

Dark Magic Study Guide

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Plot Summary

Dark Magic is the story of Savannah Dubrinski, a world famous magician, and her struggle to find her place in a world of vampires and beings called Carpathians. A powerful being, Gregori the Dark One, has claimed Savannah as his soul mate. Savannah struggles with her intense feelings for Gregori and her fear that she may lose herself completely if she allows herself to love him.

Savannah Dubrinski is the daughter of Prince Mikhail, the leader of the Carpathians. Carpathians are ancient beings that have the power and strength of vampires but don't hunt and kill humans. Vampires are Carpathian males that have lived alone without soul mates for long enough that they choose the thrill of killing people rather than death. Once a Carpathian chooses to become a vampire, he is hunted down by Carpathians charged with protecting their people and killed.

Savannah left her homeland and traveled the world as an illusionist after the most powerful Carpathian male, Gregori, claimed Savannah as his soul mate. Gregori has held off as long as he can and knows that he can no longer choose self destruction, but will become a killer if he doesn't bond with Savannah soon in the mating ritual that happens between life mates. Gregori, who is centuries old, gave Savannah, who is in her early twenties, five years when she asked him for a little more time.

Gregori finds Savannah, and she is attacked by a vampire before Gregori can get to her. Gregori kills the vampire easily and takes Savannah back to his home. Savannah is scared and tries to tell Gregori that she doesn't want him, but she is not strong enough to resist him. Savannah wants Gregori even though she is afraid of him, and soon she agrees to be his lifemate.

Savannah has been afraid that Gregori doesn't love her, but she is able to slip into his mind, as the Carpathians can do, and read his thoughts without him noticing. She finds that Gregori truly loves her and wants her to love him but is afraid that she won't. Knowing this, Savannah begins to open up to Gregori and soon finds that she does love him.

Gregori and Savannah go to New Orleans and find themselves in the middle of a plot by a very powerful vampire to kill Carpathians using human hunters. Gregori and Savannah track the vampire to his lair, where Gregori does battle with the creature, nearly killing himself. A human friend is called to them by Savannah, and he takes them to a place to heal. Savannah and Gregori try to begin their life together, wondering what will await them.



Chapter 1-3

Chapter 1-3 Summary

Dark Magic is the story of Savannah Dubrinski, a world famous magician, and her struggle to find her place in a world of vampires and beings called Carpathians. A powerful being, Gregori the Dark One, has claimed Savannah as his soul mate. Savannah struggles with her intense feelings for Gregori and her fear that she may lose herself completely if she allows herself to love him.

In San Francisco, Savannah Dubrinski is putting on a magic show. Savannah is one of the worlds most coveted illusionists, attributed to the fact that Savannah is Carpathian. Carpathians are an ancient people that live thousands of years and can shape-shift. The Carpathians do drink human blood, but they don't kill their victims and the humans don't realize that they have been used. Savannah has refused to drink human blood, relying instead on animal blood.

During Savannah's show, Gregori, one of the oldest Carpathian males, shows up to watch. Gregori had slowly started to lose the color in his vision and lose emotion and feeling as all male Carpathians do when they live too long without a lifemate. If a Carpathian male continues without a lifemate, eventually he will be forced to choose to walk into the sunlight and die or to become a vampire and become hunted by all Carpathians. Gregori has claimed Savannah as his lifemate even though she has tried to run away from him. When Savannah turned eighteen, she should have been forced to choose a mate, but in fear of having her life controlled she ran away to America. Gregori had allowed her five years of freedom. Gregori can't give her any longer or else he will lose his soul and become a vampire.

After the show, Savannah and Peter Sanders, Savannah's closest friend, are walking to their cars when suddenly Peter is struck dead by a vampire named Roberto. Roberto announces that now that he has found Savannah she will be his lifemate. Gregori quickly appears in between Savannah and Roberto. Gregori tells Roberto that despite the fact that there was no union, Savannah is his lifemate. Roberto attacks but is quickly killed by Gregori. Savannah had hoped that leaving her home and coming to America she would be free of this life, but she realizes that it is her fault that Peter is dead because no Carpathian female is allowed to go unclaimed. Gregori destroys the body of Roberto and takes Savannah away before she can be linked to the death of Peter. Savannah denies Gregori's claim on her. Gregori uses his telepathic abilities to force Savannah into the house before the sun begins to rise.

Savannah is beginning to fight against the feelings she has for Gregori. She wants him in many ways, but is scared that if she accepts him then he will control her entire life and she will be nothing more than an object and a puppet that he can control. Carpathians are able to know the thoughts of other, and so Gregori knows Savannah's thoughts and fears. He has been alone so long he can't let her go again, but as they lay



in his chamber he assures her that he will try and give her time to dismiss her fears before they join in the lifemate ritual. Gregori also tells her that they will never have an untruth between them.

As they begin to fall asleep, Gregori remembers when Savannah's mother, Raven, had been pregnant with Savannah and had been injured in an attack. Gregori had given both Raven and her unborn child his blood to save them but had manipulated the situation, knowing that he could create a bond between him and the female child. Gregori has lived so long without a mate that he was desperate and now feels guilty, but can't let Savannah go without accepting his fate of turning into a vampire.

Savannah thinks about a wolf that had been her friend as a child and she begins to miss the creature. Suddenly Gregori is in her mind, telling her that he never left her, and she realizes that the wolf was Gregori using his shape-shifting ability. Savannah feels ultimately foolish that she had let herself be so deceived. She continues to struggle against Gregori and he uses a command voice to send them both into a deep sleep for the day.

Gregori awakens from his sleep and goes out to feed. He senses the vampires searching for Savannah. Gregori returns to Savannah and forces her to feed off of him because she is so weak. Despite the fact that Savannah is frightened of being with Gregori, she is attracted to him. They make love during, which Gregori nearly kills her because he has allowed himself to get so close to turning. Savannah is able to touch his mind and pull him back from the brink of turning. Gregori realizes how badly he has hurt her both physically and emotionally and forces her to sleep so that she can begin to heal.

Chapter 1-3 Analysis

Savannah has very conflicting feelings in regards to Gregori. As the story continues, the reader will see more that those fears are very much in relation to the fact that Savannah is afraid of acting like something other than a human. Despite her fears, she will eventually realize that Gregori doesn't want her to just be a mindless slave and will begin to love him. Gregori only has to make a command and Savannah is helpless to resist this. She will be able to have her own form of control later in the story when she realizes just how much he loves her and is willing to do anything to make her happy.

Gregori has nearly killed Savannah, and she brought him back from the edge of losing his soul. Gregori has spent a large portion of this part of the story reflecting on the methods that he used in order to secure the bond between him and her. This causes him a large amount of guilt worrying that perhaps there is someone out there that is her true lifemate and that he has a false bond with Savannah even though he needs her. It will be Savannah herself that ends these worries as the story continues.

