

Frostbite Study Guide

Frostbite by Richelle Mead

(c)2015 BookRags, Inc. All rights reserved.



Contents

Frostbite Study Guide.....	1
Contents.....	2
Plot Summary.....	3
Prologue and Chapters 1-2.....	5
Chapters 3-6.....	8
Chapters 7-10.....	10
Chapters 11-14.....	12
Chapters 15-18.....	14
Chapters 19-23.....	16
Characters.....	18
Objects/Places.....	21
Themes.....	23
Style.....	25
Quotes.....	27
Topics for Discussion.....	28



Plot Summary

Frostbite is the second novel in the Vampire Academy Series by Richelle Mead. In this novel, Rose Hathaway is still trying to catch up on her studies after going into hiding for two years with her best friend Lissa. On a trip to take an examination important to her studies, Rose and her advisor, Dimitri, discover the murders of a royal Moroi family and their guardians. These deaths spark fear throughout the Moroi community, causing St. Vladimir to decide to take all its students to a ski resort over the winter break rather than allow them to travel to their homes. Frostbite is a novel of friendship, love, and relationships that will entertain as it take readers on a new adventure in the world of vampires.

Rose has nearly caught up on her studies after taking two years off to protect Lissa from Victor Dashkov. He is a Moroi royal who wanted to kidnap Lissa so that she could use her powers to heal him. Rose has to take her Qualifiers, a test that all guardians in training must pass in their junior year. Special arrangements have been made for Rose since she was not at school her junior year. Rose and her advisor, Dimitri, make the drive alone together. This makes Rose happy because she has been in love with Dimitri since before Dashkov placed a lust spell on the two of them months ago. Unfortunately, Dimitri is older than Rose and he is to be Lissa's guardian with her, therefore they cannot pursue their feelings for one another.

When Rose and Dimitri arrive at the home of the guardian who is to administer the Qualifier to Rose, they discover that the guardian and the family of royal Moroi he was protecting have all been killed by their enemy, the Strigoi. More disturbing still is the fact that someone has placed a silver stake in the yard, something the Strigoi cannot touch because of its magic, suggesting humans are working with a large and rare group of Strigoi.

Back at school, Rose learns that the deaths of this royal Moroi family has left the Moroi community in fear. For this reason, the school has decided that rather than allow the students to travel to their various homes for the winter break, they will transport everyone to a ski resort. Rose is excited at first until her mother shows up at the school. Rose's mother is a star guardian who all but abandoned Rose five years previously. They have an adversarial relationship that only grows more difficult when a discussion about Rose's father causes her mother to lose control and give her a black eye during a training session.

Rose learns on Christmas Day that Dimitri has been given the offer of becoming guardian to a member of the Ozera royal family. Not only this, but the woman Dimitri is to guard, Tasha, hopes that he might want to father children with her someday. Rose is filled with jealousy, causing her to act rashly around Dimitri.

At the ski resort, Rose spends time with Mason, a fellow student who has had a crush on her for a long time. Rose hopes that Mason can help her forget Dimitri, but he only makes her miss Dimitri more. At the same time, Rose meets Adrian Ivashkov, a member



of a notorious Moroi royal family. Adrian shows a great deal of interest in Rose, but also in Lissa.

Rose learns from Dimitri that the guardians have tracked a group of Strigoi who are believed to be responsible for two attacks on Moroi royal families. Rose tells this information to Mason despite knowing that he is anxious to take action against the Strigoi. When Rose learns that Mason has disappeared with two others from the school, she takes Lissa's boyfriend, Christian, and goes after them. After locating her friends, Rose tries to rush them back to the ski resort before dark, but does not anticipate the humans working with the Strigoi.

Rose and her friends are captured and held for several days by two Strigoi vampires. Finally, Rose and her friends manage to escape the human captors, but run into the Strigoi vampires on the way out of the house. Rose sends her friends away and tries to fight them alone. Mason returns and is killed. Rose continues to fight and manages to kill the two Strigoi, making her something of a hero among her peers.



Prologue and Chapters 1-2

Prologue and Chapters 1-2 Summary

This is the second in a series of books referred to as the Vampire Academy Series. This book is told in the first person point of view by main character, Rose Hathaway.

In the Prologue, Rose tells the reader about the two different kinds of vampires. The Strigoi are more traditional vampires, the type who are living dead and need human blood to survive. The Moroi are still living, but they also require human blood. Both vampires have increased strength and senses. The Moroi have magical abilities that they once used as weapons, but not anymore. Dhampirs are half Moroi and half human. Dhampirs have some increased strength and senses, but cannot use magic and do not need blood to survive. Dhampirs cannot procreate with one another, but many dhampir women make the choice to have affairs with Moroi men and raise the resulting children. Dhampirs who do not choose to raise children are often trained as guardians, trained guards for the Moroi.

Rose is currently at St. Vladimir's Academy to train to be a guardian. Rose's best friend, Lissa, is a Moroi royal who once brought Rose back to life after a car accident, creating a bond between them that allows Rose to know where Lissa is at any time, to sense her emotions, and occasionally, when Lissa is feeling very strong emotion, to be transported mentally into Lissa. Rose has already been selected to be Lissa's guardian when they leave school along with Dimitri, her instructor. Rose recently returned to St. Vlad's after running away for two years to protect Lissa from a Moroi royal who wanted to use her special gift of spirit to heal him.

In Chapter 1, Lissa tells Rose that she is worried that the medication she is taking to keep her depression under control is no longer working efficiently because she can feel her magic becoming stronger. This worries Rose. At the same time, Rose rushes off to take her Qualifier. Special arrangements have been made for Rose to be tested by Arthur Schoenberg, a well-known guardian. Dimitri drives Rose, which makes her happy because she is deeply in love with Dimitri. A few months ago they had been placed under a lust spell and nearly made love, but Dimitri managed to break it just in time. Ever since, Rose has not been able to stop thinking about Dimitri even though she knows that their age differences and the fact that they are to be Lissa's guardians make a relationship between them impossible.

