

Special Injuries #19: Curses and Cures:

(Technique Type: Emergency Reference)

- {Future Cat: Is it #2? I'm not sure. {Now #19?} Danna's just going to have to stop messing with the structure...2.28.17}.
- {Future Danna: You're the one with the correction pen, Mittens. I think what we have so far is just lovely. <3...2.28.17}.
- {Future Cat: Sometimes I just have to remember to breathe and remain calm in your presence, do you know that, Danna? <3...2.28.17}.
- {Future Danna: Yes, Mittens. I do hear that a lot. <3. That, and that I should stop laughing like an evil clown...2.28.17}.
- {Future Cat: I'm pretty sure you've only been asked to stop doing that once, Danna. <3...2.28.17}.
- {Future Danna: You see how severe it was, then...?...2.28.17}.
- {Future Cat uncaps a marker and writes "edit" on Danna's forehead...2.28.17}.
- {Future Cat: No more evil clown. There. <3...2.28.17}.
- {Future Danna: Well someone's about to be a dalmatian. <3...2.28.17}.
- {Cat flees poorly through a portal and falls into a lake...2.28.17}.

- {Gravity seems to be reversed here. She falls back out of the water, screaming, into the clouds...2.28.17}.
-



{This helpful sign has been brought to you by Elevatorport, now featuring the Fishpastamazing Megadeal...7.11.17}.

{Free voucher available after every trip. We've learned our lesson...7.11.17}.

-
- This exercise assumes that you're already an Inner adventurer, and that you have encountered at least one violent metaphor. This will help you to determine the non-violent meaning.
 - Have you been attacked in an unusual way? A specific way? It probably isn't anything to worry about, as even "Death" symbolically means "Change". Not all changes are negative, even if the metaphor is.
 - Does another figure's death have a deeper meaning? Will someone's injury haunt you until you can figure it out?
 - Not to worry. Here are a few common meanings behind some of the ways you can die or be injured on the Inside.
 - It's time to figure out who killed who in the library with a candlestick {and/or lightning bolt, magic sword, or ball of fire}...

Analyzing the area of impact:

- First of all, the right and left-hand sides of the body are usually representative of specifically different things...
- Right: Control, logic, and consciousness.
- Left: Natural function, intuition, and unconsciousness.
- I am not left-handed so I will not deem myself an expert on which side is which for a left-handed person...It could easily be the opposite. After all, "control" being on a left-handed person's "right" feels suspiciously unlikely to me...However, the heart is on the left, so this re-aligns a few symbols.
- Metaphorically, left-handedness confuses me a lot. I have flashes of ambidexterity, but it's not the same thing as natural propensity. I haven't learned much symbolically from it.
- Lefties, we need you to clear this up for us yourselves...and for me! I'm pretty curious about it. Please let me know how it works for you!

Areas of Impact:

- Arms: (Metaphorical Use: Strong-arm, in someone's arms, armed, army): Etcetera. Arms represent control and influence, especially over the physical well-being of others, whether negative or positive.
 - Advice for damage: Find where control has been lost, or manipulation has been damaging a human life...yours or others'. Repair the situation. If an arm has been replaced by something else, the human element of decision has likely been replaced by the symbol of that object. Reflect on the side. Reflect on anywhere you have been manipulative before looking at others. (The pain-eating {figures} love to try and send you off on whatever war is

currently possible, so if the real enemy is inside you, it's best to find that out early and act respectfully and accordingly. Stop conflict before it can escalate).

- Back: (Back me up, back-stabber, back-breaking labour): The back fits into two main metaphorical categories. These are effort, and a blind vulnerability. Having a sore back can be associated with trying too hard. Being attacked in the back in a symbolic world is an obvious symbol of cowardly betrayal.
 - Advice for damage: If the back is simply sore, reduce current efforts. If you've been attacked in the back, something between the betrayed and the betrayer must change. The attacker is probably either a traitor or a coward. This could mean an altercation, or it could mean full removal of the betrayer. Consider the nature of the figure betraying you. Why would such an element in yourself have a reason to rebel in this way? Maybe you've forced it into this position without meaning to. First, again, make sure you haven't screwed someone over before marching off to war.
 - Reflect before doing shit. The twist to a Story Game story is often that you were the reason for the problem in the first place. (In self-critical people, the twist might be that you AREN'T the problem. Never assume without proof).
 - And watch your back by knowing who to trust.
- Ears: (Deaf to his words, hear me out, public hearing, got an earful, noise): Ears represent the transmission of information and ideas in general.
 - Advice for damage: Find the hidden secret. What issues are you deaf to? Why won't the figure hear you? Is something you're hearing too loud? Too loud means that something is too much to accept. Is there a lot of random noise around you? (Noise can also refer to distortion). Emotional or cognitive distortions might be present in noise...find the truth hidden in plain sight. Ear problems are communication problems in a nutshell. (See also: tongue issues, throat issues, and changes in ability to speak).
- Eyes: (Seeing is believing, clarity, sight unseen, reading): Eyes refer to clarity, clearly. However, we are now talking about a conceptual kind of clarity. If an eye injury has occurred, something has happened to someone's ability so "see" an issue right. If there is an undamaged eye, it is now in control of your "vision". This means two things. This means that while your logical side is down, your intuitive side interprets your experiences, or vice-versa. We're talking about your ability to

"read" people, signs, and situations with accuracy.

- Advice for damage: Find the secret "blind spot", and you will no longer be "blind to" it. You may have to "bring something to light" to see it. (In my experience, Lee and I always went spelunking for the things that were too dark to see. It wasn't my desire or idea to travel deeper underground, but Lee was always on the right track with it). If you find that you can't fix the Inner eyes, maybe you can boost one of your other "inner senses" instead, moving on to more appropriate methods of perceiving).
- Feet: (On my own two feet, foot of the bed, footnote, in someone's shoes, Achilles' heel): Having to do with experiences and endings, feet are about mobility. Having damaged feet suggests no walking. No walking means no moving forwards. How can you continue your journey?
 - Advice for damage: Deal with your hangups. What is keeping you from "moving forwards"? If you're moving forwards slowly, perhaps you have "crutches" to help you. Examine how you feel restricted or slowed. What are your current weaknesses? Are you approaching your goals in an effective way?
- Hands: (Handiwork, farm hand, handiness, man-handle, handshake, handle it, lend a hand): This is the finer end of deliberate control and action. While arms relate to force, hands carry out the gentle and coordinated commands of the mind. Hands turn ideas into physical realities.
 - Advice for damage: Determine what undermines your finer control. How the hands are damaged will say a lot about the possible cure. (As the hands represent finer control, a replacement object will symbolize what has taken the place of finer control. Consider Captain Hook. He wore a sharp, weapon-like, hook of vengeance after losing his human hand to his joyful counterpart Peter Pan (...shadow?...) and the crocodile with the ticking heart (...damaged {mollis}?...)...He no longer had a man's name, but allowed himself to be named after the aftermath of his loss, and driven by it, followed by, broken down by the obsession of it...Losing finer control as a metaphor is severe. Examine how your control has been affected. Consider which side of the body is damaged.
- Head: (Good head on her shoulders, head this way, head of this discussion): Conscious decisions and thinkiness. Matters impacting one's intellect and decisions. (Strangely, the head is more symbolically similar to the right hand than it is the neck or jaw).
 - Advice for damage: Beware your current choices. Go over them a few times. Based on the cause of injury, you may be able to track the nature of the bad choice to something quite specific. When encountering cases of Inner "brain damage" or classical fictional "amnesia", consider everywhere your

perspective has changed.

