

Taken From the Dark

Sabrina Honts

Chapter 1-Free from the Bell

I can't wait, thirty more second until Rain and I are out of this place. No school. No homework. No worries for a whole two weeks! Our parents are actually taking us two and my brother out of school for a full ten days. Not to mention it is San Francisco we are talking about here! Ummm, hallelujah!

Delilah sits there in class and glances over to Rain while she is still taking her final note, which is until the alarm on her phone starts singing at the loudest possible volume. Rain looks up to give Delilah the most creeper facial expression ever to be seen by her. Slowly getting up, the two slip out of class and start sprinting down the hall, to the other side of the school.

As they slow down, Delilah takes down her chestnut red hair from the braid it has been tangled in for the past three hours. Then as they slowly approach their lockers, they see Kale, the tall popular guy that always has plans; and then for Delilah, it is just her brother. The two drop their things and open their lockers in lightening fast speed. Having everything put back, Rain takes a minute to look at her coal black hair to make sure it's still in place at the mirror inside her small compact locker; in the messy bun she had it in earlier this morning. Afterwards, she proceeded to make sure her makeup was fine and that her golden eye shadow was still making her grey eyes sparkle in the poorly lit halls.

The three of them started off walking, then slowly increasing speed until they got to the staircase. Kale and Rain slide down the railing, maintaining both their balance and their speed. While Delilah is still coming down the stairs, being careful not to drop her bag. God knows if everything will come out of her bag, if dropt and that will slow them down by five minutes, meaning five more minutes off of getting to the office, traveling etc. Anyways meaning five minutes off of vacation and relaxation time, Delilah takes her

time seriously. To most people, that may not be much, only five minutes. But to a girl that hasn't been on a get-away in years, she plans on enjoying every moment of it.

Next thing that Delilah knows is that she is at the bottom of the stair case, then observant as she is, she glances around to see that Kale is long gone, with Rain sitting in the corner wondering what had took her friend so long.

"What took you so long?" Rain asked slightly frustrated.

"Nothing, just thinking about things we can do over the next two weeks, you know---" Delilah responded with Rain interrupting her.

"Deli, we have two weeks, two entire weeks!!! Plus we have the whole ride there to figure out any and all possible thing that we want and can do. Don't go worrying about that now. Speaking about worrying, we should probably get our butts in gear and get to the office, Kale is probably wondering were us freaks went."

"Kale can wait; he is the one that took off! But you are right even though he is gone and ahead of us. Now we have to go and catch up to him and all." Delilah said as Rain agreed nodding her head.

"Alright now let's go!" Rain remarked.

Kale reaches the office just as the clock hits 9:30am. He grasps the handle and opens the large wooden door, to greet a teacher. This happens to be his homeroom teacher, Mrs. Zein, as he walks past her to sit down in the not so comfy waiting chairs, as he awaits the girls to come. Sitting in the chair he takes out his cell phone to text his parents that he's waiting in the office. Not even three seconds pass and Camellia, an average heightsenior, walks into the office with a large stack of old text books.

“What are you doing with all of those dusty text books?” Kale asked.

“Well I’m taking them to one of the old conference rooms. Apparently my English teacher is going to be remodeling the classroom tonight, so he sent me down here with these to put in a conference room. Just doing anything I can so get out of class and to get out of any speeches he has for the other people in class today if they didn’t finish the journaling assignment, that had been assigned last week...Anything to get out of that...” Camellia rambles on.

“Well he shouldn’t have you carry all those books by yourself.” Kale says taking the stack out of her arms.

“Thanks but you really don’t ha---”

“Nah nah, it is the least I can do, just show me were they need to be set down,” He smiles and looks towards the hallway that goes deeper into the office.

“Well alright,” Camellia smiles and leads Kale through the office, and through all the twists and turns around the corners. Then meanwhile with the girls...

Delilah and Rain run down the halls as fast as they can to get to the office. Both of them are surprised they have yet to get yelled at by a teacher. The clock turns to 9:30am, which means only ten more minutes until Deli and Kale’s parents pick the three of them up from the school. After turning their last corner, they arrive at the office, out of breath and gasping for air. Rain walks in followed by Delilah, both of them finding a chair to plop down in, that is when both of them notice that Kale is nowhere in sight. Glancing at each other they both look around the room when...

“Well it took the two of you long enough!” Kale stated as he walked out from the hall in the office.

