scowl as he saw the motion* Would you like me to call her in? So you can meet her? If you want we can wait until you're feeling better. I know Kaden fixed most everything, but we can wait, if you want. *Truthfully, she was afraid he'd leave if he was better, and take Illy with him. Then she'd lose them both. Though, she was fooling herself if she was thinking of Turstin as hers. This had the makings for heartbreak written all over it.*

Turstin Ryann *Turstin's mind tries to keep up with Kaden as he rambles. His little, baby sister is a scrapper? It was almost enough to make him laugh. Hearing Amethyst gasp in pain, his eyes lock onto her as concern fills him. She is hurt? What a selfish fucking bastard is he? Here he is thinking of all the crap he went through and she is the one who needs help. Mentally kicking himself, he isn't prepared for her light touch. It sent a shock wave through him that made him want to mount her. A low growl escapes him at his animalistic thoughts. He was a monster* How about we get you healed first? If I am not mistaken, my sister will freak if she knows we are both hurt.

Kaden Kaleva *Scowling as Amethyst reaches out, he can see that for whatever reason, she appears to like Turstin. Fuck. As if his life needed another complication. Raising a brow as Turstin growls, he can't help but wonder...no, the odds were completely against them. Ignoring Amethyst's protests that she's fine, he yanks her closer, healing her as well.* I'm not staying for the fallout once the tigress learns you've been hiding her brother from her for almost a week. I'm out of this. *Wrapping his arms around Am, he presses a soft kiss to her forehead* Whatever happened, let it go, bit. We'll get through it. *Nodding to Turstin, he made his way out the door like his feet were on fire. No way was he dealing with that sappy emotional shit after the tantrums. Least now he could tell Arya they were both as well as they could be at the moment.*

Amethyst Ayesha *Letting out an irritated sound as Kaden disappears down the stairs, she hears the door shut and his car take off* Coward. *Turning to Turstin, she gives him a small smile* I'm sure she'll be happy to see you again. Well, after she claws me for hiding it for the week. I just... *in her head, she said "didn't want to share" but that would come out all sorts of wrong* didn't want anyone seeing you the way you were.

Turstin Ryann *He nods and stands up slowly. Turstin blinks in surprise when he sees how small she looks. The urge to reach out and hold her is so strong he actually takes a step towards her. What the hell is he doing? His inner tiger roars as he steps away and heads towards the bathroom* Just let me take a quick shower. I smell of torture. *He stops just as he is about to shut the door* You okay?

Amethyst Ayesha *her breath hitches as he takes a step closer, one hand almost seeming to reach out towards her. Swallowing hard as he turns, heading towards the bathroom door, she looks up at the ceiling in embarrassment. What the hell was wrong with her? Sure, he was good looking, and seemed sweet. But she hardly knew him, there was no reason to be acting this way, as if she needed him to touch her, to hold her. Hearing his voice, she glances over, licking her lips as she tried to recall what he had actually said* Um...okay? Oh, I'm fine. I'll just wait here, and then we can go find her. *realizing she must sound like a complete idiot, she wished she had a rewind button. Waving him wordlessly towards the bathroom, she went on a hunt through the room for her old phone. It had to be here somewhere.*

Turstin Ryann *Turstin nods at her words and hops into the steaming hot shower. Afterwards, he flashes on a pair of black jeans and a black shirt then walks back into the bedroom barefoot* Alright, so how do we do this Illy thing? Should we go see her? Bring her in here? Or should I just stay in your room forever?

Amethyst Ayesha *Glancing towards the bed, she mentally kicks herself. Not an option. He did not give that as an option. Not uttering a word to him so her mind couldn't suddenly stop censoring her lips, she walked to the door, opening it and gesturing to the hallway* She's more than likely in the darkroom I gave her to use. If you...I don't know...sit somewhere downstairs. I'll go find her?

Turstin Ryann *Turstin nods a little and then wonders why the hell his sister is in a dark room. Making his way downstairs, he sits on the couch and tries not to fidget. Memories of his little sister flash through his mind, her laughing, fighting with him and their brothers, running through the forest as she chases a bird. How is she now? Is she happy like she used to be? Then a horrid thought hits him. What if she isn't happy to see him? Out of all their family, he and Illy fought the most. Fear grips him and he resists the urge to run as he hears footsteps on the stairs*

Amethyst Ayesha *Heading downstairs, she told Illy that she had a surprise in the living room. It took a few moments to drag her away from the developing slides, but finally the urgency in her voice must have managed to break through. Normally it wouldn't take that long, apparently Illy was a little peeved at her hiding in her room too.* Look, I'm sorry. I was going through...things. I'm working on it, and I'll try not to hide. But you really really have to come upstairs. I think you'll forgive me, if you just come upstairs. *punctuating the last few words with tugs on her arm, Illy had finally relented, following her up into the hallway. Steering her towards the living room, she held her breath. Would Illy know?*

There's someone I'd like you to meet, Illy.

Illy Ryann *I growl as yet another picture doesn't turn out right. This is a nightmare. Am has been hiding away, Kaden barks at anyone who comes too close, and there is someone else here too but I have no idea who, I can only sense him. Hearing Am behind me, I have a good mind to just ignore her* I was worried sick for days, Kaden nearly burst the door down, and you didn't even give me a heads up you'd be gone. I know you wanted to do this undercover thing but damnit Am! We are best friends...*Hearing the urgency in her voice, I turn around* Why do we need to go upstairs? *Following her up the stairs, I frown as I turn towards the living room* If you are trying to set me up, this is a stupid way to do...*I freeze as I see a man sitting on the couch. Something is familiar about him. When he turns towards me, I gasp out loud* Turstin?!

Turstin Ryann *Turstin turns as he senses Amethyst and Illy enter the room. He stands up slowly* Hey, baby sister. *His chest contracts as he sees how beautiful she has become. She is all grown up now and he missed every minute of it. Waiting for her reply, he holds his breath*

Amethyst Ayesha *With tears in her eyes, she nudges Illy* Go, Illy. It's him. *When Illy just continues looking stunned, she sighs and stops the nudging and just shoves* I didn't drag him out of Greece for you to stand and stare at him, woman.

Illy Ryann *I stumble forward and then continue at a run until I launch myself into his arms. Tears stream down my cheeks as I bury my face into his shoulder* Oh Gods, Turstin. I have missed you so much. *I sob against him as I hold him close* I thought all of you were dead and that I was alone. I thought they got you like mom and dad. *Keeping a death grip on him, I pull my head back* You were in Greece this whole time?

Turstin Ryann *Turstin isn't sure what to do next but soon Amethyst helps them out. Feeling Illy's arms wrap around him, he swallows past the lump in his throat and holds her close. Her tears mixed with her heart felt fears succeed in making a small tear slide down his cheek* No, I have been in New York most of this time. The Chasers got me a few weeks back. If it wasn't for Amethyst, Kaden, and his woman, I'd still be there. *Pulling back, he puts his hands on her shoulders and holds her at an arms length* You look so much like our mother, Baby sister. I think you'd even get Ailwin to cry.

Amethyst Ayesha *Grabbing the camera as they hug, she searches the buttons and things until she finally finds the one that makes it work* This thing is like a spaceship. Why does it need so many functions!?!?!? *Getting it to turn on, she snaps a picture of the two of them holding each other, tears on both of their cheeks* Figured that was a great moment to christen the camera with. *Handing it back to Illy, she gives both of them a big grin* Do you guys want me to leave you alone tonight? I'm quite certain I'm like...the odd woman out here or something.

Illy Ryann *I give her a teary grin then pull her into a big hug* You saved my brother and bought me the most beautiful camera. This is the best birthday I have ever had. Please stay. I would have asked Kaden to stay but he bolted so quick I think he left skid marks on the marble floor. *Wiping the tears away, I grin at both of them* Are you two hungry? I could make dinner or something?

Turstin Ryann *Blinking in surprise, he nods to himself* That's right. It is your birthday today. *He glances at Amethyst and sees how out of place she looks* You don't have to leave, without you we'd just stare awkwardly at each other before making awkward small talk. I don't know about you, but I'm starving. Stay and eat with us.

Amethyst Ayesha *Grinning, she felt happy to be included...one of her best friends and....whatever the hell she felt for Turstin, and she were going to have dinner together. Giving Turstin a wink, she poked at Illy's side, trying to force the good mood as long as she could before she got angry or sad or wanted to hide again* Truth? Don't eat her cooking. She cooks cheap. So many years of it she can't break the habit. The girl does not use seasonings unless I force her to. We can either all cook together so we can monitor her seasoning use, or we can order in maybe?

Illy Ryann *I give her an evil look* It is not that bad! I have lived off of my own cooking for years and haven't died. *I look over and see Turstin trying not to smile* Oh what do you know! I bet you can't cook either.

Turstin Ryann *He smirks at his little sister* Actually, I worked as a chef while I was in college, so I can cook very well. But honestly, you both would have to do most of the work. My wrists are still shot from...earlier. *Glancing at Amethyst, he gives her a smile* So what will it be? Eat in or cook?

Amethyst Ayesha *Knowing that Turstin doesn't want Illy to find out what happened, she gave Illy a calming pat on the shoulder* How about we call for a pizza? That way you guys can relax, get reacquainted? And I'll get plates and things out? *Shooing them towards the living room, she braced herself against the counter, her face in her hands. How was she supposed to deal with this, when every time he smiled at her she went a little weak kneed? This crush...whatever it was, had to go!*

Illy Ryann *I grab onto Turstin's hand and lead him over to the couch. Excitedly sitting next to him, I clap my hands* Okay, well I am a wildlife photographer. I bet you can guess why, us being tigers and all. I have lived in NOLA most of the time we have been apart. I love it here, the people also make it easier to blend in. There are so many different weres and species the Chasers have no idea who is who. It is amazing. Ummmm...I met Am in college. We were roomies who became close friends. A few months ago, someone followed me home and broke into my apartment while I was in the shower. So I called her and have been living here ever since. It is a beautiful home and super safe. They have a high tech security system and night guards and what not. Kaden does random stop bys. He is a HUGE pain in the ass but a lovable one. *Giggles* So that is pretty much my life. What about you?!

Turstin Ryann *He can't stop the laugh from leaving him. She is just like she was when they were kids. Every time she got excited, she would ramble on and on. At the time he found it annoying but right now, it was beautiful* Uh, well after we split, I traveled a lot. Found myself in New York and with the help of some weres got a fake license and enrolled in school. I then became a mortician at a hospital. A few weeks ago a were was brought in, followed by some chasers. They made me and now here I am. And I know Kaden, we are friends, I think.

Amethyst Ayesha *Shaking it off, she starts setting the table. Belatedly realizing as she grabbed Illy's phone that she hadn't found hers, nor did she know what they liked on pizza, she headed back into the living room.* So, um, in the... excitement of everything, I sort of forgot to ask what you guys even liked on your pizzas. *Hearing Turstin's comment, she snorts* Kaden has friends, just god forbid you ever CALL it a friendship, he'll cry and pout and pretend it insults his manhood. Ask Illy, she's been on the grumpy side of Kaden more often than not. He always thought she was a bad influence on me, when it was the other way around. *Giggling, she shrugged* It was so easy, Illy's the good girl. I was the wild child....Kaden refused to see reason when it came to me, so Illy got the bad girl talks.

Illy Ryann *Giggles* Yep. He always thought I tainted you but in reality, I was scared of my own shadow until you. I know he cares about me though. If I ever needed anything, he'd bust ass to get it. *Leans forward to whisper loudly to Turstin* He used to scare the hell out of me but he has one kryptonite. He can't stand up to angry women. *Laughing, I glance up at Am* We are tigers girl! We eat anything. So get what you like.

Turstin Ryann *He shakes his head at their animated talking* Kaden was right, I should have ran with him. *Turstin leans back and stretches out his sore legs. Having his sister back in his life was one of the best feelings he could think of. His eyes wander over to where Amethyst was ordering their pizza and he felt an immediate urge to take her against the wall. What the hell was wrong with him? He'd always controlled these urges in the past, even when he was going through his majority. Why is he feeling this way about her? Shaking his head to try and clear it, his thoughts turn to Illy and his other brothers. If they found each other, maybe it was only a matter of time before they found them as well*

Devotion

Arya Rheagar Slipping into the bath, a small moan coming from her as the heat of the water laps at her body. Eyes closed, slipping further as she goes under. Letting the water wash all over her. Kaden had left that morning to go and deal with Ames. How she dreaded that and wished he would have taken her with him. He just wasn't that sensitive to her and her needs at the moment. That he was sure, he was going to come back with wounds all over him. Emerging from the water, she ran her hands over her face, pushing her hair out of the way. She wouldn't blame Ame if she did do something to him. She just knew he would put his foot in his mouth.

Arya Rheagar Laying in the warm water, her thoughts turned to other things. They had a great day for Kaden's birthday. Though there was one thing she didn't do. One more gift she didn't give him. She had chickened out. Oh how she wished she didn't. The moment he got home she would give it to him. She just didn't know how he would feel about it. She was nervous about a few of his presents, but none as much as this one. Standing up, the water dripping off of her. She stepped out of the bath. Wiping a hand over the bathroom mirror as she stared at herself. She had to believe in herself, had to believe that things would be ok. Hoping that she would hear from Kaden or Ame's soon.

Kaden Kaleva *Shutting the door behind him, he glanced around for Arya. At least there was one woman around who hadn't gone completely fucking nuts. Not seeing her downstairs, he frowned. She was usually somewhere in the lower parts of the house if he had left. Where the hell was she now? Turning, he headed up the stairs, hearing soft music coming from the bathroom. Sliding open the door, he leaned against the door frame, watching as she stood in front of the steam clouded mirror* Hell of a "welcome home" sight.

Arya Rheagar Startled a little at the sound of his voice, she spun around with a wicked grin "Hey there handsome. Fancy seeing you here" With a little chuckle she dropped her towel from her body. Smiling wickedly at him "How did it go with Ame? I hope you were sensitive Kaden? That you didn't just push her into something she didn't want to do?"

Kaden Kaleva *Rolling his eyes, he stepped into the room, dropping the keys on the counter as he stalked closer, eyeing the towel with interest as it hit the floor* I'm always sensitive, I never push. Did you know the asshole she brought back was one of my informants I'd been developing? The one I went to fucking New York to find? Now I look like a damn ass because I told her to leave him. Woman has gone nuts, wouldn't even let me heal her stupid ass, made me heal him first. She's lost her damn mind. *Reaching out around her, he ran his fingers gently up her spine, watching as her nipples pebbled in the cool air at his touch* So responsive to me, sweets. Why don't we just...stop talking, hmm?

Arya Rheagar Her body shivered as he touched her. Her back arched. Reaching out for him, pressing her body up against him. Arms going around his neck "Sounds like a plan to me" She had intended on speaking to him about the Ame situation. But right now, all those thoughts just fled. She wanted him. Needed him. Her hand snaked up the back of his neck and into his hair. Pulling his head down to hers, kissing him hard. Swiping her tongue over his lips, a moan of pure pleasure escaped from her.

Kaden Kaleva *Letting out a groan as she tugged his hair pulling him down so she could take the kiss she wanted, he growled low in the back of his throat, urging her to lift her legs around his hips. Once she did, he braced his hands around her ass, holding her steady as he turned to sit her down on the counter in front of, her back pressed against the mirror. Dropping his head to take one nipple into his mouth, he tugged and scraped his teeth across the sensitive peak, his fingers curled around the other, pinching and rolling it between his fingertips.* You always taste just like fucking candy baby.

Arya Rheagar The coldness of the mirror chilled her hot body. Making her squeal slightly. She was panting as he placed her on it. Her chest heaving with each breath she was sucking in. Her hands were wild, all over his body. She had to touch him. Had to keep parts of them touching. Head falling back as he sucked on her nipple. "Kaden" Barely able to form any words, let alone a comprehensive sentence. "No waiting. Now." She knew her words weren't making sense. Taking a deep breath once more she tried again "I need you now Kaden." Pulling his head back up to hers, her kiss was more demanding than ever before. She didn't want to wait. She wanted him now.

Kaden Kaleva *Hissing out a breath, he parted from her long enough to tug off his shirt, tossing it behind him. As her hands went to his shoulders, nails digging in, he managed to just barely get his zipper undone, his pants falling around his thighs as he leaned forward to find her mouth, nipping at her bottom lip before taking control of the kiss as her slick heat surrounded the head of his cock. Whispering her name, he pressed inward, loving the feel of her tightening around him, her pussy milking his cock and drawing him deeper* That's it baby...take me in.

Arya Rheagar It never ceased to amaze her, every single time. She doubted she would ever get used to the sight of him naked. He was perfect, in every way. Her hands traced over his chest, till he then took control. That was another thing she loved about him. He took the control from her. Made her feel more like a woman. Whimpering into his mouth, her legs widened slightly to allow him more room. Sucking in a breath as she felt him enter her body. Hands going around to his back, holding him tight. Tearing her mouth away from his, as she dropped it onto his shoulder. Trying to match his thrusts with her own. She would have fallen backwards if he hadn't put her up against the mirror. That's how he made her feel.

