

Beautiful Redemption Study Guide

Beautiful Redemption by Kami Garcia

(c)2015 BookRags, Inc. All rights reserved.



Contents

[Beautiful Redemption Study Guide.....1](#)

[Contents.....2](#)

[Plot Summary.....3](#)

[Lena: Beginning Again, Book 1, Ethan: Chapter 1, Home, Chapter 2, Fried Green Tomatoes, Chapter 3, This Side or the Next, Chapter 4, Catfish Crossin' and Chapter 5, Another Lunae Libri.....4](#)

[Book 1, Ethan: Chapter 6, Silver Button, Chapter 7, Crosswords, Chapter 8, Broken Bottles, Chapter 9, The Stars and Stripes, Chapter 10, Snake Eyes and Chapter 11, Darker Things.....6](#)

[Book 1, Ethan: Chapter 12, Still Here, Chapter 13, Where the Crow Carries You, Chapter 14, Messed-Up Things, Chapter 15, The River Master, Chapter 16, A Rock and A Crow, Chapter 17, The book of Stars, and Chapter 18, Shadows.....9](#)

[Book 2, Lena: Chapter 19, Mortal Problems, Chapter 20, A Deal With a Devil, Chapter 21, Dark Side of the Moon, Chapter 22, Bird in a Gilded Cage, and Chapter 23, Dar-ee Keen.....12](#)

[Book 2, Lena: Chapter24, The Hand That Rocks the Cradle, Chapter 25, Death's Door, Chapter 26, Quantum Physics, Chapter 27, The Cracks in Everything, Chapter 28, Caster Catfight, and Chapter 29, The Hands of the Dead.....14](#)

[Book 3, Ethan: Chapter 30, Lost Time, Chapter 31, Keepers of Secrets, Chapter 32, Throne of Bones, Chapter 33, The Wayward's Way, and Chapter 34, The Caster Chronicles.....17](#)

[Book 3, Ethan: Chapter 35, A Crack in the Universe, Chapter 36, Translation, Chapter 37, What the Words Never Say, Chapter 38, Eleven Across, Chapter 39, A Hymn for Amma, and Epilogue, After.....20](#)

[Characters.....22](#)

[Symbols and Symbolism.....25](#)

[Settings.....27](#)

[Themes and Motifs.....28](#)

[Styles.....30](#)

[Quotes.....32](#)



Plot Summary

Though Ethan Wate has died at the end of the last novel. in Beautiful Redemption he awakes to find himself in his boyhood room with one significant difference. His mother is downstairs. Ethan realizes he is dead, but he enjoys the new found time he has with his mother. His thoughts eventually turn to Lena, and he struggles to find a way to see her. Ethan needs to find a way to communicate with her so that he can let her know he is okay.

When Ethan returns from checking on Lena, he learns from this aunt that his death was a mistake. A man who once worked in the library at the Great Keep tells him how he can change his death and return to the land of the Mortals. Ethan sets out on his mission, but he runs into a snag when the Gatekeeper at the Far Keep refuses to allow him in without a gift. Ethan offers to give him the Book of Moons, hoping this man can keep it from harming anyone else, but he must find a way to get it from Abraham Ravenwood.

Ethan sends a message to Lena asking her to get the book for him. Lena comes up with a dangerous plan. She goes to steal the book from Abraham, but she finds Ridley instead. Ridley agrees to help Lena by setting up a meeting with Abraham at which John agrees to trade himself for the book. Abraham is no longer interested in John, however, and tries to kill him. Macon arrives and kills Hunting, his brother. Abraham is then killed by Link.

Lena takes the Book of Moons to Lila's grave in hopes that Ethan will be able to get it from there, but it does not work. For this reason, they take the book to Amma and learn that they need magic from both worlds to make it cross over. Amma calls the greats while the Ravenwood family uses magic on their side. The book crosses over with the help of Lena's ancestor, Genevieve.

Ethan is finally able to enter the Far Keep. He must pass several tests, first making his way in a maze and then fighting Serafine. In a surprise twist, Serafine sacrifices herself in exchange for Ethan's promise that he will kill Angelus, one of the council members. Ethan then arrives in the Great Keep only to be greeted by the council members and the news that they will not allow him to finish his task. However, the Gatekeeper makes a deal with Angelus that will allow Ethan to try, but giving Angelus the right to stop him.

Ethan and Angelus battle, and Ethan wins. Ethan destroys his page, returning to the Mortal world just in time to watch Amma cross over. Ethan is saddened by Amma's death, but he is pleased to be back in the Mortal world with his friends and Lena.



Lena: Beginning Again, Book 1, Ethan: Chapter 1, Home, Chapter 2, Fried Green Tomatoes, Chapter 3, This Side or the Next, Chapter 4, Catfish Crossin' and Chapter 5, Another Lunae Libri

Summary

Lena: Beginning Again. Lena is struggling to deal with the memory of Ethan's death and the grief that has become overwhelming. Lena has even stopped writing her poetry.

Chapter 1. Home. Ethan wakes and finds himself in his old childhood bedroom. At first he wonders if something went wrong, if he did not die after all. Then he hears his mother's voice downstairs and knows he is dead.

Chapter 2. Fried Green Tomatoes. Ethan finds his mother in the kitchen making her only dish, fried green tomatoes. Ethan is thrilled to be with his mother again. They talk about the time since her death and the messages she often sent him. Ethan's mom tells Ethan what it has been like for her since she died. Later, Ethan begins to think about what he left behind, especially Lena, and asks his mother how he might go and visit her. However, his mother hesitates to tell Ethan how to go back to the Mortal world.