When they arrive at the house where Schoenberg lives with the royal Moroi family, the Badicas, he guards, Dimitri immediately realizes something is wrong. Dimitri sends Rose back to the car, but she quickly returns to the house, walking around to the back where she finds a silver stake, a special weapon the Moroi make with magic to kill Strigoi, in the ground. When Rose reaches the back door, she discovers it has been broken. Inside, Rose discovers multiple dead bodies. When Dimitri sees the silver stake in her hand, he asks Rose where it came from. When she explains, Dimitri says that it



was used to break the ward, the magic spell, that was protecting the house. Since Strigoi cannot touch the silver stakes because of their magic, this suggests that the Strigoi had humans working with them.

In Chapter 2, a group of Moroi arrive to investigate the murders. The investigation suggests more than six Strigoi were in on the attack, a fact that is surprising because Strigoi rarely ever work in packs because of their volatile behavior. There is also a message on a bathroom mirror that suggests the Strigoi are targeting royal families for an unknown reason.

Back at the academy, Rose searches for Lissa and finds her with her boyfriend, Christian, in the library. Christian and Rose barely tolerate one another, therefore Rose is not happy to see him. Christian is also from a royal family, but his parents tarnished the family's reputation when they willingly turned into Strigoi. They were killed when they attempted to kidnap Christian in order to change him too.

Prologue and Chapters 1-2 Analysis

In the prologue, the narrator explains the different groups of vampire that exist in her world and the conflict that created the plot in the previous novel. It is important that the reader understand the differences between the three groups of vampires in this book because each group is either in conflict with another or works to protect another. Rose is a member of this later group, the dhampirs who work as guardians to the Moroi.

Important to the plot of this novel is the fact that Rose is Lissa's best friend and will one day be her guardian. This places Rose not only in the role of friend, but also in a role of parent in some ways, forcing her to be more mature than her years suggest. Also important is the love affair that is bubbling just under the surface between Rose and her instructor. Dimitri is seven years older than Rose and will be her co-guardian for Lissa when Rose graduates from the academy. A few months previously Dimitri and Rose were placed under a lust spell that caused them to have some heated moments, but Dimitri broke the spell. However, Rose is deeply in love with Dimitri and cannot forget those moments between them even though she knows it was a spell. At the same time, Rose hopes that Dimitri still feels something for her, but his role as instructor does not allow him to indulge that type of behavior. Not only this, but Dimitri has already told Rose that they cannot become lovers because that might place them in danger as guardians.

In the opening chapters of the book, the reader learns that a large group of Strigoi have attacked a royal Moroi family. This is shocking to the characters of the novel because Strigoi rarely ever work together and because it appears the Strigoi have also employed the help of humans, which is also a rare occurrence. For these reasons, the characters of the book are shocked and fear begins to radiate throughout the Moroi community, especially among the royals.



Finally, it is important that the reader note Christian's history. Christian's parents willing chose to become Strigoi, something that is rare and frowned upon in Moroi society. Christian suffers from this because of the impact on his family's reputation and the fear that he might one day choose to do the same.



Chapters 3-6

Chapters 3-6 Summary

In Chapter 3, Mason Ashford approaches Rose and tells her that the academy has decided to take the entire school and their families skiing for the winter break rather than allow the students to go to their individual homes. Mason is excited and challenges Rose to a competition on the slopes. In the gym for her early morning workout session with Dimitri, Rose discovers that he has set up some dummies to help her train with silver stakes. Rose is excited until Dimitri makes her answer a bunch of questions about the stakes and then asks where the heart is. The only way to kill a Strigoi with a stake is to put it in its heart. However, Rose does not know and becomes upset when Dimitri will not even let her hold a stake until she does know. Rose then goes to her next class and discovers that there are three guardians there, one of which is her mother, Janine Hathaway.

In Chapter 4, the three guardians in Rose's theory class are there to tell stories about protecting their charges. Rose is interested in the first two stories, but when her mother begins to tell her own story, Rose feels as though her mother is bragging. During the questioning period, Rose challenges her mother on her actions, causing the teacher to kick her out of class. Rose's mother comes out to speak to her, challenging Rose on her own choices, specifically her choice to run away with Lissa rather than take her concerns to an adult. Later, Rose goes to her afternoon training session with Dimitri and he immediately gives her the stake after she shows him exactly where the heart is located. Afterward, Rose comments that she would like to stake a dummy that looks like her mother. Rose admits to resenting her mother because she abandoned her five years ago and because she thinks she special because she has so many molnija marks, tattoos that show how many Strigoi she has killed. Dimitri advises Rose to forgive her mother and move on.

In Chapter 5, to prove that not all marks are badges of honor, Dimitri takes Rose deep onto the academy property where there is a small lake and an old guard cabin. On the lake, Rose sees Lissa ice skating with Christian and a woman she does not know. The woman is Tasha Ozera, Christian's aunt. On Tasha's face are scars from a Strigoli attack. Rose realizes they must have been given to her by her brother or sister-in-law on the night they came to take Christian. In the cabin, they all talk and Rose asks questions about the night of the attack. Tasha tells Rose that she does not have a guardian, but that she has learned to protect herself and now teaches martial arts, suggesting she has become integrated in human society. This surprises Rose because it is a rare situation for a Moroi.

In Chapter 6, the next day, Rose arrives for her morning training session only to find that Dimitri has slept in because of a trip to the city to shop with Tasha. Janine is filling in for Dimitri. As Rose and her mother practice combat, they talk. Rose pushes her mother about her father, a man she has never learned much about except that he was Turkish.



Rose suggests to her mother that she mated with a particular man so she could provide a suitable guardian to the Moroi society. As they argue, Rose loses track of her position and has to quickly move forward to stop from stepping over the line. At the same time, Rose's mother punches, hitting Rose in the face. Rose ends up in the infirmary for most of the day only to discover that she has a black eye.

Chapters 3-6 Analysis

These chapters introduce Rose's mother. Most of the dhampir women cannot have babies with dhampir men and so they have affairs with Moroi men to produce babies. These women then settle down to a life of raising children. Rose's mother, however, became a guardian and remains a highly celebrated guardian. Rose's mother abandoned her daughter five years previously and has rarely seen her since because of her job as a guardian. There is a great deal of resentment on Rose's part because of this. Therefore when Janine Hathaway shows up at the academy and begins to talk about her successes as a guardian, Rose resents it. Dimitri tries to help Rose make peace with her mother and her mother's successes, but this has little impact when Janine accidentally gives Rose a black eye.

