Glamor
By Emma Hastings

Today was nice, Rebecca thought as she walked through the city streets, hand in hand with Kevin. He had offered to walk her home after their date. She had known Kevin since high school, and he had finally, after years of secret crushes, asked her out. Tonight was Rebecca's first date with him, and it had gone smoothly. He was a little awkward though, considering how they have known each other since they were sixteen.

Suddenly a car careened out of the street, headlights momentarily blinding her as it flew up off the curb and onto the sidewalk. Kevin pushed her to the side then dove after into a nearby alleyway they had been passing. The car missed by inches, zipping past way faster than the speed limit permitted, then turned back onto the road, nearly hitting another car before righting itself. It slowed down and merged back into traffic, as if it had not just about run over them. Soon they lost sight of the out of control vehicle.

"Wow. That was crazy…" Rebecca said breathlessly. "Thank you. You saved my life."

"I was only doing what any decent person should do," Kevin replied, equally breathless.

For a few moments they just sat there, on the cold pavement, before Rebecca stood up, helping Kevin up along with her. Just as he was about to say something, a silhouette emerged from the shadows behind him, the glint of something metallic in his hand. A knife.

"Kevin!" She yelled, but was too late. His mouth formed a silent "o" of shock and horror before he slipped to the ground, knife protruding from his back. "Nooooo!"

The murderer, who was smiling maniacally at Kevin, turned their gaze on Rebecca's now tear streaked face. A gloved hand pulled off the half-mask obscuring this monster's features. Instantly she recognized him, and it was her turn for her mouth to circle in astonishment. It was her ex-boyfriend, Sebastian. He had white-blonde hair with translucent violet eyes and fair lightly freckled skin. Though he was thin, he was well muscled and lean, with long, spindly legs. Rebecca had dated him a few months ago, until he broke up with her. It broke her heart, but she moved on quickly with the advice from her best friend, Elizabeth, that any guy who hurt her like this didn't deserve her. She was right, of course, but then why did Rebecca's heart wrench when he unveiled his face?

"Se-sebastian?" She stuttered. "Why? What would drive you to murder my friend?"

"He was not your friend. You should be grateful I neutralized him before he took you. You would have been trapped there forever." Sebastian sneered, no sign of the love he showed her before he ended them.

"What do you mean? Taken me? Where? I've known him since high school! He never would have done such a thing!" she exclaimed.

"That is not the real Kevin Connolly you once knew. That was a faerie. He used that boy's shell as a glamour to get to you. He's not going to stay dead for long though. Faeries regenerate fast if you don't get a good blow on them. You warned him of what he already suspected, and moved before I could hit his head," he explained impatiently. "Now we have to go before reinforcements get here. There is no way that would have gone unnoticed by the Unseelie court. Especially not with you involved."

Sebastian grabbed her firmly by her arm, seemingly unfazed by her struggling, and dragged her deeper into the alley. "What are you doing? You can't just murder my friend, spurt some gibberish about faeries, and then expect me to come quietly! Get off me! You monster!" She screamed as his hand clamped over her mouth.

"Quiet!" Sebastian whispered. Holding a finger up to his mouth, using the same hand that was still clamped to Rebecca's mouth, their faces centimeters apart. She had a million questions swarming through her head. Where would Kevin have "supposedly" taken her? Why did this person show up, murder someone, and think he was saving her? What did he mean by me involved? Involved in what? This was all so confusing. She tried to shake off Sebastian's heavy hand from her face, but he just tightened his grip.

After a few minutes of crouching and waiting, Sebastian decided to move further into the alley, thankfully taking his hand off her mouth. Now Rebecca was getting desperate, and frantically looked for something to help her out of this situation. She was not going to let this psycho kidnap her! Then she heard a bang, and a grunt as something glowing hit Sebastian's left shoulder, causing him to release her. Rebecca tore off in the opposite direction he was leading her, ignoring the grunts and calls for her to come back. Her purse! She dropped it near the entrance of the alley. She could call 911!

Rebecca was shocked to find that Kevin's body was no longer there. Maybe Sebastian had some followers assisting him. She didn't have time to wonder, afraid Sebastian was giving chase. As soon as she got her purse, though, she was knocked back a few feet into the alley by a blast of red light. All the breath stolen from her lungs, Rebecca simply went limp as the familiar hands of -Kevin?- wrapped around her. She couldn't get enough air to even yell, and his tight grip didn't help her breathing situation. A bright glow suddenly sprung up behind her and Kevin dragged them backwards toward it. Faintly, she was aware of the sounds of grunting and more blasts, but the last thing Rebecca heard was Sebastian, telling her it would be all right, and he would find her no matter what, and to not consume any food or drink. His voice held all the love and emotions it had before he stopped loving her, and somehow, she knew he might never have. Then, the world went black.