

City of Fallen Angels Study Guide

City of Fallen Angels by Cassandra Clare

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Plot Summary

“City of Fallen Angels” is the fourth installment in the Mortal Instruments series by Cassandra Clare, and follows Simon Lewis who attempts to adjust to being a vampire, and Clary as she attempts to keep her relationship with Jace steady while the demon Lilith attempts to gain power in New York. As the novel gets underway, sixteen-year-old Simon has been a vampire for two months. He is doing his best to handle his urge for blood while doing his best to live like a normal human being. This involves continuing to play bass for his band, the members of which know Simon is a vampire. Only Jordan Kyle, their new vocalist, does not know. When Simon’s mother finds out he is a vampire, she reacts horribly. He knows he cannot stay in his apartment anymore, and so goes to become roommates with Jordan.

At the same time, Simon is attempting to balance having two girlfriends—Isabelle Lightwood, a Dayhunter, and Maia Roberts, a werewolf—because he doesn’t want to hurt either of them by dumping one of them. At a band gig, both girls find out about the other, and both become enraged with Simon. Maia is especially enraged when she learns that Simon is roommates with her werewolf ex-boyfriend, Jordan, something which Simon did not know.

Simon, who now bears the Mark of the Wanderer, the Curse of Cain, which brings down the wrath of God against any who would harm him, is then courted by Camille Belcourt, the former leader of the most powerful New York vampire clan. Forced out by Raphael Santiago, Camille wants to destroy him and resume command of the clan. She promises to help Simon live as a vampire properly if he will join her against Raphael. Simon is given five days to make up his mind.

Simon’s best friend Clary, meanwhile, is struggling in her relationship with Jace, a Dayhunter. Jace has been having horrible dreams where he stabs and kills Clary, and so does his best to stay away from her. This hurts Clary deeply, who tries repeatedly to be near him. Only when Jace confesses the truth of his nightmares does Clary understand that some demon is tampering with Jace’s mind. She and Jace go to see the Brothers of the Silent City, who reveal some startling truths. When Clary made it possible for Jace to be brought back from the dead (in a previous novel), she upset the balance of life and death. Jace’s return from the dead meant that all protections given to him as a baby have been stripped away, and he will need new spells to protect him. His dreams are indeed the attempted influence of a demon.

That night at a party, Jace appears under the spell of the demon Lilith to draw Clary away to a condo high rise under construction. Simon is led to the high rise by Maureen, a young girl he could not resist feeding on, and whom was ultimately turned into a vampire. On the roof, Simon and Clary come to realize that Lilith intends to awaken Sebastian by having Simon feed on him long enough to revive him, and then feed him blood to strengthen him and heal him. Sebastian will then go on to create a race of powerful hybrid demons. Jace and Sebastian are bound to one another by Lilith. Harm cannot come to one without coming to the other. Jace and Lilith end up battling, but the



result is inconclusive. As Lilith moves to kill Clary, Simon intervenes by putting himself in the way. As a result, God strikes Lilith dead, turning her into salt. As the novel ends, it is revealed that Sebastian now controls Jace, who feeds Sebastian his blood.



Part 1, Chapters 1 – 4

Summary

Chapter 1, The Master – Simon Lewis goes to Veselka, a diner on New York’s Lower East Side, for coffee with his girlfriend Isabelle “Izzy” Lightwood, the child of an angel known as a Shadowhunter. Simon is now dressing more maturely, which his best friend, Clary, finds amusing. Simon wonders if Isabelle would be dating him if he wasn’t a vampire. Simon is also dating Maia Roberts, a werewolf. Neither girl knows about the other. Simon, on Clary’s advice, knows he must choose between Isabelle and Maia, especially since both girls will be at the upcoming wedding of Clary’s mother and Luke. Simon and Isabelle see two human subjugates enter the diner. They are essentially walking snack machines for vampires, Isabelle explains, who are slaves to the vampire whose blood they have been fed.

The two subjugates, Mr. Walker and Mr. Archer, work for the most powerful clan in Manhattan. They report that the leader of the clan wants Simon to join. Having been told to stay away from the clan in the past by Raphael Santiago, a temporary leader of the clan, Simon knows something else is up. Walker and Archer deny knowing this, but say their master requests a meeting. Simon agrees to go, against Isabelle’s wishes. Simon assures Isabelle he will be protected by the Mark of the Wanderer on his forehead by God Himself. Simon is then brought to Camille Belcourt, the supreme leader of the clan. She asks to see his Mark, and wonders why he is not a part of any clan. Simon says he never wanted to be a vampire.

Camille reveals that she and Raphael are at war. Raphael has been feeding on human beings and murdering them, against Covenant law. He has blamed the murders on Camille. Camille wants Simon to join with her against Raphael. In return, she will help teach him how to properly exist as a vampire. She agrees to give him five days to make up his mind. She gives him a vial of grave dirt to smash to summon her. If not, she will send Walker for an answer at the end of the fifth day. Simon promises to keep the meeting a secret. Life at home is strange for Simon, with his mother, Elaine, always watching him suspiciously. In his bedroom, Simon calls Clary.

Chapter 2, Falling – Clary, on the phone with Simon, practices her balancing in the training room at the Shadowhunters’ Institute. She warns him about dating two girls. Hopping off the phone with Simon, Jace (Clary’s boyfriend) appears to help Clary train. It is because of Clary’s wish to Raziel to bring Jace back to life that Jace came back from the dead. Just as Jace and Clary are about to kiss, Isabelle enters the training room. She reports that the mangled body of a dead Shadowhunter has been found in an abandoned Brooklyn factory. Clary changes and prepares to head home for the night. Jace wants Clary to get home at a reasonable hour so her mother doesn’t have another reason not to like him. Jace tells her he loves her more than he probably should.



Chapter 3, Sevenfold – Simon’s band prepares for a practice. Clary always attends their practices. Simon’s bandmates, Eric, Kirk, and Matt know that Simon is a vampire, but know nothing about Clary and Isabelle being Shadowhunters, or Maia being a werewolf. Clary is annoyed that Simon has told them about him. A guy named Kyle shows up to audition for lead vocals. Clary insists they let Kyle try out since Kyle is so attractive. He turns out to be a good singer. Afterwards, Simon walks Clary to Luke’s house. As Simon walks away, a man attempts to stab him but is transformed into salt and blown away. It is in keeping with Simon’s mark, the Curse of Cain, that God will destroy anyone who attempts to harm the one who bears the mark.

At home, Simon’s mother has found the bottles of blood he has kept hidden in his room. She demands to know what is going on. Simon confesses he is a vampire. His mother takes the news horribly, and begins praying at him in Hebrew. When she falls asleep, Simon determines that he will leave home. He places his hand on his mother’s forehead, willing her to believe he is not home because he is on a field trip. He tells her that nothing that happened about his being a vampire actually happened.

At the Institute, Jace has a dream where he reads his biological father’s old letters to learn more about him. His father, Stephen Herondale, was a member of Valentine Morganstern’s inner circle. In Jace’s dream, Clary arrives dressed seductively, and as the two are about to have sex, he cuts her with a knife. Jace wakes up, shaken. He has worked so hard, and continues to work hard, to be unlike the man who raised him, Valentine.

Chapter 4 – Simon meets Raphael at the Brooklyn Public Library at Grand Army Plaza. Simon explains he has told his mother he is a vampire, and that he used his powers to alter her mind. Raphael says this is in keeping with the vampiric power of encanto, the power of persuasion. Simon asks to come stay at the Dumont, a halfway house for reluctant vampires, and asks about Camille. Raphael avoids speaking about Camille. Simon explains he has received other offers, but does not go into detail. Raphael dismisses this, and tells Simon to have serious business if he is to ever be bothered again.

On a picnic in Central Park with Jace, Clary is frustrated that she is having difficult drawing a portrait of Jace. They end up kissing. Jace says that Clary can do better than him. She assures him she will never leave him or give up on him. Clary and Jace then begin training. Jace tells her that she may encounter a demon when she is unarmed. She can then depend on an ancient fighting style called Muay Thai, the “Art of Eight Limbs”, where she brings the opponent in close and then pummels the opponent at strike points until the opponent collapses. They are interrupted by the Queen of Seelie Court. She reports another Shadowhunter has been found dead, this one in her realm under Oak Bridge.

Jace puts in a call to Maryse while Clary speaks to the Queen. Meliorn, one of the Queen’s subjects, is now on the council. In the past, Clary had refused an offer from the Queen for a compact, because there was nothing the Queen could give her. Now the



Queen asks about Jace: he might be bound to Clary, the Queen says, but she wonders if Jace truly loves Clary. It causes Clary to cry. The Queen then departs.

Simon goes to spend the night in Eric's garage, where the band practices. He wonders what would have happened if Jace had never appeared, if Clary had never found out she was a Shadowhunter. Kyle suddenly arrives to find his keys. Kyle explains he hasn't lived at home in years. He explains the tattoos on his arms are Sanskrit prayers for peace. Kyle invites Simon to be his roommate in Alphabet City, since his last roommate has just moved out. Simon agrees.

Analysis

"City of Fallen Angels" is the fourth installment in the Mortal Instruments series by Cassandra Clare, and follows Simon Lewis who attempts to adjust to being a vampire, and Clary as she attempts to keep her relationship with Jace steady while the demon Lilith attempts to gain power in New York. From the start of the novel, the reader will see that the themes of Love and Friendship are both apparent and strong. Simon is dating two girls—Isabelle and Maia—but it is clear that Simon seems to have stronger feelings toward Isabelle.

