

Perfect For You

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Just a typical day for Maka Albarn and Death the Kid... But will it lead to the revealing of mixed feelings, jealousy, and pain?

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1 - The 'Perfect' Morning

"Hmm... There. Perfect." Kid smiled to himself, trimming the plant one last time. He wiped sweat from his forehead with the back of his arm. He was in the process of making his garden perfectly symmetrical. The sleeves of his shirt were pushed up past his elbows, a precaution against the green stains that threatened at the fabric.

Maka took a quick step back, observing her afternoon cooking briefly, "Perfect." she breathed with a nod of approval. She set her apron aside, and unrolled her bunched up shirt from her elbows. Then shuffled the two plates to where Soul slept on the red couch.

Kid walked back toward a small, round, lawn table, it's presence a Viking ship on a sea of green, spying the glass of lemonade left possibly by one of the Thompson sisters. He picked it up gingerly, so as not to smudge the clear glass, and let the liquid flow down his throat, rejuvenating his senses. "Ahh." He sighed. Glass in hand, he paced to the back door of the mansion, to get the empty thing to the dishwasher.

Maka stood there, seconds passing as Soul continued his skipping snores. Her smile faded, her eyes narrowed with disgust, "Soul! Wake up!!!" her enormously loud kick flew him onto the tiled floor; but the warm plates were still placed, as if untouched on top of her palms.

Soul whipped his head around irritated, "What's your problem?!? That wasn't cool at all!" He yelled, his arms waving through the air emphasizing his complaint.

Maka set the plates down quietly, sighed, and waited a moment longer, "Just eat already, would ya?!" she turned and sat in the empty couch, picked up a plate, and ate with no sound.

Soul looked up, annoyed.

Entering the kitchen, Kid set the glass in the silver dishwasher, directly across from one of the same style. He closed the door carefully, walking into the main room. There, he found his weapons, the Thompson sisters, each enveloped in their own pastimes.

Liz Thompson, the taller of the two girls, with dirty-blond hair that flowed it's way down her cream-colored back, looked up briefly with half-lidded eyes before placing her attention back on the application of her second coat of mascara.

Maka's plate clanked as she set it down satisfied, "There," she sighed, "a peaceful meal don't you think Soul?" she looked over to the one person sitting beside her.

Soul hadn't left his eyes off the opposite wall the entire time, his eyes twitching now and then, still annoyed by her presence then.

The clock ticked by seconds of unwanted silence.

Maka looked around his face to see his actual expression. She stopped herself midway, noticing it then. Her eyes narrowed almost closed, "Hey, Soul, snap out of it already."

His head as if creaked around to meet Maka's gaze. Nothing changed.

More seconds passed...

Maka stood up and bent over to take the empty plates from the table, "Well I'm going to get Black Star and them, suit yourself not coming."

There was a momentary awkward silence as Kid stood in the doorway, then, realizing this, he moved to sit next to the younger sister, Patti Thompson.

"What're you doing?" Kid asked her, curious. There was nothing left to do after the garden was finished, and only for a brief moment did he consider visiting Maka and Soul. He realized that it was quite early and they would probably still be just waking up. So instead, he waited for Patti's bubbly response.

"I'm leaving Soul!" Maka's boots stopped shortly after a step out of the doorway, "See you later!" she waved away.

"Huh." Soul sighed, an arrogant look crossed his face walking up to the shut door, hands in his pockets. "Hmmm maybe I should stop by Kid's house first...but he may still be getting ready..."she stopped, "but Black Star may be away." her eyes narrowed for a moment, "Kid it is then..." as she took a left turn down a small alley.

Kid heard a sharp knock on the door, and stood up to answer it. The girls paid no attention whatsoever, still engulfed in their separate activities. Kid cringed as Liz's mascara smudged a bit on her eyelid, but he walked towards the front door nonetheless.

"Hello?" He asked.

Maka waited patiently for Kid's response, looking over her shoulder every now and then to see how neat the porch was.

Her head looked up hearing the faint 'hello' through the thick front doors.

A small smile cracked at the side of her mouth, trying hard to not make Kid realize her mood was ruined by Soul.

"Kid." she waved kindly, keeping the stiff smile on her face.

"Maka-chan." Kid half-smiled, scrutinizing her face. He paused for a moment, and his smile dropped into a look of concern, his eyebrows furrowed. "What's wrong?" He asked, noticing the lack of enthusiasm that Maka usually had emanating from her presence.

Inside, Liz heard only the names. "Oh, Maka-chan is here?" She asked loudly, as to let Kid hear her.

"Yes." Kid replied at the same volume Liz had used, not taking his eyes off of Maka as he responded.

He waited for Maka to answer his concern.

"Hm?" Maka's eyes blinked away, embarrassed of how easy it was to notice, "Oh, Kid-kun..." she trailed off nervously, seeing that a simple matter of Soul's morning issue lead to Kid-kun worried about her mood.

Quickly she found a distraction, "Patty! Nice to see you." she smiled briefly the best she could, waving toward Patty.

"Maka-chan, something is bothering you." Kid stated, closing the front door behind him. "What is it?"

'Whatever it is, she looks pretty down... I don't like it.' He thought, frowning.

Muffled voices came from behind the closed door. "Hmm? Kid-kun? What's going on...?" The doorknob twisted but didn't open. "He locked it!? Kid! Let us out!"

Kid kicked the door behind him with the bottom of his foot, quieting the voice.

'Oh...he closed the door.... hmm, must be really worried...' Maka thought.

Maka quickly took a step backward, "Oh-oh its nothing, hahaha...." she tried not to meet his gaze the best she could.

Kid shrugged and looked to his left as he asked his next question. His face turned a soft pink color.

"Well, what did you come by for?" He rubbed the back of his head, trying to sound casual.

Liz put her ear to the door, trying to hear the conversation. "What in the world..." She whispered. "Patty, Kid-kun is acting strange again... He gets like this around Maka all the time..." Seeing Patty's mischievous grin, Liz grinned as well. "Do you think..." Liz started, before her sister shushed her. She continued listening.

"H-huh?" Maka stuttered around for words, "O-oh, umm, well..." she trailed off for a moment, feeling the heat rise in her cheeks. 'I...actually forgot what I was here for....'

She looked down at the ground, "To get together...I guess."

The pink turned to a scarlet color on Kid's face. "O-oh." He stuttered. "And where did you want to g-go...?" 'What is this? My heart is racing at abnormal speeds... How strange...'

Liz giggled under her breath, realizing the gist of this little chat. She looked at Patty and they both

nodded in agreement. 'Kid likes Maka.' Their nods seemed to say.

Maka stopped her breath for a quick moment, the heat getting hotter and hotter, her heart beating against her rib cage.

'Think of something, think of something!'

Tensing, she replied, "U-um a-anywhere you want I guess...." she looked to the side, down at the perfectly placed flowers beside her, hoping to ease up her breathing.

"We could... Go to the park... Y-you know, by the basketball c-court." Kid replied, flushing bright red. Liz lowered her eyebrows, smothering laughter. 'Kid is really tripping over his words... He's so awkward...' She thought.

"R-right, ok" Maka nodded, looking back at his flushed face with a slightly surprised look. 'He's nervous too...?'

Kid smiled nervously. "L-let's go then." He started walking down the front walkway with her. His hand twitched at his side, and he tried to restrain it there. When he couldn't stand it any longer, his hand shot out to grab hers, intertwining their fingers. He looked away, blushing wildly.

Liz peered through the window. "Aw, they're so cute..." She sighed, closing the curtains and returning to her mascara.

Maka felt her stiff hand fit into Kid-kun's almost perfectly. She took a quick look at the two hands with a stifled breath. Then focused her eyes to where they were going, feeling the red heat build up in her face once more.

