

Shade spoke, "Well, well, if it isn't my original. He looks just as misguided as usual."

Glacies and Chase both opened their mouths and gasped in shock at the silver-haired twin before them. "No way!" Chase said in astonishment.

The girl said, "Chase, he looks exactly like you!"

The man replied to her, "I know; this just has to be a sick coincidence." He did not know why Shade looked exactly like him, but just looking at the very sight of him just unnerved Chase. It was like a sorcerer had magically cloned him with an evil twin.

Diablos shifted his purple eyes to Shade and thought, *'So this is Shade. He may look like that piece of crap, Chase. But his face tells me that he's a lot more badass.'*

Then Chase looked at his lookalike and accused, "So you're Shade, LimeX's boss. You set her up to do all this, didn't you?"

Shade nodded to confirm, "Correct, I did indeed. Tell me Chase, do you still love her?" He paused and grinned.

"LimeX?" Chase assumed that was who he was referring to. "Of course, I do." His green eyes looked away to the side in uncertainty, "Maybe..." He was not sure if he could bring himself to love a girl who has threatened to harm people. But he still had no idea why she caused so many tragedies in the first place or why she would let herself be used by his wicked look-alike. She had to have a good reason for this after all.

"Maybe, huh?" Shade glanced to LimeX for a bit, amused by the lightblader seeming to no longer hold any affection for his partner. The girl did not seem to have her feelings hurt whatsoever. He smirked, "Actually, I was talking about someone who looks very much like her. Do you remember the name Ilem?"

"Ilem..." the silver-haired lightblader repeated the name, trying to think of when and where he had heard that name before. His heart began to resonate some of the memories of her. Ilem was the girl who once trained to be a guardian of the Keyblade Temple before she disappeared and had her position taken over by LimeX. A few memories flooded in Chase's mind as he remembered his days with Ilem and the good times they've had together. He eventually grew to love her, but she left before he could tell her about. A few days later was when LimeX came into the picture. Chase looked at the brunette and thought, *'She does look a lot like her and her name bears resemblance, too. If you take out the letter X, then it would be an anagram of Ilem. Maybe this why I sometimes feel like I had a bit of a crush on her, even though she can be a bit annoying at times.'* He wondered if she and Ilem were twin sisters. Looking back to Shade, the man answered, "Yes, I do."

"Well she loved you enough," Shade told him. Chase widened his eyes in surprise when he heard this. "It affected LimeX here enough that she followed after you, but not doting though. After all, she's not whole enough for emotions like that. She even ensured you did not have to deal with your enemies so you could fulfill your dream. And she was satisfied just to be near you. However, Etutu came didn't he, LimeX?" He paused and turned to gaze at her.

The brunette had been silent with her eyes closed. She opened them and gazed to Shade, "If that is what you want me to say..."

Shade frowned, slightly disappointed before turning back to Chase. "Oh yeah, you fell to him so easily. LimeX got so worried, in nobody terms mind you, that she gave up the only treasure she had, a Cure band, to ensure your safety. But even then, you launched yourself into danger and lost during the fight that followed. And then there was the Keyblade War that you failed to stop." He cracked a sneering grin, "Should have stuck to your original plan instead of listening to that nitwit here." LimeX frowned at his comment, looking a bit angry but was hesitant to talk back to him. Though he was right in that her plan that she had suggested to Chase back then did not work out too well. "How many lives did we lose, Chase?" He paused, leaning back and closing his eyes. "We lost five million, seven hundred and eighty thousand. And that's only from what was happening when we attacked Etutu. And then you got attacked by the darkness." Chase closed his eyes and clenched his teeth in despair as he remembered his failure in stopping the war. A few tears formed in Glacies's eyes as she recalled the death of her father in that war. Shade reopened his eyes and glanced to Diablos, "Would you mind closing the barrier? I would prefer no more uninvited guests." Then the purplette pushed the button on the wall and a silver wall barrier with white thorny lines coursing through it appeared and blocked the way. Turning back to Chase, the look-alike continued, "Sometime after you freed yourself and LimeX, I found her training Juliet and filled her in on the lost memories about that one friend that you and she completely forgot. I've even told her of her nobody origins, why she's sometimes emotionless in situations where anyone else would have felt something."

