

## A Warrior's Heart: Marastin Dow 1.1

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Hanine froze when she turned her head. Her eyes locked with a pair of dark brown eyes that were transfixed on her face. She watched as shock and dismay flashed across the young male's face. She tilted her chin defensively at his expression.

"I am Hanine," she said.

"I know," the slender male responded in a hoarse voice. "You are supposed to be working. Your shift isn't over for another two hours."

Hanine jerked back in surprise. Frowning, she ran her eyes over the tall male. She had never seen him before so how could he know who she was and when she worked?

"How do you know that?" She demanded.

A soft smile curved his lips before the whisper of his words touched her. "Can I keep you? Forever?"

"You? How? It was you?" Hanine's voice whispered in faint awe.

She didn't move as his pale hand rose to touch her. She felt his warm fingers slide down over her cheek. A soft gasp escaped her at the tenderness of his touch.

“Your skin is just as soft as I imagined it would be,” Aaron remarked.

Hanine’s dazed eyes followed him as he turned away to follow her sister and his brother. She raised a shaky hand to touch her cheek. Her lips parted in confused wonder as he looked back over his shoulder at her. A small, boyish smile curved his lips before he turned back.

“Oh my,” Hanine whispered as her heart melted at the look.