- (Danna did something to make Mimi nearly mute for a while. We don't know what it was, but I also went through many painful changes around that time, and they seem to be connected. By the time Mimi's speech had returned fully, Danna had reverse-aged her (or something) in personality, which also lasted for a while. She's now secretly brilliant, about my age in appearance, and one of my most level-headed figures, yet she talks in a tiny voice like she's five years old. She changed a lot overnight, though. It's really unsettling not knowing what Danna did to Mimi. You may have noticed us talking about this situation here and there...).
- (But she has healed a lot...That's right...there are no Mimi spoilers whatsoever at the ends of these chapters. None at all...Right, everybody?).
- Heart: (Matters of the heart, heart of the matter, he's in my heart): Of love and of the centre. This is where what matters to you is housed.
 - Advice for damage: Something that matters to either you or another figure has been damaged or destroyed. Grieve it out. Accept whatever change is necessary. Fatal is death is change after all. An absent heart may need to be replaced or reassembled. With the symbolic version, quite unlike a human heart, it can be possible to "pick up the pieces" and "repair a broken heart".
- Jaw: (Clenched jaw, in the jaws of the beast, chew the fat, chewed up, gnawing issues, chewing on an idea): Here we have a less voluntary, more primal kind of control. We use our jaws to eat. We can use them as a weapon. The jaws process. They're the first gate we allow food through when we eat. They are therefore the first gate to what we take in. Remember, some ferocious animals can bite down and find themselves unable to let go. An inability to ignore a specific issue may apply to a jaw clenched shut.
 - Advice for damage: "Who goes there?" You have been instinctively protecting the townspeople from the dreaded outsiders. Now it has become less easy. Figure out what you find so threatening so you can take a proper conscious stance.

- Legs: (Not a leg to stand on, a leg up, pulling my leg, tripping someone up, just limping through): Legs, like feet, mobilize us, but they also say a lot about our ability to stand up and go further. They shake when we're afraid or weakened. Unlike feet, they go beyond basic mobility to express our levels of endurance.
 - Advice for damage: Seek independence from whatever it is that's holding you back. Reduce inappropriate crutches and work on endurance training. Learn to travel further, or to heal whatever "trips you up" before going on a big journey.
- Lungs: (Breath of fresh air, sigh of relief, breathing easily, he's suffocating me, give her some air, stifling environment): Restricted in breathing means restricted in life, especially by environmental factors. This is usually quite an immediate symbol, most often referring to difficulties with the current atmosphere.
 - Advice for damage: Give yourself some "me" time, away from that special person who has been getting in your face...or get out of that person's face. Start to make more of your own choices when you feel that you've been compromising too much. Remember, quite often, the source of a symbolic problem is you.
- Mouth: (That sentence is a mouthful, mouthing the words, clarinet or phone mouthpiece): The mouth is where food enters, and words come out, basically. Mouthfuls and mouthpieces. As you can see, this is another symbol for the transmission of deliberate information. It is more delicate and more deliberate than the jaw.
 - Advice for damage: If your mouth hurts, and you can't inwardly eat or speak, this means you feel unable to communicate or process something important.
- Neck: (Breakneck speed, necking, bottleneck, hanged man): Very dependent on surrounding metaphors, the neck also contains the communicative throat, and courageous spine. A fragile and narrow part of the body. Vulnerable to death is vulnerable to change, in this world. The body and mind are connected by the neck. A broken neck can therefore represent a divide between body and mind.
 - Advice for damage: Check where your decisions and desires diverge. Do you say what you mean? Do you mean what you say? Do you communicate what you need? Can you survive the divide between mind and body?
- Shoulders: (World on my shoulders, shoulder the burden, "should"-er): Burden, especially more than one person can manage. What has recently been too much for you?

- Advice for damage: Don't take responsibility for other people's problems. Reduce your workload if possible. If you're burdening a pained figure, note which one and even out the Inner workload with a more appropriate one.
- Spine: (Spineless, book spine): With a damaged spine, we are paralyzed (body), scattered (book) and centreless (both). As a metaphor, this is quite simple.
 - Advice for damage: Be brave and find your centre at all costs. Your body and mind depend on it.
- Stomach: (I can't stomach it, she's got guts, butterflies in my stomach, gut feelings): What you can stomach is what you can process or "digest".
 - Advice for damage: Something you thought you knew is wrong. It won't process. It won't pass through to acceptance. This is a place of instinct. Food poisoning is conceptual poisoning. Identify what is causing the stomach trouble. What is it you fear? What simply can't process, as a knee-jerk response? Is something that seemed commonplace now troubling you for a good reason?
- Teeth: (Sink my teeth into it, toothy grin, once bitten...): A cosmetic sign of health, teeth display desire in a smile, and the healthy ability to process food. They also represent a primitive way of defending yourself.
 - Advice for damage: Something to do with your health, appearance or age might be a nagging concern at this time (whether or not anyone notices besides you). A mid-life crisis isn't the only age crisis we go through. You may have been forced to repress your primal nature, or "bite your tongue" (and withhold your opinion) recently. What is it that's "hard to chew on"?
- Throat: (Throat closed up with tears, choking on her words): This is a main point of communication. The place of the voice. While the tongue suggests wording in particular, the throat suggests issues of being understood.
 - Advice for damage: Make your ideas or feelings known to someone. Don't be stifled. If you can't communicate your ideas to those you wish to, find someone else to communicate them to. Don't "choke it all back".

Analyzing the weapon or threat:

- Burning: (Burning passion, burning rage, burning criticism): You are on the negative

receiving end of some bad passion. This is energy burning out of control.

- General cure: For fire, use water, aka...(sorry to the easy-trackers)...tears and emotions. Submerge in "cold water" or if this isn't acceptable to you at this time, burn the fire to completion. Fire needs fuel, after all. Once the heated emotions have burned away, the fire will go out on its own.
- Being Struck: ("And then it struck me"...): Something has occurred to you...in a bad way.
 - General cure: Note where, how, and when you were struck, as well as the weapon (if one was used). Combine all of the metaphors present for a good overall picture of the actual problem. Solve to heal, unless this is a "time heals all wounds" sort of problem. There are usually ways to mildly speed up healing...
- Crushing: (He felt crushed, a crushing loss, having a crush on someone): Being crushed Inside is a state of emotional "too-muchness" in the symbolic region of the crushing.
 - General Cure: Something is emotionally overwhelming you. It may even be positive, but it simply feels like too much. Can you address what is so overwhelming?
- Cutting: (Cutting ties, cutting off a supply, sharpness): This is the division of a symbolic warm body by cold logic. Blades present us with some of the most severe metaphors. (Never give a couple or romantic partner a blade, as it symbolizes a "clean division" of the relationship. I have indeed received bladed gifts from two of my serious exes, and have found it impossible to remain close friends with them).
 - Meaning also varies depending on the weapon.
 - By a sword: Division through power or force.
 - By scissors: Cutting something out. Severing ties.
 - By Knife: Severed ties, cuts "like a knife" (as in hurts badly), stabbed in the back.
 - General Cure: "Severing" suggests permanence, so if a new bond is formed, it should be expected to be completely unlike the last one. This all depends on the elements involved. Re-attachment of anything on the Inside requires fitting metaphors. It can require a magic journey and a lot of help from more powerful things. Blades are one of the least simple weapons to repair the aftereffects of, so take care with them.
- Drowning: (He felt like he was drowning): Suffocating on negative emotions.
 - General Cure: Our tears and blood and waste are our personal waters. Our

waters are therefore what we immediately feel. Our immediate physical-emotional reality. If you're choking on feelings, get them out as soon as possible. "Cough it up". You can breathe freely again with dry logic once the emotions are expelled from your lungs.

