

Betrayed: A House of Night Novel Study Guide

Betrayed: A House of Night Novel by P. C. Cast

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



Contents

Betrayed: A House of Night Novel Study Guide.....	1
Contents.....	2
Plot Summary.....	4
Chapters 1 and 2.....	5
Chapters 3 and 4.....	6
Chapters 5 and 6.....	8
Chapters 7 and 8.....	10
Chapters 9 and 10.....	11
Chapters 11 and 12.....	12
Chapters 13 and 14.....	14
Chapters 15 and 16.....	15
Chapters 17 and 18.....	16
Chapters 19 and 20.....	17
Chapters 21 and 22.....	18
Chapters 23 and 24.....	19
Chapters 25 and 26.....	20
Chapters 27 and 28.....	21
Chapters 29 and 30.....	22
Chapters 31 and 32.....	23
Characters.....	24
Objects/Places.....	27
Themes.....	29
Style.....	31
Quotes.....	33
Topics for Discussion.....	35



Plot Summary

Betrayed is a novel that is part of the House of Night series by mother and daughter authors P.C. Cast and Kristin Cast. The story follows the main character, Zoey Redbird, as she lives and attends school at the House of Night to undergo the Change from a fledgling to a vampyre. Zoey Redbird is the new leader of the social group at the House of Night, the Dark Daughters and Sons. Zoey is also the only fledgling that carries the Mark, which is a tattoo Zoey earns from saving the life of her human ex-boyfriend, Heath Luck.

As Zoey prepares for her first ritual as the new leader of the Dark Daughters and Sons, football players from the local high start to go missing. Zoey knows the boys from her previous relationship with Heath. One by one, the kidnapped murders turn up as murder victims. The boys die of numerous lacerations, bite marks, and loss of blood. Zoey believes someone is murdering the boys, but trying to make it look as if they are vampyre attacks.

While Zoey is trying to figure out who is murdering the boys, she also has apprehension about her mentor, who is also the High Priestess or principal of the House of Night, Neferet. While Neferet is supposed to help guide Zoey through the process of turning into a vampyre, it seems as if Neferet is somehow involved in betraying Zoey. As Zoey continues to investigate the kidnappings and murders, she ties Neferet to recent fledglings that have died during the change, but seem to be wandering the courtyard of the House of Night when the rest of the students are asleep.

After Zoey's roommate and best friend, Stevie Rae Johnson, dies of the Change, Zoey sees Stevie Rae in the courtyard. Zoey realizes Neferet has something to do with changing the dead fledglings into evil creatures. The same evil creatures are responsible for the kidnappings and murders of the high school boys. When her ex-boyfriend Heat goes missing, Zoey has a vision, which leads her to Heath and the underground world where the evil creatures are living. Zoey saves Heath's life, but vows to bring down Neferet at the right time for her part in the murders of the boy and what Neferet is doing to create evil creatures.



Chapters 1 and 2

Chapters 1 and 2 Summary

In Chapter 1, the novel opens in the school cafeteria, where friends Zoey, Shaunee, Damien and Erin are talking about a new girl at school. It is also Parent's day at the school, so most of the students are awaiting a visit from their families. While Erin and Shaunee's parents are not visiting, Damien's and Zoey's are, so they head off to the ballroom where the students meet with their parents. Zoey's mom, stepfather and grandmother meet her there. When Zoey's mom sees the Mark and Neferet explains what it is for, John speaks against the House of Spirit beliefs. Neferet demands his respect while he is in her "home" just as she respects his beliefs. Neferet requires John to choose tolerance or to leave and never return. He chooses to leave and never return and Zoey's mother follows him.

In Chapter 2, Neferet dismisses Zoey from the reception hall and Zoey wanders into the garden outside of the dining room. She heads toward the trickling fountain in the middle, thinking of her almost boyfriend, Erik, and trying to get her mind off her mom deserting her. Zoey's thoughts are interrupted by three voices, Aphrodite, the girl Zoey took the place of as the leader of the Dark Daughters and her parents. Aphrodite's parents are scolding her for losing her position and tell her she must get rid of Zoey and earn back her leadership role. After eavesdropping, the three return to the reception hall and Zoey goes on to her dorm.

Chapters 1 and 2 Analysis

The House of Night appears to be a school where humans undergo vampyre training. It is inferred that Zoey's grandmother is a vampyre because she knows the High Priestess, Neferet, of the school, and shakes her hand with the traditional vampyre greeting. Zoey mentions that her mom, Linda, changed after marrying John, which foreshadows that once believed in vampyres and the way of the House of Nights. Zoey's place as the head of the Daughters of Dark also foreshadows that she might become a High Priestess before the novel ends.

Overhearing the conversation Aphrodite is having with her parents foreshadows that there will be a competitive battle between Aphrodite and Zoey as the novel unfolds. Ironically, even though Zoey and Aphrodite hate each other, the way her parents treat her makes Zoey feel sorry for Aphrodite.



Chapters 3 and 4

Chapters 3 and 4 Summary

In Chapter 3, Zoey and Stevie Rae are walking to first hour while Zoey tells Stevie Rae about the conversation she overheard with Aphrodite and her parents. Stevie Rae tells Zoey not to let her guard down and to watch out for Aphrodite. As Neferet enters the room to teach the class, Zoey has an overwhelming feeling to become Neferet. Zoey asks Neferet to excuse her from class to go to the media center and come up with new ideas for changes to the Dark Daughters. On the way to the media center, Nala, Zoey's cat jumps into her arms. At the House of Night, cats roam free and cats choose their owners rather than the other way around. Zoey conducts Internet research on prep schools. Loren Blake, Vampyre Poet Laureate, snicks up behind Zoey and scares her as she is taking notes from her research. Loren asks what Zoey is researching. Zoey tells him she wants to implement a new set of rules and standards for acceptance into and maintaining membership in the Dark Daughters. Aphrodite interrupts them to check out books and then flashes Zoey a wicked smile.

In Chapter 4, Zoey wants to tell Stevie Rae about her encounter with Loren and about Aphrodite overhearing them, but not in front of the Twins and Damien. Zoey does tell them about her ideas for the Daughters of Darkness, including pairing the five ideals with each of the five elements. Zoey's friends think it's a great idea and nominate Erik Night as one of the upper classmen that needs to be on the seven-seat council. Zoey suggests the second older classmen be one of Aphrodite's inner circle, which sets her friends into an uproar. The group decides the Council Members should place their handprints and signatures in the courtyard. As Zoey goes to Neferet's office to tell her about her new ideas, Zoey overhears Aphrodite telling Neferet what she saw. Neferet responds with anger toward Aphrodite, accusing her of not seeing the things she speaks of at all.

Chapters 3 and 4 Analysis

Aphrodite's vindictive ways, plus her parents egging her on, foreshadows Aphrodite doing mean things to get Zoey bumped out of her leadership position. It seems as if the changes Zoey plans to make in her leadership role is to model the House of Night after prep schools, such as Kent, where Shaunee went to school prior to being Marked and coming to the House of Night.

