

Chase and Juliet walked together through the meadow, checking to see if LimeX was anywhere on the town's outskirts. They kept their eyes sharp for any traces of the killer and ears alert for any sounds that may come from her. She may ambush them out of nowhere and the two have to be on guard for that. The man thought, *'I hope we find her soon before she leaves this world.'* Ahead of them stood a hill with two trees on top. They went up to get a better view of the land around them and see if they could spot LimeX from there. After reaching the hill's top, they found a pond just down the slope. In front of it stood LimeX staring down at the water reflecting her and the sky. Having found the killer, Chase whispered to Juliet, "Get Zephyr and the others now." The blonde nodded without a word and summoned a portal behind her to leave through. The man stayed behind a tree and kept his eyes on the brunette as he waited for help to arrive. He was keeping track of his partner in case she ever moved somewhere else in this world or to another one.

The brunette just kept standing there with her head down. It was not too long when she would start to say, "I know you're here, Chase. Don't pretend I can't sense you."

There was no use hiding now; the man may as well confront her. He left the tree and said, "Then I guess you know what this is about." He walked down to the base of the hill and stopped behind her. He demanded to know, "I heard from your apprentice that you went and attacked the town. LimeX, why did you do it?" The darkblader did not answer and remained silent. Typical; sometimes the girl would refuse to answer when it came to certain questions, especially when she had an agenda that she did not want others on. The man yelled, "Answer me!" The girl answered back in the form of a summoned keyblade and a Thunder spell. Chase swiftly threw himself to the side to dodge the falling lightning bolt and skidded with feet & a hand on the ground. Looks like she will not be giving away secrets easily, not that she ever would anyway. "Guess I'll have to beat it out of you then." He summoned Kingdom Key and went to attack her. He yelled and swung at her, which LimeX was quick to block. He kept trying to strike her as each hit was blocked over and over again. The man hopped back a few feet away from her as the girl's counterattack missed. His close-ranged combat failed; he will have to stop her another way. Chase inflicted her with a spell, "Sleep!"

LimeX became drowsy as she tried to resist the spell's influence on her. She fought the urge to close her eyes and rest her tired body. She cannot let Chase have her; not now. She thought, *'Damn it, I have to do something.'* The girl thought to keep herself away with some physical activity, so she cloaked Pathfinder in darkness and sped at her enemy in a blink of an eye.

The man felt himself struck at the side and he clutched his wound in pain. He gritted his teeth, sounding out his hurt, "Urk!" This attack was new; he had never seen LimeX use that move before. She must have learned it during her time away from him. The man better watch out for that in the fight.

"Chase!" he heard a boy call him. The man looked to see Zephyr, Glacies, Hitomi and Juliet all running in to help. The reinforcements have arrived and now he can defeat LimeX more easily.

Chase smiled, "Everyone, you're just in time." The apprentices got to his side and got ready to fight with

keyblades in their hands. However, Juliet was hesitant to fight her mentor. This was the girl who helped her get away from a life of living poor in a world that shunned her. Could she really turn her blade on her master? LimeX scowled at them all; feeling herself being disadvantaged in a 1-on-5 fight and her body still tired. This was going to be a tough fight for her if she did not escape.

Remembering the plan they made before, Hitomi pointed Lurebreaker and cast, "Bind."

Aided by her willpower, LimeX clumsily threw herself to the side, barely evading the spell. She rolled over until she could see her foes and cast under her breath, "Burn, you brats." A fireball flew towards the group. Glacies went in front of her friends and went into her defense stance, magically creating her Reflect shield to protect them. The deflected fireball hit the ground next to the killer.

"Magnera!" Chase shouted, creating an orb floating in midair that drew the brunette in. LimeX felt herself removed from the ground and thrown around the orb fast like she was rag doll. The world in her eyes kept changing rapidly; from grass to sky and back again. The red and blue spheres accompanying the orb spun around it as well and zapped the brunette with the electric belt they made connecting them. She cried out in pain, feeling the shocks course through her body. The orb & its spheres soon vanished and the darkblader fell on the ground. She lifted herself up and sent a glare at the attackers. She was no longer drowsy; either the Sleep's effect had worn off or the Magnera spell had unintentionally woke her up. Either way, LimeX was now fit to defend herself. The teens swung down their keyblades, but the brunette backflipped out of the way. Zephyr rushed at her with a yell and then swung into Pathfinder which she used to guard against. LimeX hopped a few feet away from him.

