

# **Blue Moon Study Guide**

**Blue Moon by Laurell K. Hamilton**

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## Plot Summary

Anita Blake is a jaded vampire executioner and necromancer. The irony is obvious as she is dating a vampire, Jean Claude, the master vampire of St. Louis. Anita is one corner of a triumvirate between herself, Jean Claude, and her former fiancée Richard, who also happens to be a werewolf. Anita is called to Tennessee to help Richard who has been jailed on rape charges. Anita and a gang of vampires and lycanthropes descend on Myerton Tennessee, intent on freeing Richard and taking him home. The master vampire of the area and a wealthy collector have other ideas, leaving Anita to use her wits to save them all.

Anita Blake is summoned to Tennessee to save the life of her former love, Richard Zeeman. Richard has been arrested on rape charges, something that Anita sees as impossible as Richard has the personality of a boy scout. Though Anita's current lover, Jean-Claude is not happy to see her go, the vampire knows that if anything were to happen to Richard, it would be dangerous for Anita as well as himself. The three are members of a triumvirate, a triangle of power, created by the vampire when he bestowed three of the four vampire marks on Anita and Richard.

In Tennessee, Anita works with the local pack to defeat the Master Vampire in the area, Colin, as well as fight an internal battle with the spirit of Raina, the former lupa of Richard's pack. Anita also must learn to function as the leader of the were-leopards and take care of her own. Anita struggles to keep everyone safe as they fight to keep the local troll pack safe from Franklin Niley, an evil man who frames the trolls for two killings, hoping they will be hunted and he can have access to their land to hunt for an artifact he believes is located there. Niley hires a sorcerer to summon a demon, kidnapping Richard's mother and brother, threatening their lives if Anita and Richard do not leave the area. Anita is able to defeat Niley's demon through her own faith, which in turn gives her the inner faith to control the munin of Raina.

Anita puts her relationships with Jean-Claude and Richard on hold, choosing to focus on herself and work with Marianne, a wise woman, to learn to control the magic that Blake possesses.



# Chapters 1-6

## Chapters 1-6 Summary

In chapter one, Anita Blake is awakened from a sensual dream by the youngest brother of her former fiancé, Richard Zeeman. Daniel is calling to tell Anita that Richard has been arrested for attempted rape and needs her help. Richard is in jail in a small town in Tennessee, and a full moon is five days away. Richard is a werewolf, and if his secret is revealed he will lose his job as a teacher. Anita agrees to help, knowing that Richard is incapable of committing the crime of which he has been accused.

In chapter two, Anita calls a friend to get the name of a lawyer who might be able to help Richard and begins to pack. The doorbell rings, announcing the arrival of her lover, Jean-Claude. Jean-Claude is the master vampire in St. Louis and has come to tell Anita of Richard's arrest. Though Anita and the vampire are lovers, Jean-Claude is reluctant to see Anita go to Richard's aid, knowing that she also loves the werewolf. Reassuring Jean-Claude as much as she can, Anita continues to pack, unwilling to admit she still loves Richard. Jean-Claude tells Anita that Colin, the master vampire in Tennessee will not allow them to enter his territory. Colin is afraid they are trying to take over his lands. Anita speaks to Colin directly and assures him that all they want to do is help Richard. Colin still refuses, and Anita gives up. Jean-Claude knows Anita will still go to Richard and insists she take vampires with her to help and keep her safe. Anita agrees, though they argue about sending werewolves and were-leopards for the vampires to feed from. Anita is the lupa of the werewolf pack, basically the leader's girlfriend, and Nimir-ra of the were-leopards. Anita had killed the former leader of the were-leopards and taken control of the pack to keep them safe.

In chapter three, Anita travels by private plane with four shapeshifters, a werewolf and three were-leopards, toward Myerton, Tennessee. They are accompanied by two vampires, who are in their coffins. Anita does not like flying and in order to keep her mind off of the flight, speaks to the group about their plans once they arrive. Anita will go to the local police department and meet with the authorities and try to see Richard. Jason, a werewolf, will accompany her, as he will be the least conspicuous.

In chapter four, the group arrives at Portaby Airfield and is met by Jamil, one of Richard's bodyguards. Another man is also waiting at the airport, Milo. Jamil informs Anita that Milo is waiting for Frank Niley, a man who will be arriving to conduct some land speculation. Jamil updates Anita on the situation in Myerton, telling her that Betty Schaffer, accused Richard of rape. Jamil is worried that Anita will be upset that Richard has been dating, but Anita reassures him that she and Richard are no longer a couple and his love life is none of her business.

The group collects their luggage and heads toward the cabins where they are staying. Along the way, Anita learns the group is also to act as her bodyguard, under threat of death from Jean-Claude. Anita is not pleased and gets into an argument with Jamil. The



two argue, and Jamil feels it necessary to prove himself. Anita uses one of her knives to cut Jamil, proving to him that she can take care of herself. The tension eases, and they are greeted by Verne, the local Ulfric, or pack leader, who owns the cabins where they will be staying. Verne is impressed with Anita's tenacity and tells her so.

In chapter five, Anita calls Carl Belisarius, the lawyer to whom her friend Catherine had referred her. Belisarius wants to be sure that Anita can afford to pay him, as he has already wasted his time trying to see Richard and is refused. Anita assures him she can pay and arranges to meet him at the police station. Jason has changed into a suit, and Anita changes out of her blood-stained clothes, not willing to meet the police covered in Jamil's blood. The two take the van and drive into town to see Richard and try and get him released.

In chapter six, Anita and Jason drive into the small town, headed to the police station. They find it, after they spot Shang-da, Richard's second bodyguard across the street, watching the building from the porch of a small house. Anita and Jason enter the police station and are greeted by Officer Maiden, a large intimidating man, who is not happy to see Anita. Anita tells the officer that she is there to see Richard, and the two get into a verbal sparing match, which eventually leads to a grudging respect for each other. The lawyer arrives and he and Anita are allowed in to see Richard. Jason waits in the outer lobby. Richard is not pleased to see Anita and goads her with the information that he has been dating Betty Schaffer. Anita refuses to be baited, but it upsets her that Richard moves on with his life after their break up. Belisarius discusses trying to get Richard out on bail and Richard asks Anita why she is there, which of the pack had disobeyed him by telling her. Anita assures him that no one disobeyed him and reminds him that it is best not to talk of such things in front of the lawyer. Richard asks Anita if Jean-Claude knows that she has come to see him, and Anita tells him that the vampire is not happy, but wants Richard out of jail. Richard is sure Jean-Claude does want him free, as Richard is the third member of the triumvirate, or triangle of power that Jean-Claude created by giving Richard and Anita three of the four vampire marks. The three of them are forever linked and more powerful when together. If one of them were to get hurt or killed, the other two might suffer the same fate. Anita admits to Richard she is jealous of his relationships, and leaves.

## Chapters 1-6 Analysis

The reader is introduced to Anita Blake the main character of the novel. Anita is a vampire slayer who also happens to be in love with a vampire. Jean-Claude is not only a vampire, but the Master of the City of St. Louis, Missouri. Anita is wakened from a sensual dream involving herself and Jean-Claude. Daniel Zeeman, the youngest brother of her former fiancé Richard is calling to ask for her help. Anita and Richard had been in love; however, Anita can not handle the reality of Richard's life. Richard is a werewolf, now Ulfric, or leader, of the local pack. Though Anita encouraged him to fight for the position, she is not able to handle things when he had shapeshifted, then killed and eaten the former Ulfric. Anita is bound to Richard, not just by love, but also because he is the third of a triumvirate or power triangle, created by Jean-Claude when he had



given three of the four marks of a vampire to Anita and Richard. The fourth mark would make them immortal, and both Richard and Anita cherish the small bit of humanity they maintained. Anita agrees to help, especially when Daniel reminds her that there will be a second full, or blue moon, this month. If Richard is in jail when the full moon rises, his secret will be out, and he will be discriminated against, in all likelihood losing his job as a teacher. Though it is illegal to discriminate against lycanthropes, or shapeshifters, there is discrimination every day.

Jean-Claude arrives at Anita's apartment to tell her of Richard's arrest. The vampire is beautiful and powerful, yet strangely unsure of where he stands with Anita. He knows Anita loves him but is aware she loves Richard as well. Anita is as reassuring as she can be; however, she, too, is amazed that Jean-Claude would be worried about her leaving him. Anita and Richard never had sex, both choosing to remain celibate until they are married. When they broke up, Anita chose Jean-Claude, and gives up her vow of celibacy. To Anita, this fact should prove her love, but the vampire is still unsure. Jean-Claude's behavior comes into question later in the novel, but at this point Anita takes it at face value.

Jean-Claude informs Anita that Colin, the master vampire in Tennessee is unwilling to let Anita or Jean-Claude enter his territory to help Richard. Anita is furious and tries to calm Colin herself. Colin is reluctant, and Anita can sense his fear. The vampire is afraid that with two members of the triumvirate in his area, they will try and take his lands. Anita is unable to reassure Colin, and Jean-Claude tells her that if she is going to Richard's assistance she will need to take help. Jean-Claude will send vampires and werewolves to feed off, and suggests Anita take along some of her were-leopards. The reader learns that Anita is lupa to the werewolf pack because of her relationship with Richard, and Nimir-ra to the were-leopards as well. Anita is the leader of the leopards because she killed their former leader and offers her protection to them.

The relationship between Anita and the shapeshifters is introduced. Anita travels with Jason, a 21-year-old werewolf and member of Richard's pack. Jason spends most of his time flirting with anything female, including Anita. Zane, Cherry and Nathaniel are were-leopards and part of Anita's pack. The relationship among them is friendly enough, though the shapeshifters are more comfortable with their own kind.

Jamil is one of Richard's enforcers. At the airport Anita and her entourage learn that Richard has been dating quite a bit, trying to find a replacement for Anita as the pack lupa. Jamil is worried Anita would be angry and unwilling to help Richard, but she assures him that her feeling for Richard is platonic, and that his love life is none of her business. Jamil is relieved, but Anita knows she is uncomfortable with the fact that Richard is seeing other women. The group travel to the cabins where they are staying; along the way Anita learns that Jean-Claude has threatened the lives of all of them if Anita is hurt. The vampire is unsure if he would survive Anita's death, but vows that should he do so, he will kill anyone who allows harm to come to her. Anita is angry and becomes more so when Jamil tries to convince her to stay in the background. Jamil tells Anita she can't handle herself with the creatures with whom she will be forced to deal.



