

SacheX spoke, "So this is my other half, 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, but I don't ever recall having a twin brother and I don't even know why he looks like me." Then he thought, *'Well now that I think about it, if you put it that way, SacheX is an anagram of my name with a X in it.'*

Diablos shifted his purple eyes to SacheX and thought, *'So this is SacheX. 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 SacheX and said, "So you're SacheX, LimeX's boss. You had her and two others kill a lot of people, turn them into heartless, and even burned down some houses. You also had them capture a few nobodies and probably taken them here. That sounds like a terrorist act, SacheX, and I won't stand for that! I would ask what you're up to, but something tells me you're not going to give me any answers, so I'll tell you my theory. Today, I've heard Juliet, my apprentice, and a peer of his, talk about nobodies. They are incomplete beings that have lost their hearts after they've turned into heartless. They can't feel emotions, but they have a desire to be whole again. That desire drives them to do terrible things; anything to get them a heart to become complete. And if I had to guess, SacheX, I'd say your plan sounds just like what I'm talking about." Then he pointed accusingly at SacheX and said, "You two are nobodies, aren't you SacheX? You and LimeX!"

Glacies looked at Chase and asked, "But Chase, you're not a heartless. How can you be so sure that SacheX is a nobody? He doesn't even look like one!"

Chase explained, "He may not look like a silver lanky monster, but LimeX's blank stares always seem to be devoid of emotion. And I'm guessing SacheX is empty just like that, too. Though he may not seem like it now. Also, recall what I said just now about nobodies doing bad deeds to try to become complete again. LimeX and her two conspirators were turning people into heartless by removing their hearts from their bodies. Why were they doing that? Well let's just say that LimeX and SacheX needed those hearts for themselves, so that when they claim one of the hearts of their choosing, they'll be whole again."

Glacies asked, "But shouldn't they kill only two people, if they each wanted a heart? Why kill this many?"

Chase said, "LimeX has brought a few nobodies here, Glacies. But there may have been a lot more before we first heard about them. So they must have been harvesting a lot of hearts for each of the nobodies here in the Realm of Darkness. Isn't that right, SacheX?"

SacheX smiled maliciously and leaned forward, resting his head in his hands while resting his elbows on his knees. "You have some of the facts right and some of the facts wrong. Tell me Chase, do you still love her?" He paused and grinned. SacheX smirked, waiting for Chase to solve the anagram.

Chase paused a bit in confusion before figuring out what he meant. SacheX was talking about Ilem, the girl who once trained to be a guardian before she disappeared and had her position taken over by LimeX. Chase looked at LimeX and thought, *'So this is Ilem. I should've known that her name, excluding the letter x, was an anagram of Ilem. And that also explains why I always felt like I had a crush on her, even though she can be a bit annoying at times.'* 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. Then Chase looked back to SacheX and answered, "Yes, I do."

Chase widened his eyes in surprise when he heard his counterpart say, "Well she loved you enough, it affected LimeX here enough that she followed after you, but not doting though. After all, we're 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, Xander came didn't he, LimeX?" He paused and turned to gaze at her.

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

SacheX 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 me during the fight that followed. How many lives did we lose, Chase?" He paused, leaning back and closing his eyes. "We lost five hundred and seventy eight thousand. And that's only from what was happening when we attacked Xander. And then you got attacked by 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. SacheX reopened his eyes and glanced to Diablos, "Would you mind closing the barrier? I would refer no more uninvited guests." Then Diablos pushed the button on the wall and a silver wall barrier with white lines coursing through it appeared and blocked the way. Turning back to Chase, the male nobody continued, "LimeX saw you get swallowed and she saw you nearly fade into nonexistence. So she made a deal with the darkness, saving you life. Oh how she waited for you, while I slowly formed in this dark world." He paused and smiled, "But 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 and stood up and put a hand on LimeX's shoulder, whom flinched slightly. "She held onto the silent hope you would remember their love and know there must be a valid reason for it, and find the right words to say it. But no, look whom she has here now." He turned and smiled at LimeX, "I did tell you that my other half would not understand." LimeX simply bowed her head once. Turning back to Chase, he smiled in evil humor, "To think, you've killed her not once, but almost twice now. Once when she was whole and once

again with Xander. And now you are here to do it again!" He laughed and removed his hand from LimeX.

Then Chase looked at LimeX with guilt at having failed to recognize her love and thought, *'This is all my fault. Everything's all mine; the war, the killings, and Ilem.'*

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

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

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

SacheX 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."

SacheX 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?"

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

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

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

"LimeX," SacheX turned and his eyes glowed fiercely "Kill Chase. I have no need of my other half now." He turned and strode into a room behind his seat before LimeX sealed it with a door. Turning back, he laughed and shouted, "That door won't remove unless LimeX dies!! Good luck!" Then he was gone.

LimeX 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.

Chase brought up his keyblade to defend against LimeX's attacks as he said to her, "LimeX, I don't want to fight you. Believe me!" After all that SacheX said, killing LimeX was going to be wrong and make Chase feel even worse than he did now, so he refused to attack her at all.

