

# **Thirst No. 1: The Last Vampire, Black Blood, Red Dice Study Guide**

## **Thirst No. 1: The Last Vampire, Black Blood, Red Dice by Christopher Pike (author)**

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# Contents

<a href="#">Thirst No. 1: The Last Vampire, Black Blood, Red Dice Study Guide.....</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">Contents.....</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">Plot Summary.....</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 1.....</a>	<a href="#">6</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 2.....</a>	<a href="#">7</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 3.....</a>	<a href="#">9</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 4.....</a>	<a href="#">11</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 5.....</a>	<a href="#">12</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 6.....</a>	<a href="#">14</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 7.....</a>	<a href="#">15</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 8.....</a>	<a href="#">16</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 9.....</a>	<a href="#">17</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 10.....</a>	<a href="#">18</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 11.....</a>	<a href="#">19</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 12.....</a>	<a href="#">20</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 13.....</a>	<a href="#">21</a>
<a href="#">Part II Chapter 1.....</a>	<a href="#">22</a>
<a href="#">Part II, Chapter 2.....</a>	<a href="#">24</a>
<a href="#">Part II, Chapter 3.....</a>	<a href="#">25</a>
<a href="#">Part II, Chapter 4.....</a>	<a href="#">26</a>
<a href="#">Part II, Chapter 5.....</a>	<a href="#">27</a>
<a href="#">Part II, Chapter 6.....</a>	<a href="#">28</a>
<a href="#">Part II, Chapter 7.....</a>	<a href="#">29</a>
<a href="#">Part II, Chapter 8.....</a>	<a href="#">30</a>
<a href="#">Part II, Chapter 9.....</a>	<a href="#">31</a>

Part II, Chapter 10.....	32
Part II, Chapter 11.....	33
Part II, Chapter 12.....	34
Part II, Chapter 13.....	35
Part II, Chapter 14.....	36
Part II, Chapter 15.....	37
Part III, Chapter 1.....	38
Part III, Chapter 2.....	39
Part III, Chapter 3.....	40
Part III, Chapter 4.....	41
Part III, Chapter 5.....	42
Part III, Chapter 6.....	43
Part III, Chapter 7.....	44
Part III, Chapter 8.....	45
Part III, Chapter 9.....	46
Part III, Chapter 10.....	47
Part III, Chapter 11.....	48
Part III, Chapter 12.....	49
Part III, Chapter 13.....	50
Part III, Chapter 14.....	51
Part III, Chapter 15.....	52
Part III, Chapter 16.....	53
Part III, Chapter 17.....	54
Epilogue.....	55
Characters.....	56
Objects/Places.....	60



<u>Themes.....</u>	<u>62</u>
<u>Style.....</u>	<u>64</u>
<u>Quotes.....</u>	<u>66</u>
<u>Topics for Discussion.....</u>	<u>70</u>

# Plot Summary

"Thirst No. 1: The Last Vampire, Black Blood, Red Dice" is the first novel in the "Thirst" series by author Christopher Pike. The story follows the main character, Alisa Perne, as she goes through her life as a modern day vampire, even though she has been one for the last five thousand years. Alisa lives her life of luxury with secret bank accounts, and even changes her identity from time to time, in order to keep her secret life hidden.

She was Sita when she was originally transformed into a vampire by her creator Yaksha. She makes a vow to Krishna, her God, not to create any more vampires, but things get complicated when Alisa, as Lara Adams, falls in love with Ray. Now, Yaksha is back to hunt Sita, which further complicates the situation.

In the end, Sita has to break her vow in order to save mankind as a whole. In her final act, she destroys one of her past loves in order to keep the Earth from being overrun by vampires, but has to sacrifice another love in the process. She also decides she no longer wants an immortal life, but just once to be a mother once again. This causes her to perform an experiment to transform from a vampire into a human once again. What Sita doesn't know is if it works.

# Chapter 1

## Chapter 1 Summary

Alisa Perne is the narrator of "Thirst No. 1: The Last Vampire, Black Blood, Red Dice". She says she is a modern vampire, so that many of the assumptions made about vampires are not true. She says her current body is 18 years old. In reality, she was around before the pyramids were erected. She says she drinks blood, but also eats and digests normal food. She states that her senses are acute and her strength is great—although she doesn't kill as much as she once did. Alisa is currently standing outside of Detective Michael Riley's office. He has summoned her there to tell Alisa something. She doesn't know what he has to say.

Riley explains that he is a private detective. He starts to describe the vast wealth Alisa possesses, including her real estate holdings and investments. Without denying that his facts are true or false, Alisa asks why he is researching her and who hired him. She asks him how much he wants to keep her invisible. When he says that nobody pointed him in her direction, Alisa says that her offer to keep him quiet is nothing.

Riley threatens to make the information public. Alisa points out that she knows he's taping the conversation, has a gun on his person and one on his desk under the papers. She offers him a million dollars if he tells her who has hired him to research her. When he continues to insist that nobody put him onto her, she threatens to kill him and tells her that she is a vampire. Riley reaches for his gun but not fast enough, because Alisa kicks him so hard in his chest Riley starts to bleed. As he is dying, she gets out of Riley that a man named Slim is the one that asked him to look in to her. She finds out Riley has a son and promises to take care of him if he tells her how to find Slim. Riley dies.

Alisa notes the picture of the 18 year old with Riley on his desk. She looks in his computer to find information on Slim but there is a passcode. Alisa cleans up the mess, puts Riley's body in garbage bags and takes it to her car. Alisa buries Riley's body in the woods. Later, in her mansion by the sea, she stares at the photo of Riley and his son. She ponders why his son looks so familiar to her.

## Chapter 1 Analysis

Alisa is an old soul in a young body. Because she is a vampire living among humans, it seems as if she has to create identities out of thin air. The fact that a man that goes by the name of Slim hires a private detective to research Alisa suggests that Slim suspects Alisa is something other than human. Because Alisa has to take on different human forms, since she is 5,000 years old in reality, it is possible that she knows Riley's son from one of her human forms. It even suggests that his son might be a vampire as well because Alisa says that his eyes seem familiar.

# Chapter 2

## Chapter 2 Summary

Alisa says she doesn't need much sleep; a few hours will do. She admits the sunlight bothers her, but not like it is portrayed in novels, such as Bram Stoker's "Dracula". In 1899, she visited Stoker and had him sign a copy of the book, which she read in seconds because she has a photographic memory.

The next morning, Alisa contacts the three businessmen that handle her accounts on three different continents. They are all adamant that they didn't give out any of her financial or personal information to anyone. With the American businessman, Alisa establishes a new identity, Lara Adams, and arranges for her guardian Mrs. Adams to enroll her at Mayfair High in all of Ray Riley's classes. Ray is the son of the detective.

Alisa says she is starting to crave blood, which happens after a week of not consuming any. She says she doesn't die if she doesn't drink it, and has gone up to six months without drinking blood. Alisa also says that when she drinks the blood of a human or they taste her blood, it doesn't transform them into a vampire. Alisa drives to Northern California, walks into a bar and spots a truck driver having a beer in the corner. She picks him up, and he takes her to a hotel. She bites into the back of his neck, drinking a couple pints of his blood. She bites the tip of her tongue so a few drops fall on his wounds and heal them. She tells him to forget her and he falls into a deep sleep.

The next morning, Lara Adams is in history class with Ray and his girlfriend, Pat. Lara can tell from the first time she meets Ray that he is an old soul—a man in a boy's body. Lara and Ray don't have the next two classes together, but Pat has PE with Lara second period. Pat asks why the history teacher, Mr. Castro, kept her after class and what Lara thinks of Ray. Lara is straightforward and sarcastic, yet frank, and her responses startle Pat. During PE, they are learning archery, and Lara meets Seymour Dorsten. As soon as Lara shakes Seymour's hand, she senses that his blood is sick and they he has a disease that will likely kill him in a year.

Lara feels as if Seymour is one of the mortals that can sense what she is thinking. It proves relatively true when she thinks about shooting an arrow at Mr. Castro, who is standing off at the end of the football field, talking to and touching a young blonde girl. Seymour tells Lara not to do it and that he sensed she wanted to shoot Mr. Castro. Lara laughs it off.

The next class Lara has with Ray is fourth period biology. She asks for Ray's help in moving some furniture at her house because her parents are out of town. He says he has to work and to ask Pat. Lara gives him her address—a home rented that morning for her. Lara realizes that Ray's eyes look like her husband Rama's.

After school, Lara returns to the rental home and moves all of the furniture into the garage. She goes into the master bedroom and rests. As she falls asleep, she dreams of the devil, Yaksha, who is also the first of the vampires. She thinks about how she is the last of the vampires.

## **Chapter 2 Analysis**

Alisa is putting to rest a lot of the assumptions and falsehoods that humans have about vampires. Her entire first day at her new high school, she keeps getting the feeling of déjà vu. It is as if several, many, or possibly even the entire school is comprised of humans that have the ability to sense things, just as Alisa does. Ray and Rama having the same eyes suggests that Rama might be reincarnated into Ray's body. Pat, Ray's girlfriend, will probably pose a problem in Lara getting close enough to Ray to get Ray to open the files on his father's computer for her. While Alisa says she doesn't want to kill Pat, she will if she has to. Finally, Alisa suggests that she is the last of the vampires—as if the race of vampires has somehow gone into distinction.





# Chapter 3

## Chapter 3 Summary

Alisa explains that the vampires were the original Aryans—blonde hair and blue eyes. Alias was born in 3000 B.C. in a small Indian village, Rajastan. Her name at the time was Sita and her best friend is the mother of all vampires, Amba. Sita was seven when the disease struck the village that wiped out all of the vampires, except for her.

Amba is one of the first in the village to die of the plague. A priest that recently visited the village convinces the villagers that they need to allow a deity into the body of one of the corpses to get the devil out of the village. The priest chooses Amba's body, Sita thinks because she was eight months pregnant when she died. None of the women are permitted to attend the ceremony, so the men, one of which is Sita's father, take Amba's body to the woods.

Sita sneaks into the woods and hides behind a boulder. When the ceremony is underway, a stench fills the air and something takes over Amba's body—the yakshini takes it over. The yakshini kills the priest, laughs and then lies back down. Amba's belly begins to move so the men think her child is still alive. As they prepare to cut it out of her, Sita reveals herself and begs the men not to bring the child because it is evil. Sita's father gives her the option to cut it out or kill it. Sita doesn't cut the child out, but she names the boy Yaksha.

From the time Yaksha is born, the plague disappears and never returns to the village. Sita's father gives Yaksha to his sister, who is childless, to raise as her own. Yaksha grows at an alarming rate. When he is 8, he is twice the size of Sita, who is twice his age. By the time Yaksha is 20, the six men that witnessed what happened to Amba at the ceremony and Yaksha's birth are disappearing one by one. Even Sita's father vanishes, leaving only a patch of his hair covered in blood by the river. One of the men's bodies is found but it is completely drained of all of its blood.