Anita proves she can by slicing Jamil's arm with one of her blades when he tries to prove otherwise.

Anita and Jason go to the jail to meet with Richard and the lawyer. Richard is not pleased to see Anita, as he has told the pack not to call her regarding his arrest. Anita assures him that she was not called by the pack, and cautions him about speaking too candidly in front of the attorney. Richard professes his innocence, and Belisarius develops a plan to get Richard released on bail. Anita leaves, admitting to Richard and to herself that she is jealous, and still unsure of her feelings for the werewolf.



# Chapters 7-12

## Chapters 7-12 Summary

In chapter seven, Anita leaves Richard with Belisarius, and retrieves her gun from Officer Maiden. The police officer slides a bullet into the chamber and informs Anita that she should be careful, and that if Richard gets out on bail they should leave town. He also tells her that there have been witnesses around Richard since his arrest, but won't always be. Jason is confused, and Anita tells him that Maiden had given them a warning, vague though it may be. The warning is in time, as a truck full of men have pulls up outside the house across the street and threaten Shang-da. The men are surprised to see Anita and Jason and a fight ensues, with the five men taking the worst of it. Anita is on the ground when the police arrive, led by Sheriff Wilkes. The sheriff wants to arrest Anita and her party, but cannot, as they have obviously been defending themselves. An ambulance is called to take all of the parties to the hospital and a comment is made that one ambulance won't be enough. Wilkes comments that it would have been enough for three people and Anita knows that whatever is going on in town involves the sheriff.

In chapter eight, Anita is back in the police station after a trip to the hospital. The men that had attacked them were in far worse shape. Wilkes meets with Anita privately and tells her that he wants her gone, with Richard and his bodyguards. Anita goads him a bit, knowing that her contacts with the FBI had made the sheriff nervous. Wilkes admits that he had not known that Richard had been involved with her, the Executioner, and had made a bad decision in

framing him. Anita promises to try and convince Richard to leave town and leaves.

In chapter nine Anita arrives back at the cabins to meet with Richard, and finds him with a woman, Lucy Winston, a member of the local pack. Lucy is not pleased to find Anita outside the door of the cabin. The woman is surprised when Anita tells her that Richard had mentioned her, and leaves, almost in tears. Anita enters Richard's cabin and waits for him while he dries off after his shower, thoughts of their relationship in her head. Richard finally emerges and Anita realizes she is still very attracted to him, and confused by her feelings for him. Anita tells Richard that he needs to leave town by dark the next night, but Richard tells her that he can't leave the problems in the town. The trolls in the area are in trouble, having been accused of killing humans. Though Carrie Onslow, the woman in charge of the research program has tried to convince others that this is not the case, it isn't working. The land the trolls have been living on is in jeopardy, the man that had owned the land had died and his heir wanted to sell. The troll researchers were trying to stop the sale because the original owner had promised the land as a reserve. Anita is upset with Richard, not only because of his stubborn refusal to leave, but also because she is still attracted to him and he knows, goading her with her supposed love for Jean-Claude. Anita is confused, but does not want to hurt Richard, or herself, and leaves.





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In chapter ten, Anita returns to her cabin to think, but does not have the luxury. When she discovers to her dismay that she is already healing from the fight that day, Damian, one of the vampires awakens and she senses him. The bond is strong between Anita and Damian because she had raised him from the dead, making him hers, just as she was Jean-Claude's human servant. Anita can also sense Asher, another master vampire, though not as strong as Jean-Claude. Both vampires are beautifully handsome, though one side of Asher's face is scarred from holy water. Damian asks for permission to feed and Anita gives it, unsure of why the vampire feels the need to ask her. Asher tells her that she will have to ask Damian himself. Anita and Asher discuss his past with Jean-Claude, but are interrupted by a call from Daniel. He is at a bar with his mother, and the woman who had accused Richard of rape is there. Daniel is worried that his mother will cause more problems.

In chapter eleven, Anita arrives at The Happy Cowboy with Richard, Jamil, Shang-da and Jason. Richard promises to stay in the truck, though he is not happy about it. Anita spots Charlotte Zeeman, face to face with Betty Schaffer. Anita tells Charlotte that Richard is out on bail and waiting outside to see her. The woman smiles and turns to leave, but not before throwing her beer on Betty. A fight ensues and Anita is forced to carry Charlotte away. When Anita admits that she wanted to hit Betty, Charlotte smiles, happy that Anita still cares for her son. Outside, Charlotte greets Richard, crying when she sees him. After greeting his mother, Richard tells Anita that he will have to go with Daniel to calm Charlotte down, but that he must go as his lupa to a ceremony between the two werewolf packs, and that Jamil will teach her the rites that are observed. Anita is not happy, but does not see any way around it.

In chapter twelve, Anita meets in her cabin with the wolves and the leopards to learn the rites needed for the meeting with Verne's pack. The greeting is discussed and Anita is relieved to find out that she will only have to rub faces with the alphas and not the entire pack of over fifty. Anita is uncomfortable but knows that she needs to learn the rites in order to support her pack. As they discuss things, Asher enters carrying Nathaniel, who has been attacked. Colin had presented Nathaniel as a warning to them. Nathaniel had been bitten by a vampire who can rot and reform, poisoning him. Nathaniel will die without drastic measures. Anita asks Asher to save the leopard and he agrees reluctantly, calling Damian to help as well. The vampires make it clear that they can draw the poison into themselves, but if they are not strong enough they too will die. Anita does not want anyone to die, but asks that they try to save Nathaniel.

## Chapters 7-12 Analysis

Anita is surprised by Officer Maiden warning her about dangers in the small town of Myerton. Jason is perplexed as well, until Anita tells him that perhaps Maiden is not comfortable with the way the sheriff is operating things. The two take the warning to heart, none too soon, as the five men in the truck obviously mean to start trouble with Shang-da. The fight that results is hectic and furious, and Anita is knocked down, but



not before the five men are incapacitated as well. When the sheriff arrives he is intent on arresting the trio, but Anita states that she wishes to press charges for assault. Though the five men are down, Anita is injured, and the sheriff can not disregard this. Anita plays up her injuries, acting as if they are more severe than they are. The comment that the sheriff makes about an ambulance being enough for three confirms Anita's thoughts. The sheriff had intended for Anita, Jason and Shang-da to be defeated in the fight.

After a trip to the hospital, Anita meets with the sheriff in private and discusses matters. Sheriff Wilkes obviously wants Richard out of the way, but Anita is unsure why. Wilkes admits that he had underestimated Richard, believing him to be nothing more than a teacher, unaware of his family ties and his bodyguards. The fact that Richard is involved with the Executioner is too much to understand. Wilkes wants Richard away from Myerton, and wants Anita to take him away. As much as Anita would love to guarantee that this is going to happen, she can not speak for Richard. The sheriff makes it clear that Richard should be gone by nightfall the next day or things might get worse.

Anita meets with Richard, but not before running into one of his girlfriends, Lucy. Willing to hate Lucy at the outset, Anita does not find the way the other woman reacts to her easy to deal with. Though Lucy is pleased to know that Richard has spoken about her, it is clear that she is also aware of Anita, and the bond between her and Richard. Meeting with Richard is difficult due to the attraction that Anita still feels for him. Richard goads her a bit about her relationship with Jean-Claude and Anita reacts accordingly. It seems that she and Richard do better together when they have something between them.

Anita's discovery that she is healing from the fight faster than possible for a normal human dismays her, as she knows that it is her bond with Jean-Claude that is causing it. The same applies to the fact that she can sense the vampires as they awaken in the next room. Her relationship with Asher is strong because of his past as a companion of Jean-Claude. The bond between Anita and Damian is strong as well, because Anita had called the vampire from the grave, making him hers, similar to her relationship to Jean-Claude. Anita is confused by Damien's asking her permission to feed, but before Asher can clear things up for her, Daniel calls about his mother confronting Betty Schaffer at the bar.

Anita arrives and makes Richard promise not to enter, knowing that if Schaffer were to cause a problem Richard might wind up back in jail. Anita finds the small in stature Charlotte Zeeman, whose inner strength belies her size. Confronting the woman that had accused her son in a local bar is not the smartest thing; however the locals seem to be amused by her display. Charlotte is happy to find out that her son is out of jail, but cannot resist the chance for the last word. A fight almost breaks out, but Anita stops it, effectively quieting Charlotte with her comment that it is she that should be fighting Betty. Charlotte is pleased, but Anita is once again confused.

Anita is once again dealing with the rites involved with being lupa to the werewolves and learning the small facts that can make or break the way a pack is received when Nathaniel is carried in, having been bitten by a contaminated vampire. Anita is aware



that there are vampires that can rot and then reform, and this is the type that has bitten the were-leopard. Nathaniel will die if the poison is not removed, and the only way to do this is for Asher and Damian to remove the poison. The vampires do this, for Anita, Asher because she shares his memories of his time with Jean-Claude and Damien because he essentially belongs to Anita. Anita is aware that it is dangerous, but is not willing to let Nathaniel die. The were-leopard is under her protection, and she feels responsible for him. The fact that Colin delivered him as a message angers her, and Colin will feel her power and wrath before the novel is finished.



# Chapters 13-18

## Chapters 13-18 Summary

In chapter 13, Asher and Damian feed from Nathaniel and Anita waits impatiently with the others. Cherry, a were-leopard and former nurse keeps track of Nathaniel's pulse and reports that he is getting better. The vampires stop feeding and Cherry tends to Nathaniel's wounds. Anita is relieved, but it is short lived. Damian hisses, and begins to rot.

In chapter 14, Anita is distraught at the slow rot that is taking away Damian's life. Desperate to save him, Anita asks if there is anything that can be done.

Asher tells her that his original master could take the poison, but not much else would work. Anita reminds Asher that she had called Damian from the grave once, as a necromancer she can raise the dead. Asher is unwilling for Anita to risk herself, but Blake can not ask anyone else to take the risk. She

orders Damian to feed from her and he does, and Anita senses a great power while he is doing so. Damian is cured, and thanks Anita.

Asher tells Anita that they must meet with Colin that night, but must not kill him. Anita is still confused by the arcane rules that bind the vampires, but agrees that she will not force the issue. Asher tells Anita that the Colin might have poisoned Nathaniel as a test to see how powerful they are as a group. This does not make Anita any happier.

Speaking with Nathaniel, Anita discovers that he had gone off with Mira, one of the wolves in Verne's pack. Anita is unclear as to how the leopard came to be in the hands of the vampires. Nathaniel explains that as a submissive he had willingly allowed himself to be chained, and that Mira had arranged for the vampires to have him.

