

# **City of Bones Study Guide**

**City of Bones by Cassandra Clare**

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## Plot Summary

Cassandra Clare's *City of Bones* begins an epic quest. Clary Fray is a normal teenage girl. One night however, while she is hanging out with her best friend Simon, her world gets violently turned upside down. Clary and Simon go out to the Pandemonium, an all-ages club. Clary notices an enchanting boy with blue hair and green eyes. She watches as he notices a beautiful girl come his way and watches as they acknowledge each other and he follows her to a closet. She watches as the girl and the blue-haired boy go into the closet together and see them followed by two other boys, one of whom has a knife. Clary goes to the closet and witnesses the three kill the blue-haired boy. He disappears. She realizes that no one else can see the three teens in the closet and so she claims to have imagined it. Later, she follows one of the boys outside and confronts him. She learns that he is a shadowhunter, a slayer of demons. He cannot be seen by others because he has cast a glamour to be invisible. He tells her that the fact that she can see him proves that she is no ordinary mundane girl.

Clary returns home to find the house trashed and her mother gone. She is attacked by a demon in the apartment. She manages to kill it, but not before it stings her and injects demon poison into her. Jace finds her, and takes her to the Institute, the sanctuary for shadowhunters in New York. She discovers that her mother was a shadowhunter, and that there is a magical spell cast over her to make her forget the things of fey and shadow as she sees them. She also learns that her mother belonged to a group of shadowhunter called the Circle, led by a man named Valentine. Now, Valentine has returned, and is looking for the Mortal Cup, which can turn any human who can survive the transformation into a shadowhunter. Valentine has kidnapped Clary's mom, and it seems that Clary's mom might actually be the one who hid the Cup from Valentine.

Clary and the young shadowhunters, Jace, Alec, and Isabelle embark on a quest to find the Mortal Cup before Valentine can. Her mundane friend Simon tags along, and even helps to defeat a greater demon. Simon has been in love with Clary for the last ten years, but Clary has never noticed it. When she and Jace fall in love, it devastates Simon, and creates a rift between he and Clary, who had been best friends since early childhood. In her quest to save her mother, Clary learns that Valentine is really her father, Jace is really her brother, Johnathan Christopher, and that her mom's best friend Luke is a werewolf.

Clary finds the Mortal Cup, and returns with it to the Institute. Hodge, the shadowhunters' tutor, takes the Cup, and summons Valentine, who takes the cup and Jace away. Clary and Luke lead the wolf pack on a raid of the old lunatic asylum where Valentine is hiding. Luke and Valentine do battle, but Valentine escapes through a portal to the magical land of Idris, where he has hidden the Mortal Cup. Luke takes Clary's mom to the hospital, and waits faithfully by her side while waiting for her to come out of her coma. Clary comes to terms with the fact that the guy she fell in love with is actually her brother, and that her best friend is in love with her. At the end of the novel, this story is far from over. Valentine is still out there and the young shadowhunters must now leave the investigation to the Clave.



# Chapters 1, 2, and 3

## Chapters 1, 2, and 3 Summary

This is the story of Clary, a mundane human girl who soon discovers that she is not who she thought she was. She is the daughter of two shadowhunters, one exiled by choice, and the other for crimes against the Clave. Her adventures take her from being a normal teenage girl to a demon-slaying heroine without ever having to leave New York City.

In Chapter 1, Clary and Simon go to a club called Pandemonium. In line in front of them is a boy with blue hair, wielding a fake sword. The bouncer asks him what he thinks he's doing with that, and the boy informs him that it is part of his costume, and is made of foam. The bouncer lets him in. While sitting around, Clary notices a beautiful girl in a white dress. The blue haired boy notices her too, and is instantly drawn to her. The boy follows the girl and they disappear into a storage room. Clary is about to turn her attention elsewhere, when she notices two boys following the blue-haired boy into the room, one of whom has a knife.

When Clary gets to the room, the room is empty. Then she sees them. The girl has the blue-haired boy tied up, and the other two boys are going to kill him. They are calling him a demon. Clary stops the boys from killing him, but he then gets away and attacks them. Clary sees now that the blue-haired boy really is a demon, and that she interrupted a demon slaying that she was not even supposed to be able to see.

When Simon arrives to the room with the bouncer, neither of whom can see the demon or the shadowhunters, they find the room empty of anyone other than Clary. Clary says that she must have been mistaken about the people coming in the room, and they leave.

In Chapter 2, when Clary gets home from the club, her mother is angry and yells at her for a while. Clary retreats to her room and her sketchpad, until Simon calls her. He wants her to go with him to see his friend and band mate, Eric, go recite poetry. When Clary's mom returns with Luke, she informs Clary that they will be going on vacation to Luke's house in the country. Clary is upset, and argues with her mom, who then argues with Luke outside. Simon shows up and rescues Clary from the argument, and they head out for Nacho Mama's for dinner before going to see Eric.

In Chapter 3, Eric's poetry is terrible, and Simon seems embarrassed that he knows Eric. A girl sitting near them, asks Clary if Simon is available, showing that she is interested in him. Clary tells Simon this when he gets back with the coffee, but he tells her that he wants to talk to her about that. Simon likes a girl, and is trying to tell Clary that it is her when Clary notices Jace, who is sitting nearby and laughing at her. She tells Simon that she will be right back, and follows Jace outside. Jace tells Clary about



the shadowhunters and the downworlders, and tells her that his tutor, Hodge would like to see her.

Clary's mom calls. She sounds frantic and tells Clary not to come home. She tells Clary to go to Simon's and call Luke, and to tell Luke that "he's found me". Clary's mom is disconnected and Clary takes Jace's sensor, which she thinks is a phone and runs home.

## Chapters 1, 2, and 3 Analysis

In Chapter 1, the blue-haired demon boy sets the scene for magical characters and events that most people can not see. The glamours they cast to keep the "mundies" from seeing what is really going on can only be seen through by other mystical creatures. Clary can see through the glamour, which foreshadows that she may not be who she thinks she is, as the reader will discover in future chapters.

In a club full of teens dressed in leather and metal, Simon seems out of place in his jeans and t-shirt. While Simon does not dress the part, Clary does not interact with anyone in the club. If it were not for Simon, Clary would have no one to talk to.

When the shadowhunters are introduced, they show a certain viciousness and enjoyment for their demon slaying jobs. Clary is surprised to discover that only she can see them and that they plan to kill someone in the closet. The shadowhunters also seem surprised that Clary can see them, but of the three, Jace seems to take it in stride. He cracks a joke about her seeing them, then dismisses it as unimportant to get back to the demon killing. Clary claims to have imagined it when Simon and the bouncer show up, because she knows that they won't see the shadowhunters.

In Chapter 2, Clary's mom is angry with her for coming home so late, and admits that this is part of why she wants them all to go on vacation to Luke's house in the country. When Clary's mom and Luke go outside, they argue about Clary. Luke tells her mom that Clary is not a pet, but a teenage girl, and that she is not Johnathan either. Clary, who overhears this, thinks that they are talking about her father, and wonders what he as to do with any of this. The man who Clary thinks is her father died before she was born. As for Clary's mother, Clary knows nothing of her past, and hasn't even met her grandparents. Her mother is the only family she has ever met, and her mother will not talk about it.

In Chapter 3, Simon is in love with Clary, but she is so blinded to him by their long standing friendship, that she can not see it. Even when Simon tries to work himself up to asking her out, she still can not see it. Jace can tell that Simon is trying to declare his love to her, and finds it amusing.

Jace is going to take Clary to see Hodge, whether she wants to go or not, but before he gets the chance, Clary's mom calls. She is frantic, saying that someone has found her. She does not want Clary to come home, because she knows that it is not safe. Clary does exactly what her mom said not to, and heads home at full speed.



# Chapters 4, 5, and 6

## Chapters 4, 5, and 6 Summary

In Chapter 4, when Clary gets home, her neighbor pesters her about the noise her mother had been making upstairs. She tells Clary that it sounded like she was moving furniture around. Clary races upstairs to find the door to the apartment unlocked and hanging open. Inside, her mother is nowhere to be found, and the apartment is a wreck. While she is searching for her mom, Clary runs into a ravener demon, an ugly crawling creature from Hell that is set on eating her. She tries to fight it off, but it is strong. Once Clary remembers the sensor in her pocket, she takes it out and jams it down the demon's throat. The demon swallows it, and Clary is sure that she will be next. Then, suddenly, the demon twitches and dies. Clary runs for the door, but gets stung in the back of the head by the demon in its death throws. Jace finds her and carries her out of the apartment. The police show up, but Clary notices that they are demons in the guise of police. Jace takes Clary to the institute.

In Chapter 5, after being unconscious for three days, Clary wakes up in the infirmary at the Institute. The Institute is in an old old church, and is a sanctuary for shadowhunteres. When she wakes up, Isabelle is the only one by her bed. Isabelle tells Clary to stay there, that she is going to get Hodge. Clary hears piano music, and finds Jace playing. Jace takes Clary to see Hodge.