This can be ascertained because while Simon merely thinks of Maia, he is actually present with Isabelle. Isabelle, likewise, appears to have very strong feelings for Simon. Simon's inability to break things off with one girl or the other stems not only from his never having had a girlfriend before, but from the fact that he doesn't want to hurt either girl. However, even then, Isabelle's presence while Maia is absent speaks volumes about Simon's feelings.

The conundrum that Simon faces—choosing between the two girls—is something he discusses at length with his best friend, Clary. The theme of friendship is here apparent as Clary gives Simon important advice about dating. She warns him he is playing with fire by dating two girls, and insists he only choose one. However, Clary does not become enraged with Simon for dating two girls. Indeed, as his best friend, Clary knows that Simon intends nothing cruel or harmful by his dating two girls at once, but that he is actually morally conflicted on what to do. Nevertheless, this does not morally excuse Simon with continuing on in this fashion without telling either girl.

As the novel gets underway, the theme of Love is also demonstrated by Clary's relationship with Jace. It is clear the two are in love with one another, for the tenderness of their time together is easily expressed in the physical expression of their emotional bond. The reader should not, however, that Jace soon becomes troubled by the past, and by his dreams. Here, the past becomes incredibly important as the violent nature of Jace's dreams reminds him of being raised by Valentine. Additionally, Jace is concerned about harming Clary. He loves her too much to harm her, so he is determined to rid himself of all things Valentine.



Yet, things for Simon and Clary take a turn for the worse. Simon's recent past—being transformed into a vampire—haunts him daily. He does not want to be a vampire, and hates drinking blood. The past continues to haunt him as well when his mother discovers his blood stash. Simon's confession about being a vampire to his mother leads to his mother's terror and heartache, and to Simon's fleeing the apartment, determined never to return. Clary, on the other hand, made a choice in the past not to consort with the Seelie Queen. In the present, the Seelie Queen exacts revenge not by some tremendous effort, but psychologically, by sowing mental and emotional doubt in Clary's mind about whether or not Jace truly loves her. This shaking of the foundations of Clary's love and faith in Jace will lead her to truly question her relationship with him in later chapters.

Discussion Question 1

Why is Simon dating two girls at once? Why has he refused to dump one or the other, or to tell both about each other?

Discussion Question 2

Why does the Seelie Queen seek to sow doubt in Clary's mind about whether or not Jace loves her? What is accomplished through this fearmongering?

Discussion Question 3

Why does Simon detest being a vampire? How does he attempt to live with being a vampire? Is he successful? Why or why not?

Vocabulary

normalcy, laminated, infrequent, unsubtle, mythological, subjugates, docile, begetter, rectify, noncommittal, exclusivity, salacious, velocity, isolationist, bewildered, materialized, desultory, theoretically, pretentious



Part 1, Chapters 5 – 8

Summary

Chapter 5, Hell Calls Hell – Kyle’s apartment meets with Simon’s approval, except for some kind of strange silvery plants on the fire escape. As Kyle heads out to work as a bike messenger, Simon falls into a fitful sleep, knowing that the Mark of the Wanderer means he will be a fugitive and a wanderer, though protected by God. Kyle returns at noon with food, but Simon isn’t hungry. Kyle asks about both of Simon’s girls. Kyle suggests picking one girl and just going with it. Simon says that Kyle is right. Simon then heads out to keep Clary and Maia company at their dress fitting for the wedding. Jocelyn and Luke meet them there. Maia is a member of Luke’s werewolf pack. As she heads out, Simon asks Luke about Camille.

Luke says he knows a little about her. He explains she is very old, very powerful, and very cunning. Before they can discuss things further, Jace arrives looking tired. Clary then suddenly appears to ask for opinions on her dress, and Jace is stunned by her beauty. He then collects the jacket Clary borrowed from him the day before in the park and heads out quickly, saying he has training. This worries Clary, but Luke tells her that weddings make men nervous. Clary doesn’t believe him. Clary is also unhappy about Simon staying with Kyle since they barely know anything about Kyle.

They then hear the news, which carries word of a baby boy found dead in the alley behind Beth Israel hospital with a note begging the hospital to kill the child since the writer didn’t have the strength to do it. It makes Clary and Jocelyn think about Clary’s evil brother, Jonathan, who now goes by the name Sebastian. Walking home, Simon is approached by two men in gray track suits, dressed like the man who tried to kill him the other day. Jace appears to defeat one of the muggers, but the other is destroyed by God. Jace is stunned by this, but understands God is at work in protecting Simon.

Chapter 6, Wake the Dead – Because Jace has so little control in his life, he likes to keep his room at the Institute very neat. Clary, standing in his room, wonders why he is not there. She begins to worry that she and Jace might be headed for a breakup. She begins going through the old letters, photos, and documents kept by Jace’s true biological father when he was in love with Amatis, the sister of Luke. As she goes to leave, she runs into Luke. Luke has arrived to meet with Maryse Lightwood, adoptive mother of Jace. Luke has Clary stay for the conversation he is about to have with Maryse. Maryse reveals a third Shadowhunter’s body has been found in a dumpster in Columbus Park in Luke’s territory. Someone is trying to make Downworlders turn against each other. The first two dead Shadowhunters (one found in Magnus Bane’s territory in Greenpoint, and the second in a Central Park pond, the domain of the fey) have been identified. Anson Pangborn, a member of Valentine’s circle, and Charles Freeman. Clary thinks there is a way to make the dead talk.



Simon studies his reflection, and doesn't fully recognize himself. Jace, in Kyle's living room, is reading "Lord of the Rings." Simon notes that Jace doesn't look well, as if he hasn't been eating much. He decides to bring Jace to the store for some food. Jace explains he followed Simon for something to do after seeing Clary to a cab. He has her phone and says he wants to return it to her. Simon knows Jace has been avoiding Clary, but Jace won't say why. Jace theorizes that whoever is trying to kill Simon knows Simon, but not about Simon's Mark. Two teenage girls hit on Jace in the food store, but he shrugs it off.

Clary, Luke, and Maryse head to the Silent City where they meet with Brother Zachariah. His mouth is stitched shut, so he must communicate through the mind. He leads them to the Ossuarium where the three dead Shadowhunters have been laid on tables. Drawing a rune on the most recently dead Shadowhunter, the living are able to converse with the dead. The dead Shadowhunter reveals he was killed by Camille. Clary and Luke leave. Clary knows what she did was morally wrong, to awaken the dead. Luke says she has great ability, but she is untrained. He tells her not to use her powers regularly unless she needs them in a life-or-death situation.

Jace questions Simon about who could possibly want to kill him. Jace knows that Simon is not telling him something. He then tells Jace about his meeting with Camille, but Jace doesn't think she wants Simon dead. Jace reveals he is struggling with having two fathers. Simon reveals his own father is dead. Simon also drinks some blood. Jace reminds him he can't simply skip feeding. Kyle gets home. Jace immediately announces that Kyle is a werewolf.

Chapter 7, Praetor Lupis – Simon is stunned to learn that Kyle is a werewolf. Jace demands to know if Kyle is associated with a pack. They grow angry with one another, but Simon intervenes, telling them they need to talk. Kyle confesses he is a werewolf, but is part of the alliance Praetor Lupus, the Wolf Guardians, rather than an actual pack. The alliance helps any just-turned Downworlder to transition into their new lives, and to find a pack or clan. Kyle was assigned Simon. Simon reveals he was nearly killed on two occasions. Jace reveals he will remain with Simon until the murder plot is exposed. Simon recognizes it is merely a way for Jace to keep avoiding Clary.

The next morning, Luke asks Simon to meet him in Washington Square Park by the fountain. Luke tells Simon that Camille may be responsible for the murders of the Shadowhunters. He reveals that Maryse will be summoning Raphael to question him about Camille's role in the murders. Simon reveals his meeting with Camille to Luke, who wants to know why he didn't tell anyone earlier. Simon's head begins hurting. He doesn't want anything to do with Camille if she is killing Shadowhunters. Simon agrees to let Luke and the Conclave know Camille's whereabouts when she and Simon next meet.

Clary overhears her mother speaking about the dead baby on the phone with a nurse at Beth Israel hospital. She learns a priest baptized the baby before death. Clary decides to head down to look at the body in the morgue. Jocelyn thinks that if she can confirm



what happened to the baby, it can be prevented from happening again. Clary demands to go as well.

Simon returns to the apartment, stunned to find Jace and Kyle playing video games together. Simon thinks they should lure more of his attackers in, and then capture one. A perfect time would be the band's show on October 16 at the Alto Bar at 9 PM in Brooklyn. Jace admits he isn't sleeping because he is having nightmares. Simon tells Jace that if he keeps avoiding Clary, she will break up with him. Jace says he just can't be with her right now, but hopes that by watching out for Simon, it'll make her happy.

Chapter 8, Walk in Darkness – Clary and her mother arrive at Beth Israel Hospital. There, Catarina Loss, a female warlock and nurse meets them. She brings them down to the morgue. Upon examination of the baby boy, it clear the child is not human. It has claws and totally black eyes. Clary agrees to talk to Magnus Bane, to let him know that Catarina has showed them what Jocelyn wanted to see.

Simon's band prepares for the show at the Alto Bar. Among those in the audience are Clary and Isabelle. Isabelle confesses to finding Kyle attractive, and comments that she and Simon aren't exclusive. Clary then sees that Jace is also in attendance. She confronts him, asking why he has been avoiding her. Jace says he can't talk to her, and he can't even look at her. This causes Clary to rush off. Simon has difficulty while playing, goes backstage, begins dry heaving, and feels feverish. As he heads into the alleyway for fresh air, fourteen year-old Maureen, the band's only fan, asks for pictures. Simon grabs her and begins feeding from her.