I'm sorry I didn't make it clear on some background information, it started back in the third grade and when Delilah and Rain were little moved the two had seen each other in the deli at a supermarket that's how Delilah got her nickname from her forever best friend, Rain.

~Author

“Oh shut up! We’re girls not speed racers!” Rain exclaimed. The room went quiet as no one said anything leaving the three in the room in an awkward silence until...

“Anyways...” Delilah said, “Where did you go and why is no one in here?”

“I was helping someone and I don't know... Meeting?” Kale says as he slightly blushes.

“Oh!!! Does Kale like someone?! Tell us! Tell us!! TELL US KALE!” Rain says getting all riled up and curious.

Rain and Delilah spend the next nine minutes interrogating Kale on who he might be crushing on. Being as he is, he manages to stall every second until he sees his parents pull up in their grey SUV.

“It is none of your business!” Kale exclaims as he starts walking to the door.

“Uh huh... We will find out this information sooner or later!” Rain comments grabbing her bag, followed by grabbing Delilah’s hand; After that then storming out to the car leaving Kale in the office. The two girls reach the grey 2008, SUV and shove their bags in the back of the car in the far back seats. After doing so, they greet Mr. and Mrs. Mase, or as someone reading would see them as Kale’s and Delilah’s parents. Kale finally walks out of the school as the girls hop into the far back seats of the auto-mobile. At last he reached the car, slamming any extra homework he has in the seat. Climbing in, he almost hits his head on the hard roof-top of the car. Minutes later, they were on

their way to the train station... the three not knowing that until they arrived there. Their reaction was rather... unhappy as one might put it.

Grumpily, the teens aboard the train followed by the adults. Rain glances around as she gets on, noticing the cabins are located at the far end of the train. The five of them enter the dining cart, where they find fine china; it was laid out for lunch at all of the tables. Each one, already set in place. Which then it occurs to Delilah...

Why was the train cart so... divine and expensive looking...?

"Now, our cabins are in car 13. Here's a small layout of the train for what is in each car plus scheduling for stops and meal times." Mrs. Mase says to the teens as she hands them one of the small brochures. "Don't lose it, and Kale, please stay out of trouble..."

"What?! I just got here, I haven't done anything!" Kale exclaims back.

"Calm down you are going to attract attention, stay out of trouble, alright?"

"Yeah, yeah, whatever. How come the girls don't get a warning?"

"Shh now Kale they have never gotten into any trouble yet unlike you who is racking up quite the list." While their mom says that, both of the girls look at each other then look at Kale with their tongues sticking out, being cautious and aware to not have their parents see but also at the same time obnoxious enough for Kale to notice.

"Whatever and for the record it's called a bucket list, gosh..." Kale sighs then heads back to where it seems to be the cabins that the family rented out.

After that the conversation stops. The parents head off to the second dining hall while the girls go and investigate the train. It seems that they rented out 3 cabins, one

for them, one for the girls, then another one for Kale. Proceeding on, they reach their cabin and unpack partially, as in just get out phone chargers and organize their bags.

They set their phones down to charge, Rain turns on the TV as Delilah get her laptop out. It so happens to be that there are only the basic few channels on News and sports, neither of them in interest, but they kept on the news for some background noise besides the train on the tracks. The two are both zoned out until a breaking announcement comes on- interrupting a dog food commercial (for Pure One), to introduce a female anchorwoman somewhere in her late 20's.

“Breaking News, Arthur Meil, has escaped from his lock down in the Folsom Prison. All of those in the San Francisco area and matter affect for state officials, please be cautious and report any and all sightings. Our law force is doing our best to track him down. That is all at this time.” Rain turns the volume on the TV lower.

“Did you hear that?! Art is back! He escaped!” Rain exclaimed as she tried to keep her voice lower.

“Um who..? What kind of person has the nickname Art..?” Delilah asked confused.

“How do you not know ?! Anyways he was the guy from all of those murders awhile ago, and after he killed them, he made it into I guess you could put it in his eyes “art” hence the nickname. This was about 2 or so years back, how can you not remember or have heard about it?”

“Oh yeah... I remember him now... he also had some dire mental issues, which before he went berserk, he had been a talented artist.” Delilah open her laptop back up opening a new a window in Chrome and going onto Google, searching his name.

