

# **City of Lost Souls Study Guide**

## **City of Lost Souls by Cassandra Clare**

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# Plot Summary

“City of Lost Souls” is the fifth installment in the Mortal Instruments series by Cassandra Clare, and follows the efforts of Clary and Simon as they attempt to sever the bond that connects Jace and Sebastian, and stop Sebastian from starting a war between Good and Evil on Earth. When the novel begins, Clary blames herself for having left Jace alone on the roof with Sebastian. Shadowhunters around the country are on the lookout for Jace and Sebastian, bound together through an evil spell cast by Lilith through a rune. Clary, Simon, and the others know that whatever harm befalls Jace or Sebastian also hurts the other. Sebastian must be killed, but the bond must be broken before Sebastian can be killed, else Jace will also die.

Clary wants to avoid having Jace die at all costs, for Jace is her boyfriend and her one true love. One night, Jace and Sebastian arrive at the apartment of Luke, the fiancée of Clary’s mother, Jocelyn. Jace implores Clary to leave with him and Sebastian, but Luke and Jocelyn intervene. Luke is stabbed by Sebastian, who then makes his escape with Jace. She, Simon, Simon’s girlfriend Isabelle, and Isabelle’s brother, Alec, double their efforts to find a way to separate Jace and Sebastian. They decide to go and see the Seelie Queen, leader of the faeries, to see if she can help them. The Seelie Queen will help them for a price: the set of faerie rings used for telecommunication must be stolen from the New York Institute and returned to the Queen. Clary agrees to do this.

When Clary has stolen the rings, however, she decides not to give them to the Queen. Instead, she gives one to Simon to communicate with him, and goes to join Jace and Sebastian. Clary feeds Simon information about their whereabouts, and also does her best to see if she can turn Jace from Sebastian. Meanwhile, Sebastian insists that he and Jace are doing good rather than evil. He tells Clary that he and Jace are trying to shake things up because the Shadowhunters have become lazy and set in their ways. Sebastian says he and Jace are trying to lure demons onto Earth in order to destroy them like Shadowhunters are supposed to do.

Simon, Isabelle, Alec, and Alec’s boyfriend, the warlock Magnus Bane, decide that calling on the angel Raziel may help them find a way to save Jace. Simon, bearing the Mark of Cain, becomes the one to call down Raziel. Raziel agrees to give Simon the Sword of Michael the Archangel, Glorious, to sever the bond between Jace and Sebastian provided Simon gives up the Mark of Cain. Simon readily agrees.

Sebastian, meanwhile, has a version of the Mortal Cup fashioned out of adamas by Sister Magdalene of the Iron Sisters. He then has Jace kill Magdalene to cover their tracks, but not before Magdalene stabs Jace and damages the rune that binds him to Sebastian. During this time, Jace, now himself again temporarily, tells Clary all about the true evil plans he and Sebastian have. The mortal cup is to be filled with the demon blood of Lilith, to create an army of Dark Shadowhunters to take over the world. Sebastian reseals the bonding rune upon discovery of its damaging. He forces Clary to attend a ceremony where some forty disenchanting Shadowhunters drink demonic blood.



It is then that Simon, Isabelle, Magnus, Alec, and others arrive to do battle. With Glorious in hand, Clary stabs Jace, which breaks the bond between him and Sebastian. Sebastian's unit of newly-turned Dark Shadowhunters is defeated. Jace is treated and recovers. He vows to kill Sebastian.



# Prologue – Part 1, Chapter 5

## Summary

Prologue – Simon returns to his home in Brooklyn, but his mother refuses him entry. His mother knows he is a vampire, and calls him a monster and a murderer. She believes her real son has been replaced. Clary then calls to report that Maryse has discovered both Sebastian and Jace are gone.

### Part 1

Chapter 1, The Last Council – Clary is distraught that her boyfriend, Jace, is gone with Sebastian, her demonic half-brother. Clary's mother, Jocelyn, reports that there is no news on their whereabouts. Shadowhunters across the country have been actively searching for them for two weeks. Clary is also awaiting word on the judgment of the Council regarding her fate for the raising of Jace through the Angel Raziel, Lilith's use of Jace and Simon to raise Sebastian under the supposition that balance between Light and Dark had to be restored, and Simon's Mark of Cain leading to God destroying Lilith. Clary knows the Clave is furious with her for the chain of event she set off by asking Raziel to resurrect Jace, even though she has broken no laws. At the New York Institute, Isabelle's older brother Alec arrives to inform Clary she has been found innocent.

Alec also relates that the Moscow Institute has revealed the wards over Wrangel Island have been broken. Wards keep out demons. Wards are now taking priority over finding Jace and Sebastian. Alec, through bonding to his brother, is able to confirm that Jace is at least still alive. Clary is determined to find Jace. Isabelle suggests there are ways to do this other than patrols and searches. Clary reveals that the Seelie Queen offered her a favor at the Ironworks party. Alec warns against this, for the Seelie Queen gives nothing for free. Clary is ready to take on any debt needed to use the favor to find Jace. Isabelle agrees to go with her to see the Seelie Queen. Isabelle converses with Aline Penhallow, whose mother, Jia, is now Consul. Isabelle is also conversing with Aline's girlfriend, Helen Blackthorn, who has faerie ancestry. They talk about their siblings, but Clary—whose brother is Jonathon-turned-Sebastian—says she has no siblings.

Chapter 2, Thorns – Clary, Simon, Isabell, and Alex meet up outside the Institute. They head out to find the Seelie Queen. Isabelle comments that she isn't happy her father has applied for the job of Inquisitor in Idris, because it will keep him away from home longer than he already is. They are transported to the realm of the Seelie Queen through a circle of trees by ringing a bell. They are greeted by faerie knight Meliorn and brought before the Queen. Clary explains she needs the Queen and the Fair Folk to find Jace. The Queen will do so in exchange for the return of a set of faerie rings with the power of telecommunication. They are on display in the Institute's library. Clary and the others agree to the bargain, but the Queen warns them that Jace will not be the same person as when he was last seen.



Alec goes to see his boyfriend, Magnus. Magnus is trying to decode Lilith's spell. Alec wonders if Magnus is angry that Camille has escaped, but doesn't tell him that he is the reason why Camille was able to get away. Magnus explains he could care less where Camille is. Clary and Simon sneak into the house of Luke, werewolf fiancée of Jocelyn. They overhear Jocelyn blaming herself for having brought Sebastian into the world in the first place. Clary blames herself for leaving Jace alone on the roof with Sebastian. Simon tells Clary that she and Jocelyn blame themselves for things that aren't their fault. Simon worries about Clary having dealings with faeries, since they are so manipulative.

Chapter 3, Bad Angels – Simon returns to the apartment he shares with Jordan. Maia has swung by to see how Simon is doing as a vampire. She and Jordan reveal that Simon's sister, Rebecca, has been constantly calling. Simon doesn't want to drag her into things, but promises to text her. Isabelle also believes Simon should get in touch with his sister. Clary, meanwhile, sneaks into the library to steal the faerie rings. She hides as Jace and Sebastian appear, with Sebastian looking for books on summoning. Jace grabs a handful of books, and they leave. Meanwhile, Alec and Magnus get into a fight over Magnus being immortal, and Alec being mortal. Outside Magnus's apartment, a hooded figure reveals a message for Alec from Camille. At the same time, Maia agrees to patrol with Jordan at the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Chapter 4 , And Immortality – Clary explains to Simon, Isabelle, and Alec what she has just seen. Isabelle insists the Clave cannot be given this information, or it will be death for Jace for working with Sebastian. Alec suggests asking Magnus for advice. Alec then goes on to meet with Camille on an abandoned subway station platform. He wants to be made immortal for having helped her escape. Camille contends that Magnus's immortality can be taken away. At home, Clary is working on a rune when Jocelyn comes in to talk to her. Clary asks about whether or not protective spells were said on her when she was born, and Jocelyn confirms they were performed by Magnus. Maia and Jordan go on patrol along the East River toward the Navy Yard. Jordan wants to help pay for Maia to go to college. They kiss. Jordan tells her he never stopped loving her. Maia tells him she can't take his money or his love right now.

Chapter 5, Valentine's Son – Clary dreams of Jace and Sebastian in a winter landscape, where she is bruised and bleeding. She awakens to find Jace beside her. He looks at her not with love, but like a predator. He knows she has not gone to the Council with news of his time in the library. Sebastian then walks into the room. Clary notices the two move similarly, as if they have been trained by the same person. Clary tells them to get out. Jace wants Clary to come with her. He reveals he and Sebastian are bound together, and are brothers. He says Sebastian is serving a greater cause. Clary then hears her mother scream out in the living room. She has seen Sebastian. Sebastian tells her she has been a bad mother, and that he wants the Morganstern legacy. Jocelyn tells Sebastian she is sorry for not having killed him at birth.