"So... How's Soul?" Kid asked uneasily, turning to face her once more. 'Ah, god... I start making small-talk and it comes out as a question about Soul... He might be a challenge for me if I want to win Maka's heart... Dangit.' He thought, disappointed in himself. He stuck his free hand into his pocket, waiting for an answer.

"S-Soul?" 'Oh no...I completely forgot...how will I answer? Hmmm I can't tell the truth now can I...he'll know that was the truth of my bad mood and it'll lead off...'

"O-oh he's fine as always." She let out a short laugh.

'Thank god she ended that quickly... But she seems touchy on the subject... Maybe I should... No, better not barge in on her personal life... It'd sound rude at this point.' Kid thought, avoiding the situation.

"That's good."

There was a long silence. Feeling awkward, Kid stopped walking, which made Maka stop as well.

"Maka-chan..." He said nervously, turning her toward him. He put a hand on her shoulder. The world seemed to freeze and he heard his own heartbeat pounding inside of him, and possibly Maka's as well. He leaned forward and kissed Maka's forehead slowly. His lips lingered there for a while as he spoke. "I don't want you to feel bad while we're having fun... What's wrong?" He breathed into her bangs, frowning.

Maka questioned the silence. Her eyes were wide with surprise, but... but she seemed...relieved? 'What is it?' she urged herself to respond, but all that came out were pointless breaths of air. 'Say something!'

"I-I..." her face burned of embarrassment. Quickly she turned around too anxious to answer, and continued walking slowly. Only a couple seconds passed until she realized her hand was not in the warmth of Kid-kun's.

Hesitantly she turned her head around to see the disappointed face, "Kid-kun?" she paused, "we going?" she made out a nervous smile, and decided to hold out her hand.... for...encouragement?

"Oh. Yeah. Right." Kid replied, moving to stand next to her and grasp her hand once more. 'Now I know I shouldn't interfere... Just keep walking...' He walked stiffly, feeling like a total loser. 'Ah, I shouldn't have kissed her! Now I probably seem too forward with her and she'll never like me for sure! Oh, what have I done, what have I done?' He panicked in his mind, a frown spreading across his face.

Seeing Maka's sudden look of concern for him, he flashed a glinting smile that was rarely seen on his face. 'Please believe this smile... Please believe it...' He thought, still fake-grinning slightly as he turned around. His heart was beginning to slow down, but he accidentally glanced down at their interwoven fingers and his heart rate skyrocketed again out of nervousness. 'Almost there... Just a couple more feet to the park... It'll be less awkward there...' Kid thought, his breaths coming in gasps as he looked at Maka's somewhat saddened face.

'... Why is Kid-kun panicking?' Maka looked up to see the worry sunken face hidden beneath his 'smile'. She looked ahead, pushing the subject away, seeing the basketball court came into view. 'Good we're almost there...' an un-noticed smile grew across her face. 'Now maybe we can spend some time alone...' excitement perked inside her mind; the smile growing larger. 'Couple...more...seconds....' "Ah, here we are... It's a nice day, hmm, Maka-chan?" Kid asked, trying to sound more confident in himself. 'Finally... There's the park.' He thought, smiling to himself.

The air smelled of the sweet flowers that speckled the swaying grass on either side of the path. Their aroma calmed Kid momentarily as he reached the bench that was placed next to a single tree. He sat down, and patted the space next to him, a gesture for Maka to sit down.

"Hm?" Maka looked shortly up at Kid-kun's face. 'It looks calm now.' Maka nodded and turned back, "Yeah, its beautiful."

She smiled as Kid-kun sat gently on the bench and invited her to sit as well. 'Its going well....' Maka took a step before setting herself comfortably into the cool bench. She blushed silently feeling the warm hand of his set back on hers. Happily she didn't argue to let him continue.

"So..." Kid started, unsure of what to say now. His face turned a bright red color once again. 'Oh no, now what do I do? Say something, you idiot!! She probably thinks I'm stupid! Aw, man... Say something!! Why can't I say anything? Well, I can kiss Maka goodbye... WHY CAN'T I SPEAK TO HER!?' "Aheh." He laughed nervously, a short distraction from the silence. "You... Look stunning today, Maka-chan." He said, smiling warmly. 'Yes! Finally! That's got to get her attention! Oh, thank god I thought of something!' He thought triumphantly.

Maka couldn't help but giggle back at the nervous laugh he let escape. She looked around, the flowers' scent soothed her, and she closed her eyes trying to calm down the anxiety that ran inside her stomach. As if not noticing his comment she blushed and nodded a thank you, trying not to meet his gaze, feeling the race of her heart excel every second.

Kid smiled and put his arm around the back of the bench, reaching around Maka. His other arm sprawled off of the other side of the bench. In this laid-back position, it was easier to think of conversation. "So..." He started.

"Oi, Kid-ku~n!" The shouts cut him off.

"Eh?" Kid looked to his left, seeing the Thompson sisters running towards them, Soul following slowly behind at his own relaxed pace.

"Shinigami-sama wants to see us!" Liz said, reaching Kid, out of breath.

"Honorable Father? Why?" Kid asked, tilting his head.

Liz froze for a moment, noticing Kid's position and how his arm was around Maka. "O-oh... I don't know. Spirit told me."

"Okay. Maka-chan and Soul too?" Kid asked, standing up. He grasped Maka's hand and pulled her to her feet.

Liz nodded, and Kid, still holding Maka's hand, started to follow them to Shibusen.

Maka's eyes wouldn't open from the comfortable atmosphere Kid-kun made; but the footsteps and faint calls for their names grew louder, and she opened her eyes to see who it was. 'Oh...' Her position was hard to tense, considering Kid-kun's arm would feel it, but she couldn't help it as she saw Soul glare past him. 'Oh no...what will I tell Soul?' she tampered inside her head until Kid-kun retreated his arms from

their position and stood up still holding onto her hand.

She looked up nervously to stand beside him before he casually walked ahead.

"Oi, Maka." Soul's irritated voice wasn't any different than earlier.

She couldn't help but try to look happy as she turned her attention to him, "Hm?"

"Thought you were getting Black Star, too." suspicion grew in his tone.

'An excuse, find an excuse!!'

"Oh, well, I didn't think he would be ready at that time so...." she trailed off hoping Soul could understand the rest.

Trying to ignore the rest, she glanced a reassuring smile up at Kid-kun, seeing his slightly worried face.

Kid returned the smile, having heard Soul's questions. 'So rude. How dare he treat Maka-chan like that. I wouldn't dream of it.' He thought, looking ahead with a scowl on his face.

When he saw Maka looking at him, he smiled. "Just thinking." He said in a lighter tone.

Before long they had reached the Death Room, and entered to find Shinigami waving at them.

"Haihai! Kid-kun, Maka-chan, Liz and Patty, and even Soul showed up this time!" Shinigami said in his odd voice.

"Honorable Father, what did you need us for?" Kid spoke up.

Shinigami wasn't really paying attention to what Kid was saying, only that Kid was holding hands with Maka. "Oi, Kid-kun, lookie here~! Could this be an elligible bride~?" He teased.

"Father..." Kid grumbled, blushing redder than ever.

"Ahem. Well, anyway, I called you all here because I have a special mission that only you five can do."

Shinigami started. "At the edge of town, I think I saw Chrona leaving... Can you look into it for me?"

"Hai!" Patty and Liz responded, smiling.

"Yes, Honorable Father." Kid said, still cooling off his embarrassment.

'BRIDE?' Maka shook it out of her mind. 'Can't be, can't be....calm down, calm down...'

Sighing she thought of the real subject and asked Shinigami-sama, "When did she leave?"

She must have looked too jumpy, since Kid-kun squeezed her hand as if calming her down.

Soul scoffed. 'Maka would never...' he glanced over at her, but could only focus on the intertwined hands. 'He could never win over Maka, she's too kind hearted for THAT type of person.'

'He could never win over Maka, she's too kind hearted for THAT type of person.'

