

((Note: The following sections take place during [chapter 11](#).)

Nick listened as Akuma growled, "Sure, I'd have a better time with that than your company." Then the hybrid stood up and left through the door.

Nick kept his eyes closed, dozing in and out of consciousness for a good hour before he sat up, feeling refreshed from his little nap. Standing and stretching, he moved groggily through the house, picking up anything out of place, such as the catnip bag, and returning them to their rightful spots. Looking around at his tidied house, he sighed and went to the window. Looking outside it seemed alright. Despite the cloud cover he remembered that it was quite warm outside. Feeling under his cloak to make sure he had his coin purse on him, he went out, making sure to latch the door behind him. Hands in his pockets he looked at the ground as he moved along slowly, eyes half closed. He was still kind of tired, but the fresh air that followed a good storm was too good to pass up; he loved the smell. Without looking, up he passed a certain bar, certainly and completely 100% by coincidence. Yup, definitely just by chance did he happen to pass by this one certain bar. Yup yup yup. Just then, Kai swings the bar's door open on their way out, the door smashing the mage's face as he walks by. Nick stumbled backwards and grabs his nose, a bit of blood trickling down. Wiping a hand across his face, getting off the blood, he looked up at Kai, instantly knocked out of his sleepy stupor. It took him a moment still though to process who it was that just smashed his face in. "HEY YOU!" Nick shouted after the drunken necromancer. "Why would you do that?! I mean I know you like making my life miserable, but come on! Cut me a break why don't you, I can't even leave my house now, can I?" he ranted at them.

Nick grunted as Kai stormed off. He stood there for a while before wiping away the blood that was trickling down from his nose. He tasted something coppery in his mouth and spat, spitting out some blood. "Uhg," he said to himself, shaking his head and turning to lean against the wall. Letting out a sigh, he looked up and watched the sky as it began to make its daily transformation, going from blue to orange with deeper hues of purple sure to follow as it got later. He rubbed the back of his head and grumbled to himself, "I hate everything." Nick walked through town for a bit looking into store windows, but without any plans of buying anything. Sometimes it was just nice to look though. As time went on he started to feel guilty for being such an ass; he was such a mess when it came to people. Most of his life he had secluded himself to his studies. It was only since the casting of the Spell that he had really came out. It didn't really matter if he planned to apologize now, because he had no idea how to find Kai. Sticking his hands in his pockets he continued to roam, looking down as he walk, until he reached the city gates. Noticing a puddle and a blotch of blood on the ground, he got an idea. Walking up to a guard, he asked, "Have you seen an injured drunk person walk by, around in their early twenties?"

The guard took up his pike and looked over Nick suspiciously. "Why do you ask?" the guard prodded. "Have anything to do with their injuries?"

Nick flinched and took a step back before regaining his composure and thinking up a quick lie, "No, I'm their guardian. They got in a bit of a brawl at the bar and ran off. Now I have to find them and make sure they are alright."

The guard still wasn't buying it. Luckily though the other guard didn't care and gestured roughly to the forest, pointing in the direction Kai had gone. "That way," he said nonchalantly. Nick nodded in thanks and made his way off, hearing the guard grunt and the other one hit him with the butt of his pike.

"What was that for?" Nick heard the voices fading as he moved onward.

"Didn't trust him," the other guard reported.

And after that, Nick was too far into the forest to hear the anymore. He moved through the forest slowly. Luckily it was easy to track Kai; they moved so clumsily through the forest in their drunken state that they practically made a path. And of course, there was the occasional blot of blood left on some leaves. It wasn't long before he had reached the shack that Kai lived in. He took a deep breath before calling out, "Hello, Kai, are you there?" He didn't know what to expect, he had made quite the ass out of himself earlier.

Nick stood there in silence for a moment, before slowly walking over to Kai's door to retrieve his cloak. He looked at the door as he stood up before throwing his cloak over his shoulder and turning around and heading back through the forest the way he came. By the time he got back to the city, the sun was setting and filling the sky with a brilliant array of different hues. The grass beneath his feet soon became replaced that cobble as he entered the city. He paid little attention to his surroundings until he had reached his house. Entering, he threw his cloak aside and flopped onto the couch.

