

# **Wolfsbane Study Guide**

**Wolfsbane by Andrea Cremer**

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



# Contents

<a href="#">Wolfsbane Study Guide.....</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">Contents.....</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">Plot Summary.....</a>	<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">Part 1, Purgatory: Chapters 1-4.....</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">Part 1,Purgatory: Chapters 5-8.....</a>	<a href="#">7</a>
<a href="#">Part 1, Purgatory: Chapters 9-11.....</a>	<a href="#">9</a>
<a href="#">Part 2, Inferno: Chapters 12-17.....</a>	<a href="#">11</a>
<a href="#">Part 2, Inferno: Chapters 18-22.....</a>	<a href="#">13</a>
<a href="#">Part 2, Inferno: Chapters 23-26.....</a>	<a href="#">15</a>
<a href="#">Part 2, Paradiso: Chapters 27-29.....</a>	<a href="#">17</a>
<a href="#">Characters.....</a>	<a href="#">19</a>
<a href="#">Objects/Places.....</a>	<a href="#">22</a>
<a href="#">Themes.....</a>	<a href="#">24</a>
<a href="#">Style.....</a>	<a href="#">26</a>
<a href="#">Quotes.....</a>	<a href="#">28</a>
<a href="#">Topics for Discussion.....</a>	<a href="#">30</a>



# Plot Summary

Wolfsbane is the second in the Nighshade Series by writer Andrea Cremer. Calla Tor wakes at the beginning of this novel in an unfamiliar place, only remnants of a fight between her wolf pack, Keepers, and Searchers to tell her where she might be. A Searcher comes and suggests an alliance between them and Calla's pack. At first Calla is weary of these people who have been her sworn enemy all her life, but when she realizes that this alliance could give her and her pack the one thing they have always wanted, freedom, she agrees despite lingering uncertainties. Wolfsbane is a sequel that takes known characters and puts them in a situation that will both surprise and make perfect sense to faithful readers, continuing a ride that has already gone beyond suspense and into new territory that will only continue to thrill.

Calla Tor wakes in an unfamiliar room, wearing unfamiliar clothing. She quickly checks out her surroundings, searching for a means of escape even as remnants of her escape from Vail begin to drift to the surface of her memories. When a man comes into the room, a man she recognizes as a Searcher, Calla becomes defensive. Calla transitions into her wolf form and confronts the man, but returns to her human form when she realizes the man means her no harm. In fact, this Searcher, Monroe, wants Calla to form an alliance with him and his team.

Calla has been taught all her life that the Searchers are the enemy, that they are to be defeated at all costs. However, Calla begins to realize there is so much she never knew and so many lies she was told. Calla is reunited with Shay, her lover and the reason why she escaped Vail in the first place. Shay is not supposed to be her mate. In fact, Calla was supposed to kill Shay on the night of her ceremonial union with her chosen mate, Ren. However, Calla is in love with Shay and has recently discovered he is the Scion, someone of great importance in the war between the Keepers and the Searchers. Calla had no choice but to leave her pack behind and save Shay.

Now Calla is asked to go on a rescue mission with the Searchers to bring her pack back to their academy. Calla jumps at the chance, but realizes too late that the Keepers would have stopped the patrols around Haldis Cavern because Shay took the item that was being protected there. Instead of finding her pack on patrol, Calla and her Searcher crew run into the Bane pack. One of the Searchers is killed and Calla finds herself forced to injure a running mate of her mother's in order to avoid fighting her.

Back at the Searcher's academy, Calla tells the Searchers that something has changed among the wolf packs and they begin to theorize about what might be happening. They then tell Shay about the Scion's cross, a weapon that is thought to be able to banish wraiths. The object Shay and Calla found in Haldis Cavern is one section of this weapon, a sword hilt. Later, Shay and Calla also learn some more details of previous alliances between Searchers and wolf packs, including an alliance Ren's mother attempted to make with Monroe.



Calla's brother, Ansel, is found in Vail but he is injured when a Searcher mistakes him for an enemy. Calla quickly saves her brother by feeding him her blood, but then learns that the Keepers took away Ansel's wolf form. Not only this, but they killed her mother and have been torturing her entire pack for more than a week. It is decided that a rescue attempt must be made to rescue the rest of Calla's pack. However, the rescue goes much easier than anticipation, a fact whose cause becomes obvious when they return to their post in Denver and discover that the Keepers have arrived and destroyed it.

Calla now had most of her pack with her at the Searcher's academy, but Ren is not among them. Ren has made the choice to remain with his father in Vail despite the fact that it was revealed during the rescue attempt that Monroe is his father. Monroe's daughter, Ariadne, decides she must return for her brother and the only person who can convince him to join the Searchers is Calla. Hence, Ariadne and Calla return to Vail to try to convince Ren to join the alliance.



# Part 1, Purgatory: Chapters 1-4

## Part 1, Purgatory: Chapters 1-4 Summary

Wolfsbane is the second in the Nightshade Series by Andrea Cremer. Nightshade is the name of Calla Tor's wolf pack, a group of human beings who can transform into wolves. The wolves were created by a group called the Keepers as protection from another group known as the Searchers. In the first novel, Calla has run away from the Keepers in order to protect her love, Shay, who has been identified by the Searchers as the Scion, a weapon that could help the Searchers finally win the centuries old war against the Keepers.

In Chapter 1, Calla Tor wakes in a strange place, wearing strange clothing. Calla begins to remember fragments of a fight in Vail, her hometown, but they are only fragments. A man comes into her room called Monroe. Monroe is a Searcher, a member of a group that has been Calla's sworn enemy all her life. Calla transitions into her wolf form, expecting trouble, but the man calms her and tells her that he wants to create an alliance between his group and her wolf pack.

In Chapter 2, Monroe leads Calla out of her cell and she finds herself suddenly face to face with two Searchers she has battled in the past. Calla once again transitions into a wolf and is surprised when these two do not attempt to harm her, but make jokes instead. The sight of the two Searchers helps Calla recall more of what happened the night of her joining ceremony when she was forced to run away in order to save Shay. They take her through a large building to a room where Shay is talking with a beautiful girl about their age. Calla is relieved to see Shay alive and well. Shay fills Calla in on some of the things that have transpired since the night they escaped Vail. Calla begins to feel an urgency to return to Vail to find her pack and make sure they did not suffer from her actions.