Shortly after, Sita meets and marries Rama. Within a year, they have a daughter. One night while sleeping, Sita awakens to the sound of nails scraping on a blade. She exits her home to find Yaksha. Yaksha tries to convince Sita to exchange blood with him so they can be together forever or he will kill Rama and their daughter. Sita agrees—selling her soul to the devil's son—Yaksha.

## Chapter 3 Analysis

Alias goes back to the beginning. She reveals to the reader exactly how the vampire race was born. She infers that the vampire race has an evil beginning because it is started when the son of the devil takes on a human form. This also explains why Alisa seems to be slightly on the evil side, but also has a conscience and a good side to her. It is because she was a human that was turned into a vampire by exchanging her blood

with the son of the devil, Yaksha. Because Alisa insinuates that she is the last of the vampires, it suggests that something happens to Yaksha during some point in history that kills him, or at least removes him from Earth and human interaction.

# Chapter 4

## Chapter 4 Summary

Ray wakes Lara, knocking on the door. She invites him in and they drink a glass of wine before moving the furniture. A couple of hours later, Lara lures Ray out into the hot tub. They start to make out as they sit in the hot tub naked. As they sit in front of the fire in the living room, they talk while they are finishing the bottle of wine. Lara tells him to call her Sita, which she says is a nickname her father used to call her. They start to talk about Ray's dad. Lara senses that Ray has heightened senses as well. Ray admits that his father has been gone for three days without calling and that he's a little worried. He says his father was working on a big case that is supposed to pay a lot of money. He mentions that the password on his father's computer is Ray's nickname from when he was a kid. Lara convinces Ray to go check out the files on his father's computer to figure out where his dad is, and that she'll go with him.

## Chapter 4 Analysis

Ray and Lara have a strong connection and bond. This could be foreshadowing that the bond stems from the fact that Lara is actually Sita and that Ray is actually Rama. Ray definitely seems to have an inner sense that there is something different about Lara. Lara has a way of convincing Ray to do and say things without inhibition, which might be part of her powers as a vampire. She is even able to convince Ray to do exactly why she asked for his help in the first place—to get him to unlock his father's computer so she can read his files and find out who put Riley up to researching her and why.

# Chapter 5

## Chapter 5 Summary

They stop at Ray's house to see if his father left a message before heading to his office. When they get to the office, Lara notices minute drops of blood that have seeped into the cracks of the tile that she'll have to return to clean. She pays attention as Ray types in the password, RAYGUN, into the computer. He pulls up the Alisa Perne file. As he closes the file, Lara convinces Ray she hears a noise outside and sends him to investigate. He tells her to lock the door behind him. She pulls her file back up and uses diskettes in Riley's desk to start copying her file. She pretends like the door is stuck when Ray returns so she can finish copying the file. She deletes the remainder of the file, except for the first page.

When Lara opens the door, Ray pulls the file back up. He says it's strange because the file seems cut off and is only one page. It says who hired his father to investigate this Alisa Perne, but the rest of the contact information is cut off. While Ray seems suspicious of Lara, he doesn't say anything.

After Ray drops her off, she heads to her mansion to read the diskettes on her computer. She finds out that Mr. Slim hired Riley three months ago. Slim has a fax number, which is in Switzerland. The faxes from Slim are not in the file, but Riley's notes are. She finds out that Slim tells Riley he wants to know about Alisa's financial and family situations, and warns him that she is much more dangerous than she appears. Additionally, Slim wants to know if anyone associated with Alisa has died a violent death recently. Slim offers to pay Riley \$10,000 to start his investigation, and might hire him to investigate two other women in the region.

Riley finds a law firm that handles Alisa's account. They rebuff his inquiry to have them manage his finances as a potential client, so he thinks they solely handle Alisa's affairs. Riley talks about withholding information from Slim and about approaching Alisa himself to see how much she will pay to keep him quiet. Between September when he notes this and November when he contacts Alisa, she discovers that he found out about her passports that date back longer than Alisa has been alive, and that her gardener was brutally murdered. Alisa killed the gardener because he peeped into her windows and saw more than she wanted him to know.

Riley sends a final fax to Slim, cutting off their ties, and then changes his fax number. Riley indicates that he will arm himself when he meets with Alisa and that he'll ask her for a million dollars and will give it to Ray.

Alisa sends Slim a fax saying that she knows about him hiring Riley and that she is happy to meet with him in person. Slim replies that he is available to meet to night and asks when and where. Alisa sends back another fax with the place and time.

## Chapter 5 Analysis

Slim telling Riley that he might hire him to investigate a couple of other women implies that there are other women like Alisa—vampires. Obviously, Alisa doesn't know that these other women exist, but it might be some of the people that Alisa is interacting with in Mayfair, the small Oregon town where she is now living. Alias correctly assumes that when Riley tried to cut off ties that Slim came from Switzerland to more closely watch Riley. Since Slim indicates to Alisa that he is available to meet tonight, Alisa confirms that he is not in Switzerland, but is local now.

# Chapter 6

## Chapter 6 Summary

Alisa arrives at the pier, the meeting place, before Slim arrives. She is armed with guns and a knife. With her acute sense of hearing, she hears a limo pull up about a mile away. She hears the setting of a rifle in the distance too. A few minutes later, a white limo pulls up to the pier. An armed man and an armed woman step out. Alisa and Slim greet each other, and Alisa realizes that he doesn't know she is a vampire. She also realizes that Slim reports to someone else. Slim tells Alisa if she comes with him that she can meet his boss.

Alisa agrees to go but they make her wear handcuffs and a blindfold. They get into the limo and the other limo pulls up with other men to follow behind them. As they are driving into town, Alisa convinces them to stop to allow her to use the bathroom. Slim and the woman accompany her into the bathroom and she instantly strikes at Slim and kills the woman. She takes Slim hostage by escaping through the wall behind the toilet that leads to the gas station attendant's office and out the front door.

Alisa runs at top speed through the trees with Slim in tow. The men behind her are firing their guns and she is shot in the butt. When she reaches a stopping point in the forest, she rips the bullet out with her nails and the wound starts to heal. She gets Slim to admit that his boss is Rick Graham. He hired Slim to find Alisa. Rick knew what she looked like and what her lifestyle would be like but did not know her name. Alisa admits that she is a vampire and she asks what Rick looks like. Slim says he has piercing blue eyes like Alisa's.

Alisa thinks she knows who Rick is even though she thought he was dead all of this time. She kills Slim and drinks his blood.

## Chapter 6 Analysis

Alisa thinks she knows who is looking for her. The story infers that her father is looking for her because he has the same eyes as Alisa. It could also be Yaksha looking for her because it mentions that he too has piercing blue eyes in an earlier chapter of the novel. Even though Rick Graham knows Alisa's description and the lifestyle she leads, it doesn't explain how they would be able to find her out of all of the women and all of the places in the world she could be living.



# Chapter 7

## Chapter 7 Summary

While Alisa is burying Slim's body under the stream, she can hear the police arriving at the gas station and having a shootout with the limo boys. The boys win and drive off. She finds a payphone, calls information and calls Seymour. When he answers, Lara tells him she needs him to come and get her and bring a change of clothes. She tells him not to tell his parents and asks why he's awake. He says he just woke up from a dream he was having about her.

Seymour arrives an hour later, astonished when he sees Lara covered in blood. She says someone attacked her and that's all she'll say. She strips down naked, gets a towel from Seymour to wipe the blood off, and then changes into the clothes he brought. She buries her bloody clothes but keeps her keys and Slim's wallet that she removed from his pants' pocket.

As they drive away toward Lara's car at the pier, Seymour tells Lara about his dream. He dreams she is warrior goddess on a battlefield full of demons. She has a long flickering tongue, which the same thing the demon that possessed Amba's body had. As the Lara in Seymour's dream walks around the battlefield, she is collecting demon heads and making a necklace out of them. The demons that are not dead - she slices open their throats with her nails and drinks their blood. Lara thinks that the dream is a metaphor for her entire night and that Seymour definitely has a supernatural ability and has formed a bond with her.

He says a birdlike vulture appears in the sky and that the dream Lara seems afraid of it. Lara tells Seymour that the vulture is the symbol of a forsaken ending. Alisa feels as if Yaksha is circling her, but also feels as if her God, Krishna is nearby too. She wonders what Krishna promised Yaksha, too.

Lara confronts Seymour about his dying from AIDS. He wonders how she knows it, but says that he had a blood transfusion from a car accident a few years ago. Since Seymour likes to write, she asks him to write a story about her some day. She says she'll read it if she ever gets the chance to do so.

## Chapter 7 Analysis

Seymour's sense and Lara being drawn to him suggest that Seymour is either a vampire or has some kind of special connection to Lara. Seymour's dream seems to be a premonition. He is dreaming of how events are to unfold for Lara, starting with her battle tonight. It seems as if the God, Krishna, might have struck some kind of deal with Sita and Yaksha. It sounds as if Krishna promised to set Sita free from Yaksha if Sita keeps up her side of the bargain. Alisa is now wondering if Krishna also struck a deal with Yaksha as well.

# Chapter 8

## Chapter 8 Summary

When she gets to her car, Alisa speeds off to her mansion at a hundred miles per hour, leaving Seymour behind. She believes that she has to get to Ray because Yaksha is using Ray to get to Alisa. Alias admits she doesn't know why he is using Ray because Yaksha knows her vulnerabilities.

When Lara gets to Ray's house, Pat answers the door and tries to stop Lara from coming in. Lara calls out to Ray and he comes downstairs. Ray convinces Pat to go upstairs because Lara insists on talking to Ray alone. When Pat is gone, Lara admits to not being totally honest with him. He says he knows because the file size was much larger when he left than when he returned.

Lara admits that she is Alisa Perne. She says the man that hired his father abducted her tonight and that she thinks they might be after Ray, too. She tells him that his father didn't part on good terms with his employer.

She convinces Ray to return to her mansion with her. He is surprised by her Ferrari and the mansion. On the way to the house, she tells him what she can of the truth, including that she is a vampire. When they return to the house, she and Ray make love and she sends Ray into a deep sleep. As she looks at Ray, she sees Krishna in him.

## Chapter 8 Analysis

Alisa confirms to the reader that she believes Yaksha is alive and after her. She believes that Rick Graham is Yaksha's current identity. The promise Krishna made to Sita is to protect her if she believes in him. Therefore, she believes that having Ray with her when Yaksha attacks will protect them both because Ray has Krishna inside of him—even though he doesn't know it.





# Chapter 9

## Chapter 9 Summary

Sita returns to a village with Yaksha. She is a vampire, but doesn't fully realize it at this point. She is sensitive to light but has not yet realized her craving for blood. She enjoys the nights now and with her heightened senses she goes to Yaksha and tells him of the pain she feels in her chest and her fear that she's dying. He tells her the only way to stop the pain is to drink blood. At the same time he tells Sita she is sterile and unable to have children now.

About a month later, Yaksha brings Sita the body of a boy with his necked vein already ripped open. She drinks blood for the first time and is taken by the feeling that she drinks until the boy dies. Although she is sad, the killings coming easily after this. They move from village to village, transforming others into vampires and killing.

