

Spellcasters; Magic's appearance.

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## Chapter 1: Last Moments

Kate woke up to the sound of roaring voices that echo throughout the house. Kate got up out of bed, and walked into the room she lived in for the past 6 years. The mansion is quiet. The only sound echoing into the house is the voices.

The snow fell outside of her window. She grabbed her jacket and her sweater, and slipped through the back door. A small child stares at the glass from the inside. She opened the door the cold air to come in slightly, and whispered;

"It's bed time, Kate. Be a good girl, and go to bed."

Kate stared at her for quite a while.

"You act like you're older than I am."

"If I keep quiet, can I come with you?"

Kate nodded and the girl scampered off. Few seconds past before she came back, through the doorway. The cold night air stung Kate's face. She slowly walked to the large barn.

4 horses stand in their stalls. The coats on them were dirty.

Kate walked over to Rusty, and placed a much thicker blanket on him. She walked out of the stall and laid down onto a bale of hay.

She could see her breath lingering in the air when she exhales. Her sister came up to her and whispered

"I'm tired too. Can you scoot over?"

Kate stared at her then shook her head. The small child ran out of the barn and into the midnight snow.

Kate stared at her breath lingering for hours, and then little light shines into the barn. Kate got up, staring at the now, rising sun.

She stared at the barn walls in a daze. She stared forward. Few seconds later a rock flies past her face, about 3 inches away from her. In a sort of spiral motion that gives her the intention that the rock is dancing.

In panic she stared at where it came from. Nothing there.

She stared at the rock.

"What is this? Is this place haunted?" Kate asked herself.

Just as she spoke those words the horses went haywire. Kate ran into a stall and tried to see what was spooking Rusty and the others. There was an origami snake on the bottom of the stall. Kate calmed Rusty down, and tried to pick it up. It burnt to ashes in her hands. Kate stared at her hands for a long time.

*Whats going on?* She thought.

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She stood up straight.

"Maybe it wasn't durable?"

She stared up at the roof for a while. There was a slight shimmer right above her. She ran out of the barn. She ran up the creaky stairs, but slipped. She broke through one of the floorboards. She climbed up, and ran into her room.

"What was... that?" She murmured to herself.

She kept wandering on and on about what to do. She decided to investigate the shimmer. There isn't anything else to do. Kate slipped past the voice of her mother, and out the back door.

She opened the barn door and saw the sparkle. Slowly walking up to the hay loft, she found a stick, with the tip sparking.

## Chapter 2: Magic's Appearance

I picked up the stick, sanded, smooth, black-painted wood. Fancy,

the wood was cut with no flaws, and no points on the stick was sticking out. I felt the smooth surface, and the tip stopped sparking.

I flinched, and sighed. I tried to snap the stick, like any other stick, and it wouldn't break. I stared at it, and brought it inside.

The sun was in the sky, now. I ran to my room, and looked at my clock, I'm late for school. I put the stick, my books, and my notebook into my backpack. I open my desk drawer

shuffling through makeup supplies for blind makeovers with my friends. I take pencils, sharpener, and highlighter. I take an eraser from my pencil box, I zipped up my backpack, got my uniform on, and left with my lunch. I might be able to make it in time.

\*\*\*\*

I reached the district, and met up with my friends in the halls.

"You're 30 seconds off from your usual." Irene said.

"Whatever." I yawned. The bell rang.

"Lets go." I said

slipping a text book into my backpack that I forgot to bring home yesterday. They got to the classroom door, and pushed it, the cold door handle got a little warmer from me grabbing it. The door creaked open, to reveal the teacher, and the class.

"Take your seat, Kate." The teacher said,

I sat in my desk. My eyes wandered to my backpack, and it reminded me of the stick. I took my backpack from under my chair, and unzipped it silently, I took out the stick. It looked kinda like a wand.

I zipped it around the air under my desk, and on the floor, appeared a snake. I yelped, and fell back in my chair.

Laughing came from around me, and the snake hissed. Everyone jumped.

"Calm down!" The teacher ordered.

He took the snake's mouth, and held it shut. He took it's body, and picked it up. He left the classroom for minutes.

"Magic..." I said to myself.

I stood from my desk, and put my backpack on. I ran from the classroom. Into the street, down an alley, through a forest patch, and to my house. I opened the barn door, and tripped on something.

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"EEK" I yelled and I hit the ground hard.

"Oww..." There was a cardboard box on the floor under my feet. I opened it, it was filled with books, more of the sticks, and small little figures. I took a book from the box. "Spells Lvl 1-5" The cover said. I put the book back, and carried the heavy box to my room.

"What's with this today?" I asked myself.

## Chapter 3: The Feeling.

yawned, as I stepped out of bed the next morning. I couldn't keep myself awake! I decided to investigate the box.