Clary tells her mother she can't kill Sebastian, for he and Jace are bound. What happens to one happens to the other. Luke then appears with a shotgun. Sebastian stabs Luke with a silver dagger. Clary throws herself at Sebastian. With the situation out



of control, Jace and Sebastian then leave. Jocelyn tells her daughter to pack, that they must leave. She reveals the Morganstern men are relentless, and will always come back for what they want.

## Analysis

“City of Lost Souls” is the fifth installment in the Mortal Instruments series by Cassandra Clare, and follows the efforts of Clary and Simon as they attempt to sever the bond that connects Jace and Sebastian, and stop Sebastian from starting a war between Good and Evil on Earth. As the novel begins, the past emerges as a powerful theme. All of the events that begin “City of Lost Souls” are directly attributable to “City of Fallen Angels,” the fourth and previous installment in the Mortal Instruments series. Jace has gone off with Sebastian, under a bonding spell cast by Lilith between Jace and Sebastian in the previous novel. Clary blames herself for not waiting around when the spell became active, imagining she could have somehow stopped demonic incantations from taking effect.

Through Clary’s disenchantment and regrets about her past actions, the theme of Guilt emerges strongly. Clary blames herself for what happened, and she feels incredibly guilty as a result. Despite the fact that others tell her there was nothing she could have done, she still believes—out of her love for Jace—that she should have been around anyway. It is guilt that she will carry with her through the rest of the novel.

A large part of this guilt stems from the fact that Clary and Jace are a couple, and that Clary is in love with Jace. There isn’t anything she wouldn’t do for him. Here, the theme of Love becomes important as Clary’s decision-making process is so heavily determined by her love of Jace. In some situations, this will cause her to take great risks, such as daring to consort with the Seelie Queen. The Seelie Queen is vicious and manipulative, and Clary indeed takes great risk to herself by even choosing to speak with the Queen. In other situations, love will blind Clary to the truth of things, such as the fact that whether she had been on the rooftop or not with Jace. There was nothing she could have done to stop Jace from falling under the sway of Sebastian.

It is Clary’s friends who try to remind her of this, that the outcome between Jace and Sebastian on the roof had already been determined. Isabelle and Simon contend that Clary cannot blame herself not merely as a matter of fact, but out of friendship. Simon, Isabelle, and Clary have been through a lot together, as have Alec, Magnus, Jorda, and Maia as well. They have all found common cause in battling darkness, but also found common cause in caring for one another. The friendship that these individuals share between them makes their alliance on the side of good even stronger, but also means the loyalty between them is incredibly resilient. This friendship will be crucial in coming chapters.

That the forces of good between Clary, Simon, Isabelle, and the others should be so strong and so resilient is crucial given the ongoing—and widening—battle between Good and Evil. As the reader learns, wards which keep demons out are beginning to



fail. The ward over Wrangle Island has failed completely, providing a highway for evil to infest the Earth. The struggle between Good and Evil—the forces of Light and the forces of Dark, the Shadowhunters and the Daylighters against the Dark and the demons—forms a core theme and component in the plot.

## Discussion Question 1

Why does Clary blame herself for Jace's disappearance and being turned? Why do her friends say it is not her fault? Who is correct? Why?

## Discussion Question 2

Why does Clary consort with the Seelie Queen? Why do her friends worry so much about this? Does any good come of this meeting with the Seelie Queen? If so, what? If not, why not?

## Discussion Question 3

Why are Clary and Isabelle so concerned with saving Jace's life? Why do they worry about the members of the Clave finding him before they can?

## Vocabulary

improvised, juddered, aesthetic, crystalline, morbidly, exasperated, dubious, recompense, balk, imperceptibly, churlish, defiling, collateral damage





# Part 1, Chapter 6 – Part 2, Chapter 12

## Summary

Chapter 6, No Weapon in This World – Snow begins falling as the werewolf pack arrives to tend to the injured Luke, and Jocelyn and Clary travel along Greenpoint Avenue. They take refuge in Magnus's home. Word comes that Luke has been stabilized, but is in serious condition. The tip of the blade he has been stabbed with broke off inside him and is moving around. It is demon metal. Magnus suggests going to see Woolsey Scott, founder of Praetor Lupus, the wolf guard. Clary begs her mother not to hurt Jace. Jocelyn says she cannot promise that. Alec returns home. Clary explains the situation to him about Jace, including that Jace seems to believe in everything Sebastian believes in, now. She also reveals that Jace wanted her to come with him. The group discusses the possibility of Jace and Sebastian traveling interdimensionally.

Brother Zachariah arrives. He wants to save the Herondale bloodline by saving Jace. He reveals that he believes Jace was forced against his will through Lilith's runes to feed and restore Sebastian, and that he is under Sebastian's spell. Zachariah believes Jace still loves Clary, but that no weapon in this world can wound only Jace or Sebastian. Magnus agrees to let Clary stay with him, for he can put up wards powerful enough to keep Jace out. The group wonders what greater purpose Sebastian believes he is serving, and what weapon could be used to kill him. Jocelyn believes the Iron Sisters might know. She will go with Isabelle while Clary remains behind, safe. Clary protests. Jocelyn responds that with all the disastrous consequences happening, Clary is not meant to be with Jace. Clary is stunned and storms off.

Simon meets with Raphael at Raphael's request. Raphael says he needs a bodyguard to protect him from Camile Belcourt during the day. To do this, he needs a Daylighter, and Simon, with the Mark of Cain, is the most powerful Daylighter of all. Simon refuses. Raphael warns that a darkness is coming that even the Mark will not be able to protect Simon from. Meanwhile, a drunken Isabelle shows up at Simon and Jordan's apartment, unable to find Simon. She is worried that Simon has been spending so much time with Clary. She worries she will have to give Simon up to Clary for the debt she owes Clary for bringing Jace back from the dead. Jordan urges Isabelle to confess her feelings for Simon. As she decides to go tell Simon, she passes out drunk.

Chapter 7, A Sea Change – Clary meets with Simon at Taki's restaurant, where they discover one of the waitresses is Kaelie, who works for the Seelie Queen. Simon blames everything that has happened on himself, for biting Sebastian in the first place. Clary says that Simon was forced to do it, that he saved her life in the process. She then reveals she has taken the faerie rings and wants to see if they actually work. They put the rings on, and are able to communicate with one another through thought. Clary then reveals her plan: she will pretend to join Jace and Sebastian while keeping in touch with Simon mentally. Maia arrives at Jordan's place. She reveals to Jordan and to Isabelle that Luke has been seriously injured by Jace and Sebastian, and that Magnus



wants to be put in touch with Praetor Lupus. Jordan agrees to take her to Praetor headquarters on the North Fork of Long Island.

Isabelle knows the Clave will stop at nothing to kill Sebastian now and that Jace will die as a result. Isabelle then goes to see Alec and Magnus. Magnus tells Isabelle she must go and see the Iron Sisters for a weapon that will divide Jace and Sebastian so Sebastian can be killed independently of Jace. Isabelle goes to sleep in a guest room, and Simon joins her later. Clary goes back to Luke's apartment. Jace is waiting for her, and asks her to come with him. She agrees to go.

## Part 2

Chapter 8, Fire Tests Gold – Jordan drives Maia to the North Fork of Long Island. They talk of romance and they kiss. Isabelle heads out to meet the Iron Sisters, accompanied by Jocelyn. They head to an area of volcanoes to the Adamant Citadel, home of the Sisters. When Clary awakens, she is in an unknown apartment with sleek designs and stocked full of clothing for her. In Sebastian's room, she finds a small box that belonged to her mother with the initials J.C., for Jonathan Christopher, on it. Inside are mementos from childhood. Sebastian interrupts her, and begins to refer to her as "little sister." Clary wants to know what they plan to do. Sebastian insists she gets to know him first.

Chapter 9 – Alec meets with Camille near the Staten Island Ferry about making Magnus mortal. Camille will arrange this, so long as Alec kills Raphael Santiago. Meanwhile, Jordan and Maia meet with Praetor Scott. Scott explains that there isn't enough time to find the right werewolf to heal Luke, but he will look through the archives to see what he can find. Isabelle and Jocelyn meet with Sister Cleophas, a Maker, and Sister Dolores, about Jace and Sebastian being bound by blood magic. The Sisters examine the binding spell Lilith made. Only a blade of Heaven or of Hell could sever such a blood bond. Such a sword can only be gifted, and cannot be stolen. Isabelle storms off, annoyed at how unhelpful the Sisters have been.

As she and Jocelyn leave, she asks who had an affair with her father. Jocelyn explains that Isabelle's father had an affair with Annamarie Hightsmith, killed during Valentine's assault on Alicante. Back at Magnus's, Simon, Isabelle, Jocelyn, and Magnus discuss the situation with needing an otherworldly sword. They believe their only option is to actually summon Greater Demon Azazel, Lieutenant of Hell and Forger of Weapons. Because he is bound, only his spirit can actually be summoned. When Jocelyn asks where Clary is, Simon must then tell everyone about what Clary has done.