Kaden Kaleva *Breathing out, he tugged her legs even wider, bringing her ass to the edge. Bracing her feet on the counter top, pressing her knees apart, leaving her open to his gaze as he sank deep. Closing his eyes as he felt her ripple around his shaft, he couldn't help the low chuckle. In this position, hell, she was so damn tight she damn near strangled him. Thrusting harder, deeper, he curled his hands around her hips to hold her still, tracing a path across her throat with his tongue, leaving tiny bites across her flesh every time she moaned as he filled her silken depths* Arya. Touch yourself. Now. *Breaking away, he drove into her again and again, eyes between their straining bodies. He wasn't going to miss a damn second of this.*

Arya Rheagar Her mind was a mess. She could barely think as he filled her. Surrounded her. It was exactly what she needed, what she wanted. Him. Her body responded to every thing he did. He knew all the right spots, everything he did just sent her to that edge. She wasn't even sure how she managed to stay upright. Nearly whimpering as he pulled back, his words startled her a little. Touch herself? Lifting her eyes to meet his gaze, sucking her bottom lip into her mouth, as her hands dropped from him. She ran them up her legs, her thighs, over her stomach to her breasts. With a moan she rolled her own nipples between her fingers, kneading her breasts in her palms. Watching the heat rise in his eyes. The way he watched her. Just made it all the more erotic, all the more it turned her on. Closing her own

eyes, trailing her hands back down to her stomach. Lightly she brushed her fingers over her body, reaching the apex between her thighs where he was still seated inside of her. Grazing one finger over his exposed length and back again. With a small moan she trailed that finger over her own flesh. Finding her hidden spot. Making herself squirm when her finger rubbed over her clit. Her free hand went back up to her breast, wriggling and squirming, moaning as she went. "Kaden, oh gods" If he didn't start moving again, she was going to take herself over that edge

Kaden Kaleva *Groaning her name, he couldn't help but stare, watching as she writhed under him, her hands stroking and kneading her own flesh. As she found her clit, he hips arched, her head went backwards, lips parted...fuck, she was gorgeous. At her words, he forced himself to move again, pounding into her body in desperation, in frantic need. All he could see was her, all he could feel was her. She surrounded him, heated him from the inside out. Gripping her chin unmercifully in his palm, he tipped her head downwards* Look at me. *The words were torn from him. He could feel every move her smaller hand made as it danced crossed her clit, feel her body jerk in sensation. But damn, he wanted to watch her eyes. Those expressive, enormous eyes that always widened as her release hit, that seared him with emotion.* I want to see you cum. *Gritting his teeth, he kept up his pace, kept driving into her welcoming core, feeling her squeeze him tighter.* Come for me baby. Now.

Arya Rheagar Oh gods, she was going to cum whether he moved or not. She was there. Right there. Brought out of her daze by his command, she forced her eyes open. Her body was going wild. Her mouth fell open as he started to thrust against her. Her chest was heaving harder and harder as she panted for breath. Feeling herself tighten around him, moving her body as much as she could against him, wanting to get closer, yet not wanting to move her own hands from her body. Working her finger faster and faster, her body started to shake, a scream tore from her throat as she shuddered. Quickly her hands found his head, gripping his hair tightly she pulled him down to her for a kiss. Hot, demanding as she fell back against the mirror with a moan. Her nails scored down his chest "With me baby" As she reached her climax, she knew there was no one in this world that would ever bring her the happiness he did. He showed her every day what she meant to him. No one had ever made her feel this feminine

Kaden Kaleva Fuck! *Groaning, he felt the tingling starting, zipping down his spine. Watching her fall apart, her body shatter under his touch, only his was more than any man should be able to take. Breathing roughly, he felt his balls draw up tight, his cock jerk. As she demanded that he come with her, he couldn't help but to cede to her demand. Hot jets of seed mixed with her juices as he panted, twitching for a moment in damn near bliss before sliding from her, kicking his pants off before lifting her into his arms and walking across the hall to deposit her into bed. Following in behind her, he pressed his forehead against her shoulder, a soft sigh of appreciation leaving him.* Fucking hell woman. I don't think I can move.

Arya Rheagar Her body felt like Jello. As his arms came around her. She kissed at his neck. Wrapping her body around him as he joined her in the bed. She rolled herself on top of him. "You cant move huh? Does that mean I could do anything I wanted to you and you wouldn't have the energy to stop me? Or well, actually just do anything?"

Kaden Kaleva *Opening one eye to pin her with a glare, he groaned, his hands instantly going to her hips, caressing the soft skin there* Woman, you are insatiable. *Managing to open both eyes, he couldn't help curiosity* Why? What does my little minx want to do with me at her mercy, hmm?

Arya Rheagar Leaning down to nip at his lips with a wicked grin "Well, there was one thing I didn't give you the other day" Sucking in a breath, she slipped out of his embrace and went to the closet. Up

high in a corner she dragged out the small box. Biting on her lip, her heart pounded. This wasn't exactly how she had wanted to do it. But... she wanted him to know. Climbing back on him, she sat up, gods she was so nervous. She had never in her life done anything like this "You know I love you. With everything that I am. I have never been happier in my life than I am when I'm with you." Holding out the small box to him. "This was your last birthday gift." Looking away from him for a moment before getting the courage to actually say the words "Kaden... I want.. to be..." Gods, how the hell could those words be so hard for her to say? She had said them over and over in the mirror. Practiced how she would say it. But now that it was happening, it just sounded silly. She wanted it more than anything in this world. "I want to marry you" The words were barely more than a whisper. She wasn't even sure he heard her, but he would know just by what he held in his hands.

Kaden Kaleva *Staring at the small box she handed him, he opened it to find a plain silver band. Shocked, he raised his gaze to hers again, her shy, quiet words ringing in his head. He'd been waiting for the mark, been waiting for the fates to tell her he was the right person for her. Waiting for her to trust him with all that she was. Perhaps they didn't need the damn fates to tell them anything. Drawing her down into his arms, he pressed a soft kiss to her lips, backing away only to return for another. Almost nervously, he pried the ring out of the clusterfuck of a box it had been in, scowling as the padded material refused to budge, so he just yanked it, sending the box scattering to the floor. Ignoring it, he stared at the metal circle for a minute. Unsure for one of the first times in his damn life. Did he put it on? Did she? Wasn't he supposed to do this shit? Groaning, he made a face* Fuck. Now I have to go shopping. Again. *Shoving the ring on his finger, he held his hand out for her approval* I don't have to pick flowers or colors or that shit, do I? Because you know my answer is going to be whatever you want, right?

Arya Rheagar She couldn't help but laugh at him. She had to laugh, if she didn't she would cry. Watching as the box went flying, leaning into his kiss, this is where she wanted to be. With him. Taking his hand into hers, she brought it up to her mouth as she placed a kiss on it. She had been so damn nervous about doing this, about finally admitting to him what she wanted. She still held on to that little fear that he would reject her, yet when she knew he wouldn't. That he felt for her what she felt for him. Laughing again she laid her head down on him "Just for that, maybe I will make you pick things out"

Kaden Kaleva *Snorting, he wrapped his arms around her, chin resting on the top of her head as he glanced back down at the new silver band adorning his hand* Try it. I can make even Vegas look trashy if I'm forced to. *Chuckling, he finally sighed. He actually was kind of looking forward to it. Helping her. Picking out things to symbolize their day of vowing to be together.* Just don't make me pick out clothes woman. That's all I ask. My nuts still cry when I look at those damn jeans you made me buy.

Arya Rheagar Even in a serious, emotional time he makes her laugh. She roared with laughter this time. He may complain about those jeans, but hell, he looked so damn hot in them "You are not wearing your normal clothes to the wedding babe. You will be dressing up." Turning her head she kissed his chest "We don't have to think about it just yet anyway. It takes awhile to plan a wedding. And, well. We don't need to rush it."

Kaden Kaleva *Making a face where she couldn't see, he tucked them both under the covers. Maybe after sleeping a bit, she'd just elope. He'd heard weddings were dangerous to the male. He didn't want to be castrated. Kissing her forehead lightly, he held her close, contentment easing over him. His woman.*

Making Amends

Amethyst Ayesha *After dinner, she'd asked Turstin if he wanted her to move to the guest room. While he was sick, sleeping next to him had seemed like a good idea. Now it just felt too intrusive, too personal. He'd shrugged and told her it didn't make a difference, so after he'd fallen asleep, she'd silently slipped in beside him. Sometime after she fell asleep, she must have turned, because she woke curled up against his side, her chin resting on his chest. Quickly pulling herself away and untangling his arms from hers, she had forced herself to take a shower, get dressed, do her daily things that had to be taken care of. Once done, she'd started searching, finding her phone tucked under the armoire, it must have fallen down when Illy had put it there for her.*

Amethyst Ayesha *Scanning through the contacts, she called work, telling them she'd be there momentarily. Leaving a note on the dining table downstairs, she headed in. Stepping through the doors, it felt like a lifetime since she'd been in the office. Mack was still furious at her, which she understood. She'd nearly blown the mission and had gotten herself caught. She'd been restricted to non-undercover work, and only if she was with her partner. She could accept that. Turns out she was a better agent with Kaden at her side. He was the more experienced tactical agent. She wasn't.*

Amethyst Ayesha *Sitting down in the cold, lifeless interrogation room, she sipped her bottled water as she waited. Finally, one of the higher ups came in. After asking her a few questions, forcing her to detail everything that had happened in Greece, she was a nervous wreck. Would her debriefing be enough to help? Had she gotten enough intel? Once done with the interrogation, she'd been shunted to Mack's office. He was terse, clearly unused to dealing with one of his best agents screwing up. Yet as he went over everything, she couldn't help but feel a perverse thrill. Because she's managed to masquerade as Phoebe, they had enough to implicate her as an integral part of Stefan's business.*

Amethyst Ayesha *She was currently in jail awaiting trial on the arms and munitions charges. Afterward though, she'd quietly be moved to Psiforce facilities. Unlike the American court system, Psiforce had no such limits. She wouldn't get a trial. Am's information had negated that. She'd be either executed or turned over to the Weres for punishment. The world would go on without knowing that she was gone. It seemed harsh, but such was life when you had no morals to speak of. After it was all over, she found herself back in the sunshine, the smells of New Orleans washing over her. One item down, one to go.*

Amethyst Ayesha *Finding Selene's number, she left a message that she'd be at Cafe Du Monde in an hour, if Selene would meet her there. She wasn't sure what she could say, or what she could do, but she'd find a way to explain what had happened, why she'd simply let a note and disappeared for weeks. As for the situation with the Were currently inhabiting her home, she was completely clueless. She wouldn't mind a friend, a confidant to talk to though. Perhaps all things were meant to be.*

Amethyst Ayesha *Hearing animated conversation ahead of her before she hit the parking lot, she slowed, listening in. Hearing Patti talking about a hit she got on a great signature, she waited until the other girl had moved on before she stepped up to walk next to Patti* Do my ears deceive me? While I was gone, Project Genus got approved? *Apparently, the agent's pet project was a dream come true for

her. Amethyst got treated to the whole specs of it in less than 10 minutes, it was tough keeping up but one thing sparked her interest.* Wait, you can track individual types of people? *Her eyes widened at the implications* "Oh yes! Demons, weres, daimons, all sorts of different types of people have a certain electrical signature. So if a crime happens, we can see what types of paranormal creatures are in the area. If we have informants, their handlers can find out if anything new is there, and pinpoint it. It's going to revolutionize cases!"

Amethyst Ayesha *Wincing at her enthusiasm, Am tried to think of how to phrase what she had gotten an idea for throughout the talk.* Can you track them? Like, if I asked for the current whereabouts on all Werens, and asked for certain ones to be tracked, could we do that? *Her heart sank as Patti shook her head. Apparently that type of invasive maneuver bordered on abusing the program. They could only give generalities, not specifics. But still...it was more than they had now.* Any way you could look up tigers when you get a chance? Some friends are looking for missing family members, and that could really help narrow down their search. *As the bubbly girl starts talking again, so excited that her project might help someone else, Am checked her watch* Look, Patti, I have to go...I have a lunch date. But if you could do that, just let me know or leave it on my desk and I'll make sure to tell them you helped, okay? *Hurrying off, she found herself smiling. Perhaps there was a way to find the other siblings after all.*

Amethyst Ayesha *Biting her lip, she settled into a chair at Cafe Du Monde, tapping her fingers on the wrought iron tabletop. She honestly wasn't sure if Selene would show up or not. So she sat, waiting. Hoping that she could explain what had happened without scaring the poor woman.*

Selene Michaels *Tossing my phone on the bed after reading Am's message for probably the dozenth time, I finally get dressed and head downstairs to the car. I figured it was time to get a grip and quit bobbing between mad and elated to find out she was OK. I was glad she was OK. I really like Amethyst and want her to stay in my life, as a friend at least. Before I know it, I arrive at the parking lot beside the cafe. Getting out, I lock up and find my way around to the front of the place. Am was sitting at a table alone, nursing a cup of something, a pensive look on her face. I stop in front of her and just stare for a minute.* Hi! Long time no see!*I mentally slap myself. Good one! Now try to say something even more inane!*

Amethyst Ayesha *Looking up, a smile curves her lips as she spots Selene, hears her voice* I know, I'm here to make amends if I can. *Waving the waitress back over, she motioned to Selene* Could you please get her whatever she wants? I think I have an apology needing to be delivered, and it would go down much better with some of your beignets and chicory coffee. *Turning back to Selene as the waitress took her order and rushed off, she sighed* How have you been, really?

Selene Michaels *Sighing, I slip into the chair and link my hands, looking at Am. I shrug, not really wanting to bore her with the silly details.* Well, long story short, I went from scared to mad to wondering what happened. I have a good imagination, you know. Working as a nurse kinda gives you a first-hand view of things that can happen to people. * I stop and study Am's face, searching for some sign of... something that would explain her sudden disappearance.* So? Where did you go that you couldn't pick up a phone or send a note in a bottle, some sort of message to let me know you were ok at least?

Amethyst Ayesha *sighing, she glanced around, making sure no one was near, besides the young waitress who came back to deposit their orders, and then went back to work* I told you that I worked for the government. That I was a soldier. What I didn't tell you was that it's not exactly any agency that is on the books. *Twisting the paper napkin between her fingers, she tries to find a way to word it that won't tell Selene too much and get her in trouble for knowing things she shouldn't.* I got drafted for an emergency undercover mission. I was out of contact with everyone, not just you. Things went south, badly. It took longer than I thought it would to get out.

Selene Michaels *Arching a brow as I set my coffee cup down, I fold my forearms on the table in front of me, staring at her, trying to figure out if she is telling me the truth or if she is yet another who tries to hide something difficult to talk about behind the phony "I could tell you but I'd have to kill you" routine. If she is lying, Amethyst is damned good at it.* Badly? Badly how? What are you into? I mean.... you just vanished! How can they make you do stuff like this and why would you?

Amethyst Ayesha *She could tell that Selene was trying to figure out if this was a ploy. She felt so bad that she'd not managed to do anything more, to send someone over...to try to let her know that she was okay. Reaching into her back pocket, she pulled out her wallet that held her badge and identification. Sliding it across the table, she nibbled her lip again* Well, it was my first undercover assignment. I hadn't been properly prepared, so I let emotions guide me. I blew my cover, thankfully less than a week before my partner managed to take the island. Oh Selene...they didn't make me. I had signed up for undercover status before I met you. Then this happened, and the woman I was playing was a dead ringer for me. I couldn't say no, not if it saved lives. *Standing, she moved around to envelope Selene in a tight hug* I wasn't on vacation. I didn't leave because I wanted to go, I left because I HAD to. Can you understand that? It's a job, just like your nursing. More insane maybe, but still just a job. In the end, even when I could have escaped, I didn't. I had to save Turstin, so I stayed until I knew I could rescue both of us.

Selene Michaels *Picking up the badge and ID, I looked it over, not really sure what I was looking for but it seemed real to me. When Am comes around to my side for a hug, I hug her back tightly. I couldn't argue with her over that. * OK I understand, I think. You are a sweetheart at heart so I get that you would have to save people if you could.* I stop, honing in on the new name.* Turstin? Do I sense a hot guy involved here somehow?

Amethyst Ayesha *Without trying to, her cheeks flushed* Honestly? I have no damn idea. I realized he was the brother of my roommate...they've been trying to find each other since they separated. So I made sure that Kaden brought him home with us. But, I feel like I'm making an idiot of myself around him. So no, not involved. Even if I can't seem to keep my eyes off of him, I'm sure to him I'm the strange fool who trips over her own words around him. *waving her hand as if to brush the topic away* I am sorry. That I wasn't able to at least let you know I was okay. I had a burner cell, no contact to the agency. I was alone. *shrugging, she grinned at Selene* But I did it. I finished the mission, saw it through. May not be able to go undercover again, but I proved to myself that I could do it. That's enough, right?

Selene Michaels *Laughing at her blush, I relax back into the chair, just listening to Am's explanation. I shake my head when she finishes.* Damn girl! You don't do ANYTHING half-way, do you? Look, I forgive you for not letting me know now that I understand you had no way of contacting me without getting yourself and others in more danger.* I sigh, thinking of how nice it would be to have an exciting job. Then again, if it means I am in constant danger, it could get old fast, too. Am's reaction to

this Turstin, is interesting to me, though. Sounds like a spark between them. Oh yeah, have to fan that one to see if she fires up.* I understand how you feel. You overcame your challenge to yourself so feel huge and powerful. I can definitely relate to that. Tell me more about this guy, though. It sounds like you have feelings for him.

