

# **City of Glass Study Guide**

## **City of Glass by Cassandra Clare**

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# Plot Summary

City of Glass is the third novel in the Mortal Instruments Series by Cassandra Clare. In this novel, Clary travels to the City of Glass to find a magician who is said to have a cure for her mother's self-induced coma. Also in the city are Clary's friends, the Lightwoods, and her brother Jace. During their visit, the city, which had been thought impenetrable by demons, is attacked by a group of demons led by Clary's father Valentine. Clary and Jace find themselves forced to face Valentine in a final battle that will leave one, or all of them, dead. City of Glass is a satisfying conclusion to the battle between evil and good that are personified in the characters of Valentine, Clary, and Jace.

Clary is planning to travel to Idris, the City of Glass that is the capital of the Shadowhunter world, Alicante. Clary has been told by Madeleine, a friend of her mother's, that there is a magician named Fell there that has the spell that can reverse the coma Clary's mother put herself into when Valentine showed up at their apartment. Unbeknownst to Clary, her brother Jace does not want her to go and is making plans to stop her.

As the Lightwood family and Jace make preparations to go to Alicante, Jace tries to convince Clary's friend Simon to stop her from going. Simon argues; and, before a decision can be made, Forsaken warriors attack the family. Simon is injured, so Jace pulls him through the portal to Alicante. This is highly unusual, because Simon is a vampire. They are met with fury on the other side of the portal. Simon is eventually taken to the ruling class known as the Clave. Then, he is imprisoned on the accusation of being a spy for Valentine.

Clary, angry that the Lightwoods and Jace have traveled without her, uses her special skill of creating runes to make a new portal. Clary goes through the portal with her mother's friend Luke. Clary falls into a lake that has long been cursed against Shadowhunters. Luke quickly takes Clary into Idris and to the home of his sister Amatis, so that he can heal her from the curse. Clary is then told to stay put since she has entered the city illegally, but Clary cannot resist the desire to confront her brother for leaving without her.

When Clary arrives at the home of the Penhallows, where the Lightwoods are staying, she meets Sebastian, a cousin of the Penhallows daughter. Clary feels an immediate connection to this young man who oddly resembles a character she once drew in a graphic novel. However, this connection is quickly forgotten when Clary goes to confront Jace and finds him in the arms of another girl. Clary and Jace were once lovers before learning of their biological connection and the feelings continue to confuse both of them. This situation does little to help the confusion.

Jace is angry with Clary for coming to Idris and quickly sends her away. Clary, however, is determined to do what she has come to do. For this reason, when Sebastian offers to take her to Ragnor Fell, she agrees. However, the visit proves fruitless when Clary



discovers that Ragnor Fell was killed by Valentine hours before her arrival. However, another magician, Magnus Bane, tells Clary about a book that he believes contains the spell needed to wake her mother. Unfortunately, this book is hidden in the former of home of her father who is Valentine.

Clary is once again confronted by Jace. Clary tells Jace about the book, and together they go to retrieve it. While there, they stumble upon an angel that Valentine has kept prisoner in the home. The angel shows Clary some images before showing her how she can free him. The angel kills himself when Clary frees him.

Clary and Jace return to Idris only to find it in flames. A group of demons under Valentine's command have somehow found a way into the city and are attacking. Many die during the attack, including the Lightwood's former tutor. Afterward, Luke suggests an alliance with the Downworlders, the vampires, fairies, and werewolves, to help defeat Valentine. There is resistance to this idea until Clary tells everyone that she knows a rune that will combine pairs of Downworlders and Shadowhunters to help them fight together.

As the city prepares for battle, Jace goes in search of Valentine. When he finds Valentine, Jace is confronted by Sebastian. Sebastian tells Jace that Jace is not Valentine's biological son. He is the son of another Shadowhunter whom Valentine secretly fed an elixir made with angel blood. Sebastian is actually Valentine's biological son, a child who was given demon blood before his birth. Sebastian and Jace fight. Jace eventually kills Sebastian.

At the same time that Jace is fighting for his life, Clary realizes what Valentine plans to do/ She opens a portal to Lake Lyn. Valentine is there, using the Mortal Instruments to call forth the angel Raziel, the father of the Shadowhunters. Jace arrives before Valentine can complete the ritual. They fight, and Valentine kills Jace. As Valentine continues the ritual, Clary makes a change to one of the runes. Raziel arrives and argues with Valentine. Then Raziel announces that Clary's name is the one that summoned him. He will only grant a wish from her. Raziel then kills Valentine and resurrects Jace at Clary's request.

There is a celebration in Idris after Valentine's death and the successful battle. Downworlder representatives are chosen to sit on the Clave council. Jocelyn and Luke finally commit to one another, and Clary and Jace make their own commitment to one another, now that they know they are not brother and sister.



# Part 1, Sparks Fly Upward: Chapter 1, The Portal

## Summary

Clary speaks with Simon about her planned trip to Idris with the Lightwoods and Jace. Simon is concerned for Clary, but he is supportive of her desire to find Ragnor Fell, the magician whom Clary has been told has the information to bring her mother out of her self-induced coma. Clary has been told she is the only one Ragnor Fell will give this information to; therefore, she feels it is important that she go. However, Jace does not want Clary to go because he fears that it might be dangerous. For this reason, he calls Simon to his home and asks him to convince Clary that staying behind is the right thing. While they talk, the Lightwoods are attacked by Forsaken warriors. Madeleine is killed, and Simon is injured. Jace grabs Simon and takes him through the portal to Idris in order to protect him from the Forsaken.

## Analysis

This novel is the third in the Mortal Instruments Series. This novel takes up right after the second novel, taking the reader right back into the story as Clary prepares to go to Idris, the capital and only city in Alicante, the home of the Shadowhunters. Clary hopes to find a magician here who is said to be the only one with the information needed to help her mother come out of her self-induced coma. Jocelyn, Clary's mother, put herself into a coma when her former husband Valentine found her in the mortal world. Jocelyn did this to keep from revealing to Valentine where the Mortal Instruments were kept. The Mortal Instruments are the three gifts given to the first Shadowhunter by Raziel, their creator. They include a cup, a sword, and mirror.

The reader who has read previous novels in this series knows that Clary is a Shadowhunter, but she was raised in the human world by a mother who was trying to protect her from her father. Clary's father is Valentine, a Shadowhunter who has rebelled against the Clave, the ruling council of the Shadowhunters, because of a rule created more than sixteen years ago making it illegal for Shadowhunters to target specific Downworlders, the creatures of the night that Shadowhunters were created to protect humanity from.

Valentine created a group called the Circle of other people who disliked this new rule and set out to change the problems within the Clave. However, Valentine grew too radical and too violent. After a rebellion, the Circle was disbanded and most of the members punished or executed. Valentine, however, continues his campaign against the Clave and is searching for the three Mortal Instruments in order to call up the angel Raziel, the creator of the Shadowhunter race. He wants his help in taking control of the Shadowhunter community.



Clary is Valentine's daughter. Clary is a Shadowhunter who does not know about her heritage. She is also a Shadowhunter with a power no other Shadowhunter has ever had. Clary can create runes that have not been previously recognized and recorded. This gives Clary powers that other Shadowhunters do not have and cannot imagine. It also makes Clary a target for those who want to use her power, such as Valentine, and those who are afraid of her and want her stopped.

Jace is a young, orphaned boy who has come to live with the Lightwood family in New York City after his father died in Alicante. Jace believed his father to be Michael Wayland. But, he learned in the novel *City of Bones*, that his father is really Valentine Morgenstern. This is a big problem for Jace and Clary because they had been romantically linked, but this news makes them brother and sister. For this reason, they have tried to end their romantic ties, but they have found it difficult.

In this chapter, Jace tries to cheat Clary out of her trip to Alicante because he is worried that if the Clave, the ruling counsel, were to learn of her ability to create runes, they would harm her. However, Clary is determined to go to Alicante to find the only man she believes can save her mother. The reader is left wondering where Jace's tricks will lead Clary in the next chapter.

## Discussion Question 1

Why is Clary going to Alicante? What is Alicante? Why does she want to go there? What does she hope to find?

## Discussion Question 2

Why does Jace not want Clary to go to Alicante? What does he do to attempt to stop Clary from making this trip? How does this backfire on Jace?

## Discussion Question 3

Who is Simon? What is Clary's relationship with Simon? What is different about Simon? What is Clary's relationship with Jace? Why is this relationship complicated? How does it impact Clary's relationship with Simon?

## Vocabulary

Improved, reflexes, blades, seraph, forsaken, surged, plunged, vanishing, position, institute, poisonous, frosted, distant, humanoid, impossible, roughly, lightning, daylight, blindly, placidly, desperation, ozone, pleasant.



# Part 1, Sparks Fly Upward: Chapter 2, The Demon Towers of Alicante

## Summary

Clary is nervous as Luke escorts her to the Institute so that she can travel to Alicante with the Lightwoods. Clary's nervousness is forgotten when she arrives at the Institute and finds it abandoned. Out in the garden, Clary and Luke find Magnus Bane standing among what appears to be a small battlefield. Magnus explains what happened. Clary goes to the place where Magnus made his portal and decides that she has to go to Alicante no matter what Jace's plans. Clary uses her skill to create new runes to make a portal of her own. As she is about to step through, Luke finds her. He tries to stop her by grabbing her arm, but he is pulled through the portal with her.

In Alicante, Simon wakes to find himself in a strange place. Isabelle is sitting beside him and explains what has happened. Jace joins them. Jace warns Simon that his presence in Idris was not well received and that there might be trouble. For this reason, Simon is to remain inside the Penhallow home, the home of friends of the Lightwoods where the family is staying while in Idris.

Clary travels through the portal and comes out the other end in a body of water. Clary is shocked and nearly drowns, but she is saved by Luke. Luke explains that he and Clary have landed in Lake Lyn, a lake outside of Idris that is cursed. Due to the fact that Clary has swallowed some of the water, she will become sick because the curse causes all Shadowhunters who drink the water to become ill. For this reason, Clary and Luke must walk quickly to Idris where Luke believes he can get Clary help.

Simon goes downstairs in the Penhallow home and joins Jace, Isabelle, and Alec who are in the living room with Aline Penhallow and her cousin, Sebastian. Aline is fascinated with Simon because he is a vampire, but it is clear to everyone that it is Jace that Aline has romantic feelings for. It also appears Jace returns her desires. Sebastian, however, clearly does not approve of Simon's presence in the house. Alec and Sebastian explain to Simon about the Clave and the meetings currently taking place in the Gard regarding Valentine and his apparent plans to attack Idris. No one believes that Valentine can enter Idris because of the demon towers that enchant the city and keep demons out, but there is still concern about Valentine's plans and his known presence in the area outside the city. This is especially worrisome because he possesses two of the three Mortal Instruments.

## Analysis

Clary discovers that Jace purposely left her behind in New York even though he knew she needed to go to Alicante to find Ragnor Fell. This makes Clary very upset and she





does something that is ill-advised. Clary makes a new rune and takes herself to Alicante through a portal. This is not smart because all those who do not have permission to travel to Idris or Alicante will land in Lake Lyn. Lake Lyn is cursed against Shadowhunters; therefore Clary is made ill by the lake when she falls into it. This causes Luke to have to take her to Idris for help even though it has been years since he has been in the city and, as a Downworlder, where he will not be welcomed. This injects a great deal of tension into the plot as Clary acts like a child and places herself and Luke in danger.