Chapter 3. This Side or the Next. Ethan leaves the house and is surprised to find himself in the cemetery back home. Only instead of tombstones, all the graves have a house sitting on them with the tombstone as the front door. Ethan begins walking through the cemetery, trying to walk into Gatlin, but he keeps coming back to where he started. Ethan tries to imagine himself in Gatlin, but that does not work either. For this reason, he seeks out his aunt, Prue. Aunt Prue seems to have been expecting him. She takes him inside her home where she lives with all five of her husbands and three Harlon Jameses. Aunt Prue tells Ethan that he was not buried in the cemetery, but at Greenbriar. She also says that the Casters have placed Ethan's father under a spell so he will not realize that his son is dead.

Chapter 4. Catfish Crossin'. Ethan asks Aunt Prue how he might go to Gatlin to see Lena, but she will not tell him. However, when she falls asleep he finds a map of Lunae Libri in her hand. Ethan takes this to his mother and she shows him a version of Lunae Libri in the Otherworld.

Chapter 5. Another Lunae Libri. Once at the Lunae Libri in the Otherworld, they search through the shelves to find a spell that will help Ethan get back to the Mortal world. It takes many tries, but they finally make it work.



Analysis

This novel essentially takes up where the last one left off. Ethan is dead. Lena saw him fall even though the reader was not aware of her presence at the water tower the night of his death. This haunts her as she struggles to deal with her grief. At the same time, Ethan finds himself in the Otherworld with his mother and his Aunt Prue, struggling to find a way to get back to the Mortal world and see Lena. The love between the two of them is so strong that both are consumed with grief at the others absence. It is this love that will draw them back together as Ethan finds a way to see Lena.

Discussion Question 1

How did Ethan die? For what purpose? How do the people Ethan left behind deal with his death?

Discussion Question 2

Where is Ethan? How did he get there? What is the purpose of the world Ethan finds himself in? Who is with him?

Discussion Question 3

Why does Ethan want to go back to the Mortal world? What does he want to do there? Can he?

Vocabulary

Obediently, familiar, concentrating, original, frustrated, appeared, problem, habitat, surrounded, hidden, parchments, hauntingly, situation, unsteady, invisible, wistful, gravestone, startled, drawing, whereabouts, graveyard.



Book 1, Ethan: Chapter 6, Silver Button, Chapter 7, Crosswords, Chapter 8, Broken Bottles, Chapter 9, The Stars and Stripes, Chapter 10, Snake Eyes and Chapter 11, Darker Things

Summary

Chapter 6. Silver Button. Ethan opens his eyes and finds himself at Ravenwood. However, Lena is not there. Ethan goes to Greenbriar to search for her and finds himself standing at his own grave. On the cross over the grave is a silver button that Ethan recognizes as belonging to Lena. He pushes it, causing it to fall to the ground. A woman speaks to him. Ethan recognizes her as Genevieve Duchannes, Lena's ancestor who began the curse of her family. They speak for a minute, but are disturbed when Lena and Link come charging through the woods. Lena sees the button has fallen and believes it is a sign that Ethan is there, but Link thinks the wind knocked it over. Lena leaves a note on the grave that says try.

Chapter 7. Crosswords. Ethan goes to his home and hesitates before going to see Amma. When he goes up to the house, he can see her through the window. Ethan cannot get inside, however, because of the salt and charms Amma has left around. For this reason, Ethan makes his way into the house through the old Underground Railroad tunnel he found a few weeks before his death. In the house, Ethan finds that Amma is making his favorite meal and dessert. When the cat comes into the room she seems to see Ethan. To make Amma aware of his presence, Ethan puts his hand on the cake, causing a small piece to fall off. Amma is both frightened and happy.

Chapter 8. Broken Bottles. Lucille, the cat, takes Ethan to Amma's room. There he discovers that most of her tools of the trade in regards to her voodoo religion are gone. On the shelves where she once kept the ingredients for her potions are empty bottles. Ethan takes the cork off one bottle and sees a vision that he realizes is a memory of Amma's of her great grandmother Sulla. Ethan wonders if there are memories of him in the bottles. Ethan's father comes home and he overhears a conversation between them in which Ethan's father wonders about whether Ethan will call any time soon.

Chapter 9. The Stars and Stripes. Ethan needs to communicate with Amma and Lena. For this reason, he goes to the local newspaper office to find a way to use the paper to communicate with them. Ethan wants to alter the crossword to get a message to them. When Ethan's mother shows up, he convinces her to help him.



Chapter 10. Snake Eyes. Aunt Prue is waiting for Ethan when he returns to the Otherworld. She and Ethan's mother fight briefly over telling Ethan something. Aunt Prue then tells Ethan that his death was a mistake and she might be able to help him fix it. Aunt Prue takes Ethan to see a Caster named Obidias Trueblood. Obidias tells Ethan that the fates of all people in the Caster world is written and placed in the Caster Chronicles. However, sometimes futures are written for these people that are never meant to get into the book. Ethan's death was one of those. Obidias knows because he was a worker in the Far Keep and he wrote Ethan's page.

Chapter 11. Darker Things. Obidias tells Ethan that he can change his fate by taking his page from the Caster Chronicles and destroying it. However, to do that he must sneak into the Far Keep and not get caught. If Ethan is caught, he could be punished in dark ways. Obidias tells Ethan exactly how to get to the Far Keep when Ethan makes it clear that he plans to try no matter the cost.

Analysis

Ethan manages to make his way to the Mortal world only to witness the profound grief his loved ones are suffering. Things have changed in Gatlin even as order has been restored. Ethan is desperate to communicate to Lena and Amma in order to let them know he is okay. He has some success getting himself across to Amma, but he wants a clear message to reach them rather than some parlor tricks. For this reason he alters the crossword puzzle in the local paper in order to give them a message. It is a difficult thing and Ethan needs his mother's help, but his love for Amma and Lena is strong enough to make him try.