Glacies looked at the brunette in surprise, "LimeX is a nobody?"

Shade explained to the bluenette, "She may not look like it, but she only looks that way because she has one of the strongest wills out there." To Chase, he resumed, "Anyway, we made a deal to bring Ilem back to life, so that you will be with your true love again." He paused and smiled, "But I wonder if that's a good idea. Then again, you always did seem to value justice over love, didn't you? Even when LimeX began taking nobodies to bring to me, she hoped you would figure something out without Juliet opening her mouth." He laughed, stood up and put a hand on the brunette's shoulder, whom flinched slightly. "She held onto the silent hope you would find something off and know there must be a valid reason for it. But no, look whom she has here now." He turned and smiled at LimeX, "I did tell you that the boy whose image I was made after wouldn't understand." The girl simply bowed her head once. Turning back to his original, he smiled in evil humor, "To think, you've killed this girl here not once, but almost twice now. Once when she was whole and nearly again with Etutu. And now you are here to do it again!" He laughed and removed his hand from her.

Then Chase looked at LimeX with a sad frown and thought, *'LimeX, why didn't you tell me? Why didn't you tell me all this?'* They could have tried to find a better way to bring back Ilem without all the deaths and destruction.

"I think we should make a deal here, my original. You have two choices: destroy LimeX and try and get me before I vanish, or let me go and fight her to your death." To LimeX, Shade asked, "Which one do you think he would choose?"

Glacies thought with horror, *'What?! But that's not right! Both of those options will just get LimeX killed. How can Shade think of something cruel like that?'*

LimeX turned her head to look at Shade again and said, in a completely emotionless voice, "He would choose the first option and I would vanish for eternity."

The clone paused and smiled in a non-malicious way for once. "Don't worry LimeX; while you are right, by the time, he almost destroys you, I will have finished and be able to get you, too."

LimeX turned her face to gaze at the group in front of them, completely blank, "You would leave me to die."

Shade paused and for a moment his eyes furrowed and a slight sneer showed on his face. "You have me all worked out don't you, LimeX, and yet you still follow me?"

The brunette turned back to face him and said simply, "If I cannot belong in the whole world, then I only have one other place to belong and that is with the nobodies."

The clone leaned back and nodded once. Turning, he looked for Diablos and said to him, "I believe you have some revenge you wanted?"

The boy grinned with malice and said, "Well duh, what do you think I was waiting here all this time for?"

"LimeX," Shade turned and his green eyes glowed fiercely. "Kill Chase. I need to be rid of that nuisance now." He turned and strode into a room behind his seat.

But Chase quickly stopped him with a shout, "Wait! I want to ask you something."

The clone turned his head back to him. "Make it quick, I don't intend to stand here around any longer."

The man asked him, "How did you know all this? How do you know everything we've been through when you weren't even there with us?" It was definitely strange how one person could have this much knowledge about two people plus a dead one without being present for all these events in their lives.

"I'm glad you asked," replied Shade, who cracked a smirk at him. "I might as well tell you my life story of how I came to be in order to answer that. Back when you were a temple guard, a powerful sorcerer wanted to check out what was hidden inside that temple you and Ilem ferociously guarded so. He tried to sneak in using his magic and was so close to discovering the scroll. But then LimeX, who didn't have that job back then, was luckily inside to help thwart his plan. The two of them fought each other and the noises you and Ilem heard drew you both inside to help fight the intruder and the heartless that he summoned to aid him." The smirk grew more wicked and he continued in a dark tone, "But during the fight, two accidents occurred. One in which Ilem sacrificed herself to save you and LimeX, losing both her heart and her life. The two of you were so distracted by the shock that the sorcerer began to take his chance with a spell to absorb whatever knowledge you have to learn what was inside the temple and see if it was worth risking his life over. But then your master, Bihai, showed up to interrupt him and the spell only managed to take away your memories of Ilem and of LimeX, while LimeX lost hers of you and Ilem. You were so focused on each other at the time that it disrupted the spell. The other tragedy was when you tried to push LimeX out of the way of one heartless, only for her to be exposed to another that you failed to see and have her lose her heart from that." Shade laughed callously, "Oh the irony! Ha ha ha hah!"