Amethyst Ayesha *Narrowing her eyes, she tried to think of some other topic* I really don't think I want to talk about him. He's...aggravating. *Without wanting to, she found herself making a frustrated face* With you, I relaxed. Because you made me feel beautiful, desirable. With him...God, I don't know. I've been taking care of him, he woke up yesterday, told me to sleep in the same bed as him, and then just...ignored me. Though, to be honest, he'd just been healed, met his long lost sister, realized he had been rescued, and all. Is it wrong to feel jealous and worried that he'll leave now that he's safe? *Groaning, she put her face in her hands on the table, mumbling almost incoherently* It is. It's stupid. I'm being one of those crazy women. I was never like this before! *Lifting her head, she pinned Selene with a glare* You are smiling. Stop that. It's not funny. This is ridiculous, you and I connected right away, and I got over my awkwardness. Well, okay, I didn't, but you thought it was cute. *rolls eyes* You deal with men. And fantasies. How do I make him pay attention!?!?!

Selene Michaels *Doing my best not to giggle at her as she gets herself worked up, I find myself humbled by her feeling so at ease with me. I get up and hug Am again, holding her while she works her anxiety out. When she seems to settle, I let her go and sit back down, motioning for the waitress to bring more coffee for us.* Look Am, I'm glad you felt so comfortable with me. I really enjoyed our time together. It sounds like this guy has something that you are lacking though. He's under your skin, I'm afraid. The only time you can be sure he'll leave, is if you don't let him know you want to be more than his Florence Nightingale. I am pretty sure he figures he already planted the landing strip already, lights blaring when he told you to sleep beside him. I assume by your outburst that he actually meant SLEEP and not some euphemistic word for sexing him up. Face it Am, men just don't give OR take hints like women do. They want a lot of the same things we do too, just have slightly different ways of going about getting them, usually. What does your buddy Kaden think of him?

Amethyst Ayesha *Grumbling, she scowled a little* Oh. That. Apparently they have met before and were like "best buds". Kaden was the one Turstin called when he got abducted. No one tells me anything anymore, I always learn at the last possible second. He didn't even want me to bring Turstin back, he grumbled the whole time, telling me to just leave him with the clean up crews. Now suddenly they're friends and he's so glad HE brought Turstin back with us. Ugh. *Somewhere in the middle of her rant, she had the inkling of an idea that hadn't been fully formed. Just something that told her to shut up, to think more on the aftermath of the mission.*

Amethyst Ayesha *Yet she couldn't put her finger on it. Deciding to let it rest for now and she'd figure out what the mental kick in the ass was later, she let out a sigh* I feel like if I just make it obvious, he's going to be stunned, then Illy will laugh, Kaden will be pissed, and I will ruin a lot of friendships. *Picking at her fingernails, she just shook her head* Face it, I'm a mess at this stuff. Give me a gun and someone to chase and I can handle that. Tell me to talk to a male or female I find desirable and I sink like quicksand. *Putting her hand on her chin, she smiled over at Selene* You know, this is actually the first time I haven't felt strange and awkward and at a loss in quite a few weeks. Thank you for that, for being a friend.

Selene Michaels *Sipping my coffee and watching Am's face as she vents her frustrations, I see just when the ideas start to make some sort of sense to her. Amethyst is doing her best to run circles around the one she wants, using the others as a sort of shield against herself.* You're welcome, Am. That's

what friends are for. It sounds like Kaden and Turstin have unfinished business. Did Kaden know it was actually him? I mean, it sounds like there was a lot of rough action. Was Turstin banged up.. * I stop as her words sink in, leaning forward so only Am can hear me. * "Clean up crews"? As in clean up the mess like they do in the movies? " Clear out any evidence," shoot, shovel, shut-up" THAT kind of clean-up?

Amethyst Ayesha Oh, no, Kaden didn't know it was him at first. He was pretty banged up. *Her eyes widened as she realized she'd said a bit too much.* This is going to get me into so much trouble if anyone ever finds out I told you. *Taking a big drink of her coffee to settle her stomach, she frowned as she tried to think of how to put it in ways a civilian could understand without sounding horrible* Pretty much, yes....our agency deals with "special" types of missions. After Kaden and Arya made it onto the island, they had to free the other people being held captive there, get rid of anything that we didn't want anyone seeing. The clean up crews were there to double check that nothing was left, and to get the rest of the people off the island and home safely, basically. It was...not a pleasant experience. *Seeing Selene's face, she couldn't help the sinking feeling in her gut* You're getting really freaked out about all of this, aren't you?

Selene Michaels *Trying to understand exactly what she was telling me, I can't quite believe the scenarios I am coming up with. These things only happen in the movies, not in real life, right? And why doesn't that frighten me? I must be insane but I am a curious one.* Relax, Am. My god who would believe me anyway?* I blow out a breath, hoping to relax my brain so I don't blurt out something really stupid, like "take me, show me what you saw. I'm bored as heck in my job. It's great but I want more out of this life."* Besides, I am your friend. I know how to keep a secret. I'm not sure I'm grasping the extent of all you're telling me, but I know you are telling the truth. I'm really glad you're safe and in one piece. I hope you don't drop off the face of the planet again.* Looking at my watch, I grimace and sigh before getting up to hug her yet again.* Look Amethyst, I have to go. Thanks for the lunch but I have to get to work. I'll call you or you can call me whenever, OK?

Amethyst Ayesha *Accepting the hug, she sighed as she watched Selene hurry off. Whether she was completely freaked or not, she supposed time would tell. Knowing she had to eventually go home and hopefully not make an ass of herself, she finished her coffee, having the girl put the beignets into a bag for her to take home. Paying the bill, she hurried outside sitting in her car for a moment, panicking that she may have just lost a friend. Telling herself that whatever happened, she'd fix it, she breathed deep, forcing herself to calm. If she'd said too much, so be it. She wanted to keep the friendship she'd found. Starting the car, she made her way home, wondering what type of foot-in-mouth disease she was going to develop tonight.*

Loneliest Number

Ailwin Ryann *He kept telling himself just one more city. One more forested area. One more chance to find his sibling. He had almost given up hope, but finding the Ryann family scent in New York had awakened a fire in him that he had no hope of dousing, even when he knew it was a doomed quest from the start. Too many miles, too much time. Who knew even what type of people his sister and brothers were now? Would they prefer the beaches? The Cities? The quiet solitude of country life? How shameful that he couldn't have told you. If he hadn't been paying attention to scents, he could have walked by one of them dozens of times on the street in the past few years, and wouldn't have been any the wiser. The fates were definitely cruel bitches. His goal had been to find them, yes. But deep down he knew they wouldn't come out of hiding until the danger to them was eliminated. How could one go about that? As far as he knew it was an underground network. How do you stop a organized crime ring that seemed to be like a hydra, new heads sprouting every time you cut one off?* Dammit! *Slamming his fist into the brick facade of the building next to him, he curled his lip as passerby jumped, giving him a wide berth. Backing into the darkness of an alley, he flashed onward, to his next city he'd decided to scope out. He was exhausted, almost falling over on his feet. He'd rest after this one. That's all he kept telling himself...after this last one.*

Ailwin Ryann *Finding the cheapest accommodations he could, he ignored the cracked linoleum, the "retro" puke yellow on every surface. Checking that the bed was at least freshly made and clean, he shoved his meager belongings in their battered duffel bag under the bed, closest to his head. The small fortune in there was his life's savings. He'd be damned if staying in a shit motel caused him to lose it when he was going to use it to help get his siblings all on their feet. Assuming he ever fucking found them. Shedding his clothes, he dropped to the mattress, lifting his arms to fold them behind his head as he stared at the stained ceiling above him. Funny how one day everything is fine, your life is perfect and then in a split second everything can change. He'd never forget being forced to walk away from his siblings that day. The look of Illy, tears streaming down her cheeks as she begged them not to go, not to leave her. Turstin pretending to be stoic, holding on to Illy, knowing he'd have to turn and leave too. The others disappearing as darkness lightened. Turning to punch the pillow down to a more comfortable shape, he sighed. No use remembering the past. He couldn't change it, even if he dared. His only hope was that he'd be able to fix the future. Just had to keep his eye on the prize, keep searching. His siblings had to be somewhere. Their paths had to cross eventually, he couldn't deal with thinking otherwise. Settling into an uneasy sleep, he slipped into the only place he could remember their faces without pain, the dream memories of their lives before, when they'd been a family. When they were happy.*

Ailwin Ryann *Sitting at the bar, he glanced around as he ordered a beer, before sliding on to an empty bar stool. He'd heard several weres near this area had disappeared over the months, so this was one place he definitely wanted to check out. As he took another swallow, instinct screamed inside of him. That was quick. Chasers. The scent of stale cigarette smoke, dried blood, and singed fur clung to them. As well as....sniffing again, he froze. Tiger blood. Ryann blood. One of his siblings. Slamming his bottle down on the scarred bar top, he tossed down a few bills before slowly heading outside, taking down his defenses enough that the Chasers could sense an Aristos were. It'd be a prize they'd be stupid to pass up.*

Ailwin Ryann *Ducking into an alley, he kept on his way, hearing the soft footfalls behind him indicating they'd taken his bait. Didn't they know a cornered tiger was the most dangerous prey of all? As one shouted at him to stop, he turned, palms up, the gesture one of confusion* Eu sei que você? *One sneered at his question of if he knew them. Apparently they knew Brazilian Portuguese. Baring his teeth as they advanced, he shifted, springing at them before they had expected it. Before he knew it, he was human again, sticky crimson warmth coating him. His mouth tasted coppery as he spit blood onto the pavement. He hadn't meant to kill them, not really. But when they'd refused to tell him anything about the tiger they'd captured, or where he was being held, he may have lost his fucking mind.*

Ailwin Ryann *Putting in a message to his agent friend that he might need clean up, he dragged the bodies over to toss them in the dumpster. Next to him was a hose that was used for one of the restaurant kitchens he'd passed, so he quickly sprayed down himself and the ground. Best he could do, K would make sure someone else was deployed. Now, he at least had more information. Their accents had been difficult to place as a human, but at least now he had something to search for. They'd smelled of the Carolina's, salt air, magnolias, and fresh Georgia peaches. The tiger always knew. They'd been in the south then. Looked like it was time for a trip home. A chance to see the woman he'd claimed as his own secretly again, though he'd kept her locked away in his mind, hidden from the world.*

Maeve Etain *Walking through the park at night was never a good idea but she needed to think. Her mother claimed the fae were done hunting her yet she knew there were some that would never give up. She had embarrassed them too much. Forgetting to keep her guard up she failed to notice that she was being followed until suddenly she felt the spell hit her knocking her to her knees.*

Ailwin Ryann *Feeling a sizzle of awareness across his senses, he sat down the beer he'd been drinking. Glancing around, he didn't see or sense anything. Shifting in the barstool, he sent out tiny tendrils of his power...too little to be felt but enough to tell him that whatever was affecting him, it wasn't something in the dive bar he'd holed up in for the night to try and find more information on the weres in the area. Sending a mindlink, he took another quick sip of the beer.* ~Maeve?~

Maeve Etain It's sad you have to sneak up on a woman and hit her behind her back to win. *the fae sneers as she turns to face it allowing her daggers to drop from her arm sheaths.* Why don't you fight like a real man or did you forget what that was after the last time? "You got lucky little mortal. That won't happen twice." *as he prepared to cast another spell she threw the dagger at his heart. knowing it wouldn't kill him but it would stop before he hit her with another spell, or so she thought. He threw it out anyway knocking her to the ground.*

Ailwin Ryann *Getting more worried now, he sent another mindlink, demanding she answer him. Tossing a few bills down on the table, he headed outside, letting his senses spread out to find her. If she was close he'd be okay. Farther away, the more power tendrils he'd have to send out. As long as he didn't actually DO anything, he should be okay. Finding the ruby essence that was wholly Maeve, he sent out another call.* ~Maeve, if you are okay, answer me right this fucking second. Otherwise I'm coming after you.

Maeve Etain *hearing Ailwin she was worried but the fae was killing her.* ~Ailwin, don't come.~ *she knew she didn't have the strength to send him much more she was using all of her strength trying to keep herself alive. She had little magic that would really help against this opponent. He was right she got lucky last time they faced off her mother had saved her. This time he had made sure she was alone and unable to reach anyone.*

Ailwin Ryann *Hearing her weak voice in his head pretty much sealed it. Flashing to her, his lip curled as he took a look at the fae male that was standing above her. Seeing him holding a pulsating blade that looked like it was made of light, he didn't need to be fae to know that probably wasn't a good thing. Without thinking about it, he simply reacted, blasting the male away from her. Baring his teeth at him, he moved to stand over her, protecting her from the male as he circled them* Seems funny you're not so quick to attack when someone is around who overpowers you, asshole. *tossing a blade he slipped into his palms, he didn't look to see if it connected, he grabbed Maeve, letting himself fade on the rytis, taking them back just a few hours.* Are you hurt?

Maeve Etain *feeling the air shift then knowing suddenly that Ailwin had saved me I can't even summon the strength to be angry.* Where are we?

Ailwin Ryann Ah... *looks around* Wherever you were? That place, a few hours ago. *Setting her on her feet, he frowned down at her* You didn't answer me. Are you hurt?

Maeve Etain *fighting to stand up on my own I look around.* Okay, I can buy that. Didn't I tell you to stay away?

Ailwin Ryann *Snorting, he glared at her* Was I supposed to listen? Fuck that. Had I stayed you'd be dead. *Realizing what he did, that he'd used his powers not only on the fae but to time jump without the moon, he cursed.* We have to get out of here. Now.

Maeve Etain *glaring at him* Yes. That's exactly what you're supposed to do. *knowing he was right did not help. He could have been killed.* You could have been just as dead if you hadn't have done whatever it was you just did. Where exactly are we going?

Ailwin Ryann *Raising a brow, he grabbed her arm, tugging her along* I'm an Aristos, woman. I wield just as much magic as a Fae. More since iron doesn't do a damn thing to me and they have issues with it. *Glancing back at her, he shook his head* Hell if I know, this is where you were, not me. Where are we anyways? We have to get far out of the area.

Maeve Etain *gasping at his announcement it takes a couple of minutes before her brain kicks in.* We're in my garden. If we make it to the house nothing and nobody can get through the wards I have in place.

Ailwin Ryann *Seeing the trees lightening, he figured that they were near the house. Moving faster, he got her to the threshold before leaning down and stealing a quick kiss* The fact that I'm an Aristos and used my powers means the chasers could be after me. You'll be safe, they only come after weres. Get in, set the wards. Don't open for anyone. *Brushing his thumb across her lips, he couldn't help the sense of satisfaction as her eyes darkened, her heartbeat sped up, and her nipples hardened under the tank she wore.* Give me a few days to make sure I've lost them. I'll contact you when I'm safe. *Taking a look around again to memorize the place so he could get back, he flashed to the furthest location he could think of from her. Hopefully they wouldn't be able to trace his whereabouts after he left her.*

Maeve Etain *standing on the threshold she waits in shock as he disappears quickly. Hobbled into the house she decides she needs a hot bath then maybe call Shay and see if she can help her take care of her wounds again.*

Maeve Etain *sitting in the house she is frustrated since Ailwin left her even Shay had insisted she stay inside and had stayed away hoping that whoever was hunting shifters never thought to look there. Nothing on the television so she starts a hot bath. After adding the bubbles she decided why not and m'l'd Ailwin.* ~Ailwin?~

Ailwin Ryann *He'd been flashing from place to place, making sure to use less and less power on each jump. Finally, it was closest to the full moon, the time when all weres could jump without the power being sensed as a Were using Aristos powers to do so. He still didn't dare flash right to her home, he had flashed a few towns away and had been slowly making his way there using cabs, buses, and other types of non-traceable transportation. Hearing her mindlink, he smirked. He wasn't even going to answer the damn thing, he was only a few minutes from her, having chosen to walk the last bit an hour ago. Not even bothering to knock, he could sense that she'd relaxed the wards of the house for him. Stepping through, he dropped his bag just inside the door, straining to hear her. After a moment, he picks up the sound of water running from somewhere upstairs. Stalking up the stairs 3 at a time, he pushes open the door to her bedroom, spotting the door to the bathroom cracked open. Slowly pushing it inward, he steps in, shutting it behind him. As she looks up, he starts slowly discarding items of clothing* I believe you started without me, Maeve. Tsk tsk. Very naughty.

Maeve Etain *startled at first it took her a moment to realize it was just him. Apparently he didn't even feel the need to answer her. Grinning at his comment she decides to tease him and cup her hands then allow the water to slowly run down her chest collecting at her stomach.* How was I to know when you would return?

Ailwin Ryann *Growling low, he finishing dropping his clothing to the floor, taking the last few steps to the edge of the bath tub. Eyes hooded as he watched the droplets of water run down her skin, wanting to lick each and every one up, his tongue lashing that sensitive flesh. Stepping over the rim, he reached for her hand, waiting as she reached for him. Lifting her up out of the water, he wrapped an arm around her waist, the other buried in her hair to draw her up for a heated, aggressive kiss* Ah now, bit, I told you I'd be back as soon as I lost them. Did you have so little faith that I'd do it quickly? Hmm. I think that should come with some kind of punishment, don't you?