Chapter 10 – In Jordan's old room at Praetor House, Maia discovers an old photograph of her and Jordan from years before. She then decides to go shower with Jordan, and declares her love for him. They then meet with Praetor Scott who gives them a box of salve which will cleanse the demon poison and blade tip from Luke's wound. Jordan learns that the werewolf Nick, at Raphael's behest, has been assigned track down Maureen Brown, now a rogue vampire.



Meanwhile, Jocelyn is enraged that Simon let Clary go off with Jace and Sebastian. Isabelle defends Simon, saying nothing could have stopped Clary. Isabelle contends that if Jocelyn wasn't so overprotective, Clary would not be so secretive and reckless. Jocelyn announces she is going to be with Luke, and storms out. Clary, meanwhile, is taken to Venice on a date by Jace. Jace inquires about her faerie ring, but Clary says it was a gift from Isabelle. After dinner, they take a gondola boat into the canals. They make out but must leave when the owner of the boat threatens to call the police for theft.

Chapter 11, Ascribe All Sin – Magnus chants from the book “Forbidden Rites” while Isabelle, Simon, and Alec look on. Azazel is summoned but says no weapon he can fashion will break the bond. He says it must be a something Heavenly. He has a suggestion, but has a price: he will take one happy memory away from each of those assembled, memories they will never have again. The living agree. Azazel says he will bring Sebastian to Hell, so Sebastian cannot die. The connection between Sebastian and Jace will burn away. The price for this favor is Azazel's freedom. Azazel is banished for the time being so the living may discuss the offer. They know that setting a Prince of Hell loose on Earth would cause untold chaos, and that the Clave would punish those responsible for setting the demon loose.

Maia and Jordan then arrive. The situation is discussed with them. Isabelle asks Simon to spend the night with her. Simon agrees. Alec, meanwhile, sneaks off to meet with Camille. He tells her he will not kill Raphael, will not break Covenant Law for something selfish. She begins to sow doubt in Alec's mind about Magnus's love and things he might be hiding. That night, Clary dreams of killing Jace. She gets up from bed and talks with Sebastian in the kitchen. Clary confronts Sebastian about all the people he has killed. Sebastian contends he is a changed person and just wants a sister. Clary doesn't believe him. She notes he is now tattooed with “Acheronta movebo,” for “Thus always to tyrants”, shouted by Roman senators who killed Caesar. Clary contends they were traitors, while Sebastian views them as freedom fighters.

Chapter 12, The Stuff of Heaven – Alec returns to the apartment, avoiding questions about where he has been. Simon snuggles up in bed with Isabelle. She offers Simon her blood to feed himself. Simon thinks he is a monster. Isabelle assures him he isn't. Simon bites her. Isabelle loves it. When he stops himself, she assures him he is okay because Shadowhunters replace their blood at triple the normal rate. Meanwhile, Clary learns the apartment in which Jace and Sebastian stay always changes location. They are currently in Prague. Sebastian asks Clary for a strength rune. Clary discovers painful scars on Sebastian's back, the punishment for disobedience given by Valentine. Clary is then taken along on an errand.

Brother Zachariah brings Maryse Lightwood an old leather cuff belonging to Jace, and a shard of glass stained with dried blood from Sebastian to help in tracking. Maryse reveals that she has been able to track Jace's movements with an old map, but the indications of Jace's locations are only flickers. Meanwhile, Clary reveals to Simon that she, Sebastian, and Jace are now in Prague. She disagrees with the decision to summon Azazel. She, Jace, and Sebastian then meet with Mirek, a demon storekeeper



to purchase pure adamas, a Heavenly metal from which seraph blades are made. But the price Mirek asks increases to include a lock of Clary's hair. Sebastian forbids this, and insists on the original price.

## Analysis

Clary's meeting with the Seelie Queen brings her into possession of the faerie rings, rings which she will now use to her advantage. She is still feeling very guilty about what has happened to her love, Jace, and her guilt compels her in large part to want to make things right. Her guilt becomes a foundation from which she seeks a measure of redemption through risking her own life in order to save Jace's life and secure his freedom. Her guilt about the past also stems from the knowledge that her request of Raziel to raise up Jace set off the chain of events which ultimately led to Jace's being bonded to Sebastian as a part of Lilith's evil scheme.

Simon, as a dutiful best friend, reluctantly agrees to help. Here, friendship proves instrumental to Clary's plans, but also proves critical to the plot. Using the faerie rings, Clary will go away with Jace and Sebastian, all the while speaking to Simon about what is going on through telecommunication. At the same time, Simon, Isabelle, Alec, Magnus, Jordan, and Maia begin attempting to figure out how they may separate Jace and Sebastian. Being friends with Jace, they are bound by that friendship and that loyalty, and their efforts to free Jace has important personal consequences for them as well as for the ongoing war between good and evil. Failure would not only mean a victory for darkness, but a defeat in letting down Clary by losing Jace.

Love exists not only between Jace and Clary, but between other characters as well. Isabelle's feelings for Simon continue to grow into love, as Isabelle struggles to understand these things she feels for Simon, things she is feeling for the first time in her life. She is still haunted by the past, by bad previous relationships, and by the knowledge that her father cheated on her mother, but her feelings for Simon cannot be denied. She asks Simon to spend the night with her, something she has never asked any other guy to do. Indeed, Isabelle constantly worries about Simon's potentially liking Clary as more than just friends.

Clary's guilt is not the sole determining factor in her continued efforts to save Jace. Her guilt, combined with her utter love for Jace, as well as her moral sense of seeking to stop evil, all compel Clary to want to stop Sebastian. The same is true for her friends as well. Their desire to see Sebastian stopped is not merely an outcome of their friendship with Jace, but an opposition to evil as well.

Ironically, in their pursuit of the destruction of evil, Magnus advocates consorting with evil. He recommends summoning Azazel to try to reach a deal of some sort in order to break the bond that holds Jace and Sebastian together. Azazel is a demon, just like Lilith, but Azazel is even more dangerous for he is the Lieutenant of Hell. He is vastly powerful, and even more evil and diabolical than Lilith. It is a poor choice to consort with



Hell, Simon thinks, especially when they are on the side of good. What comes of this summoning has yet to be seen.

## Discussion Question 1

Why does Magnus suggest summoning Azazel? How do the others feel about this? Why? Does the summoning of Azazel contradict their roles as agents of the side of good? Why or why not?

## Discussion Question 2

Why does Clary agree to go with Jace and Sebastian? What does she hope this will accomplish? Why does Simon oppose Clary's going with Jace? Why does Clary not heed his advice not to go?

## Discussion Question 3

How are Isabelle's feelings toward Simon changing? What illustrates these changes in feeling? How does Simon respond to Isabelle as she changes toward him? Why?

## Vocabulary

bewildered, unbidden, happenstance, minutiae, inextricably, recalcitrant, blithely, superfluous, innate, noninterference, vicissitudes, entropy, pronouncement, compunction



## Part 2, Chapter 13 – Part 2 Chapter 18

### Summary

Chapter 13, The Bone Chandelier – Azazel awaits an answer. Alec believes Azazel should be banished permanently. Magnus is not worried, having summoned demons hundreds of times, but he relents. When Magnus's cat wanders into the Pentagram which holds Azazel, Simon jumps in to save the cat, but comes face to face with Azazel. When Azazel sees that Simon is protected by the hand of God, Azazel vanishes, wanting nothing more to do with them. Simon realizes he can summon an angel without being harmed. Angels, normally angry at being summoned by those other than God, will have no power against Simon. Not everyone likes the idea, especially Isabelle. Simon says what he is doing is for everyone, because he too can feel darkness coming, that a war will soon arrive. Simon seeks to summon Raziel.

Mirek uses snakes to attack Jace, Clary, and Sebastian, but the trio gains the upper hand and defeats Mirek. Clary secures the adamas. They go out to eat and celebrate at the night club, the Bone Chandelier. The entrance is down a set of steps, to which Sebastian comments that the descent into Hell is easy. This chills Clary, who is on the side of good. From the ceiling hangs a massive chandelier made of bone. All those in the club are werewolves and vampires. There is a glitter drug that everyone is consuming to get high. Clary does it, too. Sebastian then brings Clary over to a pool of water to see their reflections. He tells her they are the same. She and Jace then make out. Clary sees dead human beings are dripping blood from the ceilings everywhere. She passes out. Sebastian then meets with Meliorn, who says the fairies stand with Sebastian.

