

Inside Bihai's cabin, the portal appeared in the den and Chase stepped out. But as soon as he entered his master's home, Chase became shocked at the desecrated place he saw all around him. Some of the bookshelves had fallen onto the floor with books sprawled all over the place, most of the furniture had been destroyed and there were slash marks and burns on the walls. The chandelier on the ceiling had fallen and broke onto the table. It looked a battle had taken place in the master's home. Chase wondered what disaster had taken place inside the cabin, but the one he worried about the most was his former mentor. Out of desperate hope that Bihai hasn't been harmed, Chase went further into the house as he called, "Master! Master! Where are you?!" Soon, he came across a dead and wounded body of his elderly teacher on the floor. "Master!" Chase shouted in shock at the slain man. The silver-haired man knelt down and felt his master's chest to see if his heart was still beating or if he was still breathing. The old man did neither of those; which means he was dead. "Master... no..." Chase bent his head down as he closed his eyes in grief. He had lost a beloved and respected father figure that he had trained under for many years, so in a sense it was like losing an actual father. Chase cried for a minute as tears ran down his cheeks and dripped onto Bihai's robes.

Soon after that, Chase took Bihai's body out of the cabin and laid it against the wooden wall. Then he went back inside the house and got a shovel out of the closet. He went back outside and started to dig a grave for Bihai. He stuck the shovel into the ground and then scooped out the dirt repeatedly. It was tiring work digging up the hard soil, but Chase had to do this for his master and give him a proper burial where he could rest in peace for all eternity. After the hole was dug out, Chase picked up Bihai and placed him down in the hole. He used the shovel to fill up the hole with the dirt he dug out until they were all back in place covering the keyblade master underground. Then Chase stuck his master's keyblade above his grave to show where he lied. The silverette stepped back to get a view of the whole grave and said softly, "Rest in peace, Master Bihai. You will be avenged; I'll make sure of it."

Then Chase went back inside the house and walked into Bihai's room to seek the crystal ball for answers on to who he was supposed to recruit. He found the crystal ball on the dresser and went to stand in front of it. He said to it, "Spirits of the stars, the Realm In-Between is in terrible danger. LimeX and I have failed to protect the temple and its secrets from Xander. The man has just started a Keyblade War yesterday to manipulate the worlds into fighting each other to create the X-blade. LimeX and I want to put a stop to his plan before it becomes a success. But we'll need your help in this, too. We're looking a few people who can help us defeat Xander at the Keyblade Sanctuary and end the Keyblade War before any of the nations get their hands on Kingdom Hearts. Spirits, tell me who those people are so that I can go get them to help save us all."

In response to Chase's plea, the crystal flashed with a white light before it showed an animated image of a man in black armor fighting a bunch of people at the Olympus Coliseum. Chase observed his fighting moves and saw how strong and highly skilled he was. Chase smiled as he felt impressed and thought, *'Yes, he seems worth it. I'll be sure to get his help.'* Then the crystal ball replaced the image of the armored man with a familiar blue-haired woman in Traverse Town making paper origami by the train station. Chase recognized the woman and thought, *'Wait, is that Konan?'* He hadn't seen the former temple guard for six years after she decided to retire from her duty to the Keyblade Temple. As

her friend, Chase knew that Konan's fighting skills were just as good as his, Master Bihai's, and the armor man's; if not, better than any of them. He wondered, *'I wonder how much stronger she's grown over the years since I last saw her. She'll be able to make thwarting Xander's plans easier.'*

Then another flash of light shone in the crystal ball. Chase had to shield his eyes for a bit before the light dimmed enough for him to let his guard down. The next image he saw had two people in it this time; one was a golden blonde-haired boy with blue eyes with winds swirling around him and the other was a light blue-haired girl surrounded by ice. Both of them had brilliant light shining behind them. "What's this? Why am I seeing an image of these two in the crystal?" Chase asked as he wondered why the crystal ball was telling him that these teens were also the ones he needs to recruit. Then he saw darkness on the edges of the crystal ball and the light radiating from the two teens pushing back the darkness, forcing it to retreat towards the edges until it was gone. Chase understood what the crystal ball was saying, but he was very skeptical about having these two in his team. Chase asked. "You have got to be kidding me! This isn't a joke, is it?" These 'warriors' were a little bit younger than LimeX, but did they have the same skills and strength as the temple guards? Chase and LimeX's battle together against Xander was only pure luck and if they tried to face him again without any extra help, then they would definitely lose. So, what better chance would these kids have against Xander?

The crystal ball still displayed the image of the teens to Chase as if to say that it was serious and not playing a trick on him. Chase sighed, "Oh alright, fine. I don't like this, but if it's for the good of the planet then I'll go and find them as well. Thanks for all your help." He didn't want to bring people younger than LimeX into the fight, but Chase must put his faith into the wisdom of the star spirits and trust what they say. The image vanished and the crystal ball dimmed back to its clear colorless feature. Then he summoned a portal to Traverse Town where he would seek out Konan first.

During the late night, Glacies started having that horrible nightmare about the keyblade war again. It was the same dream like yesterday, but only more vivid and realistic. Again, she saw her father getting killed and Zephyr almost suffering the same fate. "Zephyr!" Glacies screamed as she jolted up from her sleep. She puffed with terror as she was covered in cold beads of sweat. Glacies couldn't believe it; she was having that same nightmare again and she never had a dream occurring two times before until now. She thought last night's dream was only just a dream, but now for some reason she felt like it was real like it was going to happen and she thought herself crazy for it. "Just why am I having this dream and what does it mean?" she asked herself as she felt troubled by her nightmare. Then Glacies put on her clothes, went downstairs to eat breakfast, and said good-bye to her mother before she rode her glider to the castle. Her father wasn't home because he had been deployed to stop the oppressors from obtaining the power of Kingdom Hearts. After Glacies landed at the front gates, her glider reverted back into its keyblade form. Then she saw Zephyr coming up the brick stairs and smiled at him as she greeted, "Hi Zephyr, good morning!"