Clary and Jace report to Hodge what happened at Clary's apartment. While trying to figure out what a ravener demon was doing going after Clary's mom, Clary reveals that it mentioned Valentine. At the mention of Valentine, Hodge is visibly effected. Hodge tells the young shadowhuters that he wants to talk to Clary alone for a moment. Hodge explains to Clary that Valentine was a shadowhunter who stole the Mortal Cup. The mortal cup was a gift from the Angel that could create new shadowhunters. Valentine stole the Cup to make his own shadowhunter army to wipe out all of the Downworlders and preserve human purity. The Clave must reaffirm the peace accords with the Downworlders every fifteen years, and Valentine's goal was to ambush the unarmed Downworlders at the accords and slaughter them. Valentine was supposed to have died sixteen years ago, but now his name is being heard more and more from the demons.

In Chapter 6, Clary and Jace set out for Clary's house to get some of her things. Alec and Isabelle stay behind at the Institute. When Clary and Jace arrive at Clary's house, all seems normal from the outside. Once they get inside, they notice that not only has the entire apartment been cleaned up, but everything has been taken away. The apartment is as empty as the day they moved in. On the way upstairs to her bedroom, Clary notices blood on the banister. Jace points out that if it were hers from the night of the attack, then it would be dry.

When they get to Clary's room, Clary grabs the door, and the door explodes outward, knocking her back. Jace fumbles for his weapon, while a Forsaken barrels out of the



room at them. Jace and the Forsaken fight a brutal battle until finally, they end up falling down the stairs. Jace gets up and finishes off the Forsaken. Clary expects the Forsaken to disappear like the demons did, but Jace informs her that they are not demons. Forsaken are regular humans who are marked with several shadowhunter marks against their will. The combined power of the marks turn the humans into crazy beasts. They do not sleep, and they do not eat. They are vicious fighters who do not feel fear or pain and obey the one who turned them.

After the fight with the Forsaken, Madame Dorothea tells them that there may be more Forsaken lurking about. Here, she reveals to Clary and Jace that she knows about the Clave and the Covenant, but that she does not want anything to do with it. Jace convinces her that she must tell them what she knows.

## Chapters 4, 5, and 6 Analysis

In Chapter 4, when Clary arrives home to find the apartment wrecked and her mom gone without a trace, she becomes terrified. She screams for her mom, calling her mommy for the first time since she was eight. Clary is startled and scared by the demon, but manages to kill it by throwing Jace's sensor into its mouth. Clary is worried for her mother, but Jace is more concerned about Clary. Clary has been stung by the demon, and the demon's poison will kill her if something is not done. Jace scribes a mark on her that will hide her from the demon police temporarily, taking a great risk. He is fairly certain that she is actually a shadowhunter also, and does not know it, but if she isn't, then the mark could kill her.

In Chapter 5, Clary wakes up in an unfamiliar place after being out for three days. She feels sick and slightly confused, probably because she hasn't eaten in three days. Isabelle seems standoffish and does not seem to believe that this "mundie" was able to kill a demon unarmed.

Clary finds Jace playing the piano and they talk for a while. Clary realizes just how much Jace misses Idris, and wonders if he is lonely since the only shadow hunters that he knows his age are Isabelle and Alec. This is obviously a touchy subject, as Jace will not talk about it, saying only that he has what he needs.

When Clary and Jace report to Hodge, Alec does not believe that Clary was able to kill the demon on her own, he proposes that perhaps the stupid thing stabbed itself, pointing out that it has happened before. It is clear that Alec does not like Clary, and Isabelle does also seem a bit standoffish. Only Jace and Hodge are not openly hostile toward Clary.

Valentine is described as a violent man, who despises all Downworlders. Some Downworlders have gone rogue and killed humans, but that is not the norm. For Valentine and his Circle, it is simply easier to generalize them all together and hate them. Valentine's goal was to completely wipe out all Downworlders, preserving the world for human purity.



In Chapter 6, when Clary finds the shadowhunters in the weapons room, she notices that Jace has some very interesting looking knives. They don't look like any kind of knife that Clary has ever seen before, so she asks if they are made by magic. Alec takes the opportunity to ridicule her and point out that they don't work magic. He says that mundies are always obsessed with magic, but that they really have no idea what it really is. Clary calls Alec a stuck up, spoiled rich brat. This angers Alec, but that makes him even more angry when Jace takes Clary's side, saying that she is right.

On the train, Jace explains the concept of parabatai to Clary. Jace and Alec are parabatai, and their fathers were parabatai. This means that they are companion warriors, closer even than brothers. Since Jace's father was murdered, the Lightwoods adopted Jace and he has lived with his parabatai brother and his family.





# Chapters 7, 8, and 9

## Chapters 7, 8, and 9 Summary

In Chapter 7, Madame Dorothea invites Jace and Clary into her apartment. Clary notices the books, which Jace dismisses as meaningless drivel that she keeps around to impress the mundanes who don't know any better. Clary argues that just because Dorothea does not do the same kind of magic as Jace, that it doesn't make it fake. Jace explains to her the difference in magic and what shadowhunters do. Jace explains the true meanings of the shadowhunter marks. Dorothea makes them tea and invites them into the parlor. She claims to be the daughter of a witch, which Jace immediately declares is impossible. Witches and warlocks, being half human and half demon, are infertile. Dorothea admits that this is true, and tells them that she was adopted by a witch when she was young. Her adopted mother taught her everything that she knew that Dorothea could use. Dorothea is a control, and has known that Clary's mom was a shadowhunter in exile the whole time. Madame Dorothea reads Jace's tea leaves and declares that he will fall in love with the wrong person, and that he has a great enemy. She tries to read Clary's tea leaves, but discovers that Clary has a block on her mind. Jace and Clary discover a portal in Dorothea's apartment. Not knowing better, Clary activates the portal, and Jace and Clary are transported out of the apartment.

In Chapter 8, Clary and Jace find themselves dropped in the bushes outside Luke's house. Clary is initially going to leave, but Jace feels that they should have a look around. Jace goes over the fence, and lands on Simon, who has been lurking about watching Luke. Luke told Simon that Clary was fine, that she was staying upstate with a sick aunt. Simon, knowing that Clary had no family but her mom, decided to watch Luke. Simon saw him packing up a bag of weapons. Clary tells him about the shadowhunters and what really happened to her.

After searching Luke's apartment, they find the bag of weapons and Clary's bag from the apartment. They now know that Luke returned to the apartment after the demon attack, and was probably the one to clean the place up. Clary changes into a set of her own clothes, and Simon notices that someone is coming. Luke has returned, and he has two men dressed like warlocks with him. Clary, Jace, and Simon hide behind a screen.

The two men with Luke are Blackwell and Pangborn, two shadowhunters working for Valentine. They call Luke Lucian, and ask him about Clary and the Mortal Cup. Luke tells the two that he knows nothing of the Mortal Cup, and assumes that Clary is dead. The two rogue shadowhunters leave, and Luke goes out of the room after them. Clary is stunned, and so is Jace. Clary has just learned that Luke was a shadowhunter too, and apparently used to be one of Valentine's inner circle. She has also found out that her mother is still alive, and that Valentine has her. Jace has just seen the two men who murdered his father.



In Chapter 9, Jace takes Clary and Simon to the Institute. Simon is skeptical of the Institute, as all he can see through the glamour is a old run down church. Jace points out that Simon is the first mundane to visit the Institute in a hundred years, and that this is a great honor. Jace can get into a lot of trouble for this. Jace finds Church, and asks the cat to take them to Hodge and Alec. Church instead takes them to the kitchen where Isabelle is cooking some wretched smelling soup. Isabelle tells Jace that Hodge is going to kill him, and rightfully so. She offers them some soup, but only Simon accepts. The other Shadowhunters know that Isabelle's cooking is terrible.

Jace and Clary head off in search of Hodge. Jace explains to Clary that usually, Isabelle's parents are at the institute, and that Mrs. Lightwood generally makes dinner. She is a great cook according to Jace, but she refused to teach Isabelle to cook, probably because for so long, women were not allowed to fight. The lightwoods and Clary's mom were in the first generation of shadowhunters that allowed women to train and fight, so Mrs. Lightwood probably didn't want to teach Isabelle to cook so that she would not always find herself stuck in the kitchen. Jace tells Clary that Isabelle is a great shadowhunter, one of the best he knows. He explains that Alec has never killed a demon, but that it's probably because he's always so busy defending Jace and Isabelle.

They find Hodge in the greenhouse, just as Jace suspected they would. After Jace reports to Hodge, Hodge orders them all to the library. Hodge finds the book on the Circle, and reads the charter oath of the Circle to the teens. He explains that Valentine had started a group of shadowhunters devoted to the eradication of all Downworlders for the sake of keeping the world pure for humanity. He admits that he was once in the Circle, and that Luke and Clary's mom were too. He tells Clary that her mom was married to Valentine. The Accords must be signed every fifteen years to keep the magic potent, and it is just about time for the Accords to be signed again. Now it appears the Circle is rising once again.