Jace pulled Simon through the portal into Idris because he was injured. As a vampire, a Downworlder, Simon is not welcome in Idris and he did not have permission to be there. For this reason, Simon's presence in Idris causes a great deal of tension for the Shadowhunters as well as the Lightwoods. Simon's current situation is in question. At the same time, the Shadowhunter's ruling council, the Clave, is concerned about Valentine's presence outside the city. The city is well protected from attack by the Demon Towers, towers that enchant the city and keep demons out. However, the reader must note that Valentine knows how to bring the towers down and his presence outside the city suggests he is ready to do it. Valentine has been the nemesis in previous novels and he will more than likely be in this one as well.

## Discussion Question 1

Why does Magnus Bane say he cannot make another portal for Clary to travel to Idris? Why are portals the only way for travel between the human world and Alicante? What happens to those who travel to Idris or Alicante without permission?

## Discussion Question 2

How does Clary travel to Alicante? What does this say about Clary's unique power? Who are the only people capable of creating such portals? Why is Clary able to do it?

## Discussion Question 3

How did Simon get to Idris? For what reason? Why is he not welcome there? Why is his future in question? Why did Jace do what he did?

## Vocabulary

Distinct, violence, challenge, expression, certainly, pretend, tranquility, traveling, disarming, limited, elsewhere, institute, phrases, interrupted, familiarity, apologize, Nephilim, silence, precisely.



# Part 1, Sparks Fly Upward: Chapter 3, Amatis

## Summary

Clary begins to hallucinate as she and Luke walk to Idris. By the time they reach the city gate, Clary is beginning to have trouble distinguishing between reality and hallucination. Luke sneaks Clary into the city through an unguarded alley and takes her to his sister's home. Luke has not seen his sister in many years, but she welcomes him and Clary into her home, helping Luke care for Clary.

Jace and Simon argue about Clary because Simon almost told everyone that Clary did not cancel her plans to come to Idris but was told the wrong time at which they would be leaving. Jace insists that he is only trying to protect Clary. When they return downstairs, Sebastian tries to draw Simon out, but instead he arouses Jace's suspicions. Sebastian, however, seems to be everything he claims to be. Alec then returns from an errand to the Gard to inform Simon that he is to report to the Gard where he will be sent home.

## Analysis

Clary becomes very ill as she travels on foot with Luke. Luke is clearly worried about her and wants to get her help, but his powers are limited. Luke is a werewolf. If Luke were caught in Idris, it could be disastrous. Luke is taking a big chance for Clary by taking her to his sister, a woman who once turned her back on him. The reader must wonder what will happen if Amatis decides she still cannot be loyal to her Downworlder brother.

Jace and Simon are both very clearly in love with Clary. This causes some tension between them as they argue about what is best for Clary. However, they soon discover that they both want the same thing for Clary, causing them to come to some sort of understanding.

Sebastian is an odd character. Sebastian seems to be a mild-mannered, well-educated young man. There is something about him that clearly bothers Jace and Simon. However, they cannot really put their finger on what the problem is. The reader should pay attention to Simon and Jace's concern as it will prove well warranted later in the novel.

## Discussion Question 1

What is causing Clary's illness? What are the symptoms of this illness? What does the illness do to Clary as she and Luke try to make their way into Idris without permission?



## Discussion Question 2

Who is Amatis? How does Luke know her? What is Amatis's reaction to seeing Luke after so many years? Why does she let Luke and Clary into her home?

## Discussion Question 3

Who is Simon? Why is he in Idris? How does he feel about this situation? Why does Alec come to take Simon to the Gard? What is the Gard? Where does Simon believe he will be sent?

## Vocabulary

Exchanging, familiar, seriously, ignore, protested, portal, accident, promised, deliver, gesturing, disentangling, disappeared, expression, glance, vampires, demons, conversation, ordinary, despise.



# Part 1, Sparks Fly Upward: Chapter 4, Daylighter

## Summary

Alec walks Simon to the Gard where they are met by Consul Malachi Dieudonne. The consul takes Alec to Inquisitor Aldertree. After assuring Alec that Simon will be well cared for, the inquisitor takes Simon to a private room where he begins to interrogate him. The inquisitor wants to know how Simon can walk in daylight, but Simon refuses to tell him how he drank from Jace after Valentine cut his throat and drained him of blood. The inquisitor then accuses Simon of being a spy for Valentine. Simon is then taken to a cell especially made for him in the basement of the Gard. Simon burns his hand attempting to escape. A voice from the cell next to Simon's tells him of the special precautions taken to hold a vampire.

Clary wakes in Amatis Herondale's home. Amatis tells Clary that Luke has gone to visit his pack in the woods outside Idris and that she should stay in the house until she recovers. They can deal with her illegal status in the city.

## Analysis

Simon is taken to the Gard where Alec has been told Simon will be returned to New York. It seems, however, that Alec is very naive because Simon is not returned to New York. Instead, he is imprisoned. The inquisitor wants to know why Simon can walk in the daylight when other vampires cannot. The inquisitor clearly thinks that Valentine had a hand in Simon's change. The truth is much simpler, but Simon will not tell the inquisitor about drinking Jace's blood because he does not want to cause trouble for Jace. In this, Simon surprises himself and the reader because of the animosity that has existed between Simon and Jace almost from the beginning. It is clear that Simon's attachment to Clary has something to do with his choices.

Clary wakes in Amatis's home and learns that Luke has gone to visit his pack outside the city. Clary is in Idris without permission, a fact that could cause her a great deal of trouble. For this reason, Clary must remain under the radar. Unfortunately, the reader has already seen Clary act impulsively and does not expect her to change now.

## Discussion Question 1

Why does Alec take Simon to the Gard? What advice does Simon give to Alec during their time alone together? What is the expected outcome of this advice?



## Discussion Question 2

Why does the inquisitor want to interview Simon? What does the inquisitor want to learn from Simon? What does the inquisitor accuse Simon of doing?

## Discussion Question 3

Why is Clary staying with Amatis Herondale? Who is Amatis Herondale? What do Amatis and Luke want Clary to do? Why?

## Vocabulary

Change, image, hovering, float, runes, silhouette, ignored, inquisitor, worried, repeated, personally, command, approached, illumination, witchlight, possession, perfume, carvings, Torah.



# Part 1, Sparks Fly Upward: Chapter 5, A Problem of Memory

## Summary

Clary wakes the next morning, and Amatis shows her where there are some clothes to be worn. Clary digs through the clothes and picks out some Shadowhunter gear that must have been Amatis's once. Clary puts them on and realizes how much like her mother she looks. Clary then sneaks out the window so that she can go find Jace.

Simon is taken to the inquisitor again. The inquisitor tells Simon that he believes the Lightwood family members are spies for Valentine. The inquisitor promises Simon if he turns on the Lightwoods, he will be given blood. However, Simon is too loyal to Clary to turn on her or anyone she cares about, including the Lightwoods. For this reason, Simon is returned to the cells where the inquisitor plans to starve him. In the cell, Simon has another conversation with his unseen neighbor and is warned to fear Valentine more than the Clave.

Clary makes her way to the Penhallow home. Isabelle is less than happy to see Clary for reasons she does not explain immediately. Clary also meets Sebastian. There seems to be some sort of connection between Clary and Sebastian from that first moment which Clary cannot explain.

Clary charges upstairs, determined to see Jace. However, she is in for a surprise when she walks into the library and finds him kissing Aline.

## Analysis

Clary has been told to remain at Amatis's because she entered the city illegally, but she quickly breaks this request by sneaking out to see Jace. The reader can immediately see the connection between Clary and Jace. It is clear that there is a great deal of affection here, but there is also a lot of confusion over feelings. Clary is angry with Jace for leaving her behind, but she still clearly has romantic feelings for him. This is confusing for both Clary and Jace due to the fact that they have been told they are brother and sister. To this end, the reader should note the connection Clary feels the first time she sees Sebastian. The reader must wonder if this is a romantic connection, or could it be possible that there is something else going on here.

Simon is stuck in the Gard jail because the inquisitor thinks that he is a spy of Valentine's. The reader knows that Simon is not a spy, that Valentine tried to kill him in order to fulfill a ritual. Simon will not tell the inquisitor the truth for several reasons. First, Simon does not want to get Jace in trouble because he knows how much Clary cares for Jace. Second, Simon does not trust the inquisitor because of the trouble he, Jace, and Clary had with the last inquisitor in the last book. The inquisitor is clearly out to hurt



someone, but the reader does not fully understand his agenda at this point. It is clear, however, that everyone is frightened of Valentine and wants to see him stopped.

## Discussion Question 1

Why is Clary not supposed to leave Amatis's home? Why does she? Is this a good reason to place herself and Amatis in danger of being caught by the Clave for breaking the law?

## Discussion Question 2

Why does the inquisitor speak with Simon again? What does the inquisitor want from Simon? For what reason? Why does the inquisitor think the Lightwoods might be traders to the Clave? Are they?

## Discussion Question 3

Why does Clary go to the Penhallow home? What does she intend to do? How does Isabelle respond to Clary's sudden appearance? Why? How does Clary feel when she meets Sebastian? Why?

## Vocabulary

Passionate, streaming, protected, delicate, defensive, complicated, oblivious, unpleasant, surprise, despair, gesture, vaguely, alcove, advisability, accomplishment, explanations, perplexed, romantic.



# Part 1, Sparks Fly Upward: Chapter 6, Bad Blood

## Summary

Clary and Jace immediately begin arguing over Clary's decision to come to Idris. Jace cuts Clary off each time she begins to reveal too much about her special abilities. However, Jace cuts her off by saying cruel things designed to make her want to go back to New York. Clary does not understand Jace's cruelty. She quickly leaves the house. Sebastian follows Clary and offers to walk her home. Clary accepts because she is already lost and does not know her way. Sebastian and Clary talk about the Circle and their own childhoods. Clary reluctantly tells Sebastian about her mother and her desire to find Ragnor Fell. They part ways, and Clary slips back into Amatis's house, only to find Amatis waiting for her. Amatis tells Clary that she feels as though she failed Luke after he was bitten by the werewolf. She fears that she will fail him again. This causes Clary to become overwhelmed with guilt.

Simon speaks to his neighbor again. Simon tells the man what the inquisitor wants from him and how the inquisitor is starving him. The neighbor explains to Simon the hierarchy of the Shadowhunters, how some of are richer than others because the Shadowhunters are allowed to keep the riches of the demons. He talks about the Downworlders they have killed. This rule has led a lot of Shadowhunter families to become quite rich. However, the accords were designed to change that, causing a great deal of unhappiness among the wealthier Shadowhunters. The Circle was created at this time to try to change the Clave and the rules that made some richer than others. Many families belonged to the Circle, but after the uprising, many repented and were punished. The Lightwoods, like many other families, were punished by being forced to take custody of the Institute in New York. The neighbor encourages Simon to tell the inquisitor what he wants to know so that he can go home.

Alec tells Jace and Isabelle that he believes Simon is being held prisoner in the Gard. Jace becomes so emotional that he punches a picture window. Alec takes Jace upstairs and dresses his wounds with bandages, telling him he should have to heal like a human as punishment for what he has done. Jace agrees. Alec then admonishes Jace for what he said to Clary, accusing him of constantly hurting himself intentionally. Jace agrees to this as well.

## Analysis

Jace and Clary argue. Jace says some very hurtful things to Clary, trying to protect her. At the same time, he is trying to push her away. It seems to work as Clary rushes from the house. However, the toll of what Jace has done is very clear when he later puts his hand through a window when confronted not only with what he has done to Clary, but





with the realization that he has failed to protect her dear friend Simon. Jace is clearly a tortured soul, and his only salvation is Clary. The fact that he is her brother only adds insult to injury. Jace's future looks rather bleak at this point.