Disgusted, Anita is even more upset when she learns that she must wear clothes that Jean-Claude has sent for her, in order to make the appropriate impression on the vampires.

In chapter 15 Anita dresses in the clothing that Jean-Claude had sent, not exactly comfortable in the leather skirt that she winds up wearing. Asher arrives as Anita is holstering her weapons and adding the blades that she carries to her outfit. The vampire reminds Anita again that they can not kill the vampires. Anita is angry, unsure of herself while dealing with the rules of the vampire counsel. Anita tells Asher that their hands are tied unless Colin arrives with someone that they are allowed to kill. The Uzi she carries will create quite an impression.

In chapter 16 Anita watches as Asher dresses, and knows that he is uncomfortable because of the scars on his body. She does her best to reassure him, and feels the attraction between them. Jason tells Anita that he is jealous, and Asher is amazed.



Verne arrives, and Anita pulls a gun, asking why Verne as Ulfric did not have control of his pack. Verne had lost a pack member to the rotting corruption of Colin's vampire, and knew that Nathaniel should be dead. He explains that Mira had been upset when Richard had stopped seeing her, but did not know that she had been dealing with the vampires. Verne tells Anita that his pack's vargamor, or wise woman, had sensed her power earlier when she had saved Damian, and is truly amazed. Verne wonders if Anita could cure one of his pack from the rotting, as Colin will surely come after them once they stand with Anita. Verne also states that Mira had broken pack law by dealing with the vampire, but that Anita's insult took precedence. Anita asks him to delay the pack ceremony, and casually states that she wants Mira's head in a basket for her assisting the vampires. Anita tells Verne that she will not be killing Colin and the werewolf understands, pleased as it is easier to deal with the vampire they know. A new master vampire could bring more problems.

In chapter 17 Anita walks through the woods on the way to the lupanar, or sacred meeting place of the pack. Along the way she sees Richard and unconsciously reaches out with her mind. The marks they share bind them and Richard senses her and comes to her. Anita is apologetic, explaining that she is still not always able to control the marks. Richard is not upset, but goads Anita a bit about her attraction for him. They discuss the plan for the evening. Asher will act as if he is unwilling to leave Jean-Claude and Anita because of his attraction for them. Colin had decided that Asher had been sent to replace him, but the sexual attraction for Anita and Jean-Claude on the part of Asher might dissuade him. Richard offers Anita his hand, but she declines. They will be forced to show power later with the vampires, but she does not want to touch the werewolf now. Richard leaves but Jason stays with Anita, commenting on her attraction for Richard.

In chapter 18 Anita and Jason arrive at the outskirts of the lupanar. Jason can smell old death, and Anita can sense the unease of the dead in the area. Both Jason and Anita are uneasy, until Damian arrives and explains that Colin is a night hag, and feeds off the fear of others. They are discussing this when Asher sends a thought to Anita to hurry. Arriving at the lupanar of the Oak Tree Clan, Anita is amazed to see a towering tree with skeletal remains piled under the tree and decomposing bodies hanging from ropes throughout the tree. Anita is disgusted, afraid that Verne's pack might deal in human sacrifice, but also knows that Richard would not be friends with such people. Richard arrives and takes her hand, and Colin requests that she remove her jacket. The vampire is powerful and when Anita will not remove her jacket, he slashes the clothing from her with his power. Her cross spills out, flaming brightly, hurting the vampires. Anita refuses to remove it, so Colin sends his associate, Barnaby to do so. Barnaby begins to rot as he walks toward Anita and removes her cross. Colin senses Jason's fear and tells Anita that Barnaby will enjoy playing with Jason. Anita tells him that no such play will take place, and keeps her body between Barnaby and Jason. Richard and his pack surround the young werewolf to keep him safe. Colin orders Verne to move the werewolves, but instead, Verne approaches Anita with a basket. Anita is unsure of what is going on or how to handle it.



## Chapters 13-18 Analysis

Anita is disturbed by the sexual nature of the feeding, with Damian feeding from Nathaniel's neck and Asher feeding from his groin. Jason is not at all disturbed, and says that he would be jealous if he didn't know that the vampires were saving the leopard's life. Anita is amazed at Jason's attitude, but remembers that he has been serving Jean-Claude for years, basically providing blood for the vampire and his companions. Blake realizes that the act might be more sexual though she had tried to deny it.

Anita knows that she is the only one present that has any chance of saving Damian. Blake is unwilling to ask anyone to risk their lives, and despite Asher's warnings and anger, offers her throat to Damian. He feeds, and Anita can sense a wind blowing, and power rising around them. The bond between them is strong, and because Anita is more than human, the human servant of a master vampire, she is able to save the vampire.

The news that Colin had sent Nathaniel as a test does not please her, and Anita tries to understand what Asher explains to her. There are rules that all vampires must obey, and Colin would have caused a war if Nathaniel had died. Nathaniel is a pomme de sang for Jean-Claude. Killing him would have been a death sentence for Colin. Anita is once again amazed at the way vampires behave. More disturbing is the news that one of Verne's pack had delivered Nathaniel to the vampires. Mira had been paid by Colin to deliver any one of the 'animals' traveling with Anita. They had questioned the were-leopard, but still refused to believe that Anita was not there to take over Colin's lands.

Anita is disgusted by having her hands effectively tied when it comes to retribution against Colin and his vampires. Blake knows that she needs to be careful when it comes to following the rules, and so she agrees to wear the clothes that are more costume than anything. Anita is not willing to leave her weapons behind, and at Asher's warning informs the vampire that she is aware of the rules. However, if there is anyone present that Anita can kill, she will do so, if only to prove to Colin that she is not afraid of him, and to let him know that he can not attack her people without paying the price.

Verne arrives to a group of angry vampires and shapeshifters, and has a difficult time at first. Anita has reason to doubt his word that he is against Colin, as it is one of his pack that had betrayed them. Verne's explanation that Mira is a woman scorned seems reasonable to Anita, as it is clear that Richard has been seeing many women, again making her jealous though she has no right to be. Anita and Verne discuss matters and Anita's casual remark about Mira's head being delivered in a basket will come back to haunt her.

Anita is once again reminded of her bond with Richard when the marks they share allow her to call him and him to sense her without words. His presence is unnerving for her, as Anita is still very attracted to him. Blake wonders if things had been different if they would have been able to work things out. Richard had shifted into his beast on top of her, changing her perspective of him drastically the night he had killed the former Ulfric



and taken his place in the pack. Richard is sorry, not only for scaring Anita, but for the loss of their relationship. After Richard heads to the lupanar, Jason brings Anita's attention once again to the attraction that she has for the werewolf, and Anita is not comfortable. She can deny the attraction to Jason, but she knows that she can not deny it to herself.

The amount of death that Anita can sense in the area of the lupanar is unnerving, as are the bodies that swing from the branches and the bones that litter the ground. The fear that she feels is overwhelming, until Damian tells her that the master vampire is feeding off of it. As a night hag, Colin always projects a sense of dread, and the fear is magnified because of the situation. Anita feels a bit better, but the sense of fear is still overwhelming. At the site, Richard joins Anita and Blake has her first meeting with Colin. The vampire shows that he is indeed powerful when he slashes at Anita's jacket from across the field and reveals her cross. The cross blinds the local vampires with the exception of Colin and Barnaby. Colin sends Barnaby to remove the cross from Anita, and she discovers that he is the rotting vampire that had attacked Nathaniel. Anita stands her ground, though disgusted to be touched by the creature, in order to keep her fear in check. Colin, in a show of power demands that Barnaby be given access to Jason, who is obviously afraid of the rotting vamp. The master vampire is surprised when Anita tells him that she had given Jason her word that he would not meet the rotting vamp, and even more surprised when he can sense that her word means something to her and those around her. Barnaby still advances, with Colin goading Anita. To strike out against Barnaby would break the truce. Anita states that she would shoot Barnaby and he would live. Because she believes this, Anita would not be breaking the truce if she did so. Again the complicated laws of the vampires are demonstrated. When Colin orders Verne and his pack to help him and his vampires, everyone is surprised when the Ulfric approaches Anita with a basket.





# Chapters 19-24

## Chapters 19-24 Summary

In chapter 19, Anita accepts the basket from Verne after a reassuring nod from Richard. Colin is obviously not happy with Verne going against him, but Verne seems to have had enough of the vampire and his threats. In the basket Anita is dismayed to find the head of Mira, the wolf that had betrayed them. A casual comment to Verne is taken as a vow and the head of Mira is not a trophy.

In chapter 20 Colin demands Asher's death to appease his anger at the trespass of his territory. Though Asher insists that he does not want to be master of Colin's territory, the vampire does not believe him. While they are discussing things, more than 100 vampires arrive through the woods outside the lupanar. The amount of them stuns Anita, as well as the fact that half of them are rotting. Barnaby has made more than half of Colin's group.

Colin admits that he shares his power with Barnaby. The fact that Colin demands Asher's death and Jason for Barnaby breaks the truce, and Anita opens fire, killing a vampire outside the circle. Colin is not pleased, and the other vampires attack. A fight ensues, with Anita killing vampires and protecting her people. Nikki, Colin's human servant attacks Anita and Blake realizes that her group is losing, badly outnumbered. Ordering her vampires to fly, Anita cuts her hand and places it on the giant oak tree, summoning the munin, or ghosts of the pack. The ghost rise, sealing the circle around the tree as holy ground, and the vampires within the circle burst into flames, dying around her. Nikki promises Anita that Colin and Barnaby still live and they will return for her.

In chapter 21 Anita explains to Jean-Claude what had happened, then goes to take care of Jason who is crying in the shower. Jason has run into rotting vampires before, and the night has been too much for him to take. Anita helps him clean the rot from his body, and in the process the two become wet and too close in the shower. Jason has always been attracted to Anita, and she is reminded once again of his flirting ways. Jason questions why Anita does not threaten to shoot him as she usually does when he gets too close. Anita assures him that as her friend she wouldn't shoot him, but lying on the floor underneath him, Anita is uncomfortable. Richard walks in and finds them twined together.

In chapter 22 Richard is angry, believing that Anita and Jason are lovers. Anita is amazed, wondering aloud if Richard will run back and tattle to Jean-Claude. Anita puts Richard in his place by telling him that just because he is sleeping with anything that moves does not mean that she is. As Anita leaves she brushes against Richard and she can feel the power that is between them on her skin.