Hitomi ran a few steps into the battle until Glacies stopped her with a hand and arm blocking her. The bluenette told, "Don't! LimeX is too dangerous for you. Let us do the fighting; you just keep using your Bind spell." So the little one stayed in her place and waited for the chance to use the spell. Chase focused on all the spots on where to attack LimeX as he charged his focus energy. Once he had enough, he used his Meteor Shower shotlock to fire a volley of light balls that homed in on the girl. The darkblader got hit by the first few, grunting in pain as it happened. But then she blocked the rest of the balls with her keyblade.

Hitomi took her chance to use Bind on the defending brunette. "Stay," she murmured as she sent a white magical wave at the killer. LimeX had just defending against the volley when Zephyr came in and Fire Surged her with a wheel of floating flames revolving around him horizontally. LimeX allowed hit her for once, so that she could knocked away from the Bind spell and allow him to take it instead.

The boy became trapped in his place and he struggled to take a step. He groaned, "I can't move..." Just as Juliet charged in to attack, LimeX rushed and whacked them both with a Shadow Dash, earning pained cries for her action. Then LimeX struck at her apprentice several times before she hit her down on the ground. The brunette healed herself with a Cure spell as the blonde girl lied on the grass bruised and battered, but not unconscious.

Chase charged at LimeX as Glacies cast, "Blizzara!" The magic snowflake flew at the brunette, who moved out of the way. Chase dashed and spun around, hitting the darkblader with Round Blitz. Then he swung at her twice, uppercutting her chin and swiping down at her head. When he went for the third hit, LimeX was quick to block and then strike back. The two former guards exchanged blows and defenses as they each tried to subdue the other.

LimeX blocked more of Chase's attacks until she got the idea to strike hard at his stomach. The impact stunned the man momentarily as his breath was knocked out. The brunette took her chance to leap away and distance herself from him. A Fira fireball came at her and she quickly defended against it before it could touch her. Then LimeX went for another Shadow Dash at Chase, which he deftly evaded. Then he sensed lightning coming down and quickly bolted out of the way. His heart pounded as he saw Glacies with Icestorm raised. He cried, "Hey, watch it!"

"Sorry," the bluenette apologized. LimeX charged at the three girls, going to attack them. Glacies quickly ran towards her, going to stop her before she got too close to Hitomi. Glacies swung at the darkblader, trying to hit her as each swing she did was blocked with ease. Then Chase joined in and struck LimeX across the back. The brunette's jerking gave Glacies the perfect time to strike her down with Quick Blitz. LimeX fell on her knees, bruised from the attacks she suffered. Then her keyblade became electrified and she jumped at Chase and Glacies, hitting and zapping them with her Spark Sweep attack. The two lightbladers screamed as they were knocked into the air with Pathfinder damaging them multiple times as the brunette spun around. Then the darkblader stopped spinning and hit them back down with a swing. The two lightbladers fell on the ground, hurt with burns & scorch marks and bodies almost numb.

Zephyr acted fast to cast his spell before the killer could strike again. "Wind!" The Aerora tornado sucked in LimeX, spinning her around in the vortex before throwing her out away from them. The flying brunette made a taunting smirk at the boy before she summoned a portal behind her and escaped through it.

No longer seeing any magical energies from their foe, Hitomi murmured, "She's gone."

Chase lifted his upper body a bit to see where his partner had vanished. Through pained expression, he cursed, "Darn! She got away!" Glacies slowly got up halfway before she felt pain on her breast and winced out a cry. For them, it hurt whenever they tried to move.

Zephyr felt bad about ruining their attempt at capturing LimeX. He apologized, "I'm sorry." If he had not cast Aerora, she would not have fled.

Chase and Glacies got back on their feet. The man forgave, "Don't worry about it. LimeX's a crafty one. She's very good at making getaways. We'll get her eventually. Let's just get back to Halloween Town and rest." The silverette clutched one of his wounds as he started to summon his portal. The boy healed himself and everyone with a combination of Aero and Cure to spread the healing magic around. The man appreciated, "Thanks!" The portal appeared and everyone went in.