Aphrodite overhearing Zoey's plan foreshadows Aphrodite trying to steal Zoey's ideas to replace Zoey as the leader once again. Zoey is trying to set a foundation with the changes of the Dark Daughters and Sons that can carry on for years to come. She wants to make the group more than a social group and increase the level of members by raising the bar on the standards members have to meet to join the group. In addition, she is trying to stay open-minded so as not to start a war with Aphrodite. Aphrodite

telling Nefert what she saw indicates she is telling Neferet that she saw Loren touch Zoey's face in the library.



Chapters 5 and 6

Chapters 5 and 6 Summary

In Chapter 5, after overhearing Aphrodite and Neferet, Zoey goes on to class, but her stomach hurts all through her Spanish and equestrian classes. By the end of her equestrian class, her stomach feels better because her horse, Persephone, calms Zoey down. Zoey leaves the stables and walks back to her dorm room through the courtyard where she runs into Nala. Zoey remembers seeing two ghosts in the courtyard, so she tends to avoid walking through the courtyard at night by herself. The first ghost Zoey thinks she saw was a fledgling by the name of Elizabeth that died during the Change. The second was Elliott, another boy that dies during the Change in front of Zoey's lit class. Later that night, Elliott's ghost tried to attack Zoey and the kitten Nala, but Nala protected Zoey and Elliott scaled the wall away from the school. Zoey sees a figure standing under the big tree near the wall of the courtyard, which turns out to be Loren, so Zoey walks over to talk with him. As they talk, Loren asks to see Zoey's Mark on her shoulder and back. As she pulls off her jacket and tank top strap, Loren continues to gaze into Zoey's eyes. Eventually, he looks at the Mark, comments on how beautiful it is, and then breaks the connection in the gaze between him and Zoey. Loren leaves and Zoey heads back to her dorm to talk to Stevie Rae about her feelings for Loren.

In Chapter 6, when Zoey enters her dorm room to tell Stevie Rae about what happened with Loren, Zoey finds all of her friends glued to a newscast on the TV. It's reporting the disappearance of a football player that is a player with Zoey's ex-boyfriend, Heath. As Zoey and her friends sit at the table eating dinner in the cafeteria, Neferet asks Zoey to eat dinner with her. As Aphrodite sees Zoey following Neferet, Aphrodite gives Zoey a look of pity.

Chapters 5 and 6 Analysis

Lenobia can tell that something is bothering Zoey, so she offers her assistance or ear if Zoey ever needs help or someone to listen. It's ironic that Lenobia would offer her assistance to Zoey because kids are supposed to take their problems to their mentors, which in Zoey's case is the High Priestess Neferet. At the same time, Zoey does appreciate the offer. When Elliott's ghost attacks Zoey and Nala in the courtyard, Nala comes back with blood on her, which is ironic since Elliott is a ghost and not alive or a vampire. It seems as if Loren is flirting with Zoey and Zoey is flirting back. The irony of it is that Loren is much older than Zoey and is a professor at the school. It might be that Loren holds some kind of spell over Zoey or it could just be a natural attraction between a man and woman.

Zoey's bad feeling about the high school football player's disappearance foreshadows a correlation with the vampires because he was last seen in a park close to the House of Night. Zoey having a bad feeling in her stomach about Neferet might indicate Neferet is



involved in the high school football player's disappearance or other bad things happening at the Dark Night House. Aphrodite's look of pity indicates that Zoey might be in trouble with Neferet.



Chapters 7 and 8

Chapters 7 and 8 Summary

In Chapter 7, as Neferet and Zoey sit in the vamps' dining area on the patio, Neferet asks if Zoey is okay from hearing about the football player's disappearance. Neferet tells Zoey that Nyx has withdrawn Aphrodite's powers to see catastrophes in the future and to report any erratic behavior on Aphrodite's part to Neferet. Zoey tells Neferet about her plans for the council and that she thinks the Dark Daughters should get involved with the rescue charity for cats.

In Chapter 8, while leaving dining with Neferet and returning to her dorm, Zoey realizes she forgot to tell Neferet about seeing the ghosts. Zoey decides to save it for a later conversation. Zoey realizes she needs a book from her locker for an essay that is due on Monday. When she opens her locker, she finds a poem, a haiku, from Loren. Zoey is in her dorm room with Stevie Rae and she tells Stevie Rae about all of the details of running into Loren in the library, by the tree and the poem he left in her locker. Stevie Rae asks about Erik being Zoey's boyfriend, but Zoey says it's not official. Stevie Rae implies that Erik has done everything he has to do to show it is an official relationship. Zoey also tells Stevie Rae about Aphrodite seeing Loren touch Zoey in the library and about hearing the conversation between Aphrodite and Neferet. Zoey and Stevie Rae meet the Twins and Damien to watch a movie when they see a newscast that the body of the missing football was found in the river and that another football player from the same team is missing. Zoey walks to the stables to groom Lenobia to calm down when she finds Aphrodite on a bench crying. Aphrodite says she's having a vision about the water being so cold. When Zoey walks away, Aphrodite tells Zoey she has to listen to her or Zoey's Grandma will die.

Chapters 7 and 8 Analysis

Neferet finds it ironic that Zoey wants to include one of Aphrodite's inner circle on the council. She also finds it ironic that Zoey wants to involve the school with a human charity. Neferet finds humor in the charity Zoey chooses because the cats at the House of Spirits choose their owners instead of the owners choosing their pets.

Stevie Rae says that Loren and Zoey are a metaphor for Romeo and Juliet because of their forbidden love. Zoey is having an inner struggle because she is different than all of the other kids at the school. She is the only one that is Marked and has an affinity for all of the five elements. At the same time, all Zoey really wants to be is normal, which is ultimately impossible because she is not normal. Stevie Rae draws the same conclusion Zoey does about Aphrodite telling Neferet that Loren was touching Zoey's Mark in the library. Zoey and her bad feelings suggest that Neferet is somehow involved in everything that is going wrong in and around the House of Night. Aphrodite's vision implies that she is seeing what happens to the football player.



Chapters 9 and 10

Chapters 9 and 10 Summary

In Chapter 9, Aphrodite tells Zoey she sees her grandmother's Saturn in the Arkansas River because the bridge collapse and he grandmother cannot get the door open. Aphrodite smirks and accuses Zoey of believing her visions now. Zoey tries to drag her to Neferet, but Aphrodite says she won't tell Neferet. Aphrodite trades a future favor with Zoey for information on saving her grandmother. Zoey finally gets it out of Aphrodite which bridge it is, calls her grandmother to stay home and then comes up with a plan to save the rest of the people crossing the bridge.