Chapter 14, As Ashes – When Clary regains consciousness, she is in Jace's bedroom. Jace assures her what she saw was merely hallucinations from the drugs. Getting dressed after taking a shower, Clary realizes her faerie ring is gone. As she panics and begins to look for it, she sees Sebastian leave. She follows him instead of looking for the ring. She follows him through Prague to a door where he keys in the code X235 for entry. She discovers a group of Dahak demons converses about whether or not Jace can be trusted, even though the Child of Lilith, Sebastian, says Jace is well in hand. They intend to rape and ruin the world. The demons then discover Clary, who tries to flee. They infect her with poison. Sebastian then intervenes and slashes apart the demons. Luke regains consciousness. Jocelyn fills him in on all that has happened. Luke confesses he has been in love with Jocelyn for years. Jocelyn says she never would have married Valentine if she had known how Luke felt.

Chapter 15, Magdalena – When Clary awakens, she is the Luxembourg Gardens with Sebastian. She asks him why he saved her life. He tells her she is his sister. Sebastian explains he knew Clary was following him. He explains the Dahak demons that had to be killed were merely guards, not the true masters Sebastian was dealing with. Sebastian says he only wants a chance, that Valentine was his father, too, and that it





isn't easy to doubt the things he has grown up believing. He says that Valentine was wrong. He says that the true mandate of Shadowhunters is to kill demons. He says the Shadowhunters are currently too set in their ways to win a war against the demons, and so he is consorting with demons to learn more about them. His goal is to destroy demons. He says he can prove it.

He brings her to his favorite place in Paris, a side street café with the best hot chocolate in the city. He asks if she thinks it is possible for someone like him to be forgiven. Clary says amends must be made to make up for what has been done in the past. He says he and Clary are the same because they do not miss Valentine, whereas Jace does. They then meet with a woman about Jocelyn's age, Sister Magdalena of the Iron Sisters. Magdalena, Sebastian explains, fled the Fortress before her part in the Uprising could be discovered years before. Sebastian gives her the adamas to be crafted. She says that Clary and Sebastian look like their parents. Meanwhile, preparations are made for Simon to summon Raziel, the angel who originally created the Shadowhunters. It will be done at Luke's upstate farm.

Chapter 16, Brothers and Sisters – Back at the apartment, Sebastian brings Clary up a secret flight of steps to a training room where Jace is practicing. Sebastian reveals he has told Clary the plan about luring the Greater Demons in to destroy them. Sebastian explains the Mortal Cup and the Mortal Sword are made of adamas dipped in gold. Magdalena is now fashioning a second Mortal Cup to be voluntarily filled with the blood of Greater Demons to be drawn in through Wrangel Island, who will then be destroyed. Jace and Clary later come close to having sex, but Clary stops him. She asks him to read "A Tale of Two Cities" by Charles Dickens to her instead.

Simon meets his sister, Rebecca, in Central Park. Rebecca thinks their mother has gone crazy calling Simon a monster. Simon reveals he is a vampire. She is shocked at first, but Simon explains all about being a vampire. Rebecca tells him that he is her little brother, and she loves him no matter what. Meanwhile, Maia reveals to Jordan that Luke has okayed the use of his farm. Maia and Jordan then have sex.

Chapter 17, Valediction – Magnus drives himself, Isabelle, Simon, and Alec to Luke's farm, Three Arrows Farm. Half asleep, Clary hears Jace and Sebastian speaking of the Mortal Cup, and Jace saying there was a lot of blood. He then goes to see Clary in a panic, telling her to believe him. He leaves her his stele for protection. He has temporarily damaged the rune that binds him and Sebastian together using a pugio, a dagger sealed in angel blood. For the moment, he is himself and wants to be with Clary as long as he can. They nearly have sex, but Jace stops because he doesn't know how long he'll be himself.

Jace explains he has been in a fight with Magdalena, who stabbed him. He explains Sebastian ordered him to kill Magdalena after collecting the Mortal Cup so she could never make such a cup again. Jace reveals Sebastian wants to return Lilith, to mix her blood and his to form an army of evil Shadowhunters. Some 40 or 50 good Shadowhunters are so disenchanting with the current Clave that they are ready to



defect. A war is coming. Jace wants to go to the Silent City to turn himself in with the cup before Sebastian regains control.

Chapter 18, Raziel – Jace is determined to turn himself in, but Clary knows to do so will mean execution. In a panic, Clary tells Sebastian what Jace is about to do. As Sebastian begins to heal the rune, Jace confesses the plan to bring back Lilith and create a dark army was his. Simon tries unsuccessfully to communicate with Clary. Magnus begins the summoning at the edge of the farm's lake. Simon then takes over while the others go and hide. Raziel is angered at being summoned, for it breaks the Covenant Laws. Raziel is baffled by the Mark of Cain upon Simon, and knows he cannot kill Simon. Simon asks Raziel to intervene on behalf of the Shadowhunters, for they are in danger. To do this, Sebastian and Jace must be broken apart. Simon vows to give up the Mark of Cain if Raziel should intervene and promise not to harm him. Raziel gives Simon the Sword of the Archangel Michael, who commands the armies of Heaven. The Sword is known as "Glorious" in human English tongue. The Mark is removed, and it causes Simon great pain. Raziel disappears, and then Isabelle rushes over to Simon to make sure he is okay. Simon reveals the deal.

## Analysis

Consorting with Azazel of Hell becomes a nonstarter issue. Ironically, while the side of good—Magnus, Simon, Isabelle, Alec, Jordan, and Maia—are prepared to consort with Hell, Hell is not prepared to face the Wrath of Heaven. Upon discovering that Simon bears the Mark of the Wandere- –the Mark of Cain—and the protection of God, Azazel wants nothing more to do with Magnus and the others, and so willfully banishes himself rather than face the fire of Heaven. Yet even then, the price for having summoned Azazel is high: the loss of a single good memory, a memory that will never be had again.

It is through the summoning of Azazel, and Azazel's refusal to cross God, that Simon and the others consider the summoning of the angel Raziel. Simon himself will be the one to do it, since he cannot be harmed with the Mark of Cain upon him. The outcome of this summoning will be seen in the final section of the novel. Meanwhile, Clary begins to learn more and more about Sebastian and Jace. Sebastian argues that he is truly on the side of good, that he is merely trying to shake things up and to force the Shadowhunters into action. By precipitating a war, the destruction of demons will be ensured. Clary is skeptical, but her defenses are slowly being worn down.

Only when an injured Jace gains some independence from Sebastian does Clary come to learn the truth of everything. Sebastian is not a misunderstood agent of good as he has stated, but is truly and wholly an agent of evil. He is planning to fashion a new Mortal Cup, into which the blood of a demon will be poured, fed to followers, and used to create a loyal army of evil that will destroy the world and open up a gateway for Hell on Earth. Jace—the one responsible for the plan—is so determined to stop Sebastian and the plan from unfolding that he is willing to turn himself in to the Silent Brothers. However, Clary refuses and gives Sebastian enough time to intervene.





Clary's refusal to let Jace turn himself in is a decision made of love, not common sense. It is a decision that Clary will later come to regret. She knows things will go badly for Jace if he turns himself in, and she doesn't want to see any harm come to him. She suspects that Jace will be executed for everything he has done, and she cannot bear the thought of this. Unfortunately, her actions lead to Sebastian repairing the runic bond between himself and Jace, seemingly removing any options that Clary has left.

Jace's desire to turn himself in is rooted in the themes of the Past, and of Guilt. Jace knows his second chance at life, through Clary and Raziel, has not been without cost or obligation. Given a second chance, Jace must use it wisely and well in honor of the gift he has been given. His plotting for a new army of dark Shadowhunters causes him much guilt and remorse, clearly not a worthy use of his second chance at life. Even though he was not in his right mind when he made these decisions, he still wants to make things right by turning himself in.

## **Discussion Question 1**

Why does Clary prevent Jace from turning himself in? Do you believe her decision is justifiable? Why or why not?

## **Discussion Question 2**

Why does Azazel refuse to consort with Magnus's group? What is their response? What does this refusal compel them into doing?

## **Discussion Question 3**

Do you believe Jace can be blamed for creating the plot to create a dark army? Why or why not?

## **Vocabulary**

belatedly, coalesce, hoi polloi, chivalry, dexterous, glassine, inadequacy, dissuade



## Part III, Chapter 19 – Part III, Chapter 20

### Summary

Chapter 19, Love and Blood – Clary tears apart Jace's room looking for the ring. Sebastian announces the ceremony will be that night. She finds her ring inside Sebastian's desk drawer. She then contacts Simon and reveals everything that has happened. Sebastian then interrupts her, revealing he knew all about the ring, and had used it to be in touch with the Seelie Queen. Clary punches Sebastian in the gut and runs. Sebastian grabs her, slams her into the wall, and causes her to drop Jace's stele. Sebastian contends that Clary belongs to him. He begins to physically assault her, and throws her into a glass table. As he prepares to rape her, Clary grabs a piece of glass and drives it into his shoulder. As she prepares to stab him in the throat, he reminds her that killing him will kill Jace. Meanwhile, Magnus, Simon, Isabelle, and Alec speed back toward New York City. Simon explains everything as they drive. Simon says they will need reinforcements.