The introduction of Tasha Ozera is also important. It is clear from the beginning that Tasha and Dimitri have some sort of relationship. This worries Rose immediately who is quick to jealousy when it comes to Dimitri, especially when it seems that Tasha makes a part of Dimitri come out that Rose has never seen. For this reason, the reader should realize that Tasha will be a source of tension for Rose.



Chapters 7-10

Chapters 7-10 Summary

In Chapter 7, on her way back to the dorms, Rose runs into Mia Rinaldi. Mia is a sworn enemy of Lissa's that Rose has had run ins with before. Mia immediately begins making fun of Rose for the black eye that her mother gave her, causing Rose to make some threats. Rose then goes to Lissa's dorm room because she feels like talking, but she finds Lissa preparing for a date with Christian. Instead they talk about Lissa's research into spirit. Spirit is a rare power and not many have manifested it in recent years, leaving Lissa in a class all alone. However, she has recently discovered stories of others who might have the same power. Then Lissa tells Rose that she should get a boyfriend. Finally, Lissa leaves and Rose returns to her dorm room. While packing her backpack for the following day, Rose finds herself drawn into Lissa's mind by strong emotion on Lissa's part.

In Chapter 8, Rose is inadvertently forced to experience Christian seducing Lissa through their bond. Rose repeatedly tries to leave Lissa's mind, but it takes a long time before she finds herself back in her own mind. The next morning, Rose runs into Mason and remembers Lissa's suggestion that she get a boyfriend. For this reason, Rose is nicer to Mason than she might otherwise have been. In the workout room, Dimitri is compassionate about Rose's injury, but stops himself from touching her. Frustrated, Rose accuses him of always struggling with control. This argument causes Dimitri to kiss her and then rush away, muttering in Russian.

In Chapter 9, Rose does not see Dimitri again until Christmas Day. Tasha hosts a Christmas brunch to which Rose is invited. Lissa gives Rose a chotki, a small rosary, that once belonged to her great-grandmother's guardian. Rose is touched even though she does not share Lissa's religious beliefs. Later, Janine joins the party. Afterward, Janine walks with Rose and her friends back to the dorms. Janine asks to speak to Rose, so Rose invites her to her dorm room. Janine gives Rose a small pendant that looks something like an eye. Janine then tells Rose that Tasha has asked Dimitri to become her guardian and says that it is an ideal situation because Dimitri can father Tasha's children. Rose is so stunned that she cannot speak and finally asks her mother to leave.

In Chapter 10, St. Vladimir's Academy makes the trip to the ski lodge, a large lodge that has special accommodations for the Moroi. Rose and Mason spend the night skiing crazy routes with Christian and Lissa until Christian and Lissa grow tired. Mason talks Rose into one crazier run. Rose makes the run, but Mason falls and twists his ankle. Back at the lodge, Rose runs into Adrian Ivashkov, a member of a large, notorious royal Moroi family. Adrian flirts with Rose even as he tries to get information out of her about Lissa. Mia sees them together.



Chapters 7-10 Analysis

Lissa thinks she has found proof of others who have her same power or spirit. This makes Lissa happy as she has always thought she was alone. This foreshadows a moment later in the book when Lissa will find someone else who has this same power.

Rose is very much in love with Dimitri, but is deeply jealous of his relationship with Tasha. Therefore, when Rose learns that Tasha wants Dimitri not only to be her guardian but to be the father of her children, Rose becomes deeply jealous. This suggests to the reader a great deal of tension between Rose and Dimitri in the future, as well as between Rose and Tasha.

The trip to the ski lodge is an interesting move in the plot because it takes the students to a new environment where new characters might be introduced. Among those new characters is Adrian Ivashkov, a royal who seems to have an interest not only in Rose, but in Lissa as well. This can create some tension for Rose, who is not only in love with Dimitri, but attempting to create a relationship with Mason to take her mind off of Dimitri. The reader should also note Adrian's interest in Lissa even though what that interest is is not clear at this point.

Finally, the reader is introduced to the adversarial relationship between Rose and Mia Rinalti in these chapters. Mia has caused trouble for both Rose and Lissa previously, therefore it seems possible Mia might cause trouble for Rose now, especially after seeing her with Adrian.



Chapters 11-14

Chapters 11-14 Summary

In Chapter 11, the next morning, Rose tracks Lissa to Christian's room through her bond. When she arrives, she discovers that Tasha is teaching Christian to use his magic element, fire, to defend himself, something that is illegal in Moroi society. Rose is fascinated, but her fascination does not dampen her jealousy and she is rude to Tasha. Later Rose runs into Mason and finds that he has heard that she spent the evening with Adrian and is jealous. Rose reassures Mason that she is not interested in Adrian or anyone else. Later Rose and Mason participate in a snowball fight, which is against the rules at the academy. That night, when Rose sleeps she dreams of Adrian.

In Chapter 12, Lissa and Rose go to Janine's room to find out what the guardians know about a new attack by the Strigois. They learn a royal Moroi family called Drozdov were killed in the same manner as the Badicas. Rose recognizes the Drozdov name and asks to see the list of those killed. On the list is Mia's mother who worked for the Drozdovs. Later Rose attends a meeting regarding the killings with Lissa and Mason. The meeting turns into a huge argument when Tasha suggests that the Moroi learn how to defend themselves rather than relying on the guardians who are in short supply.

In Chapter 13, Rose leaves the meeting, which has fallen into chaos, with Dimitri. Rose attacks Dimitri on his relationship with Tasha and he essentially tells her that is none of her business. Rose becomes so upset that when Adrian shows up unexpectedly, she goes off with him. Adrian invites Rose and Lissa to a swim party. When they run into Lissa with Christian, Mason, and Mia, Rose manages to invite everyone to the party. At the party, which is in a cave-like structure under the lodge, Rose drinks too much as the others talk about possibly fighting the Strigois. Rose goes in search of a snack when she walks into a fight.