"Hmph." Soul turned again to face Shinigami-sama seeing how everyone was, nearly now on the real subject.

"Ehh, must have been sometime this afternoon... Maybe half-an-hour before this." Shinigami replied, clasping his hands together. "Now, then, off you go! Byebye!"

Kid pulled on his jacket Liz and Patty had brought, and carefully placed Maka's around her shoulders, helping her arms in. He smiled at her warmly. The sun blazed down on them as they walked.

"Why would Chrona leave...? Unless it has to do with Medusa again..." Kid commented, looking up at the clouds.

"This afternoon...?" Maka mused her open thoughts. 'That was about after I left for Kid-kun....Only Soul could have done something if Chrona came.....'

She shot an accused glare at Soul, hoping he would see it. Then quietly walked along with Kid-kun as he fit her into her jacket. She blushed and smiled politely.

Narrowing his eyes at the pathetic gesture Kid made, purposely interrupting, "What kinda look was that?"

Maka ignored him, getting in the rest of her jacket and thanking Kid-kun.

"Ey! Maka, what did you want?" his scowled at his impatience.

'HE'LL probably jump in.' he looked away annoyed at Maka.

"Chrona must have been looking for me, and you probably left her go alone didn't you?" she kept her face straight, not trying to get into the subject too deeply.

"What?! I didn-" he cut off seeing the menacing glare Kid gave him walking casually on.

Shooting a quick glare at Soul, Kid took Maka's hand, which seemed to whisper 'It's alright, just ignore him.'

"Ah, I think I see her..." Kid said, peering through two buildings to the desert beyond.

And indeed there she was, uncomfortably shuffling along, sand blowing her pink hair this way and that.

"Oj, Chrona!" Kid called, making the girl turn her head to look at him.

"E-eh...?" Chrona mumbled, clumsily turning toward them.

Following Kid-kun's look, Maka noticed Chrona was as it...moping.

"O-oi! Chrona!" Maka gently let go of Kid-kun's hand, not trying to make it offensive.

"Chrona!" she ran impatiently toward her until she was at her side, "whats wrong?" smiling she set her hand on Chrona's stiff shoulder, "You okay?"

A few moments of stuttering, "Come on," Maka continued lightly, "we're all here to have fun as friends!"

"M-maka-chan..." Chrona mumbled. "I have to leave here... No one likes me... You all see me as a traitor... And so... There's no reason for me to stay."

Kid frowned. 'I'm sure Maka-chan will handle this... That poor Chrona... She got steered the wrong way, for sure.' He thought.

"...I'm sorry... Maka-chan." Chrona said, thoughtfully. "Ragnarok."

Kid gasped as Chrona drew her weapon, the demonblade Ragnarok. "Oi, Maka-chan! Get away from there! She'll kill you without your weapon!" He yelled, looking at Patti and Liz, who nodded and transformed into twin pistols.

Maka stifled a gasp seeing the black weapon be drawn, "C-Chrona? Who doesn't like you?" she openly waved her arms to show Kid-kun, Soul, and the others, "We all care." She set her hands on Chrona's shoulders again, "Its going to be okay."

Maka tried ignored Kid-kun's worried calls, seeing Chrona's face showing uncertainty, she stood there patiently waiting.

"Ch" Soul slumped his shoulders, "She's useless without me there. She'll get killed. Whats she thinking?!" he mumbled arrogantly, still deciding to leave Maka to her business of taking care of Chrona.

"Maka-chan..." Kid breathed, keeping a firm grip on the twin pistols, ready to fire if anything happened to Maka.

"There's no way around it, Maka-chan... I either kill you all or kill myself... And Medusa-sama has given me reason to live... To serve the demon god..." Chrona mumbled, a bit louder now, raising the blade sideways to Maka's neck.

"M-maka!?" Kid gasped.

Maka stood her ground, her eyebrows tightned as she straightened her back, "Chrona." her hands didn't move away from her shoulder's, "You don't know whats happening! You need to know there are ones who care about you HERE! If there is no reason to live with the ones who love you as friends tell kill me now." She let her arms drop to her sides, awaiting Chrona's action. Her breaths kept steady even though she could feel the anxiety in everyone surrounding her.

"Goodbye, Maka." Chrona said calmly, moving the blade back.

Just as the blade swung forward, Kid cried out, "MAKA!" And raised his twin pistols at Chrona, firing two shots in her direction.

Chrona was sent flying backwards, and hit the sand with a thud, black blood spilled among it's tan grains. Her face held a look of terror for a moment, and she stood up, clutching her chest. "I guess I'll start with you, then..." She mumbled, sticking the blade in the sand for support.

She pulled it out and ran clumsily towards Kid, circling him quickly.

Kid spun around, following the girl's movements precicly. There must have been a flaw in his range of vision, because Chrona got around him, and as she ran by, she cut Kid's shoulder, sending blood sparkling into the sand.

"Ah! ...Maka... Stay behind me..." Kid ordered slowly, grasping his shoulder to stop the blood.

Just as he said this, Chrona sprang forward and cut his other shoulder as well.

"Guh! ...Stay... Behind..." Kid stuttered, shooting furiously at the girl.

Chrona ran up and slashed through Kid's right eye.

Kid closed the injured eye and held it with both hands, as Chrona used the blunt end of the sword to pound him backwards.

"Me..." Kid gasped, falling unconscious.

The Thompsons turned back into their human form. "Kid-kun!" They cried, shaking him. He didn't wake up.

Liz whipped her head around to face Maka. "He's losing too much blood! We have to get him out of here!" She yelled, picking the injured boy up. They ran off back towards the city, holding Kid.

"Ch-" Maka sped toward Chrona about to call Soul's name to fight. 'How could she hurt Kid-kun?!' she panted, her pace racing forward, 'We cared!'

"SOUL!!!" she cried, sprinting over to where Kid-kun was being hauled back, "NOW!!!"

"Hmph, right!" Soul nodded, with slight annoyance.

Maka quickly clutched onto the cool metal handle firmly as Soul transformed.

"We can't hurt her too bad." she eyed Chrona's sly movements, "She's still our friend!"

Her legs jumped forward, launching herself directly at Chrona's face. The scythe heavily swung around half a circle, aiming for Chrona's shoulder.

"It's not GOOD!!!" she cried, slicing Chrona's right shoulder, "ITS NOT GOOD TO HURT EACH OTHER AFTER BEING FRIENDS!!!" tears ran down her dry cheeks, still burned red from Kid-kun's kind gestures. But she could only picture him with the deep wounds left in his shoulders and.....

"TAKE THAT!!!" another swing, harder, with a wider range sent Chrona flying backward, the black blood splattering everywhere in the dark alley from her left shoulder.

"NEVER!" Maka screamed now, landing gently on both feet, "NEVER HURT THEM!!!" her squeaks were probably a pitch too high, echoing through the other alleys. Her eyes widened remembering Kid-kun immediately.

"Soul! Let's go!" she broke into a run, faster than Soul as she let him transform back to follow her back to the city.

Kid opened his uninjured eye through blurred vision to see Patti and Liz's faces over him. As his vision cleared, he groaned, "Ugh... Where am I?"

"You're in the hospital, Kid-kun." Liz said, smiling warmly.

"Hm!? You took me away from the battle? I have to get to Maka-chan, and-" Kid started, sitting up. His face held a look of panic. "Ow..." A sharp pain stung his eye and both of his shoulders. He laid back down.

"Shhshshh, Kid-kun, don't worry. Maka-chan'll be alright. She and Soul make a great team." Liz reassured him, still smiling.

"NO!" Kid exclaimed, anger burning in him at that comment. "I mean... Yes, a very good weapon and meister combination." He corrected himself, emphasizing his description.

"Eh... Okay..." Liz said, confused. "Nygus says that Chrona marred your eye pretty bad, and your shoulders might have scars... Your eye, too." Liz explained. "You'll be able to see normally again by tomorrow, it's not that bad."