"Morning!" Zephyr replied.

Glacies asked, "Did you have any sweet dreams last night?"

"I did have one...." Zephyr said as he was trying to recall the dream, "Oh yeah! I dreamed that we were coming for training and that we were all under water! And then for some reason instead of keyblades we were using doorblades. Wow, I have weird dreams."

Glacies laughed, humored by Zephyr's dream, and said, "And funny ones, too!" Hearing that has cheered Glacies up and made her less troubled about her nightmare. She thought, *'I'm glad his dream was more comedic than mine was. I wouldn't like to see Zephyr feeling any bit depressed.'* Then she said, "Well we should get going. We mustn't keep the master waiting."

"Yup!" Zephyr said before he ran to the double doors with Glacies following behind him. They went inside the castle and got to the main hall.

Leohart entered right when his apprentices did, "Seeing as we are all here, let's go outside." he said leading them outside. "Today you will be practicing your heights, just be aware of any accidents and don't move too fast when going down."

"So we're like going to practice combat in really high places like the tops of the trees or in the sky?" Glacies asked as she and Zephyr followed Master Leohart out the door.

"You won't be practicing combat yet. Combat is very different on your gliders and you need to get used to all aspects of flight first," he said before sitting down at the side. "You may begin."

Both Zephyr and Glacies threw their keyblades into the air where they changed into gliders and push their armor buttons to become fully donned in their keyblade armors. Zephyr jumped and landed on his glider wobbling slightly at first. "Up," he said after gaining balance. He slowly started floating up above ground.

Glacies's glider came down to her and she hopped onto its seat and she said, "Up!" The keyblade glider ascended into the sky slowly as Glacies willed its speed. Then she started to fly it around the air above the training ground. Since she had a first-time experience with flying her keyblade glider home last night, Glacies was sure to get a bit of a hang of it around in the air. She thought, *'I guess all I need to practice are a few stunts, though not the most dangerous ones or the intermediate ones for sure.'* Glacies wanted to try out her first stunt, a barrel roll-like spin in the air. But first she needed to get used to tilting sideways and upside down first before she attempted the stunt. So Glacies told her glider, "Tilt to the left!" At her command, the keyblade glider tilted sideways in a 90 degrees angle to the left. This position was kind of scary for Glacies as she felt like her left side was about to fall down all the way down to the ground from the air while her right side felt tempted to let go and let herself fall. But Glacies held on tightly and tried to get used to this position while flying around in the air like that. *'Whatever you do, don't fall off,'* she told herself silently hoping that she wouldn't accidentally let

go of her glider out of fear. After a while of flying around sideways on her glider, Glacies became pretty much used to it that she wasn't afraid of this position any longer. She thought, *'Okay I'm getting the hang of flying around like this, so now I need to try riding upside down.'* So Glacies rotated her glider further to the left until she was completely upside-down. Now this was the scariest position Glacies has ever been on her glider. She no longer feeling weight on one side, but now this time it was her upper part of the body being pulled by gravity that she had to try to hang on to her glider more tightly than ever. And it didn't help the situation at all when the world looked a bit distortion by being upside-down in her view, which made Glacies a bit confused about how to get around like this. She thought to herself, *'Oh god, can I really fly like this? I feel like my arms and legs are about to get tired. I should just quickly--'* Then she saw a dove suddenly crossing her way. Glacies shrieked as she willed the glider to make a sharp turn to avoid the dove. But unfortunately, she had been so startled that she unintentionally made her glider run at a fast speed, which astonished her even more that Glacies had accidentally let go of her glider and started falling from the sky. The armored girl let out a frightful scream as she fell towards the ground. "Zephyr, help!"

Zephyr let out a silent gasp when he saw his friend falling. "NO GLACIES!" Zephyr yelled in fright. As he was zooming forward to save her, a portal appeared under the bluenette and swallowed her to another world. The portal then closed right afterward as Zephyr's glider came to a halt and he cried, "Glacies!" He had been too late to save her and he had no idea where she had gone.

Meanwhile in Traverse Town, Konan was kind of bored, so started playing with portals by casting them in and out; making them appear in other worlds or around her. The light-haired blunette fell out of one of the portals above and was dropped near Konan where she landed flat on the ground and uttered an "Oomph!" The armor around her disappeared before Glacies pushed herself to get up off the ground. "Oh... Where am I?" Glacies asked as she looked around at her new surroundings that were no longer the master's castle or Radiant Garden. Then she spotted Konan nearby and found out where she was. "Wait, you're Konan, aren't you? If you're here, that means I'm in Traverse Town again," Glacies said. *'I wonder if that other girl had something to do with this,'* she thought as she remembered that other girl who was her age, who sent Zephyr and her home through the portal the last time they were here. Maybe she was the one who made the portal take her to Traverse Town? It seemed like it until Glacies saw Konan creating a portal. *'Oh, she was the one who did it,'* she thought.

After Konan made her portals disappear, she looked at the younger girl and said, "Yes, I am Konan. How did you know my name?"

Glacies answered, "A friend and I bought a book on origami and we saw your picture on the back of the book. Then I saw your name on the bio summary."

Konan asked, "Is that so?"

"It is," said Glacies. Then she saw a big strange sword-like origami leaning against the wall. It had two keyblades in a crisscross formation with teeth facing outward. At the top of the keyblades was a blade. She pointed to it and asked, "Hey, what's that?"

"Do you mean this?" Konan asked as she looked at the origami she made earlier before Glacies got her. "I call this the X-blade."