In Chapter 14, two men are fighting over Tasha's challenge for the Moroi to learn to protect themselves. Rose steps between them to try to separate them, but has little success. Mason comes up and also tries to help, and finally the fight ends with the help of one of the fighters' friends. Rose berates Mason for getting involved. Rose then finds herself alone with Adrian in a small room where massages are provided to the guests. Lissa joins them and she and Adrian begin to talk. Rose warns Adrian that Lissa has a boyfriend just seconds before Christian comes into the room. Rose and her friends decide to leave. Mia walks beside Rose and asks her about using magic to fight the Strigois, but Rose tells her that the use of water as weapon, Mia's magic element, is useless. Then Rose pulls Mason aside and suggests they become intimate, but Mason refuses to take advantage of her while she is drunk.



Chapters 11-14 Analysis

Rose discovers that Tasha is teaching Christian to use magic as a weapon, something that has been declared illegal by Moroi society. Rose is excited by this and is later enthused when Tasha makes the suggestion to all the Moroi at a meeting later that they learn to defend themselves rather than rely on the short supply of guardians. It is an odd suggestion to the Moroi who have become so accustomed to allowing the guardians to care for them that it never would have occurred to them to defend themselves.

Another attack against a Moroi royal family causes a great deal of tension among the Moroi at the ski lodge. Rose is touched personally when she realizes that Mia's mother is among those killed. The tension not only causes many to want to find a better way to protect themselves, but it inspires some of the novices to strategize a plan to attack the Strigoi before they can attack another family. Mason is the loudest of these, clearly determined to get out and fight before he becomes a victim.

At the same time that everyone is preoccupied with the Strigoi attacks, Rose finds herself caught between three men. Rose is in love with Dimitri and jealous of his relationship with Tasha. At the same time, Rose has feelings for Mason and wants to have a relationship with him in order to forget Dimitri. Finally Rose finds that Adrian has feelings for her and wants to get to know her better. Rose is confused and struggling to figure out what to do, leaving the reader anxious to see who she chooses.



Chapters 15-18

Chapters 15-18 Summary

In Chapter 15, Rose is in her room the next morning when a package is delivered. The package is filled with hundreds of perfume bottles. Rose smells them all, keeping one bottle before packing up the rest and returning them to Adrian. When Rose gets to Adrian's room, she finds Lissa there with him. As Rose tries to figure out what is happening, Dimitri shows up and drags the girls out of the room. In the lobby, Dimitri begins to lecture Rose to be careful around Adrian. Dimitri then tells Rose that they have tracked a couple of the Strigoi who attacked the Drozdovs to a mall in Spokane, Washington. Then Tasha joins them and Rose is once again rude to her before walking away. Later, Rose runs into Mason and tells him what Dimitri told her. Then Rose tries to seduce Mason, but finds she cannot stop thinking about Dimitri.

In Chapter 16, Lissa tells Rose that she and Christian had a fight over Adrian. Lissa then convinces Rose to go to a formal dinner with her that night. Rose wears a red Oriental dress Tasha gave her for Christmas. The dinner goes well and afterward Lissa joins an argument about the Moroi defending themselves, suggesting that the academies begin teaching the Moroi children self-defense as part of their regular studies. Rose watches from the sidelines and runs into Adrian. Out of nowhere, Janine rushes up and drags Rose out of the party.

In Chapter 17, Janine tells Rose that she should not flirt with Moroi men and that she should be more conscious of her reputation. Rose says a few angry things and marches away, finding herself alone on a deck on the roof of the lodge. A few moments later Dimitri joins her. Dimitri tries to help Rose see things from Janine's point of view. As they talk, Rose tells Dimitri he should take the job as Tasha's guardian because it is a good opportunity and she wants him to be happy. Dimitri is speechless.

In Chapter 18, Rose goes to Mason's room to tell him that she cannot be his girlfriend. However, when she arrives she discovers Mason is gone. After doing some detective work, Rose discovers that Mason has taken Eddie and Mia to Spokane to hunt Strigoi. Rose convinces Christian to help her escape the lodge so she can go after Mason and the others. Christian is not successful at tricking the guard, so Rose has to knock him out. Christian then insists on going with Rose to Spokane. They hitch a ride and then take the bus.

When they arrive in Spokane, Rose and Christian go to the mall where the Strigoi were seen and search for Mason. They find them just as they were about to give up. Mason and the others tell Rose that they found nothing and think the information is wrong. Christian insists they go into the tunnels anyway. In the tunnels, Rose sees black writing on the wall that she realizes is the first initial of each of the royal Moroi family names, though she does not understand the other marks on the wall. Rose rushes everyone out of the tunnel. On the street they become lost, but Rose thinks it is okay because they



have some time before dusk. However, they are attacked on the street by humans who put a gun to Mia's neck. Due to the fact that Mia is Moroi, Rose and Mason are forced to stop fighting and surrender.

Chapters 15-18 Analysis

Rose has a run-in with Dimitri again after he catches her in Adrian's room. This time Dimitri tries to treat Rose as an adult, but it is ruined when Tasha shows up and Rose cannot hide her jealousy. Later, however, Rose tells Dimitri to take the job because it is the best thing for him, showing that she is mature enough in some ways to want nothing but happiness for Dimitri. This proves to the reader that Dimitri truly is the only guy for Rose and that she loves him with a maturity that is beyond her years.

Rose's mother embarrasses her by dragging her out of a party and away from Adrian. This gives the reader some insight into Janine's past, suggesting perhaps she knows exactly what can happen to a young, beautiful dhampir who flirts too much with Moroi men.

Mason has been ready to fight since the beginning of the novel, therefore it is no surprise when Mason disappears to fight the Strigoi in Spoakane. Rose knows she is responsible for this and chases after him, but once again fails to tell any adults what she knows. While Mason and the others believe the information was incorrect, Rose knows it is true and tries to get the Moroi and novice guardians out of harm's way before dark. Unfortunately, Rose forgets about the humans who have been working with the Strigoi.