Nick laid there for a good 10 minutes, almost falling asleep before he realized something; Akuma still wasn't back. Sighing and getting up, he put back on his robe and left the house. "Wonder where he could be..." the boy thought to himself, stopping in his tracks as he noticed a horde of teenage girls clustered around a building. Looking up to see what they could possibly be fussing over, Nick burst out laughing. It was none other than Akuma, stranded up on the rooftop. "Ahoy there!" Nick yelled out to the hybrid, cupping his hands to better help the sound travel before waving and arm over his head at Akuma obnoxiously. "Enjoying yourself?" he called out, trying to contain his laughter.

"I'll meet you back at home," Nick whispered before taking on Akuma's form. He was a nearly identical look alike, there were some minor differences, but the girls certainly wouldn't be able to tell. Running forward, he leapt off the roof over the girls' heads and landed hard on the ground right behind them before pushing himself up and making a run for it to draw them away from Akuma. Nick continued to

run from the screaming horde for girls, making sudden and odd turns in random places. Soon though, he found himself cornered in an alleyway. They hadn't entered it yet, but he hears them advancing them. Quickly, he turned into a rat and dove into a nearby dumpster. He could hear the girls' confusion and one of them even started rummaging in the dumpster for him. Luckily as a rat he escaped notice. After finding that he wasn't here, they left. Crawling out, Nick shifted back into his normal form and concluded that he needed a shower before walking home. Without stopping, he entered his house and went straight to the bathroom. "I don't wanna talk about it," Nick said as he passed Akuma.

Heading to the door, Nick stopped to tell Akuma before he left, "Help yourself to the kitchen if you get hungry, and you can sleep wherever. There is an empty room you can use if you want. I'm going for a walk." And with that he was off. Once outside he took a deep breath, inhaling the fresh, crisp nighttime air. He walked through town at a relaxed pace, watching as one store by the inhabitants closed up shop for the night. As he passed by another store, he noticed movement inside and got closer, pressing his face against the glass. He saw Kai with a dragon and the necromancer nabbed up a glowing red pendant on a gold chain, stuffing it into their hip pouch next to the book. The dragon zipped back to Kai and melted into their shadow. Kai walked quickly and silently to another window. Kai lifted the window before pausing. Then their head snapped to the window where Nick was and their brow slanted downward, slowly furrowing. The necromancer looked at the ground. Kai took an old polished stone off a shelf and threw it at Nick. The mage gasped as the stone came hurtling towards his face and backed up, using magic to make the glass intangible. The rock instead hit him smack in the forehead. Stumbling backwards, he cursed under his breath before turning to chase after the necromancer, who ran off after jumping out the window. "Get back here! You... You... You slippery little weasel you!" After a few turns in the alley, he lost Kai and stamped his foot angrily. Wheeling around on his heels, he sped off in the opposite direction, heading back towards the entrance of the city. He was going to be waiting at Kai's home when they got there. Exiting the city and trudging through the forest, he soon came to the necromancer's shack. He waited there for a few moments before he sensed their presence. Nick looked over at Kai, who was standing next to a tree, as he glared. "I wasn't going to say anything, but then you hit me in the face. In the face with a rock to be more exact," he said, rubbing the spot on his forehead only to find it was bleeding. The necromancer stiffened. "Thanks for that," he said, wiping the blood off on his cloak. Kai's brow furrowed. After an awkward pause, he asked, "So I caught you stealing....why is that?" He cocked his head to the side, his harsh look becoming replaced with that of curiosity. He added in questioningly, "What would you have done if you were caught?"

Kai answered, "Because I'm the typical greedy necromancer. Got a problem with that, twinkle-toes?"

Nick looked over them carefully. He said with a shrug, "No, that's not it. There's another reason as to why, but I wouldn't say you were the greedy type."

Kai snorted, looking to the side and announced, "And just what would some little mage know about me? You know nothing." They stared the mage down.

