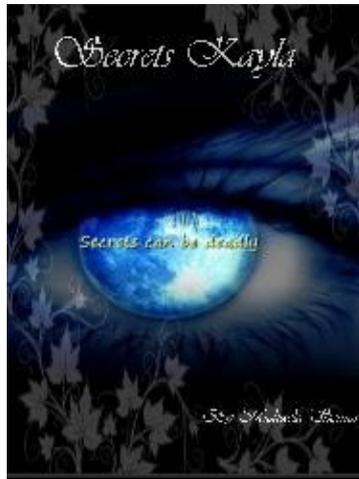


Secrets:Kayla

By : kkolivia

It is not the real name couldn't think of anything else. To all Twilight fans I know Jay is a copy Jacob Black
Im not going to change it though.



Published on
Booksie

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1st Chapter:

Insight

The toxic fumes that were seeping up from the carpet didn't make this coach ride any more bearable, it was so raggedy as if you could kick the wheel and the whole thing would just fall apart. I was humming to myself quite loudly just to see if it got on anyone's nerves, the driver had pulled over for a bathroom break - knowing that he was the only one that needed to go - and everyone had become very irritable because it doesn't take twenty minutes to go to the toilet. I sighed. I knew this was going to be a long bus ride, my sister and brother seem to have a sense for those things - they always fell asleep somewhere during the journey if it was going to be too long. It was weird that I knew my siblings so well, even though my parents had only adopted them about 5 months ago, both of them being older than me made it easier, I was only 14 my 15th Birthday was coming up soon in July. Our mum had decided to send us away to a posh but scary Secondary school with my uncle and Aunt. My uncle and Aunts house reminded me of Hogwarts, large and dark and just off the sea as well, and there was always something mysterious about it like you never really knew what went on behind those wrought iron gates, but then again we all have our secrets. My "brother" twisted around to lie on my shoulder, my heart fluttered a bit as I watched his head slowly fall on to my lap where his face twisted in to a smile as I stroked his long dark hair. I know its sounds a bit wrong me falling for my brother and all but he isn't my real brother so it's not like its incest or anything, but I still haven't got to know him that well yet so maybe... I let my thoughts trail off in to wild fantasies that a girl like me could only dream of. Finally the driver scooted back into his seat and started the engine only another hour now till we get there, I smiled thinking of my Aunt's face when we'd get there - mum had decided to surprise her - my uncle was making preparations for us on the sly, taking all the letters from the school and answering them himself he set our rooms up telling my Aunt that he just wanted to tidy up a little bit. My Uncle can be so devious sometimes, I chuckled at the memories. It seemed to be getting warmer and I was getting more and more tired. I finally rested my head on my brothers back and closed my eyes awaiting another dream about him. I smiled as I snuggled in closer to his body and then I finally fell asleep.

"KK, KK wake up come on we're here now, do I have to get Jay to carry you in."

I heard Sira's sweet voice she always spoke so exotically around me like she was almost singing. I knew that she knew I liked Jay but she had no idea how much. I could hear her giggling now her laugh quite bubbly and smooth like a humming birds wings. I twisted around to make out that I was still asleep, I wrapped my arms around the nearest thing I could find and I stayed there hoping they couldn't tell. Soon enough I felt Jay's strong arms lift me up cradling me with one arm and stroking my hair and my face with the other. I felt that I could fall asleep in his arms right then and there, but then he gently put me down on my feet. My eyes flickered open as I tried not to sway he still had one arm around my waist trying to keep me steady. I looked up in to his huge brown eyes and his black hair flopping over his light brown skin. I pulled my eyes from his hoping he hadn't seen the passion blazing through my body. I moved my hand from around his neck and reached for his arm. I held onto it hoping he would get the message, again I looked up in to his eyes but this time I was looking for emotion, his eyes were staring in to mine. At first I thought it was worry but then his face moved in closer to mine. I shifted my head to the side slightly while still looking in his eyes I saw a flash of regret pass through them, but then his bright eyes shone up again and a large teasing smiled spread across his face.

"You can let go now."

I whispered in his ear. I pulled my face back in enough time to see him cringe. He let his hand slip off my waist and he turned round to go to the back of the Coach to go get our bags'. I spun round to see Sira laughing her beautiful, delicate, Asian features creasing as she belted out another laugh. I twisted my head to the side trying to figure out what she was laughing about. She then wiped her eyes, looked at me and proceeded to roll them.

"You really need to get over your brother."

Her calm tone took me by surprise.

"Technically, he's not my brother so I should be alright and why do you care?"

I said feeling proud of myself for answering back. She then seemed to recoil a little bit and then she sighed, I knew then that she was going to tell me what she was thinking about. I stood there for about two minutes waiting for her answer.

"I just don't think you're old enough yet, okay,"

I raised one of my eyebrows waiting for more - she never said what was exactly on her mind the first time through - even though I hadn't known her for that long; I knew a lot about her mind.

"Okay, Okay, Okay. The truth is-"

Her eyes shifted from me to something behind me, she looked shameful her eyes immediately went to the ground, she then started to slowly walk past me and my eyes followed her. I turned around as she went behind me and then I saw Jay standing right there behind me. My whole face went hot I was so happy that my face was dark enough to hide the blush. His eyebrows were pulled together tightly and his muscles were tensed so that he was almost crushing my suitcase. I slowly walked up to him my eyes not meeting his gaze and I reached out for my suitcase but he held it back, as a reflex I looked up straight into his eyes, they were curious the stare was burning into me. I went to go grab my suitcase Sira - being the girl that she is - pushed me in to his chest. I heard them both laughing loud, really loud so I decided to just lie there clutching to his shirt, the next thing I knew my feet were being swept off the ground by his arm as he carried me to our Uncle and Aunts house. I clung onto him, mainly because I didn't want him to drop me but also because I wanted to stay close to his warmth, his hot skin and sweet smell reminded me of the freshly baked cookies I used to make when I was a kid.

"You smell like cookies" I said giggling between words.

"Well, I was born in cookie dough" His low voice sent a chill up my spine.

"Are you kidding me?" A huge smile spread across his face I could feel it.

"Yeah, of course I am I wasn't poor enough to be born in a cookie factory!"

We both started laughing then; my silly giggling laughter and his laughter could have woken everyone on the street if Sira hadn't told us to quiet down. Jay trudged on in the darkness on the slow path to my Aunt's and Uncle's house I heard the owls my Aunt kept as pets gliding above our heads there cooing was strangely threatening but I ignored them, my imagination was always running wild, especially in the past 3 months, my sister and brother seemed to fuel my imagination so much it used to run into my dreams spilling out from the cracks of my subconscious.

The large ringing from the knocker woke me out of my hazy dream. I can't believe we got here so fast it takes me about 15 minutes to get up that narrow winding path, and that's when I'm running. Jay set me down on my feet and brushed his hands through my hair. It sometimes made me feel like I was his buddy instead of his sister. I sighed at the thought; I then quickly shook my head out of it. The large oak doors squeaked open the steel decorations were snakes, they seemed to be moving as they glinted in the moonlight. I hooked my arm around Sira's; making sure that my silver bracelet didn't scratch or tear her silk top. I left my other arm around Jay's side pulling him in slightly when we walked inside. Though the marble floor was quite cold I didn't feel chilly at all, actually I felt really hot and this was quite odd as my Uncle and Aunt didn't use the central heating because it never really made a difference. I looked around to see if I could decipher where the heat was coming from, but I couldn't find anything everything looked frozen the chandelier almost had icicles swinging off of it.

"Kayla!" I heard a bewildered voice come from behind another oak door.

"Oh my Gosh Kayla your here, I thought your uncle was up to something."

A smile shot across my face. My Aunt Tilly's face shone with both excitement and radiance. India had done her good she had live in India for many years learning the culture and the religion to be "wider educated" as she liked to call it, I just called it school. I laughed a little too loudly and my aunt gave me a weird glance.

"Why is it so hot in here?"

I asked trying to avoid what I knew was coming.

"Your uncle Raju's been busy he's put in all these amazing carpets from our trip to India and then he's put this new furnace in the cellar so the vents actually have heat going through them now"

Her eyes moved very fast over me, checking me over as usual. I sighed and moved my head slightly to the side hoping she got the message. She did.

"Oh I'm so sorry I'm here blubbing away and I haven't even introduced me and my family yet,"

At that moment she spun round her gypsy dress commented her dance figure elegantly, the sparkling lights from the chandeliers bounced off of her dark skin she was identical to my mother and me: oval face, dark eyes, curly brown hair. Also like me she wasn't very tall but had long legs, my mother however was very tall 6ft 2 but she had thinner legs than I did I was always jealous of her for it.

"Raju, Nayeem come down here Kayla and her siblings have got here. Raju come on stop with the carpets already otherwise we will all get heat stroke"

My aunts booming voice broke my thoughts. My head lifted from the floor to see my uncle and his son descending down the marble stairs. They were both dressed in matching jeans and an old t-shirt both of them covered in dirt and soot. When he finally got down the stairs a smile spread across his face his lovely Asian features creasing as he did so. He winked at me before he turned to greet my siblings.

"Hello you must be Sira and Jay it's so nice to finally meet you both after hearing so much about you"

He chuckled. My face started to heat up again. I looked away from my "brothers" face hoping he hadn't seen me cringe.

"Come on now it's late since your uncle has already done up your rooms I think its time you go up, it's nearly 11 and the school term starts soon."

I followed my uncle as he led me up the stairs to the old hall. He gave Sira the large "Queens" room with the view of the open pasture, he gave me the room I always had - the one with the view of the graveyard - I always thought it was the best bit about the mansion. Unfortunately as soon as I had gotten in there he told Jay that he was in the same room too. I turned around to flash my uncle a warning look.

"All the other rooms need construction the vents in the other rooms still don't give out any heat, but don't worry I knocked down the wall so you have a gateway to the other room."

He smiled as he said it. I knew my uncle knew how I felt about my brother but there was no need to go this far. I gritted my teeth and turned to head back in my room. I flung my suitcase on to my bed. I sighed. I turned to face my uncle but he had already gone I smiled; Jay's large figure took up most of the doorway. His head was tilted to the side.

"What?" I asked.

"You don't want me to be here, do you?" His mouth turned down slightly.

"No. No it's not that it's just my uncle is really devious sometimes."

I watched as he lugged his cases through the arch knocked out in the wall. He set it down on his bed and started to get changed. I had to peel my eyes away from him, I scooted round the corner so that he couldn't see me and then I started to take off my clothes. I let my top and my jeans fall from my waist and stepped out of them I then slowly pulled my silk night dress on, the smooth material felt good against my skin. The moonlight bouncing off of it made the white seem even more radiant. I slowly pulled my head out of the dress. I flattened it out with my hands and then lifted my head up to see Jay standing in the archway his mouth slightly open as though he was going to say something; I knelt down to put on my shoes not taking my eyes off him as I did so.

"I'm going to go to the grave yard, just to see if I remember anything."

I slowly walked out of the door grabbing my coat off my bed. I slowly closed the oak door hoping that it wouldn't creak. I then made my way back down the marble staircase. I trod carefully hoping not to wake anyone. I turned to go to the back door that led to my Aunts and Uncles private cemetery I eased it open. I walked right out in to the forceful winds; my night dress was blowing about all around me I walked down the narrow path to a gravestone I had always admired, it was made of a lot of different types of rock and was carved into the shape of an angel, but that wasn't what I had admired, it was what was written on it "His magic will live on in his daughters and sons". It was my great, great grandfather's tombstone. As I turned up the next little path I saw another person there, a man or a boy the moon made his white hair shine as the wind made it whip his face he seemed to be laying down some flowers - roses I think - they were black but didn't look as

Secrets:Kayla

though they were dying. He then laid down a white piece of paper next to them. He turned to see me walking towards him. He turned to run. I called after him. His coat danced as the wind glided past it, he was running so fast it was almost like he was skating on the air. Then he was gone. I turned to look at the note he had left behind, I reached out for the paper but the wind blew it out of my hand I snatched it up before it blew away. The note said:

I will miss you. It's harder now than ever. I can't find her; she was supposed to come months ago. I wish you were still here to answer these questions. Times running out if she doesn't come before the moon pour she may never be able to know. I will teach her when I find her I promise you. She will come to the school at the start of the term. I will find her.

To Kayla,

If you find this note I will meet you and teach you of what I know, I will help you learn how to control your gifts .I will see you in September.

From

C.M

Who was this and how did he know my name? I guess all of my questions will be answered soon.

Chapter 2: Dawn

Chapter 2:

Dawn

School started off like any other day, my aunt dropped me off to the gates in my neatly pressed uniform. My blouse was too tight so my bust looked it was about burst through. I sighed as I got out of the car. No matter how much I try to convince her, Aunt Tilly always thinks I'm three sizes smaller than I actually am, I mean I know I'm short but this was just a joke. Sira was wearing a beautiful black skirt with gems that seemed to be flowing around the hem she called it a Kashmini; she said it's something she uses to control her energy. I laughed when I heard, she had given me one of those looks - you know - those ones that make you shut up. I didn't talk about it after that because I knew if I did I would get my arm twisted up behind my back. I felt Jay's arms wrap around my waist pulling me in closer to his warm chest, he reached his arm out to do the same for Sira but she just clasped his hand instead, her face beaming with delight. I looked up from my waist to see a large white dome cascading down a beautiful green field, filled with roses and Lilies. I was about to pull Jay towards it when a small tram swerved in front of me, a little chirrupy voice came from behind the blacked out glass.

"Come on, come on you are the new kids aren't you."

A little blonde girl's head popped out from the window her rosy cheeks glowed instantly to a darker shade of red as soon as she saw Jay. My face began to heat up. I had never experienced jealousy before this, but I didn't like it, my face got hotter and hotter I clenched my teeth. It took me a while to realise that Jay was staring at me. I looked at him and pulled my eyebrows together as though I was asking the question, what's wrong? He quickly moved his hand into mine; he used the back of his hand to wipe something off my lip. As soon as he pulled his hand away I saw a deep red line trail across his hand and drip on to the floor. Blood! I felt a bit queasy my stomach started pulling hard against my ribs. I lay my head against Jay's shoulder for a while hoping his slow heart beat would calm me down. It did calm me down enough for me to start breathing evenly.

"Hello, my names Marissah, Marissah Snow. What's yours?"

Her face was still bright red even though her eyes were no longer focusing on my brother. I looked at her. It must have been a cold glare because she instantly looked down onto her lap.

"Kayla, KK whatever you like really"

I tried so hard to put a smile on my face, I must have looked like I was in pain I was trying so hard just to turn up the corners of my mouth it hurt.

"Cool, I love Kayla it sounds awesome, my friend Linda she's like 2 years older than me she's in year 8, anyways she knows this girl called Kayla and she is an amazing person she can get her whole body in this tiny little box and...."

I didn't really listen after that I was just glad that she was too young for my brother. I carefully swung myself in to the tram making sure I didn't hit anything - because I seemed to be a bit accident prone today - I then carefully sat down at the back next to a boy. He was a couple years older than me at least his blank expression was almost annoying , but his face looked so familiar those steely blue eyes and his shimmering white hair, it was almost glowing . It reminded me of how the moon glows when it is full. I sighed. A hot sensation trickled down my back. I jumped. I felt a hand press in to my back it was hot, very hot, it almost felt like an iron was super glued to my skin. I quickly turned around to see who it was, but when I turned round there wasn't anybody behind me or any body close to me to even touch me. I kept flicking my head round to see if there was anybody there. I soon forgot about it as my brother started walking down the aisle. His large muscular frame filling up the whole of the tram, my sister squeezed in next to him, her hand still clasped in his. I looked up into his eyes and then patted the seat next to me. He looked at me his smile grew wider and wider, his perfect teeth glinted as the rays from the sun peeked in through the open windows. His eyes quickly looked away from mine as he looked at the guy next to me my head turned for a second to see what he was so interested in, I looked back to see that he had sat down a couple rows ahead of me. I squinted a bit because the sun was catching my eye it almost seemed to want me not to see Jay. I soon realised that Sira's bangle was

reflecting the light into my eyes. I quickly got up and moved down the aisle near to Jay.

"Hey, why aren't you sitting up with me?"

"I don't like the look of that guy he was staring at you funny"

"So he can look at me if he wants, it doesn't really matter does it"

Jay turned around so he his whole face was looking at me. He sighed.

"Don't say that Kayla, I care about you a lot. I don't want you getting hurt."

I lifted my head up so I could scowl at him. I didn't like to feel angry at him, but I should be allowed to like more than one guy, even though I hadn't even met him. Was it really my brother's place to choose whether I could like someone or not?