Everyone, except Diablos, frowned, not finding this terrible backfire to be funny. Chase felt offended and Glacies gave his clone a scowl, thinking, *'You're a horrible jerk, you know that?'*

Then the clone continued the story, "After the fight ended with you unconscious and Bihai nursing you, the sorcerer retreated to his lair and put all of the memories he had collected into a human-sized wooden doll. The doll took human form and took on your appearance, becoming me. The sorcerer hoped that I would give him the answer he needs. But because I didn't have all of your memories and my capacity was weak at that time, I couldn't help him with that. The sorcerer threw me out in a fit of rage. He even told me that I would only have a few months to live. As days went by, my memory capacity grew and I began to share yours and LimeX's memories. Everything from the smallest things you've done to the biggest event of your life. And there you have it; that's how I know everything, Chase. Now if you'll excuse me, I got a ritual to perform." After he went into the room, LimeX sealed it with a door. Turning back, he laughed and his voice echoed loud from behind the door, "That door won't be removed unless LimeX dies!! Good luck!"

The brunette turned and her keyblade appeared. "Live or die, my life has no more meaning unless I obey." She dived toward Chase and the fight began.

The man brought up his keyblade to defend against the nobody's attacks. He said to her, "LimeX, I don't want to fight you. Believe me!" After all that Shade said, killing LimeX was going to be wrong and make him feel even worse than he did now, so he refused to attack her at all.

LimeX's eyebrow twitched, but she continued the downstroke and their keyblades connected. "It is too late, Chase." She swung again.

Chase blocked her attack again and said, "Look, I'm sorry about everything, LimeX. I didn't you were doing all this for me. I didn't even know I had someone else in my life until I've learned about her. I'm sorry, LimeX."

Diablos ran at Glacies and tried to swipe his keyblade at her, but she blocked his attack and tried to swing at him. The purplette hopped backwards out of the way and said, "Looks like your spiky-headed friend isn't here to save you this time. But I wouldn't count on that deadbeat here to not save you anytime. So how about we take you somewhere else." Then he opened up a Corridor of Darkness behind his enemy and tackled her in with him as they inside it.

After listening to Shade's story in horror, Thage looked to LimeX. She was not a person?! Certainly not! Certainly, this was a lie made up by Shade to psyche the lightbladers out. However, even if LimeX was not a real person, she was the first person who made the woman ever truly realize anything. Because of this, she will always fight alongside LimeX, no matter what she is or what she does. What about Juliet, though? "Juliet, which side will you fight with? Will you fight alongside me or will you fight with your friends? The choice is yours."

The blonde gazed to both sides and merely shook her head. "I can't decide."

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A few moments later, the Corridor opened up in Deep Jungle and Glacies was thrown down on the ground. Diablos walked out of the Corridor before it closed and said, "Now we're going to do this one-on-one; a fair fight and none of your meddling friends to interfere with my every move. I'm pretty sure that this time I'll win at end. I walk out of here alive and you'll be left dead as food for wild animals to eat. It'll be like a great ending to a book if we were in it. Predators get a free meal and no one will miss a dirty bitch like you."

Glacies furrowed her brows and clenched her teeth in anger at Diablos's insult and yelled, "That's what you think! Don't forget what I did to you with my Elemental Trinity combo." Then she smirked sneeringly and said, "It just might be you who ends up getting turned into a jaguar's lunch."

Diablos growled in agitation said, "That attack back there, really pissed me off!" Then he spoke confidently, "But I'll be sure to avoid that combo this time. Now enough talking, it's time for you to die!" Then he threw his Freeze Raid at the girl. The frosty keyblade connected with her right arm and hit it hard as a coat of frost was left on it.