In Chapter 3, the group in the library is joined by Anika, the arrow or leader of the Searchers, and Lydia, another Searcher. Anika asks Calla to tell them about a couple of their people who went missing in the days before her commitment ceremony. Calla openly tells them that both men are dead. One of the Searchers, Ethan, becomes angry with Calla's apparent callous attitude. One of the dead was Ethan's brother. Anika then asks Calla how she came to leave her wolf pack. Shay explains about the commitment ceremony. When Monroe hears Ren's name, he becomes agitated for some unknown reason. Ren's agitation seems to increase when he learns that Calla learned the truth of how Ren's mother died and told him the night of her escape.

In Chapter 4, Anika tells Calla that she would like her to join Monroe's group and return to Vail to bring her wolf pack back to the Searcher's academy. Anika thinks that they might be able to intercept the pack while they are on their regularly scheduled patrol around Haldis Cavern. As the mission is planned, Calla and Shay learn that the Searchers have spies in Vail. The Searchers use humans so that they might not be so



easily identified by the Keepers. Calla is further surprised to learn that one of the spies is her beloved philosophy teacher and the other is the manager at a local hang out. They are to meet the teacher that night. Anika appoints the team, choosing Ariadne as the weaver despite Monroe's protest, and they are set to go.

## **Part 1, Purgatory: Chapters 1-4 Analysis**

The first few chapters of this novel introduce the main character of the novel, Calla Tor. As Calla wakes in an unfamiliar place, she begins to remember bits and pieces of how she came to be there, successfully catching the reader up on what happened in the first novel of the series. Calla is then introduced to a group of Searchers at the same time she is reunited with her lover, Shay.

Calla is a Guardian to the Keepers and therefore has been an enemy to the Searchers all her life. Calla is caught in the middle of an ancient war and has fought on the side of the Keepers simply because that is what her kind was designed to do. However, Calla has yearned for freedom, specifically freedom to love and marry whomever she wants rather than the boy her masters have chosen for her. For this reason, when Calla learned that she was expected to kill Shay on the day to her commitment ceremony to Ren, she chose to leave her life in Vail in order to save Shay.

Calla begins to learn some truths about her existence and every lie that she has ever been told by the Keepers. This causes Calla a great deal of confusion even as she realizes she has little choice but to accept the Searcher's offer of an alliance. Calla knows that if she returns to the Keepers, she will be punished, therefore that is no longer an option. Now Calla needs to return and collect her pack, to save them from whatever punishment they might be suffering from her actions. However, by doing this, Calla will have to come face to face with Ren, her intended mate and the one who more than likely has taken the brunt of the punishment for her actions.



# Part 1, Purgatory: Chapters 5-8

## Part 1, Purgatory: Chapters 5-8 Summary

In Chapter 5, Shay and Calla discover how the Searchers travel through doors that their Weavers magically create connecting distant places as though they were only a room away. Calla is hesitant to walk through the door Ariadne creates, but is determined to save her pack. On the other side of the door, Calla discovers they have moved from Iowa to Denver in a matter of seconds. When they arrive in Denver, Calla finds that they are at an outpost of sorts where Searchers live to keep an eye on Keeper settlements and to work creating income for the Searchers work.

In Chapter 6, Ariadne weaves another door and this time they step into the mountains surrounding the ski resort town of Vail. Calla is happy to moving into familiar territory and is excited to find her pack, but must remember to move slowly in order to allow the Searchers to keep up with her. When Calla fails to find her pack's scent, she suddenly realizes that there would no longer be patrols in this area because she and Shay took the object the Keepers had been hiding in the Haldis Caverns. Calla rushes back to warn the others just as they hear the call of a wolf pack. Calla is shocked when she finds herself face to face with Sasha, a member of Calla's former pack and a running mate of her mother's. Calla is even more shocked when Sasha attacks her. Calla injures Sasha's leg, refusing to kill her in a fight. However, before they can all escape through another door, the Bane pack attacks. Calla does all she can to protect the Searchers, but Lydia is killed.

In Chapter 7, the team returns to the Searcher's academy with the bad news of their failure. Calla is unnerved by what happened and feels as if something is wrong in Vail. Monroe takes the team to speak with the scribe, Silas. Calla expresses her fear and Silas suggests that her pack has been interrogated and it was information from them that caused the ambush. Silas then begins to tell Shay more about his role as the Scion. Silas tells them that there are four artifacts the Keepers are protecting that together create a single weapon, the Scion's cross.

In Chapter 8, the Scion's cross is two swords that hold the power of all four elemental magics. Silas suggests that their next priority should be gathering the pieces of the Scion's cross. Calla realizes that the piece Shay took from Haldis Cavern must be one of these pieces and tells Silas about it. Shay produces the piece and Silas tells them that it is the hilt of one of the swords. Silas is unable to touch it, however, as the weapon is only for the Scion's use. It is believed that with this weapon the Scion can banish wraiths from our world and send them back to the Netherworld. Silas then goes on to explain that there were once two witches, Eira and Cian. Magicians before them dabbled in the magic of the Netherworld and soon a group of people appointed themselves guardians of the doors connecting Netherworld with Earth. Eira decided she wanted to close that door and protect to Earth from the creatures of Netherworld. To do this, Eira felt she had to learn how the doors opened in the first place and she



discovered the creature who ruled Netherworld. This creature wanted to rule both realms and promised Eira she could rule beside him if she helped. This is how the Keepers were created. The Searchers, descendants of Eira's sister, Cian, have worked ever since to keep the Keepers under control and keep the creature from ruling both realms. To help them, they have been promised the Scion, the child of a son of Eira who had become disillusioned with the Keepers. This Keeper is Shay's father. Bosque Mar, Shay's uncle, is the creature who rules the Netherworld.