"But... The scar... Will only be on one eye, won't it... Won't it!?" Kid started panicking.

"Oh, no..." Liz sighed. "Kid-kun, it'll be okay..."

"No, it won't be!! My eyes will be completely asymmetrical! I'll have to cut my other eye!! Yes, that's what I'll do!" Kid raved, very upset.

'I have to stop him before he-' Liz thought, cutting herself off with her speaking. "Kid, your hair was

already asymmetrical, and- Oops...” She said, slowing down.

A look of horror crossed Kid’s face, and soon after he covered it with his arms. “Oh, you’re right! I’m a filthy, dirty, pig-like! Don’t look at the hideous imperfection that is me!” He sobbed.

‘Good... This breakdown will occupy him for a while... He’ll be fine. I just can’t remind him about it.’ Liz thought, relieved that Kid’s neurotic tendencies didn’t lead to self-violence.

"H-hey!! Maka, wait up!" Soul panted heavily trying to match Maka's dashing speed.

"NO!!" She screamed back, tears pouring out of her eyes, "LETS GOOOO!!!" a jolt of anger burst her forward.

'Hospital...' she breathed, 'he's there.....' her eyes blurred from the mess of water in them, 'he's okay...'
"MAKA! YOU CAN'T GO BURSTING INTO A HOSPITAL THAT LOUDLY!" Shouting down the hall Soul finally caught up to Maka's slowing speed.

"YOU'RE THE LOUD ONE!! YOU'RE SCREAMING!" she shouted back, her voice squeaking once more in anger.

"JUS-JUST SHUT UPP!!" Soul caught onto Maka's shoulder as they reached the closed room door where Kid-kun was.

Maka's head jerked around, wiping away his hand, "STOP IT! JUST STOP!!" her eyes wide, blazing with fury, as she pounded on the door, a little too hard.

"E-eh!?" Kid sniffed, looking at the door.

Liz looked up as well. “It sounded like Maka and Soul.”

Kid hastily wiped the tears from his eyes, his injured one stinging as he did.

Liz opened the door carefully. “Hi, Maka-chan, Soul.”

Kid smiled half-heartedly from the hospital bed, his face still red from crying. The gauze wrap over his eye itched slightly. “Maka-chan.” His voice came out distorted and unfamiliar. There was a sharp pain in his shoulder, and he grasped it, sucking in a short breath.

Liz smiled warmly. “Nygus said he’d be able to see normally again tomorrow... The injuries will all cause scars, however...” She said, frowning a bit.

Maka took a deep breath before looking past Liz’s shoulder. Her face scrunched as she saw what Liz had said, but thankfully it was safe under gauze. She stopped her short breath seeing Kid-kun’s smile turn to a frown at her look. Reassuringly she stepped past Liz to get to the edge of Kid-kun’s bed, and sat next to him smiling.

“I hope that didn’t hurt you too much.” Maka’s face fell serious remembering the sight she saw as Chrona flew her sword all over Kid-kun. She looked down at her hands placed on her lap.

Kid smiled again. “I’m fine, Maka-chan...” Again his shoulder stung. “Eh... Really.” He said, scrunching his free eye with pain.

Liz smiled. “Nygus said that he was really lucky, actually. If his eye wound had been any deeper, he might not have been able to see out of it ever again. Then he’d have to get an eyepatch.”

Patti giggled. “Then he’d look just like Marie-sensei!”

Kid smiled at his weapons, then gave Soul a dirty look. Finally, he turned to Maka and flashed another bright smile. It looked odd, since one of his teeth had been knocked out during the fight.

Maka urged a grin, seeing the looks he gave everyone, especially Soul made her feel bad. How, because of Chrona, they might have to fight one of their own friends. She glanced back at Kid-kun, observing his arms, and face for anymore injuries.

She sighed with relief, “That was close.....” she trailed off imagining Chrona going back into Medusa’s control again.

“Quit your worryin’ Maka.” Soul took a quick look at her and scoffed, “Don’t worry, she’ll be fine. By the way I’m sure she feels bad, leaving.”

The look on Maka’s face must have worried the one’s around her too much, feeling Kid-kun’s arm

trembling to reach over, setting itself on Maka's lap. His grunts made her look away in disgust of what Chrona has done to him.

Resting his hand on Maka's lap with some effort, his shoulder stinging again, he managed to crack another missing-tooth grin. "Don't worry about me, Maka-chan. Chrona is the main problem here. I just don't want you to feel bad about what happened. Jumping in there was my decision, and I paid the consequences for that decision. I'm just thankful that you didn't get hurt." He said, his grin slowly turning down into a look of concern.

Liz nodded, "Kid-kun's right, Maka-chan. It wasn't your fault at all. He tried to protect you, and failed." Kid shot Liz a scowl, to which Liz replied with a nervous laugh. 'Oh, sorry to break your tough-guy act, Kid.' She thought sarcastically.

Kid looked back at Maka now. His face held a look of regret for a moment. 'I made her go through this... She's feeling bad because of me...' He thought helplessly. But then his vision was becoming blurred. His stomach lurched and he spit out blood, falling unconscious almost immediately. His arm went limp in Maka's hands.

"Kid-kun!" Patti and Liz cried in unison.

2 - The Scars That Mark an Eternal Protection

Maka let out a yelp of horror, resisting the urge to push away from Kid-kun's pale hand. 'How can he be pale? He's a shinigami...?' her eyes darted to see around his wounded body. But Nygus was already rushing into the room, gently moving Kid-kun to lie down. His arms crossed each other on his chest; blood still streaming from the corners of his mouth made Maka's lip quiver and look away. She stood up and walked toward the window as a distraction peering outside.

"Oi, Maka." Soul shuffled past the dividing curtain next to Kid-kun's bed to stand behind Maka.

"Oi." he bent to the side slightly, looking past Maka's dark eyes, he sighed, leaning against the wall next to him, "You know, your really something." he glanced up, no response, "Ch." he looked away, narrowing his eyes, "You care too much about people to start with. Didn't you hear them? He'll be fine." A minute of silence passed, only the constant scribble of pen from Nygus filled in the emptiness, "No." Maka murmured, her tone low, "You care too less."

And with that she walked away, back facing Soul, her hands in fists, out into the hallway.

Liz and Patti moved to follow Maka out into the hallway. "You know, it's a good thing Kid's body can reject any form of poison... The black blood in Chrona's weapon might have influenced him... But even if it had entered his bloodstream, it would have been gone by now." Liz said thoughtfully, leaning against the wall.

Patti nodded. "Kid-kun is really strong! He'll make it through this!" She giggled, smiling widely at Maka. Walking down the hallway slowly came Tsubaki, Black Star in toe. "Hi, Maka-chan, Liz and Patti." She smiled warmly, seeing the overall gloomy expressions from the girls. "Is something wrong?" She asked, concerned.

Maka looked away, eager to walk further down the hall; but she honestly wanted to stay by Kid-kun's side, so she stayed where she was. Her fists clenched tightly together feeling her stomach churn at the thought of losing more friends. Seeing them happy without notice of Kid-kun's wounds was too much.

"Maka." Soul looked out the door, turning his head until seeing her slouched head facing the side wall.

"Oi, Maka." he called once more, still with no reply, "Maka come on, Kids awake." hoping for another 'no answer' he slowly stepped back in through the door.

"Awa-?" she panicked, racing into the room frantically looking for Kid-kun's face until she saw it blinking anonymously toward her.

Kid looked up immediately upon seeing Maka enter the room. "Maka-chan, you're panicking aren't you? I'll be okay." He said weakly, smiling only as much as the pain allowed.

He looked at Soul. 'Maka-chan and Soul are partners... He is always by her side... If only... If only I were her weapon... But that can't be...' Realizing that he was glowering at Soul, he unclenched his fists and relaxed his eyebrows, sighing briefly.