Clary walks home with Sebastian and begins to get to know him. Sebastian seems rather mild mannered, but there is something off about him that causes Clary to be somewhat weary. However, Clary trusts Sebastian enough to tell him her reasons for coming to Idris, something that may or may be a mistake. Sebastian is an unknown factor in this story at this point, but the reader must suspect that he will play an important role as the plot continues to develop.

Simon and the reader learn more about the history of the Shadowhunters and the Circle that began Valentine's crusade to oust the Clave. It seems that Valentine's crusade began as a benevolent desire to equalize pay and the lifestyle among the Shadowhunters. He wanted to prevent the targeting of Downworlders based on their wealth rather than their danger to the human world. However, this crusade has clearly changed and become something different for Valentine who continues to be a threat to the well being of all Shadowhunters, especially now that he has two of the Mortal Instruments. Simon's neighbor suggests that Valentine is a larger threat than the Clave, and the reader is beginning to believe it.

## Discussion Question 1

Why does Sebastian walk Clary home? How does she initially feel about this? How does Clary feel about Sebastian once they reach their destination? Why have her feelings changed?

## Discussion Question 2

Why does Jace say the things he does to Clary? What is the purpose of these hurtful words? Does he really believe what he is saying to her?

## Discussion Question 3

Why does Simon speak with his neighbor? What does the neighbor say to him? Why is it important for Simon to understand the purpose of the Circle? Who was a member of the Circle before the uprising?

## Vocabulary

Abandoned, influenced, unblinking, otherwise, decisions, sneaked, creature, basically, lycanthropic, disease, contracted, disgusted, cringed, expected, disappoint, werewolf, followers, generated.



# Part 1, Sparks Fly Upward: Chapter 7

## Where Angels Fear to Tread

### Summary

Simon wakes in his cell and finds Jace at his cell window. Jace wants to break Simon out, but Simon is afraid that the inquisitor will know it was Jace and use this as evidence of Jace's disloyalty to the Clave. For this reason, Simon refuses to leave. He asks Jace to supply him with blood.

Clary wakes to find Sebastian outside Amatis's house. Clary speaks to him and learns that Sebastian has found where Ragnor Fell lives. Clary quickly dresses and leaves with Sebastian despite her promise to Amatis not to disappear anymore. Sebastian takes Clary to a stable where he gets his horse. Together, they ride the horse out of the city and to a small home hidden in the countryside. Clary is surprised, however, when Magnus Bane comes out of the house instead of Ragnor Fell. Magnus freezes Sebastian and then tells Clary that somehow Valentine found out about Ragnor Fell. Demons attacked Ragnor Fell that morning. Fell, however, managed to leave a note for Magnus. Magnus tells Clary that the secret to waking her mother exists in a book called the Book of the White and that her mother hid it years ago in the Wayland manor. Magnus tells Clary if she will get the book and allow him to have it, he will wake her mother.

After Magnus revives Sebastian, he and Clary make their way back to Idris. Clary tells him Fell refused to help her. To cheer Clary up, Sebastian takes Clary to the burned remains of the Fairchild manor where her mother and father lived before the uprising. Clary is touched by the sight. Clary becomes emotional. For this reason, Sebastian pulls her into his arms and tries to kiss her, but it feels wrong. Clary immediately pulls away. They argue for a brief moment before Sebastian apologizes and takes Clary back to Idris.

### Analysis

Sebastian comes to Clary and tells her he knows where Ragnor Fell lives, but when they arrive Clary discovers that Fell is dead. In fact, Fell was attacked by agents of Valentine just that morning. The reader might note the coincidence of Fell being attacked so soon after Clary told Sebastian, though even Clary herself has not noted this coincidence just yet.

Clary learns how Ragnor Fell would have known how to fix her mother's coma and that there is still a chance to save her. Clary jumps at this chance despite the fact that it might prove dangerous. The book is hidden in the Wayland manor, a place Valentine called home for nearly ten years after the uprising and his faked death. The house is



more than likely protected by spells, requiring Clary to have Jace's help in finding the book. The reader can only hope that this will bring Jace and Clary back together, despite the horrible things Jace said to her at their last meeting.

Sebastian and Clary visit the ruins of the home where Valentine and Jocelyn once lived. Clary is overwhelmed by the sight of a home she never knew. Sebastian takes advantage of this by kissing Clary, something that immediately sets her on edge and reminds her of her romantic relationship with Jace. The reader must wonder at this point if Clary's discomfort with Sebastian is because of Jace, or if there is something more going on.

## **Discussion Question 1**

How does Sebastian know that Clary wants to see Ragnor Fell? Why does Sebastian arrange to take Clary to Fell? What happens when they arrive?

## **Discussion Question 2**

Who attacked Ragnor Fell? For what reason? What message did Fell leave behind? Who found the message?

## **Discussion Question 3**

Why does Sebastian take Clary to Fairchild manor? What happened to the home? Who lived there? What is Clary's connection to the home?

## **Vocabulary**

Vampire, pommel, prisoner, surreptitiously, implied, settled, rapidly, surprised, sudden, painful, uncontrolled, pupils, features, confusion, flinched, stricken, pressed, horror, fallen, unfocused, flushed, confident, void, plunged.



# Part 1, Sparks Fly Upward: Chapter 8, One of the Living

## Summary

Simon wakes the next morning to find a thermos of blood waiting at his window. As he is drinking it, Simon is visited by Raphael, the leader of the vampires. Raphael wants to know how Simon can stand in the daylight. Raphael also wants to know why Simon has not accepted what he is now. Raphael thinks that Simon should accept his situation and come to be with the other vampires.

Clary returns home to Amatis's to find Jace waiting for her. Clary confronts Jace about Simon, whose situation she just learned from Sebastian. Jace explains the situation to Clary. Clary then tells Jace what she learned on her trip to see Ragnor Fell. Jace agrees to go with Clary to get the Book of the White.

Simon's neighbor tells him that he thinks Valentine is preparing to invade the city. When Simon asks how that would be possible, the man tells him that he believes Valentine has found a way to get demon blood into the city in order to bring down the protection of the demon towers. Simon's neighbor claims he warned the Clave, but they chose not to listen to him.

Clary and Jace go to Wayland Manor. They quickly locate the book. Jace recalls the strictness of his childhood in this home, so Clary encourages him to knock books to the floor. When they do, a secret opening appears in the wall.

## Analysis

Raphael shows up and talks with Simon about his choice not to accept his condition as an undead vampire. Raphael clearly wants Simon to be a part of his vampire brethren and is clearly upset that Simon can walk in daylight. It appears no one truly understands why Simon is different from the other vampires, and they all feel threatened by it to a certain degree.

Everyone in this novel seems to be discussing the fact that Valentine is clearly planning an invasion of the city. Simon's jail neighbor seems to think that Valentine has found a way to get demon blood into the city in order to shut down the demon towers. This could spell disaster for a city who has had the protection of the towers for so long that they no longer think about them. This complacency can be dangerous especially if what Simon's neighbor says is true.

Clary and Jace go to the Wayland Mansion to recover the Book of the White. This book is essential to saving Clary's mother, but it is also something Valentine would like to



have. For this reason, Clary and Jace have to stay quiet about what they are doing, so no one knows where they are. This could prove important later.

## Discussion Question 1

Who is Raphael? Why does he come to visit Simon? What does he want from Simon? Does Simon agree with what Raphael wants?

## Discussion Question 2

What do Clary and Jace argue about when she returns from Ragnor Fell's home? Why? What does Jace do to appease Clary? Why does Clary ask for Jace's help?

## Discussion Question 3

Why does Valentine want to invade Idris? What does he plan once he invades the city? Why is the city unprepared for an attack by Valentine? What protects the city? How might Valentine break this protection?

## Vocabulary

Machinery, roughly, gaped, distant, forbidden, actually, indicated, language, admitted, skimming, straightened, binding, swarmed, remembered, profoundly, alternated, entirely, library, beamed.



# Part 1, Sparks Fly Upward: Chapter 9, This Guilty Blood

## Summary

Jace and Clary follow the secret stairs down into the basement of the manor and are shocked to find an angel imprisoned in a magical circle. The angel is still alive, but clearly in a great deal of pain. The angel shows Clary and Jace a bunch of images telepathically. These images for Clary include images of Valentine as a young man, experimenting with demon and angel blood to create Shadowhunters with unique powers. The images also include the image of a rune Clary has never seen before. When the angel is done showing the images to Clary and Jace, Clary creates a rune to free the angel from its imprisonment. The angel then takes Jace's seraph blade and kills itself.

Upon the angel's death, the manor begins to crumble. Jace and Clary manage to make it out before the manor completely collapses. They land on the front lawn in one another's arms. Jace is horrified by the images the angel showed them, especially the thought that Valentine fed Jocelyn demon blood when she was pregnant with Jace. Jace seems to think that this is confirmation that he is a monster. Clary, however, does not agree and argues with him. Somehow they begin to talk about their desire for one another. Clary encourages Jace to kiss her, but when things become too heated, Clary makes him stop because she is afraid Jace is only trying to prove how evil he truly is, and she does not want their time together spoiled by such sentiments.

Jace and Clary begin to walk back to Idris because Clary lost his stele in the house and cannot make another portal. Jace is angry and refuses to speak to her most of the way. When they are close enough to see the city, Jace and Clary are shocked to discover that it is under attack.

## Analysis

Clary and Jace find an angel in Valentine's basement. Angels are very rare, and it is said that none of the Shadowhunters have seen one since the first Shadowhunter made a deal with Raziel to create the Shadowhunter race to protect the humans. The fact that Valentine was able to get to one and imprison it shows how huge Valentine's powers really are and how daunting the fight against him has and will continue to be.

The angel shows Jace and Clary images from the past. These images suggest that Valentine fed angel blood and demon blood to his wife during her pregnancies in order to create a stronger race of Shadowhunters. Jace assumes the demon blood was fed to him in utero, causing some of the emotional struggles he has had since he was young. Clary argues this point and insists that Jace is not an evil person, but no amount of



talking will help Jace. However, these images to explain a great deal to both Clary and Jace, perhaps explaining some of the things they can do that no other Shadowhunters can do.

Jace and Clary share an intimate moment after the destruction of Wayland Manor. This moment is forbidden to them because of their relationship to one another, but somehow knowing they are siblings does not stop the feeling of romance that still exists between them. However, Clary calls an end to it, not because it would be incest, but because she knows that Jace is only doing it to prove to himself and everyone else that he is evil. This is an important turning point in their relationship because it is clear that they no longer care about their biological connection to one another, that their love is too strong for them to care. Perhaps it is also a hint that their biological connection is not what they have been told it is.

## Discussion Question 1

What is an angel? How did Valentine manage to trap an angel in his house? For what purpose? What images does the angel show Clary and Jace? How do these images answer questions for both Clary and Jace? Is this a good or bad thing?

## Discussion Question 2

Why does Jace believe he is evil? What does Jace believe Valentine did to him while he was still in utero? How does Jace believe this affected his personality, his ability to do the right thing?

## Discussion Question 3

Why can Jace and Clary not be together? Who told them they could not be together? For what reason? Why do they continue to defy this social rule? What does Clary believe is Jace's motivation for wanting to be with her?