## **Part 1, Purgatory: Chapters 5-8 Analysis**

Calla travels with the Searchers back to her home of Vail only to discover that some strange changes have taken place among the packs in the week since she left. Calla finds herself fighting against wolves she once considered family, a situation she knew might come to pass but did not think would come from her own pack. Calla does not kill this wolf, but injures her so that she cannot stop Calla and the searchers from returning to safety. However, the Bane wolves are not so kind and they take down one of the Searchers, proving how dangerous this war Calla has found herself in the middle of is.

After the failed mission to recover Calla's pack, she begins to worry about the situation she left her pack in. Calla had hoped that her family and friends would have only been interrogated and returned to their lives, but now she knows that this is not what happened. Calla is now afraid that her friends and family are in real danger.

As Calla struggles with her loyalties between her pack and her new alliance with the Searchers, Shay begins to learn more about their history and his own place in the war against the Keepers. Shay is a mythical child who has been promised for centuries but who has only just come to pass. Shay is the answer to the fight against the Keepers, the only one who can truly defeat not only the wraiths, but the ruler of the Netherworld, his own uncle, Bosque Mar. It is a difficult situation Shay, who was once a normal human child and now is not only a wolf, but this magical savior, but he seems to be adjusting well. At the same time, Calla learns how this war began in the first time and it is bringing some enlightenment to her that might help her realize where her loyalties should truly rest.





# Part 1, Purgatory: Chapters 9-11

## Part 1, Purgatory: Chapters 9-11 Summary

In Chapter 9, Calla and Shay are taken back to the Haldis wing and shown to their rooms. When Connor and Ariadne leave them alone, Calla welcomes Shay into her room. They talk for a few minutes and then become romantic. Calla holds back however because memories of Ren continuously fill her mind. Calla needs to find her pack and she needs to right the wrongs she has caused them. Ren is included in this even though Calla knows that her love is for Shay, not Ren. However, because Ren helped Shay and Calla escape, she feels as though she owes him more than this. Why Shay realizes what is holding Calla back, he becomes angry and leaves.

In Chapter 10, Calla has a nightmare about Ren and decides to go for a walk. In the hallway, Calla can smell coffee and she follows the scent to a meeting room where Monroe and several members of his crew are talking. At first they talk about Lydia and Grant, those who died on their failed mission. The conversation turns to the Scion after Shay joins the group. They discuss how turning Shay into a wolf might affect his powers as the Scion, the meaning of the tattoo on the back of his neck, and the deaths of his parents. Then they discuss the unnatural use of magic by the Keepers, such as their attempts to become immortal and their unnatural creation of the wolf packs.

In Chapter 11, after Calla pushes the subject, Monroe tells the group about his relationship with Ren's mother, Corrine. Monroe met her when he was a young man running patrols in the Haldis Cavern area. Corrine came to him and asked him to kill her. Corrine had just been ordered to have a child with her mate, whom she found abusive and unkind. Instead of killing her, Monroe offered an alliance between the Searchers and as many wolves as Corrine could bring to their side. However, just as they were ready to take Corrine and her pack to safety, Corrine learned she was pregnant. Afraid for the child, Corrine begged to put off the extraction until the child was old enough to survive it. Unfortunately, Corrine's bargain with the Searchers was discovered before they could extract her. Corrine and her conspirators were all killed. After the story, Calla returns to her room. Shay soon joins her. Once again they become romantic, but once again guilt over Ren stops Calla. Then Ariadne comes to Calla's room and tells her that her brother is in Denver, dying.

## Part 1, Purgatory: Chapters 9-11 Analysis

Calla is struggling between her loyalty to her pack and her desire to be with Shay. Although Calla loves Shay, she has been taught since birth that she must obey the keepers, that she must mate with the man they tell her to, that her responsibility lies with her pack. For these reasons, Calla feels she must push Shay away until she is able to learn the fate of her pack, Ren in particular.



Even as Calla struggles with her loyalties and her feelings for Shay, she learns still more about the Keepers and the lies they have told her all her life. Calla is beginning to understand that the Searchers are the good guys and that the Keepers should be defeated. However, Calla is still not sure if she can trust the Searchers. Monroe's story about Corrine, Ren's mother, helps her understand more about the Searchers and their motives, but it still does not clear things up completely for her. The pack is the only thing that matters for Callia and her main focus is at this point in the novel.



## Part 2, Inferno: Chapters 12-17

### Part 2, Inferno: Chapters 12-17 Summary

In Chapter 12, Calla learns that Ethan shot her brother, not understanding that he was not a threat to him. When he realized his mistake, he took Ansel back to the base at Denver. Shay and Calla rush there through one of Ariadne's doors and find Ansel bleeding out on the floor. Calla feeds him her blood in an attempt to help him heal even though Ansel fights it. When Ansel is healed, he tells her that he is no longer a wolf and would rather be dead.

In Chapter 13, Calla tries to comfort Ansel even as she struggles to understand how the Keepers could take away his wolf.

In Chapter 14, Ansel then tells them how the pack was captured and imprisoned. Ansel describes torture each of them suffered from wraiths and the Keepers. Then Ansel tells how his and Calla's mother was killed because the female is responsible for the offspring, therefore it was her fault that Calla behaved as she did. Then Ren was tortured and taken away to make a choice between the Keepers and Calla. Finally, Ansel's wolf was taken and he was told that each of her pack would lose their wolf one by one to serve as an example. Monroe decides they must save the rest of Calla's pack.

In Chapter 15, Monroe and Shay argue about Monroe's desire to save the pack. Shay is worried for Calla's safety and wants to go, but Monroe will not risk the Scion. Monroe makes it clear to the others that this is a volunteer only mission, but everyone wants to go. Monroe balks at taking Ariadne, but finally agrees. However, he will not allow her to attempt an inside door.

In Chapter 16, Connor and Ethan take Shay and Calla into the weapons room and start showing them their weapons and some of their skills. Shay gets into a game of swordplay with the others. Calla leaves, feeling as though she is only in the way.

In Chapter 17, Calla finds Ansel in the room where he is supposed to be resting. Calla tries to return his wolf to him by biting him and saying an ancient chant, but it does not work. Ansel becomes even more depressed. Calla refuses to leave Ansel and after a while they both fall asleep.