Maryse and Luke meet with Raphael, who arrives late. They confront Raphael will word that Maryse is the murderer of the Shadowhunters, which Raphael says is impossible. They tell Raphael he doesn't have to protect Camille. Raphael says he hates her, and says she was forced out when it was discovered she was murdering human beings for fun. He explains she was supposed to be away from New York after being forced out. No punishment will come to Raphael, it is explained, so long as he cooperates with authorities in capturing Camille. The plan involves Simon.

Analysis

The theme of Friendship is evident in this section. Having left his apartment, Simon moves in with Kyle. The two begin something a friendship. At the same time that this occurs, Simon and Jace also begin something akin to friendship. Now that Simon no longer has romantic feelings for Clary, and given that Jace is dating Clary, Jace and Simon are much more civil to one another. Interestingly enough, despite their initial roughness toward one another, Jace and Kyle end up getting along relatively well going so far as to play video games with one another. The formation of friendship among these three young men will prove important later in the novel.

However, Jace is also spending time with Simon not merely out of friendship or under the auspice of protecting Simon, but because he is deliberately trying to avoid being



around Clary. His nightmares have shaken him up badly, and so he believes that he can best express his love for Clary by staying away but also by protecting his best friend. Meanwhile, the doubts that have been sown in Clary's mind about Jace's love by the Seelie Queen continue to grow given that she knows Jace is avoiding her. Simon himself tells Jace he needs to stop avoiding Clary, or Clary will break up with him.

Jace reveals to Simon that he is struggling with the past. Jace contends with having both a father biologically, and a father who raised him, Valentine. Valentine's influence, and everything about Valentine at all is everything that Jace wants to get rid of. He knows it is a difficult thing to do, but also knows that such a process might be impossible. The last thing he wants is to hurt Clary, believing that his Valentinian nature may prove to be the most dominant. However, Jace doesn't recognize he is inadvertently hurting Clary by staying away from her. The reader should take note of the horrible outcome when Jace directly tells Clary he can't be around with her. He tells her this without context, causing her to break down and run.

The reader will note that there is an imbalance between how Clary and Jace perceive their love for one another. Balance here truly emerges as a subtle theme in the novel, as Clary and Jace attempt to figure their relationship out given Jace's concern with his dreams. At the same time, the reader will recall that Simon has two girls he is dating, an imbalance as well. Neither girl knows Simon is dating the other, and for them, an exclusive relationship is critical. Because of this, love is most wholly expressed between two individuals, two halves that complement a whole. However, Simon's dating of two girls is an imbalance.

Word soon comes of a dying baby being found behind Beth Israel hospital. The baby is mostly human in appearance, but has demon claws. The dead baby, coupled with the dead Shadowhunters, along with the sudden reappearance of Camille, worries Maryse, Luke, and the others. These are no coincidences, they know. The balance of power is being upset, as the number of those good agents serving Light that have been killed have multiplied. That there should be a dead demon child in the mix is not good news, either, because it demonstrates the Dark is seeking to increase its own ranks to tip the scale of balance.

Discussion Question 1

Why does Jace decide to spend time with Simon? How does Simon handle this revelation? What advice does he give Jace? Does Jace take this advice? Why or why not?

Discussion Question 2

Why is Jace going through such lengths to stay away from Clary? Do you believe he is right in doing so? Why or why not?



Discussion Question 3

Why does Clary believe that Jace has been staying away from her? What is her reaction to Jace when he tells her that he can't be around her?

Vocabulary

begrudge, exerting, propensity, reproachful, ineffectually, demeanor, adamant, dubious, vigorously, conundrum, wanderlust



Part 1, Chapter 9 – Part 2, Chapter 12

Summary

Chapter 9, From Fire Unto Fire – Jace catches up with Clary outside in the rain. Clary demands her phone back. Jace returns it. He explains he is trying to help Simon, but Clary is angered that Jace hasn't bothered to let her know, or to speak with her at all. They begin desperately kissing. She wants to know why he has been avoiding her. Jace tells her that it is because he loves her, that he can't live without her. Isabelle interrupts them, saying she is looking for Simon. It is Kyle who finds Simon over Maureen, dragging him off her. He tells Simon to back away from Maureen, and says that he will deal with her. A woman in a long black coat then approaches Simon, asking him if he is alright. She hands him her card and leaves. She is revealed to be Satrina Kendall, a band promoter.

Isabella then finds Simon and puts her arms around him. Maia then appears. Both girls then realize what is going on, that Simon is seeing both of them at the same time. Simon apologizes, saying he didn't want to hurt either one. Neither girl is satisfied or comforted. Both are incredibly angry. Kyle then reappears. He and Maia recognize one another. Maia then calls Kyle "Jordan", and sinks her claws into his throat.

Part 2

Chapter 10, 232 Riverside Drive – Clary works on sketching a rune she thought of while at Beth Israel Hospital, but keeps being distracted by thinking of Jace. She realizes the cloth she has taken from the hospital is marked with the words "Property of the Church of Talto, 232 Riverside Drive". Searches online reveal nothing, leading Clary to believe that whatever the Church of Talto is, it is probably bad. It is possible the baby and its mother were members of the Church of Talto.

Simon is up all night, thinking about what he has done to Maureen, the girls, and what has become of Kyle. Only Isabelle pulling Maia off of Kyle has saved Kyle's life. Kyle's first name is Jordan, the ex-boyfriend of Maia's who turned Maia into a werewolf. Jordan explains he loved Maia, and that he was first bitten while in a fight out at a club. One week later, he attacked Jordan. His only way to avoid punishment was to join Praetor and control himself. Kyle explains he picked Simon as an assignment because Maia was mentioned in the reports. He is seeking redemption.

A note is then delivered to the apartment, saying that Simon's girlfriend has been captive, and that Simon must come to 232 Riverside Drive or else she will die. Simon calls Maia, who says she is fine, and tells Simon and Jordan to both stay away from her. Simon then calls Isabelle, who says she is also fine, and think his call is merely a dumb attempt to make up. Simon knows something is up. Simon then calls Clary to make sure she is okay. Clary is out looking for 232, but doesn't tell this to Simon. She says she is



doing alright, and hangs up as she finds the address. Jace then arrives, telling him the Conclave wants to see him.

Inside the Church of Taltos, Clary realizes that it is a church for darkness. A book on a podium at the front of the room illustrates a demon summoning –with the demon resembling the dead baby at Beth Israel. There is also an athame, a black-handled dagger carved with occult symbols. She suddenly realizes the balconies above her are full of silent figures in gray tracksuits. As she moves to leave, a massive demon blocks her exit.

Chapter 11, Our Kind – The demon lunges for Clary, who jumps back. With her stele and the dagger, she fights back but cuts herself with the dagger. Quickly, she cuts an enkeli rune into the athame dagger's hilt with her stele. She wounds the demon, but is surprised to see it vanish as it collapses. Isabelle then appears in the doorway, having destroyed the demon, having been tipped off by Clary about her location through a text message. All the figures above disappear. Isabelle then brings Clary back to the Institute to tend to Clary's wounds. Clary fills Isabelle in on everything she knows about the Church of Talto. Isabelle reveals that Simon has met with the Conclave. She is unhappy that Clary didn't tell her about the two-timing thing, and Clary suggests that maybe Simon shouldn't be dating girls out of his league.

Simon, after meeting with the Conclave, summons Camille in an abandoned bank. Simon's phone rings. As he picks it up against Camille's wishes, he quickly snaps and sends several pictures of her. Camille believes Simon has decided to accept his offer, and wants him to take a blood oath for the sake of loyalty. Simon delays enough for Shadowhunters to flood the room through a portal. Camille attempts to flee but is trapped inside by the sunlight outside. Her human servants are killed. Camille is taken to the Sanctuary. Camille requests to speak to Magnus Bane, or she will speak to no one.

Chapter 12, Sanctuary – Simon and Jace wonder why Camille wants to see Bane. Present with Maryse in the Sanctuary is her second-in-command, Kardir, whose brother died in the attack on Valentine's ship. Isabelle then arrives, telling Jace of the demon fight. It stuns Jace that Clary could be in such danger. Jace then rushes upstairs to see Clary.

Simon apologizes to Isabelle for everything. Isabelle then explains she has trouble trusting men because her father cheated on her mother. Isabelle explains she believed that she thought Simon was still in love with Clary, but Simon says this isn't the case anymore. Simon says the problem is that Isabelle picks guys who are not serious about her because she is never serious about them. Simon and Isabelle nearly kiss but draw back when Simon thinks of Maureen. Isabelle then leaves. Camille begins taunting Simon about feeding on Maureen. Simon tells Camille he will never accept her offer or help her escape. It is then that Magnus Bane and his boyfriend, Alec Lightwood, enter the room. Magnus says he will speak to Camille, because Camille was his girlfriend once.



Clary meets with Jace as her injuries heal. Jace explains that he will never leave her, but what happened in the Idris is catching up to him. They begin making out, and Clary takes off her shirt and bra. As they kiss, she feels a sharp pain, and realizes that Jace has cut her with a knife. Clary jumps up, and Jace falls to the floor, putting his head in his hands.

Analysis

As the novel continues, Imbalance remains a key theme. The imbalance of Simon's dating life comes to an end as both Maia and Isabelle find out about one another. Neither one of them is happy about this. Both girls are rightfully upset by Simon's actions, and the irony in his choosing to date two girls at once results in his no longer dating any girls at all. Simon will spend the rest of the novel searching for a way to make things up to Isabelle and Maia, to apologize to them for what he has done.