LimeX's eyebrow twitched, but she continued the down-stroke and their blades 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 mean for you to get hurt like that and everything. I didn't even know you had feelings for me until now. I'm sorry, Ilem." He wanted to tell her that he loved her as well, but he didn't know how he was going to tell her without unintentionally sounding like a coward who was only saying that to save himself. "You may choose to believe my words or not, but I want you to know that I've always loved you from the start when you were Ilem and even now when you're a nobody. I might not have shown some displays of love, but whenever I was near you, my heart warm with affection and bliss with adoration. I wanted to hold you in my arms so badly, kiss your lips with all the passion I had inside of me, whisper in ear, and confess my feelings for you. But too bad, I never got the chance when you were Ilem. And I didn't even get to do it when you were a nobody, because I wasn't sure if someone who acts so callous at times would appreciate a relationship. So that's why I held back and hide it all in when we were guarding the temple. Now as for what SacheX said about me coming to kill you. I wasn't going to do that. Sure I chased you around and attacked, but it was only to weaken you and keep you from killing more people. Now I'm not saying I loved all those strangers more than you do, because of what SacheX said about me choosing justice over love. I could never put justice over my love for you. But killing all those people and destroying their homes was not right, you could've told me up straight that you were a nobody. I would've helped get your heart back, I would!" Chase said to her.

His last words halted her and her keyblade fell to her side. Her blank face showed no emotion as she spoke, "That is the problem Chase. One: My body is gone, and it will not come back. And two: Even if it was possible it would involve the collecting of Nobodies, which would mean you would have to chose between me or thousands of people. Which is what SacheX was trying to explain." Chase froze in silence at the thought of making a difficult decision; he didn't know whether to sacrifice this many lives or stop LimeX. "Did you never think about why we formed the X-blade? Light and dark, human and nobody." She paused and then continued in her monotone voice, "And tell me, if SacheX hadn't told you all that stuff before, what would you have done? Would you have attacked me and tried to force me to talk when I could no longer move, and when I gave you the answer you didn't want kill me?" She paused again.

"I," Chase said before he stopped talking. He would've done that, but he didn't want to say it out loud in front of LimeX.

Raising her blade once more to strike him to the floor, she said, "Ilem is gone, completely. Her love for you, gone. Any feelings I had for you, are gone too. Live or die by your hand, I cannot live a lie anymore. I want SacheX to be whole, while he still has the opportunity. And once that is done, I will fade into this dark oblivion." She swung again.

"Is there really no way to save you? I kill you, you're gone. But if SacheX becomes whole, then you'll be gone. This is a lose-lose situation, how can I make a choice between that? If you're gone, Juliet won't

have a master to train under anymore and I'll lose you." asked Chase, he didn't want to believe that it was impossible for LimeX to live through to the end.

LimeX paused once again, and for a moment a flicker of emotion crossed her face before vanishing. She lowered her blade, and gazed down at Chase. "Tell me, do you remember everything that happened when my other half 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."

She paused, and gazed around at the silence around the room. "Do you even know where she is buried?"

"Where is she?" Chase asked her.

Thage listened to LimeX and Chase's exchange with pain. How they had love 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 wasn't 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 whole again, correct?'*

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

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

*'Yeah...'*

*'Well, give her our heart.'*

*'WHAT?!'*

*'You heard me.'*

*'ARE YOU CRAZY?! If I die, you die, too.'*

*'So what - it isn't as if we had a life anyhow. You'd be doing her a favor. Besides. We don't need to live anymore.'*

'Well, if you think so...' Thage decided. She summoned her Keyblade and pointed it in the direction of her chest. She exhaled and plunged. It didn't hurt... It was as if a burden was being lifted off of her. Her Keyblade disappeared in a flash of light and in its place, in front of her, was her pure heart. Thage's eyes started to glaze over. She held the heart with its aura and walked over towards LimeX. "Oh look, LimeX... This was what you wanted, right? Now...you can be whole...again..." She slumped onto the floor, leaving the heart floating in front of LimeX. For some reason, it didn't go away like everyone else's. She 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 that was filled with darkness and light. She did not know where it led, only that it went away from here. "Now go. Go away from here!" With that, Thage lost grip on what she was and how she existed. Juliet closed her eyes and silently mourned.

LimeX turned to look to Thage and, for a few moments, she couldn't hide her emotions. Shock, grief and a few others. She ignored Chase and walked over to the heart, slowly reaching out a hand in silent longing. The heart 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 her as a friend, if Chase guessed right, for only a short time. "Juliet..." Juliet 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 heart and vanishing into a portal. The portal remained open, revealing the sight of a small grave. "Chase..." LimeX turned and walked over. "Never forget me."

"I promise," he said softly. And then they hugged and kissed each other lightly on the lips.

She stepped back and dashed through the barrier where none could follow. "Get out and go and meet my whole self," she said faintly as she vanished from view.

Chase smiled after her and said, "Goodbye, LimeX. You'll always be in my heart; you and dear Ilem." Then Chase went into the portal and stood in front of the gravestone with the name, Ilem, written on it.