Ethan returns to the Otherworld only to discover that his death was a mistake. The reader will recall when Ethan saw the Caster Chronicles in the previous novel when the Keepers of the Far Keep came to see Marian. Now Ethan learns that the Caster Chronicles is always being added to and subtracted from by souls who are being punished for various reasons. A man who has since died and come to the Otherworld was one of those. This man wrote of Ethan's death, but it was never supposed to be left in the Caster Chronicles. For this reason, the man tells Ethan that he can restore his life if he destroys that page. It is a dangerous mission, but it is worth it to Ethan to see Lena again.

Discussion Question 1

Why is Ethan buried at Greenbriar? Why is there no tombstone? What does Ethan find on the cross that marks his grave? How does he move it? What does Lena think when she sees it is moved?



Discussion Question 2

Why does Amma bake a chocolate cake? What does she hope it will do? Why does Amma use charms and salt in the house? How do they affect Ethan?

Discussion Question 3

Why does Ethan try to alter the crossword in the local paper? Does he believe this will work? Why is it so important to him?

Vocabulary

Important, straight, program, different, eclectic, directions, secretaries, compared, undeniable, rewrite, bound, innocent, punishment, albino, loopholes, blame, decisions, expected, nightmare, reason, enemy.



Book 1, Ethan: Chapter 12, Still Here, Chapter 13, Where the Crow Carries You, Chapter 14, Messed-Up Things, Chapter 15, The River Master, Chapter 16, A Rock and A Crow, Chapter 17, The book of Stars, and Chapter 18, Shadows

Summary

Chapter 12. Still Here. Ethan returns to the Mortal world and discovers that a significant amount of time has passed. He finds Lena with Macon, arguing over the significance of the button moving on Ethan's grave. Macon is trying to protect Lena by refusing to allow her to get her hopes up. Ethan spends the night with Lena. The next morning, he has to do a few tricks to get Lena to look at the local paper, but when she does, she sees what he did to the crossword puzzle and immediately recognizes it as a message from him.

Chapter 13. Where the Crow Carries You. Ethan returns to the Otherworld, but instead of going to see his mother, he goes in search of the items he will need to get to the Far Keep. Ethan finds a door that takes him to the Greats. Ethan speaks to them, and Sulla easily gives him the stone he needs to pay the River Master. Sulla then tells Ethan that Lena has the other one. Uncle Abner insists on giving Ethan his crow to help him find his way to the Far Keep. Ethan reluctantly accepts.

Chapter 14. Messed-up Things. Ethan returns to the newspaper office and alters another crossword in order to ask Lena to leave the stone he needs at his mother's grave. By the time he returns to the Otherworld, the stone is already there. Ethan then speaks to his mother. She is saddened by his decision to go, but she understands.

Chapter 15. The River Master. Ethan begins his journey and quickly finds himself face to face with the River Master. The River Master seems like an ordinary guy who happens to like to play cards. They play a few hands of Blackjack. When Ethan wins a hand, the River Master agrees to take him across the river for the price of one stone. Ethan is shocked to see there are dead bodies in the river.

Chapter 16. A Rock and a Crow. Ethan continues to follow the path. When he comes to a narrow hole in a mountain he must climb through, he is reluctant, but does it anyway. When he comes out the other side, he is surprised to find a man waiting for him. The man is the Gatekeeper. He tells Ethan that he must pay a price for finding the gates. However, Ethan has nothing to give the man. To give him an idea of what to offer, Ethan talks the Gatekeeper into showing him his collection. Ethan is surprised to find among



the junk the Gatekeeper has an Arc light and several Caster books. When Ethan sees a book called the Book of Stars, he tells the Gatekeeper about the Book of Moons.

Chapter 17. The Book of Stars. The Gatekeeper tells Ethan how he was once a Keeper, but he questioned the use of magic by the Keepers, especially Dark Caster magic. This caused one of the Keepers named Angelus to burn him badly and force him to become the Gatekeeper. For this reason, the Gatekeeper does not believe in magic and will not use the spell books. This is why Ethan agrees to give him the Book of Moons.

Chapter 18. Shadows. Ethan and the Gatekeeper use the spell books to find a way to get a message to Lena asking her to get him the Book of Moons. The spells allow Ethan to go to the newspaper office and create another message for Lena.

Analysis

Ethan finds a reliable way to communicate with Lena. This gives him some peace of mind, knowing that those who love him know he is okay. It also gives him a way to give her instructions when he needs something, such as his request for the black stone. Therefore, when Ethan is in need of the Book of Moons, he is able to get his request to Lena that way as well.

Ethan is on his way to the Far Keep. Ethan is hoping that he might be able to get his page from the Caster Chronicles and undo his death. However, Ethan must pay the Gatekeeper first. When Ethan speaks to the Gatekeeper, he learns of the cruelty of the Far Keeps' Keepers and their use of Dark Caster magic. This was hinted at in the previous novel and suggests to the reader that the Keepers have been corrupted. Perhaps Ethan might find himself doing more than saving his own life when he finally enters the Far Keep, an event that he is now at the mercy of Lena to accomplish.

Discussion Question 1

Why does Ethan leave the Otherworld to go to the Far Keep? What does he hope to do there? How will those actions change his current circumstances?

Discussion Question 2

Why does Ethan promise the Gatekeeper the Book of Moons? How does he expect to get it? Why does he trust the Gatekeeper to keep it?

Discussion Question 3

How does Ethan communicate with Lena? Does Lena know it is Ethan talking to her? How does Ethan use this to get things he needs?

Vocabulary

Disappeared, afford, supernatural, unstitched, difference, message, lecture, uncertainty, creature, important, powerful, treasures, expression, widened, terrible, desperate, possible, expression, hesitation, hardest, destroy, encounter.