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"Roar, roar, roar, I'm going to eat you, Sakura!" said Kumo as he gave the monster puppet his voice. The two had been playing this game for a while. Kumo would manage to successfully tag the demon girl and then she would tag him back.

Sakura giggled and hopped up on one of the gravestones. "You can't catch me!!!"

Kumo tried climbing up the gravestone and tried to tag the girl with the puppet. "Roarr!" he cried.

Sakura smirked and did a backbend so now her hands were on the ground. Then she started walking on her hands, laughing at him. "Ha, you missed! Being around Jack, you learn a few tricks. Helps if you're not human, either."

The catboy was unfazed and was still cheerful. He spoke through the puppet, "Hah! Doesn't matter, I'm still going to get you!" Then he ran after her, both of them going on with fun and joy.

Pretty soon, they saw a portal appearing at the graveyard. Chase and his team came out of it, transforming back into their monster forms by the world's power. The werewolf said to the pair, "Hey guys, we're back!" Juliet sat down, closing her eyes and breathing out a sigh. LimeX had not even given them a chance to talk; she simply attacked. Her clothes were stained with red from the blood she lost in the fight.

"Master Chase!" Kumo cried out happily as he was happy to see his adoptive older brother/master again. The catboy ran over to him and hugged the werewolf's legs.

Chase smiled and asked, "Were you a good boy while we were gone?"

Kumo nodded and said, "Yep! We played Monster and had fun!"

Glacies fell back against a tombstone and said, "Boy, you wouldn't believe how tough it was to fight LimeX." Then the tombstone fell over with the ghost falling onto it. "Oof!"

Sakura laughed at her, "Nice job. Good thing Bill wasn't in his grave or he would have gotten mad." She went over and put the tombstone back up, brushing the dirt off. "You guys look beat. You could take a nap and get some food at my place if you want to."

Glacies stood back up and said, "That sound great! It's probably what we need after that fight with LimeX." She tried to brush the dirt off her rump. But only to find that there was none as she was just a ghost.

Chase took out the cure band and used it to heal the rest of everybody's wounds that have not been fixed by Zephyr's magic. He told, "Come on, let's go over to Sakura's place."

The demon said, "Alright, follow me everybody!" She headed to her house at a leisurely pace. Everyone followed after her with Juliet going along meekly until they got there.

Chase and Kumo took a seat together on the couch, while Zephyr and Glacies sat on chairs. The cat boy looked up at the werewolf and asked, "Hey Master Chase, did you find LimeX?"

The wolf replied, "Yes we did, but not without a fight. We made a mistake and she quickly fled to somewhere unknown. The worse part was we never even got to find out what she was up to."

Sakura offered, "Well if you guys need any help, I'll be glad to lend a hand."

"Okay," Glacies replied.

The demon peeked into the kitchen to see what she had to eat. Of course, not anything she had would sound appetizing to regular people. "I could make some stew, but all I have to put in it is spiders..."

Nearly everyone went stiff with disgust as they all had reluctant expressions on their faces. "Uhh..." Chase was not sure exactly what to say to Sakura about having spider stew for a meal.

Zephyr tried to sound polite, "Umm... I'll pass on the spiders."

Hitomi was gazing around at the people in the room, unable to actually see them. She asked curiously, "What do spiders taste like?"

Kumo asked, "Yeah? Are they delicious?"

Chase leaned his head down over to where his apprentice was at, shifted his lips to side and whispered quietly to his feline ear, "Uh Kumo, I don't think you want to eat a spider."

"Why?" the catboy asked.

Glacies was in conflict about whether to have spiders just to be nice or reject it so that she does not have to eat something she would not like. She faltered, "Well I don't like to be rude, so I guess I could have a little taste of it if nobody else wants it. But just as long as it's not poisonous." Besides, if she does happen to get sick, she can always use Esuna to cure herself. The werewolf turned his head to the ghost and gave her a 'Are you sure?' look.

Sakura laughed, "You don't have to eat it; I know normal people don't eat spiders. What do I look like, Jack?" She laughed again. Jack had no clue about what normal non-undead people ate. "Well, I don't

have anything normal, so you might have to wait until you guys move on to the next world to eat."

Glacies replied, "That's okay; we can just hang out and talk." Then she looked at Kumo and asked, "So Kumo, where did you get that monster toy thing?"