## Vocabulary

Incredible, hillside, peculiar, gleamed, protests, blistered, bland, contempt, hunched, shivering, bearable, directions, doubted, visible, shadows, scattered, debris, satisfaction, savage, situation.



## Part 2, Stars Shine Darkly: Chapter 10, Fire and Sword

### Summary

Isabelle is at home with Alec, Aline, Sebastian, and Max. The older children are discussing their parents, wondering why they have not come home yet. Max comes into the room and tells everyone that he has seen someone climbing the Demon Towers. No one believes him. A few minutes later, however, the front window breaks, and Aline is pulled out. Isabelle goes after her and manages to save her from a demon. After the demon is dead, Aline runs away. Isabelle realizes the town is overrun with demons and that the Demon Towers, which have protected the city for thousands of years, are down.

Simon wakes in his prison cell to the sound of the Clave abandoning the Gard. However, they leave the prisoners in their cells.

Alec catches up with Isabelle and directs her back to the house. Alec orders Sebastian and Isabelle to stay in the house and watch over Max. Alec then leaves to find Aline and their parents. Isabelle leaves Sebastian alone with Max to go gather her weapons from her bedroom. When she returns, the living room is empty. Isabelle goes searching for Sebastian and Max in the kitchen only to be attacked by Sebastian.

Alec runs through the streets of Idris, fighting off demons as he searches for Aline. Alec walks into an alley where he finds a magician fighting a pack of demons. Alec is shocked to discover the magician is his beloved Magnus Bane. Alec and Magnus fight side by side. When the demons are dead, Magnus and Alec confess their love for one another.

### Analysis

Demons have somehow managed to knock out the Demon Towers and invade Idris during a time in which the town is mostly occupied by the old and children. The parents are all in the Gard discussing this specific possibility. As the attack begins, Aline is dragged out of the Penhallow home and attacked by a demon. Isabelle saves her, but it soon becomes clear that the town is in danger. Everyone needs to get off the streets. Alec correctly takes Isabelle home where she can protect their younger brother Max, with the help of Sebastian. However, in an ironic turn of fate, Sebastian proves to be a danger himself. Sebastian attacks both Isabelle and Max for, at this point, unknown reasons.

Alec rushes out in search of Aline and ends up saving his on again, off again boyfriend Magnus Bane. This act causes the two men to confess their feelings to one another and to discuss the fear that Alec has had of admitting to his parents that he is homosexual. It





is a complicated situation that seems somewhat inconsequential at this point in time, but it is important to the future of both men and to their motivation to survive.

## Discussion Question 1

Why is Simon still in jail? Why did he expect the Clave to release him during the attack? Why is Simon surprised the Clave would leave the Gard, which is protected? Why would Simon want to leave?

## Discussion Question 2

Why does Max say that he saw someone climb the demon tower? What is the significance of this sighting? What importance does it take on later when the attack comes?

## Discussion Question 3

Why does Isabelle leave Max alone with Sebastian? Why does Isabelle trust Sebastian? How does Sebastian betray this trust?

## Vocabulary

Azure, individual, demons, incidentally, interest, mention, ridiculous, situation, moronic, petulant, different, remaining, dimension, gesture, stubborn, coalescing, jewels, familiar, pitched, precariously.



## Part 2, Stars Shine Darkly: Chapter 11, All the Hosts of Hell

### Summary

As Jace and Clary discuss what to do, they are overrun by a pack of werewolves headed to Idris. Clary expects to be attacked, but the werewolves ignore them. Jace and Clary follow into the city and are immediately under attack by demons. A werewolf comes and saves them. The werewolf turns out to be Maia, a friend of Luke's. Maia says that Luke has arranged for them to be there to help the Shadowhunters. Maia sends Clary and Jace to the Hall of Accords where most of the survivors are gathering.

Clary and Jace look around the Hall of Accords for their family and friends. Alec appears with Magnus Bane, but they do not know where the Lightwoods are. Luke arrives and Clary quickly rushes to him. As they hug, the Consul comes in and accuses Luke of orchestrating the attack. Luke not only denies being behind the attack, he insists that the Shadowhunters cannot survive another attack without the Downworlders. Magnus joins the argument, but Clary pulls him away to calm the argument and to tell him she has the Book of the White. Magnus takes the book, but before Clary can make him promise to wake her mother, Sebastian joins them. Sebastian keeps trying to draw Clary away from the others, but they are continuously interrupted.

Sebastian keeps asking Clary about the book she gave to Magnus. Clary finally tells him everything and Sebastian becomes upset that she would do such a thing. Sebastian again tries to take Clary outside, away from everyone else, but she continues to refuse. Finally, Jace comes over and breaks up the argument. Sebastian reluctantly leaves go, allowing Clary to go with Jace and Alec.

### Analysis

People are being attacked brutally throughout the city of Idris. However, Luke has organized his pack and brought them to Idris to help. In fact, one werewolf named Maia saves Clary and Jace from a particularly vicious demon. It is clear that the Shadowhunters are overwhelmed and need help, an argument Luke makes with the Consul. However, the argument is not easily accepted by the old-fashioned Clave member.

Clary runs into Magnus and gives him the Book of the White. Clary does not have time to get Magnus to promise once again to help her mother, and she must blindly trust that Magnus will do the right thing. Things are complicated when Sebastian shows up and argues with Clary over her choice to trust Magnus with such a powerful book. Sebastian, who should have little knowledge or interest in the book, is acting oddly,



causing Clary to feel overrun. Sebastian makes this feeling more intense by continuously trying to get Clary to go outside.

The reader is unclear what it is that Sebastian wants at this point, especially since he barely knows Clary. However, it is clear that he wants her to leave with him, but for what reason is unclear. The reader should begin to see something different in this character and suspect that there is more to him than he has claimed to this point.

## Discussion Question 1

Why does Jace not want Clary to go into Idris with him? What does this suggest about their relationship? Why does Clary end up in the city with Jace? What does this say about Clary's personality?

## Discussion Question 2

Why do the werewolves come into Idris? Are they welcome in Idris? Why do they want to help the Shadowhunters? What is Luke's argument? Who disagrees with him? Why?

## Discussion Question 3

Why does Sebastian want Clary to leave with him? Why does Sebastian not like that Clary gave Magnus the Book of the White? What does this mean to Sebastian?

## Vocabulary

Expected, contrary, prison, expression, evacuated, prisoners, promise, loosened, excuse, appreciate, gaze, approval, surprise, wrongness, plunged, expecting, fraction, exasperated, accusatory.



## Part 2, Stars Shine Darkly: Chapter 12, De Profundis

### Summary

Simon remains trapped in his prison cell even though the Gard is now on fire. Clary, Jace, and Alec come to Simon's window. Jace rips the bars out and pulls Simon to freedom. Before he will leave, Simon insists that they save his neighbor as well. The neighbor does not want to be rescued, however, and Jace has to climb into the cell to force him out. Alec and Jace are shocked when they realize Simon's neighbor is their old tutor, Hodge Starkweather. Hodge begins to apologize to the boys and speaks to Jace about what happened when Valentine sent Jace to the Lightwoods. Hodge talks about the conspiracies of Valentine's he was a part of. Hodge even tells them that he believes the mirror, the last Mortal Instrument, is Lake Lyn. Then, as Hodge is about to tell Jace some secret about himself, a dagger comes out of the darkness and imbeds itself in Hodge's chest. Sebastian comes out of the shadows and claims he killed Hodge to save the others from sure death. Alec and Jace become distracted by trying to help Hodge. Hodge dies.

Alec, Jace, and Clary confront Sebastian. Sebastian begins saying horrible things to each of them, attacking them in a way that is very different from the person they thought they had known. Jace attacks Sebastian, but Sebastian is able to easily push him aside in a way no one has ever been able to do before. Sebastian also attacks Clary, hitting her in the head. Simon then attacks Sebastian and nearly gets the better of him, but Sebastian manages to get away. The group goes back to the Hall of Accords to get medical help for Clary. When they enter, they learn the demons have left the city. A few minutes later, the Lightwoods come into the hall. Max is in his father's arms, dead from an attack by Sebastian.

### Analysis

Alec, Jace, and Clary go to rescue Simon only to be shocked to find that Hodge Starkweather, their former tutor, was Simon's neighbor. This explains to the reader how this man knew so much about Valentine and his schemes, since the reader knows that Hodge was a co-conspirator with Valentine. Hodge is clearly repentant for what he has done in the past. Hodge begins to tell Jace and Alec things that could help them in the fight against Valentine, including where the final Mortal Instrument can be found. However, before Hodge can tell Jace some secret about himself, he is killed by Sebastian.

The death of Hodge is difficult for Alec who was very fond of Hodge. For this reason, there is a great deal of animosity against Sebastian. This animosity increases when Sebastian, totally against character, begins making bizarre and unkind claims. Jace



attacks Sebastian, but he is easily overtaken. Clary tries to defend Jace and is also injured. In the end, Simon attacks Sebastian and subdues him long enough for the others to get away.

Tragedy is compounded over and over this night. Clary, Alec, and Jace return to the Hall of Accords to find that the demons are gone. However, the damage has been done. Many people have died that night, mostly children and older people. Clary, Alec, and Jace are saddened to discover that Max, the youngest Lightwood, has also been a victim, but of Sebastian, not the demons.

## Discussion Question 1

Why do Clary, Alec, and Jace go to the Gard? How do they save Simon? Why does Simon insist on saving his neighbor? Who does this man prove to be?

## Discussion Question 2

What does Hodge confess to Alec and Jace? Where does he tell them the final Mortal Instrument is? How is Hodge killed? Why?

## Discussion Question 3

What member of the Lightwood family has been killed? By whom? For what reason? How do Alec and Jace respond to this tragedy?

## Vocabulary

Comfort, tragedy, gulping, bracing, pillar, shoving, squinted, trailed, afraid, deserve, allying, enormous, vision, vague, anxiously, effort, bracketed, sharpened, attack, awfully, dizziness, streaks, accords.



## Part 2, Stars Shine Darkly: Chapter 13, Where There is Sorrow

### Summary

Clary wakes to the sight of multiple funeral fires outside the city. Clary goes downstairs and finds Simon alone in the kitchen. They are soon joined by Aline. Aline feels guilty for what Sebastian has done, so she contacted his aunt to get more information about him. Aline has discovered that the boy calling himself Sebastian was an imposter. Sebastian's aunt has sent Aline pictures of the real Sebastian, and he does not resemble the Sebastian they know at all. This leaves them wondering about the identity of the imposter.

Clary and Simon go to the Accords Hall to speak with Luke about the imposter. After telling Luke about Sebastian, he tells them how the demon towers were defeated with a rune drawn in demon blood. This seems to confirm the suggestion that Valentine has spies in the city. Luke then tells them that he is trying to convince the Clave to work with Downworlders to fight Valentine, but they are resistant. As they talk, they are surprised to see Valentine himself walk into the room. It is not actually Valentine, but a hologram of him.

Valentine goes to the front of the room and announces to the Shadowhunters that he plans to attack again. However, he is willing to accept their unconditional surrender if it is offered. Valentine gives the Shadowhunters until midnight the following day. As he speaks, the inquisitor confronts Valentine. Somehow Valentine is able to reach into the inquisitor's chest and tear his heart out. Then, Valentine simply disappears.

### Analysis

In the aftermath of the attack, the Shadowhunters are slowly trying to put their lives back together. Many families are having funerals for their loved ones who died, including the Lightwoods who are burying Max. Others are looking to the future, arguing for what should be the next move for all Shadowhunters. Luke is arguing for the Downworlders, insisting that together they can all defeat Valentine. However, the Clave is reluctant to trust Downworlders because they were brought into existence to fight them. Luke is a strong orator, and he is beginning to change minds. Unfortunately, all this is placed in jeopardy when Valentine shows up and gives the Shadowhunters little more than twenty-four hours to surrender to him or face another attack by the demons.