In Chapter 10, Zoey rushes back to the dorm to tell her friends the short version of Aphrodite's vision. They think she may be trying to get Zoey in trouble, but Zoey believes Aphrodite because of the way Aphrodite looked when she was having the vision. Zoey and her friends come up with a plan to call the FBI with Damien's disposable cell phone to call in a bomb threat for the bridge to shut it down and save the people from dying. Two detectives come to question Zoey about the football player's death. The cops also question her about her cutting and drinking Heath's blood. The detectives ask if Zoey recognizes the necklace they show her, which is the necklace that the leader of the Dark Daughters wears.

Chapters 9 and 10 Analysis

Zoey is not sure whether to believe Aphrodite or not because Neferet told Zoey not to believe her visions. When Zoey finds out the vision is about her grandmother, however, she starts to believe Aphrodite. While Zoey's grandmother believes what Zoey is saying, she finds it ironic that Zoey believes Aphrodite. It could be a ploy on Aphrodite's part to make Zoey look crazy so that Nyx will give Aphrodite back her powers and her leadership role.

Zoey and Neferet put a spin on the true story. The first time Heath and Zoey;s ex-best friend, Kayala, came to the House of Night, they came to try to break Zoey out. When Zoey lapped up Heath's blood after scratching him, Kayla saw and freaked out. Zoey tells the cops that Kayla likes Heath and when she saw Zoey and Heath kiss, she freaked out, which is why Kayla probably called the cops on her. It seems as if Aphrodite might be setting Zoey up for involvement in the murder and disappearance of the boys.



Chapters 11 and 12

Chapters 11 and 12 Summary

In Chapter 11, Zoey identifies the necklace as that of the Dark Daughters and sons. The detectives say they found the necklace near the dead football player's body and that they want to see her necklace. The detectives reveal the boy died from multiple lacerations and complete loss of blood. Zoey's alibi for the time of the killing is she was in class. The detectives then ask to question Loren Blake, but Neferet lies and says he left yesterday morning before dawn to go to the East Coast school, but Loren was with Zoey at the wall during that time.

Zoey returns to her dorm and tells her friends about the questioning. She also checks and finds that her necklace is safely in her room. It cannot be Aphrodite's necklace because Neferet took Aphrodite's necklace from her and gave it Zoey. Zoey tries to fall asleep that morning by counting sheep. She dreams that the sheep turn into the football players and that the shepherdess is Neferet and then Loren Blake. Neferet grabs the sheep that turns into the murdered boy, cuts his throat and drinks his blood. Then Loren is the one drinking his blood. Zoey wakes up from the dream and starts putting concealer on to cover her Mark. Zoey drives her VW bug into town to buy a red sweater and then sits down to enjoy breakfast at Starbucks. While sitting at an outside table, she feels someone staring at her and when she looks up, she sees her ex-boyfriend Heath standing across the street.

In Chapter 12, Heath is putting up flyers for the missing football player. Heath tells Zoey that he wasn't sure if she was really there because he sees her a lot. Zoey thinks it's because Heath is drunk or high, but Heath says he quit doing both a month ago and this is why he's been calling Zoey so much—to tell he's changed. Zoey finds herself attracted to him, which is bloodlust from previously tasting his blood. Heath begs for Zoey to come back to him, but she tells him they cannot be in a relationship. Zoey admits that what he is feeling is part of the Imprint, which is a connection that forms between the human and the vampyre that drinks their blood. Heath denies this since he's been crazy about Zoey since the third grade. He tells her Kayla thinks that he and vampyres have something to do with the dead and missing football player, but that Heath doesn't believe it. Zoey realizes she has 15 minutes to make it back to school to make the phone call to the FBI, so Heath walks her to her car and gets in the passenger side. While Zoey is trying to get him out, he pulls a knife out, cuts his necks and beckons Zoey to drink his blood, which she does.

Chapters 11 and 12 Analysis

There is a foreshadowing that when Zoey takes the detectives to her room to show them her necklace that the necklace will be gone. It infers that someone is setting Zoey up for the murder of the football player and the missing football player. The detectives



are inferring it could be a vampyre attack, but the news is reporting it as a mauling by an animal. Neferet might be lying to protect Blake because he does not have a valid alibi for the time of the murder. It's possible that Neferet set up the murders or knows something about the murders, which is why she is lying to protect the vampyres.

Zoey's dream may be a dream or it may be a vision of what she knows occurred because of her instincts. Zoey covering the Mark indicates she is leaving the House of Night grounds to go out into the real world. Zoey foreshadows something bad happening after she leaves the school grounds because she says she should have listened to her internal hesitation.

Heath putting up flyers foreshadows he will be the next football player to disappear. The second football player went missing when he was putting up flyers about the first missing football player. Kayla spreading rumors validates the belief that she is the one that went to the police and turned them on to Zoey. Zoey drinking more of Heath's blood is going to make the Imprint even stronger and complicate many of Zoey's relationships, including her relationship with Erik. It may even get her in trouble with Neferet.



Chapters 13 and 14

Chapters 13 and 14 Summary

In Chapter 13, while Zoey is drinking Heath's blood, she is moaning. Heath has an erection and grabs Zoey's butt and squeezes one of her breasts. Someone knocks on the window and tells them they cannot make out there. Zoey gives Heath a Kleenex to stop the bleeding on his neck and Heath talks Zoey into meeting him again on Friday night after the football game. Zoey drives away. Zoey returns to the dorm room bathroom and calls in the bomb threat to the FBI and the news. Stevie Rae wakes up and Zoey tells her about running into Heath. Then, both girls go to eat breakfast and watch the news.

In Chapter 14, Zoey and her friends are watching TV when there is break in for a news report reporting the bomb threat. Aphrodite walks up behind them and tells Zoey good thinking about calling in the bomb threat. When the other girls start bickering with Aphrodite, her attitude changes back to normal and she winks at Zoey as she leaves. Damien tells Zoey and the girls that they have to go set up for the Full Moon Ritual tomorrow. While they are in the rec room kitchen, Neferet brings in the new boy, Jack Twist, whose mentor is Loren Blake and the new roommate of Erik Night. Since both Loren and Erik are away, Neferet asks Zoey and her friends to help show him around. The girls predict that Jack Twist is gay, while a bunch of the jocks offer their help in setting up for the ritual.

Chapters 13 and 14 Analysis

Zoey drinking Heath's blood is symbolic of a sexual act. The rush that Zoey and Heath feel is the same as if they are having sex. For now, Zoey and her friend believe they have saved the people that might have died crossing that bridge. Zoey, however, doesn't feel it is the end of the problems she faces. Aphrodite is trying to maintain her bad girl image with Zoey's friends, but at the same time show Zoey that she is on her side. Zoey is not sure whether to completely trust Aphrodite or not. It seems as if attitudes in general are changing around the school because the jocks that used to help Aphrodite set up for the rituals offer to help Zoey and her friends, even Damien, which they usually show distaste for because he is gay. It may also foreshadow the jocks being involved in a plot to sabotage Zoey.