Chapter 20, A Door into the Dark – Clary is unable to kill Sebastian because she doesn't want to kill Jace. Sebastian orders Clary to clean herself up. He tells her he will bring her and Jace through the Hell that is coming to Earth provided they do what he says. Clary tells him she will never love him, that his blood is poison. Upon leaving, Clary reveals that she has drawn a rune which has destroyed the apartment. Sebastian is enraged. They arrive at an open area of rocky, overgrown ground where 40 or so disenchanted Shadowhunters listen to Jace praising them for their loyalty, saying they are the ones who will be saved. Lilith is then summoned. A chained woman is then brought before her. Clary realizes it is Amatis Graymark, Luke's sister.

Jordan and Maia learn that Nick has been killed by Maureen. They then learn that an emergency call has gone out through Luke from Magnus to everyone in the pack to assemble for battle. Alec and Isabelle speak with their mother, Maryse. She is stunned to learn what has unfolded, but also tells them that Jace will be killed on sight. Maryse explains that if the Clave is not notified, the family will lose everything.

### Analysis

Clary is able to contact Simon in a last-ditch effort to let him know about what is unfolding. Everything that Clary had previously hoped to avert—the summoning of darkness on Earth—has failed. She blames herself, knowing that if she had allowed Jace to go back to the Silent Brothers, none of this would be happening. These are things she will keep reminding herself about as the novel moves through its final chapters. Clary's decision was based wholly on love, but now she realizes it was the wrong decision. She carries around tremendous guilt because of this, and because she knows that she has essentially betrayed herself, her love, and her side by ratting Jace out to Sebastian. And Sebastian is as cruel as ever.



Sebastian's brutal assault on Clary, in addition to nearly raping her, underscore just how evil Sebastian truly is. He is squarely on the side of evil, and is one of its principal progenitors. Jace is unwittingly one of them as a result of the loss of his own free will. The reader should note the tragedy and hypocrisy in Jace's determination to do right once he has regained his free will and how Clary has been fighting all along to return Jace's free will to him only to have taken it away and betrayed him to Sebastian. Clary herself is now wholly responsible for what has happened to Jace. Restoring Jace to Sebastian has also increased Sebastian's powers, and increased the chances for the forces of evil to succeed. And it appears as if they will succeed as Lilith is summoned to deliver her blood to the Mortality Cup.

Meanwhile, Jordan and Maia learn that an emergency call has gone out to all Daylighters, be they vampires, werewolves, or Shadowhunters. An evil army is being assembled by Sebastian, and the call is for one of battle. Good is seeking to confront and destroy a new evil under Sebastian before this evil can truly take root. Here, the theme of good and evil aspires toward a climactic end, as the forces of both sides begin to gather.

## Discussion Question 1

Why is Clary so desperate to find the missing faerie ring? What does she hope it will accomplish? Is she successful? Why or why not?

## Discussion Question 2

When Clary moves to kill Sebastian, she stops. Why? Does she blame herself for what she has come to? Why or why not?

## Discussion Question 3

Why does Sebastian beat up and want to rape his own sister? What is Clary's reaction to this?

## Vocabulary

perceptible, absentminded, baffled, veritable, blasphemous, epithet



## Part III, Chapter 21 - Epilogue

### Summary

Chapter 21, Raising Hell – Clary tries to help Amatis, but Jace holds her back. She is forced to drink the blood of Lilith from the now-called Infernal Cup, which instantly transforms her into a servant of Sebastian. Sebastian orders her to fight his ally, Cartwright. Cartwright is defeated, and consents to drinking the blood to make himself more powerful. Clary now feels horrible she did not let Jace turn himself in. The good Shadowhunters and a pack of wolves led by Simon, Isabelle, Maryse, Helen, Aline, Jocelyn, arrive. The plan is to hack a path to Sebastian for Simon to use Glorious against him.

A battle opens up during which time Magnus is stabbed by Amatis. As she is about to kill Magnus, she is shot by Alec with an arrow. Alec watches out for Magnus while his body works hard to heal itself. Sebastian tells Jace they must flee. Sebastian then attempts to force Clary to drink the Infernal blood, but Clary manages to get away. Clary gets to Simon and calls for Glorious. Jace then blocks her way to Sebastian. She is forced to stab Jace. Sebastian can be heard screaming as the bond is broken. Glorious, and Jace, burst into flames. Jocelyn, Isabelle, and Simon come to comfort Clary. It is discovered that Jace is still alive.

Epilogue – Jace regains consciousness after two days. His bond to Sebastian has been broken. A side effect of being stabbed is that Jace is now lightly glowing, which is believed will fade in time. Isabelle and Alec fall asleep beside their brother. Clary is enraged that she is not allowed to see Jace yet, under orders from the Silent Brothers. Simon believes that Clary has come to believe in God, or else she would not have been able to wield Glorious. Only the faithful can do such a thing. Meanwhile, Magnus has learned that Alec nearly accepted a bargain with Camille. Magnus admits to wanting the Book of the White to make himself mortal, but that was his choice to make, not Alec's. Magnus then breaks up with him, and tells Alec he never wants to see Alec or anyone else again. He tells Alec to avoid Camille in the future. Alec seeks out Camille to kill her, but runs into Maureen Brown instead. Maureen reveals she has killed Camille, and is now entitled to head up Camille's clan according to vampire law.

Clary later learns that, because of the success of the mission in rescuing Jace, and because Jia told lies to cover for the battle, no punishment will come down on anyone. Clary tells Isabelle that she and Simon need each other and that Isabelle needs to let Simon know this. Clary is finally admitted in to see Jace. Jace tells her that one of the reasons he fell in love with her was her bravery, and that she has saved his life again. He reveals he now carries Heavenly Fire within him. Sebastian is still at large and must be stopped. Jace vows to kill Sebastian. He then asks Clary to wear the Morganstern ring again. Clary agrees. Meanwhile, Maryse calls on Brother Enoch and Brother Zachariah to examine a severed pair of angel wings left for her at the New York Institute. It includes a note from Sebastian that says he is coming.



## Analysis

The battle between good and evil in “City of Lost Souls” comes to a head in the final chapters of the novel. The events of the past several books have led to this penultimate confrontation between Sebastiaon and evil, and the forces of good. In open combat, all assembled Daylighters—including vampires, werewolves, and Shadowhunters—meet the forces of darkness under the command of Sebastian. The forces of good are too great in number, and too strong in character and will, and overcome the forces of darkness.

During this battle, Clary is still haunted by the past. In her present struggle, she seeks to overcome the past, and the guilt she feels from the past, by doing her part to bring about victory for good, and to save Jace's life. This she does by stabbing Jace with the Sword of Michael the Archangel, severing the bond between Jace and Sebastian, and ensuring that Jace will again become himself once he has recovered. Clary, out of love, impatiently waits to be allowed in to see Jace. Her feelings for him have only grown stronger.

However, romantic love does not remain strong for Alec and for Magnus. That Alec would even begin conspiring behind Magnus's back to take away Magnus's immortality is horrifying to Magnus. As a result, he breaks up with Alec. He rightly explains that his immortality is his and his alone, and no one else's. Everything Alec had been trying to prevent in the past—losing Magnus—has happened.

Yet, at the same time, the love between Maia and Jordan appears to be growing ever stronger, as by the end of the novel, Maia has fully confessed her love to Jordan. Isabelle likewise has come to accept that she is falling in love with Simon, and her continued desire to be near him and decision to begin telling him how much he means to her, are important steps for Isabelle to take.

As Jace recovers, it is revealed that the love between him and Clary has grown stronger. Jace recognizes Clary's courage and strength in coming to save his life and risking her own to do so in the process. He reveals that one of the reasons why he fell in love with her in the first place was because of her bravery. Her continued bravery only makes him fall in love with her even more than he already is.

## Discussion Question 1

Why does Magnus break up with Alec? Do you believe Magnus is justified in having done so, or do you believe he was already looking for a reason to break up with Alec? Why or why not?



## Discussion Question 2

Why are Jace and the others not punished for their roles in Sebastian's attempt to bring about an army of darkness? Do you believe they should be punished for their actions? Why or why not?

## Discussion Question 3

Is Jace angry with Clary for having prevented him from going to the Silent Brothers now that he is fully recovered? Why or why not? Would you be angry with Clary for having stopped you from doing the same if you were in Jace's position? Why or why not?