### Part 2, Inferno: Chapters 12-17 Analysis

Calla's brother somehow finds his way to the Searchers, but he is mortally wounded in the process. Calla saves him only to discover that Ansel's wolf has been taken from him and he is suicidal over the situation. Not only this, but Ansel tells Calla that their mother has been murdered and Ren tortured, as well as the rest of her pack. The other members of the pack also face possible loss of their wolf.



Calla, who has been filled with worry and guilt for her pack, is now filled with even more guilt as she realizes that these terrible things would not have happened to her family or her friends if she had not chosen Shay over them. Calla wants nothing more than to make everything right again, but she does not know how. The only way she can see to progress is to go along with Monroe's rescue plan. The reader must wonder at this point, however, what Monroe's connection to Ren is and why he is so concerned about rescuing Ren. The reader knows that Monroe tries to make an alliance with Ren's mother once and more than likely loved her, but the reader wonders if perhaps his connection to Ren goes deeper than this.

Ansel's behavior should concern the reader as well as the Searchers at this point in the novel as well. Ansel is clearly devastated to have been separated from his wolf and would do just about anything to get it back. The reader must wonder how Ansel happened to find the Searchers and find his way to Denver. The reader must also wonder what Ansel might do in order to get his wolf back.



## Part 2, Inferno: Chapters 18-22

### Part 2, Inferno: Chapters 18-22 Summary

In Chapter 18, Shay wakes Calla to let her know it is time to go. Shay questions Calla's safety again, but she insists she must do this. Monroe seems a little shaken as well, pulling Connor aside to have an intense conversation that leaves Calla somewhat concerned. Finally, it is time to go. They step through a door into an alley near the building where Ansel says the pack is being held.

In Chapter 19, Calla and Monroe lead the Searchers into the nightclub belonging to Emile LaRoche and down into the basement where the cells are thought to be located. They are surprised to find little resistance as they make their way through the building, running into only one Guardian before finding the first group of cells. In one of the cells, Calla locates Mason and Nev, two members of her pack. They release them and feed them blood to help heal them enough to make it out of the building. Mason tells them of three other cell blocks where the others might be held.

In Chapter 20, the group makes their way into the Chamber, a room in the center of the four cell blocks where the torture and ritual killings take place, including the death of Calla's mother. Calla tries not to look at the platform where she knew the killing took place. Monroe picks a door and leads Calla inside to search for more members of her pack. This block proves to be empty, so they move on to another. Nev can smell Sabine even before they open the door, but there are other wolves in there as well. When they open the cell door, several wolves attack and one threatens to kill Sabine. However, Calla and Ethan are able to take out that wolf before it can hurt Sabine. Then Calla discovers that Bryn is also in the cell. They learn that the Banes were particularly hard on Sabine. Ethan takes a special interest in Sabine.

In Chapter 21, as the group moves into the Chamber and prepares to open the last door, Calla spots a gargoyle on the ceiling. Calla has Ethan shoot it, an act that seems to alert all the Guardians in the building. Calla and Monroe go into the cell block as the others stay behind to fight the approaching Guardians. In the cell block, Calla finds Ren. At first Ren kisses Calla and seems happy to see her, but then he throws her against the wall and tells her that he must break her.

In Chapter 22, Emile and Monroe come into the room with two others from Calla's pack who have chosen to align themselves with the Banes. A standoff begins. Emile begins taunting Monroe and orders one of the wolves to kill him. Monroe tries to talk to Ren, to convince him to choose Calla and the Searchers over his own father. It is then that Emile tells Ren that Monroe is his father. Then Emile attacks Monroe, killing him. Connor drags Calla out of the room, deciding it is too late for Monroe.



## Part 2, Inferno: Chapters 18-22 Analysis

Calla, Monroe, and the other Searchers go to Vail to save Calla's pack. It is too easy from the very beginning and Calla begins to wonder what is happening. It seems as though they were expected and they have been set up, but by the time they realize this, it is too late to do anything about it.

Calla is reunited with four members of her pack, including Bryn, her best friend and her brother's girlfriend. This eases some of Calla's guilt despite the clear evidence of their torture over the past week. However, when Calla finds Ren, he has clearly chosen to remain with his father. Calla is heartbroken, feeling as though it is her fault that Ren has made the choices he has. Calla fights for Ren and is joined by a surprising ally. Monroe also wants to save Ren and the reader finally finds out why Ren is so important to Monroe. Ren is Monroe's son. Unfortunately, Emile shows up and before Monroe can fully convince Ren to remain loyal to Calla, Emile kills Monroe.

Calla has clearly underestimated the power of the Keepers and the anger of the Guardians at her clear treason. This leaves Calla unable to predict what will happen next and leaves the group vulnerable to the schemes and ambushes of the Keepers and Guardians. Calla no longer knows who she can trust and who will remain loyal to her after living a life where loyalty was everything.



## Part 2, Inferno: Chapters 23-26

### Part 2, Inferno: Chapters 23-26 Summary

In Chapter 23, Calla goes into the Chamber with Connor and realizes the whole thing was an ambush. They are now surrounded by so many Guardians that there is no way they can escape. They continue to fight valiantly, however. Suddenly Ariadne opens a door into the Chamber and offers the group a means of escape. They all quickly jump through, but so do several of the wolves. Fortunately, Calla, her wolves, and the Searchers are able to quickly dispose of the wolves. Now on the roof of a nearby building, Calla and Connor are forced to tell the others not only that Monroe is dead, but that the rest of Calla's pack have changed alliances. Connor takes Calla aside and asks her not to say anything about Monroe and Ren's relationship until he can tell her himself. At the same time, Sabine forces Ethan to take her blood to heal a wound in his shoulder. As they plan their next step, Calla expresses some concern about the situation. Calla does not understand why the Keepers did not accompany the Guardians in their attack on Calla and her group in the Chamber. The others decide to worry about it later and to make their way back to Denver to regroup.

