

The Seer

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InuTaisho's (InuYasha's father) old friend Yoshiko, a young seer, made a promise to watch over InuYasha and Sesshomaru after he died. What happens when Sesshomaru joins the Inu gang and falls in love with Yoshiko? What if Yoshiko feels the same for him? W

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Chapter 1 - A Father's Past	2
Chapter 2 - The Soul	4
Chapter 3 - A Different Feeling	6
Chapter 4 - A New Member	8
Chapter 5 - True Feelings	10
Chapter 6 - The Possessor	16
Chapter 7 - Kohaku's Back	20
Chapter 8 - A Kiss Good Night	23
Chapter 9 - The Vision of Death	27
Chapter 10 - Changes	32
Chapter 11 - Soul Searching	36
Chapter 12 - Water Beings	39
Chapter 13 - Going Away for Awhile	43
Chapter 14 - Kouga's Confessions	47
Chapter 15 - The Death of a Hanyou	50
Chapter 16 - Just Friends	54
Chapter 17 - Shippo's Question	57
Chapter 18 - Kikyo's Good-Bye	58
Chapter 19 - The Time Has Come	62
Chapter 20 - The Final Battle	65

1 - A Father's Past

A Father's Past InuYasha and the gang were walking into a village. They had just defeated a very tough demon. InuYasha was pretty badly hurt. Everyone else had injuries but nothing too serious. "Lets find a house to rest at. We need to find a healer to help InuYasha." Kagome suggested. "Feh. These wounds are nothing." InuYasha said stubbornly. He winced in pain and leaned closer to Kagome who was helping him stand up. "InuYasha, you need to see a healer. Demon or not demon you need help." Shippo pointed out from Kagome's shoulder. Suddenly they heard a loud noise from the forest they had just come out of. It was hundreds of demons and they could see Naraku at the edge of the forest smiling. InuYasha went to get his Tetsusaiga, but collapsed from exhaustion. "He can't fight any more. He's too weak." Sango said. Suddenly a girl ran to the edge of the village. To Miroku, Sango, and Shippo she was dressed in strange clothes, but to Kagome she was dressed normally. She was wearing jeans, a T-shirt, and a zipper hoody. She had long black hair that went to the middle of her back. It was curly, but she had it tied back. There were no bangs in her face, but they couldn't see her eyes. She looked about 18 years old. She held a staff in her hand. It had a point at the top and it looked SHARP. It also was curled at the top for about 4 inches. She thrust the staff into the ground and went onto her knees. A barrier came up around the whole village. When the demons ran into the barrier they instantly died. Naraku tried to come in the barrier once and for trying he got thrown back on his @\$\$\$. He tried again, but this time the girl flinched. He was about to get through. Kagome got her arrows ready. Then a sudden burst of energy came from the girl. Naraku was burned before being thrown from the barrier to the ground several feet away. The girl held the barrier up for half an hour until all the demons were gone and Naraku was out of sight. He had burn marks on his face and his shirt was in shreds. As soon as the barrier was down the girl collapsed. Nobody said a word. Nobody had said a word the whole time. The only noise that had ever been made was by the little children. They had cried and shouted for their mothers. Everyone else didn't know what to say. This girl had just saved all their lives. Someone started to cheer for her. Kagome, Sango, and Miroku ran to see if she was alright. Shippo stayed with InuYasha. Kagome rolled the girl over. Her eyelids flickered a little and almost opened. Kagome thought she had seen InuYasha in a purple light. The girl then turned her head and moaned. 'What was that?' Kagome wondered as the girl drifted into unconsciousness. "Hey, are you alright?" Kagome asked concerned. "We should get her and InuYasha to a nearby house." Sango said. "You can bring her to my house." a man offered. He looked to be as old as Keade. "She had just healed me and my daughter of a bad disease before the demons came." he said walking toward them to help carry her. "I'll carry her to your house." Miroku said. Sango gave Miroku a very bad look. "I'll have Kilala carry her." Sango said. She called Kilala over and put the girl on her back. 'I'm not that bad. Am I ?' Miroku wondered as he walked behind them. ***** InuYasha woke up later that afternoon. He was dizzy and didn't feel very good, but seeing everyone, especially Kagome, bandaged and healing made him feel better. It was strange that he visited the girl who had saved the village quite often. He was drawn to her and loved to look at her bracelet. It was a simple dainty chain with a single white bead. The girl woke up three days after the attack. InuYasha and Kagome were with her when she woke up. "InuYasha, she's waking up." Kagome told InuYasha. "Umm. Where am I?" the girl asked. She had a musical and wise voice, but it was still very youthful. Her eyes were a crystal blue. She sat up, but was a little shaky. "It's ok. You're still in the village. Do you remember being in the village?" Kagome asked kindly trying to steady the girl. "Yes. I remember healing several people. I was a little tired when I left the house. I was healing at and then the demons came. I put up my barrier up for a long time. Who are you?" the girl was

looking at Kagome, "You are dressed in clothes from a different time. You also have powers of a priestess." InuYasha and Kagome were shocked at how much this girl knew by just looking at Kagome. She hadn't even looked at InuYasha yet. "How do you know all that?" InuYasha asked her rudely. Then she looked at InuYasha and her eyes widened. She looked terrified. She recognized his white hair instantly. She also recognized his little ears. Those same old goofy dog ears. "Oh my God! InuYasha, what are you doing here? I thought you were closer to Keade's village." she said obviously confused and disturbed. "Who are you and how do you know me?!" InuYasha shouted. Normally he would have gotten ready to attack, but something about her was familiar. "I'm sorry. You probably don't remember me. You were just a baby when I distanced myself from most of your family. My name is Yoshiko. I'm an old family friend. I was always close to your family until...." She didn't finish the sentence only looked down at the sheets and took on an even more sad and lonely expression. "Until when?" Kagome asked. "I would rather not talk about it. It was a long time ago and I still haven't dealt with it. I knew your family ever since I was born, which was over 1,000,000 years ago. I was really close to your father. I'm a Seer, but I'm also one of the most powerful creatures in the world, past, present, or future. I can also heal, fly, see into people's hearts or minds, and, if my eyes are uncovered, anyone who looks into them will see their future as I do." Yoshiko explained. They were starting to think that Yoshiko wasn't a very happy person. She seemed lost or confused or something. "But why do you have clothes from my time?" Kagome asked. "Because I can also travel through time, among other things. I can do pretty much anything. With my eyes uncovered that is. I can't do a lot with my eyes covered." Yoshiko said. "How could you live for so long and not appear to age?" InuYasha asked. "Because I am immortal to aging and sickness till I find a soul and take it into me. I have a soul now. It is the bead on this bracelet," She lifted her wrist showing it to them; "I have not taken it in yet because I haven't found the right time yet. And I would rather not tell you whose soul it is." Yoshiko said, answering InuYasha and Kagome's questions before they even asked. Miroku, Sango, and Shippo popped their heads into the room Yoshiko was in. "Miroku, Sango and Shippo I take it." Yoshiko said looking a little happier. "InuYasha who is this?" Shippo asked crawling on the bed toward Yoshiko's feet. Yoshiko smiled a little. 'She looks a lot nicer when she smiles. I wonder what happened between her and InuYasha's father.' Kagome wondered as she watched InuYasha introduce her to everyone.