Chapters 19-23

Chapters 19-23 Summary

In Chapter 19, Rose and her friends are taken to a house in a suburban neighborhood where they are locked in a room in a basement. Two Strigoi come into the room, Elena and Isaiah. Elena challenges Isaiah to kill them all right away, but Isaiah wants to have some fun. Isaiah tells Christian and Mia that one of them can live and the other will die. Isaiah says the one that takes the life of one of the novice guardians first can live, while the other will provide he and Elena with a wonderful meal, as Strigoi grow stronger with Moroi blood. Then Isaiah feeds off of Eddie.

In Chapter 20, after some time struggling and trying to figure out an escape plan, Rose falls asleep and dreams of Adrian. Adrian keeps asking Rose where she is, but she cannot tell him before she wakes. Isaiah comes again and feeds off of Eddie. Rose allows herself to slip across the bond and see what Lissa is doing. Rose sees Lissa speaking to Adrian about her gift. Adrian tells Lissa that he has the gift of spirit too and has tried to use it to find Rose, but it did not work. Lissa confesses to Adrian that her medication keeps her from using her gift. Adrian then tries to talk Lissa into stopping the pills.

In Chapter 21, Rose suddenly realizes they can use magic to escape. Rose begins to talk about her fierce thirst, hoping Christian will get the message. Christian then tells the guards that he wants to drink from Rose. As Christian pretends to drink from Rose he uses his fire magic to melt her flexicuffs. Rose breaks free and hits one of the guards. Mason and Christian help and soon all three guards are subdued. Mason and Rose then slip out of the room to search the basement. As they walk, Rose promises Mason that they can talk about their relationship when it is all over.

Rose and Mason return to the basement room to get the others. Carefully they make their way to the living room. Rose tells Mason if anything happens, he is to take the others and run. As they make the run for the front door, Isaiah and Elena suddenly appear. Isaiah grabs Rose. As Rose fights Isaiah, Mason opens the front door, allowing the light to fall into the room. Rose yells for him to leave. Rose continues to fight with Isaiah. Mason grabs the gun they took from the guards and shoots Isaiah several times in the chest, but it does nothing. Isaiah grabs Mason and breaks his neck.

In Chapter 22, Rose becomes infuriated by Mason's death and tries to keep Elena from him. The fish tank explodes and the water wraps around Isaiah's face, suffocating him. Elena tries to help Isaiah. Rose grabs a sword from above the fireplace and attacks Elena, eventually chopping off her head. Rose then turns to Isaiah who is still distracted by the suffocating water. Rose manages to chop off his head too. Afterward, Rose is in shock and knows only that she must protect Mason. Rose lies beside Mason and refuses to move until Dimitri arrives with a group of Moroi. On the plane, Rose thanks



Mia for using water to help her and offers condolences over the loss of Mia's mother. Rose then asks for her mother. When Janine arrives, Rose cries in her arms.

In Chapter 23, a few days later, Rose has her molnija ceremony back at the academy. It is attended by all the guardians. Rose has mixed feelings about the ceremony because she does not feel good about killing Isaiah and Elena and she feels responsible for Mason's death. When other novices ask her about the kills, she refuses to answer their questions.

Lissa tells Rose that she and Adrian have been working together on the spirit magic. Rose is happy for her, but cannot wait until Adrian leaves the school because he has been showering her with flowers. Instead, Lissa tells her that Adrian is going to attend their school for a short time to work on his spirit magic.

Rose goes to the gym for practice with Dimitri, but he tells her he does not think they should practice that day. Rose then confesses to Dimitri how she feels about Mason's death and the Strigoi killings. Dimitri tells Rose that he has decided against being Tasha's guardian because he is in love with her. Rose is happy, especially when Dimitri kisses her.

Chapters 19-23 Analysis

Rose and her friends are taken captive by two Strigoi, one ancient one who is very powerful and one young one who is impetuous and anxious. For several days the five of them are starved and the Moroi are refused blood with the hope that they will become desperate enough to drink from one of the novice guardians. This creates a situation in which the Moroi quickly become weak and desperate. Rose comes up with a plan and manages to get them all out of the basement, but runs into the Strigoi on the way out. Rose wants to fight the Strigoi alone, aware that she will more than likely die as a result. Instead, Mason's love for Rose brings him back and he is killed. Mia also comes back and creates enough distraction that Rose is able to kill both Strigoi.

Rose discovers that what has made her mother so famous is not the fun and games she thought it was, that being a guardian is not only a serious business, but that killing Strigoi is difficult both physically and emotionally. Rose has gotten her first molnija marks, but she is not as proud of them as she thought she would be. Rose has learned a lesson and matured even more.

Mason's actions out of love for Rose were reckless and ended up getting him killed. This is the exact thing that Dimitri worries about should he and Rose indulge their love and then work together as Lissa's guardians. However, this does not stop Dimitri from turning down Tasha and admitting his feelings to Rose. Once again, the reader can see where Rose's affections will lie in the future, but it also creates a situation that makes the reader wonder just how successful this relationship can be under the circumstances.



Characters

Rose Hathaway

Rose Hathaway is a student at St. Vladimir's Academy in Montana. As a dhampir, Rose is in training to become a guardian for a member of the Moroi vampire society, Lissa Dragomir. Rose has recently returned to the academy after running away with Lissa for two years to protect her from a member of another royal Moroi family who wanted to use her magic gift of spirit to heal him. For that reason, Rose is fighting to catch up with the rest of her class.

Rose is to be Lissa's guardian with Dimitri Belikov, one of her instructors at the academy. During Rose's fight for Lissa against Victor Dashkov, Rose and Dimitri were placed under a lust spell that caused them to become deeply romantic with one another. This has blossomed into a full blown love for Rose, but Dimitri has put the brakes on the relationship because Rose is so young, seven years younger than him, and because they cannot place Lissa at risk when they become her guardians by placing their feelings for one another first. For this reason, Rose finds herself fighting to push her feelings for Dimitri away.

Rose has a troubled relationship with her mother as well. Rose feels that her mother abandoned her five years previously and that her work as a star guardian is just something she brags about to gain a better reputation. This relationship is not helped when Janine accidentally gives Rose a black eye during a training session. Rose eventually comes to understand that fighting Strigoi is not all fun and games, but her relationship with her mother remains strained.