## Chapters 7, 8, and 9 Analysis

In Chapter 7, Jace does not like Madame Dorothea. He considers her a liar and a fake, and a protector of criminals.

She argues that just because Clary's mom didn't want to live by the strict code of the Clave, that it didn't make her a criminal. Dorothea points out that if the Clave had their way, she would have been taken from the only mother she knew, just because she was a human in the care of a witch.

Clary goes through a phase of denial about her mother. She refuses to believe that her mother was really a shadowhunter and never told her. Madame Dorothea assures her that it is true, and that she allowed Clary's mother to live there to keep her safe from the Clave, should they come looking for her.

In Chapter 8, Clary is angry at Luke for what he said on the phone, and is perfectly willing to just leave when they arrive at his house by portal. Jace, on the other hand, feels



that they should at least have a look around first. Jace and Clary are both surprised to find Simon, but Simon explains that he was worried about Clary and wanted some answers. He asked Luke if he knew anything about where Clary was, and Luke lied to him about it. Simon became suspicious and decided to lurk about in the bushes watching Luke.

After Clary tells Simon the truth about what happened, Simon surprises both Clary and Jace by being excited. Simon thinks that it is cool that Jace is a demon killer. He compares it to Dungeons and Dragons, which Jace has never heard of. He asks Jace if vampire chicks are hot, and Jace concedes that some of them are. Clary is slightly unsettled by the two of them getting along so well, but then notices that, hot vampire chicks aside, Simon still does not trust Jace.

Jace is visibly effected by the appearance of Blackwell and Pangburn. These two former shadowhunters are the ones who murdered Jace's father in front of him. It is clear that while Luke had known these two at one time, they are clearly not friends today. The entire conversation is full of cloaked threats and suspicious questioning. Clary realizes that her mother is not who she once thought she was.

In Chapter 9, Clary feels pity for Jace, since he has just seen his father's killers, but she has no idea what to say to him. Jace has become what Clary calls scary calm. It is the type of calm that Clary's mom always go when she was really angry. It reminds Clary of very thin ice, just before it breaks under your weight.

When they arrive at the institute, Simon tells Clary that it just feels wrong to him. She considers it, and understands why it is so. The institute felt somewhere between strange and alien, and home for her, but she realizes that her shadowhunter blood is all that makes it seem familiar and comfortable. For Simon, it is simply strange and alien. Clary tells Simon that he doesn't have to stay with her, but he argues that he must go where she goes.

Simon seems to be attracted to Isabelle, which makes Clary feel jealous. Jace admits that he finds Clary unsettling. Jace tells Clary that he is only being so brutal about Simon's attraction to Isabelle because he knows that Isabelle will break his heart. Jace claims that he is doing it to save Simon the heartbreak.



# Chapters 10, 11, 12, and 13

## Chapters 10, 11, 12, and 13 Summary

In Chapter 10, Hodge explains his connection to the Circle, and that of Clary's mother, Jace's father, and the Lightwoods. Luke left the Circle first, which really hurt Valentine, as Luke was his right hand man. Then Jace's father left the Circle, only to be killed by Blackwell and Pangborn. Clary's mom left, but Blackwell, Pangborn, Hodge, and the Lightwoods stayed loyal to Valentine up until the uprising. Hodge was punished for staying with the Circle up until the uprising by a curse that will kill him the moment he leaves the Institute. The Lightwoods were also exiled, but may return to Idris on official business only. Blackwell and Pangborn apparently stayed loyal to Valentine even after his defeat. He explains why Valentine must be looking for the Cup, but is interrupted by Isabelle's announcement that dinner is ready. Both Hodge and Jace protest weakly, saying that they're not hungry. When Isabelle admits that she threw out the soup and ordered Chinese takeout, their stories change. Clary is left in the Library with Isabelle.

In the kitchen, Hodge continues explaining Valentine's crazy warped personality and his evil plan. Valentine wants to use the Mortal Cup to recruit an army of child shadowhunters, who will grow up loyal to him and his cause. Valentine is not at all concerned about the fact that only about twenty percent of the children he exposes to the Cup will actually survive and become shadowhunters. Valentine said that they had kept humanity safe for a thousand years, and that now it is humanities turn to give their own sacrifices. Hodge says that Valentine was insane, but also powerful. He orders the young ones not to interfere, that he is sending a message to the Clave and that the Clave will handle it as they see fit.

Jace points out that they do actually know where to start looking for the Cup. Clary's mom might have hid the Mortal Cup, and Clary's mind has a magical block in it, which might mean that Clary knows subconsciously where the Cup is hidden. Jace suggests that the Silent Brothers should look into Clary's mind and see if they can remove the block.

Clary dreams that she is at the Glass City, dancing with Simon. Simon becomes Jace, and Clary, confused, asks what happened to Simon. Just then, she hears Jace telling her to wake up. She wakes up to find Jace above her, holding her wrists and trying to wake her. The Silent Brother, Brother Jeremiah is here to see her. Brother Jeremiah tries to look into her mind, but cannot. He confirms that there is a magic block placed in her mind by a warlock, and that for the Silent Brothers to see what secrets lie in her mind, she will have to go to the Silent City.

After an eventful ride in a magic carriage, they arrive at the Silent City. It is a mausoleum in the New York City Marble Cemetery. On their descent, Brother Jeremiah explains that the Silent City has been around far longer than the rest of the cemetery, and that all of the Shadowhunters are either buried or burned here. Shadowhunters who



die in battle are burned, and their ashes are mixed to make the marble. Their ashes contain great magical protection for the Silent City. When they reach the level where the council meets, Brother Jeremiah instructs Clary to stand before the council.

The Silent Council opens Clary's mind, but are unable to remove the block on her mind. It is too strong, and to remove it themselves would be to kill Clary. She must find the one who put it there, someone named Magnus Bane. After the failed attempt to remove the block, Brother Jeremiah is ordered to escort them out of the Silent City, informing them that the sights of the Silent City are not for the uninitiated.

In Chapter 11, Jace calls Alec and Isabelle and tells them to meet them at a diner. Jace tells Clary that this is the best restaurant in New York, but to her it looks more like a prison. Inside, there are various types of Downworlders, and the menus contain many bizarre selections, meant for various types of Downworlders. On the back of the menu is the human food, and they actually have a large selection. After the food arrives, Clary notices that the food is really good, despite the company. Isabelle recognizes the name Magnus Bane from a party invitation. He is throwing a party in his house for various Downworlders, and apparently handed an invitation to Isabelle at Pandemonium.

Back at the Institute, Clary goes off in search of Hodge. In the library, she finds a book that seems familiar to her. She opens the book and finds a picture of the Circle on the day it was founded. Hodge appears then, and tries to explain to her why they all joined Valentine. After their conversation, Clary admits that she can not sleep, so Hodge makes a sleeping potion for her. When she arrives back at her room, she sees Jace sitting on her bed looking at her sketch pad. Clary drops the sleeping potion, so Jace offers to tell her a story to put her to sleep.

Isabelle wakes Clary up and gets her dressed and made up and does her hair so that she looks more like Jocelyn than Clary. After the make over and the talk, Clary and Isabelle actually start to get along for the first time.

In Chapter 12, when they arrive at Magnus Bane's house, Jace finds some vampire motorcycles outside. They run on demon energy, and he pours holy water in the gas tanks, melting the tubes. Magnus invites them in. Simon and Isabelle head for the dance floor immediately, and Jace, Alec, and Clary talk to Magnus. They finally get him upstairs to talk in private, and he asks them what they want with him. Clary tells him that she is the one with the questions. Magnus pretends to not know what they are talking about until Jace tells him that the Silent Brothers were able to uncover two words in her mind. Magnus admits that he left his signature on her mind, knowing even then that it was a foolish vain thing to do. He said that Clary was his greatest work. She would forget everything outside of the mundane even as she sees it. He said that it was how her mother wanted it.

In Chapter 13, Magnus explains that Jocelyn brought Clary to him when she was very young. She had hoped that Clary would be born without the sight, but she caught her teasing a pixie stuck in the hedge. She asked Magnus if there was anyway that he could blind her from the sight. Magnus explained to Clary's mom that blinding Clary's sight



might leave her permanently damaged. Instead, he cast a strong spell over her, so that she would forget everything magical as she sees it, but the spell had to be recast every two years. They were due to update the spell about two months ago. The spell is starting to fade, and that is why Clary is remembering what she sees. Magnus shows her the book of runes, and lets her memorize a few. One of which is the rune that will open her mind and help her to remember and understand things.