"Keyblade?" Glacies asked. Due to how the words, keyblade and X-blade sounded similar, Glacies mistaken what Konan said and thought that she called the weird origami 'keyblade'. What kind of keyblade looks like that? Sure, the origami had two keyblades on it, but you only needed one keyblade to be called a keyblade.

"No, it's pronounced kye-blade. It has the Greek letter chi in it. The letter itself carries a meaning of 'death' and it spells endings," Konan explained. "I got inspired to make that origami after remembering the old forgotten legend I've heard from my keyblade master."

"Your master?" Glacies asked. Then a memory flashed in her head as she recalled something she read at the back of the origami-making book. Then she asked, "By the way, did you used to be an apprentice like me? Because it said in your biography that you used to train under a keyblade master and guard a special place before you left."

"Well, you see.... I used to be one of the guards at the temple. But I didn't see why we had to do half the stuff we did," Konan said with a slight laugh at the memory.

Glacies said, "I guess that job must have had you bored to death, huh? I don't know what it feels like to be stuck in one place guarding something all day long. But I can imagine that it's not a very fun thing at all."

Konan said, "No, not really. Must be exciting for little Ilem and Charles right now though. Unlike with them I had no attackers." She just finished folding a mini version of her keyblade.

"Attackers?" Glacies asked out of curiosity.

Konan explained, "Raiders, thieves, people who come to steal what's inside the temple."

"What's inside the temple?"

"I can't tell you. It's a very important secret that must not be heard by the ears of strangers."

"Okay, I understand," Glacies said as she decided not to question the other bluenette about it. Then suddenly, Konan's eyes widened a bit as if she saw something happen just now. Glacies noticed her staring off into space and asked, "Konan, what's wrong?"

The woman looked back at her and shook her head before saying, "Nothing, I was just thinking about something. Anyway, I think it's time I returned you back to where you were." She summoned a portal behind Glacies who screamed as she was sucked backwards into another portal. With the apprentice gone, Konan can now think aloud about the vision she just had. She said, "So the Keyblade War has finally started. It was destined to come sooner or later. But now that it has started, we must destroy the god of darkness before he turns this realm into another Realm of Darkness." Konan summoned a portal in front of her and went through it to go to another world, where she had some business to take care of first.

Chase, who had heard Konan's name, ran through the alley until he got to the train station where he saw Konan talking about the Keyblade War and then going through the portal. He said to himself, "Looks like she already knows. Well, I guess that speeds things up. Okay, now to go find the other three." He opened up a portal to the Olympus Coliseum and walked into it.

Glacies fell out and landed back at the training grounds in Radiant Garden. Glacies looked at the familiar surroundings and said, "Looks like I'm back already? Well, that was weird." Then she saw her keyblade glider descending down towards her. Glacies smiled at it and thought, *'Oh, I guess you want me to ride you again. Very well I'll do it really soon.'* But first she looked to Zephyr and Master Leohart to see if they had been worried by her sudden disappearance.

Zephyr was floating on his glider not far from the ground. Although his face was covered by his helmet to hide his expression, one could tell he was confused by the tone of his voice when he asked, "Uh.... What just... happened..?"

Glacies looked up at Zephyr and answered, "I got warped to Traverse Town. I met Konan again and we talked for a bit before she sent me back here."

Zephyr asked, "So Konan was the one who brought you there?"

Glacies answered, "Yes apparently, but I don't know why."

Leohart said to his pupils, "Let's not worry about that and continue with your training. You came back safely and that is all that matters."

Glacies looked at her master as she got up to stand on her two feet. Then she bowed to him and the apprentices simultaneously said, "Yes, master." Glacies got back on her glider and took off into the sky again. This time, she was going to avoid trying any stunts this time after what happened when she tried to practice flying upside down. So Glacies flew around above the training ground as she rode her glider in a normal rightside-up way.

Chase bought himself a ticket to the coliseum and went to sit at the spectator seats to watch the fight. The unnamed person stood quietly in the arena, facing a group of people who were to be his enemies in that round. The signal was given and the group rushed him. They outnumbered the armored man five to one, but with a few swings of his keyblade they were divided into a group of two and another group of three. Yet another swing knocked the group of two down, whereupon he was able to knock them unconscious before the others leaped on him. With a quick Aero, the opponents were knocked back. The nameless man was able to knock one out while he was in mid-air. The last two people leaped back and kept his ground, but the man pounded out a few Blizzard spells and they went down. The man turned and walked out of the arena completely unscathed after taking down five people. He didn't know why he had entered the tournament, but he had performed wonderfully in it. The man stepped out of the arena and began to loiter near the entrance. He had to wait until the next few rounds were finished and it was his turn again.

While the man walked out of the arena, Chase thought, *'This guy did pretty well in the match just now. I wonder if he can be of any help to foil Xander's plan.'* Then Chase left the spectator area to go and look for the mysterious person. Soon he got to the entrance and saw the man standing there. As Chase went up to him, he said, "That was a wonderful fight you put up back there. I've never seen anyone fight like that. You must be a really talented fighter. I could really use someone like you to stop a madman who's trying to start a war that could put us all and the worlds in danger."

"Use... Interesting choice of word," No Name said after a short pause. The man had no intention of helping, unless it benefited him or everyone greatly. Or unless this war kept him from continuing his current life, which he much enjoyed. He wondered if he should ask "Why?" or just wait to see what the man would say. The former would bring up a second question, and he didn't like to open other questions while he still had one going. The current question was "how will he act when faced with that comment?", so he decided to go with the latter and waited silently. He considered the ramifications of participating in a war and queued the question of what the war was about for later.