2 - The Soul

The Soul The gang stayed in the village until Yoshiko was well enough to travel with them. Shippo had taken a liking to her along with Miroku and Sango. Something that confused Miroku was that whenever he looked at Yoshiko he thought of Sango. The same thing happened to Sango, but it wasn't as strong of a feeling. Little did they know that Yoshiko was making them think of each other because she liked match-making. She also hated perverts. At heart she was a hopeless romantic, but she hadn't felt any love or friendship in many years. She couldn't affect InuYasha or Kagome without being noticed though. She didn't really tell them a lot about herself. Normally they would have wanted to know more about her before they let her join their group, but she was different. They felt safe with her around and InuYasha knew she was hiding something from him. He would catch her staring at him searching for something in his eyes and sometimes she would find it and get scared. It had been a quiet few days since they had left the village. They all were around the fire eating supper. InuYasha caught Yoshiko doing it again. He stood up and yelled at her "Why do you keep staring at me!" She gazed up into his golden orbs. InuYasha could see hurt in her that they had always seen, but now it was intensified. She had courage in those blue eyes, too. "Why do you get scared when you stare at me half the time!?" She took a deep breathe and started to speak "I told you I'm a Seer. I see things when I look at people. I see some bad things, but the things that are scaring me are the Past things I see. I'm seeing you and your father." After saying that, she looked down at the ground with the look of a five year who had not gotten their way. She fiddled with the bracelet and bead trying to not look at them. "Why does seeing InuYasha and his father make you scared?" Sango asked. Yoshiko took a deep breathe again. This was turning out to be harder than she thought it would be. She was silent for so long. "InuYasha's father and I were close until I started to see his death. It always frightened me. In one version I would see myself crying by his dead body. Holding his hand and saying something, but I don't know what. He had burns all over his body. He had gotten out of the place where InuYasha was born before it exploded. I guess I had just been too later." She started to cry soundlessly. She paused for at least five minutes. Then Miroku asked "What did you see in the other version? You said 'In one version...' What did you see in the other?" "I saw myself taking his... his... his soul." She looked up and everyone could see the pain, hurt, and regret in her tearful eyes. "At that time I didn't have a soul. I left about a year after I started to see the second version. I started to search for a soul so I wouldn't even be able to take his soul. I never found one and I could sense that his time was ending. So I came back. I made the mistake of uncovering my eyes in front of him before I could heal him. He saw what I had been seeing in his eyes for years. I can't heal a powerful person if they do not wish to be healed. So when the time came he asked me to take his soul. I begged him not to ask me to do that but he wouldn't listen. The soul on my bracelet is your father's, InuYasha." Yoshiko finished with an upset look at InuYasha. "I guess you'll want me to leave." Yoshiko assumed. No one spoke. After a little while Kagome spoke up. "Let's go to bed. We can talk about this tomorrow." She suggested kindly. InuYasha immediately leaped into the closest tree obviously upset. Yoshiko sighed and walked as far from his tree as possible without leaving camp. Kagome looked to InuYasha. 'I hope he is alright. I would hate it if Yoshiko had to leave. She is very powerful and it seems like she is here for a reason.' Kagome thought before finding a comfortable spot under InuYasha's tree.***** Yoshiko was the first up. 'I guess I can make breakfast and then go for water at the stream.' Yoshiko thought as she looked around at everyone. Then her gaze came to InuYasha. She remembered when she had returned from her search for a soul as she walked to the stream.**Flashback** "Yoshiko, it is good to see you." the great dog demon had said hugging her

friendly. "Izayoi is pregnant. I smell a boy." he said joyfully. "What about Sesshomaru? What does he think of this?" Yoshiko asked sad about her reoccurring vision but, hiding it well. "He hasn't been around for awhile. Yoshiko, I have a favor to ask of you." he said seriously. "You know I would do anything for you." she had said smiling and blushed when she realized she had revealed a little too much. He looked confused and suspicion, but just shook it off. "I want you to promise me you will look after Sesshomaru, Izayoi, and the baby. I have felt like the end is soon coming and I suspect that is why you left for so long." he said with a bittersweet smile. "I would rather not talk about it." she said looking away. He had heartily chuckled at that. "That is your favorite saying isn't it? 'I would rather not talk about it.'" he said in a very bad impression of Yoshiko now completely joyful again. She had smiled. 'It is good to be back, but... '**End of Flashback** "Why didn't you stay around for breakfast?" Kagome asked sweetly interrupting her memory. She had been searching for Yoshiko for some time before coming to the stream. "I thought I would let you all talk about what your going to do. Have you?" She replied depressed. "We have discussed it. InuYasha was silent the whole time. Sango feels sorry for you as do I. Shippo is a little scared, but still wants you around. I don't think he realized that you really could do almost anything. Miroku thinks that we should leave you. Sango slapped him for that. He doesn't trust you anymore." Kagome told her with sympathy. "I think I know why." she replied, the corner of her lips turning up slightly in the beginning of a smile, which was rare if Shippo hadn't been hit by InuYasha and Miroku hadn't been slapped by Sango. "I don't really blame him. InuYasha didn't say anything?" she inquired. "I asked him if he would be alright. He said that he didn't want to talk to or about you for a little while. I think he's confused and doesn't know what to do. He never talked about his father before so I don't know how he feels toward him. When he saw his father for the first time it seemed he cared and wanted to know more, but that's all I know." Kagome answered. "Three out of five want you to stay, so if you want to you can stay. InuYasha will probably have questions for you after all this sinks in." she said after a silent pause. "I'll stay. There are things I will need to explain to all of you at some point in time." Yoshiko said sadly after a few minutes. She looked into the sun and knew what she had to do. It was going to be hard and she would probably fail at a few things, but that didn't matter. She wanted to help InuYasha and his friends. She had promised to look after InuYasha and Sesshomaru and now she had to fulfill part of it. She also wanted to match a few more people together.

3 - A Different Feeling

A Different Feeling It had been a week since Yoshiko had confessed. She had become distant. Not exactly cold, but very much like it. She wouldn't talk much. She usually did a lot for everyone, but just did it and then would turn a way like she had done something wrong. Kagome was getting worried. She took InuYasha into the woods one day. "InuYasha, I'm worried about Yoshiko. She is barely eating anything, will only drink when Sango, Shippo, or I ask her to, and her eyes have changed. Before you could sense there were scares, things that hurt her, but now you only need to see her eyes to know she has been hurt and it is killing her. Her eye color has completely changed. They were a nice sky blue, but now they're like ice. I think you should talk to her." Kagome told InuYasha it was a lecture, but she didn't care. He needed to be told Yoshiko was hurting. "I have tried to talk to her, Kagome. She won't listen. I think there is something else. Maybe having me around and talking about my father is bringing back bad memories." InuYasha said frustrated. He started to describe his discussion with Yoshiko yesterday. ****Flashback**** InuYasha had fallen to the back of the group to talk to Yoshiko. She never even looked at him. "Yoshiko...how close were you and my father?" InuYasha had asked curiously. She stayed quiet looking ahead as she walked. "I'm sorry that I was so quiet after you told us about my father's soul." he apologized looking at the white bead that contained the soul. She was still quiet. He stepped in front of her blocking her way. She looked into his eyes. What InuYasha saw in them scared him. He saw a pain that ran through her veins. She regretted so much. "Yoshiko please talk to someone. Your eyes they're...scaring me." he confessed. "I'm sorry. I just need to be alone right now." Yoshiko said coldly. "Then why are you sticking around?" he asked. She bit her lip before gaining the courage to speak again. "I stay because I promised to look after you, Sesshomaru, and your mother. I promised your father that and I already lost your mother. I'm not going to fail your father again." she said stubbornly and pushed passed him. 'I wish you were here.' she thought desperately wishing for her best friend for the millionth time. ****End of Flashback**** "What can we do?" Kagome asked after he was done telling her everything. "I don't know." InuYasha said fed up with all the trouble. He sat down trying to think. Kagome decided to join him and sat next to him. After a moment she laid her head on his shoulder. This made InuYasha feel weird inside. "I think I'll go see what she is doing." Kagome said hesitating a minute, but then kissed his cheek. That made his whole body heat up. "Thanks for telling me this." Then she left making him feel cold in the absents of her warmth. *******Meanwhile******* Yoshiko was at a nearby lake. Her hair flowed down her back as she walked gracefully into the lake. She was taking a late night bath. She knew InuYasha was dealing with what she had told him. She wasn't though. She was getting more and more depressed everyday. She saw so much of InuYasha's father in InuYasha, himself. She cried into the lake. She loved to go under, but hated to come back up, back to the real world. Yoshiko, not knowing that someone was watching, swam through the water freely. 'She's so beautiful but, there is a coldness to her. It isn't natural though. She's like this from pain. ...If only I could help. What the hell am I thinking?! I don't even know her! And she is obviously a human!' Sesshomaru thought as he looked at her. He was silently watching from a tree. The moonlight made her look like more than a human. It made her look immortal. Like nothing could harm her. It only just light everything enough to see her perfect figure. Her face was a light in the darkness. Sesshomaru decided to get closer. He had left Jaken and Rin back a couple of miles. He didn't know what he was going to do, but he knew there was something to her. He felt something so strong and unfamiliar to him. He didn't know what it was, but he liked it. He took off his shoes and armor and walked in the lake. It was like he was in a trance. Suddenly Yoshiko heard