Valentine is a formidable enemy. The Shadowhunters have already faced him many times, this time the most disastrous because of Valentine's ability to take down a defense that was thought to be unbreakable. It seems the Shadowhunters have been defeated, but the war is not over yet. Many, such as Luke and Clary, are still willing to



fight. The reader must wonder, however, if weak men like the Consul will consent to working with their born enemies to save everyone.

## Discussion Question 1

Why is Luke still in Idris? What is he trying to do? What are the chances he will succeed? Is his plan a good one?

## Discussion Question 2

Why does Valentine come to Idris? Why is he not arrested or killed on sight? What does Valentine have to say?

## Discussion Question 3

What does Valentine do to the inquisitor? What statement does this action say to the Shadowhunters and Downworlders present? How might it influence the decision the Shadowhunters must now make?

## Vocabulary

Vanished, terms, consider, message, surrender, impossibly, gasped, boredom, upstart, restrain, yelping, practically, staggering, moment, sovereignty, whirling, rule, swung, entirely.



# Part 2, Stars Shine Darkly: Chapter 14, In the Dark Forest

## Summary

Clary goes to the Lightwoods and tells them what happened with Valentine at the Accords Hall. Clary also tells them about the imposter. Everyone, especially Jace, wants to track Sebastian. They believe that Sebastian will lead him to Valentine, but none of the things Sebastian left behind belong to him. For that reason, the spell does not work. When they are done talking, Jace offers to walk Clary home while Simon remains behind to speak to Isabelle. When they arrive at the house, Jace notices a stain on Clary's jacket sleeve and seems deeply interested to learn it is Sebastian's blood.

Isabelle is very upset about Max's death because she feels she is to blame. For this reason, she refuses to speak to the members of her own family. However, she lets Simon in after he assures her he is alone. They talk for a brief time and then Isabelle asks Simon to stay the night.

That night while Clary lies sleeping, Jace comes to her room and asks to spend the night with her. Clary agrees after some discussion.

## Analysis

Jace feels helpless after the death of his young foster brother. Max was one of the youngest victims and the most tragic for the main characters. Jace, Alec, and Isabelle all blame themselves for different reasons. Jace, however, feels especially bad about the whole thing because he did not recognize Sebastian for what he was. This leaves Jace searching for a way to make things right, proving once again that he is a young man with a very big heart. The reader cannot imagine that Jace has any demon blood when he is always trying so hard to do the right thing.

Simon consoles Isabelle, and Jace goes to Clary. It appears that Jace's only reason for spending the night with Clary is the fact that this could be their last night alive after Valentine's ultimatum. However, the reader must suspect that Jace, despite his deep love for Clary, has other motives as well.

## Discussion Question 1

Why does Clary go to the Lightwoods to tell them what happened at the Accords Hall with Valentine? How do they react to the news? What do they think the Clave will decide?





## Discussion Question 2

Why does Simon try to console Isabelle after the death of her brother, Max? What is Simon's relationship with Isabelle? How does it appear to change during this encounter?

## Discussion Question 3

What does Jace say to Clary when he goes to her and asks to spend the night? How does Clary respond to Jace's declarations? Why do they agree to spend the night together?

## Vocabulary

Whispered, fairy, happiness, prickled, surprise, belonged, imagine, underneath, gradual, attrition, scheme, certainly, ordinary, echoed, shocked, tension, underlying, monster, demons, reflections, anxiously, transparent, outline.



# Part 2, Stars Shine Darkly: Chapter 15, Things Fall Apart

## Summary

Luke spends most of the night at the Accords Hall in meetings regarding Valentine's ultimatum. Luke wants the Clave to refuse to surrender and allow the Downworlders to fight in any resulting battle, but there is still resistance. During the meeting, Jace arrives and lures Luke outside. Jace tells Luke that he has found a way to trace Sebastian and that he is going after Valentine. Luke tries to talk him out of it, but he can see that Jace is determined. Luke promises to explain things to Clary.

Clary wakes and finds a note from Jace. Clary is upset when she goes downstairs to breakfast. Simon and Isabelle are there making breakfast. Clary pulls Isabelle aside and shows her Jace's letter, but she refuses to help Clary find Jace. Isabelle believes this is something Jace needs to do. As they argue, Simon comes back into the room and breaks up the discussion. Then, Amatis comes into the room and announces that Clary has a visitor. It turns out to be her mother.

## Analysis

Jace has found a way to go after his father, and he decides to take it. However, Jace does not want anyone to stop him, so he does not tell Clary or the Lightwoods. Instead, Jace goes to Luke. Jace hopes that Luke can use this information to help him convince the Clave not to surrender to Valentine. A lot is on the line for all Shadowhunters, and the Clave's decision is a big part of that. If Jace can find and kill Valentine, that will help resolve the problem, but Clary worries that Jace will not be successful. Luke worries as well, but the reader can see Jace's determination and wonders if everyone is underestimating him.

## Discussion Question 1

Why does Jace go to Luke and tell him his plans to chase after Valentine? What does Jace want Luke to do with this information? What does Luke promise to do with this information?

## Discussion Question 2

Why does Clary show Isabelle the letter Jace left her? How does Isabelle react? How does Clary want Isabelle to react?



## Discussion Question 3

Who shows up at Amatis's house while Clary is arguing with Isabelle? Why is this a surprise? How does Clary respond?

## Vocabulary

Driven, strangest, expression, recognized, fierceness, forgotten, human, heard, cursed, pretend, protect, wound, bandages, poison, reasons, strangely, injury, mundane, consideration.



## Part 3, The Way to Heaven: Chapter 16, Articles of Faith

### Summary

Clary is shocked to see her mother. The first words out of her mouth are not words of joy, but words of anger. Clary wants to know how her mother could have lied to her all her life and not have told her she has a brother. Clary ends up running out of the house.

Jace is using a hair from Clary's jacket, covered in Sebastian's blood, to follow him. The spell seems to be working well, so Jace continues following, using Sebastian's own horse.

Clary is lying on the lawn in front of the Gard when Simon joins her. They discuss Jocelyn's return and Clary's angry reaction. As they talk, their conversation turns to the runes that Clary can make. It reminds Clary of the rune the angel showed her and she suddenly realizes what it is for. Clary rushes to the Accords Hall to speak with the Clave. Clary has realized that the rune the angel showed her will pair a Shadowhunter with a Downworlder so that they will have the best of each other's skills. The Downworlder will have the Shadowhunter's fighting skills while the Shadowhunter will have the Downworlder's strength, immortality, or magical abilities. Clary announces her knowledge to the group, proving her ability to create runes not previously known by making a rune that makes the people in the room to see their true loves.

### Analysis

Clary is angry with her mother for hiding her true heritage from her and not telling her about Valentine or Jace. This causes Clary to run out on her mother upon her return even though the reader knows that Clary would have walked through fire to get her mother back. Clary finally has someone to blame for everything that has happened to her, and she takes her pain out on her mother. This might seem ungrateful at first, but the reader must understand that Clary has been dealing with all this essentially alone because of her mother's coma. She has no one to be angry with since it all began.

Clary is speaking with Simon about their current circumstances and all the things that have happened recently. As they talk, Clary recalls a rune the angel showed her. Suddenly, she realizes that she knows the purpose of the rune. Clary then announces to all the Shadowhunters that she can create runes not previously recorded, something no one else can do and Jace has tried to keep hidden. Clary has taken a chance by doing this, but if it works the way she thinks it will, she could save all of Alicante.



## Discussion Question 1

Why is Clary angry with her mother? What does Clary say to her mother? For what reason? How does her mother respond?

## Discussion Question 2

Who finds Clary on the hill? What do they talk about? Why is this conversation important?

## Discussion Question 3

What can Clary do to help save Alicante from Valentine? How do the people respond when she tells them what she can do? How can this change the outcome of a battle with demons?

## Vocabulary

Unbeatable, force, jealous, powerful, possibly, overrun, mandate, ignore, destroy, services, employed, desperation, decided, instruments, destroy, corrupt, utterly, created, amazement.



# Part 3, The Way to Heaven: Chapter 17, The Shadowhunter's Tale

## Summary

Clary's mother joins her as she waits on the steps of the Accords Hall to learn what the Shadowhunters will do. Clary apologizes to her mother and speaks to her about everything she has learned since Valentine found them. Clary's mother Jocelyn tells her story as well. Jocelyn tells Clary that when Valentine came to their apartment, she took the potion to immobilize herself immediately. At first, she was still conscious and aware of what was going on around her. During this time, Valentine began talking to her about their son. Valentine told Jocelyn that the boy survived, and he raised him after faking their deaths. This boy was thought to be Jace, who was raised by Valentine using the name Wayland. However, Valentine revealed to Jocelyn during these talks that there was a second boy. Valentine admits that when Stephen Herondale was killed and his wife committed suicide, Valentine delivered her unborn child and stole him away. Valentine had been giving potions with angel's blood in them to Stephen's wife during her pregnancy and wanted the child to survive. This child was Jace. Sebastian, or the boy pretending to be Sebastian, was Valentine's child, Clary's brother.

## Analysis

Clary and Jace fell in love at first sight. Their relationship quickly blossomed, but it died when they learned they were brother and sister. Jace was raised by Valentine, using the name Michael Wayland to hide from his enemies, and had every reason to believe that he was Valentine's son. However, Clary learns from her mother that Jace is actually the son of Stephen Herondale and his second wife, Celine. Valentine raised the two boys at the same time, but separately. Jace lived in the Wayland manor and was educated by Valentine, while the real Jonathan Morgenstern was raised a few miles away. Jace was not given demon blood before his birth, but angel's blood, just like Clary. While Clary's consumption of angel's blood was accidental, Jace's was intentional and it explains his unique abilities but lack of evil despite his own conviction that he is evil. This is all good news for Clary and Jace, except for the fact that Jace is at that moment rushing to confront Valentine and possibly his own death.

## Discussion Question 1

Why does Jocelyn tell Clary what Valentine told her about the two boys? Does Jocelyn realize how important this information is to Clary? What does Jocelyn want Clary to do with the information?



## Discussion Question 2

Who is Jace? Who were his parents? Why has there been so much confusion about his identity? Why was it believed that Jace was Valentine's son? Is he?

## Discussion Question 3

Who is the boy pretending to be Sebastian? Why did he come to Idris? What was his purpose? Why did he try to take Clary away with him? Why did he not try to take Jace away?

## Vocabulary

Surrender, awkward, lightness, exhausted, imagination, visualize, potion, reflected, puzzlement, sympathy, realized, entrance, automatic, granted, impossible, determined, experiments.



## Part 3, The Way to Heaven: Chapter 18, Hail and Farewell

### Summary

Jace continues to follow Sebastian's path, but loses him in a valley. A raven appears that Jace knows belongs to Valentine, so he decides to follow it instead. Jace follows the raven to a set of caves. In the caves, Jace happens upon an open space where he witnesses a conversation between Valentine and Sebastian. When Valentine leaves, Sebastian confronts Jace.

The Hall of Accords is in chaos as they prepare for battle. It has been decided they will fight using Clary's rune. Clary uses the rune on her mother and Luke to show everyone how it works and that it is safe. This seems to set most everyone's mind at ease.