I twisted my self around so I could go back to sit at the back of the coach. Next to the seat I had been in before there was a girl. No a Goddess. Her beautiful skin was glowing with radiance, her soft pink lips shaped like, like I can't even describe what they were like, and her eyes were the softest shade of brown, hazel even I was almost lost in them. Her dark brown hair flowed around her face enhancing her beauty even more. This goddess was sitting on a Tram. I would have thought she would be flying in on a helicopter. I slowly walked over to my seat and picked up my bag and sat down as slowly and as woman like as possible. The guy sitting on the opposite side of me turned round and rested his hand on my shoulder; I looked up into his face his eyes were clouded over so it was hard to read his emotions. Although they were clouded over his eyes bore in to mine, it felt like he was trying to see my thoughts. I bit my lip hard, very hard I could feel something trickling down my lip again, but I didn't care, I was totally focused on his eyes. My heart started racing as my head felt like it was about to split in two, but I still couldn't tear my eyes away from his and it seemed he couldn't move his gaze away from mine either. My mouth slowly opened ready to say something, but he quickly put his finger to his lips and jerked his head to the side making his hair sway from side to side. I moved my hand on top of his; they were cold almost like ice. I looked over in the direction that he jerked his head towards and I saw my brother with a look of almost fury on his face there was no mistaking it. It was pure and utter hatred. The guy next to me moved his head closer to mine, I could see Jay was almost rising out of his seat but I gave him a look that equally matched his and he moved slowly down in his chair again but he still hovered ready to pounce if it got out of line.

"Your friend doesn't seem to like me that much," I could hear him chuckle underneath his breath. "Maybe we should do something that could actually be annoying."

I rolled my eyes.

"Well you know how brothers are."

I smiled as he rested his other hand on top of mine. Almost instantaneously a huge gust of wind picked up, it rocked the tram as it started up and turned down the campus. I grabbed onto the sides of my seat, I don't like rocking it makes me feel nauseas. I swayed a little in my seat. I felt Jay's hand steadying me he was rubbing my shoulders trying to make me feel better.

"Is she is alright?"

A heavenly voice came from my left. I turned around to see who it was, but then I remembered the beautiful goddess I had seen in the seat next to me, as I was walking back from talking to Jay.

"Yeah, I'm fine just don't like rocking makes a bit queasy"

My voice was a little hoarse as I spoke, I turned round to face her so not to seem rude she had her hand on my brother's shoulder her eyes gazing up at his face. Jay seemed to be oblivious to her beauty, and was completely focused on making sure I was alright. I tilted my head to the side so I could look at the guy sitting next to me.

"What's your name anyway; I got so caught up talking about him,"

I jerked towards my brother "that I didn't get to ask."

"It's Chris, Chris Moore"

His blue eyes glinted at the sound of his name almost as though he was intrigued by the sound of it, like he wasn't quite sure what his name meant.

"Cool name, it sounds so familiar."

I slumped back into the chair trying to figure out where I had heard it from that I didn't even realise that my brother was lying his head on my shoulder. Usually I would be so weak at the thought of him lying on me; I

would barely be able to breathe. Instantaneously I rested my hand on his head and stroked, he had recently got it cut it felt soft yet bristly in my hand. I sighed and turned back to Chris my head resting on the head of the seat. His face was now closer to mine, his head also resting on the head of his seat. My eyes wandered from his face to his chest and his shirt, his muscle were so defined that they almost burst through, his arms weren't as muscular as his chest, they were very pale almost completely white. His veins were blue, icy blue. It was scary his whole body seemed to be very pale almost like he wasn't really human like he was a... a ghost. I felt Jays hand reach up to my face he cupped it so that I would look at him. His eyes were stained with worry it was almost like he was going to cry. I slid my hand from his hair to his face, using my thumb smooth his cheeks and the creases in his forehead.

"We're here just go down the stairs to the reception and they will sign you on,"

Marissah's chirrupy little voice chimed from the passenger seat.

"Then go to my mum's office, I mean the headmistress's office and she will give you your time table."

I slowly got up from my seat; I gently rolled Jay's head off my shoulder. Before I got off the Tram I turned round to wave good-bye to Chris, only to find that he was standing right behind me.

"Don't you already go to this school?"

A puzzled look spread across my face as I tried to figure out what he could be doing here. Chris soon answered my question though.

"Oh, didn't you know? I'm your guide"

A broad smile beamed on his face. I heard a low snarl come from beside me. I ignored it; the one time he gets jealous, and I finally start liking a guy. I did hate making my brother feel like this though; I knew how it felt to like someone and see them like someone else, or someone you think is better for them look at them like they are a beautiful model. It hurts, it burns I don't want to put him through that; I had experienced it a lot of times before I even met him. It is hard for people to believe that because I am only 14, but I am a weird child I always have been. I could always feel other people's feelings even though I knew they didn't tell me how they were feeling, but its never been easy sometimes I felt like I was carrying a burden so strong I would die from it, other times I felt so happy it was sickening. I'd felt feelings so much when I was younger that I didn't really want to have them now. Not the ones that people felt all the time anyway, that's why when I started feeling love for my brother I didn't mind it at all. Nobody around me seemed to feel love just passion or caring, but never the deep smothering feeling of love that I felt for my brother. I would never make him feeling the deep feeling of envy; I had felt that too many times to make him feel it.

I skipped out of the bus landing on the ground lightly; I then quickly moved my leg across the other so I could spin round to look at Jay. My hands reached to grab Jay's hand, but as I did so Chris stepped down from the Tram to point us to where we were supposed to go. I lingered back for a little bit hoping that Chris would take the lead but he stood there staring at me with those piercing blue eyes, so cold, so mysterious. I took a few steps forward to the stairs, I looked back to see if Jay was coming but he was talking to Chris, his face twisted with concern there voices were low muttering almost.

"She's not ready... she doesn't need to know that I..."

"What happens when they... Who is going to protect her then, huh?"

I could feel my face start to burn with anger; I would never think that of all people Jay would be the one to talk about me behind my back. That was just plain wrong. I huffed and carried on walking towards the stairs, now hurrying so they wouldn't see me leave, but of course they both caught up to me by the time I got to the office. I pushed the cold glass with my left hand letting my other wind around Jay's arm. I felt his warm hand hold my hand in place; I couldn't help but glance up to see his face, but he turned away as if he was looking for someone in a non-existent crowd behind us. I let my arm drop from his as I side stepped in through the door. The smell hit me like a ton of bricks, wet dog, Yuk, my nose wrinkled up at the smell I held my breath hoping it wouldn't smell as bad inside the reception. I turned round looking for Chris I finally found him in the corner of the room almost as though he was being pushed in to the wall. His hand kept steady holding on to the edge of a shelf just above his head, while his other hand was keeping the door open, I could feel the concern spread across my face. I started to walk over to him but I felt an arm pull me back, I looked back to flash Jay a dirty look but his face seemed to have the same amount of concern on it as mine had. I hated seeing people ill it made me feel ill as well. I cautioned another step forward only a small one, so that I

wouldn't be to close to feel even more ill yet to far away not to comfort him.

"Are you alright? You seem a bit shaken."

He closed his eyes and leant his head further out the door, for a minute I thought he was going to be sick, but he turned his face back to meet my gaze.

"I'm allergic to dogs, they make me feel nauseous."

I nodded. I kept a mental note of that, not knowing why because I wasn't really that fond of dogs either. Chris flashed me a smile, my cheeks burned again, I felt really glad of my dark skin then glad that my cheeks wouldn't burn red every time I blush. I quickly turned around just in case he could see the heat emitting off my face.

"Are you going to come? Or do you not feel well enough"

I could hear him suddenly straighten up. "I don't feel that bad, anyways how would you find the reception and the headmistress' office" I heard him walk over to my side his pace slightly faster than any normal person would have gone.

"Follow me the reception's this way"

I watched as his eyes flickered up to Jay and then back down again as he held his hand out to point the way. I followed him through the glass door, the coolness of it calming the heat in my skin. He walked around the counter the wooden desk obviously had been polished recently; he quickly whispered in to the receptionist's ear, his whisper was very harsh and rushed I was very surprised that the woman could understand anything he was saying. I saw her little her head bob up and down her blonde hair shaking while she was doing so. Her glance flickered top me every so often, it felt almost as though she was expecting me to do something. I saw her hand gesture me to come forward, I lingered back a little and clutched on to Jay's arm a little tighter than I anticipated, as he used his free hand to pull mine down so I grip my fingers with his, interlocking. I walked forward slightly keeping my eyes on hers.

I hate meeting new people it meant more unknown feelings would creep back into my head. I walked over to the desk I tried to go on the tip of my toes so I could see over it more clearly.

"You are the new kids, two girls and a boy."

I'd been so absorbed in thinking about Chris and Jay that I hadn't realised that Sira had been with me the whole time.

"Yes that's us Kayla, Sira and Jay... Senseronnetta"

I said watching her slowly type our names in to the database. I saw Chris exchange a glance with Sira and Jay I was wondering what I was missing out on. Although I probably didn't want to know but I was still curious, I smiled as I saw the woman's eyes light up when she typed my name in the computer I loved how whenever my name was put into any type of database something odd would happen It always made me laugh to see what would be new this time. I strained my feet to go even higher on the tips of my toes so I could see what had happened to the computer this time. My mouth dropped open. On the screen was my face when I was about ten but it had been changed, there were slash marks across my face the scar seemed to be embedded in my skin, my eyes were blank no iris just a white blank stare. My mouth was twisted up from where someone had mauled or bitten into my face. I tore my eyes away from the screen, slumping back down on the balls of my feet. I tried hard to not let the horror cross my face. I stumbled a bit trying to catch my breath; Chris caught hold of me, steadying me in case I fell. One by one each glass window or door suddenly broke into a million tiny pieces splintering everywhere I felt shards of it rip my skin. I heard my sister and the receptionists scream; their piercing screams could have broken the remaining windows, if there was any left. I covered my face with my hands, the picture flashed back in my mind, would I look like that after the shards of glass had scraped my face. I slowly got up still covering my face. I felt someone move my hands away, a cool chill whistled up my back as they did so. As soon as my eyes were off my face, he hugged me close; too close I could hardly breathe with his crushing arms breaking my ribs. My words rasped as I struggled to get them out. "Can't, breathe."

I breathed out a huge sigh of relief as Jay let me go; I felt my ribs click back into place as they relaxed.

"Are you okay, do you feel good enough to go to the headmistress's office?"

I nodded slowly as Jay kept his hand around me leading me to a small hallway round the bend of the desk, carefully stepping around the glass while he walked with me to the large wooden doors, at the end of the

corridor. I concentrated on my breathing, in and out, in and out. Just like mum had taught me to when I was little.

"What are YOU doing here?"

I heard a low grumble come from behind me it rang in my ears. I turned around to see Chris' eyes glint with almost joy as he looked at the boy sitting on the chair.

"Hey bro, you know how it is I got to show the new kids round,"

I watched as his eyes flickered to me and then back again.

"Anyways, you shouldn't care you never really cared about keeping up the families um, how should I put it... reputation."

I could see the boys eyes glare as he stood up almost ready to pounce on him. I looked closer at the two brothers they didn't look anything alike. Chris' brother looked almost more mysterious than him, his curly brown locks twisted and curled around his head. A stray curl hung in front of his face drawing attention to his eyes, beautiful and mystifying, many different colours swirled in them. His tall body almost made him seem twice his size even though you could see he didn't have as much muscle as his brother, his curls brushed the ceiling ever so lightly, his eyes gleaming as though it left off an electric spark in to his body. His wide smile hid something, something more intriguing. As his lips curled into a smile, it stung when his white teeth glinted back at mine he seemed to be smiling at the pain his smile caused me. I looked away and stood behind Chris almost hiding behind his large billowing, coat as it seemed. I heard Chris grind his teeth as he stared back into his brother's eyes.

"Charlie, Charlie, Charlie when will you ever learn you can't solve something with violence, especially the scene you pulled just now, shattering the windows and all."

I stared at him as he chuckled at his odd joke, what was he on about? No one had seen him since 2 minutes ago he couldn't have pulled that stunt, could he? I slipped away from behind Chris to go stand by Sira her warm breath calmed me down a bit. I turned to look at Jay I knew curiosity burned in my eyes like the love I felt for him in my heart, but it didn't stop me.

"Jay, what is he on about?"

I tried to whisper it in his ear, but obviously everyone had heard me, Chris and his brother Charlie looked at me then at Jay, I could feel him burn up with what seemed to be embarrassment but by the way his breath had rapidly increased I couldn't decipher whether it was just anger. After a few moments of silence, Chris finally looked up into Jay's eyes- it was clear that fury burned in them.

"You mean to tell me she doesn't know?"

I slipped silently after Chris into my biology class, hoping nobody would notice me. Knowing my luck I knew it wouldn't plan out. Everyone stared at me as I followed Chris in to the back row. As soon as I got there I sunk into my seat further and further, hoping that the floor wouldn't stop and just would let me drown in it. I closed my eyes and prayed to God that I wouldn't be told to come to the front.

"Excuse me, excuse me young lady, you're new aren't you. Well, why don't you come to the front and tell us all about yourself"

I sighed as I saw the teachers hand reach out as almost to help me out of my seat. I slowly got up to get out of my chair, I felt a two hands tap my back as almost to push me along, I turned back to glare at them but it was just Jay and Charlie, I knew they meant well but I still gave them a dirty look anyway. I flashed them a cheeky smile afterwards and I was returned with a hard glare from Charlie, but I'm not the type of person to hold a grudge. Again I slowly got up and out of my seat and stood in the middle of the two isles.

"My brother is new here as well miss shouldn't he come up with me"

I fought very hard not to put that cheeky smile back on my face. I heard a sigh and a grumble from behind me, I knew I had won, I always win. I heard the chair screech as he hauled himself out of it, I could feel his breath on my neck, slow and warm.

"I'm so going to get you after this."

I giggled.

"You're going to have to catch me first"

I whispered so quietly I wasn't even sure he had heard what I said until he tightened his hands around my arms almost as though he was going to put me in handcuffs. I twisted my arms while constantly looking at miss hoping she wouldn't let on.

"Hi my name's Kayla really, I'm from London originally and I moved up here to my Aunts and Uncles, so that I could closer bond with my siblings."

I rolled my eyes at that point and looked up to Jay to see if he would show any signs of releasing my hands. He looked down at me, he sighed and winked, I felt his grip loosen a little but his hands did not release mine.

"Hey I'm Jay, Kayla's adopted Bro and, yeah what she said"

He rolled his eyes back at me his teeth shimmering as the fluorescent lights bounced off of them. I felt Jay turn slowly pulling me with him, I growled under my breath and I could feel his grip tighten again. I giggled. I twisted my body round the corner stumbling on Chris' chair; he held out his arm and lightly, held onto my shoulders making sure I was alright. BANG! The whole classroom was up in smoke, shards of glass and plastic were flying towards us, but the smoke and the dangerously sharp things moved around us moving slightly before it hit me. I sat there gawping at what was happening; I was completely deaf to what was happening to others, I just stared at the moving plastic and glass, it almost seemed to be dancing its way around us, avoiding us by centimetres. My breathing got slower as I realised that nothing was going to hurt me, I slowly pulled my hand away from my ears and strained my eyes to see through the smoke of the chemical explosion, the thick orange smoke circling around me almost as if I was repelling the gas from me, a few wisps did blow into my face almost knocking the breath from my body. I stretched my blouse up in front of my nose almost ripping the seams doing so. I turned round to see if anybody was behind, Chris, Jay and Charlie were there right behind me. I saw Charlie's hand moving around his head almost as though he was holding on to an invisible chord. I held my breath until I got to the door; I stumbled out taking deep breaths, even though I didn't need them I still took them to calm my self down. Letting my eyes roll back inside my head closing them I felt a wave of fatigue hit me and I knew I was going to fall asleep. I struggled to stay awake almost fainting when the gas hit me again. I slowly felt myself fall under; I felt my knees buckle underneath me giving way to gravity as my head fell on the ground.

I felt a warm glow underneath me, I could feel it burning my skin but it didn't hurt as much as fire would have. My arms were clasped behind my back tied together with what seemed to be handcuffs; I struggled to free my hands. The cold metal felt like they were weaving themselves around and up my arm, I shivered as the cold sensation snaked its way down my back throwing my spine in to a spasm. As I tried to get further away from the heat my back arched and coiled away from the wall. I tried to not get too far from the coolness that I felt. I heard a low cackle to the side of me, my eyes lit up as I saw four women there grinning at my pain and distress. The one furthest to the right was still laughing at my discomfort, her deep red eyes peered closer and closer into my thoughts jabbing at me with just her mind, her cold breath froze the hairs on my neck. Her deep brown hair burnt my skin the tips jagged and pointed. The one next to her was cackling with the others, her stone face chiselled to perfection her jade green eyes glinted like emeralds and her hair so blonde almost white, reflected the suns rays perfectly. Her black fringe kept her expression a mystery yet the multicoloured highlights told everyone to keep guessing at what lay behind her beautiful mask. The one to her right stood silently watching me her eyes were framed with black, coal black thickening at the end to make her look slightly Egyptian. The emeralds that glowed in her eyes burned into my skull. Her black fringe sleek and straight cut diagonally across her face, her pale skin emphasising the purple highlights in her hair. The very last one, the obvious leader stood there with an expression so calm it almost looked bored. She started chanting in a strange language, I recognised some of the words; I searched wondrously in my head trying to see where I remembered it from. Witchcraft! I remembered her face from a recording of her practice. I remembered how her tall slim figure twisted and turned as she recited the magic of her fore mothers, her deep black eyes sparkled as the magic takes over her body. Her curly dark hair fell to her waist and twisted around her body while her fingers sparked with electricity and power. Her face was haunting and the horror of her cackle echoed in my head and it seemed it would not stop for a lifetime.