Chase replied, "Alright fine, I'll tell you what's going on." The silverette began to explain, "My name is Chase. Two days ago, I went to visit my former master's home and learned that he had a dream, a future prediction, in which an evil man shrouded in shadows would steal the scroll from the temple that I guard and discover the way to create the X-blade. His name is Xander and the only reason he wants the X-blade to get to Kingdom Hearts is so that he can gain ultimate power and use to bring all the worlds in existence under his complete control and send massive amounts of darkness everywhere. He's trying to start the Keyblade War and he's getting candidates from all over the universe for the creation of the X-blade. If he gets this and opens up Kingdom Hearts, then it's all over for us. That's why I'm asking for your help to join my team and try to stop Xander before all this mess happens." It was a mouthful saying all these words, but hopefully it'll be enough to get the unnamed man on his side.

The unnamed man pointed out, "Wouldn't more fighting increase the chance of the X-blade being created?" Chase was about to say that they weren't going to fight the soldiers, but only go after Xander. But before Chase could tell him, No Name said, "I'll do it, for the good of all." Since this cause met one of his three requirements for his acceptance, once he learned it would that balance would maintain. He momentarily considered supporting the other side, but decided it was more logical to pick the more balance-sided side. He strolled over to a clearing and turned back. He asked, "Where to?"

Glad at having recruited the stranger's help, Chase said, "We have to pick up a couple more fighters before we meet up with a partner of mine. She's keeping an eye on the Keyblade War until I come back to her with a team. Of course, I got to find out where they're at first before we leave." He summoned one portal after another to find the two teens from the crystal ball. It didn't take too long when he summoned a fourth and found the light-haired bluenette and an armored boy riding their keyblade gliders. Chase said, "There they are! I guess the one in the armor must be the blonde. Alright, let's go and meet them." They went through the portal and ended up in Radiant Garden where they stood on top of the wall surrounding the training ground.

The world of Radiant Garden was bright, beautiful, and had a friendly feel to it. The unnamed man disliked this, because it just felt wrong to him. He preferred darker and modest places. He looked at the apprentices flying around on their gliders and waited for Chase to recruit them, so that he could get out of this place.

As Glacies was making some sharp turns in the sky, she looked to Zephyr and asked, "Hey Zephyr, are you getting used to flying around in the sky?" Chase watched the two riders as he waited for his chance to get in and talk to them.

While gliding around Zephyr replied, "Yup! We can do that race now if you want."

Glacies smiled as she was happy to accept the challenge and said, "Great! Let's race over to the theater and then back here. First one to return home wins! Are you ready? Because I'm up for it now."

Chase heard the girl calling the armored boy, Zephyr, and pondered his thoughts on the name, *'Zephyr, that name means the soft gentle breeze like those winds I saw in the crystal ball. Plus, he's with one of the chosen ones up there. But his armor hides his appearance, so I wouldn't know if he truly is the other one. There's only one way to find out.'* He was thinking about waiting for Zephyr to get done flying around so that hopefully he may unmask himself.

Leohart looked over and saw Chase sitting on the wall. Curious as to who he was and why he was intruding into the castle he went up to the wall and looked up at young man and asked, "How may I help you?"

No Name looked down at Leohart. Judging solely by his robes, the man assumed he was a master, and would likely be a threat. Wanting to ensure Chase's security, he stood by the silverette's side and lifted

his keyblade in preparation to strike in case of hostility. No Name tensed himself, preparing for the quick reaction that a master would have.

Chase looked down at Leohart and replied, "Well sir, I hope you don't mind if I interrupt your students' training, but may I have a word with your apprentices? It's very important."

Leohart said, "Hmm... You are one of the guards if I am correct." He had heard of the keyblade temple guards before.

Chase looked at the master with an impressed smile and said, "That's right, I'm Chase the light temple guard. I'm flattered you know what my occupation is, even though we've never met before."

Leohart said, "Well I've heard about you from an old friend of mine. He says that you and your partner are very excellent fighters, good at keeping intruders out of the temple."

Chase said, "Gee, I never knew Master Bihai had friends in Radiant Garden."

Leohart said, "Well anyway, you needed to talk to my apprentices, correct? I shall bring them down here." Then he called his apprentices, "Zephyr, Glacies come here."

Zephyr had been counting to three to start the way, when his master called him. "Coming!" he said before they flew down to the ground and got off their gliders.

Chase jumped off the wall and landed by the apprentices, startling them as he landed. He was soon followed by the nameless man who came down as well. "Who are you?" Zephyr asked them both.

Chase made a greeting smile at them and said, "My name is Chase and you two must be Zephyr and Glacies, right? Zephyr, can I see what you look like underneath that armor of yours?" He had to make sure Zephyr looked exactly like the blonde boy on the crystal ball of oracles.

Glacies looked at Chase first before she looked to the unnamed stranger and thought, *'It's him again. The man from Traverse Town. Maybe I should say 'hi' to him.'* So Glacies formed a friendly smile on her face and waved as she greeted the stranger, "Hi!" No Name ignored her and all Glacies got was uninterested silence. Glacies huffed and thought, *'I try to be nice and all I get in return is no response. He could have at least smile or say 'hi' back.'*

"Umm... okay..." Zephyr said slightly confused but he took his helmet off anyway.

Chase found him to match the exact face he was looking for and said, "I knew it. You're also one of the ones I need to stop Xander."

Glacies turned to look at him as she asked, "Huh?" Glacies wondered what Chase was talking about.

The blonde boy asked, "What are you talking about?"

Chase looked at the apprentices and said, "Zephyr, Glacies, we need your help." Then he looked at their teacher and continued, "And maybe yours, too." Given the fact that the Leohart was a keyblade master, the chosen ones' mentor, and Master Bihai's friend, Chase figured that it would be okay to have one more extra help on the team, even if he wasn't chosen by the crystal ball. He told them all, "We have a major crisis on our hands."