The theme of Love remains paramount through Simon's desire to make things up to both Isabelle and Maia, but also through Jace and Clary as they attempt to continue to keep their relationship alive. It remains clear just how deeply Clary and Jace love one another, but it is also clear that they are opposed in how to handle Jace's identity crisis and his past, but he still has not yet revealed his dreams to Clary. Terrifyingly, while making out with Clary, Jace cuts her with a knife. It is as if he has no control over what he is doing.

Simon, meanwhile, is able to get a chance to talk to Isabelle about everything that has happened. It is clear that Simon's feelings for Isabelle are stronger, for it is Isabelle whom Simon seeks out. Indeed, that Isabelle is even willing to talk with him at this time betrays the fact that Isabelle has deep feelings for Simon. Through Isabelle, the reader can see just how important the past is in the present, especially for characters like Isabelle. As she explains, a history of adultery in her family, as well as the fact that she believed Simon still had feelings for Clary, made her apprehensive about getting closer to Simon. Yet, it is clear she is falling in love with him, or she wouldn't have even considered hearing what Simon had to say, or considered revealing her own past to Simon.

The past also continues to hold sway through Camille. Having been captured and now essentially powerless, Camille is at the mercy of the Shadowhunters. Yet, she insists she will speak to no one except Magnus Bane. Bane arrives with boyfriend Alec in tow. What is surprising to everyone given Bane's present-day homosexuality is that he and Camille once dated. How this will affect the present has yet to be seen.

The mystery of the demon baby deepens with the Church of Talto. The reader will note that the address given for the Church of Talto is the same address on the hostage note given to Simon, though this is information not yet shared among the characters of the novel. The discovery by Clary in the church of the book illustrating occult rituals to produce demon offspring is chilling and a cause for alarm. Clearly the forces of Darkness are seeking to increase their ranks. The membership of the church itself is no



small matter, either. Clary can see above her dozens and dozens of worshippers. The power of Darkness is rising, and an imbalance is growing.

Discussion Question 1

While making out with Clary, Jace ends up cutting her. Why? What is Clary's reaction? Why?

Discussion Question 2

Why does the past with regards to relationships matter so much to Isabelle? Do you believe she will be able to forgive Simon? Why or why not?

Discussion Question 3

What links the demon baby to the Church of Taltos? What does Clary discover there at the church? What does it cause her to believe about the babies? Why?

Vocabulary

Sashayed, epitomize, intoned, blisteringly, staggering, susurrations, verdigris, prenuptial, dawdle, prurient, flabbergasted



Part 2, Chapters 13 – 16

Summary

Chapter 13, Girl Found Dead – Everyone is stunned that Magnus dated a girl 130 years ago. Magnus explains he has been with men, women, and various other creatures over the years. Alec is stunned that Magnus has been with hundreds of other people and creatures. Magnus explains he lives forever, but those he loves do not. Alec then leaves the room to find Isabelle. Magnus confronts Camille. He is not happy to see her, for she was the one who left him. Camille wants Magnus to cut a deal for her. She explains she was forced to kill the Shadowhunters by someone more powerful. She explains she wants immunity in exchange for the identity of that someone. Maryse is then called.

Jace confesses his nightmares to Clary. Clary assures him they are only dreams. Jace says what just happened proves they aren't. Clary considers that maybe someone is sending Jace dreams with the intent of hurting him. They decide to head to the Silent City to allow the Brothers to try to get into Jace's head. As they head down, Clary tells Jace all about the Church of Talto and the baby demon in the book. She believes the Church is trying to make more babies like Sebastian, by injecting normal human babies with demon blood. Clary and Jace then meet with Brother Zachariah, and explain the issue with Jace's dreams.

Brother Zachariah leads them to the Pavilion of Speaking Stars. Zachariah and the other Brothers begin to probe Jace's mind. The Brothers discern that the Angel Raziel's mark is upon Jace, as is the mark of death. Clary and Jace, through Jace's deathly experience, have shaken the balance of good and evil, and life and death. Jace dying and coming back to life means that all the spells placed on him to protect him at first birth have been removed. As such, a powerful demon whisperer is influencing Jace now. Protections must be laid on Jace a second time. He will have to remain with the Brothers until the rituals are finished. It will be difficult since he is so old, but not impossible because he is not eighteen. Clary must leave so Jace is not distracted.

When Simon wakes up, the newspaper carries a story about a dead girl, Maureen Brown. Because Simon did not go to the address specified on the note, her throat has been slit and her body dumped into a trash can outside the Big Apple Deli. Simon is sickened.

Chapter 14, What Dreams May Come – Jace, sleeping in the Silent City, dreams of fighting Sebastian in the valley in Idris where Jace nearly died. He dreams of Max Lightwood, his younger brother. His brother insists the dreams are messages, not demonic influence. The dreams are meant to reveal to Jace he is not going to hurt Clary, but is already hurting her. All of Valentine's influence in Jace must be killed, or he can't be with Clary. Max then gives Jace a knife to kill Valentine's influence. Jace then slits his forearms. Max speaks to Jace, but it is no longer Max's voice. The voice says



that just as Jace has hurt others, he too will be hurt. The voice also says that Jace is now his.

Jordan assures Simon that Simon is not responsible for what happened to Maureen. When Maureen went home, she was fine. Simon then calls Isabelle looking for Jace. Isabelle explains she thought Jace was with Simon. Isabelle reminds Simon that Jace is supposed to be at the party at the Ironworks that night. He confesses the truth about Maureen to Isabelle, who has Simon read the hostage note aloud. It is the same as the Church of Talto, Isabelle reveals. She tells Simon to come to the Ironworks party, and to bring Jordan as a bodyguard.

At the Ironworks, Clary wonders how Jace is getting along with the Brothers. Kaelie, a lady for the Seelie Queen, comes to see Clary. She gives to Clary a small silver bell, a means of summoning the Seelie Queen to save Jace should the need arise. Clary hesitatingly accepts the bell. Kaelie leaves as Jocelyn arrives. Clary asks her mother if she will ever like Jace. Jocelyn is warming slowly towards him, and tolerates him because it is clear that Jace loves Clary so much. Simon and Jordan arrive at the Ironworks soon after, meeting Isabelle at the door. She tells the guys that Maia is aware they are there, and not to bother her at all or Isabelle will deal with them.

Chapter 15, Beati Bellicosi – The party at Ironworks gets underway. Maia appears to be getting along quite well talking to two male werewolves. Clary greets Simon and Jordan. Alec and Magnus are fighting over Magnus's sexual history. Magnus says the past doesn't matter. Jordan points out the past does matter, that it must be learned from. Clary is stunned when she thinks she sees Jace. She tells this to Simon, saying she is scared for Jace. Clary reveals Jace's nightmare situation to Simon. Simon then apologizes to Maia for what happened, saying he wanted to be with her because she made him feel as close to being a normal person again as possible. Simon tells Maia that Jordan didn't even know he was a werewolf until he transformed. He goes on to say that Jordan took him on as an assignment because Maia was mentioned in the reports. He then points out where Jordan is sitting.

Clary finds Jace out on the terrace. He explains the ceremony was simpler than expected. Jace asks if Clary would still love him if Valentine did to him what Valentine did to Sebastian. Clary says that then, Jace wouldn't be Jace. Jace explains he is trying to be himself. Clary says she will never leave him. Jace wants to put a small mark of permanent binding on their arms. Clary worries because they are so young, and the mark seems to speak of control rather than love. As Jace makes the mark on her arm, Clary passes out.

Magnus offers Alec the chance to go away somewhere. Magnus explains that Camille is a master of manipulation. Alec still feels like he is only one in a long line of sexual partners. Alec wants to be made immortal. He is interrupted by Isabelle who brings word that Camille has escaped. Outside, getting some fresh air, Simon is stunned to see Maureen approach him. She says she has become a vampire. She wants Simon to come with her, or "they" will keep coming for the ones that he loves. She offers her hand, and he takes it.



Chapter 16, New York City Angels – Maureen brings Simon to a new condo building still under construction. She tells him they are going up to Heaven. At the Ironworks, Jordan can't find Simon. Isabelle agrees to help him look. Alec also joins in. Maia then joins in. They learn that Simon's phone is off. The four of them decide to leave the party and look for Simon. Meanwhile, Simon is taken by Maureen to the top floor of the complex, where the floor has been marked with Nephilim runes that resemble a curse. The music promoter from the night of the band gig then appears, and orders Maureen away. The woman introduces herself as Lilith, first of all demons, cast out by God for disobedience. She shows Simon a glass coffin, inside which is Sebastian.

Searching the apartment, Jordan, Maia, Isabelle, and Alec find nothing. Maia tells Jordan she forgives him for the past. The group finds the music promoter's card, with an address on the Upper East Side. They realize that the name on the card, Satrina, is one of the seventeen names of Lilith, as is Talto. Unable to have a child, Lilith vowed against God to weaken and kill infant human beings, and was able to create more demons by using her blood.

Lilith reveals that when Valentine opened the demon world doorway in Idris, she came through and saved Sebastian in the moment before he died. Lilith wants Simon to both bite Sebastian and give Sebastian some blood. Simon refuses. Lilith says there are ways to harm him without having to be physically violent. Jace then appears, announcing he has brought "her" along.

Analysis

As the novel continues, the past holds tremendous sway over the present through Alec and Bane. As it turns out, Bane is not exclusively homosexual, or even exclusively sexual to human beings. Through the course of his long life, he has had relationships with males, females, and non-humans. The number of relationships he has had have been in the hundreds, all of which is disconcerting to Alec. Alec cannot get over the past, but even more importantly, he cannot get over the present. It has only belatedly occurred to Alec that he will become just another one of many partners of Magnus, given that Magnus is immortal, and Alec is not.