Gregori has sensed the other vampires hunting for Savannah. The reader will find that while the male Carpathians and vampires want Savannah as a lifemate, it will ultimately



be because of Gregori that they hunt her. There are vampires who want Gregori to kill other more powerful vampires. In order to accomplish this, they hunt Savannah and leave a trail to the vampire, who will be known as Morrison, that they want to have killed.

In the following chapters, the reader will see just how much Gregori truly cares for Savannah. He will agree to things just to make her happy despite the fact that he honestly believes them to be useless and often dangerous.



Chapter 4-6

Chapter 4-6 Summary

Savannah awakes to strong pain because of a Carpathian's heightened senses. Savannah knows that the ritual has been finished and that now she is Gregori's lifemate, but she still wants to be free of it. Gregori explains that now that they have had the exchange of blood in the lifemate ritual, they will need it on a regular basis to live. Savannah is frightened and begins to cry. Gregori explains that they will have to be cautious of the vampires that are obviously close by, and Savannah once again remembers that her friend Peter died because of her. Savannah is frightened at the thought of making love to Gregori again because it had hurt her so badly before and Savannah is sure that she can't handle that happening again.

Gregori is trying to convince Savannah that the pain he caused her can't happen again because she fully brought him back from losing his soul. Savannah isn't convinced, but she is still strongly attracted to Gregori, and her body responds to him despite her deep fears. Gregori makes her feel loved and is gentle with her, but they are interrupted when Gregori senses danger. Savannah hears her mother calling to her through telepathy, but Gregori immediately takes control of Savannah and refuses to let her answer. Savannah screams at Gregori that he just wants to control her life and not let her near her mother. Savannah calls Gregori a monster and tells him that she wants to be free of him. Gregori explains very briefly that the voice isn't that of Savannah's mother, but Savannah won't listen. Gregori takes Savannah and they flee Gregori's home. Gregori flies over the treetops with Savannah in his arms and she knows that he only wants a puppet that can be used.

Gregori and Savannah reach a large lair carved in a mountain. Gregori leaves Savannah alone for a moment, feeling certain that she can never love him and knowing that he is indeed the monster she has claimed him to be. Savannah very easily slips into Gregori's mind and touches his mind, although Gregori doesn't feel her presence at all. Immediately, Savannah knows that Gregori believes that Savannah isn't his true mate because of the manipulation that Gregori caused while Savannah was in the womb. Savannah then realizes how Gregori truly feels about her. Gregori doesn't want a puppet or a simple companion. Gregori loves Savannah and wants to make her happy. Gregori wants Savannah for who she is and wants no other woman in the world. Savannah removes herself from Gregori's mind, again unnoticed. Savannah knows then that she was chosen by God to be Gregori's lifemate and that it is no false manipulation that has drawn them together.

Savannah asks Gregori to explain how the vampires were able to sound like her mother and begins to talk of her future with Gregori. Gregori explains that she has never really been alone since she left her homeland. Savannah's father had Savannah followed by one of their great hunters, Julian Savage, in order to ensure that she was protected. Savannah didn't know that anyone had been following her, but she isn't surprised.



Despite the fact that Savannah has warmed up suddenly to Gregori, he knows that he could never allow her to leave him. They fall to sleep for the day.

Chapter 4-6 Analysis

Gregori bases the vast majority of his reactions in the book off of two major concerns. The first will be Savannah's safety, but the reader will also see that Gregori wants so badly to please Savannah that he will agree to do things that he honestly believes to be dangerous. Gregori is used to being feared by all. The reader has seen Savannah's memories on Gregori from when she was a child and the way that the vampire Roberto reacted to Gregori. Gregori is called the Dark One and is considered very dangerous. The reader will see as the story continues that Gregori becomes almost powerless to Savannah because of the love that he has for her.

Gregori has told Savannah about Julian Savage at this point in the story. Gregori has explained that Julian is struggling with the darkness. Once a Carpathian gets close to turning or choosing to go into the sunlight, every time they kill they get closer to turning into a vampire. The fact that he is getting close to turning will continue to be an issue to Gregori and the reader will learn more about Julian as the story continues, although Julian will not make an appearance in this story.

Savannah knows that Gregori's fears are unfounded and that she is his true lifemate despite the fact that Gregori is worried that he has forced the union. Savannah doesn't tell Gregori that she has been in his mind until much later in the story. It won't be until they have grown together much more that Savannah reveals her devotion to Gregori and explains that she has known that they are true lifemates. Savannah has been desperate to get away from Gregori. The fact that he manipulated their union could have been a reason for Savannah to deny him; instead, upon seeing his feelings for her, she realizes that none of Gregori's actions changed the fact that they were supposed to be together.

The reader has seen Gregori's thoughts in regards to Peter's funeral. Savannah wants to take care of Peter's arrangements, but Gregori has refused. This will be the first thing that Gregori gives to Savannah because she wants it despite the fact that Gregori feels it may be dangerous for Savannah and their people.



Chapter 7-9

Chapter 7-9 Summary

Savannah and Gregori are at the police station, explaining to Detective David Johnson what happened the night of Peter's death. Gregori introduces himself as Savannah's husband, and they explain that Peter went back into the building to get his keys and they went ahead and left, believing he would be safe with the guards in the parking lot. The detective is unable to refuse any question or command that Gregori gives him and explains about a reporter that has been asking a lot of questions in regard to Savannah. The detective knows that he is giving out information he isn't supposed to but can't seem to stop himself.

Gregori and Savannah walk out of the detective's office, but before they leave, Gregori stops Savannah, sensing someone outside the door. Savannah begs Gregori to not kill the reporter if they don't have to and Gregori agrees. Gregori is sure that this reporter is more than a simple curious reporter. Once outside, the reporter, Wade Carter, begins to ask a lot of questions. Wade suddenly asks them about the Carpathian mountains and if Peter Sanders had found out that her secrets that don't have anything to do with her show. Gregori tries to read Wade's mind but finds it is blocked somehow. Gregori realizes that Wade is one of the human butchers that kill vampires and Carpathians. As Gregori and Savannah leave, Wade Carter is angry. He believes Savannah might be a vampire but he knows for a fact that her new mysterious husband, Gregori, is a vampire and Wade intends to prove it and get rich and famous in the process.

In the car, Gregori explains to Savannah that human butchers don't make a difference between vampire and Carpathian and make a career out of killing both. Savannah is determined to help Gregori in his hunting of both the human butcher and the vampires. Gregori refuses to let her, telling her that there will be a high price to pay if he ever finds out she has been doing such dangerous things.