In chapter 23 Anita discusses what has happened with Jason, and what will likely happen because of it. The were-leopards are sleeping on the bed, but awaken when Jason comforts Anita, who is upset by what her abilities have allowed her to do the night before. The leopards are confused about why Anita has protected them, why she asked Damian to save Nathaniel, why she risked herself to save them. The leopards are used to being treated badly, and do not know how to deal with someone who does not want something from them in return. Anita reassures them as much as she can, and when she tells Nathaniel that the reason she has protected them is that they belong to her, he begins to cry. Anita licks him, as she has seen the others do at times and he takes comfort from her as the others do. Anita feels the munin of Raina, a shapeshifter that Anita had killed rise up within her and Anita calls on Richard's strength to help her.

In chapter 24 Anita walks to the lupanar with Jason, Cherry and Zane. Along the way she once again channels Raina, but this time she receives visions, horrible memories of Jason lying on a bed covered in blood, and Cherry, under Raina. Anita pulls back as quickly as she can from the two shapeshifters but everyone is obviously shaken. Jamil tells Anita that rather than try and push the munin away she needs to learn to control it. Anita is not happy with the news and tries to ignore Jamil. Marianne, the wise woman of Verne's pack arrives with her bodyguard, Roland. Anita is calmed by Marianne, who understands that what Anita has just gone through is very traumatizing. The two women test each other's strengths and Anita is as impressed as Marianne is. However Anita is dismayed when she realizes that not only can she hear the pacemaker that helps Marianne's heart beat, she also thinks that the woman would be slow, and easy prey.

## Chapters 19-24 Analysis

Colin is very angry when Verne does not do as ordered. Verne has obviously had enough of the vampire, especially with him standing on their sacred ground and acting as if he owns the pack. Anita is mortified that Mira's head has been delivered to her as a token to make things right with the pack. Richard is silent, but knows that Anita had not meant for the woman to actually be decapitated. As much as Anita has learned about the way packs operate, she still has much to learn. Her words had been taken at face value, and Mira's head had been delivered as she had asked.

The battle of wills in the circle turns into a physical battle after Anita kills one of the vampires. Anita has been assured by Asher that Colin had been the first to break the truce, so the Council will not see it as an act of outright aggression. Colin grows more angry, and the vampires he rules attack, goaded by the fear he uses to control them. Colin has no understanding of ruling with compassion, and could not understand that Asher would be willing to stay with Jean-Claude simply out of loyalty. This is a serious mistake on Colin's part, and demonstrates his lack of ability when it comes to being a master vampire. The fact that he willing shares his power with Barnaby is also odd, usually a master rules on his own. It is possible that the two could not survive without each other. Colin's human servant Nikki is also powerful, and Anita can sense that they share some of the same powers. Nikki is a bit more than a normal human, like Anita.



Anita is able to call the souls of the dead to close the sacred circle around the oak tree. The ground is really the same as a cemetery, and the vampires can not survive on consecrated ground. When Anita had called out her warning to Asher and Damian, Colin and Barnaby had responded as well, and had escaped with the others. The vampires that had remained on the ground had died, bursting into flames.

Anita explains the situation to Jean-Claude who is amazed that Colin could be so stupid, as well as the abilities that Anita had used to save their group. Anita hates that she needs Jean-Claude, more comfortable when she can rely on herself. The fact that Jason needs her as well is annoying. Anita can not understand why such self reliant shapeshifters seem to be so vulnerable. Jason's past with rotting vampires have come back to haunt him, and the memories war with the current situation. Jason feels he is unable to get clean and Anita takes care of him. Jason is one of her pack as well as one of her friends. Before long Jason's flirting ways returns, and Anita is uncomfortable but knows that Jason is just beginning to feel like himself again. Anita is relieved, until Richard walks in and is obviously unhappy to find the two of them together.

Richard is jealous of Jason, believing that he and Anita are sleeping together. Richard is hurt, believing that Anita had been faithful to Jean-Claude, and that is why she had turned him down. Anita is equally angry with Richard for assuming that she was as promiscuous as he had become. Richard is unnerved by her outburst, as well as the physical reaction he has to her touch. The power that they share is evident.

While discussing what had happened with Jason, Anita is obviously upset by what she had been able to do the night before. Her power scares her. The were-leopards wake and move toward Anita, unsure of how to deal with her. The shapeshifters had been handled badly by Gabriel, their former leader, and they have been taught that they should not trust anyone that does not want something from them. Jason reassures them that Anita can be trusted, and that the way they had been treated was wrong. Nathaniel is especially vulnerable, never having been cared for because it was the right thing to do. While licking his hand, Anita becomes aware that the munin of Raina has risen within her, and the spirits memories of biting and licking blood are overwhelming. Anita calls on Richard's strength to assist her in resisting Raina.

Raina's munin reveals itself again while Anita walks to the lupanar. The visual images that she sees regarding Jason and Cherry are not just overwhelming for her, as Jason and Cherry can sense them as well when the touch Anita. Jamil tries to explain to Anita that she needs to control the munin before it controls her. Anita is not used to giving up control and does not want to hear what Jamil has to say. Marianne arrives and is able to calm Anita to a degree, but Anita is once again horrified to discover that Raina's thoughts are being shared openly now, and that the spirit is becoming more powerful instead of backing away.



# Chapters 25-30

## Chapters 25-30 Summary

Chapter 25 finds Anita in the woods on the way to the lupanar with Marianne and Anita's group. Marianne tells Anita that if she embraces Raina's munin she will have more control over it and suggests a rite in order to do so. Anita is only able to perform a rite by using ritual or sex and is unwilling to do either with Marianne and Roland present. Anita sends them ahead of the group and tells them they will meet them at the lupanar. Marianne is concerned because Anita, Jason and Cherry struggle after the munin has left them, but goes on ahead.

Jason senses the men in the woods that the group had fought outside the police station the day before. Jamil suggests that Anita and Jason pretend to be lovers and he will send the others ahead to the lupanar for help. Anita agrees reluctantly and she and Jason pose as lovers, though she is uncomfortable when he shields her with his body. Soon enough the men arrive and begin beating Jason. Chuck, one of the men tells Jason that if he does anything they will kill Anita. When a moment presents itself, Anita strikes out with her knife and wounds the man, but a werewolf jumps in the path of his gun and is shot. Anita kills the man, and another present has his arm ripped off by Zane. Anita realizes that Jamil is the shapeshifter that had taken the bullet meant for her and uses her shirt to stop the blood.

In chapter 26 Anita is in the clearing with the wounded while they are being tended to. Jason and Jamil will heal according to those present. Jason asks for blood and Verne tells Anita that the blood on her hands will help him heal. Anita gives him her hand to lick and the other to Zane, though Richard does not like it. The man with the missing arm is awake and Anita order him brought to her, when Richard and Verne hesitate Anita can feel Raina's power within her again. The man, Terry Fletcher, tells Anita that they have been sent by Frank Niley to kill them. Anita tells the others to take the man and his arm to the hospital. Raina's munin is still present and refuses to leave. Anita struggles, trying to assuage the munin with sex, kissing the various members that surround her. Not realizing what she is doing, Anita declares herself Frejya, or available to all the wolves. Marianne tells her to run and Anita does.

Chapter 27 finds Anita running through the woods, hiding and trying to make it to the cabins. Zane and Nathaniel come to her aid after she fights off a few werewolves. Anita arrives at the cabins knowing that if she has sex all of the rest would end. Raina's powers pull at Anita again and she goes for Damian asking him to have sex with her, but Asher tells her that Jean-Claude will kill him. Nathaniel offers himself to her but Anita is unwilling to hurt the young were-leopard with Raina's munin. Richard arrives bloody from the battle to reach Anita first. Anita begs him to have sex with her and they begin, but Richard begins to change, unable to control himself so close to the full moon. Anita is scared, but returns to him and they have sex for the first time, Anita declaring her love for him, and Richard saying the same.



In chapter 28 Anita and Richard discuss their relationship. Anita is happy to be with Richard, but unsure of how to tell Jean-Claude. Richard is pleased to be with Anita, but will not tell that she must stop seeing the vampire. Richard will continue to see other people as long as Anita is seeing Jean-Claude. Anita is also shocked to learn that Richard had broached the subject with the vampire, and that Jean-Claude has not discouraged Richard's pursuit of Anita.

In chapter 29 Sheriff Wilkes arrives with Officers Maiden and Thompson, angry that Richard is still in town. Wilkes orders Thompson to search Anita, trying to show Richard that he should leave town. Thompson searches Anita, provoking her, and when she questions Wilkes, the sheriff strikes her. A third deputy arrives, informing the sheriff of a large group gathering. The sheriff asks about Chuck and Terry, the two men that had come after Anita and Jason the night before. Anita plays dumb. The sheriff extracts a promise that Anita and Richard will leave by dark, then leaves. Anita asks Richard if Verne's pack had killed Terry after Anita had promised him safety if he talked. Richard is not sure, but agrees that if they are to stay in town, they need Verne's people to hide them.

In chapter 30 Anita meets with Verne and tells him that she is angry about Terry's death. Because Verne ordered the death, Anita demands a favor when needed. Verne offers her his throat, a wolf rite, and Anita bites the pulse that beats there as the werewolves would do. Jean-Claude's power surges through her, and Verne as well as those present can feel it as well. Anita questions Richard, and is told that Jean-Claude had told him that having sex with Anita would strengthen all of their bonds.

## Chapters 25-30 Analysis

Anita is not happy to learn that Raina's munin enjoys using her for evil, though it shouldn't, since Raina was evil in life. Raina is hunting Anita, and using her, while most munin only come when called and are kind spirits. Marianne's suggestion that Anita accept Raina's spirit and work with her is too much for Anita to bear, and she resists the suggestion.

When the others leave, the men from the day before are sensed in the woods and Anita is not happy. Jamil suggests a plan and Anita agrees reluctantly, though if she needs to have someone with her she is glad that it is Jason. The wolf is submissive to her and Anita realizes this after her lessons earlier in the day. Jason is willing to protect her, but Anita is not comfortable with this, having always stood on her own. When the men begin to beat Jason it is all Anita can do not to react with her blades, but she knows that doing so will put Jason in danger. Waiting for help is not something she is used to. When the moment comes, Jamil puts himself between Anita and a bullet, and Anita feels bad that she had doubted him. Trying to save him she uses her own shirt to close the wound and stop the bleeding.