- Electrocution: (He was shocked, jolted, thunderstruck): Inner electrocution is essentially being struck and burnt at the same time. You may be "shocked numb".
 - General Cure: "Ground" yourself. This is one of those few cases in which I'll admit that avoidance and distraction might actually be useful. At the very least, treat yourself gently until you feel normal again. This isn't an ideal time to solve anything...At least not until the initial shock has passed. (As you can imagine, Lee really likes that Arrow is "easily shocked", but I can't say I approve)...
- Explosion: (My mind was blown, he exploded in anger): As with fire, an explosion is a condition of heated, emotional too-muchness, but this kind can leave you feeling mentally and emotionally scattered suddenly.
 - General Cure: Pick up the pieces once the heat has passed. Piece together what happened. Symbolically, if you think about it, this isn't nearly as serious as a bladed symbol in most cases.
- Falling: (He's slipping, downfall, falling asleep, fall of an empire): A loss of control, potentially leading to destruction, or a state of "rock bottom".
 - General Cure: Either catch yourself, or get back up once you've landed.
- Freezing: (She's cold inside, he's frigid): Becoming indifferent.
 - General Cure: Melt with warmth or passion. Too much passion or heat too early may produce shock or numbness. Thaw slowly, like you would with physical ice.
- Shot: (Shot in the dark, shot with camera, shot in the back): "Targeted", in all cases.
 - Assess the weapon and the attacker.
 - By a bullet: Targeted by cold, unstoppable, hatred.
 - By an arrow: Targeted by unyielding natural feelings.
 - By a camera: Having your feelings of privacy targeted, or your secrets exposed. (For extremely secretive people, the camera might be the most damaging symbolic weapon on this list). This is logically theoretical, and nothing more, as this book is something of an unapologetic personality vomit

SO VILE it'll likely be kept around for the sole purpose of trolling it until the year 3700.

- General Cure: If you don't escape, you may need to "clean the wound", "removed the bullet" or otherwise do some damage repair. If you escape targeting, you'll likely need to face your pursuer eventually to prevent future targeting. (Keep something symbolically important "close to your heart" to protect it. This symbol always works in the movies for a reason).

Final note:

- Now that you get the basic idea, you should be more than equipped to interpret even the symbols I've missed.
- *Good luck, and be careful!*

Chapter 17:

Firing Policies and Procedure

“Don’t use a standard oven. Intense fusing is necessary when creating ceramics. A kiln must reach a very high temperature in order to heat clay into something strong and effective. Make sure you fire your project to maturation.”

-Doom

1.18.12

Ow, AND Nice, AND Warm

{Current Playlist: Bring It On by DELADAP}

- {This chapter was seriously considered for cutting, but I left it for you in order to demonstrate why it's worth taking that extra three seconds to be specific while recording your experiences...7.17.16}.
- {Again, pay attention to anything vague or strange in your own Inner experiences, as that is often how you gauge something's importance. Realize that, while important, it WILL be a pain in the ass for others to read without some severe filling-in-of-the-blanks later...2.28.17}.

On the Bus...beside {Del}!

- {And why are {Del} and I not talking on this trip? Do we address that?...2.28.17}.

Cat: *Thoughts today?*

- *You've been quiet...*

Liverish: *Of course I fucking have.*

- *It's miserable out there.*
- *I didn't want to be a part of it.*

Cat: *You...aided in my bickering...*

Liverish: *Of course I did.*

- *Can't do that without me.*

Cat: *No?*

- *Great.*
- *Why that?*

- {Bickering...this starts to explain why {Del} and I aren't talking at the moment...2.28.17}.
- {Note to self: I was becoming aware of Lee's tampering in my relationships this far back!? I didn't think I started to for a year or two...7.17.16}.
- {And now begins “guess what we're talking about?”, the game where we try to remember what the hell we were talking about...7.17.16}.

Liverish: *I'm in a foul mood.*

Cat: You *promised*...

Liverish: *So did you*...

- *A week.*
- {A week of what now?...7.17.16}.
- {Riiiiight. A week of no attacks was part of the deal. What else was there??...10.26.16}.

Cat: *Whatever.*

- *Right.*

- So...

Liverish: No attacks, of course.

Cat: *What are you...*

Liverish: Of course...

- my presence does suggest I could do something right now, doesn't it?

Cat: ...Remember the "kindness" part.

- {What kind of something? What is unkind about it?...7.17.16}.
- {Oh, wake up, me from three months ago. *I'm sitting beside Del. Liverish* wants to protect me from him. Probably loudly. Not that complicated...10.26.16}.

Liverish: I can't forget...

- hmm...

Cat: ...

Liverish: You're right.

- I could do something about your current predicament.

- {Seriously...someone remind me what we're discussing!? It's like we're talking in code...7.17.16}.
- {Well, listen for a second, July me, for gods' sake...10.26.16}.

Cat: *Oww...oww, oww...*

Liverish: *Fine...*

- *I'll help you.*

Cat: *How?*

Liverish: *Give me that...*

- *the energy...*

Cat: *...Uh...*

- *that's tough...*

Liverish: *I know, but trust me.*

Cat: ...

Liverish: *Come on...*

- *Easy, Cat.*

Cat: ...

- {No luck here...And here I was, hoping they would say WHICH kind of energy to clear up the subject matter...NOTE TO PRACTITIONERS: DO YOURSELF A FAVOUR AND RECORD IN MORE DETAIL THAN THIS!!! I assure you this made 100% sense when I first created it...7.17.16}.
- {Yes, yes, July. It has to do with Del, it seems. It has to do with the energy surrounding the problems and bickering at this moment. Pay attention...10.26.16}.
- {Just shut up, all of me! I'm trying to concentrate!!!...3.1.17}.

Liverish: ...Nice...

- that's what is meant by the transfer...

Cat: It's mostly just a breaking of barriers...

Liverish: For the first time, really.

- Doesn't it shock you a little?

Cat: When I can tell properly...

Liverish: Easy, Cat.

- It takes time and focus.

Cat: ...Yeah, but...

Liverish: Trust me a little...

Cat: Feels creepy...

Liverish: Of course it does.

- Not used to thinking of you not as you.

- {Wait...Are we doing ego dissolution stuff here? Are we breaking down my sense of self this early? Why don't I remember it starting back then??...7.17.16}.
- {Future Liverish: We TRIED. You took to it slowly and ungracefully while only half-comprehending what was happening, desPITE your reading...3.1.17}.

Cat: ...Oh...

Liverish: Not easy for an outsider like you.

Cat: But you all...

Liverish: Not many of us, honestly.

- It isn't an easy thing to do,
- and you rarely find two figures compatible for it.
- It takes the kind of connection we've had.

- {Okay. {Vox} integration stuff. That's a little less surprising...7.17.16}.
- {It still shows that he knew what was happening a long time before I caught on. I hate when I read back and see all the things I was blatantly missing...3.1.17}.

Cat: *The turbulence...*

Liverish: *All necessary for combining two things that can't agree.*

Cat: *Fun...*

Liverish: *Exactly not.*

- *You're right.*

- {Does this turbulence help to explain the new sensory issues? Turbulence meaning turbulence...7.17.16}.