Chapters 15 and 16

Chapters 15 and 16 Summary

In Chapter 15, someone flips on the TV while they finish setting up the room for the ritual. The news is reporting the bomb threat was a hoax, but that the pilot of the barge had a heart attack and the paramedics and fire department close in the area were able to save his life. The group realizes the Aphrodite's vision was true. The group decides to get something to eat and gets into a snowball fight between the rec room and the cafeteria. Zoey dismisses herself to go to the library to work on her ritual. Zoe chooses an old traditional ritual book while having an inner struggle about her feelings toward each of the three men in her life. Ironically, Zoey realizes that the only one she can talk to about what she's feeling is Aphrodite. When Zoey opens the ritual book, someone has left a poem in it addressed to Zoey.

In Chapters 16, Zoey leaves the library with the writing of her ritual a few hours later. The snowstorm is heavier than it was. As she crosses the courtyard to return to her dorm, she notices a figure cloaked in a scarlet cape running toward the wall where the trapdoor is. Zoey follows the cloak figure, who is Elliott, the boy that supposedly dies in her class, meeting Neferet. Neferet and Elliott have a conversation that Zoey only catches some of when Neferet cuts her wrist and allows Elliott to drink her blood.

Chapters 15 and 16 Analysis

It appears as if someone, either Aphrodite or Loren, is having visions about Zoey's feelings and that she has been drinking blood when she is not a full vampyre yet. The poem addressed to her indicates it is Loren. It might also be Aphrodite since she saw Loren and Zoey together and would assume the type of book Zoey would turn to for help in writing her own ritual. The nagging feeling inside of Zoey reveals that the worse of happenings is still yet to come. Neferet mentions "her children" when she is talking to Elliott, which indicates that Neferet is doing something to certain students that makes it appear as if they are dying from the Change.



Chapters 17 and 18

Chapters 17 and 18 Summary

In Chapter 17, when Zoey returns to the dorm, everyone is still talking about the snowball fight. She asks Damien if he ever heard of fledglings that died coming back to life. Zoey tells everyone she saw Elizabeth and then Elliott's ghosts out by the east wall. A news report comes on to announce the second missing football player was found dead in a stream a few blocks from the House of Night. He too died from lacerations and blood loss.

In Chapter 18, Zoey returns to the dorm with Stevie Rae. Stevie Rae and Nala fall asleep. Zoey reads her Soc textbook on bloodlust and imprinting. She also reads that an adult vamp allowing a fledgling to drink her blood, like Neferet allowed Elliott to is prohibited.

Chapters 17 and 18 Analysis

It appears as if someone is trying to make it look like vamps are killing high school teenage football players. The fact that the second body was found in a stream that the Daughters of Darkness cross for their rituals seems to point the planting of the body at someone from the House of Night, specifically a member of the Dark Daughters, or someone trying to make it look as if it is a member. In addition, it foreshadows Neferet creating a new breed of vampyres that are the walking dead, which is the direct opposite of the fledglings that live through the Change.

One of Zoey's powers appears to be using her mind to make her presence known in other places. Zoey conjures up a vision of Heath in his bed in her head. When she comes back from her vision, Heath sends her a text message telling Zoey he felt her there and makes Zoey promise to meet him on Friday. The rule prohibiting fledglings from drinking vamp blood does point to Neferet possibly creating another race of vampyres through her actions.



Chapters 19 and 20

Chapters 19 and 20 Summary

In Chapter 19, Shaunee wakes Zoey and Stevie Rae because they are going to be late for Erik's performance of his Shakespearean monologue. Erik places first in the competition, which is of 125 contestants from 25 of the House of Night campuses. When he gives his monologue, he speaks directly to Zoey in the audience. When they meet after the performance, Aphrodite walks by and mentions that if Zoey is Erik's Shakespearean character that he may strangle her in her sleep for cheating on him. Erik gives Zoey a new dress for her ritual, which she goes to set up for right after seeing Erik.

In Chapter 20, Zoey and her friends are setting up the rec room for the ritual. Zoey gets one of her feelings and realizes that Nyx has gifted each of her four friends with an affinity - Steve Rae for earth, Damien for air, Shaunee for fire and Erin for water. Neferet enters the room and states that Nyx has gifted Zoey's friends and how lucky they all are. Neferet announces Zoey's vision for the group as if it is her own idea instead of Zoey's.

Chapters 19 and 20 Analysis

Aphrodite is foreshadowing that she may reveal Zoey's cheating to Erik to try to win him back as her boyfriend. Stevie Rae continuously being tired, having a headache and not looking like herself foreshadows that she may be falling ill from the Change.

It appears as if Neferet is an enemy of Zoey's, but Zoey hasn't figured out what the catch is yet. Neferet is up to something, such as making herself look good in front of the Dark Daughters and Sons, while doing illegal things, such as allowing a fledgling to drink her vamp blood, behind the scenes.



Chapters 21 and 22

Chapters 21 and 22 Summary

In Chapter 21, as Zoey is about to start the ritual, she is also trying to hide her anger from what Neferet just did to her. Loren interrupts the beginning of the ritual, scaring Zoey. He asks to introduce the High Priestess in training with a poem. Loren starts an introduction that tells the audience that it is Zoey that came up with the new ideas for the Dark Daughters and not Neferet. After the poem, Zoey starts the ritual by conjuring up each element as she goes to each of her friends in the circle holding the candle that represents their affinity.

In Chapter 22, Zoey finishes her first ritual successfully. Zoey and Stevie Rae want to make the handprints in the cement and go after the ceremony is over. As Stevie Rae finishes her handprint and signing her name in the cement block, she starts to cough up blood, which indicates she is dying from the Change. Zoey runs to her while screaming for Erik to get Neferet. Zoey asks Damien to hold the candle representing earth in front of Stevie Rae as she asks for the earth to make Stevie Rae's journey home a peaceful one. Neferet rushes into the room with a vial for Stevie Rae to drink so that her passing is painless, but Stevie Rae refuses it. They take Stevie Rae to the infirmary, where she says her goodbyes with her friends surrounding her. When Stevie Rae dies, the earth candle flame goes out.

Chapters 21 and 22 Analysis

It seems as if Loren has the ability to read minds or somehow knows what Neferet is up to and he comes to Zoey's defense. By the end of her speech, Zoey has won over her existing circle as well as several others in the packed room.

Stevie Rae having a bad headache is another symbol that something might be wrong with her, other than being hungry and sleep-deprived. While Stevie Rae is normally upbeat, she is being especially grumpy. The vial that Neferet offers to Stevie Rae might be how she is changing the dying fledglings into "her children."