Savannah holds the funeral for Peter Sanders, and many of the stage hands and people that knew Peter show up at Gregori's estate where Peter is laid to rest. After the people are gone, Aidan Savage, Julian's twin brother, arrives to talk to Gregori about the human butchers that have appeared in San Francisco. Gregori assures Aidan that he will try and lead the butchers away from Aidan and his family in order to keep them safe. After he is gone, Savannah tries to talk Gregori into going to New Orleans for the Jazz Festival to a house she has there. Gregori knows that New Orleans is the vampire capital of the world and that it would be very dangerous to go there, but tells Savannah that they will think about it. Wade Carter has been stalking the outside of Gregori's large compound and Gregori puts safeguards in place to keep Savannah trapped inside and safe from anyone that might be outside. He then goes to take care of Wade.

Savannah is furious that Gregori has locked her inside, but she can't break through Gregori's barriers. Once outside, Gregori finds that Wade Carter is very confident in his



protective precautions and has a poison. Gregori scans Wade's mind and finds that the poison has been made from the blood of vampires they have captured and tortured. Gregori allows himself to be injected with the poison so that he can break down the compound and find an antidote for it so that it won't be a danger to Carpathians. Savannah can feel what is happening but still can't break through the protective barriers. Once Gregori has neutralized the poison, he attacks Wade and forces Wade to drive him back to where the human butchers are waiting.

Gregori arrives at the lab of the human butchers with Wade Carter still under his control. Gregori hears the other human butchers in the room talking about what they want to do to Savannah and laughing. They call the one that is in control of the human butchers Morrison. Gregori materializes and kills the men in the lab and destroys all the information that they have in the building. He then turns his attention to Wade and kills him last. When Gregori returns home Savannah is angry that he left her but happy he is alive. Gregori finds himself agreeing to Savannah's request to go to New Orleans. Gregori and Savannah transform into wolves and run in the woods for a time. Savannah is enjoying herself, but knows that her world is changing so fast and some of it is frightening to her. Gregori had thought once he had a lifemate, Savannah, that he would be less of a danger to everyone and would be calmer. Looking at Savannah, Gregori realizes that he is more dangerous because he will fight to the death to protect her from any perceived threat.

Chapter 7-9 Analysis

Again, the reader sees that Savannah is able to have extreme power over Gregori because of his strong devotion to her. It is easy to forget at this point in time that they have only been together for a few days. This seems to be a large portion of what is scaring Savannah. She had left her homeland and lived among the humans for five years. At the age of twenty-three, she finds that she is the lifemate to a Carpathian that is centuries old. As the story continues, Savannah will become more confident in her ability to be herself with Gregori. The reader will see that Gregori will do almost anything for her, but that he is always concerned first and foremost with her safety. At the beginning of the story, Gregori had said that he couldn't give her the one thing that she wanted, her freedom. In the latter part of the story, Gregori will realize he can't give her the one thing that she wants and that will be to fight by his side.

Savannah will grow accustomed to Gregori more and seemingly fall more in love with him as the story continues. Savannah will openly mock Gregori and have a quick witted answer for many of his commands and threats. Her mocking is always in a loving way, but the reader will continue to see that Gregori is shocked for a time at the fact that she is honestly unafraid of him. He continues to worry that she will find out that he had manipulated the circumstances surrounding her birth. Gregori will continue to worry that Savannah is the true lifemate of another male and that Gregori more or less stole her. Gregori will continue to worry with this until the last of the book, when Savannah is able to explain how she knows that she is his true other half.



Aidan Savage has been introduced in the book. Despite the fact that Aidan is Gregori's friend and that his brother, Julian, had been the one watching Savannah for so long, the reader won't see Aidan again in the book. There will be many times that Julian is talked about in the story and the reader will continue to see the way that Julian has been watching Savannah and trying to help Gregori. Regardless of Julian's intent, Gregori will tell Savannah that they can't trust any male without a mate.



Chapter 10-12

Chapter 10-12 Summary

Gregori and Savannah arrive at Savannah's two-story house in New Orleans. Gregori doesn't like the house. It has no place to hide deep within the earth and it is in the middle of a very busy street with lots of neighbors. Savannah had only just recently bought the house and Gregori suddenly realizes that there is a presence in the house from the person that had lived there before Savannah. The presence is that of Julian Savage, and the real estate agent explains that the person that had owned the house before had decided that they didn't need it even though the house had been in their family for two hundred years. Gregori is saddened to hear this because he fears it means that Julian is getting ready to face the daylight. Julian left a message for Gregori in the house that only Gregori could have found. Julian describes a human vampire hunting society, and says that it has headquarters in the city. The name Morrison comes up again. Julian also tells them about several places around the city that are safe houses to escape to and a secret chamber in the base of the house for them. When Gregori and Savannah find the chamber in the bottom of the house, they discover Julian has filled it with healing dirt brought over from their homeland of the Carpathian mountains.

Gregori and Savannah go for a walk to listen to the sounds on the street and try to familiarize themselves with the people that belong there. While they are out, Savannah suddenly feels danger. Gregori realizes that Savannah's mother, Raven, has passed her psychic abilities on to her daughter. Inside the building, Gregori realizes that a human woman is being tortured. Gregori makes Savannah go on down the street and he promises to go save the girl.

Gregori enters the voodoo shop where Savannah had sensed the evil coming from. Inside there is a woman in extreme pain. There are three men in the voodoo shop. One of them is trying to protect the girl and telling the other two that even if she really was a vampire, which she obviously is not, they shouldn't treat her this way. One of the other two says something about Morrison. Gregori briefly scans the minds of the men in the room. The one trying to protect the girl, Gary Jansen, is a good man and is willing to die to save the young girl on the table. The other two men have had extended contact with a vampire and are tainted by the evil. Gregori materializes between Gary and the other men. Gregori kills the two men and sends Gary out of the voodoo shop, explaining that he will ensure that Gary isn't seen outside leaving and that the girl will be alright. Gary goes to the end of the block and is met by Gregori and Savannah moments later.

Gary Jansen is a bio-chemist. Gary had been interested in vampires and went to a convention, finding many people there that were there just for fun. Before long, Gary was approached about joining a secret society. They gave him a sample of blood and wanted a tranquilizer made so that they could study vampires. Gary was so excited about the blood sample that he agreed, never thinking it might lead to people's deaths.



The tranquilizer that Gary made was taken and changed without his knowledge or consent and made into the poison that Gregori had been injected with. Gregori explains the difference between vampires and Carpathians to Gary. Gregori allows Savannah to invite Gary to a cafe with them to have a cup of coffee, with Gary knowing that his memory of these events will forever be erased from his mind.