Book 2, Lena: Chapter 19, Mortal Problems, Chapter 20, A Deal With a Devil, Chapter 21, Dark Side of the Moon, Chapter 22, Bird in a Gilded Cage, and Chapter 23, Dar-ee Keen

Summary

Chapter 19, Mortal Problems. Lena talks with Amma, Liv, John Breed, and Link about the latest message from Ethan. Link does not believe any of these messages are from Ethan, but the others do. Amma does not have much to say, but the others agree they should do what Ethan asks as it must be for a good purpose. When Ethan's dad arrives home and begins to talk about the oddness of Ethan's long absence, Lena automatically casts another Oblivio cast over him.

Chapter 20. A Deal With a Devil. Lena then meets with Macon, Liv, John, and Link. They discuss how they might get the Book of Moons from Abraham, who stole it from them months ago. Lena tosses out the suggestion that John Breed trade himself for it. Instead, she suggests they find where Abraham lives and steal it. Link and Lena go to talk to the Sisters, hoping they might have some clue where Abraham is living. At first it seems they will not get any information, but then Mercy shows them an old matchbook with the name of a bar where they believe Abraham has been living. Link insists on going to the bar with Lena, but she prefers to take John because he is bigger and stronger than Link.

Chapter 21. Dark Side of the Moon. Lena asks Macon for permission to go to New Orleans, but he refuses. Lena goes anyway. She and John quickly find Abraham's hideout, but they are both weary about going inside.

Chapter 22. Bird in a Gilded Cage. Instead of finding Abraham in his hideout, they find Ridley locked in a cage. Lena releases Ridley after Macon arrives. Macon is angry with Lena for lying to him.

Chapter 23. Dar-ee Keen. Lena meets with Link at the Dar-ee Keen. They talk for a while about Ethan and their attempts to get the Book of Moons. Before Lena can tell Link about Ridley, Ridley herself shows up. Later they go to a Dark Caster bar called Exile. Lena tells Ridley what they need to do to get the book. She agrees to help.



Analysis

Lena is determined to find the Book of Moons for Ethan because she believes it will help him find his way back to the world of the living. However, it is a dangerous quest since Abraham, her mortal enemy, has it. Lena decides to go searching for it without Macon's help. Macon figures it out and comes after Lena. Instead of finding the book, Lena finds her cousin, Ridley, who is a Dark Caster and a Siren. Ridley offers to help, but Lena knows that sometimes she cannot trust Ridley no matter how much she wants to. This sets the reader up for a possible surprise, but with the hope for a good outcome.

Discussion Question 1

Why is Link unhappy with Ridley's return? What is the relationship between them? What does their behavior around each other suggest about their future?

Discussion Question 2

Why does Lena need the Book of Moons? Where is it? Why might it be dangerous to get it?

Discussion Question 3

Why is Link unhappy with Ridley's return? What is the relationship between them? What does their behavior around each other suggest about their future?

Vocabulary

Trade, safekeeping, laboratory, cage, gilded, instead, direction, accidentally, dangerous, counted, buried, distance, possibility, cosmetic, platforms, relationship, darkness, forgotten, seriously.



Book 2, Lena: Chapter 24, The Hand That Rocks the Cradle, Chapter 25, Death's Door, Chapter 26, Quantum Physics, Chapter 27, The Cracks in Everything, Chapter 28, Caster Catfight, and Chapter 29, The Hands of the Dead

Summary

Chapter 24. The Hand That Rocks the Cradle. Ridley arranges for Abraham to meet with Lena in the cemetery in order to exchange the book for John. Lena lies to Macon about her plans. Lena, John, and Link go to the cemetery and find Abraham, Hunting, and Ridley waiting for them. However, Abraham makes it clear he does not want John. In fact, Abraham attempts to kill John. Macon shows up and kills Hunting with magical light. Abraham attacks Lena. Macon turns his light on Abraham. Link kills Abraham by stabbing him in the chest with scientific shears.

Chapter 25. Death's Door. After a brief celebration, Lena takes the Book of Moons to Lila's grave in hopes that Ethan will get it from there. However, this does not happen. When he crow comes and tries to take the book, it burns him. Finally, they decide that the book needs help getting to the other side so they take it to Marian.

Chapter 26. Quantum Physics. After hearing the story, Marian tells everyone that the book probably needs a little help getting to the other side because it is so powerful. She suggests they talk to Amma.

Chapter 27. The Cracks in Everything. Amma meets Lena, Link, Ridley, Liv, and John at Greenbriar. After they tell her what they need, Amma tells Lena that they will need power from both sides in order to move a book of this kind. Amma sends Lena to gather her family.

Chapter 28. Caster Catfight. Lena, and Ridley go to Ravenwood to gather their family. They run into their grandmother who is not happy to see Ridley. Lena begs her grandmother to help her move the book into the Otherworld for Ethan. After some arguing and persuasion from Macon, she agrees. The rest of the family struggles with Ridley's return and her decision to take back her Dark powers, but they also agree to help.

Chapter 29. The Hands of the Dead. When the Ravenwoods arrive, Amma and Macon have some words about Ethan, making it clear to everyone that Amma still blames



Macon for Ethan's death. However, this does not stop them from joining together to help Ethan. Amma instructs them to focus all their power on her despite Marian's fear for Amma's safety. Amma calls the Greats as the Casters focus their power on her. The crow arrives. Slowly the Greats appear, but the book seems to be resisting them. Lena can see in the book all it has hurt. She focuses her desire for it to leave the Mortal world on the book and the Greats. Genevieve materializes in front of Lena. She takes the book, but she gives it to Sulla.

Analysis

Lena arranges to face Abraham, her mortal enemy, even though she knows the dangers of such a meeting. Lena hopes that Abraham will want John Breed back enough that he will bargain with her. Lena does not know how she will protect John, but she believes she can one way or another. For this reason, Lena faces this most powerful Incubus with only John and Link at her side. It does not go well at first. However, in the end Lena and her friends prevail. This ends a rivalry that has gone on since the first book in the series.