The wounded after the battle overwhelm Anita and between the fight and the aftermath Raina's munin is released again. Because Marianne had told Anita that not fighting



would help, Anita tries it, but unleashes something else instead. Terry Fletcher is terrified of Anita and gives us the information she asks for, but the shapeshifters around her can sense the power as well. Anita unwittingly declares herself fair game to all the werewolves present because Raina had put so much stock in sex. Marianne tells Anita to run because Blake might be killed otherwise. With Raina present it would be a consensual act, but once the munin had left her Anita realizes that whoever was to catch her first would rape her.

The fight for control over the munin is overwhelming as Anita runs. Blake knows that she will be raped unless she escapes or kills those that pursue her. The only hope she has is to reach safety before capture. Anita calls to Richard but senses him locked in a battle and withdraws. At the cabin Damian seems to be a substitute but Asher's reminder of Jean-Claude's wrath stops Blake. Richard arrives and Anita is grateful, and goes to him willingly. It is almost as if Raina had planned their meeting from the start. The sex is too intense at first, all that Anita had feared with a shapeshifter, but she overcomes her fear and consummates the relationship, partly to be rid of Raina, partly to stop the others from hunting her, but mostly to finally be with Richard.

Though Anita is happy to have finally made love with Richard, she is worried that Jean-Claude will seek revenge against the werewolf. Blake is stunned to find that Richard had discussed the matter with Jean-Claude and that the vampire had not seemed averse to it. The matter of Richard seeing other people also upsets Anita, but she realizes that she can not expect the werewolf to remain faithful only to her while she is in a sexual relationship with Jean-Claude. The matter of Richard's discussion with Jean-Claude regarding Anita will come up again further into the novel and the vampire's ulterior motives will become clear.

The sense of danger is increased when the sheriff arrives and encourages Officer Thompson to search Anita in a sexual manner in order to goad Richard. Though Richard maintains control, Anita knows that things will only get worse from this point if they do not leave town. Anita can sense that Wilkes is deeply afraid of what will happen if Anita and Richard stay. The sheriff seems almost more worried about his own behavior than anything else. Again, Anita does not think that Wilkes has ever stepped so far over the line of the law before, but obviously he has no choice any longer.

Anita and Richard discuss matters and decide that they can pretend to leave town and Richard can still protect the trolls. Anita is not happy that Verne may have killed Terry after she had promised that the man would live. Anita tells Richard that if Verne's pack had killed Terry, they were the ones in control at this point.

When Anita confronts Verne she is angry that her promise had not been kept, but can also understand Verne's need to keep the pack safe. It is agreed that Verne will owe a favor, and he agrees, as long as the favor does not put his pack in danger. In another wolf rite, Verne offers his throat to Anita in a sign of trust. Richard explains that Anita should kiss the pulse, or bite, the harder the bite the more significance. Anita intends to nip the skin but as she takes Verne's pulse into her mouth she senses Jean-Claude awakening many miles away, and his pleasure. Anita draws blood, and is pulled from



Verne, though the Ulfric does not seem upset. The rush of power that he had shared with Anita had given him pleasure. Anita is stunned to learn that Jean-Claude had told Richard that the ties between the three of them would be much stronger if he had sex with Anita, and she is not sure how to feel about that.



# Chapter 31-36

## Chapter 31-36 Summary

In chapter 31, Anita, Richard and Shang-da go to the woods to see the trolls. The werewolves hear a woman crying and Richard runs ahead. Anita follows and realizes that she can run like Richard, like a wolf. Anita is shocked. They come upon Dr. Carrie Onslow, the woman Richard has been dating that had been studying the trolls. A body has been found mutilated and the trolls are being blamed. Anita is surprised that the state police are there and want her to see the body. They know she is in the area. Anita tells Richard to wait with Carrie, needing time alone. The changes in her since their lovemaking are upsetting her and she needs to think.

In chapter 32 Anita arrives at the crime scene and meets with Sergeant Michaels who directs her to Captain Henderson. Michaels is unwilling to go closer to the scene. Maiden is also at the scene and warns Anita that it is bad. Henderson is angry, and takes it out on Anita at first, but grudgingly takes her to the scene when he realizes that she is not putting on a tough show. Anita enters the perimeter cautiously.

Anita views the body and is able to contain her distress at first, but winds up vomiting. While viewing the body, Anita discovers a pentagram carved in a tree. Whatever killed the woman has been summoned. Sheriff Wilkes arrives on the scene, angry that Anita is there and argues with Henderson. Anita explains that the pentagrams on the trees are to create a circle of power and that the woman has been killed by a demon. Wilkes insists that a troll killed the woman and reveals that the victim is Betty Schaffer. Wilkes approaches Anita with a phone and tells her to take the call.

In chapter 33 Franklin Niley speaks to Anita, informing her Niley threatens to reveal the fact that Richard is a werewolf if she refuses. Anita agrees and leaves the scene after handing the phone back to Wilkes in disgust.

In chapter 34, Anita, Richard and Shang-da meet Frank Niley, and Howard, his paid clairvoyant, and Milo, his bodyguard. Another man, Linus Beck arrives, and Anita knows that Beck is a powerful sorcerer. The group orders food and Niley tells Anita that after she is searched by Linus he will answer her questions.

In chapter 35, Anita returns to the table after being searched by Beck. Anita learns that Niley wants the land that the trolls are on because Howard has told him that the lance that pierced Christ's side is located there. The lance had been a gift to President James Madison and had been lost. Niley wants the land so that he can find the spear. When Niley realizes that Anita and Richard will not leave, he promises to rape Richard, and to give Anita to Linus to appease his master. Anita is truly frightened.

In chapter 36, Anita and Richard as well as their group of shapeshifters leave town and meet Verne an hour outside of town. Doubling back without the authorities knowledge,





the group returns and hides in the homes of various members of Verne's pack. Anita stays at Marianne's house, where the wise woman offers advice to Anita about controlling the munin and becoming a part of Richard's pack. Anita is willing to try anything in order to gain control of her life at this point.

## Chapter 31-36 Analysis

Anita meets Carrie Onslow for the first time, a bit jealous of the woman that had dated Richard. Onslow is small as well, and Anita realizes that Richard has a preference for woman that are small of stature. While running through the woods to Onslow, Anita realizes that for the second time in one day she is more wolf-like than ever before. Blake was emulating Richard in his running through the woods, more part of the surroundings than just visiting them. When they discover that a body has been found and the trolls are being blamed, Anita takes the opportunity to have time away from Richard. She is unnerved in the changes that have taken place, but more upset that Richard was aware that their bond would be so much stronger and hadn't warned her.

The communication between Richard and Jean-Claude regarding her life does not please her.

The reaction of Sergeant Michaels at the scene tells Anita that whatever she is about to see, it will not be pleasant. Officer Maiden confirms her thoughts when she meets him. Anita is a bit taken aback by the apparent anger of Captain Henderson, but realizes that the anger is the officer's way of dealing with the death. Anita puts him at ease as much as she can, and Henderson relaxes, but Anita knows that whatever she is about to see, it will be very unpleasant.

The crime scene is worse than Anita had imagined, and she realizes that the person had been killed in some type of ritual. Checking the scene Anita discovers the pentagrams that have been drawn on the trees, creating a circle of protection. Anita believes that a demon has been summoned by someone with great strength to kill the woman. Anita is even more upset when she discovers that the dead woman is Betty Shaffer, and realizes that someone is trying to tie Richard to the crime.

Wilkes arrives, angry that Anita is there at all, even more angry when she informs the authorities that a troll had not killed Schaffer. Wilkes contacts Franklin Niley, who is the man that had paid off the police. Niley wants to meet with Anita, to once again convince her to leave town. Niley threatens to ruin Richard's life if they do not meet him. When leaving, Anita lets Wilkes know clearly that she is aware that he has been bribed. Wilkes is angry, at Anita, yet also at himself.

Niley is an obviously evil man to Anita, and he clairvoyant is very cautious. The arrival of Linus Beck answers some questions for Anita, but raises other. Anita can sense that Beck is a sorcerer, but does not understand why Niley would need a sorcerer in his group. Anita does know, with do doubt, that Beck is the person responsible for Schaffer's death. At the end of the meeting, Richard prays, speaking directly to Linus





Beck. Niley compliments him on being a true believer. Anita realizes that Richard has drawn the line between good and evil, and wonders if her faith is strong enough to defend her.

The group pretends to leave town, traveling together and leaving their police escort at the border. An hour outside town they meet with Verne and return by back roads. At this point Anita is no more willing than Richard to leave Frank Niley and the evil sorcerer Linus Beck to cause havoc. Arriving at Marianne's house, the wise woman once again offers to help Anita learn to control the munin that is trying to rule her life and to understand the pack as well. Anita thrives on control, and feels that she has none. The idea that Marianne can help her with that is wonderful to Blake.



# Chapter 37-41

## Chapter 37-41 Summary

In chapter 37, Anita meets with Marianne who tries to teach Anita that her self-consciousness around the shapeshifters is stopping her from using Raina's munin for good. Marianne encourages Anita to bond with Nathaniel who lies naked in bed waiting for the doctor to treat his wounds. Anita is uncomfortable, but makes the effort and bonds with Nathaniel a bit. Anita's friend, a police officer from St. Louis, Dolph, calls and warns her that Frank Niley is a very dangerous man and encourages Anita to kill him before he can get to her. Anita is worried that her faith is not enough to fight against such demonic power.

In chapter 38 Cherry and Zane enter the room. Anita makes the effort not to run, actually touching the healing wound on Zane's shoulder. The four of them sit on the bed, talking and joking, and Nathaniel finally explains that he thought Anita was going to be his dominant, and he could be submissive to her, that the entire relationship between them had been a sexual game. Nathaniel wants Anita to be his keeper, but Anita will not have sex with him. The leopard is disappointed, thinking he has failed in some way.

In chapter 39 Anita relaxes in a much needed bath and is surprised when a woman bursts through the door. Anita grabs her gun, and Roland, one of Verne's pack appears behind the other woman, encouraging her to leave. Roxanne, Verne's lupa, is angry at what she perceives as an insult to her Ulfric. Anita fires a warning shot, and Marianne is able to move Roxanne away to give Anita time to dress and come to the kitchen.

In chapter 40, Anita joins the group in the kitchen to face the angry Roxanne. Roxanne wants to fight Anita but Blake is unwilling. When Anita senses Richard arrival, her attention is split and Roxanne takes the opportunity to strike her, knocking Anita to the ground. Anita recovers and the two women fight until Verne arrives and stops Roxanne. He has told his lupa that Anita has propositioned him, trying to make her jealous. Lucy arrives and strikes Anita out of jealousy, knocking her unconscious.

