

"Mister Chase... Mister Chase... Wake up!"

Chase opened his eyes as he felt the rough nudges shaking against his skin and clothes as well as the blanket above them. He looked to the young offender standing beside him, seeing that enthusiastic smile on his face. "Kumo?" the man mumbled.

The boy told him, "It's morning, Mister Chase. You got to go downstairs and make me breakfast."

The man replied, "Alright fine, I'll meet you at the kitchen. Oh and for the record, it's Master Chase not Mister Chase. You got to learn to get it right." Yesterday, Chase had taught this kid the title he should address to his mentor and any other keyblade masters he saw. It seems like Kumo was still getting used to it.

"Okay master." Kumo bounded out of the bedroom and left for the dining room, where he would wait for his meal. Chase let out a yawn with warmth hanging in his chest for a bit. He took the bed's blanket off of him and put a corner of it to the side. He rose and turned to get off the bed, catching a glance of the tome on the dresser next to the crystal ball. Last night, the man had taken the tome to his room to read more of it. He learned that in the next generation there will be 14 Princesses of Heart, 7 of them naturally born with hearts of pure light and another 7 with hearts of pure darkness. The Princesses, upon natural death, can reincarnate in the next life. They were generally female most of the time with a very rare occasion of males being born. These Princesses exist to keep the balance that will hold the worlds of the Realm Between in its place. Should any of them be killed, then the balance will be upset and depending on the slain Princess, the worlds will be drawn towards the realm with the opposite element. Should all the Princesses of one element be killed, then worlds in realm opposite of their element will become devoid of sentient life, which would affect the universe. It seems like protecting the Princesses was another eternal job for the keyblade masters to do. The man went to his dresser and took out some clothes to change into after get out of his pajamas. Now dressed in his attire, he left his room and went through the long hallway to get to the east wing of the castle. There, he got to the kitchen where Kumo was holding a whole body of salted chicken he had taken out of a bag in the corner. Chase had bought some food when he was visiting his home world. The Land of Departure was practically devoid of any edibles when he first came here. The boy pointed to the meat and told, "I want this for breakfast!"

The man grinned in amusement, "Normally Kumo, we only eat that for dinner. But if you really want it, then we can make this exception for today." Looks like the meals were going to be reversed today; dinner for breakfast and breakfast for dinner.

The boy replied, "Yes I want it."

Chase took the chicken out of Kumo's hand and went to the counter. He took a big sharp knife out of the drawer and cut the wings and drumsticks off the chicken. Then he took them to the big fireplace and ran the spit through the pieces before he set the spit on its holders. He picked up some firewood and placed

it below the chicken. Then he took a fire striker, a flint, a char cloth and a bundle of tow. He armed one of his hands with the fire striker and held the flint pressed onto the char cloth in the other. The man struck the flint's sharp edge with the flat of the fire striker a few times, emitting orange sparks with each strike. Eventually, one of the sparks hit the char cloth and a tiny little flame appeared on it. Chase blew on it gently to let the fire grow before he transferred it to the tow and blew on it, where the flames became bigger upon contact. The ignited tow was then placed onto the firewood and blown on for the last time to create a bigger flame for cooking. With the fireplace set, Chase went to the spit's handle and began to let the chicken pieces cook. He put the chicken's limbless body back in the bag before he returned to the fireplace. Occasionally he would turn the handle to let other sides of the meats cook once one side of them was brown enough. Once the whole things were brown all over, the man took the bucket of water and poured some of it onto the firewood, dousing the flames and letting steam rise out above the meats. He got out a couple of plates from the cupboard and put them on the counter. He then put on oven mitts and took the pieces off the spit before putting them on the plates.

Chase took the plates to the dining room where he found Kumo sitting at one of the chairs surrounding the long dining table. The kid was playing with his toy soldiers to pass the time. The man smiled at him and exclaimed, "Kumo, breakfast's ready!"

The boy looked at the plates hungrily and beamed, "Oh boy, I can't wait to eat!" The master placed one of the plates in front of Kumo and the boy started with the drumstick to eat. Chase took his seat across him and ate from the other plate. After their breakfast was over, only bones were left on the plate. Kumo started to ask, "So Master Chase, what are we doing today?"

Chase told him, "Oh we're just going to practice the same moves I taught you yesterday and even do a few exercises as well."