In Chapter 24, it is dark on the other side of the door Ariadne has created. No one understands why until they step through and discover that the Searcher's warehouse is on fire. Calla also quickly comes to realize there are wraiths there. In the chaos, Calla somehow finds Shay and Ansel before she makes the jump through a new door Ariadne has created. They all make it through except for Isaac who is killed by a wraith trying to protect the others.

In Chapter 25, Calla finds herself lying in the middle of a corn field in bright sunlight. Seconds later, she realizes that a Keeper somehow came through the door and is now surrounded by most of her pack. The Keeper, Logan, is an acquaintance of Calla's. Logan keeps insisting that he wants to defect to the Searchers and that he can give them secret information. Logan says that Shay's parents are not dead and he can take the Searchers to where they are being held. Logan then tells them that one of their own told the Keepers about the warehouse in Denver and that is how they attacked. Logan claims the mole is Ansel. A moment later, the group is surrounded by Searchers. Anika is among them. Connor and Ariadne tell her about the attack in Denver and insist that the Keepers could now know where the academy is. The academy must be moved.

In Chapter 26, the group is quickly rushed back to the academy where Ansel and Logan are both taken prisoner until the details of their situation can be figured out. The Searchers quickly begin to prepare to move the academy building. Shay and Calla watch in shock with Calla's pack as the Weavers move a portal over the school, moving it from Iowa to Italy.



## Part 2, Inferno: Chapters 23-26 Analysis

Calla and her group discover that the Keepers have attacked the Searcher's warehouse in Denver, giving explanation to why there were no Keepers at the nightclub while Calla and the Searchers were attempting to rescue Calla's pack. How the Keepers knew to go to Denver is revealed when a Keeper travels with the Searchers back to Iowa through one of Ariadne's doors. The reader can easily understand why Ansel would turn on the Searchers. The Searchers have been Ansel's enemy all his life. However, Ansel's disloyalty to his sister and his girlfriend is more puzzling, showing the reader that to Ansel, having his wolf back is more important than the loyalty to his family and lover that should have been his priority.

Calla now has most of her pack back and is now in a safe place. However, Calla's own brother has turned on her and Ren remains in Vail. Calla is torn apart with guilt and grief over what has happened to her family and friends because of her choices. This leaves the reader wondering where Calla's loyalties will lie now and what she will do to make things right with those around her.





## Part 2, Paradiso: Chapters 27-29

### Part 2, Paradiso: Chapters 27-29 Summary

In Chapter 27, Calla and her group are to attend a meeting of the entire community to discuss what happened in Denver. However, Calla slips away and goes into the courtyard. Calla is filled with guilt over Ren and cannot get him out of her mind. As she stares at the ring he gave her, she remembers how he told her it reminded him of her hair. For this reason, Calla chops off her braid with a pair of pruning shears. Shay finds her like this a few minutes later. They come together and make love.

In Chapter 28, Calla shocks her friends and some of the Searchers when she arrives at breakfast with her hair cut. Bryn and Sabine take Calla into one of the rooms and attempt to repair the damage Calla has done to her hair. Sabine and Bryn tell Calla that they know she has chosen Shay as their alpha male and that it is okay with them. They also discuss the alliance and Ansel's situation. Calla is relieved to find that her pack is content with their situation. Then Calla runs into Ariadne. Ariadne tells Calla that she wants to go rescue her brother.

In Chapter 29, Calla and Ariadne go to Ariadne's room where Ariadne tells Calla that her father left her a letter explaining about her relationship to Ren. The last page of the letter begs Ariadne to save Ren and this is exactly what she wants to do. However, Ariadne wants to go alone with Calla, without telling any of the Searchers. Calla is afraid, but she allows Ariadne to use her ring to locate Ren. Calla is touched to find that Ren is alone in the house that would have been theirs after the union ceremony. Calla steps through the door and makes her way to Ren, hoping to convince him this time to join her pack.

### Part 2, Paradiso: Chapters 27-29 Analysis

In the aftermath of saving her pack and learning her brother has betrayed her, Calla finally allows herself to consummate her relationship with Shay. This is an important moment because it is the first time an alpha wolf has chosen her own mate rather than accepting the mate chosen for her by her masters. Calla's pack mates recognize what she has done and they readily accept Shay as their alpha male.

Ariadne is still grieving the death of her father, but she is looking to the future as she must do as a Searcher. Ariadne has suffered a great deal of loss and pain in her life, but has learned how to get past it to go on. Now Ariadne wants to rescue her brother, Ren, the last thing her father ever asked of her. Calla is the only one who can talk Ren into joining them, therefore Ariadne talks her into going with her. Calla agrees, mostly out of the guilt she feels at the torture Ren suffered due to her actions rather than any lingering love she still feels for him. However, the reader must wonder what will happen

if Calla should succeed and Ren and Shay are forced to co-exist, both alpha males, both in love with Calla.



# Characters

## Calla Tor

Calla Tor is a human being who has the ability to transform into a wolf. Calla and her kind were created by the Keepers in order to serve as Guardians to the Keepers against the Searchers. This life lacks true freedoms as Calla has discovered that she does not have the right to love whoever she wishes because she is an alpha and must mate with whomever her masters tell her to mate. In fact, Calla was about to be committed to Ren Laroche in a commitment ceremony when she learned that she would have to kill her true love, Shay, as part of the ceremony. Calla ran away from her pack and everything she has always known in order to save Shay's life. Now Calla finds herself forced to make an alliance with her enemies, the Searchers, in order to save herself and her pack.

Calla wakes at the beginning of the novel in a room she does not know in clothing she does not own. Calla is confronted by a Searcher and asked to join his team in an alliance between the Searchers and Calla's Guardian pack. Calla is reluctant at first, but soon comes to realize that this is the best way to protect her pack. Calla makes several rescue attempts to regain her pack, finally coming back to the Searchers with four members of her original pack. At the same time, Calla learns many truths about the war between the Searchers and the Keepers that helps her come to the conclusion that the Searchers are truly the good guys.