Bane believes that the past should be accepted and moved past. Jordan counters that the past is important, else people will never learn from it. Jordan is correct in his assertion that the past is important, not merely for the sake of learning lessons but also for the sake of how present events are playing out. Much of what is unfolding at the present owes itself to the recent past, from Jace's resurrection to Camille's return to Simon's transformation into a vampire and his mauling of Maureen. As the novel progresses, various subplots are being drawn together because of the past. For example, it is Maureen who leads Simon to the high rise complex.

The recent past also matters tremendously where Jace is concerned. Jace, resurrected through Clary's wish, has lost all protective wards afforded him as an infant. These protective spells ceased operation upon death –but did not resume upon rebirth. The



Silent Brothers will have to conduct a ritual in order to establish protective spells around Jace once again. Because of Jace's death and rebirth, he has been susceptible to malevolent, demonic influence through his dreams. At last, Jace confesses his dreams to Clary, who now understands why Jace wanted to keep his distance.

The more distant past also matters through Jordan. Through Simon's intervention, Jordan and Maia are able to talk about the past. Maia now knows that Jordan never intended to hurt her, that he himself was unaware that he had even been transformed. Despite this, Jordan cannot forgive himself. He has been living his life in spite of the past. His decision to join Praetor Lupus was predicated upon averting mistakes like the one that he made and to help other recently transformed beings to adjust to their new lives.

As Simon arrives at the complex, Lilith's evil plan is revealed in part. Sebastian is in a suspended state of pre-death. Simon will feed on, and feed Sebastian in order to return him to life. For what purpose this occurs has not yet been made clear—but will be made clear shortly. As Lilith reveals her plans, the theme of Friendship (and love on the part of Isabelle) becomes central once more as Jordan, Isabelle, Maia, and Alec notice that Simon is missing. The four friends rally together to find them, led along by Isabelle. Their arrival at the complex building will end up being crucial.

Discussion Question 1

Do you believe Magnus or Jordan is right with respect to the past mattering or not? Why?

Discussion Question 2

Why does Alec have such a hard time accepting Magnus's past? Do you believe Alec is justified in his feelings toward Magnus and the present situation? Why or why not?

Discussion Question 3

Do you believe Jordan should be held responsible for the past, for biting and transforming Maia? Why or why not? Do you believe his efforts at redemption have been successful? Why or why not?

Vocabulary

diction, immunity, dissolution, ingress, appellation, incomprehensible, necromancy, inexorable, cantilevered, illusory, peevishly, ornate



Part 2, Chapters 17 – 19

Summary

Chapter 17, And Cain Rose Up – When Clary comes to, she is in the high rise condo complex. She realizes the rune Jace drew knocked her out. She then notices a rune on Jace's chest, and realizes he is under a spell. Jace brings Clary before Lilith and Simon. Clary realizes Lilith is the demon working in Jace's dreams. To demonstrate her power, Lilith orders Jace to cut Clary just a little. He obeys instantly. Lilith explains that Clary has been the catalyst for everything: Simon to die, Jace to live, and Sebastian/Jonathon to be reborn. Lilith's blood flows in Sebastian. She says she is his mother.

Downstairs, Maia, Isabelle, Jordan, and Alec break into the building. They come to a room full of caskets with lifeless demon babies inside. Maia throws up. Isabelle tackles a woman with a shaved head in a gray track suit, who says the dead babies were sacrifices found weak, born deformed, and died. The woman reveals Simon is upstairs. The group is then attacked by a larger group of men and women in gray track suits.

Simon tells Lilith she is not Sebastian's mother. Lilith orders Jace to bring Clary into the runic circle on the floor. She orders Simon to bite Sebastian, which will revive him enough so he can swallow and drink Simon's blood. Lilith contends that balance matters: if the light brings back a soul, the darkness has a right to bring back a soul. Simon then learns of Jace dying, and Clary begging Raziel to bring back Jace. Lilith intends to use Clary as leverage against Simon to force him to bring back Sebastian. He knows Clary doesn't want him to give, but he gives in. He bites Sebastian.

Chapter 18, Scars of Fire – Clary knows Simon is biting Sebastian against his will. Clary believes it is all her fault. She begins trying to reason with Jace, hoping to find a part of him she can access. She encourages Jace to fight Lilith. She gets close enough to cut him to damage the rune. It takes everyone's attention, including Simon, who stops feeding. Lilith orders Jace to grab Clary, but he does not. Simon then begins throwing up blood. Lilith orders Jace to kill Clary. Clary tells Jace to kill Lilith.

Downstairs, Maia, Jordan, Alec, and Isabelle battle Lilith's followers. Alec pursues a fleeing wounded follower, only to come face to face with Camille. She has been beaten up by Lilith's followers. In exchange for help, Camille gives Alec information: she murdered the Shadowhunters at Lilith's demand, in exchange for Lilith's help against Raphael. The blood from the dead would be used to inject human babies, all of whom died. Camille offers Alec immortality to always be with Magnus if he cuts her free. He does so, just as Isabelle walks in. He explains what he has done, but Camille is already gone.

Jace throws his knife at Lilith, hitting her in the chest. Jace moves between her and Clary, demanding Lilith let everyone go. Instead, Lilith attacks Jace, knocking his blade from his hand. Clary rushes for it, but is thrown aside by Lilith. Lilith and Jace then begin to fight. She unleashes hellhounds, which get the better of Jace before they are killed.



Jace tells Clary to leave, but she only hides. Simon continues to throw up. Lilith demands Simon now feed Sebastian. As Lilith is about to kill Jace, Simon threatens to jump from the roof, ruining her plans. Lilith will have none of it. She begins torturing Clary by cutting her to make Simon and Jace give in. As Lilith is about to kill Clary, Simon dives between them, invoking the Wrath of God and destroying Lilith.

Chapter 19, Hell is Satisfied – Desperately wounded, Clary is carried to the elevator by Simon, followed by Jace. As the elevators open, Isabelle and Alec appear. Alec begins to heal Clary, while Isabelle is angry at Simon for not letting her know where he went. She then wraps her arms around him. They all reveal to one another how they ended up on the roof of the condo building. Isabelle wants to cut Sebastian's body into a thousand little pieces, but Simon points out that Jace and Sebastian have matching runes, binding them together. Harming one will harm the other. Alec says that Sebastian's body will be given over to the Silent Brothers for safekeeping. While everyone goes down, Jace stays behind with Sebastian's body. Downstairs looking for the others, Maia and Jordan kiss.

Clary goes back to Jace. He is holding the Morganstern ring necklace, lost by Clary during the fight. Jace blames himself for everything that has happened. Clary tells him she holds nothing against him, that he was being controlled by Lilith. Clary tells Jace she loves him, and nothing can change that. The Clave arrives below. Clary wants Jace to come downstairs, but he insists on staying with the body. Clary promises to be back in five minutes, and puts the Morganstern ring around her neck. Simon and Isabelle are meanwhile about to kiss until members of the Clave come upon them. Magnus approaches Alec, and the two hope for a long and happy relationship together. Jocelyn and Clary embrace while Luke tells Simon he cannot deny his true nature as a vampire, fight it though he might. He tells Simon his mother will eventually come around.

Upstairs, Jace begins hearing Sebastian's voice in his head, telling him that he cannot cut Valentine out of him. He realizes his physical ability to put away his knife is being halted. Sebastian's coffin begins glowing. Jace is ordered to approach it. Against his will, he cuts his hand and feeds blood to Sebastian. Sebastian's voice tells Jace that they are now one.

Analysis

Lilith's dark plans come fully to light in the final section of the novel. Her desire to have Simon resuscitate Sebastian is the seed for Sebastian to begin a new race of demon beings. The returning of Simon to life comes through a combination of the themes of balance and the past. Jace's resurrection from the dead has created an imbalance between the Light and the Dark, between good and evil. Lilith contends that she has every right to bring Sebastian back for the Dark and for evil since Jace was brought back for the Light and for good.

However, Lilith does not realize that the number of those good and Light that have died under her machinations have stacked up against her, increasing the imbalance in ways



she has not seen. Likewise, though she attempts to manipulate Simon, she cannot control him. God, as the ultimate judge and arbiter of the affairs of men and mortals, is decidedly the source of all goodness and the side of Light. Lilith can never win against God. Between Simon carrying the Mark of the Wanderer, the Curse of Cain, and with the imbalance she has created, Simon's intervention on Clary's behalf leads to Lilith's destruction.

Friendship and Love, both themes in the novel, are also things which Lilith did not count on. Love and friendship are aspects of the good and the Light. They do not ally themselves with evil. They may be manipulated or used by evil, but they are never a product of evil. Lilith's attempt to manipulate the friendship of Clary and Simon to her advantage backfires, resulting in Lilith's death. Simon's feelings of friendship for Clary lead to him throwing himself between Clary and Lilith when Lilith intends to kill Clary. Simon's decision isn't born of knowledge that God will protect him, but out of the desire to save Clary. Though God intervenes on Simon's behalf, the fact is that Simon would have given his life to protect Clary with or without the Mark.

Love itself is something which Lilith did not count on. While she may have controlled Jace through the use of a rune, Jace remained some trace of his true nature as Clary pleads with him. She is able to get close enough to him to damage the rune, which in turn releases Jace from Lilith's spell. Jace is able to rebel against Lilith, and fight her, though he quickly loses the upper hand against her. With Lilith defeated, Jace is still haunted by his dreams, by his near-harming of Clary, and by his past and identity as being raised by Valentine. It is clear going forward that Clary and Jace will have much to overcome, but the most daunting challenge will be breaking the bond that now links Jace to Sebastian.