"Exercises?" asked Kumo curiously.

"Yes that. It's basically, push-ups, jogging and wrestling. I'll show you what they are later. Then after that, we're going to pay a visit to my old comrades."

"Comrades? Are they like friends?"

"In a way, yes," Chase answered. "They have a girl with them who's like you. Doesn't know where she's from. I'm sure you'll get along with them."

"I hope they're nice people."

"I'm sure they are," said Chase. He took up the plates and took them back to the kitchen to put the bones in the tin rubbish bin.

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"Today my students, you're going to learn how to fight with your keyblade gliders," Master Leohart told them. Zephyr and Glacies were eager to learn this. Last time they were in a battle with their gliders, they were not able to fight on them. But now when another event like this occurs, they will be able to fend for themselves and protect others. The man looked to the youngest girl and told him, "Hitomi, you do not have your glider yet, so you need not participate in this." To the teens, he continued, "Anyway, I need you both to transform your keyblades for this." The apprentices threw their keyblades high into the air where they spun and glowed until they transformed into gliders. After their gliders descended softly, Leohart explained, "Now about your gliders, you can mainly use their bodies to attack your foes by slamming into them. Give this a try on the dummies over there." He pointed to the group of dummies spaced away from each other.

The teens got on their gliders and sped towards the dummies. Zephyr hit one with the edge of his glider and kept zooming on, while Glacies hit the other with the front. The collision abruptly halted her glider which nearly threw the girl off and made her heart jump. "Ah!" she cried from the impact.

Leohart noted, "I should mention to take care not to hit the dummies' poles as they are sturdier than the rest."

The bluenette gritted her teeth, still shaken by the crash, as she thought, *'Geez, now you're telling me.'*

The master continued, "Luckily, such collisions with anything can't harm your gliders. So it's only yourself you have to worry about. Now try again, Glacies, and this time hit anywhere but the poles." Glacies reversed away from the dummy and sped towards the next one. This time, she was able to hit a dummy without any crashes. Leohart went to inspect the attacked dummies. He saw a dent on each other with the largest one being on the dummy that had been crashed into. "Very good, my apprentices. Now we can get to the next move, attacking from poles, trees and other similar structures."

The apprentices stopped their gliders to listen. Zephyr asked, "Attacking from them, how do we do that?"

Leohart turned his keyblade into a glider and said, "Observe." He got into it and drove towards a tree. He created a round barrier around himself, which summoned a ball of light that shot it towards a tree, forming a yellow energy beam rope that connected his glider to the tree. The man used that rope to spin circles around the tree before he released the rope, letting it disappear, and spun his glider rapidly towards a dummy and breaking it.

"Whoa!" the teens sounded, amazed by how strong that attack was compared to what they just did. Hitomi herself was also interested by the glider's ability and how it spun like a top.

Leohart stopped spinning and explained, "What I just did was summon the power to create the beam rope and fly around the tree. This gives a wide range for attacking enemies around you. And what I did

next allows for both mobility and attacking all around, but that move itself is very short ranged." To the boy, he told, "I want you two to practice what I did. Glacies you go first."

"Alright," Glacies replied. She flew towards the tree and channeled her power, thinking about connecting her glider to the tree. The barrier and rope appeared, and immediately, Glacies began to glide around the tree in circles. The girl smiled, glad that she pulled it off perfectly. *'Wow, this feels amazing. And it feels fun doing, too! I can feel the wind on me.'* She also appreciated how fast the world was turning in her view. It was like riding something faster than a horse, which can be accurately said for a keyblade glider. After she had enough going around, the girl waited for the right timing to hit the dummies before she dispelled the rope & barrier and spun rapidly towards the objects. The world spun much faster than how she went around the tree. "Whoa-oa-oa!" she cried, feeling how disorienting this was as her glider touched a dummy and broke it. She soon managed to get a hold of herself and got the glider to stop moving. She held the side of her head as she felt the dizziness plaguing her eyes.

Leohart told her, "You'll get used to it eventually." Then he looked to the boy and told him, "Zephyr, you're up."

"On it," Zephyr replied and he went to the tree, doing the same thing the others had did. When he got to the second part, he spun towards a dummy and broke it. What happened afterwards was different. Zephyr continued to spin, but this time a small tornado had formed around him. The wind blew away the debris of the broken dummies. Glacies dropped her mouth open in surprise at this unusual attack, while Hitomi looked at the scene curiously.