someone walk into the lake. She turned and saw someone in the shadows walking in. 'It can't be.' she thought. 'He is dead.' Her breathing came short. Then she saw who it was. It was his son Sesshomaru. She hadn't seen him since he was a little boy. He was far more handsome than she remembered seeing him in her visions. She thought her feelings would have left, but they didn't. He stopped when he saw her turn around. They looked at each other. Not knowing anything, but their feelings. He was a little uneasy because of the new emotion that was taking over. The emotion was wonderful and it was all because of this gorgeous girl. He couldn't even stop looking at her eyes. They seem to brighten and become a more ocean blue when she saw him. She was feeling something she hadn't felt in years. It was true happiness. She forgot all her worries. All she could think about was him. Then Yoshiko realized that she was above water and only had on her soul bracelet. Her hair was covering her breast, but that wasn't nearly good enough. She turned and ducked wishing she was somewhere else. Then she felt something warm on her shoulders. Sesshomaru had put his outer robe on her shoulders. She wrapped it around her and then used her powers to heat it up as she turned to face him. He was shocked when he saw her dry his robe in a matter of seconds. After a few seconds he didn't even care or remember. He felt an overwhelming urge to just wrap his arms around her. They just stood there for what seemed like a long time. All they saw were the others eyes. They didn't know what was happening. All they knew was how they felt and all they saw was an overpowering emotion in the others eyes. "Yoshiko!! Are you there? Where are you?!" came Kagome's voice from the woods. Yoshiko was suddenly knocked out of her daze and realized that they were really, really close. He had his arms around her waist and her arms were on his chest. His face was coming close to hers. She gently pushed him away and ran toward the voice. Yoshiko found Kagome shortly after she had left the lake. "Yoshiko, what's wrong? You look a little scared and whose robe is that?" Kagome asked concerned. "I... I just..." Yoshiko couldn't even talk about it. Then a smile spread across her face at the thought of what would have happened if Kagome had come a few minutes later. Kagome noticed this and decided to drop the subject. This was the first time she had seen Yoshiko smile happily since they had left the village. "Let's go back to camp. You can talk to someone tomorrow if you want." Kagome suggested. Yoshiko nodded slightly and Kagome helped her stand up. 'Whatever happened I'm glad. She is clearly a lot happier than before.'

4 - A New Member

A New Member Sesshomaru was following Kagome and the girl from the lake. He looked at the girl talking to Kagome. He wasn't quite out of his trance, yet. He remembered the feeling of her in his arms. She had been touching his chest. Then Kagome had to ruin it. He thought he remembered Kagome call her Yoshiko. 'That is a beautiful name' Sesshomaru thought. He followed them all the way back to camp. He was trying to think of a way to get her attention and her attention alone. He decided to wait until everyone was asleep. He got a better look at Yoshiko with the light from the fire. She had midnight black hair that was too long. He noticed that her eyes were actually a lighter blue than he had thought. Her lips were full and a rosy pink. 'She must be a goddess' he thought. He waited over two hours before everyone was asleep. He quietly walked to Yoshiko. He wanted to know more about her so bad. She was laying on her side. He knelt down beside her and caressed her cheek. She turned her face into his hand smiling happily. Then he wondered what her voice was like. 'It must be as pure as an angel's.' he thought leaning closer to her face. "Back away, Sesshomaru. What are you doing?" InuYasha asked from behind Sesshomaru. "Who is she? I know her name is Yoshiko, but that's all I know." Sesshomaru said quietly. He never stopped caressing Yoshiko's cheek, but he did back away a little. So he could talk to his brother better without waking Yoshiko. "Why do you care and why are you here?" InuYasha asked frustrated. 'This isn't like Sesshomaru. Something must be wrong.' InuYasha decided. "I don't know. I just care. I feel something for her. She is so beautiful and her eyes..." He couldn't even find the words to finish. "I followed her and Kagome back from the lake. I wanted to talk to her, but since she is asleep maybe I'll wait." He got up and started to walk for the woods. "Wait! Maybe you should stay here. Yoshiko has been depressed for days. When she came back from the lake she was smiling. She still wasn't talking to anyone, but she was happy. Stay here and you can see her in the morning. I can tell you about her now." InuYasha said kindly. Sesshomaru grinned. "That would be great. So where is she from?" Sesshomaru asked. "She doesn't really have a home. She's a Seer. She knew father. The bracelet on her wrist contains his soul. She has many powers not just Seeing into the future. She's also immortal to sickness and old age and can live through as many injures as us. She needs a soul to truly live like us though. She's just skin and bones without a soul. Sure she as a mind and a life, but it's not the same. I'm not entirely sure how it works. That's a basic summary of her." InuYasha said. "It must be hard for her." Sesshomaru thought out loud. He looked at her with sympathy in her eyes. "Hard!! What the hell do you mean? She is more powerful than you or me and she can live for almost forever. What is so HARD about that?" InuYasha shouted at his brother. He almost woke up everyone in camp. "SHH! She loses all her friends because they die and she lives on. She had to take our father's soul and if they were friends I highly doubt that she wanted to. Your naïve as usual little brother." Sesshomaru replied calmly. 'I never thought of it like that.' InuYasha thought. "What do you mean naïve?" "InuYasha if I stay the night can we agree on a truce?" Sesshomaru asked not looking at his half brother. "I guess, but you are just staying the night, right?" InuYasha asked. Sesshomaru just shrugged. He didn't know. 'I guess it depends on if Yoshiko wants him here.' InuYasha thought. They went to bed after that. InuYasha went back to his tree for sleep. Sesshomaru looked around for a place to sleep. Then his eyes came to Yoshiko. He went to her and laid on his side right behind her. He wrapped an arm around her and pulled her close. He fiddled with the bracelet and bead for a few minutes before he fell asleep with the scent of her hair in his mind. It was sweet and reminded him of the woods.***** Yoshiko was starting to wake up. She felt someone's arm around her waist. It felt so nice. It was a strong arm. And then her common sense came flying back. 'Who the hell is