Glacies yelped in pain, but resisted the attempt to touch her right arm as she needed her keyblade-holding dominant left hand to fight with. They charged at each other and started to swing their keyblades once they got close enough. The blades touched each other at first and again & again when the two tried to attack and block each other. Glacies brought her keyblade up in a quick speed and

brought it down on the boy with her Quick Blitz. He got hit on the head before she struck horizontally at his chest and then thrust her keyblade hard at him. Diablos was flung backwards to a tree behind him and a breath of air was knocked out of him as he collided with the tree. "Blizzard!" she shouted as she cast her spell at him.

The purplette saw the ice ball flying at him and knew what his foe was up to. He quickly swiped his keyblade at the giant snowflake and shattered it. He sneered, "Like I said; I'm getting the hell out of that attack! You should've known that, you dumb bitch." Then he stood up from the tree and cast his spell, "Zero Gravity!" A ring of darkness waves expanded from Diablos and was coming at his foe. But the light-haired bluenette ran away from it and dashed out of the way.

After the spell missed, the boy charged at the girl and hit her across her chest as she cried out in pain, "Aah!" She counterattacked by hitting Diablos on his stomach, making him groan in response. The two kept swinging their keyblades at each other until Diablos hit Glacies hard and slammed her into a tree. Then he tried to do a Blitz attack on her, but she quickly dodged each combo of the attack command. "Thundera!" she cast her spell at the boy and zapped him with an electric shock, which made him yell out in pain. The girl watched her foe carefully with her guard up as she waited to see what he would do next. He glared at her with intense anger and came at her. They soon attacked each other. The mysterious girl took back to wandering in the Realm of Light and decided to go to the Deep Jungle. A Corridor of Light appeared right next to the battling keybladers. As soon as she saw the two fighting, she summoned her keyblade and started charging up for her Faith spell, although it looked like she was just standing there.

Glacies and Diablos were too busy fighting each other to notice her. He swiped downwards and knocked her to the ground. Then he got on top of her with his keyblade pointed down at her as he said in a deadly voice, "Once, I'm finished with you. I'll be coming after the two pipsqueaks, the skank in black and then the blonde fag."

Glacies knew he meant to do malicious harm on her friends and yelled, "No!" She pushed herself up with as much force as she could muster and knocked the boy off of her. The two swung their keyblades at each other as they were about to hit them. The mysterious girl had finished with the preparation for her Faith spell. She cast it immediately and silently and 5 pillars of light started shooting out, one of them going straight towards the two combatants. As their keyblades came closer, Glacies and Diablos sensed some powerful energy coming at them. They turned their heads to see what it was and saw a pillar of light coming at them. The teens dropped their mouths in fear of impending doom and let out terrified screams. The Faith spell had hit them and damaged them so badly that they were separated and fell down onto the ground. Both keybladers laid there injured and unconscious; not being able to move at all.

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As he continued to defend himself from the flurry of LimeX's attacks, Chase told her, "You should have

told me about this. We could have found a way to bring Ilem back to life together without all this violence."

After landing another blow to his parrying keyblade, the girl asked, "And what would you have done to bring her back? Shade had the power to do it, that's why I did all this for him. He would have even given you all of your memories of her back just as he did for me."

Leaping out of the way of her next attack, the man questioned, "But did you really have to take innocent lives to do this? Why not go for only the bad guys? That was always your thing."

Her blank face showed no emotion as she spoke, "Because Shade wanted me to be quick about this. He didn't have much time left to exist and this was the fastest way to do it. He needed the nobodies to do the ritual that will let him stay for good."

"And what would Ilem have thought about this? About what you've done? Do you think she would appreciate this?"

She paused and then spoke in her monotone voice, "Chase, you don't know much about her...yet. What makes you so sure she wouldn't be okay with this?" She already knew how Ilem would feel, but she decided to test the man with this question, since he knew so little about his lover. Then she swung again.