A snap woke me out of my horrifying memory; her fingers were still in my face; ready to snap again if I fazed out. Her teeth glinted in my face, the grin was very sinister, I shuddered her cold breath was freezing on my

face. She laughed as my teeth chattered. I closed my eyes and kept my teeth firmly closed; I moved my head away from hers and turned my nose up at her.

"I guess you're wondering what you are doing here, ha, ha well maybe I shouldn't tell you and see if you can figure it out for yourself."

Her voice was like a siren's, beautiful yet deadly. Her stare burnt into my cheeks, forever leaving a scar. I twisted my face further away from hers, the pain in my arms and my neck I tried hard to ignore. I heard one of the women hiss as I did so, I quickly turned back to see who it was. I felt my eyes pop open and my jaw drop as I saw Jay running across the room to get me, his large arms knocking the women out the way, almost as though they were bowling pins. I saw his arms flash in past me dragging me to my feet and the large crack as the handcuffs broke away under his hand, charging through the glass windows to the next room. I felt his shirt rip as he fell down on to his knees his hands on the floor almost scraping his way out of the room. Hair shot out of his back almost like the spines on a hedgehog, he howled, such a loud piercing wail that it almost burst my ear drum.

"Jay. Jay what's wrong please, I don't know what's happening."

I screamed and yelled at him to tell me what was wrong, it seemed to go on for an age, but in reality it was probably only a few seconds. I heard low rasping sounds behind and someone wrapped there arm around my neck pulling me backwards, my heels burned as I dug them in to the stone floor to try to stop from being taken back to where I was before. Jay turned around there, he didn't look like the Jay I knew his whole body was large and furry, actually he looked like a husky dog except fifteen times larger. He let off another howl, this time I had to cover my ears. My eyes clenched shut shutting off any images I would see of him, tears fell from my eyes as I felt the grip around my neck tighten. I felt someone's lip brush against my ear.

"This only the start of the pain you will feel, this is like numbness compared to the torture you'll feel now that you're little friend is involved."

I heard a snicker and a cackle where the voice used to be. I heard a growl and the arm suddenly released its grip from around my neck. The three other women I had seen in the doorway only moments ago were surrounding us while the witch I remembered was lying on the ground baring her teeth hissing and cursing. I felt a paw push me backwards. We were surrounded. I knew there was no way we would escape. I closed my eyes and muttered a quick prayer before my last breath would be taken. CRASH! A wall to the east of me broke free like a runaway bulldozer had hit it, but it wasn't a bulldozer it was ... Chris and my sister Sira.

"Get out of here before they hurt you too."

I screamed at them trying to push them behind me before one of them pounced at us. They ran forwards almost diving on top of them Sira was yanking these pink snake like things out of the gems in her skirt, she was using it to wrap the women like an anaconda would do its prey. Her arms were quickly weaving and dodging any attacks the cruel women tried to deliver to her. Chris was standing in the corner staring at Sira, I didn't realise he was actually helping her until I looked closer; he seemed to be manipulating the air driving it round and around the women like a hurricane. I kept my breath, holding on to the fur of my brother, clutching it tight. I heard his voice in my head, it sounded so clear he could have been right next to my ear lobe.

"Run, get out of here. I won't take any chances with you here."

"I won't, not if there is a chance that any of you could get hurt."

His fur sparked, like I had run my hand the opposite way, I kept my breath steady. Turning away only when I knew it was alright. I ran as hard as I could to the window at the end of the long narrow corridor. I slowly swung my legs out letting them dangle over the broken shards that were left of it. I felt a hand on my shoulder; I looked up to see Chris' warm face it was creased with what I think was worry.

"Are you guy's alright, what's happening what's going-"

Chris put his fingers up to my lips to keep me quiet I could feel water springing from my eyes. He suddenly dived out the window, landing with a triple somersault. He turned around and looked up at me, he gestured me to come down. I shook my head. "I'm afraid of heights, always have and always will be."

"Come on its not so bad I'll catch you."

He winked, his smile was reassuring. I took two slow deep breaths and fell, twisting into a somersault so I could land with my knees braced, but I didn't feel my feet touch the ground or anything for that matter. I opened my eyes and I was hovering in mid-air. I glanced down to see Chris' face light up with glee, another

quirky smile spread across his face. I shook my head trying to make sense of it but I knew that I was too shocked to hide it in my expression. He chuckled as he moved his upraised arms down; I lowered as he did so. "You know it's rude to stare and you should close your mouth before you catch a fly."

He closed my mouth with his thumb. He flicked his head up his hair swinging around his face as he did so. My eyes followed his gaze to the window; my sister proud and beautiful was there, the large snake things were still darting around her, dancing around and around her, I almost went dizzy just looking at it. I heard a low growl from behind her; the large wolf stepped out from behind the wall.

"Jay."

It came out in a low whisper my shoulders sagged over when he turned away. I started walking away from the window trying to not let the tears fall from my eyes; I heard them land out of the window, talking in quick low whispers. I could hear Jays voice, at least he was speaking now. I sighed; I knew that I really meant at least he was human now. They didn't know I could hear all of it, wait how could I hear them? I must be about 30 metres away now. I spun around on the spot, suddenly my breath got really heavy I doubled over as a shock of pain shot up my spine, when the pain was gone I was running towards them, the ground felt oddly soft even though I knew I was running on concrete. I looked down at my hands, paws, I screamed but it came out as a high wailing howl. Sira, Chris and Jay stared over at me, all of their mouths were open, and their jaws were locked in that position. I calmed down taking slow deep breaths; I felt my spine ripple as I stood up on my legs, I wobbled for a bit then slowly sauntered up to them. I kept my eyes down on the ground for awhile, and then I remembered I was supposed to be angry. My head shot up quickly my eyes were blazing with fury.

"Okay I want to know now, what the hell is going on? Why did I never know what was going on-"

I stopped as I saw that their attention wasn't on my words or my face, they were looking at my hands. My gaze dropped to them, the things that Sira had used to wrap those evil women before, was now coming out of my hands, before I could say anything Jay launched me over his shoulder-holding on to my legs with an intense grip- and he ran hard and fast in to the woods, his shoulders hunched over as he phased back into his wolf form, I could feel his spine ripple as he fell down on all fours and howled at the sky.

My heart pounded against my chest cracking my ribs with every large blow it dealt to them. I couldn't breathe the air was moving too fast around me to be able to catch it; I kept my head close to his fur his warm skin making me sweat. I could feel him slow, his pace turning into a light jog; I lifted my head to see where we were headed. I saw a large stone house with marble pillars holding up the top of the amazing building, its face loomed over to us almost inviting us in to its cold oak mouth. I stared at its wondrous beauty taking in it all before I stepped off of Jay's back. I swung my left arm around Jay's neck leaving my other arm - that was controlling the snake thing - dangling at my side. I felt it yank at my arm pulling it this way and that, it felt like it was draining the energy out of it. Although my arm stayed limp at my side, I could still feel the energy surging through it powering the tentacle that was wrapped around it. I felt him nudge me with his nose, I glanced back at his face it was blank and expressionless I turned away as soon as I had looked, and started to walk forward towards the house. It was only when I had got to the door that I finally had the sense to ask whose house it was.

"Where are we? Who lives here?"

My eyes quickly flitted back to his face; I forgot that he could put his words right in to my head. I felt them echo through my skull.

"It's Chris' house, mind though he has some weird things in there."

I snorted.

"Oh yeah as if this isn't weird enough"

Sarcasm riddled my voice but neither of us laughed. I lifted my hand to the brass knocker, the door creaked open as I was just about to knock. A small man about three foot tapped at my thigh looked down to see that he was wearing two green top hats, both were very small barely covering his head. His brown hair stuck out in tufts around the edges. He was wearing a black tuxedo and white gloves, I assumed it must be there butler or waiter but I couldn't be for certain.

"Follow me Chris and his family are waiting for you in the main living room."

I carefully followed him trying not to step on his tuxedo that was trailing the floor leaving odd black marks stretched across the floor. I walked into the room letting the door close behind us, I stepped back a couple

steps overwhelmed by the largeness and extravagance of the room. I felt a cold arm touch my back, I shivered for a little bit and took a couple steps forward to move away from the coldness. I could see Sira, Charlie and Chris sitting around a small glass dining table, I could hear their low whispers I felt the tentacle wrap tighter round my arm, I had the sudden urge to sink into an attacking crouch and pounce at them. I shook it off, but the tentacle still stayed tight against my arm, I could feel it slowly cutting off my circulation. Sira looked up at me her face was warm but it also was riddled with worry, her gaze fell to my arm shock passed through her face so quickly that I barely noticed it. I took a few hurried paces towards her, my normal arm wrapped around her back; I hugged her close wanting to know so badly what was going on. I spun round to look at everyone my eyes cold; I kept them that way for a few moments hoping they would understand my anger. "How could you keep me in the dark?"

My eyes fell on my brother's and sister's faces.

"I know I've only known you for a little while but you're my brother and my sister, I trusted you with everything. Why couldn't you do the same?"

I felt the tears start to well up behind my eyes, the tentacle hissed and snapped forward; I put my other hand in front of it so that no one would get hurt. Sira grabbed my hand and pulled it away just before it was going to strike, I looked up at her. Her mouth was open wide and her expression was a mix of shock, intrigue and confusion.

"If she was actually one of us she would've known how to control that, and if she was one of Jay's she wouldn't be able to turn back so easily, so how can she - what is she?"

I could see her eyes dart around the room looking at everyone's face wondering the same questions I had. I could see they were struggling to answer the questions Sira was asking, but I had a more important question.

"Okay, no offence Sira but I have no idea what is going on. How the hell can you all do whatever you did and how come I can do what you did?"

Their eyes all flickered up to me I saw the sudden realisation on their faces, Charlie was the first one to answer.

"Basically, we all have a being in our families who is not of this...well you could call it world, some of us have stronger powers than others because our parents are the ones from the other world."

My mouth dropped open, although I wasn't really as surprised as most people would have been, I was always an odd child I always suspected the supernatural but never really believed as such.

"Wait so what does that make my parents?"

I saw my sister wince at the corner of my eye. I ignored it and waited for my answer.

"Your mother is part sorceress part hunter and your father is a druid but he doesn't like it. They wanted you to have a relatively normal life, that's why they adopted me and Jay so that when your powers did come in you wouldn't be going through it alone."

I spun back to face Sira, I could feel the anger rise in my body but I kept my face neutral. I didn't say anything I just concentrated on my breathing; I could feel the pain shoot up my spine as it was shifting. I had to sit down on one of the wooden antique chairs that surrounded the table. There was a low knock on the door as the butler walked in.

"Cameron Mc'Tavish I forgot to introduce you to the umm, gang this is Sira, Jay and Kayla."

Cameron nodded in each of ours direction. I smiled at him as I felt another shock shoot up my spine. I yanked my hands behind my back and clawed at my skin, it kept my mind off the anger and pain I was already feeling. I could feel all of their eyes on me they were all filled with curiosity; this is probably how someone felt when they were being researched on some crazy new disease or mutation. I squirmed in my seat and kept my eyes on the ground, focusing on the patterns and colours that were in the stone. I could still feel their intense gazes burning my skin. I had to quickly stand up before it became even more uncomfortable; I heard a low whisper from beside me I turned around to look at who was talking.

"What did you say?"

I could hear the accusation in my voice. I saw Charlie's eyes widen in shock.

"I was just thinking that if you could do what Jay could and what Sira could maybe you could do the same for Chris and me."

My eyes narrowed and my back arched as I felt my spine shift again.

"It was just an idea."

I must've looked angrier than I thought, I straightened up my back and grabbed on to the arm of the chair.

"If you think it could help."

I said it as casual as I could; I shrugged my shoulders just a little so that they would think I was okay. I heard a sigh of relief echo through the room, I obviously missed that everyone was thinking the same thing, I even heard Cameron Mc'Tavish cough just a little to show his obvious relief. I felt Chris put his arm on my shoulder; I glanced up at his face and moved away from the coldness of his skin, I shuddered as I remembered the coldness of the woman's breath on my neck. It suddenly reminded me of the question I had wanted to ask since I first came into the door.

"Wait,"

I quickly dodged away from under Chris' hand

"I won't do anything until you answer me this, who are those women and what did they want with me?"

I heard them all catch their breath like people did when you were watching soap operas; I tilted my head to the side and tapped my foot impatiently ignoring the shocked looks on their faces I carried on with my impatient facade. I heard another sigh from behind me, Charlie again no doubt but I felt a strangely warm hand wrap around my waist. I leaned into his warm arms staying there for a while but I continued to tap my foot with annoyance.

"Well, is no one going to tell me, because I won't be doing anything until you do?"

I looked around to stare intently at their faces I looked up at Jays as well, his face towering above mine, but I was a midget anyway. I closed my eyes and sighed still tapping my foot waiting for my answer, I knew it was only a matter of time before they gave me my answer.

"Okay, okay we

Chapter 3: Mistaken

Chapter 3:

Mistaken

Jay's POV

"Who are you" I screamed in her ear as I phased back to my normal form, I could feel that my eyes were still orange with anger. The intruder was pinned to the floor, her body was limp and weak under my grip which burned with hatred, it took all my strength not to phase back into my wolf form and rip her to shreds. Her eyes were wet with tears as she pleaded me to let her go. Her voice sounding weak as the words passed her lips.

"Please Jay, it's me, it's me. Why would you think it wasn't, why are you hurting me?"

I almost laughed at her foolishness that I could be tricked by such fake naivety; I felt a pair of hands on my back I looked up to see my sister's eyes filled with tears. Instinctively I let go of my prisoner and while she scrambled as far away from me as possible, I wrapped my arms around my sister assuring her and almost rocking her silent.

"It's alright we'll find out what they've done to her, we'll find her, I promise."

I felt her pull away from me slightly at the sound of my words. I spun round facing the echo of my existence my eyes burned with pure hatred, I watched her tremble her legs shaking with fear, and I almost smiled at the sight.

"Wait, wait we can't say she is an intruder, it was blatant that her powers were not of the Shadow clan's, and I still can't see her future, she must be Kayla."

The annoying voice broke the lust I felt to kill, I shrunk back slightly the pain that was shooting up my back had stopped, with the logic that had just been thrust upon me.

"But where has the tattoo come from, why has she got the mark of the shadows upon her leg?"

Silence filled the air.

"Answer me!"

"I don't know, but you can't go into a killing rampage, in revenge for something that has nothing to do with this."

Chris's words cut deep into me, I was almost ready to turn on him the pain running up my spine immensely close to the snap when my logic would turn to instinct, when I would think the way of the animal, but his words crushed my hatred too much for me to be able to phase. I growled and walked away from "the prey", I tried to push the thoughts away from my mind. A loud voice ripped through the tension.

"Who are you, then, if you don't believe me, then you cannot be my brother."

My head snapped back to my "prey", the sudden intensity that filled her as she stood defiant in front of me. I replayed the words in my head, trying to trace anything that sounded remotely different to my sister.

Gradually, I stood up from my attacking stance, I could feel the smile spread across my face as I realised it was true that it was my sister. Unfortunately my sister and Chris mistook my smile for something else and were both standing in front of me there arms spread and with disappointed looks on their faces. I sighed and rolled my eyes.

"You're are not a very good psychic Chris, or you would know I wasn't going to hurt my lil sis."

I watched my little sister's eyes light up as she realised I believed her.

"There wasn't any need for that, all I could hear was prey echoing in my head so excuse me for thinking the worst."

I almost growled at him when the words had left his lips, I shoved past him with my hands outstretched; Kayla leapt into my arms and almost choked me with her intense hug.

"I'm sorry, so sorry,"

I could barely get the words out.

"I shouldn't have got so worked up I should have-"

She silenced me by pressing her fingers to my lips I felt a rush of electricity flow through my skin.

"It's okay, I understand why, I shouldn't have run, it made everything worse."