Gary asks for the check and prepares himself for losing the one experience he most wants to keep. As Gary is waiting for the check, Savannah and Gregori feel that they are being hunted. Savannah makes herself and Gary disappear as they head back to Savannah's house and Gregori creates an illusion of Savannah and Gary walking with him in the other direction. Gregori knows the ones following him are only human puppets. When they get near, Gregori realizes the vampire in control of them is near and he sends out a call to the vampire to come and face him. Gregori's command is impossible to resist and a vampire appears like fog over the water. Gregori recognizes the vampire as one that called himself Rafael four hundred years ago. Gregori kills the vampire's two human puppets and turns back to Rafael. Gregori soon realizes that Rafael isn't Morrison. Rafael sent vampires and human butchers after Savannah in order to start Gregori on Morrison's tracks so that Gregori would kill Morrison. Rafael attacks, but Gregori is quicker, and Rafael is soon staring at his own beating heart in the hand of Gregori. Gregori burns the bodies on the river bank and heads back to Savannah.

When Gregori returns home, he knows he can no longer hide his deception from her and confesses the fact that he tampered with her while she was still in the womb to ensure she would be drawn to him. Savannah listens but laughs at Gregori and tells him that his own guilt has blinded him to the fact that only a true lifemate could have called him back from turning as Savannah did and only a true lifemate could have touched his mind so completely without him knowing. Savannah has forced Gary to sleep, and after Gregori and Savannah have made love he commands both of them off to sleep for the day.

Chapter 10-12 Analysis

Gary becomes an interesting character in the book and further defines the difference between Carpathian and vampire. Vampires look at human as food and slaves to be used however the vampire sees fit. Gregori will quickly develop a bond with Gary. Gary's life is in danger because of Morrison, but the reader will find that no matter how much danger he is in, Gary doesn't want to lose what he has acquired from these experiences. As the story continues, the reader will find that Gregori puts much faith in Gary and will allow him to keep his memories. Because Gary is a bio-chemist, he has a skill that can be useful to Gregori and the other Carpathians. Gregori will offer Gary a job in one of his laboratories, but it will remain unknown if Gary takes one of the jobs or if he does anything helpful for the Carpathians in this book.

Savannah has stopped Gregori's fears at this point in the book. Gregori will continue to shield her from the dangers that happen and it will cause them continued strife. In the



next chapters of the book, the reader will see that Gregori forces her safety and it will cause Savannah a lot of emotional pain. She will begin to feel that she can't offer Gregori anything because she is young and weak. Gregori needs Savannah and her love. They make each other complete in many ways, but the reader will see that both of them continue to lose sight of those facts from time to time.

Gary will prove to be a good friend to both Gregori and Savannah. The reader will find that Gregori and Savannah make another human friend along the way that will help them, although he will be unaware of the extent of what Savannah and Gregori are. This friend will have been put in place by Julian to assist Gregori in his hunt of the vampire Morrison.



Chapter 13-15

Chapter 13-15 Summary

Gary is up and walking around Savannah's house. Gregori comes to Gary and tells him that there are several options to Gary's problem and that Gary will be allowed to pick one but will have to be sure when he decides. Gregori explains that Gary will be hunted by vampires and humans from the society to be killed. In order to avoid them, Gary will have to cut off all ties with family, friends, work, and other places he might be expected to go. Gregori also tells Gary that Gregori owns many different companies that do different work and he will give Gary a job at any of the plants in the United States or in Europe. Gregori gives Gary the option of retaining his memories of the events from the night before, but explains that if Gary keeps his memories, he will have to let Gregori drink his blood so that Gregori will be able to monitor him at will. Gregori explains that when a Carpathian drinks the blood of someone, then they are able to know where that person is at all times and know if they are in trouble or what they are thinking. By doing this, Gregori would always be able to ensure that Gary hasn't given anyone any information that could hurt Savannah or any other Carpathians. Gregori explains that if Gary ever betrayed them then Gregori would know and he would kill Gary.

Gary thinks about it for a short period of time and asks a few questions. Gregori knows when Gary's mind is certain and feeds on Gary. Gary has no memory of it but knows that it has happened. He is weak but fine. Savannah warns Gary that now Gregori will consider him family and be very bossy. Gary, Savannah, and Gregori discuss what Gary knows of the society. He says that back in his room he has a list of people that the society had targeted as possible vampires. Gregori wants to get the list to Julian and Aidan so that they can protect those on the list from being cut up into little pieces.

Gregori, Savannah, and Gary head toward Gary's hotel. Once they get there, Gregori tells Gary that someone is in Gary's room. Gregori makes himself invisible and follows Gary to the room. Inside his room are two men that have trashed Gary's room looking for something. Gregori can feel the effects of the vampire on the two men. The two men intend to take Gary back to the bayou and kill him. The two men, Derek Evans and Dan Martin, tell Gary that they trashed his room because they thought that maybe something had happened to him and they were looking for clues since Gary hadn't been back to his room in a full twenty-four hours. They also tell him that Morrison wants to kill the vampires, not study them, but that Morrison feels Gary is an important part of the societies research and wants to see him in person. Gary, feeling empowered by Gregori's presence, quickly agrees to meet with Morrison. Gregori sends Savannah a command to go home but she refuses.

Martin and Evans take Gary in a boat to a bayou place that stinks of rotting meat. Once at the bayou, Gregori realizes the vampire is there waiting on them but flees when he realizes that Savannah is with them because Savannah is unable to hide her presence from vampires. Gregori freezes her in place and she watches helplessly while Gregori



fights with one of the men and Gary is being killed by the other. Gregori is able to save Gary, but Savannah is outraged that he forced her to stand and watch helplessly while Gregori fought and Gary was attacked.

Savannah leaves the bayou ahead of Gary and Gregori, crying. She tells Gregori that he hunts but it is obvious that she endangers him. When Gregori returns home after leaving Gary at a different hotel, Savannah is still crying. Gregori holds her as long as he can and then gives a sharp command that sends them both into sleep.

Savannah talks Gregori into taking her on a tour of the bayou. Savannah is excited at the thought of doing something that doesn't pertain to vampires or human butchers. When they get to a dock at the bayou, Gregori sends out a telepathic call for someone that was born in the bayou and can show Savannah all the sights. A boat soon answers. The captain of the boat, Beau LaRue, recognizes Savannah immediately. Beau is showing them the bayou and Savannah asks about an old tale that she had heard some people talking about in the restaurant the day before regarding an old alligator that waits to eat dogs and little children.

Beau begins to tell them the story of old man alligator that has lived forever. After beginning the story, the man tells Savannah that another man had asked about the alligator. That man had actually given Beau tickets to see Savannah's show. The man had been Julian Selvaggio. Gregori immediately knows it is Julian Savage. Beau isn't surprised at all to hear that Gregori and Julian know each other. Beau tells Gregori that he and Julian had tried to hunt the alligator but couldn't get close to it. Beau said he had seen old man alligator when he was younger and Gregori commands Beau to tell him about it.