Downstairs, Isabelle delivers some bad news. Simon has drunk a Downworlder drink, and has turned into a rat. Simon the rat has hidden under the bar. Clary is angry with Isabelle for allowing Simon to drink the blue drink, but Isabelle claims that she told him not to drink it. They finally find Simon, and look for Magnus to reverse the spell. Magnus refuses to work up the reversal spell, as it would take too much effort considering Simon will transform back at dawn anyways. He also tells Clary that too much magic would traumatize him too much. After this, Magnus declares the party over, and tells everyone to leave.

Outside, Alec and Isabelle argue about Simon. She feels bad about letting him turn into a rat. She says that she still liked him even though she didn't really know him. Clary is angry at Isabelle, and grabs her by the wrists, denting her bracelets. Clary goes to check on Simon, and notices that he is gone from her backpack. They go back to Magnus's house, and ring the bell. He was asleep, but still allows them in. He tells Clary that he saw some of the vampires leaving with a brown rat, which he assumed was one of their own. He says that they might have thought that it was a tame rat, and it would be fun to kill it. If they think that he is one of the vampires, turned to a rat while drunk, they will keep him until sunrise, but when he turns back into a human they would still kill him. Jace tries to get Magnus to tell them where the lair is, but Magnus refuses. Only after Clary reminds him that he meddled with her mind against her will does he grudgingly tell them where the lair is.

## Chapters 10, 11, 12, and 13 Analysis

In Chapter 10, Clary, who just got over the fact that her mom and Luke were secretly shadowhunters and that she never knew about it, now has more devastating information to digest. Her mother's real name is Jocelyn Fairchild, not Fray, and she was the former wife of Valentine! Hodge explains that he, Jace's father, the Lightwoods, Clary's mom, and Luke were all in Valentine's Circle, along with Blackwell and Pangborn. Hodge and the Lightwoods were exiled and not killed because they stayed behind and cooperated with the Clave, giving information and names. Now Hodge will never see the Glass City again, and it pains him.

Isabelle calls Jace a terrible liar, but really he is not a liar at all. He will, in fact, tell the horrible brutal truth instead, and Isabelle warns Clary not to ask Jace a question unless she is sure she is ready for the answer.

When Jace suggests that Clary see one of the Silent Brothers, everyone thinks it's dangerous. Jace and Hodge explain who the Silent Brothers are and what they are



capable of. Clary is scared, but Jace reassures her that this may be the only way to find out what is hidden in her mind behind the mysterious magic block. Simon interjects and tells Jace to stay away from Clary. Jace, Alec, and Isabelle all gang up on Simon then, telling him that he should leave and that the Institute is no place for a mundane human like him. As Isabelle escorts Simon away, Clary feels as if she is losing the last thing that she really thought she would have forever, her friend Simon.

Clary's dream confuses her, and she becomes concerned when Simon disappears and is replaced by Jace. She asks where Simon has gone, but then she hears and feels Jace trying to wake her. When she goes to the library to meet the Silent Brother, she is intimidated by Brother Jeremiah. He is very strange and scary looking, and the fact that he can speak into their minds without using his voice startles her. For a moment, Clary is reluctant to allow this man into her mind, but she does relent. Her curiosity and desire to know who she is wins out over her fear.

In Chapter 11, at the restaurant, Jace leaves the group to go flirt with the waitress. Alec and Isabelle tell Clary that he is not seriously giving her attention, that he is simply having a little fun. The shadowhunters feel that the Downworlders are not good enough to have a relationship with, but not all are bad enough to kill. Clary compares them to spiders, not exactly friends, but often left alone so that they can kill bugs.

Jace's story is about himself and his father. His father gave him a falcon and told him to tame it. Jace raised the falcon with love, and eventually it began to love him back. When Jace took the falcon to his father, his father told him that he didn't tame it, that he broke its spirit. His father broke the bird's neck and killed it, then left the boy alone, crying over his beloved falcon. Jace believes that his father was trying to make him stronger by teaching him to be inflexible. He believes that to love someone is to destroy them, and that to be loved is to be the one destroyed.

Isabelle is aghast at the idea of Clary wearing her own clothes to the party, and insists on giving Clary a makeover. Clary is shocked by how much she resembles her mother when Isabelle is done with her. Earlier in the chapter, Clary is amazed by how much her mother looks like her in the picture of the Circle. As Clary finds out more about her mother, and learns more about being a shadowhunter, she finds that she and her mother have more in common than she ever knew.

Clary has noticed that Alec is gay. She asks Isabelle, and Isabelle admits that it is true. Gay shadowhunters are frowned upon, Isabelle makes Clary promise never to tell Jace. They don't know how Jace would take it, but Isabelle points out that it is not her place to find out. Jace must never find out that Alec is in love with him.

In Chapter 12, when Clary sees how Isabelle and Simon are dancing, she becomes jealous. Simon is dancing in his normal awkward way, but Isabelle is dancing very sinuously in a circle around him, with her finger trailing across his chest. Isabelle is looking at Simon like she wants to drag him off into a corner and have sex with him. Clary thinks that if she dances any closer to Simon, they won't have to go off in a corner to have sex.



In Chapter 13, Clary can not understand why her mom did this to her. Magnus tells the story of his childhood. When he was born with the "devil's mark," which are his slitted eyes, his mother hung herself in the barn. He hated himself when he found out that he was half human and half demon. He points out to Clary that she is different from other humans, but that different does not always mean better. Jocelyn was simply trying to protect Clary, and Magnus tells her not to throw that back in her mother's face.





# Chapters 14, 15, 16, and 17

## Chapters 14, 15, 16, and 17 Summary

### Chapter 14

#### Hotel Dumort

Jace takes Clary to a Cathedral to look for weapons. He explains that shadowhunters have a deal with the various religions of the world. The shadowhunters do not belong to one set religion, and in return, all religions help the shadowhunters kill demons. Clary admits that she has never been in a real church before, not counting the Institute, of course. Jace gives her a quick tour of how a cathedral is set up, then heads to the altar to find the weapons. After equipping them for possible combat with the vampires, Jace takes Clary to the Hotel Dumont, and the lair of the vampires.

Jace and Clary find the hotel boarded and bricked up, with the only visible way in being from the roof. Since they can not fly, as the vampires do, they have to find some other way in. Clary points out that at some point, when the hotel was still in operation, that they probably received deliveries around back. The back lot is covered in trash and the bones of small animals. Just before they get a chance to tip over the dumpster to look for a door, they hear a voice from the darkness.

A young boy steps out from the darkness and tells them that they should leave. This is a bad neighborhood, and he will gladly lead them back to the subway. Jace admits that he knows exactly where he is, and asks the boy how much the vampires are paying him to keep people away from their lair. Raphael tells Jace and Clary a story about some boys who broke into the hotel to kill the vampires and never returned. He said that his brother was part of that group, and that they found his torn clothes at his aunts house nearby. Raphael wants to go in with the shadowhunters, but Jaces says that it's a bad idea. After Raphael points out the entrance, they jump down, only to be followed by Raphael. They can not get out the way they came in, so now Jace is obligated to take Raphael with him.

After searching the hotel for the vampires, Raphael disappears. Jace and Clary find him in another room. Raphael explains that he heard a noise, so he came to check it out. Jace throws his knife at Raphael, but Raphael is fast enough for it to miss his heart. Raphael admits that he is a vampire, and that Jace was clever to figure it out, but not clever enough. Jace and Clary notice now that the stairwell is full of vampires, far too many for them to fight. They take Raphael hostage and negotiate a trade for Simon the rat, which does not go so well. Clary lunges and grabs Simon, but Jace lets go of Raphael, who gives the order for the vampires to kill all three of them. Just then, werewolves jump in through the windows and start fighting the vampires.

### Chapter 15



## High and Dry

One of the werewolves transforms into human form, and informs Raphael that they are here for Clary, and that if the vampires give her to them, then everything will be fine. Raphael tells the wolf that they can't have her, and the wolf is glad to hear it. He launches himself at Raphael, transforming back into wolf form midair, and the battle begins. Jace and Clary run from the battle, and find a stuck door. They finally manage to get it open, and they race for the roof. On the roof they can not find any way down. Any fire escape that may have been there and been safe at one time, is no longer so. After a brief moment of panic, Jace finds the motorcycles that run on demon energy, and they steal one.

Jace and Clary have a very fast ride on the demon bike. Once Clary gets used to the flying, she begins to notice the beauty of the city from the sky. Simon, in rat form, points with his paw toward the sunrise. Clary says that it is a beautiful sunrise, and Jace stiffens. Jace had forgotten that the motorcycle, which runs on demon energy, cannot fly while the sun is up. He takes emergency action to land the bike, but doesn't manage to get it on the ground before the sun is up. After a very rough landing, Jace and Clary are bruised and scratched up. Simon turns back into human form, and they head back for the Institute.