Google comes up with millions of articles. Millions. All of the web pages also had images of the criminal. In each photo is an average height guy, athletic built, tan skinned man, nothing looks to out of the ordinary except for a few things. Brown and Black hair matches his ice cold, gray eyes. Not forget his memorable features or the shocking scar going across his neck and the smaller more defined one on the left side of his face next to his eye.

“Whoa.... This is quite.... Uhh disturbing if I should say...” Delilah states as she continues to read multiple articles on the fugitive. Rain grabs her smart phone and does some searching herself to see if maybe she could pull up his past.

“Jeez. A total of 7 murders with 8 other attempts & other crimes like robbery, violence and other various reason against the law.” Rain goes over to the small cabinets on the other side of the tiny cabin to grab a piece of peppermint gum, one for Deli, and then another for herself.

Now awake and watching the Sports channel, Kale awakes from a brief nap in his cabin to look out and see then only 15 minutes have passed since then have boarded, that they just left the station. Looking through his bag, he grabs out one of his notebooks to continue to work on an essay he had due a week after he returns from the trip. With another 13 hours to go, He should be able to get a good portion of it done if he worked the entire time... pshh likes that will happen. Kale finds himself messing around with the stings on his sweatshirt for 2 minutes later, while his essay sits on his luggage bag. This shall be a long, long ride...

Hours pass after hours as the girls continue researching and learning on the murderer, both of the completely fascinated the whole time. Pages and pages of results

with articles, one page even had images of his art work which could have really given him a great career in art. Sitting there, Rain checks the time, 12:43 in the afternoon, then grabs the brochure that Mrs. Mase handed her to check the schedules.

“Deli” Rain says.

“What?” she replies back.

“We should probably go and get something to eat... at least something to snack on...”

“Mehh you can go and get something but I’m going to stay right here, I’m not hungry at all, although actually... Ehh okay lets go, I need some caffeine. “

“Well come on, get your lazy butt up!”

Delilah slowly gets up and after standing fully up, Rain grabs her wrist and pulls her out of the cabin and towards the dining cart. The two travel through the cars of the train, passing the people sitting making their way to where Delilah’s parents are sitting with their lunch on the same table. Taking a seat the girls get two cappuccinos and some chips to take back to the cabin. About 5 minutes later a waitress brings out the coffees and a bag of chips, which is when the girls head back to the room. Before arriving at the room, they bump into Kale which is also headed out of his cabin but not headed towards the dining car.

“Kale!!!” Rain yells down the claustrophobic hall in the car. “Well that got his attention...” Kale didn’t turn around until Rain made that second statement.

“What do you guys want?” Kale asked obviously annoyed.

“We just wanted to ask you if you have looked at the menu in the dining car...”
Delilah is now looking at her nails now and looking around the hall, also outside through the window.

“Yeah... I saw. And anyways, did you guys see about Arthur?”

“Yep we saw it, we also spent a few hours digging at more articles online... until we got up to get something to snack on” Delilah takes a drink of the cooled down coffee then opens the bag of Doritos Cool Ranch chips.

“Oh alright, anyways bye.” Kale turns around and continues down that hall to go off to the next cart.

“Uhhh bye then...” the girls exchange confused looks and continue back to their cave.

The last hours of the train ride consisted of watching reruns of the show “Friends”, Skyping other people back at home- but that was mainly just Rain. Delilah spent the time reading, writing, and also drawing. One goal from this trip for her is to get a souvenir that shall keep its value after the trip- mostly sentimental.

After the girls asked, Kale was turned and back on track to going and exploring the train. He had been here already a few hours, not leaving his cabin- time to explore this place. Kale then began to think to himself...

Why did I agree to come on this again? I should have just stayed home and gone to that party at Weston’s house... way better than being on a train for more than half a day... Oh well I’m stuck here now dang it.

Shrugging off his own thought he continues down into the next car which was just coach seating. Not all the seats were full, but enough for it to feel snug in the room. Someone had been smoking, the scent of the cigarette still lingers in the air. A few families were aboard, an older couple with a girl that seems to be about 15, so around Deli's age. Then there had also been a younger couple with what looks like to be twin baby girls. Any other families had just been a single parent with a child or two. None of them really stood out except for a mom that had her neck tattooed and her hair a dark gray color- looks like she was with her son- he had looked maybe 10? Not even.

Why the heck would a ten year old have dark blue hair... whatever... it actually looks kind of cool...