They hear of a man named Krishna, that supposedly has greater powers than even Yaksha. As the clan approaches the village where Krishna lives, they are attacked by arrows. The arrows kill many of them, even the first girl that Sita turned into a vampire. Retreating to the woods, Yaksha and Sita come upon Radha, one of Krishna's consorts. They take her hostage and agree to set her free only if Krishna meets Yaksha in combat.

Krishna sends word back to Yaksha about where to meet and his conditions for combat. Krishna chooses the battle to be the two men in snake pits playing their flutes. Whoever tames the snakes and keeps them from biting and killing him wins. Krishna wins because Yaksha ultimately shows fear and the snakes start to attack him. Krishna has Yaksha pulled from the pit. He tells Sita that wherever his love is there is his grace. He whispers something in Yaksha's ear. Yaksha agrees and Krishna heals his wounds. Yaksha won't tell Sita what Krishna said to him, and Sita won't tell Yaksha what Krishna said to her.

Shortly after, Yaksha starts hunting down and killing the vampires that are across the globe. He leaves Sita alone, however. Later, word reaches Sita that Yaksha was thought to be a witch, so he was burned at the stake.

## Chapter 9 Analysis

Yaksha and Krishna symbolize the bad and the good side of things—the dark side and the light side. Both men have immense powers. Yaksha has dark powers and uses his powers for evil. Krishna possesses light powers and uses his powers for good.

# Chapter 10

## Chapter 10 Summary

Ray wakes as the sun is setting. Sita tells him he must leave so that he will remain alive. She can feel Yaksha is on his way. To get Ray to leave, she tells him the truth about his father. He doesn't want to believe her because he says he loves her and she loves him. She says he reminds her of her husband Rama. When Sita hears the sad song of the flute down by the ocean, she sees Yaksha's figure and knows it's too late. Against Ray's protests, Sita goes down to talk to Yaksha alone.

Yaksha admits that he is there to kill her because of the vow he made to Krishna. He promised to kill the evil he created and Krishna would grace him. Yaksha admits that he hasn't killed Sita before because he loves her and it made him happy to know that her beauty was somewhere out in the world. Yaksha says he knows how much Sita loves Ray. He says she has one night, which is the length of time it takes to make a vampire. When she refuses, she watches as Yaksha plays a note that shatters the glass window Ray is leaning against in the house. Sita watches as he falls to the ground. He is conscious but with a crushed spine and head when she reaches Ray. Sita asks Ray if he wants her to save him by turning him into a vampire. As he starts to drift off, she rips open his veins and starts to conduct the transformation.

## Chapter 10 Analysis

Krishna has created a paradox. He has pitted Yaksha and Sita against each other—telling each of them they must do opposite things. Sita knows that she can save Ray, but the only way to do so is to turn him into a vampire. This is why Yaksha made Ray fall because he is forcing Sita to make Ray a vampire. Additionally, this will cause Yaksha to return the following night to hunt down and kill the last two remaining vampires—thus fulfilling his promise to Krishna.

# Chapter 11

## Chapter 11 Summary

Sita carries Ray into the house and tucks him in bed. He is in a deep sleep from the transfusion. She is tired too but sets out to see Seymour. She arrives at his house at about 10 at night and scrapes her nails on his bedroom window. He lets her in and says he's writing a story about her. He says she is the inspiration but it's really about a girl who is a vampire. Lara admits that she a vampire. Seymour says he knew there was something different about her. She says she wants to thank him for being her friend and she wants to help him by giving him a blood transfusion. He agrees and falls into a deep sleep. When Sita touches him again, she is sure that the virus is gone.

## Chapter 11 Analysis

Lara and Seymour definitely have a connection. Even though they are direct opposites—she a beautiful girl and he the school nerd—they have connected on a level that is beyond this world. Sita seeks Seymour out because he is somewhat of a prophet in that he has prophetic dreams. She's there to help him but also seeks his advice on how to defeat Yaksha.

# Chapter 12

## Chapter 12 Summary

Sita derives an idea from Seymour's suggestion that she must place herself, Ray and Yaksha in a situation where Yaksha believes all three of them will die. She decides to use a NASA nuclear bomb concept as inspiration.

She gets in touch with a contact to see where she can get dynamite and steel sheets. He tells her of a place in Portland. Since it's midnight when she arrives, the place is closed so she has to get the materials circumventing the three security guards on duty. She puts two of them to sleep, but the third one draws his gun on her so she kills him and drinks his blood. She loads up one of the trucks outside the warehouse with the supplies she needs, parks her car a few blocks away and returns to Mayfair with the truck.

When Sita returns, Ray is awake and sitting in front of the fire. She can tell he is a vampire now. Ray talks of his heightened senses and asks if Yaksha is going to return. She tells him Yaksha will be back at dawn, that he wants to kill them so that he can die; she explains that she has a rocket ship plan to help save them and kill Yaksha. Sita spends the rest of the hours preparing her plan to set off a small bomb that will propel her and Ray through the skylight in her living room and then blow Yaksha up with a bigger bomb that follows. Sita shares stories of the places she's been and her experiences through the years with Ray. Finally, she feels Yaksha coming.

## Chapter 12 Analysis

Sita is not one hundred percent sure that her plan is going to work. She figures either way, she and Ray might die. She at least wants to take a shot at trying to save their lives before Yaksha rips it from them.

# Chapter 13

## Chapter 13 Summary

Yaksha arrives and Sita directs him to the seat across from them. He sees that she has built a bomb. She asks if she can choose the way they die. Yaksha says he likes bombs and Sita tells him to light it. As they talk and wait for the bomb to go off, Yaksha tries to get Sita to admit that Krishna made her take a second vow. She tells him that he said where there is love there is his grace. Yaksha says he told him the same thing. Yaksha tells Sita and Ray to leave. They run, but when the explosion occurs, the splintered leg of Sita's beloved piano stakes Sita through the heart. Sita wonders if she is going to die.

## Chapter 13 Analysis

Yaksha is able to read Sita's mind. Since he created her, he has powers over her that allow him to know what she is thinking and feeling. Yaksha goes along with her plan to blow them up anyway because he truly wants to die. Ironically, it is a wood stake to the heart from Sita's beloved piano that might cause her demise.

# Part II Chapter 1

## Part II Chapter 1 Summary

As Alisa walks down the streets of Los Angeles, she asks herself if she is only one of the two vampires left. The news stories of murders in gangland L.A. have her believing that there are other vampires alive there. This is because the news reports that the bodies are completely drained of blood.

As Alisa is walking, three young guys starts harassing her. The leader, Paul, takes away her knife and brandishes his gun at Alisa. She warns him, but he doesn't listen to her. She is just about to kill him and drink his blood when she smells and hears another vampire nearby. She spots an African-American boy and starts to follow him. Alisa still feels pain in her chest where the stake impaled her. The wound has never completely healed, and it's been six weeks since the incident.

The vampire senses Alisa too and starts to run. He is heading toward the Coliseum where the 1984 Olympics were held. As soon as she enters, she smells blood and sees the mangled body of a security guard. Alisa senses three additional non-humans in the Coliseum. Alisa launches a javelin at one of the vampires and stakes him. The leader, the one she saw originally, throws her own knife, that he must have retrieved from Paul, and it lands in Alisa's shoulder. She removes it and throws it at another one of the vampires.

Alisa and another of the vampires enter hand-to-hand combat. She breaks his leg and then twists his neck until it breaks. When she throws a knife at the leader, he catches it with his hand, which is a power that Yaksha has but even Alisa does not possess. Alisa turns to run and retrieve the gun from the dead security guard. As she turns to shoot, the leader throws her own knife back at her and it gets her in the abdomen near her belly button. She shoots and he takes the bullets, stumbling, but not falling and not dying, he scurries away. Alisa remains on the ground for a few minutes until her wounds heal.

When she gets up, she washes off the blood with a water hose because she hears sirens coming in the distance. When she exits the Coliseum, a police car pulls up asking her what she's doing in the neighborhood. She says her car broke down. She uses some of her power to compel the officers to believe her. They take her to an FBI agent, Joel Drake, who is investigating the murders. Alisa tries to use some of her power on him too but he is strong. He takes her to a car she says is hers, pries open the locked door and hot wires the car while he's watching. She gives him a number that is local but will ring in her Oregon home and tells him she'll be there for the next three days. She drives the stolen car to her car and flies back on her private jet to Oregon.

## **Part II Chapter 1 Analysis**

Alisa thinks she must be getting old because her heart wound is taking longer to heal than it should. She also believes that there are other vampires in the world besides herself and Ray because of the blood-drained dead bodies being found in L.A. Out to investigate, she runs into at least four vampires. They seem to be hybrid vampires in that at least one of them possesses powers that are greater than Alisa's powers.

With the police and the FBI being involved in the investigation, Alisa has to watch her step more than normal. The leader and the most powerful of the vampires that she finds in L.A. gets away, but it foreshadows that he and Alisa will meet and fight each other again.

## **Part II, Chapter 2**

### **Part II, Chapter 2 Summary**

When Alisa arrives back at their new home, Ray is not home. She finds him sitting on Pat's steps. Ray is having a hard time coping with his change. He asks Sita to take him to his father's grave. She does and allows him to grieve, and then takes him home. She lets him feed on her, which drains her of even more of her energy.

Sita goes to visit Seymour. He is well now and even has a new girlfriend. She tell him about what happened in L.A. He says that only Yaksha has the power to create a vampire such as him, but she says it's impossible because Yaksha is dead. Also, Yaksha wouldn't have broken his vow to create a vampire like this. Seymour tells Sita to find Yaksha's remains near the house explosion to find the answer to how the new vampire was created.

### **Part II, Chapter 2 Analysis**

Ray is having an inner struggle. He wants his old life back, but knows that he cannot have it. Plus, he would not have survived the fall so without Sita turning him into a vampire, he wouldn't be alive at all. Sita loves Ray so much that it hurts her to see him struggle. Seymour is an old soul. It is as if he is from the past and has been put in the present to help Sita, using the psychic bond that they two share.



## Part II, Chapter 3

### Part II, Chapter 3 Summary

Alisa is sitting at her desk thinking of who she can use as a contact to find out if the police found a dead body when investigating the house explosion. Joel calls and Alisa takes this as a sign. She tells him information about the dead bodies in the Coliseum, and that she knows who the murderer is but that he has to come to Portland to talk to her. He agrees and books the next flight into town.

Alisa picks up Joel Drake from the airport. When they get to her car, she pops in a tape of her playing the piano. He is surprised to find out it is Alisa playing. He starts asking her questions about who she is, what she saw and who the murderer is. She tells him it has to do with her house explosion and the man that died in it. She says she's taking him to the police station so they can show him their files. Alisa tries to seduce Joel a little by placing her hand on his thigh. She decides that he knows too much about her already, and that she's going to have to kill him when she's done with him.