Lena has the book, but she cannot figure out how to get it to Ethan. Lena works with all her friends. Finally, they decide to harness the help of the Greats, who are Amma's deceased relatives, and the Casters in Lena's family. It begins to work, but then Lena's ancestor, the woman whose foolish choices caused the Claiming that has destroyed many in her family for generations, appears asking for the book. Lena is afraid she will make the book disappear or do something awful with it. However, she gives it to the Greats so that they might take it to Ethan. Now Lena can only wait and hope.

Discussion Question 1

Why does Lena trust Ridley? Is it possible Ridley could turn on Lena? Does she? Explain.

Discussion Question 2

Who is Abraham? Why does Lena offer him John Breed in exchange for the Book of Moons? What does this say about Lena's determination to help Ethan?

Discussion Question 3

Who is Genevieve? Why does she interfere with the attempt to get the Book of Moons to Ethan? What does it say about Genevieve that she gives the book to Sulla?

Vocabulary

Burnt, darkness, expecting, dematerialize, trembling, obvious, materialized, recognize, laden, charms, weighed, tangled, cascading, intentions, simultaneously, evaluating, punish, mistakes, regal, irreparable.



Book 3, Ethan: Chapter 30, Lost Time, Chapter 31, Keepers of Secrets, Chapter 32, Throne of Bones, Chapter 33, The Wayward's Way, and Chapter 34, The Caster Chronicles

Summary

Chapter 30. Lost Time. Ethan thinks about Lena a lot while he waits for the Book of Moons. While speaking to the Gatekeeper, Ethan has a vision of Sulla. The vision is of Sulla giving a reading to Angelus, one of the Councilmembers of the Far Keep. The man clearly does not like what the cards have to say. The Gatekeeper tells Ethan that Angelus wanted to be able to change fate, so he experimented on himself with Casters. Angelus finally found a Caster who could change him, a woman the Gatekeeper once loved. Ethan grows worried. Then, one day the crow brings the book. Ethan gives the book to the Gatekeeper, and he opens the gates.

Chapter 31. Keepers of Secrets. Ethan walks into a labyrinth. Someone stops him and asks if he is there for the games. Ethan says he is. The man tells Ethan the only way to the Great Keep is the Warrior's Way. Ethan must find it on his own. Ethan struggles, finding dead ends and paths littered with bones. Then Ethan finds a throne. Sitting on the throne is Serafine Duchannes.

Chapter 32. Throne of Bones. Serafine still has her powers, and she is angry with Lena for killing her. Serafine tries to stab Ethan with a dagger, but he moves too far from the throne revealing that Serafine is chained to it. Serafine is also blind. Serafine and Ethan argue. He tells her why he is there, and she is impressed with his bravery. She tells him she wants him to kill Angelus. Serafine increases the power of the flames around her. Ethan tries to save her, but she suddenly disappears. Ethan finds himself in front of the Temporis Porta.

Chapter 33. The Wayward's Way. Ethan goes through the door and begins to search for the library. The Council members appear before Ethan. They congratulate him for passing the first tests. However, they tell Ethan that he cannot get to his page and he cannot return to the Mortal world. It is then that Ethan realizes he was not supposed to kill himself. He was supposed to fail in order to destroy the Mortal world. The Gatekeeper arrives and joins Ethan's side. He argues with Angelus, revealing to all Angelus's desire to end the mortal world. The Gatekeeper then makes a deal with Angelus that he allow Ethan to try to get his page. If he wins, he gets what he wants; if he fails, Angelus gets what he wants.



Chapter 34. The Caster Chronicles. Ethan makes his way through the Temporis Porta to the library door, determined to win this battle for everyone he left behind in Gatlin. Ethan finds the book, but as he approaches it Angelus appears. Angelus tells Ethan that he punished Serafine for failing him. Then he shows him the corpse of Ethan Carter Wate, his ancestor. Now he lies in the river for all eternity. Angelus tries to cross the river, but falls in among the corpses. Ethan then begins to cross the river, but Angelus has cast a spell to call up the dead. Ethan is nearly dragged in by his own ancestor, but then he remembers the stone he has to pay the toll. Then Ethan approaches the book, takes a page, and begins to rip it out. Angelus tries to stop him, but he cannot. Ethan tears up the page and Angelus disappears. Ethan then finds Ethan Carter's page and thinks about altering it, but decides it is too late. Then he rips out his own page.

Analysis

Ethan arrives in the Far Keep, but he has several tests he must complete. First Ethan must find his way through a maze and then fight Serafine. Ethan does both successfully, in part because Serafine decides to sacrifice herself to help Ethan kill Angelus. This shows the reader that there is still some of Izabel inside of Serafine somewhere. It also shows that deep down Serafine still loves her daughter.

Ethan is challenged by the council members when he reaches the Great Keep. They tell him there is no way they can allow him to change his fate. By doing this, some of the truth of Angelus's motives come out. It is clear now that, like Abraham, Angelus dislikes mortals and will do anything to destroy them. He will even warp some of his own laws to make it happen. However, the Gatekeeper arrives and arranges for a fight between Angelus and Ethan, playing on Angelus's sense of superiority over mortals. This works, and Ethan wins. He was able to do so because Angelus refused to admit to being mortal and to having any part of that world. Ethan removes his page and suddenly disappears. Now the reader must wonder if it worked or if Ethan just successfully destroyed himself.

Discussion Question 1

Why does Ethan need to go to the Great Keep? What does he hope to find there? What will it change?

Discussion Question 2

Why does Ethan confront Serafine? What does she say to him? Why does she sacrifice herself? How does this compare to the sacrifice Ethan made in the previous novel?