Finishing the walk through the car, he turns back; the next car on the train had just been luggage and storage, probably a few animals aboard would be back in there. Following back through the cars Kale takes a look at the brochure with everything on it, there had been only one place that may be of interest- The Lounge Car. Walking through multiple cars he made his way into the smaller more comfy car. There had been couches against the walls- one meant to be light for travel of course, along with small bar against the wall on the other side of the car. The small room only consisted of three people, all older and in their forties.

This place isn't half bad, even a better TV in here and pretty quiet.

Kale grabs out his phone, it's 4:30pm.

Great. Another six glorious hours on this thing.

Taking a seat up at the mini bar he orders a large root beer, something that he could drink and take back to his room. Doesn't take long until he finishes it off and before long he is watching the TV that was set up in the lounge. It is not long before he realizes that it's already 9pm.

*Things have been pretty quiet. I should probably go and talk to mom and dad....
Ehh nah, but I should go and probably eat something.*

Chapter 2- Destination Selected

Hours had passed. We were all now crammed into a minivan that my mom had rented for the family to get transportation to and from the hotel. Getting off the train had been hectic. It's a completely different experience boarding in a smaller town rather than getting off in an alive and upbeat city. It shouldn't be along until we get to the hotel; I mean how far away could it actually be?

Delilah is shaken out of her thoughts from Rain and Kale arguing about who gets out of the van first, yelled and shoving each other.

"Get your butt out of the way! Ladies first!"

"This isn't the 1900s!" Kale shoves her to the side and she hits the seat .

"Wait... Ladies first, go ahead Kale" Rain smirks.

"Really" Kale gives her a annoyed look. While then from behind Delilah pushes Kale and Rain out of the car with of them landing on the concrete. Both of them jolt up and start wiping the dust and dirt of their skin and clothes.

"What was that for?!" Rain says directed to Deli.

"Sorry about that it's just you two just wouldn't shut up" Delilah keeps a straight face and goes around to the back of the car to grab bags out to carry in. "Where did mom and dad go?"

"They went to check in" Kale replies and pointed to the entrance of the of the hotel.

"Jeez... that's where we are staying?!"

"Yep now did you really have to shove us out?"

“Yep. It was mandatory. Had to be done.” Delilah is now carrying her bags and suit case making her way towards the entrance soon with her brother and Rain following shortly behind. Now in front of the giant building they actually stop and look around at the city, they were right in down town of San Francisco. It looked to be around midnight with the stars glisten the night sky along with the city’s bright lights reflecting into the clouds.

The three stopped their daze into the area around them to enter the exquisite building. The place look like it was took straight out of one of the shows; it was jaw dropping. Kale walked through first and found their parents straight away at the front desk which was hard to miss the oak wood with a gray granite counter. The warm red walls were decorated with the occasional painting or two, with the hard wood floors and decorative tiles complementing the glass chandelier. Delilah and Rain just stood there mesmerized by the room’s beauty. There had never been a place that looked to perfect.

“If this is just the lobby... What is the room going to look like?” Rain says in awestruck.

“I don’t know. But this is just... making me speechless. I officially am never leaving” Delilah grabs her bags and drags Rain with her over to her parents. “Mom!!!” Her mother turns around with her purse at hand.

“Yes dear?” It looked that she was about to sign a paper, something for the room most likely.

“Do we have our room yet?” Delilah’s eyes start darting around looking for the credit card looking keys.

“Kale and your father have them, I just have to finish up some paperwork and I will be right up” Right as the girls hear that they look to see her father walking and Kale

just getting out of sight. Rain gets a better grip on her bags to find a bellboy to grab the luggage to bring up to the room. Following that they dart out of there, Delilah taking one of the four elevators and Rain taking the stairs which Kale had used another elevator. Both parents stood there confused and just went back to what they had been doing.

I got to get to the room before them... I have to have the best room, ain't no way that I'm getting stuck on the couch.

Kale's thought rush through his head as the elevator continues to go up, looking at the top of the doors it just past the 3rd floor.

Delilah and Rain probably figured it out by now. They won't be able to get up there in time.

As he is interrupted by the elevator doors opening on the 4th floor, and some old woman gets on. Having the classic tourist look she rocks the large hat, long shorts and floral top.

What the heck would someone be dressed like that at this time it's just past midnight.

The elevator continues on and keeps going up.

Crap, maybe they aren't as fast...