Secrets:Kayla

I hugged her even more tightly swinging her back down on her feet, as soon as her feet had touched the floor, she went back into her impatient pose, her hand on her hip leaning down on her left leg and tapping her right foot. I sighed playfully and rolled my eyes at her.

"Well. What is the tattoo's meaning?"

Her eyes almost glinted with fire. Everyone's head snapped up to Chris who was now pacing up and down the room, finally he looked up his eyes filled with sympathy as they connected with mine.

"It means that the Shadow Clan has marked you as one of them."

Chris 'POV

As the darkness of the grave news I had given to them settled in, I had to listen to 10 minutes of verbal abuse from Jay, and I had to watch Kayla crumple beneath him, her face stuck in shock and tears run down her beautiful face. I sat there with "numbness" as I have convinced myself that was what I have been like since the day I was born, no feeling, no emotion, no anything. Kayla's face reminded me of her mother's and her grandmother's her presence was warm but hard to understand, but very enjoyable. I let my mind wander to escape from the abusive words that spilled from Jay's mouth, when I realized all was silent I slowly got up and walked over to him and lightly placed a hand on his shoulder, I saw a look of disgust flash across his face for a few seconds as he felt me delving in to his mind. I felt him slowly calm down and took my hand off his shoulder.

"It may not be how it seems,"

Kayla's voice was almost a whisper as she stared in to the distance her face still the picture of shock as she continued talking.

"You see when Jay was coming after me I suddenly felt another well, instinct come over me, one which was telling me to chant a strange saying that made no sense to me, I think it was Welsh but I knew that if I did say it he would be hurt, badly. While I was on the floor another instinct came over me to bite his flesh and spit acid into his wounds and then flash my hair across his face,"

I soon realised what she was talking about, she was claiming that she could absorb abilities from other people; it started to make more sense as I paced back and forward as she continued explaining.

"So you see, if I can copy Jay's power and Sira's maybe I copied the Shadow Clan's and because of that I was left with this mark."

She lifted up her skirt just as she said so; I quickly looked away not wanting to see her legs as I thought it seemed rude. I saw Jay turn away at the same time as me, I let a chuckle escape from lips as I remembered what he had seen the night I went into the graveyard. I could almost feel the heat rising on to my cheeks, but again I remembered that I am numb so my emotions cannot be seen on the surface. I sighed as I watched the way Kayla looked up at her brother with admiration and love, love stronger and deeper than a sister should feel for a brother, it almost annoyed me that my psychic power didn't work on her unlike my air controlling power. Slowly I stopped pacing as another great thought hit me.

Chapter 4: Shapes

Chapter 4:

Shapes

Sira's POV

I envied my sister at times, but she always told me that it should be the other way round, that it is the other way round. She gave me compliments, was nice to me and we've never fell out, but she always got that little more attention. Always had something she could do better than me, but she always told me that there were more things I could do better than her and should be able to do better than her. She was always trying to make herself lesser than me which only greater annoyed me further, but she was my sister I loved her no matter what. I watched her crumble right before my eyes something snapped deep in my chest something clicked back into place. Her face had fallen into an awkward numbness, like her face had been injected with Botox but in a position where you could still see all the worry and distraught tattooed on her face. I watched her gaze; she was staring off into this distance it reminded me so much of what had happened to all my uncles and Brothers after they came back from war. Shell Shock! The cold steely glare of the forever haunting memory never being able to function right again, the crash and roar of the war could be heard from miles away as far as my little village at the very edge of the country, I remember crying myself to sleep many nights not knowing where I would sleep or where my next meal would come from. You see my father and my mother both had died many years before in the same war, I was only little but the memory of watching their faces as the bomb landed only 20 metres away from me - will be a memory that haunts me for life.

I jumped when I heard Chris shout right beside me, I saw how his face lit up as his incredible Genius had hit him once again.

"It was said that my power couldn't work on the one child that the Shadow clan would want most."

There was the briefest of pauses as he looked around at everyone's face with almost an expectation that we would suddenly get it. Click! I could almost hear it as the thought snapped into my head.

"But why, why would they want to absorb that much energy and power. Well, obviously their main purpose is to take over the population again, but what exactly would they use that amount of energy for."

"Think about it with all that energy stored up they could turn her into anything, a vacuum, a bomb, even a mind control. If there is enough energy, and let's think if she comes into contact with anyone she can literally copy it straight away. With all that energy all you need is a few words and a drop of blood and you have almost control over the entire 6th dimension not to mention the half dimension."

I could feel myself panic as the news set in. Kayla is a bomb waiting to happen. No I won't let this happen it's not fair to anyone, I've lost too much of my family and come all this way to lose another. NO WAY! I won't let this happen again.

Jay's POV

I listened in awe as my genius sister and Chris conversed. It made you feel dumb just by watching it, I could tell my little sis was feeling the same, but she was smart so she probably understood just wasn't keeping up. As soon as I thought of my sister I immediately looked down at her frozen body, her face was still that of shock and she hadn't moved a centimetre, we had only been standing here for about an hour, but it felt like she hadn't been moving for hours. I caught myself thinking if she was still breathing, but I always shook the thought off. Of course she was still breathing, but if she had absorbed the powers of Beth Scar she wouldn't need to breathe. She could probably hold her breath for 2 days before she needed to take another one again. I turned to look up at the genius twins, but found myself crouching down to Kayla.

"Kayla, Kayla, please. Are you alright? I need to know, I can take you home if you want?"

She slowly nodded her head even though her face was still fixed in that pained look her focus was still a million miles away from here. I was still unsure on whether she was actually talking to me.

"Kayla, talk to me. Tell me what you want to do."

She lifted up her arms so they were around my neck, I felt a shock go through my skin, damn my sister. Why did she make it so hard?

"I want to go home Jay,"

Secrets:Kayla

She leaned her head in closer to my ear so that only I could hear what she was saying.

"There's something we need to talk about before..."

Her voice trailed off but I could sense urgency in her tone. Was it just me or was there an underlying feeling of lust when she said that. I quickly scooped her up as she collapsed into my arms. I nodded quickly at Charlie and he replied with a quick wave. I swiftly made my way out the front door and changed form when we were deep enough into the forest; her fingers were deep into my fur her warm face was nuzzled into my neck, an electric shock ripped through my skin. Damn her for leading me on?

After a few minutes we were outside our Aunt's and Uncle's house well, it was more like a mansion. I slowly dropped her onto the soft ground, the autumn leaves crunched underneath her, her body was still, she wasn't even breathing her body so still so fragile so, so beautiful. I changed back as quickly as I could, I heard my t-shirt and trousers rip as I did so, but I didn't care- I stared at her beautiful body for awhile her eyes were closed and her lashes were wet, she must've been crying on the way here. I gently put my hand up to her cheek stroking her soft face, her eyes fluttered open as I did so. I couldn't help but smile as I remembered when I was a kid and she would come and visit me at the foster home, she would always fall asleep a few minutes before the end of the visit. I almost laughed but I was stopped when I felt her cold fingers entwine in mine, interlocked that's what we called it. A harsh breeze whipped at my face but neither of us shivered, her dark eyes looked into mine connected forever, she abruptly pulled her gaze away and looked off into the forest, her hand quickly dropped to the ground as she let go of her grasp on my hand. Her eyes shifted to behind me and then back again, she inhaled for what seemed to be her first breath since we had left the Moore Manor. She looked back at me her eyes were glossy with tears but her face and her expression was neutral. I pulled her in for a hug; I heard her quiet sobs muffled by my ripped shirt. She quickly pulled back and wiped the tears from her face. Her gaze dropped to the floor, she entwined her fingers in mine again and dragged me up off the floor she gave me a weak smile once I had finally got up. Her eyes once again shifted to behind me then up at my face her gaze was so longing so desperate, almost lustful. I could see the tears well up in her eyes again I slowly put my hand on to her face. It was like ice shards were tearing at my flesh, her skin so cold, her body was pumped with electricity and was unstable with energy. My hand shot back from her face I stumbled back a few steps with shock, I could feel my mouth was slightly ajar when my eyes finally met hers, now I finally understood why she wanted me with her. I wouldn't I- I- couldn't. I could feel the dread soak my body as my eyes stared in to hers.

"I won't."

Kayla's POV

My heart raced with fear and sorrow as I watched his face grow more and more solemn. I couldn't ask him to do what I wanted - what I needed. I wasn't ready to watch the sacrifice and pain him and I both would have to endure, whether it was physical or emotional - but we both knew that if he didn't do this I wouldn't be able to carry on. With the little information I had learned in the past few hours I was at The Moore Manor, I was pretty sure this was the only way to help me. Tears filled my eyes as I cupped his face in my hand; he pulled away his face the picture of shock.

"I won't Kayla; get someone else to do it"

"You know very well I can't, and anyway, I trust you more. I don't c-"

My sentence was cut off short as his hand came up over my mouth, I had the sudden urge to bite him but I fought it. I could feel my mouth salivate as the warm blood pulsed against my tongue, I bit my lip as hard as I could to fight my urge. I looked up from his arm and glanced at his face, it had changed completely he was suddenly more alert, he had that look your dog would get if someone was at the door, or was trying to break into your house. I backed up a couple spaces so that I didn't have to stand quite so close to temptation.

"What is it?"

He shot a look of annoyance at me, I was slightly taken aback but I shook it off and listened. I couldn't hear anything just a couple of leaves falling to the ground a few metres south of us.

"Wolf ears"

His words made me almost feel stupid, of course that's why he looked so annoyed. I concentrated hard on my hearing; I could feel my ears tingle as they changed from human to canine. I shook my head a bit too quick and I started feeling slightly dizzy as my ears were picking things up too far away for me to understand

exactly where I was. I steadied myself and concentrated hard, a few low whispers and mumbles about 3 miles south-west of us, I took a few careful steps forward trying to understand what they were saying.

"It's alright its just Sira."

My eyes snapped up at him. His face was now neutral but I could still feel the hardness and the tension in the air, I could feel something warm trickle down my lip, I quickly licked it not wanting to see what I knew was blood on my finger again. I could feel the warmth of it sliding down my tongue; I quickly swallowed not wanting the taste to linger no matter how nice it felt, my eyes burned as I smelt the raw putrid smell of sewage waft from the North. I turned my head slightly see where it was coming from.

"If you were concentrating, you'd know it was a broken down garbage truck."

My head snapped back up to him I could feel the anger spread through my body. How dare he say that to me, I've been a wolf for less than half a day and he's already comparing my abilities to his? I could feel the shock of pain shoot up my spine, my back arched as I let a low growl escape from my lips. He was still staring off into the distance while I collapsed on the floor, I didn't show the pain I was feeling, I just quickly turned my face away from his and closed my eyes. With any luck I will calm down enough not to change. I almost whimpered when another shock of pain ripped through me and almost sent me into a spasm, I let my eyes open for awhile, just to see if Sira was still in the forest.

"You have great control for a beginner, but you really need to work on numbing out the pain."

I let it all go then; I let the anger rise through me like a kettle about to boil over. I staggered onto my legs as I felt the shocks of pain wave through me.

"Do I look like your student? I am your sister whether or not we are blood related, I don't care if you won't do what I've asked but there is no need for you to be such a pig and treat me like I'm a-a-a-

"Like a Wolf, An animal. Or would you prefer I said my people."

The tone in his voice sent another shock of pain through my body as I quickly lowered into an attacking stance, I let out a low hiss before I answered him.

"I don't care what you call it; I just don't want to be treated like I'm lower than you. Oh and by the way, you shouldn't piss off a hormonal teenager,"

I growled as the last shock seared through my body.

"Especially, when they don't know what they are capable of."

I pounced at him I had already changed by the time I had landed on him; his face was neither of surprise or shock, but mainly of smugness. I was almost confused by his look but my rage took over me and I started tossing him half way across the lawn. Every time I did he just brushed himself off and braced himself for another attack. He didn't even think I was capable of actually hurting him? Oh Serious mistake. I leapt in to the air and landed gently onto the top of the tree, I had to quickly change back before the branch broke underneath me. He smiled and his eyes glinted almost with entertainment as I landed.

"Are you feeling better now?"

His jokey tone only pushed my annoyance further, I jumped down from the branch and slowly glided towards him it took me a few seconds to realise that my feet weren't actually touching the ground. I flicked my arms out as tentacles grew and wrapped around them, some sprouted from the ground and circled me as I advanced on him; the humour still hadn't left his face, which just added to my anger further I caught a glimpse of my reflection in a puddle, my eyes were glowing amber and my hair was blowing around me like Lady Cassandra's was when she was chanting, my skin had suddenly become paler so I was now a scary pasty beige colour, than dark toffee colour it was before, my teeth glinted as I smiled and I noticed that my canine teeth were protruding slightly over my lip. I moved my gaze back up to Jay, his expression was more concerned now but you could still see the mockery that was etched into his face. I screamed and let all the energy explode from me, the tentacles thrashed as I quickly twisted my arms so my palms were facing upwards, I flicked my fingers towards Jay and watch them slither across to him. I watched almost gleefully as I let the tentacles wrap around his legs, his eyes had changed to show worry as they flicked from me to a movement behind me. I twisted my head round but couldn't find a disturbance anywhere; I listened harder as I tried to pick out any familiar sounds. I heard a low mumble only a few metres into the forest and fast breathing, the mumbles grew louder as I finally understood what they were saying.

"Can you hear that, I think Kayla's gone mad, we should have never let them leave?"

Secrets:Kayla

"If we didn't we wouldn't be able to know for sure."

I hissed as I heard their words. My head shot back to look at Jay.

"They used me, you used me."

I could feel my eyes sting with tears, but the anger burned and blazed through my body. I concentrated harder and calmed myself down, I crossed my legs and slowly lowered myself on the ground, and I could hear their footsteps were louder and faster on the ground. Come on Kayla. I slowly started to feel serenity wash over me; I slowly lifted my eyes as the calmness took effect. The tentacles had disappeared. My skin and my eyes had returned to its normal colour. I quickly flashed a smile at Jay as I felt the fangs retract back to their normal size.

"I guess they'll never know now."

Chapter 5: "You're Evil?"

Chapter 5: "You're Evil?"

My grin widened as Sira and Chris fell into line with me as I casually started to walk towards my aunt's mansion. I could still hear Jay's heavy breathing behind me, shouldn't have underestimated me then should you. I found myself smiling when I thought that, the sly grin didn't disappear. I slowly raised my hand to the knocker and lifted it; the sound reverberated around the hollow halls. The door creaked open as my smiley faced cousin Nayeem opened the door to let us in. His face almost lit up when he saw me, his face was slightly pushed up into a cute little pout. I returned him a small smile as I scooted in through the narrow I nodded my head towards him as I raised my head to look up the staircase. Naturally no one was there. I sighed as I raced up them almost tripping over the new loose carpet, I scanned the landing and the hall looking for my Aunt and Uncle, looking for answers.

"They aren't here, mum's gone for a walk and dad's gone for more carpet."

My eyes flickered back to Nayeem; his eyes almost looked pleading, like he was saying sorry for the secret the rest of my family kept hidden from me.

"It's alright."

I said answering the question he hadn't verbalised. My eyes narrowed as a burning smell filled my nose, I saw Jay wrinkle up his nose as well. Animal instinct battled with my humane side, I wanted so much to just change right there and follow my nose but I fought it. My ears twitched slightly as I could feel the inside changing from human to canine. They popped as I heard the tweeting of the birds in the forest; I slowly walked down the steps my ears twitching every time my foot made contact with the soft but thin carpet. I was becoming more and more agitated every time my foot hit the step; I finally stopped and sat at the bottom my eyes staring off into space, I could feel the exhaustion coming over me. I didn't know how long I was out for but it must have been for quite a while because when my eyes flickered open it was pitch black and I was lying in my soft warm bed. I was ready to snuggle down deeper when I heard a rapping at the window I twisted over and ignored it. TAP. TAP. TAP. Grumpily I swung my legs over the side of my bed and got up. My eyes wandered to the mirror where my silk nightdress almost glowed from the reflection of the moon, I walked closer up to it as I remembered that I wasn't wearing this when I had fallen asleep on the steps. Who could have dressed me? The annoying tapping interrupted my thoughts, I sighed and walked over to the window slowly lifting up the catch and then swung it open. A strong breeze blew into my face sending chills down my spine; I stuck my head out of the window slightly and turned it one way and then finally the other. "Hey. Kayla."

I looked down to see Charlie's smiling face looking up at me.

"Want to get out of here."