Chapter 13-15 Analysis

The reader has been introduced to the first reference to old man alligator at this point. The fact that Beau said that the alligator was said to live forever was the first clue that it was really a vampire. This will be explained in the coming chapters. The reader has seen Savannah and Gregori shape-shift into birds and wolves. This vampire can shape-shift into a terrible looking alligator. Beau will tell Gregori about the alligator. Beau had an important part in the story since he is the one that gives the background on old man alligator. Later on in the story he will aid Gary when he rescues Savannah and Gregori.

Savannah is very angry that she isn't allowed to help in the battles that Gregori takes part in. Gregori knows that Savannah is a strong Carpathian woman, but she is very young and doesn't know how to fully protect herself. This will be one of the things that the reader doesn't see resolved in the book, but Savannah will do things with her abilities to help Gregori fight the vampire.

The vampire is obviously very old. He is referred to as Morrison and old man alligator, but the reader won't be told if that is his real name or not. Gregori had recognized the vampire, Rafael, and asked if he was calling himself Morrison now. While it isn't



explained to the reader that Morrison has changed his name, it seems very possible that this isn't his true name.

In the next chapter, Beau will relate the story of old man alligator to Gregori and Savannah even though it causes him great pain. Beau saw the alligator, and while he wasn't made into a human puppet, the reader will see that just being in close proximity to the beast left a mark on Beau. Beau's father was with him and saw old man alligator as well. Beau will explain that his father turned to drinking to try and forget what he had seen.



Chapter 16-18

Chapter 16-18 Summary

n Beau begins the story of his encounter with old man alligator. Beau and his father had been trapping when they saw a boat of young teenage kids going down the river. Beau and his father knew that the kids shouldn't go down that way, but the kids were drinking and somehow made it through the treacherous waters to old man alligator's territory. Beau explains that old man alligator doesn't kill for territory or for food or even because it is threatened. Old man alligator kills because it wants to kill and because it enjoys to take life. When the boat of teenagers didn't come back, Beau and his father went to check on the kids. When Beau and his father got close enough they could smell the stench of rotten meat. When they got close enough they could hear the kids screaming. Beau says that his father stayed drunk for a month after that, trying to forget the screams. Beau says he wasn't sure if getting drunk got rid of the screams for his father or not, but that it hasn't worked for him.

Beau and his father got close to the boat and saw that it was splintered into pieces. The old man alligator was playing with the kids. They couldn't get close to the kids and soon the screaming stopped. Old man alligator would toss them up in the air and tear pieces of them away while they were still alive. Beau had seen the head of a girl floating nearby. When all the kids were dead, old man alligator sensed Beau and his father and lunged towards them. Beau had thrown a lantern and they barely got away.

After Beau was finished telling the story, Gregori removed the taint on Beau that had been left by the vampire. The nightmares and fear that Beau had because of being that close to such evil would be diminished greatly. When Gregori and Savannah leave, Beau tells them that it is likely to be dangerous in the dark this close to the bayou, and Gregori says he can protect them. Beau laughs and tells him he was more worried about the poor soul that would attack Gregori and to go easy on the muggers because they might be friends of Beau LaRue's.

On the way back, several men attack Gregori. He asks if any are friends with Beau and one says he is. Gregori feeds on the men but leaves them with the memory that they lost a fight to a single man and the one that was Beau's friend was let off easier than the others with the knowledge that it was because of Beau.

Gregori and Savannah stop at Gary's hotel room and Savannah demands a night out with no fights and no funny business. She wants to go on a tour that claims you are hunting vampires. Gregori thinks it is a bad idea but agrees, and Gary is invited to come along.

The next night Gary, Savannah, and Gregori arrive at Lafitte's Blacksmith Shop for a vampire hunt. Savannah is attracting a lot of attention, despite Gregori's presence. While waiting on the hunt to start, two men show up that are society members.



Savannah intentionally puts herself in between the two men and begins to converse with them. One of them begins to tell Savannah all about being in a secret society and hunting real vampires. Gregori is furious because now the vampire will have a mental path to trace back to Savannah if Gregori doesn't kill the man. Gregori implants a self destructive suggestion into the mans head, and the two society members begin to argue and pull guns out killing each other. Realizing that there are other powerful beings around, the vampire appears overhead, looking for the ones responsible. Savannah realizes the vampire is willing to kill everyone in the group in order to get to her and Gregori. Savannah shields the minds of those in the tour group so that they don't see what is really happening. Gregori and the vampire take off to do battle. The cops show up to question the people about to the two men who shot each other and all the witnesses give the same account of what Savannah had given them.

Gregori and the vampire are back at the bayou and begin fighting. The vampire is strong and has been alive for thousands of years, but he is no match for Gregori. Gregori is able to destroy the vampire, but is badly hurt and has lost a lot of blood. Savannah gives Gregori much of her own blood and then reaches out to Gary's mind and tells him where they are and to come get them even if they seem that they are dead. Savannah covers their heads with her jacket and hopes that Gary will get there before the full noon sun kills them.

Gary has found Beau LaRue, per Savannah's instructions, and is heading to the spot that Gregori and Savannah lay. They look dead and aren't breathing, but Gary bundles them up careful to make sure that the sun doesn't touch their skin. Beau looks around and realizes that Gregori did indeed kill old man alligator and that the evil that had been in this part of the swamp is gone. Beau knows of a safe house used by Julian and he takes them there. Once at the house, Gary takes the bodies inside and stands watch over them until the sun goes down. When Gregori's body begins to breath, Gary is relieved. Gregori assesses the damage to his body, realizing he is weak and hungry, and then searches for Savannah's mind in his own. She gave him so much of her own blood that she is near death. Gary tells Gregori that he expected them to be hungry and offers himself to Gregori. Gregori thanks him but says that he is too far gone to not be a danger to Gary. Gregori leaves to hunt, leaving Gary to watch over Savannah.

When Gregori returns he is able to feed Savannah. Savannah regains consciousness and is soon alright. They smile at each other, wondering what the future will hold for them.

Chapter 16-18 Analysis

Savannah had started out the story worried that she would be connected to Gregori and all she could concentrate on was the fact that she didn't want him. The reader sees how much that changes and it becomes clear that she always cared for him but that she was worried about the effects it would have on her as an individual. After Savannah realized the full extent of how much Gregori loved her, the majority of fears and worries left Savannah. The reader saw that Savannah felt that Carpathian women were captives of



their husbands and unable to have a free will of their own. It isn't explained in this book if that is the case for most or all Carpathian women or if that is simply Savannah's view of the custom.