After the boy stopped, Glacies rode to him and asked, "Zephyr, that tornado thing. How did you do that?"

Zephyr answered, "Well uh...it just kind of came to me. I was like getting the feel of my glider and the idea just popped into my head. Er...does that answer your question?"

*'Not really,'* the bluenette thought.

They heard Leohart say, "It seems like Zephyr just discovered his glider's special power."

The apprentices looked to their master as Glacies asked, "Special power?"

The man explained, "Each glider also has their unique ability according to their form. Mine for example, I can rush through the air at the enemy endlessly without stopping. I don't know what your glider can do, Glacies, so it's up to you to find out its technique."

Glacies asked, "How can I do that?"

Leohart answered, "Look at your glider. See what else it was designed for."

"Okay, I think I'll do that now." The girl landed her glider on the ground and got off it. She walked all around it, studying its shape and design. But nothing came to her mind as to what else she could make her glider do. She thought, *'I guess my glider has no special ability.'*

Zephyr asked, "So Glacies, figured out what your glider does yet?"

The girl shook her head, "No, it's just not coming to me. I guess I'll have to find out later." That is if she ever will.

Leohart told her, "Your keyblade glider does indeed have an ability and I will have to help you find it. But for now, it's time for you to take a break. Now everyone, go and rest yourselves."

Zephyr smiled, "Great! I've been waiting for this."

As they all dismissed their gliders, Glacies asked her friend, "Well you certainly seem excited. What you got planned, Zeph?"

The boy answered, "I brought some snacks for us. I'm going to share them with you and Hitomi."

The bluenette got interested, "Ooh, what kind?"

Zephyr answered, "Chips, cookies, pretzels, you name 'em. I got a bag of them sitting at the corner just by the door. We'll eat them in front of the castle."

Glacies smiled, "That's so nice of you, Zephyr!" She looked to the child and asked, "Hitomi, Zephyr's brought snacks for us. Want to eat them with us?"

The idea of eating tasty food attracted Hitomi that she immediately answered, "Sure."

Zephyr replied, "Alright then, let's go out and eat!" The apprentices walked through the door inside the castle, where the bag was just sitting against the wall in the corner. The boy picked it up and carried it with him to the front double door. They exited the entrance and went to sit at the stairs in front of the castle. Zephyr opened the bag and he took out some potato chips. Glacies grabbed herself a chocolate bar and Hitomi got a cookie.

The child took a bite out of her snack and was delighted by the taste. She commented, "It's so sweet, like candy."

Zephyr smiled, "I know, right? All these things are good."

While they were enjoying their snacks, a strange sound occurred behind them. The trio turned their

heads around and saw a portal opening behind them. Out of it came two figures, a young nekomimi boy and a familiar lightblader from the Keyblade War. The young man greeted them, "Glacies, Zephyr, we meet again."

The blonde replied, "Chase, it's you. How've you been?"

Chase answered, "Pretty good. I got myself an apprentice now." He panned his hand out to catboy and introduced him, "Everyone, meet Kumo. I found him yesterday when I was visiting my brother. Kumo, say hi."

Kumo grinned at the trio and waved, "Hi!"

The teen apprentices waved back and gave him their hellos before Glacies commented with delight, "Aww, he looks so cute!"

Zephyr asked, "So Chase, were you able to find Hitomi's family."

"Not quite," the man answered. "I tried searching for information from the world I found her at and nobody there seems to know who she is. So I'm thinking she might be from a different world."

The teens frowned at the news as Zephyr said, "Well that's not good. If she's not from there, then did she come from?"

Chase replied, "I don't know. Kumo here is also in a similar situation as Hitomi. He doesn't know anything about his history and family either."

Glacies said worriedly, "Another child? I sure hope we're not getting an epidemic of kids with amnesia."

Chase frowned, "Me too, let's pray none of us encounter another kid like that again." He had not been worried about a possible epidemic of children without any memories until the bluenette brought it up. Now with that mentioned, the man wondered if there were something going on that caused both Kumo and Hitomi lose memories of their past. Whatever it is, he needed to look it up and find out how to make them remember again.