Chapters 23 and 24

Chapters 23 and 24 Summary

In Chapter 23, Zoey is in shock over Stevie Rae's death. Her friends use the affinity for their elements to help bring Zoey back to reality. Neferet tells them to take Zoey back to her room and gives Zoey a vial to drink to keep away the nightmares. Neferet lifts Stevie Rae's body to a bed so she can clean her up for her parents. When they return to the dorm, the group runs into Aphrodite, who apologizes for Stevie Rae's death. Aphrodite admits she had a bad feeling something would happen tonight, but she didn't know what it was. Aphrodite also tells Zoey not to drink anything Neferet gives her. Zoey says she has the same feelings. Zoey goes to the dorm room and gets ready to take a shower.

In Chapter 24, when Zoey gets out of the shower, the Twins are there with soup. They also encourage Zoey to drink the vial Neferet gave her. Zoey waits until they leave and pours the milky-white liquid down the sink and throws the vial away. Zoey's grandmother calls, sensing something is wrong and Zoey tells her about Stevie Rae dying. Heath texts Zoey to check on her because he knows something is wrong.

Chapters 23 and 24 Analysis

Neferet taking Stevie Rae's body after dying from the change provides Neferet with the opportunity to bring Stevie Rae back as the red-eyed vampyre breed that Elizabeth and Elliott now belong to. Neferet giving Zoey a vial to drink is also an indication that Neferet is using her powers to control things. Aphrodite's warning to Zoey foreshadows Aphrodite helping Zoey to uncover Neferet's secrets. It also might reveal that Neferet is responsible for taking away Aphrodite's powers, not Nyx, as Neferet claims. Just as Zoey is trying to fall asleep and wishes she wasn't alone, the Twins and then Damien show up to sleep in her room. They all make a promise to each other to make sure that they'll stick together. They also promise that if something happens to another one of them that the rest will make sure they are remembered.

Zoey indicates that she is going to change the rules about having a funeral for a dead fledgling. Heath texting her because he senses something is wrong also confirms the Imprinting process between them. Zoey and her friends making these promises implies that another of them might die from the Change before the novel ends. It also infers that Zoey has her friends' support about having funerals for dying fledglings.



Chapters 25 and 26

Chapters 25 and 26 Summary

In Chapter 25, Zoey has a dream where she sees Stevie Rae standing with three other fledglings by the east wall. One of the fledglings is Elliott. Heath calls from over the wall for Zoey and three of the fledglings rush through the trapdoor to capture Heath. Stevie Rae insists that Heath must go with them until "she" tells them what to do with Heath. Zoey wakes up and her friends come to get her to come downstairs and watch movies with them. While Zoey is in the kitchen making popcorn for the group, Erik comes in to tell her to come back. She sees a news broadcast on the TV that Heath is missing and his truck was found abandoned outside of the House of Night.

In Chapter 26, Zoey tells her friends she's going upstairs to brush her teeth and get her shoes so she can go talk to Neferet. Instead, Zoey goes to Aphrodite's room. She gets advice from Aphrodite on how to tell the difference between a dream and a vision. Zoey also asks Aphrodite what's going on with Neferet. Aphrodite says she drank the vial Neferet gave her after her roommate died and it affected her, causing Aphrodite to lose her visions temporarily and to forget about her roommate.

As Zoey heads to look for Neferet, Neferet walks in with the two detectives in tow. The detectives question Zoey. Zoey tells them about her dream that she now thinks is a vision. Neferet is shocked. Detective Marx comes back to tell Zoey that his sister was a vampyre and that she can tell him anything and trust him. Neferet asks if Zoey drank the vial and Zoey lies. Neferet says she may need a higher dosage if the dreams continue, but Zoey has no intention on drinking anything Neferet gives her. Zoey draws the conclusion that Neferet and her mom are very similar in that they both have betrayed Zoey.

Chapters 25 and 26 Analysis

The dream Zoey is having is really a vision. Stevie Rae too has been turned into a creature that Zoey doesn't recognize. Capturing Heath and keeping him until Neferet tells them what to do with him implies that's what happened to the two dead football players. The news broadcast confirms that what Zoey thought was a dream was really a vision. Aphrodite confirms that there is something in the vials that Neferet is handing out that changes people.



Chapters 27 and 28

Chapters 27 and 28 Summary

In Chapter 27, Zoey returns to the TV room with her friends. They wait for the 10 o'clock news to see if they have any more information on Heath, but all they say is the snow fall is hampering their efforts. Zoey tells her friends she is going to the stables to groom Persephone to calm down and Erik offers to walk her there. Erik confronts Zoey about her feelings for Heath and she admits everything to him, including Imprinting Heath. Erik suggests that if she did Imprint him that she may be able to find Heath. He says they'll work it out, kisses her goodbye and walks away. Zoey links up with Heath and he tells her that they are hiding him in the old Prohibition tunnels under Tulsa. His hands and feet are duct taped and they are drinking his blood. He confirms that they are not vampyres but something else and that Stevie Rae is the one in charge.

In Chapter 28, since the roads are impassable and the urgency of saving Heath doesn't allow for Zoey walking, she decides to ride Persephone to save Heath.

Aphrodite appears to tell Zoey she has to hurry and that she had a vision about Heath. Aphrodite tells Zoey to call her friends, which Zoey does to tell them to use their affinity for the elements to help her save Heath. Aphrodite admits that she saw visions of the first two boys and told Neferet but Neferet said her visions were false. Zoey rides to the tunnels and goes down in the direction Heath told her to find him, which she does. As Hetah and Zoey are leaving the creatures come out in the dozens to try to stop her. Zoey conjures up her fire element, but then the creatures part ways to make a path for Stevie Rae to come through.

Chapters 27 and 28 Analysis

Everything Heath tells Zoey through their indicates that her dreams are visions. It also confirms that Neferet is somehow involved in turning the dead fledglings into something else and that she is using them to kidnap, drink the blood of and kill the high school football players. What Zoey overheard Aphrodite telling Neferet was about Neferet's visions of the high school football players, but because Neferet is involved, she tells Aphrodite that her visions are false. Elliott insinuates that Stevie Rae's powers in her current state are stronger than those of Zoey's powers.



Chapters 29 and 30

Chapters 29 and 30 Summary

In Chapter 29, the new Stevie Rae emerges from the crowd of creatures. Zoey tries to appeal to the old Stevie Rae but it doesn't seem to work. Zoey conjures up her affinity for the elements to barricade the creatures in the tunnel while she and Heath escape. Zoey looks and feels weak so Heath tells her to feed on his blood. Then they hear Stevie Rae calling to kill her.

In Chapter 30, Stevie Rae begs Zoey to kill her. Zoey refuses and tries to convince Stevie Rae to come back to the House of Night so they can figure it out. Stevie Rae says that she can't because while she is alive, a big part of her is dead. Stevie Rae says she doesn't know how she got this way but she confirms it is Neferet that is turning them. Stevie Rae urges them to run because Neferet is coming and she'll kill them if she finds them. On the way out of the tunnel, Zoey calls Detective Marx and tells him she found Heath and where they are. When Neferet calls to Zoey, Zoey acts as if she doesn't know anything and thanks Neferet from saving them from the homeless person. Neferet uses her powers to touch Zoey and Heath so they forget everything they saw.