Apart from the love between Jace and Clary, rumors of love appear elsewhere. Maia and Jordan end up searching for the others on their own and kissing. The possibility of a reunion between the two is very possible as the novel ends. At the same time, Isabelle and Simon are able to come to an understanding at the end of the novel, primarily about Simon's actions dating two girls at once. Simon and Isabelle appear to have patched things up and appear poised to kiss until they are interrupted. There is a strong potential that the two will get back together.

Discussion Question 1

Even with Lilith defeated, Jace doubts himself and whether or not he should be in a relationship with Clary. Why?

Discussion Question 2

What things does Lilith underestimate when attempting to force Simon to do her bidding? What happens as a result? Why?



Discussion Question 3

Of the four couples—Simon and Isabelle, Jace and Clary, Maia and Jordan, and Magnus and Alec—which appear to have the best chance of survival at the end of the novel? Why? Which do not? Why?

Vocabulary

fathomless, malevolence, tedious, contemptuous, incurable, resuscitate, colossal



Characters

Simon

Simon Lewis is a sixteen-year-old vampire and the best friend of Clary. He is tall, thin, and incredibly sensitive. Having been turned into a vampire two months before the events of the novel, Simon hates being a vampire. He has been unable to get used to drinking blood and wants to live as normal a life as possible. Simon is dating both Maia and Isabelle, neither of whom knows about the other. Simon does not want to end things with either girl because he is worried about hurting either one. Eventually, they find out about one another and both become angry with Simon. Trying to deny his true vampire nature, Simon ends up starving and mauls Maureen Brown, though she survives the feeding.

In addition to being a vampire, Simon bears the Mark of the Wanderer, the Curse of Cain, and thus Simon is protected by the Hand of God. Anyone who tries to harm or kill Simon shall in turn be killed. It makes Simon a powerful figure, and he becomes the target of the demon Lilith for a plot to resurrect Sebastian and breed a new race of beings. When Lilith attempts to force Simon to this end through harming Clary, Simon jumps in between them. Lilith is destroyed as a result. As the novel ends, Simon and Isabelle appear to have reconciled.

Clary

Clarissa “Clary” Adele Fray is the sixteen-year-old Shadowhunter daughter of Jocelyn, sister of Sebastian, and girlfriend of Jace. Clary is petite, beautiful, and red-headed. Clary is the best friend of Simon, and cautions him to be honest with Isabelle and Maia. Clary is going through a rough patch with Jace, who seems to be keeping her away from him. As Clary later learns, this is because Jace’s mind is being influenced by the demon Lilith with the intent of harming Clary. Clary is later used as leverage by Lilith against Simon to force Simon to feed Sebastian. As Lilith tries to kill Clary, Simon intervenes, and Lilith is destroyed. Clary tells Jace that she will never leave him, and believes she and Jace are on solid ground when the novel ends.

Jace

Jonathon “Jace” Christopher Herondale, a Shadowhunter, is the seventeen-year-old brother of Isabelle, and boyfriend of Clary. He is tall, slender, muscular, and has blonde hair. Brought back from the dead in a previous novel through Clary’s wish, Jace has been having terrible dreams about killing her since. Jace does her best to keep Clary at a distance as a result, and believes he is too much like the cruel man who raised him, Valentine, to deserve Clary’s love. Jace and Clary learn that the protections given to Jace as a baby were dissolved upon death and rebirth, and so must now be implemented once more. This makes Jace’s unconscious susceptible to manipulation by



way of Lilith the demon, who forces Jace to bring Clary to the high rise complex for use as leverage against Simon. Lilith also binds Jace to Sebastian, so if one dies, so shall the other. As the novel ends, it is revealed that Jace is under the control of Sebastian.

Isabelle

Isabelle “Izzy” Lightwood is the sixteen-year-old adoptive sister of Jace, and the daughter of Maryse and Robert Lightwood. A Shadowhunter, she is the girlfriend of Simon and good friends with Clary. Isabelle is stunningly beautiful and very brave. She is angry upon learning that Simon has been seeing another girl as well, but she has very strong, genuine feelings for him, so she forgives him by the end of the novel. It appears as if she will continue dating Simon.

Jordan

Jordan Kyle is a werewolf, new singer for Simon’s band, and ex-boyfriend of Maia. Jordan has been living his life in redemption for his past. He is a member of Praetor Lupus, helping newly turned Downworlders to adjust to their new lives. He takes Simon on as a case due to his connection with Maia. Having unknowingly been bitten by a werewolf during a fight at a club, he bites Maia and turns her into a werewolf. The two have not spoken to one another in a very long time, but through Simon begin speaking once again. They appear poised to resume their relationship at the end of the novel.

Maia

Maia Roberts is a biracial werewolf turned by her ex-boyfriend, Jordan. When the novel begins, Maia is one of two girls dating Simon. Maia is incredibly sweet, and incredibly beautiful. When she finds out that Simon has also been seeing Isabelle, she is enraged and stops dating him. She later meets up again with Jordan through Simon, and she and Jordan come to terms about the past. She forgives him for turning her since he didn’t even know he was a werewolf. At the end of the novel, she and Jordan appear posted to resume their relationship.

Alec

Alexander “Alec” Lightwood is eighteen-years-old and an openly homosexual Shadowhunter. He has been in a committed relationship with Magnus Bane which becomes strained when he learns about Bane’s hundreds of past sexual partners, male, female, and non-human. Alec is disgusted by this, but is also traumatized knowing that he will one day die, while Bane will live forever. Obsessed with his own mortality, Alec gives into weakness when he helps Camille to escape after she promises to help him with immortality.



Lilith

Lilith, known also by the names Satrina and Talto, is the demonic first wife of Adam cast out by God for disobedience. Lilith has come to New York to establish a new race of powerful beings through Sebastian. She manipulates Jace's dreams to bring Clary to her to use as leverage against Simon, to force Simon to both bite and feed Sebastian. When Simon and Jace rebel against her, she decides to harm Clary. Simon intervenes, blocking Lilith from killing Clary, and destroying Lilith through the intervention of God.

Camille

Camille Belcourt is the former leader of the most powerful vampire clan in New York City. She is stunningly beautiful, and dangerously manipulative. When the novel begins, she contacts Simon, wanting to enlist him as an ally in a supposed civil war between her and Raphael, now the leader of the clan. She promises to help Simon live properly as a vampire in exchange for his help. In reality, Camille is working for Lilith. However, she is taken prisoner by the Shadowhunters at Simon's tip. She manages to escape, but is captured and beaten by Lilith and her thugs for failing to bring Simon to her. She is later freed by Alec when she promises to help Alec with his problems of mortality.

Luke

Luke Garroway is the leader of the werewolf pack to which Maia belongs, and is the fiancée of Jocelyn, mother of Clary. Luke is a good man who reminds Simon that Simon is no longer human, but a vampire, and so being cannot resist his now-true nature. It is advice that Simon must take to heart.



Symbols and Symbolism

Mark of the Wanderer

Mark of the Wanderer, also known as the Curse of Cain, is a mark and covenant that has been placed upon Simon. Originally given to Cain after slaying his brother, Abel, Cain was forced to wander the Earth as a marked man for his crime. He would have to live with his guilt and will be unable to find a home. Anyone who attempted to kill him, however, was killed in turn by God. Now that Simon bears the Mark, anyone who harms Simon will draw the wrath of God. Several people are destroyed in the novel when they do attempt to harm Simon, including Lilith. Simon, trapped between the vampire and human worlds, feels as if he himself cannot find a home.

Vial of grave dirt

A vial of grave dirt is given to Simon by Camille during their first meeting. The vial of grave dirt is meant to be smashed upon the ground by Simon to summon Camille to a second meeting. At this second meeting, Simon must give Camille his decision on whether or not he will join her as an ally.

Mirrors

Mirrors are used in the novel as a way for characters to not only check their appearance, but to consider themselves symbolically. This is especially true for Simon. While vampires do have reflections in the novel, Simon's reflection speaks even greater truths about himself than having no reflection. When looking at himself in the mirror, Simon does not recognize himself. He is no longer a human being, his appetite has changed, and he knows his life is no longer normal. He may be Simon, but he is no longer truly the same Simon.

Blood

Blood is consumed by vampires in order to stay alive. Simon struggles with being a vampire because he cannot get used to the taste of blood. Nevertheless, he keeps numerous jars and vials of blood hidden in his bedroom, all of which his mother later finds and confronts him about. Simon wishes he did not have to drink blood, because it is one of the most telling signs that he is a vampire.

Athame

An athame is found by Clary inside the Church of Taltos. The athame, a black-handled dagger carved with occult symbols, is used in the dark ritual practices of the followers of



Lilith. The athame is used in conjunction with the dark book found on the podium at the front of the church.

Occult book

A book with occult spells and rituals is found by Clary at the Church of Taltos. The book is found beside an athame. The book illustrates a demon summoning with the demon resembling the dead baby found at Beth Israel. As Clary later learns, “Taltos” is one of seventeen names by which Lilith is known. Lilith, as illustrated in the book, is seeking to breed a new race of demon beings.

Runes

Runes are sketched and drawn by Clary, Lilith, and other characters throughout the novel. Runes are drawn to, among other things, cast spells. A rune of controlling is set on Jace by Lilith to force Jace to do Lilith’s bidding. Only by damaging the run does Clary restore Jace to freedom. At the end of the novel, it is revealed that Jace and Sebastian are both bound by another rune, meaning that if one dies, both will die.

