

Ch 21 - Last Transformation

“He loves you, but he’s not your mate. I know what I’m about to say will probably confuse you, but you must love him back. If he ever confesses his love for you, confess it right back. I know you feel it in your heart, and while he’s not your mate, he was meant to come into your life for this. Accept it and accept him,” the pendant told her.

“Ok, but why is it important that I love him back?” she asked curiously.

“Because child, you will need him in the future, and only his love will save you,” the pendant vaguely replied.

“Will I know more?” she asked.

“In time! Some truths are coming sooner than you know. I know I’m not the most tolerable person since I’m a pendant and all, but it is important that you trust in me,” the pendant pleaded.

“I’m your beholder and you’re literally stuck to me. I can’t not trust you,” Calypso joked. She was surprised to hear the melodious laugh float in her mind.

"That is true! All things in good time my dear Calypso, all things in good time," the pendant said before the glowing light faded. Channing was awed.

"What just happened?" he queried.

"Oh, my pendant speaks to me," she replied.

He was unsure about the answer he'd received. "Like you can hear it in your head?"

"Exactly! I know it sounds weird, but it's true," she responded.

"I believe you baby girl. It's just surprising, that's all," he admitted.

"I guess I'm going to have to get ready to leave soon," she whined.

"You sound so excited," he teased.

"I have my final appointment with Stella. It's the appointment that's meant to reveal my true beauty, whatever that means. My body's in great shape, so it's the final step to my transformation," she explained.

"Well, you still look beautiful to me, whichever way

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you are," he smirked.

"You're supposed to say stuff like that baby," she pointed out.

"There's saying it, and then there's meaning it, and I really mean it," he said seriously.

She blushed at that. "I know you do."

"Good! Now you're going to be a brave soldier and face that appointment," he said encouragingly.

"I'm such a lucky girl! My boyfriend motivates me to go to my appointment at a salon," she laughed jokingly.

"I'm awesome like that!" he goofily smiled.

"That you are," she agreed before kissing him.

After making out for almost an hour, he finally let her go and get ready, but he didn't leave the room. She showered and left the bathroom, heading into their now joint closet. It was getting a bit chilly outside, so she settled for a pair of leggings, a t-shirt, sneakers and one of Channing's sweatshirts. She left her hair to dry by itself, knowing it would just be tended to soon enough.

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"Looking as gorgeous as ever Miss Henriques," Channing smiled when she stepped out.

"I do try Mr Henson," she blushed, walking to stand in between his legs.

"You are too sexy for words," he winked.

"Now you're just messing with me. You don't want me to leave," she picked up.

"That obvious?" he chuckled.

She giggled, running her fingers through his hair. "Uh huh! I'll be back before you know it."

He sighed dramatically, resting his forehead on her stomach. "I'll take your word for it."

"You are such a drama king," she laughed. He looked up at her, mesmerized by her laughter and beauty. She was everything to him in that moment.

"I love you baby girl," he said before he could stop himself. His heart thundered in his chest when she stopped laughing, until a smile adorned her face.

"I love you too baby," she said softly. He beamed beyond words.

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"Really?" he asked incredulously.

"Yes," she giggled before he pulled her down to kiss her deeply.

"God I love you! I was so afraid you didn't feel the same way," he whispered.

She caressed his cheek. "What's not to love about you? You're the perfect boyfriend."

"I try," he smiled sheepishly. She pulled him back down for another passionate kiss.

"You owe me ten bucks," Cassidy's voice was heard from the door. She was there with the girls.

Channing frowned. "Seriously? Do you people always bet on us?"

"Yep! It's easy money," Cassidy said unashamed.

"Whatever! Baby, I have to go, so behave while I'm gone," Calypso warned.

"When do I ever not behave?" he feigned innocence. She gave him a look that suggested that he didn't want her listing his misdemeanours.

"Ok, ok! I promise I won't get up to no good. Have

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fun ok? And remember what I said," he said sternly.

She nodded as she got up. "I won't forget!"

"Oh and baby girl?" he called out. When she turned, her lips were captured in a kiss that had even the girls drooling.