I slid open my closet door, and opened the cardboard box. A note, never seen by my eyes. Was in the box. I never read it, or seen it the times I looked in there. I took the sticky note from the box. "You are phantom's enemy, Kate."

"Prank huh?" I said to myself.

I folded the sticky note and put it in my pocket. I took the 1st book, and opened it.

"Summons, curses, tricks, and spells. Strange table of contents."

I yawned, again, and got up. I walked to the bathroom, and put the spout to cold, and pulled the handle. Water sprayed from the spout. I filled a cup of water, and pushed the handle, it shut off. I poured the water on my face, and dried it. I felt refreshed, I dried my pajamas off, and got changed. "Start of the weekend." I said to myself.

I took my dirty cloths, and threw them in the washing machine. I put the detergent in, and started it. I yawned, and swung open the door. I stepped out, into the hallways.

I walked into the kitchen, and opened a box of cereal. I got a glass bowl from the cabinet, and poured the cereal into it. I walked towards the fridge, the handle on the door felt cold as ice, and I swung open the door, and got the milk. I opened the cold lid, and poured it into the bowl. I put a spoon into it, and started eating it.

The feeling of dread washed over me, as I put the bowl in the sink, unable to eat more than that.

I got the impression someone was watching me. I walked into the living room, and looked around. Empty, as always. I stepped into the hallway, and stepped up the steps, my feet felt heavy, as I stepped up the steep steps.

A thick smell of clonge went through the air,

"Brother, would you stop stalking me?" I said irritated.

I got to the stairs landing, No one around. I looked to the bottom. No one, I stared around the top, just then a hand grabbed me by the top of the head. It shook me violently, and then threw me into the wall. I let out a yelp, and tried to keep my balance on the stairs, to no avail, I fell.

I tumbled down the stairs in a fast pace, and hit the wall, hard.

"Sorry for calling you out, Brother." I winced.

Blood fell from my forehead, as I looked at the tile floors.

"You better not do it again."

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The scent went away, and I got up. I stepped up the stairs, and into my room. I walked into the bathroom extension to my room, and brushed my teeth.

I tossed the empty tube of toothpaste in the paper bin. I washed my toothbrush clean, and put it in a cup. I got mouthwash,

sifted it around my mouth, and spit it out. The peppermint of the toothpaste stuck in my mouth.

"Ew."

I failed to realize that my cloths were getting too tight for me. I walked to the closet, and stared at myself. I slid it open, and took out a T-shirt, and sweats.

I took off my old t-shirt, my sports bra had blood on it from when I fell down the stairs. I changed into a regular bra, and put the T-shirt on. I took off my tight skirt, and put on sweats. I brushed my hair, and tied it back in a high ponytail.

The doorbell rang, I stepped into my room, and ran down the stairs.

"Coming!"

The doorbell rang again.

"I said I'm coming!" I yelled at the door.

I opened the door, to reveal Irene.

"Irene! What're you doing here?"

"Get your family, and get out of this house now!" She ordered, with panic.



## Chapter 4: Mama, Where Are You?

"W-what? This isn't like you, Irene." I said to her, almost amazed.

"I heard some men in the alleyway. They said 'The Otasion family!'"

My eyes widened, and I ran up the stairs, to my sister's bedroom, I slammed on the door as hard as I can, and the door opened a crack.

"Get out, now!" I said,

and the small girl began to cry. "Go!" She swung open the door, and ran.

The thick smell of clone filled the air, as I ran through the hallways. I went to knock on the door when I felt my foot step in something. In horror, I slowly looked down. It was water. I broke the door open to reveal the window open, and my bigger brother face down on the floor.

His back had been stabbed. I ran over to him, I shook him. He didn't move. I started to cry,

"Big brother, why?" Tears fell onto the corpse, as I had to go to my room.

I took the ring he always wore. "I'm so... So sorry, Brother." I closed my eyes tight, not wanting to look at the horror longer.

I ran into the hallways, and into my room, I searched through my closet, and picked up tons of cloths from both rooms. I tucked my backpack with the money I saved from allowances. A window broke in the basement. I ran to the door, I grabbed a 1st aid kit from my book shelf, and swung open the door. I ran through the hallways, and down the stairs. I rounded the corner, and met the front door, I swung it open to see my friends, and my parents outside, with a worried look on their faces.

We got into the car, and started moving. I stared at the house, as the car passed by. My fist clenched.

I had the box in the car at my feet. It was hidden under the chair of the passenger's seat. I took a book from the box. I opened the book, but it was wizard material. I slid past pages, and got to living magic. "The Origami Phoenix" I guess thats how they all go, origami figures. I took a piece of paper from my binder, and made a crane. I made lots, so I can use them as weapons.

We were on the freeway now, a knife stabbed into the windshield, and I heard my family's screams as the car went off the side of the road, and into a snowy ditch.