Kumo went over to Zephyr's bag and looked inside it to see a variety of snacks. He looked at them hungrily and asked, "Hey, can I have some food?"

The blonde granted, "Sure, take as much as you like." He was happy sure with the younger boy as well.

"Okay," the catboy replied. He took out some pretzels and ate them. He sat down beside the brunette and greeted, "Hi, my name is Kumo. What's yours?"

The little girl answered, "It's Hitomi."

Chase asked the teens, "So how's Hitomi's training coming along?"

Glacies answered, "She's doing good at it, just learning the basics of swinging for now."

Zephyr added, "She even created a corridor of darkness and the weird thing is that nobody's even taught her how to do it."

The man was surprised to hear this, "Really? At that age? Wow, I never thought I'd hear of something like this. That's pretty amazing for someone like her."

"It surprised us, too," the blunette nodded. "Even Hitomi doesn't remember where she's learned it."

"Really? Well that's interesting." Though it was not anything big, this info may give Chase a clue about Hitomi's family. It was possible that a darkblader among them could have taught the child how to create corridors of darkness. If so, he knew what kind of people to inquire. His eyes fell upon his apprentice eating some snacks from the bag. He told him, "Hey Kumo, if you're going to eat all that, you might not have room for soul cakes after this."

The teens looked at the man curiously as Glacies asked, "Soul cakes? What are they?"

Chase answered, "Oh they're these little round treats that you get on All Souls' Day. You basically go door-to-door and pray for the people's dead family members to get soul cakes in return."

Zephyr noted the similarities between the silverette's and his holiday, "That almost sounds like Halloween."

Kumo turned his head to the blonde and asked, "What's Halloween?"

Zephyr answered, "It's a holiday where you put on a costume and go to people's houses to get candy."

The catboy was in delight at the idea. "Can I do Halloween?"

"You can't, it's too late for that now. But it'll come back again next year."

Glacies offered, "I can help you find a costume when the time comes if you want."

Kumo beamed, "That'll be great! Thanks!"

Chase said, "Well it's almost time for All Souls' Day to start. I'll see you all next time when I find another clue about Hitomi. For now, take care of yourselves."

Glacies said, "We will." Everyone traded their farewells before Chase opened a portal to his world. Kumo carried with him a few chips and a cookie as he followed his master into La Cite des Cloches.

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4 days since her visit with Sabella, LimeX was still on the search for a potential apprentice. So far everywhere in every world she has looked in, not a single person she saw has shown the potential to take her place. Not even the medieval world of London was any different. The darkblader walked down the street as she tried to feel for strong hearts in the citizens around her. *'Nope, nope, nope,'* she thought with each person she judged. This search was getting hopeless; Sabella did say that she would have an apprentice by the end of the fourth day, but this was dragging on and irritating her patience. Just when was she going to find the one she needs? LimeX turned towards an alley and expanded her search there. She had to search every nook and corner, just in case that pupil might be lurking there. Halfway down the alley, she sensed the presence of someone following behind her. The girl got ready for whatever might happen. Criminals were known to lurk in lonely places such as this one, where it was easier to rob or kidnap anyone without getting stopped by well-to-do passerbys. As predicted, she felt the thug's keyblade swinging across the air towards her head. The girl quickly turned and blocked the attack with her own keyblade. Then she dabbed two of her fingers into the man's eyes, which made him stagger backwards with his eyes shut in pain as he screamed. Taking advantage of the opening, LimeX cast, "Thunder!" A lightning bolt fell down onto the thief and zapped him, causing another pained cry out of him. His paralyzed body collapsed to the ground with a few electric sparks appearing every second in different places. The girl left him to his state and walked away without a care. That will teach him to steal from her.

Once she got to the edge of the alley, LimeX happened upon a scraggly, bearded man in ragged clothes stealing some meat out of butchery. He ran on his dirty bare feet down the street. A butcher immediately came out of his shop shouting, "Guards, help! This ne'er-do-well has robbed me!" The man summoned his keyblade and ran after his robber. A pair of guards armed themselves with keyblades and joined the chase after the robber, hoping to catch her and take the meat back. LimeX ignored them all and went down the next alley across the cobblestone street in front of her.