"I know more than you want me to know, I know that much," Nick said, taking another step towards them. "We know that attention acts as a lightning rod. Merely by concentrating on something, one causes endless analogies to collect around it, even penetrate the boundaries of the subject itself: an experience that we call coincidence, serendipity - the terminology is extensive. My experience has been that in these circular travels what is really significant surrounds a central absence, an absence that, paradoxically, is the text being written or to be written." He let it sink for a moment as the necromancer stared in confusion. They briefly cocked an eyebrow.

Kai frowned back at him in retaliation and retorted, "Tch, and what do you know? That I stole something? Big whoop! That tells you nothing. You only just learned my name. Not very impressive if you're trying to tell me you know anything about me." They laughed at him bitterly.

"On the contrary, it tells me everything," the boy said, sounding confident in his word.

Kai continued, "I'm more interested in what YOU were doing there. See I had a purpose there, stealing. You however seem to just pop up wherever I am? Are you following me now?" They moved around Nick subtly so that they were now between him and the door to the house.

Nick became more suspicious that there was something Kai didn't want found out. *'What could be worse than being a mage of the dead anyways?'* he questioned himself internally. Crossing his arms and letting out a huff, he responded, "Me following you? No, if anything it seems like you are just strategically putting yourself directly in my path every time I go outside." As he talked, he also noticed Kai had placed himself between the door and him. "What'cha got in there?" he asked nosily.

The necromancer's brow sloped more, glancing to the side where the house was briefly. They growled, "And now you're concerned about the contents of my house. That's none of your business. Just like you have no business following me back to my house or stalking me all day after declaring I was the biggest nuisance to your life." Kai lifted a hand only slightly, fingers outward and folding it into a clenched position. "Now if there's nothing else..." Kai said quietly backing to the door so it was completely blocked.

The mage told her, "I'm not stalking you, you just happen to be wherever it is that I'm going." Then he turned and started to walk off. "And by the way I can feel when you use magic, and I felt that."

Kai stiffened again and their cheeks flushed. "Yes, I'm so impressed. You can feel a necromancer doing magic. You don't do a good job at selling yourself."

Nick turned to face them again and starting walking forward towards the necromancer. Kai held their hand over their bag. "Oh yes, I can feel your magic, but what did you do? Hiding something?"

Kai snapped their head to the door and asked, "What are you-" they were cut off as the mage made a

turning motion with his hand, turning the doorknob of Kai's door with magic before summoning a strong gust of wind to push it open, sending the necromancer back with it.

"Nice place you got there," Nick said, continuing to walk towards the necromancer. "What, not going to invite me in? How rude." Nick cringed as Kai hit the ground, yelping in surprise and scrambling back to their feet. "Oops, didn't mean to send you flying too, Ka-" but he was interrupted.

They yelled, "Like hell I'm going to let you barge into my house." Kai ran out the door, closing it behind them and continuing, tackling Nick to the ground and making him gasp. They raised a hand with three needles lined with the poison from before and swung down at one of Nick's biceps to start. They smirked when they made contact.

The mage said, "So we're going to play this game now, are we?" Lurching his head forward, he made an attempt to sink his teeth into anything, though he was aiming for Kai's arm in particular. He could already feel his arm going numb.

The necromancer recoiled and jerked their hand back, dropping the other two needles into the grass. "Tch," they growled, looking at the ground in the dark and trying to find them.

Pulling his legs up into a ball position, Nick tried to force open a space between himself and the rampaging necromancer. "Get off!" he demanded angrily.

"Ah?" the small noise escaped Kai. They smugly said, "Don't think I'll come off that easy." Kai straddled Nick, sitting on his chest in front of where his legs were. The necromancer glared down at him and asked, "What? You think I was just going to let you do whatever you wanted on my turf?" They moved their hand around the grass now for the needles.

Nick clenched his other still working hand and formed a loose earth, launching it directly at Kai's chest. "I am going to do whatever I want, whether it's on your turf or not." He punctuated, trying to headbutt them off of him while continuing to squirm.

Kai muttered as they evaded the attack before narrowing their eyes and grabbing Nick's chin to force him to look at the necromancer, making the boy stiffen. Smirking down at him, they smugly said, "No, you can't. And just look at you now. You can't even sit up." They pushed at his shoulders to keep him pinned, but out of the range of his headbutts.