This time, Chase was struck down to the floor. He grunted in pain as he lifted his torso up. "I asked, because you're the one who knows everything about her. You know who she really is." As he was getting back on his feet, he tried to reason with her, "Look into your heart and think. Will she be thankful that you've worked for a bad guy to destroy so much and ruin lives just to bring her back this way?"

"I..." LimeX closed her eyes, understanding that she would have to face the anger should their lost friend ever know about this. "I know she won't; she would never forgive me for what I've done." Reopening her eyes, she continued her resolve, "But I really want her back and I'll do anything it takes no matter what."

"So do I," Chase replied. "She sounds like she was important in our lives and she must be if you've gone to this length to get her." He shook his head, "But this can't be the only way to get her back."

She challenged, "And what if there is no other way? What then?"

The man responded, "I don't know, but we have to try. We must." He refused to believe that Shade was the only way in resurrecting Ilem. The clone gave off an aura of distrust and Chase felt that he was hiding a supposed other method from them. People like him tended to be manipulative and secretive of certain truths.

Thage listened to their exchange with pain. How they had someone they loved before! Roxanne had attempted at love times before, but it was never successful... Some remnants of those feelings were also in Thage. This struck a chord in her that was not ever there before either. She closed her eyes and bowed her head in thought. *'Roxanne?'*

*'Yes, Thage?'*

*'What should I do? I feel that this has somehow happened to you before...'*

*'It did. But I would rather not talk about it.'*

*'Okay. What should I do with this, then?'*

*'Well, LimeX wishes to be resurrect Ilem, correct?'*

*'Well, I guess she does...'*

*'And you are her loyal servant, right?'*

*'Yeah...'*

*'Well, give her my soul.'*

*'WHAT?!'*

*'You heard me.'*

*'ARE YOU CRAZY?! That means you'll be gone forever!'*

*'So what? It isn't as if I had a life anyhow. You'd be doing her a favor. Besides, I don't need to live anymore.'*

*'Well, if you think so...'* Thage decided. She murmured the chant for the forbidden spell that would expel Roxanne's soul from her body. She exhaled and a glowing light blue ball came out of her chest. It did not hurt, but it was as if a burden was being lifted off of her. Thage's eyes started to glaze over. She held the life force with its aura and walked over towards the brunette. "Oh look, LimeX... I have your other solution here. Now...you can bring Ilem...back to life..." She felt herself starting to black out; it was the side effect of the spell. She would be losing consciousness after this. She slumped onto the floor, leaving the life force floating in front of LimeX. The woman looked towards Juliet. "Juliet... May you never...lose your light. Always...be strong. Never give...up. Keep the keychain with you, always." With the last of her strength, she opened a Corridor of Darkness underneath herself. Thage blacked out, sinking down into it. Juliet closed her eyes and silently mourned, not knowing that it was actually Roxanne who died.



LimeX turned to look to Thage with a sad look on her face. The sadness was not as strong as a mortal would have felt, but she did understand the loss of a life sacrificed. She wondered if it was Roxanne who was giving her life for Ilem. The brunette ignored Chase and walked over to the soul, slowly reaching out a hand in silent longing. The soul floated peacefully, almost welcoming LimeX's touch as she slowly closed her hand around it and brought it closer to her body to gaze at it. She turned her gaze to Chase for a moment and then back to the heart grasped in her hands. Even the man felt a bit sad and pity for the two girls who knew Thage as a friend, if he guessed right, for only a short time. The brunette started, "Juliet..." The apprentice raised her head and opened her eyes as LimeX held out the heart. "You know where to bury it." Juliet closed her eyes and nodded once, taking the soul and vanishing into a portal she made. The portal remained open, revealing the sight of a small grave. LimeX asked the man, "Tell me, do you remember everything that happened when she died protecting you? Or did you forget the memory for the sake of your sanity?"

Chase shook his head and admitted, "No, I apologize. I can't seem to remember what happened back then." It was probably not the answer she was looking for, but it was the truth.

