

# **Unleash the Night Study Guide**

## **Unleash the Night by Sherrilyn Kenyon**

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# Plot Summary

It is the year 2005 in New Orleans. Marguerite (Maggie) is a college student. She attends Tulane University as a law student and studies with a group of her rich, snooty friends. Her father is the senator of Louisiana, and her mother is a Cajun woman who commits suicide to escape the life of wife of a senator.

Wren is twenty-years-old and lives at a place called the Sanctuary. It is a bar on the outside, but on the inside it is a safe haven for Were-Hunters that have no place else to go. Wren is a Katagarian, which means he has the heart of an animal, and his natural form is that of an animal. He has lived at the Sanctuary for twenty years. His parents died violent deaths when he was very little.

The story continues as Maggie's closest friend, Nick, is missing after his mother is murdered. The police think Nick had something to do with the murder of his mother, but Maggie knows he could never do such a thing. Maggie tries to escape the pain of losing Nick by being with her study friends. They decide one day to visit the Sanctuary. Nick used to frequent it, and they wanted to honor him. This is where Maggie meets Wren.

Wren is taken by Maggie and stares at her. This angers her college friends, who start a fight with Wren. They end up getting thrown out of the bar. Maggie stays behind to apologize to Wren. After her apology, she tries to catch a cab and ends up being attacked by some thugs outside the bar. Wren rescues her, and their attraction starts a snowball effect. They cannot seem to see enough of each other. Wren hasn't told Maggie that he's half human, half tiger and knows this match will never last.

None-the-less, they fall madly in love with one another. Wren is 52% owner of Tigarian Technologies, and his Uncle and cousin try to have him framed to take his money. His Uncle would be heir in Wren's demise. They devise a scheme with the head of Sanctuary, Nicolette, where Wren resides and have the Were-Hunters come after him. The Omegrion, which is the council for deciding the fate of a Were-Hunter, is called upon to make a decision on Wren's future. The heads of all the species come together and hear Nicolette and Zack, Wren's cousin. They then decide to have Wren hunted and killed based on their stories.

Some of the heads of the species do not believe the story. The hunters are released and find Wren. They hurt him badly, and he runs to the only person he can trust, Maggie. As he lay wounded on her kitchen floor, he passes out and becomes his animal self. Maggie now realizes what he is. She vows to maintain her love for him and take care of him. They flee together, gain the help of the heads of the species that believe in Wren and with the help of Wren's father, who he learns is actually alive, Wren is freed from his charges.

Maggie and Wren are scoffed by Maggie's father at first, but they get married without his blessing and in the end he comes through for Maggie. The ceremony is a success, and they have a new home and a bright future. The most precious thing given to them at

their wedding is the mating symbol on both of their palms by Savitar, the mediator of the Omegrion (a kind of Senate for the Were-Animals). The mating symbol means that they can now be mated and have children together, which they hope to have many.



# Chapter 1

## Chapter 1 Summary

It is the year 2005 in New Orleans. Marguerite (Maggie) is a college student. She attends Tulane University as a law student and studies with a group of her rich, snooty friends. Her father is the senator of Louisiana, and her mother is a Cajun woman who commits suicide to escape the life of wife of a senator.

Marguerite D'Aubert Goudeau has a very dear friend named Nick Gautier. Nick's mother was murdered six months ago, and Nick is missing. The police think that Nick has something to do with his mother's murder, but Marguerite knows better. She knows that he loves his mother more than anything. She thinks that he went off to find the murderer(s) and got killed himself.

Marguerite and her friends study four days a week together. They are law students. Marguerite misses studying with Nick. She and her other friends, Elise Lenora Berwick, Todd Middleton Chatelaine, Blaine Hunter Landry and Whitney Logan Trahan are all that is left of the group. They are all upper crust society people. Marguerite's own father is the senator. Her mother passed away years ago. The group decides to visit a bar called the Sanctuary to honor their late group member, Nick. He had apparently visited there frequently. Nick's mother had been employed there. Several members of the group feel that they are better than the people that hang out at the Sanctuary, but go out of respect for Nick.

Upon entering the bar, they all speculate that the bar is low class. They sit at a table, and the waitress comes over to take their order. Blaine orders Westvleteren 8 for all of them. The waitress tells him that he needs to order an American beer, because that's all they have. They order American beers and a while later, Marguerite notices there's a man at the back of the bar who won't stop staring at her. Nick had told her in the past that he met a man named Wren who was very quiet and carried a monkey on his shoulder. It is this man that stares at Marguerite. Wren is known to his people as a blend of two animals, snow leopard and white tiger. He is animal by day and human by night. He is an outcast and portrayed as being extremely dangerous when he gets mad.

Blaine gets pissed about Wren staring at Marguerite and throws a beer in his face. The owners of the bar come over and hold Wren back from pounding on Blaine. They tell the group to leave at once. They all leave except Marguerite. She feels responsible for what happened to him. She goes to apologize to him, and he just gazes at her. It is clear that he feels very attracted to her and visa versa. After her apology, she leaves. Wren is ordered to take the rest of the day off.



## Chapter 1 Analysis

The book begins by informing the reader about the life of Marguerite. She is very saddened by the loss of her dear friend, Nick. Her remaining study group friends are in a league of their own and feel as if they are better than the average citizen of New Orleans. Marguerite has never felt that way. She treats everyone equally, although her father feels the same way her friends do.

The reader feels the strong urge Wren has to seek out Marguerite when he lays eyes on her. He doesn't know why her presence calls to him. He finds her absolutely beautiful and cannot seem to stop looking at her. When Marguerite apologizes and puts her hand on his arm, it awakens things in him that he never knew existed. There are animalistic feelings he tries very hard to suppress. He knows he will never forget this woman.



## Chapter 2

### Chapter 2 Summary

Marguerite leaves and wants to hail a taxi. There are none to be found, so she starts walking in hopes that one will appear before long. She feels someone watching her. She looks around and sees four rough looking guys. They are headed toward her, and she feels frightened. One man grabs her purse, and another one pushes her to the ground and rips her shirt. She sees that one man has a gun. Out of nowhere, Wren appears and fights the men off of her. The man with the gun shoots at Wren, but seems to miss him. Wren's strength is amazing to Marguerite.

The men turn and run away, and Wren asks Marguerite if she's o.k. She's a little shaken up, but alright. Wren hails a cab and takes her home. She thanks him and tells him she owes him her life. She invites him inside her apartment, but he refuses. He has been shot, and it's taken every bit of his energy to remain in human form. Marguerite doesn't know he's been shot, and he doesn't tell her. He leaves her to the safety of her apartment and goes into the darkness so he can flash himself back to Peltier House and into the safety of Carson Whitethunder's examination room.

Whitethunder is a Were Hawk. He is the doctor for all the nonhuman inhabitants of the Sanctuary. Wren collapses in Whitethunder's doorway, but not before he turns back into his animal form of half white tiger and half snow leopard. Whitethunder calls his assistant, Margie, to come help him with Wren's bullet wound. As Whitethunder and Margie talk, she tells him how Nicolette is making plans to strip Wren of his powers and send him away. His temper is getting out of control and is worrying the Were Bears. Whitethunder wonders why they hadn't done that upon Wren's initial entrance almost twenty years ago. Wren's father and mother had been killed, and the Sanctuary took Wren in. He was just reaching puberty.

### Chapter 2 Analysis

Marguerite (Maggie) feels very drawn to Wren, although she cannot understand why. She feels indebted to him due to her rich, snooty friends and the way they treated him. She tries to make amends to him by apologizing. When she feels that she's done all she can, she leaves the bar and is attacked by four rough looking men. If it were not for Wren, she would have been raped or even killed. The reader feels the attachment between Maggie and Wren. They are extremely attracted to one another for reasons beyond each of their comprehensions. Wren can't possibly have a relationship with a human, and Maggie has no idea what Wren really is.