The mage spat, "Of course I can't sit up, you're sitting on me and I only have one working arm."

Kai raised an eyebrow at Nick and chided, "Being adept in... gymnastics myself, forgive me if I don't sympathize with a man that can't lift a hundred pounds with one arm and partial control of the other. You must have terrible balance."

"What do you have to hide? What could be worse already than stealing the souls of others and dealing with the dead and damned?" Nick questioned the necromancer while still fighting to get up.

Kai said quietly, "One who knows nothing can understand nothing."

"Keeping everything bottled up to yourself isn't healthy, you know," he said as he continued to struggle to get up.

Kai laughed in his face and accused, "Yes of course, because I don't spill my guts to some random STRANGER who doesn't even like me; I'm bottling things up. You may be an immortal, but you're pretty dense." They prodded his chest.

"I'm not a stranger!" he added. "You know my name is Nick, therefore you know me," he said, suddenly throwing his weight to the side in an attempt to unbalance Kai.

Kai grabbed the front of his shirt, laughing as Nick tried to buck them off. "Heh, it's like a kiddie ride. With about as much ferocity as one too," they continued, wiggling in their spot.

"And when did I ever say that I don't like you? You shouldn't assume things; when you do that, you make an ass out of you and me." Despite his current citation he couldn't help laughing at his own joke, though it was hard to with a certain necromancer sitting on his chest.

Kai turned their head with a look of disbelief. "When did you...? What do you have the memory of a goldfish? You went on and on about how I was a terrible person and I exist to annoy you earlier. Then you attacked me when I was trying to enjoy my drink. That totally sounds like someone who is ecstatic to know me. Of course. My bad." They rolled their eyes.

Nick growled in response to the ego-busting comment. "Hey let's get things straight here. You smashed a door into my face, then I attacked you with a ball of water...." he said defending himself.

Kai leaned back in their spot, showing signs of lax. They looked at their nails briefly and said, "Uh huh, you got bumped by a drunk and then attacked them. Because what could possibly go wrong with sending a drunk person off balance on a stone surface? That's harsh."

Kai sat up again as the mage earnestly asked, "And yes you are a horrible person, you eat people's souls, and yes, I am still convinced that your sole purpose on this world is to annoy the living hell out of me, but I never once said that I don't like you. Why do you think I tracked you down to apologize?" He gave up trying to get up and instead propped his working arm under him, elevating himself slightly.

"Oh right right. You mean when you said you couldn't believe you were thinking of apologizing to me?"

"No," Nick began. "I mean when I tracked you down afterwards and actually did apologize, and then

tried to lend you my cloak because you were cold. Perhaps you were too busy being drunk to remember."

The necromancer leaned down, putting their face close to Nick's. "And what about the part of knowing where I'm not wanted? Doesn't seem like a very smart idea to insult the ones who can eat souls."

The boy shrugged, well shrugged to the best of his ability. "I just wanted you to go away. I was dealing with a high dragon hybrid, and well, you know how my anger is. I was just spouting rage out of my ass."

"Tell me, do you know how a necromancer eats a soul?" Kai asked, smirking and staying close.

Nick just furrowed his brow. "You've been sitting on my chest for so long I'd assume you're trying to squeeze it out of my ears."

"No, not your ears. But quite close," they said quietly, a mischievous glimmer coming into their eye. Kai leaned down, feathering their lips over the mage's neck and then over his lips. Nick stiffened in response and the necromancer grinned. They chuckled softly at his face. "But maybe that's a lesson for another time," Kai said, pulling back and licking their lips. Suddenly, the mage had more than enough motivation to get up. With a burst of strength, he forced Kai off to the side and shot up. "Ah," they made a quiet noise. They hit the grass on their back and relaxed in their spot

"Let's not go there...." Nick said as he backed away, raising two earthen pikes from the ground beside him. Kai rolled onto their side and flinched. As he cast his spell, he also realized that he had regained feeling in his arm. With regained functionality of that arm, he raised two more pikes, totaling in four. The wicked looking weapons hovered, suspended in air, but all pointing towards Kai, who jerked into sitting position. "Burning your house down doesn't seem like that bad an idea after all," he said as he took another step back.