Discussion Question 3

How does Ethan destroy Angelus? What does this do for Ethan? For the Mortal and Caster worlds? Has Ethan succeeded?

Vocabulary

Electricity, stronger, invisible, chasm, corpses, revision, binding, fate, blackened, parchment, howled, pedestal, zombie, crumbled, direction, controlled, supernatural, flickering, strength, command.



Book 3, Ethan: Chapter 35, A Crack in the Universe, Chapter 36, Translation, Chapter 37, What the Words Never Say, Chapter 38, Eleven Across, Chapter 39, A Hymn for Amma, and Epilogue, After

Summary

Chapter 35. A Crack in the Universe. Ethan finds himself back in Gatlin on top of the water tower. However, Amma has died. Ethan watches as the Greats take her to the Otherworld.

Chapter 36. Translation. Ethan struggles with Amma's death. Then Lena finds him and they reconnect in a way that helps the hurt.

Chapter 37. What the Words Never Say. To the general public, Amma has simply disappeared. She is declared dead by local officials. Ethan continues to struggle with her death. A memorial is planned for her even though Ethan knows she would not want it. Later, Ethan goes out with Lena. Things have changed between them. Now they can touch without it hurting Ethan. Lena tells Ethan her real name is Josephine, daughter of Seraphine.

Chapter 38. Eleven Across. Ethan and Lena go to see Marian at the library. Then they go with Link, who is now with Ridley, John, and Liv. They are like normal teenagers again. Later Ethan and Lena go to Greenbriar as they often do. They talk about the crosswords. Then they look at the latest crossword and find a message from Amma.

Chapter 39. A Hymn for Amma. It is a poem written by Lena celebrating Amma's life.

Epilogue. After. Ethan thinks of all the people he has lost. He also thinks of his experiences in the Otherworld. This helps Ethan to deal with the loss and appreciate what he has found.

Analysis

Ethan returns home just to discover that Amma has given her life for his. Ethan is sad about the loss of Amma, but knows that she is in a good place and happy. Ethan and his friends return to something of a normal life. With everything that Ethan has lost, he has found so much more. So Ethan accepts his losses and values his loves. This shows the reader that Ethan is a strong and mature character.



Discussion Question 1

Why does Amma die the way she does? What happens to her body? For what reason?

Discussion Question 2

What has changed between Ridley and Link? Is this a good thing? What does the reader suspect will come of it?

Discussion Question 3

Why does Ethan drink chocolate milk to those he lost? What does this say about his frame of mind? What does this say about Ethan's character?

Vocabulary

Sweeter, overflowing, hesitating, anymore, spotless, astonishingly, greatness, carpenter, floorboards, rhymes, luckiest, remember, lied, harder, situation, historian, comfortable, reasons, neighbors, realized.



Characters

Ethan Wate

Ethan Wate is a teenager who recently died. Ethan is in the Otherworld when he learns that his death was a mistake and he might have a chance to change it. Ethan takes that chance because he is anxious to be back with the girl he loves. However, to change his fate, Ethan must give the Book of Moons to the Gatekeeper of the Far Keep. To do this, Ethan must contact Lena and place her in mortal danger as she will have to get the book from Abraham Ravenwood.

Ethan trusts Lena and is pleased when the book finally arrives. This is only the beginning, however. Ethan must complete two tasks and battle a council member who has tried to destroy the Mortal world. Ethan succeeds and returns home only to find his surrogate mother has sacrificed herself for him. However, Ethan has finally found peace in his life and looks forward to a happy future with his girlfriend, Lena.

Lena Duchannes

Lena Duchannes is a Caster who is both Light and Dark. Lena has recently lost her boyfriend, and she is devastated by his death. Therefore, she begins to see signs from him everywhere she looks. Her friends and family suspect she is only seeing things, but when she begins getting messages in crossword puzzles, they decide she must be telling the truth.

Lena is forced to face off with her mortal enemy, Abraham Ravenwood, in order to save Ethan from death. Lena does it without hesitation. Thanks to her friends, Lena is successful and is able to help Ethan. In the end, Lena is rewarded when Ethan returns to her world.

Link

Link is Ethan's best friend. In the previous novel, Link was bitten by John Breed and is now a quarter Incubus. This gives Link amazing strength and supernatural powers. Link uses these powers to help Lena get the Book of Moons for Ethan. Link even kills Abraham after everyone has warned him repeatedly that he is not as strong as he thinks he is. Link proves to be something of a hero in this novel.

John Breed

John Breed is an Incubus who is also a Caster. John is an unusual creature who was created by Abraham in hopes of destroying both the Mortal world and ridding the world of all Casters. However, John has proved to be a good person who only wants to do



good in the world. When Ethan needs the Book of Moons, John volunteers himself in a trade with Abraham to get it. Abraham is no longer interested in John, and even tries to kill him. With the help of friends, John escapes to become a free man.

Amma

Amma is Ethan's housekeeper and his surrogate mother. Amma is a Seer, and she has known about Ethan's fractured soul and his future for a long time. Amma swore to everyone that she would find a way to restore his soul and keep him safe. In the end, it is Amma who is able to get the Book of Moons to Ethan so that he might enter the Far Keep. Amma must sacrifice her life for this act, but she does it gladly to save her boy.

Abraham Ravenwood

Abraham Ravenwood is an Incubus. Abraham is also Macon's grandfather. Abraham dislikes all Casters and Mortals. For this reason he has tried over and over again to rid the world of both. Abraham has also teamed with one of the council members of the Far Keep to do this. However, Abraham's attempts have all failed. He is finally defeated in this novel by a Mortal who happens to be a quarter Incubus.