Kumo replied cheerfully, "The scary toy store!"

Chase said, "You won't believe what kinds of toys they have there. They got knives, jack-in-a-box with a skull, a creepy doll with soulless eyes, and a zombie toy with rotten flesh and blood."

Sakura laughed. "Sounds like my kind of store. Maybe I'll ask Sandy Claws for a toy like that for Christmas..." She had been good that year and she still had not decided what she wanted for Christmas, but an undead doll or something like that sounded perfect. "Right, back to the topic at hand. So, you guys need help tracking down LimeX again, right?"

"Yes," Chase said as Glacies nodded. "It's important we find her soon, before someone else gets hurt or killed."

The ghost asked, "Do you think she killed those people at the village for fun?"

The werewolf shook his head, "I don't know, but there must be a reason other than that. She must have something in mind right now, but what exactly it is, I don't know. LimeX tends to be very mysterious and usually doesn't tell other people what she's up to, no matter how hard you try to interrogate her or bargain with her. You all saw how she was when you fought and chased her, right?"

Glacies remembered how they tried to go after ChameX. She answered, "Not really; we knew that she was under Etutu's control. But she was very stubborn in wanting to do what he wanted her to do."

"I suppose so," Chase understood. "Anyway, we need to find out what she's up to now and see if we can prevent more lives from being lost." Then he got off the couch and said, "I'm going to go outside and look at the stars to see if I can pinpoint LimeX's current location." He left the house and looked up into the sky at the stars for any strange occurrences.

Sakura grinned, "I think I have an idea of how to help you guys out. You could probably pinpoint what world she's on from the stars, but then you have to find LimeX herself when you get to the world, right? What if Zero and I tag along? Since Jack can't go due to his duties, I can ask him if I could bring Zero along with us to help sniff her out when we get to each world. I think he'd like that idea." Zero did have a really good sense of smell, even though he was a ghost. "I have to get permission from Jack first, and of course from Zero. But if I do, would you guys mind having him around?"

Zephyr asked, "That could work, but what if LimeX targets Zero?" He liked Zero and would not want to see him attacked. He added, "You would be welcome to come anyways since you helped us find LimeX

before."

Sakura blinked a few times. "You do know that Zero is a ghost, right? I really doubt you need to worry about him getting hurt, since most likely any attack that you throw at him would just pass right through him. He's intangible. Besides, if anything of the sort would happen, I'd protect my little buddy."

Glacies agreed to the idea, "Then we should definitely bring him along then. He'll be really a lot of help to us tracking down LimeX."

Kumo asked, "Do I get to help, too?" He really wanted to be of some help in going after the dark master.

The ghost turned her head to the young catboy and told him, "Sorry Kumo, but we don't want to risk you getting hurt. LimeX is really dangerous, you know." She did not want to see the cute little boy getting himself harmed by the darkblader.

Kumo said, "But I can fight, Glacies! I took down a big black monster with my keyblade and magic."

Glacies crossed her arms and asked skeptically, "You're not telling a story, are you?" Sure Hitomi was a good fighter at a very young age, but that did not mean she have to think the neko was the same way, too.

"No it's not! We beat him together, right Juliet?" Kumo looked at the blonde girl for confirmation.

Juliet raised her head at the mention of her name. She blinked a few times in a dazed state before lowering her head and saying, "Yes... A final test from my teacher before she said we had to split ways." She closed her eyes and stood up. "Toilet." She headed towards the nearest bathroom; more of an excuse really. Zephyr watched her go, but he did not do anything; she probably just wanted some alone time for a bit.

"May I also go?" Hitomi asked, turning her head as if she was looking up at everyone. She was partially blind but her extra sensitivity to balance of light and darkness made up for that. On top of it, she also had sharper hearing than most.

Glacies replied, "Of course you can."

Zephyr told the little girl, "Hitomi, remember that LimeX is really fast, so your Slow spell will help a bunch, too." She nodded in response.

Kumo thought this decision was unfair as both he and Hitomi were little kids and complained, "Hey, why does she get to go and I don't?!"

The ghost answered, "Because she has a Bind spell that we can use to trap LimeX."