Maeve Etain *shivering with anticipation at the growl she was glad she had done this after all. He deserved some teasing after all it would make it that much better. Standing up allowing the water to cascade down her skin she collapsed against him and moaned at the contact.* I'm sorry but it's rather hard for me to have faith. Punishment might be fun though. *grinning mischievously.*

Ailwin Ryann *Turning to press her against the cold tile wall, he pinned her there, his hand moving to tug at her nipples, waiting until they were straining towards him, blushing a pretty pink before slipping his hand between their bodies to stroke between her thighs, feeling the heated wetness coating his fingertips* Don't be too hasty...maybe I'll feeling a bit greedy. *Nipping at her shoulder, he moved upward to trace a slow path upwards to her earlobe, sucking it into his mouth, scraping his teeth across it as his fingers stroked deeper, just the tiniest inch.* Perhaps I'll take my fill...wait to hear you beg to come. Leave you straining, panting, twisting against me before I give in. If you're a good girl.

Maeve Etain *her breath coming in short pants as he teases her body making it beg for more. Writhing against him the cold of the tile doesn't last long as her body heats up. Whimpering at the feel of his teeth against her makes her dig her nails into him until she feels the skin start to give.* More.

Ailwin Ryann More? *Smirking, he retreated, cupping her mound in his palm, putting slight pressure on her clit as he tugged her head farther backwards with his hold on her hair* Giving you what you want isn't a good punishment Maeve. *Bringing his hand to his lips, he sucked slowly on his fingertip, seeing her eyes dilate as she watched* You always taste so damn sweet. What do you want Maeve? I want to hear it.

Maeve Etain *pouting at the absence of him inside of her she moans as her hair is pulled just a little harder. Watching him suck his fingers clean was almost too much.* I want to feel you inside of me and surrounding me. I want all of you Ailwin. And I want it now. *rubbing as much of her body against him as she could as she speaks watching his pupils turn to his cats for only a minute she knows he's ready to pounce.*

Ailwin Ryann *Lifting her, letting her wrap her arms around his neck, he hissed as he felt the slick wetness of her coating the head of his cock. Grinding himself against her for a moment, he could feel her impatience, feel her struggling to keep still. Gripping her chin in his hand, he leaned forward to give her a bruising, harsh kiss, leaving her lips reddened and swollen from the assault as he slowly thrust into her clutching pussy, feeling the silky heat envelop him. Groaning, he pinned her with his body, letting her wrap her legs around his hips to hold herself up. Lifting her arms, he shackled her wrists with one hand, the other curling around her hip, holding her steady as his body shuddered each time he drove deep, feeling her pussy ripple around his shaft*

Maeve Etain *struggling against him she wants him now not this patient playing. Finally as he takes her mouth showing her who's in control then he completes them both. Crying out as she feels the first shudders start through her pussy feeling the climax growing close as she wraps her legs around him wanting to pull him even closer to her. Needing the feel of him completely against her. As her hands are trapped above her head pushing her chest out begging for attention as he pounds into her.*

Ailwin Ryann *Groaning her name as she arches her back, her breasts lifting enticingly upwards, he dips his head, laving the tightened bud with his tongue, drawing it into his mouth to flick his tongue over the tip, scraping with his teeth before shifting, moving to the other that's crying out for the same attention, never slowing his unmerciful thrusts, each one slamming her hips back against the porcelain.

Lifting his hand from her hip, he curls it around her throat, tightening in slow precision, lifting his head to meet her gaze as he felt his cock stiffen, his body damn near breaking point.* Come for me Maeve. Right fucking now.

Maeve Etain *the sensations are heaven. He completes her like no other even when he's taking command. She is his completely. As soon as she feels his hand wrap around her throat she tightens on him even more. Her moisture soaking the two of them. The tile behind her starting to crack under the pressure biting into her along with his command causes her to have the biggest orgasm of her life.*

Ailwin Ryann *Groaning in bliss as he feels her body tighten around him, her pussy spasming, drawing his cock deeper, he shudders as hot jets of seed mingle with her release, coating his shaft, dripping across her inner thighs. Almost crying out, he relaxed his grip on her throat, tipping her head down to leave soft kisses across her cheek, ending with long, slow, drugging kisses, sipping at her lips, before pressing his forehead to hers, willing his heart rate to slow. One side of his lips quirked into a smile* Well hello there, sexy. Good to see you again.

Maeve Etain *collapsing against him and the wall kissing him back. Putting her arms around him she nuzzles his head. Giggles.* Hey there handsome. Long time no see.

Ailwin Ryann *Shaking his head as he grinned, he lifted her from the shower wall, stepping out of the bathtub as he let her slide down his body. Grabbing a towel from the back of the door, he wrapped it around her, tucking it in above her breasts before sweeping her up in his arms, moving to drop her to the mattress, following her down.* Damn, but I needed that, bit. *Drawing her closer to lay across his chest, he stroked his fingertips down her spine slowly* I think I got rid of any assholes following me. We're safe here for a while.

Maeve Etain *cuddling against him she sighs happily.* They will never get through the wards. My mother paid me a visit. She found out about the attack on me and decided to reinforce my wards. You got through because we are connected.

Ailwin Ryann Connected huh? Sure it's not just my cock you're connected to usually? *Laughing, he leaned up to kiss her forehead to let her know he was joking before relaxing back on the pillows.* I'm glad. Spent the whole time again fucking frantic that I was too late, that one of our enemies had found you. I'm glad to see my fears were unfounded.

Maeve Etain *smiling and tracing circles on his arm.* honey you know exactly what we are. You never completely shut me out anymore. Nobody will find me here and even when I leave my mother has ensured I will be protected. Come to find out she had been trying to protect me but they had bound her. Stupid politics all because they think I want to be a part of their world. I'm happy here thank you. *kissing his arm.*

Ailwin Ryann *Sighing heavily, he twisted to sit up a little further, keeping her still in his arms, but lifting so he could look down at her* I think it's time you told me everything that is going on, little bit. We both got shit happening around us. But, you're right. I don't even bother anymore. I know you're stubborn enough to break into my damn head if you want to. *laughing, he brushed the hair away from her face so he could see her* We both need to know what exactly we are dealing with. At this point, our scents are pretty much all fucking over each other. Someone is going to break lines and go after the other eventually.

Maeve Etain *sighing against him she knows he's right.* You're right and after tonight it will be known that you are a way for them to get me. You know I'm half fae. Well the queen seems to think I want her throne for some reason. I think part of it is she knows I have the strength to fight her for it if I want even if I am half human. The fight really got bad when I refused her son. He was mean s.o.b. So I spent the past ten years hiding and running. I couldn't contact my mother for fear of her getting hurt. While fae don't die easily they can do a lot of damage until they wish they could.

Ailwin Ryann *His hands clenched tightly for a moment before he relaxed them. For some reason he wanted to go find the fucking fae that hurt her and tear them all the hell apart. Forcing back the urge, he sighed* We will figure it out. Let 'em try to use me to hurt you. I guarantee they will regret it. With me, I've heard rumors that the main branch of the Chasers was annihilated. I'm not sure if it's true or not, so I'm just keeping my ear to the ground. I can't guarantee there aren't rogue remnants still left out there, if the rumors are even correct and the main ones are gone, which I haven't verified yet. Though, Chasers usually aren't interested in any around, just the Weres. It's still something to be careful of.

Maeve Etain well the plus side of mine is my mother said the queen has forgiven me since the prince has found his bride. So the rogues are the only ones after me and after tonight that should be taken care of. Will they come after Shay if she's with me? She's half were.

Ailwin Ryann *Giving it the thought it deserved, he finally shook his head* They are interested in strong, powerful weres to breed in captivity and make them millions on the damn black market. Being half were, she'd dilute the bloodlines they're going for. I doubt she has anything to worry about. I mean, you can warn her to be a bit more careful than usual, might as well, but I think she'd be fine. *shifting to get more comfortable, he let her curl back up against him as she was before* We'll figure everything out, bit. One problem, one solution at a time. *Blinking, he couldn't stop a slight yawn. He'd been traveling for days, and right now, just wanted to sleep with a soft, warm woman in his arms. Tomorrow he could fight again, tonight would damn well be his.*

Maeve Etain *smiling cuddling to him she relaxes and closes her eyes.* Ok I will. Sweet dreams my kitten and no disappearing before breakfast. *feeling him mumble already asleep she smiles. Poor baby was exhausted but at least he was here and they both were safe. If only for a little while.*

Ailwin Ryann *He'd fucked up. Let down his guard. Pretending he was normal and not a hunted man as he helped Maeve around the house, rebuilt the broken fence at the western edge of her property. Today he was inspecting a dilapidated shed. Frowning as he peered at the roof, he poked around for a bit, checking the foundations. Well, the ground frame was secure but the rest? Not a fucking chance of saving it. Hearing a noise, just the slightest sound in the underbrush, he froze. Not here. That's all he fucking thought....not here. They could take him anywhere else, but not where Maeve was in danger. He never should have settled in, dropped his defenses. He'd put both of them in danger. Hissing out a breath as a small spotted cat leapt from the bushes and started heading away, a rusty chuckle left his lips. He was getting paranoid in his damn old age. Right as he thought that, the cat turned back, intelligence gleaming in golden eyes. Were eyes. Stunned silent, he stared as the cat disappeared into the forest. Was this an omen of something to come, or him over-reacting? Hopefully he wouldn't learn the truth far too late.*

Fated

Amethyst Ayesha *Life was....strange. She'd talked to Selene a time or two since they'd had lunch. She was beginning to think they really could be good friends, and not have it be strange or fraught with tension. No, the tension was in her house already. She'd expected Turstin to want to leave, even if Illy didn't....that maybe he'd get a place in New Orleans or something. But no, he seemed perfectly content to stay in her home with her and Illy. Taking up space. Lazing around on the couch while he got to know his sister, looking edible and being completely aggravating since he hardly looked twice at her. What was wrong with her? She had a mirror. She wasn't like...bad looking. She had a job, a house. She was a catch, dammit!*

Amethyst Ayesha *God, he was making her one of those crazy women. Those insecure, whiny, needy people. No. She was not letting that happen to her. Determined to spend some kind of time with him, she went searching. Didn't he say he had a dog or something? They could go, get the dog, pick up some of his things so he could feel more at home in NOLA while he was here. And then they could figure out the sleeping arrangements, because she hadn't had a good nights sleep since he woke up. Thinking that he was staying in her bed only because that's what Arya had dumped him.*

Amethyst Ayesha *She woke up every morning tangled around him. Thank God he seemed to be a fairly heavy sleeper, she'd be embarrassed if he knew. Hell, if he knew how often she had to force her eyes to move away before he caught her, he'd probably run as fast as he could in the opposite direction. She'd even had the crazy idea of just going up and kissing him one night. But fear of rejection seared her, and she didn't want to ruin Kaden and Illy's relationships with Turstin because she was a horny, desperate mess of a woman. She was officially going insane. Searching through the rooms she sighed as she couldn't find him.* Turstin? *Where was that damned tiger when she wanted him!?!?!?*

Kaden Kaleva *Heading inside as he heard Amethyst call for Turstin, he frowned and followed after her* He was going to be back in a bit, went with Illy to the store. *Raising a brow at her, he took in the tight pants and low cut shirt* You're looking mighty slutty today. And calling for Turstin. You planning on just throwing yourself at him now that he's healed? Damn, woman.

Amethyst Ayesha *Making an irritated sound, she spun around, spotting Kaden standing in the door, his hands jammed in his pockets* When was the last time you ever commented on what I'm wearing? Are you sick? Never mind, don't answer that. *Shaking her head, she sighed* I'm not throwing myself at him. I was going to see if he wanted to go pick up his dog, some extra clothes....stuff.

Kaden Kaleva "Stuff"? Hell, you're in deep if you're letting a male move into your territory, little sis. *Grabbing a beer from the fridge, he tossed her the extra and headed out to the back porch, gingerly sitting into the stupid wicker shit she put there that always seemed ready to topple over at any damn moment.* Little hint? Don't fucking go after him if he's sitting on this shit. Head'll splatter on the damn concrete.

Amethyst Ayesha *Following Kaden, she twisted the cap off of the beer, taking a slow sip as she tried not to laugh. She hated that wicker stuff too, but he complained so much she kept it there just to mess with him.* Kaden, it's pretty. Wicker is southern, we are in the south. No one told you to sit your heavy butt down on them. And I'm not going after him!!! *Spotting something glinting in the sun, she grabbed his hand* What in the world is that? Kaden. You're wearing a ring.

Kaden Kaleva Thank you, I'm well aware of that. *Tugging his hand back from her, he took a quick gulp of the swill she kept, shitty ass beer.* Arya...proposed. I'm happy as hell, yeah. Just wondering if she'll regret it. You know, not having kids. Watching me age and shit. It ain't gonna be easy. But I'm damn sure not letting her get away. So acting like a little bitch ain't even worth it in the end, it's happening and we'll damn well deal with the consequences.

Amethyst Ayesha *She couldn't help a laugh. Even in love he was arrogant, cocky, and hid his worries and emotions behind cursing and subterfuge.* Kaden, you two are good for each other. I think it's an amazing thing, congratulations. I'm sure you'll do your best to make sure she never wants for anything. *Peeling the label slowly off of her bottle, she sighed* I'm drawn to Turstin. For some reason I can't ignore him. Maybe it's just an itch that needs scratched, you know? He doesn't seem interested so I'm just...trying to find a way to be friends. For everyone. So he's comfortable here and won't leave Illy.

Kaden Kaleva Illy's a big girl Am. Look, I'm gonna say this once and then we're going to pretend it never happened. You always want to take care of everyone else. Want to make sure every other person on the fucking planet is taken care of before you take care of you. Fucking stop it. Be selfish for once. If shit happens and Illy and Turstin leave, it ain't the end of the damn world. We'll figure it out, we always do. We're fucking unstoppable together, remember? At his apartment I left the card for the kennel in case he came back there before I did. Look, men are different. You may think he ain't interested, but that's cause you're doing the stupid chick shit and we don't see it. Stop being the stupid, fucked up version I see standing in front of me, and go back to the Am that I know, the one that knows she's a damn fine woman. If he don't take the hint? He don't fucking deserve you. *Finishing the beer, he cursed as he went to get up and heard the wicker creaking under him* And if he does take the hint, get rid of this shit. It's nasty as fuck.

Amethyst Ayesha *Laughing, she watched as Kaden left. That was why she loved him. He'd taken her under his wing, treated her as a little sister. He was a crude hard ass, but deep down, he cared more than he'd ever admit. Smiling, she dropped the empty bottles into the recycling bin, looking up as Illy and Turstin came in with bags. She offered to help and they waved her off, so she wandered into the living room. Once he was done, she'd tell him they were going to go get the dog, and his things, and see if they even had any common ground on talking to each other. After that, well, who knew? Sighing as she hadn't heard from him after hearing Illy head down to the dark room, she peeked into the kitchen, then looked everywhere else. Realizing it was too late to go anywhere now, she headed to go take a bath and smiled as she saw him passed out on her bed, his arm thrown out over her pillow. What the hell was it about this man, no..this tiger, that warmed her? Made her want things she'd never cared about before? She needed to get her head out of the gutter and back onto her own life before she did something drastically stupid, like proposition him or something dumb like that. Ignoring his sleeping form, she did an about face and headed back downstairs.*

Turstin Ryann *Turstin woke with a start. Sitting up in bed, he let out a long breath as he tried to slow down his breathing. Damn these nightmares. He hadn't had them in a long while, so he thought they were done. What had changed? Suddenly Amethyst's scent filled his senses and he instantly hardened. Turstin quickly glanced around to make sure she wasn't here to see his uncharacteristic reaction. What was wrong with him? Shrugging, he slips out of bed and decided to take a quick shower. Ten minutes and a fresh pair of pants later, Turstin walks out of Amethyst's room and heads down the hall.*

Turstin Ryann *He should go get Presto. It has been a long time since he has seen his dog. The plan was to get him yesterday but his powers were still being unstable from his torture. Today though, they feel right as rain. Heading down the stairs, he walks into the kitchen and freezes as he sees Amethyst standing there* Hi. *Walking around her, he reaches over her head to grab a coffee mug. After pouring some coffee into it, he glances at her* So I am going to head to New York to grab my dog. You want to tag along?

Amethyst Ayesha *She'd been cleaning out the refrigerator of the leftovers no one had eaten, dumping them in the trash when her body suddenly went into hormonal meltdown. Turstin must be close. Sighing, she washed her hands, turning to lean against the counter as he walked in. She had no idea why she responded to him the way she did, but as he leaned over to grab a mug, reaching around for the coffee, she almost wanted to move closer and drape herself across him. She'd never acted like that, and wouldn't, though it was damn hard not to when he insisted on looking so damn edible, the bastard. Coming down here with hardly no clothes on, still damp from a shower...making her wonder what the droplets would taste like on her tongue... Blinking as she was dragged out of her thoughts at his words, she focused on what he had said, though it took a minute* Um. Dog? New York? Oh, yeah, the dog Kaden put into the kennel. Sure, I can go with you if you want me to. I think Kaden said he left a card...or a note. Something.