Ridley

Ridley is Lena's cousin. Ridley once worked with Serafine and Abraham to help bring down the Mortals and the Casters. However, she has now become a hero for the good side. As if trying to prove it, Ridley helps Lena and Link get the Book of Moons so that Ethan can return to the mortal world. Ridley and Link end up getting back together, proving that even though her magic is Dark, Ridley is not all bad.

Ethan's Mother

When Ethan dies, he finds his mother in the Otherworld. They spend a great deal of time together, catching up on everything that has happened since she died. Ethan loves his mother very much, and she loves him as well. This is proven by all the help she has given him in the previous novels. However, Ethan must make the decision to leave his mother in order to find a way to return to the Mortal world. She sends him off with best wishes despite her own fears and disappointment.

River Master/Charlie

The River Master is a man who has been punished by being forced to watch over the river in the Otherworld for an unspecified amount of time. Ethan meets him when he makes his journey to the Far Keep in hopes of ripping his page from the Caster



Chronicles and restoring his life. Ethan gives the River Master one stone for each journey over the river. Ethan is shocked to see bodies in the water.

Gatekeeper/Xavier

The Gatekeeper was once a keeper. However, he was punished when he questioned the methods being used by the Keepers. As part of that punishment, the Gatekeeper was burned and then made to be the Gatekeeper, the one who watches over the entrance to the Far Keep. Ethan makes a deal with him to get the Book of Moons to add to the Gatekeeper's collection in hopes that it will never again be used to cause anyone's death.

The Gatekeeper is key in helping Ethan find his page and destroy it. Without the Gatekeeper, Ethan more than likely would have been stopped and imprisoned by the council members, but he appeals to Angelus's greed and arranges for Ethan to battle him. It is because of the Gatekeeper that Ethan succeeds.



Symbols and Symbolism

Chocolate Cake

Amma makes a chocolate cake to appease Ethan's spirit and to make him happy in the Otherworld. This causes the Greats to feel neglected because she is no longer baking for them.

Salt

Amma uses salt to keep spirits out of the house at Wate's Landing. This frustrates Ethan who must find another way in.

Crosswords

Ethan uses crosswords in the local paper to talk to Lena while he is living in the Otherworld.

Stones

Ethan must find two stones, the Eyes of the River, to pay his toll to cross a river on his way to the Far Keep. Ethan discovers these rocks belong to Sulla and Lena.

Bottles

Ethan finds bottles in Amma's room that hold memories from her past.

Crow

The Greats give Ethan the use of a crow to help him find his way to the Far Keep.

Matchbook

Lena uses an old matchbook to locate a bar in New Orleans where she believes Abraham Ravenwood is living.

Underground Railroad Tunnel

Ethan uses the Underground Railroad tunnel to get into his family home when he discovers Amma has blocked him out with charms and salt.



Book of Moons

The Book of Moons is a Caster book that contains spells. When the book is used, a price must be paid. When Amma and Lena used it to bring Ethan back to life, the price was Macon's life.

Book of Stars

The Book of Stars appears to be the Light, or good, version of the Book of Moons. Ethan finds it in the Gatekeeper's collection.



Settings

Gatlin

Gatlin is a small town in South Carolina. This is where Ethan once lived with his family. Lena continues to live here with her Uncle Macon and her friends. It is a friendly small town and order has been restored to it since Ethan's death.

Ravenwood

Ravenwood is the ancestral home of Lena's Uncle Macon. Ethan visits Ravenwood several times while he is in the Otherworld in an attempt to communicate with Lena.

Greenbriar

Greenbriar is Lena's ancestral home. After his death, Macon, Amma, Lena, and Link bury Ethan here secretly in order to protect his father from the ordeal of losing another member of his family.

Otherworld

When Ethan wakes after he falls to his death from the water tower, he finds himself in his childhood home. However, this is not the same home where he grew up, but a version of it that exists in the Otherworld. Ethan discovers that each person who dies lives in their own home in a version of the graveyard until they are ready to move on. Ethan has to learn how to leave the Otherworld and return to the Mortal world in order to check in on those he loves.

Far Keep

The Far Keep is a place where the Keepers, or the ruling class, of the Casters live. Ethan tries to make his way to the Far Keep to steal the page describing his death from the Caster Chronicles. If he succeeds his life will be restored.



Themes and Motifs

Love

Once again, the bond between Ethan and Lena is a major factor to the plot of this novel. Lena and Ethan have a connection that they both felt almost from the moment they met. This bond has seen them through some difficult times. Now it must survive Ethan's death. Lena struggles when Ethan dies, but she believes he is still out there and that love can survive anything, even death. This gives Lena the courage she needs to face her worse enemy and do what she believes will help Ethan come back to her.

While Lena is struggling with the loss of Ethan, so is Amma. Amma blames herself for not being able to change Ethan's fate. For this reason, she struggles with Ethan's death, going so far as to deny it ever happened to Ethan's father. Amma is determined to find a way to help Ethan and to set things right, even if it means giving up her own soul.

Love is a major motivator for Ethan as well. Ethan learns that his death might have been a mistake and that there is a way to fix it. In order to get back to Lena, Ethan risks placing his soul in mortal danger by going to the Far Keep to reverse his death. For these reasons, love is a major theme of the novel.

Life Over Death

Life and Death are two very similar things in this novel. Ethan is dead, but he can go to the Mortal world and watch over the people he loves; but, he cannot communicate with them in a meaningful way. In the Otherworld, Ethan feels as though he is still alive. His body continues to feel whole, and he still fears for his safety as he makes the journey to the Far Keep to reverse his death.

Ethan believes his death was a mistake. For this reason, Ethan fights hard to make his way back to Lena. At the same time, Lena struggles so hard with Ethan's death that she refuses to fully accept it. Amma is struggling with Ethan's death, too. He hides Ethan's death from his own father. No one wants to accept that death is a final thing. No one will see Ethan again. For this reason, life over death is an important theme of the novel.