The cat boy cried, "But I have a Bind spell too! Watch this!" Then he summoned his keyblade and cast his Bind spell. Without Kumo's intention, Glacies became paralyzed and numb when the spell had hit her.

The ghost fought to get the words out, suggesting, "Alright...I see... But...why don't you...ask...Chase...first?"

"Okay!" Kumo said before he went out of the house.

Glacies summoned her keyblade with difficulty and said, "Esuna!" The spell freed her from the effects of Bind and enabled Glacies to move again. She said, "Well it seems like Kumo may be able to take care of himself, but I wonder if Chase will let him."

Juliet returned from the bathroom, but instead of returning to the others, she said "If you want to find master, you should just ask." She made a portal before vanishing into it. The portal did not disappear and was left open for the others to go into.

"Thanks," Zephyr said to Juliet as he and Hitomi entered.

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There was a lone 19-year-old girl sitting atop the clock tower, watching the ever-setting sun. Her name is Thage and she is a woman with blonde that could be mistaken for silver, aqua eyes, rosy pink lips and two coiled braids, one on each side of her long hair that reached the small part of her back, tied by black hair bows with silver trims. Her dress, choker and dress shoes were also black. The only exception to her outfit color was her silver stockings. Thage has no friends and, as such, usually only comes off of the clock tower, except to go to the bathroom or to get some famous salty-sweet ice cream.

LimeX appeared from her portal and looked around the town. She was perched on a roof in a dark cloak that covered her face. She gazed around the town and snorted. Suddenly, she pulled her keyblade out and muttered, "Fire... Thunder..." Suddenly, fire erupted around her and the building became aflame. Being LimeX's fire, it did not harm her. She stood there, watching the screaming people.

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Kumo went outside to Chase and asked, "Hey Master Chase, can I go with you? You know I can fight and use Bind, right?"

The werewolf turned his head to him and said, "No Kumo, you need to stay here in Halloween Town. LimeX is too much for you to handle right now."



The boy argued, "But you let Hitomi come and she has Bind."

Chase sighed as he knew that his apprentice has a point. He did not like having to bring children into a dangerous fight, but he only did it in this case as Bind was useful to prevent LimeX escaping. Glacies had done a good job in protecting her youngest friend, but that was only because LimeX rarely attacked children. Perhaps she would refrain from harming the catboy, too. Plus having two Bind-casters would make things more easier. The master said reluctantly, "Alright fine, you can come."

"Yayyy!" Kumo cheered.

Chase told him, "But you have to stay with Glacies and Hitomi at all times, alright? Defend them as they'll defend you."

"I will!" Kumo promised.

Glacies opened the door and told the two, "Chase, Kumo, come on! Juliet's opened a portal for us to go through!"

"Coming!" the master and apprentice said at the same time before they went inside the house. Then Glacies, Chase, and Kumo all went through the portal.

Sakura cursed. "But I need to talk to Jack and Zero first!!!"

"About what?" asked Jack, who just came in through the front door with Zero at his heels. "I came to check on you all."

The demon said, "Oh, just in time! I need to go and help them find LimeX. Would you mind if we borrow Zero to help us find her? I mean, he should remember her smell from when she came over last time."

Zero barked excitedly and Jack asked her, "Are you sure...? Well, if it'll help you get back home sooner, you can take Zero."

"Thanks, Jack! Watch the place while I'm gone!" Sakura followed her friends into the portal with Zero jumping in right after her.

They appeared in Twilight Town, one building across from another building on fire. Kumo asked, "Did LimeX do that?"

"Obviously," said Chase with a frown. Juliet gazed at it sadly as LimeX walked out of the flames and jumped down to the path below. She took a few steps and then turned back to watch the building collapse. There were screams around her, but she seemed to neither hear them nor care as she watched the fire. Juliet gazed at her master and closed her eyes in disgust and shame. Was this how all

darkbladers would turn out like? Was this her destiny? No! She decided, she would not allow herself to go down that road. She was not a lightblader, but that did not mean she could not be good. Darkness is not good or evil; it was just dark.

Everybody summoned their keyblades as Zero started barking angrily. Sakura thought, *'Still up to no good, I see. Well, time to get to work.'* The demon yelled, "LimeX, you monster! Stop right there!" Sure, the line sounded all heroic and cliché, but it was not like she cared. People were in danger and dying because of LimeX, so she felt it was her duty to stop her. The black-haired girl did not hear them or acted like it. She headed over to a man and pulled him to his feet. Then she stabbed him through the heart with Pathfinder, causing the man's body to convulse. When she dropped him, he turned into a heartless that melted into the floor. It came back in big numbers.