## Vocabulary

diabolical, adroit, amalgamation, mezzanine, ineffable



# Characters

## 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 relies on him to be in constant communication with her in the novel when she infiltrates the scheme being orchestrated by Sebastian and Jace. Clary carries tremendous guilt with her in the novel for what has happened to Jace, from the time of his resurrection to his being taken over by Sebastian. Clary is worried not only for Jace’s safety from the forces of evil, but from the forces of good as well. Even though Jace is not in his right mind, his association with evil has made him a wanted Shadowhunter. Clary’s whole motivation is to make sure Jace is safe and free. Clary must stab Jace with Glorious in order to sever the bond between him and Sebastian, a traumatic but necessary decision made in order to ultimately save Jace’s life.

## Simon

Simon Lewis is a sixteen-year-old vampire and best friend of Clary. He is tall, thin, and incredibly sensitive. Simon also bears the Mark of Cain, which brings down the hand of God in protection against any enemy that tries to harm Simon. Having been turned into a vampire against his will, Simon believes, just like his mother says, that he is a monster. His girlfriend, Isabelle, assures him that this is not so. Simon becomes Clary’s contact to the side of good when she infiltrates Jace and Sebastian using the faerie rings. As the novel progresses, Simon and Isabelle grow closer together, their love for one another growing stronger. Isabelle also reassures Simon that it is not his fault that Sebastian has been raised, that he had no choice but to bite Sebastian in order to save Clary. Simon later makes a deal with Raziel to exchange the Mark for the sword, Glorious, to sever the bond between Jace and 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 Simon’s girlfriend and very good friends with Clary. Isabelle is stunningly beautiful and very brave, and she struggles with the fact that she is actually falling in love with Simon. Hurt by past relationships, and haunted by the fact that her father cheated on her mother, Isabelle is uncertain about why she is falling in love with Simon. She becomes an emotional support for Simon, reassuring Simon when he blames himself for Sebastian’s rise to power. She also defends Simon against Jocelyn when Jocelyn blames Simon for letting Clary join Jace and Sebastian.



## Alec

Alexander “Alec” Lightwood is eighteen, and an openly homosexual Shadowhunter. He has been in a committed relationship with Magnus Bane which has been strained since he learned about Bane’s hundreds of past sexual partners, male, female, and non-human. Alec is mostly upset by the fact that Magnus is immortal, and conspires briefly with Camille about ways Magnus could be made mortal. When Magnus learns about this at the end of the novel, he breaks up with Alec.

## Jace

Jonathon “Jace” Christopher Herondale, a Shadowhunter, is the seventeen-year-old adoptive brother of Isabelle, and Alec and boyfriend of Clary. He is tall, slender, muscular, and has blonde hair. Jace has been under the mind control and manipulation of Sebastian by way of a rune drawn by Lilith in the previous novel. Jace spends most of the novel carrying out the dirty work of Sebastian. During one altercation with an assassination victim, Jace’s rune is damaged, freeing his mind temporarily. Determined to turn himself in, Clary blocks him from doing so. As a result, he falls under the spell of Sebastian once more, and must be stabbed by Glorious to be freed. As the novel ends, Jace reconfirms his love for Clary.

## Sebastian

Sebastian, a quasi-demon, is the half-brother of Clary, and the son of Jocelyn. Sebastian, a member of the side of evil, intends to raise an army of evil Shadowhunters to destroy the forces of good in the world, and open it up to the ravages of evil at large. Sebastian is cruel, manipulative, and controls Jace through a rune drawn by Lilith. He attempts to convince Clary that he is actually on the side of good, but is unable to do so. He flees after Clary severs the bond between him and Jace, and when it becomes apparent his nascent evil army is doomed.

## Jocelyn

Jocelyn is the mother of Clary, and the fiancée of Luke. Jocelyn is a caring but cautious mother who has been overprotective with Clary. She long tried to shelter Clary from the horrors of the war between good and evil, but has failed. She blames Clary’s going off with Jace and Sebastian on Simon, but is herself lectured by Isabelle about her parenting being overprotective. Enraged, Jocelyn storms out. Nevertheless, she is one of the many Daylighters that assemble to take down Sebastian and his forces of evil.





## Magnus Bane

Magnus Bane is an immortal warlock who has lived for centuries. He is the boyfriend of Alec, and is something of an antihero, willing to break the rules to achieve the desired ends. For example, he is willing to consort with the demon Azazel even though Magnus is on the side of good. Magnus has also been struggling in his relationship with Alec, due to Magnus's immortality and hundreds of past sexual partners, including males, females, and non-humans. But when Magnus learns that Alec has been speaking with Camille about taking away Magnus's immortality, this is too much for Magnus. He then breaks up with Alec.

## Lilith

Lilith, known also by the names Satrina and Talto, is the demonic first wife of Adam cast out by God for disobedience. Her plans to resurrect Sebastian have been successful. In the novel, she appears when summoned to voluntarily give her blood to the Mortal Cup so that Sebastian might make an army of darkness. Lilith is weak and recovering after being thrown from Earth by God, so she is unable to do much more than surrender blood during the novel.

## Maureen Brown

Maureen Brown is a pretty, fourteen-year-old rogue vampire who has a crush on Simon and who has been feeding left and right through Manhattan. She is discovered by Alec at the end of the novel. Maureen explains she has killed Camille, and now is the rightful heir to Camille's vampire clan.



# Symbols and Symbolism

## Faerie bell

A Faerie bell is given to Clary by the Seelie Queen's servant, Kaelie, in the previous novel ("City of Fallen Angels"). The bell is meant to bring Clary to the presence of the Seelie Queen should Clary decide to consort or need a favor. Seeking to free Jace from the spell which binds him to Sebastian, Clary rings the bell, and is transported, along with Isabelle, Simon, and Alec, to the Seelie Queen's presence.

## Faerie rings

Faerie rings are a set of two faerie-fashioned rings which allow the wearers to telepathically communicate with one another. The Seelie Queen demands these as payment for helping Clary. Clary agrees to steal the set kept by the New York Institute. But instead of giving them to the Seelie Queen, she uses them herself to stay in touch with Simon while she infiltrates Jace and Sebastian.

## Lilith's spell

Lilith's spell is an ordination of black, Hellish magic that is cast on Jace and Sebastian in the previous novel ("City of Fallen Angels") through a rune. The spell binds Jace and Sebastian together in two ways. Whatever harms or kills one will harm or kill the other, and Jace is essentially brainwashed into dependence on, loyalty to, and serving Sebastian. The only true way to sever the bond is to destroy the rune using a weapon not of Earth, but of Heaven. Glorious is used to this end.

## Summoning books

Summoning books are sought by Jace and Sebastian during the novel. They break into the New York Institute's library in order to obtain these books. These books are then used to summon Lilith, so that Lilith can voluntarily give her blood to the Mortal Cup fashioned from amadas. The summoning books enable Sebastian to continue to carry out his evil plans through the presence of Lilith.

## Forbidden Rites

"Forbidden Rites" is a book of dark magic and spells owned by Magnus Bane. Magnus uses "Forbidden Rites" to secure a summoning spell. Magnus uses the summoning spell from the book in order to call on Azazel, Lieutenant of Hell. Magnus's use of "Forbidden Rites" and his summoning of Azazel demonstrate his antihero tendencies, his desire to do good despite the cost.



## Runes

Runes are the physical drawing and casting of spells. They can be drawn on anyone or anything. A rune spell by Lilith is drawn on Jace, bonding him to Sebastian physically and mentally. A rune is drawn by Clary on Sebastian's apartment so that it explodes when she and Sebastian portal out.

## Good memories

Good memories are the price that Azazel demands for pointing Magnus and the others in the right direction to sever the bond between Jace and Sebastian. Azazel demands one good memory from each person present. They reluctantly agree. The caveat is that, upon taking these memories, the people present will never be able to recall them again.

## Adamas

Adamas is a beautiful, silvery, Heavenly metal that is highly prized and valued. Sebastian comes into possession of adamas and surrenders it to Sister Magdalena to fashion into a Mortal Cup. Then Mortal Cup of adamas is then filled with demon blood from Lilith, corrupting its purpose and transforming it into the Infernal Cup.

## Glorious

The Sword of Michael the Archangel, known as "Glorious" in human English tongue, is the personal weapon of Michael the Archangel. Glorious is the kind of weapon Simon and Clary will need in order to sever the bond between Jace and Sebastian. Glorious is given to Sebastian in exchange for the surrendering of the Mark of Cain. Clary later uses Glorious to stab Jace, breaking Jace free from Sebastian. The sword burns up and rematerializes in Heaven.

## The Infernal Cup

The Infernal Cup is a corrupted version of the Mortal Cup. Fashioned out of adamas, the Infernal Cup is a Mortal Cup transformed through its filling with demon blood from Lilith. The Infernal Cup is used to feed demon blood to some forty disenchanting Shadowhunters, who themselves become slaves to Sebastian and the forces of Darkness.