The reader doesn't know what happens to Gary Jansen in regard to his job. Since the vampire Morrison is gone, much of the society should begin to fold without his mind control, although this isn't explained to the reader. It also isn't explained if anything changed in the life of Beau LaRue since he no longer would have the fears associated with his encounter with old man alligator.

Julian Savage had a large impact on the main characters in the book. It appears that since Julian is getting close to choosing to turn or to die he may have been unable to fight, or perhaps he simply couldn't find the vampire. The reader has seen, though, that Julian left a large pile of clues and helpful tools to those that he knew would be coming after him. He left a map of known spots of the vampires and the human butchers. Julian also left several safe houses and ensured that Beau LaRue would find them and would be able to take them to Julian's safe house in the bayou. It isn't explained if Julian had been hunting the vampire and left the stuff for Gregori to finish or if Julian had been working to make New Orleans safe since he knew Savannah wanted to go there. Since Julian is so old, thousands of years, it is possible that Julian had been following the vampire through his different cities, but this is not explained to the reader in this book.



Characters

Savannah Dubrinski

Savannah Dubrinski is one of the main characters in the book. Savannah is a female Carpathian. The Carpathian females are rare, and in order for a male to resist the darkness of turning into a vampire, he has to have a lifemate. For this reason Savannah is highly sought after. Savannah feels that she will lose her independence if she allows herself to become the lifemate of a Carpathian. Savannah is frightened of Gregori, but not because he is dangerous. Savannah knows that he has the ability to make a puppet out of her and control her will. Savannah wants someone that can love her for who she is. The reader will find that Savannah is in love with Gregori, but it isn't until after she realizes that he loves her for who she is that she allows herself the freedom of being his true lifemate.

Savannah is headstrong. This will largely be blamed on her mother, who was a human, and raised Savannah with the thought that she could make her own choices. Savannah will eventually come to the realization that she can have freedom but that it will stop being her freedom and start being her life with Gregori. Their love will be so complete that after a time she won't care that it is a shared life. She is a strong female and will give Gregori more to think about than perhaps he knew.

Gregori, The Dark One

Gregori is a Carpathian hunter, and is arguably the most powerful Carpathian there is. Gregori is centuries old and so had a preset notion as to how a woman should act. He tries to put his foot down to Savannah and force things upon her. When Gregori was young it was the case that women did as they were told, but Savannah has been raised to be her own woman, and this will give Gregori a shock in many respects.

Gregori is powerful and feels the deep need to protect Savannah. Despite his need to protect her, he will continue to do things that he knows puts them both in potential danger because it is what Savannah wants. Gregori has been known as a monster for centuries because he has been the one charged with keeping their people safe. It is Gregori that must hunt down family members of Carpathians because they have chosen to become vampires. Because of the years of being referred to as a monster, Gregori believes it. Gregori kills with no regret and no remorse. When he first approaches Savannah, she will call him a monster as well, but after a time she realizes just how much Gregori sacrifices in order to keep their people safe. It will take Gregori some time to get used to the idea that someone as wonderful as Savannah could look at him and see something other than a monster.

Gregori will also have to change his ideas on humans when he meets Gary. Gregori believes that all humans and society members are people that want vampires dead.



Gregori will be so surprised by Gary that they soon form a bond. Gary will know that Gregori is dangerous but will feel utterly safe with him.

Gary Jansen

A human that Gregori finds trying to protect a human girl from being cut into pieces because she is into Gothic behavior. Gregori will be so impressed with Gary's integrity that he will eventually befriend Gary and protect him. Gary is the one that developed the poison that is shot into Gregori.

Morrison

Morrison is the name that the vampire who lives in the swamp goes by to the human hunters he has hired to kill out the other vampires and Carpathians. He can transform into an alligator and is known in the swamp for his mass murders while in the form of the alligator.

Peter Sanders

Peter Sanders is Savannah's friend and in charge of all the finances of her magical show. Peter is killed by a vampire who intends to take Savannah for his own. Peter is in love with Savannah even though she doesn't feel the same way. She will have great guilt over his death because he was trying to protect her.

Mikhail Dubrinski

Mikhail is the prince of the Carpathians and Savannah's father. Mikhail is close friends with Gregori.

Raven Dubrinski

Raven is a human with strong psychic abilities and is Savannah's mother. While Savannah was in the womb, she was injured and Raven and Savannah would have died if Gregori had not healed them.

Roberto

Roberto is the vampire that kills Peter Sanders while trying to get to Savannah. Roberto calls Gregori the bogey man of the Carpathians just before Gregori kills him. Roberto traveled with a pack of renegade vampires.



Aidan Savage

Aidan Savage is a healer and hunter and a friend to Gregori's. He comes to offer support when Savannah and Gregori bury Peter Sanders.

Julian Savage

Julian Savage is the twin brother to Aidan. Julian was told to keep an eye on Savannah while she was in the United States, although she never saw Julian or knew she was being followed. Julian leaves information for Gregori and Savannah when they get to New Orleans in order to help them defeat the vampire known as Morrison.

Wade Carter

Wade Carter is the reporter that is stalking Savannah Dubrinski. Gregori will force Wade to take him to the building where the humans take vampires and Carpathians to cut them into pieces. Wade injects Gregori with a powerful poison.

Beau LaRue

Beau LaRue is the tour guide that shows Savannah and Gregori around the bayou. Beau had met Julian Savage, and when Savannah and Gregori are injured it is Beau that takes them to one of Julian's hideouts where they will be safe from the sun. It is Beau that tells them the tales of "the old man alligator", the vampire, that murders people in the swamp.

Rafael

Rafael is the vampire that had encouraged Roberto to attack Savannah. Rafael had known that this would force Gregori to come and hunt Morrison.



Objects/Places

Carpathian

The Carpathians are very powerful beings that can shape-shift, have strong psychic abilities, and live thousands of years. They feed on human blood but don't kill their victims. The Carpathians are close to extinction due to the fact that many of their children die within the first year of life and most are male, leaving few females.

Vampires

Vampires are male Carpathians that have lived too long without a lifemate, causing them to lose color in their vision and all emotion. If a Carpathian lives too long this way, eventually he will be forced to choose suicide or to damn his own soul and turn to killing humans for the emotional high it gives. Once a Carpathian chooses to "turn," he is hunted by other Carpathians and killed.

Lifemate

A lifemate is the term for the bond between two Carpathians. The bond is strong and everything is shared, including thoughts. A lifemate is what saves Carpathians from "turning," choosing to become vampires, and is the reason that there are no Carpathian females that are left unclaimed past the age of about eighteen.

San Francisco

San Francisco is the city that Savannah is performing in when Gregori comes to claim her. It is here that Peter is killed and that Gregori realizes someone is hunting Savannah.