Friendship

Without friends, many of the things that take place in this novel might not have happened. Without friends, Lena never would have gotten the Book of Moons. Ridley, Lena's cousin and friend, arranges for the exchange with Abraham. John volunteers to be exchanged for the book because he knows that Abraham needs him in his battle against the Mortals and Casters. Macon comes to the rescue and kills Hunting to save John. Link saves them all by killing Abraham.



Ethan too finds that his friends are invaluable. When Ethan gets inside the Far Keep, he first must battle Serafine to get to the Caster Chronicles. Serafine sacrifices herself in exchange for Ethan killing Angelus. The Gatekeeper then shows up and arranges a battle between Ethan and Angelus that allows Ethan into the library to battle for his life.

Many people put their lives on the line in this novel for Ethan. Without friends, Ethan never would have returned to his life. Friendship is an important theme in this novel.



Styles

Point of View

The novel is written in the first person point of view. In this novel, the authors have chosen two main characters as their narrators. The first is Ethan, the narrator of the previous novels. Ethan died in the previous novel, therefore he finds himself in the Otherworld in this novel. Ethan learns there is a way that he might be able to reverse his death, but he needs Lena's help. Lena is the other narrator, taking over in sections of the novel where Ethan has little or no knowledge of her actions.

The point of view of this novel creates an intimate relationship between the reader and the main characters. The reader really cares what happens to these characters because they have shared everything from emotions to thoughts with them. However, the change from Ethan's voice to Lena's is slightly jarring and can cause some confusion for readers who have grown accustomed to Ethan's voice alone. However, overall this point of view works well with the plot due to the fact that Lena's voice has an important role in sharing with the reader some major events that take place in the story.

Language and Meaning

The novel is written in simple English. The novel is intended for a young adult audience. Since the main characters are also teens, the language tends to be the kind one would expect a teenager to use. There is a great deal of slang in the novel, especially words common to the South. There are also a lot of foreign words as the plot revolves around a world that has ancient roots.

The language of this novel works well with the plot because it is authentic to the characters and the intended audience. It is a simple language that even the youngest reader can understand.

Structure

The novel is divided into thirty-nine chapters, each titled by something significant in the chapter. An epilogue and prologue are also included. The story uses both narration and dialogue. This technique allows the author to show the reader the plot, rather than just tell what happens. The novel is presented in a linear timeline, not using any back story except where relevant to the current events.

The novel contains one main plot and several subplots. The main plot follows Ethan as he attempts to reverse his death and return to the Mortal world. One subplot follows Ethan as he learns to navigate from the Otherworld to the Mortal world and attempts to communicate with his loved ones. Another subplot follows the actions of Ethan's friends as they try to help him return to the Mortal world. Another subplot follows the behavior of

Ethan's friends and loved ones after his death, including the ones who are already dead. All of the plots come to a satisfying conclusion at the end of the novel.



Quotes

Other people had flying dreams. I had falling nightmares.

-- Lena (Lena: Beginning Again paragraph 1)

Importance: This quote shows the reader Lena's state of mind as the novel begins.

Maybe I was the only one who had changed.

-- Ethan (Chapter 2 paragraph 3)

Importance: This illustrates Ethan's state of mind as he finds himself in the company of his mother for the first time since her death.

You never told me, Mom. I didn't know anything about you being a Keeper.

-- Ethan (Chapter 5 paragraph 9)

Importance: This quote is Ethan confronting his mother on some of the lies he discovered after her death.

I couldn't get myself to move. I didn't want to. I wanted to watch the sun dip behind the house, behind the clotheslines and the old trees and the hedge. I want to watch the sunlight fade and the lights in the house go on.

-- Ethan (Chapter 7 paragraph 8)

Importance: This is Ethan's reaction to seeing his childhood home for the first time after his death.

i knew what I had to do, and I knew where I had to go.

-- Ethan (Chapter 9 paragraph 16)

Importance: This quote is Ethan figuring out how to communicate with his loved ones after his death. This expresses how important it was to Ethan to be able to do this.

I can't leave. I'm Bound to the Gates. If I venture too far from them, I'll continue to change.

-- Gatekeeper/Xavier (Chapter 17 paragraph 5)

Importance: This quote is the Gatekeeper explaining why he remains close to the gates.

When he unfolded his new quarter-Incubus body like that, he took up most of the kitchen. There were arms and legs everywhere, like a praying mantis, only with muscles.

-- Lena (Chapter 19 paragraph 12)



Importance: This quote describes to the reader what a change being a quarter Incubus has made in Link's body, something that will prove important later in the plot.

True to Gatlin form, the worst of the damage had already been hidden under the layers of fresh dirt Ridley was standing on now.

-- Lena (Chapter 24 paragraph 3)

Importance: This quote refers to the way in which the people of Gatlin tend to ignore or bury the evidence of the Caster world.

This book is too powerful for one world. If you want to send it from the world a the livin' to the world a the dead, we'll need the power a both worlds to send it.

-- Amma (Chapter 27 paragraph 35)

Importance: This quote explains how Amma plans to send the Book of Moons to Ethan.

And I'll be waiting.

-- Ethan (Chapter 30 paragraph 13)

Importance: This is the end of a speech Ethan makes to Lena while waiting for the Book of Moons. This shows Ethan's motives to find the book and return to Lena.

She had sacrificed herself so I would have a chance to make it to the Great Keep, even if hate was her only motivation.

-- Ethan (Chapter 33 paragraph 3)

Importance: This describes what Serafine did to help Ethan. It is a comparison to Ethan's sacrifice in the previous novel, bringing some irony into the plot.

Life has never tasted sweeter.

-- Ethan (Epilogue, After paragraph 66)

Importance: This is the final line of the book, summing up Ethan's feelings as he faces life with his losses and his blessings.