Lissa Dragomir

Lissa is the final living member of the Dragomir royal family. All of Lissa's family was killed in a car accident that also killed Rose, but Lissa brought Rose back to life with her spirit power that left them with a bond in which Rose can reach into Lissa's head and know where she is and what she is feeling. Lissa does not always appreciate this bond and Rose finds it to be quite a distraction at times when Lissa is feeling strong emotion and pulls Rose into her mind.

Many believe that Lissa is the only Moroi whose magic is spirit and therefore Lissa trains alone with the magic teacher at the academy. However, while on a ski trip with the school, Lissa meets Adrian Ivashkov and learns that he too has spirit as his magic element. Lissa and Adrian quickly join forces so that they might learn all they can about their magic together.



Dimitri Belikov

Dimitri Belikov is a twenty-four-year-old dhampir who works as an instructor at St. Vladimir's Academy. Dimitri is Rose's combat trainer and his job to teach Rose how to defend herself physically. During Rose's fight against Victor Dashkov, Dimitri and Rose were placed under a lust spell that caused them to become intimate. However, Dimitri broke the spell before it got too intimate and told Rose that the two of them could not pursue a relationship because of the dangers it would pose in their future as guardians to Lissa.

Throughout this novel, Dimitri resists Rose and encourages a relationship with his old friend Tasha Ozera. However, Dimitri runs into the same problem in his relationship with Tasha that Rose has with Mason, he discovers he cannot forget Rose. For this reason, Dimitri confesses his true feelings to Rose at the end. However, the future of their relationship remains in question because the dangers it poses are still in place.

Janine Hathaway

Janine Hathaway is Rose's mother. Janine is not like other dhampir women who made the choice to have children and raise them. Instead, Janine is a guardian who has spent her life protecting a member of a royal family. Janine is a star among guardians because she has dozens of kills and has been in some very dangerous situations, but survived. For this reason, Rose resents Janine's fame among her classmates. However, Rose's feelings are rooted deeper in the fact that Janine in effect abandoned Rose five years previously and does not go out of her way to contact Rose.

Tasha Ozera

Tasha is Christian's aunt. When Christian's parents became Strigoi and returned for Christian, Tasha managed to hold them off until the guardians arrived. Afterward Tasha realized how vulnerable she was so she began searching for ways to protect herself. Also as a result of the Moroi society's opinions about the actions of Tasha's brother and sister-in-law, Tasha has integrated herself into human society. It is Tasha who tells the Moroi at a meeting regarding attacks by large groups of Strigoi that the Moroi should learn to protect themselves independent of the guardians.

Christian Ozera

Christian is Lissa's boyfriend. Lissa and Christian were originally drawn to one another because both of them are sort of ostracized from Moroi society. Christian's parents became Strigoi, causing his whole family's loyalty to Moroi to be questioned. Lissa's magic element is spirit, which has been thought to be an extinct power and her entire family has been killed in a car accident. For these reasons, Christian and Lissa are drawn to one another and find love in that bond.



Christian and Rose dislike one another because they are each jealous of the other's relationship with Lissa. However, when Rose goes to Spokane to save Mason, Mia, and Eddie, Christian goes along and works with Rose to save everyone.

Mason Ashford

Mason is a boy who attends the academy with Rose and Lissa. Mason has had a crush on Rose for a long time. After Rose learns that Dimitri is more than likely going to become Tasha's guardian, Rose begins seeing Mason. They become intimate once, but Rose cannot stop thinking of Dimitri and ends the moment. Rose decides to break up with Mason, but then learns that Mason has gone to kill the Strigoi they think are living in Spokane. Rose is forced to go after Mason and save him. Unfortunately, Mason's concern for Rose causes him to place himself in danger and he is killed.

Mia Rinalti

Mia is another student at St. Vladimir's Academy. Mia is Lissa's sworn enemy, making her Rose's enemy as well. However, when there is a second attack by the Strigoi and Mia's mother is killed, Rose and Lissa reach out to her. Mia goes with Mason to Spokane to kill the Strigoi reported to be there. When Rose goes to rescue Mia, Mason, and Eddie, they are all kidnapped. In the end, Mia uses her magic element, water, to help Rose fight the Strigoi.

Adrian Ivashkov

Adrian Ivashkov is a member of a royal Moroi family that is notorious for reckless behavior. Adrian seeks out Rose at the ski lodge and begins asking questions about Lissa while also flirting with Rose. It turns out that Adrian has the same spirit gift as Lissa and wants to talk to Lissa about it. At the same time, Adrian's feelings for Rose appear to be genuine and promise to make trouble for Rose and Dimitri in future novels in this series.

Isaiah and Elena

Isaiah and Elena are the two Strigoi vampires that kidnap Rose, Christian, Mason, Mia, and Eddie in Spokane. Isaiah is clearly an older vampire, one who is very strong due to the length of time he has been Strigoi and from drinking large volumes of Moroi blood. Rose suspects that Isaiah was once a Moroi because of his knowledge of the royal Moroi families and his appearance. Elena is a younger Strigoi who has clearly only become Strigoi recently. Elena's appearance suggests that she was human before becoming Strigoi.



Objects/Places

Chotki

Lissa gives Rose a chotki, a small rosary designed to be worn on the wrist, that once belonged to the guardian of Lissa's great-grandmother.

N-Nazar

Janine gives Rose a n-nazar for Christmas. An n-nazar is a pendant that has what looks like an eye that is believed to ward off the evil eye.

Perfume

Adrian sends Rose a box filled with dozens of perfume bottles after a discussion they had about the overuse of perfume by some humans. Rose keeps one bottle that she likes and gives the rest back to Adrian in the hopes of discouraging future gifts.

Black Eye

Janine accidentally gives Rose a black eye during a training session when Rose insults her in regards to the identity of Rose's father.

Molnija Marks

Molnija marks are lightning-shaped tattoos placed on the back of a guardian's neck to signify each Strigoi the guardian has killed.

Moroi

Moroi are vampires who are still living beings. The Moroi have extreme strength and senses. The Moroi can handle some sunlight, but not a lot. The Moroi can eat and be nourished by food, but they also require human blood. However, Moroi will not kill for blood, but employ volunteers who enjoy giving the blood because vampire endorphins cause a pleasant high.