Panting and out of breath, Rain continues up the stairs. Deciding to take a few seconds to look down the stairwell, obviously a great distance has been put forward. Almost on the 5th floor already she starts up again. Delilah sits in the elevator patiently

as the time slowly ticks past. As the elevator goes up, it doesn't stop once and drops her straight off at the 8th floor. BY the time she got there it looked like she had gotten there just a few seconds after Rain, which she is now in one of those stiff chairs and out of breath.

Just then another elevator door opens with Kale coming out onto the floor. At the moment is a 2 on 1 ron-day-vu. The halls and room was dead silent to the point they could hear each other breath... especially Rain's since she is coughing and heaving for air. One at a time they take a slow step back from each other and at the same time they sprint down the hall way full force. Rain got into the lead-she was already warmed up but at the small time her muscles were already tired. It was close until they hit the door, Kale only one having the keys. He manages to get the door open without being killed. They all shut up and stop when the door opens.

"Where the fudge is our room?!" Delilah remarks and turns around to glance down the hallway.

"I ain't sleeping in there!" Rain gets looks from the two siblings. "What... I'm not" Rain now says with a straight face. "Well then!" She remarks with a tone. A janitor's closet lays before them filled with cleaning supplies.

Out of the three of them, Delilah is the first to notice her parents enter the floor from the elevator and to walk down to another hallway. Slowly walking away and hoping the other two don't notice, making her way towards the other hall. It doesn't take long for them to catch on, making them both break up into a hurry to get there first. Since Delilah noticed she already has a head start on both of them, when she kicks up her pace- her lead on the two is kept. Their parents opened the door right as Delilah got there which made her stop and gaze speechless. Seconds until Rain and Kale arrive;

Deli takes that to her advantage and asks her mom while looking in all the rooms. The time that it took them to get there, she only had time to look at a few rooms.

The hotel room was more of a condo rather than a room. It had been quite large with two bedrooms, three bathrooms, a loft, full set kitchen, living room, entrance, and even its own laundry room. The fridge had been full stock with pre ordered delivered food. This condo had a very warm and cozy feeling with neutral colors. Her parents drop some of their luggage off in the living room. Kale and Rain make it to the luxury room, and also too, stop in amazement. By the time they stop, Delilah took the second bedroom after seeing that it had a connected bathroom and two queen beds with warm brown colored sheets. Kale had no objection to that as he went up to the loft that had a couch and a full sized bed, the place even had its own TV that had been the same sized one in the living room. Both parties were content on their sleeping spaces.

Rain enters the bedroom and immediately claims the bed on the right from the door, going full body fall back onto the bed. Deli comes out from the main living space to find Rain on her back with her eyes shut. Completely sprawled out on the queen size mattress, she greets her friend.

“This place. Is. So. Amazing!” Rain is now standing on the bed and jumps off.

“Trust me I know Hun.” Entering the room, her mom follows after too also entering but with their luggage cart that has all their bags.

“Here girls, an employee dropped these off” Her mom stands there and puts the bags on Deli’s bed- unloading the cart.

“Thanks mom” The two start grabbing their bags off the of the bed.

“Oh yeah, now get to bed its way to late for you guys to still be up.” After that, she leaves the room.

“Sleep? Yeah right like that will happen anytime soon.” Delilah says and unzips one of her suit cases.

“We can just unpack our bags and then go and lay in our beds, doesn’t mean we have to sleep.”

“alright, and how long do you think this will take?”

“I have no clue, but we have plenty of time now.” Both Deli and Rain start unpacking their main bags, while having a few bags of closed still pack up.

Shifting up to the loft, Kale’s luggage is thrown onto the couch as he goes and turn on the large plasma screen. The screen statics onto an infomercial as he goes over the bed to go over then lay down. The loft had a layout of the stairs coming up to an open space. Only allowed to go left- It has a couch then a small hall type thing, which leads to a space that consists of a bed, a few chairs, plasma screen, night stands, and a desk. Off to other side of the stairs, on the right, is the third bathroom as the first one is in the master bedroom.

I wonder what time it is... It can't be too late, I mean really can't too late; we go to this room just after midnight, although we have been here for a little bit unpacking and such... I would guess maybe around 12:30am

Kale rolls over and checks his iPhone; the time was a little bit after 1am. He also had a few missed calls and texts messages from friends back home. People had messaged him too on Facebook; he can’t help it that people are missing him. Most of the messages where pictures of that of a party he had missing to come onto this trip. Any other messages had been about anything that had happened during the rest of the school day that he had missed.