Glacies asked, "What kind of crisis?"

Chase explained, "There's this evil brute named Xander, who just found a way to create the X-blade after successfully raiding the temple I've sworn to guard and never let anyone inside."

"Who's Xander?" Glacies asked. She may have seen him at Traverse Town and Radiant Garden, but she never heard his name.

Chase explained, "He's a man who told people everywhere about the X-blade and Kingdom Hearts, so they will all meet up at the Keyblade Sanctuary and fight in the Keyblade War where everyone will be fighting and killing each other for their greed over the X-blade."

Glacies had a stern look on her face and wondered, *'Keyblade War, why does this sound familiar like that dream I had?'* Then it hit her, Glacies's dreams may have been foreshadowing the events of the Keyblade War. She cried out, "Oh my gosh, that sounds like my dream!"

Chase looked at her as he hummed, "Hmm?"

"I had a dream or rather a nightmare," Glacies confessed. Then she explained, "I had it last night and the night before. Both dreams were the same thing. In them, there were several people fighting each other with keyblades. They were all killing each other in a brutal fight over the X-blade, if it's similar to your story. One of the victims I recognized was my dad. Zephyr was about to be the next one killed, but I never saw what happened to him because I woke up in shock before my dream would even finish."

Chase, who listened to the whole story, said, "That must be prophetic dreams you were having. Dreams like these can predict the future of what's to come. Sometimes they come true and sometimes not. It's a rare magical power that a few people are born with. Glacies, if you're willing to stop this dream from ever coming true, then you'll need to help us. If you do, then chances are your father will be saved from their impending dooms in the Keyblade War."

Glacies looked at Chase with a worried frown and asked, "Chances?" She didn't like the sound of that. It gave the impression that her loved one might not come back alive and that she may lose him forever.

Chase told her, "There's no guarantee that he will be saved. Your dream may come true if we don't stop Xander and everybody else first."

Glacies said with determination, "Then in that case, I'm ready to do whatever it takes to stop Xander. I don't want him getting thousands of innocents killed because he wants the X-blade for himself. I'm not going to let the Keyblade War happen and make my nightmare come true." Then she looked at Zephyr and placed both hands on his shoulders as she said, "Zephyr, in case the Keyblade War does happen, will stick close to my side the whole time? I don't want us to be too far apart where I can't protect you. You've been my closest friend ever since we both started our training under Master Leohart. I don't want to lose you. Because if I did, I would be very upset and sad for weeks. Zephyr, you're like a..." She stopped herself as she tried to find the right words for it. Chase raised his eyebrow at her in curiosity about what Glacies was about to say.

The blonde boy smiled and said reassuringly, "Well we are a good team, why would I leave you?"

Glacies smiled with happiness and love for her friend and she hugged tightly with warm feelings as she said, "Thank you, Zephyr! I hope you stay with me always."

Chase made a heart-felt smile as he looked Glacies and thought, *'That girl must really like him. It's like she's got a strong friendship or something more than that.'*

Leohart frowned slightly, "They may go only under a few conditions. They notify their parents that they will be doing something dangerous and that I go with them."

Chase nodded to him and said, "Good idea, you go with them and do that. While we wait here for you." Glacies let go of Zephyr and walked with them out of the training ground. Once the three were out of sight, Chase took out his speak mirror, which was rectangle-shaped and small with black edges, and made an image of LimeX appear on it. Chase looked at LimeX on the speak mirror and asked, "LimeX, I've got the perfect team needed to take down Xander. What's the situation on the Keyblade War? The X-blade hasn't been made yet, has it?"

LimeX's face appeared onto the mirror with a bleak expression. "Nothing much, but the X-blade hasn't been made. I will hand it to that guy; he knows how to convince the whole world to fight each other. Unless you have a team that can take down thousands from both sides, I don't think we have much chance." She tilted her mirror and showed him warriors from all worlds fighting and killing each other. Men stabbed one another and bodies disintegrated into particles of light. While others were breaking skulls with their keyblades and killing with their fighting spells. Not even the lush flora abundant in the world were spared as they got damaged in the crossfire. The brutish scenes of bloodshed gave Chase some distressing feels. The mirror went back to LimeX's face and she sighed, "I don't know Chase. If you think your team can stop this, then I'll let you try. But you have to admit it looks bleak."

The silverette said to her, "We'll give this a shot, LimeX. We'll be there soon to stop anyone from getting

the X-blade, but first I need to wait for Zephyr and Glacies to get back. They're going to be telling their parents that they'll be risking their lives to stop Xander. In the meantime, I need you to keep an eye on the battle and see if anything has happened."

"Got it," LimeX responded. Then the image on the mirror disappeared and Chase put it back in his pocket.

As Leohart and his apprentices walked away from the castle, Glacies asked him, "So Master Leohart, whose house are we going to first?"

Zephyr stated for his master, "Well Glacies, your house is closer and at least one of your parents is home."

Glacies said, "Yeah, you're right. I guess we should go there first." Then the girl suddenly felt worried as she wondered how she was going to tell her ill mother that she was going along with the others to risk their lives to fight a dangerous man named Xander, the Keyblade War, and foil his plans. No doubt her mother was going to worry, fret, and be scared about her daughter getting into a mission that might take her life. And all this stress was not going to be good for her mother. She thought, *'But if I tell her that Zephyr, Master Leohart, and three well-trained fighters will be there to help me, and that Chase's omen says that Zephyr and I will be able to take Xander down, she'll worry less. Besides I'm a trained-fighter myself, I won't go down that easily.'* They got to her house and Glacies opened the door and went inside. They went up the stairs and said to Zephyr and Leohart, "My mom is having an illness and she's probably resting in her bed. So just in case she's sleeping, please try not to make too much noise, alright?"