Chapters 29 and 30 Analysis

The creatures confirm that they are not dead. Their hissing sounds when they talk and even their movements appear snakelike. Similar to snakes and vampyres, the creatures feed on blood. It appears as if Neferet brought Aphrodite's old roommate back to life as one of these creatures and has now done the same thing with Zoey's roommate. It indicates that Neferet might be in the process of taking Zoey out of her leadership role, just as she has already done to Aphrodite.



Chapters 31 and 32

Chapters 31 and 32 Summary

In Chapter 31, Zoey dreams she is in a meadow. While a male voice is calling her from outside of her dream, the Goddess Nyx is calling to her inside of her dream. Zoey wakes up to Detective Marx bending over her and Heath being wheeled into an ambulance. The detective says Heath will be fine and that they have Persephone too. The detective asks Zoey what happened but she can't remember everything. He asks if Zoey and Heath Imprinted and she admits they have. As the detective's truck reaches the House of Night, Zoey asks for a minute alone. She performs a ritual, which helps her to remember what happened.

In Chapter 32, Zoey convinces the detective that it was a homeless person that abducted Heath. When she returns to House of Night, Neferet greets them, along with Zoey's friends. Before Zoey goes to Nyx's temple to light a candle for Stevie Rae, she pulls Neferet close to her and whispers in Neferet's ear that Nyx believes Zoey about how evil Neferet is.

Chapters 31 and 32 Analysis

When Zoey is dreaming about the Goddess Nyx, she is really having a vision. Nyx tells Zoey that she can use her powers to remember or to reverse the spell that Neferet put on Zoey, but Zoey doesn't understand this in her dream. It's later when she's riding back to the House of Night with the detective that she comes to understand. It foreshadows that it will be sooner rather than later that Zoey goes from a High Priestess in training to the High Priestess—putting Neferet out of power.



Characters

Zoey Redbird

Zoey is a high school student. She is friends with Erin, Damien, and Shaunee. All of them sit at their special table in the school cafeteria each day for lunch. Zoey is the leader of the Dark Daughters and she is also the narrator of the novel.

Zoey has a tattoo on her face and shoulders. The tattoo is the Mark, which Zoey earned from saving her ex-boyfriend from vampyre ghosts. Zoey is the third of the only high school freshman leaders of the Dark Daughters. She also shows an affinity for all of the five elements. Zoey has only had the Mark for one month while the novel is unfolding.

Zoey changed her last name to Redbird after coming to the House of Night. Students, such as Zoey, become emancipated when they enroll in the school. This is also when they change their last names. Zoey's former last name was Montgomery. In addition to having the power of all five elements, Zoey is a High Priestess in training. Along with her powers and the powers her inner circle has, Zoey is able to save Heat's life and figure out who is killing the football players.

Neferet

Neferet is the High Priestess, which is equivalent to the principal, of the House of Night School. Neferet is also a vampyre. She is a tall woman with almond-shaped eyes and dark red hair. Her eyes are a moss green color. She has a tattoo on her left breast, which is a goddess with upraised hands, which is a mark that all of the professors at the school possess.

In addition to being the High Priestess, Neferet is also Zoey's mentor. Neferet also has two personas. She shows herself as a caring mentor when she is acting in her duties at the House of Night. After hours, however, she has her own agenda and she is turning fledglings into some kind of walking dead creatures. Neferet is responsible for telling Aphrodite that she no longer has powers, but in fact Aphrodite still does have her visions underneath, Neferet is evil, but by the end of the novel, Zoey does not expose Neferet. Zoey simply tells Neferet that she knows what she's done and so does Nyx.

Erin

Erin is one the "twins" Because Erin and Shaunee share a psychic link that causes them to think alike. Erin is the Caucasian of the Twins. When Zoey performs her first ritual, it is Erin that shows an affinity for water.



Shaunee

Shaunee is the other of the "twins." Shaunee has skin the color of café-latte. She is originally from Jamaica, but came to the school from Connecticut. Shaunee is the African-American of the Twins. When Zoey performs her first ritual, it is Shaunee that shows an affinity for fire.

Damien

Damien is a friend of Erin and Shaunee's. He sits at their reserved lunch table in the school cafeteria with the girls. Damien is gay, but he gets on Erin and Shaunee's nerves with his use of big words. Damien's parents do not accept the fact that he is gay. Damien is also part of Zoey's inner circle and he shows an affinity for air.

Stevie Rae Johnson

Stevie Rae Johnson is Zoey's roommate. She is from Oklahoma and has a deep southern accent. Stevie Rae is also Zoey's best friend. Stevie Rae has blonde curly hair, cut in a short style.

John Heffer

John Heffer is Zoey's stepfather. He is a very controlling man. He is also a very wealthy man. Zoey's mom has been married to John for the last three years.

Linda Heffer

Linda Heffer is Zoey's mom. She is married to John Heffer, which is Zoey's stepfather. Linda is a PTA mom and volunteer because she no longer has to work now that she is married to John. Zoey says her mom changed after marrying John in that Linda does and believes everything that John says rather than making her own decisions.

Erik Night

Erik Night is the guy at school Zoey has been dating for the past few months. He is tall, dark, and handsome. When the novel starts, Erik is away at the Shakespeare competition after winning first place at their school. Erik wins first place in the monologue contest.



Grandma Redbird

Grandma Redbird is Zoey's grandmother. Grandma Redbird is of Cherokee Indian descent. It seems as if Grandma is also a vampyre. She is very supportive of Zoey studying at the House of Night. Zoey believes it is her Grandma's support that has kept her sane since her mother married John.

Aphrodite

Aphrodite is the former leader of the Daughters of Dark. She lost her role when she lost control of the spirits she conjured up on Halloween night. When Zoey saved the humans from the spirits, Neferet replaces Aphrodite with Zoey. Aphrodite's father is the mayor of Tulsa. While Zoey and Aphrodite are enemies at the start of the novel, Aphrodite ends up helping Zoey solve the mystery and uncover the truth about Neferet by the end of the novel.

Lenobia

Lenobia is Zoey's equestrian teacher. Lenobia has a tough and sarcastic personality, and she is witty and takes a no-nonsense approach to teaching her students about horses. Lenobia has gray eyes and long blonde hair that reaches to her waist. Next to Neferet, Lenobia is Zoey's favorite teacher.

Heath Luck

Heath Luck is the human ex-boyfriend of Zoey. He attends Union High School and plays on the football team. One night, he tries to break Zoey out of the House of Night and Zoey saves his life from being attacked by ghost vampyres. The same night, Zoey laps Heath's blood and they become linked as a human and vampyre. Zoey drinks Heath's blood on another occasion. By the end of the novel, Zoey saves her life again.