### Part II, Chapter 3 Analysis

Alisa is a very resourceful vampire. She uses her compelling powers, her smarts and her experience to figure out things. She knows that the vampires she battled came from a higher being and she has to use the tools she has access to to figure out who the vampires are and who is creating them. Joel Drake plays right into her plan.

## Part II, Chapter 4

### Part II, Chapter 4 Summary

On the drive to the police station, Joel tells Alisa about his life and how he became a FBI agent. He says he'll have to notify the local FBI office that he's in town or the police won't open their files to him. Alisa hands him her cell phone.

Alisa listens to the conversation Joel is having with the police while she waits in the car. They did find a body from the explosion and it's in the Seaside morgue. When they get there, though, the body is missing. The medical examiner says they think an employee, Eddie Fender, that went missing the same day as the corpse, stole the body. While Joel looks at the employee records of Eddie Fender, Alisa goes to talk to the secretary.

The secretary gives Alisa some background information on Eddie. Eddie took one of the girls out that works in the office. She said he took her to McDonald's for dinner and for a walk in the cemetery after. When he took her back to his house, he made her watch snuff films, then tied her up and made her eat popsicles all night. The secretary told Eddie to stay away from the girl Heather when she found out what happened. Two days later, the secretary's cat was dead in her backyard without a mark on it.

Alisa asks if Eddie has startling green eyes, an acne-scarred face and bony hands. The secretary says yes. Alisa says Eddie is making his own snuff films now.

### Part II, Chapter 4 Analysis

Eddie always messing with Yaksha's dead body led to Eddie messing with Yaksha's tainted blood. If Eddie got a hold of Yaksha's blood, he could be the one responsible for creating the new breed of vampire. This would explain how the new vampires have so much power, and how they power is similar to that of Yaksha's. Alisa implies that she knows Eddie's true identity.

## **Part II, Chapter 5**

### **Part II, Chapter 5 Summary**

Alisa and Joel are sitting and eating at the end of the pier where Alisa met Slim six weeks prior. They determine that Eddie is the murderer. Joel links Alisa's friend with the murders that took place in Seaside at the same time Alisa's house blew up. Alisa admits to murdering the woman in the bathroom, but Joel doesn't believe her until she provides vivid details. She tells him her real name is Sita and convinces Joel to stay out of the investigation or he will die. She says if he follows her that he will die too. She proves her strength by telling him to arrest her and knocking his gun to the bottom of the sea.

### **Part II, Chapter 5 Analysis**

Sita is revealing her identity to more and more humans. She is putting herself and Ray at risk. She knows, however, who Eddie is and she knows what she has to do to stop him. She also knows that she has to do it on her own in order to save Joel's life. Her hunt foreshadows Sita getting into more confrontations with the new breed of vampires that are apparently roaming about in L.A.

## **Part II, Chapter 6**

### **Part II, Chapter 6 Summary**

Ray insists on flying to L.A. with Sita when he finds out what's going on. When they arrive, Sita insists they feed for strength. They find a couple on the beach to feed on. The girl gets away from Ray, so Sita has to go after her. She starts to drink the girl's blood, but Sita drinks too much and ends up killing the girl. When Ray finds out the girl is going to die, he begs Sita to save her, but she says she can't.

### **Part II, Chapter 6 Analysis**

As they are laying the beach, Sita notices how dark it is. This is symbolic of the dark world that Sita and Ray are about to enter into. She briefly mentions that Vampire blood is like a dark fermented soup. Since the new vampires have extreme powers, the dark blood is somehow altered in order to give them this extreme power. Sita and Ray will uncover what is changing the blood and giving the vampires the ramped up powers.

## **Part II, Chapter 7**

### **Part II, Chapter 7 Summary**

Sita and Ray go to her mansion in L.A. — the one Riley said he found when he was investigating her. Sita stockpiles weapons in the basement. They drive to Eddie's mother's house, which is listed as his permanent address on his employment application. Sita goes in and meets with Mrs. Fender. Sita can smell that Eddie has been there within the last two hours. She also senses that Mrs. Fender has a perversion for little girls and allows her son to drink her blood. Sita knows the FBI has called the house looking for Eddie. She gets the warehouse address where Eddie works out of Mrs. Fender and then compels Mrs. Fender to forget her visit.

### **Part II, Chapter 7 Analysis**

It seems as if Eddie might be reincarnated as a vampire from a previous life. He might have purposely gotten the job at the morgue to obtain Yaksha's blood and to create a new breed of vampires. It also appears as if Eddie comes from a very dysfunctional family, which perpetuates his problem for evildoing.

## **Part II, Chapter 8**

### **Part II, Chapter 8 Summary**

On the drive to the warehouse, Ray asks Sita to tell him about her husband Rama and her daughter Lalita. He asks if she believes in reincarnation and if she believes that he is Rama. Ray says he dreams of Krishna having blue eyes and wonders if he is remembering a past life. When he finds out that Rama died before meeting Krishna, he seems disappointed.

As soon as Sita pulls up to the warehouse, she can smell the vampires that are inside. Her plan is to steal two gasoline trucks from a nearby refinery so they can burn the place down with the vampires in it. She is concerned that it was too easy to find Eddie and his people, however,

### **Part II, Chapter 8 Analysis**

Eddie could be setting Sita up. If this is the case, then she and Ray will not be able to fight against Eddie and the other vampires he has following him. Additionally, if these vampires have powers such as those the leader had in the Coliseum, then Sita is hardly a match for him and Ray is definitely not a match for him.

## Part II, Chapter 9

### Part II, Chapter 9 Summary

Vampire dogs are walking the perimeter of the warehouse, so Sita uses her guns to kill the dogs. She noticed that Eddie and about 21 other vampires went into the building before dawn with two human couples to feed. Ray and Sita were able to get two gasoline trucks by staging an accident and stealing the two trucks from the drivers when they stopped.

Ray drives his tanker to one side of the building and Sita to the other. She uses her super-hearing to listen for Ray to light his fuse, but when she doesn't, she lets the gasoline flow downhill out of her truck and goes to see what's wrong. Eddie has Ray hostage and she realizes Eddie set a trap for them. Even though Eddie is using Ray as a shield, Sita shoots through Ray to injure Eddie. Eddie lets go of Ray long enough to attack Sita. When he does, Ray lights a match, tells Sita he loves her and lets the match fall into the gasoline puddling at their feet. Sita tries to stop the match from reaching the gasoline but she doesn't make it in time and Ray goes up in flames.

### Part II, Chapter 9 Analysis

Eddie is the vampire leader Sita shot in the Coliseum the previous night. Ray uses himself as a vampire-human sacrifice to save greater humankind. While lighting himself and the gas tanker on fire might kill the vampires in the warehouse, if Eddie is still on the loose then he can make more vampires—just as he did to create the 21 sleeping ones about to go up in flames.

## Part II, Chapter10

### Part II, Chapter10 Summary

Sita dreams of a discussion she has with Krishna. It seems as if she is in space getting ready to board a shuttle to Earth. He tells her that no matter what life she is in that when she hears his song, she'll remember him, and that life is a song. She doesn't understand the meaning of his story when she is in the dream or when she wakes from it.

When she wakes up, she is naked in a motel bed. Joel is there. He tells her that he followed her to Mrs. Fender's house and got the address of the warehouse. He says by the time he got to the warehouse, the explosion just happened and he was able to put out the fire on Sita's clothes with his jacket. Sita asks about Ray, but Joel says he is dead. She asks about Eddie, but he Joel says he vanished. She dresses in the clothes Joel bought for her. She finds her knife and sticks it in her back pocket.

### Part II, Chapter10 Analysis

Krishna is still speaking to Sita now, using her dreams as his medium. By appearing in her dreams, Krishna is letting Sita know that he is still there for her. The problem is that Sita is starting to doubt Krishna as a God. She questions why a God would make her wait 5,000 years to love again and then take him away within six weeks. Sita knows that she is the only with the remotest amount of power to stop Eddie.



## Part II, Chapter 11

### Part II, Chapter 11 Summary

Sita returns to the warehouse. She remembers hearing an ice cream truck near the Coliseum the night she met the vampires. She also heard a bid deep freezer in Mrs. Fender's house. She calls the morgue secretary and she verifies that Eddie and his mom ran an ice cream truck before. Sita thinks they are freezing Yaksha to restrain him but still have access to his blood.

Then, Sita calls Pat. When she hangs up with Pat, she calls Seymour. Seymour says to get Yaksha and then take Mrs. Fender hostage to lure Eddie out. Sita finds the ice cream truck and finds Yaksha inside. Sita goes to find a police car to get in and out of the cordoned area. She runs into the two cops that picked her up outside the Coliseum.

When she demands their keys, Gary, one of the cops, pulls a gun on her. When he pats her down he finds her knife. As Gary arrests her, Sita puts the other cop, Bill, to sleep and tells him he won't remember meeting her. She tells Gary she's a vampire, breaks the handcuffs off and tells him she's going to drink his blood, but let him live. She takes his car after she feeds she gets Yaksha in the car and drives away.

### Part II, Chapter 11 Analysis

Sita is starting to put the clues together. This is what leads her to realize where she can find Yaksha—inside of the ice cream truck. The song that she hears from the ice cream truck is also symbolic of the song of life that Krishna tells Sita about. he mentions that when she hears his song, she should think of him, so it's as if Krishna is giving her the clues she needs to find Yaksha and put him out of his misery.

## Part II, Chapter 12

### Part II, Chapter 12 Summary

Yaksha's legs were blown off in the explosion. Eddie found him in the woods and sewed a canvas bag to the bottom half of Yaksha's body. Eddie extracted and drank Yaksha's blood. Yaksha tells Sita she has to defeat Eddie on her own. He also tells Sita a story Krishna told him when they ran into each other again. Yaksha tells Sita that Eddie is interested in her blood so he won't kill her—just as he didn't kill Yaksha. Yaksha tells Sita to drink his blood and take his life. She does.

### Part II, Chapter 12 Analysis

In a way, Sita and Yaksha have come full circle. Yaksha is responsible for turning Sita into a vampire. Now that Yaksha is ready to die, he once again wants to infuse Sita with his blood so that she will have what is left of his strength and power. Symbolically, Yaksha is defeating Eddie through Sita.

## Part II, Chapter 13

### Part II, Chapter 13 Summary

Sita sits in the police car outside of the Fender home. She thinks Eddie might be setting another trap for her because he must have figured out that his mom is how she found out about the warehouse. Sita thinks about how she weighted down Yaksha's sack with rocks to sink him in the water after she drank his blood and he died. Sita takes Mrs. Fender hostage in her home. Eddie calls about an hour later and he has Joel hostage. He tells Sita to meet him at the pier, but Sita tells Eddie to meet her at the house or she'll kill his mother.

### Part II, Chapter 13 Analysis

Sita sinking Yaksha in the water after he dies is a form of baptism. She is cleansing him of all his sins. She is cleansing him so that he can go to the afterlife in peace and comfort no matter what his sins while he roamed the Earth. Right now, Eddie is slightly stronger than Sita because he has been drinking Yaksha's blood for the last couple of weeks. Sita only drank some tonight. There is some foreshadowing that Eddie might kill Joel.