In chapter 41, Anita awakens some time later with Damian, who is to guard her. Damian explains the strong bond between them and tells Anita that she can order him to answer her questions because he serves her. Anita discovers that Jean-Claude has more or less orchestrated her sleeping with Richard in order to strengthen the bonds among the three of them. The vampire also tells her that Jean-Claude can feed off sex, just as Colin feeds off fear. Richard is not aware of all of Jean-Claude's secrets, but Anita is not happy, unwilling to trust either of them for now. Anita senses power from outside and realizes Asher is in trouble. Anita finds Asher bleeding everywhere, with Colin's human servant, Nikki. Anita kills Nikki while Damian fights Barnaby. Anita begs Asher to live and is able to sense Jean-Claude's distress as well. Asher feeds off Anita and she feels the powerful rush of emotion that Jason told her happens when vampires feed. Anita's



feelings change toward Asher, even though he had tried to stop when he sensed the emotional change.

## Chapter 37-41 Analysis

Anita does her best to understand what Marianne expects of her, but seems honestly unable to let down the barriers that stop her from being comfortable with the behavior of the pack. The wolves and the were-leopards are often nude, spend time touching for the sake of being with each other, and sometimes have sex with each other for various reasons. The sexual nature of the pack still bothers Anita, as does the touchy-feely way they behave. Marianne believes that Anita can become more comfortable being around in such situations; she will be able to better control the munin, and channel its healing powers. Spending time with Nathaniel is soothing to both of them, and Anita realizes that though the young leopard has allowed himself to be hurt, and has trusted the wrong people, he is not a stupid man, and there is something behind the life he has led so far.

The call from Dolph is very unnerving. Anita discovers that Niley is a collector of artifacts and does not care how he acquires them according to Dolph. The police officer tells Anita that she should be careful, and if she gets the chance she should kill Niley. Anita can hardly believe what she is hearing. Niley is such a bad man that the upstanding police officer she knows would sanction his murder.

Anita makes an effort as Marianne suggested not running away from the habits of the shapeshifter, even though she is uncomfortable. It takes effort, but she touches the body of Zane, and allows Nathaniel to lay his head in her lap while they all talk together. Anita does feel more comfortable, but realizes how much more work needs to be done when Nathaniel tells her that he had believed that Anita had been teasing him, building up to a sexual relationship. Cherry explains that Nathaniel is the most broken of the pard, or were-leopard group. Anita has done all she can at the moment, pleased that she had not run, and hoping that Marianne will be satisfied.

Roxanne, Verne's lupa, bursts in on Anita in the bath, almost losing her life in the process. The lupa is angry at Anita, believing that she had been disrespectful of her Ulfric. Anita fires the gun, a warning shot close to Roxanne's head, surprising the woman but not scaring her. Roxanne is clearly angry, and will have her revenge.

Anita can feel the raw power that rolls off of the lupa and is cautious, but Roxanne's anger is overwhelming and she strikes Anita almost knocking her out. Anita strikes back when she is able, and the two women would have continued to fight if Verne had not stopped his lupa. Verne had told Roxanne that Anita had propositioned him; the reason for Roxanne's seeming over-reaction to Anita's marking of his neck.

Damian gives Anita information that Jean-Claude had been withholding, the secrets of his relationship with her and Richard. Anita is not happy that the vampire had not told



her everything, but Damian does tell her that Jean-Claude had not realized how strong their relationship would be, or how powerful the magic between them would be.

The power that Anita senses is Nikki, also a necromancer. Colin's human servant had called Asher and he had responded thinking he was meeting Anita. Though Anita kills Nikki, her heart breaks at the idea that Asher would die. Anita cares for Asher, but also shares the feelings of Jean-Claude from so far away. The only way for the vampire to survive is to drink from Anita, and though he is unwilling at first he does. The connection between them is strong and the feelings that rush through Anita are overwhelming. Afterward, Asher is safe, but Anita can no longer look at him the same way.



# Chapters 42-46

## Chapters 42-46 Summary

In chapter 42, Anita thinks about the things she has learned and is interrupted by the arrival of both a vampire named Donald and Officer Thompson. The two deliver a package containing Daniel Zeeman's hair and Charlotte Zeeman's finger. Frank Neely has taken them captive until Anita and Richard leave. Anita kills the vampire and demands that Thompson tell her where the Zeemans are. Thompson refuses until Anita takes a cleaver and chops his fingers off one by one. Thomson has admitted to raping Charlotte and Niley raping Daniel. Anita is able to overcome her own disgust and use the knife on Thompson. Anita finally shoots Thompson to stop the screaming.

Chapter 43 finds Anita and her group on the way to the house where Charlotte and Daniel are being held. Zane and Cherry have gone to the lupanar to get Richard. Anita is upset with herself, unsure if she can continue, but Jason talks reassures her, reminding her that regardless of what she has done, it has been necessary.

In chapter 44, the party is in the woods outside the house when they run into Howard Grant, Niley's psychic. Grant has escaped, and offers to help Anita if she does not kill him. Daniel is in the house, but Niley and Linus have taken Charlotte to the field to use her blood to draw the demon. Niley wants the demon to search for the spear, but Grant has lied. There is no spear. He has lied to Niley in order to earn a very good living. Anita leaves Howard with Roxanne and leaves to save Charlotte, while they save Daniel in the house.

In chapter 45, Anita runs through the woods and arrives at a clearing where Niley and Linus have drawn a circle of power to hold the demon they will call. Niley orders Anita to throw out her weapons and she does, unwilling to risk Charlotte's life. Linus meanwhile is chanting, summoning the demon. The circle is a circle against evil, and Anita realizes that Linus has made a mistake. Charlotte is praying and the demon will not touch her as her soul and heart are pure. Anita is not evil either, and she recites a Christmas prayer as she crosses into the circle and frees Charlotte. As they cross the circle, Anita erases the line and frees the demon, which falls on Linus and devours him. The FBI arrives and the demon rushes them, and Anita screams for the men to pray. They do, and the demon turns to Anita, asking if it is free. She tells it that it is, and the demon thanks Anita and leaves.

Officer Maiden is actually an undercover federal agent, and he tells Charlotte that Daniel is safe, and the criminals are dead. Maiden has been working undercover when Niley turned up in Tennessee. Niley wants to see Anita before he dies and expresses his amazement to her that she would willingly sacrifice her life for Charlotte by entering the circle. As Niley dies, Jason arrives with the news that Nathaniel is dying, having been shot twice. Anita rushes to him and calls for Marianne. Anita calls the munin with Marianne's help and sits on Nathaniel, feeling the power rush through her. Nude from



the waist up, Anita kisses the were-leopard, and the power of the pack and Jean-Claude rush through her, healing Nathaniel. Richard smiles and tells Anita that he will no longer be looking for a new lupa; they are the strongest couple in the history of the pack.

Chapter 46 wraps up the novel. Howard Grant is serving time in jail, his greed the cause of all the misery in Tennessee. Anita is celibate once again, not having sex with Richard or Jean-Claude. Richard's family looks on Anita as a hero, and Charlotte wants Anita to marry Richard. Anita spends time with Marianne, devoting time to learning more about herself and controlling her powers. Anita is more concerned with learning about the magic inside her than pleasing Richard or Jean-Claude at this point.

## Chapters 42-46 Analysis

Anita is stunned when Donald the vampire shows up with Officer Thompson. The news that Niley had the Zeemans is horrific, and Anita is overwhelmed with anger when she finds out that not only have they been maimed, but raped by Thompson and Niley. Asher offers to cut Thompson, but Anita knows that she has to do the dirty work herself. After extracting their location from Thompson, Anita kills him coldly, knowing that she will react to it later, but not willing to waste the time now.

Meeting with Howard Grant in the woods, Anita is horrified to realize that the entire situation had been created by the psychic's greed. By lying to Niley about the spear, he had caused the murders of innocent people, the summoning of a demon, and had caused the Zeeman family god knew how much pain. Anita rushes to the field where Linus is chanting over a closed circle calling the demon, with Charlotte as his sacrifice. Charlotte is praying and Anita is as well, however Blake is unsure if can cross the circle, unsure of her own faith. By crossing the circle and saving Charlotte, Anita once again trusts her faith. Her trust in herself allows her to save Nathaniel, allowing Raina's munin to use her body and heal him.

At the close of the novel, Anita is separated from both Jean-Claude and Richard, preferring to spend time learning to control her magic, and learn about herself.



# Characters

## Anita Blake

A 24 year old professional vampire executioner, Anita Blake is also a necromancer, raising zombies from the dead for Animators, Inc., the largest such firm in the country. Though raising the dead is Blake's official profession, she is also licensed to execute rogue vampires in three states. A vampire can only be executed after a court order has been issued. Ironically, Blake's current lover is Jean-Claude, the Master Vampire of St. Louis. Blake is also part of a triumvirate created by Jean-Claude when he bestowed three of the four vampire marks on her. The third member of the triangle of power is Richard Zeeman, Anita's former fiance. Anita had broken off her engagement to Richard after he had killed the former leader of the local werewolf pack and then eaten him.

Anita is called in to help Richard, after he is accused of rape in a small town in Tennessee. Anita is sure that Richard would never do such a thing, therefore there must be some type of cover up in the town. Anita travels to Myerton with a group of werewolves and vampires, intent on freeing Richard before the full moon rises and his secret is revealed. In Myerton, Anita discovers that the local sheriff is accepting bribes to protect Frank Niley, a rich, evil man who collects ancient artifacts through any means necessary. Niley wants the land that Richard and his friends have been fighting to keep as a preservation for a band of Lesser Smokey Mountain Trolls. In the midst of trying to clear Richard's name, Anita becomes involved with the local pack of werewolves and renews her relationship with Richard. Anita is not happy to discover that Richard and Jean-Claude had discussed the possibility of Richard making love to Anita and the changes that would take place in their triangle of power.

Anita battles not only Franklin Niley and his sorcerer Linus Beck, but also the munin or spirit of Raina, the former lupa of Richard's pack throughout the novel, fighting to save Richard, the trolls he has been studying, but also herself.