There was a loud stomping noise and the door slammed open, making Kid and the others jump.

"Sorry to make you all wait!! I know being in here is no fun without me, the great Black Sta~r!" Black Star exclaimed, announcing his arrival. Seeing everyone's glaring faces, he looked around them to see Kid in the hospital bed. "Oh..." He quieted, thoughtfully. "What happened to you, Kid?" He said in a confident tone.

"Eh, we had a fight with Chrona and I got a little wreckless..." Kid mused, half-smiling.

"Feh, I'd never let that happen to me. I'm way above that." Black Star grinned pointing his thumb at himself.

Tsubaki punched Black Star in the head, sending him crashing to the floor. "Black Star! That's not

polite!" She scolded.

Maka let her light pants ease, and grinned half heartedly at Kid-kun. She walked as quietly as she could to sit next to him. 'He still looks hurt....' she thought with a pang of regret. 'what if I hurt him....?' she tried not to think of it, pushing it aside as he tried to set his hand on her lap once more. But seeing him wince at the effort, she drew away.

"Your...still hurt." she tried not to see the disappointed face he kept on her, "I don't want to hurt you..." her face turned grim.

"Maka-chan, you're not hurting me..." Kid replied, taking his attention off of Black Star. "It wasn't your fault. I got too careless." He tried helplessly to smile with the nausea rising in his chest.

Nygus spoke up, "Alright now, Kid-kun needs his rest. You can all come back and see him tomorrow when he feels better." She said, smiling halfheartedly.

Black Star and Tsubaki filed out, followed by Liz and Patti, all saying their 'get well soon's'.

"Of course..." Maka mumbled under her breath, gazing down at the floor.

She looked up at Kid-kun's solemn face for a moment before standing up.

"I-I'll see you tomorrow then." her eyes shut tight, about the cry.

"Bye!" she ran out of the room, her hands in tight fists again covering her eyes from the tears running out of them.

She ignored Soul's concerned face rushing past him, "Maka!" he called, "Wait up!" he broke into a run after her, but again, he couldn't catch up until they were back home.

He breathed heavily before reaching her, "Hey...slow down...." another pant, "whats..whats wrong with you?" his eyes squinted up at her, as she wiped away the tears covering her face.

"Nothing, go away." she unlocked the door and stumbled into her room, only thinking of Kid-kun...

"Get plenty of rest, and don't worry so much. Maka has seen a lot of pain. She'll be okay." Nygus reassured Kid, walking out of the room with her clipboard.

Kid nodded as the door shut, leaving him in total silence. He gazed out the window, seeing Death City in all of it's glory, shining almost as bright as the moon itself. Under the gauze, his right eye twitched. He couldn't stand it any longer, he just had to look.

He reached for a hand mirror on the side table next to the bed, holding it up to his face while he peeled back the gauze wrap slowly. He gasped in shock.

A sharp, jagged pink line pierced it's way through his eye, making him cringe. He poked at it slowly with his finger in disgust.

Putting the gauze back on and setting the mirror down, he almost immediately fell asleep, and began to dream...

He was in a dark alley, the wind rustling down his spine. He jerked his head to the left, finding a window there. In it's reflection, he saw that his eye was open, the scar still burned through it.

He looked to the right, seeing Maka with a determined look on her face. She held out her arm toward him, still looking straight ahead. "Let's go, Kid-kun. It's our 89th soul." She said confidently, as if waiting for something.

"Right." Kid found himself saying, having suddenly lost control of his thoughts. Without thinking, or really moving, a blast of light hit him with a gust of wind, and when he unclenched his eyes, he saw Maka holding onto a metal staff. But he couldn't see the blade. He looked behind him, but all he saw was blackness.

"Maka, what's going-" He started, but Maka charged forward, swinging back the handle. Kid swung back as well...

He woke up, panting heavily. He ran his fingers through his bangs, trying to gather his thoughts.

"Nothing." Maka mumbled to herself, "Nothing. I've got nothing to give to others. I'm not strong....am I?" she turned her head to the side, glancing up at the clock across her bedroom.

"10 o'clock it says...but...the day passed so quickly, so happy....so.....much.." she whispered quietly drifting off to sleep.

"A dream..?" she looked around, it was sunny.....not how it was before..."not a dream.....in my soul?" it looked nothing like how it would be. Nothing about this place looked familiar.

"Where, where am I...? she whispered to herself.

She glanced around in every direction, slightly woozy from the blaring sun.

"Maka...." the wind brought a passing voice.

She looked to see where it came from, but...nothing.

"Maka..Maka.Maka!!" she panted, scared, worried of who or what this could be.

"Maka! Maka! Maka!" she shook her head.

"What?!" she screamed, but this time it was her real voice. She jumped, startled in her bed.

"Maka!" Soul took his hands off of her shoulders,"You've been crying the whole night, wouldn't stop talking to yourself about some stuff. Whats wrong?!" his face looked annoyed.

Maka took a look at the clock: 7:03.

"C'mon! we gotta go see!" she rushed him out of the room.

"Wh-what?!?!?" he growled

"I gotta change get OUT!" another push and she was alone.

'Good, I can go see Kid-kun today....' she smiled inside.

Yawning, Kid opened his eyes, looking around the bright and sunny hospital room. For a moment he didn't know where he was, and he blinked several times before remembering the previous day's events. He frowned, thinking of Maka, and his dream he'd had last night.

Hours before, he had concluded that in his dream he'd been a weapon... But not just a weapon, Maka's weapon. And it had seemed... Right. But he'd shook his head and told himself time and time again that this was impossible, stupid, and out of the question.

Before long, a knock came at the door and his face brightened, happy to have company again. Patti and Liz walked in, the younger sister holding a tray of food for him.

"Kid-ku~n, we brought you breakfa~st!" Patti said in her whimsical bird's song of a voice.

"Thank you." Kid replied, looking at the perfectly symmetrical meal they had prepared for him. They were always accurate about symmetry, knowing it would ruin Kid's mood if it was in the least bit imperfect.

"I'm leaving without you! Suit yourself!" Maka cried back, already leaving the apartment, her jacket flying past her as she ran outside.

'He should be better.' A gleam of happiness rose in her stomach, 'Good, maybe we can.....' she slowed her run into a jog, 'maybe we can.....' a walk.

"We can't leave....he's too hurt..." her eyes started to water looking down at the cement ground.

A shuffle of feet frightened her, "No he's not." Soul's low rumbled voice came up behind her, still a frown across his face.

Maka blinked, empty headed without any thought of what he was doing.

"C'mon, lets go before that cat follows us." he pushed passed her moving slowly toward the hospital.

"Hmm?" Maka mused to herself. 'He cares?' her eyebrows tightened as she ran up to catch up with him.

"Right here. This is the room!" Maka pointed at the last door in the hallway.

"No its NOT." Soul draged on, "Its over there down that way, he was NEVER at the end of the hall, idiot."

"Shut up!! We'll check every one until you tell me which one is the right room, Soul." she glared at him, anticipating for him to hurry.

He sighed in defeat and walked down the hall.

"H-hey, where are yo-." Soul interrupted

"This way if you wanna see him." he scoffed

Maka looked after him for a disgusted moment, "Hmph." then followed him up to Kid-kun's room.

She quietly tapped the door with her finger, "Anyone awake...?" she whispered

"They won't hear you if your-." the door opened, revealing Liz in their way.

"O~oi Mak~a, S~oul!" Patti giggled from inside.

Kid was halfway through his second piece of toast when he heard the tap at the door. Seeing Maka, he finished chewing and swallowed quickly, smiling his brand-new tooth-missing smile.

"Ohayou, Maka-chan." He greeted warmly, wiping crumbs off of his face with his napkin. His right eye was now opened, displaying the scar on his face. It shimmered in the morning light, the way fresh wounds did.