# Chapter 3

## Chapter 3 Summary

Wren lay in bed in his natural form, healing, as Dev (a Were Bear) and four of his brothers brought in flowers that were sent to Wren. Wren growls at them, but they continue to bring in flowers until it nearly fills Wren's room. The flowers had all been sent by Maggie. She wanted to thank him for saving her life the night before.

She wants to do more for Wren so she buys him a grey sweatshirt, gift wraps it and brings it to the Sanctuary bar to give to him. Aimee, the barmaid, sees Maggie and walks over to her. Maggie asks if Wren is in, and Aimee tells Maggie of the gunshot wound and tells her that Wren is healing. Maggie is shocked by this, as she thought the bullet had missed Wren. She asks which hospital Wren is in, and Aimee tells her that Wren is actually upstairs, and takes Maggie to see him.

Aimee is confronted by the other Were Bears at Wren's door, but Aimee persists on getting Maggie in to see Wren. She cracks the door to tell Wren he has a visitor and that he needs to be in his human form before she lets Maggie in. He obeys her and changes form before Aimee enters. Maggie thinks the human form comment is just a joke and enters the room. She rushes to Wren's side and tells him how sorry she is that he has been shot and doesn't tell her about it.

Wren feels his animal instincts kick in and tries to calm them, so Maggie doesn't sense anything unusual. She gives him the gift wrapped sweatshirt, and he takes it. It is the first gift he has ever been given before. He tries to maintain his strength, but it's hard due to his injury and the closeness of Maggie. After a while, he asks her to leave so he can rest. She hesitates, but does as he asks. Aimee escorts her out of Wren's room and back to the bar. Maggie leaves feeling guilty and worries for Wren's safety. She also knows that even though she has such strong feelings for Wren, her father would never like her dating someone like him. She decides she will not see him again.

## Chapter 3 Analysis

This chapter reveals the true animal instincts of Wren. He tries to keep them under control while Maggie is in the room with him. He is surprised at how hard it is for him to maintain control. Maggie feels a strong pull toward him as well, but cannot explain it. She aches for him when they are not together.

Maggie also comes to the realization that no man would have done what Wren did for her. He took a bullet for her and didn't even tell her. She is impressed, but also feels responsible for him almost dying. The most she can do is send him gifts and tell him how grateful she is for what he's done for her.



# Chapter 4

## Chapter 4 Summary

Maggie accidentally left her Prada backpack in Wren's room when she visited him. She borrows one and leaves for the library to meet with her study group. Just outside of campus, she hears a man's voice calling her. She turns around and finds Wren standing before her with her Prada in his hand. She is very thankful and, just as she tries to speak to Wren, her stuck up friends appear. They taunt Wren about his jeans with holes in the knees and his wild hair. Blaine tells Wren that he doesn't belong on their turf.

Blaine pushes Wren, and this starts a fight between all of them. Wren punches Blaine in the face, and the campus police show up. In the end, they handcuff Wren. Maggie tries to protest, telling the police that Wren was just protecting himself, but Wren's look tells her to be quiet. It is obvious Wren is trying to protect Maggie, for she is responsible for the actions of her guests. Wren tells them he was not invited and doesn't know anyone on campus.

Maggie goes to the jail to post bail for Wren. She had to call Mr. Givry, the family attorney to help her. Mr. Givry would keep it a secret from her father. Upon their arrival, they are told that Wren had been put in a cell with other inmates and beat three of them up. They had to isolate him. He's been in a cell by himself for nearly six hours. The officer behind the desk tells Givry and Maggie that his bail is \$75,000 for assaulting an officer. Both Maggie and Givry are stunned beyond belief. Maggie certainly doesn't have that kind of money, and she can't go to her father and ask for it.

As Maggie and Givry turn to leave, Dr. Julian Alexander enters the jail. She knows him and says hello. He tells her he is there to bail out a very important client. Maggie and Givry know it must be a very important client, because Dr. Alexander doesn't make house calls on his own. He usually sends someone to do it for him. It turns out, Wren is his client. Wren Tigarian, the only child to Aristotle Tigarian and heir to Tigarian Technologies (second to only Microsoft). Maggie and Givry are stunned by this information.

Maggie comes to Wren's aid by telling Dr. Alexander everything that happened and that it was not Wren's fault. She tells him she will testify. Wren comes out, they release his handcuffs, and Maggie offers to drive him home. He accepts, and the men all look shocked. Wren would usually turn down an offer as such. Blaine and his friends are lead into the jail as Wren and Maggie are leavin, and Blaine threatens Wren again. Dr. Alexander tells Givry, who is also Blaine's attorney, that he is throwing the book at Blaine and his friends for what they did to Wren.

Wren asks Maggie to stop at McDonalds on the way home, so she does. Wren orders a ton of food, including twelve Big Macs, six orders of fries and a milkshake. Maggie doesn't realize that Wren's kind only eats every four days. She asks about his parents,



and he tells her they have been dead for twenty years. He tells her that he raised himself with the help of State Senator, Bill Laurens. Bill and his father have a history together.

Wren escorts Maggie through the back door of Sanctuary only to be met by a Were-Bear. He pushes him aside and lets Maggie in. Nicolette, the mother of the house, is angry and storms upstairs to tell Maggie to leave. Wren is angry and growls at Nicolette, but Maggie insists upon leaving. She doesn't want to cause anymore problems. When Maggie leaves, Nicolette calls her mate and arranges to rid the Sanctuary of Wren once and for all.

## Chapter 4 Analysis

The reader learns more about the Katagarian race in this chapter. They are those who have animal hearts. Wren is one of them, and it is taking every ounce of his energy to be human in front of Maggie. They only eat every four days and are extremely dangerous. Wren's strength is also incredible. He knows he is an outcast and should not be anywhere near Maggie, but he cannot help himself.

Maggie's falling for Wren, and this is creating turmoil in her heart, for she knows her father would never permit the relationship. Maggie is not the only one in turmoil, because Nicolette will not allow Maggie to be with Wren. It is forbidden and could cause the Sanctuary to be in jeopardy. Wren and Maggie seem not to care, as their strong desire for one another seems to win out for now.



# Chapter 5

## Chapter 5 Summary

When Wren kisses Maggie, she tries to run her fingers through his hair but they get entwined in his dreadlocks. So, he decides to cut his hair and straighten it. He succeeds with Aimee's help and goes to campus to see Maggie with his new look. The girls on campus notice a tall, good looking blond man and can't help but stare at him. Maggie goes to see what all the excitement is about and notices that it's Wren. He brings her flowers and chocolates.

Maggie drives Wren to her cottage in town, and the heat between them is unstoppable. They make love on the floor more than once. Maggie falls asleep, but Wren cannot, due to the fact that he'll turn into his Katagari animal self upon sleep. Maggie wakes up to find Wren showering. He tells her that he cannot be with her, because he feels he will eventually hurt her. Maggie pulls the story out of him about his parent's death. He reluctantly tells her that his parents beat each other to death. She tells Wren that she knows he will never hurt her. He insists anyway, and she drives him back to the Sanctuary.

## Chapter 5 Analysis

Maggie was completely beside herself and feeling empty as a shell as Wren leaves her. They share something that few people ever share as lovers, and they both know this. Wren knows that his people are dangerous. Wren was cast out as a cub, so that the pack would not kill him. The Sanctuary had taken him in to protect him until he could protect himself. He couldn't bring himself to tell Maggie the truth. She would never understand.