## **Part II, Chapter 14**

### **Part II, Chapter 14 Summary**

Sita describes a similar standoff she had when she living in the Scottish Highlands. Lord Tensley took her lover, Harold, hostage because he wanted Sita for himself. Lord Tensley ends up stabbing and killing Harold. He also ends up burning Sita at the stake because he thinks she is a witch.

### **Part II, Chapter 14 Analysis**

Although it is centuries later, Sita finds herself in another situation where her enemy is holding someone she cares about hostage. It foreshadows that the ending might be the same. Sita mind find herself dead, and Joel might find himself collateral damage because of Sita.

## Part II, Chapter 15

### Part II, Chapter 15 Summary

When Eddie arrives with Joel, both of Joel's arms are broken. Eddie and Sita each have a standoff, each holding someone as a hostage. Eddie is holding Joel as a hostage and Sita is holding Mrs. Fender as her hostage. Each vampire open up the neck veins of their hostage to allow them to bleed to death. When Eddie convinces Sita to hand his mother over to him, he breaks his mother's neck, killing her.

Eddie attacks Sita and starts pulling her blood out with a needle, syringe and tourniquet he pulls out of his pocket. As he starts to drink Sita's blood, she starts to think about the standoff between Krishna and Yaksha. This is when she realizes what Krishna meant and she starts to histle the melody of the song Krishna was playing to invoke fear in Yaksha and cause the snake to attack him. Eddie realizes what she is doing and tells her to stop. Sita convinces him that she wants to have sex with him, but she wants to do it in the freezer. Sita gets Eddie to lock them in the freezer so it's dark and she grabs the ax that's required to be in the freezer by law. She chops off Eddie's head and then goes to try to save Joel.

She asks Joel if he wants to live. He knows this requires him to become a vampire so he tells Sita no. She uses another syringe to inject her blood into Joel. She knows he'll probably be mad at her, but she's tired and wants another vampire to take on the responsibility of saving humanity.

### Part II, Chapter 15 Analysis

The standoff between Sita and Eddie is one of equals going against each other. Sita, however, loses her advantage when she turns over Mrs. Fender to Eddie and then Edie kills Mrs. Fender on his own. Sita finally understands that what Krishna was trying to tell her is that she is the enchantress—she is the one that possesses the power to convince someone, such as Eddie, to do what it is she wants him to do. Once she realizes this, she uses her enchanting powers to overcome Eddie and kill him and save Joel.

## Part III, Chapter 1

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## Part III, Chapter 2

### Part III, Chapter 2 Summary

Sita wakes at the bottom of the lake with her leg stuck under helicopter fuselage. She swims to the surface and sees armed guards surrounding Joel on the shore. When she gets to shore, she finds a Ford Bronco of a family camping nearby and steals it. She uses her hearing, smelling and mind reading senses to follow the van that is transporting Joel to some sort of military compound.

She sees a general hand over Joel to a scientist. She realizes she has to find a way into the compound before they start analyzing Joel's blood. As she heads back to the Bronco, she realizes all of her exposed skin is glowing, which indicates the compound is using some kind of radiation.

Sita follows the scientist as he gets in his car and leaves the compound. He goes to the Mirage Hotel. She finds some women's clothes that are too big for her in the back of the Bronco to change into. She watches the scientist as he gambles and then follows him home to his house. As the sun comes up, he goes to sleep. Sita returns to the Mirage and uses her gazing compulsion to get the hotel clerk to give her a suite, even though she doesn't have ID, a credit card or cash. When she gets to her room, she calls her business manager to institute a code red. This will have her everything she needs to start a new identity, as well as a kit to change her looks at her hotel room in one hour.

She plans to meet the scientist as this new woman and make him fall in love with her.

### Part III, Chapter 2 Analysis

It seems as if the military wants to find Joel and Sita alive because they want to find out what makes them so strong and invincible. Sita thinks that if they find out what compounds are in their blood that they will start injecting it into others. This will create more vampires, which is what Sita is trying to avoid.

The fact that the scientist stays out all night and sleeps during the two might indicate that he is a vampire. While Sita thinks she was the only vampire left, besides Yaksha, before she turned Ray and then Joel, she might just be wrong.

## **Part III, Chapter 3**

### **Part III, Chapter 3 Summary**

With her new appearance, Sita arrives outside of scientist Andrew Kane's home the next evening. She follows him to the compound to see what the check-in process is to get through security. She sees it is relatively easy. Sita returns to the home and breaks in the back door. She can tell a lot by the scientist with the smells in the air. When she steps into his spare bedroom, which is Andy's home office, she sees two DNA models. One is the standard human DNA structure. The other is the DNA structure of a vampire.

### **Part III, Chapter 3 Analysis**

Since the military cops don't check Andy's car or trunk for him to get past security on the compound, it foreshadows Sita hiding in the trunk of Andy's car in order to access the building where they are holding Joel. Additionally, the fact that Andy has a vampire DNA model indicates that he has been studying vampires for awhile. This means that even though Sita thought she and Yaksha were the only living vampires, she was wrong.



## Part III, Chapter 4

### Part III, Chapter 4 Summary

Sita talks about when she was living in the 13th century. She met a priest of the Catholic church that was also an alchemist. They fall in love with each other, even though the priest and alchemist, Arturo Evola, is not allowed to be with women. One day, Sita saves the life of a little boy that fell off a roof and crushed his spine. Arturo sees what she did, so she tells him what she is. Arturo suggests that they make hybrid humans—half vampire, half human—using her blood. He says he even has the power to turn her back into a human so that she can have another child.

### Part III, Chapter 4 Analysis

Since Arturo Evola is the only other person Sita has ever known to know of the vampire DNA, it infers that Andrew Kane is Arturo Evola. It would explain how he has the DNA model in his home and why it seems as if there are other vampires roaming the Earth that Sita was not aware of before.

## Part III, Chapter 5

### Part III, Chapter 5 Summary

Sita heads to the compound in her new Jeep to study the layout from the outside. She is astonished by the amount of security the base has. She watches as an aircraft she's never seen before lands on the landing strip. Using the Geiger counter she has, she notices that the radiation is at three times the other levels here. Some soldiers drive by in a cart and she can tell that they are transporting some kind of thermonuclear missile.

He is still pondering how Andy Kane has the knowledge of the vampire DNA, just as Arturo Evola once did. As Sita starts to leave, she notices her skin is glowing once again. She rushes to her Jeep and drives away. She pulls off the road and stands naked in an area off the road. She notices that her skin is translucent.

### Part III, Chapter 5 Analysis

The reason the compound has such high security is because they are conducting supernatural experiments, possibly trying to create superhumans. Andy Kane having the same knowledge as Arturo Evola from the 13th century indicates that Andy Kane is Arturo. Sita's skin turning translucent from her exposure to the radiation from the compound implies they are working on a formula to make people invisible.

## Part III, Chapter 6

### Part III, Chapter 6 Summary

Sita is Lara Adams again, the name she used to enroll at Mayfair High two months ago. She enters the casino and stands next to Andrew Kane while he is gambling. Sita can control the dice when she rolls them, so she puts the numbers she wants to come up in her before throwing the dice. As the night wears on, she and Andy win a lot of money. After too many drinks, Sita lures Andy to the Mirage coffee shop for some food. Andy tells her he is "mad scientist." He mentions a little about his work, saying that something isn't being fully exploited at work and that they need disciplines from all over the world to truly exploit it. He says he likes Lara and he feels like they have met before.

### Part III, Chapter 6 Analysis

Sita is using her powers to get Andy to like her. Once she gets him to like her, she plans to use him to rescue Joel. The reason Andy feels as if he and Lara Adams have met before is that Andy is Arturo and Lara is Sita.

## Part III, Chapter 7

### Part III, Chapter 7 Summary

Lara and Andy return to Andy's house. Andy is more sober now, but he starts drinking again when they arrive. The booze loosens Andy's tongue so he tells Lara more about his work. He ends up telling her that they are working on a DNA experimenting, where they are altering DNA. Andy says he started working on the project about a month ago, which means he's been working on it longer than Eddie was a vampire.

Sita thinks one of Eddie's vampire's must have made another vampire without Eddie knowing. She thinks this vampire was captured by the government. Lara tells Andy to meet her at her hotel room the next night so they can gamble and have a late dinner. He says he likes Lara because he can trust her.

### Part III, Chapter 7 Analysis

Although Sita thought she was the only vampire, it is proving not to be the truth. Ironically, Andy trusts the one person that is trying to use him. Sita's plan to free Joel is going to be more complicated now that there is more than one vampire in the government's possession.

## Part III, Chapter 8

### Part III, Chapter 8 Summary

Sita recounts how she gave Arturo her blood in exchange for being able to hold her daughter in her arms again. After Arturo takes Sita's blood, she convinces him to break his vow and make love to her. Arturo starts experimenting with crystals and Sita's blood on a street boy that is also retarded. Arturo is able to transform the boy into a normal boy. This represents his ability to change the mind.

Next, Arturo experiments on a woman with leprosy. A few days after the transformation, her fingers and toes start to grow back. Even though they tell her not to tell anyone, the woman tells everyone. This causes rumors to spread. After this, Arturo only experiments on the retarded, dead and blind.

It is at this time that Arturo starts building the vampiric DNA model. He realizes if he can conjoin the two DNA makeups—human and vampire—that he can create the perfect human being. Arturo wants to experiment on Ralphe.

Sita can't find Ralphe anywhere one day. When she asks Arturo about it, he says he doesn't know where Ralphe is. Sita can tell he isn't lying but he isn't telling the whole truth either. That night, she goes out hunting for blood and hears blood curdling screams. She finds five bodies with their limbs torn off. She goes to the one woman who is still alive. As the woman is dying, she says it was demon child that looks like an angel that did this to them. Sita knows the woman is talking about Ralphe.

She hears more screams across town. She finds more victims, but this time she finds witnesses. An angry mob is heading into the woods to go after Ralphe. Sita finds Ralphe first. When Ralphe starts to nibble on Sita, she breaks his neck and kills him.

The villagers find her cradling Ralphe. They recognize that she and the priest cared for Ralphe. They imprison both of them. Sita testifies against Arturo and they burn Arturo at the stake, like any witch.

### Part III, Chapter 8 Analysis

Sita compares herself to Frankenstein because she says she is the modern day Frankenstein—a creation. Arturo's plan to transform human beings is beyond what Sita knows and believes. She foreshadows that his experimentation leads to something more sinister than even she could have dreamed up on her own. Sita likens Arturo wanting to create the perfect human being with the goal of Hitler to create the perfect human race.

## **Part III, Chapter 9**

### **Part III, Chapter 9 Summary**

Lara Adams is gambling at a table with a rich Texan. She ends up winning all of his money. She invites him and his buddies to come with her and she'll give him his \$50,000 back. When she gets the group of men to the desert, she admits she is a vampire. She ends up allowing three of the armed men escape. She keeps, feeds on, and kills the rich Texan.