Liz grinned. "Black Star and Tsubaki were here earlier, turns out the 'big' man actually cares about his friends." She laughed lightly.

Maka stepped into the small but spacious room.

"ohay? gozai mas, Kid-kun." She smiled warmly toward him, resiting to grimace at the shiny pink wound, struck so clearly across his face.

"Mornin'." Soul called behind Maka's shoulder, his eyes showing the reason of the tiredness in his tone.

"I hope your OK, Kid-kun." Maka said, walking to sit at the end of his bed.

Seeing him nod back reassuringly, she took in a short breath and looked down at her lap, where her open hands lay ontop of each other.

Kid reached over to hold Maka's hand, and leaned down to kiss it slowly. He looked up at her with glimmering eyes. "You know I can get out of bed anytime... What were you thinking of doing today? I mean... Besides seeing me here. The wounds aren't that bad."

'I want to feel like I have Maka all to myself, even if I am sounding selfish, but Soul is always around her... If we can get away from him for only a day... Maybe we could officially...' Kid thought, looking out the window thoughtfully.

Looking around the room with bright eyes, Liz glanced at the spot where Patty used to be standing.

"Um... Sorry to interupt, but where's Patty?" She commented, looking around for her younger sister.

Kid shrugged, and Liz sighed. "I guess I'll go and look for myself then." She said, and walked from the room briskly.

"O-oh?" Maka mumbled, looking up into Kid-kun's eyes blankly.

'I wanted him to hold my hand but.....' she glanced at the narrowed pink eye, then at her lifted hand, and quickly focused back onto Kid-kun's triumphant smile.

"Well," she paused thinking for a moment, "whatever you're capable of doing, Kid-kun." she grinned lightly.

"But..." she glanced to the door left open, "maybe we should find....." she flickered her eyes toward Soul unexpectantly, forgetting he was even there.

He looked away before she could finish, "I'll find 'em, do whatever." he straightened his back about to turn away.

"S-soul?" she waited for him to turn his tilted head, "arigat?." she cracked a smile at the corner of her mouth.

"Liz and Patty can take care of themselves, but you can see how they're doing if you want..." Kid glared at Soul, which he could tell made Maka uneasy.

He turned to her and smiled a glinting smile.

Liz suddenly burst in, breathing heavily. "Kid-kun! Everyone! Patty-chan is in trouble! I saw her somehow locked in weapon form being taken away by Chrona! They just left the city!" She cried into the somewhat quiet room.

Kid blinked twice, dumbfounded. He'd been proved wrong, right after his statement. "Patty!? We have

to help her!" He immediately rose from his bed and pulled on his jacket.

Liz was panicking. "Hurry!" She huffed, running down the hallway again.

"Liz! Won't it be easier if you just transform?" Kid yelled after her.

"Yeah, that's right! I guess I wasn't thinking for a second." Liz replied. She immediately transformed, and Kid caught her, upside-down as always.

"You guys coming?" Kid asked, walking out the door.

"Kid-kun...." Maka sighed, getting up.

'WHY is Chrona making so much trouble?!?!?!?' she nearly screamed it in her head, her fists clenched tight together following Soul out of the room.

"Maka." Soul stopped in his tracks, as if panicking Kid and Liz, "its alright. She won't get away this time, member?" he looked back, and for a moment glanced behind her at Kid's disgusted face, "We're a team." he jerked his head up, turning back the way it was.

"Soul..." she breathed under her breath.

Maka wouldn't move, couldn't move. 'You are a team, but.....'

"Chrona's a friend....." she whispered outloud, "what...how?" her face looked sorrow filled, but made the effort to keep going ahead behind Kid-kun.

As he walked along, Kid looked down at his hands. He saw the gun in his right hand. None in the left.

Gun in right hand, none in left... Gun in right hand... None in left...

"Liz, transform back!" He said urgently, trying hard not to break down right there on the floor.

"Hmm?" She asked, transforming back as she was told. 'Oh, god. Must be the symmetry... But how will we beat Chrona if Kid doesn't have any weapons?' She thought scornfully. "How are we going to do this, then?" She asked, putting her question aloud.

"Well... We'll just have to count on Soul and Maka-chan to distract Chrona while we get Patti back, then she can transform and we'll beat her this time for sure." Kid paused a moment. "If... That's alright with Maka-chan..." He said, quieting down a bit. He looked at Maka, smiling. Seeing Soul's somewhat scowling expression, he flashed a glinting smile at him as well, making the scythe turn his head and huff. Kid looked back at Maka, waiting for a response.

"Uhhmm..." Maka stared at the tense crowd, not quite sure what was really happening.

"Maka!" Soul's voice echoed in his Scythe form, "We have to get Patty. C'mon we can do this!"

"O-ohh..." she blinked changing moods suddenly. The wave of urgency rushed through her. Her eyebrows pulled together, "R-right! Let's go!" she held Soul close to her, showing she was ready and ran off down the hall with no other warning.

"Chrona is..." she mumbled, her hair bouncing un-gracefully above her shoulders, "friend...? foe....? friend...? foe.....?" she breathed, "Soul," she panted, "Chrona is...I've made a decision." she waited for a response.

"What?! You have a plan already?! Spit it out!" he spat out quickly.

"Yes!" another breath, "Since she is our friend," breath, "we will fight until she sees our way...." breath and pant, "no mercy 'till then..." now only the tap of her hard-soled boots were heard, Kid-kun and Liz far away already.

Kid started running now, after Maka, but unable to catch up with her. He had been very bewildered as she started sprinting down the hall suddenly. A pang of jealousy shot through him as he saw her run off with Soul. 'Pff, I'm not jealous of Soul.' He thought, smirking to himself. 'Yes, they're only a weapon and meister team. Nothing more.'

Liz watched Kid's expressions closely, now running along side him. 'What could he be thinking...?' She thought, raising an eyebrow to Kid.

Kid glanced backwards. "What?" He asked Liz, wary.

"Oh, nothing..." Liz said, turning away from him, smiling.

Soul kept quiet the rest of the way. His eyes narrowing with annoyance. 'Jeez, get all emotional bout a friend, then get all preachy...Pffft, not cool to be around, hmph why me?!'

"Soul?" Maka glanced up as the Sythe swung over her head.

"What?" his voice dragging with a slur.

"Shut it." she looked ahead, the two heavy doors led out.

She pushed out toward the light, "Here we GOO!" birds flew from the echoed yell.

"Hm." Soul grunted.

Hearing the cries of determination, Kid sped up, thinking for a moment. Then, as he ran, he stuck out his right hand and summoned his skateboard. He hopped on, taking Liz's hand and setting her up so that her arms were around his waist, staying aloft with some effort.

"Kid-ku~n!?" Liz cried, terrified as they flew into the air.

"Hm?" Kid turned to face her slightly.

Liz clung to Kid's waist, horrified of the height. "Why can't I just transform...?" She said quietly and nervously.

"I can't. It'd be asymmetrical." Kid said plainly, looking straight ahead again, spotting Maka and speeding forward faster than ever.

"W-why me!?" Liz cried, squeezing Kid's waist now.

"MAKA!" Soul screamed urgently, "QUIT YOUR ENTRY SPEECH AND GET ON WITH IT!" he tried to look back hearing the sound of rushing wind. 'Dangit! he got here...hmph, no time to stop Maka now. Ch idiot.'

"Its NOT an entry speech! Shut up! Didn't I tell you already!?" she held the end blade to up to her face so she could see Soul's scrunched face, "Just SHUT IT ALREADY!" she managed to keep her voice lower than before this time, causing her to choke lightly.

'Ha. she didn't even see him come, whata loser.' he smirked in his mind, keeping the still face, glaring back at Maka.

"Oi, Maka, why don't you stop your lectures so your 'team' can move on, huh?" his eye slid to the side eyeing Kid-kun's straight gaze, and Liz's squeeze shut eyes.