## Chapter 16

### Falling Angels

When Jace, Clary, and Simon return to the Institute, they find an enraged Hodge waiting for them. Jace is in great trouble for breaking the Law and risking his life, as well as Simon's and Clary's, by going to Magnus and then fighting vampires. Alec tells Clary that she should leave, and blames her for Jace's behavior. Clary tells him that Jace told her that he had never killed a demon, and then tells him that she knows that he is in love with Jace. Alec slaps her in the face, and swears by the angel that if she ever tells Jace that, he'll kill her.

Clary is unable to sleep, so she starts drawing in her sketch pad. Simon shows up and they talk for a while. Simon ends up falling asleep on Clary's bed, leaving her no room to sleep. Jace shows up and invites her to a picnic in the greenhouse.

## Chapter 17

### The Midnight Flower

Jace takes Clary to the greenhouse. They eat cheese sandwiches and apples and talk about family. Clary had not expected anything for her birthday, but Jace says that everyone deserves a birthday celebration. He tells her of his fifth birthday present. He had asked his father to take a bath in spaghetti. His father reasoned that since it was not very expensive or dangerous, that there was no harm. Jace's father had the servants fill the tub with boiling water and pasta, then when it cooled to a safe temperature, Jace took a bath in it. Clary mentions that she misses Luke, but that he is



a coward. Jace is about to comment on that, but the clock chimes midnight, and Jace shows Clary the Midnight Flower, which only blooms at Midnight.

On the way out of the greenhouse, Clary almost trips over Jace's knife, which is lying on the floor. When she spins to avoid it, she stumbles into Jace, who catches her and they kiss. They leave the greenhouse and head for Clary's room. Clary and Jace kiss once more outside her room, when Simon comes out of Clary's room. Clary realizes that she forgot that Simon was there, but now things are awkward. Jace tells her that in the future, before she invites a man to her bed, she should warn him if it's already occupied. Simon is angry at Jace, and Jace seems angry also, though he of course denies it and responds with sarcasm as usual. Simon confesses his love to Clary, and calls her stupid for not seeing it for herself. He storms off telling her that there is nothing else she can say to make it any better.

After both Simon and Jace have left Clary alone, she sits and thinks about her situation. She is sad because she has probably just lost the only remaining friend that she had. She once told Simon that she only ever loved three people: her mom, Luke, and Simon. Now she feels that she has lost the last person she loves and that loves her. She looks at the picture of Jace, with the angel wings that she had drawn. The picture is very good, but when she touches it, she feels downy feathers instead of paint. Looking to the runes she painted in the corner of the painting, she sees that they are glowing. She begins to feel like maybe she does know where the Mortal Cup is after all.

## Chapters 14, 15, 16, and 17 Analysis

In Chapter 14, while in the church, Jace tells Clary that he is not a religious man. She figures that if there is a Hell and demons, then there must be the other side of that coin, a Heaven with God and Angels. Jace tells her that he has killed probably five hundred demons or more, but has never seen an actual angel, or met anyone who has. It isn't so much that Jace does not believe that God exists, he just doesn't care. After seeing his father die, Jace figures that whether there is a God or not doesn't really matter, since either way we're on our own.

The Hotel Dumort, as it has been renamed, is trashed inside and out. The vampires do not seem to care about the appearance of their lair, preferring the garbage and torn wallpaper to any decorations. The stairwells are all torn out but one, as proof that this hotel is the property of vampires who can fly, and have no use for stairs.

Jace suspects that Raphael is a vampire in the ally, figures that it would be worth playing along if it meant getting inside. Once Raphael gets them inside without immediately attacking, Jace starts to doubt that Raphael is a vampire. However, when Raphael looks up, he reveals a scar on the base of his neck. When Clary sees this and wonders how he got it, this foreshadows the fact that Raphael is a vampire posing as mundane human. When Jace sees the scar, he starts to believe again. He figures that Raphael probably puts his cross back on his chain(which he still wears without the cross) to visit his family, and that with the vampire's quick healing, what's a little burn?



Jace is sure that Raphael is a vampire when he leaves the room without leaving any footprints in the dust, proving that he flew.

In this chapter, Jace reveals that when a shadowhunter swears an oath, it is not like when a human does. He does not explain why a shadowhunter can't break an oath, or what the consequences are if one does. He just says that a shadowhunter is bound by his oath forever, and never breaks it.

In Chapter 15, Jace informs Clary that he only uses the term "situation" when things are really bad, and assures her that this is not quite a situation. However, once the wolves arrive and attack the vampires, looking for Clary, he tells her that they have a situation. Jace and Clary are stuck in the middle of a war between the wolves and the vampires. This is bad for them, as they could become a casualty to either side, and they still don't know what the wolves want with Clary.

In Chapter 16, Jace took a great risk in taking the group to see Magnus Bane, but risked even more by taking Clary to the vampire lair to rescue Simon. Alec, who already does not like Clary, blames her for Jace's behavior. Alec feels that Jace only did what he did for Clary. He also feels that Jace should not have left him and Isabelle behind, especially since Clary is just dead weight as an untrained, inexperienced mundane. Clary is angry about the fact that her whole life so far has been a lie. Now she is angry with Alec for what he has said, partly because he is somewhat right. She lashes out at him by telling him that Jace told her that he had not killed a single demon. She calls Alec selfish, and says that he hasn't killed a demon because he is a coward. She tells him that she knows that he's in love with Jace, and that she thinks that's all he cares about. Alec is so angered by her words, that he slaps her and swears on the angel to kill her if she ever says any of that to Jace.

In Chapter 17, Clary asks Jace if he and Isabelle ever dated, or if they have romantic feelings for each other. Jace admits that either one of them might have thought of it a few times, but that ultimately it would be too strange, as they grew up basically brother and sister. Clary pawns it off on Simon wanting to know, but really, she is attracted to Jace, and wants to know if he is already with Isabelle. Clary thinks that Isabelle hates her, but Jace tells her that Isabelle is actually intimidated and slightly jealous of her. Isabelle has spent her entire life as the only girl in a group of adoring boys. Now she is not the only girl in the group. Jace calls Clary beautiful, and tells her that Isabelle notices that Clary is small, where as Isabelle is taller than most boys her age.

Jace and Clary kiss in the greenhouse. At first, Jace doesn't seem to want to kiss her, and it is almost as if his body is doing it against his will, but then they ease into each others embrace, and kiss until Hugo arrives. Back at Clary's room, she asks Jace if he is tired. Jace has never been more awake, and they kiss again. Unfortunately, Simon chooses just this moment to throw open Clary's bedroom door, from the inside, and demand, "what the hell?" Jace is surprised, and it seems upset, that Simon was sleeping in Clary's bed. Clary is embarrassed because Jace found that Simon was in her bed, and because Simon has seen her kissing Jace. Simon is angry because she was kissing Jace. Simon has only been fawning over Isabelle to make Clary jealous.

Simon tells her that he has been in love with her for ten years, but she obviously does not feel the same.



# Chapters 18, 19, and 20

## Chapters 18, 19, and 20 Summary

In Chapter 18, Clary has discovered that there are runes that allow someone to paint a picture of something, then actually hid the object in its painting. She paints a coffee cup, then puts the coffee cup into the painting. For her demonstration, she shows Jace the painting, then pulls the coffee cup out of it. Clary tells the shadowhunters that her mom painted the Mortal Cup into Madame Dorothea's Ace of Cups card. Clary's mom did this so that neither Valentine nor the Clave could find it. She knew that if Madame Dorothea didn't know that the Cup was in the card, she would never turn it over or lose it. If the Clave shows up looking for it, Dorothea would flee, with her deck of tarot cards, and likely never be heard of again.

Clary calls Simon to come get them in Eric's van. She doesn't want to call him, but there is no one else that they know who can drive them. Simon does not want to, but Clary talks him into it by telling him that it is the only way she can save her mom, and reminding him that she came back for him when he was a rat.

Once they arrive at Clary's house, the shadowhunters arm themselves and go inside. Simon stays by the van. There is minimal demon activity, so perhaps some Forsaken could be upstairs, but since they're going to Dorothea's, they should not bother them. When they get to Dorothea's apartment, she is happy to see them. She invites them in and they talk for a bit. Clary tells Dorothea that the Mortal Cup is in her tarot deck, and then pulls the Cup out of the card.

In Chapter 19, with Clary holding the Cup, they all admire it. Madame Dorothea suddenly exclaims that it is damaged. Clary can not see where, and Dorothea reaches for it to show her. Clary has an odd feeling about it, and pulls away from her. Dorothea tells them that Valentine will not be happy if she can't get it for him. She pulls the curtain down from the portal, showing that it is open to the abyss. Abbadon, the Greater Demon and lord of the Abyss comes out through the portal and possesses Dorothea's body, warping it into a giant monster that vaguely resembles Dorothea. During a brutal combat, all of the shadowhunters are at least slightly injured, with Alec critically injured. Just as it seems that Abbadon will win, Simon bursts in through the front door with Alec's bow and shoots out the skylight. Abbadon, may be a greater demon, that makes most demons look like flies, but he is still a demon, and cannot stand sunlight. The sunlight streams in through the broken skylight and Abbadon is defeated.