I awoke in the car. My parents were gone, and my sister had a fatal wound to the gut. I got up fast, and picked up my little sister. I slammed my foot into the door, and it broke open. I took the box, and climbed the ditch. I landed upon the snow, as I set my jacket under the small child.

I put antibiotics on it, and panicky, I dressed the wound. I dried my hands, and put her coat on her as a blanket. I stared at my binder, and opened the living magic page.

I took matches from my pocket. I read the instructions carefully.

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"Step one; Make an origami crane. Step two; Light it with fire, do not burn it with magic, for it will not work, unless you have the talisman." I went a page back, and saw "Tricks" Hmm. I stood up, and picked up the small child, and my coat. I started walking towards the town, and I knew it would take forever for her to wake up.

Nightfall was upon us, and I stepped into a restaurant. I placed Tina into a chair. I read my book, as someone approached me. I stared in fear as his devil eyes stared down at me

## Chapter 5: Why?

"It's been 3 weeks, you fool! We've kept alive for this long, and all that has happened is near-death-experiences!" I yelled, as the gang's tension grew.

"We have to settle this." Kate said, glaring at me.

I sat down on the couch, hearing a crunch, I reach into my pocket, it was an origami crane. I lit a match, and burned the crane. Ashes fell to an ash tray. The ashes re-lit. Emerged a bird-shaped fire.

"The Phoenix was born." I recited, as I now have control of flames.

"How dare you raise flame over your own kind?!" Kate demanded of me, as I yawned.

I got up, and slapped her.

"I raise flame over who poses a threat. You better get used to who's leader here." She held her cheek as she stared at me.

Something stabbed into my ankle as I fell back. "There are five of us left, you raise flame over one, you raise flame over all." Kate growled as the snake hissed at me. I went silent. I stepped on the snake and it went to ashes.

"Stop it!" Lisa growled, as she jetted water at the both of us. "You guys are fighting like old ladies, would you just shut up?!"

I and Kate went silent.

"Okay, Kyle, I get that you're leader of operations, that does not mean that you have dominance over Kate." I sneered.

"Now Kate, you are a good fighter, rule-keeper, and you have a strong heart and mind. But you cannot make this brain-damaged freak listen to rules." I glared into Lisa, as she looked away.

I walked off towards the abandon mansion. "See you later, weaklings." I said, as I stepped through the rusted doorway. I stared over at the broken hinges, and where the doors used to be, and I walked into the living room.

My eyes wandered to Kate's sacred box. She won't let any of us touch it. I removed the tape on the cardboard box, and opened it.

Just before I peek in, a voice booms behind me. "What're you doing?!" I turn to see Kate. "Nothing." She grabbed the box from me, and ran upstairs.

I sighed, wondering still what may be in that box. I opened my basic book of spells, we have no supplies to keep us safe enough to live safely. No better spells, whatsoever. I sighed, and took a blanket.

"Guys, Lisa's out on watch today, I'm exhausted." I sighed and lied down on the couch, placing the blanket over me. My eyes closed and the world faded to black.

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I couldn't get the box out of my head, what does she have in there? Treasure, food, medicine, anything!

A blare of sound busted into my ears. I flipped up suddenly, spooked by the alarm clock. I turned it off, in fear of waking the others. I looked at the time; "2:30 AM" I sighed, ready for my shift.

I wanted to look inside the box, so bad. I got up, the blanket fell to my ankles, as I tried to step forward, and I face-planted.

I rubbed my forehead, and got up off the tile floors. I creaked up the stairs, and into Kate's bedroom. She was peacefully sleeping, almost like an angel. I spotted the box in the corner of the room. I slowly and steadily walked over to the box, Kate shuffled her position.

I opened the box silently, and a big sight amazed me. All the spells and wands, and monster talisman, so many spell books littered the box. I picked it up, and darted out of the room.

I ran outside, opening the box, and taking out spell books. With this much supplies, we can become masters of magic! I wonder why she'd keep this from us.

I stared over at Tina who's sleeping in the corner. Poor thing, injured pretty bad. I stared at the metal fences around the mansion.

I heard Lisa scream from upstairs. A wave of shock went through me, as I lit a origami crane. "And the phoenix was born." I recited as I darted through the doorway. I slipped on the second-to-top step of the stairs, and fell onto the landing. I got up fast, as my arm hurt, and the flames singed the carpet

I slammed into the door breaking it off its hinges, and saw Lisa missing. Kate ran into my back, and I fell onto the broken door. "Where's Lisa?" Kate asked, as I got up.

"Gone, and not coming back." I answered, as I left down the hall way. I knocked on Rick's door, as it flung open.

"Captain, Lisa's been captured, should we send a rescue party?" I asked, worried about his cold-hearted personality.

"Go if you want to get killed, I don't care." He answered, almost confirming my fears. My words got caught in my throat, and I came out to say. "If we may well die, we will die while looking for our friend."