Glass casket

A glass casket is revealed by Lilith on the high rise complex roof when she is confronted by Simon and Clary. The glass casket contains the lifeless form of Sebastian, preserved in a state of near-death. From his place in the glass casket, Sebastian later begins to exert control over Jace.

Vampire blood

Vampire blood has both restorative and healing properties that make it incredibly valuable. Lilith knows that Sebastian must be bitten, so some reviving can occur by way of vampire saliva. Yet, she also knows that revival is not enough. Simon will have to feed his blood to Sebastian for Sebastian to return fully to life.

Salt

Salt is a mineral which is considered clean, light, and holy in the Judeo-Christian tradition. In the novel, all those who would harm Simon are turned into pillars of salt, and the pillars are blown away in the wind. This is all done through the Hand of God due to the Mark of the Wanderer that Simon bears. Evil is essentially destroyed by good, by salt, and is then dispensed with.



Settings

The New York Institute

The New York Institute is a Shadowhunter headquarters and training facility located in New York City's Upper East Side. The Institute serves as a place for residence, training, research, and other activities related to Shadowhunting. Jace and Isabelle are full-time residents at the Institute, while Clary merely trains there but lives at home. Clary also visits the Institute on several occasions merely to see Jace. The Institute is considered a safe and welcome place for the Shadowhunters.

Beth Israel Hospital

Beth Israel Hospital is located in New York City. It is a hospital that secretly tends to humans and non-humans. It is behind Beth Israel that a deformed baby is discovered with a note pleading for someone else to end the baby's life since the mother does not have the heart to do so. Jocelyn and Clary examine the baby, and discover that the baby has claws like a demon. This is the first of many such babies the reader will later encounter, as the reader learns that Lilith is trying to create a new race of demonic beings.

Simon's apartment

Simon's apartment is where Simon and his mother, Elaine, live. It is where Simon tries to spend much of his time in the hopes of living as normally and humanly as possible. However, Simon keeps a stockpile of animal blood hidden in his room, which his mother later discovers. When Simon reveals he is a vampire, his mother is beside herself. Simon then leaves home, knowing he can never go back to the apartment or face his mother.

The Church of Taltos

The Church of Taltos is located at 232 Riverside Drive, and is where dozens of individuals in gray track suits worship Lilith and seek to perform rituals to create demon babies. It is where Clary heads to trace the origin of the Beth Israel demon baby's blanket, and where Simon is instructed to meet to save Maureen's life. Simon never goes because he doesn't realize Maureen is being held hostage. Clary goes to get to the bottom of the demon baby mystery. In the church, Clary must battle a demon, and is assisted by Isabelle who follows her to the church.



High rise complex

A high rise complex for condominiums and apartments that is under construction becomes the central location for Lilith to conduct her activities when she brings Simon, Clary, and Jace together. On the roof, she reveals that Sebastian is suspended in a state of pre-death, awaiting revival and rejuvenation through Simon. The rooftop becomes the place where Lilith is destroyed by God when Simon dives between her and Clary. Inside the building are the bodies of dozens of dead half-demon, half-human babies.



Themes and Motifs

Love

Love is an important theme in the novel “City of Fallen Angels” by Cassandra Clare. The form of love dealt with in the novel is principally romantic, and affects various characters in different ways, with each character in turn affecting the plot of the novel and the series.

The greatest representation of romantic love in the novel occurs between Clary and Jace. It is clear the two are in love with each other, despite Jace doing his best to keep Clary away from him. Jace’s desire to keep Clary away is done out of his love for her, to protect her from what he believes to be his true nature, and from the truth of his dreams. Clary, on the other hand, is drawn to Jace out of her love for him, telling him she will never leave him, telling him that dreams are only dreams, and telling him that he is nothing like his father. Despite this, and despite the obvious love between them, Jace remains distant by the end of the novel. He cannot shake his past or his fears about harming Clary. This becomes important when it is revealed that Jace is under Sebastian’s control.

The second major representation of love in the novel comes through Simon and Isabelle. Though Simon is dating two girls at the beginning of the novel, it is clear his feelings for Isabelle are stronger. It is also clear that, despite Simon also seeing Maia, Isabella’s feelings for Simon remain unchanged. Indeed, despite her anger and hurt, Isabella is panicked when Simon goes missing from the Ironworks party. Through her love for him, she endeavors to find out where he has gone. In fact, she spearheads the search for Simon. Upon meeting up with him again, her reaction isn’t one of anger, but of love and gratitude as she embraces him tightly. It appears as if the two will begin a relationship in earnest by the end of the novel.

The third representation of love in the novel comes through Alec and Magnus. Alec loves Magnus, but is upset by Magnus’s long list of lovers, male, female, and non-human. Alec is also upset he will not live forever to be with Magnus forever. This causes a serious strain in their relationship. Alec’s desire for immortality leads to his freeing Camille on her word that she will help him achieve a perpetual life.

There is also a fourth representation of love in the novel, between Maia and Jordan. Jordan is Maia’s ex-boyfriend. Unaware he was transformed into a werewolf, Jordan bit Maia, effecting her transformation as well. Horrified by what he has done, Jordan dedicates his life to helping other recently transformed beings through Praetor Lupus. Meeting up with Maia again, Jordan at last explains the truth of what happened, and the two seem poised for reconciliation by the end of the novel.



Friendship

Friendship is an important theme in the novel “City of Fallen Angels” by Cassandra Clare. In the novel, friendship influences events in the plot in very important ways, especially as things pertain to Simon and Clary.

Simon and Clary are best friends. They have been best friends for years. At one point, Simon even romantically loved Clary, though his feelings were never returned. Now, he and Clary are truly best friends. Clary is seen giving Simon dating advice early in the novel, like any friend would. She warns him he is playing with fire by dating two girls at once, and that he needs to commit to just one. Later in the novel, Lilith attempts to force Simon’s hand by harming Clary. Simon’s care and concern for Clary as a friend are clear, as he intervenes on her behalf against Lilith. Lilith’s ploy at exploiting Simon’s friendship with Clary backfires on her.

In the novel, Simon strikes up friendships with both Jace and Jordan. Jace and Simon have long been wary of one another, but since Simon’s feelings for Clary have devolved into friendship, and Jace has begun dating Simon with Simon dating Isabelle and Maia, things have improved. Jace determines that he will help protect Simon from whoever is trying to kill Simon out of a combination of friendship for Simon and desire to stay away from Clary. Jordan’s own friendship begins with Simon through work. Simon is the assignment that Jordan took on as a member of Praetor Lupus, but the two end up hitting it off as friends beyond this.

When Clary and Simon disappear from the Ironworks party, Isabelle, Alec, Maia, and Jordan go looking for them. The group of teens do this not merely because they are friends with each other, but because they are friends with Simon and Clary. For Isabelle, however, the desire to search for Simon comes through her love for him romantically. Nevertheless, the four friends look for Simon and Clary, ultimately finding them in the complex high rise.

Redemption

Redemption is an important theme in the novel “City of Fallen Angels” by Cassandra Clare. Redemption is the act for seeking to atone or make up for a past wrong, intentional or unintentional, by doing something good. In the novel, Jordan, Jace, and Simon are seeking redemption at some point or another.

Jordan is seeking redemption for turning Maia into a werewolf against her will –an act which ruined her life and ended their relationship. Jordan, while in a fight at a night club, was unknowingly bitten by a werewolf. He in turn was unaware of what was happening to him when he bit Maia. Knowing what he has done to her, though unintentional, Jordan has set about making his life about helping other newly transitioned beings to adjust to life. He hopes this will help make up for the harm he brought to Maia.



Jace is seeking redemption for his dreams and his upbringing. Having been raised by the cruel Valentine, Jace is struggling to exorcise Valentine while proving he can be own person. His dreams suggest that he cannot. At the end of the novel, Sebastian proves—for the time being—that Jace cannot. To redeem himself, Jace is not only fighting the parts of his being shaped by Valentine's influence, but stays away from Clary out of the fear that he'll hurt her. Indeed, his efforts to protect Simon are another measure of redemption, but demonstrating that, although he is not with Clary, he is protecting someone Clary deeply cares for.

Simon himself only comes to see redemption partway through the novel. Simon has been denying his now true nature as a vampire, doing all he can to avoid having to drink blood. When fourteen-year-old Maureen approaches him during a show outside, Simon cannot keep his hands off her. He feeds feverishly on Maureen, who is later—through Lilith's influence—turned into a vampire. Simon is horrified by his part in things, and because Maureen was supposedly killed following Simon's receipt of the hostage note. Simon's willingness to risk his own life to defend Clary is a measure of redemption for what happened to Maureen. As the novel ends, Simon is still seeking another way to redeem himself for what happened to Maureen.

The Past

The Past is an important theme in the novel "City of Fallen Angels" by Cassandra Clare. Thematically, the past—incidents, events, situations, and circumstances in a person's history—can largely affect the present. The past has tremendous bearing on the novel in various ways.

When the novel begins, Simon has been a vampire for two months. The immediate past weighs heavily on Simon in the present, who aspires to live as much like a human being as possible despite his condition. At the same time, Simon's past nerdiness and lack of a girlfriend leads him to be further confused about dating both Isabelle and Maia, and in part confuses him as to who he should end things with. At the same time, Isabelle will not fully commit to Simon due to her own bad past relationships, and due to the fact that her father cheated on her mother.