"Maka-chan!" Kid called, landing his skateboard, speeding towards her steadily.

'Thank god we're back on solid ground...' Liz thought, sighing in relief. She loosened her grip on Kid's waist.

Kid moved to roll along next to Maka. "I think I saw something over this way, maybe half a mile or so..."

He said, not really realizing the way Maka looked at Liz's arms that were wrapped around him.

"Maka-chan?" He finally did realize it. "What's wrong? Something bothering you?" He asked, furrowing his eyebrows. "Liz, transform." He said, not looking at the girl.

"But-" Liz started.

"Just do it." Kid said, in a demanding tone he rarely used. He held out a hand to Maka as Liz transformed and landed in his other hand. He pulled her onto the skateboard, positioning her as Liz had been, her arms around his waist. 'This feels better...' He thought, holding onto Soul for her. He looked into the blade, smirking. 'Take that, Soul.' He thought.

Maka glared down at the tightly wrapped hands that clutched onto Kid's waist, not noticing the oblivious look he gave back. 'He lets.....anyone..?' she took in a sharp breath hearing Soul's faint chuckle. But as she was about to ask what it was about, her hand out stretched unwillingly, tripping over herself as she landed, wobbling on Kid-kun's skateboard.

Maka unsteadily tried to wrap her arms around Kid-kun's waist, forcing herself not to feel frightened. She smiled, her hands were empty of Soul, and she was closer to Kid-kun.....how pleasant. Her head bent down to lie against his slightly arched back, feeling the wind blow past her hair. 'Better.' she thought closing her eyes.

"You'll get used to it." Kid grinned back at her. 'If it's for Maka... I can... Momentarily break the symmetry. I can only stand this for so much longer... Will I be able to hold on until I can find Chrona...?' He thought, uneasy. He faced straight ahead again, only once glancing quickly at Soul's frustrated reflection in the scythe's blade.

"Kid-kun, I see them!" Liz exclaimed, and Kid looked up ahead to see a faint image of Chrona, and could almost hear the cries for help in the distance.

"Patty!" Kid cried, shooting the skateboard into the air, making sure to keep it steady for Maka. He sped up to the limit, catching up with them in no time. They landed, and Kid helped Maka off of the board before he retracted it into his hand.

"Liz, transform back, please." Kid said, and as she transformed, he sighed in relief.

"arigat?." Maka mumbled shyly, as Kid-kun passed Soul to her.

Soul looked up, the sun glinting the blade to make it shine a second, "Maka." he nodded, "Its ours." She looked back, her face serious outside, "Mm, got it. Ready?" she focused her sight onto the faint figure ahead.

"Yeah." Soul sighed, resisting the urge to glance back a glare at Kid.

"Ok," Maka took a step forward, her foot angling 2 inches toward the left, ready to lurch forward, "me too." Bits of rock scrambled away from under her feet as she ran after the frightened looking girl. 'Don't hold back Maka.....Never hold back.....'

She jabbed the end of the Sythe into the ground, giving her an extra boost into the air. She flew up, her feet sprawled in all directions as she almost landed ontop of Chrona. Quickly she drew Soul in front of her, swinging it behind her neck before Chrona got a hold of Ragonok.

"TAKE THISS!" her arms flung the Sythe at Chrona's head, hearing the girl scream back in pain. Maka couldn't help but wince back. 'NO holding back.....none....'

"DON'T STOP!!" Soul growled impatiently.

Maka drew a quick breath before flipping the Sythe in all directions, making Chrona scared as she backed up against a wall. Her hands gripping the handle firmly before swinging Soul head on to Chrona's chest. Another scream, black blood splattered everywhere, her chest dripping with almost solidified liquid.

"Patty." Maka whispered, low enough for Chrona to hear, "give her...." she sliced the Sythe through the air once more, striking Chrona in her stomach, "BACK!"

Kid watched the scene in amazement, running around to the back of the battle. "Patty!" He called out to the scared Thompson sister. "Transform!"

Patty nodded shortly, grinning from ear to ear when she saw Kid. She transformed and landed in Kid's hand.

"Liz!" Kid cried, and he had two twin pistols again. "Good to have you back, Patty." He smiled, shooting Chrona with intense speed, only worsening the damage that Maka had already done to the girl.

"Maka-chan! I got Patty back!" Kid yelled over the sounds of shots. "What now?"

Maka paused hearing Kid-kun's question in the midst of Chrona's agonizing scream. She thought over her plan.

"Well?" Soul interrupted, "No holding back or what? What did you say?" he rapidly spat out the words.

Maka hesitated before answering, then her face camled, "None..." she mumbled back, "thats right....I can't can I?" she took another step toward Chrona, her eyes staring blankly ahead, "You.....can't...." A swing of the Sythe slit through Chrona's right arm, "...either...." her mumble still sounding anonymous from her original character. Another step forward as she sliced through Chrona's chest once more, alightly above her previous wound.

"YOU HURT TOO MANY!" Maka's eyes suddenly blazed with furry, her stomach lurched back as if in horror.

She jerked her arms side to side, twisting the Sythe around every now and then to slice Chrona's shoulders again. Maka's teeth clenched together, her strength all focused in her arms and steady moving hands. The screams pierced through the still air, blood covered the ground, walls, and even Maka's own clothes.

'When will she stop?' Soul questioned, going where ever Maka swung him, 'what's wrong with her?' Kid widened his eyes in shock. "Maka-chan, what're you doing? What happened to her being our friend?" He tried to say over the screams. He ran between the girls, trying to stop the fighting. But that was when it happened.

With a blow of the scythe, Kid was sent flying backwards, into the street. He landed with a thud, blood pouring from his hand. Liz and Patty transformed back to their human forms, frightened. "Kid-kun?" They asked him over and over.

Kid sat up slowly. "Only a cut, although it's pretty deep. I know... I know Maka didn't mean it." He coughed up a bit of blood from being hit in the stomach with the blunt end of the scythe. 'That must have pleased Soul... To hurt me...' He narrowed his eyes. Then he stood up suddenly, wrapping his hand in the gauze Nygus had given him just in case, for his eye.

"Maka, it wasn't you. You didn't see me there." Kid said, almost pleading her not to feel bad. He saw Maka's horrified expression, and there were tears forming at the corners of her eyes. "Maka-chan..." He started, walking towards her.

"KID-KUN!!" Maka's eyes widened, the anger now replaced with hate over herself.

"Ack," Soul looked away, "Ch, serves him right to get into the way." he mumbled.

Maka ignored his rude comment, tears rushing down her fiery cheeks. Her hands loosened off of the metal handle, leaving them ache along with her throat filled with regrets ready to sputter out of her mouth.

"Gomen...." she cried, tears drying cold, "gomen, Kid-kun...." she collapsed onto the hard ground, her stifling breaths warm against the cool. The screams and taps of feet grew closer to her.....the sight of black blood blurred as she felt the pats of reassurance feel their way down her back.....slowly.....slowly.....they dissappeared.

"Maka-chan!!" Kid exclaimed, rushing forward to catch her in his arms. He held her close to him there for a while as Soul transformed back with a huff. Seeing her worried face, even when she was unconcious, a scarlet color rose in his cheeks.

"Maka-chan! Are you okay? Maka-chan! Wake up!" He said urgently into the girl's ear. The unconcious Chrona, Liz and Patty who were still in shock, and Soul, who was somewhat angry-looking, faded into the backround. 'Jealously.' Kid concluded looking at Soul, not having time to be smug.

"Maka-chan!" He repeated once more. Then, swinging her over his shoulder, wrapping her legs around his waist, he looked back at the others. "We have to get her back to Shibusen. Hurry!" He exclaimed, summoning the skateboard once more and getting ahold of Liz and Patty who had transformed by now. Soul was left to run. The sped down the alley, approaching Shibusen.