After the battle, Simon and Clary are the only two who did not get injured. Alec is critically injured, with demon poison flowing in his blood. They load Alec into the van, and head for the institute as fast as possible. Hodge is standing on the stairs outside waiting for them.



Hodge is not sure if the medications will help, but it is all they can do. As soon as Clary reveals that she has the Mortal Cup, Hodge sends Hugo to attack her face, distracting her enough to take the Cup from her. He casts a sleep spell on Jace, then summons Valentine. Valentine takes the cup and Jace, then lifts the curse from Hodge. Hodge may now leave the Institute without fear of death.

In Chapter 20, Clary finds Jace's stele and manages to escape the Institute. She follows Hodge into an alley. He tries once again to convince her to just leave it alone, but she will not. Hodge gets ready to attack her and a six foot long wolf arrives in the alley. Hodge asks if he is there for Clary, and tells him that there may still be time for Valentine to take him back. The wolf attacks and kills Hodge, then grabs Clary's leg. She hits the ground and loses consciousness.

Clary wakes to find herself in a jail cell. Luke arrives to check on her, and he is bleeding. He tells Clary that Hodge's blade made the wound, and she guesses that he is a werewolf. Luke tells her that he is a wolf, that he didn't kill Hodge, only injured him, and that he did not really abandon her. Luke is the leader of the wolf pack, and has had them watching her. Clary is wary of his story, so he resigns to tell her the whole story.

## Chapters 18, 19, and 20 Analysis

In Chapter 18, Clary is reluctant to call Simon for a ride. Jace points out that there is no one else, so she gives in. Simon gives in because he realizes that there is no one else who can drive her. Hodge takes Clary aside and talks to her about the imbalance of power between two people when there are unrequited feelings. Alec is in love with Jace, but Jace does not know it. Simon is in love with Clary, but Clary didn't realize it until it was too late. Hodge tells her about when the Circle was young. Luke and Jocelyn had been the best of friends since they were children, sometimes even being mistaken for siblings. However, as they got older, it became plain to everyone that Luke was in love with her, everyone but Jocelyn. When Jocelyn married Valentine, it was too much for Luke, and he left the Circle, letting them think that he was dead. Even after Valentine disappeared and Clary's mom fled to New York, Luke stayed by her side, but never mentioned his feelings for her. Hodge explains that where there love, there is also hate. If someone takes advantage of the imbalance of power by constantly asking favors from the one who loves them, and always using them, then the lover can easily turn into the hater.

In Chapter 19, after Alec is injured, Clary lies to him and tells him that he killed the demon. She feels bad about what she said to him earlier, about being coward, and she knows that he only took the sword instead of bow because of what she said. Simon, who was once again completely forgotten, ends up being the one to kill the demon. While Clary regrets her words to Alec, it is important to note that had she not said them, then Alec would have taken the bow. If Alec had taken the bow, Simon could not have shot out the skylight, which Alec did not even know was there. Had Clary not offended Alec and made him feel self conscious about his choice of weapons, then they all might have been killed by Abbadon.



Now that Simon has defeated a greater demon, one that all four of the shadowhunters were unable to take down together, he is no longer just a mundane. Even Jace does show Simon respect for his achievement.

Hodge has betrayed the Clave and the shadowhunters. He is quick to take the Cup and summon Valentine, but is reluctant to give him the Cup. Hodge does not mind betraying the Clave, as they have done nothing for him. He feels the guilt of betraying the Lightwoods and the children. He tells Valentine that if he will swear not to hurt Jace, that he'll give him the Cup. Valentine points out that Hodge will give him the Cup anyways, and refuses to make the promise. Hodge gives in and hands the Cup to Valentine, even though he has not secured Jace's safety. Valentine makes an interesting point about the betrayal. He wonders aloud how Jace will feel about Hodge when he wakes up.

In Chapter 20, Clary can not understand why Hodge betrayed them, and thinks that Valentine is going to kill Jace. Hodge is bitter because, while the Lightwoods and Waylands were just as guilty as he, only he was cursed so that he could never leave the institute. Hodge tells Clary that she does not understand. He tells her that she only knows small bits of the story, which is best for her. He urges her to leave the Institute as soon as she is able, and escape the world of shadowhunters while she still can. When Clary says that she can't, then Hodge offers his condolences before leaving. Clary believes that Valentine will kill Jace because he said that Jace would be with his father, as he should be. Clary is assuming that Valentine really had Jace's father killed, but what she does not yet know is that Valentine is Jace's father.





# Chapters 21, 22, 23, and Epilogue

## Chapters 21, 22, 23, and Epilogue Summary

In Chapter 21, Luke tells Clary the story of what happened all those years ago. Luke was never very good at school, and he could not stand even the lightest marks. Valentine, who was the most popular boy in school, came to him and offered to train him. Under Valentine's tutelage, Luke excelled in his studies, received marks, and killed his first demon. Valentine also recruited some other social misfits, who eventually became the Circle. At first, the Circle simply spoke out trying to get the Mortal Cup to make more shadowhunters, but after Valentine's father is killed by a werewolf, all of that changes. Valentine becomes even crueller than he was before, and now he also argues for war with all Downworlders. Jocelyn, who felt sorry for Valentine after his father's death, eventually fell in love with him and they were married. They had a son, who they named Jonathan Christopher.

One night, Luke and Valentine went out hunting. Luke was bitten by a werewolf and turned. Valentine gives Luke a knife with which he expects Luke to do the honorable thing and take his own life. Luke returns to the wolf pack and demands single combat with the wolf who bit him. He kills the leader of the pack, and becomes the leader. When the time comes once again to sign the Accords, Valentine and the Circle devise a plot to disrupt the event. They make deals with demons in order to get weapons that they can sneak into the Accords. Jocelyn finds Luke and tells him Valentine's plan, so that they can stop him. At the Accords, when all of the Circle rise and reveal their weapons, Jocelyn opens the doors and allows in Luke and his pack, as well as faerie knights and vampires. Most of the Circle is slain, and the Accords are signed. After, Valentine returns to Jocelyn's home and kills her mother and father and young Johnathan. He burns the house to the ground with demon fire and fakes his death.

After all of this, Jocelyn flees from the shadow world and heads to New York, where Luke finds her by chance later. He finds her apartment and knocks on the door. The door is opened by a little red-headed girl and Jocelyn comes up behind her. After that, as Luke says, Clary knows the rest of the story.

In Chapter 22, after Luke explains everything to Clary, they start to devise a plan to get Clary's mother and Jace and the Mortal Cup from Valentine. Clary figures out that Valentine must be hiding out at Renwick's, but does not know what it is. Simon Googles it for her, and finds that it is an abandoned mental hospital on Roosevelt Island. Luke remembers that Roosevelt Island was once called Blackwell Island, as it was owned by the Blackwells, an old and powerful shadowhunter family. Luke and Clary lead the pack to Renwick's.

Luke leads the wolf pack on the invasion of Renwick's. They fight their way through Forsaken warriors that are guarding the doors, and Luke and Clary run into the building. They find Clary's mom, but are interrupted by Blackwell and Pangburn. Luke kills



Blackwell, and then he and Pangburn fight. Clary runs away from the combat, by Luke's order, and finds Jace. Jace is surprised to see her, and tells her that she made a terrible mistake coming after him. Jace tells Clary that his father is not really dead, that Hodge lied to him all those years. Clary is in the process of arguing with him when Valentine arrives. Clary moves to attack him, but Jace stops her and tells her that Valentine is his father.

In Chapter 23, Valentine tells Jace and Clary to sit. Valentine tells the story of the uprising from his perspective. Jace, who is Johnathan Christopher, now knows that he is Clary's brother. Jace does not want to believe that Clary is his sister, but Valentine assures them both that it is true. Valentine explains that after the uprising, he took on Michael Wayland's name and lands. After about ten years or so, he received a letter saying that someone knew who he really was. He faked his death, with the help of Blackwell and Pangborn. Johnathan Christopher Morgenstern becomes Jace Wayland, and the Lightwoods take care of him. Luke arrives, and fights Valentine. After a rough fight, Luke is almost killed. Valentine is going for the kill, but Clary throws herself in front of Valentine's sword. Jace throws his dagger at Valentine and knocks the sword out of his hand. Clary convinces Jace that while Valentine is their father, he does not care about either of them. Jace saves Luke and faces his father. Valentine tells them that the Cup is in Idris, hidden so that they can not find it. He goes through the portal and then shatters it so that they can not follow.