that?!' she thought. She quickly got up and turned around. Sesshomaru was laying there. He began to wake up. When he opened his eyes a huge grin spread across his face. "Good morning, Yoshiko. It's nice to see you again." He said charmingly. "What are you doing here?" Yoshiko asked with a smile on her face. "I wanted to see you. So what do you see in my future today?" he said as he pulled her down next to him. Yoshiko got a confused look on her face. "InuYasha told me." he said then tried to pull her into a kiss, but she pushed herself away. "Did he tell you everything?" Yoshiko asked concerned. "He told me about you and my father and this bracelet" he held her wrist with the bracelet. Yoshiko turned away. That had brought bad memories back. Memories of when his father had playfully flirted with her. It had been before Sesshomaru's or InuYasha's mothers. Then everyone was waking up. She got up quickly. She went to the fire to start breakfast. She had her eyes closed for most of the time. She was trying to hid the tears. Sesshomaru just watched. 'What did I say? I only said that I knew about her and my father. I flirted a little. Maybe I reminded her of him.' He thought concerned for Yoshiko. He walked over to her. She was kneeling in front of the fire. He bent down and put his lips close to her ears. His arms found her shoulder before he whispered "I'm sorry." and kissed her cheek. Then everyone was fully awake. "Sesshomaru what are you doing here?" Miroku shouted jumping up ready to fight. "Get away from Yoshiko!" yelled Sango putting her hand to her Hiraikotsu. Kagome just stared from her sleeping bag. 'Yoshiko kind of looks happy and so does Sesshomaru.' Kagome thought slightly confused. "Its ok. He has been her all night. I think he is joining us now. Is that right?" InuYasha asked Sesshomaru. "Yes" he answered with a smile while looking at Yoshiko. She just blushed and turned away. 'This isn't going to be good' Yoshiko thought wishing he wouldn't be so handsome. "Well Sesshomaru I guess you and me should make peace." InuYasha said walking to his brother. Sesshomaru nodded in agreement. They shook hands. "Allies then?" "No, brothers." Sesshomaru corrected. Everyone was either confused or relieved by this. Sesshomaru had always cause a lot of trouble for them and now he was going to help them.

5 - True Feelings

True Feelings Sesshomaru had to go back and get Jaken and Rin, but he said he would catch up later on. It wasn't until the gang was finishing lunch that they caught up. Sesshomaru greeted Yoshiko happily with Rin on his back. He had been carrying her. Everyone, but Jaken decided to go slow for Rin. "Someone can carry her. Or we could just leave her. She is just a stupid human." Jaken said loudly so everyone heard. Sesshomaru and Rin gave him an evil glare. Yoshiko just looked at him coldly. "Rin is staying because I want her to stay." Yoshiko said coolly. "And if you have a problem with it talk to your master. Or should I say your murderer." She said slyly. Jaken quickly looked at Sesshomaru shocked, scared, and confused. Sesshomaru just looked at Jaken and after a few minutes smiled. They continued on the trail. It was later at night when they stopped. Jaken asked Yoshiko if he could talk to her privately for a moment. They went a few yards into the woods to talk. "You want to know if I was telling the truth" Yoshiko said after a couple of minutes of silence. Jaken looked at her with amazement and fright. "Yes and if you don't believe me you can see for yourself." She turned to him and closed her eyes then rapidly opened them. Now they were a pure violet. Jaken looked into them and saw the future. He saw himself picking on Rin as usual and Sesshomaru with his back turned. Jaken teased Rin for a while then Sesshomaru turned and unsheathed his sword in one fluid movement. He cut Jaken in two. He again turned and just left Jaken there. Rin stared for a little while then ran to catch up with Sesshomaru. Yoshiko looked away and closed her eyes. Jaken had seen what she had. She was a little tired from leaving her eyes uncovered for so long. It always pained her to just uncover them, but to leave them open kills her if she is just showing someone their future. She turned just how Sesshomaru had turned, which made Jaken jump in fear. She left him to think of what to do now. In the morning Jaken announced that he was leaving. No one was upset one bit. Sesshomaru whispered to Yoshiko "I guess I should thank you." Which made her giggle. He was satisfied that he got to be so close to her. It had been days since he was able to get that close to her. He longed to get even closer to her, but that little whisper was good enough for now. *****Weeks Later***** They had been walking for hours when they stopped for lunch. The whole time Sesshomaru was sitting right next to Yoshiko and was trying to talk to her, but she was distracted. She kept looking up ahead to the north. She closed her eyes a lot and would get a worried look on her face. When they were finishing up lunch Yoshiko said "I'm going to scout ahead. Wait for me to get back before you go." Sesshomaru was worried about her and every one could see that. "Yoshiko, what is wrong?" Sesshomaru asked grabbing her arm. She turned and put her hand on his cheek. He loosened his grip unconsciously and turned his face into her hand. He felt her warmth. Her touch was healing and inescapable. He couldn't take his mind from it and then it was gone. She was walking away. He was saddened, but was worried much more. ***** It had been two hours when everyone was getting worried. Everyone was afraid for Yoshiko, but Sango was also worried about Miroku. He hadn't hit on her or any other woman they met on the road in days. He hadn't even tried to grab her @\$\$!!!! Anyway, they decided to leave Shippo and Rin there until they found Yoshiko. Sesshomaru was searching desperately for a trail. They were moving really fast when they came to a field. There were dead demons all around. They had been completely demolished. There had to be at least a thousand. "Let's split up. Yoshiko has to be here somewhere. I can smell her scent." Sesshomaru said sniffing the air for a better sign of her. Kagome was looking around when she saw Yoshiko in the middle of the field. Her staff was out and covered in demon blood. Her hair had half fallen out of it's pony tail. She was filthy. There didn't appear to be any wounds on her though. Kagome knelt down and tried to wake her. Yoshiko opened her eyes for a