I felt a smile creep up on my face I had only been here about 2 weeks and yet I was already bored to death of it. I nodded my head as I rushed back to my wardrobe grabbing a pair of leggings, my skull belt, my boots and my coat. I rushed to put them on hooking my belt around my waist and stuffing my hand inside my warm purple jacket. I almost fell out of the window I was so much in a rush, I somersaulted once and bent my feet just before I hit the ground. I laughed as I flopped back on the floor as my weight shifted when I had landed; I glanced up at the stars as their faces glowed even more brightly than the previous nights. I saw an arm reach down at me and I quickly looked down back at Charlie's face. I was shocked that his pearly teeth were brighter than before and his lips curled up into a genuine smile. I quickly took his hand, and I watch him flinch as I took it. I instantly pulled my hand back and took his hand lightly into mine I peered down and saw the scar that snaked up his arm and hid underneath his coat. I glanced up at his face giving him the best I'm sorry look I could give, he nodded and stretched out his other arm to help me up. I took it and we silently walked towards the woods.

Charlie's POV

She was alright, though I could see she took a fancy to my brother. This really annoyed me. Not because I liked her, but because I really hated my brother that much. I sighed as I turned down a little winding dirt path

that led to our destination. I kept my eyes locked straight ahead of me I didn't want a conversation; I wanted to get her as far away from her siblings and Chris as possible. The forest had gotten a lot thicker as we walked for what seemed endlessly into it. I could here her heavy breathing anticipation wove into them like the tapestries in my home. I tripped over a small rock and groaned when I stubbed my toe, I slow down for a bit and then rested on an old tree stump. Before I'd even had enough time to lift my foot up Kayla was right by my side. Her eyes searching over me like a doctor would just before your examination, I shivered as a low breeze blew over me, but she didn't flinch as she continued to bore her eyes into my leg. Her eyes flickered up to mine, they were full of sympathy and sorrow I shook my head and got up quickly suddenly feeling awkward by the moment.

"Come on, it isn't that far from here."

She understood me and followed, falling into step with me as I trudged down the muddy path. After a while the small opening in the trees grew bigger with every step, I felt the adrenaline pump through me as I realised how close we were to the clearing. I glanced over at Kayla and gave her a wide smile; I saw the questioning look flash across her face before she replaced it with her own smile. I sped up my pace but the pain in my foot slowed me down quite a bit, still Kayla kept in step with me going neither faster nor slower than I was.

A few minutes had passed before we got to the small opening in the trees, I stopped and leaned against a tree and put my foot up on another small tree stump, I watched as her eyes wandered down to my leg. Here eyes met mine again as a sad look flashed across her face before she replaced it with a blank one.

"Do you want me to, well you know."

I nodded my head not wanting to make things anymore awkward; she closed her eyes and took a few deep breaths, she swiftly moved her hands twisting them and turning them into odd shapes. Her hands and fingers moving perfectly in tune together like she was playing a melody, the tentacle danced down her arm to the rhythm of her fingers. The calm blue swirled around and around in its body. I felt its icy cold touch as it slid down her arm and on to my leg. For a brief moment our eyes connected before I pulled my gaze from hers and looked back down on the tentacle that was still trying to heal my foot. I felt the coolness of its energy around my leg; it was quite soothing almost as though it was massaging my ankle. I felt a cold breeze whip at the side of my face; I shivered slightly but kept my eyes locked on the tentacle. I felt her warm hand slide on to my leg, my head shot up as I queried her movement her face was still quite neutral but I could fee her heart was beating faster than before, unusually faster. I saw sweat trickle down from her brow, she quickly wiped it away as she moved her hand further and further up my leg. Her hand reached to the top of my thigh before I grabbed and stared back into her eyes, her face was not one of lust or desire, but more of one of need. I must've shown my curiosity in my face because she quickly looked down quite embarrassed her breaths were sharper as she laughed, probably at her own stupidity.

"I'm sorry," her eyes were still cast down on the floor. "I wasn't trying, I didn't want to..."

She trailed off, I nodded even though I wasn't quite sure what she meant, she glanced back a small smile on her face. I couldn't help but smile back as I stood up. The tentacle quickly slithered back up her arm and disappeared under her sleeve before finally it was gone all together. We walked side by side in silence until we came to the middle of the clearing; she turned once I had stopped, her hair whipped at her face as another gust of wind blew causing the autumn leaves to dance around us. Her eyes were warm but very harsh as she stared off into the forest that surrounded the clearing, she sat down on the grass and started to pull up little tufts of it, but continued to stare off into the forest.

"Are you expecting someone to come looking for you?"

Her head snapped back up her face a look of mild surprise and curiosity; it took her awhile to understand what I was actually asking her.

"My brother is very; well, protective of me I'm surprised he hasn't charged through the forest just to find where I am."

Her eyes never left mine as she was saying, I could feel her want to make me understand, but I had no real empathy, it had never been like that with my family. I sighed and looked back into the forest I would be able to hear if something was coming, but she would be able to hear it more so there was really no point, I laid down and rested my head on the softest piece of grass I could find.

"What are we doing here anyway?"

I turned my head back to her and smiled her eyes twitched as the light from the moon rebounded off my teeth and into her eye, my smile widened.

"Ah, you didn't think I was going to let Chris have you all to himself."

I swiftly got up and reached out a hand to her, she took it her hand surprisingly wet when she pulled down on it. Her eyes glinted as she thought through what I had said; I saw a small smile play upon her face before it disappeared quite suddenly. Her head snapped up to the forest her eyes narrowing the longer she looked, I turned my head to the forest straining my ears to hear what she was hearing. I heard a quiet muttering and some rustling of a few leaves only about half a mile into the forest, I heard feet pound against the ground with heavy panting. I groaned as I turned to Kayla her body frozen into a state of mild shock, I pulled back her arm and she snapped to attention. She twisted into the air as she bounded on to the nearest branch and crouched down to hide behind the remaining leaves that were on the trees. I dived on to the floor missing cover by a mere few inches; I felt a crushing weight land on top of me, I twisted my body round to see a huge pair of orange eyes glaring at me.

Harsh breaths blew into my face as little pools of saliva fell onto my neck; I twisted my face away in disgust. Grabbing tufts of the ground and concentrating all of my energy on to the heat emanating from me. I took deep breaths as I felt the earth shake underneath me; I felt the big lug bound off of me. I could feel a small growl leave my mouth, I spiralled up as the ground underneath me twisted up the earth growing and twisting into a large earth pillar. I looked down at Kayla's petrified eyes, and watch them flicker to the side of me. I followed her gaze to the grey blur that was quickly climbing up the mound, I shifted my fingers to the right and the ground instantly fell and shot up somewhere else. I leapt onto the other mound and watched as the werewolf fell and was confused by the sudden change. I laughed. I could hear it echo around the forest, as if each tree had heard the joke and was now copying my laughter. I slid down the pillar, letting the earth fall flat behind me. I kicked off my heels and landed on my feet just in front of Jay, he must've changed form while I was sliding down. His jaw was locked in a peeved expression, his eyes cold and steely, God what have I done now. I smiled as I walked up towards him but twisted my foot slightly so that I was to the side of Kayla. I saw his expression change from peeved to sheer fury, I could feel my smile widen. Ah I forgot he had a thing for his little sister, she may call it "protective" but it's quite obvious that it was quite a bit different than that. I felt my smile stretch wider, as I watch him inch in closer to her, well she was right about him being protective. He's protective about her liking other guys; I let a small chuckle escape my lips. He shot me a dark glance. "What are you staring at, mutt."

I spat in his direction out of the corner of my eye I watched Kayla wince as his body tensed up. He rushed towards me his hands at my throat.

"Ah, ah, ah I wouldn't do that if I were you."

I heard a low growl escape his lips as he tightened his grip; I lifted my arms, palms up the weight of the earth resting on my fingers. I watched as he gave me a confused look then glanced down at the ground beneath him. The mud was weaving round his legs encasing him into an earth tomb; I grinned as his hands jumped off my neck and started bashing at the earth. I heard a low chuckle escape my lips, it sounded off, a little evil. Actually it didn't sound like my laugh at all, I glanced around as I realised that someone else was laughing with me my eyes scanned everywhere. Then they finally rested on Kayla her mouth wide open as she let out another awful cackle, her eyes bright gold shimmering with an evil glint. I turned back to Jay his eyes wide with shock and fear, his eyes connected with mine and fury tumbled into them his eyes now bright orange as he double over the tomb encasing him. I heard a low hiss escape from his mouth.

"See, look what you've done. Look what you've awakened."

Chapter 6: The Other Side

Chapter 6:

The Other side

Beth Scars POV

The putrid smell of rotting flesh, made me wish I was back home in the cave with that slug of a father I had. I could feel the hatred boil through me as I remembered the night he sold me to this clan to feed his drug problem.

"What? Just take her; I need the money to get my powder, they're not just giving away opium."

He wiggled his eyebrows at the tall scary lady, her hair coiled upward and her eyes flashed when she caught my eye; there was some longing in them, something evil. I shivered and backed up closer to the wall, where the stone was chipped away to make a really bad version of a doorway. It was a great place to hide in to not be seen, so how did that scary Lady see me then? I brushed off the question as I cautioned a step forward only letting the candle light fall on my grey slippers. I edged my head a little further closer to the edge of the "door" so I could hear more clearly what they were saying.

"Oh it would be so easy to take her, but I want to know if she is worth all the money I am giving you."

Her eyes flashed again the glint screaming evil, but of course my dad was oblivious to this.

"Beth, Beth. Get in here. There's a Lady come to see whether you have got the stuff to be tutored by her."

I saw a coy little smile play upon his face just before he saw me enter the dimly lit room. I shuffled slowly into the corner closest to the armchair which my father was slumped in.

"Hello, miss."

I politely curtsied in front of the Lady just as my mother had taught me to do whenever my father referred to someone as a "Lady". The smile on her face lit up with welcome and curiosity, I shuffled slightly closer forward so as not to seem rude. A low hiss escaped from her lips and she stepped back a little, her eyes narrowed into slits and she bared her pointed teeth at me, but with a flash the look was gone and she was standing next to me. She had placed her cold, icy hands onto the back of my neck pulling it forward slightly so I was looking directly at her stomach. I could hear her breathing in deeply, inhaling my hair, my neck, my scent. It became very uncomfortable I started shifting from foot to foot impatiently waiting for her to stop.

"Stop hopping my dear it easily throws off my concentration."

I stopped, and hung my head even lower her icy hands working over my neck almost like massaging me - it was very odd yet very comforting at the same time. I shook my head and raised my head a little bit to catch a glimpse of my father's face, of course it was twisted into that diseased smile of his, the one that always made babies cry and women feel uncomfortable. She snapped my neck to the side and it stung as her fingers pierced into my neck, I jolted my head backwards and twisted round to run back into the dark cave room, but she had already cut me off.

"What do you want from me?"

"What I want from you is your service," her voice was low and snaked about my head before finally reaching my ear and when it had it sent cold chills all the way through me. Was this to be what I would feel like for the rest of my life, surely my father would not want to keep me, as he's getting money out of it?

"I want you to be my maid, a little help is needed to clean up and fetch things for my ... well you needn't know about that."

I still question whether I was completely sane when I agreed to go with her but I'm still not sure that even she possesses that much power. Though I have been here for 100 years now slaving under her, I still do not know why she chose me of all people, I wasn't anything special my powers were quite weak since I was mixed witch and vampire - two things that should never be mixed if you want a powerful or healthy child. She had been kind enough after a few decades of loyalty to

I sat there reminiscing in the old disgusting times while the rotting flesh that was piled high outside of Scarlet Ice's room shook as she threw another body on top of the heap, I wish she would take out her own trash. I sighed as the stench almost made me want to rip off my nose so it wouldn't burn the inside of my nostrils; I slowly hauled each disfigured body and each half burnt corpse to the pit at the end of our corridor. I hated this

house, this clan, the people but most of all I hate the fact that I so willingly walked into this scenario without even thinking about the consequences. I vaguely remember going out on a trip today the screaming and the hissing of Lady Cassandra as she barked at her other servants to hurry up with the travelling arrangements after that it's all a bit hazy. The only thing that made me think I had done anything is that every time my hair brushes my clothes or my shoulder it burns and it burns harsh, I tied my hair up but it still didn't make any difference. I told Lady Cassandra of my problem and as usual she couldn't care less, she'd rather I burnt to a crisp than spill a drop of her precious teas, just remembering the smell of the newt liver, dragon blood and fish oil made the bile fly back up my throat. I shook my head trying to rid the memory of that awful smell I will not experience that until it comes to the time for her daily tea which luckily for me isn't being handled by me today, Sleg could take care of that while I did Lady Cassandra's very "important" errands. I despised the way she used me like I wasn't even capable of having feelings or opinions, but I carried on like it was normal just like back in the cave oh so many years ago, I can't remember ever really looking older and its so dark in this cave and I only ever go out when I have to run a special errand or Lady Cassandra is taking me out on one of her "special" trips which I never remember. I don't actually remember how long it has been since I was at my old cave up in the mountains in Scotland, the cold nights where the wind would blow quietly but harshly into the cold dripping front room dimly lit by the little pixies my father had caught and kept as slaves instead of letting them want to help us, which is there nature.

"Come on, hurry up I can't stand the stench anymore, gosh you are such a waste of a servant"

My head snapped up to see Scarlet Ice glaring at me her eyes narrowed to slits, it sent chilling shocks through me but I held a brave face and hissed at her.

"It's your mess you should do it yourself and I am just as much part of this stupid clan as you are, so take that and shove it down your blood stained, dirty, cannibal hole."

I could feel her whole body tense as the air became thick with fury, her eyes were growing darker and darker ready they had almost become Black when Lady Cassandra stepped out of her door to the left of Scarlet's Chambers.

"Beth Darling fetch me my tea will you, I feel low."

I nodded in her direction, pointing to the Tea that was already set outside of her Chamber.

"Sorry Madame, but Sleg had to make it today for I have to go and do that errand. I ordered Sleg to make you a couple extra cups than usual as I know that his Tea doesn't give you all that I need."

A crooked smile spread across her worn face - the lack of Tea had really taken a toll on her powers; I felt the overwhelming feeling of wicked glee spread through me. Now she knows just how I feel everyday slaving over something you're not even sure about anymore and just getting more and more tired with every growing day.

I don't even understand why she is so obsessed with this, there's nothing to gain, just destruction and more destruction. Though I'm not so sure that what she has told me is even true, why would she keep things from me? Why is my memory so fuzzy?

As I stepped out of the cave to go run Lady Cassandra's errand a stray thought entered my mind, it came fleeting but it passed through my mind long enough for me to recognise it. Well whatever she has done to me she is going to pay even if I have to form a mutiny.

Chapter 7: "Why do you care?"

Chapter 7:

"Why do you care?"

Kayla's POV

His orange eyes burned into my skull as he pinned me into the chair, tightening the ropes.

"Ouch. Gosh. What have I ever done to you to make you want to do this to me, huh?"

He didn't answer. He yanked the ropes tighter crushing my ribcage, I was gasping for air but he seemed to love the pain he was causing me, as he yanked for a second time.

"I c-can't breathe."

"And you won't need to for much longer if you don't shut up."

I've never heard him use such a harsh tone with me before, though when he did use a harsh tone I'd feel so upset, distraught maybe even depressive, but now I don't. I feel angry I feel furious. It burns deep with all its might, and I could feel it climbing up my throat to scream the words I'd never thought I'd be able to even utter.

"You can shut the hell up too, you crazy Mutt. You can take every last ***** you have up in here and none of them can pin me down, YOU HEAR ME! No matter what you do I will ALWAYS have part of this in me and oh my lord, aren't you scared *****less that you're facing someone who can defeat you."

The fury wasn't easy to stifle, I almost recoiled and tried bring the words back, but they were already there hanging in the already tense air. I watched as his eyes fizzled from a fiery orange to a warm brown, how could he be so calm? I just yelled the most abusive language I have ever known in my life... and he's okay with that. I can't understand my brother at times, he can be intimidating and frightening but I've never been intimidated by his calmness, maybe it's just because I verbally abused my older brother for the first time in my life that the shock of it scared me, so I expected something back, a yell ,a scream , a slap, anything. The look of calm on his face shook me to the bone and by the whisperings of a smile dancing on his face - I could tell he knew it.

I closed my eyes and took deep breaths concentrating on keep my heart rate low and not panicking, when I had finally opened my eyes a new site welcomed me. I blinked a couple times to get my bearings again and the room came back into focus, it seemed as though we had moved from the open conservatory at the back of the Moore's house to a dusty old shack in the middle of an overgrown forest, the trees loomed in grabbing at the hinges of the windows. The branches looked like gnarled fingers ready to snatch me up as soon as my back was turned; my gaze flickered away from the window to the room. Jay was standing with his legs spread like a body guard with a fierce expression standing by the one exit, while Charlie calmly and almost sexily leaned up on the wall next to the window. The silence was awkward and the atmosphere was tense, it almost hurt to breathe, for every breath seemed to make the atmosphere even denser.