The necromancer's face dusted and they stared blankly. It was soon replaced by a heated blush across their face, "No, stop...! I was...just playing around..." Kai stared intently at the mage, edging onto their knees warily.

Nick stared at them for a long moment as their brow furrowed slightly. "Just a joke, huh?" he asked, raising his hands as if he was going to attack. Kai jolted up angrily. But then he lowered them, releasing his hold on the pikes. They fell to the ground, embedding themselves deep into the earth below them just from the mere pressure of their own weight. "Fine," he said as he turned around. He glanced at the necromancer one more time before he started to walk off. He called out behind him, "Don't worry, I won't bother you again." He muttered to himself under his breath, "Try to take my soul and see what happens." Nick walked the rest of the way home in silence, picking up his pace a bit when he entered the sleeping city. Never could be too careful. When he got home, he opened the door before slamming it closed behind him and locking it. "I'm home," Nick called out, still sounding slightly angry before he went straight to the kitchen and began stuffing his face with food, trying to drown his anger under a sea

of food. It seemed to be working rather well for the moment, but unlike his rage, his food supply wasn't unlimited and it would have to run out eventually. But for now, it would work quite well for the mage's needs.

((**Note:** This section takes place during [chapter 12](#).)

The sizzle of bacon and the smell of grease filled the air as Nick prepared breakfast in the kitchen. When Akuma walked into the living room, Nick just spared him a glance before returning to his cooking. "It's almost done," he said as he brought a pan of scrambled eggs over to the table, setting it down next to the plate of already finished sausages. Then he moved back to the kitchen to start taking off the finished bacon strips, and also bringing them to the table and setting them down. Getting out plates and silverware he sat down. "It's ready," he said motioning Akuma over.

The hybrid slunk over to the kitchen and sat down at the table. Akuma glanced up as Nick and mumbled, "Thanks." He stabbed a piece of sausage with a fork.

The hybrid sniffed once and nibbled, making Nick asked, "What?" With a look of satisfaction, Akuma continued. "Never had sausage and bacon before?" the mage questioned as he broke a piece of bacon in half, tossing a piece into his mouth. Akuma shook his head, stuffing a piece of bacon into his mouth next. The hybrid moved to the eggs next. *'Something's missing...'* Nick thought to himself as he placed some eggs on his plate. "Orange juice!" he said out loud upon realizing what was missing. Getting up, he opened the fridge and poured a glass for himself before starting to pour another glass, only to find that there was no more orange juice. He looked at his glass and then the empty glass before sighing and pushing his glass of orange juice over to Akuma, who had paused eating. "Here you can have mine," he said as he poured a glass of water for himself instead. He made a mental note to get more orange juice later.

"What is..." Akuma murmured, grabbing the glass. He sniffed it, sipped it and recoiled a bit at the taste of the orange juice. He seemingly let the flavor sit in his mouth a minute before swallowing more of it. "Good..." he stared at the substance in the glass.

Nick got up and put his plate in the sink as he finished his meal. "When you're done, just put your plate in the sink. I'll clean up the rest later," he said as he grabbed a list of the fridge. "I need to do some shopping." Picking up a pen, he quickly added orange juice to the list and left the house, grabbing a satchel style bag and throwing it over his shoulder on his way out. Once he was at the market, he grabbed several things: a bag of oats for oatmeal, a carton of orange juice and then some other miscellaneous goods, paying for them and crossing them off the list before putting them in his bag. When he was done shopping, he made his way back to the house. He stopped in the entrance of an alleyway when he noticed a certain necromancer sucking the soul out of some poor individual through

kissing. "Having fun there?" Nick said flatly as he readjusted his bag.

Kai settled their eyes on him and licked their lips, walking out of the alley way. "Why yes, I was having fun." They leaned into Nick's space unafraid. They purred, "Why, did you wanna try?"