moment. Kagome saw purple eyes and not blue. She also saw InuYasha holding her and kissing her passionately in her eyes. Then Yoshiko closed her eyes. Kagome sat back in pure shock and slight joy. She was happy because what she saw was the future. She was shocked though because she never thought InuYasha would show any sign of affection to her other than protecting her. And what about Kikyo? When she heard InuYasha yell at her in her face she was knocked out of her trace. His face was only a foot away from hers. She instantly blushed like crazy and turned away. "Are you ok? You didn't answer me when I asked you what you had found. I guess I know now." He said with a glance to Yoshiko. "What happened though? You look a little ... I don't know..... scared or... happy." "I think we should get Yoshiko out of here." She said trying to avoid the subject. He agreed and called everyone over. They got her back into the woods. Miroku said he would go back and find Rin and Shippo. Sango also went. InuYasha and Kagome went looking for a source of water and fire-wood. Sesshomaru stayed with Yoshiko. He just stared at her for hours. 'What happened? Why couldn't I have stopped you? Why didn't I stop you? Why did you leave by yourself? I could tell you knew there was danger. I wish I could have helped.' He thought endlessly. He went to her side and looked at her all over. She was leaning up against a tree. She made no sound other than her slow breathing. He couldn't find a place where she had been hurt. He then came to the conclusion that she was just exhausted. Her hair was covering her face completely. He sighed and cleared it from her dirty face. He tried to wipe away some of the dirt. Sesshomaru then realized that he could get as close to her as he wanted to. So he picked her up and let her rest in his lap. He was the one that leaned against the tree now. Sesshomaru turned the soul bead over in his hand. 'Were you ever this cold to my father or were you two...' Yoshiko started to wake up. She knew Sesshomaru had her in his arms. It felt so nice that she didn't want to move and have him start to ask questions. She just laid there thinking of what she had done, how tired she was, and how much she wanted this moment to never end. She couldn't help, but shift in his arms trying to get more comfortable. After turning a bit she finally sat across his lap, letting her head rest on his chest above his heart. He was shocked that Yoshiko was cuddling with him. He didn't ask anything. Just let her and loved it. They sat there for a long time before Sesshomaru asked the question he had been dying to ask. "Are you alright?" he whispered into her ear. Yoshiko just snuggled closer and said weakly "I'm fine. Just a little tired." Sesshomaru tightened his hold on her. He never wanted to let her go. He began to think the same questions he had earlier. "I can't answer that right now. When I'm a little stronger I'll explain." Yoshiko told him encouragingly. He shifted to see her face and she just smiled and buried her face in his shirt. *****Meanwhile***** Sango and Miroku were finding they're way through the woods back to Shippo and Rin. Kilala was trotting a ways ahead of the pair. Sango was walking in front of Miroku wondering 'Why the HELL hasn't Miroku grabbed my @\$\$'. It isn't normal. Something must be wrong.' She decided to stop and ask him. She turned around to face him and caught him looking at her funny. "Miroku, you have been acting strange lately. Is something wrong?" She asked concern in her voice. He just stared at her and started to blush. "Nothing is wrong. I just saw into Yoshiko's eyes a week ago. They're very beautiful. The brightest and yet darkest violet you have ever seen." Miroku was describing with passionate detail. Sango took it as he had fallen in love with her. "That's enough. I get it." Sango said unable to kept the disappointment from her voice. Miroku didn't understand, so he continued. "As Yoshiko had said I saw my future.... And yours." He started to explain in detail of the experience. **Flashback** Yoshiko had been walking with Miroku in the back. A question taunted Miroku in the back of his mind. He finally gathered the courage to ask Yoshiko. "Yoshiko, what is in store for me in my future?" he asked shyly. Yoshiko giggled a little before answering. "You want to know if you will ever be able to take those beads off for good. Maybe. You also want to know if you will bear a child with someone don't you?" she asked knowing exactly who that someone was. Miroku nodded his head solemnly. "I don't know if I should tell you, but I know I can show you. It might give you somewhat of an answer." They then stopped walking. Yoshiko closed her eyes slowly trying to find the vision she had

seen from time to time. When she had found it she opened her purple eyes to the world. Miroku saw Sango in his arms. He couldn't see her face, but he noticed tears in his eyes. He was clinging to her tightly. Then Yoshiko turned away. 'That didn't answer any questions. Now I have a million more.' he thought in his daze. Before long he noticed Yoshiko's heavy breathing. "Are you alright?" he asked concerned. "Yes. It just takes a little out of me when I show people their future. I'm supposed to see these things, not the people I show them to." she stated. He nodded. 'I guess I should let it be. She is tired. At least I have something to look forward to, I hope.' he thought before helping Yoshiko catch up with the rest. ****End of Flashback**** "I still don't know why I was holding you. I fear you might have been hurt, but I hope you were there because... you wanted to be there." he said with painstaking hope. Sango couldn't find the words. Hell she couldn't even think at that moment. She just walked ahead on the path faster to get away from him. Miroku was instantly hurt broken. She might as well have said 'I don't think of you that way' He stayed behind to hide the tears that were streaming down his cheek. He then wiped his eyes and walked on thinking he would never feel the same way again. He would never love another woman. He would never again have the same intense hope that his true love could love him back. 'Oh My God!! I never thought Miroku would settle on one woman. Let alone me!' She knew she deeply cared for Miroku, but she wasn't sure if she loved him or even if she did that she could say it. She also realized that she had hurt Miroku. She then stopped walking. 'I should say something' she concluded. She waited there until Miroku caught up. He looked so miserable. She couldn't bear the thought that she had caused him that pain. She took a deep breath before speaking. "Miroku, I don't know how I feel for sure. I know I care for you more than most, but other than that I don't know. Maybe we could just go on like before." she suggested. She looked into his eyes trying to find an answer to her suggestion. "I can't. Not after what I saw in Yoshiko's eyes. I won't mention this again. Just know how I feel." He said then kissed her forehead and her hand. Sango was blinded by the sweet kiss on her head. It had felt so amazing. The kiss on her hand was just a tease though. All the same it felt VERY nice. They then hugged quickly and went on. Soon finding Rin and Shippo with Kilala they headed back to camp, hand-in-hand. *******Meanwhile******* Kagome was trying to avoid InuYasha's stare. He had been doing that ever since they left camp. He then looked away and sniffed the air. "I think there is some water this way." he said pointing to the west. "Ok. Let's get going then." Kagome said. "Wait." InuYasha commanded before she could get to far. "What did you see in her eyes? You did see her eyes uncovered, right?" InuYasha asked curiously. "I saw..." Kagome couldn't finish. She was getting nervous as it was. Then she looked up and saw InuYasha standing next to her. He was so close. 'How could I have not noticed him there.' she thought upset at herself. He smelled fear and a hint of pleasure on her. "Kagome, what are you afraid of?" InuYasha said smelling her more deeply. Trying to find the pleasure on her again. He found it more and more the closer he got. He was only able to stop himself right in front of Kagome. He was less than a foot away. Fear was slipping away. He decided to touch her cheek. When he did that the fear came slamming back into her heart. He took away his hand. "Do you fear me?" he whispered a little afraid himself. Kagome looked at him in shock. "Never!" she insisted. Kagome had been avoiding his gaze so this exact thing wouldn't happen. She saw how that made him relieved. How it made him so happy. Then she saw something else. She had seen him look at Kikyo that way before. When she was brought back to life and when Kikyo had kissed him. She had never seen him look at her that way though. "What did you see?" InuYasha asked again. Getting close to her and putting his hand on her cheek again. She was silent for a few endless moments. He got impatient and leaned in. "Please." he whispered into her ear. He took his head away from her ear, but paused in front of her face. Kagome was too far gone to say anything. Then she found the nerve to ask "What about Kikyo?" with tears in her eyes. "I looked into Yoshiko's eyes, too. I saw something I never want to see again. I saw you die in my arms." InuYasha said and then wrapped her in a lustful embrace. He then told her of his ordeal. ****Flashback**** Everyone, but InuYasha and Yoshiko were asleep. InuYasha was in