Turstin Ryann *Turstin frowns at her a little as she seems distracted* Are you alright? *Leaning back against the counter, he folds one arm over his stomach and sets the coffee mug on top of it* You seem weird right now.

Amethyst Ayesha *Narrowing her eyes at him, she frowns* Weird? Not at all. I'm normally an odd, rambling mess. Ignore me. *Inside she's swearing that if she can just keep her eyes above the neck, she'd be okay. Then she curses as she realizes he has the most gorgeous eyes that you could get lost in. Realizing she'd said it out loud as his eyebrow raises, she shakes her head, a blush heating her cheeks* I'm sorry. I swear, I'm not usually this random. Can we just go now? Before I say something stupid and embarrassing again?

Turstin Ryann *His frown deepening, Turstin nods at her words and quickly flashes on a black t shirt and shoes. Holding out his hand, he waits for her to put hers in it. Once she does, he flashes them outside of his apartment in New York* Well since you and Kaden took down the Chasers who had me, I doubt my apartment is being watched or booby-trapped. Just in case it is though, I'll go first. *Not waiting for her answer, he unlocks the door and steps in. The place is a mess, whether it was from Presto or the Chaser, Turstin isn't sure. Using his powers, he cleans everything up in a flash then heads over to the table where Kaden left the address for the kennel* Here it is. *Turning back around, Turstin looks at Am and tries to give her a reassuring smile to help ease her discomfort* See, this wasn't so bad was it?

Amethyst Ayesha *Forcing herself not to shiver as she slid her small hand into his larger one, she waited as he went in, even though she wanted to remind him that she was always armed....she kind of liked the fact that he wanted to protect her. Made her feel all womanly and cherished, even if the cherished part wasn't true. As he steps inside, she follows behind him, biting her lip as she watched the way the black denim hugged his ass. She normally never noticed men's asses, but he definitely had a nice one. Dragging her eyes back up as he turns around, she licks her dry lips as she shakes her head, glancing around the apartment. It looked like "him". Masculine. Focus on comfort more than on design. She liked that...she hated the girly frou-frou crap most people put in their living spaces. His was...calming. As she went to grab her phone to check the time so they could make sure the kennel would be open, it falls, skidding under the couch* Dammit! *Dropping to her knees, she dug around under the couch, looking for the stupid thing. Twisting to peer under it, she finally located it and stretched until her fingers closed around it. Dragging herself up to a kneeling position, she waved it at him where he stood behind her* Got it!

Turstin Ryann *Turstin's mind goes completely blank as he watches Amethyst kneel to get her phone. Every hormone in his body ignites and his inner tiger roars with need. He even takes a step forward before he can stop himself. What the hell was wrong with him? He never reacted to women this way, ever. Clearing his throat, he nods when she holds up her phone* Good. Be more careful. *Turning away from her, he heads into the kitchen and begins throwing away all the old food. He could do it with his powers but he needed the distraction. Opening the fridge, he sees an unopened bottle of wine. Turstin glances over his shoulder to look at Amethyst* Are you thirsty? I have some wine here. It's early, I know, but why the hell not, huh?

Amethyst Ayesha *Flipping open the phone, she frowns. The kennel wouldn't be open for at least another hour, not in this city. Only corporate people were up this early, the rest were all sleeping off the parties from the night before. Hearing his voice, she follows the sound to the kitchen, leaning against the door as she watches him digging around in the refrigerator. Looks like that was a tool of avoidance today. Wrinkling her nose at him, she smiled* Not much of a wine girl, remember, I grew up with Kaden, I'm supposed to say beer and whiskey, but sure, a glass of wine every now and again is great...just never tell him I said that. *Spotting the wine glasses on a small rack next to the stove, she moves over to get them, passing them over to him, ignoring the electric spark that sizzled through her as their skin touched. How strange.* Sorry, must have scuffed my feet on the carpet or something. Good thing it was just a small one, huh? *Mentally rolling her eyes, she sighed. Sure, remind him how different they are, why not.* I'm sorry. I swear, I'm generally a well-rounded person and not as insane as I seem around you. *Giving him a grin, she opened a few drawers, looking for the corkscrew, finding it in the smaller one, holding it out to him*

Turstin Ryann *A small smile tugs at the edges of Turstin's lips as she tries to cover something that didn't need covering* No reason to apologize. I found it funny. *Opening the bottle with a quick twist of his wrist, he quickly pours some wine into the two glasses and then leans against the counter. The air in the kitchen seems to be practically sizzling but that couldn't be possible. Trying to distract himself from that oddity, he takes a big drink of wine and looks at Amethyst* So how are you doing? You now, since we got back?

Amethyst Ayesha *Sipping at the wine he handed her, she took a moment to savor the taste. She didn't keep wine in the house anymore, not with Kaden stomping in demanding beer most of the time, so wine was a rare treat.* Honestly, I'm okay. I mean, it's part of the job. I didn't expect it to go the way it did, no, but I finished the mission and did what I was supposed to do. I think I'd have been worse off the first few days with thinking over everything I could have done differently, should have done.

Except I wanted to make sure you were okay, so I didn't have time to obsess over it like I usually would. *Taking a bigger sip of the red liquid, she sighed* I doubt I'll ever be able to take an undercover mission again though. Pretty sure I blew that. Though if one was offered to me, I don't know. Maybe. Assuming I was still single at the time and Kaden was locked up so he couldn't kill me. How about you? Things...well, going okay? I know meeting Illy and everything must have been a shock. You must miss New York.

Turstin Ryann *Turstin lets out a tired breath* I'm good. Things are good. Illy is exactly how I remember her. Full of energy and never shuts up. *He laughs a little then takes another drink of wine* Ailwin was always better with her than I ever was. Then again, with him being the oldest, he was better with everything. *Rubbing his eyebrow, he stifles a yawn* So I have been thinking about what you asked the other day. Would you like me to move into the guest bedroom? I have been in your space for a long time. I usually don't sleep next to anyone but lately its been...well...not so bad.

Amethyst Ayesha *Blushing, she shrugs. The only issue with him in her bed was that she couldn't keep her damn hands off of him, and was worried one day he'd wake up and catch her sprawled across him while she was sleeping. Hell, he might have caught her already and was just too much of a gentleman to admit it* I don't mind. It's...well, it's nice not to be alone at night sometimes. You're a good cuddler. *Mortified, she closed her eyes for a second before downing the rest of the glass of wine* I think I need more of this. Half the bottle should shut me up, right? *Blinking, she realized she'd forgotten to tell him what she'd found out* Oh! I may have a way of tracking tigers! It's a long shot, but I asked someone at work to look into it...best case scenario we'll get a list of known places were-tigers have been recently and could maybe find them.

Turstin Ryann *Turstin blinks in surprise and alarm at her words* Cuddler? I do not cuddle....do I? *The urge to flash away is annoyingly strong. Had he been cuddling her in his sleep? What else had he done to her in his sleep? Memories of his nightmares flash through his mind and he frowns. No way, if he hurt her she wouldn't stay next to him. Turstin's brain finally registers her words and he chokes on his wine* You...you can trace tigers? Like packs or individual ones? Would you be able to find my brothers?

Amethyst Ayesha *Cursing as she felt her cheeks flush again, she shook her head* Um, I'm afraid I might be the cuddler. You're already asleep when I fall asleep, so clearly it's me. I steal cuddles. *Thankful she can change the topic, she grinned happily at finding something to help him.* Well, it's more...electrical signals. Each breed of were has a different one. So we can trace both packs and individuals. But we do have to wait for them to actually USE their powers. Either way, we'll have a list of were-tigers that we can go through. *Peering at him speculatively* What makes your powers flare?

Turstin Ryann *He answers without thinking* Sex usually. It charges them more than anything else. Usually peaks when you come... *Upon seeing her blush darken, he feels his own cheeks growing a little hot* And umm...combat. Combat makes them flare too. *Drinking more wine, he takes a deep breath and glances away* So when will we be able to do this electrical signals check thing?

Amethyst Ayesha *Twitching almost uncomfortably, she glances towards him again* Um. Well. That is the thing. *Swallowing hard, she tries to find something, anything else to focus on, but her gaze keeps getting drawn back to his so she just blurts it out* We need a baseline signature. Families have the same type of electrical signal. Since they are all males, Illy's won't do. You...ah...if we know exactly where you are and what time the..the surge happens, we'll be able to track similar ones.

Turstin Ryann *He blinks in surprise again then his eyes widen as he realizes what she means* Are you saying you have to...monitor an orgasm made by me? *Never in his life has he been more thankful that his skin is dark than he is right now. If not, he'd probably be visible from space. Being with women was always a tricky thing, he has never liked being touched or watched. Especially now after all the...attention...he received while being imprisoned. In the end though, it's either he does this or he might not ever find his family. After another moment of pause, he looks up at her and nods* Alright. I'm in.

Amethyst Ayesha Oh no, I don't have to like...be beside you or anything. Just, nearby. You know, so I'd know kind of...roundabouts the time/location so I can have it pinpointed on the sensors, then we could track others in the family. *Proud of herself for managing to sound so matter of fact, she glances around before picking up a battered Ipod sitting on a shelf near some keys* I'll just...um...hang out in the hallway. Or something. And then we can go get the dog. You just disappear over there, kay?

Turstin Ryann *He cleared his throat then motioned to his apartment* You don't have to leave. I have some very creepy neighbors. Maybe you could just stay here and I'll go in the bedroom or something. So all I have to do is..well...come right? Nothing fancy. *Upon seeing her blush and nod, he clears his throat again* Alright, I've done this a hundred times, what's one more? *It was meant as a joke but for some reason it didn't have the desired effect. Walking into his bedroom, he closes the door halfway then sits on the bed* Okay. Get it over with, be done, and find your family. Fucking...assholes. *Growling, Turstin unzips his pants and lays down on the bed. He wraps his hand around his cock and begins to stroke it. His eyes close as he feels a little arousal flare but then he remembers what it was like in that glass room. Being strapped to the cold table, the cow prod stabbing him in places it should never go. His breathing comes out in terrified gasps as he begins to shake slightly. It is almost like a strobe light of memories in his mind as image after image of their abuse flashes. Unable to stand it, he pulls his hand away from his cock and clenches his arms to his side, not bothering to zip himself back up. He takes big gasps of air and suddenly catches a whiff of Amethyst. Her scent immediately begins to calm him down and he lets out a small sigh as the memories begin to stop*

Amethyst Ayesha *Her lips parted in a soundless gasp as he disappeared and she heard the quiet sound of the zipper lowering. Swallowing hard, her nipples harden as a punch of lust hits her system hard. Hearing the soft noises from his bedroom, she tries to force herself to not look, but curiosity gets the better of her. Peeking around the door slowly, she sees him laying in bed, pants still around his hips, hands clenched in the sheets as he trembles. Realizing something is wrong, and what, she has a silent, internal debate. On one hand, she wanted to help. Yet because she was insanely attracted to him, she felt as if that would be taking advantage of him. Biting her lip hard in indecision, she frowns. If he didn't do this, and couldn't find his siblings, he'd blame himself. Mind made up, she took a hesitant step inside, shutting the door behind her. Slowly taking tiny steps forward, she finds herself at the edge of the bed, realizing that his eyes were closed, his breath coming slower. Unsure, she reached out a trembling hand, curling her fingers around his as she led his arm back to his cock* Turstin...let me help you. Please, I can make those memories go away. Even just for a little while. I want to.

Turstin Ryann *Turstin's eyes fly open as Amethyst touches his hand. For the briefest of moments, he wants to shove her away, attack her for daring to touch him, for seeing him in one of his weakest moments. But the second he looks into her honest, open face, all anger disappears. Allowing her to wrap his hand around his cock, he closes his eyes and lets out a breath as her hand clutches onto his. She slowly moves his hand up and down his shaft. The feeling of her soft hand against his, while his much rougher one strokes his flesh makes him slowly harden. Soon he finds himself lifting his hips off the bed slightly to meet their strokes. His body begins to burn as arousal flares through him causing the

lamp on the end table to flicker. Turstin's stomach muscles begin to bunch and clench with every stroke. When Amethyst's thumb gently flicks against the head of his swollen cock his eyes fly open with a gasp. Locking his eyes on hers, he stops stroking himself and just stares at her, wanting more but not sure how to ask for it*

Amethyst Ayesha *Her body was heated, achy. She'd watched as he almost literally took down the walls he held up around himself, relaxing for the first time. She'd never realized how much he had been tensed and skittish, even in sleep, until he let go. She wanted, needed more, yet she knew this was for him. She found herself biting her lip, holding back a soft moan as he lifted upwards, driving his cock into their clenched hands. This was more erotic, more sensual than she'd assumed it would be. Pressing her thighs tighter together in a desperate attempt to hold back her own rising need, she froze as her hand moved upwards on accident, his not following. His gaze focused on hers, her lips parted in response. He was a were, she knew he could scent her arousal. Hear her heartbeat thudding in her chest. If she didn't take this moment, this chance, she'd kick herself forever. Tugging her pants off, she dropped them to the floor, her t-shirt and bra following. Seeing his eyes flare with lust as she hooked her fingers under the lace panties, she slowly slid them down to join the pile of her clothes before moving to kneel on the bed next to him. Not knowing what to say, she simply leaned down to press her lips against his fingers, before pushing his hand away to wrap her lips around the head of his cock, stroking her tongue over the throbbing flesh.*

Turstin Ryann *Turstin can't keep his eyes off of Amethyst as she quickly removes her clothing. Every inch of skin she reveals he feels himself growing harder, more aroused. When she kneels next to him on the bed, he is unsure of her intent until she leans forward and begins tonguing him. He makes a low ahh sound as she sucks him deep into her mouth, making his eyes roll. Moving his hand over to her, he runs his fingers between her wet, warm folds, flicking his thumb over her clit. She is so wet that soon his whole hand is coated and he turns his head to look at her moisture on his fingers. His hips begin coming off the bed again, forcing his cock deeper into her warm mouth. Looking back at where his hand is, he slides his soaked palm further back until he can insert a finger into her tight body. Her muscles clench his finger and he groans in response, pressing it deeper into her. Adding another finger, he grinds his teeth as she begins to ride his hand as she sucks him off at the same time. *

Turstin Ryann *This is by far, the most erotic thing he has ever experienced. Turstin lets his thumb flick against her clit as he fingers her and watches as her body shudders. He can tell she is about to come and the knowledge mixed with her scent, makes his cock swell more. How she can still go down on him at this point is beyond his comprehension but he isn't about to stop her to ask. Continuing to finger her, he takes a deep breath as she comes on his fingers. He can't take his eyes off of her body as she moans around his full cock, the sensation traveling up his body, making him groan. Pulling his drenched hand back, he can't stop himself from putting it to his mouth and tasting her juices. The moment they come in contact with his tongue, his powers surge again and the lamp on the table's light bulb shatters. Licking his hand clean, he places it back at her core and begins fingering her again, wanting to have her come again so he can taste more. By now he is so hard and swollen that he can barely think straight, his inner tiger is now in control*

Amethyst Ayesha *She whimpers softly, struggling to keep her mind on her task even as she feels his hand slide between her thighs. Almost subconsciously, she shifts, her legs parting to give him more access. Soft sounds of pleasure leave her lips, vibrating through him as her eyes fly open, hips rotating against his hand, his thumb flicking against her oh so sensitive clit. Shivers make their way down her spine as she tenses, letting out a low moan around his cock, sucking harder as she rocks against his palm, drawing out her orgasm until she's panting around him. Her eyes flick to his as she watches him

bring his fingers to his lips, tasting her. Groaning, she let her hand drop, taking his balls in her hand, cupping them, squeezing gently. Trying to keep focused as his fingers were driving her absolutely insane. Finally, she can't help it, she lifts away from him, her head falling back on her shoulders as she pressed her hands to the mattress, steadying herself. Moaning his name, the sight of her juices glistening on his lips made her shudder, made her bold. Scrambling upwards, she pressed her lips against his, tasting herself on his tongue before shifting, her hands pressed against the wall, her knees on either side of his head. Wondering as she did it if she was insane to be this...open, this wanton, but at this moment she didn't care, she wanted his mouth on her, she wanted more, she wanted everything. Whimpering, she closed her eyes, clit throbbing at the first brush of his tongue.* Please...Turstin. I.. ache.