## Richard Zeeman

Richard is Anita's former fiance and current Ulfric, or leader, of his pack of werewolves. Richard and Anita had broken up after Anita had witnessed Richard kill and eat the former Ulfric. Richard is arrested for rape in a small Tennessee town while studying trolls for his degree. The trolls are being blamed for killing humans and Richard knows that they are not guilty. The police have framed Richard in order to keep him from discovering the cover-up and force him to leave town. As a werewolf it is not safe for Richard to be in jail when the full moon arrives, so Anita comes to his aide.

Richard and Anita renew their relationship, and make love for the first time, as they had chosen a life of celibacy when they had been involved originally. Zeeman had been sexually active since they had broken up, and Anita had as well.



Richard is a moral, upstanding character, often compared to a boy scout, despite the fact that he is a werewolf. Richard had caught the disease, lycanthropy after receiving a bad dose of the vaccine. The problems that had existed between Richard and Anita originally centered on his innate goodness, and Anita's tendency to react first, then ask questions.

Richard is the third member of a triumvirate with Anita and Jean-Claude, the master vampire in St. Louis, Missouri. Ric

## Jean-Claude

Jean-Claude is the Master of the City of St. Louis, Missouri, or in other words, the head vampire. Jean-Claude has created a powerful triumvirate, or triangle of power which includes Anita Blake and Richard Zeeman. The vampire, werewolf and necromancer are extremely powerful, and feared by others. Jean-Claude is in love with Anita Blake, or as in love as a vampire can be. Blake is not just a necromancer, but also the most feared vampire executioner in the area.

Jean-Claude is unable to go with Anita to help rescue Richard because the local master vampire in Tennessee is afraid that he is trying to take over his lands. Though Jean-Claude can not be with Anita personally, the bond they share is so strong that the vampire is aware of what Anita is doing and feeling whenever she calls on him through the marks he has bestowed on her.

Jean-Claude is jealous of the relationship between Anita and Richard, and seems insecure at times, however the vampire also knows that if Anita and Richard have sex the bond between the three of them will become stronger, and they will all become more powerful.

## Zane

A were-leopard, Zane is a member of the pard of which Anita is Nimir-ra, or leader. Anita had killed their former leader and had given the leopards her protection. Zane travels with Anita to Missouri in order to protect her. Jean-Claude had threatened to kill anyone who allowed harm to come to Anita, but Zane would protect Anita regardless, as she is his protector.

## Nathaniel

A 19 year old were-leopard, Nathaniel is a submissive, who would like Anita to be his dominant. Nathaniel is injured when a rotting vampire attacks him as a test to Anita and her group, but Anita is able to save him, a testament to the power that she is able to call on. Nathaniel is also shot and almost dies, and Anita is once again able to save him. The relationship between Nathaniel and his Nimir-ra is sometimes strained, as Nathaniel needs more from Anita than she can give him.





## Cherry

A were-leopard and former nurse, Cherry is part of the group that travels with Anita to Missouri. Cherry had been a nurse until her lycanthropy or shapeshifting was discovered and her job was eliminated due to downsizing. Cherry is also loyal to Anita, her Nimir-ra, and tries to help her learn the way in the world of packs and pards.

## Jason

A werewolf, Jason is a member of Richard's pack, but also loyal to Jean-Claude, the master vampire. Jason is very good friends with Anita, and spends quite a bit of time flirting with her, as well as any other female nearby. Jason is strong mentally and physically, and takes care of Anita when necessary, but at times also very vulnerable. Anita is able to help Jason deal with his fear of rotting vampires, putting her body between Jason and his worst fears, thereby earning even more of his respect.

## Asher

a vampire and Jean-Claude's right hand, Asher travels with Anita to Missouri to help Richard. Asher had been Jean-Claude's lover and companion many years ago, and because of this he and Anita are very close. Anita is Jean-Claude's human servant and shares his memories, so when she is with Asher she can 'remember' his past as part of her own.

Asher is attacked by the human servant of Colin, the enemy vampire and Anita saves him by offering her blood. The close relationship that Anita shares with Asher allows her access to her mind, causing her to experience an almost orgasmic sensation at the time. Asher had not wanted Anita to deal with such a thing, and Anita, though she loves Asher, now fears the power he has shown himself capable of.

## Damian

A vampire traveling with Anita, Damian is very close to being Anita's servant, even though she had never intended him to be. Because Anita is a necromancer, or can raise the dead, when she had raised Damian from the dead she had created an irrevocable bond. Damian protects Anita, but also provides information for her. Unable to ignore an order from Blake, Damian happily tells Anita exactly what her sexual relationship with Richard and Jean-Claude will provide to the master vampire, though he does tell her that Jean-Claude had not known exactly how powerful their triumvirate would become.



## Jamil

A werewolf and Richard's number one bodyguard, Jamil meets Anita and her group in Missouri and assists in getting Richard out of jail and in battling the vampires in the area. Jamil also puts himself in the path of a bullet for Anita, but as a werewolf heals quickly and recovers.

## Shang-da

Richard's number two bodyguard, Shang-da does not really like Anita because of the pain she had caused Richard when they had broken their engagement. Despite this, Shang-da respects Anita as lupa of the pack.

## Betty Schaffer

The woman who had accused Richard of rape resulting in his arrest. Schaffer had been paid by Franklin Niley in order to keep Richard out of the way so that he could take the land the trolls live on. Schaffer is killed as a sacrifice to a demon, and the death is blamed on trolls until Anita examines the body and declares it a demon kill.

## Verne

The Ulfric, or leader of the local werewolf pack, Verne earns Anita's respect gradually, though she does not understand the way his pack operates at times. Verne delivers the head of Mira, a pack member and Richard's former lover, to Anita in a basket after Mira had delivered Nathaniel to the rotting vampire, Barnaby.

## Marianne

The wise woman in Verne's pack, Marianne helps Anita learn to control the spirit, or munin, of Raina, and also helps Anita understand the workings of pack life. Marianne has much more experience in pack life than Anita, and Marianne is able to teach Anita the reason behind the behaviors of the werewolves and were-leopards, as well as teach her how to respond.

## Colin

The master vampire in Tennessee, Colin refuses Anita and Jean-Claude entrance into his lands to assist Richard. Colin believes that Jean-Claude is trying to take over his territory, and having two members of the triumvirate nearby would provide them with too much strength. Colin threatens retribution from the Vampire Council if Jean-Claude and Anita break the laws, but it is Colin who breaks the rules and is killed when he puts Anita and her group in danger.



## **Barnaby**

A rotting vampire and right hand of Colin, Barnaby has the ability to rot and reform as he desires. A bite from Barnaby contaminates his victim with a corruption that will rot them as well.

## **Sheriff Wilkes**

The sheriff in Myerton, Tennessee, Wilkes has been paid by Franklin Niley to arrest Richard Zeeman, as well as assist in framing the area trolls for murder in order to gain access to their land. Wilkes seems unwilling to do more than provide assistance at first, but is killed when he becomes more entrenched with Niley, planning to kill Daniel Zeeman.

## **Officer Maiden**

A deputy in Myerton, Maiden is actually an undercover FBI agent that has been sent in to keep track of the actions of Franklin Niley. Maiden warns Anita at the outset to be careful, and does his best to make sure no one is seriously injured during the investigation.

## **Captain Henderson**

The state police officer in charge of investigating the death of Betty Schaffer, Henderson believes Anita when she tells him that Schaffer was killed by a demon.

## **Carrie Onslow**

The woman in charge of studying the trolls in the area. A human, Richard is attracted to her, but unwilling to have a sexual relationship with her because he is afraid to injure her.

## **Frankin Niley**

An art collector who will do anything to get what he wants, Niley employs a psychic to locate ancient artifacts and a sorcerer who can summon demons in order to accomplish what he desires. Niley is afraid of Anita as his psychic has told him that Anita will be the cause of his death, but he is unwilling to give up in his search for the spear he seeks. Niley is killed when the demon he has Beck summon is released, killing Beck, and the FBI arrives, shooting Niley. Niley is amazed that Anita would willingly sacrifice her own life in order to save the life of Charlotte.



## **Linus Beck**

a sorcerer who works for Franklin Niley, Beck is evil incarnate, having pledged his soul to serve his master. Beck summons the demon that kills Betty Schaffer, and tries to sacrifice Charlotte Zeeman to the demon as well. Zeeman's faith does not allow the demon to get close to her, and Anita is able to draw on her faith as well, saving Charlotte and releasing the demon which kills Beck instead.

## **Charlotte Zeeman**

Richard Zeeman's mother, Charlotte is kidnapped by Franklin Niley in order to force Anita and Richard to leave the area. Niley attempts to sacrifice Charlotte to the demon he has Linus Beck summon, but Charlotte prays, her faith strong, and the demon is unable to kill her.

## **Daniel Zeeman**

Richard's youngest brother, Daniel calls Anita for help when Richard is arrested for rape. Daniel is also kidnapped by Niley in order to convince Anita and Richard to leave the area.

## **Howard Grant**

The psychic who works for Franklin Niley, Grant is responsible indirectly for the havoc that takes place in Myerton. Grant has lied to Niley, telling him that the spear that pierced the chest of Jesus Christ is located in the field where the trolls of the area live. Grant confesses and is arrested, knowing that Anita will kill him if he does not.

## **Roxanne**

Verne's lupa, Roxanne attacks Anita when she feels that Anita has disrespected Verne and the pack by marking him. Roxanne is also angry because Verne has told her that Anita propositioned him.



## Objects/Places

### Myerton

The small town in Tennessee where Richard is arrested for rape. Anita travels to Myerton to help Richard, and the trolls that he has been studying for several years.

### St. Louis

The city in Missouri where Anita resides, along with Jean-Claude the master vampire and Richard the Ulfric of the local werewolf pack.

### Iupanar

The sacred meeting place of Verne's werewolf pack.

### The Smokey Mountains

The mountain range outside the small town of Myerton, Tennessee

### Pard

A pack of were-leopards, the equivalent of a werewolf pack.

### Animators, Inc

The company that Anita works for, raising zombies.

### Guilty Pleasures

The vampire strip club, owned by Jean-Claude, in Missouri

### Portaby Airfield

The small airfield in Myerton, where Anita arrives with her entourage by private plane.



## Lesser Smokey Mountain Trolls

The band of trolls that Richard has been studying, and who Frank Niley tries to frame for the death of Betty Schaffer in order to obtain their land

## Munin

A spirit, able to possess a person. The munin of Raina, the former lupa tries to use Anita to accomplish her will, but Anita is able to learn and control her.