Maggie wanted desperately to beg Wren not to go, but that was beneath her. She would let him go and hopefully they would be together some day soon. The feelings they have for one another are powerful and hard to dismiss so easily. The reader feels they will be together again soon.



# Chapter 6

## Chapter 6 Summary

Wren rushes back to the Sanctuary to relieve Tony and is confronted by Dev. Dev glares at Wren and tells him that he wrecks of human smell. Wren just ignores him and tells Tony not to exceed the speed limit, because of a cop he saw around the corner.

As Maggie cleans up her cottage, she notices that Wren has left his wallet. It must have fallen out of his pocket while he was there. She ponders whether or not to mail the wallet back to him, but decides to personally deliver it. She wonders if Wren will appreciate her bringing it to him, or if he will be angry. She drives to the Sanctuary and sees Dev. She decides she will give him the wallet to deliver to Wren, but it's too late. Wren sees her talking to Dev and feels himself getting very jealous. He comes over to Maggie, and she hands him the wallet.

As Maggie and Wren talk and decide not to call it quits, Nicolette is concocting a plan to have Wren removed from her house once and for all. She is careful of whom she speaks to about it. She knows Dev is fond of Wren, but tells him of her plan anyway.

## Chapter 6 Analysis

The reader gets a taste of Wren's animalistic jealousy that flares up when he sees his mate (Maggie) talking to the Were-Bear (Dev). He cannot seem to understand why he has feelings for Maggie. This should be impossible, because he has an animal heart and should be attracted to animals, not humans. Maggie is relieved that Wren has decided not to let go of her so easily. She's not sure what the future holds, but at least she will still be able to see Wren.



# Chapter 7

## Chapter 7 Summary

Maggie hasn't seen Wren for three days now. She did, however, hear from her father. He called her on the phone and lectured her about having Blaine arrested. She knows that if her father had an inkling about Wren's wealth, he would not be lecturing her, but she refuses to tell him about it. She figures he'll find out on his own.

As Maggie walks through the zoo, she remembers how her grandfather fought to save it years ago. She loves the white tigers and stops to admire them. The zoo reminded her of her mother, so she visited as often as she could. As she admired the white tigers, Wren came up behind her to say hello. She is shocked to see him. It's his day off, and she's not studying, so they decide to spend time together. They start to kiss and hear a woman scream. A child has wandered into the tiger's cage. Wren jumps into the cage to save the child. The boy is about eight-years-old, scared and bloody from his fall into the tiger's cage. Wren carries him to the back of the cage where the zookeepers feed the tigers and out to safety. He has to eye the tigers, who are suspicious of him, because he smells of Tigard, but looks human. They are confused, but do not attack.

Once back to safety, Maggie inspects Wren for any damage. He is fine, so they get in her car and drive to her cottage. They are barely in the front door, when Wren presses her against it and makes love to her. They climax together, and a thought comes to Maggie that they didn't use protection. Wren tells her that he is sterile and cannot possibly have children. They continue to caress one another and before long they are in the pool making love again. Maggie tells Wren she hopes he will not leave her again. He tells her they should take it one day at a time. He knows that something will happen to him soon, but he's not sure what it is yet.

## Chapter 7 Analysis

The reader realizes the intense love that has grown between Wren and Maggie. It is something few people experience for themselves, let alone a Were-Hunter and a human. Wren keeps looking for the mating mark on his hand after he makes love to Maggie, but it does not appear. He feels sure that she is his mate, for the way she makes him feel. It is not up to him, though. It is entirely up to the fates when it comes to his kind and their chosen mates.



# Chapter 8

## Chapter 8 Summary

On an island off the shores of Australia, a meeting is called to order. The Omegrion is a meeting where the heads of each species (Regis) are called together. The Katagaria and Arcadia Were-Animals meet to discuss serious matters. Today, the meeting is called to discuss Trelos (rabies or madness) in one of their kind. There are two wolf Regis's (Vane and Fury) and Dante, the head of the meeting, is disturbed by this. There should only be one Regis per animal. There is one dragon, one jackal, one bear, one tiger, one panther, etc. As he approaches them, they explain that Vane changed to Arcadian upon puberty. Dante wonders if one of his cubs might do the same thing, for his mate is Arcadian, where he is Katagarian.

Savitar is the mediator and his powers reign supreme over all of the heads, including Dante. Savitar is there to protect each of their lives. The Katagarians and Arcadians are enemies. The only safe place for them is the Sanctuaries spread out across the country.

As Savitar calls the meeting to order, he looks at Nicolette Peltier and asks why she has asked them all to this meeting. She tells everyone that Wren Tigarian has become a Slayer and is a danger to all of the Were Animals at her Sanctuary. Savitar asks why Wren is not present, as he is the Regis of his kind. Zack Tigarian stands up and introduces himself as Wren's cousin. He says he witnessed Wren slay his own parents years ago. He says he was too young to seek vengeance at the time.

Dante doesn't believe what Zack and Nicolette are saying about Wren. He believes this to be a ploy for Wren's money. Savitar decides this is a matter for the Katagarians only and zaps the Arcadians back to where they belong (in their respective time periods and places). He leaves only one Arcadian there, Vane (who is actually Arcadian, but a Katagarian's brother). In the end, it is up to the Katagarians to decide whether to send the Strati out to kill Wren. Savitar calls for a vote.

In the meantime, Wren is washing his face in the sink back at the Sanctuary when he's attacked by the Strati. They shoot him with a tranquilizer, but he fights back by turning into a leopard. He tries to outrun them by jumping out of the window. He didn't know where else to go except to Maggie's house for a safe haven. He bangs on her back patio door, and she lets him in. He's naked and bloody. He begs her not to call the police or a doctor, then he passes out on her kitchen floor and turns into his natural form of half snow leopard and white tiger.

Maggie doesn't know if she's hallucinating or seeing reality. She knows now what Wren had been talking about when he told her that they couldn't be together. He trusted her with his life now, and she would accept the responsibility. She goes into her bathroom and gathers alcohol and bandages to heal Wren.



## Chapter 8 Analysis

The idea that the Omegrion meeting has been in place for over nine hundred years and is so organized it's amazing to the reader. All the heads of each species from dragon to bear come together peacefully to decide on serious matters of their kind. Their decision to kill Wren comes as no shock to Wren, for he felt something was coming. He and Maggie had become very close in the past few weeks, and he trusted her fully. This is why, when Wren is attacked and shot with a tranquilizer, he runs to Maggie for aid. He is not quite sure how she will react, but he doesn't have anyone else he can trust with his life. Maggie is feeling beside herself as she sees this huge tiger lying on her kitchen floor, bleeding and passed out cold. She now realizes what he'd been trying to tell her all along. How could they be together if he's half animal? She loves him still and comes to his aid.





# Chapter 9

## Chapter 9 Summary

Wren finally awakens, and Maggie is not sure what to do. She talks to the big cat in a child-like voice. She tells it not to hurt the nice lady. When she gets closer to him, she asks if Wren is inside the large tiger somewhere. Wren uses all of his strength to turn human again, and this relieves Maggie to know it is truly Wren. She tells him he's been unconscious for four days. He is terrified at first, but when Maggie tells him she never left his side, locked the doors and windows and kept things low key, he is overwhelmed with love. No one has ever protected him like that before.

He tells Maggie that they must leave immediately. She is angered and tells him she will protect them with her rifle. Wren laughs at her and tells her that will not protect her. She asks him if she is supposed to give up her life and school just because they shared a bed together a few times. He realizes that she is right. He cannot expect her to leave with him, so he kisses her goodbye and vanishes from her home.

Dr. Alexander knocks on her door a few minutes later, and Maggie thinks it's Wren. She opens the door, and he tells her he's looking for Wren. Fury also appears out of thin air in the middle of her living room. She tells them that Wren had just left, literally. Dr. Alexander tells her to pack a bag, because he's taking her to safety. Bill Laurens shows up at her door, too, and they take her to safety while Fury looks for Wren.