Both males nodded and Zephyr said, "Got it."

Leohart promised, "I understand. We'll be quiet as we can."

Then they walked to the door to Glacies mother's room and she opened it slowly to see her mother lying in bed. Luckily, the woman was awake and watching some soap opera, so Glacies didn't have to worry about disturbing her mother's nap. The mother turned her head to see Glacies at the door and said, "Glacies, you're home early. Did something happen?"

The girl answered, "Well yes mom, some guy named Chase came over to the castle today to tell us about a man named Xander trying to get all the people from all of the worlds to fight each other to create an X-blade. Chase says that Zephyr and I are needed to go with him to stop Xander before the keyblade war starts. So Master Leohart, Zephyr, and I came to our house to tell you that we're going to be leaving with Chase and his friends to go stop Xander. Master Leohart can give you the details about what we're going to be facing." She stepped into the room to let Leohart and Zephyr in. The mother

coughed a couple times as she looked at the two, but more prominently Leohart.

Leohart stepped into the room and began speaking immediately, "Hello, I hope you are feeling well today. This young boy Chase is one of the temple guards at the temple of the Keyblade. Xander is trying to make Kingdom Hearts appear for his own power. In his hunger for power, he is extremely dangerous and must be stopped at all cost. I assure you that your daughter will be under strict super vision at all times and we will still resume our training whenever possible."

Master Leohart told the mother that Xander was an extremely dangerous man who hungered for power and Kingdom Hearts. Glacies's mom had a deeply worried look on her face when she heard that part, as she feared she might lose her daughter, who was her only child. Then Leohart assured her that Glacies will be under strict super vision at all times and that they'll resume training whenever possible. Glacies took her mother's hand and said, "Don't worry, mom; I'll be fine. Besides, I've been trained by Master Leohart for years and we'll have Chase and another fighter with us as well. I'll make it back in one piece, I promise. Just believe in me, that we'll be alright and that Xander won't beat us, okay?"

The mother was uneasy about it at first, but then she started to have faith in her daughter and said, "Alright, I take your word for it. But please try not to do anything reckless, alright dear?"

Glacies nodded and said, "I promise, mom."

Then the mother looked at the other two and said, "Zephyr, Master Leohart, please protect my daughter." Then she coughed again.

Leohart stated, "It is my job as their master, I would be doing poorly if I didn't do otherwise." Then he looked to the blonde and said, "Zephyr, we must go to your house now and we must be quick about it."

Zephyr said, "Okay, I'll go meet you guys downstairs." Then he went downstairs to the front door.

Glacies kissed her mother's forehead and said, "Bye mom, I'll come back soon."

The mother smiled and said, "I know you will, dear."

Leohart looked back at Glacies's mother and said, "Goodbye." The woman replied goodbye to him before Leohart and Glacies went downstairs to meet Zephyr. The master led his apprentices out of the house.

They walked for a few minutes until they reached Zephyr's house. Zephyr opened the door and entered in as he called, "Hello?" There was silence for about a minute as no voice or footsteps responded to him. "Should have known," he sighed. "No one's home, so we have to leave a note or something."

Leohart asked, "Shouldn't your parents be coming home at some time?"

"Yeah... if we want to wait till around midnight," Zephyr stated. "They're almost never home, always at work."

"Maybe you can call them now on a phone and talk to them," Glacies suggested to Zephyr as she pointed to the black candlestick telephone sitting on the stand.

Zephyr told her, "They'd just ignore it saying that they're too 'busy' to talk right now. My parents aren't like yours; they care for you when mine just leave food in the house and assume everything is fine."

Glacies felt pity and sympathy for Zephyr as she said softly, "You poor guy." Then she had an idea and asked, "I guess that means I should spend more time with you to make up for all the lost time you have with your parents. Hey, after we kick Xander's butt and stop the Keyblade War, can we have a sleepover at your house?" That way, Zephyr won't be alone at his house while his parents were away.

"Well... I'm not completely alone," the blonde said before leaving to go to another room. After a few seconds, he came back in carrying an old cat and said, "Marlow's here too." He set Marlow down and she stretched, arching her back and her paws stretching out across the floor. She looked curiously at the newcomers and walked over to them letting out a small meow.

Leohart looked down at the silver tabby, "So you have some company at least."

Glacies looked at the cat that Zephyr was holding in his arms and smiled with fondness at the animal as cats were one of her favorite creatures. Glacies bent on her knees, so that she could get down to the cat and pet it as she said, "Aww, she looks so cute, Zephyr! Where did you get her?"

Zephyr said, "We had her for as long as I can remember. All she really does now is sleep and eat."

"I guess that means she's getting old now, huh?" Glacies said to Zephyr as she looked at the cat.

"Yup!" the blonde apprentice said going to a drawer and taking out a note pad and a pen and gave them to Master Leohart. He told him, "It would be best if you wrote the note, then they would believe it."

Leohart nodded taking the notepad and the pen. He began to write about what they were going to be doing and gave it back to Zephyr who placed it on the counter, "We should get going now."

'Right,' Glacies thought. Then the three of them walked out of the house together and went back to the castle. Once they returned to where Chase and the unnamed man were at the training ground, the temple guard had a serious expression on his face that told something bad must have happened. Whatever it was, Glacies had a feeling that she didn't want to find out.

He got off the bench he was sitting on and stood up as he said, "Bad news, everyone. My partner LimeX

has just told me that the keyblade war is getting more intense. At this rate, it'll be soon before the X-blade gets made if we don't stop this quickly."