Objects/Places

House of Night

The House of Night is a special school where chosen students come to through the Change. The Change is what turns the student into a vampyre or reveals the body's rejection of the Change, in which the student dies. Students at the House of Night learn traditional school subjects, but they also learn about using their powers. It is the school where Neferet is the High Priestess or principal of the school. The House of Night is where all of the characters attend or teach, except the human characters, such as Heath.

The Mark

The Mark is a special tattoo. The tattoo represents special powers or special actions that are exceptional to the Goddess Nyx. For example, when Zoey saves Heath's life from the ghosts that Aphrodite loses control of during her ritual, Zoey receives the Mark. When Zoey saves Heath's life again at the end of the novel her tattoo or Mark grows. The Mark is on the face, shoulders, and back of the vampyre or fledgling that wears it. Zoey is the only fledgling in history to have the Mark.

Media Center

The media center is the library at the House of Night. The media center contains traditional books for students. In addition, it contains books that pertain to vampyres, such as books on rituals and spirits.

Rec Room

The rec room is short for the recreation room. The rec room is where the kids at the House of Night hang out, watch TV and play video games. It is also the room where the Dark Daughters have their meetings and the leader, such as Zoey performs their ritual. It is the room that Stevie Rae begins bleeding in and dying after Zoey's first ritual as the leader of the Dark Daughters.

Tulsa, Oklahoma

The House of Night in the novel is in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Aphrodite's father is the mayor of Tulsa. The murders and kidnappings of the Union High School boys also takes place in Tulsa.



Element Candles

During Zoey's ritual, a candle for each of the five elements is given to each member of the inner circle. Damien receives the yellow candle for his affinity for the element air. Stevie Rae is given the green candle for her affinity for the element earth. Erin receives the blue candle for her affinity for the element water. Shaunees receives the red candle for her affinity for the element fire. Zoey takes the final candle because she has an affinity for all of the elements and so she represents the fifth element.

East Wall

The House of Night is surrounded by a wall. Near the east wall, Zoey thinks she sees the ghosts of two fledglings that recently died from the Change. One night, Zoey also sees Loren Blake standing near the wall composing a haiku. Another night, Zoey sees Neferet meeting with one of the dead fledglings, Elliott. The east wall also has a trapdoor that leads on and off the school grounds.

Soc Textbook

The Soc textbook is the book that contains information on vampyre human interaction. The book also includes guidelines on the expected behavior of adult vampyres and fledling vampyres. It is the textbook that Zoey reads to confirm she and Heath have Imprint. The textbook also confirms that when she saw the dead Elliott drink Neferet's blood, that this is against the code of behavior.

Underground Tunnels

The underground tunnels that were used for transporting illegal alcohol during Prohibition is where the dead fledgling creatures live after Neferet turns them. It is also where the creatures take Heath when they kidnap him from the east wall at the House of Night. Zoey goes to the tunnel where they are keeping Heath to free him and save his life.

Dark Daughters Necklace

The Dark Daughters necklace is given to each member of the social group. The leader, such as Zoey, has the same necklace, but it's slightly different to show her leadership status. The necklace of the leader is found near the body of one of the murdered high school football player's body.



Themes

Good versus Evil

The primary plot throughout the entire novel is that of good versus evil. Biblical symbolism can be found throughout the book. Zoey has an inner struggle with good versus evil and so do each of the characters that are involved in the story. For example, Zoey struggles with her drinking Heath's blood and Imprinting him when this act is forbidden for a fledgling, which is what Zoey is.

Zoey also struggles with the good and evil of in her relationship with Neferet. Good and evil is another theme that runs throughout the love relationships Zoey has with her interactions with Loren Blake, Heath Luck and Erik Night. Zoey feels strong emotional connections to each man or boy, but in different ways. She knows that is wrong to have feelings for an adult vamp, but she cannot help the way Loren makes her feel. Zoey knows she should not be drinking Heath's blood, but she still does it twice and cheats on Erik.

Finally, even though the creature Stevie Rae has become is evil, Zoey cannot find it within herself to turn the creatures in to the police. In fact, she lies to the police to protect the creatures for now, but also vows to help the police if any more human teenagers go missing.

Mental States

Another primary theme in the novel is the mind or mental state of human beings and those of fledglings and vampyres. Primarily, the focus falls on whether or not Zoey's dreams are dreams or visions. There is also some question as to whether or not Aphrodite still possesses the power to conjure up her visions. Neferet also seems to have a split personality - one that she shows as the High Priestess of the House of Dark and that which she shows to the creatures she turns after they die as fledglings from the Change.

Heath seems to have an obsessions with Zoey. Zoey relates the obsession with the Imprinting. In fact though, Heath seems to have been obsessed with Zoey even before she lapped his blood the first time and drank it the second time. Even Loren Blake seems to have his own mental problems since he is hitting on Zoey, which as a teacher he is not permitted to have a relationship with a student.

Friendships/Relationships

Friendships and relationships are a third major theme that runs throughout the novel. First, there is the line that separates the humans from the vampyres. Second, it is the separation between the fledglings and the vampyres. Zoey seems to have a demeanor



where she gets along with most of the fledglings, vampyres and humans, but she also forms closer relationships and trusts some people more than others, such as her inner circle. Zoey struggles with her relationship with Neferet because Neferet is her mentor, but Zoey also has an intuitive feeling that Neferet is up to something evil.

Zoey begins to think of Loren Blake as more of a friend, a confidante and someone she can trust. Zoey also struggles with her romantic feelings toward Heath Luck and Erik Night. She has a long history of friendship with Heat, but with Heath being a human, this can cause obstacles with Zoey undergoing the Change. Her history with Erik is not as long or as intense as her feeling for Heath, but there are less complications in them having a relationship because Erik will be a fellow vampyre.

Even after Stevie Rae is turned into one of Neferet's creatures, Zoey can still see her best friend in the eyes of the turned Stevie Rae. Zoey even protects Stevie Rae and the other creatures from exposure by making up a story to the police about who kidnapped Heath.



Style

Point of View

The novel is in the first-person point of view, from the perspective of Zoey Redbirds. Zoey is a student at the House of Night and the leader of the Dark Daughters. Zoey is also the narrator of the story, so she tells the story as it unfolds from her own point of view.

The point of view of this novel is intimate, allowing a reader to connect closely with the main character, Zoey Redbird. The book written in this manner allows the reader to get inside Zoey's head, thoughts and inner struggles. The reader cares what happens to the narrator even though she has struggles between good and evil. The point of view also allows the authors to inject their own opinions into the narration and to expand on the events taking place around the other characters and the occurrences taking place.

