

His Dragon's Future

By Talitha Gholston

She looks around the room as she sits waiting for her turn. Shelves line the walls. Tarot cards and crystal balls are for sale. A crystal ball and a stack of tarot cards cover a small table in the corner. A woman sits at the table.

"Talmarie," the psychic says.

Looking up the lady stares. She walks over to the table and sits.

She grabs her hand before Talmarie can say anything. She frowns while rubbing her index finger across the lines.

"He is your destiny. Change is upon you," the psychic says.

Talmarie snatches her hand away and throws money on the table before running out of the shop. Maki waits as she comes through the door injecting her with a needle before she goes limp in his arms.

"Save her," my dragon yells in my head.

Startling from my slumber, I open my eyes, seeing only darkness, my dragons eyes adjust. I was my people's protection for a time. A sire came to see me one night. She gave me her body, some food, and a glass of wine. It's hard to remember anything else, trying makes my head hurt. Turning back into my human form, I walk out of a small rock opening. I see unfamiliar buildings in the distance. Nothing looks as it was before I slept.

I walk in the direction of my castle. Once inside my castle it looks empty. What happened to my kin? There were only four of us dragons in the world. I walk deeper inside and find the walls crumble from years of unuse.

"Save her," my dragon yells in my head. "He has her. I can feel her fear, she needs us. Give me control."

I shift into my dragon. When in dragon form I feel a tug. It's like an invisible line leading me to a mountain. I don't see an opening, but I can feel her. Taking a deep breath, I blow. When I'm finished ice covers the mountain, I swing my tail around, knocking a hole into the rocks, hovering outside. The sun shines on my scales, making the light turn blue. Our eyes met and I wink.

"He is your destiny," she whispers wide eyed.

I turn back into my human form as I land. I smirk at her wide eyes. "We were friends once Maki." I turn to my old friend confused.

"Until you killed my mother," Maki said.

"I never met your mother. Why take my mate?" I ask.

"I knew it will break your dragon if she dies. Sabrina Drake is my mother," Maki said.

"She died having me."

"You will die for that," Maki said. How do we have the same mother? Why pretend to be my friend years ago, but be my brother the whole time. How could I not know? "I have a brother?" dragon asks.

"I guess."

My brother runs towards me and tackles me off the cliff. As we fall we shift into our dragons. His scales are green but look like mine. I can see the resemblance now. Pushing off, we hover dragon to dragon.

"Why? We could have been family," I ask.

"You robbed me of my mother, so now I will rob you of your mate," he answers.

"I'm sorry."

“Not yet.”

He opens his mouth and blows fire at me. I swing out of the way and come around locking my teeth onto his shoulder. The taste of iron hits my tastebuds.

He brings his claws up connecting with my abdomen. I roar in pain as he connects.

My teeth loosen as he spins us both. He keeps his claws in my gut. I bring the sharp end of my wing up and stab him in the same place he stabbed me.

His teeth lock onto my neck drawing blood. He loosens his teeth and I fall toward the ground, stopping to hover before I hit. I look up and see him hover outside the opening where I knocked a hole in the mountain. Flying as fast as I can, we grapple as I connect with him. He has a hold of me with his feet and wings. I grunt as I feel skin ripping. I dislodge from him and use my bottom legs to push him towards the ground. I head dive until I wrap my wings around him and push him down till he connects with the ground. Dust flies as we hit. When the dust clears I see him laying still but as a human.

“Brother. Why didn't you just come to me?”

“Don't call me that.” He closes his eyes.

“You are my brother. We can't change that. Was your father a dragon too?”

“No. He was human. He told me about her. I only found out later how she died.”

“I'm sorry. We could have been a family.”

“No, we couldn't. I hated you since I first learned of you. My father didn't want to tell me about you.”

“I was adopted.”

When I can no longer hear his heart beating I realize that I will never get the answers I need. I fly up to the opening where my future waits. She is lying on the floor. I break the bars, picking her up and putting her on the edge. I change into a dragon and pick her up gently with my claws before flying her to safety. I know I have a lot to learn from my family and a lot to tell her. By the time we get to the castle she is awake. I tell her everything from back when I was a lad to when I woke up in the cave.

Twenty years later...

Years later we have two kids. They are both dragons. Come to find out my mate was always a dragon too. She learned of it when she got pregnant and changed just like me. Her scales are purple, with an unseen benefit. We lived happily ever after.