He now gets off his phone to change the channel, as it has still been on infomercials. He just changed it to a random channel that happened to have "Texas Rangers" marathon on. The show had been a big part of his childhood as his father liked to watch the show. It had been the episode where a group of guys kidnapped a couple and were trapped in a hotel, while the girl's sister was secretly in the hotel but she was disabled. In the end like all the other episodes, it ends well.

Man it truly has been forever, since we have done something as a family...

His thoughts slowly drift him in to a daze, which from then a deep sleep. Thoughts turn into a dream playing through his head. Manly memories he has with the family, even with Rain since she has been a part of the family for what seems to be so long, which it is.

The clock now strikes 4:20am in the morning; both the girls are passed out on a bed, clothes covering them. They managed to get most of it put away, even though they hadn't put away the clothes that had been onto of them. At this point the condo is completely dark and silent, for the exception of Kale and the TV he left on. Everyone at this point was asleep.

Well that is until Delilah rolls onto her side and fall off her bed with a thud onto the ground. That not only woke her up , but Rain asleep which made her jump up out of bed.

"Dude! Are you alright?!" Rain gets up to go over by where she heard the thud.

"Ow... I am fine, just that hurts when you don't expect it" Deli gets up off the floor of the room. "What time is it?"

"It looks to be around 4:30am, why?"

"How long have we been out for ?"

"I don't know, umm maybe a hour or two? why?"

"Just asking...because it just seems kind of quiet but now that's obvious."

"Oh alright" Rain at this point goes out the door of their room and turn on the hall light going down to the living room to see the place better.

A beige carpet opened on in the living room from the hard wood floors in the hall. Delilah follows her but instead goes into the kitchen and opens the fridge and grabs out some orange juice followed by grabbing two glasses form the cabinet, setting them down and filling them half way up. She walks over and hands one to her friend.

"Now what? It's almost 5am, and I am wide awake I'm not sure about you."

"Well, one we could try and actually sleep or two we can go and explore the hotel." Delilah goes and grabs her key for the condo and opens the door onto the dim lit hallway.

"Exploring it is!" Rain follows after her and the two venture the hallways and floors of the immense building.

Hours pass as they go through the levels and different halls, taking turns and twists that occasionally got them to dead ends. Eventually the two make their way to a second check-in, this one having a cafe. Going inside, they buy coffee and sit down at a table on the far side of the room. The TV is turned onto the news, clocking the time to be now 8:30am. Weather forecasts are sounding through the small cafe that is until it goes onto to tell the recent events, which turns onto Arthur case and its whereabouts. Obviously neither parent has seen the news in the past 24 hours, otherwise being in this location wouldn't be a choice.

It doesn't take long for the teens to finish off their fair dosage of caffeine, which got them back to the condo before 9am. Sooner timing could have happened, but took a few detours down a few hallways they hadn't yet explored through. Opening the large wooden door, sunlight beam into the entrance all the way for across the hall in the living room. Mrs. Mase is up and in the kitchen preparing breakfast for everyone, while the two guys on the trip are on the couch watching some history thing. Things have been slow and such so far in the day.

The day has gone by, from napping to swimming to shopping. Everyone was basically out on their own- that is until the two friends saw Kale walking on the street with a few shopping bags from the locally owned shoe shop. The three actually make somewhat mends, then go into a Starbuck's four blocks down. When they walk in they are greeted by a taller girl that looked to be about 19 years old, then a guy how came behind her looked a little older about the age of 21 or 22. Kale reads their name tags, as they are to be Zoey and Drew.

"Ello' is there something I can get you?" Zoey smiles at the younger teens. Kale decides to order some basic coffee while the girls just each get a cookie and sit down at a table

It doesn't take long until 3 other teens approach the table. Two guys and a girl had walked up to the table, and they introduce themselves. Black hair with blue underneath, first to talk is Komett. Several piercing on her face, it doesn't take away from the striking aqua eyes. Standing next to her is Drake and Ace. Her being next to the two makes her look short, while in real, she's just short of Rain. One to her one side is Drake, a taller guy, looks a little older then Kale and has a darker skin tone. He had definitely intimidating to the three of them.

Conversation begins between the four, as Delilah just sits and stares at the other guy. He had not introduced himself which it was a moment or two until..