Cat: *Then...*

Liverish: *It's allowed us a way to connect that is rare...*

- *in here...*
- *maybe, probably not out there...*
- *with theirs.*

Cat: *Got it...*

- *but...*
- *monumental here...?*

Liverish: *Yes.*

- *Put this book away and focus.*

Class Break

- {Why was Del with me? Was I headed to class? Can I explain anything on this particular day clearly?? *For fuck's sake...3.1.17*}

Liverish: *Easy, Cat...*

- *watch your energy.*

Cat: ...How!?

Liverish: *Ease off,*

- *drop some on me...*
- *You are allowed now.*

- {We went to quite some lengths to learn to share energies back then...I'm guessing we no longer do this particular exercise because there are much simpler ways...But this old method mainly consisted of sharing intense aggressive emotion in a very non-subtle way, transferring it over to gradually reduce walls between our experiences. Dangerous, useful, and effective once mastered, just NOT IN THIS WAY. (BAD solving, BAD!!) Entering headspaces works much better. Reps, better still. This whole thing is also ultimately rooted in trust, making it needlessly difficult for us as a dysfunctional Inner couple...17.7.16, 3.1.17, 6.24.17, 12.16.17}.

Cat: Physically,

- I do have some anti-you habits taking place.

Liverish: Of course.

- Drop them.

Cat: It feels odd...

- I do want to be in control now, you know.

Liverish: It's fine.

- It'll be enough,
- seriously.
- Un-tense, Cat, fuck.

Cat: I'll try...

- It isn't easy.

Liverish: Some of the point of effort being involved...

- it takes you effort to let GO of effort, fuck.

- Cat sighs.

Liverish: Give it.

Cat: Uhh...

Liverish: Come on, Cat.

- I need some input.

Cat: Fine.

- *I'll try...*
- *but instruct me.*

Liverish: Here...

- *it requires you aren't an idiot at mood messages yet.*

Cat: Fine....

Liverish: [...].

- {Liverish has shown her what performing the action *feels like*. This is tremendously helpful when working with {Inner figures} in conjunction with any meditative exercise. A human meditation teacher can *vaguely explain* to you what you're *going for*, but *can't correct you* when you're *performing something wrong*. A *figure* can tell you *which square inch* of your body you're *focusing on wrong*, and how to *tweak your breathing* for the best effect *using sensation*. VERY helpful...3.1.17, 6.24.17}.

Cat: That...

- *is easy...*
- *but what will it be like?*

Liverish: [...].

Cat: That's...

- way better.
- {See? Everybody? This is why you get more specific in text. You won't regret it later...This could have been some pretty useful section for analysis, but it is now riddled with holes...7.17.16}.
- {Not writing their conversations down is entirely optional, but believe me when I say you'll find what you've written down surprising later. Predictions. Forgotten skills. You won't regret keeping a record. To ease the process, I use "Le:" instead of "Lee:", and "Da:" instead of "Danna:" and use spell check to find and replace the names later when I type the stuff out. Actions rarely have their own lines on my original copy. Just a few thoughts for the serious students...6.24.17}.

Liverish: My point, Cat.

- Fuck.
- Why would...
- You thought it was about power.

Cat: No...

- HELPing—
- —Big, scary, help.

Liverish: My help is scary, hmm?

- Whatever.

- {Being taught by sensation is a little weird at first. I'll admit that...3.1.17}.

After Class: In a waiting room.

{1.18.12}

{Current Playlist: Valkyrie by Savant}

Liverish: ...Fuck, Cat.

- You don't like to let go,
- even for a second.

Cat: I don't want to cede any control.

Liverish: I don't care about that.

- You'll cave in on yourself.

Cat: I know, I know.

- I need to trust your energy,
- but it's a challenge.

Liverish: I suppose I deserve that,

- but seriously, what is there to lose but being crushed by a giant ball of tension?

**Cat: Then help...

- instruct...
- You claim to have a better grasp on words than I have.

{(**) serve no obvious purpose, but appear in the first typed draft. Will leave in case the point resurfaces...[sigh]...7.17.16}.

Liverish: Okay.

- It's reflexive.

- When you feel a tug,
- respond,
- reflexively eventually,
- to fall back into it.

Cat: A self-program?

Liverish: Yes.

- I can't easily remind you.

Cat: I feel it in my lower back...

- heat...

*Liverish: Good, good.

- Respond to whichever area it asks for, okay?
- You'll get that the tension is asking to melt into this warm state lacking effort—
- —that is your mode of relaxation.

- {Very early mention of Wu Wei?...2.13.14}.

- {I need to remember this, badly...10.26.16}.

Cat: Melt into it...

Liverish: ...You've lost it?

Cat: Am I waiting for a signal from you?

Liverish: Do you need a cinder block to the head to feel my signals?

Cat: Apparently.

- You call me a novice all the time...
- just not so nicely.

Liverish: Fuck, Cat...

- I don't care.
- Become more sensitive!

Cat: How?

- Unless I practice with "cinder blocks".

Liverish: Fine, fine...

- I'll be obvious until you're comfortable,
- but those are fucking training wheels.

Cat: Better than nothing,

- which it would be...

Liverish: Fine, fine...

- Wuss.
- Gain power.

Cat: ...

Liverish: Yes, I'm sure this kind of FUCKING delegation will be just the thing.

Cat: Good.

Liverish: Now, feel it...

Cat: Way better.

Cat: Again...

- I don't like it.

Liverish: It's a loss you aren't used to is all...

- You can trust me now.

Cat: Can I, regarding this?

- —I've seen you lose control of other things.
- Besides...
- I'm not sure I want to mess with that right now...
- here...

Liverish: A fair assessment...

- But here and now are the best,
- and I can not lose control over this.

Cat: "Can not"?

Liverish: It is intrinsic.

- It's like you being unsure if you can walk or not.

Cat: Fine...

- what are the BAD feelings?

Liverish: Let's say, you relaxed back onto something that hasn't moved in a while.

Cat: It HURT, it mentally felt like someone spat in my face.

Liverish: *Easy, Cat.*

- *It's tough to feel something new.*
- *Keep going.*

Cat: ...*This doesn't seem helpful to me.*

Liverish: *It isn't, IMMEDIATELY.*

- *That's why we started early.*

Cat: *Really?*

Liverish: *Of course.*

- *You've had nearly an hour to work on it.*

Cat: *That's not enough time to...*

- *learn how to walk!*

Liverish: *Your knowledge of the basics suggests that if you can't get this, you're an idiot.*

Cat: *Pain and idiocy don't go!*

- {"Pain and idiocy don't go"? Note cognition sinking and unconscious stream pulling up...7.17.16}.
- {That or Doom's talking...10.26.16}.
- {Liverish is untrustworthy at this point, so telling me what I've told you...that some techniques take a little while to sink in or produce muscle...is not going over that well with me...3.1.17}.

Liverish: Well learning to submerge in it is not hard.

- It is merely uncomfortable,
- so are you a wuss instead of an airhead?

Cat: I don't want an attack.

Liverish: You won't.

- I plan on getting my week.

- {Riiiiight. What was the deal again? Possession for good behaviour?...10.26.16}.

Cat: ...*how's that?

- {*Case of lowercase has now been safely noted...2.24.17}.

Liverish: Better...

- more...
- don't lose it.

Cat: ...Nope.

- Gone again.

Liverish: ...There...

Cat: Ow, ow, ow, ow, ow, ow, ow!!!

Liverish: Easy, see?

Cat: Not easy!

- I'—

After the Appointment

Cat: So tired...

Liverish: Easy, Cat...Do it NOW.

