

Poseidon's Bargain

I pressed myself back underneath a small overhang, a fissure in the cliff sheltering me from the storm that had suddenly blown up. A cold wind lashed at me and I stood shivering; looking up at a small patch of sky through the gap in the rock face.

My mind wandered and I paid no attention to what was happening around me, but when I finally turned my gaze back to the beach numb terror filled me—the tide was coming in! Helpless I watched the churning waves rush towards the cliff, cutting me off from the rest of the beach, trapping me.

"Tell me, what is your life worth?"

I gasped, spinning round to find a man standing behind me, watching me with eyes the color of the sea. His tall sculpted body was barely covered by the white robe draped about him and his dark hair fell to his shoulders in a wild disarray, setting off a face so perfect it made me ache. He seemed to crackle with energy, his vibrancy filling the small space.

"Who are you?" I asked in a shaky voice.

He smiled; a breathtaking smile that made my stomach knot. "I am Poseidon."

I shook my head, though part of me believed him. "No that's impossible. You can't be."

He didn't respond to my stuttered denial, just raised his hands towards the approaching water. I watched in awe as the sea suddenly stopped, the water level rising but coming no closer, as if a pane of glass had been placed across it to hold it back.

"I can let the waves rush in and take your life, or I can hold them there till the tide turns and take your body. Your choice." His rough voice came from right beside me, and trembling I turned to face him.

A ragged breath left me as I saw he was now naked—his robe vanished—allowing me to see every chiseled inch. Body thrumming with arousal I ran my eyes over him hungrily, before dragging my gaze up into his face.

In those depths I saw all the wild power of the sea, focused on me and me alone, and in that instant I knew I would make this bargain. Not only because I wanted to live, but because I wanted him.

Unable to speak I nodded, and with a sensual smile Poseidon took me in his arms.