"I see..." She pointed to the portal and answered, "Beyond here is her grave. Get out and go meet your true love."

Chase smile and replied, "I will; I'll bring her back to see you." Then he went into the portal to get ready to meet the one he had forgotten.

LimeX frowned after him and murmured sadly, "I'm sorry to disappoint you, Chase. But I won't be around to see her." This was because she herself was also part of the ritual to turn Shade into a real person. Chase's memories needed to be restored too and that was part of the deal as well. And once that was done, she will fade into this dark oblivion. Looking down at Thage, she said, "Farewell Thage, if that is you." She stepped back and dashed through the barrier where none could follow. It was better if Ilem did not see the monster who committed atrocities for her. If anyone wanted know why she was gone, then Juliet would answer to them.

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The mysterious girl waited for the flash of light to die down before looking at the result of her spell. She then held out her keyblade, pointing it at Diablos as he had more darkness in his heart. She charged light to the tip of it and fired a beam of it at him to infuse it in his heart to purify the darkness. The mysterious girl looked at them both, after the light was sent to the heart. It was not enough yet, but it was a start. She walked over to Glacies's body and picked it up, taking her to the Realm In-Between with her. A little while later, Diablos woke up with his eyes pupil-less and blank. He was in a trance-like state with the darkness inside his heart trying to fight the light infused in by the mysterious girl.

Meanwhile deep inside his heart, the ruffian boy was trying to combat the forces of light. He yelled at

the large balls of light, "Grrr, get out of my heart, you stupid light!" He swatted his keyblade at one and destroyed it, and then he swung at the other. After destroying two, one of the light balls fired a laser beam at him and burned him from behind on his back. "Yowch!" Diablos cried out. Then he whipped his head around to glare at the light ball. Diablos threw his Freeze Raid attack at the light ball and destroyed it. The other two light balls fired their lasers at the boy and hit him. He cried out in pain before the third light ball shot its laser at him. Getting infuriated with the attacks, Diablos let out an angry yell before he charged at the light balls and slashed every single one of them until they were all gone. With his work done, he stopped to catch his breath as his anger was trying to relieve itself and fade. But the moment of peace did not last too long, because soon some small biped white creatures with pointy ears, fingerless hands, no eyes & mouth, and an antenna with a yellow glowing ball at the tip appeared after a flash of light. Diablos looked at all of these creatures surrounding him and groaned under his breath, "Fuck! Just when I thought it was all over!" The white creatures turned into small floating light balls and moved their way over to him. Then they changed back and jumped at Diablos and started to beat him up with punches and kicks. "Agh! No! Get off of me, little bastards!" the boy yelled as he tried to get them off to no avail. "Nooooo!" he shouted.

Back at in real world, Diablos became just like the mysterious girl. He was emotionless with his eyes being blank as his face and his heart now being pure light. The boy sat up and looked around for Glacies, but she was nowhere in sight. Not that it mattered much to him anyway, since he no longer had any desire for revenge. Diablos got up and turned his keyblade into a glider to look for a place to stay, no longer having the power to summon Corridors of Darkness to leave this world.

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The mysterious girl was carrying the body of Glacies through the Realm In-Between. She brought her to an area with many similar-looking pathways that lead to different worlds, Radiant Garden being one of them. She set the bluenette down and walked off to another area of the Realm, wondering how her light had effected Diablos. Glacies woke up and found herself in a different place that did not look like a jungle. "Hnn, where am I?" she asked herself. Then she looked at her surroundings and saw that she was at the Lanes Between, but with some pathways to each world. She asked, "Huh? How did I end up here?" As she tried to get up, the girl felt the pains from her wounds that she suffered from the Faith spell. "Ow!" she groaned. She looked at each of the worlds, wondering where to go until she saw Radiant Garden in front of her. Chase, Juliet and Thage were still at the Realm of Darkness and Zephyr & the others were most likely there as well. And since she had no one with her to take her back there, Glacies just walked the path to Radiant Garden. She said, "I'll probably wait for the others at home."