Just as she came out the other end, the same thief appeared running, having apparently went around the block to get here. He was then stopped by a 14-year-old blonde-haired girl wearing a green outfit that made her look like a typical medieval rogue. She said to the hobo, "Got caught stealing for food, huh? Don't worry, I know how we can get away from these stupid lighters." She grabbed his hand and led him down the way an alley.

One of the pursuing guards saw what just happened and cried, "Follow them there!" The guards and the butcher followed into the same alley.



LimeX stared at the alley the girl had gone into. She had given off a feeling of a strong heart with an element of darkness. It looks like the darkblader had finally found her apprentice. Looks like her patience had finally paid off. The brunette went into the alley and went up to the roof, using the walls of the two buildings around her to jump up to it. From there, she ran and leapt across buildings, following the girl she had her eyes on. She thought, *'Let's see what she's capable of.'*

After they all came out of the alley, the pursuing guard shouted to his coworkers up ahead, "Hey you, stop them!"

The different pair of guards got in the girl and hobo's way with their keyblades ready to attack them if need be. One of them yelled, "Stop right there, criminal scums! Nobody breaks the law on our watch!"

The blonde yelled at them defiantly, "Buzz off, you stupid light scums. This guy is only trying to survive since you "good and honorable" lighties don't want to help him out."

The other guard threatened, "Darkbladers! Hmph, wrongdoings are so typical of you filth. We'll have you two locked up immediately once we're done with you." He swung his keyblade at the girl, but she quickly ducked under it and made a dash to the side with the hobo following her. "Stop!" he yelled after them. The chase went on as LimeX watched with interest; she wanted to see where this goes. Will the darkbladers be successful in their escape or will they fail and get captured? The brunette continued her way through the roofs, following the blonde as she watched the scene take place.

The mustached guard pointed his keyblade at the thief and cast, "Firaga!" The powerful fireball shot towards the hobo and burned his back, setting it on fire. The man screamed out in agony from the flames eating at his skin, much to the girl's chagrin at the guards. They soon reached a crowd of people shopping at the marketplace. The vendors and their customers saw the girl with the burning man running by them. The customers screamed in shock as they moved out of their way, not wanting to catch the fire on the hobo's back. The girl saw a wheelbarrow of crated goods ahead of her and got an idea. She went to it and knocked it over, spilling the fruits and veggies onto the cobblestone ground much to the chagrin of the owner.

"Hey!" the old vendor complained. After the pair ran away again, their chasers ran onto the apples, turnips and other round produces and immediately lost their footing on the foods rolling underneath their feet.

"Whoa!" "Ah!" "Ack!" the men screamed before they fell down on top of each other. The darkbladers did not stop to see the result of her action, but the girl did imagine what it looked like. She snickered at the thought.

LimeX smiled, seeing how clever the tactic was that brought some distance between the thief and the chasers. She thought, *'Amazing! It looks like she fits the bill after all.'*

The darkbladers turned at the intersection and then went down a path that led to the slums. Eventually, they went to a small, angled alley and the girl scooped up some water from the puddle with two hands. She then splashed it onto the fire on the hobo's back, putting it out and quieting his pained screams. She asked, "You alright?"

The hobo was still hurting as he made sounds that were quieter than his screams, "Oh, oh..." He then answered, "I'm still hurt, but thanks." He grinned gratefully at her.

The girl showed him the basement door and said, "This is a door that leads to a secret place where us darkbladers can live without the hate and persecution from the lightbladers. Some of us are rougher than rough, but you'll find someone there who can heal those burns."

As she opened it, the hobo replied, "I appreciate it. Maybe my life will take a turn for the better here." They went down the stairs with the hobo still groaning in pain before the blonde closed the door behind her. LimeX leapt down from the roof and opened the door, following the pair to whatever place this way. Unexpectedly, the stairway went down longer than she thought. The room at the end must be deep enough to not let the noise of any of the inhabitants be heard from the surface. But upon reaching the last steps, the brunette found the room to be way, way larger than she had expected. What she discovered was an underground civilization. There were big round tents all over the place with some occasional stone brick buildings set up to be homes and shops for the darkbladers here. LimeX went through the street in front of her, looking around for the blonde girl until she found her walking by a bunch of people laughing, drinking and chatting together.

A short-haired woman with a manly haircut among them pointed to the girl, saying, "Look who it is, guys."