In the Epilogue, Clary's mom is now in a hospital. Luke stays by her side always, but he sends Clary home with Simon. Simon takes her to the Institute. At the Institute, she is greeted by both Isabelle and Alec as a friend. Alec takes her to the greenhouse. While they walk, Clary apologizes to Alec about what she said. Alec leaves her at the stairs to the greenhouse, since he can not enter on crutches. Clary talks Jace into going to the hospital with her so that he can talk to their mom. She thinks that if she hears Jace's voice, that it might wake her. Jace finally agrees, and takes her to the roof where he has a vampire demon motorcycle stashed. They ride out in the night to the hospital. This time, Clary keeps her eyes open the whole time, and thoroughly enjoys the ride.

## Chapters 21, 22, 23, and Epilogue Analysis

In Chapter 21, Luke was never a very good shadowhunter and neither was Hodge or the Lightwoods. Valentine took all of them under his wing and trained them. This attracted them to him and made them loyal. Luke once felt that Valentine had done this out of the kindness of his heart, but now feels that he was simply building a cult.

Luke has always been in love with Valentine, but was happy for Jocelyn when she married Valentine. He thought that she would be happy, but none of them knew then the grim events that would take place in the near future.

After Luke is turned into a werewolf, Valentine no longer cares for him. They were parabatai before, but now Luke is simply a dirty animal. After Luke returns to sign the Accords and stop Valentine from achieving his dark goal, Valentine greets him as an



animal. Luke demands the respect from Valentine that he deserves as his parabatai, but Valentine tells him that he does not know the names of halfbreeds. Valentine feels that Luke should have died rather than allow his blood to be muddied.

Valentine takes his own wife hostage, and later kills her parents. This shows that he does not truly love her anymore, and is driven only by his own anger and hate. Valentine envisions the world a pure place, reserved for humans only with no room for the offspring of demons.

In Chapter 22, it is all almost too much for Clary to digest. Now, she knows that she had a brother who died, and that Johnathan Clark was not her father, but Valentine is. Clary despairs that Valentine is her father, being very upset that her father is, as she puts it, an evil overlord.

In Chapter 23, Clary and Jace must now both face the truth that they are brother and sister. They had fallen in love with each other before they knew this, but Valentine dismisses this as blood calling to blood. Valentine is trying to convince both children that they can be a happy family once more in Idris, but Clary is not buying it. Jace so badly wants his father back that he believes Valentine when he says that it will all be alright.

When Luke shows up, Valentine actually does seem genuinely hurt by the fact that Luke left the Circle. He also seems to actually believe that Luke turned Jocelyn against him, and when Jace finally sees through his father's facade, Valentine accuses him of choosing the half bread over his own family, just like his mother and sister. When Jace realizes the betrayal by his own father, he wants to kill him. Valentine calls him softhearted and says that he does not have it in him to kill Valentine. He is right. Jace is unable to make himself kill Valentine, and Valentine escapes back to Idris. Jace feels like he has failed, but Clary assures him that the only way he could have failed is if he had killed his own father.

In the Epilogue, Luke still loves Clary's mom. He refuses to leave her bedside at the hospital while waiting on her recovery. Clary and Simon have made up, and seem fine together now. They are back to being best friends, but all is not as it once was. Clary knows now that Simon is in love with her, and he knows that she knows. Isabelle discovered that she doesn't dislike Clary. When Clary and Jace disappeared, Isabelle found herself equally worried for both of them. Clary gets a chance to apologize to Alec for what she said. He tells her that he does not hate her, and that he appreciates her being kind to him, even after how he treated her. Jace wants nothing to do with Jocelyn. He knows that she is his mother, but he has never met her and does not want to go to the hospital with Clary. Finally, he agrees to go for Clary's sake, on the chance that he might be able to wake Jocelyn from her coma. As they ride out in the night on the demon bike, they are comfortable together as brother and sister, and even Jace seems in a lighter mood on the way to the hospital.



# Characters

## Clary Fray

Clarissa Fray is the daughter of Jocelyn Fray. She does not know anything about her mother's past and has never met any other member of her family. She eventually discovers that her mother is a former shadowhunter in exile, her father is a shadowhunter villain named Valentine, and her brother, Johnathan, is actually the shadowhunter boy Jace that she meets in the club and becomes interested in. All other members of her family are dead.

Clary is an artist, much like her mother, but she does not think that she is as good as her mother. She also does not think that she is as pretty as her mother, though many people tell her that they look just alike. Clary's life goes from normal mundane teenage girl's life to anything but normal, and does so quickly. She stumbles upon Jace, Alec, and Isabelle killing a demon. Shortly after, her mother is kidnapped by her father and she must set out on a quest to rescue her and find the Mortal cup before her father can.

## Jace Wayland

Jace Wayland is a shadowhunter whose family has all died. He is adopted by the Lightwoods, and becomes like a brother to Alec and Isabelle. Jace is emotionally closed off and very sarcastic. Jace is also very conceited and vain. He believes that to love someone is to destroy them, and to be loved by someone is to be the one destroyed.

Jace eventually finds out that his real father was Valentine, not Michael Wayland. After this, he changes sides and works with Valentine, arguing that the Clave misunderstands his father's intentions. Jace is greatly disturbed when he discovers that Clary is his sister because he was beginning to fall in love with her.

## Simon

Simon is Clary's best friend. He is a mundane, but gets drawn into the story by being with Clary. He has been in love with Clary for ten years, but she does not notice it.

## Alec

Alec is a shadowhunter and the brother of Isabelle. He is Jace's best friend and brother in battle. They are sworn to defend each other. Alec is also secretly gay and in love with Jace, but he will never tell him.



## Isabelle

Isabelle is a shadowhunter and Alec's sister. She is tall and pretty, which intimidates Clary. She is also secretly intimidated by Clary because now there is another girl around the boys. Isabelle feels that being tall is an unattractive trait. Isabelle does eventually warm up to Clary however and begins to see her as a sister.

## Hodge

Hodge is an older shadowhunter who now looks after the Institute and teaches the young shadowhunters. He was punished for his involvement with the Circle by cursing him. If he leaves the Institute, he will die. In the end, Hodge turns out to be a traitor, working with Valentine instead of the Clave.

## Magnus Bane

Magnus Bane is the grand warlock of Brooklyn. Every two years, he has been casting a spell on Clary so that she will immediately forget anything she sees out of the ordinary so that she will not find out about her shadowhunter lineage.

## Valentine

Valentine was the leader of the Circle. After the Uprising, he faked his own death and that of his son, then went into hiding to build his power. He was Jocelyn's husband and is Clary's and Jace's father.

## Luke

Luke was Valentine's second in command until he was turned into a werewolf. Afterward, he left the Circle. When Jocelyn leaves the Circle, she and Luke flee to New York. He stays around as Jocelyn's friend, and Clary knows him as Uncle Luke. Luke has been in love with Clary's mom for years, but she never noticed.

## Jocelyn Fray

Jocelyn Fray is Clary's mom. She is an exiled shadowhunter and was married to Valentine.

## Church

Church is the cat that lives at the Institute.



## **Chairman Meow**

Chairman Meow is Magnus Bane's cat.

## **Hugo**

Hugo is Valentine's bird, who now lives with Hodge.

## **Madame Dorothea**

Madame Dorothea is Clary's downstairs neighbor. She is a control, running the apartment as a sanctuary for Clary's mom. She is not a witch, but was raised by one.



# Objects/Places

## Shadowhunters

Shadowhunters are the people from a magical land who hunt demons and protect humanity from evil Downworlders.

## Forsaken

Forsaken used to be normal people. When a normal human receives shadowhunter marks, it can kill them. When someone subjects a human to many shadowhunter marks, that human may become a Forsaken instead. The Forsaken do not rest, and are insane and strong. They will ruthlessly carry out the orders of their maker or die trying.

## The Clave

The Clave is the ruling body of shadowhunters.

## The Circle

The Circle is a group of shadowhunters who feel that all downworlders should be destroyed, protecting the "purity" of humanity.

## Idris

Idris is the magical country from which the shadowhunters come. It is between Germany and France, and is protected by a strong glamour. Anytime a mundane crosses the border into Idris, they are magically transported to the opposite border without ever knowing they were almost in a magical land.

## Mortal Cup

The Mortal Cup is the cup in which the blood of the angel was mixed, forming the first shadowhunter. Anyone who drinks from the Cup could become a shadowhunter if they are strong enough to withstand the change.

## Renwick Smallpox Hospital

Renwick's is an abandoned hospital that is now the New York home of Valentine.



## **Sight**

Sight is the ability to see through glamours.

## **Mark**

A Mark is a magical rune inscribed in the skin of a shadowhunter that gives them extra power.

## **Downworlders**

Downworlders are the other inhabitants of Idris. They are vampires, werewolves, fairies, and the like.

## **Sensor**

A Sensor can detect demonic energies.

## **Ravener Demon**

Ravener demons are vicious demons that can be summoned to carry out simple attacks. Raveners are ugly, but are too stupid to notice or care.

## **Eidolon Demon**

Eidolon demons are shape changers, who often pose as humans.

## **The Institute**

The Institute is a sanctuary for shadowhunters.