Wren makes his way back to the Sanctuary in tiger form. His plan is to confront his accuser (Nicolette) and save Maggie. Aimee and Fang (who are forbidden lovers) tell him to come in and be quiet. Wren confronts Aubert (papa bear) and tells him he is not a threat to his cubs. Aubert tells him that Nicolette says otherwise. This starts a fight between them all that is only broken up by the entrance of Fury and Vane (the wolf brothers). Vane tells Aubert that Wren has no clan to back him up, and offers his own clan to Wren. Wren is shocked by this.

Aubert stood up to them and said they would never make it out of Sanctuary alive. Aimee and Fang spoke telepathically, then Fang holds a knife at Aimee's throat and tells Aubert to let Wren, Vane and Fury go or he will slit her throat. Vane and Fury grab Wren and transport him to another place. They are inside a ship, and Aimee and Fang transport there a second later. Maggie shows up, also. Vane and Fury tell Fang that he must send Aimee back, but she starts crying.

Everyone argues with Wren, who wants to take matters into his own hands. Vane tells Wren that the vote to have him killed was 50-50. Wren is told that he is not hunted because of Maggie, but because he's accused of killing his parents. Wren is pissed that his cousin Zack would make up such a lie. Vane and Fury tell him to prove his innocence to Savitar, and the verdict would be overturned. Wren is so angry, he cannot think straight. He moves to get off the boat and the pirate, Jean-Luc, tranquilizes him.



They all decide to think of a way to prove Wren's innocence. It is the only way to set him free.

## Chapter 9 Analysis

Maggie feels so selfish. She finally realizes the seriousness of the situation and how Wren will die in order for her to live. She is also overwhelmed by all the Were-animals that live near her, and she never knew. She is not afraid, but feels that she really should be. She trusts Wren and loves him dearly. Dr. Alexander and Bill Laurens have known about the Were-animals and have kept their secret well. If it weren't for them coming to Maggie's rescue, she's not sure what would have happened to her.

The reader feels all of the brotherhood closeness of Fury, Vane, Fang and Wren. Even though Wren doesn't have a den of his own, Vane offers his to protect Wren. It is a touching thing he offers. Fury and Vane truly believe in Wren's innocence and will go to great lengths to prove it to the Omegrion. If they are triumphant, Wren will be set free. Maggie's hopes are very high that they will be successful.



# Chapter 10

## Chapter 10 Summary

Maggie lay in the bed with Wren on the ship, stroking his hair until he woke up from the tranquilizer. She asks Wren about the day his parents died. She wants to know, because there may be something in his story that can prove his innocence. He tells her about his childhood and how his father hired Zack to teach him to use his powers. It was hard for Wren to change forms and stay that way for any length of time, so after a week, Zack gave up and his father ended up teaching him. Wren tells her it's the only time he was let out of his cage by his parents, and it was a happy memory for him.

One night after his father finally let him have a room of his own, he hears smashing in the hallway. He goes to investigate and finds his father's throat cut open. He also hears his mother and her lover laughing about it in another room. Wren burst into the room where they were toasting their victory, and her lover charged at Wren. His mother stopped Wren from being killed. His mother knew the money from Tigarian Tech would go to his Uncle, and she didn't trust him. They would keep Wren drugged and caged and control his inheritance. The next thing Wren remembered was waking up in a cage with the house burning down around him. The floor collapsed, and Wren fell through the floor. A fireman rescued him thinking he was someone's pet. He bit the fireman to free himself. The last thing he saw was his mother, her lover and his father lying dead on the ground outside of the house.

Maggie tells Wren that Vane has a plan for them to go back in time together to prove that his Uncle has something to do with his parent's death. He scoffs at her at first, and realizes she may have a point. He doesn't want Maggie with him, but realizes that if he leaves her behind, he will worry about her all the time instead of proving his innocence.

Maggie gets a call on her cell phone from her father. Her courage builds up as her father is screaming at her for missing a week of school. She gets angry and tells him she cannot return at the moment, because she is running away with a tiger. A moment later, a figure appears in the ship's room. Wren realizes they have been found by the hunters. They transport away immediately.

## Chapter 10 Analysis

Maggie's love for the tiger Wren comes through in this chapter. He is wounded and tranquilized so he remains in tiger form instead of human. It doesn't deter her from curling up next to him and stroking his hair. She is determined to make him think like a human and not an animal out to kill his accusers. The others do not think Wren will listen to her due to his animal heart. They are wrong.

Maggie talks Wren into trying to do things the human way by proving his Uncle's guilt in his parent's murder. He listens intently while Maggie talks to him about going back in

time and trying to find something that will link his Uncle to the crime. He finally agrees. Just as the hunters arrive on the ship, Maggie and Wren transport themselves away from the ship and into Wren's father's bedroom.



# Chapter 11

## Chapter 11 Summary

They are back in the 1980's in Wren's father's room. Wren recognizes the things around the room and tells Maggie there is a lot he doesn't remember. They hear voices in the hallway. Wren whisks Maggie away to hide in the closet. He wishes there was time to hide somewhere else, but there's no time. Wren's father and mother enter the room and are arguing loudly. Aristotle and Karina were arguing, because Karina is brought back from Asia by Aristotle to discuss their son, Wren. Aristotle confronts Karina about her messing around with other men while he sits home and raises their son. Karina tells him that their son is a retard, and she wants no part of him. Aristotle gets upset and tells her he has changed his will and has left everything to Wren. He also tells her that he is moving her to New Jersey.

Karina screams, leaves the room and breaks things on the way to the telephone. She calls Grayson, Wren's Uncle and arranges to meet him later. Wren changes his and Maggie's clothing in the blink of an eye. They are now wearing 1980's clothing and prepare to leave the closet. As Wren reaches for the door, his father swings it open. They both stare at each other in disbelief. Aristotle asks, "Wren? Is it you.....from the future?" Wren tells him yes and introduces Maggie as his girlfriend.

Wren and Maggie tell Aristotle the whole troubled story of how they are being hunted, how Aristotle and Karina die, how Grayson is responsible, how the house burns down, that Bill Lauren raises Wren and how Aloysius Grant runs Tigarian Tech after Aristotle's passing. Aristotle takes the information in slowly. He cannot believe he would leave a full human, Bill Lauren, in charge of his son. He knows all of this is true, though. Wren has come back from the future for a reason.

Karina had left to meet Grayson, and Wren follows behind to track her leaving Maggie behind for Aristotle to guard. Aristotle is pleased to protect her in Wren's absence. Maggie asks Aristotle if he has any old pictures of Wren when he was a boy. He says he can do better than that and leads her to the current, thirteen-year-old Wren. Aristotle built a one way glass enclosure around Wren's room so that he can see Wren, but Wren doesn't know he's being watched. Maggie watches as Wren changes to human form behind the glass and tries to walk and talk. He's like a human baby taking his first steps. Wren learns this on his own, and refuses help from his father.

## Chapter 11 Analysis

They have to be very careful when traveling back in time, for any changes could alter the future. Wren feels very protective of Maggie and doesn't want anything to happen to her. Upon their arrival and hearing the way Karina speaks of Wren to Aristotle, Maggie

feels great anger. Wren comes to the realization that his father really does love him. It's his mother's fault that he was kept locked in a cage for so many years.

When Aristotle finds Wren and Maggie hiding in the closet and hears the whole story of his demise in only three days, he knows he has a lot to do in order to set things straight for Wren. Aristotle's love for his son is apparent to the reader, as he agrees to protect Maggie while Wren follows his mother to find out what she's up to with his Uncle.