his tree staring up at the sky. Yoshiko came to stand under that tree. 'InuYasha can we talk a little ways away from camp. I need to tell you something and I don't want to wake the others.' she told him in his mind. He nodded and jumped from the tree. He glanced at Kagome. She looked safe and he couldn't smell any demons in the area so he decided he could leave for a minute. Once they were far enough away that they could talk without disturbing the others InuYasha looked back, relieved to be able to still see his Kagome. "What did you need to tell me?" he asked irritably. He didn't like being away from Kagome at night. This was the only time he could look at Kagome without anyone questioning him. "I'm not sure how to say this. There is a lot to say." she looked like she was already regretting bringing InuYasha here. "I think I will just show you. I will fast forward through some of it." she said. Her eye lids sank down slowly. Then whipped open. InuYasha found himself lost in her violet eyes before seeing the future. It was going by quickly, but he understood that Miroku, Sango, Shippo, Kilala, Kagome, and himself were going down the road when they stopped. Everything slowed. They made camp in their quick pace from habit. Kagome was already starting supper. He smelt the air and could really smell it in his nose then and there. He thought it was the faint smell of Naraku. He could hear himself talking to Kagome and everyone else. "I'm going to look around. I'll be back soon." he said and then dashed off without an other word. The vision stayed at camp and it was fast forwarding. Kagome was there giving everyone their dinner. He heard her thoughts in his head. 'I wonder what is taking InuYasha so long.' Kagome thought then she turned her head and saw Kikyō's soul collectors. 'He went after Kikyō. He left camp to find her because he could smell her scent. Why couldn't he have just told one of us. He left me for her again.' she thought saddened by InuYasha choice. 'No I didn't. I thought I smelled Naraku. I had no idea Kikyō was there.' he shouted in his mind. "I think I'll go look for InuYasha." Kagome said to everyone with a fake smile when in truth she wanted to get away from InuYasha. She had loved him and he didn't love her back. He could get his precious Kikyō to help. The vision continued only faster now. Kagome was walking away into the forest alone. He saw Kagome walk for quite some time. Then the vision slowed again. Kagome was sitting under a tree. She was crying. Again InuYasha heard her thoughts when he knew he shouldn't have. 'Why do I bother hanging around here. He will never care for me the way he does for Kikyō. This makes the tenth time he has left us for her without saying a word. He promised us he wouldn't leave for her anymore. He promised me! Why couldn't he see that I cared for him. Hasn't our fight with Kaguya let him know that I love him?' she thought drowning herself in misery. She sat there for a long time before Naraku appeared. He quickly came up to her and put his hand over her mouth so she wouldn't scream. "Why are you out here all by your lonesome? Where is InuYasha and the monk and demon-slayer?" he asked only removing his hand for her to talk. "They're gone. I'm alone." she lied trying to keep her friends safe for now. He laughed as he put his hand back over her mouth. "You lie to keep me from them. That is very noble, but I already know where your camp is. And I know Kikyō is taking care of InuYasha." He spoke the truth, but it hurt so much. It hurt to know that he had just been toying with her. He lifted her up. She tried to struggle, but it was no use. He was taking her somewhere and she couldn't do anything about it. 'InuYasha! Where are you? Why aren't you here?' she thought as she cried her eyes out.~~~~~ InuYasha came back to camp. He had search all over, but no sign of Naraku. He had seen Kikyō's soul collectors though. He didn't go to her because he had promised everyone that he wouldn't go after her. He had been looking at Kagome though. He had been staring into her eyes. He had known that it was a relief for her. "Where's Kagome?" he asked slightly concerned. "She went looking for you. Come to think of it she has been gone for some time." Sango informed him. He started to sniff the air. He could smell Kagome and Naraku together. 'Kagome!' He sniffed the air again and smelt her blood. 'She's hurt!' he realized. He darted off into the direction he smelled her. 'I need to get to her. She needs me.' "I'm going to skip ahead. You look for some time, but this is when you finally find her and Naraku is gone." Yoshiko voice rang in his head. He then saw himself holding Kagome. She had cuts all over. Her blood was gushing

out. He was crying. "Kagome please don't go. Please! I need you here Kagome!" He took one of her limp hands in his and pressed it to his heart. "I need you to stay here. I love you Kagome. Stay here, stay alive in my heart." he pleaded her. "Inu...Yasha." she murmured weakly. He opened his eyes to look at her beautiful hazel orbs. "Kagome. Stay with me Kagome. Please don't die." he begged her yet again. "I'm sorry." she whispered her eyes slowly lowering. He swiftly kissed her trying to give her a reason to fight for her life. When he broke the kiss his eyes opened, but hers didn't. "Kagome?" he shook her a little to make sure she wasn't just sleeping. She wouldn't open her eyes. He gently kissed her forehead. "I love you, Kagome, and only you." he whispered. With that he heard her final heartbeat. She was gone. 'I lost her, forever.' he thought letting out one last sob. "InuYasha? That happens in about six months. Kagome had lost the will to live. Naraku tried to get the jewel shards from her, but she wouldn't allow it. InuYasha, I'm going to show you something almost a month after that. Then I will have shown you everything I needed to." her voice murmured softly in his ears. He was sitting under the sacred tree. 'Kagome. My Kagome I hope you are safe. I hope you are happy where ever you are. I just hope you know I love you and always will.' he thought hoping she would know. Then he sensed someone coming. He looked up from his daze. To his mischievous eyes he saw Kagome walking toward him. She was exactly as he remembered her. The beautiful angel that saved his life on many occasions and he had saved many more times. "Kagome?" she was so close to him. She was standing right in front of him. He instantly stood up. "Kagome how are you alive?" he asked taking her into his arms. "InuYasha what are you talking about?" she shouted at him. His vision suddenly cleared. It was Kikyo his arms. He let go quicker than lightening. "I'm sorry. I thought you were Kagome." he apologized quickly disappointed. He then walked away. 'He really misses her. I can never be what she was. I never was. I should go.' Kikyo thought leaving the half-demon. Then the vision was gone. InuYasha stared at the panting Yoshiko. He was having trouble breathing. 'Kagome dies?' he thought petrified. "I heard Kikyo and Kagome's thoughts. I was watching Kagome and I wasn't there. Why? I thought I would only see my future, not Kagome's." he said confused only just starting to catch his breathe. "Yours and Kagome's future are intertwined. I can show you hers as well as yours, but it is extremely exhausting. And I just found the thoughts to let you hear them. You needed to hear those things." she said still panting a little. She was on her knees and hadn't once looked at InuYasha. He realized this after just staring at her for a few minutes. "Are you alright?" he asked concerned, but not wanting to show that he was really worried. "Yes, I'm just tired. So InuYasha,..." she looked up into his eyes. Now he saw the familiar ocean blue. "Who do you choose?" she bluntly asked catching him off guard. He turned away. "I don't know." he honestly answered. "You know in your heart. You know you were destined to be with-" "No don't tell me. I don't want to hear it. I don't want to know!" he shouted. "It's Kagome. You love Kagome. That is what your heart tells you. Your head is what tells you that you own your life to Kikyo." she said letting him think that over. "But what about my promise to Kikyo? I promised I would always-" "You promised you would protect her. You never said anything about loving or dieing for her, now did you." she said in her rare know-it-all way. "I do love her though." 'Don't I?' he debated with himself. "I can't say much to change your, but I can tell you this. Kagome cried for you. Her and your mother were the only ones who ever cried for you. Kikyo cried because of you, but never for you. And I'll remind you of the fact that Kikyo is dead. She will never come back. Kagome is over there alive, flesh and blood. Not clay and grave yard soul." she finished then walked back toward camp. "InuYasha,..." she turned to say one last thing. "Kagome loves you. You love her. Kikyo doesn't love you and you only care for her, not love." she said before finishing her walk back to her sleeping spot. ****End of Flashback**** "I stayed there for sometime. I think I have made a decision. Actually I know I have made a decision." he finished. He loosened his grip on her and looked into her eyes. "Kikyo is a part of my past. I want you to be a part of my future. I would do anything and everything for you. I would give my life for you. Anything to make you happy. I don't think.... I know I

can't live without you." He said sweetly. Kagome couldn't speak. 'Did InuYasha just say he would die for me. Does that mean he's in love with me?' He leaned down to her. Their lips were so close, but InuYasha stopped. "Do you feel the same, Kagome? Do you love me?" he whispered. Kagome couldn't speak. She could barely breath. All she could do was lean in and kiss him. InuYasha loved the kiss more than anything and he could tell what she meant, but he needed to hear it. He gently pushed away. "Tell me. Say it, Kagome." he said staying close. "I.... I.... I love you." Kagome said and then kissed him with all the love she had ever felt for him. The love that never left her mind or heart. He felt more alive, more complete than ever. She had given him the most incredible feeling ever. He felt love. Pure love that could never be changed no matter what. He never wanted to let go of Kagome. Kagome broke the kiss reluctantly after a few minutes. "We should get back." Kagome said. She let go of InuYasha and tried to walk away, but InuYasha grabbed her arm. "Wait you never answered me." he said pulling her into his arms again. "What did you see in Yoshiko's eyes?" he asked leaning in for a soft kiss. "I saw you kissing me. A little like this." Kagome said kissing him the same way she had seen, passionately. She leaned into it knowing that this was the exact thing she had seen. It was wonderful. 'If I die tomorrow I will die happy' they thought at the same time. Then hesitantly he pulled away. The scent she was giving off was driving him insane though. "Now I think I know what was wrong. Well, I guess we should get back to camp, but first." he said kissing her sweetly and intensified it more and more. After a few precious moments they let go and went back to camp.