Turstin Ryann *He groans out loud as the smell of her arousal fills his head. Not even thinking twice, he leans up and runs his tongue over her sensitive folds, gently biting at them. Sucking her clit into his mouth, he nibbles it and clasps his hands onto her naked ass, squeezing and kneading it. He slips his tongue deep inside her and swirls it around, trying to coax more pleasure from her. His cock completely forgotten, he focuses all of his energy on making her come again. When she does, he groans low at the full taste of her and continues to flick his tongue against her again and again. Not even slowing after her orgasm, he slides one of his hands down between her ass cheeks and continues farther down till he can finger her delicious heat again, tonguing her clit at the same time. Her next orgasm seems to happen immediately after the previous one and he chuckles low as she screams his name.*

Turstin Ryann *Sitting up suddenly, he lays her on top of the mattress and climbs up her body to slam into her wet depths. He thrusts into her with powerful, hard strokes, growling at the sensation of her clutching around his aching flesh. Grabbing her hips, he pulls out long enough to flip her onto her stomach so he can pull her up onto her knees and enter her from behind. He buries his left hand into her hair and pulls back so her back arches against his chest as he rams into her again and again. His pleasure builds to an almost unbearable level and he leans forward to bite her where her neck meets shoulder, hard enough to leave a mark. Keeping his jaws locked, he comes at the same time she does, moaning low as wave after wave of pure, unfettered pleasure sweeps over him. He places his forehead against the back of her neck as his body continues to release inside of hers. Finally he finishes and gently collapses on top of her*

Amethyst Ayesha *By this time, she's trembling almost constantly, fingers curling against the wall. Every move he made, every stroke, every touch urged her higher until she was one big mass of nerves, Gasping as her back suddenly hits the mattress, her eyes widened as he thrust deep, her pussy almost immediately tightening down on his cock, her senses unraveling with every stroke. This was what she'd been wanting, needing. Moaning his name again as she's forced to her knees, she cries out as the position makes her feel fuller, tighter than she was even a minute ago. The tingling sparks of sensation of his hand pulling at her hair makes her arch against him, struggling to get more contact, more everything. Closing her eyes tight as he pins her, his teeth digging into her flesh, she feels her pussy tightening, clenching down. Her breath comes out in short, choppy pants as she feels him swelling deep within her, his cock jerking.*

Amethyst Ayesha *Tipping her head further back, she screamed out his name, body feeling as if she was going to shatter apart, every part of her tingling in awareness, in bliss. Letting out a soft grumbling sound as he presses her to the mattress, she lays still, waiting for her heart rate to calm down. Finally though, she twists under him, hiding a smile as his hand curled into her hair again as if to keep her pinned.* Turstin...get up, let me at least go to the bathroom. *Managing to wriggle out from under him even as his eyes narrowed on her at the movement, she shivered again. Being the object of interest from

a tiger was a unique feeling. Backing away, she escaped into the bathroom, breathing out a quick breath before inspecting the bruise on her shoulder* He bit me! That little...*flushing, she grinned at her reflection* well, okay, not little. And infinitely enjoyable. *Hearing movement from the room beyond, she frowned as she traced the path back down to the kitchen* Well now what's Mr. Don't Leave the Bed up to?

Turstin Ryann *Turstin resists the urge to growl as she tries to move away from him. How dare she. This is where she belongs, under him, smelling of his scent. He decides to play nice and lets her up even though he doesn't want to. As she heads into the bathroom, he stands up and walks to the kitchen not caring about his nudity. Getting a glass of water, he chugs it and places it on the counter. He lets out a sigh and is just about to go and drag her back into the bedroom when a searing pain slices across his left palm. At first he thinks he cut it on something. Shaking his hand, he looks around for something sharp but finds nothing. A frown tugs at his lips as he opens his hand to find a.....mating mark? No...no fucking way. Stepping backwards, he holds his hand up to his face to get a better look. Eyes wide, he can distinctly make out a tribal design of a tiger. He is...mated? What would his brothers say? What would Illy say? Oh fuck...what would Kaden say? Leaning forward, he bangs his head against the counter then stops when he hears the bathroom door open. Quickly making his way over, he stops a few feet from her. The moment his eyes meet hers, all of his worries and doubts melt away. He found her, his perfect mate, he found her and she is standing right here in front of him*

Amethyst Ayesha *As she had gone to wipe her hands on the towel, she hissed as a burning pain seared her palm. Shaking it, she blew a cool breath over it, trying to figure out what she had touched before blinking at her hand, not comprehending. Realizing that it was a small design of a stylized tiger, she blinks stupidly at it. She knew what it was, yet, she was dumbfounded. Had anyone asked her, she would have given it up, so Arya and Kaden could be mated. Yet...a grin slowly curved her lips. Her unwavering attraction to him made sense. The way he melted her, made her weak. The fates had decided she was a mate. Holy shit. Clenching her hand tight, she opens the door, spotting Turstin standing in the middle of the room. Holding her hand out wordlessly, she just stared mutely, almost as if asking confirmation. As he shows her his hand, she can't help a small tear escaping, but she hurriedly wipes it away as she makes her way to him, wrapping her arms around him to stand on tiptoe and kiss his breath away. Her mate. Her man. And from the feel of him, she wasn't going to be sleeping at all today.*

Turstin Ryann *His fears of her reaction dissipates as he sees her smile and a small tear. Holding her close to him, he breathes in her scent and sighs* So, do you accept me? *Her small giggle/sob is soon followed by a nod. Thrilled beyond words, he bends down and scoops her up into his arms than practically runs into the bedroom. The next time they leave this apartment, they will be one*

Revelations

Kaden Kaleva *Arya had left to go visit family, and he was alone for the first time in awhile. And fuck, he was bored as shit. He'd logged into the mainframe, checked on the current missions, making sure he couldn't provide intel or have his informants help in any way. He'd been ready to call Am to go train or something, but remembered that she was fucking off in New York with Turstin if she managed to convince him to go. Tapping his fingers on the desk, he forced back a sigh. Fucking hell. Grabbing his wallet and keys, he drove to headquarters, figuring he could at least terrify some new recruits, take down a few agents on the mats. Swinging by his desk, he couldn't help but to peer over at Am's as he walked by. A large manila folder was perched on top of the keyboard. Ignoring the "Confidential" notice taped to it, he smirked, lifting it and settling into his chair to read through it. No more fucking undercover Rambo shit for her. Raising a brow as he flipped through pages and pages of maps with multi-colored dots on them, he dug through until he found a sheaf of notes. Glancing through it with disinterest, he spied one word that made him pay attention. Tigers. What the fuck was Am playing at now? Tucking the folder into his bag, he left quickly. Might as well read through more thoroughly before asking Am what the hell she was doing.*

Kaden Kaleva *He'd driven to the store to grab something for dinner since he couldn't be assed to cook. On the way home, he noticed the Plaza hotel had a large chain link fence around it, and a warning sign that it was being demolished soon. What the fuck? Hitting the brakes, he pulled up to the gate, reading the notice that it hadn't been sold and the city considered it a nuisance property. Fuck that shit. The place had been a beacon of good for any greasy, snot nosed punk who needed a dose of reality.*

Kaden Kaleva *His lips twisted in a wry smile. He'd been one of those. The year was spent at military school, but every summer he'd come down to New Orleans to get away. Get away being code for wrecking shit and causing trouble. The old Plaza used to be apartments for dirt ass cheap. Old man Monroe wanted to help people more than make money. Dumb fuck. Chuckling, he leaned back against the hood of the truck. He'd gotten caught up in some shit, and some old windbag had come in and talked to him about getting straight instead of being in a cell. He'd agreed cause hell, not like he had a choice. Cecil Monroe had paid his bail, taken him back to the beat up buildings, given him an apartment, and a job. He'd hated that shit...being forced to clean and do maintenance. Yet every time he tried to break away, he remembered he'd be locked up without this.*

Kaden Kaleva *Amethyst had been there too, her parents had died, her grandmother was too old to take her in every summer. Guess Monroe had ran one of the floors as a halfway home and her grandmother had paid the old man to make sure she was okay and not on the streets at such a young age. Cajuns looked after their own, no one ever called in social services and that bullshit. The little rugrat with pigtails in her hair had hero worshiped him. He hadn't paid her any damn attention, too lost in his own shit to deal with a pint-sized shadow. Till Monroe had pulled him aside, showing him a half burnt cigarette. Turned out Amethyst had seen him smoking by the generators. Tried it herself and started choking. After that, well, he kept a damn closer eye on the little brat so she didn't get any more fool ideas.*

Kaden Kaleva *Smiling, he scuffed the toe of his boot in the gravel. Funny how shit works out sometimes. Shoving at the fence, he wedged himself through the opening. After an hour, he emerged covered in dust and shit he didn't want a name to. Brushing himself off, he saved the number in his phone. The place was still functional. No damn reason to tear the fucker down if it could still serve some sort of purpose. Mind churning, he tucked his phone back in his pocket as he made his way back to the truck to head home.*

Amethyst Ayesha *Hesitantly, she unlocked the door and stepped inside, heading straight to the kitchen to grab a fortifying beer. It may be 10 in the morning, but she'd need it. Hearing a grumpy noise from the door, she turned to spot Kaden frowning at her, hair mussed, unshaven, and half awake. Apparently he'd gotten her text. Lifting a beer to him in salute, she grinned* Sleeping the day away Kaden? Not like you. Or were you just up super late and needed restoring?

Kaden Kaleva *Groaning, he idly scratched at his cheek, ignoring her as he went to find coffee. Thank fuck for preset coffee makers. After a few sips, he felt more awake, dropping into the kitchen chair* Why the fuck are you drinking beer first thing in the morning, woman? Shit, at least wait till lunch break. *Narrowing his eyes as she moved closer, turning her hand to show him the small pattern etched on to her palm, he froze before setting the mug down, lifting her hand up so he could see it better* You're mated.

Amethyst Ayesha *Giving him a shy smile, she nodded* It was unexpected, but I think...well, I'm happy. I want you to be happy for me too Kaden, and don't go try to kill Turstin, I'll be very angry with you if you do. *Taking the seat next to him, she leaned her head against his shoulder, shoving the mostly full beer away and snagging his coffee for a sip* So, my excitement has been officially announced and there is no bloodshed. What have you been doing while I amused myself in NYC?

Kaden Kaleva *Making a face, he stole his mug back. If she wanted one she could damn well get it herself.* You know they're tearing the Plaza down? *At her puzzled look, he shrugged* Drove past it the other day, say it's a nuisance property and shit. I went inside, it ain't bad. Little bit of hard work, some cash for restoring, and it'd be fine. Took down the number though.

Amethyst Ayesha *Raising a brow at him, she shook her head in exasperation. Kaden was like this. He never admitted to caring about anything, but if something that he considered his was broken, he'd be determined to fix it no matter what.* Kaden, what are you going to do with a broken down hotel? Seriously. You're not exactly landlord material.

Kaden Kaleva *Shrugging again, he ran his thumb over the rim of the coffee mug. He'd been thinking about it since he'd saw the fucking place and still didn't have an answer.* I don't know, Am. But damn. I'd like to think Cecil would have wanted it to stay standing. To help others like he helped us, ya know? Some place people in need could go, feel safe and shit.

Amethyst Ayesha Safe and shit? *Smirking, she just shook her head* Yeah, you're the epitome of "safe and shit". *Frowning as she leaned up to rest her chin on her hand, she glanced at him* You know, I think a lot about the people we help. Our missions and things. Sometimes they are left with nothing and no where to turn to. And then, well, there is Turstin and Illy's family. We're going to try to find them. Though, my house isn't really big enough for everyone when we do.

Kaden Kaleva *Lifting his head, he met her gaze* Fuck Am, you know you might be on to something. *At her skeptical look, he held his hand up* What if we could get Psiforce to bankroll some of it? We could stay there or whatever, sell the houses since we ain't home nearly enough anyways. Offer safe housing. Like, job skills, shit like that. Get people on their feet.

Amethyst Ayesha *His excitement was contagious. At the thought, she started thinking, realizing it would be almost perfect for what they wanted to do...enhance Psiforce as well, by doing more for those they helped.* Kaden, you know, it could work. I'm serious...we could have a small nursing station. Arya could do dance classes for the women. We could teach self defense!

Kaden Kaleva *Blinking, he finished off the last of his coffee. He'd been just thinking of trying to save the place, maybe selling it after it was fixed up. But, she was right. Between all of them, and if they could get Psiforce to help...hell, it could be something.* I think we need to talk to Arya and Turstin. Illy too. I mean, fuck, if it'll work, we could write up a proposal or some shit, see what they say at the office. If not, well hell. We got enough savings, we could probably do it without the help.

Amethyst Ayesha *A grin curved her lips as she impulsively reached out to hug him.* See, you do care Kaden! I always knew you had a gooey marshmallow center. *Laughing, she dumped the rest of the beer, tossing the bottle away* I'm gonna drive by, see the place myself...I think we could do this, Kaden.

Kaden Kaleva *Watching as Amethyst left, he cringed as he heard the tires bounce off the landscaping timbers. Next time he saw Turstin, he'd give him the hint that he shouldn't let the madwoman drive by herself. Bitch was terrifying. Flipping off the coffee after pouring two more mugs, he headed upstairs to wake his sleeping beauty.*

Kaden Kaleva *Peeking into the room, he grinned as he saw Arya sprawled across his side of the bed, his pillow in her arms. Setting the coffee down on the table, he nudged her over to her side, taking the pillow back before laying down next to her and drawing her up over him to nuzzle her throat* I love my sleepy, warm, satisfied woman first thing in the morning. Now, if she'd wake up enough to kiss me a proper good morning, maybe I'll share the coffee, hmm?

Arya Rheagar As soon as she felt the empty spot beside her, she grabbed his pillow. Hugging it tight against her body. It smelled of him and helped her sleep. She whimpered as she felt it taken from her, sleepily she moaned "Nooo, gimme" Feeling her body being moved, she let her head fall onto his chest as she wrapped herself around him

Kaden Kaleva "Gimme"? *Snorting, he tangled his fingers in her hair, lifting her head to steal a kiss, waiting until she blearily opened her eyes* You'd rather have the pillow to wrap your arms around instead of me? *Grinning, he traced the path of her spine, enjoying the way she arched into the caress, how responsive she always was to his touch.* Mmm, I love the way you respond to me love, definitely helps feed a man's ego. You gonna wake up and return the love, or am I giving back the pillow?

Arya Rheagar Lazily she kissed a small trail over his chest. "Maybe. But...." Her lips curved up into a grin on his chest "Maybe I like to be woken up other ways?" She ran her fingers over the side of his body softly "And no, I would rather have you, but you weren't here. So I had to substitute" She hoped that came out clearly and not jumbled as she felt.

Kaden Kaleva Other ways, huh? *Letting his hands drop to curl around her hips, he ground himself upwards, feeling her shiver in response* And what other ways would that be sweets? *Slipping his hand lower, he cupped between her thighs as he bit her lower lip lightly* Care to elaborate on the many ways you'd prefer to be woken up, sweetheart? Or should I just go ahead and use my imagination?

Arya Rheagar Sucking her bottom lip into her mouth as he touched her. Her body squirming at just the small things he was doing "Oh I'm sure you have an idea." Throwing a leg over his hips, laying her body against his, she kissed her way up to his chin, letting her tongue trace over his lips "But I'm a woman of action, you know that":

Kaden Kaleva *Laughing, he pressed his palm against her clit, adding a bit more pressure as she rubbed herself against him, coating his flesh in honey.* Action, huh? *Opening his mouth to tangle his tongue with hers, taking a deeper, harder kiss, he broke away to glance down as they were suddenly skin to skin. She'd flashed his clothes away, the little minx.* Now Arya, that wasn't nice. What if I wasn't done playing with my breakfast first? *Bringing his hand to his mouth, he swiped his tongue across his skin, eyes focused on her* Would you really deprive your man of a full meal baby?

Arya Rheagar Damn him. He knew exactly what to do to have her moaning and withering against him. Wanting more. Needing more. She ground her hips against his hand. Needing that little more. That part that he was keeping a hold of. "Why play with your food? When you should just delve on in and get your fill?" She held back a whimper as she watched him lick his hand. Good gods what this man did to her. "I would never deprive you. I'm just... merely encouraging you to eat"

Kaden Kaleva *Grinning, he nudged her over to her back, coming down on top of her, bracing his weight on his arms* Encouraging me, huh? *Nipping at her lips, he shifted to rub his stubble against her nipple, before curling his tongue around the tightened peak. His fingers lightly pinching the other one, ensuring that neither side was forgotten. Pressing soft kisses down her stomach, he stopped to press her legs wider as he wedged himself between her thighs.* It's a good woman who makes sure her man eats the breakfast of champions before starting his day. *With a smirk, he ran his tongue between her satiny folds, a small rumbling growl leaving him at the taste of her on his lips*

Arya Rheagar The softness of the bed hit her back as she sank down into it. She loved the feel of Kaden's weight on her. Her body tightened with excitement. Her nipples hardened immediately as his tongue laved at them. A quiver shot through her body. "Please... don't tease me." Finding her hands in his hair

Kaden Kaleva *Shuddering at the feel of her small hands tugging at the strands of his hair, he sucked lightly across her clit, feeling the tiny bud swell and throb with the attention. Lowering his head, he flicked his tongue against her core, delving inside, drawing more of her sweet essence to his lips with a soft moan. Replacing his tongue with his fingers, he thrust upwards, teasing and wringing more shudders from her as he sucked her clit back between his lips, scraping with the barest hint of teeth, eyes locked on to hers, watching the pleasure cross her face. He wanted to feel her tighten around his fingers, feel her juices running down his fucking chin, her body twisting off the bed. Knowing that he was the only man that could make her feel this way. Could make her scream.*

Arya Rheagar Her whole body arched up off the bed. Her fingers tightening in his hair. He had a way to make her come undone automatically. She loved him with everything she had, but the feeling he put inside of her when they were like this, there were no words. She had no way to say what it made her feel. Her heart swelled as big as it could go. Lifting up slightly, her eyes on his. She knew he liked it when he could see her reaction. Sliding a hand from his hair up her torso to cup at one of her breasts, she cried out. His name falling from her lips as her body already started to shake

Kaden Kaleva *His lips curved into a half smile as he watched her fingers twist and pull at her nipple, the other still clenched in his hair.* Harder baby, you know I wouldn't go easy. *Returning back to his task, he pressed his free hand against her lower stomach, holding her still as his fingers stroked deep, finding that deep bundle of nerves that always made her clench tighter around his fingers, sending her slowly into a meltdown. Nibbling and sucking on her clit, he knew her thighs and pussy were going to be reddened with marks, but couldn't make himself give a damn. Groaning out loud as her fingers tugged tighter at his hair, he scraped his teeth across sensitive flesh, keeping her pinned as he ate at her like a fucking starving man, needing to see her fall apart.*

Arya Rheagar "Kaden....Oh gods" Again her body arched. Clamping her fingers down tighter on her nipple she tugged, pulled and rolled. No where near how it felt when he did it. Her body was on fire, there was no other way to explain how she was feeling. She was coming apart under him. Her body splintering as she came with a cry. A scream of his name. Reaching down for him, she scooted her body down to take his mouth with hers. Saying that she loved him in the midst of sex, people would say was cheesy. But it was the moments when she felt the closest to him. How could two people get more intimate than this? Licking her way over his neck, she nipped at him, leaving little bite marks in her wake as she clamped her mouth down on his shoulder with a moan. Rolling them both, with Kaden on his back, she moved down his body. Licking her way as she went, grazing her teeth over his nipples as she seated herself at his core. She didn't want to wait any longer. Guiding him to her heat, sitting down over him, she sheathed him completely. Leaning back with her hands on his thighs as she moved.