# Themes

## Love

The theme of love is prevalent throughout *Blue Moon*. The main character, Anita Blake is in love with two men, Richard, who is a werewolf and Ulfric or leader of a pack, and Jean-Claude, the Master Vampire in St. Louis, Missouri. Anita is torn between the two men, although when the novel begins she is only in a sexual relationship with Jean-Claude. At one time Anita had been engaged to Richard, but had been unable to deal with the fact that he was a werewolf and the physical change that took place when the full moon rose.

Anita realizes that she still loves Richard, and the love she feels for him not only strengthens her personally, but also strengthens the triumvirate or triangle of power that she, Richard and Jean-Claude exist in. Anita discovers that Jean-Claude has already informed Richard that the feelings they have for each other can only make them stronger.

Anita also must learn to accept the love of the were-leopards that she has accepted as her own. The ways of the shapeshifters are foreign to her, and often make her uncomfortable. The unconditional caring that the leopards give to Anita is strange for her, and very difficult for her to understand at times. In order for Anita to be able to care for them, she comes to understand that loving can be enough, and need not be painful to give or receive.

## Greed

Greed is also central to the novel, *Blue Moon*. Anita is forced to Richard's aide after he is framed for a crime to force him out of town. The sheriff of Myerton, Tennessee has been paid to keep Richard out of the way so that his employer, Franklin Niley can access the land where the troll Richard is studying live. Niley had been told by a psychic that the spear that pierced Jesus on the cross is in the field, and he intends to have it no matter what it takes. In his greed, Niley is willing to kill innocent people in order to make it look as if the trolls are killing them, hoping the trolls will be killed and he can have access to the land. Niley is also willing to kidnap and maim the loved ones of Anita's lover in order to convince them to leave town.

Ironically, the entire situation could have been avoided, except for the psychic, Howard Grant, is also consumed by greed. Grant had found it difficult to make a living, unable to deal with daily life because of his powerful visions and experiences. Grant lied to Niley, telling him the location of the spear in order to earn a substantial amount of money. The spear was not there, and it is Grant's greed that nearly ruins the life of so many people in the novel.



## Sex

Sex is an important in many ways in Blue Moon. Anita had lived a life of celibacy by choice while engaged to Richard, but the shock of seeing him turn into a werewolf had driven her into the arms and the bed of Jean-Claude, the vampire. Anita discovers that sex with Jean-Claude soothes the pain that she feels having left Richard.

Richard had also been celibate, and he also turns to sex to sooth his broken heart. Richard is not only dating to replace Anita in his heart, but also to replace her as the lupa of his pack. It is not until later in the novel that Anita learns that Richard had been afraid to have sex with her, fearing he might hurt her

Sex is also force upon Anita when she channels the munin, or spirit of the pack's former lupa. Raina had lived her life enjoying sex and violence, and as Anita struggles to control the munin she challenges the werewolves, essentially, whichever wolf mates with Anita will possess her. The challenge had come from Raina, but it is Anita who must follow through. After a struggle, Anita makes it to safety and has sex with Richard, consummating their relationship. Anita is happy, glowing with love, until she learns that Jean-Claude had in fact encouraged Richard to pursue a sexual relationship with Anita, believing that the sexual relationship the two men had with Blake would strengthen the power of their triumvirate.





# Style

## Point of View

Blue Moon by Laurell K. Hamilton is written in the first person. The story is told from the point of view of the main character, Anita Blake, a vampire executioner and necromancer. The reader is privy to the thoughts and feelings of Anita Blake, as well as a deeper understanding of her character and the reasons behind her actions. An interesting addition to Anita's perspective is her ability to sense the feelings and thoughts of Richard Zeeman her lover and leader of a pack of werewolves, and Jean-Claude, the master vampire of St. Louis, who is also her lover. Because of Anita's powerful connection to these two men, the reader is also allowed access to their thoughts and feelings as time.

The novel is written in equal parts of dialogue and descriptive passages, which allows one to get a better sense of the characters as well as their surroundings. At times the descriptions do not have an important impact on the storyline, but do give the reader a better idea of the behavior of the characters.

## Setting

Blue Moon is set for the most part in Myerton, Tennessee, a small town near the Smokey Mountains. Anita travels to Myerton to help Richard after he is arrested for rape. In Myerton, Anita and her group of shapeshifters and vampires stay in a string of cabins owned by Verne, the local Ulfric, or pack leader. Anita also visits the lupanar of Verne's pack. The lupanar is the sacred meeting place of the pack, and an important battle between the shapeshifters and the local vampires takes place here.

The field outside of Myerton is the residence of the trolls that Richard had come to study, and also the land that Franklin Niley wishes to possess so that he may search for his artifacts in private.

## Language and Meaning

The language of the novel Blue Moon is modern, with the characters communicating in a relaxed manner. The novel is written in such a way that the reader can essentially become a part of the novel, easily understanding the characters as written, and their motivations.

The novel is fantasy, containing werewolves, vampires, trolls and demons, but is written as if these creatures actually exist in modern times. Anita's career as a necromancer, or a person who raises the dead, as well as her secondary position of vampire executioner are explained in such a way that the reader can easily accept that such things are necessary.



Blue Moon takes place over a relatively short period of time and the author keeps the narration and dialogue moving at a fairly fast pace so that the reader does not get confused with the many details contained within.

## Structure

The novel is divided into 46 numbered chapters of various lengths, anywhere from two to twenty pages. Each chapter describes an event, and the things that lead up to it, as well as the aftermath. Depending on the significance of the event, the chapter may be extremely descriptive with very little dialogue, or a balance of both. The novel takes place over a period of a few days and encompasses several different factors.

The plot seems to be very straightforward at the outset of the novel with the main character, Anita Blake being called to the aide of Richard Zeeman, her former fiance and the trouble she may have with the vampires in the area. As a third in a powerful triumvirate with Richard and her current lover, Jean-Claude, Anita is a threat to Colin, the master vampire in Tennessee. The novel becomes a bit convoluted when the storyline branches into several different sub-plots, including the trolls that Richard had been studying being framed for killing humans, Anita's inner battle with the munin, or spirit, of Raina, a former lupa in Richard's pack, and an evil collector using a sorcerer to call demons to do his bidding.

The novel is fast paced and easy to read, but can become hard to follow due to the random nature of the plot line.



## Quotes

"There's going to be a blue moon this month." he said it very quietly, no explanation, but I understood.

Richard was an alpha werewolf. He was head of the local pack. It was his only serious flaw. We'd broken up after I'd seen him eat somebody. What I'd seen had sent me running to Jean-Claude's arms. I'd run from the werewolf to the vampire. Jean-Claude was Master of the City of Saint Louis. He was definitely not the more human of the two. I know there isn't a lot to choose from between a bloodsucker and a flesh-eater, but at least after Jean-Claude finished feeding, there weren't chunks between his fangs. A small distinction but a real one."

Chapter 1, pg 2

"If I walked into the police station with Tweedle-punk and Tweedle-slut, it was going to raise the cop's antennae. They'd know I wasn't exactly what I was claiming to be, and that would complicate things. We needed to make things easier, not harder."

Chapter 3, pg. 24

"Once upon a time, it had bothered me more to kill people. Maybe it was years of killing vampires. They looked human. But somewhere along the way, it just didn't bother me to pull the trigger."

Chapter 4, pg. 40

"I took in a deep breath and let it out. I would have liked to have said no, but he could smell a lie. I'd been doing okay until he'd made that crack about Betty being his girl for the rough stuff. That had bugged me. "I have no right to be jealous of you, Richard."

"But you are, aren't you?" he asked. He watched my face while he asked it.

I had to force myself to meet his eyes while I answered. I wanted to dunk my head, and I couldn't stop the rush of color up my face. "Yeah, I'm jealous. Happy?"

He nodded. "Yes."

Chapter 6, pg 60

"It was none of my business what he did. I was sleeping with Jean-Claude. I was all out of stones to throw. So why was I having such a hard time not being pissed? Maybe that was a question better left unanswered."

Chapter 9, pg 79

"He crawled to me. He swept the hair aside with a hand gone blackened flesh and bone. He left a trail of something heavy and thick on my shoulder. I could feel the thickness sliding down my shirt like a snail. I concentrated on the soft glow of his skin, the imperfect slope of his nose where someone centuries ago had broken that perfect profile."

Chapter 14, pg. 132

"I looked at him. The only thing that kept me from losing it right then in front of the other vampires was Richard. He'd have never tolerated human sacrifice. Oh, he might have



come down here once then never returned, and not called the police, but he would never have returned year after year. He simply wouldn't have approved."

Chapter 18, pg. 159

"You'd think after all this time, I would stop forgetting that they weren't human. But I had. I'd been pissed, and I'd spoken as if I was talking to another human being, but I hadn't been. I'd been speaking to werewolves, and I'd forgotten that."

Chapter 19, pg. 167

"The vampires out in the dark began to rot. Not all of the, but damn near half. I'd never seen so many. For a vampire to rot, it means that the vamp that made them was the same kind of creature. Which meant that Barnaby had made half of Colin's people. No Master of the City would allow any subordinate to have such power. But the proof was staring me in the face with eye sockets gone to black dripping ruin."

Chapter 20, pg 173

"Richard had turned to me last night with the vampire bodies still glowing like banked fires. He'd looked at me, and I'd felt his revulsion, his horror at what I'd done, like a knife through my heart. If things had been reversed and I'd been the werewolf and he'd been the human, he'd have been just as sickened after the show with Marcus as I had been. No, more so. The only reason Richard hung around with monsters was the fact that he was one."

Chapter 23, pg 191

"Claim me again if you can, my Ulfric." I stared up at him and saw the look on his face. It was wild, and part of me was pleased. God help me. My own jealousy had given her the keys to me."

Chapter 26, pg. 246

"The demon raised fingers to the moonlight, fingers that ended in black knives. Charlotte opened her eyes and screamed. The Lord's Prayer would have been reasonable, but I blanked. All I could think of was Christmas. "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over the flock by night." I stepped over the circle. It was nothing to me. It was meant to keep out and in evil. I wasn't evil. "

Chapter 45 pg. 407



## Topics for Discussion

Why does Daniel Zeeman call Anita to help Richard? What special circumstances require fast action on her part?

Why does Colin refuse to allow Jean-Claude or Anita to enter his lands?

Why does Officer Maiden warn Anita to be careful?

How does Anita appease Raina's munin?

What happens to Anita after she has sex with Richard? How does Jean-Claude react?

Why does Franklin Niley want the trolls off the land he wishes to purchase? How does he try to accomplish this?

How does Anita defeat Linus Beck? What happens to the sorcerer?