"Oh yes and this is Ace, sorry." Komett kept talking to the others and before long, friendships were established in the small groups. Ace was a fairly tall guy, probably over six feet, 6'3, give or take a inch. He too, had like Komett had jet black hair and his just covers one of his dark violet eyes. With him not talking gives off the vibe of Ace being more of an introvert and keeping to himself, which is correct. After about an hour of time hanging out they all got to know each other better. The time is currently 6pm which they are all hanging about.

"Hey so what are you guys here for anyways? Like in town?" Drake asks then reaches in his pocket to take out his cell phone replying to some text.

Kale explains everything going on and how they are on vacation, which right after he finishes his last words, Deli buds in.

"Do you guys know anything about Arthur Meil?" Those were the first words that came out of her mouth since the three came to their table.

"Yeah I know a little bit." Komett replied back to her. "Why?"

"Well what do you know?"

"Like I said, I know a little." Now the two are in a glare at each other when Rain cuts the silence between them.

"On our way traveling here, we heard about his escape, just wondering if you know about his background or if you know what's going on with it.." Rain explains more into it after. It doesn't take long until they are discussing the whole topic, even Ace budding in.

“My father had been friends with him, before he went berserk. He used to say he missed the memories with him and how they would go out in the night hours.” Ace doesn’t make eye contact with anyone that is until Deli looks up from staring out the window onto the street, the two making direct eye contact. It had been brief, but it had also been unforgettable. A forever piercing look it seemed like, until she breaks away and looking down then back out the window.

“He also used to live around this area, doubt that he would ever come back though, he is probably on the run trying to get to either Mexico or Canada. A place that is far and be hard to find him.” Drake is now sitting down next to Kale at the table, which is when Komett grabs and turns around a chair to also sit down. Ace had remained standing behind them, keeping off and back to his own thoughts.

“And also, is your real name Komett?” Rain asks her curiously.

“Well if was a nickname given by our group; you see we are a part I supposed you could say of a group, and it separates into smaller groups of three or four. With total of about 30 people- we call ourselves shadow walkers. Anyways I got the nickname from being outside when several comets went past. Quinn even gave me the name. She roams with Weston... that reminds me that they wanted to meet with us later at 8 ish.” Komett is now staring off into space in her thoughts. Delilah gets up to go and throw away her small napkin in which she got her cookie. She can just smell the aroma of all the coffee beans in the back and from the small baked goods up at the front counter. “Anyways what time is it now? “

“We have about an hour or so until we have to leave this place and head out. They wanted to meet up at the safe house.” Drake says glancing around to the door the small café.

Rain, Delilah, and Kale are now all sharing looks at each other and finally one of them steps up to the plate and asks them a question they all ponder.

“So umm what is the safe house..?” Rain asks the group.

“Sorry that would be classified at the moment but tell you guys what, we can all meet up your hotel if you want? I don’t know if you want to do that or not. All we need is the name of the hotel.” Komett replies back with a smile.

“Yeah that would be fun sounds great; we are at the Eternity Stone Plaza on 3rd street.” Kale says back to her as she is grabbing something out of her bag.

“Here’s my number give it a dial when you want to meet up as a group, ah’ight?” She then puts a piece of paper on the table which has a cell phone on it.

Delilah picks up the paper, “Thanks, we will be sure to get a hold of you.” Deli smiles at Komett.

“We best get going, we have a long walk ahead up us under the moon light, I guess we will see you guys later. “ Drake says. Ace is still standing behind them, now checking his cell phone. Drake and Komett get up and follow Ace out of the shop.

“Well that was interesting.” Rain says with a small grin, “I say we go back and eat dinner, maybe then head down to the pool?”

“Yeah I’m in on that.”

“I am as well.”

They all get up and leave the comfy café to walk down back to their hotel. The time had been just nearing 7pm as they left.

Chapter 3- Boom goes the Dynamite

The lights were bright outside the hotel as they had broadcasted beams reflecting off of the pond near the entrance. All of three of the teens headed back up to the room through the elevators, and walked through the door hearing a loud blare from the Plasma Screen in the living room. The parents were sitting on the couch snacking on what looks to be popcorn. Their mom had made some sort of pasta for dinner, ever so quick they grabbed bowls and chowed down. Kale headed up to his little man cave and grabs his swimming gear, changed into it, then met the girls down stairs that just packed small bags to take down to the pool to take with them. Along with spare cash in case of a gift shop stop.