Kaden Kaleva Mmm.... *Grumbling a satisfied chuckle against her core, he relished the feel of her clenching tighter around his fingers, the way she ground shamelessly against his lips, her juices coating his chin, his cheeks. Feeling a shiver down his spine as her teeth dug into his shoulder, he grunted as she twisted, forcing him to his back. Hissing out a breath as silken heat surrounded him, tight as a fucking vice, he curled his hands into her hips, nails digging into her flesh. Watching her take what she wanted from him shouldn't be erotic, yet it was sexy as hell. Her hair brushed across his thighs as she leaned backwards, her breasts bouncing slightly with every movement. Rolling his hips to meet her every downward thrust, he relaxed his grip on her waist, moving to cup her breasts in his hands instead, thumbs flicking over the sensitive tips as she rode him, tiny pin pricks of pain as her nails dug into his thighs spurring him to urge her to move faster, harder. Breath leaving him in short, raspy pants every time she sank down enough that her ass was cradled against him.* Fuck. Arya.

Arya Rheagar Just about screaming out once more as he thrust upwards, driving himself as deep as he could go. She clamped down on his thighs harder as the pleasure raked through her body. Lifting herself up, only to slam back down, her hips rolled. Dragging a hand from his thigh, she reached down and cupped his balls in her hand. Massaging them gently before she leaned forward, taking his mouth with hers. Her tongue plunging into his mouth. Pulling back, she hovered her breast over his mouth. Waiting for him to latch on. Letting out a moan as he clamped his teeth on her nipple. Her pussy clenching around him in response. Groaning she pulled herself away from him to sit back up. Hands on his chest she moved faster and faster, her own climax near once more. How he could milk so many orgasms from her always had her reeling. Amazed.

Kaden Kaleva *Hissing as her small hand cupped him, tugging lightly, he groaned her name, eagerly lifting his head to accept her kiss, taking her offering as she pressed her breast against his mouth, sucking hard, scraping his teeth over her nipple until it was cherry red and tightened in need. Growling as she pulled away, his eyes narrowed, watching her hips roll as she drove herself higher, took from him what she needed. Then again, hadn't this been his breakfast? Twisting, he dropped her to her back, ignoring her gasp, her hands smacking at his shoulders. Tangling one hand in her hair, he held her still, curling her leg around his other arm to expose more of her to his gaze as he drove deep, cursing under his breath as her body instantly welcomed him, her muscles reflexively drawing him further. With every thrust, he heard the headboard bang against the wall, her hands moving to brace on the mattress as she met his every move, her hips lifting, slick wetness coating his cock, his balls. Pressing her knees closer to her shoulders, he felt himself shudder, muscles clenching as the position made her impossibly tighter, drawing a choked groan from his throat.*

Arya Rheagar Falling to her back, her hands went to his shoulders, to his hair. Cupping the sides of his face as she watched him. Lifting up she licked at his mouth, his shoulder. Just needing to taste him. Wanting to have him completely filling her. Driving her own hips up to match some of his strokes, dropping her hands to his shoulders as her nails dug in. Her body clenching, stiffening slightly as a moan left her lips. "Kaden" Keeping her eyes on his, her body shuddered beneath him once more. Her heel dug into his back as she tightened. Mouth falling open in a cry. Glancing to her left hand her eyes fell onto her ring, which made her heart soar even more. Wrapping her arms around his neck, she nibbled slightly on his ear as she whispered "Come for me baby" He liked to be the one in control, she knew that. But in these rare moments, he allowed her to take the reins.

Kaden Kaleva *Grunting out a breath as her teeth sank into his earlobe lightly, her breath whispering across his skin, he closed his eyes tightly, the tingling moving down his spine, tightening his balls. Leaning to press his face against her shoulder, he groaned her name as his cock jerked, hot jets of seed filling her welcoming heat, every muscle tensing before he relaxed, letting her leg fall so he could collapse on top of her, careful to keep most of his weight to the side. Lazily, he traced his thumb over her hip in slow circles* God damn, I love you woman.

Arya Rheagar Smiling widely at him, she loved to hear those words from him "I love you babe. Always" Snuggling into his side, her arm fell over his torso. "I do love starting the day out like this. How can one not be in the best mood after this?"

Kaden Kaleva *Snorting, he moved his hand to twine his fingers with hers where it lay across his chest* Well it certainly improved mine. *Dragging his pillow back under his head, he pressed a soft kiss to her head before leaning back against it again* Amethyst came over this morning. Apparently while she was in New York, she went and got herself mated. Told me not to kill him. *Making a face, he toyed with the ring on her hand as he spoke* And uh, well, I may have offered to sell this place. Though, thinking in hindsight maybe we don't want a bunch of neighbors so maybe I'll just tap into the 401k I don't touch.

Arya Rheagar Picking her head up at the mention of Ame "What? And you didn't wake me? How the heck did I sleep through that?" Letting out a sigh, she would have wanted to be there when they had that talk. She knew her man. But, in that respect, Ame knew how to handle him too "You won't touch him Kaden." She smiled "That is awesome that she's found someone. Think about how you feel with me baby, don't you want that for Ame? She deserves it" Taking a moment to let it sink in "You know you can always move in with me? It is kind of stupid for us to both have our own places? Or" Sitting up quickly "Can...we..... maybe like, buy a house of our own? Together?"

Kaden Kaleva *Grumbling under his breath, he frowned down at her* It's my best damn friend, why would I kill him? Least I know he'll take care of her and she won't go flying off for fucking undercover shit again. He won't let her. *Blinking at her words, he found himself entertaining the thought. They hadn't much been separated even dating, they usually just randomly picked a place. And once they were married, two residences was stupid as hell. Smiling slowly, he curled his arm around her, drawing her tighter to him* You know, I think that's a great idea sweets. Someplace for both of us since, lets face it, my place is a bachelor pad. *Slouching down a bit so she could rest more comfortably against him, he sighed* You know that old hotel down by the square that's been up for sale? It's going to be demolished. Am and I grew up in that place, every damn summer. We're ah...well, we're thinking of buying it. Renovating and shit, making it sort of a place for people who don't have nowhere else to go. Am's convinced she's gonna do self-defense lessons for some fucking reason, but, I don't know. I think, if I was gonna cash out the bonuses and shit I never touch, that would be something worthwhile to put it towards, ya know?

Arya Rheagar She was ready to jump up for joy when he went straight into his next topic. What the hell. How can he go from planning a place together to a new business venture? Sighing inwardly she reached up to cup his face. Placing a kiss on his cheek "You know I'm wealthy Kaden. We don't have to just use your money. I would like to help out wherever I can also. What's mine is now yours. Use what you want. When you want. If its something that you want to do, then go for it. I'll support you in anything you want to do. And I'll be here to help you when you need me"

Kaden Kaleva *Laughing at the look on her face, he just shook his head* Woman, get that look off of your face, I'm sharing what happened today, it's progress. *Kissing the tip of her nose, he found himself smiling again* Arya, we get bonuses whenever we take a mission. I've never touched them. I grew up with no creature comforts, so I never needed them. Most of my money is still in the bank. If you want, we can combine them, make them joint accounts, but never fear that I'd be using your money for something that could very well be a stupid idea. Besides, Am has it worse, she now has to convince her mate to move into apartments filled with strangers that she wants to care for. *Snickering, he just shook his head* Poor dumb bastard. I was considering it, but I don't think I'd like living there with a bunch of fucks constantly surrounding me. I'd like to be able to come home to you and you alone. *Stroking his finger over her side again, he went back to the topic that she seemed to want to stay on* So, sweets, what type of house are you envisioning as the place we will live in together, hmm? No damn wicker furniture though. My only request.

Arya Rheagar Was she to be offended by that? She wanted to be. "Never fear? Never fear?" Sitting up on the bed she turned to face him "Why the hell would I fear Kaden? I just said what's mine is yours. You are always so willing to give me everything I want. Why would you say that? Like you think I'm scared you are going to spend my money? Its only money, I don't damn well care about money. I would throw it all away if it meant keeping you". She was probably more defensive than she needed to be. But that hit a spot with her. It hurt to think that he thought she was scared of him taking her money. Watching as he tried to go back to the topic of house hunting, she couldn't do it. Shaking her head she slipped off the bed and went to the bathroom.

Kaden Kaleva *Staring at the door, his lips twisted in a frown. What the fuck just happened here? He was male, he wanted to take care of his woman. Trying to figure out where he went wrong, he scowled as he got up and pushed open the door, watching as she angrily yanked a brush through her hair. A few short steps had him at her side, where he took the brush and sat it down on the counter, turning her to face him* Look at me, Arya. *When she raised her pissed off gaze to his, he sighed* Look, I don't want

this to be a marriage where one gives everything. I want us to be partners. To be together in every sense. *Sighing, he leaned against the counter. How could he make her understand that he'd never had anyone really to take care of before? Never wanted to, until her.* The way I grew up, the man took care of the woman, and if he couldn't he was worthless. Less than shit. I get that it's not true, but it's a hard habit to break. *Tugging her against him, he wrapped his arms around her tightly* It's ingrained in me to want to provide for you. To make you happy. I've changed a lot from what I used to be, and I'm glad, but damn...it's sometimes slow going. I want to make a life with you, together. You just have to realize that I will always want to protect you, too. If you want to help with the hotel, with finding a house, and everything, then we will do it. Together.

Arya Rheagar Sitting down at her vanity, she tried hard to hold back the tears. It wasn't that she was angry. She was hurt. Upset. Maybe she was being far too sensitive. She barely heard the door open, tried to ignore him till he commanded her to look at him. And damn him, that tone of voice was one she found hard to disobey. "I don't care about the money Kaden" Her voice was soft. Struggling to keep the strength that she knew she had "I let you buy me what you want, I allow you to do all that. That's not what bothered me. What bothers me is that you think I fear you are going to waste my money. It sounded..." She shook her head "I don't even know if I can verbalize it. You still consider the money I have as mine... and mine alone. You want a marriage where we can be equals? I want that. I don't want to be in fear of you thinking that I still want what I came into this with to fall back on. That I'd be angry if it was all gone. I couldn't care less about the money. I'd happily live in a shack and beg for food if I could still have you with me..." Tearing her gaze away from his, she sucked in a breath "Does any of that make sense?" She knew she was useless when it came to explaining things like this. It was hard for her to find the right words, to explain how it made her feel.

Kaden Kaleva *Sighing, he lifted her into his arms, sitting down on the vanity stool himself, shifting her from his arms to his lap* I understand, love. I do. I didn't intend it to sound that way, what I meant honestly was that...our money together is ours. It's for our future, our life together. The money in the 401k is basically just money I'd never touch otherwise. I didn't phrase it right, no, but I'm male, so I hope you'll at least give me some allowances occasionally. *Using his thumbs to brush the tears from her lashes where she refused to let them fall, he pressed his lips against her cheek* When I said I'd rather use that, I meant I didn't want to touch OUR money for OUR life, in case this harebrained idea me and Am came up with fails, I'd rather use the money neither of us would touch for anything else. So no, I didn't consider the money just yours. I didn't want to waste our money on something that could be stupid.

Arya Rheagar And as much as she didn't want to succumb to him so quickly, she did. He always seemed to manage to smooth things over with her easily. He liked to blame a lot on just being a male. Yet, he knew what to say to make her feel better. Wrapping her arms around his neck, burying her head in his neck "I'm sorry" Now she let her tears fall, feeling like a blubbing mess.

Kaden Kaleva *His heart twisted as he felt the wetness on his throat. Stroking his hands down her back in an attempt to comfort her, he was at a loss of what to do. She hardly ever cried. Neither did Am. What was worse was that it was his fault and he didn't know how to fix it. So instead he settled for awkwardly holding her, letting her take comfort in his arms around her, even if he wasn't entirely sure he was doing this shit right. Maybe a distraction?* If you want, we can look at houses today. Or, like, wedding dresses or some shit. Tuxes? New banks for a joint account? *He just wanted to hear her laugh, even if it was sullied with tears. Just something to know he'd fixed it.* I'll let you buy me clothes and won't bitch about them?

Arya Rheagar Sniffling, she probably even hiccuped a little trying to stop her tears. She didn't even understand why she was crying. Sucking in a few deep breaths she tried to steady herself again. Wiping at her face as she pulled back from him. Trying to give him her best smile "I.....I don't care what we do...but I don't want you to be doing something you don't want to do".

Kaden Kaleva Aww baby. *tightening his arms around her in a quick hug, he smiled down at her in his lap* Anything with you is what I want to do. Though, if I can take back the shopping for clothes for me part now, I'd be willing to take that one back.

Arya Rheagar She laughed softly, reaching out to cup his face "I'm sorry. I don't know why I got that emotional. I'm sorry." She felt a little stupid. This wasn't her. Now she felt a little uneasy and didn't know what to do.

Kaden Kaleva *Pressing his lips to hers, he kept the kiss light, teasing. Brushing his tongue against hers as he cupped her cheeks before he broke the kiss to press his forehead against hers* Never apologize to me, sweets. We're both on strange footing. We'll find our way together. And if that don't work, we'll just bulldoze the fucking uneven floor and build a new one.

Arya Rheagar Hell she was glad that it was morning and she hadn't put make up on yet, or she would look like a drowned raccoon "Thank you. Now what is it you want to do today?" She would be up for anything. Regarding the wedding, they hadn't actually done anything, but that really didn't matter to her. They were together and that's all she cared about. She didn't care if it was a short engagement or a long one. It was only a piece of paper.

Kaden Kaleva Well, the coffee I brought up is now cold. Why don't we get dressed, go get some good ass coffee, and then we'll go to one of those shops for dresses, pick out the nastiest, ugliest one and send a picture of it to Amethyst and tell her she's got to send you her size so you can pre-order it? *smirking, he sat her back down on the vanity stool and returned to leaning against the counter* Actually, that was a joke but damn, it sounds more appealing every minute.

Arya Rheagar Now she laughed. A proper laugh "That is so cruel Kaden. You shouldn't mess with a woman about her wedding.... but... it is funny. And the food and coffee sound like a good deal to me" Standing up finally, she reached up to kiss him. She loved this man with everything that she was. For he stuck by her in any mood she was in.