The men stopped talking and turned their attention to the girl. The big, muscular man with beard taunted, "Well, well, if it isn't the Frenchgirl, Juliet. Did you catch a frog today? I bet those legs must taste really good to you."

The gang all laughed at her, much to the girl's chagrin as she clenched her teeth and growled. She yelled, "Buzz off, guys! I don't have time for your stupidity."

A scrawny man with frizzled hair copied her with a fake French accent, "Boozz uff, Reed! I don't ave time for yoor stoopeedeety." They chuckled at that.

Juliet yelled, "I don't speak like that, and you know it!"

The big man jeered, "Oh isn't that cute? The Frenchgirl think she's English."

The blonde yelled, "I am English, you bum! Even if I'm only half of it."

The woman scoffed, "You just keep telling yourself that, halfling. But we all know you'll never be one of us."

The short, stocky man insulted, "Yeah, so go home and stuff a baguette up your ass." The gang laughed again.

Juliet fumed before she stomped away. She muttered to herself, "Someday, I'm going to make you all eat those words." She stormed off all the way through the other street and went inside her tent. LimeX followed her there. Now that she had the blonde to herself, she can convince her to leave this world to become her apprentice. Juliet let out an angry groan and began ranting to herself, "Stupid jerks! Who do they think they are calling me French?" Well they were right in that she did have some French in her, but she wished that no one pointed it out and tease her for it all the time. "Stupid mom, why did she have to be French?" It was bad enough that she was in a world that despises darkbladers; the mixed blood made it worse for her.

LimeX heard all of the blonde's words from outside, finding the right words to start the conversation before saying them, "Sounds like you're not the most popular girl in this world."

The blonde looked around and asked, "Huh? Who said that?"

The brunette pushed the flap aside as she came in. "The name's LimeX, I'm a darkblader just like you. This world loves to hate people like us, doesn't it?" She was no stranger to prejudice against darkbladers. Most of the worlds that engage in this were those of Abrahamic cultures, such as the one they were in now. Having seen such disdain towards her throughout most of her life was why LimeX disliked people.

"Yeah, no shit," the thief cursed. "Now what do you want, loser?"

LimeX offered, "A chance to better your life. You see? I'm looking for an apprentice to pass on all skills to, combat skills and of course, portal magic." She demonstrated it by summoning a portal for a brief moment before she closed it back up. The blonde felt intrigued with the ability. "If you learn from me, then you'll get to fend for yourself better, teach your bullies a lesson and even get to go to other worlds that treat darkbladers better. Does that catch you?"

The girl liked the sound of the idea proposed to her, but at the same time, she was suspicious of this stranger. Her bright green eyes narrowed, "You teach me? You don't look that strong, how do I know you got what it takes to train me?"

LimeX smirked wickedly, "Maybe you can watch me beat up those scums who teased you. What do you say to that?"

The thief laughed in amusement, "Hah, I'd like to see that. Maybe it'll be you that gets your head whacked off."

The brunette warned, "Don't mock me, brat. I might come for you next after this." She created a portal and gestured the blonde, "Let's go." The girl followed her in without a word. The portal warped them to a corner away from the ale-drinking bunch. LimeX told the girl, "Now watch carefully, brat. You're going to see me kick butt, not the other way around." Juliet watched her go with a frown and a raised brow, skeptical of LimeX's bravado. The brunette approached the gang, going up to the big man. They stopped to look at her as she smirked at him, "Wow, that's a tasty-looking drink you got there. Mind if I taste it?" Before the big man could reply, the girl pushed her hand up under the bottom of the glass and spilled the contents all over his clothes. She sneered with her hand covering her mouth in false guilt, "Oh oops!"

The gang glared at her as the big man yelled, "You're going to pay for that, you little bitch!"

"Make me," LimeX challenged with a daring grin.

The big man summoned his keyblade, "Oh I sure will!" He took a swung at her, but the girl ducked down quickly, letting the weapon swipe through the air instead. She countered with a punch to the gut before she leapt back and summoned Pathfinder. The others summoned their keyblades and they charged at her with the intent to attack.

LimeX smirked and leapt over the scrawny man, pushing her hand against his shoulder to use as a support to flip behind him. "Gah-wah!" he sounded upon contact. After she landed, she turned and whacked his back hard, knocking him to the ground. The woman and the stocky man turned and charged at her again with the big man coming to strike as well.