# Chapter 12

## Chapter 12 Summary

Aimee finds her way back to the Sanctuary. She really doesn't want to be there, but she knows she must return. She is the only daughter to Aubert and Nicolette and knows they would hunt her down if she didn't return. She heads for her room and is confronted by Nicolette. Aimee is tired and does not want a confrontation with her mother. She tells her mother that Wren is innocent, and Nicolette gets angry. As they stand together arguing, they hear something in Wren's room. They open the door to find Zack rummaging through Wren's things.

Nicolette confronts Zack, and Aimee says Zack lied to the Omegrion about Wren. Nicolette asks him if it's true, and he doesn't answer. As he has made a habit of lying his whole life, it is easy for him to mask his scent. Nicolette could not smell the lies he told, so she thought he was telling the truth. Nicolette orders Zack to leave and prepares her family to make things right for Wren, so that the wrath of Savitar doesn't find them all killed.

Back in the 1980's, Wren hides in the bushes while he watches his mother and Uncle talk on a park bench. He masks his scent and listens as Karina and Grayson make plans to kill Aristotle and keep Wren hostage for his money. There is a twist in the plan as Karina states that she doesn't fully trust Grayson, so she asks him to make her a stockholder in his own company and give her a million dollars up front before she will kill Aristotle. He has no choice but to agree to her arrangement. She tells Grayson she will act like she wants to see Wren one last time and, when Aristotle lets her in to see him, she will kill both of them. Wren thinks about what just happened and realizes he now has a chance to save his father's life. If he saves his father, he will never travel to New Orleans, so he will never meet Maggie. He feels very torn about this.

Back at Wren's childhood home, Aristotle does something very few Were-animals do. He takes Maggie into a spare bedroom, shoves her to the floor and bites her on the shoulder. She passes out from the pain wondering why in the world he did this to her. When she awakens, Wren is in the room staring at the brown eyes of a tiger. Maggie is in the form of a tiger looking back at Wren. Before Wren attacks Aristotle for what he's done to Maggie, Aristotle explains that he passed his mother's powers to Maggie. The powers empower her to protect herself. Wren doesn't think it's possible to pass those kinds of powers to another person. Aristotle tells Wren that his mother passed the powers to him before she died of cancer, and now that he only has three days left to live, he passed the powers to Maggie. Although Wren wishes Maggie had a choice in the matter, he knows what his father did was because of his love for Wren.



## Chapter 12 Analysis

Under the current circumstances, Maggie and Wren could become mates to one another. Now that Aristotle passed his mother's powers to Maggie, it could work. Maggie finds relief in knowing that she is now part of Wren's world. She's not sure how and if she'll ever manage to go back to her own life, but Wren was with her, and that's all that matters.

The plan is coming together well, except for finding out who kills Karina. Wren thinks his Uncle Grayson killed his father, but how did Wren end up in a cage and how does the house catch on fire? He cannot remember anything else. He remembers running into Karina's room to kill her and her lover. He also remembers being knocked unconscious by her lover, but nothing after that until he escapes from the burning house. They only have three days to gather the proof that Wren did not kill his parents.





# Chapter 13

## Chapter 13 Summary

It takes a few days for Maggie to get accustomed to her new powers. When she's a tiger, her senses are much stronger. She smells keener, can hear much further, and her eyes are very sharp. She realizes she is extremely hungry also. She starts to rummage through the refrigerator for a chocolate bar, but Wren tells her chocolate is off limits. It's only one of two things that are now stricken from her diet. She would never taste chocolate or have to swallow Tylenol again. She doesn't mind the Tylenol so much, but she loves chocolate.

Wren also explains to Maggie that at the full moon, she will have no control over the animal in her. It will come out and stay out for the moon. A lot of the young Were-animals have trouble when this happens, because they cannot contain the beast in them and attack humans. This frightens Maggie. She curls up to Wren as he tells her more about what to expect. Even then, her animal instincts take over, and the heat of Wren sets her insides on fire. She wants him badly. She looks at his shirt and uses her new magic to make it disappear. He does the same to her and makes her shirt and bra disappear. Before they know it, they are enthralled in each other making love. They do this two more times before their animal instincts are satisfied. They cannot seem to get enough of each other. Maggie thinks they must be mated, for she couldn't stand to be without him.

## Chapter 13 Analysis

The revelation of exactly what Maggie is becomes apparent in this chapter. She is no longer just a human, but half human, half tiger. It takes her a few days to become accustomed to her new powers, but she's doing just fine. With Wren's guidance, she will fend for herself with ease.

The reader also learns the pure power of their love for one another. Maggie cannot seem to tame her animal nature and wants to make love to Wren again and again. Wren feels the same way about her. Wren still knows they cannot be together forever, but Maggie silently vows to find a way for them to be mated to one another.



# Chapter 14

## Chapter 14 Summary

Wren and Maggie lay together wrapped in each other's arms. Maggie slept while Wren remained in human form. If he falls asleep, he turns into animal form. Suddenly, Wren feels something strange about the room. The tigers that are trying to kill him and Maggie transport themselves into his room. Wren flashes clothing on him and Maggie and readies himself to fight. One tiger tasers Wren, and he falls to the floor flailing from the shock. Maggie turns into a tiger and starts to fight the other tigers.

Just as they all try to put a collar on Wren, Maggie throws herself on top of him and wishes him to another room. They end up in Aristotle's room. Maggie tells Aristotle what is happening, and he demands that they go back to their own time. Time is up for them in the 1980's, and he will send a package through time that will prove Wren's innocence. He tells them to see Bill Laurens for the package.

They have no choice, so they vanish back to their own time of 2005. Maggie and Wren visit Bill's office immediately, but Bill says he has no package for Wren. Nothing was sent from Aristotle twenty years earlier. Wren is upset. He tells Maggie they have to go see Savitar. It's their only hope of making things right for him. They transport themselves to a remote island where Savitar surfs and find Zack and Nicolette already there. Nicolette tells Savitar the story of how Zack lied about Wren killing his parents.

Suddenly Maggie vanishes, then Zack vanishes. Wren tells Savitar to take him to where Maggie has gone. He tells him he must wait a few minutes. While Wren waits, Maggie is held captive by another tiger. She turns to attack him, and Grayson appears. Maggie manages to kill the tiger that holds her captive, and Zack grabs her from behind a few minutes later. All of a sudden, something miraculous happens - Aristotle appears in the room. They are all shocked, because he was supposed to be dead. He was killed twenty five years ago. He takes care of Grayson while Maggie fights Zack.

A few moments later, Wren is transported into the room to find Maggie curled up in the corner in human form crying and shaking. She tells him that Aristotle had taken care of Grayson, and she killed Zack and the other tiger that attacked her. Wren tells Maggie that's impossible that his father was there. She agrees with him, but tells him he was definitely there. Wren and Maggie transport back to where Savitar is and ready themselves for whatever punishment may come.

## Chapter 14 Analysis

As Maggie continues to maintain her half human, half tiger life, Wren helps her. They feel as though they are one now. They don't want to be separated for even a moment. Maggie knows the only thing left to do is to go to Omegrion. They must prove Wren is innocent any way they can.



Wren is angry with the fates, for he feels he has found his mate. Yet, he still has no mating mark on his palm. Maggie has to be his mate. He lives for her every moment, and she feels the same about him. They will work together and prove Wren's innocence. They are not sure what the future holds for them, but with Maggie's newfound powers, they are a stronger couple.