Strigoi

Strigoi are more traditional vampires who are not living beings, who have extreme strength and senses, but cannot stand sunlight. Strigoi are often volatile and cannot live



in families or packs as the Moroi do. The Strigoi become more powerful from drinking Moroi blood, causing them to be natural enemies of the Moroi.

Dhampirs

Dhampirs are half-human, half-Moroi. Dhampirs have some of the strength and senses of the Moroi, but they can tolerate sunlight well and do not need to drink blood. Dhampirs cannot procreate with other dhampirs, but can procreate with Moroi. Dhampirs act as guardians to the Moroi. However, many female dhampirs choose to become mothers and to raise their children, leaving a gap in the number of female guardians to male guardians.

Guardians

Guardians are dhampirs who have been specially trained to protect Moroi. Most of the royal families have several guardians assigned to them while non-royals often are awarded guardians through a type of lottery system due to a lack of sufficient guardians.

Ski Lodge

The students of St. Vladimir's Academy, along with most of their families, go to a ski lodge for the winter holiday in an attempt to keep them safe in the wake of several attacks by Strigoi.

St. Vladimir's Academy

St. Vladimir's Academy is a school for Moroi and dhampir that educates them and helps them learn special skills. For the Moroi, they are taught how to use their magic elements. For the dhampir, they are taught how to kill Strigoi for use when they become guardians.

Spokane, Washington

Dimitri tells Rose that a couple of Strigoi thought to be responsible for attacks against Moroi royal families are hiding in a mall in Spokane, Washington. Rose follows Mason, Mia, and Eddie when they go to Spokane to kill the Strigoi.



Themes

Unrequited Love

One of the main themes of this book is love. Lissa and Rose's relationship is filled with so much love that Lissa saved Rose's life after a car accident that stole the lives of Lissa's parents and brothers. Lissa also has a strong relationship with Christian, a relationship that is so close that Lissa's emotions with Christian pull Rose into her mind during intimate moments. However, the strongest relationships in this novel have to do with unrequited love.

Rose is in love with Dimitri. Dimitri is one of Rose's instructors. He is seven years her senior, which creates a situation in which a relationship is not a good idea. To add to the odds against this relationship, Rose and Dimitri are to be Lissa's guardians when Rose graduates from St. Vladimir's Academy. Dimitri worries that if they are in a relationship, they will place Lissa in danger by allowing their emotions to get the better of them. For these reasons, Rose and Dimitri's romance must remain unrequited even though both feel the same about the other.

Mason is a student at St. Vlad's who has been in love with Rose for months. Rose turns to Mason in frustration over Dimitri, hoping that Mason will help her forget Dimitri. However, when Rose is with Mason, she only thinks of Dimitri. At the same time, Dimitri considers beginning a relationship with Tasha, an old friend who asks him to be her guardian and possibly the father of her future children. Dimitri wants to take this opportunity because it is a good opportunity for him, but he cannot forget Rose. For this reason, these relationships also remain unrequited, making unrequited love a theme of the novel.

Mother-Daughter Relationships

In this novel, Rose's mother Janine shows up at the school as many of the royal families descend on the academy in the wake of the Badica killings. When Rose sees Janine in her theory class, she is angry because this is the first time she has seen her mother in five years, yet Janine did not come to seek her out or even seem to notice she was in the classroom. This causes Rose to try to humiliate Janine in the classroom in front of everyone.

While Dimitri tries to convince Rose that her animosity toward her mother is groundless and a waste of energy, Rose gets into a fight with her mother during a training session. Janine accidentally hits Rose in the face, giving her a black eye. This act causes an even deeper divide between mother and daughter. Adding to this divide, Janine tries to protect Rose from Adrian Ivashkov, only causing a scene and leaving Rose humiliated.

Even though her relationship with her mother is tense, Rose asks for her mother while still in shock after Mason's death. Janine comes immediately and Rose cries in her arms



for the first time. Janine is one person who can understand exactly what Rose is going through and therefore they finally find some common ground. It helps to repair the relationship to some degree, but does not fix everything.

Danger

Danger is in everything that Rose does in this novel. By her very nature, Rose was created to protect Moroi from danger, placing herself in a place where she must make herself vulnerable to attack in order to save her best friend Lissa. At the same time, this danger creates a world in which Rose cannot have some of the simple things in life that others can. For example, it is fear of how he might react should Rose be in danger that makes Dimitri resist his relationship with Rose. At the same time, it is exactly this situation that leads to Mason's death.

Danger is present in the novel by the simple fact that the Moroi and Strigoi are natural enemies. From the first pages of the book, the reader learns that Rose had to fight a Moroi royal to protect Lissa. The reader is then taken to the sight of several murders committed by Strigoi who, for some unexplained reason, joined together to attack a royal Moroi family. This places all the Moroi in danger, especially the royals. The danger continues to increase until Rose finds herself in a position to kill two Strigoi, a task she had once looked forward to, but now sees as a tragedy that she wishes she could have avoided.



Style

Point of View

The novel is written in the first-person point of view. The narrator is Rose Hathaway, a dhampir who goes to school at St. Vladimir's Academy where she will someday graduate to become a guardian of Moroi vampires. Rose is seventeen and has recently come back to school after running away with her best friend, Lissa, for two years to protect her from a Moroi who wanted to use her for her magic gifts.

The point of view of this novel is an intimate one that allows the reader to be extremely close to the main character of the novel. By telling the novel in the first person, the author has taken away any physical or emotional barriers that might have kept the reader from feeling concern for the safety of the main character. At the same time, the author has created a mental bond between Rose and Lissa, allowing Rose to describe events that happen only to Lissa that Rose is aware of because of the bond that allows her to enter Lissa's mind during times of emotional heights. In this way, it is as though there are two narrators of the book. However, the author remains with Rose the majority of the time and creates a bond between reader and main character that leaves the reader cheering for Rose by the end of the novel.