Word spreads about Jace's biological parents. The Lightwoods are pleased, especially for Clary since this means that she no longer has to pretend she does not love Jace. Alec goes in search of Magnus after getting the news so that he can ask him to be his partner in the battle. Later, Alec and Magnus kiss in front of everyone and Alec introduces him to his family, as promised.

While everyone continues to pair up and argue about the next move, Raphael arrives. Luke has been trying to get the vampires to agree to fight in the battle, so this looks like good news. However, Raphael has a condition. Raphael wants Simon given to him and his friends. Luke balks at the idea, but Simon realizes how important this is and agrees to the exchange. However, before he goes, he asks Clary for a special favor. He wants her to mark him with the Mark of Cain.

### Analysis

Jace follows Valentine's raven to some caves where he overhears Valentine speak to the boy Jace knows as Sebastian about his plan to destroy the entire Shadowhunter race. Jace wants to kill Valentine, to stop him, but he does not have a chance. However, Jace is confronted by Sebastian and learns the truth, or at least some of it, about his own birth. It is a confusing and dangerous moment for Jace, leaving the reader wondering what will happen next.

Clary prepares everyone to pair up. The pairings begin, with her mother and Luke being the first. Magnus and Alec make their relationship public, which is not as complicated nor as frightening as Alec assumed it would be. Everything seems to be going well for Clary and her friends.





Simon is used as a bargaining chip between Raphael and Luke. Luke refuses to play, but Simon insists. However, before he goes, Simon has Clary mark him. This mark could be dangerous to Simon; therefore, the reason why he did this is unclear.

## Discussion Question 1

Why is Jace following Sebastian? What does Jace hope to discover at the end of the trail? What does he find? What does Jace hear about Valentine's plans for the Shadowhunters?

## Discussion Question 2

How does Clary show the Shadowhunters and Downworlders that her rune is safe? What does this say about the relationship between Luke and Jocelyn? What does it say about the trust of the Shadowhunters and Downworlders for one another?

## Discussion Question 3

Why does Raphael want Simon? How does Luke respond to Raphael's demands? How does Simon respond? For what reason?

## Vocabulary

Unfolding, brushed, confused, incredulously, bitter, synagogue, punished, enemies, pretending, deliberately, absolutely, understood, sacrificing, nervously, pillars, glanced, impassive.



# Part 3, The Way to Heaven: Chapter 19, Peniel

## Summary

Maia takes Simon into the woods to join the vampires. After she leaves, Raphael confronts Simon and announces that he plans to kill him because he can walk in daylight, and this could only be dangerous to his people. Simon shows him the Mark of Cain on his forehead and reminds Raphael that whoever kills someone with this mark will suffer horrible vengeance. Raphael refuses to kill Simon, and when he suggests that someone else do it, they all refuse as well.

Jace has been overpowered by Sebastian. Sebastian makes it clear he plans to kill Jace, but he is waiting for something. They talk, and Jace learns more about his and Sebastian's childhoods. Sebastian then releases the demons who will take part in the battle against the Shadowhunters. When it is over, Jace goads Sebastian into releasing him so they can fight properly. Sebastian moves Jace out into the open and releases him. They begin to fight. Sebastian is much stronger than Jace, but Jace is quick and well trained. Despite this, Jace begins to falter and it looks like Sebastian will win. However, Isabelle shows up at the last moment and takes Sebastian down briefly, long enough for Jace to get the upper hand and stab him in the back. Sebastian falls dead into the river.

Simon finds himself on the battlefield moments after the battle began. Simon hesitates briefly, but he soon finds the courage to join the fray. At the same time, Clary is at the Accords Hall when the class of the ceiling breaks and falls. A raven flies into the building where Clary had thought she was alone, but is surprised to discover Malachi is also there. Malachi speaks to Valentine through the bird, revealing to Clary that he is a spy for Valentine. Through this conversation, Clary learns of Valentine's plan to kill all the Shadowhunters. Clary confronts Malachi, but the raven kills Malachi before Clary can convince him of how wrong he and Valentine truly are.

## Analysis

Jace went off in search of Valentine in the hopes of killing him. Instead, Jace learns the truth of his birth and is faced with the wrath of the boy whose name he has and whose life he has lived. Jace and Sebastian fight, and it is clear that Sebastian's demon blood makes him much stronger and much more powerful than Jace. However, Jace has the angels on his side, specifically his foster sister, Isabelle. Jace manages, with Isabelle's help, to get the better of Sebastian and kill him. However, this does nothing to stop Valentine's plan.



Clary learns from the spy, Malachi, what Valentine is planning. Valentine does not only want to rule all the Shadowhunters, he wants to destroy them and begin anew. This is a crazy plan that will leave all of Clary's family and friends dead. Clary confronts Malachi, but it is clear that Valentine has already decided he has used Malachi as far as necessary. He has his raven kill him. Now Clary is left trying to figure out how to stop her father.

## Discussion Question 1

Why does Jace go after Sebastian? Why does Sebastian want Jace dead? What does Sebastian tell Jace about himself, about their childhoods? How does Jace receive this news?

## Discussion Question 2

What does Sebastian release, earlier than Valentine instructed? Why does he want Jace to see it? What happens to Clary when these things are released? What happens to Simon and the others?

## Discussion Question 3

What is Valentine's ultimate plan? Why did he want the Mortal Instruments? What will happen to the Shadowhunters under Valentine's plan? Who has the power to stop Valentine?

## Vocabulary

Appreciated, apparently, triumphant, glimmer, crumpled, extended, astonished, honest, brutally, betray, fanatic, passion, corruption, weakness, approve, gesture, accomplish, misguided, pandering.



## Part 3, The Way to Heaven: Chapter 20, Weighed in the Balance

### Summary

Clary portals to Lake Lyn and falls into it again. Valentine pulls her out and cures the curse, but leaves her tied and gagged with runes. Valentine tells Clary that he needs blood to carry out his ritual and since she is there, he will use hers. As Valentine is about to kill Clary, Jace arrives. The two men fight. Jace is killed. Valentine then returns to his ritual, using Jace's blood.

The angel arises out of the lake. Valentine tells the angel what he wants, but the angel finds Valentine's scheme to be amusing. The angel refuses to do as Valentine has asked because Clary has managed to change one of the runes of the ritual to make the angel subordinate only to her. The angel then kills Valentine and offers Clary one wish. Clary wishes for Jace to be given back his life.

### Analysis

Clary wants to confront her father, but her portal lands her in the lake a second time and she has to be rescued by her father. Valentine ties Clary up with runes and plans to use her blood to complete his ritual, reveling to both Clary and the reader that he never really cared for her all that much. Valentine begins the ritual, but before he can kill Clary, Jace shows up.

Jace has confronted Valentine before, but he has memories of Valentine as a caring father, therefore he could not kill him the previous time. Valentine remembers this and does not expect Jace to be capable of it this time, but Jace clearly is. Jace has matured a lot in the past month and learning that he is not of demon blood has clearly made things much more transparent to him. Jace tries to kill Valentine, but Valentine is too quick and he gets the better of Jace.

Now that Clary and Jace know they are not related, they are torn apart again by Valentine with Jace's death. Clary, despite her deep grief, cannot let Valentine win. All three of these books have been leading to this moment. However, it is not Clary who kills Valentine, but the angel in revenge for what Valentine did to the other angel.

In the end, Clary's father is dead, the Shadowhunters are saved, and Jace is brought back to life.



## Discussion Question 1

Why does Clary transport herself to Lake Lyn? What does she expect to find there? What does she find?

## Discussion Question 2

What does Valentine want to use Clary for? Why does Valentine have little parental concern for Clary? Why does Valentine want to destroy the Shadowhunter race so much?

## Discussion Question 3

What happens when the angel is resurrected in Lake Lyn? How does the angel respond to Valentine's demands that the Shadowhunter people be destroyed? How has Clary changed the runes to make the angel subordinate to her and not Valentine? How does this change things?

## Vocabulary

Incandescent, memory, realized, resurrected, reached, tightened, ritual, reassuring, alive, wonderment, brilliant, bloodstained, panic, resolutely, uneven, desire, remained, compelled.



# Epilogue, Across the Sky in Stars

## Summary

Jace attends Valentine's funeral, but Clary does not. Clary worries that she has not seen Jace since the battle ended three days before, but she understands he was in the hospital during that time. Jace speaks to Luke at the funeral about his relationship to Valentine and the fact that he feels some sadness at his passing. Afterward, Jace goes to Amatis's house to see Clary, but he learns she is not there. Amatis, however, gives Jace a box filled with things that belonged to Stephen Herondale, her former husband and Jace's father.

There is to be a celebration for the Shadowhunters. Clary plans to attend, but she cannot decide what to wear. Clary returns to Amatis's home and overhears her mother and Luke talking. Luke tells Jocelyn that he plans to move to Idris to take a place on the Clave. Jocelyn does not tell Luke not to take it. Amatis confronts Jocelyn after Luke leaves and asks her to tell Luke she loves him. Clary also confronts Jocelyn, causing her to rush out of the house to tell Luke how she really feels.

That night, Clary arrives at the party in a silver dress she borrowed from Amatis. Clary is nervous to see Jace, but when they meet, he assures her that he still loves her. They attend the party together and meet their friends. Simon is with both Isabelle and Maia, making Clary laugh at his complicated relationships. Jocelyn and Luke are together, the Clave has added three new members, all Downworlders, and the Demon Towers have been repaired.

Clary is approached by the Seelie Queen. The queen wants Clary to arrange for her to put in a good word for the queen's desired representative on the board. Clary refuses.

## Analysis

Clary is worried that Jace will not love her now that things have settled, and their love is no longer forbidden. However, she happily realizes she is wrong when he reaffirms his love for her. At the same time, Clary's mother and Luke find happiness together, as do many of her friends, including Alec and Magnus. It seems now that Valentine is gone, life is good for Clary and all her friends.

## Discussion Question 1

Why does Clary not see Jace for three days after Valentine's death? Why does Clary not go to Valentine's funeral? How does Clary feel about Jace after the battle?



## Discussion Question 2

Why does Luke want to stay in Idris? What does he tell Jocelyn? How does Jocelyn respond? How does Luke want Jocelyn to respond?

## Discussion Question 3

Who is the Seelie Queen? Why does Clary dislike her? Why does Clary refuse to do a favor for the Seelie Queen? Why is this unusual?

## Vocabulary

Exploded, reverie, recollection, reminded, different, wondered, confused, darkness, absently, curling, disappear, thoughtfully, actually, terrible, shocked, admiring, demanded, unkindness.



# Characters

## Clarissa 'Clary' Fray Morgenstern

Clary is a sixteen year old teenager from New York City who recently discovered that she is not human. She is part of a race of Nephilim called Shadowhunters. Not only has Clary discovered her true heritage, but she has also discovered that her biological father named Valentine is attempting to gather the Mortal Instruments so that he can rule the Shadowhunters.

Clary travels to Idris in this novel, the capital city of the Shadowhunter world Alicante. Clary has come to Idris illegally because she needs to be in Idris to find the magician, Ragnor Fell, but her travel plans changed when her brother, Jace, told her the wrong time. Clary makes her own portal into Alicante, but she lands in a cursed lake that causes her to become ill.

Clary recovers from her illness and begins searching for Ragnor Fell. Sebastian, a friend of the Lightwoods, takes Clary to Fell's home, but she quickly discovers that Fell has been killed by her father, Valentine's, men. However, there is a book that Clary can recover that will help her mother. This leads Clary and her brother, Jace, to the home where Jace grew up with Valentine. In the house, they find an imprisoned angel. This angel shows Jace and Clary images of Valentine that helps them to realize what he did to them and why they have powers no other Shadowhunter has.