In With The New

Amethyst Ayesha *She was slowly learning how to handle her mate. Which was odd saying that in itself. Contrary to saying he didn't like to cuddle, now every morning she woke with their limbs tangled together, his breath across her neck. And every morning it was a struggle to separate herself to get up, as he seemed inclined to keep her in that bed as long as he could. This morning she'd actually shoved him off the side of the bed, escaping to the bathroom laughing like crazy as he vowed revenge. Her stoic tiger wasn't completely as impervious as he seemed. She'd gotten him to smile quite a bit more as

the days went on. Turstin was even excited about this venture she and Kaden had come up with, perfectly happy to break his lease in NYC, help her sell the house, and move in to the hotel complex once they renovated it...as soon as she'd mentioned that it would be a perfect haven for their growing family once they found his siblings. Rolling her eyes, she scattered the papers she'd printed across the desk.*

Amethyst Ayesha *Since the city now owned the property, all they wanted was back taxes and land surveying. Grand total, \$25,000. Renovation would be expensive, but considering that everyone was going to pitch in, she could budget anywhere from \$200,000 to \$300,000 feasibly, since she'd had her house appraised just last year for \$149,000. Arya and Kaden had said they'd match whatever she had, so that left them with a sizable amount to work with. Running a hand through her hair, she sighed. If they did this and it didn't work out, she'd be stuck with the property since she'd be living there. Not to mention the upkeep and daily expenses. If worst came to worst and she did end up just having to keep it as a hotel/apartments, could the rent coming in justify the expense? She honestly didn't know.*

Amethyst Ayesha *As in most things, Kaden was the brawn, she was the brains. Arya was busy planning a wedding, Turstin was busy relocating. Illy was off photographing for a new assignment, and the building was scheduled to be demolished within 2 months. That was barely enough time to feasibly get everything on board to purchase it unless she started NOW without much help. Taking a moment to think, she realized this was important to her. To them all. Whether it worked or not, just the idea helped to solidify that their jobs at Psiforce MEANT something. They helped save lives. And this would give them a chance to do even more good for others. Mind made up, grabbed a notepad. Drafting a proposal for Psiforce, after an hour she glanced around at the crumpled papers littering the dining room table. One thing she knew about Mack, he hated paperwork. She'd be better off just going in, laying out what she wanted, and waiting to see what he'd say.*

Amethyst Ayesha *Yet, she had to give him something. Grinning, she rustled through her file cabinet until she found her house's appraisal listing. Making a copy of it, she then went online, looking up the blueprints and statistics on the building, as well as copies of her financial records. Bringing up an editing software, she plugged in the blueprints, rearranging the schematics until she could show living quarters, a gym, a nursing station. Cafeteria, training rooms, a place for carpentry, welding, and other job skills. If her design was true to size, the entire top floor could be dedicated to the staff. 2nd and 3rd floors could be housing. First floor would be everything else. The place could feasibly hold upwards of 100 to 200 residents, depending on single/double occupancy. Staring at her work on the screen, she couldn't help an excited squeak from escaping her. This actually looked doable.*

Amethyst Ayesha *Thinking of the staff needed, she knew they could at least make a true go at this. And, hell, she knew a perfect person who would fit in well for the nursing station. She loved animals, and had nursing experience. Though, the new world might be a shock to her, she thought she might be able to convince Selene to give it a try. Breathing out as she clicked "print" on her diagrams, she bit her lip hard. This was it. She was really going in to Psiforce to see if they'd help. If Mack would, 2 months could be whittled down to a week. If that, with their connections. This was going to happen, she could feel it.*

Anticipation

Arya Rheagar Bored, Bored, Bored. Yup, she was bored. Kaden had been buried in some book for most of the day. Even parading nearly half naked in front of him hadn't made him look up, so she finally gave up and went to rearrange their bedroom. Though, they did still need to pack up his house. They hadn't even started. She was one of the worst procrastinators. She was surprised Kaden hadn't made a to-do list for her yet. Looking around the room at the new layout she dusted her hands. She was still... .antsy. What the hell was wrong with her? Grabbing a drink from the kitchen, she wiped down the benches, dining table and whatever else was in the way. But she was still bored. Nothing seemed to help. Seeing Kaden still on the sofa, book in hand... she had enough. With a small growl to herself, she jumped him. Trying to steal the book out of his hands "Enough reading. You aren't paying me enough attention....I DEMAND SATISFACTION"

Kaden Kaleva *Laughing as Arya literally threw herself on him, he shifted the book, successfully keeping it out of her grasp as he tipped his head back, meeting her eyes before pressing a soft kiss to her knee as it came over his shoulder* Satisfaction, huh? And what does my little minx want to keep her attention satiated today?

Arya Rheagar "Anything. I'm bored." She groaned "Soooo bored. I need something to do." Raising her brows with a grin "Or someone" Laughing finally she kissed him back softly "How would you give me satisfaction?"

Kaden Kaleva *Raising a brow, he carefully marked his page before setting the book aside, then grabbed her legs to tip her over, tumbling her into his lap* Oh I don't know, aren't women usually satisfied with clothes and jewelry? Spa days or some shit? Would that be satisfying? *his lips quirked in a small grin*

Arya Rheagar Squealing as he pulled her down. She reached out to his shoulders. Pulling herself up on his lap to get comfortable "Well, I guess most woman are. But you and I both know I'm not like most women..." Her gaze then fell on her ring.. which made her smile stupidly. Every time she saw it she had that smile "Did you speak to Ame? How are the plans going for the new business adventure?"

Kaden Kaleva *Wincing in preparation, he gave a sigh of relief as she settled into his lap without hitting anything that would cause damn near tears. Leaning his head back against the couch, he groaned* Yeah. Crazy bitch wants print outs of our bank records. Apparently she's storming Psiforce tomorrow morning with half-assed ideas and hoping that Mack lets her even finish the first sentence before he boots her out on her ass. *Scrubbing a hand down his face, he just shook his head* I agree with her that having Psiforce involved would make everything easier. Yet at the same time, getting Mack to listen to fucking anything is easier than walking bare-assed through the desert covered in fucking honey. The reason for the book. *Inclining his head to it, he grinned as she picked it up and gave him a disbelieving look.* Yeah, I bought Business Sense for Dummies. Figured it'd at least help me talk all impressive-like.

Arya Rheagar Her heart melted at his words "You bought... aww baby" She couldn't help it. She wrapped her arms around him and kissed him. Over reaction? Maybe. But who cares. He was so fucking cute it ached. "Now you know, if there is anything, and I mean anything Kaden. Not just something that you think I can do, I want to help. Don't be shielding me like you do. Give me something to do. Gods I'd damn near beg you to give me something to do that would help."

Kaden Kaleva *Narrowing his eyes at her, he tossed the book back on the table. Damn woman, making it seem all "cute" and shit. Stupid book. Finally relaxing and laughing at her words, he pressed a soft kiss to her lips, smirking as he pulled away* Be careful what you wish for sweets. You didn't see the inside of that place. You'll look so sweet in overalls covered with dust and dirt and drywall plaster.

Arya Rheagar "Well, I do love to get my hands dirty babe. Makes it more fun getting clean" She laughed "I really shouldn't be bored. We do have so much to do. We still have to pack up your place Kaden. We haven't even started on it. And the house hunting..." She groaned then "Which means, we have to pack up my house also..." Raising her hands to show him two fingers "That's TWO houses we have to pack up"

Kaden Kaleva *He'd just laid his head back down and closed his eyes before her words made him crack one eye open again* Why can't we just hire movers? Or better yet, get some of your freaky friends to wiggle their genie fingers and abracadabra it's all done. And you're wrong... we only have to pack up one yet. Might as well not pack up both until we find a house we like. I vote for mine first. *he grinned at her, giving her an exaggerated wink* I was told it's an exemplary bachelor pad. Most shit gets pitched. That'll be easy as hell.

Arya Rheagar "That's cheating Kaden. Besides it would give me something to do. And I'm not a fan of someone going through my private stuff. I like to know where all my stuff is." She let out a small sigh "You think it will take us awhile to find a house?"

Kaden Kaleva *Shrugging, he curled his arms around her, resting his chin on her shoulder* I honestly don't know sweets. Never had to do it before. Amethyst's was an inheritance from her grandmother. I had a choice of on base housing in Washington or private housing near headquarters in New Orleans. Since Am was here, I chose private housing and Psiforce set it up. Can't be that damn hard though, not like we're buying a big screen plasma TV or something.

Arya Rheagar Letting out a laugh "Oh you are such a male. So lazy baby. But, you will not get out of this. You will come and pick one out with me. I want it to be OUR house. Something that we do together. I'm probably going to blimmin plan the wedding on my own with the way things are going... so you can do this with me"

Kaden Kaleva *Groaning, he finally sighed and nipped at her neck sharply* Who the hell said you're planning it alone? I never said I wasn't helping. Just that it can't be that difficult, a wedding or a house. Dumb people manage to do it all the time. Surely we're capable of it if they are. Our mental capacity probably exceeds most of Louisiana by a good landslide. We ain't gonna have an issue doing it.

Arya Rheagar "Dumb people do it? And they have dumb weddings. I don't want some crappy, hillbilly, trailer park, big fat gypsy wedding." Shaking her head with a groan. Why was she explaining it? ""So you are going to be sitting down with me? And planning each detail? You are going to come with me to the florists? To pick out the flowers? The table decors? The dresses? Your suits?"

Kaden Kaleva *His grimace grew more pronounced with every new item she tacked onto the list. What the hell was this shit?* Table decors? Don't the flowers go on the tables? Why do you have to go to the florist and then put something else on the table? Crowded. If you ask me.

Arya Rheagar "You haven't been to many weddings now have you? I want the big thing Kaden. I want it all. Everything." Yeah, she was playing with him. To be honest with herself, she couldn't care less. They could get married in Vegas and she wouldn't care. Ok maybe not Vegas, that's a bit tacky to her. She just wanted it to be special "There's also the issue of the invitations and the lay out of them. Gift bags. There's so much to organize"

Kaden Kaleva *What exactly did "everything" entail? Fuck. Rubbing his hands over his face, he finally couldn't help but to laugh. For this woman, he'd do whatever the hell she wanted him to do. Just didn't mean he'd do it quietly* Set up the appointments, minx. I'll go and attempt to be civilized.

Arya Rheagar Holy shit he was serious. Sitting up further her heart soared all over again. Leaning in to kiss him "You would go with me? You would plan this with me? Really?" She knew not many men would do that. She knew plenty of females who arrange their whole weddings without their husbands putting in one word.

Kaden Kaleva Well, it's not likely to be fatal, is it? I'm sure I can handle a few appointments and talking about flowers and shit. If it comes with mortal wounds, no, you're probably best doing it alone, but it can't be that bad. *leaning back, he drew her with him as he fumbled for the remote, flipping on ESPN* Besides, the rewards are well worth it. ESPN will never be switched off in the middle of a game again. *smirking down at her, he couldn't help himself, he grinned and curled an arm around her waist as she lay across him* Just tell me where I'm supposed to be and when. Maybe ah...remind me a few times in case I wasn't listening the first time.

Arya Rheagar "Oh is that the bargain you are reaching? If you come with me that I won't ever interrupt a game?" She snorted. That was never going to happen. For who knew what the future holds and how much he would piss her off "You are going to impossible aren't you? Gah, you are going to moan and complain the whole way through. I know it. I know you. And I do not agree to this bargain" She blew her tongue out at him at that.

Kaden Kaleva *Laughing, he tightened his hold on her, pulling her closer until her lips were an inch from his. Closing the distance, he kissed her until she was breathless, going soft and pliant in his arms* I'm sorry, what did you say? *Hiding his grin by turning back to the TV, knowing she was going to end up pummeling him with tiny fists soon*

Arya Rheagar Smacking him on his arm she growled at him "You are incorrigible" Yet her body reacted to him. She willed herself not to melt into him "You will be the death of me you know. I'm going to go gray far before my time"

Kaden Kaleva *snorting, he took a moment to look her over* Highly improbable. Though, if you do, I'll make it better and buy you all the boxed hair dyes you need to cover my influence. *Grinning, he nuzzled her throat, letting out a soft breath as her scent filled his nose* You always smell so fucking good. Whatever that is, buy more of it. *turning to taste the other side of her neck, he bit down lightly on her earlobe, hands tracing the path of her spine downwards until he cupped her ass in his hands, settling her between his spread thighs* How about we go upstairs and make sure your bed is moving ready. Then, you can tell me all about the appointments I need to remember, hmmm?

Arya Rheagar Damn it. She cursed at him, as she melted against him. "Kaden" She had wanted that to sound harder than what it did. She moaned as he found his way between her legs. Wrapping her arms around him she whispered "Bed now. Quick" She would have laughed as he ran with her to the bedroom, if not for the need he had suddenly inspired in her. A night of being in his arms? Being pleased by him. It was more than she could ever want.

Kaden Kaleva *Groaning, he pulled into the parking lot. Amethyst had called him, demanding he bring print outs of he and Arya's bank statements to her at Psiforce. He knew they'd discussed this and all, but apparently she wasn't waiting and would just go in fucking guns blazing. Hell, he hoped Mack was in a good damn mood otherwise they were fucked. Spotting Amethyst leaning against the her truck with a sheaf of papers in her hand, he just shook his head* I hope you have a damn fine game plan here woman, otherwise he's going to eat your ass alive.

Amethyst Ayesha *Seeing Kaden coming towards her after parking, she frowned* Of course I have a game plan. It's a great plan. *giving him a quick smile as she took the printouts he handed her and shoved them in with the rest, she sighed* Do you happen to have some sort of a game plan? I'd really appreciate it seeing as how...no. I don't know what the hell I'm doing. Turstin just stared and walked away shaking his head. I think he said something about insane women but I pretended he didn't say it.

Kaden Kaleva *Smirking, he just held out his hand* Let me see what you have. *As she handed him the papers, he shuffled through them, glancing at the diagrams and things she'd set up* Not bad. Do you have an accounting schematic of how much you intend to spend on wages and housing in a calender year? Mack's gonna want to see the total expenses you anticipate. But budget high. If Psiforce goes in on it, anything over what he agrees to now will have to be itemized, explained, all that fucking bullshit. Rather have extra to play with than be short.

Amethyst Ayesha *And this is why she loved him. He was the big brother she never had, and he always looked after her. Heading inside, Kaden on her heels, she booted up the computer at her desk, searching through the papers until she found the diagram she'd made for employees. Adding a bit to the estimated wages to be proactive for raises and things, she budgeted what the yearly mortgage and taxes would be, what the estimated utility bills and other expenses would be. Ignoring Kaden's irritated huff next to her she went down the mental list of things she'd figured would have money outgoing. Sending it to the printer, she grabbed her papers and breathed out.* You are coming in with me, aren't you?!?!?!?

Kaden Kaleva *Smirking, he stood and wrapped an arm around her waist* Would I let you face the big bad wolf by yourself? *As she turned irritated eyes on him, he laughed* Well, okay, I won't this time. Next time you're on your own. *Urging her towards Mack's office, he ignored her trembling against him. She was a damn good agent, there was no reason to treat her like she was fragile. She'd either make her case or she wouldn't, he was just there for moral support basically. Opening the door, he ushered her in, closing it behind them as they took the two chairs in front of the General's desk*

Amethyst Ayesha *Placing her carefully arranged sheaf of papers on the desk, heart pounding* I have a proposal for you. We...well, I mostly, have been thinking of a way for Psiforce to make more of an impact with broad ranging goals of rehabilitation for those that are displaced due to our missions. *As he raised an eyebrow but didn't stop her, she continued on* The plan is to buy and renovate a hotel property. Keep staff on hand for medical, job training, life skills. Provide these people a safe haven until they can start a new life away from whatever horrors we've protected them from. Kaden and I, as well as our mates, are willing to buy the property and renovate it. If Psiforce will help with the upkeep and wages for the staff. If you look at the papers, I've outlined the plans, the expenses, our financials. You'll see that it's pretty doable. We even have some interested parties for the staff already as well.

Kaden Kaleva *As Mack's lips pursed, he inwardly snarled. No way was the asshole going to dash her dreams* Look, General. This is going to happen whether you approve it or not. However, with Psiforce backing it will be official, and we can help more people. You don't want rogue agents running a clandestine safehouse right in your backyard. Bad for business.

Amethyst Ayesha *Closing her eyes, she almost kicked Kaden under the desk. Did he always have to bulldog his way into things? Shockingly, Mack seemed to actually be thinking about it. Finally, he looked up from the papers and said the one thing she didn't want to hear.*

Mack Thompson It seems a worthy endeavor, but if Psiforce backs it, I have conditions that need to be met. First, you will keep 6 double occupancy rooms available at all times for agents needing a safe place to lay low or those that are to deep undercover to come in to headquarters. Second, and most importantly... *leaning back, he steepled his fingers as he glanced at both of them* I find myself in the unlikely position of not having a team I can trust. Mates are a forever thing. There is no one you trust more. I want a tactical team consisting of the four of you. The sweeps will be 2 or less a year, but they WILL be urgent cases.

Kaden Kaleva *He froze. His jaw clenched tight. There was no fucking way. Tactical teams were basically the last resort. When a tac team was sent in, there was nothing left in the aftermath. He could do it, sure, he'd done it before he'd been partnered with Amethyst. But he knew damn well Turstin would freak the fuck out. He didn't want to put Arya in that position either. The toll it takes...well, that's a stain that doesn't go away. Rubbing his hands down his face, he shook his head. About to say hell fucking no before Amethyst kicked him hard under the table. Glaring at her, he wished he could call Arya. Call Turstin. Get someone to talk some sense into Amethyst before she signed them all up for something they weren't ready to face.*

Amethyst Ayesha *She knew Turstin wouldn't let her go in alone. And Arya certainly wouldn't let Kaden go alone. Yes, tactical teams were hard on the agents assigned to them. But it was maybe once a year. The rest they could do their regular missions, and save lives. Digging her nails into Kaden's thigh to shut him up, she turned to Mack* I agree. If Arya and Turstin can't or won't do it, we will find two suitable weres that we trust to go in their place. You'll have your team. But I want it in writing that we will never be asked to take more than 2 tactical missions a year, and that if we are not comfortable with the scenario and our ability to deploy properly, we reserve the right to decline any missions that would pose a threat to our personal safety.

Mack Thompson- *Nodding, he sorted through the papers again. They actually had a damn good idea. Why the hell he hadn't thought of it before he didn't know.* I'll see what we can do. I suggest you two go home and brief your mates. They'll need training, background checks, physicals, and to be put into the system for badges. I'll investigate this location, get with the higher ups, and be in touch.