### **Part III, Chapter 9 Analysis**

Sita has to keep up her appearances as Lara Adams. She also has to entertain herself until Andy shows up for their date tonight. Additionally, she needs blood to build up her strength. She will need all the strength she has once she convinces Andy to help her break into the compound and free Joel.

## Part III, Chapter 10

### Part III, Chapter 10 Summary

When Sita gets back to her hotel suite, she calls Seymour. She admits that Seymour is her psychic twin. He often knows what is happening to Sita at the time it is happening. When she asks Seymour about any stories he's writing about her, he says he was writing a story about her being an angel.

Sita tells Seymour everything that has been happening, including how she had to turn Joel into a vampire to save his life. She also says she feels like she is missing something, but can't figure out what it is. Seymour insists that Sita has to take out the general when she first gets into the compound, even before she frees Joel. He says the general is the key to making her plan work.

Seymour also insists that Sita practice her new power of levitation. He insists that she doesn't know when that trick might come in handy. Seymour also tries to convince Sita to turn him into a vampire a couple of times. She insists Seymour is not vampire material.

### Part III, Chapter 10 Analysis

Sita's skin glowing and her thoughts of possibly blowing up the compound with a nuclear bomb could explain why Seymour has a vision of Sita flying in the air and giving her the appearance of an angel. While Seymour doesn't know exactly what danger Sita faces by trying to break into the compound, telling her she has to control the general to control the situation foreshadows that Andy is the general and that Andy is also Arturo.

## Part III, Chapter 11

### Part III, Chapter 11 Summary

Andy arrives in Sita's suite. He kisses her hard and tries to push her to do more, but she is able to stop him. She convinces him she wants to go downstairs and gamble first. They go downstairs to gamble and after a few rounds, Andy is drunk. Sita thinks she is unable to read his thoughts because of the booze scrambling his brain.

They head to another casino and continue to gamble. When they return to the hotel suite, Andy starts to complain about his job. He tells her too much—even how they are trying to clone something that could be very dangerous. This is when Sita takes control of Andy and admits that she is a vampire. She tells him that Joel, the prisoner, is her friend.

She demands that Andy help her get into the compound so she can rescue Joel. She gets Andy to admit that they have another vampire in custody. He says they picked him up about a month ago. Andy says that Joel is sick. When he describes the symptoms, Sita tells Andy Joel is sick because he needs blood. Andy ends up telling Sita where they have Joel and what kind of cell he is in.

### Part III, Chapter 11 Analysis

The real reason Sita cannot read Andy's thoughts is because he is Arturo. As Arturo, he knows vampires inside and out so he is able to block his mind from being read by Sita. It is suspicious that Andy shares all of this information freely with Sita. She is not even compelling him or hypnotizing him into telling her these things. It seems as if it is a trap to imprison Sita as well. If Andy is Arturo, then he would want to freely share this information with her so that he can take her prisoner to pay her back for what she did to him during the Inquisition.



## Part III, Chapter 12

### Part III, Chapter 12 Summary

Sita has a dream where she is talking to Krishna. Krishna tells Sita a story about a fisherman that will only eat fish. One day, his wife disguises lamb inside the scales of the fish. Her husband eats it and starts to have a reaction to what he is eating. He asks his wife what it is and she says it's some fish mixed with lamb. As he dies, he tells his wife, doesn't she know who he is.

Krishna says the man's body changes right in front of his wife. He turns into a fish. As a big fish, all he can eat is smaller fish.

### Part III, Chapter 12 Analysis

Krishna is using Sita's dream as a way to communicate with Sita. Krishna is trying to warn her about her impending invasion of the compound. He is trying to tell her that the truth is right in front of her, but she has to look more closely at what is hidden beneath the surface. In short, Krishna is trying to tell her that Andy is Arturo.

## Part III, Chapter 13

### Part III, Chapter 13 Summary

Lara is in Andy's trunk. She's dressed in a scientist coat and is equipped with a name badge and card to open doors to get out of the compound. Her story is that she is Dr. Lara Adams visiting from the Pentagon — because scientists from the Pentagon have been visiting lately.

Once she gets into the compound, she goes straight to the general's house. He isn't home. She goes down to the cell where they're keeping Joel. She sees the monitor on Joel but not on the vampire in the adjacent cell.

Sita compels the guards and makes them collapse. She enters the cell where Joel is. As the door slams shut behind her, Joel yells out no to her. It's too late though. Now Sita is trapped with Joel. Andy comes on the monitor to talk to Sita and right away she sees what she has missed the entire time. Andy is Arturo.

### Part III, Chapter 13 Analysis

Sita doesn't see the monitor on the other vampire's cell because there isn't another vampire. Andy-Arturo made it up. It is as Krishna tells Sita in her dream. Arturo was standing in plain sight, right in front of her the entire time, as Andy. She just didn't see it until it was too late.

## Part III, Chapter 14

### Part III, Chapter 14 Summary

Sita pieces together all of the clues that should have led her to the conclusion that Arturo and Andy are one in the same. Sita apologizes to Joel—taking the blame for the situation they are in. One of the first things Sita does is feed Joel some of her blood. It makes him feel a little better. She can't give him too much because she needs as much strength as possible to get them out.

She admits to Joel that she and the man on the monitor go way back but she doesn't go into detail. Sita and Arturo speak to each other through the speaker in the cell. She tries to convince Arturo not to continue with his plan or he's just going to end up creating a bunch of Ralphe—monsters.

Arturo admits that he did experiment on himself and that is why he is still alive. He admits to never reaching full hybrid status from his experimentation. He tells Sita he created Ralphe by allowing the full light of the sun to shine through her vial of blood while Ralphe was on the copper sheet. Arturo asks for and says he needs Sita's blood. Sita says he'll have to come and get it, and no amount of guards or bullets will kill her.

### Part III, Chapter 14 Analysis

Arturo is so hung up on creating his hybrid that he is about to repeat mistakes he has made before. Instead of learning from his mistake, Arturo is about to conduct a similar experiment to went awry when he did it during the Inquisition with Ralphe. If Arturo somehow overtakes Sita to obtain her blood and completes his experiment, the city might be running amuck with monsters like Ralphe.

## Part III, Chapter 15

### Part III, Chapter 15 Summary

Inside the cell, Sita is using her powers to influence the thoughts of the three guards covering the cell from an exterior office. She is formulating a plan to make the guards fear her, believing she will kill them, so that she use this to her advantage when she breaks out of the cell. Sita is successful in making two out of the three guards deathly afraid of her and her abilities.

Sita whispers to Joel that she is making a plan. She tells him to follow her lead. As she plants in the minds of the guards that she is coming for them, she is also compelling the general to come to the building where the cell is. Arturo is warning the general that he shouldn't do anything that opens the cell door because if he does then Sita will act.

While reading the general's mind, Sita knows that he plans to use her blood for himself and to dispose of Arturo. The general also has fantasies of raping Sita. Armed soldiers start to surround the cell door. Sita breaks all of the lights in the area with her mind powers so that there is total darkness. As Arturo begs the general not to open the door, he does. Sita takes the first guard hostage. She tells him she won't kill him if he puts on a good act. Sita and the guard pretend as if she is ripping his heart out. She opens one of his veins and splatters his blood outside the door, but doesn't truly harm him.

When Sita takes the second guard hostage, she mutilates him. In the end, she kills eight of the soldiers and guards in the hall. The general and Arturo escape to the second floor of the building but Sita takes Joel and goes after them.

### Part III, Chapter 15 Analysis

Sita is using psychology to make her escape. When she convinces the guards that she is coming after them, she is also able to lure the general and Arturo into the building. She is putting the pieces in place to escape from the cell. Ultimately, her goal is to destroy both Arturo and the general, so that neither of them can make the hybrids and destroy the world.

## Part III, Chapter 16

### Part III, Chapter 16 Summary

On the path that Sita and Joel continue through the building and the compound, Sita continues to kill soldiers. Joel begs her to stop. They make it through the maze that leads into another prison. Sita turns the lights on so that Joel can see better and the general can see the carnage she has caused.

Sita barter with the general, who is now in the same room as Sita and Joel, to give her a nuclear bomb. The general has the bomb wheel out on the railroad cart near where he is sitting. When the general refuses to give Sita the code to set the bomb to detonate, Sita grabs him by the throat and forces the general to look into her eyes—the eyes of the witch that's going to kill him.

### Part III, Chapter 16 Analysis

Sita intends on blowing up the compound with the nuclear bomb. She knows she has to destroy the vampire blood vials so that nobody can get their hands on them or the notes from Arturo's experiment. In addition, Sita also knows that she has to kill the general and Arturo so that they don't repeat their work and the experiments. Sita is also willing to sacrifice her own life and Joel's life as collateral damage if it saves the world.

## Part III, Chapter 17

### Part III, Chapter 17 Summary

The bomb is set to detonate in 15 minutes. As time ticks down, Sita demands that the general command some of the soldiers to go. She is trying to diminish the amount of lives that are lost from the explosion. Arturo tries to continue to convince Sita to stop the bomb and allow him to create the perfect hybrid.

Finally, Arturo releases a couple units of the soldiers. The general confirms that the bomb cannot be turned off once it is detonated. When the bomb has five minutes left until it explodes, everyone in the room—Arturo, General Havor, Joel and Sita—realize that Sita's skins is transparent. She naturally starts to levitate. She tries to grab Joel to take him with her but her arms slide right through him. She says her goodbyes to Joel and Arturo as she leaves. Arturo shouts out that Sita can find everything in the basement of his home.

As Sita flies away, the compound explodes beneath her.

### Part III, Chapter 17 Analysis

Yaksha's blood flowing through her, and possibly Krishna's grace, save Sita's life. She is meant to outlive the explosion. Krishna must have a higher purpose for her, allowing her to live. There is foreshadowing of Sita flying to Arturo's home. Since Arturo told her that everything she needs to make herself human again is in his basement, it foreshadows her experimenting on herself to turn herself back into a human again. Additionally, this means she will be able to have another child, which is why she had agreed to help Arturo back during the Inquisition.

# Epilogue

## Epilogue Summary

Sita arrives at Arturo's home and finds everything she needs in his basement to make herself human again. Sita calls Seymour and tells him her plan. Sita sets everything up and positions herself on the copper sheeting. She closes her eyes and feels the magic as it begins.

When Sita wakes up, she feels strange and different. There is a pounding in her head. There is also someone pounding on the front door upstairs. She groggily makes her way to the front door. When Sita calls out to see who it is, the man responds that it's her darling. She recognizes the voice, but it doesn't sound like Seymour. He tells her to open the door, but she wonders if she should.

## Epilogue Analysis

It seems as if Sita has made herself human again, but the novel ends before she confirms this either way. There is also no indication who is at the front door. It could be one of several lovers that Sita has had over the years. The ending of the novel is the perfect way to set up the beginning of the second novel in the "Thirst" series.