Setting

The novel is set primarily at the House of Night, which is a school for vampyres. The novel is set in the early 2000s and the school is in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The main characters are fledglings, which are vampyres in training. While managing their daily routines at school, they are also involved in the disappearance and murders of some local high school football players that someone is trying to make look like the vampyres are responsible for killing.

The setting of this novel works well with the plot. At first, the reader is not aware that the character that seems one of the most powerful characters, Nefert, is possibly one of the most dangerous. However, as events unfold, the murders are a constant part of the plot, the lives of the characters, and even the outcome of the novel.

Language and Meaning

The language of this novel is relatively simple and easy to read. The author, however, interjects many made up words to fit into the setting of the novel and the lives of a vampyre race. The language is from the 21st century, which is when the novel is set. Old-world traditions and poem verses are also part of the language as the novel unfolds. The language is descriptive enough that it helps to explain the situations.

Structure

The novel is divided into 32 chapters. Each chapter has a different number of pages, ranging from six to 13 pages each. The chapters tell the story primarily in exposition and

with some dialogue. The narrator injects her own voice and thoughts throughout the book, providing her opinions and feelings of the events unfolding in the novel.

The novel contains one main plot and several subplots. The main plot is the struggle of human beings in choosing between good and evil. One subplot is the mental state of mind of each of the characters, primarily Zoey Redbird. Another subplot is the relationships that the characters form amongst each other.

Quotes

"She saved the life of a young man and tapped into a Goddess-given affinity for the elements. In return Nyx has touched her with several unusual Marks for a fledgling" (Chapter 1, p. 8).

"I said your visions could be used to gain power for you because information is always power. The source of your visions is the Change that's taking place inside your body. It's genetics, that's all" (Chapter 2, p. 22).

"Yeah, Zoey, I understand what you're sayin' and all, but hello! Part of what you overheard was that Aphrodite is gonna try to set you up so that she can get you kicked out of the Dark Daughter leadership, so don't go feeling too darn sorry for her" (Chapter 3, p. 24).

"I think seven is a good number for the Council. That way it's a decent size, and it's impossible to have a tie vote" (Chapter 4, p. 36).

"It's incredible. I've never seen anything like this. It's as if you're an ancient priestess who has materialized in our time. How blessed we are to have you, Zoey Redbird" (Chapter 5, p. 52).

"I have a bad feeling about this whole disappearance thing" (Chapter 6, p. 56).

"So, what all this means is that I want to be sure that you listen to your instincts. If you get bad feelings about a situation or about someone, pay attention to it" (Chapter 7, p. 63).

"You have to listen to me. If you don't your Grandma will die" (Chapter 8, p. 81).

"Yeah, when the bridge collapses a bunch of cars go into the river" (Chapter 9, p. 90).

"I'd think that too if I hadn't watched her have the vision. She wasn't faking it, I'm sure of that" (Chapter 10, p. 91).

"His body was almost entirely drained of blood" (Chapter 11, p. 104).

"I want you to drink my blood, Zoey" (Chapter 12, p. 122).

"You have no clue what you're doing, Zoey Redbird" (Chapter 13, p. 127).

"There's a lot of stuff to be pulled around. I know because the guys and I used to help Aphrodite get the room ready" (Chapter 14, p. 141).

"And that proves that Aphrodite's vision was true" (Chapter 15, p. 143).



"I do not wish to be angry with my children. You know that you are my greatest joys" (Chapter 16, p. 158).

"Someone is trying to make it look like vampyres are killing human kids" (Chapter 17, p. 164).

"No kidding" (Chapter 18, p. 176).

"You look terrible" (Chapter 19, p. 177).

"It is only right that Nyx, in her wisdom, has thought to gift you, a fledgling who has such unusual powers, with a group of friends who are also blessed with impressive powers of their own" (Chapter 20, p. 197).

"I'll do for you what I do for Neferet" (Chapter 21, p. 202).

"It's not. It's not. I'm dying" (Chapter 22, p. 217).

"Neferet lies. And don't drink whatever she gave you" (Chapter 23, p. 227).

"By honoring her memory, by living a life she'd be proud of you living. Live for her, too" (Chapter 24, p. 233).

"Heath's truck was found outside the House of Night, but the High Priestess there, Neferet, assures police that he did not enter the school grounds, and that he has not been seen by anyone there" (Chapter 25, p. 248).

"My twin sister was Marked and Changed fifteen years ago. She and I are still close, even though she was supposed to forget her human family. So when I say you can call me anytime, and tell me anything, you can believe me. You can also trust me" (Chapter 26, p. 256).

"Have they been drinking your blood" (Chapter 27, p. 268).

"You're wrong, Zoey. Death has changed some things" (Chapter 28, p. 281).

"Kill me!" (Chapter 29, p. 290).

"I'm not me anymore. I did die, and part of me—the best part of me—is still dead, just like it is for the rest of them" (Chapter 30, p. 291).

"And also I wish you to remind you that the elements can restore as well as destroy" (Chapter 31, p. 298).

"Humans and fledglings and vampyres don't need to believe me about because Nyx does. This is not over between us" (Chapter 32, p. 309).



Topics for Discussion

Who is the true Zoey Redbird? Why has Nyx chosen her as a fledgling to give her the affinity for all of the five elements? Do you believe that Zoey will replace Neferet as the High Priestess in the future? Why do you think Zoey starts to have visions?

Discuss the relationship between Zoey and Neferet. Are they friends, foes, student and mentor or somewhere in between? Is their true competition in their relationship? How does Zoey feel about Neferet? How does Neferet feel about Zoey? How do Zoey's feelings change after she realizes Neferet is involved in the murders and kidnappings? What does she do about it? What happens to Neferet?

Who is Loren Blake? Is he a professor at Zoey's school that is looking out for well being? Is he interested in a romantic relationship with Zoey or is he just using his powers to help guide Zoey to the answers? Why do you think Loren stands up for Zoey at the Full Moon Ritual?

Why do Zoey and Heath hide their relationship? Do you think Neferet knows Zoey drank Heath's blood the second time in town? Why do you think Neferet questions Zoey but believes that she didn't drink Heath's blood again? Do you think Heath and Zoey will be together know that they have Imprinted?

Who is the true Aphrodite? Why does Neferet tell Aphrodite and the rest of the school that Nyx has repossessed Aphrodite's ability to have visions? Do you believe Neferet had something to do with replacing Aphrodite with Zoey, such as causing Aphrodite to lose control of the ritual to set Aphrodite up to fail? If so, why? How does Zoey feel about Aphrodite? How does Aphrodite feel about Zoey? How do these feelings change as the novel unfolds?

Discuss the murders. What impact do the murders have on the characters of the novel? How does it motivate them and how does it derail their lives? Why do you think Neferet is changing the dead fledglings into evil creatures?

What do you think Zoey plans to do about Neferet? Do you think Neferet will try to make Zoey look incompetent? Is Zoey's vision of Nyx confirmation that Nyx supports Zoey over Neferet?