Clary and Jace must confront their father as he tries to destroy the Shadowhunters and begin a new race of fighters. Clary manages to outwit her father and watches as the angel he conjured kills him. However, Jace paid with his life in his confrontation with their father. The angel resurrects Jace at Clary's request and the two, who have discovered they are not biologically related, are free to indulge their romantic relationship.

## Jace Wayland

Jace Wayland is a seventeen year old boy who grew up both in Alicante and New York. For the first ten years of his life, Jace was raised by Valentine, though he knew him as Michael Wayland. When Jace was ten, he was told his father had died and he was sent to live with the Lightwood family in New York. Upon meeting Clary, Jace has learned that not only is Michael Wayland dead, but his real name is Valentine Morgestern and he is Clary's father. That makes Jace and Clary brother and sister, a relationship that makes their growing romantic feelings for one another impossible.

Jace is confused and unhappy, believing he is the son of an evil man. When Jace and Clary find the imprisoned angel, the images the angel shows them convinces Jace that his father fed him demon blood before his birth. Jace believes it is this blood that makes





him more powerful than other Shadowhunters, but also makes him evil despite his good intentions.

Jace takes it upon himself to search out Valentine and kill him after Valentine manages to take out the demon towers and invade Idris with demons. Jace traces Sebastian, Valentine's spy, and searches out Valentine. After killing Sebastian, Jace confronts Valentine as he is about to kill Clary. They fight, and Valentine kills Jace. However, Clary asks an angel to resurrect him.

## Simon Lewis

Simon Lewis is Clary's best friend. In a previous novel, Simon was turned into a vampire after an attack by vampires in a New York hotel. Simon was then kidnapped by Valentine and drained of all his blood to be used in a ritual. Simon recovered by drinking Jace's blood, something that seems to have caused Simon to be able to walk in daylight despite his vampire nature.

Simon and Clary have been friends since childhood. When Clary had to stop seeing Jace because she believed him to be her brother, she began to have a romantic relationship with Simon. However, Clary never really stopped loving Jace and soon ended the relationship. Simon was heartbroken, but now that he has come to understand Jace a little more, he is beginning to move on to other girls, including Isabelle Lightwood.

Simon is arrested in this novel by the Clave because they believe him to be Valentine's spy. Simon refuses to give the inquisitor the information he wants, so he is left in his cell to starve. Jace and Isabelle bring him blood to keep him alive. On the day of the attack by Valentine's demons, Jace gets Simon out of his cell. Simon later convinces the vampires to fight with the Shadowhunters against Valentine and to take a seat on the council.

## Isabelle Lightwood

Isabelle Lightwood is the sixteen year old daughter of the Lightwoods. Isabelle is a Shadowhunter who has trained all her life to fight Downworlders, including demons, fairies, vampires, and werewolves. When the demons attack Idris, Isabelle fights a demon off of her friend, Aline. Later, Isabelle returns home to defend against the demons there, only to be attacked by a trusted friend. Isabelle's brother is killed, leaving Isabelle filled with guilt. Simon helps Isabelle deal with her emotions.

## Alec Lightwood

Alec Lightwood is Isabelle's brother. Alec is eighteen, the eldest of Clary's friends. Alec is gay and has had a crush on Jace for several years. In this novel, Alec is finally able to let go of his feelings for Jace and realize that he loves Magnus Bane. Magnus loves



Alec as well, but refuses to be with him until Alec is ready to admit who he really is to his family. After the attack by the demons in Idris, Alec realizes how deeply his feelings run, and he finally lets his family know the truth in a public display of affection with Magnus.

## Magnus Bane

Magnus Bane is a magician who is hundreds of years old. Magnus has been wiping Clary's memories for years at the request of Clary's mother, Jocelyn. When Clary begins to remember, Magnus helps her recover her memories without causing herself trauma. Magnus becomes a frequent visitor of the Institute in New York and develops a relationship with Alec Lightwood.

Clary has come to Alicante to find the magician named Ragnor Fell. When she arrives at Fell's house, Magnus is there. Magnus received a note from Ragnor telling him of the attack by Valentine's demons. This note also tells Magnus about a book of spells called the Book of the White. Magnus asks Clary to get the book. In return, he will save her mother. Magnus is true to his word, not only saving Jocelyn, but returning to Alicante to help fight against Valentine and his demons.

## Luke

Luke was once a Shadowhunter who was part of the Circle, the group Valentine created to fight the Accords and the Clave. One night Luke was bitten by a werewolf. This caused Luke to be ousted not only by the Circle, but by the Shadowhunters as well, including his sister. However, Jocelyn remains friends with Luke and turns to him when she becomes suspicious of her husband's actions.

Luke remains close to Jocelyn, living in New York with her and helping keep her safe from Valentine. When Valentine attacks and Jocelyn puts herself into a coma, Luke steps up and takes care of Clary. Luke also travels with Clary to Alicante and helps organize the werewolves when Valentine's demons attack Idris.

Luke knows that the only way the Shadowhunters can survive is if they work together with the Downworlders. Luke is able to convince the Downworlders to help, but the Clave takes a bit more persuading. In the end, it is Clary's ability to bind Shadowhunters to Downworlders that convinces the Clave there is a possibility of winning. In the end, the Shadowhunters and Downworlders work together and remain connected through the three seats the Downworlders are given on the Clave.

## Jocelyn Fray or Fairchild

Jocelyn Fairchild was once married to Valentine Morgernstern. Unbeknownst to her, Valentine fed Jocelyn demon blood during her first pregnancy in the hopes of creating a child with powers similar to the Downworlders. When the child is born, Jocelyn instinctively knows there is something wrong with it and this causes her to fall into a



depression. Later, when Jocelyn becomes pregnant with her second child, Valentine feeds her a potion made with angel blood. Valentine is not aware that Jocelyn is pregnant this time, but he does it to try to cheer Jocelyn out of her depression. Shortly after, there is an uprising, which Valentine loses. He fakes his death. Jocelyn moves to New York and goes into hiding, hoping to protect her newborn daughter from Valentine.

Jocelyn places herself into a coma when Valentine finds her in New York in an attempt to keep from telling Valentine where the Mortal Instruments are kept. Valentine speaks to Jocelyn and tells her about the two sons he raised in Alicante, both their son who was given demon blood and the son of a friend whom Valentine fed angel's blood. When Jocelyn is awakened from her coma, she is able to tell her daughter Clary the truth about the two boys. She lets Clary know that Jace is not her brother.

## **Valentine Morgenstern**

Valentine Morgenstern is a Shadowhunter who long ago became convinced that the Clave was outdated and needed to change. Valentine organized a group, called the Circle, to protest against the Clave and to promote change. This group started out as benevolent, but it soon became violent. An uprising took place, but the Clave was able to defeat the Circle. Most of the members were punished, but they were allowed back into Shadowhunter society. Valentine faked his death and disappeared for a decade.

Valentine has begun searching for the Mortal Instruments, three items given to the original Shadowhunter from the angel who created them. These instruments can be used to summon the angel again. Valentine hopes to summon the angel and use him to his own ends. As this novel progresses, Clary begins to realize that her father is jealous of the powers of the Downworlders and wants to create a race of Shadowhunters with similar powers. This is why Valentine did experiments on unborn children to try to make them stronger and more powerful. These experiments resulted in three unusual children, Jace, Clary, and his own son, Jonathan.

Clary and Jace confront Valentine at the end of the novel as he is attempting to summon the angel. Valentine kills Jace, but Clary manages to outsmart her father and bind the angel to her. This leads to the angel killing Valentine out of revenge for what he did to the other angel and giving Clary one wish. Clary wishes for Jace's life.

## **Jonathon Morgenstern or Sebastian Verlac**

Sebastian Verlac is the cousin of Aline Penhallow. Sebastian befriends the Lightwoods and Clary. Sebastian helps Clary find Ragnor Fells's home where Clary runs into Magnus Bane and finds a way to save her mother. Later, Sebastian takes Clary to see the home where her parents lived before the fire that was thought to have taken Valentine's life. Sebastian kisses Clary, but Clary feels that there is something wrong with their relationship and ends it.

The night Valentine's demons invade the city of Idris, Sebastian attacks Max and Isabelle Lightwood. Sebastian turns out to be Jonathan Morgenstern, the biological son of Valentine and Jocelyn. Jonathan has used his demon blood to take down the Demon Towers and allow the attack to take place. Jonathan then gets important information on the location of the final Mortal Instrument, the mirror. Jonathan returns to Valentine and prepares to take out the Shadowhunters and begin a new race of Shadowhunters. However, Jace tracks Jonathan, fights him, and appears to have killed him.



# Symbols and Symbolism

## Hall of Accords

The Hall of the Accords is a building in the center of Idris that becomes the center of all activity after Valentine's initial attack on the city.

## The Clave

The Clave is the ruling council of Shadowhunters in Idris.

## Stele

A stele is a wand that the Shadowhunters use to draw runes to do everything from heal wounds to fight demons.

## Seraph Blades

Jace uses seraph blades in his fights against Downworlders and Valentine. One of these blades is named for an angel and glows when the name is invoked.

## Whips

Isabelle fights with whips that glow when she wields them.

## Shadowhunter Gear

Shadowhunters wear special gear made out of a thin, durable material that helps protect them in fights. Clary does not have any of this gear herself, but she borrows some from Amatis.

## Mortal Instruments

When the angel created the first Shadowhunters, he gave them three items. These items, a sword, a cup, and a mirror, are said to be able to call the angel again. Valentine searches for and finds all three Mortal Instruments and uses them to call the angel, but Clary manages to change one of the runes in the ritual to bind the angel to her, not Valentine. The angel kills Valentine and resurrects Jace at Clary's request.



## **Book of White**

The Book of the White is a spell book that has in it the spell to bring Jocelyn out of her self-induced coma. Clary finds this book at Wayland Manor and gives it to Magnus Bane.

## **The Demon Towers**

The Demon Towers are towers in Idris that protect the city from demons entering. These towers have kept demons out for hundreds of years, but Valentine discovers a way to take them down. Valentine uses his son, Jonathan, a child who was born with demon blood, to take the towers down.

## **The Gard**

The Gard is the building in which the Clave meets. It is also in the Gard where Simon and Hodge Starkweather are imprisoned.

# Settings

## Idris

Idris is the only city in the world of Alicante. Idris is protected by the Demon Towers that keep demons out of the city. All visitors to Alicante must pass through gates and gain permission to enter the city. Downworlders are not encouraged to visit Idris and demons are prohibited for the protection of the people of the city. Clary and Luke enter the city illegally when they first arrive in Alicante, but this becomes a moot point when Valentine manages to bring down the demon towers and attacks the city with an army of demons.

## New York City

The novel begins in New York City where main character, Clary Fray, lives. Clary is a member of a special race of people, the Shadowhunters, who were created to protect humans from Downworlders, vampires, demons, fairies, and werewolves. However, to protect Clary from her father, Clary's mother brought her to New York where she has raised her without telling her about her unique heritage. It was only by accident that Clary began to realize her real identity. The first two novels of the series take place in New York, but this novel is only set in New York in the first two chapters.