This time, LimeX raised her keyblade high up and cast, "Thunder!" A lightning bolt fell down between the three, striking the ground and creating a big enough radius to zap them and the scrawny man, too. They screamed in pain as their bodies flashed briefly with their skeletons shown. Passerbys noticed the scene going and started to form an audience, watching this fight for their own personal thrill. They cheered the battling keybladers to keep on fighting.

After the spell cleared up, tiny smokes rose from the gang's bodies and they became angrier. They all got up as the big man yelled, "That wasn't funny!" Their formation was nearly lined with the big man being ahead of the others. LimeX whacked him hard in the face and watched him go down. She did the same thing to the stocky man and he fell down immediately. She hopped back away from the woman to avoid the swing of her weapon. The girl swung at her face, but the woman brought her keyblade back in reverse direction and blocked her. Then the scrawny man brought his keyblade down to thrust at the girl's stomach, which she dodged to the side. The brunette countered by jumping and spinning at their faces with her electrified keyblade. The two final foes fell unconscious just like their friends and their faces were now marked with black burns where the girl had struck them.

With her show done, LimeX turned to face Juliet to see what she had thought of the performance. Around them, the crowd cheered, amazed by how one girl took on all four adults by herself. The blonde was just as impressed as the rest of them were, and also happy that her bullies got their just desserts. She smiled, "Okay, I eat my words. Now teach me how to do all that."

The brunette replied, "Will do." She created a portal to a clearing in a forest and said, "I'm going to test out your abilities in there and see which ones need working on. Now let's go." The girls went into the portal and came to another world. Juliet looked around at the woods in curiosity. The brunette asked, "So now that you're my apprentice, I'm going to have to ask for your name. Tell me what it is." She might have heard it once, but she quickly forgot about it.

The blonde was hesitant to answer as she shifted her eyes away briefly, "It's Juliet." The name was quite ironic for a darkblader to be called that, given how delicate the name sounded. Looking back at her master, she continued, "But I don't want you using my name. It sounds Frenchy and I hate being half-French." The Englishmen were not too fond of the Frenchmen as their nations have a bitter rivalry towards one another.

"Uh-huh," LimeX nodded apathetically, not caring at all for her apprentice's self-hatred or the adversity between the 2 nations. "Well then, let's get started. Summon your keyblade, we're going to spar. And do it like you're in a real fight, because this is how darkbladers train."

Juliet did as she was told and snarked, "Don't blame me, if you get a black eye from this." Truthfully, she was worried about how much damage she would take in this if LimeX was really going to fight seriously as well. She charged at her mentor with a yell and she swung the keyblade at her, only to be easily blocked. The apprentice grunted quietly before the brunette quickly whacked her a couple of times before knocking her back onto her bottom with the third hit. Pain was throbbing on the spots she got hurt on.

LimeX told her, "Try again."

The blonde got back up and ran at her mentor again. This time she tried a different attack, which was swinging her keyblade upwards from the bottom. But that was blocked as well and the mentor thrust into her chest, making her stagger backwards and cry, "Gah!" Juliet recovered her footing and made another attempt to hurt the keyblade master. She attempted a feint by faking a thrust at LimeX's abdomen. The brunette fell for it as planned and her move to block missed. The blonde swung her keyblade up like she was writing a giant C with an oversized paintbrush on a wall and went for the head. LimeX was quick to duck under it and she took advantage of the opening by performing a three-hit combo on her apprentice and then finishing off with a spark sweep. Juliet buckled down, feeling dazed with a headache and let out a pained groan.

With what she has observed so far, the master criticized, "Your swings are too predictable, Juliet. You'd

be dead by now if this was real. But nice job with the feint."

The apprentice growled and stood up as she yelled, "I told you not to call me that!" The response earned her a whack across the head.

LimeX scowled down at her, "Never talk back to your master, brat! You are an apprentice and you need to learn your place if you're going to learn from me."

Juliet got up and rubbed the attacked area. She cried begrudgingly, "Alright, fine!"

The brunette said, "Good, now we can get this class started. The first lesson is up, pay attention!" She began to teach her apprentice the fighting stance and how to swing a keyblade properly before she made Juliet practice the swings.