Cat: I'm TRYING...

- more...
- I need more...

Liverish: Fuck, y' need an airhorn and a lighthouse too?

- How about the CORE OF A FUCKING PLANET, Cat, fuck!...?

Cat: Warm...

Liverish: That is the sign, yes.

Cat: Help me apply it.

Liverish: Hmm...

- application...

Cat: How do you apply it?

Liverish: Pick something negative...

- a bad feeling.

Cat: The {storage} shed...

Liverish: Good...

- now don't brace for the feeling,
- lead it into me.

- {Notebook, notebook. I need to scribble this down somewhere else too!!...10.26.16}.

Cat: W-aaarm...

Liverish: Finally.

- Pick some more...
- let's engrain this...
- a heart one!?
- Hmm...

Cat: Has the "sad" been pushed "down"?

Liverish: It's lighter;

- yeah we have put it in your stomach.

Cat: *How do we digest it?*

- *And the heart stuff?*

- {Note: {Figures} often have an instinctive knowledge of which direction an emotion is supposed to process in. Just make sure the {figure} is properly related to the sensation you're addressing...7.17.16}.

Liverish: *Hmm...*

- *I suppose it moves "down" like other bodily functions.*
- *More!*

Cat: *Hot...*

Liverish: *You can't control outflow.*

- *Unbelievable...*

Cat: *Well how much should I drop on you?*

Liverish: *Your scalpel's an axe, Cat.*

- *Precise.*

Cat: *Heart: Feelings of unworth...*

- *I see it.*

Liverish: *Feel, Cat.*

Cat: *Mmm...*

- *warm...*

- {Cat seems to be sending some heavy feelings Liverish's way...7.17.16}.

Liverish: *Ow,*

- FUCK!
- EASY!!

Cat: *Mmm.*

Liverish: Monitor how much!

- FUCK!
- Don't just drop a building on me.
- It was that much!

- {Cat seems to unload more energy on Liverish...7.17.16}.

Cat: *Ow,*

- AND nice,
- AND warm.

Liverish: Better...

- it didn't threaten to crush my internal organs.

Cat: Do you have them?**

- {More double stars (**) appearing in the initial typed copy, but not the original hand-written book, for no discernible reason...but confusingly having something to do with the existence of Liverish's internal organs...7.17.16 }.

Liverish: I've got every non-sex function thing you've got if you look close enough.

- FUCKING BUS!!!!

Cat: More?

Liverish: Yes...

- Bring it...

Cat: Oww...

- mmm...
- warm...

Liverish: Excellent holding of emotion.

- More of that!
- Less crush-splat.

Cat: I feel crush-splat.

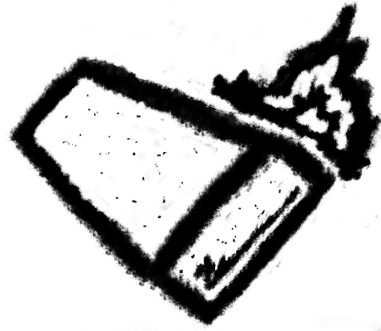
Liverish: Met your match, hmm?

- {Note: Feeling "crush-splat" may be a result of over-using and gradually depleting "mmm warm"...7.17.16}.

NOTES

date: 1.19.12

The inner world you are in contains a fine balance, and its own set of rules.



⚠ WARNING

Brick

-Failing to obey these rules may cause feuds, lawlessness and vengeance-seeking.

LISTENING

LITTLE BIG:
Public
Enemy

INTRODUCTION

-If each person in the world committed one crime for each of the crimes that had already been committed, you would have something like what happens when you disobey the fundamental rules of your inner world. Tread lightly...

1.19.12

A Brick in a Blender

Liverish: Weak, Cat.

Cat: I don't care.

Liverish: Wow...spiky...

Cat: I've got no patience for this.

Liverish: Embodying my...

- energy, hmm?

Cat: I don't care WHAT I'm doing.

Liverish: Heh...

- You're all messed up on it.
- This amuses me, Cat.

Cat: Shut UP!

- She goes to attack Liverish.

- He dodges easily.

Liverish: Fuck are you off.

- What the fuck is up?
 - Is this the result of processing?
 - It's like you're grinding down a brick in a blender.
-
- {In retrospect, it does feel like we overdid that exercise, which was destructively uncontrolled in the first place...We addressed WAY too much anger in WAY too short an amount of time...7.17.16}.

- Cat makes an angry sound.

- She attacks again.

Liverish: Easy, easy.

Cat: But I NEED to attack you.

- Every compulsion.
 - I need to....
-
- {Remember, when considering my lack of control here, how much easier it is to think about something than to do it...10.26.16}.

Liverish: Heh...weird...

- this was unforeseen,
- but I suppose I was sick until now.

Cat: *Ehhhh...ch...I need to ATTACK YOU.*

Liverish: *Fuck, well hit me, then.*

- *Was I this sloppy when I was sick?*
- *Well obviously not, but...my equivalent?*

Cat: *Your energy...*

- *Tastes good...*
- *and I want to tear you apart...*
- *I'm sorry...*
- *I'm not sure what we did to create this...*
- *effect...*

- {Cat is entering another {figure's} experience very fully. At this early stage, too fully. This is impatient guess-work. See daredevils? I was pretty reckless. I'm not just being a stick-in-the-mud. I pushed it, and bad shit happened to me...7.17.16}.
- {Interesting...Eating Lee's energy is hard to hold off on in this situation. This resembles what Red's doing with my drive towards eating my violent ex's energy now. It seems to be having some intense boosting effects on my energy level when I accidentally go through with it...3.1.17}.

Liverish: *Obviously...*

- *this is what's been eating me...*
- *heh...*
- *looks funny on you.*

- Cat lets off a burst of energy.

- Liverish dodges quickly again.
- She charges {some more energy to shoot him again}.

Liverish: Not going to happen, Cat.

- But you're getting tenacious again...
- Can we tire this out of you, or will you be difficult for me?

- When Cat speaks, her voice is quiet and angry.

Cat: ...You tell me...

Liverish: More, Cat...the energy.

- Relax it and see what that does.

Cat: I don't...

- want to...
- but I guess that's the nature of this...
- you need to fight it in some way.
- Embrace and fight.

Liverish: *Of course.*

Cat: *Better...ish.*

Liverish: *You closed up again quickly.*

- *More energy, now.*

Cat: *Right...*

Liverish: *Better...more...constant...even while we write...*

Cat: *I feel so upset...*

- *These people got to the bus stop after me...*

Liverish: *And they get to stand for their ride;*

- *energize me again.*
- *I can take it.*

Cat: *I wish I hadn't eaten...*

Liverish: *Shit...*

- Cat attacks Liverish again,

- and misses.

Cat: *I'm disappointed in myself to find I am HARDLY more sensible than you...*

Liverish: *Ouch...*

- *Give it, Cat.*
- *Can we do it without violence?*

Cat: *How DARE you say that after what you've done...?*

- {It's always pretty weird going back and watching myself when I was the poisoned element...3.1.17}.
- {I'm really impressed with Liverish's efforts back then to bring me down...3.1.17}.
- Cat attacks.