Scrambling through the hotel, they finally arrive at one of the pools. The humid air swept through and their bodies could definitely sense the strong scent of chlorine throughout the room. Swiftly the girls make it over to the Women's locker rooms- and go to change into their swimming suits. Right as they had gotten there, Kale was sped over to the swimming pool with the basketball hoops, and had been shooting hoops with some 13 year old. After leaving the bathrooms, changed, the girls headed over to the hot tub right away to lay in there for a good 15 minutes. After the time had gone- they got out and jumped into the freezing pool water, feeling its coldness go through their bodies.

Having the best time with themselves, time slowly passes throughout the night...

The safe house had been completely dark as we approached it closer, lanterns were lit down to the stair well that had gone from the old building all the way down to the large rustic storage basement. I had noticed the flames to be a bright purple color, a usual special effects fire that we used. Once us three reached the basement it had been lit up in the sight of leaders

of the Shadow walkers. I couldn't tell yet what this was about... But if know for sure this isn't just a calling for any group. They wanted to speak with us specifically. I wonder what Drake and Komett had running through their heads.. This can't take that long...

Being at the pool had its time, but by 9pm they were out and about in the lower level of the hotel, at the restaurant. Which is when Rain grabbed out her phone and texted they number that the three mysterious teens left at the table. Someone had definitely entered the joint because a strong essence of a woman's perfume traveled vastly throughout the room. Something you would smell from a Macy's department store... Some older lady had came into the place with her husband. Delilah turned back around in the booth to face her brother who was probably texting his friends back home. Then with Rain texting Komett about the meet up at the restaurant, she had sat back down after sitting on her legs.

"Alright I sent a text over to them... Hope she replies soon" Rain now is looking up from her phone and at the others. The reply came back within minutes of sending the first text. "And they say they shall be here in a few minutes... so now we wait"

Next few minutes they spend in silence except for a TV noise background from up by the far side of the place near a large open fireplace. On their phones, glancing around... minutes passed before one of them nods up and looks over to the door which then Komett, Drake, and Ace pass through. And it doesn't take long for the group to be one again and for conversation to start. Conversations had turned into hour long chats. Next time they all checked the clock, it had been around 10:30pm but since the cozy restaurant didn't close at all, they had taken their time and all of them had ordered various drinks.

The night had gone on and on as the spent the night away sitting at that booth, kicking back together. After just sitting for awhile, Drake gets up along with the others and they head out and up to a outdoor grilling spot which is where they all sit on metal benches under the stars with clouds covering the moon, facing a roaring fire. This is when a game of truth of dare springs up. Truths going from the favorite color, to the most awkward social situation, while

dares going from doing a pushup, going all the way up to in the middle of the lobby doing the Dougie. Time was flying past as the teens had their fun under the moon light. Memories had been made that night, wasn't only just in the moment with meetings these people, more of the kind of people you meet up with later on in life for no reason what so ever.

"Hey we should had down to the Drains!" Komett jumps out of where she is sitting.

"The what?" Kale and the two are sit there in confusion.

"Oh it's the basically the local hang out for people like us, kind of like an all around party." Ace says back to Kale's comment. "Open all night, just down the street. Although it can be a nosier over there."

"Alright I'm in!" Rain stand up ready to go, along with kale agreeing in which is when Delilah just kind of sits there unsure of what to do.

"Guys its almost 11pm, are you sure?" Deli says to them.

"Yeah come on we are on vacation after all!" Rain says back to her, Delilah gets up to join in on going to the Drains.

"I have to drop a few things off at the room."

"Hey well I can take you, and then we can all meet up there at about 11:20? Sound good guys?" Komett says to everyone.

"Yeah sounds good." Drake replies back to her.

The teens then split up, Komett and Delilah heading back up to their condo where she drops her bag and changes. While Drake, Ace, Kale, and Rain head down the dark streets to the shadowy hang out, lurking in the street darkness. When the four arrive at the Dark building, they go inside and up a few flights of worn metal staircases, until they reach an apartment. Heavy music blared throughout the moderately sized spaced that was crammed with a hundred or so people. They make their way through the crowd of people, music pounding, and reach over to a side table where three girls sit with two guys. Being at this kind of party is a new

experience for both Kale and Rain. Kale is used to parties but with more... light and in bigger spaces, definitely with different music also. While they are socializing at the party, Ace goes over and head outside to a balcony outside.

Get here soon you two.....