Calla is filled with guilt and regrets when it comes to Ren, however. Calla has never truly been in love with Ren, but she cares deeply for him and realizes that by choosing Shay, she placed Ren in a terrible position. Calla is determined to get Ren to come to her alliance with the Searchers, but her first attempt to convince him ended in Monroe's death. Calla's second attempt leaves her frightened and the reader is not allowed to know the result until the third book in the series.

## Shay

Shay was a normal human teenager when Calla met him. However, from the Searchers, Calla learns that Shay's father was a Keeper who became disillusioned with the Keepers and left their protection in order to marry and have a child with a human. It is for this reason that Calla was unable to recognize him as a Keeper. Calla has also discovered that Shay is the fabled Scion who is said to be capable of ending the war between the Keepers and the Searchers. This is perhaps the reason Calla was to kill Shay on the night of her union ceremony.

Shay is a wolf because Calla turned him into one in order to save his life. This leaves the Searchers wondering how his wolf powers will affect his Scion powers. Shay is also deeply in love with Calla and she is with him. However, Calla finds it difficult to give in to



these emotions due to her guilt over what is happening to Ren due to her own actions. However, Calla eventually chooses Shay and makes him her alpha male, giving him a position of power over her pack.

## **Renier 'Ren' Laroche**

Ren is the son of the leader of the Bane pack, Emile Laroche. Ren was to be Calla's mate and to lead the Nightshade pack with her. However, on the night of their union ceremony, Calla learned that she was to kill Shay and she could not allow that to happen. As a result, Calla and Shay ran away and Ren was forced to lie for them. Ren has since been tortured by the Keepers and the other Guardian packs in order to give them information about Calla. When Calla comes back for Ren, she discovers that he has chosen his father and the Keepers over her. Calla is deeply disappointed and filled with guilt for what she has done to Ren by her choices. However, when Ariadne comes to Calla and asks her to help bring Ren to the Searchers, Calla does not hesitate to try and help.

## **Monroe**

Monroe is the guide of the Haldris team of the Searchers. Monroe is also Ariadne's father. Years ago, Monroe was a young Searcher when he met a Guardian named Corrine. Corrine wanted to die because she had been ordered to have a child with her abusive husband. Instead, Monroe talks Corrine into an alliance with the Searchers. However, before Corrine can defect to the Searchers, she learns she is pregnant and she asks to put off her extraction until the child is old enough to survive the escape. Before the extraction can take place, Corrine is found out and she is killed along with other Guardians who had agreed to go with her. Calla later learns that Monroe is Ren's father and this is why he is so determined to help her recover her pack. Monroe is killed by Emile just seconds after Emile reveals the truth to Ren.

## **Ariadne**

Ariadne is the teenage daughter of Monroe. Ariadne clearly has a crush on Shay despite his relationship with Calla and Connor's crush on her. Ariadne has just graduated from the Searcher's academy as a Weaver. This occupation gives Ariadne the ability to use magic to open portals from one location to another. Ariadne becomes the primary Weaver for the Haldis team despite her father's objections and she uses her skills not only to transport the team to their required locations, but she saves Calla and her team from complete destruction during her rescue mission to save her pack.

## **Connor**

Connor is a member of the Haldis Team. Calla finds him abrasive at first because of his constant jokes, but later comes to realize that his jokes are a defense mechanism



against the tragedy and sadness of his job. Connor is a good person who saves Calla's life on more than one occasion. Connor is also in love with Ariadne, but Ariadne only sees him as something of a big brother, as the guy who helped her through her grief after her mother's death with jokes and fun.

## Ethan

Ethan is another member of the Haldis Team. Ethan does not like Calla at first because she was present when his brother, Kyle, was tortured and killed by the Keepers. However, as they begin to work together, Ethan finds common ground between he and Calla, especially after he accidentally shoots her brother three times with his crossbow. Ethan later falls in love with Sabine on first sight.

## Anika

Anika is the Arrow, the leader of the Searchers. Anika runs the entire show and makes all the major decision about Searcher missions. It is Anika who approves the alliance between the Searchers and Calla's pack. Anika also makes the mission plans when Calla returns to Vail the first time to retrieve her pack. However, Anika has nothing to do with the second rescue mission in which Calla is able to save four members of her pack from the Keepers.

## Ansel

Ansel is Calla's brother. Ansel has had his wolf taken from him by the Keepers in response to Calla's actions. This has left Ansel depressed and willing to do just about anything to get it back. For this reason, Ansel betrays Calla by telling the Keepers where to find the Searchers' Denver post. Ansel is later imprisoned by the Searchers when his betrayal becomes known.

## Lydia

Lydia is one of the Searchers' strikers, one of those who goes on missions to fight the Guardians. Lydia is well known among the Searchers and well liked. When Lydia is killed by Emile Laroche during a mission to retrieve Calla's pack, everyone is heartbroken over her loss, especially her lover, Tess. Calla feels some guilt over Lydia's loss because she should have known that the packs would no longer be patrolling the Haldis Caverns because she and Shay took the object the Keepers were hiding there.



# Objects/Places

## Ren's Ring

Before the union ceremony, Ren gave to Calla a ring that he felt resembled the long gold braid in which she wears her hair. Calla continues to wear the ring even after running away from the union ceremony in order to save Shay.

## Pruning Shears

Calla cuts her hair with pruning shears in order to cut away a part of herself that Ren admired.

## Haldis Cavern Object

Shay learns that the object he took from the Haldis Caverns is actually the hilt of a sword that is one quarter of the Scion's Cross.

## Scion's Cross

Shay learns that as the Scion he will wield a cross that is actually two swords that only he can use.

## Searcher's Academy

Calla wakes in a large building that she later learns is the academy belonging to the Searchers and their main headquarters.

## Keepers

Keepers are magicians who use the power of magic for unnatural purposes and who often call upon the creatures of the Netherworld in their magic.

## Searchers

Searchers are humans who use magic in the way that nature intended them to. The Searchers are the opposite of the Keepers and in a tight battle with the Keepers to keep them from ruling the Earth.



## **Haldis Caverns**

Haldis Cavern is a cavern in the mountains near Vail where Calla and her pack once lived. Calla and her pack once patrolled the area to keep Searchers away, but Calla and Shay took the object hidden there and the Keepers have stopped the patrols there.