Nick leaned back, keeping them away from his lips. "No, really I'm fine, you don't have to. I think I'll pass," he said nervously shifting his bag and opening his hands to push the necromancer away. But Kai moved away on their own accord as they chuckled.

"Just a joke. I don't want your soul. I only target....certain individuals..." they said, smirking and looking down towards the limp body. The necromancer looked down at Nick's bag. "Whatchya got there?" they asked, being nosey like Nick was in the times before. "Feeding the kiddy? Hmm?"

Opening the top of the bag he pulled out a wrapped fish and waved it around in the air a few times as he spoke. "Yes, as a matter of fact I am 'feeding the kiddie'," he said before tucking the fish back into the bag. "Just food and drink, ECT." He glanced at the now presumably dead man on the ground with distaste. Kai cocked an eyebrow as he questioned, "Why do you need souls anyways?"

The necromancer's breath caught and they stared blankly for a moment. Kai quickly plastered a smile to their face. They explained, "Why to learn a technique of course. In order for master to teach me my next ability I need to master soul sucking."

Nick raised an eyebrow; the very thought of taking another person's life just to practice something made him feel sick to the stomach. "Now that you've practiced, why don't you give it back?" he said as he walked over and nudged the lifeless man with a foot.

Kai made a low chuckle. "Now that would defeat the purpose, now wouldn't it? It's a purge, if you will, next to practice of my skills. You see, soul-sucking isn't for every necromancer. My master is...a special person who passed that on to me. See as long as I hold onto a soul, it may as well be damned. It does not move on and I can control its petty fate," they explained as they paced back and forth in the shadows of the alley.

"And what do you mean by certain individuals?" the mage asked, his nose crinkling as he could smell the man. He reeked of alcohol. "Drunkards?" the boy asked, moving away from the man again before turning to face Kai. He complained, "That's why I don't drink. People like you praying on the impaired. It's not right."

"What I mean, Nick, is I target evil individuals," they started to laugh, circling around and kicking the limp body. "You think I would kill over a simple drunkard? I was drunk last night you dense lump. I thought you were supposed to be a wise mage." Kai snorted, putting their back to the mage as they prattled on. "No, that man was a murderer of innocents. He came strolling in, bragging about killing mothers with their hatchlings. The terror in them. How much their glimmering pelts would fetch on the

black market. Let me tell you city boy." Kai twirled on foot, "I had to grow up around these people in the slums. They deserve every ounce that comes to them."

Nick rolled his eyes. "I was thinking you would kill anyway who you could for a soul." The necromancer made another low chuckle. He said, "A necromancer talking about evil. Give me a break."

"Well you see there, little mage. It's not the skill itself that's evil. It's how you use it," they said, looking at the body. "Sometimes, we must do what is wrong to do what is right."

Nick added, "Whatever helps you sleep at night." He threw another glance at the man. "Damning a soul for an infinity base on the deeds commits in a finite span of time," he said, shaking his head back and forth. "Oh yeah, you were drunk, weren't you? I had forgotten." Chuckling, he said, "Whoever said I was wise? I'm just immortal; there is a difference you know." He paused for a second, changing the subject.

"Well you might say I save them from actual damnation. See, they simply stay in my collection for as long as I want them to. They are not suffering, but nor do they feel joy. They are my toys. And they will remain as such," Kai said, giving a hardened stare at Nick. "Soul-stealing was created for a specific purpose, and not for humans or by humans. It is only a borrowed power. I have little interest in it. It is merely a means to an end." They stuffed their hands into their pockets.

Nick paced back and forth as he questioned, "What happens when two necromancers try to steal each other's souls?"

Kai smiled at the wall and answered, "Well I don't know really. I suppose it would be a matter of who was stronger and quicker about the matter."

Nick shook his head as he thought to himself. He could never kill someone outright like that. He had to be provoked somehow, and even then the most he had even done was injure someone. Turning his attention back to Kai, he motioned towards the body. "So what do you plan to do for cleanup?" he asked as he leaned against the wall.

Kai cocked an eyebrow and laughed, "Cleanup?"

They flinched when a guard dragon stuck his head into the alleyway, his armor clinking as he moved and his neck rubbed against the brick wall to the side. The dragon asked suspiciously, "What's going on back here that needs cleaning up?" Kai's face went blank for a moment.