# Settings

## Abandoned subway tunnels

Abandoned subway tunnels are where Camille has been secretly meeting Alec. She and Alec discuss the possibility of eradicating Magnus's immortality. Alec is very intrigued by this possibility, but he will have to kill Raphael to have Camille help him. Alec ultimately decides against this, though Magnus still breaks up with him in the subway tunnels when he learns of Alec's duplicity. It is in the tunnels that Alec encounters Maureen, who reveals she has killed Camille. The abandoned subway tunnels, far underground, can through these events be seen as metaphorical for low points and symbolic of evil based on their location underground, like Hell. Alec is certainly at a low point when he seeks to remove Magnus's immortality, and is later broken up with; and evil can be seen through the character of Maureen, who has weaved a path of destruction through New York.

## Three Arrows Farm

Three Arrows Farm is a large piece of property with a lake and house owned by Luke and located in upstate New York. It takes a lengthy truck ride for Simon, Magnus, and the others to reach the farm. It is there that Simon summons Raziel, and it is there that Simon consorts with Raziel. Simon gives up the Mark of Cain in exchange for the Sword of the Archangel Michael. It is from Three Arrows Farm that the friends later return to the city to gather with other Daylighters to find the rocky field to fight Sebastian.

## 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. The Institute is home to a massive archival library, which also displays numerous artifacts and collected items, such as the set of faerie rings that Clary sneaks in to steal. It is also from the library that Jace and Sebastian steal a number of summoning books in order to raise up Lilith to fill their second Mortal Cup with her demon blood.

## The rocky field

The rocky field is located in an unidentified place, and is where Sebastian summons up Lilith and gathers 40 disenchanting Shadowhunters. The rocky field becomes a place of evil as Lilith pours her blood into the Infernal Cup, blood which is then fed to the Shadowhunters present. The Shadowhunters then become agents of evil. But no sooner has this begun than the forces of good arrive to do battle with them on the rocky



field. During this time, the bond between Sebastian and Jace is broken by Clary, who stabs Jace with Glorious. Realizing he has lost, Sebastian then flees the rocky field.

## **Wrangle Island**

Wrangle Island is an island located off the northern coast of Russia in the Arctic. It is a place where Jace and Sebastian have removed the wards keeping demons out. The island is spoken of as being crucially important. Wrangle Island is a place to which Shadowhunters worldwide now rush to repair the wards and will factor importantly into the next novel in the series.



# Themes and Motifs

## Love

Love is an important theme in the novel “City of Lost Souls” 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 most prominent and striking representation of romantic love in the novel comes through Jace and Clary. Jace and Clary have been dating through several books, with their feelings for one another increasing in each successive book. Jace explains that he has fallen in love with Clary for many reasons, including her bravery. When Jace is under Sebastian’s spell, Clary feels emotionally tortured because she loves him so much, and knows that Jace is not himself. Her entire focus through the course of the novel is to help free Jace from Sebastian, and also to make sure that Jace is not executed by the Clave. Clary stops at nothing to make sure that Jace is freed, going so far as to stab him with Glorious in order to break the spell.

Love also appears between the characters of Maia and Jordan, and the characters of Simon and Isabelle. Maia and Jordan have been attempting to patch up their relationship since Jordan unwittingly turned Maia into a werewolf years before. Maia hopes that she and Jordan might be

able to be friends first, but quickly comes to realize that she is still in love with Jordan, as Jordan is still in love with her. They end up kissing and recommitting to one another. Simon and Isabelle also grow closer. Isabelle can’t stop thinking about Simon, and misses him whenever he is not around. During the course of the novel, she asks Simon to spend the night with her nonsexually, which he agrees to do. It is a first for Isabelle to spend the night with anyone, and belies just how much she feels for Simon.

Romantic love also occurs between Alec and Magnus, but their love is troubled. Alec, a mortal, is unhappy that he will one day grow old and die, while Magnus will live forever and have an untold number of future partners. Alec conspires with Camille to find a way to eliminate Magnus’s immortality. However, Magnus learns about what Alec has been up to and is angered. Magnus understands that love wasn’t enough, and that his life was his to handle, not Alec’s to handle. As a result, Magnus breaks up with Alec at the end of the novel.

## Friendship

Friendship is an important theme in the novel “City of Lost Souls” by Cassandra Clare. In the novel, friendship influences events in the plot in very important ways, especially as things pertain to Simon and Clary, and to Alec, Isabelle, Magnus, Jordan, and Maia.



Simon and Clary have been best friends since childhood. They have always done everything together, but now that they are aware of, and are part of the war between good and evil that rests beyond the regular world, their friendship matters all the more. When Clary decides to infiltrate Jace and Sebastian, she does so under the knowledge that she will be able to stay in touch with someone she trusts more than anyone else—Simon—through use of the faerie rings. Clary ends up relying on Simon to be her contact with the outside world, with the side of good, while she attempts to undo Jace and Sebastian from within.

As a good friend, Simon attempts to talk Clary out of this, but seeing that Clary cannot be dissuaded, he chooses to join in. Jocelyn later yells at Simon for his decision to allow Clary to go out on her own in such a fashion, but it is Isabelle who points out that Clary will do what Clary wants to do. Simon is Clary's best friend, and in a situation like this, all he can do is watch out for her best interests.

As Clary attempts to undo Jace and Sebastian from within, Simon, Isabelle, Maia, Jordan, Magnus, and Alec attempt to undo Jace and Sebastian from without. True enough, they are on the side of good against evil, but Simon and the others also share a friendship which strengthens their loyalty to the side of good, and gives them something absolutely personal to fight for: each other. When the demon Azazel is summoned, it is done together as a group. After Raziel is summoned and gives Simon the Glorious Sword of Michael the Archangel, the entire group of friends bands together once more to join with other Daylighters in taking down Sebastian's nascent army of darkness.

## **Guilt**

Guilt is an important theme in the novel "City of Lost Souls" by Cassandra Clare. Guilt—feelings of, and/or actual responsibility for mistakes, accidents, or intentional bad deeds—is central to the plot. Guilt especially drives and motivates many of the characters in the novel, but especially Clary, Jace, and Simon. Understanding their feelings of guilt helps the reader to better understand who they are as characters, and why they do the things they do.

Clary's feelings of guilt stem from the unfolding crisis. It was Clary who originally accepted the wish from Raziel that Jace be raised up from the dead. This led to imbalance, and the side of Hell returning the being of Sebastian to the world. Sebastian returning to the world meant Jace being attached to him by one of Lilith's magical runes, which in turn led to Jace being controlled by Sebastian. Clary blames herself not only for the situation in which they find themselves, but blame herself for not having waited with Jace on the roof when Sebastian first took control of Jace. However, Simon reminds Clary that none of it is her fault. Clary later feels guilt for not having let Jace turn himself into the Silent Brothers, and for all of the people who die in battle as a result.



Simon blames himself for everything that is unfolding as well. He feels guilty through most of the book because of it. Simon detests being a vampire, and wants to live a normal life. But because he is a vampire that bears the Mark of Cain, and the Wrath of God by its extent, he is an extremely powerful immortal –which attracted Lilith to him in the first place. Forced to choose between biting Sebastian and seeing Clary die, Simon opted to bite Sebastian. Simon believes that if he had not bitten Sebastian, none of this would be happening. But he is reminded by his friends that he had no real choice in the matter, and that he saved Clary's life in the process.

Jace feels guilty as well for everything that is happening. In the brief moments when his rune is damaged and he regains control of himself, he reveals to Clary why this is so. He reveals that the plan to create a dark army is his. He reveals that he has been a part of all of Sebastian's evil deeds and scheming. Clary assures him that this was done while he was not in his right mind, but Jace will hear none of it. To Jace, guilt is guilt. It is why he ends up deciding to turn himself into the Silent Brothers, though Clary prevents this from happening.

## The Past

The Past is an important theme in the novel “City of Lost Souls” 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.

The relative and immediate past is very important to the unfolding plot of the novel. Simon, bearing the Mark of Cain, is sought out by various factions as an ally, including by the demon Lilith. Lilith intends to use Sebastian to father a new race of evil beings under the argument that balance must be restored. The return of Jace to the living for the Side of Light means that the Side of Dark may return a being as well. Lilith is ultimately defeated, but her plan lives on through Sebastian.

Sebastian, using the blood of Lilith, draws disenchanted Shadowhunters to his side. These Shadowhunters dislike how things are going, believing the Shadowhunters in general to be lazy and set in their ways. As a result, these disenchanted Shadowhunters turn to the dark side. Sebastian is actually correct when he contends that those on the side of good have been losing focus, otherwise the wards keeping out demons would not be failing and letting them through.

On a personal level the past matters as well. Clary is haunted by her decision to request Jace be returned to the living, knowing this is the root cause of all ills currently unfolding. Clary is also haunted by the past in that she was unable to stop Jace from going off with Sebastian. This drives Clary through the entire novel: her desire to secure Jace's freedom and safety. Simon is also haunted by the past, knowing that it was by his bite which Sebastian was resurrected.