## **Denver Outpost**

The Searchers have an outpost in a warehouse in Denver where they can launch missions to Vail, Colorado. It is from here that both of the rescue mission to save Calla's pack are launched and it is here that the Keepers attack using Ansel's information.

## **Netherworld**

The Netherworld is a place that is like the anti-Earth, a place where strange creatures live. Magicians and witches over the years have learned how to call the creatures of the Netherworld to Earth and one witch made a pact with the leader of the Netherworld to take over Earth and rule the two realms together. This is the origin of the Witches' War or the war between the Keepers and the Searchers.



# Themes

## Loyalty

Calla wakes in the Searcher's academy and she realizes that she has made decisions that will keep her from returning to her home in Vail. However, when the Searchers ask her to make an alliance with them, Calla is not sure she can commit to such a radical idea. Calla's first priority has always been to her pack and that is her priority now as well.

As Calla considers an alliance with the Searchers, she begins to realize that this would mean freedom not for herself, for her to choose Shay over Ren, but also for the members of her pack. Calla knows that certain members of her pack would want this freedom at any cost. Therefore, Calla commits to consider such an alliance. However, Calla's first priority is her pack and as she learns more of her situation, she begins to worry what might have happened to her pack during her absence.

Calla spends a great deal of this novel attempting to rescue her pack and bring them to the Searchers despite her own reservations about committing to an alliance with the Searchers. Calla's biggest fear is what has happened to Ren. Ren was to be Calla's partner, her mate, her alpha male over a new pack. Ren worries about what he might have had to sacrifice because of his love for her and how he will feel when he learns that Calla and Shay are together. Calla is filled with so much guilt that she is unable to commit herself to Shay despite their closeness and her love for him. Calla feels a loyalty to Ren that she cannot break even with the man she loves. For this reason and the others mentioned above, loyalty is a theme of the novel.

## Misinformation

When the novel begins, Calla has just turned her back on everything she has ever known. Calla has grown up knowing that she is an alpha in a pack of wolves, that she would one day be required to mate with another alpha and run a new pack of wolves. Calla left all that behind in order to save the life of the human boy she fell in love with. Calla now knows that her love, Shay, is the Scion, but she barely understands what that means.

As Calla considers an alliance with her lifelong enemy, the Searchers, she begins to learn that almost everything she has ever known about her life and the war she has been fighting is not true. The Keepers have changed history and the basic truth in such a way to force the Guardians to follow them blindly and to continue fighting the war against the Searchers. Calla is outraged at some of the lies she has been told, but others she knows were lies and is not surprised by.

Calla is struggling to decide what is the right thing to do. While saving Shay's life was the right thing to do, Calla no longer knows who she can believe, who she can trust. As





she struggles to save her pack, Calla finds herself stabbed in the back by people she had thought she could trust, including her own brother. Misinformation is the main motivation for those who have turned on Calla and makes misinformation a theme of the novel.

## Love

Love is an important theme of this novel because it is the one thing that motivates Calla more than anything else. Calla saved Shay's life because she loves him, loves him more than she has committed herself to a life as Ren's mate. Calla also chooses an alliance with the Searchers in part because she knows they will keep Shay safe, but also because she knows if she wants to be with Shay she has no other choice.

As the novel continues, the reader comes to realize that it is not only love for Shay that motivates Calla, but also her love for her pack. Calla is filled with guilt for the torture and pain her pack must go through because of her own decisions. Calla desperately misses her pack and wants to save them from what might be happening to them. Among those members of her pack, Calla thinks most often of Ren. Ren was supposed to Calla's mate and she knows that he told certain lies in order to protect her and Shay. This causes Calla more guilt than anything else and she fights hard to bring Ren over to the Searchers.

Monroe also is motivated by love. No one knows it, but Ren is Monroe's son. Monroe has had almost no contact with his son, but he loves him deeply and will do just about anything to save him, including placing his own life at risk. Monroe dies trying to save Ren and bring him over to the Searchers, making love a major theme of the book.

# Style

## Point of View

The novel is written in the first-person point of view. The narrating character is Calla Tor, a human who has the ability to become a wolf. Calla is an alpha wolf, the leader of a pack of wolves. Calla and her pack were created by a group of humans called the Keepers who used magic in an unnatural way to create a group of humans who could protect them from the Searchers. As this novel begins, Calla has just defied all her masters by saving her lover from death and escaping with the help of the Searchers.

The point of view of this novel allows an intimate connection between the reader and the main character of the novel. The point of view is the most intimate of modern points of view and allows the reader to connect deeply with the main character while keeping the reader restricted to one character in order to reduce any chance of confusion with frequent jumps from mind to mind of the many characters in the novel. In this book this point of view works well because the reader is able to understand Calla's every action and motivation, making it clear why she makes the choices that will motivate not only her but those around her through the following novels in the series.

## Setting

The novel is set in multiple locations. In the beginning of the novel, Calla finds herself at the Searchers' academy, a large building comprised of four wings that represent each of the four elemental magics. Calla then finds herself transported by a magic portal to a warehouse in Denver where the Searchers have an outpost from which many of their missions into Vail are launched. Finally, Calla finds herself in her hometown of Vail on several occasions as she attempts to save the remaining members of her pack.

The settings of the novel all reflect the magical qualities of the novel. The Searchers' academy is a large, magical place that seems almost architecturally impossible. Magic is clear in almost every aspect of the novel, but its simple architecture reminds the reader that Searchers' magic is pure and natural. The setting in Denver is darker, more utilitarian, reflecting its basic purpose as a launching pad and nothing more. The setting of Vail, Colorado should be familiar to readers of the previous *Nightshade* novel and is a more modern and normal location that is as familiar as it is unique. The settings of the novel reflect the genre of the novel and make it seem more authentic to the reader.

## Language and Meaning

The language of the novel is simple English. The novel is intended for a young adult audience and the main character is an older teenager, therefore the language reflects that. The genre of the novel allows for some made up or foreign language, but most of



the language of the novel is explained within the text or otherwise made clear to the reader, reducing the possibility of confusion for the young reader.