## **Alicante of the glass towers**

Alicante, or the Glass City, is the home city of the Shadowhunters and the home of the Clave.





# Themes

## Elitism

One reoccurring theme in this novel is Elitism. Elitism is the belief that a person or group of people are better than others and deserve special treatment. Valentine and his Circle are an elitist group who feel that all Downworlders should be killed. They believe that if they kill all Downworlders, that it will leave the Earth pure for humanity. They not only feel that humans are better than any other race, but also place themselves above the rest of humanity. Valentine shows this when he admits that his plan to use the Mortal Cup to recruit an army of human children will likely kill about eighty percent of the children it is used on. He rationalizes this by saying that Shadowhunters have protected humanity from demons and their ilk for a thousand years. Now it is humanity's turn to sacrifice for the Shadowhunters.

Even the other shadowhunters who do not feel that the Downworlders should be killed show signs of Elitism. Shadowhunters are said to either be the descendants of half human, half angels, or at least to have been transformed by an angel. Shadowhunters are forbidden to marry humans. By their behavior, the young Shadowhunters Jace, Alec, and Isabelle show their general disregard for humanity, whom they call "mundies." They do not treat mundies with respect and look at them as useless dead weight. The young Shadowhunters further categorize society by saying that Downworlders are not as good as humans. They have demon ancestry, and can not be turned into Shadowhunters. Even mundies can become Shadowhunters, if they survive the transformation, which must make them better than Downworlders.

## Family

Throughout this novel, the ties of Family both help and hinder the characters of this story. Clary spent her entire life believing that she was a normal teen girl, and that the normal world was all there was to see. After her mother is kidnapped, Clary is worried about her. Clary's Family ties to her mother lead her on a quest to rescue her. Clary learns the truth about her and her mother, and is angry with her mother for deceiving her. In spite of her anger, she grows to accept the truth of her past, and continues on her quest to save her mother. Luke, while not actually a blood relation, has always been part of Clary's Family. He is the closest thing to a father that Clary has. Even after she believes that he has betrayed her and her mother, she still sees him as more of a father than her biological father, Valentine.

Valentine, on the other hand, does not seem to care about Family at all. Valentine uses the fact that he is Jace's father to manipulate Jace into changing sides. Jace, who misses his Family, and wants nothing more than to have it back, falls completely under Valentine's control. When Valentine tries to do the same to Clary, it is mostly her ties to her mother and her memories of Luke that keep her from making the same choice that



Jace does. Jace's bond to his new found sister, Clary, allows him to break free of Valentine's spell. The extreme love of a son for his father quickly turns to hatred in light of Valentine's betrayal. Jace is driven by hate to kill Valentine, but ultimately his sense of Family keeps him from killing his own father.

## Betrayal

This novel is rife with Betrayal. The various Betrayals by various characters builds complex character relationships. Valentine's Betrayal of the Clave and the Downworlders by forming the Circle and instigating the Uprising cost countless lives, both Shadowhunter and Downworlder. Valentine's Betrayal of Luke after Luke is changed by the werewolf not only costs the two their friendship, but also drives Luke mad with grief. In his emotionally weak state, Luke seeks death at the teeth of the wolf who initially bit him, and eventually to his own Betrayal of Valentine. In turn, Luke's and Jocelyn's Betrayal of Valentine during the Uprising results in a great fury in Valentine. As a result, Valentine burns Jocelyn's house, killing her parents.

As punishment for their involvement in the Uprising, Hodge and the Lightwoods are banished from Idris. However, where Hodge is cursed to die if he ever leaves the Institute, the Lightwoods are allowed to come and go as they wish, and may even return to Idris on official business. Hodge feels this is due to their wealth and connections in the Clave. He feels the bitter sting of Betrayal as his supposed friends allow him to be cursed to die if he leaves the Institute. This leads Hodge to ally himself to Valentine, and eventually to his Betrayal of the young Shadowhunters. Hodge turns the Mortal Cup and Jace over to Valentine, and leaves Clary sealed in the Institute. Not only is this a Betrayal of the children, but also the Clave and humanity in general, as Valentine plans to use the Cup on countless mundane children, no matter the cost.

Simon, who has been in love with Clary for ten years, feels a sense of Betrayal when he catches Clary with Jace. This unintended Betrayal drives Simon from the Institute and almost costs Simon and Clary their friendship.

# Style

## Point of View

The point of view of this novel is the third-person perspective. The narrator is not omniscient. While it is told in the third-person, the story still follows Clary and is privy to only her thoughts and observations.

The narrator follows Clary throughout the story, telling the vividly describing what she sees. The physical world and the action is told through exposition, while most of the plot unfolds through dialogue between characters, with some insight to Clary's private thoughts. All of chapter twenty-one, *The Werewolf's Tale*, is a monologue in which Luke explains the past to Clary.

## Setting

This story takes place in or around present time. The story takes place in New York City. Where most humans, or mundanes as they are called others, do not see the world as it really is. The New York City of this story is full of demons, vampires, and werewolves, as well as other mythical creatures, giving it a fantastic feel.

## Language and Meaning

The language of this novel is mostly informal and the dialogue is heavily sarcastic. The author's vivid descriptions of things and events easily creates a dark and morbid image of New York City for the reader. The emotionally charged dialogue, heavy with sarcasm, creates complex characters with realistic feelings and complicated relationships. Much effort is used to develop the individual relationships between the characters, with heavy emphasis on the familial relationships. While the point of view is third person, the author takes care not to reveal too much with an omniscient narrator. This allows the author to deliver clever plot twists, allowing the reader to be fooled just as the protagonists are.

## Structure

This novel is four hundred and eighty-five pages long, and is made up of twenty-three chapters and an epilogue, which are both numbered and named. The chapters are named in a way that foreshadow the coming events. The book is divided into three parts. Part one, *Dark Descent*, introduces the main characters and sets the scene for the main plot. Part two, *Easy Is The Descent*, further develops the character relationships and progress the plot. It is in part two that Clary discovers that she is actually the daughter of two exiled shadowhunters. Part three, *The Descent Beckons*,



begins with Luke's explanation to Clary, and leads up to the final battle. The story has a slow start, but as the story progresses, the pace quickens, especially toward the end.

This is the story of a fallen shadowhunter who is after the Mortal Cup, an angelic device that is capable of creating an army of shadowhunters to wipe out the Downworlders and the Clave. Clary and her new friends must rescue her mother from him and stop him from finding the Cup. The plot turns with the changing of each part. In part one, Clary is introduced as a mundane girl living alone with her mundane mother. Her father died before she was born. In part two, Clary discovers that she had a brother, and that her mother was really a shadowhunter. In part three, Clary learns that neither she nor Jace are whom they thought they were. They are brother and sister and the children of the story's villain, Valentine.



## Quotes

"Clary, you're an artist, like your mother. That means you see the world in ways that other people don't. It's your git, to see the beauty and the horror in ordinary things. It doesn't make you crazy—just different. There's nothing wrong with it" (Chapter 2, p. 23).

"You seem to be a mundane like any other mundane, yet you can see me. It's a conundrum" (Chapter 3, p. 41).

"It seems the time has come to notify the Clave" (Chapter 5, p. 70).

"She's not a mundane" (Chapter 5, p. 71).

"The Cup is gone, destroyed by Valentine, just before he died. He set a great fire and burned himself to death along with his family, his wife, and his child. Scorched the land black. No one will build there still. They say the land is cursed." (Chapter 5, p. 78).

"You guessed? You must have been pretty sure, considering you could have killed me" (Chapter 6, p. 85).

"I was. Many of us were. Clary's mother as well" (Chapter 9, p. 146).

"Because, she was Valentine's wife" (Chapter 9, p. 146).

"The Law is hard, but it is the Law" (Chapter 10, p. 151).

"Those who die in battle are burned, their ashes used to make the marble arches that you see here. The blood and bone of demon slayers is itself a powerful protection against evil. Even in death, the Clave serves the cause" (Chapter 10, p. 182).

"I think you should go home" (Chapter 16, p. 298).

"Because I've been in love with you for ten years, so I thought it seemed like time to find out whether you felt the same about me. Which, I guess, you don't" (Chapter 17, p. 320).



## Topics for Discussion

One of the prevalent themes of this story is betrayal. Discuss three examples of betrayal. What are the effects?

Why does the Circle feel that all Downworlders should be killed? How does the Clave feel about this and why?

Discuss family. What family ties do the young Shadowhunters have? How do these ties affect them?

What point of view is used in this novel? Why might the author have made this choice?

3. Define and discuss elitism. List some examples of elitism in this novel and explain them. Do any of these examples of elitism mirror events in the real world?

Jace and Alec point out to both Simon and Clary that there is a big difference between magic and glamours. Discuss the difference between glamours and magic. In this story, what is the difference? Who or what is able to cast them?

Several times throughout the novel, "the moral absolutism of the young" is mentioned. What is moral absolutism? What specific examples are given in the text?