# Characters

## Alisa Perne/Sita/Lara Adams

Alisa Perne is the main character and narrator of the novel. She is a vampire that is five thousand years old. In her current body, she is a pretty blonde girl. She looks like she is about 19 or 20 years old. Alisa has a lot of money, secret bank accounts and business managers spread out across the world to maintain her accounts and different identities, in case someone gets too close to finding out she is a vampire.

When Alisa was first transformed into a vampire, her name was Sita. Periodically, throughout the novel, Alisa reveals her true identity as Sita to some of the other characters. Primarily, she reveals her real name to the few men she falls in love with over the years, including Arturo, Ray and Joel. As Sita, she made a vow to her God, Krishna, not to create anymore vampires, so she tries to live out her years without breaking her promise. Some of the situations that unfold in the novel cause Sita to have to break her vow for the overall good.

When Sita has to go undercover as a high school student, she changes her identity to Lara Adams. She uses the identity again when she is on the run in Las Vegas and trying to free her love, Joel Drake, a former FBA agent she has to turn into a vampire in order to save his life. Lara Adams is a red-head and the orphan daughter of a rich father who left all his money to his only daughter.

## Detective Michael Riley

Detective Michael Riley is a private detective. He contacts Sita, saying that he wants to meet with her. When the detective meets with Sita, he says his client hired him to check into Alisa Perne's background. Riley is trying to uncover how such a young girl can have so much money but not trace where the money came from. He also mentions that there are some inconsistencies in her past.

Alisa tries to force out of Riley who his client is and why he hired him to check into Alisa. When Riley tries to blackmail Alisa instead, Alisa kills Riley. In the process, Alisa finds out Riley has a son that is in high school. She thinks the son, Ray Riley, might be able to help her figure out the password on his father's computer, so she can access his files and find out who hired Riley to check into her background.

Alisa buries Riley's body under a lake in the woods. Riley keeps copious notes in the file on his computer. When Sita accesses it, she finds out that Riley was hired by someone named Slim, but that Riley decided it would be more lucrative to blackmail Alisa than continue to work for Slim. Riley intended on using the money to send his only son, Ray, to college.



## Ray Riley

Ray Riley is Michael Riley's teenage son. Ray is very attractive and sweet. He is also an athlete at school. Ray first meets Alisa as Lara Adams in history class at the high school Lara enrolls in to meet Ray. She feels an instant connection with Ray because he reminds her of her husband before she became a vampire.

Ray and Lara end up falling in love. Ray also finds out Lara's true identity, Sita. When Yaksha returns to kill Sita, Yaksha causes Ray to fall out of a second story window, fatally wounding Ray. In order to save his life, Ray agrees to allow Sita to transform him into a vampire.

While Ray is with Sita in L.A. trying to stop a rogue vampire, he sacrifices his own life by setting on fire a warehouse that is full of all the known vampires recently created by the rogue vampire, Eddie.

## Pat McQueen

Pat McQueen is Ray's teenage girlfriend. She is rather plain. She doesn't have fancy clothes or wear a lot of makeup. Pat and Ray are truly in love, however. Pat feels as if Lara Adams is trying to move in on her relationship with Ray. Pat thinks Ray dies in the explosion at Lara's home, which is how they cover up the fact that Ray is now a vampire. Lara is heartbroken when she thinks Ray dies.

## Yaksha

Yaksha is the baby that was born in Sita's village from a dead woman while a priest is performing a ritual over her body. Sita believes Yaksha is a demon child. Yaksha is given to Sita's aunt to raise as her own. Yaksha grows up faster than normal until he is a big strong man.

Sita believes Yaksha is responsible for killing each of the villagers, including her own father, that was present the night Yaksha was born. She later finds out Yaksha was turning them into vampires, and killing the ones that didn't agree to become vampires.

Yaksha comes to transform Sita into a vampire shortly after Sita marries Rama and gives birth to her daughter, Lalita. Yaksha agrees to allow Rama and Lalita to live if Sita comes with him and lives as a vampire. When Yaksha enters a contest with Krishna, Yaksha loses, so he vows not make any more vampires. Sita and Yaksha part ways, but it is Yaksha that is responsible for finding out about Alisa because he wants to kill her and take his own life at the same time.



## Slim

Slim is the man that supposedly hired Michael Riley to look into Alisa Perne and her background. Slim is using a Swiss fax number to correspond with Riley. When Alisa faxes a message to Slim, he agrees to meet her in a town near where Alisa is living. Slim tries to take Alisa hostage, but when he does, Alisa is able to kill him and get away from Slim and his entourage.

## Krishna

Krishna is Sita's God. He plays a flute and seems to be a soulful person when she meets him as Sita. Krishna is the one that challenges Yaksha in a snake pit and wins the challenge. He makes both Yaksha and Sita vow not to make anymore vampires. He makes Yaksha make an additional vow, which is to kill all of the existing vampires.

Throughout the novel, Sita often thinks of things Krishna says to her to help get her through situations. Sita also has many dreams where Krishna appears and talks to her to help her figure out the situation she is in.

## Joel Drake

Joel Drake is an FBI agent that is in charge of investigating the rash of mysterious murders in Los Angeles. This is how Joel and Alisa originally meet. When Joel follows Alisa to the Fender residence, where Eddie lives with his mother, Joel exposes himself to Eddie Fender. Later, Eddie takes Joel hostage because Eddie knows that Alisa cares for Joel. Alisa tells Joel her real name and that she's a vampire. Against his choice, she turns Joel into a vampire to save his life after Eddie tries to kill Joel.

When Sita and Joel are trying to escape the police, they fly in to the Nevada desert. Joel is captured by the military, where they take him to a compound and conduct experiments on him. Sita is trying to break Joel out of the compound when she ends up blowing it up with the nuclear bomb. Joel dies in the explosion.

## Eddie Fender

Eddie Fender is an employee at the morgue where Yaksha's body is taken after the explosion at Sita's house. It turns out that Eddie finds Yaksha still alive in the woods around Sita's house, but Yaksha's legs are blown off. When Eddie finds out Yaksha is a vampire, Eddie starts drawing Yaksha's blood and injecting it into himself to turn himself into a vampire.

Eddie is the one responsible for turning more people into vampires around LA. These same vampires are the ones responsible for the rash of murders in LA. Sita ends up killing Eddie by chopping his head off in the walk-in freezer at the Fender residence.



## Arturo/Andy Kane

Arturo is a priest during the Inquisition. Sita meets him during this time. Arturo is also an alchemist. When he finds out that Sita is a vampire, he tries to conduct an experiment to create a hybrid—part human and part vampire. When he experiments on a young orphan boy, Ralphe, he turns Ralphe into a killing monster that ends up getting Sita and Arturo caught and tried as witches.

Arturo returns later as Andy Kane. Andy Kane is a "mad scientist" who is working with the military. In her disguise as Lara Adams, Sita doesn't recognize Arturo, so she uses her disguise to get close to Andy. Her plan is to break Joel out using Andy as her inside source. It isn't until after Arturo has lured and trapped Sita in Joel's cell with him that Sita recognizes that Andy is Arturo.

## Seymour Dorsten

Seymour Dorsten is a nerdy high school student Sita meets when she is enrolled as Lara Adams. Seymour has AIDS from a blood transfusion he had after a car accident. Seymour turns out to be Sita's psychic twin. He has dreams that are about Sita, what is happening to her and what is going to happen to her. Seymour is also a writer, so he turns these dreams and Sita's experiences into stories.

Sita tells Seymour who she really is. She has gives him a blood transfusion and he is cured of AIDS, but she does not turn him into a vampire. Throughout the novel, Sita calls Seymour or goes to him for advice and to help her see the situation she is in from a new light. At the end of the novel, Sita calls Seymour before she attempts the experiment to turn herself back into a human.

# **Objects/Places**

## **Mayfair, Oregon**

Mayfair, Oregon is a relatively small town in Oregon. It is the primary setting when the novel opens. Mayfair is where Alisa is living when Detective Riley starts investigating her. It is also the town where Alisa enrolls in high school as Lara Adams.

## **Mayfair High**

Mayfair High School is where Alisa enrolls as Lara Adams, a high school student that just moved to the area. The high school is where Lara meets Ray Riley, Detective Riley's son. Additionally, Lara meets Seymour Dorsten, who turns out to be Alisa's psychic twin.

## **Alisa Perne File**

The Alisa Perne file is a file that Detective Riley has on his work computer. Alisa enrolls in the high school to get to know Ray Riley. Her hopes are to have Ray help her unlock his father's computer so Alisa can read the file. Once Alisa gets her hands on the computer file, she is able to track down Slim, the man who hired Riley to look into Alisa's background and financials.

## **Los Angeles, California**

Alisa Perne jets off to Los Angeles, California to investigate a rash of murders taking place in the city. The reason she wants to investigate is the bodies are completely drained of blood—insinuating there is a vampire on the loose. While Alisa is in Los Angeles, she meets Agent Joel Drake of the FBI. Alisa returns to Los Angeles to continue her investigation. It's while she is in Los Angeles that she tracks down Eddie Fender as the rogue vampire, where Ray ends up getting killed and where Sita has to turn Joel into a vampire in order to save his life. A police chase ensues from Los Angeles to Nevada when Sita and Joel escape from police custody.

## **Las Vegas, Nevada**

The primary setting for the third part of the novel is Las Vegas, Nevada. Sita crash lands the helicopter Joel and she are on into Lake Meade. This is where the military captures Joel and Sita is forced to try to break Joel out of the compound. Las Vegas is also where Sita meets Andy, who turns out to be Arturo. Finally, Las Vegas is where Sita blows up the compound with a nuclear bomb and tries to turn herself back into a human with Arturo's equipment and supplies.



## **Blood Vials**

Throughout the novel, blood vials are present. Especially at the end of the novel, blood vials are a pivotal point of the storyline because Andy/Arturo is taking vials of Joel's blood to try to complete his experiment to create a hybrid. At the end of the novel, a blood vial, copper sheeting and lighting is what Sita uses to try to turn herself back into a human.

## **Compound**

The military compound is where Joel is taken when he is captured. Sita spends much time evaluating the compound's security so she can break in and get Joel out. When Sita does find her way into the compound, she ends up taking Arturo and the general hostage. Ultimately, it leads to Sita flying away as the compound explodes from a nuclear bomb.

## **Copper Sheet**

The copper sheet is one of the primary supplies Arturo uses in his transformations. Sita lies on a copper sheet in Andy's basement when she tries to transform herself back into a human. The copper sheets is the conductor in the transformations, along with the vial of vampire blood, a crystal and a light source.

## **Helicopter**

Sita steals a helicopter while on the run in Los Angeles. She uses the helicopter to whisk Joel and herself off to Nevada. Military and police helicopters are also in pursuit of she and Joel throughout the chase. Sita ends up crashing the helicopter into Lake Meade to make the military and police think she dies.