Nick quickly stood up and, without thinking, cast a spell that bent the light around the body behind Kai and himself before taking the necromancer's arm as if he were helping keep them steady before taking a look at the guard and saying. "Just helping my lady here. She had a little too much a drink and now she's suffering the consequences," he said as if it were the most natural response in the world. Kai leaned onto him, dulling their eyes and laughing in a drunken manner. They leaned back onto him, nuzzling the

crook of his neck.

The guard's head pushed past Kai & Nick and he took a big whiff of the air, a few feet away from the man. But thanks to Nick's spell, he couldn't see it. He could however smell the alcohol, but that only added to Nick's alibi. The guard crinkled his nose and pulled out of the ally way. "Try to lay off the alcohol. You reek of it," he suggested as he started to walk away.

Nick let go of Kai and moved away from the necromancer. "Don't say I never did anything for you," he talked as he readjusted his bag.

"So I'm a woman to you now, am I?" Kai asked mischievously as they turned and stared him down with a smirk.

"Oh knock it off," Nick demanded as he lowered the illusion around the dead man before turning back to Kai. "You were a woman enough to him," he said casually nodding towards the necromancer's latest victim. "And the guard seemed to buy it also," he said, looking away from Kai and out into the busy streets.

"Woman enough to him, was I? Or was I woman enough for you to suggest it on the dime?" Kai pried, advancing on Nick with the same smirk. They paused to look over at the body and explained, "Hmph, that death has no traceability. No poison or physical marks. For all they know he died of alcohol poisoning. All I did was kiss him."

Shifting the bag, Nick set it down. No use carrying it if he was just going to be standing around anyways. "I on the other hand still have no idea what the hell you are," the mage admitted before looking back at Kai curiously. "Care to shed any light on that?" he asked before standing up straight and looking.

The necromancer looked back at him. "Well well, he's still on that. Terrible, isn't it? The possibilities..." Kai purred, licking their lips. "Would you like to find out, hmm?" Kai asked.

Nick turned his face away, hiding a slight blush. "Ah heh, that's not necessary," he said, starting to back away from Kai. He didn't even notice when the necromancer added the body to their collection.

"Not necessary? But Nicky," Kai lowered their voice and circled around so that they blocked the alley entrance. "You said you were curious," they pried.

Nick backpedaled deeper into the alleyway. "Now let's not get too hasty there," he stammered as his back bumped up against the back wall of the alley. "Not curious enough to take a ride on the rape train," he muttered, looking around for a means of escape.

"What's the matter? Scared of little ol' me? I don't bite...hard," they smirked, looking at the bite mark on

Nick's neck. Their hands came to their hips, leaning to one side. "Jeez, if this is all it takes to send twinkle toes running, then I'm all set for future interaction, aren't I? You know, some might call that offensive. Running away when they flirt. Or even pretend to flirt."

"Sorry," was all Nick could muster. His blush deepened and his hand shot up to cover the bite mark on his neck. He eyed his bag and bit his lip, trying to think. "Maybe I should get going, you know, hungry hybrid to feed and all that, would hate to keep him waiting." Moving forward he tried to inch past Kai and make it to his bag, cringing the entire way.

"Curious though, your reaction," Kai noted. "You must like the idea quite a bit...interesting. However..." They shot a hand out, grabbing the front of Nick's robe as he walked by. The boy went rigid and his heart rate quickened. Kai zipped up close next to his ear, "If it bothers you that much...I'm..." Kai paused to briefly lick his ear and whisper, "not a male."

"N-not a male," the mage stammered out loud, half to himself, half at Kai.

Kai pulled away and looked out at the crowd outside. "You can run home now."

As Nick was released, he fell backwards onto his bottom and quickly scotched away, retreating in a crab-like motion. Grabbing his bag, he shot up and turned to run, calling out behind him, "Hungry children to feed of the utmost importance. Hope you understand, 'kay thanks bye!" And with that he was gone, moving through the crowd with such speed that one would think he was being chased by the devil himself.