Chase, Kumo, and Glacies were shocked as the last of the three placed her hands to her mouth and gasped. Glacies cried, "It's Xander's monsters; the heartless!"

The neko asked, "What's she doing with them?"

Chase said, "I don't know, but I have a feeling she's doing this for a bad purpose. Come on, we have to stop LimeX and destroy the heartless. Glacies, you stay near Kumo and Hitomi and protect them at all costs while they bind and stop her."

Glacies nodded and replied, "Right!"

The silverette told more of his strategy, "Juliet and Sakura, you two girls take care of the heartless. Zephyr, you and I are going to attack LimeX directly. Don't hesitate, just because she happens to be my friend, okay? Come on, let's go!" Sakura nodded and then everybody jumped off the building. Chase landed skillfully without feeling any pain, while Kumo had to use his Aero spell to soften his and everybody's falls. Once they were on ground, the silverette ran up to the brunette with Zephyr dashing along with him before the man jumped up and rolled vertically towards her in flames, performing his Heat Storm attack. Kumo cast Bind on LimeX at the same time his master was attacking.

LimeX felt the spell's effect and snorted. She had perfected a move for occasions such as this. As Chase attacked her, she used the attack to launch herself into the air, wherein she made a portal that she fell into. Zephyr looked around for her as she appeared above the neko and raised her keyblade, "Thunder."

Glacies acted quickly by casting, "Reflect!" A hive-like barrier surrounded herself, Kumo & Hitomi and deflected the Thunder spell to send back at LimeX, but she disappeared into another portal and appeared behind Chase, swinging her blade at him with no hesitation. But Chase sensed her movements and turned halfway around to block her attack with the Kingdom Key. Then he used a Rising Strike on her by swinging his keyblade vertically to whack her up into the air.

Sakura and Juliet charged at the Heartless, attacking them with their Keyblades. Fighting them was much

easier than fighting LimeX, even though there was a ton of them. The demon complained, "Man, this is really starting to get on my nerves! I HATE Heartless!" She growled a bit in irritation as she took down two or three in one swipe. Once she finished with the pesky critters, she would help out with fighting LimeX.

Thage saw a burning building and heard the sounds of fighting. She sighed; it was probably that crazy girl. It looked like could not ever control herself. She then jumped off of the clock tower, falling into a corridor of darkness. She then came out next to the burning building. She saw the chaos that the brunette left and a fight ensuing. She then saw that girl fly up into the air and gasped. She warped in front of her, trying to protect that stranger. "Magnera!" she shouted trying to protect her from harm.

Chase started feel himself getting pulled into the huge magnetic orb. "Wah!" "Whoa!" Glacies and Kumo both cried respectively as they both got sucked in towards Magnera. Hitomi had been quick to get away before she got taken in.

As the three were closer to the Magnera, Zephyr cast, "Wind!" His Aerora spell pushed them back away from the mysterious girl's spell. The three were now halted in their place, neither moving forward or backward thanks to the opposing forces of Magnera and Aerora.

"Chase!" Glacies pleaded.

"Master Chase!" Kumo cried to him as both were trying to get him to do something.

The silverette pointed his keyblade at the air behind Zephyr and said, "Magnera!" Chase's Magnera orb appeared and sucked in the trio over to the blonde boy's side. The orb disappeared as the three landed on the ground. Then they all turned to look at the mysterious girl, who just tried to help LimeX. Chase asked, "Alright, who are you and why did you help that killer?" The woman must have mistaken the killer as an innocent victim to their attacks and rushed in to save her without knowing the reason for the conflict.

"I'm Thage, if you really want to know... Why would people like you gang up on an innocent little girl like that? So many of you against one of her! And endangering people's lives! I'm sorry, but I just can't allow this!" Thage said proudly, feeling a long-dead sense of justice that she thought she got rid of years ago. She then raised her keyblade against the group of people. It was long, silver and serrated in a length about 3'3" with a small hilt and a keychain that was a platinum orb. "Who shall I start with?"