I took in deeper breaths holding myself steady on the wobbly chair, I hummed a tune as well but after a few minutes it became old. It didn't feel like I was in a room with my brother and a friend who I must say I've gotten to know quite well over the last few weeks, it felt more like I was in here with an enemy and a neutral observer with a chilled touch. It scared me that although I had known both of them for a while now, and felt like I had known them almost my entire life - that they could be so distant so cold so, so, me. Each breath they took furthered me more from recognising them, each second that ticked by with Jay's steely cold stare and Charlie removed glazed over eyes bearing into me. The more I couldn't decipher what was the real them, and what was the removed part of them.

I became really frustrated at being kept in surveillance; stuffing the anger down I wriggled my hands again feeling the sting of the ropes as the friction burns my wrists. I'd forgotten about the extra "practice" I had been doing with Sira's power, but I didn't want to use it to escape something that it didn't need to be used for. It would just be a waste of valuable energy.

I remembered that once I had changed into "one of them", I could do things undetected by others. I bent my hand back and used one of my nails to fray the rope I could feel it unravel but their wasn't any need to rush out, I mean I didn't even know where we were or what I was here for. I'd have to ask questions, and I better start now because the tenseness of the room was already cutting and whipping through the air, and leaving uncomfortable silence as a mark.

"Where are we?"

Jay's eyes flashed at Charlie who returned the look with a simple nod, I saw Jay's eyes flicker towards me before he looked out of the window.

"We're in The Moore Manor."

"We can't be, I've been in nearly every room, and they've never had this one and I'm pretty sure there isn't this view either."

Jay's gaze in tensed he seemed to be searching the window to find something that looked familiar to the view at the Moore Manor, but he sighed and gave up and then slowly turned to face me. He glanced at Charlie and gave him a nod and turned away to face the door. Oh, so now you can't even face me. Great brother you are.

"You've been asleep for about two days, along with the two hours travel from the clearing to Moore Manor. You see Moore Manor has a link or bridge if you like - connecting to the 6th Dimension, in other words "The Magic World""

"But why did you take me here, why did it take so long to get here and why did you have to make me sleep?"

"You know, you ask a lot of questions."

I saw a hesitant smile dance around his face, before he realised that it wasn't a situation in which you can smile at.

"Well you know I would like at least one of my questions answered."

"You would like that, wouldn't you?"

My head snapped up to Jay, I could feel the anger and hatred boil through me.

"I would also like for you to be quiet but I know at least one of those things isn't going to happen." I hissed at him.

He makes my blood boil, he infuriates me, and nearly everything he does get on my nerves. I chewed on these thoughts, pounding them out in my head stomping out the few blinding flames that were left in my body before I was calm again.

"So am I going to get my questions answered or do I have to find my own way in getting my answers."

Charlie raised an eyebrow at me and Jay just stood there with that same steely look.

"Well?"

I saw Charlie start to shift from foot to foot; he had dropped his gaze to the window and held it there with a look of fatigue and boredom. Obviously I wasn't going to get my answers the easy way, but it wasn't time to force them into answering me. I may be stronger than I was before but probably not strong enough to take on a skilled wolf and a master at earth bending. Think, Kayla think.

"Oh wait, you guys don't need to tell me. Your minds are like an open book."

I closed my eyes and leaned back in my chair, I imagined little wisps of cloudy gas floating in the air towards Jay's and Charlie's heads. Until their bodies seemed to be engulfed in their own fog, then I made the fog absorb into their skin, at this point I pushed this image as far as I could to the edges of my mind. Reaching out for the other minds closer to mine, I felt them shift back, uncomfortable by the situation that was inevitable to them, and with one last push I sent the image out in a wave to them. I quickly opened my eyes and glanced at their faces, they both had that blank hypnotised look it was almost quite funny to see.

"So what do you think, I've learnt some new tricks while I've been self training?"

Their eyes shifted back to mine, suddenly their glazed eyes were gone and they were back to normal. Now! I snapped the rope completely and I charged towards the window, I shattered the glass as I plunged myself through and down what seemed to be an endless hole, to land on a hard wooden dusty floor. I looked around a little dazed, I was in the same surroundings as I was before except Charlie and Jay had moved to the window, I couldn't help but let a hiss escape from my lips. They didn't move from the window, though I could see that a smile had curled up on Jay's mouth. I could feel my lips burn as acid from my tongue poured onto my lips, I slithered towards the door taking each step carefully and slowly keeping my eyes locked on their still bodies. I halted just before the door I could feel the cold handle jabbing into my side but I didn't lift up my hand to open it, I just stared at them. Their still motionless bodies and the gleeful boyish smirk carved onto their faces. A Trap! I slipped back in to the dark crevice of the corner my eyes still locked on their motionless bodies, I felt something behind me but I didn't turn. What was going on? I could still feel the warmth of somebody's body heat on my back; it was quite distracting but gave me more awareness.

I felt something whistle past my ear as one of the bodies jumped out of the window. I charged. Out of the window I fell down that dark hole again, swirling round and round. I felt so dizzy and nauseous. I felt something hit my head and held on to it, pieces of it broke off and splintered my hand but I didn't care as long as I didn't fall down that hole again. I heard Jay growl as I saw his shape change from human to wolf, his menacing figure loomed out of the window his claws were centimetres away from my face. CRASH! The door of the shack burst through I heard Scarlet hiss, and a purple bolt of lightning crashed down as I saw the electrified coils of Lady Cassandra's hair bounce through the door.

"Help me!"

My voice was hoarse; I barely had the strength to hold on to the branch anymore. Charlie must have been sucked down the hole as well for he was nowhere to be seen as the Shadow Clan advanced on Jay. He held his figure tall and proud against them. Idiot, this is no time for pride, RUN!

"Run!"

Lady Cassandra's vulture like eyes turned on me, and a cruel smile spread across her face.

"You'll soon be with us, and all the running will be over."

Her yellow eyes lifted to the sky as she whispered something, another purple flash of lightning hit again, this time on the branch that I was holding onto. Completely severing it from the tree, and I fell. The wind bashed me as I was consumed by the darkness of the hole, my head ached as I hit it against something hard and it felt like millions of icicles had been jabbed into one side of me as I tried to roll away from whatever hit my head. Then all was still.

A grey blur was all that was left of what had happened. I opened my eyes to find everything hazy. I was in a large white room, it look almost like a hospital room except the ceiling had decorations far too grand to ever be seen in a hospital, little cherubs and a gold plated chandelier filled with crystal was hung from the ceiling. I looked to the side of me; Jay was asleep in an armchair he looked almost as if he had passed out himself. How cute.

I swung my legs off the bed, and watched him sleep for a while he seemed so at peace it was so beautiful; I jumped up off the edge and crouched down the side. My eyes never left him while doing so, I slowly stood up and silently sneaked out of the room.

A cool breeze whipped at my face as I stepped out on the balcony I wasn't on the 4th floor so I could probably make it down without hurting myself, but there was no need to jump down directly. One of the old oak tree's branches was teetering close to the edge of the balcony; I climbed up on it and rested for a while.

What was with that dream? Was it even a dream? What was real and what wasn't? When did I get into a coma? How did I get into a coma? My head was throbbing from the constant questions my own mind was throwing at me; it hurt to think even with the cool clear air to help clear my head. I took a couple more breaths and dropped down a few more branches and swung my hand out to meet the one just below me. Well at least I know my strength wasn't a lie made up in the dream. I let go and lightly dropped to my feet at the bottom, scraping my leg in the process the look of blood on my leg was quite disturbing yet for some reasons comforting. I felt that if I didn't know what was dream and what was reality then how was I supposed to know whether the blood would transform me into some hideous beast, yet I also felt that now my worries can be put to rest knowing that my questions could finally be answered, and I could feel alive again. My hand quivered as I placed my fingers on my knee to wipe the blood away, the smell of it filled my nose but I swatted it away with a quick change of mind. I will no longer think like an animal or a beast, I'm stronger than this.

I passed the trees on the end of the lawn I ran, faster and faster. I realised I was leaving traces all over the place, but I needn't worry about that. If I knew my friends - which I do - they would already be on their way here! Sure enough I could hear the soft sound of panting only a few meters away. I really need to be alone, but obviously they're scared about me. I sighed and took a sharp left, I really didn't know where I was going, and I wasn't really sure why I was running or why I even left, but I didn't feel like turning back and I didn't want them with me. A small stream flowed just a mile or so on in the direction I was headed, I didn't want to go near the water if I do I won't be able to keep them so far behind me. I fell on my knees and let the shocks of electricity completely take me over before taking a hard right to be parallel to the stream. I couldn't stand them being so close on my heel, they were starting to test my patience and I really wasn't in the mood to switch again but I'm deadly close to becoming angry again. I stopped dead and swirled round heading straight

for them, but just as I was about to run I took a look at their faces, none of them I recognised. A small slender woman with hair as dark as night walked forward, she was barely wearing enough to even keep warm a small cat on this night would be cold, but she didn't shiver nor did she seem to notice when a harsh wind blew in. Her hair looked sharp, the ends looked as if they could split me in two, and it was long enough to reach me as well it trailed on the floor behind her in two single plaits. Next to her was a lot taller woman dressed in a pink and Brown and Yellow African dress, her tanned skin was such an opposite to the pale glowing skin of the other smaller lady. I stood up on my normal legs as I changed back to my original form, just as I felt another small burst of air behind me. It was with such a force that it almost knocked me to my knees but the two women seemed completely unaffected by it.

I took a slow step back, the moonlight bounced off the stream creating an eerie flickering and ominous light moving across their faces, I

felt the wind knock me again; I looked behind me searching for the source of such power.

"I'm in front of you, idiot!"

I whipped my head round again to see a glowing array of colours stand before me, red, yellow, white, black, purple, orange, and nearly all other colours, as each of all others colours mixed with each other as the glowing lights touched and melded into one another. It was hard for my eyes to adjust as they kept flickering like a candle in the wind, the lights burned into the back of my skull even when I closed my eyes the lights glowed bright inside my head. I slowly opened my eyes again, trying to use my wolf eyes to see what was inside that array of colours, but try as I might I still couldn't depict which was shadow and which was light, which was flesh and which was air. All I could tell was that there was definitely more than one person amongst those flashing colours.

"You won't be able to see them unless they let you, it's just their way. Sorry about Yutoro, he's a bit hyper tonight."

I looked back at the person who had spoken; the taller tanned Lady looked directly into my eyes as she opened her mouth to say something again. I looked up at the trees concentrating hard on my ears I wasn't focusing at all on the words coming out of the woman's mouth; all I could hear were faint whispers of voices close to the Manor. We weren't even that far from it, so why were they so faint?

"You lost her... possible... You're and idiot."

"Sorry I... sleep...she'll be fine... care of herself."

My head clicked at the recognition of his voice, my brother. Wait, what was going on back there? SMACK! A force so hard hit me right across the face sending me flying backwards into the bushes leaving me almost utterly speechless.

"What the hell!"

"Listen to her you rude little insect!"

My eyes whipped up. Locking intensely with the glowing white hand that was still raised in the air - which had a few moments ago, connected with my face. I brought my hand up to my cheek I winced as the pain sparked through my skin right to the very bone.

Deck her.

The thought came as fleeting as the movement of my body towards the woman. I barely had enough time to realise I was posed in a lunge ready to change and to go for her throat. I stopped myself almost in mid pounce, I could feel that my eyes were still blazing but I tried my best to conceal it. The problem was that she was giving me a cold steely stare that passed right through me, like she was seeing through me, passed me.

Another snarl ripped from my throat and her eyes sprang back to her annoying glare, I slowly stood up and looked away from her to the tanned woman who was quietly observing the events that were unfolding in front of her - only mild intrigue on her face - she spoke as though she was bored with everything.

"Did you hear me, because I really don't want to have to repeat myself?"

My mouth twitched a little with fury, but I needed to work on my calm- keep myself cool enough to think my way out of this.

"No, I was focusing on something a little more... disturbing."

Her eyes glistened and then hardened the chocolate brown of her eyes clearly becoming more dormant than the few wisps of Hazel keeping the warmth in them. Then something I wouldn't have even noticed if she hadn't let

her long lashes droop downwards, she was smiling, her teeth glinting with almost a glow. Although I should have felt warmth from it, I had a deep Icy suspicion that I couldn't quite shake off of me. It was uncomfortable looking from here eyes to her teeth trying to identify the emotion or thoughts behind the scary facade that I was seeing. I quickly gave up and sat down on a tree stump close to me. I took in a deep breath, and let it out in one short burst my head was still pounding with all the questions that I was worried about before, but now a new interest had sparked in me and new questions drifted into my mind.

"Do you love him?"

I felt my eyes grow wide and my mind grow cloudy as the question was thrown at me, I was shook by it. I raised my head to look into those eyes - those ice-cold eyes - that took the confusion out of my body and replaced it with disturbance, disturbance and fear. I didn't know how to answer I wasn't even sure what she meant or even if the question was directed at me, but her gaze was on me holding my fast in hers, stuck. Like a mouse whose tail had been caught but still wasn't ready to face that the cat was looking at her, prey and predator. She must have read the confusion and fear in my face, because she dropped her gaze and looked at her pale... companion you could say.

I guess she doesn't know"

Her pale friend looked back at her with a sarcastic glint her eyes and smile.

"Or maybe we're a bit to early for her to know what it is we're talking about"

I shot a dark Glance at her I could feel them flash and burn with anger, though the woman seemed oblivious to this.

"Or maybe her brain is developed enough to comprehend such a question, disgusting mixed breed."

That was it, the last straw.

"What did you say, because I'm obviously not hearing right. You act like you know a lot about me, but you really don't."

I felt the canines protrude forcing their way out of my mouth. The burning hunger in the back of my throat burn so badly I thought my throat was going to explode. NO, I thought to myself, I don't need to fight her as a Vampire.

The fangs receded as well as the burning hunger in my throat, the electric pulses started to vibrate down me, each vibration more painful than the last. I let myself drop to the floor as I landed on my paws, my fur rustled up and I stood up on my hind legs looking down on her, as she did me.

Though the expression I saw on her face surprised me a bit, she was smirking almost as though she expected this to happen. I dismissed the thought and snarled at her pulling my lips back showing the menacing glint of my teeth.

I charged. Aiming straight for the throat, my head was racing so much with fury, that I didn't realise I was aiming for the kill. I was suddenly rammed into from the side- with incredible force. I could feel the blood drip from my leg as I felt the claws retract from the wound; my head was spinning and all that I could see was a blur of white and black over and over. I shook my head and got to my feet my heart pounding and my blood racing, I was still full of adrenaline even after taking that hit. My arms moved swiftly - my normal arms - I made small motions in the air, hoping that I could actually do this. I felt the wind swirl around me and the ground shake underneath me I opened my eyes, and froze. There in all its magnificence and beauty stood the rare White Siberian tiger. What's one of them doing here, this is England.

I blinked. Then I blinked again. It was still there.

What was going on?

This low snickering rang through the forest; I sharply glared in the direction it was coming from. The pale lady's face was screwed with pure delight; I met her eyes and glowered at her. I then looked down as I saw her hands moving in smooth fluid movements just like Charlie and Chris did when they were controlling their powers. It clicked. I let my hands dropped to my sides as the air built up and rushed back towards me.

"She's your power."

Her face was still twisted with her evil delight, and her lips curved up to make a wolfish smirk.

"They haven't taught you anything yet have they, it's not a power. It's my apparition all of us warrior elves have one."

Secrets:Kayla

I could feel the confusion slowly draw across my face, and the more I looked confused the more she looked triumphant, crazily victorious. I tried hard to wipe it off my face but it just wouldn't go, and the more her face looked like that the more I wanted to rip her to shreds. I flicked my fingers up and watched as the ground started to rise just above her ankles.

"STOP IT!"

The large Roar had come from the tanned Lady.

"Brianna, we came to help her not to fight her. We may have come a little earlier than we should have but it's the best we can do."

Her stern face was set, and the elf submitted to her authority. The apparition disappeared as if it had just been chalk in the wind, I still couldn't believe what I was seeing.

"Yes your highness."

I could feel the bitterness hidden behind her words but I didn't comment. I looked from Brianna to the tanned lady - who was apparently royalty - I met her eyes and I saw almost a sense of pity behind, pity but also joy.

"You might want to have to sit down for this. It'll take a while to sink in."

Chapter 8: Who are the Psychics'?

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Who are The Psychics'?

I was speechless, utterly numb. I was completely disorientated and I think that they could tell.

"So any of them could be..."

My voice trailed off, I didn't want to think about it. I put my hand over my heart, before letting it drop to my side again.

"No, anyone of them will be. Did you not understand we're a little early?"

The tanned Lady's voice was compassionate and soothing which is exactly what I needed.

"Although we're not as far back enough to see if your 'powers' have progressed as much as we thought."