# Chapter 15

## Chapter 15 Summary

Maggie and Wren stand to face the council and Savitar. The others stood glaring at them. All at once, the curtains to one end of the building open, and Aristotle stands staring at Wren. Wren is in disbelief. His father was surely dead. This man could not possibly be him, but an impostor. Aristotle reaches out to hug Wren, but Wren pushes him away. Aristotle explains that the man Wren saw dead twenty years earlier was Grayson. He was in human form, and because Aristotle was a Katagarian, he would have been in animal form upon death. His brother, Grayson, was Arcadian.

So, the story continues that Aristotle kills Grayson, then confronts Karina and her lover. The lover ends up in the fireplace and drags ambers into the house, which cause the house fire. Upon his death, Aristotle and Karina battle hard. Aristotle wins, passes out and ends up in an animal shelter. Aristotle cannot come to Wren for twenty years, for it would have altered the future, and Wren would have never gone to Sanctuary or met Maggie.

The Omegrion comes to order once more with Savitar announcing they need to rectify the situation with Wren. It is a unanimous vote that Wren is innocent, because his father is standing before them alive and confesses that he killed his own mate in self defense. Wren is free to go, and Maggie smiles with delight. One by one, the others fade away to their appropriate places in time. Before Aristotle goes, he hands Wren a business card and tells him that if he's ever in New York to please visit. Wren tells him he will definitely visit. Dante offers Wren his Sanctuary if Wren or Maggie ever need it. Wren finds this very touching. When everyone has gone, Wren gets down on one knee and proposes to Maggie. She starts to cry and accepts knowing they are still not mated and cannot ever have children. Wren tells her they can always adopt, and Maggie wonders how she will explain this to her father.

## Chapter 15 Analysis

The reader finds delight in this chapter for Wren has been set free and will no longer be hunted. His father is alive and went through quite an emotional ordeal concealing himself from Wren for twenty years. Had he not, it would have altered the future, and Wren and Maggie would never have met. His father is pleased by their union and thinks they are perfect for one another.

The future holds a lot of possibilities for Wren and Maggie, but they still have hurdles to overcome, Maggie's father being one of them. She wonders how she will explain this to her friends and family. She and Wren would be married. She is both thrilled and afraid of what is to come, but as long as Wren is by her side, she will triumph.



# Chapter 16

## Chapter 16 Summary

Wren and Maggie arrive back at the old Sanctuary. Wren wants to get Marvin, his monkey, and the rest of his belongings and move out. Nicolette tries to play nice, but Wren tells her that she has betrayed him, and he will never forgive her for it. He can't necessarily blame her for wanting to protect her children, though.

Wren, having all of his belongings, wishes he and Maggie back to Maggie's cottage. They tell the monkey to go find his room, close the door, and they make love on the countertop. The monkey starts to scream just as they are finishing. Someone is pulling into the drive. It is Maggie's father with two private detectives dressed in black suits. Her father bangs on the door, and Maggie lets him in. He proceeds to scold her for missing a week of school and for hanging out with Wren who is a meager bus boy. He tells her to straighten up or he will take everything from her.

Maggie has had enough of her father. She wants her own life and doesn't hesitate to let him know. She tells him that she'll gladly move out, that she's marrying Wren at the end of the month. If he won't be a part of her life, then she wants nothing more to do with him. Her father looks at her in disbelief. What happens next shocks her father. She tells her father that Wren owns 52% of Tigarian Technologies, looks toward Wren and asks which mansion they should live in. Wren mentions out loud every one, including a boat with more than ten rooms, and Maggie's father's jaw drops.

Wren and Maggie proceed out the front door, and Maggie hands her keys to her father. They climb into Wren's mustang with the monkey and drive away. They leave her father standing on the front porch staring at them. Wren feels Maggie's sadness and tells her that everything will be alright. They decide to go to a hotel with Marvin for the night.

## Chapter 16 Analysis

This is the first time Maggie has stood up to her father. It makes her feel very good about herself. She doesn't want to hurt her father, but it's time he learned who Wren really is. She is not her father's little girl anymore and tells her father her true love for Wren is real. He cannot stop her. Although Wren tries to talk, she telepathically tells him to be silent. She wants to handle her father all by herself.

Wren knows this is something Maggie must do herself, so he keeps silent until she asks him about the housing arrangements. There are many places they already own due to his stock in Tigarian Tech. She knows she will be well taken care of. Now her father knows she will be well taken care of without him. It's a very bold and well needed step Maggie takes in standing up to her father once and for all.



# Epilogue

## Epilogue Summary

The wedding ensues a month later. It's a rather small gathering in Wren and Maggie's new home in the Garden District. They bought it for about four million dollars. Wren's father is present, but Maggie's father is not. Others present are Elise, Whitney, Tammy, Vane, Bride, Fury, Fang and Marvin (of course). Marvin is dressed in a tiny monkey suit.

They get a surprise when Savitar shows up in his surfer clothing. He offers a gift from what he calls a "friend." He joins their hands together and burns the mating mark in the palm of both of their hands. Wren can't believe it's actually legitimate. Only the fates can determine who mates who. Savitar tells Wren that he doesn't want to leave it up to the fates, for they may find another mate for Wren and that would be very bad for Maggie. It's the best gift they could ever receive. The next surprising knock at the door is from Maggie's father. He tells her he's sorry he's late and hands her a box that contains her grandmother's pearl necklace and earrings. He asks for her apology and Wren's. They both accept his apology, introduce him to Wren's father and sit down to eat.

Back at the beach, Savitar tells a dark haired man that his gift has been delivered to Wren and Maggie. The dark haired man is Nick, Maggie and Wren's old friend. Nick thanks him and asks if Wren and Maggie will live happily ever after. Savitar tells him they will not only be happy, but they will have many cubs. The first one will be named Nikki after Nick. He is pleased by this news and, as the surf comes up, they both grab their boards and head into the ocean.

## Epilogue Analysis

It is shocking in the end to find that Nick is actually a Were-animal as well and has given them the best gift of all, their mating marks. Savitar is taking good care of Nick by the ocean, and Maggie and Wren will never know this. Nick can never return to New Orleans.

Through everything Maggie and Wren have been through, the reader feels content that they will lead a long and happy life. Now that they have been mated, they will be able to have children. Wren's father is alive and can now be a part of their lives, and Maggie's father has returned to take his rightful place in their lives, as well. The future looks very good for them.



# Characters

## Marguerite D'Aubert Goudeau

Marguerite (Maggie) is a college student. She attends Tulane University as a law student and studies with her group of stuck up "so called" friends. Her father is the senator of Louisiana, and her mother is a Cajun woman who commits suicide to escape the life of wife of a senator. Maggie feels very alone since her mother dies and starts to slip into depression upon the death of her dear friend, Nick. He seems the only person who truly understands her.

Maggie has always felt that she didn't belong in her own social life. She didn't exactly want to become a lawyer. She does this for her father. She feels as though she is meant for something else. The closest thing to her since Nick's death is Wren Tigarian. She meets him at a bar called the Sanctuary. Maggie's stuck up friends pick on Wren continuously, and Maggie sticks up for him. They spend a little time together at first, then they start spending a lot more time together. Soon they fall in love hard, but Maggie knows being the daughter of the senator that this match will never make her father pleased.

## Wren Tigarian

Wren is twenty-years-old and lives at a place called the Sanctuary. It is a bar on the outside, but on the inside, it is a safe haven for Were-Hunters that have no place else to go. Wren is a Katagarian, which means he has the heart of an animal, and his natural form is that of an animal. When he sleeps, he's an animal. He has to wish himself into human form, and it's difficult for Were-Hunters to keep human form during the daytime hours. Wren has the ability to become four different things, human, white tiger, snow leopard or a combination of white tiger and snow leopard. Most Were-Hunters are either human or one animal. He has lived at the Sanctuary for twenty years. His parents died violent deaths when he was very little. Wren is a very quiet person. He buses tables at the Sanctuary and keeps to himself. He has a friend Marvin, who is a monkey and befriends Nick (Maggie's friend). He hates socializing and would rather keep to himself in the dark of the Sanctuary.