## Alicante

Alicante is the home of the Shadowhunters. Alicante is a hidden place that is only accessible through magical portals. Alicante consists in one large city called Idris. Idris consists of scattered estates in the countryside where wealthy families live. In Alicante there is a lake called Lake Lyn, where it is said that the first Shadowhunter conjured the angel Raziel and asked that the Shadowhunters be created to protect the human world from Downworlders. This lake has since been cursed against Shadowhunters, causing any Shadowhunter who falls into it to become ill and hallucinate until a cure can be administered. Clary falls into this lake twice during her time in Alicante.



# Themes and Motifs

## Family

Clary always thought she was an only child. Clary also thought she was human. However, one night in a nightclub, Clary discovers that none of this is true. Clary is part of a Nephilim race known as Shadowhunters. Clary's family has hunted Downworlders for many generations in order to protect the human race. Not only this, but Clary learns that she has an older brother, Jonathan Christopher, who is the same person as Jace, the boy she loves.

In this novel, Clary comes face to face with both her parents and her true brother. Clary's mother has been in a coma since Clary began recalling who she is, leaving her without someone to talk to about all she has learned. When Clary's mother is revived, Clary is filled with anger toward the woman who wiped her memories in order to protect her from a father who has become a renegade against everything the Shadowhunters believe. Clary's mother only wanted to protect her child, but by doing this, she left Clary vulnerable when Valentine, her father, finally found them. Valentine wants to take over the Shadowhunters, to rule them, and he will hurt anyone who gets in his way, including his daughter.

When Clary's mother wakes, Clary learns that Jace, whom she loves, but thinks is her brother, is not really her biological brother. Jace was raised by Valentine, but he is the biological son of a friend of Valentine's whose wife committed suicide after her husband's death. Valentine saved the child because he was experimenting with angel blood, feeding it to the expectant mother to try to create a child with special powers. Valentine tells everyone Jace is his, causing a great deal of pain for his only daughter. In the end, Clary learns that Jace is not her biological brother, but that her biological brother is a young man whose demon blood leaves him incapable of love for anyone but their diabolical father.

Family is a complicated issue for Clary. She loves a boy she believes to be her brother, but she distrusts a boy who turns out to be her biological brother. Clary's mother lied to her, but was only trying to protect her. Clary's father is corrupted by his own desires, using everyone, including his daughter, to get what he wants, dying for it in the end. It is for these reasons that family is a theme of the novel.

## Diplomacy

Luke was once a Shadowhunter, but he is now a werewolf who has been disowned by the Shadowhunter people. For this reason, Luke formed his own pack and lived for years in the woods outside of Idris. Only one Shadowhunter continued to believe in Luke. For that reason, he went with her to New York to protect her from Valentine. Jocelyn is the love of Luke's life and the reason for most everything he does.





When Valentine manages to find a way to take down the Demon Towers in Idris and has his army of demons attack, Luke brings his pack to Idris to help defend his former friends and neighbors. Despite all the good Luke does in this fight with his pack, the Shadowhunters continue to distrust him. Luke alone can see that the Shadowhunters can only win against Valentine if they allow the Downworlders to join in the fight. Luke works for days trying to convince the Clave to allow his pack and other Downworlders who want to help fight against Valentine too.

Shadowhunters came into existence to protect human kind from Downworlders. For this reason, Shadowhunters have spent generations killing vampires, werewolves, fairies, and demons. Now Valentine is attacking the Shadowhunters where they live in an attempt to make a better race of Shadowhunters and kill even more Downworlders. For this reason, both groups are in the same boat. Luke wants them to join together rather than continue fighting against one another. Luke's arguments are met with resistance, but eventually, with Clary's help, Luke gets his message across. For this reason, diplomacy is a theme of the novel.

## Anarchy

Valentine was once a Shadowhunter who was proud of his heritage and his people. Things began to change when Valentine came of the opinion that the Clave was behind the times and needed to change. Valentine formed a group called the Circle that he used to help promote change. However, Valentine's jealousy of the Downworlders' powers and his desire to rule the Shadowhunter society caused him to become more of a vigilante than a protester hoping to influence change.

Valentine becomes a villain through his own desires. Valentine is determined to rule the Shadowhunters and to force change by becoming a dictator. To do this, Valentine has decided it is necessary to kill all Shadowhunters and turn them into what is called the Forsaken. Valentine believes the only way to start over is to start from scratch, to create a new race of Shadowhunters with greater powers. To achieve this, Valentine has decided to resurrect the angel who began the Shadowhunter race and ask him to kill all the Shadowhunters who are not marked. This backfires on Valentine when the Shadowhunters join with the Downworlders to fight the demons and Clary alters the runes of Valentine's ritual to bind the angel to herself, not Valentine.

Valentine was an anarchist. He was trying to force change by becoming an absolute ruler. He decided that his people were not good enough to live. Valentine wanted to be stronger, to be better, and he wanted people who were the same. For this reason, Valentine altered his unborn children. He created a new race of people. However, at the same time, he nearly destroyed a whole race of people.



# Styles

## Point of View

The point of view of this novel is third person omniscient. The author uses her main characters, Jace, Clary, Simon, and Valentine, to narrate the novel. The author remains in the mind of each character throughout an entire scene. Then, she moves to the mind of another character when the scene changes. This gives the reader a well-rounded view of the plot. The reader sees things that some key characters might not be aware of.

The point of view of this novel works well with the plot because it allows the author to tell the story through the eyes of multiple characters, including minor as well as major characters. The author moves from character to character quickly in her narration, telling the story in multiple scenes with multiple plot lines. This allows the author to tell a large story in a way that keeps the reader from becoming confused by events that take place out of the knowledge of the main characters. For this reason, the point of view of this novel works well with the plot.

## Language and Meaning

The novel is written in simple English. The novel's intended audience is young adults, therefore the language is targeted toward this audience. To this end, the language is mostly simple, filled at some points with slang. The language includes some words that were created to support the science fiction aspects of the novel's genre, but most of these words are simple and easy for the reader to understand.

The language of this novel works well with the plot because the language is authentic to both the main characters of the novel and the intended audience. The author keeps her language simple enough for the youngest readers to understand the plot, but it is complicated enough so that it would be easily believed that the story is being told by teenagers who live extraordinary lives. The genre requires the author to create whole worlds that only exist in the plot of this novel, but she does not use this as an excuse to make up a lot of words that would require a glossary for the reader to comprehend what is happening in the plot. For these reasons, the language of this novel works well with the plot.

## Structure

The novel is divided into twenty chapters and an epilogue. The chapters are divided into three parts. Each chapter has a title that reflects some event that will take place in that chapter. The chapters are of substantial length, some taking place over multiple scenes and multiple hours. The novel is written in both narration and dialogue, showing a story rather than telling it.



The novel contains multiple plots. The main plot follows Clary Fray as she travels to the world of Alicante to find a magician whom she believes can wake her mother from a self-induced coma.

Another major plot of the novel continues a plot begun in the two previous novels that follows Clary's father Valentine, as he struggles to gain control of the Shadowhunter peoples by any means necessary.

A subplot of the novel also continues a plot begun in another novel, the struggle between Clary and Jace Wayland as they try to ignore their romantic feelings for one another due to the fact that they believe themselves to be biological siblings.

Another subplot follows Clary's relationship with Simon Lewis and his troubles with the Shadowhunter leaders, the Clave. All the plots come to a satisfactory conclusion at the end of the novel.



## Quotes

Everyone does what they must to survive. In that way even we are just like humans.  
-- Rafael (Chapter 19 paragraph 22)

**Importance:** Raphael says this to Simon as he tries to convince him to submit to the vampires and allow them to kill him because he can stand in the daylight where other vampires cannot.

The smoke rose in a lazy spiral, tracing delicate lines of black across the clear air. Jace, alone on the hill overlooking the cemetery, sat with his elbows on his knees and watched the smoke drift heavenward. The irony wasn't lost on him: These were his father's remains, after all.  
-- Jace (Epilogue paragraph 1)

**Importance:** This is Jace's reaction to watching his father's funeral. Jace finds it ironic that Valentine's funeral pyre is admitting smoke to heaven because Valentine was evil, and his spirit should be going the other direction.

My mom got the spell that put her in this state from a warlock – Ragnor Fell. Madeleine says we need to track him down if we want to know how to reverse the spell.  
-- Clary (Chapter 1 paragraph 24)

**Importance:** This is Clary's motivation for going to Idris, part of the conflict that drives the plot of the novel.

The gates were carved with the swirling, angular patterns of runes, and though Simon couldn't read them as Clary could, there was something dazzling in their complexity and the sense of power that emanated from them.  
-- Simon (Chapter 4 paragraph 28)

**Importance:** This is Simon's reaction to seeing the portal that allows Shadowhunters to travel from the mortal world to Idris.

She had to find Ragnor Fell now; she had to save her mother now, she had to go now.  
-- Clary (Chapter 5 paragraph 15)

**Importance:** This shows Clary's impatience as she finds herself practically a prisoner in the home of Luke's sister after her illegal arrival in Idris.

They're trying to prove something about your family—about the Lightwoods. They're trying to prove that they're connected with Valentine somehow. That they never really left the Circle.  
-- Simon (Chapter 7 paragraph 26)

**Importance:** This is a warning that Simon gives to Jace about the Clave. Simon is



concerned that Jace's family has become a target of some of the less than honorable politicians as a result of the activities in New York generated around Valentine. This marks a change in the relationship between Jace and Simon.

He still remembered Raphael throwing packets of animal blood at him, and the way he'd torn into them with his teeth as if he were an animal himself. It wasn't something he liked to remember. He would have been happy never to see the vampire boy again.  
-- Simon (Chapter 8 paragraph 7)

**Importance:** This is part memory and part Simon's reaction to seeing Raphael in his Gard cell. Simon is still adjusting to being a vampire, and this quote makes it clear he is not good with it yet.

The skull of a face turned toward her, black empty sockets where the eyes should have been—and then there was a dry rustle, and she saw that what she had thought was a white rag were wings, white wings rising up behind his back in two pure white crescents, the only pure things in this filthy room.  
-- Clary (Chapter 9 paragraph 16)

**Importance:** This is Clary's impression of the angel she and Jace find locked in Wayland Manor, Valentine's former home. It is this angel that reveals some of the truth of what Valentine did to both Jace and Clary before their births.

Everything about Sebastian was mild, Isabelle thought with a twinge of annoyance. She'd been impressed by his looks at first—those sharply planed cheekbones and those black, fathomless eyes—but his affable, sympathetic personality grated on her now.  
-- Isabelle (Chapter 10 paragraph 9)

**Importance:** This quote is one of the first hints in the novel that there is something wrong about Sebastian, warning the reader of things about to happen with him in the plot.

Simon's hands were dark with blood.  
-- Simon (Chapter 1 paragraph 12)

**Importance:** This is a description of Simon after he has attempted in desperation to get out of his Gard cell when hunger began to haunt him.

He had never much liked Robert, but there was something about the sight of such a big man made helpless by grief that was painful to witness.  
-- Luke (Chapter 15 paragraph 19)

**Importance:** This is Luke's reaction to seeing Robert Lightwood consumed by grief after Sebastian killed his youngest son.



With Jonathan, Valentine wanted to create some kind of superwarrior, stronger and faster and better than other Shadowhunters. At Renwick's, Valentine told me that Jonathan really was all those things. But that he was also cruel and amoral and strangely empty.

-- Jocelyn (Chapter 17 paragraph 120)

**Importance:** This quote is from Jocelyn's confession to Clary that Valentine told her about what he had done to Jonathon, Clary, and Jace before their birth. At this point, Jocelyn is describing how feeding Jocelyn demon blood during her pregnancy changed her infant into someone broken.