New Orleans

Savannah convinces Gregori to take her to New Orleans for a jazz festival, despite the fact that they are being hunted by humans. It is here that Gregori finds a powerful vampire called Morrison who has been killing people for years in the swamp.

Wolf

Savannah had a wolf that would come and comfort her when she was a child. It isn't until Savannah is talking to Gregori that she realizes that Gregori had been shape-shifting into the wolf in order to be her friend.



Shape-Shifting

The Carpathians are capable of shape-shifting into different animals. Savannah and Gregori shape-shift into wolves and birds. The vampire Morrison shape-shifts into an alligator.

Old Man Alligator

The name the locals in New Orleans have given to the alligator that murders people in the swamp. Old man alligator is actually the vampire known as Morrison in shape-shifting form.

Human Butchers

Human butchers are humans that hunt those that might be vampires. They make no distinction between vampire and Carpathian and enjoy cutting up, killing, and raping their victims. Human butchers are often used unwittingly by other vampires who seek to control and destroy their competition of others of their kind.

The Poison

Gary Jansen unwittingly creates a drug with the idea that it is supposed to be a tranquilizer for the vampires while they are studied. The society that Gary has gotten involved with changes the drug until it is a powerful poison that allows them to dissect vampires. Gregori, being very powerful in the healing arts, allows himself to be injected with the drug so that he can find the antidote.



Themes

Self Acceptance

The two main characters, Savannah and Gregori, are constantly fighting with themselves. It isn't until they are able to accept who they are that they begin to fully understand the bond that they have. Gregori wrestles with the thought that Savannah isn't really destined to be his lifemate but that he influenced the situation surrounding her birth to the point that she feels drawn to him regardless. The reader will find that Gregori repeatedly refers to himself as a monster and knows that she can't fully love him. He will try to block her from his mind when he goes to kill people because he is worried that this will push her further away from him. Gregori knows that Savannah is scared and unsure of being bonded to someone like Gregori but he also knows that he can't survive any longer without a lifemate and is desperate. It won't be until he accepts her love for him as something that is destined and not manipulated that Gregori is able to relax around Savannah and know that she won't leave him.

Savannah is very young and she views the bonding process that happens between two Carpathians as a prison rather than a union. The reader will find that Savannah is scared of Gregori but not that he will hurt her but that he will be so strong that she won't be able to retain her freedom and her own desires and thoughts. Carpathian males are known for their ability to use their mind control. The reader will find that Savannah is very concerned that she will be forced to do things by Gregori and that she will be a possession. She believes that Gregori wants a lifemate but doesn't want Savannah to love as a person but an object. It isn't until Savannah is able to fully delve into Gregori's thoughts and know the extent of how badly he wants her to love him that she realizes she has just as much power as he does not because of her strength, but because of how much he loves her and wants her love in return.

The reader will find that Savannah is frightened of the life that Gregori is pulling her into because she has spent so long among humans living as a normal person. It won't be until Savannah is able to accept Gregori's love for her that she begins to accept the lifestyle that is being forced upon her. Even though she is Carpathian herself, she will continue to fight against her urges to feed and the normal accepted ways that her people have.

Good Versus Evil

There is good versus evil as a theme in more than one way in Dark Magic. The reader will see that the Carpathians fight against the vampires and that this is a very large part of the story. Gregori, Julian Savage, and Aidan Savage are three hunters for the Carpathians that the reader learns about. The main hunter in this story is Gregori and his struggle to stop the vampire and the human butchers that the vampire controls from killing Savannah. The vampire in the story is depicted as very evil, and the reader will



receive information in regard to his mass murders of teenage children that were lured into the vampires area of the swamp. All of the human butchers that the vampire uses have his tainted mark on their minds, and Gregori can sense this. Gregori is not a typical symbol of good. The characteristic of Gregori that makes it clear that he is the good guy are the inner thoughts that he has that Savannah is able to find and realize the murders and executions that Gregori carries out aren't for revenge or desire, but because he wants to save lives. When Gregori has a chance to take advantage of following the human butchers back to the vampires lair or saving Gary and the goth girl, Gregori chooses to save them.

The other fight that the reader will see between the good and evil in the book is an inward battle that happens to the Carpathian males. The fight happens because they know that they must choose either suicide or turning into a vampire if they can't find a lifemate. This fight is shown in Gregori in the early part of the book. After Gregori has bonded with Savannah, the reader will find that the struggle of turning continues to be shown in other Carpathians such as Julian Savage even though the reader never actually meets Julian.

Family Loyalty

Family is used in the book to explain why Gregori must act the part of a monster and kill many times. Although the term "family" is used loosely, the reader will see that anyone that is considered to be one of Gregori's family members will be protected. In the book the reader will see that Gregori is seemingly ashamed that Savannah will see him as he kills Wade Carter and the other human butchers. Even Gregori realizes that it is noteworthy that he doesn't feel shame over killing them or revenge or hate. Gregori is driven by the fact that if he doesn't take care of these men then all Carpathians will be in danger.

As the story introduces Gary Jansen, the reader will find that Gregori isn't limited in his feeling of protection to Savannah and other Carpathian's welfare. Gregori has a preset notion as to what humans are like and he has no desire to have anything to do with Gary, but the reader will see Gregori beginning to care for Gary. Even though Gregori is very rough in his mannerisms toward Gary, the loyalty will be repaid when Gary comes to Gregori and Savannah's rescue in the swamp and stands guard over them while they sleep.



Style

Point of View

The point of view in the story is written in third person omniscient from that of the two main characters, Gregori and Savannah. The point of view becomes very helpful to the reader because the Carpathians in the book have strong psychic abilities that allow them to read minds and know what people are feeling. Even in relation to other Carpathians and vampires, the reader will find feelings and emotions explained along with memories and past experiences. A major plot in the story is the connection between Gregori and Savannah and the way that they learn to care for each other. Since Gregori is convinced that Savannah can't love him if she knew how he had manipulated their bond, it becomes critical for the reader to know his fears and see Savannah's reactions to those fears firsthand.

Since this book is the fourth in a series, the reader will find a lot of memories being recalled by the main characters to help explain how things work and the events that have led to this point in the story. The story can seem slow at times with a lack of dialogue, but it is necessary to understand the background of the characters and the Carpathian culture. There will be more of the Carpathians explained when the author introduces a human, Gary Jansen, into the story and the two main characters have a chance to explain things to him.

Setting

The story takes place in the United States in a modern setting. It begins with Savannah being in San Francisco, but they will soon travel to New Orleans and the majority of the story will take place in New Orleans in the bayou. The physical setting of the story is very basic and realistic with the addition of vampires, Carpathians, and human butchers being the only fantasy elements. Even the creatures that the vampires and Carpathians turn into are real creatures and don't cause any excitement when seen. Gregori and Savannah turn into wolves and birds and the reader will see the vampire known as Morrison turn into an alligator in the bayou.