## Fury Kattalakis

Fury is one of Wren's friends. They knew each other as children and somewhat later in life. Fury has two brothers, Fang and Vane. He is a large white timber wolf in animal form and is a Katagarian. Fury and his two brothers come to Wren's aid when he is sent to Omegrion and sentenced to be hunted and killed. Fury knows Wren is innocent of the crimes he's charged with and offers his own den as protection to Wren. He not only puts his own life on the line, but his pack, as well. Fury is a Regis, head of an animal branch, and is therefore called upon when the Omegrion meets to decide a Were-Hunter's fate.



## Vane Kattalakis

Vane is brother to Fury and Fang. He is an Arcadian Were-Hunter and a large solid white timber wolf, like his brother Fury. Vane was born Katagarian but changed to Arcadian when he hit puberty. He was protected from his pack when this happened by his brother Fury. Vane is a Regis, head of an animal branch, and is therefore called upon when the Omegrion meets to decide a Were-Hunter's fate. Although each animal branch can only have one Regis, Vane represents the Arcadian side where Fury represents the Katagarian side.

## Nicolette Peltier

Nicolette heads the family of bear Katagarian Were-Hunters. She runs the Sanctuary bar in New Orleans. She is the Mama bear who decided to start the Sanctuary as the safe zone after two of her bear cubs were killed. The other Peltier's are Aimee, Remi, Quinn, Zar, Serre Etienne, Alain and Papa (Aubert). Nicolette helps Zack (Wren's cousin) accuse him at Ometrion of killing his parents. It is because of her and Zack that Wren is hunted by the others and marked for death. Nicolette is trying to protect her family from harm and, since Wren brings Maggie (a human) to the Sanctuary, she feels that the humans will be onto them, and they will no longer be safe.

## Dante Pontis

Dante is a Katagarian panther who owns Dante's Inferno in the Twin Cities, Minnesota. He comes to Wren after his death sentence is rescinded and offers him sanctuary at his Inferno. He offers Maggie the same. He's not a very tolerant sanctuary owner like the others, but he seems to be fond of Wren. He is the head of his family and is mated to Pandora Kouti, an Arcadian panther.

## Savitar

Savitar is the most feared of his kind. He is thought to be nearly nine-hundred-years-old and the first to guard at the Omegrion. He can turn Were-Hunters to dust by just a look. He loves the beach and surfing and is always found wearing surfer clothing. He is extremely powerful, keeps to himself and his body is covered in tattoos. He has no decision power at Omegrion. He simply maintains equality as the meetings take place. No Katagarian or Arcadian will fight in his presence. He also delivers to Maggie and Wren the gift of their becoming mated. He visits their wedding ceremony and delivers the mark to both of their palms.





## Were-Hunters

Lycaon, an ancient Greek king unknowingly married an Apollite (a race created by the Greek god Apollo, more beautiful and stronger than mankind and blessed with psychic abilities). The Apollite died on her twenty-seventh birthday. Lycaon knew his two sons would also die on their twenty-seventh birthdays, so he started experimenting on them by splicing their life forces with those of animals (wolves, dragons, jaguars, etc.) to create hybrid beings. When he was done experimenting, he chose the wolves and the dragons to merge with his sons.

The fates were not happy and punished them to be at war with one another. They made one Katagarian and the other Arcadian. To this day, they hunt one another and use the Sanctuaries scattered around the world for safe haven. They are Were-Hunters, and now there are many kinds, lions, hawks, falcons, eagles, tigers, wolves, bears, jackals, snow leopards, jaguars and cheetahs.

## Were-Hunter Mate

Every Were-Hunter is chosen a mate by the fates. Sometimes, it's against their will. This is done by giving the Were-Hunter and it's mate a symbol that is burned into the palm of their hand. They have three weeks to accept or reject their chosen mate. If each of them accept, they can have children together. If they do not, they will remain sterile for the rest of their lives. The male can only mate with the female. He will become impotent around every other female he encounters. The female is free to mate with whomever she chooses, but she can only have children with her chosen mate.

## Bryani Kattalakis

Byani is the mother of Vane, Fang, Anya, Fury, Dare and Star. She is an Arcadian Lykos Were-Huntress. She has three scars on her face and neck and dresses very sexy, like a warrior queen. She hates Vane and his Katagarian father who tried to force her to accept him as her mate. She lives in Britain.



# Objects/Places

## Sanctuary

Sanctuary is the premier New Orleans biker bar, owned by the Peltiers, a clan of Katagarian bears. It is a limani (safe zone for all types of Hunters) "where natural rivalries are put aside and no fighting or killing is permitted". Wren Tigarian works at Sanctuary as a bus boy. He and his monkey live peacefully together away from life outside.

## Omegrion

Omegrion is a council of the Were-Hunters with one representative from each branch of the Arcadian and Katagarian race. Each head is called a Regis, and they all come together to decide the fate of a Were-Hunter who has been brought up on charges of a sort. They make the laws that govern all of the Were-Hunters and are responsible for setting up Sanctuaries.

## Sentinels

Out of the Arcadian patrias are born the Sentinels. They are the guardians of man and Were-animals. Only a select few are born to each patria. They are the strongest Were-Hunters and pursue and execute Slayers or those found guilty by Omegrion. A "geometric design covers one side of an Arcadian Sentinel's face once they reach maturity, but the Sentinel can hide the design if they choose to."

## Maggie's Apartment

Maggie has a cozy apartment not far from the University that her father pays for. She lives alone there and has no pets. She rarely has visitors. It is a modest place with few decorations. It has one bedroom, a front porch and a pool in the back. She and Wren find solace there together away from the crowds in and around the University. They spend as much time together in her apartment as they can.

## The Library

The library is where Maggie and her snooty friends have their study group together. They talk about people and make jokes at other's expense. Maggie finds it very boring to get together with them, but likes to please her father. The group consists of children of prominent families destined for greatness in New Orleans.



## **Apollites/Atlantis**

Apollites/Atlantis is a race created by the Greek god, Apollo. More beautiful and stronger than mankind, they were blessed with psychic abilities. Apollo loved his people and wanted them to replace mankind. They were sent to Atlantis where they intermarried with the Atlantean natives - until the day that the Apollite queen got jealous and sent her people to kill Apollo's Greek human mistress and his son. In retaliation, Apollo cursed his people. On their twenty-seventh birthdays, they would die a slow and very painful death. Today, many of them blend seamlessly into the human world while others live in segregated communes.

## **Daimons**

Daimons are Apollites who refuse to die at age twenty-seven. They have to steal human souls to artificially elongate their life span. Once a human soul is taken, it begins to die, leaving Daimons always looking for their next victim. As long as they have a living human soul within them, they can continue to live indefinitely. Any Apollite who takes a human soul into his or her body is called a Daimon.

## **Wren's Childhood Home**

Wren's childhood home is a quaint house with surrounding land. The Were-animals like to live in homes that have a remote feel to them, so that they can remain in animal form and not cause suspicion among the neighbors. Wren has his own room, but throughout his childhood, his parents kept him locked in a cage.

## **Maggie's Pearl Necklace and Earrings**

Maggie's father comes through for her in the end by coming to her wedding with a wonderful gift. Her grandmother on her mother's side of the family owned a beautiful pearl necklace and matching earrings. Maggie's mother wore them when she married her father, and now Maggie would have them for her own wedding.

## **Mating Mark**

All Were-animals are given mating marks upon the palm of their hands when they are mated to the opposite sex. The Fates choose this mate for them. Once they have made love to one another, the mark magically appears on their palms.