Screams and shouts faintly rang through Maka's head. For some reason, she couldn't focus on one thing. Her head swayed with dizziness, side to side....side to side...

'Whats this?' she tried opening her eyes, but blackness still surrounded her sight. 'Can't-can't see.....' she thought, being drowned again by the nausea that waved over her....'Whats wrong with me? what is this?'

Kid looked back as Maka stirred suddenly, groaning incoherently. "Almost there, Maka-chan..." He whispered into her ear.

Soon, they burst through the front doors of Shibusen, Kid running now, towards the hospital wing.

"Nygus!" Kid called, running down the hallway. "Nygus!!" He called louder this time, getting the attention of the nurse.

"What happened?" Nygus asked urgently.

"Another fight with Chrona. This time Maka accidentally hit me and she went unconscious afterwards." Kid explained, walking into the hospital room with Nygus. He set Maka gently onto the bed, making sure not to harm her.

Nygus put a wet towel on Maka's forehead.

They all stood and waited, Kid feeling bad about the incident.

"Idiot." Soul spat under his breath. He shoved his hands into his pockets and slumped over, walking slowly back to Shibusen, "Now its up to me to cook for her huh?" his head jerked to the side arrogantly, "Kid, ch." he looked down, "What a fool."

'Can I move?' Maka struggled to shake her head, her eyes wouldn't lift the slightest bit. They always drifted back, heavy with sleep.

'Hmmm.....' she let her eye lids fall, 'tired.....' her heavy weights of thought endlessly dropped into sleep.

"Black..." she mumbled weakly, "Why is it black n red?" she shook her head lightly, making her best effort to move, "Wait no," she whispered quietly now, "its....gone." Maka let her eyebrows loosen, untouched with concern now, "Kid-kun....."

3 - Jealously, Bitterness, Sadness

Chapter 3

Jealousy, Bitterness, Sadness

"Maka-chan, you're waking up?" Kid asked urgently, trying to calm himself down. "Maka-chan?" 'Kid sure is freaking out... I've seen him freak out a bunch of times, but not over other people... Maka must be really special to him...' Liz thought, watching Kid panic with a concerned look on her face. Kid's eyes brightened with a look of hope as Maka's eyelids shuddered and opened, revealing a tired look on her face. "You're okay..." He sighed in relief, holding Maka's hand a little looser now. He had been gripping it with intense force before.

"K-Kid-k-kun?" Maka stuttered, her eyes squinting away from a sudden pain that shot through her head, "Are you there...?" she reached out until she felt the soft warmth of Kid-kun's hand. Her arm untensed and she grinned happily, cracking her eyes open to see the light filled room.

'He's here...good....everything's good now.' Maka thought gracefully.

'Ch. What an idiot, that's not cool at all.' Soul watched in disgust. Seeing how Maka wasn't paying any attention to him he looked away.

"Yes, Maka-chan... I'm here. I'm so glad you finally came to..." Kid whispered softly, leaning down to kiss her forehead. He pulled back and grinned contentedly at her, his cheeks turning a light pink color. 'Now I know for sure... I really am in love with Maka-chan... But how could this happen? After all, I am a Shinigami, and she's a human...' He thought, suddenly very sure of his feelings for Maka.

He turned his head slowly to look at Soul. "Soul, can we talk for a moment in the hallway?" He asked politely, half-smiling in a friendly way.

"Wh-what?" she narrowed her eyes, unsure of what she heard; but she felt Kid-kun's hand slipping away, "D-don't..." she rasped. She tried to as hard as she could until her fingers twitched from the pain sent through the stressed area.

"Maka," Soul grumbled, holding back the growl toward Kid, "S'ok, Maka, Kid will be back in a few.." he hesitated, "seconds, I promise." he ended thinking of the pain her head would cause her to forget. He shuffled toward out of the hallway, and slouched against the door frame waiting for Kid.

'What does he want?' he grunted looking away from the group for a moment, 'He already has enough in his life. Pfft, how stupid.'

Kid smiled at Maka. "Be right back." He said reassuringly as he walked out the door. He closed it behind him and faced Soul. Sighing, he began. "Soul, I think..." He started, trying hard to get the words out. They were still so new in his brain. "I think I'm in love with Maka-chan."

He continued on, blushing slightly. "I've never felt this way about any human being before, and... And it's almost as if it were meant to be. Anyway, the point is, I think if you realized that Maka-chan and I are in fact meant to be with each other, maybe you'd be less jealous of us."

"Ohh." Maka let her hands drop on the bed. She looked up at Liz and Patty, their faces crossed with uncertainty as they heard the door clank beside them, "Whats wrong....?"

Soul clenched his teeth, 'Is he stupid? He's a Shinigami; that's not possible. How does he even know what it means?'

He kept still while answering, "What?" he took a step forward, "You think you can just take Maka like that?!" a growl rose defensively from his throat, "If you want to know some things about a relationship with a human it's never perfect. You should try to get to know her better before you try anything deeper than

what you already did or else you'll be more offended than she is when its over." He saw a hint of shock cross Kid's face as he took a step back, he softened his tone feeling guilty, "You don't know what she's like, so get used to being a bit dissapointed of being with a human."

"Hmm?" Maka turned her attention toward the door hearing faint shouts from the hallway, "Whats going on....?"

Kid pulled back his fist and punched Soul in the jaw, sending the scythe staggering backwards. "You idiot!! How could I ever be dissapointed in Maka!? She means nothing to you but a partner doesn't she!? I'd say that you don't understand! You don't know what it's like to be in love with Maka!! And there's no way you ever will, ever!! Stop trying to pull us apart!!" Kid screamed, teeming with rage. Liz heard the shouts from outside and turned to Maka. "Don't worry, it's fine, jsut fine..." Liz fake-smiled at the girl, watching Patty nod in fake agreement.

Kid watched Soul's eyes widen and he began to get a little self-concious. "Ahem." He cleared his throat and entered the hospital room once more. "Sorry about that... Just a little... Disagreement..." He smiled at Maka as he sat next to her bed once more. "I was hoping for a different outcome to that little chat," He spit out the word 'chat' with more hatred than he had wanted to. "but I guess it wasn't meant to be." Again, emphasizing his words to remind Soul to back off.

"Oh..." Maka looked at the different expressions in the room and felt dizzy from the blurred out screams, "You guys okay...?" her head swayed a bit in the air but regained herself. She looked around the room after a long pause of silence, "Wheres Soul?"

'Why's everyone look so weird....?' she tried to shake away from the dizziness once more but gave in and collapsed onto the bed.

"That spoiled idiot." Soul rubbed the small drops of blood off of his mouth, "He knows nothing about Maka and her life. He needs all the luck in the world." he started walking down the hall, "Hmph. Better get home and bring somethin' for Maka later."

"Soul said he needed to go take a nap... He was a little tired after today's events." Kid covered, smiling. It was a pretty believable lie; the sun was starting to set, and it's eyes drooped at the corners from tiredness. Kid could tell that it wouldn't be long before nighttime. "All things aside, I'm going to let you get some rest, just as you did for me." He smiled. "I'll be around tomorrow, first thing in the morning, I promise."

He wavered for a moment, then looked at Patti and Liz. "Um..." He started, unsure of what to say, then glanced at the door.

Patti and Liz nodded quickly. "Right." Liz said swiftly, and they left the room in a hurry.

Kid looked back at Maka. "Maka-chan..." He sat on the edge of her bed, smiling at her warmly now.

"No one in the world could ever mean more to me than you. You are the most important thing in my existence now, and I'll protect you with my life." He murmured, holding her hand lightly. Then he put his hand to the side of Maka's face, pulling it closer to him, and touched his lips to hers, kissing her softly. His heart beat faster and faster, and he rose to his feet quickly. "Goodnight, Maka-chan..." He blushed.