The reader will get an explanation as to the homeland of the Carpathians and what it is like, and will be able to follow Gregori while he remembers things that have happened hundreds of years ago in his own past. While all of this takes place in a realistic setting, the author has taken the time to give an extensive background to the Carpathians and the vampires in order to make them better understood and believable.

The reader will see that New Orleans is chosen for the city where vampires are most prevalent. It is reinforced by the voodoo and haunted history already attributed with the city. The connection that is used between New Orleans and the vampires is very effective.



Language and Meaning

The story takes place in modern times, but the reader can forget this at times when listening to Gregori speak. Gregori is one of the oldest Carpathians, and as such it becomes clear that his language is different from others. He speaks much more formally, and it becomes obvious when Savannah begins to loosen up. She is much more informal and relaxed, and the reader will see more of this when Gary Jansen is introduced into the story. While the language is overall very informal, the reader will find many of the words and explanations in the book are unique to this story and have definitions to go along with them. The term "face the dawn", "lifemate", and "turning" are all common words that have very specific meaning to the book. These are easily understood and explained by the characters in the book.

The reader will also find a few other words, such as Carpathian, are explained early on in the story since the reader doesn't have a way to understand the difference between a Carpathian and a Vampire. Since the vampires and Carpathians are capable of telepathy, the reader will find a lack of dialogue and often the characters will simply feel the others emotions. This is done in a way that explains the characters' motives and fears and makes the book easily read.

Structure

Dark Magic is the fourth book in the Dark Series, which contains more than fifteen books. Because the books don't all have the same characters as the main characters, the reader will find a lot of description in regard to the current cast in the book. Dark Magic consists of eighteen chapters, each of them being roughly twenty pages long, with the author stopping at the end of events or the introduction of new events to start a new chapter. The book is 358 pages long with a prologue at the end of the book. The prologue doesn't explain any more of the story concerning the two main characters in Dark Magic but gives a brief excerpt of one of the next books in the Dark Series.

The author has given several subplots along with the major plots in the book. The two main characters have to learn to live with each other and learn to live with their own fears. Both Gregori and Savannah have a lot to try and understand and deal with while they find themselves hunted by vampires and human butchers. The reader will also find that, to an extent, Gregori becomes worried concerning his friend Julian Savage and the fact that Julian has no lifemate and is getting close to either choosing death or turning into a vampire. While most of the plots in the book are resolved within Dark Magic, the question of Julian's fate will be left to another book. The reader will find the book overall easily to read and the author makes it easy to read each book without the knowledge of what has happened in the other books.



Quotes

"It didn't matter to him that he had marked her unfairly, that she did not rightfully belong to him, that he had manipulated the outcome of their union even before her with, that he had broken the laws of their people in order to have her." Chap. 1, p. 11

"His first hundred years had been a wild orgy of feeling, senses, power, desires-even goodness. But slowly, relentlessly, the darkness that imperiled the soul of a Carpathian male without a lifemate had claimed him." Chap. 1, p. 12

"Did you ever wonder what it is like for the women of our race, Gregori? To know that by our eighteenth year we must go from our father's keeping to some stranger's?" Chap. 2, p. 36

"It wasn't any woman he wanted, as she had believed. And he certainly didn't want a puppet, as she had accused him. He wanted Savannah, with her sense of humor, her pride and compassion, and even her nasty temper." Chap. 6, p. 112

"He didn't know it yet, didn't really believe it. After all, he had thought it wasn't true chemistry, that he had managed to manipulate their joining. She knew better." Chap. 6, p. 117

"Gregori inhaled sharply. They had a drug they were certain could be used to incapacitate their victim, so that they could imprison what they believed to be vampire and study and dissect it at their leisure." Chap. 8, p. 163

"Now he had everything to lose. And so he was more dangerous. For no one, nothing, would ever threaten Savannah and live." Chap. 9, p. 188

"Somewhere in this city was a powerful vampire with a legion of human puppets to do his bidding." Chap. 11, p. 221

"You are mine for all eternity, Savannah, until we grown weary of this existence and choose to go together to the next." Chap. 12, p. 249

"All vampires were Carpathians at one time. The vampire is a male of our race who has chosen the madness of false power over the rules of our people. When a Carpathian exists too long without a lifemate, he loses all emotion. Colors vanish from his vision. His inner darkness prevails, and he preys on humans and Carpathians alike, not only for blood but for the thrill of the kill." Chap.13, p. 260

"I developed a tranquilizer to aid our society members so that we could subdue a vampire, capture him, and study him, not cut one up into pieces. When I was approached about this, I was told that was the society's ultimate objective. Buy my formula was tainted with poison." Chap. 14, p. 276



"We had entered the monster's playground, and he was in the mood to play. He didn't try to drown any of them right away, or kill them outright. He tossed them into the air and ripped parts of them away. Pieces of bodies were floating in the water. A girl's head bobbed up and down near the bank." Chap. 16, p. 314

"'It won't make a difference, lifemate.' Her words brushed softly in his mind. 'He means to attack and destroy all of those here in an effort to get at us.'" Chap. 17, p. 337

"If anything happened to Savannah, Gary realized that no one, nothing in the world, would ever be safe again from the Carpathian." Chap. 18, p. 355



Topics for Discussion

Discuss love. Discuss the relationship between Gregori and Savannah. What about it convinced Savannah that they were truly made for each other? Was there anything in their relationship to make Gregori think that Savannah wasn't his other than the fact that he had "manipulated" their connection when Savannah was in the womb? Explain.

Old man alligator is a legend that the people of the bayou tell. Explain how the tale of the legend aided Gregori and Savannah. Explain the importance of legends.

Gregori is referred to as "The Dark One". Explain the ways in which this name is appropriate. Explain the ways in which it is not appropriate. Considering the changes in emotion now that Gregori has Savannah, given what the reader knows, will Gregori be more suited to the name "The Dark One" or less suited? Explain.

Gary Jansen doesn't want to lose the memory of what has happened despite the fact that it puts his life in danger. If Gregori hadn't been willing to protect him, would Gary still want to keep his memory? Why is keeping the memory so important to Gary?

Savannah doesn't kill and has spent her life not feeding on humans even though it doesn't hurt them. Explain the reasons that Savannah seems so willing to accept the fact that Gregori must kill people.

Discuss a person's "nature". Gregori is naturally protective and possessive of Savannah. When she touches a man's hand or someone looks at her, Gregori becomes dangerous. Over time, is it possible that Gregori's nature could change? Explain.

Gregori loves Savannah and so does anything he can to make her happy. Given what the reader knows about Gregori and Savannah, is it possible that he will train her to help in his hunt of the vampires? Why or why not?