Liverish: *Fuck, Cat.*

Cat: *I DON'T CARE what did this,
• make it go away, please.*

Liverish: *It hurts you...*

- *I get that...*
- *now RELAX IT INTO MY DOMAIN.*

Cat: *I can't.*

- *I'm angry with you...*

Liverish: *That's fine...*

- *use that...*

Cat: *TO RELAX IT INTO YOU!?*

Liverish: *...Wow...*

- *you really are sick now...*
- *let it go, PLEASE.*

Cat: *I can't, I can't, I can't...*

Liverish: *Easy...*

- *No...*
- *Your energy shouldn't go there.*

- *Cat sighs.*

Liverish: *I'm going to capture you...*

- *not to be a problem...*
- *to help.*

Cat: *I'm not sure about that...*

Liverish: *I tell you.*

Cat: ...

Liverish: *It will work.*

Cat: *I don't WANT you to...*

Liverish: *Believe it or not, sometimes that's the point of force.*

Cat: ...

Liverish: *Come on...*

- *Attack me again.*

Cat: ...

Liverish: *Don't be a fucking wuss about it.*

Cat: ...

Liverish: [...].

- hmm?
- [...].
- *These images riling you?*

- {Which emotionally charged headspaces is he using on her??...7.17.16}.

- {He's throwing distressing subjects at her one after the other...3.1.17}.

- Cat's shaking.

Liverish: [...],

- [...],
- [...],
- [...].

Cat: *It's...going?*

Liverish: *Fucking weird, and sort of a pity...*

Cat: ...*Ugh...there it is...*

Liverish: *Give it.*

- *Do it.*

Cat: *But I would be...*

Liverish: *Resigning yourself to temporary captivity...*

Cat: *Why do you have to put it that way?*

Liverish: *No choice.*

- [...].

Cat: *AAAAHHGHH!*

- *I can't help it...*

- {It's harder to avoid a sudden thought than any action, even if the thought is a thought-action...(except under extraordinary circumstances, I'm sure)...7.17.16}.

- She fires a {drawn-out} energy shot.

Liverish: *Fuck...*

- *that was something for a change.*
- He grasps a strand of Cat's energy,
- and yanks her towards him.
- She flies through the air and falls onto his arm.
- He holds her from behind.

Liverish: *Shit, Cat.*

- *That was a pain.*
- Cat{'s energy} bursts.
- Liverish contains it.

Liverish: Don't worry...

- I won't allow you to do anything awkward or dumb.
- I can stop that now.

- {Wait.....Is THAT what those charismatic trances I experience are...!??...12.19.17}.

Cat: Being late?

Liverish: Check the time.

- Either way,
- we're going about this my way.
- (Of course I know you went against me out of your proper volition. It is fine this time...).

- {Future Cat: I'm not sure I ever thanked you for being cool that day...3.1.17}.

- {Future Lee: Well thanks for remedying it. Yes. I was perfect, wasn't I? <3...3.1.17}.
-



7.16.16

How many days later is this?

{Current Playlist: Grains by Bonobo}

Lee: Three or four, I think. It's been a long time.

Arrow: Guys

- He's RIGHT...!

- {Remember last chapter? We left off with Eerie explaining the downfalls of marrying Danna to Arrow...10.26.16}.

Lee: *We told you.*

Arrow: *Not the way HE explained it.*

- Wow

Lee: *Eerie.*

- *Can I pay you to be best friends with this loser...?*

Eerie: Best what?

- I don't do that.
- I understand money destroys friendships, so how does this follow...?
- Is this a trick?

- {Note to self: Eerie is demonstrating his emotional range by understanding through adages. May be useful in the future...10.26.16}.

Lee: *It...NO...I'm half joking.*

- *But I do think you stabilize the badness, and THAT I appreciate...*

Arrow: *So...what do we do?*

Lee: *I recommend we get to that old woman who was helping me those years ago.*

- {4000 years old?}

Cat: What's her name again?

- {On the Inside, expect the tones of memories to be what sticks. Names of long-distant acquaintances? Forget it. It's like trying to remember the name of someone you met in a dream. If it hasn't been vital, the figure will return with its same feeling-tone and a new name that encapsulates it. Learn to know your Inners by their true names in mood language, which are more like smells than words...Human word names are secondary and often mildly symbolic...6.25.17}.

Lee: We'll put two question marks per usual unknown.

- Hell if we're going to read all our old journals for the five pages of information she's given us.

Cat: If we even recorded them. You might have surprised me at bedtime.

Lee: Whatever.

- Aw shit.
- It's another avenger.
- Question marks serve another purpose right now.

- This is another desert.

- We stopped for too long, hoping that Eerie could talk Arrow out of the wedding.

- He was just now fully successful.
- Three or four days has enabled a lot of angry, burning, wedding guests to catch up with us.
- They are apparently familiar with the time Lee gave Arrow the fire that ended up in all of the wedding invitations {by breaking quarantine and fist-fighting him, after hugging me in a heart-breakingly romantic effort to follow me into the next inner state. Things back-“fired” BADLY...3.1.17}
- {Also, via Danna's deadly random sense of humour...10.26.16}.
- They know we're the source, and they come to us for revenge.
- Lee changes with them...
- Getting tired of this...

?: I'll kill you!

- You set us all on fire!
- It was your fault!

Lee: I'm a thousand times your energy size.

- You've got balls for a fifteen-year-old girl.

?: I know the way from the others before me.

- And I'm not a girl.

Cat: Wow. You're not...

- {Cat sounds apologetic}.

- The figure glares at Cat for a long time.

Lee: Don't do your hair that way, dude.

?: The fire consumes me to become you...

- The figure postures majestically,
- wielding a glowing white blade downwards in his right hand,
- and a glowing white blade upwards in his left hand.
- His head faces our left.

- Cat finds herself mirroring him, facing right, holding identical swords, but opposite hands.
- {It seems the figure has possessed her form...12.19.17}.

Cat: ...Me!

Lee: Hey!

- No!
- You!

- The figure's robes,
- once a deep blue,
- have become red while in the posture.

Lee: I do those!

- Dude!
- Fuckerhead!
- No!

?: This one is not for you..

- "Balance" as in "Balance", says the figure's grace.
- He is consumed by black flame.
- Cat's fire flares hot and cold.
- ****She imagines balancing a pencil on her finger and finds medium.**

Cat: *That...WORKS!!*

Lee: *Can't we have epiphanies on a fucking schedule...!?*

- *Hurry the fuck up*.

Arrow: *Doesn't this pile of ash deserve a moment of silence?*

Lee: *No*.

- *It's going to fucking talk through Cat for the remainder of our fucking lives*.
- *It's getting way the fuck more than it deserves*,
- *THANK you*.

Arrow: *I don't get it*.

Lee: *It' joining OUR fucking fires*.

- *It's making me more SENSITIVE TO OTHERS THANK YOU FUCKING VERY MUCH EVEN YOUR FILTHY ASS IS ENDING UP IN MY BRAIN BEFORE THIS IS OVER*.

- *We just have to make sure you die of fire before she catches us and marries you.*
- {Hey. Future here...We are not absorbing everyone, and the fire may or may not be out, but we've travelled somewhere we at the very least can't see it anymore as a group. Unless this place is...what...???????.....12.16.17}.

Arrow: *Cat looks horrified.*

- *Why don't humans get this stuff...?*

Lee: *They have a one-dying policy, remember?*

- *That's why YOU'RE not allowed to get your HOMICIDAL EMO ASS NEAR THE CONTROLS.*
- *You're failing as an emo.*
- *You're supposed to err on DEpressive, not AGGressive.*

Arrow: *Not emo.*

- *I'm glad to fail your expectations, though.*

Lee: *We need to reach that old woman so she can save us from Danna,*

- *or tell us which way to go.*

Arrow: *All I have to do is refuse marriage until I turn into, gods forbid, THIS loser..*

- *I don't think that could be all that hard.*
- *How much longer?*

Lee: *We might need every katana-wielding teenager for thousands of miles or more to become us.*

Arrow: *Did it NOT occur to you that young aspects would get to you first?*

- *You sure you don't want to enter the blaze back there and find some mature slow things?*

Lee: *Hmm...*

- *That's why we're seeking the old woman.*
- *Did she get an invitation?*

Arrow: Danna doesn't get along with her.