For Jordan and Maia, the past is also very powerful. Maia has long been enraged with Jordan for unwittingly and unknowingly turning her into a werewolf. But they have since made up, recognizing that they are both in love with each other, and wanting to move beyond the past. The past also matters tremendously for Isabelle as she begins a real relationship with Simon, and as her feelings of love for him only grow. Isabelle is worried going into a relationship with Simon because her father cheated on her mother, and because she has had many bad past relationships as well.

## Good and Evil

Good and Evil form an important theme in the novel “City of Lost Souls” by Cassandra Clare. In the novel, good and evil are at war with one another. Often, the battle between good and evil is clearly defined: something is good or evil, right or wrong, black or white. But other times, the lines between good and evil can become blurred, intentionally or unintentionally.

In the novel, the forces of darkness and evil—with Sebastian as their representative leader for Hell and Sata—seek to overcome the Daylighters, led by God and the Shadowhunters. Their war has been going on for thousands of years, with the side of Light having gained the upper hand. Now, they are slipping. The wards keeping demons out of the world are failing, and in some places like Wrangle Island, they have completely failed and come undone. Nevertheless, good refuses to back down.

Sebastian’s current evil plot is to create an army of darkness, evil Shadowhunters to combat the good Shadowhunters. Sebastian seeks to overcome the forces of good in order to ravage, rape, and desecrate the Earth. It is to stop this end that Clary, Simon, Isabelle, Jace, Maia, Jordan, Luke, Jocelyn, Magnus, Alec, Maryse, and others have united. They are determined not to let evil triumph. There is a clear distinction between good and evil here, between right and wrong, between peace and destruction.

However, in their efforts to combat evil, some of the members of the group make questionable choices. Magnus’s decision to consort with Azazel, the Lieutenant of Hell and one of the most powerful demons of all in order to find a way to separate Jace and Sebastian can be seen as morally wrong at best, and idiotic at worst. Azazel, ironically, refuses to cooperate with the forces of Light since Simon directly bears the Mark of Cain, and rests beneath the protective hand of God Himself. However, it is from this moment that Simon and the others decide to entreat with the Angel Raziel instead. It is always better to consort with Heaven and the side of good, than Hell and the side of evil.



# Styles

## Point of View

Cassandra Clare tells her novel “City of Lost Souls” 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 single overarching plot that focuses on Clary’s attempts to save and secure the freedom of Jace. 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. This includes events ranging from the summoning of Raziel to what side Sebastian is truly on.

## Language and Meaning

Cassandra Clare tells her novel “City of Lost Souls” 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 Clary’s attempts to save and restore Jace’s freedom and safety.

## Structure

Cassandra Clare divides her novel “City of Lost Souls” into three primary parts, with each part subdivided into chapters, with nineteen chapters between both parts altogether. The chapters themselves are numbered from 1 to 21, and preceded and succeeded by a prologue and an epilogue, respectively. The first part of the novel deals with events leading up to Clary’s joining of Jace and Sebastian. The second part of the novel deals with events leading up to Jace’s decision to turn himself in to the Silent Brothers. The third part deals with the summoning of Raziel and a penultimate battle between Sebastian’s forces and the Daylighters. The prologue details Simon’s wish to return home, while the epilogue covers Jace’s recovery.



## Quotes

He had never imagined a day when the door of the house would be closed to him. The last time he had seen his mother, she had called him a monster and prayed at him that he would go away.

-- Narrator (Prologue paragraph 3)

**Importance:** Simon's reluctance and unhappiness with being a vampire continues in this novel. Simon feels horrible about being a vampire because he never wanted to be a vampire. He is made to feel even worse because his condition has forced him out of his home and turned his mother against him. Only Isabelle manages to help Simon see he isn't a monster as the novel progresses.

Both of you,' said Simon, 'blame yourselves for things that aren't your fault.

-- Simon (Chapter 2 paragraph 133)

**Importance:** Simon speaks to the issue of Jace and Sebastian where Clary and her mother are concerned. Both of them blame themselves for things that aren't truly their fault, Simon contends. There was nothing that Clary could have done the night he went off with Sebastian, and there was nothing that Jocelyn could have done to prevent Sebastian from becoming his true demonic self. Simons' contentions about guilt matter greatly, as guilt itself is a powerful theme in the novel, driving on the actions and beliefs of many characters.

Was this really her? Stealing from the Clave to pay the Queen of the Fair Folk, whose promises, as Jace had told her once, were like scorpions, with a barbed sting in the tail?

-- Narrator (Chapter 3 paragraph 40)

**Importance:** Clary, who has always been on the side of good, realizes what she is now doing in stealing the faerie rings is an indefensible act in and of itself. She is not a bad person, but is doing something bad in order to help the side of good, and Jace. Clary does not like what she has to do in order to help Jace, but she does it anyways because of her love for Jace. Still, this illustrates that she has a conscience, and is at least thinking about what she is doing as she does it.

Wouldn't you do anything for the people you love?

-- Clary (Chapter 7 paragraph 65)

**Importance:** Here, Clary speaks to her reasoning for wanting to go off with Jace and Sebastian. She is determined to save Jace at any cost. Her love for Jace is clear, and she challenges Simon to think the same way. She knows that Simon, too, would do anything to save the ones he loves.

This is the price you pay for my intervention. If you do not want to pay it, you must learn to accept what you've lost.

-- Azazel (Chapter 11 paragraph 55)



**Importance:** Magnus and the others know that some important weapon or intervention from Heaven or Hell is required to sever the bond between Jace and Sebastian. Azazel's price is steep: he not only wants good memories, but freedom as well. His price for breaking the bond between Jace and Sebastian is freedom for himself in the world. But this is a price which is too steep for the others to accept readily. Azazel contends that if they can't accept his price, they will have to deal with having lost Jace forever.

Easy is the descent into Hell.

-- Narrator and Sebastian (Chapter 13 paragraph 132)

**Importance:** This is a poignant statement about good and evil, an age-old axiom quoted by Sebastian. Doing wrong, and doing evil is far easier than fighting to do the right thing. Doing the wrong thing and dealing with evil is easy since evil has no standards other than the rejection of good. But doing the right thing takes work since a moral, mental, and emotional struggle is often involved in doing what is right. The rewards of doing good are great and pure, but the cost of doing evil is eternal torment. The path to Heaven may be hard, but the rewards are great. The path to Hell is easy, but the consequences are devastating.

I think, just like you always did, she believes there are things worth dying for.

-- Luke (Chapter 14 paragraph 78)

**Importance:** Luke speaks to Jocelyn about Clary's decision to run off and join Jace and Sebastian. Jocelyn is angered that Clary has run off the way she has, but Luke reminds Jocelyn that she was no different at sixteen. He explains that Clary, like Jocelyn, believes there are things worth dying for, such as love. But such a decision is Clary's to make, not Jocelyn's.

A great war with demons is coming, and the Clave is woefully unprepared.

-- Sebastian (Chapter 15 paragraph 41)

**Importance:** Sebastian attempts to justify his actions by portraying himself as actually being on the side of good when he is not. To do this, he does use facts to bolster his position. He reveals, truthfully, that there is a war coming. He also reveals, truthfully, that the Clave is unprepared for the war. By building a lie on truths, the actual lie itself becomes easier to believe. However, Clary rightfully remains skeptical.

He wants to mix her blood and his in a cup and create an army of dark Nephilim.

-- Jace (Chapter 17 paragraph 134)

**Importance:** Here, Jace reveals the plans that he and Sebastian have been pursuing. They wish to create a version of the Shadowhunters except for the purposes of evil rather than good. Jace is familiar with these true plans because Jace himself came up with them while under the spell of Sebastian. As a result, Jace intends to turn himself in to the Silent Brothers so that this cannot happen.



They would have killed him.

-- Clary (Chapter 18 paragraph 85)

**Importance:** Knowing that the Clave would have executed Jace for his part in the scheming with Sebastian, Clary betrays Jace. She hands him over to Sebastian, and reveals that Jace wanted to turn himself in. Clary later deeply regrets having made this decision, but for the time being, she is thrilled that Jace is not dead.

To hell with you,' she snarled. 'I can't kill Jace.

-- Clary (Chapter 20 paragraph 3)

**Importance:** During a scuffle, Clary gains the upper hand over Sebastian. She is poised to drive a shard of glass into his throat, but stops. Sebastian laughingly tells her that killing him will kill Jace. Clary reluctantly must back off, because she does not want Jace to die. As a result, she must await another opportunity to save Jace.

It's me.

-- Jace (Epilogue paragraph 9)

**Importance:** Having been separated from Sebastian, Jace loses consciousness for a few days. When he reawakens, he is surrounded by family. He assures Isabelle that he is really Jace again, swearing on the Angel as proof.