"Look all we know is you're going to gain a power that only you will ever be able to gain, because you have the power to copy powers but you also exchange energies. So it can be any one of them, we can narrow it down because the energy you'd have to exchange would be high, and it would be exchanged often so you'd see them a lot as well. The only thing that is definite is that the energy transfer is from a male." The voice was nothing like the one that had been drilling me to fight her, it was empathising. I turned to her.

"Brianna, how will I know, you know..."

Instinctively I put my hand up to my heart again, all the faces of my friends flashed in my head.

"He'll know. Wait, how early are we?"

She tanned away from me to the tanned lady, and then looked back at me again.

"It's nearly Halloween, why?"

Her eyes grew wide; her gaze was hardened but full of shock. Glanced over at the tanned Lady, her look was just as shocked as

Brianna's.

"Not just a bit early."

It came out as a whisper; if I wasn't so focused I wouldn't have heard it. After a while of silence the tanned Lady turned to Brianna.

"Come on, we must go."

Brianna nodded in agreement she looked at me then over my shoulder. Her face returned to its usual bitter look she stepped next to me and stared straight ahead her eyes burned red with fury. She spat the words out like they were poison to her lips.

"What're you doing here, you shouldn't be here?"

"How long have you been here, w-w-what did you see, w-w-what did you hear..."

The words just kept tumbling off my lips. The panic was spilling out from my control and into every word that I said. My eyes were wide with shock once I realised that the little round faced girl, with the cute blond curls, meekly slid out from behind the bushes. It had taken me a few minutes to register but by then, the others had disappeared.

Marissah Snow's eyes were cast down, she started to look more and more like a naughty child with every passing moment. Although I knew she was still a child she looked more like she had just joined Primary school than soon to finish it.

"I-I," she started.

Her eyes lifted to mine I saw how wide they were, wide and terrified and full of fear. I took a few deep breaths, I could feel the sharp pang in my heart as I realise her eyes were glistening with tears.

"It's alright, its okay. I'm sorry I didn't mean to upset you."

I lay a hand on her shoulder, she looked from my hand back to me and I saw her soften and become more relaxed.

"Please," I kept my voice even, "tell me what you heard."

She recited what had been said almost word for word, I could feel my jaw drop ever so slightly at the perfection of the way she had remembered.

"Okay, how did you-"

"Don't you know yet, I'm just like you I can do things that other's can't."

It took a while for it to sink in, and then I slapped myself in the head. All this time you're giving out information and not getting any back. I hardened my glance. Ready for the worst.

"Marissah, what are you doing here?"

I saw her face almost light up, but she pinched her lips together.

"Marissah, tell me."

I raised my right eyebrow, giving my best 'mum' look, hoping that this could break her. It worked.

"I'm not supposed to say anything unless you have a parent or guardian present," she clapped her hand over her mouth, thinking she said too much.

"No it's alright, I understand. If you don't want to say anything you don't have to." I put as much coldness and distantness into the words as I could. I watched the young girls eyes grow wide with shock then her eyes flashed bright with fear.

"B-b-but since it's nothing too important. It's nothing too important, I can tell you I-I- guess, but don't say anything to my mum will you?"

I smiled a wide smile, feeling a bit too giddy from the adrenaline high.

"Course not." My voice was the sound of innocence. "I don't see your mum anyway; I'm not a bad student."

She nodded. "Well, it's hardly anything really, just 'big' school business, though mum said that it'd be great if I could learn from you, since you've creates your own, um, what was it?"

She pushed up her bottom lip and pulled together her eyebrows, she was obviously trying very hard to remember the word. She sighed and unclenched her eyebrows.

"I'll remember later, anyway you haven't been at school for a few weeks now and they haven't been notified the reason for your absence." She finished with a smile.

"Well to answer that, you'd have to ask the people that have been taking care of me."

I waved her towards me, as I turned to go back to the Manor it felt like an age to get back there, try to make meaningless small talk to pass the time.

Once we were finally outside the Manor, Jay, Chris and Charlie were already outside waiting for me. It was hard to look at them, without laughing, Chris had a stern look on his face that didn't belong there, Charlie was trying hard not to snigger at Chris' face and Jay for some reason was in a kilt. I could hear quiet, muffled, broken giggles from the side of me. I looked down at Marissah. I smiled. This might distract them from my running off earlier.

"The school sent Marissah here to check up on my absence, since I haven't clarified why I've been away."

I looked up at their faces again, Chris looked withered and tired, Charlie was a little bored but was giving me a look that made me feel like I was acting suspiciously and Jay had turned around to open the door for Marissah. I walked back to the tree I had climbed down to get out.

"Where are you going?"

I turned around to see those colourful eyes swimming with green and that curly brown hair. I gave him a wolfish grin.

"I'm going back to bed."

"Why, you must be better by now?"

"Yeah, but I still want to know what's going on."

"Oh, so that's the real motive, you just want to eavesdrop and pry."

"Have you ever known me to want to do anything else?"

"Wouldn't it just be easier if I told you?"

A full hearty laugh right from the pit of my stomach. Tears were still rolling down my cheeks when I finally talked again.

"Where would the fun be in that?"

He nodded his head towards the path we took for training. I followed. After a few minutes I looked at him.

"So are you going to tell me, what happened to me, because right now I can't distinguish between dream and reality?"

"Well," his voice was almost toneless but there was still a smile on his lips "after the whole incident last time we came here, you sort of passed out and slipped in and out of consciousness, and when you were conscious."

He stopped and shook his head, he finally turned his head to me and pulled me next to him so I had to pull my head up to look at his face. His smile had returned and there was a slight twinkle in his eyes.

"What, why did you stop tell me what happened?"

I almost pleaded.

"Nothing, nothing happened." He replied simply. Though I could see his eyes glinted mischievously.

"No come on, tell me. I have a right to know."

"Okay, I'll tell you, but you have to do some training first."

I looked up and realised we were out at the edge of the clearing. I turned my head to face him and took a couple steps back.

"What kind of training?"

His smile widened.

"Just a few simple strategies, you know defence and control."

"Hmmm, well simple doesn't seem like your style."

"How did you know?"

His grin sparkled before he pulled his lips together and walked into the middle of the clearing. I followed him mindlessly, trying hard to think what he'd want me to control.

"Now, you have a choice, since I know mine and my brother's powers best, you have a choice between earth and air."

He flashed his mysterious smile. I knew I didn't really have a choice he was just going through formalities.

"Come on then, show me."

I gestured my hand in front of me, he caught it and stretched it my arm out, palm flat against his chest. As soon as he let go my fingers curled away from him.

"No keep it flat; then bring your other hand around. Like that. Yes! Now flick it palm up, can you feel the ground on top of your hands?"

I nodded, it was a strange feeling. You could feel the weight of the ground on your hands, but it didn't feel heavy or feel like a strain. Though your mind told you it should be.

"Okay, now take your hand, that's facing me, now close it into a fist, and pull the other hand up. Not now, let me finish, Okay, you're going to pull that hand up and pull the fist towards you. Then swing both hands towards me no, no up and over and down."

I kept my hands steady in the position he had held me in a few minutes ago. With smooth, quick and precise movements, he was a few metres to the side of me. He gave me a very cheesy grin with a thumb up sign.

"Ready?"

I nodded ready for anything. I took a few deep breaths, and did as I had just been instructed. What I witnessed next amazed me. The ground had risen up to make an earth wall pulled towards me and flung itself towards Charlie. Instinct reacted first; I could still feel how the earth moved within my fingers. I closed my other hand into a fist, I pushed both hand down then opened them out flat. The earth wall had fallen into the ground and flattened with a thud! I shook my hands out and turned away.

"Next time, you tell me what's going to happen."

I could feel the wind whip past as he moved the earth to place me next to him. I took another step forward then whirled around.

"Don't, do that again."

"Do what?" His mischievous grin danced upon his face.

"You know what?"

"Actually, I don't. Now, are we going to finish training?"

I sighed I could tell he wasn't messing around.

"Okay what's next?"

After a few more hours of practice, the wind started to pick up and the sky was turning pink as the sun was just touching the horizon.

We walked back to the Manor, to receive whatever punishment we were due for my not returning.

I could see the path more clearly now as the dim pink light lit up the forest around me. I stopped for a bit realising how tired I was from our training.

"Hey, wait a second. You never did answer my question."

He stopped a couple steps ahead of me. He slowly turned sideways so his shoulder was facing me, but his face was still turned away.

"What question is that?"

I shook my head and walked towards him, I reached up to touch his shoulder but he shrugged it off as soon as my fingers caught him.

"Charlie. Tell me, what happened?"

I couldn't hide the concern I felt it drip into my voice, while I said the words. He sighed and looked at me, his eyes glazed over.

"After you became conscious we took you back to the Manor to run some tests, we put you into a sleep so you wouldn't know what was going on and watched how each of your powers grew. It was my job to over look you physically and mentally. You know, mentally as in-

"Dreams, yeah I know."

No more needed to be said I quickly walked back to the Manor.

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"I know you," my eyes widened further "I know you!"

It almost came out in a shout, there standing in front of me was the tanned Lady, whom I had seen just a few hours ago, dressed in obvious royal clothing. It was a simple blue gown her corset was laced with pearls and the skirt had a long flowing pattern of silver lace going up the side to meet the waist. Behind her was Brianna, but she looked less fiery and powerful, I would go as far as she almost looked like she was trying to hide behind the tanned Lady's breath taking beautiful dress. My eyes dropped to her dress, it was a pale rose colour, much more simplistic than the princess', there was no extravagant lace pattern decorated with pearls. There was just some silver thread going round the edge of her dress, with a green bow at the small of her back.

The tanned Lady turned her big brown her eyes on me, her eyelids drooped lazily over her eyes. She was obviously bored, by my rude

exclamation. Her voice came out as a calm monotonous drawl.

"I'm sorry do I know you" Every other word was punctuated with a low sweep of her eyelashes. I stood transfixed in her bored gaze, images and flew through my recreating sentences in my brain.

"You may meet us soon, but be careful. The information we have given you must stay secret, even from us."

I was back in reality, I almost felt like smacking myself in the head I wilted, my back arched and my head down. I dismissed myself. I walked back behind Charlie and stood with my back facing the rest of the group.

"Your highness, Madame Pea, how was your journey?"

I could tell the voice was Charlie's mainly because it was right behind me, but there was something about it that didn't seem right. There was almost a twang of respect to his tone, it sounded too formal for well known bad boy. I couldn't help but glance back at 'Madame Pea'

I caught Chris bowing before I stormed off down the hall back to the hospital room. I slumped on the bed and kicked off my shoes.

CREAK! The door slowly crept open, I looked up with my arms poised to use my newly wound skills. I caught wisp of glowing black hair before it disappeared behind a column. I recognised it.

"Brianna, Brianna is that you?"

I watched as a ghostly image walked through the column, gliding its way across the room. I gasped; I couldn't help it, although I was past being shocked at the supernatural.

"Kayla, you must not speak to me or Madame Pea, we have not yet fully understood our abilities.

Communicating with us could change our fate. Although completely ignoring her highness is impossible, avoid her and me as much as you can."

Her voice sounded distant but sharp like ice shattering, not very much like an oracle as her words perceived her to be. The image faded just as a knock on the door resounded round the room.

"Yes," I said a little exasperated "who is it?"

I saw the pale white blonde hair, hair that glimmered in the rising sun. I gave Chris a weary look, no matter what he was going to say it's not going to make me feel any less weird. He cast his eyes down and away from

me, was he trying to avoid looking in my eyes? That didn't seem like Chris at all, he's usually direct, to the point.

"Who is it?"

I watched him lift his eyes, they seemed glazed over. A flash behind his shoulder, then it was gone and his eyes were back to normal. I quickly stood up off the bed and walked out the door before Chris could get a hold of himself.

Stumbling out in the hall, I looked around for my siblings before trying one of the doors by the end of the corridor.

Slowly I walked in, I recognised the room it was one of the typical meeting rooms on the upper floors, pale walls, old antique couches

and chairs with a wooden desk in the corner. I slid my hand over the walls feeling the bumps and cracks where the plaster had worn away over time. I walked over to the chairs and traced the ornate carvings with my finger. I could feel Chris watching me from the doorway, but I couldn't turn to face him or even question what he wanted, because the words Madame Pea and Brianna had told me last night finally hit me, the words had sunk in but the feeling had taken awhile to get a hold of itself. I crumpled to the floor, my back supported by the side of the sofa, my hair, knotted and tangled from training; fell wild but limp across my face.

"Chris," the voice belonged to Madame Pea "I need your help."

Her voice was distant and frantic I could hear the soft padding as her feet connected with the stone floor. I snorted, she's royalty and she's walking around the house in her bare feet.

"Chris, I think I may be gifted like you and my mum. I'm not sure yet but I keep having this weird sense and-"

"Not now Madame. I'm a little preoccupied at the moment."

He had turned away and was now leaning out the door. I couldn't move myself away and my vision was getting blurry as the tears wouldn't stop falling.

"No Chris. Listen to me. I think, I mean, I may. I have the feeling I could be Psychic."

Chapter 9: Deceived

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Deceived

Beth's POV

I was watching as Scarlet tore up another body, along with 300 hundred of our new acquaintances, whom of course I had to clean up after. This didn't include our other guests that weren't into a 'bloody' meal, ones which I had to crawl into the deepest sewers and swamps to find their meals for them. I was supposed to be quite high in the hierarchy, just under the leaders of the Shadow Cult. Not the maid. I was grumpy and moody and the continual stench of our newly arrived 'guests' were starting to get to me, I grabbed Scarlet Ice by her shoulder and pulled my hair out of the ponytail, the tips were sparking with energy and my teeth were tingling with excitement. I needed a good fight. The noise from the long dining tables grew even louder at our performance, chanting "FIGHT!"

My fingers twisted locks of my hair, feeling it stretch and shrink with every pull I made. I stretched my hands out as Scarlet made a run for me; she had a twisted look of fury and insane happiness. Her eyes were wide like she had just taken a shot of heroin, which was probably what the blood did to her. She was less than 10 inches away from me now, my hair shot up the ends sparking. Coiling round her throat pulling her backwards I watched as her body had a spasm as the electricity passed through. I was so engrossed in watching her body convulse in to weird shapes that I hadn't realised that Lady Cassandra had walked in from the corner door. "Beth," her voice was surprisingly calm, "let go of Scarlet you can continue your fight later, right now we have business to attend to."

I sauntered over to one of the tables, letting my hair fall and a return to its original shape, I could feel the smile edge onto my lips as I saw Scarlet's manic look fall from her face as she flopped to the ground when I released her. I scooted into the seat that each member of the recognised Shadow Cult had been assigned at the head Dining Table. I stared at Lady Cassandra like a student would a teacher.

"Our recent attempt to take our prize has unfortunately failed," she spoke in businesslike tones as though this was a meeting about insurance "but I have realised a few ways we can gain the upper hand in our ultimate goal. I've had a little spy infiltrate The Moore Manor even with the powerful magic that surrounds their premises, they are very welcoming people and are very blind to whom or what they may be welcoming in." Her eyes flashed with every word, and evil glint that was poisoned by a crazy mind. A mind which I had no choice to follow, and I realised that I would become just like Scarlet Ice and Shannon Dark-Mourn, not realising the difference between right and wrong and be so highly influenced that I too will become completely insane. Though I had common sense Lady Cassandra may have her insane moments but either way she will win in the end she had 500 years on the family including the eldest of that family. She was insane with seeing generations and generations of her friends and Family die while she never aged and watching the idiots of the past make the choices that get them killed, living with her own kind and then being banished because she had an opinion on something that got them killed because they hadn't listened to her. I'm not surprised she had become insane; I'm surprised that she can keep it under control for years at a time if she wanted. Lady Cassandra didn't realise I knew all this about her, but when you spend 100 years being her errand girl you hear a few things. I patiently sat waiting for her explanation, but she stood up and began to walk back to the slightly hidden door. She turned back around only slightly so the curls of her hair were still hiding her face.

"Scarlet and Beth you may continue your fight later, right now I must have a word with Miss Scar about the preparations I need her to make."

She beckoned me forward with a wave of her hand, like a dog to its master. I followed. I trailed behind her out of the corner door, her obedient servant, into the maze of hallways leaving behind the brightness of the feasting hall for the dimly candle-lit labyrinth. I had lived there for over a century and even I had not figured out the internal map of it yet. I had a suspicion that it had been cursed to change but I have never known magic to be used in such way, there didn't seem to be any need for it in the darker ages. Focus, you have more pressing matters to think about other than this.

The doors became a blur of wood as we strode past each one like we ruled and commanded their existence. I stopped when she did, only looking at her, her movements were quick and fluid, most would say like a dancer but I knew better than to compare her to that. They were more like snakes, deadly and lethal but disguised with beauty, I admired her for this to be able to cover up her real ambitions so easily, everyone believed her every word but I had seen first hand that not everything she says is truth, but I also knew that if you didn't obey her word than you could get hurt, badly. Stop dwelling in the past, this is now and you need to pay attention.