The language of the novel authentically represents the young narrator of the novel and the language that the intended audience might expect to find in such a novel. The language is not confusing and does not include a great deal of made up language, making it easy for a young reader to navigate the plot. Hence, the language works well with the plot.

## Structure

The novel is divided into three sections with each part taking the name of a part of Dante's Inferno. The novel contains twenty-nine chapters, some long and filled with many scenes, while some are short and contain only a single scene. The novel is told with both narration and dialogue, showing the story rather than telling a story, although there are many episodes within the novel in which characters tell stories in order to give the reader some of the important backstory to the current plot.

The novel contains one main plot and several subplots. The main plot follows Calla as she attempts to reunite with her pack and to make an alliance with her enemy, the Serachers. One subplot describes Monroe's relationship with Corrine and their attempt at an alliance. Another subplot deals with Calla's guilt over leaving Ren behind and her inability to commit fully to Shay until she saves her pack. Another subplot deals with Calla's brother, Ansel, and his decision to betray his sister. All the plots come to satisfying conclusion by the end of the novel.



## Quotes

"I couldn't shut out the screams" (Chapter 1, p. 3).

"Vail. Home. My heart hammered against my rib cage, making it difficult to breathe. Why am I here?" (Chapter 4, Kindle Locations 439-440).

"The door Adne opened this time revealed a landscape I'd known my whole life. The snow-covered slope sparkled under the afternoon sun, cut at intervals by the shadows of towering pines" (Chapter 6, Kindle Locations 1161-1163).

"We'd learned too many truths, turned over rocks that I wished still hid the ugliness beneath them. I'd known my masters were cruel, but now I had to face their real nature: the Keepers didn't just use the forces of the Nether, they'd willingly bound themselves to its darkness" (Chapter 9, pg. Kindle Locations 1679-1681).

"Something about his words made me falter, like I'd tripped in the darkness and was suddenly falling, falling. And then it wasn't Shay above me, but Ren" (Chapter 11, Kindle Locations 2290-2291).

"Cold crept over me, like frost forming in my bones. My limbs were shuddering, out of my control. My mother is dead. Ren tortured. And it's all my fault" (Chapter 14, Kindle Locations 2609-2610).

"As sadness dragged my mood into a tar pit of self-pity, I thought of Ansel. How much worse must all of this be for him? Guilt grabbed hold of me, reminding me that I wasn't the only one who'd lost a loved one" (Chapter 16, Kindle Locations 2937-2940).

"I wished I could reach out and reassure him in some way. When Monroe had given the order, I'd leapt through the portal without a backward glance, not wanting to show any doubts about our mission. Now I regretted not giving him something: a smile at least, or another kiss" (Chapter 19, Kindle Locations 3144-3146).

"My body shook; sickening waves crashed through my limbs. I was only upright because Ren still held me against the wall. The frenzy in his eyes terrified me, making me fully aware that his every choice was fueled by grief and pain" (Chapter 22, Kindle Locations 3545-3546).

"For a moment I thought something had gone wrong with the portal and I was trapped between worlds, tumbling into oblivion, and would soon be burning alive" (Chapter 24, Kindle Locations 3948-3949).

"The Searchers kept us moving at a quick pace. Logan's hands were bound, his every move scrutinized by the four Strikers who escorted him to the Academy. I would have

been relieved by their stern treatment of the Keeper if they hadn't treated Ansel the same way" (Chapter 26, Kindle Locations 4147-4149).

"Hope. A second chance. Ren could help us win this war. Together we could make the blood, the grief, the pain worth something. I knew I couldn't leave him behind again. Not now and not ever. Even if it meant I'd end up sacrificing myself as well" (Chapter 29, Kindle Locations 4746-4748).



## Topics for Discussion

Who is Calla? Why does she wake up in a Searcher's prison cell? Why does Calla react to Monroe with hostility? How does Calla react to Evan and Connor? Why does Calla dislike Connor's constant joking? Why does Connor constantly joke? Why does Calla dislike Ariadne when she first meets her? How does Calla feel about seeing Shay at first? What is it about Shay that causes Calla some pause at several points in the novel?

Who is Shay? What is the Scion? Why did Calla give up everything to save Shay? What do the Searchers think Shay represents to them? Who is Shay's father? Who is Shay's uncle? What is significant about Shay's relatives? What is the Scion's Cross? Why does Silas want to collect the four pieces of the Scion's Cross? Why does Calla suggest they only need to collect three?

Who is Monroe? Why does Monroe want to make an alliance with Calla and her wolf pack? Who is Monroe's daughter? How does she treat Monroe? Why? Why does Monroe show so much interest in Ren? What does Calla think of this interest at first? Why does Calla not later question Monroe's continuing interest in Ren? What does Calla later learn is the relationship between Monroe and Ren? How is this revealed to Calla?

Who is Ariadne? Why does Calla dislike Ariadne at first? What is Shay's relationship with Ariadne? To whom does Shay show the most affection as the novel continues? Why does Calla question Shay's actions as the novel continues? Do Shay's explanations make sense to the reader? Why does Calla hesitate to continue her relationship with Shay? How does Shay feel about Calla's feelings for Ren?

Who is Ren? Why does Calla feel especially guilty about leaving Ren behind? Does Calla love Ren? Does Calla want to be mated with Ren? Why is Calla so determined to bring Ren into the alliance with the Searchers? How does Calla react when it is clear that Ren has chosen his father over her? Why does Calla go along with Ariadne's plan to bring Ren to the Searchers? What does Calla hope to achieve by going to Ren alone?

Who are the Keepers? What are their origins? What is their goal in the war against the Searchers? Why did the Keepers come into existence? What is their purpose? What is unnatural about the way the Keepers use magic? How did the Keepers create the Guardians? How does Calla feel about the truth when she learns more about the Keepers?

Who are the Searchers? What is the Searchers' goal in the fight against the Keepers? Why does Calla consider an alliance with the Searchers? What do the Searchers tell Calla that is different from all the Keepers have told her all her life? Who does Calla come to believe are the good guys? Why? What should Calla and her pack do now that they are reunited?