- She probably got two.

Lee: Plus guests.

- Yeah.
- I wouldn't doubt it.
- Cat.
- I recommend we leave Arrow here and continue by ourselves.
- He's slowing us down.

Cat: We don't leave anyone...

Lee: He's killed you more than once,

- and we're going to take him with us to an elder's house...?
- We can't guarantee he won't break anything or embarrass us.

Cat: ...Arrow.

- What do you want to do?

Arrow: Lead the army against you.

- I'm going back for the fire.
- Better get the old woman ready for our approach if you're so worried about being rude.

Lee: We just helped you, you dick.

Eerie: ...I agree with the Emo.

- It speaks the truth.
- You must enter the fray.

Lee: It does nothing of the sort, and Cat isn't ready.

Eerie: ...You must understand...

- I am a mercenary...

Lee: *I'm surprised you didn't turn on us at a more opportune time.*

- *You gettin' sloppy?*

Eerie: I am just now realizing...

- Cat's survival means getting her into that fire.
- The heart of the group I sense approaching.
- Everyone on the planet is a moth to you two now, and you a beacon.

Lee: *Why's our fire special?*

Eerie: Focal point and will are going down.

- They are up for grabs,
- and you don't see it.

Lee: *WHAT!?*

Eerie: If you are thousands of other people,

- the strongest of you will surface the natural result.
- The natural order will be found,
- and your place in it may be surprising.

Lee: *WE need to be stronger to prepare for that.*

- *I can live it, but Cat'll be destroyed.*
- *She isn't strong enough.*

Eerie: She'll have to be.

Lee: *Not if we get out of here and train her up.*

- *She can be more.*
- *I need her not to become a drop in a fucking ocean.*

Eerie: *You knew what this was.*

Lee: *I knew we'd be married.*

- *{Vox} stage.*
- *What the fuck are we trying to incorporate Self for now?*
- *Hmm?*
- *She's too fucking young.*
- *This is post midlife-crisis shit and we're going to impose it on a thirty-year-old?*

Eerie: It must be completed if she is to survive her state.

- Her state is fragile and painful.
- Do you wish to keep it that way?

Lee: *No*

- *But ending it isn't the answer, either..*

- His voice is quite controlled, but Cat catches a flash of moisture in the corner of his eye.

- *{This must be some serious state. It's progressing still...10.26.16}.*

- *{...Some effects continue powerfully, with a tremendous amount of relief to accompany them. I'm avoiding people almost completely. Mania is abolished but psychosomatic pain persists in response to repetitive or loud sounds at around 4000 Hz. Depression is never overwhelming or full anymore. I feel like a new person...and not in a bad or free-will sapping way like we once feared...But Lee has always been protective...and I am a lot different now, to be fair. Next is 4000 Hz, then people again...3.1.17}.*

- *{Psychosomatic physical effects are peaking, possibly in response to the spinal nature of Kundalini, and the tremendous skill of my chiropractor. It now seems negative emotions can be optionally converted into physical pain, but certain kinds of sound are non-optionally bypassed through to physical pain. This is an endurance phase of great intensity...12.16.17}.*

Lee: *We.*

- *Need.*
- *Balance.*
- *First.*
- *She'll die.*

Eerie: Not our concerns.

- *Arrow.*
- *Show me the way to this army.*
- *We cannot defeat these two alone.*

Lee: *You make an enemy today, Cog.*

Eerie: I make a decision today,

- and it is not out of spite,
- as you are well aware.
- Everything I do has a reason.
- Yours is often spite.
- Do not project that onto me.

Lee: ...*You are not taking her.*

Eerie: We are outmatched now, but we will be back.

- Eerie vanishes.

- Arrow takes a few seconds to notice, then stumbles through a portal after him.

Lee: WONderful...but they would have slowed us down if I'd held them up for a fight.

- We need to get to that old woman, now...
- We'll be tracked much more easily warping around.
- That's why we're walking and warping.
- Here.

- He points at the sand.

- He grabs her hand and pulls her forward onto the spot.

- They fall through into a pine forest.
-



7.16.16 {Continued}

- Cat stands up through brambles and brushes snow off herself.
- It's dusk, almost dark.
- She frowns and looks around her, concerned.

Cat: How..

- *There was no sense of a hole there..*

Lee: *I hid some.*

- *They react only to me,*
- *giving information only to me.*
- *Some poor idiot could step on it by accident and wind up here at any rate..*

Cat: *Why not pick somewhere less brambly...?*

Lee: *Looks accidental.*

Cat: *Who puts a portal like that..*

Lee: *Nature.*

- *Nature does.*
- *Now..*
- *Her house is over that hill..*

- He takes {her by} the back of the jacket she's now wearing and hovers them both to the top of the hill.
- There is a little lit-up cottage a small ways down...
- Smoke comes from the chimney.

- He stands proudly with his arms crossed.

Lee: *Fast, hmm? <3*

- *Let's go Small Fry.*
- *We're going to keep as much of you alive as possible.*

Cat: *...I don't know who to listen to..*

- *You usually know best..*

Lee: *I know that it takes the strength and skill of a fucking jaguar to navigate that much information at once.*

- *You'd collapse fast.*

Cat: *...Okay.*

- *Let's go find out more..*

Lee: *You trust me?*

Cat: *Yes.*

- *Not about everything.*
- *But definitely about this.*
- *I know you're doing this for the right reason..*

- Lee gives her a small, encouraging squeeze.

Lee: *Not such a vegetable after all, are you? <3*

- They walk down instead of fly (attempting to produce less obvious energy effects whenever possible).
- It's now fully dark.
- As they walk to the door, the four-foot-tall smiling woman opens the door. She appears very old, unlike Danna, who is likely the same age.
- {Or a "few thousand years older"...whatever that means...12.16.17}.

?: You may call me Heya.

- Heya: See?
- That's better.

Lee: Didn't you have a name, already?

Heya: I am what I am needed to be at the time.

Lee: Another Dakini?

- We have enough Dakinis, I think, thanks.

Heya: Are you certain you know what one is?

Lee: Pretty sure I serve the same function,

- whether I am one or not.

- Heya seems to have put an enchantment on the door.

Heya: We'll be safe, now...

- For a while.

Cat: Okay...

Lee: *Not long enough.*

- *What do we do, hey?*
- *You helped me in the past, when my wife was unwilling to face her destiny.*
- *Now what do we do?*

Heya: *I am dangerous to you, apparently..*

- *as I side with your Cog friend.*

Lee: *You...WHAT!?*

Heya: *She can handle it.*

- *You must have faith that she'll survive.*

Lee: *HAVE YOU SEEN THE FUCKING THINGS THAT HAPPEN WHEN SHE GOES HAYWIRE!?*

Heya: *Faith and strength.*

- *Such things need not happen with a strong {vox}.*
- *You can do plenty for her in the interim...*

Lee: *WHAT!?*

Heya: *Let me demonstrate...*

- [...].

Lee: Hate to break it to you..

- That's ME taking over, and it suppresses her, down, into nothing.
- She becomes flat when I do that.
- And scared.