"I love you," he said breathlessly with his forehead on hers.

"Aaaaw," the girls cooed.

She blushed once more, hiding in his chest. "I love you too!"

"Have a good time and call me if you need anything," he smiled before pecking her lips once more.

The girls headed out in the Escalade and played music the whole way to the mall. Calypso couldn't have been happier about everything. Her life was on track and she loved every moment of it, despite the guilt she was feeling about her old life. She wasn't getting nightmares anymore since she started sleeping in the same bed as Channing.

He made her feel safe and her fears were far from her.

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They reached the mall and made their way directly to the salon. They didn't want anything else from the mall, or at least they hadn't decided yet. The salon was a bit full that day, but as soon as Stella saw Calypso, Calypso was given immediate attention. It was comical to watch the other people get mad, but there was nothing they could do about it except shut up and wait.

Calypso had the full body treatment for the last time. Her nails were tended to, and this time she opted for a manicure. It was her and Channing's anniversary in two days, so she wanted them to look good for then, despite not knowing what Channing had planned. Their first month anniversary had been incredible, and she didn't know how he would top it off, but he was pretty confident that he could.

Her acne had cleared up, so by the time she was done with her facial, she was glowing. Almost all the women in the salon were envious of her perfect skin. Stella wasn't kidding about this last transformation, because by the time they were done with her hair, everyone gasped at her sheer beauty.

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She officially had it all – the perfect body, the silky long hair, the flawless skin everywhere on her body, the bright and sparkling sapphire eyes, the infectious personality, the cute height thing, and the adoring boyfriend.

“I am so jealous right now! You literally have it all,” Ivy smiled.

Calypso reddened. “You’re exaggerating.”

Ilea beckoned her towards the mirror. “Look for yourself Cally.”

When Calypso stood in front of the mirror, her whole life came to a standstill. She wanted to believe that Stella’s salon had used magic on her because she couldn’t find any better way to explain how she looked so perfectly stunning.

She was a vision. She was glowing radiantly and this final make-over was the one that just showed everything that Stella said she could be. While she’d doubted everyone before, now she couldn’t deny it.

She was beautiful.

It was all there.

She was not the same girl that left her pack two months ago. Like Channing had said, she'd come far from that girl. She'd conquered things people looked down at her for. While she didn't have her wolf yet, she was still incredibly proud of who she was. She was finally in a place where she didn't feel like an outsider, where she didn't feel useless.

She had a family now.

She had a brother who shared her last name and who would move the heavens to make sure she's ok. She had parents who had adopted her as their own. Mr and Mrs Rubin loved her, despite having the siblings. She had a whole new family and friends. She had a boyfriend who loved her through her journey, as short as it had been.

She had love.

While two months ago the only love she knew was the friendly love of her best friends, now she had different kinds of love.

"This is me," she whispered tearfully.

"This is the real you honey. I told you that there was something about you, and here it is. This is

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you,” Stella confirmed, standing behind her. Stella had become that aunt that Calypso could turn to at any time. She turned and hugged the woman tightly.

“Thank you,” she sniffed.

Stella immediately hugged her back. “Oh honey, it was my utmost pleasure. There’s no need to thank me.”

“There is! I wouldn’t look like this if you didn’t believe that I could,” Calypso said as she wiped away her tears. The women in the salon were impressed by her humility.

“Calypso, I really wish you all the happiness in the world child. You are a kind-hearted soul and you are so humble. Please never lose that about yourself, and promise me that only great things will happen from here on,” Stella smiled.

Calypso nodded. “I promise.”

“Good! Now get out of here and go show that hunk of yours how lucky he is,” Stella winked.

“Not yet! We’re celebrating this tonight, so we need to get outfits for tonight!” Isla announced.

Calypso didn’t know that. “Where are we going?”

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"You'll see, but Channing will only see you tonight," Ivy stressed.

"Good luck telling him that," Calypso giggled, thinking about her impatient boyfriend.

Cassidy rolled her eyes. "He'll be fine."

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