6 - The Possessor

The Possessor Sesshomaru had started the fire and leaned up against another tree, leaving Yoshiko by herself to sleep. Kagome and InuYasha got back first. Miroku and Sango got back with Rin and Shippo a few minutes later. They were there for a couple of hours before Yoshiko woke up again. Rin was asleep in Sesshomaru's arms. Kirara was also asleep in Sango's lap. "Yoshiko, what happened?" Shippo asked jumping onto her lap. "I sensed demons ahead. I thought I should have checked it out. I didn't want anyone to get worried over nothing. There were more demons there than I had sensed. That's why I had collapsed. I was caught off guard and had to uncover my eyes." Yoshiko said weakly. "Why would you collapse from uncovering your eyes?" Sango asked. "Because it takes a lot of energy out of me. When I have my eyes uncovered I not only see the future, I show it to whoever looks into them, and all my powers are at their fullest. I can literally do anything, but I can't do a whole lot. It weakens me too fast." Yoshiko explains. Her eye lids fluttered a little. "Why don't we wait and ask more questions in the morning." Sesshomaru suggested noticing Yoshiko tiring. She smiled and nodded her head. She put Shippo on the ground and laid down. Everyone agreed and went to sleep, but that night Kagome and InuYasha shared a sleeping bag. Sango kept her distance from Miroku though. She was still unsure of what to do about what Miroku had said. Sesshomaru was the last one up. He stared at Yoshiko for the longest time. Then looked around trying to find a place to sleep. "You can sleep next to me." Yoshiko said just loud enough for Sesshomaru to hear. He smiled and knelt down next to her. Then he found a good spot behind her. "Good night, Yoshiko." he whispered in her ear. "You may call me Yoshi if you want to. Your father did." Yoshiko said while turning around to face him. "Are you sure?" Sesshomaru asked stupidly. Yoshiko giggled a little. "Yes." she said burying her face in his chest. "That would be nice, Yoshi." he said before kissing her head and falling asleep.***** Everyone slept in late. It was about nine in the morning before Yoshiko woke up. She was the first up. She looked around and saw everyone. She saw Kagome and InuYasha together in each others arms. 'He told her and she remembered what she saw.' Yoshi thought. She noticed Rin next to Kirara. Sango and Miroku seem to have moved closer in their sleep. 'He most have told her. I guess she was too confused.' she thought grimly. She was hoping Sango would have admitted her feelings. Shippo was close to the camp fire. He was so cute, innocent and young. Then she turned and saw Sesshomaru. He was so peaceful looking. Then she noticed the moon on his forehead and was reminded of his father. She was suddenly afraid. Afraid that she wouldn't be able to stay with him. Afraid he didn't feel the same for her. She was afraid she would get her heart broken again. 'I can't get to close to him. He wouldn't feel anything for me other than hatred because I killed his father. And even if he did love me I doubt I'll be able to take in this soul before he dies.' she thought to herself. Looking at his father's soul on her bracelet. Sesshomaru was waking up. Yoshiko quickly got up and started breakfast. 'I can't get depressed again or else I'm sure he'll do something.' Yoshi thought sadly. Sesshomaru noticed Yoshiko building the fire back up when he awoke. She looked well enough at first, but then he saw her eyes. They were deep in thought and it wasn't happy thoughts either. He got up and went to her side. He put his hand on her shoulder reassuringly. "What's wrong? Did you have a bad dream or something?" Sesshomaru asked concerned. "Or something" Yoshi replied emotionless. She walked over to the tree she had slept by. "Did I do something wrong?" Sesshomaru asked confused. "No. I'm just... It's hard to explain. Don't worry. I'm not mad at you." Yoshiko said soothing most of Sesshomaru's fears. "Then why are you being so cold to me?" Sesshomaru asked while walking over to her and putting his hand on Yoshi's. She turned her head to face him. His eyes seemed hurt. She

was furious at herself for hurting him. 'I guess he does love me or at least cares for me more than most. I hate doing this to him, but it wouldn't work and I don't want to get hurt again.' Yoshi thought as she stared at him and he gazed back at her. "I..." Yoshi was cut off by the sound of Rin waking up. "Sesshomaru. Yoshiko." Rin murmured as she woke up. Yoshiko quickly turned away from Sesshomaru to go to Rin. Everyone else started to wake up after that. They continued on that day, but everyone noticed two new things. Kagome and InuYasha held hands and Yoshiko was on her guard when Sesshomaru was around. As the day wore on Yoshiko became more and more distant. Shippo and Rin were the only ones who could snap her out of it. They were taking a break about two hours after lunch. Now even Rin and Shippo couldn't make Yoshiko relax. Sesshomaru was getting feed up. 'She acted like this before she left yesterday. Someone must be coming. Maybe she'll tell me.' Sesshomaru thought. He was trying to figure out what to do. Finally he just gave up and talked to her. "Yoshiko, who's coming?" he asked openly. "What are you talking about, Sesshomaru?" InuYasha asked. Yoshiko just sat there. Everyone was looking at her. She had her eyes closed. Her head was facing down. She didn't even move. She was sweating a little. "Yoshiko,..." Kagome whispered. They wait another moment in silence. Shippo finally went over to her and jumped on her lap. "Yoshiko! Yoshiko!" Shippo shouted in her face. "Try calling her Yoshi. She told me father used to call her that." Sesshomaru suggested. Rin walked over and shouted with Shippo "Yoshi! Yoshi! YYYYYOOOSHIIIIII!!!!!!" Yoshiko suddenly opened her eyes. Rin and Shippo were caught off guard when they saw her amethyst eyes. Then they saw different things. Rin saw Sesshomaru. He was upset. He wouldn't look at her. She wanted to run to him, but couldn't. Shippo saw Kagome and InuYasha. They were crying in each other's arms. He had a feeling that he was crying too, but couldn't tell why. Without warning the vision was over. Rin wanted to keep watching. Shippo was glad to not have to see anymore. Yoshiko had closed her eyes quickly and then opened them again to the usual sapphire color. She was obviously surprised and hadn't heard anyone until Rin and Shippo had shouted her name. "What?" Yoshi asked weakly. Everyone just stared. "What were you doing, Yoshi?!" Sesshomaru asked rudely. Yoshi just stared at him. She always saw someone's past, present, or future when she looked at them. Right then she was seeing Sesshomaru's future. She had never seen this before. It scared her more than anything, but it also gave her a little bit of joy. She was about to close her eyes to make it stop when Sesshomaru left. She hadn't even noticed that he had been yelling at her. She watched him walk away trying to regain her voice to warn him of what was coming. It was too late though. He was so far away she wouldn't have been able to yell to him. She didn't want to see him go. He was coming and she didn't want Sesshomaru to get hurt. She got up to go run after him. Then she stopped. If she left he would come and kill everyone else. She couldn't let that happen either. "Yoshiko, what is going on?" Miroku asked forcefully. She stood there for a moment longer and decided to tell them. "Someone is coming. He can possess people and kill them before leaving their body. I can keep Him out of any of us, but there needs to be a physical link. I need to be touching you or be touching everyone in a chain for it to work. I got to stay here to protect all of you, but I want to go after Sesshomaru." Yoshiko confessed worriedly. "Can't you do something that will keep him away until you find Sesshomaru?" Kagome asked. "I think I can create a barrier around all of you. That should keep Him away for a while." Yoshi replied. She closed her eye briefly then opened them. "He's about half a mile away. I'll put up a barrier around you. As long as you don't mention were I am then I should be able to get rid of Him when I get back." Yoshi said while getting the barrier ready as fast as she could. Yoshiko looked at Rin just before she finished. She looked into Rin's heart and found that she was scared. "It'll be alright, Rin. I'll be back with Sesshomaru in a little while." Yoshiko said encouragingly. Then she swiftly left to find Sesshomaru. She needed to find him. She was heading in the direction he had left. She knew He was probably at the camp and time was running out for her to find Sesshomaru. She stopped for a second. She closed her eyes and looked for him that way. She could sense him. He