## **Nuclear Bomb**

Sita knows that she has access to a nuclear bomb inside of the military compound. She orders the general to bring her a nuclear bomb at the end of the novel so she can blow up the compound and all of the evidence. She sets the nuclear bomb to explode in 15 minutes and continues to try to bargain with the general and Arturo before it goes off. the nuclear bomb explodes, killing Arturo,. the general, Joel and many other people on the compound.

# Themes

## Good versus Evil

The primary plot throughout the entire novel is that of good versus evil. Biblical symbolism can be found throughout the book. Alisa has an inner struggle with good versus evil and so do each of the characters that are involved in the story.

Alisa struggles with the good and evil of having to turn the various men she loves into vampires in order to save their lives. On one hand, she knows that transforming them into vampires saves their lives. On the other hand, she knows the struggles they will have to endure as vampires. Additionally, Alisa struggles with drinking enough blood from her victims to gain her strength and choosing to kill her victims. The bottom line is as Sita, Alisa made a vow to Krishna not to create any more vampires. Every time she is forced to make another vampire, she struggles with whether she is doing the right thing to save someone's life, while also breaking a promise to her God.

Both Ray and Joel have a constant struggle between good and evil once they are transformed into vampires. While they both understand that Sita did it to save their life, they struggle with what they have to do to stay alive—such as drinking blood. Joel even struggles with watching Sita kill at the end of the novel, even though she is doing it to save their lives and the lives of humankind as a whole.

## Mental States

Another primary theme in the novel is the mind or mental state of the vampires, especially during their transformation or transitioning period. Primarily, the focus falls on whether or not Sita is having visions, blackouts or just dreams. There are also questions on how sound in mind Yaksha is when he returns from being on the run to kill Sita, his final vampire to complete his vow to Krishna to kill all of the vampires he created.

Arturo also seems to have his own mental problems. Arturo is fixated on using Sita's vampire blood and his alchemist knowledge to create a hybrid—part human and part vampire. In the end, Arturo's mental state ends up causing his death. Sita feels it is better to end Arturo's life, and sacrifice the life of numerous others in order to save the human race.

It seems as if Ray sinks into a deep depression once he becomes a vampire. He misses his old life, even though he wouldn't have a life to live at all if Sita hadn't saved him by transforming him. Sita practically has to force him to drink blood and Ray is constantly in a state of unrest. While he kills himself to save the vampires from running rampant in Los Angeles, it seems as if he wanted to die anyway to escape the life of being a vampire.

## Friendships/Relationships

Friendships and relationships are a third major theme that runs throughout the novel. First, there is the line that separates the classes of the vampires, such as those that create more vampires, such as Eddie and Yaksha, and those that try not to create anymore vampires, such as Sita. Second, it is even the class of relationships that exist between the humans and the vampires. Sita seems to have a demeanor where she gets along with most of the characters she encounters, but she also forms closer relationships and trusts some people more than others, such as Ray, Joel and Seymour. Even Seymour struggles with his relationship with Sita because he wants Sita to transform him into a vampire.

Sita struggles to have true and meaningful friendships and romantic relationships because she is trying to keep it a secret that she is a vampire. When she does reveal she is a vampire, she either has to kill the person or trust that they can keep her secret. As more and more characters in the novel find out Sita is a vampire, it puts them in danger because of their relationship with Sita.

# Style

## Point of View

The novel is written in the first person point of view, from the perspective of Alisa Perne. The novel swings back and forth between the present and the past. The past represents the time when Alisa is living her life in the past, such as during the Inquisition. The present represents the time throughout history, before Sita was a vampire and during historical periods when she was a vampire, such as the Inquisition.

The point of view of this novel is intimate, allowing a reader to connect closely with the main character, Sita. The book written in this manner allows the reader to get inside Sita's head, thoughts and inner struggles. The reader cares what happens to the narrator even though she has struggles between good and evil. The point of view also allows the author to inject his own opinions into the narration and to expand on the events taking place around the other characters and the occurrences taking place.

## Setting

The novel is set primarily in Oregon, Los Angeles and Las Vegas. The novel seems to be in the 21st century, but also touches on ancient stories and things that occurred in historical times. The main characters are involved in the investigation of Alisa's Perne's background and the mysterious attacks on humans in Los Angeles, where they bodies are drained of blood.

The setting of this novel works well with the plot. At first, the reader is not aware that the character has different identities and that while she appears to be innocent, Alisa is possibly one of the most dangerous characters in the novel. However, as events unfold, Alisa's identity and the mysterious murders are a constant part of the plot, the lives of the characters and even the outcome of the novel.

## Language and Meaning

The language of this novel is relatively simple and easy to read. The author, however, interjects many foreign words to fit into the setting of the novel. The language is from the 21st century, which is when the novel is set. The language is descriptive enough that it helps to explain the situations, but is not always detailed enough for the reader to truly understand.

## Structure

The novel is divided into three parts. Each part contains 13 to 17 chapters. The length of each chapter ranges from four pages to 30 pages long. The chapters tell the story



primarily in exposition and with some dialogue. The narrator injects his own voice and thoughts throughout the book, providing his opinions and feelings of the events unfolding in the novel.

The novel contains one main plot and several subplots. The main plot is the struggle of human beings and vampires in choosing between good and evil. One subplot is the mental state of mind of each of the characters. Another subplot is the relationships that the characters form amongst each other.



## Quotes

"Why you go to such extremes to remain invisible."  
Chap. 1, p. 5

"I just had the feeling you were going to."  
Chap. 2, p. 16

"My difference is my greatness. I am the first of my kind, but I can make others like me. I can make you like me if you will consent to our blood mixing."  
Chap.3, p. 25

"Time cannot destroy it. I am that love—time cannot touch me. Time but changes the form. Some wherein some time it will return. When you least expect it, the face of a loved one reappears. Look beyond the face and—"  
Chap. 4, p. 28

"It's not, because even that information is cut off in mid sentence." Ray frowns. "This is an odd file for my dad to create. I wonder if it's been tampered with. I could have sworn ..."  
Chap. 5, p. 34

"I am a vampire."  
Chap. 6, p. 44

"They are symbolic of a forsaken ending."  
Chap.7, p. 49

"You think that I afford you some protection?"  
Chap. 8, p. 54

"Where there is love, there is my grace."  
Chap. 9, p. 62

"He told me that I would have his grace if I destroyed the evil I had created."  
Chap. 10, p. 65



"The AIDS virus is not new. A form of it existed in the past, not exactly the same as what is going around now, but close enough. I saw it in action. Ancient Rome, in its decline, was stricken with it. Many people died. Whole villages. That's how it was mopped. The mortality rate in certain areas was so high that there was no one left alive to pass it on."  
Chap. 11, p. 69

"No. He lived the life he wanted. Had he lived too long, he would have begun to bore himself."  
Chap. 12, p. 75

"Pull it out."  
Chap. 13, p. 194

"Joel, you don't really think I killed anyone, do you?"  
Part II, Chap. 1, p. 227

"When you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, no matter how improbable, must be the truth."  
Part II, Chap. 2, p. 235

"Are you normal Alisa?"  
Part II, Chap. 3, p. 243

"That's him. Has he killed anybody?"  
Part II, Chap. 4, p. 260

"Why do you go by Alisa?"  
Part II, Chap. 5, p. 265

"You would rather I suffer."  
Part II, Chap. 6, p. 271

"You will not remember that I was here."  
Part II, Chap. 7, p. 283

"They'll burn."  
Part II, Chap. 8, p. 290

"Sita. You're five thousand years old. You have too much history. You need to learn to live in the present."  
Part II, Chap. 9, p. 296

"It is all maya. Illusion"  
Part II, Chap. 10, p. 313



"I will leave as soon as you give me your car keys."

Part II, Chap. 11, p. 333

"This loss has uncovered the change that was already there."

Part II, Chap. 12, p. 349

"We're both expendable."

Part II, Chap. 13, p. 367

"I look pretty good for a witch, don't I?"

Part II, Chap. 14, p. 377

"Sing this song and I will be there."

Part II, Chap. 15, p. 391

"Shut up and Crack your door slightly. When you reach the far shore, run into the hills and hide. I'll find you. I can hear a vampire breathing ten miles away."

Part III, Chap. 1, p. 440

"Damn, he really couldn't swim."

Part III, Chap. 2, p. 444

"It's not possible,"

Part III, Chap. 3, p. 456

"What we will create with your blood is a new man. A hybrid of a human and a vampire."

Part III, Chap. 4, p. 468

"What does it mean, Yaksha?"

Part III, Chap. 5, p. 472

"I'm a mad scientist."

Part III, Chap. 6, p. 477

"You can trust me, Andy. You truly can."

Part III, Chap. 7, p. 485

"He is a witch, Father, that fact is indisputable."

Part III, Chap. 8, p. 502

"I'm a vampire. I'm five thousand years old."

Part III, Chap. 9, p. 510

"You have to get to the general. You have to be able to control him."

Part III, Chap. 10, p. 519

"You've seen what my DNA is like."

Part III, Chap. 11, p. 528



"The truth is always simpler than you imagine."

Part III, Chap. 12, p. 541

"The general knows you'll come for Joel."

Part III, Chap. 13, p. 545

"Andy was able to construct Arturo's model because he was Arturo."

Part III, Chap. 14, p. 551

"I'm coming for you now. You'd better run, you'd better hide. Because I'm very hungry."

Part III, Chap. 15, p. 566

"It can't be opened from the inside. They've cut off the power."

Part III, Chap. 16, p. 582

"Everything you require is in my basement. It is your choice."

Part III, Chap. 17, p. 591

"Am I human?"

Part III, Epilogue, p. 593

## Topics for Discussion

Who is the true Alisa Perne? Why has she chosen to live her life alone and in secret? Do you believe Alisa Perne as Sita is good, evil, or a combination of both? Do you think she really loves each of the men she is involved with throughout the novel?

Who is the true Yaksha? Why do you think he chooses to transform Sita into a vampire? Did you suspect Yaksha had something to do with the person investigating Alisa Perne's background? Does Yaksha have a split personality, so that he loves Sita but is also able to hunt her down and kill her?

Discuss the relationship between Sita and Seymour. Are they friends, psychic twins or something in between? Is there true competition in their relationship? How does Sita feel about Seymour? How does Seymour feel about Sita? How do Seymour's feelings change after he discovers Sita is a vampire? Do you get the impression that Seymour is one of the famous writer's that Sita refers to in the novel?

Who is Eddie Fender? Is he a real person or is his identity stolen? Why do you think Eddie decides to become a vampire and create other vampires? What role does Eddie play in the novel?

Why do Yaksha and Sita hide their vows to Krishna from each other? Do you ever find out how Yaksha and Sita separate their lives in the first place? Why do you think Sita is hiding from Yaksha? Do you think Yaksha really intended on killing Sita and Ray?

Discuss the mysterious murders in Los Angeles. What impact do the murders have on the characters of the novel? How does it motivate them and how does it derail their lives? Who ultimately is responsible for the attacks?

Do you think Sita is successful in transforming back into a human? Is she something else? What are her motives for doing what she does? Who do you think is knocking at the door of Andy's home?