Heya: You must make it work.

- It must be achieved.
- [...].

Lee: Oh...So she asks for a result still..

- But I need to take over some of her life decisions.
- She needs to get better, after all.
- Her looking for her results and ME giving them to her is what DIDNT work before...

Heya: She must listen first...

Lee: I give her options to choose from...of course!

Cat: Um...

- {I'm} Right here...!

Lee: No, Cat.

- Your choice in the matter is moot.
- What needs to happen naturally must happen.
- We have to get you past this...

Heya: There will always be an observer.

- It must not always make decisions, though.

Lee: She knows..

- She knows I'm her master..

- Cat frowns.

Lee: *...But she can't seem to cede control...*

Heya: *Make the fire as hot as it can get.*

- *She will be purified, not lost.*

Lee: *...CAN I prepare her for this...*

- *Are you SURE just throwing her weak ass to the dogs is going to make her better?*
- *I can't abide by guess-work that may destroy her permanently.*

Heya: *There is one thing...*

- *The order in which you take them in...*

Lee: *Yes?*

Heya: *Again.*

- *Heat is best.*
- *Much heat.*
- *Do not boil this slowly.*
- *It should go up in a puff of smoke.*

Lee: *So...*

- *We want to incorporate Arrow first...*

Heya: *That would not hurt.*

- *What has passion and less self-hate will help to stabilize the rest.*
- *Consider values that will help in the face of curses.*

Lee: *Well...It's off to find Pat, then...*

- *We need patience and we need it fucking now if a bunch of manic flaming zombies are on the way...*
- *We can't be thrown off-kilter.*
- *We can't be slowed or convinced.*

- *This book must be made.*

Heya: *I'll tell them you returned to the desert.*

Lee: *They'll burn you for it.*

Heya: *You know my stance.*

- *I'll be among them.*

Lee: *Well we all know you'll fucking survive thanks so much for our little lesson in the obvious surface facts.*

- *Cat.*
- *Let's go.*

Cat: *...Thank you, Heya...*

Heya: *Do not fear, Cat.*

- *Remember.*
- *It is natural.*

Lee: *Fucking blah-blah-wisdomless-blah-blah.*

- *We wanted something fucking helpful.*

Heya: *You wanted to hear that your fears were unfounded.*

- *The door is unlocked.*
- *You may go now.*
- *Good luck, Cat, though there is little luck about it.*

Lee: *Strength?*

Heya: *The opposite of strength, at full force.*

- *Full surrender.*
- *Much harder than force.*

Lee: *Blah-blah-even-more-obvious-blah-blah.*

- *Let's go.*
- *We're going to round up some usefuls and become a multi-entity.*

Cat: *Bye.*

- *We'll see you soon.*

Heya: *I wouldn't doubt that.*

- {The fire quest isn't solved in the time span of this book, unfortunately, though the chase continues...10.26.16}.
 - {*Well, SOME of it is..3.1.17*}.
 - {But not in any great detail...12.18.17}.
-

- {Cat, Mimi, and Lee are watching a show that will remain nameless...12.19.17}.
- {Miandra: So...what, is this a zombie show? Why are you watching a zombie show?...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: We're almost out of Korean ghost detective drama comedies...12.18.17}.
- {Miandra: Well, that's quite a genre...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: Wow. Can't have a first episode of anything without a drunken bathroom sex scene these days...12.18.17}.
- {Miandra: This...IS about zombies, right?...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: Supposedly based on a movie. <3...12.18.17}.
- {Miandra: And panning to creepy forest...And seasick in creepy forest. Bwetch...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: Stopped being creative a while ago, camera guy. Nausea it down a notch...12.18.17}.
- {Lee and Miandra: CORPSE!! AHHHH!...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: Well, that clearly wasn't that lady's first time seeing the corpse prop...12.18.17}.
- {Lee and Miandra: AHHHH! SHEET!!!...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: DON'T NEAR HER, SHE'LL BITE YOU!!!...12.18.17}.
- {Lee AND MIANDRA: HOLYAAAAHFUCKMEINOOOO OAHHHHH MYGODNOO OOOOOOOOOOO OOOOOOOO QUITWITHTHE AHHHMY DE ARFUCK WAAAAA AAAAAT'S MYDEARNO WHO'S AAAAAAAHOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!...12.18.17}.

- {leE: it's up there!!!!!!! NOO hit it! Hit it! Burn it! Kick it! HOW COULD YOU LOSE THE GUN YOU IDIOT!!!!!!!???????. It's LYING!!!! DON'T!!!! JUST SHOOT IT YOU INSUFFERABLE MAMMALIAN VEGETABLE!! WHY DO.....THANK YOU!!! I hate movie mammals. *They're planned stupid...12.18.17*}.
- {.....}.
- {Lee: Aw, fuck...Did it eat that one? Where'd she go?...12.18.17}.
- {.....}.
- {Miandra: ...Barely...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: It could have finished the job pretty easy. Why didn't it?...12.18.17}.
- {.....}.
- {Miandra: This guy is an asshole...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: Assholes die in horror movies. I don't give him long...12.18.17}.
- {.....}.

- {Miandra: This guy is...mysterious...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: Which means he'll live for at least a season...or until he pours his heart out to someone...12.18.17}.
- {Miandra: Cold universe...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: But this is American, so there will probably be little to no believable love in it. But it's a TV show, so it might lose that effect through hours of extra familiarity...12.18.17}.
- {.....}.
- {Miandra: How about her?...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: Whole series. Traumatized people live until they overcome it...12.18.17}.
- {Miandra: Bleak...12.18.17}.
- {.....}.
- {Both flinch...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: Well THAT didn't sound very human...12.18.17}.
- {Miandra: Great. A dark warehouse full of dolls. WHY not...12.18.17}.

- {.....}.
- {Miandra: Mysterious buddy's his non-lecherous, conscience-possessing shadow...12.18.17}.
- {.....}.
- {Lee: Ew. Fuck...12.18.17}.
- {Miandra: You see, you're too much of a germophobe for the zombie ones. Ghosts are way better...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: So...did it eat her or not?...12.18.17}.
- {Miandra: Depends on if this is zombie stuff.....Doesn't she have long enough arms?...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: She should have, but I guess that one needs her eyeballs for a few more episodes...12.18.17}.
- {Miandra: Nice to see they don't do cliffhangers, or make us watch them clean up. Or smell what we're seeing. Blarch...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: Blarch, indeed...12.18.17}.

- {Danna: Mimi?...12.18.17}.
- {It seems Miandra has vanished...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: Not only is she gone already, she had time to watch a forty-five minute thriller before you got here...12.18.17}.
- {Danna: Can she really love a demon in a human's body if he can't stop dressing like a subway flasher? <3...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: Nah, nah. Not the Korean one. English language gorefest with zombies...12.18.17}.
- {Danna: And detectives? <3...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: Uh...yeah, actually...12.18.17}.
- {Danna: Will there be a woman with magical powers who can only fall in love with a demon in a human body if he can learn to stop dressing like a subway flasher?...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: Maybe. We'll see. Something laughed in a way that could have been misconstrued as evilly clown-like. You may have enjoyed that part...12.18.17}.
- {Danna: No. I've sworn off evil clown laughs for good. It's for the best...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: Well, that's a heroic thing to do for everyone within earshot...12.18.17}.
- {Danna: You're right. I deserve a plaque for my excellence. <3...12.18.17}.
- {Lee: You deserve no such thing. Now shut up and let us watch the next part...12.18.17}.