Glacies's mouth dropped open with shock and she cried, "What?!" Then after a few moments, she looked down at the ground with a distraught look on her face and murmured, "Noo..." She now thought it might be too late to save her dad.

Zephyr moved over to his friend and put a comforting arm around her shoulder and told her, "Glacies, it will be all right. We just need to get there as fast as possible. We can't be weak; we need to prevent that from happening to everyone else."

"He's right," Chase said to her. "Like I said, prophetic dreams don't always come true. They only tell the possible events in the future. It's not too late to save your father, trust me."

Glacies looked to Zephyr and Chase as she tried to make up her mind whether to give up or not. The determined looks on their faces made the decision for her and she started to cheer up a bit as she said, "Right, we need to keep my dream from coming true. If I don't try now, I'll always regret it for the rest of my life. Chase, please take us to the Keyblade Sanctuary now."

Chase said, "I will, but first we need to discuss our strategies before we head out and fight. No use going unprepared for what's to come. I'll need to bring LimeX in as well, so she can hear this, too." Then he looked at the speak mirror and said, "LimeX, can you meet us here right now? We're going to discuss our plans for taking out Xander and keeping the X-blade from being forged."

LimeX appeared from the shadows, grinning and said, "I'm already here. And I'm already keeping into this plan of yours, but whether it works."

Glacies and Zephyr were surprised to see LimeX coming out hiding, while Chase, No Name, and Leohart were all calm and composed as this happens every day. The silverette thought, *'That's LimeX for you. Always full of surprises.'*

The caped girl shrugged and said, "I am called the Dark Blade for a reason. My blade is only one. But then again, I see the hopeless solution and prepare for the worst. So, I will be pleasantly surprised if this war ends soon before the worst moment."

Chase looked at everyone and said, "Alright, now that we're all here. I'd like to discuss not only the plan to stop the X-blade from being forged, but also everything about Xander. We'll discuss the latter first." Chase took out the silver bangle, from the house he had been in, to show to everyone and said, "Do you all see the bangle I'm holding right now?" Everybody nodded their heads to show that they were paying attention to it. Chase explained his strategy to defeat Xander, "Good. Now this bangle here may not look like the ones our enemy wears, but I will use this as an example to tell you how Xander's bangles work. They're not your ordinary everyday-bangles, they're some kind of magic-infused accessories that

suppress Xander's power whenever he wears them. I'm not totally sure why he would wear things like that in the first place. But whenever Xander takes one of these bangles off, his speed and reaction timing becomes faster and his strength grows in power too; thus, making him a more formidable foe. He had two of them off when he injured me badly and took off all four to knock me out cold before he ran off with the scroll. I don't know how many more he has left, but if the battle starts to become too difficult for him, that's when he'll take one of them off and turn the tables against us. If he takes all of them off, then we may most likely lose the battle against him. What we need to do to keep him weak, is to have a few of us fight and distract him while one of us sneaks in and snap the bangles back onto him, so that he'll weaken once again. Every time he takes a bangle off, put it back onto him. We keep fighting him on like this until he's dead, got it?"

"Yep!" Zephyr answered.

Glacies replied, "I hear you loud and clear." Everybody else just nodded.

Then Chase continued his info about Xander, "Good. And now for his fighting style. Xander doesn't just use his keyblade to attack with. He'll also throw in kicks and punches as well to attack one person on one side and the other guy on the other side, or he could attack you in two places at once." He remembered the unpleasant memory of how Xander swung his keyblade at Chase, which got blocked, while he swung his foot up to kick Chase in the nuts.

Glacies asked, "Okay so if Xander's going to be using martial arts plus his keyblade to attack us at the same time, how are we supposed to get the bangle back onto him without being hit?"

Chase answered, "They say attacks always leave an opening. So when that happens, quickly get to Xander before he recovers. And I mean 'quickly', because his reflexes are fast like a mongoose's with the bangle off."

Glacies said, "Okay, I understand."

Chase said, "Good. Now here's one more thing about Xander before we move to discuss what to do in the midst of the war. Xander's commands are Aerial Sweep, Stun Impact, and the most dangerous, Slow."

Glacies gulped with nervousness at the mention of slow as she knew how this was going to affect the fight with Xander, "Oh boy, that can't be good."

Chase grimly shook his head and replied, "It isn't. Because when he uses that spell, our speed will become slow and Xander, as fast as he is now, will get all of his hits on us before we even block or dodge, while he can easily evade and block us."

Glacies frowned and thought sarcastically, *'Thanks for putting chills down my spine, Chase.'* Just when

she was determined to save her dad, friends, and the world, Chase had to go and make Xander sound more difficult than she imagined him to be.

Chase said to everyone, "That's all I can say about Xander now. I hope you all remember what I told you about him, because you'll need that knowledge to survive when we fight him."

"Understood," Leohart said.

Chase said, "Alright, now I'll tell you what we'll do amidst the chaos, while look for Xander." Then he looked at the blunette briefly and continued, "And save Glacies's father." He turned his attention back to everyone said, "As we know, there will be people of both light and dark affinity fighting in the war. If one who has a strong light affinity fights the other who has a strong dark affinity, then a piece of the X-blade from each of them will be created. When enough of these pieces gather, the X-blade will be forged. Some of us may be one of those and we don't even know it. So to prevent the X-blade from being created, we must avoid getting into fights with those of our opposite affinity. So light must avoid darkness, while darkness must avoid light. You may fight those of the same element as you, but don't stick around for too long, because Xander is our main priority. Got it?" Everyone nodded in response. "I'm glad you all understand. This will be one of the most dangerous situations we've run into in our entire lives and there's a possibility that you might die in this war. Because of that, I'll be held responsible for each and all of your lives, since I'm the one who brought you guys into this. Now before we all go to the Keyblade Sanctuary, does anyone have any questions, you'd like to ask?" Chase said. LimeX raised her hand and the light temple guard asked, "Yes, LimeX?"