Jace's own past upbringing compels him to stay away from Clary until he can exorcise the parts of Valentine that he still feels inside him. Jace wants to be a better person for Clary than what his past has been. Clary's memory of almost losing Jace compels her to love him all the more, and to do everything she can to remain close to him. At the same time, Jordan's past has entirely defined his present. His turning of Maia into a werewolf, though unintentional, has led him to become a member of Praetor Lupus.

The recent past weighs heavily on the present in terms of Jace's death and resurrection. Jace's death eliminates the protective wards he has had since a baby, making him exposed to Lilith's influence and suggestion. The balance of life and death, and good and evil has been upset by Jace's return to life. Lilith now seeks to use this



past imbalance as a way to achieve her own ends in the present. If the Light is allowed to bring a soul back, the Darkness is allowed to bring back a soul as well, Sebastian.

Balance

Balance is an important theme in the novel “City of Fallen Angels” by Cassandra Clare. Thematically, balance is a place of being or a state of existence that is between two alternatives, with the alternatives often being polar extremes. There is a balance between good and evil, life and death, and between love in the novel. Balance is essential for order.

When the novel begins, Simon is dating two girls. Love exists purely between two individuals, two halves who complement a whole. Both Isabelle and Maia are interested in Simon, but it is ultimately Simon and Isabelle who come together by the end of the novel. There is balance between two, and disharmony between three. Likewise, Jordan, who has been alone, appears poised to begin a new relationship with Maia by the end of the novel, leading to a balance between himself and another. Likewise, there is a lack of balance between Clary and Jace, though they love one another and are committed to one another, because they cannot find common ground on how to handle the present crisis of Jace’s past and his current dreams. Jace wants to push Clary away while Clary wants to pull Jace in close.

The balance between good and evil is also upset when the novel begins. This is reflected in the number of dead Shadowhunters, all agents of good, killed by agents of evil. The Shadowhunters are being killed in the seeking of a balance between good and evil. Jace, a member of the good, has been resurrected, but evil is now short a soul. The Shadowhunters that have been killed are all a part of a larger plan by Lilith to resurrect Sebastian, an evil soul. However, the amount of carnage and death that Lilith causes upsets the balance even further, and her own death through her foolhardiness in attempting to target Simon through Clary leads to her destruction by the greatest leveler of all, God.

The balance between Light and Dark has already been upset when the novel begins. Jace, having been returned to life, is an additional member of the ranks of the Light, whereas the ranks of the Dark are down one. Lilith uses the imbalance between the forces of Light and Dark as a way to justify her plans to resurrect Sebastian to replenish the ranks of the Dark. However, Lilith’s machinations lead to a large number of dead on the side of Light, meaning that Lilith’s own life becomes payment to offset the imbalance she herself has worsened.



Styles

Point of View

Cassandra Clare tells her novel “City of Fallen Angels” in the third-person limited-omniscient narrative mode. The third-person narrator acts as a common thread that links together numerous characters and various subplots that are ultimately interwoven into a singular overarching plot. The third-person narrator allows the reader to jump between characters, situations, and subplots easily, since the style of the narration does not change. The limited-omniscient aspect of the narration adds a level of suspense and drama to the novel, as the reader, narrator, and characters only learn about events in real-time.

Language and Meaning

Cassandra Clare tells her novel “City of Fallen Angels” in language that is straightforward, contemporary, and brief. This is done for at least three reasons. First, the novel’s target audience is that of young adults. The language used is reflective of the age and education of the target audience, as well as the time in which the novel was written, the 2010s. Secondly, the majority of the characters of the novel are young adults, especially between the ages of sixteen and eighteen. As a result, the language used is reflective of their age range and the time in which they live. Third, the straightforward and brief language gives the novel a sense and atmosphere of urgency, adding to the suspense surrounding the uncovering of Lilith’s plot.

Structure

Cassandra Clare divides her novel “City of Fallen Angels” into two primary parts, with each part subdivided into chapters, with nineteen chapters between both parts altogether. The chapters themselves are numbered from 1 to 19. The first part of the novel deals with events leading up to the night of Simon’s band’s gig, Simon’s feeding on Maureen, Isabelle and Maia’s discovery of one another, and Maia’s recognizing of Jordan. The second part of the novel deals with the fallout following these discoveries, and the race to stop Lilith from executing her evil plan.



Quotes

And even if he couldn't help but wonder if he'd never been changed into a vampire, if his whole life hadn't been altered in that moment, would they be dating at all?

-- Narrator (Chapter 1, The Master paragraph 8)

Importance: Here, the narrator reveals that Simon is not only a vampire, but is dating the daughter of an angel, as well as dating Maia, a female werewolf. Simon can't help but wonder if Isabelle would be dating him if he wasn't a vampire, but the same can also be asked of Maia. Simon has never had luck with girls, yet even now dating two girls, he doesn't seem to be having much luck.

My master was hoping that was a situation that could be altered.

-- Mr. Walker (Chapter 1, The Master paragraph 58)

Importance: Simon has never wanted to be a vampire, so he never joined up with any clans in New York or anywhere else. He is a free agent, as Isabelle describes him. However, the master of Walker and Archer, Camille Belcourt, hopes to convince Simon to join with her in a war against Raphael Santiago. In exchange, she will show him how to live properly and well as a vampire. Simon is given five days to make up his mind.

You're playing with fire, Simon. I hope you know that.

-- Clary (Chapter 2, Falling paragraph 3)

Importance: Here, Clary speaks to Simon about dating two girls, Isabelle and Maia, at once. She has urged him to choose one or the other. However, Clary's comment has a double meaning. The reader can understand the comment as not just simply dealing with the dangerous side of romance, but of entertaining an offer from Camille Belcourt to join in a war against Raphael.

He is bound to you,' said the Queen. 'But does he love you?'

-- The Queen of Seelie Court (Chapter 4, The Art of Eight Limbs paragraph 117)

Importance: Here, the Queen of Seelie Court attempts to sow doubt in the mind of Clary with regards to the love that she and Jace seem to share. The Queen, annoyed and put off that Clary did not enter a compact with her in previous novels, has her revenge by undermining the strength of Clary's conviction that Jace loves her. It is a cruel emotional and psychological trick that soon bears fruit.

Power is a magnet. It draws those who desire it.

-- Luke (Chapter 7, Praetor Lupus paragraph 149)

Importance: Discussing Camille with Simon, Luke explains that anyone who desires power is drawn to its source. Simon, who is both cursed and protected by the Mark, has an unimaginable source of power. Camille, in need of such power, has naturally been drawn towards Simon, requesting her join with her against Raphael.



Damn, girl,' she said. 'What have you gotten yourself into now?'"
-- Isabelle (Chapter 11, Our Kind paragraph 10)

Importance: Isabelle appears in the doorway of the Church of Taltos as Clary manages to defeat a summoned demon. Isabelle's statement is one of both expectance and disbelief, knowing that Clary has gotten herself into yet another difficult situation. This is par for the course for Clary, who ends up in one dangerous situation after another.

The balance of life and death, of good and evil, is a delicate one, young Shadowhunters. You have upset it.
-- Brother Zachariah (Chapter 13, Girl Found Dead paragraph 148)

Importance: Having gone to see the Brothers of the Silent City about Jace's dreams, Clary and Jace realize that things are out of order. Jace coming back from the dead has upset a delicate balance in the universe. Jace's returning to life has left him vulnerable to the influence of demons and darkness. All of the spells performed on him at birth to protect him are now gone.

The past always matters.
-- Jordan (Chapter 15, Beati Bellicosi paragraph 32)

Importance: At the Ironworks party, Alec and Magnus are still at odds over Magnus's past. Magnus explains the hundreds of sexual partners he has had is a result of immortality, not fickleness. Alec can't accept this because he knows he himself is not immortal. Magnus contends the past is in the past, but Jordan, thinking of the things he must redeem himself for with Maia, says that the past always matters. It is the only way to learn from it, he insists. This will have strong bearing on Simon and Jace as well.

Up to Heaven.
-- Maureen (Chapter 16, New York City Angels paragraph 14)

Importance: When Maureen leads Simon to the complex under construction, he asks her where she is taking him. She explains, in irony, that she is taking him to Heaven. In reality, she is taking him to the threshold of Hell. At the top of the building, he will confront Lilith the demon, cast out by God for disobedience. There is nothing Heavenly about Lilith's plans, but only Hellishness.

If the Light brings back a soul, then the Dark has the right to bring one back as well.
-- Lilith (Chapter 17, And Cain Rose Up paragraph 87)

Importance: Lilith contends her desire to bring back Sebastian from near-death is rooted in the return of Jace from the dead and the need for balance. There must be balance in all things, Lilith reveals. If the Light can bring Jace back, the Dark can bring Sebastian back. It is difficult rationale to accept, and Clary ends up blaming herself for what has happened.



...And it would –all of it –be her own fault.
-- Narrator (Chapter 18, Scars of Fire paragraph 2)

Importance: Clary blames herself for everything unfolding on the construction site rooftop. She knows that her having Jace brought back to life has upset the balance of good and evil, and life and death in the world. If she hadn't had Jace brought back, everything unfolding right now would not be happening. Yet, she resolves to press on to see things through to the end.

We are one.
-- Sebastian (Chapter 19, Hell is Satisfied paragraph 235)

Importance: As Clary, Isabelle, and the others try to decide what to do with Sebastian, it becomes apparent that Sebastian cannot be killed. Jace and Sebastian have been bonded through a rune by Lilith. Harm to one will result in harm to the other. But little do the others know that the connection is even deeper. Jace can be controlled by Sebastian. At the end of the novel, Sebastian tells Jace they are now one.