While I had blindly followed her into the door she had passed through, I had forgotten that I was supposed to be listening to her every word and movement. I snapped out of my thoughts and focused on her.

"I apologise, Lady Cassandra my thoughts had taken over for a while. Would you mind repeating what you said, so that I know what your expectations are for the preparations I am to make?"

I didn't particularly enjoy being so polite after wanting to rip open Scarlet's body, but it was common for you to be peculiarly courteous when you spoke to Lady Cassandra.

Her heavily lashed eyes gradually looked back at me, I flinched as I saw the amber glow underneath the bottomless pit of black that her eyes usually are. I lowered my gaze and my head, to show my humbleness to her.

"I am truly sorry, ma'am."

"It is alright my dear, you are one of the few of whom I can trust in these unstable days. I cannot put my entire faith into my own spies;

I've had to persuade them to do my bidding,"

I sighed inwardly, persuading of Lady Cassandra's calibre either meant to either threaten or compel you, so you had to do it.

"Spies ma'am? You have more than one, but you told-"

"Did I not tell you Miss Scar, you are one of the few of whom I can trust completely. I have a number of emissaries monitoring the movements of our enemies, ever since the slight mishap of my poorly conceived plan earlier this autumn. Unfortunately I've had to bring

family into this, and that is very rare, you have been with me for over a century and I thank you for your loyalty. As you may have suspected I didn't ask you here just to tell you about the preparations," she turned fully around so her eyes burned into mine "I have asked you here to become one of my family, you'll be able to unlock all that potential within. You'll be opened to everything I know," she held out her hand to me but her eyes never left mine "well?"

My head was throbbing two voices were screaming at me, the words mixed into a giant noise.

All I've wanted is to be accepted to be loved, to be part of a true family, is she going to give me a true family? One voice telling me the truth of my heart, but the other questioning the act and the safety I was being handed. The second voice is the one I have been living with ever since Lady Cassandra had taken me away on that day. I shook my head I know what I wanted and I was going to take it, the consequences would be of my own doing and I would just have to accept them. I nodded. I held my hand out to hers. She clasped it tightly her nails dug into my skin, but I couldn't feel any pain.

"Then we shall become blood sisters, AVIEL!" Her normal soft southern tones had become harsh and clipped as she exclaimed the name Aviel. I turned to see a woman completely dressed in black her dark curls tumbling out of the sides of her opaque veil. I tried to peer in closer, could see how her breath made it move slightly, sculpting her face when she breathed in, and then forgetting the curvatures and the contours as she breathed out, and the veil would flow out and down.

"Yes my s- Madame Cassandra, you requested my presence."

She spoke with the same courtesy as Lady Cassandra, but from her accent I could tell she was from a Spanish speaking country by the way she rolled her rs, though it was slightly exaggerated. My thoughts were interrupted when Lady Cassandra spoke again.

"I would like you to prepare for the ritual," I gave Lady Cassandra a slightly worried and curious look, she just patted my hands, "and please so be swift about it. I have a lot of work to do after this and it would be preferable if I did not get behind schedule."

I watched as Aviel turned away and disappeared in the darkness." How does it work ma'am, I mean what happens"

Her eyes were glowing and the tips o her hair was twisting up into curly locks.

"Do you know the history of the 'dark witches' as we were branded," I shook my head slowly, even though I had lived wit Lady Cassandra for over a century, had never really learned much. I spent the first half of it resenting her, despising her for taking me away. When I finally came around I focused more on spells and curses than where they cam from.

"Dark witches were ordinary witches before the revolution, they traded with others and lived normal lives, but soon dark witches didn't like using energy to feed their spells, people were already starting to talk about with trials, and burning at the stake, drowning in holy water... etcetera. The dark witches decided that instead of using manna or energy, the y would use blood and emotions; the fierce emotions are best, they I've off extra manna. Soon most witches wee doing it this way; they rarely touched blood though, unless they wanted to bind themselves to another witch."

I waited for her to continue but then I saw that she was no longer looking at me but through me. I pulled my hand hard trying to force it from her grip, my hands had long gashes from where she had been holding them and her talon-like nails had ripped into my skin. I kept my other hand in hers; maybe she's just having one of her moments. I thought to myself. I waited to hear the pat, pat, pat of Aviel's feet coming back after preparing whatever was necessary for this 'ritual'.

"Miss Scar," her voice made me jump she had crept in so silently it was a wonder that she wasn't floating above the ground, "are you ready now?" I stepped back slightly, only slightly though as Lady Cassandra's grip wouldn't let me move very far without it being uncomfortable.

"Ready for what, ma'am?"

She didn't answer me. She walked over to Lady Cassandra and whispered something into her ear. Lady Cassandra immediately blinked out of her trance and loosened her grip on my hand. She gave a delicate smile to Aviel before nodding to me, completely letting go of my hand and gesturing me forward. I walked ahead into the darkness.

I saw a door it looked identical to the one we had just entered in, I looked back and gestured to it with my finger, it creaked as it swung open. Aviel's hand was still in mid-air but it was obvious she had opened it, so she was a witch too and by the way her hair was crackling and parking at the sides, one on our side. I couldn't help but let a little of my manna slip in response to it, I walked back into the confusing hallway and labyrinth of doors.

"I don't know where I am going Madame, couldn't you show me?"

"The first part of the ritual is to find out how in tune you are; you have to find it for yourself. Do not worry we will be right behind you."

It was not Lady Cassandra who spoke, but the increasingly irritating Aviel. I tried not to be rude so I squelched the idea of huffing, what did she mean by 'in tune' anyway? I turned to look back at the doors. Okay start with your breathing. I closed my eyes and took a few deep breaths, then opened my eyes, both physical and magical. When something is full of magical energy from dark witches it will be noticed by the dark vapours it emits which are shown by the magical eye.

The thought suddenly came to me, I could see the image of the ancient scrolls and I was reading straight from the page. I almost chuckled, who said that witch craft didn't need revision. I caught a slight wisp coming from one of the doors but dismissed it; if it was something as big as a ritual it would definitely be more noticeable than that. Though it is a test of how in tune I am and not the basics of Witch energy location.

"May I ask a question, ma'am?"

"Yes, I don't see why you can not." Aviel answered.

"What exactly are you looking for me to be in tune to?"

I had the urge to turn and face her but I carried on walking until stopping at the door with the little black wisps surrounding it, I breathed them in, a mixture of familiar smells hit me, I tried to depict what they were.

"Well," Cow's blood, "what are you referring to?" Lavender,

"I'm," Honey, Thyme, faeces "referring to the comment you made earlier."

I could hear the faked confusion in her voice.

"I have no idea what you're talking about," Cobra Poison, Vampire spit and Troll scales, "oh I think I know what you are referring to, we were trying to see how in tune you were with your human senses, and to see if you were capable of heightening them. Of course you have succeeded."

She flicked her fingers up at the door; it simultaneously swung in greeting me with the sight of what appeared to be the banquet hall in the front cave, but darker with painted blood red walls. At the far end of the hall there was the quintessence of what was thought to be a medieval witch brewery, a large black cauldron sitting in a huge fireplace, the liquid inside of it, bubbling over with a precariously foul smelling, green liquid.

"Ah, Bubble, Bubble, Toil and Trouble." I snickered.

"So is this the second part of the ritual then." I indicated to the fireplace.

Lady Cassandra's eyes wavered from mine to Aviel's, and then slowly nodding at me. She glided gracefully across to the Cauldron, resting a hand on top of the overflowing broth and muttering a few ancient words over it. She glanced back at beckoned a finger at me her eyes glowing Amber with raw power. She then waved a hand at Aviel.

"Aviel, go through with her what she has to say. I'll finish up what you forgot to complete."

I could hear her tut and mutter something underneath her breath, before swivelling round to continue enchanting the both.

"Sorry Madame, but I completed everything that needed to be done for the ritual; you know that I can not enchant it for you."

I could feel myself draw in a harsh breath, no one ever take to Lady Cassandra like that, not even those who are considered to be 'on her level'. I glared at Aviel who dismissed me with her hand and placed her hand on her hips, as her veil flapped as a wind picked up, which I had no doubt was coming from Lady Cassandra.

"Just show me what I have to do, please."

I caught her arm and she pulled me to face her veiled face, it was quite annoying talking to her, it was like talking to a blank wall so you had no idea where to rest your eyes.

"Don't touch me little one."

I recoiled in shock as well as annoyance, I could feel my hand itch to back hand her but I resisted, there was obviously a great importance to her if Lady Cassandra hadn't 'disposed' of her yet after that comment.

"Please." I pleaded although I could feel a little bile rise from my throat, being polite in return to such great rudeness. I could hear her sigh in defeat even though it was slightly muffled because of the fabric covering her mouth. She lightened her grip and pulled me to sit down at one of the chairs on one of the long feasting hall dining tables, a few minutes passed after her talking me through a few of the enchantments I'd have to say.

"AVIEL, bring Miss Scar over here, please."

I stood and walked over to Lady Cassandra and stood between her and Aviel.

"Do you know what to do?"

"Yes Madame, Miss Aviel here ran me through the enchantments and precautions."

Lady Cassandra gave Aviel a nod of approval, and took her hand in mine. Her hand was icy despite them having hovered over a boiling

broth for the past ten minutes. She stretched out her other hand to Aviel who took it in her and grabbed my hand in her spare hand. I felt something cold slide onto my palm which was holding onto Aviel's hand I removed my glance from Lady Cassandra's and looked down to see a silver dagger slowly ebbing down Aviel's long black sleeve on to the palm of my hand, leaving ghastly black marks. I tried to yank my hand away from hers, but she was holding it steady fast.

"What are you doing ma'am," despite the dagger I was still being polite to her "you know how silver affects hybrids."

"I know it affects you, Miss Scar and that is exactly why I am doing it. I explained to you that you need to become a subject of your own abilities before you can become a sister."

"When you said subject I didn't think you meant victim."

A sister, does that mean he has more than one; the last 2 hours flickered in my head... OF COURSE!

"You're one of Lady Cassandra's sisters aren't you?"

There was another stinging as she pressed the silver dagger harder into my hand causing some blood to release. I heard a muffled chuckle.

"You could say that."

I glimpsed at Lady Cassandra's face, her usual taught sophisticated look, softened with a smile that reached her eyes. She caught my glance and instantly hardened her glance, but only slightly.

"Are you ready?"

I nodded and squeezed her hand to reassure her, as I felt another searing pain as the dagger approached my wrist, I flinched away but I relaxed as I remembered what this was for. Lady Cassandra squeezed my hand in response, and moved her gaze to Aviel, who in response moved my hand over the bubbling stew.

"Turn it over as soon as you feel the energy flow, and then say your enchantments."

I closed my eyes taking deep breaths opening my magical senses; I could feel the ends of my hair flex and my eyes sting as they

became blackened with bloodlust. I moved my hand closer to the broth the heat made my finger tips tingle, small electric pulses passed through into my manna receiving veins, I could see them glow gold as they filled with raw energy, manna POWER. The energy was flowing and I turned my hand over so my finger tips were hovering millimetres away from the frothing liquid, the enchantments spilled from my lips as though I was speaking in tongues. I caught my body jerking as though the electricity that I could feel running through me had magnified it's intensity a thousand fold, all the while my hands were connected to Aviel and Lady Cassandra. Aviel's head tipped back so the bottom of her neck showed slightly, Lady Cassandra's eyes tipped back. I looked back at my hand as I saw the blood drip down into the liquid causing it to froth more. The electricity picked up speed shooting through my head, indescribable pain and power coursed through my body, causing it to convulse into what I thought were physically impossible shapes. I felt the cold blade of the dagger slip off of my palm; I looked down at Aviel's hand as I saw her pass it to Lady Cassandra. Who then cut a deep gash into her hand, then cut a gash into mine, and pressed the palms of our hand together. The Gash burned I could feel the searing hot pain concentrated on my palm, I resisted the urge to pull away and pushed my hand further into Lady Cassandra's intensifying my grip on Aviel's.

As soon as the electricity had come, it had stopped; I staggered back on to one of the chairs at the end of the long feasting tables.

"It is done."

Even Lady Cassandra's voice seemed a little tired, even though I had brought her, her tea this morning. I could see her swaying slightly, so much so that Aviel had moved over to prop her up slightly. I instantly got up and was holding onto her other side.

"Lady Cassandra, are you alright, what's wrong?"

She laughed slightly.

"I am not as young as you; I have been through many battles. I am just drained that is all."

She lifted her hand, it was still bleeding.

"Madame you should have healed by now, what's wrong?"

She looked at her hand curiously her eyes were slightly unfocused. She pursed her lips and furrowed her eyebrows and I watched as an amber glow came about her gash, it healed over slightly after that. She looked up to me and then moved her gaze to Aviel.

"I wish to be alone now."

With that she drew herself up and walked out of a door that I hadn't seen when we entered. I gave Aviel a withered look.

"You should be heading back to the others now, here wear this. If anyone asks you why, just say you've joined the Sius religion, they shouldn't question you further."

I took the sunglasses and veil, slipping the pin into my hair, before pulling the veil around my face.

"How do I look?"

I grinned beneath the cloth, Aviel patted me on the shoulder.

"You look exquisite, now go. Do not tell anyone of this." She shifted her head forward so her veil swished from side to side.

I turned and briskly walked to the door, before turning back to say goodbye to Aviel, but she had already gone, probably to aid Lady Cassandra. I glanced around one finally time before stepping into the maze of hallways.

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It had been a few more hours since the ritual, so it was definitely early morning hours, I grumbled as I returned back to my usual duties. The floors and tables of the feasting hall smelt just as putrid if not worse, than they looked. Scattered body parts across the tables, my heart ached a little when I saw that some of the animals and humans were still alive, barely, but I dismissed this as I remembered where I was, and who I was. I am part of a real family now; I am Lady Cassandra's "sister". I can't feel sympathy for any of those that are below us, especially those that are ignorant to the evil vile filth that corrupts this earth. I picked up the pieces of meat and put it into the leftovers barrel, before flicking my fingers up to clean the tables, usually I wasn't allowed to do this, but considering that I was now a "relative" I couldn't pass up the opportunity to use my new power. The tables were clean in a matter of minutes, as I returned with fresh plates - especially designed to fit large human and animal limbs on them - to set out ready for dinner. Although my highly attuned senses - even before my coming of sisterhood - recognised that it was early hours of the morning, we were still working to the horde's schedule. Since a fair amount of them were nocturnal because of their lack of defence to the sun, the higher up in the ranks had to then compromise their human sleeping pattern for the sake of our success, which to be fair wasn't that bad of a compromise. I silently slipped down the hidden door to Lady Cassandra's chambers, now freely open to me. The room flickered with an amber glow of the torches by the side of her bed, we couldn't exactly ask for electricity hooked up as humans only saw this as a cave. Slowly I glided to the side of the bed resting on the wall casually just watching her breathe peacefully, of course she had noticed my presence as soon as I had passed outside her door, but she was too exhausted to do anything about it. I flicked my fingers up with my left palm opened out. The steaming cup of tea hovered just above; I could feel my eyes glitter underneath the sunglasses and veil, at my sudden burst in power, but I stifled it as I heard a small groan come from under the silk sheets.

"Madame, Lady Cassandra, I have brought you a booster of tea. It seems like you could use it, Madame?"

I struggled not to pull the sheets away from her, as I knew this would be highly disrespectful, but her breathing was lacking stability and sweat were forming in beads around her creased brow. Again, I could tell that she was aware of my presence in the room, but she was disregarding it totally, her usual air of grace, poise and nobility was snuffed out by whatever pain she was enduring. I sat next to her sinking into the soft layers of sheets and mattresses, patting her back and trying to wake her peacefully, but every time her eyes opened they faltered and they'd lamp shut again. I racked my brain for a charm or a curse that could help.

CLICK! I raised one hand so it was hovering over Lady Cassandra's Crown Chakra and the other played with the ends of my hair, that weren't covered by the veil, so to generate some electricity.

I muttered a few words in an ancient language before a second voice joined me, but they were speaking in Arabic, slow harsh tones with a gentle lulling sound in the middle. They almost were sending me to sleep but I pressed on, I could see the effects working but I could also feel the effects of the other Charm getting to me. I couldn't turn around to see them or my focus on Lady Cassandra would slip and double back with an energy take instead of give. I fought it but the dark clouds started swirling in my mind and my vision was becoming hazy I could hear the thud as my body dropped to the floor but I couldn't feel it. A sharp piercing at my neck followed by a short cackle that was eerily similar to Madame's, but I could see her shape still shivering in her bed, the clouds swirled fast and stringer I felt nauseous. Finally, I blacked out.

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