LimeX walked forward, grabbed Chase, and pinned him against the ground as easy as if she was swatting a fly. She glared right into his eyes and began to talk, "Listen here. What you are doing is not right. I cannot see how you can be so blind. You are sending kids into a battle where they could very well be killed with no whims on how it could affect them. They haven't even finished training and you expect them to because you saw them in the crystal? What if the crystal was warning you of them?"

Chase asked, "Look, I didn't like the crystal's idea either, LimeX. But what choice did I have? Master Bihai always taught us to trust the wisdom of the stars inside the crystal ball. Besides if the crystal was warning me, why did it show them banishing away the darkness?"

Then LimeX leaned in closer and turned her voice into a whisper that only Chase could hear, "Now you listen and listen carefully. I have a better idea; I pretend to betray you guys and defect over to Xander's side. You and I will fight each other to convince Xander of my loyalty to him and then when the X-blade gets created, I go and get the X-blade and use it to destroy Xander and chase all the armies back to their countries. As for the other fighters, just have them go and rescue that girl's dad and then leave the fight."

Chase pointed out quietly, "I don't think this will work, LimeX. There are too many flaws with that idea of yours. First of all, what if he casts Slow and he gets the X-blade first? Second, if that traitor act doesn't

work, then the two of us can't handle him alone. You did say that our fight with Xander was a fluke. And thirdly, going against the crystal ball's solution isn't exactly a bright idea, LimeX. There will be consequences if you do so."

LimeX insisted, "I don't care. You have to trust me on this one, Chase. I know what I'm doing."

"But LimeX—Gah!" Chase tried to talk her out of the illogical plan, but LimeX started choking him with her hands squeezed around his neck.

"Just do it!" she snarled in a hush voice.

"Fine... But remember... this is all... on you... if it... doesn't... work out..." Chase said through his struggle to get the words out of his squeezed throat. After having won in the argument, LimeX let go of Chase and she stood back up before walking back into the shadows.

Chase got up and looked at everyone before saying, "Guys, there's been a sudden change of plan. Only LimeX will fight Xander." Then Chase looked at the unnamed man very briefly and thought quickly about what he should do with him. Chase could sense his affinity with darkness, while Master Leohart and his students were all of light affinity. They could use the stranger to help them, if they ever run into those of the dark side. He said to them, "While the rest of you can just go and rescue Glacies's father and get him far away from the battlefield. We'll meet up with you outside of the battlefield after we've taken care of Xander."

Zephyr asked, "Wait, how exactly are only the two of you going to take on Xander by yourself? What if he takes off all of his bangles?" He was doubtful of this new plan.

No Name asked, "Why did you change the plan? The first one sounded good and now you want to put yourself at a disadvantage like this?" Even Glacies and Leohart were skeptical.

"I don't know; LimeX wants us to trust her on this. And don't worry, we'll find a way to handle Xander," Chase told them. Then he looked to the flash of the portal and saw LimeX going through it. Once she was gone, Chase looked back to the others and said, "Okay, now that LimeX is gone. I can tell you my version of her plan without her throwing a hissy fit at me. Instead of meeting me outside the battlefield, you're all going to help us fight Xander, if the X-blade hasn't shown up. But if the X-blade does show up, then you all go after the X-blade while LimeX and I keep Xander at bay to prevent him from getting to it. Anyway, if you see LimeX and I fighting each other, it's because that's part of her plan. She wants to look like she's on Xander's side. For what reason she wants this, I don't know and frankly I'm skeptical of how that's going to work out, especially should Xander go and help her finish me off. I just hope LimeX manages to talk him into letting her fight me alone."

Master Leohart suggested, "Well in that case, maybe you should have one of us stand by you in secret and intervene, if things become too much of a hassle for you."

Chase declined, "Thanks, but no. If one of you guys help me out, then that'll leave less strength for the rescue team to save Glacies's father." Briefly looking to No Name, the silverette continued, "This guy, whatever his name is, is the only one of darkness affinity to fight off the dark-type keybladers. Pitting dark against light is too risky in this war." Then he looked at Glacies and Zephyr, "These apprentices here are most-likely not strong enough to help me take down Xander and LimeX together if it's one of them going alone." Finally, he looked at Leohart and said, "And you, you're their master. It's your job to make sure they are safe. Besides, I have another member of our team coming her way to the Keyblade Sanctuary. Her name is Konan. She has blue hair and wears black robes with red clouds on them. She's a stronger fighter than LimeX and I. She'll be able to help me if LimeX's traitor idea doesn't work."

Glacies said, "Konan?! You mean the lady from Traver-" She stopped herself when she quickly remembered that Leohart must not know their secret. "I mean from a book about origami written by her. Zephyr and I read her profile."

Chase smiled and said, "I see, I guess that makes the job a bit easier. Okay, if you see Konan, tell her to look for Chase the temple guard who's fighting LimeX and Xander and hide until she's needed. Xander is a muscular man with red-blond hair and wears shades, an open black leather jacket with a maroon shirt, dark blue jeans, and a skull pin. That's what he looks like for you to identify. Keep that in mind, you're off looking for him."

After everybody nodded and said their okays, Chase said, "Come on, we should get going now." Then he created a portal to the Keyblade Sanctuary and everybody went through it.

LimeX appeared on the battle scene. She called her blade and stood on the highest tree, scouring for her target. She growled and gazed around, looking for the obvious signs of Xander. Chase didn't know her motives. Her motive was to survive. Chase seemed to think they could win. But she was a dark user; she had seen what no one else did. She had seen the power hidden behind the evil man. Never had LimeX been scared, but this was very close to being the first time.