I could tell he was shocked, He took something from his pocket, and stared at me with it, I couldn't make out what it was. "If you're going out you have to be well armed." He said flatly.

I was shocked now, staring at his emerald green eyes and he walks past me to Kate. He hands her a bow, she was almost weighed down by it. A heavy, strong, long, metal bow stood in her hands.

A pistol drops into my hands as I look at Kate's struggle. "Whats magical about this?" I asked him in a daze of confusion.

His eyes went a little cloudy, then normal, as he grabbed a shotgun. He dropped a bottle of... something in my hands. The silver liquid shined brightly in the dirty water bottle.

"Allow me to rig the weapons." He said flatly. He came back moments later with the weapons, completely normal. "It will adapt to the owner, you will see the special talents." He said, as a magazine of pistol bullets

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knocked me flat on my face.

"I guess I'll have to trust you, huh?" I asked him, replacing the empty shells in the pistol. "Umm excuse me! This has no arrows..." Kate said, trying to pull back the bow. "Its a 70 pound enchanted bow, put the trigger on it." (Triggers are an archery tool where you latch a stick with a trigger onto the string, and you push the trigger to fire after pulling back.)

She attached the foreign tool onto the string, and an arrow appears prompted up by the arrow rest. (Arrow rest is what keeps the arrow on the bow. And how do I know this? I do archery every day, duh.)

An explosion far off was heard. It shook the ground under us, and we fell. Rick got to the window. "Woah! They're bombing the city looking for us! Its on the other side, we just might have time to get out! Move, move! Go!" Rick said, jumping from his crawling state. He grabbed me by my collar on my T-shirt, and took Kate by her arm.

We ran outside, Kate pulled away from Rick and got her box. He grabbed her again, and pulled her along. Tina was running to them fast. "Tina!" Kate screamed, and she slammed her foot into a very unwanted place to be kicked on Rick.

He let go of her, and she grabbed Tina. Her box lied next to her with the contents spilled. Her small figure disappeared in the fog that has now risen. I closed my eyes shaking my head of her in my mind, and Rick threw me into a tree. "We're far enough now." He gasped, as he sat down with his gun.

"K-kate..." I said weakly, as the pressure from me hitting the tree worsened. I fainted.

## Chapter 6

Chapter 6: I Wish; Isn't Real.

I quickly searched through the book, I followed the steps of the first spell I saw, and made an origami snake. "Dig into the earth and make haste, don't let the user's magic go to waste!" The snake moved on the ground and created a tunnel into the earth, with panic me and Tina crawled in with the box. The explosions got near, as we reached the end. I closed my eyes tightly not wanting to see what happens next. "Kate... are we going to die?" Tina asked, as tears welled up in her eyes. I never answered her, I hugged her close. An explosion happened very near, this might be the end.

All I can remember, is being engulfed into the explosion. The crater exposed me, deep pain surged through my body, and Tina was next to me, in the same condition. I felt someone tie my hands, and I was carried away, I could not see Tina, but I hope she was next to me. I blacked out.

I woke in a room, my hands were tied, and the rope was hung up on a steel hook, and chain that goes to the ceiling. I saw an electric circuit control at the top of the chain. I started to panic, nothing could have prepared me for what I saw. Lisa, she was on the ground, water dripped from her mouth, so I'm guessing she was drowned. "Lisa! Lisa! Please!! Wake up! Lisa! LISA!" I screamed, as tears streamed down my face, she was already gone. Lisa was the only salvation I had, to save me from the despair of loosing everyone I had but Tina, now to see her dead in front of my eyes, its terrifying.

Men walked into the room, 3. One closed Lisa's eyes. "Should we make sure we get the library?" The man who closed Lisa's eyes said. He put her body in the same position mine's in, and took out a knife. I closed my eyes, as the deed was done. Lisa's eyes opened, as I looked back. She muttered something that I could not make out. "We got the cords." One of the men said.

A man grabbed a remote, and stared me in the face. "Time to die." He growled, pushing one button on the remote, I didn't realize what it was at first, then it hit me. Pain went through my body, I started to struggle heavily. Another button, I was being electrified, from the inside out. I begun to start to black out, yet they startled me awake.

I begun to struggle even more, unable to escape the web of the killers. I begun to be unable to move my body, am I going to die? The shocks of pain disappeared, and I was sure I was on the verge of death, they stopped the shock on my body, and sat down. They began eating foods and staring over to Tina.

Oh no... not Tina, no! No!

The door busted open suddenly, it was Kyle, and Rick. My body was scorched from the explosions, yet really, its not what it looked like. Kyle's eyes widened at the both of us, he ran to Lisa. Lisa....? Can they see me? Kyle tossed Rick the gun, and Rick got rid of the men.

I blacked out... I think

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