Setting

The novel is set in modern America. The novel begins at St. Vladimir's Academy in Montana. The academy sits on a great deal of land in the countryside in Montana, creating a familiar setting to most readers that is also somewhat foreign due to the subjects and actions that take place at St. Vlad's. The novel then moves to a ski resort in an unnamed area that is much like many ski resorts throughout North America. Finally, the novel moves to Spokane, Washington, a modern city filled with common items such as a shopping mall and suburban neighborhood. However, living in one of these modern homes is a couple of vampires who have decorated their house with odd antiquities.

The setting of the novel is not as important to the plot as the things that happen at these settings. Therefore the author has chosen ordinary locations such as Montana, a ski resort, and a moderately sized city in Washington. The setting seems to disappear in the background of the story as the author focuses on the culture of the vampires and on the relationships taking place between the various characters. However, the settings also offer something familiar, something common that gives the fantastic elements of the plot some foundation so that the reader can really believe that vampires might really live in Montana.



Language and Meaning

The language of the novel is simple English. The novel was written for young adults. Most of the language is simple language that young readers of all ages can understand. The language does not contain a great deal of slang or other extraordinary phrases that might be common among modern youth, but remains the language of an educated teenager. At the same time the language of the book does include some foreign words that relate to the culture of the vampire, such a molnija, the tattoo guardians receive for each Strigoi kill. Each of these words are explained within the text and present no barrier to the reader in comprehension.

The language of this novel is simple and represents the audience of the novel well. The language also is authentic to the main character, written in such a way that the reader can believe that it was written by a teenage girl. The language also contains some rare words that are important to the vampire culture, giving some credence to the world in which the main characters of the novel live. However, the author has not created a whole new language for her fantastic world, nor has she injected a great deal of culture that a reader might not completely understand. However, the language of this novel works well with the plot of the novel.

Structure

The novel is divided into a prologue and twenty-three chapters. Each chapter is of average length. The novel is told in first person through the eyes of the main character, but occasionally wanders into the eyes of another character as the main character reaches with her mind into her best friend's mind due to a special bond they share. The novel is written both with narration and dialogue, telling the story in scenes rather than simply telling a story.

The novel has one main plot and several subplots. The main plot follows Rose as she attempts to protect her friend Lissa in the wake of several attacks by the Moroi enemy, the Strigoi. One of the subplots revolves around Rose's aborted love affair with her instructor, Dimitri. Another subplot revolves around Rose's relationship with fellow classmate, Mason. Yet another subplot follows Rose's relationship with Adrian Ivashkov as he attempts to share his knowledge of spirit magic with Lissa. All the plots come to a satisfying ending at the conclusion of the novel.



Quotes

"Things die. But they don't always stay dead. Believe me, I know" (Prologue, p. 7).

"I didn't think my day could get any worse until my best friend told me she might be going crazy. Again" (Chapter 1, p. 12).

"It really was a brilliant idea, one that let families reunite safely. And what a reunion spot! A royal ski lodge" (Chapter 3, p. 33).

"That not all marks are badges of honor" (Chapter 4, p. 50).

"I had a black eye. A freaking black eye. And my mother had given it to me" (Chapter 6, p. 64).

"This was the worst Christmas ever" (Chapter 9, p. 90).

"Drowning in so much luxury, I reached an overload point where the rest of the accommodations started swimming together" (Chapter 10, p. 93).

"I'd walked right into the middle of a fight" (Chapter 13, p. 128).

"The rest of us just sort of stared. I don't think anyone had expected Adrian to suddenly take an abrupt trip to Crazyville" (Chapter 15, p. 141).

"I hate being powerless. And I hate going down without a fight" (Chapter 19, p. 177).

"Magic. Why hadn't I thought of this before? We weren't helpless. Not entirely" (Chapter 21, p. 195).

"Being near her made me feel better. Even though I could be in her head at any time, it just wasn't the same as actually being physically around another living person who cared about you" (Chapter 23, p. 217).



Topics for Discussion

Who is Rose? Why is she behind in her schooling? What is she going to school to do? Who is Lissa? What is the bond between Rose and Lissa? Why does Rose sometimes dislike this bond? What created the bond? What does this suggest about Lissa's powers? What is Rose's relationship with Lissa like? What has caused a resent strain between them? Why does Rose not tell Lissa everything about what is going on in her life? What does that say about their relationship?

Who is Dimitri? What is his job? What is his attitude toward Rose? What explains this attitude? Why does Dimitri introduce Rose to Tasha Ozera? What is the result of this introduction? What does Dimitri appear determined to do with Tasha? Why? Is Dimitri simply trying to hurt Rose? Explain.

Who is Adrian Ivashkov? Why does he keep talking to Rose? What does Rose think of Adrian? Why does Adrian show interest in Lissa as well? What does this say about Adrian? What does Rose initially think Adrian is up to? What does she later learn Adrian is doing in regards to Lissa? Why does Lissa say at the end that Adrian medicates himself? How does he do this? Why?

Who is Janine? What story does she tell Rose's theory class? How does Rose feel about this story? For what reason? What does Rose note about the molnija on the back of Janine's neck? What does Rose think of this? For what reason? Why does Janine give Rose a black eye? Did Rose deserve it? Was it an accident? Why does Janine pull Rose out of a dinner party? What is Janine afraid of in regards to Rose's future? Why? Should she worry?

Who is Mason? Why does Rose begin going out with Mason even though she is in love with Dimitri? What does Mason think of Rose? Why does Rose keep giving Mason mixed signals? How does Mason feel about this? Why does Mason go to Spokane? What does Mason hope to prove? How does Mason get killed? Whose fault is Mason's death? Why does Rose go into shock over Mason's dead body?

Who are the Strigoi? Why do they want to attack the Moroi? Why are the Moroi shocked that so many Strigoi attacked together? Why is this unusual? Why are the Moroi frightened? How do the Moroi protect themselves against the Strigoi? How does Tasha suggest they begin protecting themselves? Why do so many Moroi object to Tasha's plan? How can the Strigoi be killed? How does Rose kill two Strigoi?

Why did Christian's parents become Strigoi? What is the draw of the Strigoi? What happened to Tasha when she fought to keep Christian's parents from taking him? What lesson did this teach Tasha? Why does Rose dislike Tasha? What threat does Tasha pose to Rose? How does this impact Rose's reaction to Tasha's suggestions? What might happen if the Moroi began defending themselves?