# Themes

## Two Different Races

The central image and conceit of this story are the two prominent races. The Arcadians are basically humans who are able to take animal form once they reach puberty. For them, puberty occurs around the age of twenty-five. Their prominent form is human, so when they sleep they look like humans and have human hearts. For them, their training is to go from human form to animal form by using magic.

The Katagarian are animals who can take human form once they reached puberty at the same time. Their prominent form is animal, so when they sleep, they look like their respective animal and have animal hearts. For them, their training is to go from animal form to human form by using magic. Both species have magic that is also only available to them at puberty. They are able to travel through time, are telepathic (with one another) and take refuge in sanctuaries across the world. They are constantly at battle with one another.

Savitar, the impartial mediator between the two races, set up limanis or sanctuaries where human and animal can go without fear of being hunted or killed. In these few places, they can rest for a time before they rejoin the war.

## A Forbidden Love

Marguerite (Maggie) is a completely human, college student. She attends Tulane University as a law student. Her father is the senator of Louisiana, and her mother is a Cajun woman who commits suicide to escape the life of wife of a senator. Maggie's father wants her to marry an upper crust man who has status in New Orleans. He would be happy if she married a doctor or a lawyer. He has high hopes for his daughter. He pays for her apartment, her college and everything she could possibly want. Being a Senator, Maggie's actions reflect upon his social standing, and he takes this very seriously.

Wren is twenty-years-old and lives at a place called the Sanctuary. It is a bar on the outside, but on the inside, it is a safe haven for Were-Hunters that have no place else to go. Wren is a Katagarian, which means he has the heart of an animal, and his natural form is that of an animal. He has lived at the Sanctuary for twenty years. His parents died violent deaths when he was very little. On the outside, Wren looks like just another poor bus boy who wears old faded jeans and t-shirts, but he is more than that. He is the heir to Tigarian Technologies and holds 52% of the stock. Tigarian Technologies is second to only Microsoft, so Wren is sitting on a fortune.

The simple fact remains that one is human, and the other is Katagarian. None-the-less, these two individuals fall madly and deeply in love with one another. They both know this love can never become anything more.



## Were-Hunters

Were-Hunters are made up of human and many different animal types. They came to be because of a love gone bad many years ago. More than two thousand years earlier, there was a queen who was born of a cursed race (the Apollites). She hid this from her husband, the king. Before she was born, her people had killed the mistress and child of the Greek god Apollo. In retaliation for the murders, the Greek god cursed her people with three things. They would have to drink the blood of their own in order to live. They could not walk in daylight, and they would all die a painful death at the age of twenty-seven. When this queen became twenty-seven, her husband watched as she died a painful and slow death.

They bore two sons together, and the king could not bear the thought of his sons dying in the same manner, so he tried to cross breed them with animals to elongate their lives. He created two races, the Katagarian who had animal hearts, and the Arcadian who had human hearts. He created many of these species before altering his two sons. Once his sons were no longer true Apollites, they could not be held to Apollo's curse. The Fates (those who were responsible for making the laws for his people) were angry with the king for thwarting god's plan and changing his two sons. The Fates demanded that the king kill all of the Katagarian and Arcadian race, starting with his two sons. He refused, so the Fates caused the two races to never be at peace. They would be at war all the time, hunting and killing each other until no more of their kind was left. The war has lasted even until this day.



# Style

## Point of View

This story is told in third person, but the point of view is both Maggie and Wren's. Maggie and Wren comment about their feelings toward each subject, the characters and development of the people in the story. One knows that they are quite taken by one another. Maggie is sympathetic to Wren each time he is wounded and does her best to mend his wounds and give him her love.

This story is fiction, a work in which one timeframe is briefly interrupted by another. The people in the earlier timeframe are Wren's mother and father in the 1980's. Love conquers all, the author shows us. Maggie and Wren, the main characters, enter a relationship not knowing much about each other. Wren holds his Were-Hunter status in secret in the beginning, but learns to trust Maggie and, slowly, the relationship grows. Before long, Maggie learns of Wren's half man, half animal status and grows to love him absolutely with everything in her soul. As it turns out, they are mated in the end and have their families surrounding them.

## Setting

The novel opens in 2005 in New Orleans. It revolves around a bar called the Sanctuary and Maggie's apartment. There are many different places, but the majority is in those two places. The brief shift in time comes in a later chapter where Maggie and Wren are transported back in time by Wren's Were-animal powers to the year 1980. They arrive at Wren's childhood home, but stay only briefly.

Wren is surrounded by a series of insults and injuries inflicted upon him by Maggie's rich and shallow classmates. Later in the novel, Wren is hunted by his kind also and bears scars from that, as well. Maggie and Wren's love for one another grows to a point where they burn with desire and do not care to be separated ever. Wren's father bites Maggie on the shoulder and makes her Were-animal. This starts the solid union of the two.

## Language and Meaning

This story was written in the early 2000's. There is a distinct knowledge the author portrays when writing about the Were-Hunters of this time. The language is simple and easy to read and the story is told in the same manner. Maggie is portrayed to be of Cajun ancestry because of her mother. Wren is very American, so their dialect is direct with no accent or slang. The story is filled with history of the Katagarian and Arcadian Were-animals and descriptions of their customs and ways. The love between Maggie and Wren, in particular, is described throughout each chapter and gets stronger throughout the story.

## Structure

The story is told in sixteen chapters with an epilogue at the end. The progress of the story is linear except for the brief appearance Wren and Maggie make in 1980. It starts and ends in 2005 in New Orleans.



## Quotes

"The lack of news coverage alone shows that I'm innocent. I came in to bail out a friend but found out I don't have enough money to cover it." Chapter 4, p.78

"I want your scent all over me. I want to smell your skin until I'm drunk with it." Chapter 5, p. 108

"Follow your heart, Marguerite. Don't let anyone tell you how to live your life. It's the only one you have, mon ange. Live it for both of us." Chapter 7, p. 143 "I would like to keep seeing you, Maggie. Let's just take it one day at a time and see what happens. Okay?" Chapter 7, p.164

"I am just an observer in this. At the end of the day, the final vote falls to you guys." Chapter 8, p. 182

"If Wren won't hurt you in human form, he won't hurt you in animal form." Chapter 10, p. 217

"That worthless leopard cub? He can barely tie his own shoelaces. Never mind take me on. That's just stupid." Chapter 11, p. 245

"Once our kind mates, it really is until death we do part. There is no freedom from each other so long as both mates live." Chapter 13, p. 282

"No Wren," she said sternly. "You are not going to do this alone. You need someone in your corner." Chapter 14, p. 293

"But, they are dead. There is no one to accuse you." Chapter 14, p. 302

"Yea. It's only what" Four and a half million? I'll get my accountant on it and we should be able to move in by tomorrow." Chapter 16, p. 321

"I'm going into this with my eyes wide open and I want nothing to blur my vision..." Epilogue, p.325

"I know I've been a prick to you both, but I'm a big enough man to admit when I've been wrong." Epilogue, p.331





## Topics for Discussion

How would things have been different if Wren's father revealed his status as alive and not dead before Wren is taken to New Orleans?

How could a species like the Were-Hunters live among us? Could they truly exist?

Wren and Maggie do very well on the run from the hunters trying to kill them. Is this realistic?

What do you think would have happened if Maggie was not bitten by Aristotle and turned into a Were-Animal? Do you think she still would have married Wren?

What do you think it's like to live for over nine hundred years like Savitar? Do you think you would become tired and want to have your life come to an end?

Would you have liked to see Wren reunited with his father earlier? Do you think it would have ruined things for he and Maggie?

How do you think the book would be different if Maggie were the Were-Hunter, and Wren were completely human?