wasn't far, but she also sensed Him approaching Sesshomaru. She had to hurry. It only took her a minute. Sesshomaru was sitting by a tree. She was relieved that he was ok. "Sesshomaru." Yoshi said with relief in her voice. He had heard her. He stood up. "Yoshiko, I'm sorry I left, but" he was cut off by Him entering him through his open mouth. Yoshiko felt her heart stop. He had taken Sesshomaru. She ran to him. "Sesshomaru, please hang on!" She shouted grabbing his shirt. She could feel Him inside Sesshomaru. "So you like this body. He will do. Now let me pass." He said within Sesshomaru rudely. Yoshiko pushed her fore arm into his neck and her hand on his chest. That way he was pinned to the tree. "Or maybe I was wrong." He said sounding less like Sesshomaru. "Get out of his body!" Yoshi yelled with her face only a couple of inches from his face. She pushed harder on his neck. "You would never kill me because if you kill me you kill your precious....What is his name? Who cares. You would never kill him." He said leaning in for a kiss. Yoshiko just pushed harder. "I will if it kills you." Yoshi replied pulling back her arm that had been at his neck. She made sure that she could keep him there with her one hand. She held out two fingers and her staff appeared. It was more of a spear with a couple of coils at the top. She pressed the sharp end next to his neck. "Now get out of his body." Yoshi said making sure He could feel the sharp blade at his neck. "Fine. I'll leave this precious body of yours." He said as if she was just an annoyance. Sesshomaru's head fell forward and Yoshi heard him moan. It sounded like her Sesshomaru, but she wasn't sure. She used her magic to search inside him. He was still in there. She became furious. She put her staff back to his neck. This time choking him for a moment. "I said get out!" she shouted trying to make her point. He just looked into her eyes and smiled. "You're a quick study my dear, but you probably don't realize your eyes have changed and I can see how much you really do love this man." He said arrogantly. Yoshiko was stunned. She hadn't realized that she had uncovered her eyes. 'Damn. He knows I can't kill Sesshomaru. But if I don't who will?' Yoshi was thinking desperate for an idea. 'I guess I must say good-bye.' She thought with a tear running down her cheek. She then got ready to slash his throat. "Last chance." Yoshiko said. She waited a minute or so hoping that He would just leave Sesshomaru. She gave up and swung her staff. It was only a few inches from his neck when Yoshi felt Him leave Sesshomaru. She stopped herself with the end at his throat. There was a little blood from scratching him, but he would live and be fine. Yoshi instantly dropped the staff. "Sesshomaru..." she whispered in disbelief. He looked at her a little scared. "Yoshi, what happened and why are you crying?" Sesshomaru asked concerned. Yoshiko couldn't handle it. She fell into his arm for a comforting embrace. She cried there holding on to him for dear life. "I was afraid I would have to kill you. I'm so happy you're alright." Yoshiko cried into his shirt. He wrapped his arms around her tight. He caressed her head trying to get her to calm down. Suddenly Yoshi was tense in his arms. She backed away and put her hands on his shoulders quickly. Then Sesshomaru and her were glowing. "He's trying to take one of us. Grab my shoulder." Yoshiko said holding back A LOT of emotions. Sesshomaru did what she said without a word. Yoshi took one of her hands from his shoulder. She held out two fingers and her staff appeared in them again. Sesshomaru could see a thing approaching them. It was a black cloud, but it was strange. It was coming at them fast. Yoshiko slashed it in two when it came near her. It disappeared on the ground. Yoshi twirled her staff so the point was facing down and stuck it in the earth. It too disappeared. Yoshiko then collapsed in Sesshomaru's arms. She was more tired than she thought. Sesshomaru held her worrying about what happened and what was wrong. Yoshi noticed this and said weakly "It's ok. I'm ok. Just a little tired. I uncovered my eyes without knowing it.". She cuddled up to Sesshomaru. It felt so wonderful to her. "I'll explain later." she whispered before falling to sleep. "Why is it I always hear that from you?" Sesshomaru said sarcastically. He picked her up. She was cradled in his arms and loving every second of it. He took her back to camp. He had to wait a while for the barrier to fade away, but when it did he walked in. Everyone had a million questions for him. They were all asking them at the same time. "Shhh! Yoshi is asleep. I'll tell you what I know in a minute and she can explain the rest to us later."

Sesshomaru said forcefully, but quiet enough not to wake Yoshi. She turned her head to him cuddling closer. He walked her over to a tree with cherry blossoms. He gently laid her down. He was happy to know that she cared about him after that morning. 'Why are you so confusing to me?' Sesshomaru thought as he stroked her cheek. A cherry blossom fell onto her lips suddenly. He smiled and brushed the blossom away. He quickly kissed her head and turned to see everyone staring at him. At once everyone, but Rin found something else to do. Sesshomaru shook his head and went to talk with Rin, the only person there who wouldn't ask him a million questions.

7 - Kohaku's Back

Kohaku's Back InuYasha explained what Yoshiko had been nervous about to Sesshomaru that night. They talked for a while. They traded stories and figured out the rest without waking Yoshi. In the morning they explained it all to the rest of the gang. Yoshi didn't wake up until almost noon. She was still very tired. They all decided to head back to Kaede's village so Kagome could go back to her time for a while and Yoshiko could get some rest. They wanted to move fast so Yoshiko and Rin rode on Kilala. Sesshomaru had offered to carry Yoshi, but she said no. She was distancing herself from him again. He wanted to talk to her, but knew that she wasn't in any condition to argue if it came to that. So he let her be. They were nearly ten miles from Kaede's village when they made camp. Everyone was sitting around the camp fire, except Yoshi. She was leaning next to a tree half asleep. "How long do you think you'll be in the future, Kagome?" InuYasha asked with his arm around her. They were always like that now. "I'll probably stay there for a week or two." Kagome replied. InuYasha was disappointed and couldn't hide it. "Don't worry. I'll come back at night and visit." She said reassuringly. "Can I go back with you?" Yoshiko asked from behind. They turned and saw her standing behind them. "You shouldn't be up." Miroku said concerned. "I'm fine. I can stand on my own." Yoshiko said annoyed with him. "Well you probably shouldn't do much more than that for a while." Sango suggested. "Alright. So can I go to your time, Kagome?" Yoshi asked again. "I know what everything is called in your time and I need to get some better clothes." She said pointing out her grungy, raggedy, not to mention dirty old clothes. Her shoes were completely torn up. "I guess." Kagome answered unsure of why she wanted to go so bad. "Will you come back?" Sesshomaru asked from across the camp fire. Yoshi was shocked. He looked depressed already. "After I get some rest, yeah." Yoshi answered kindly. He seemed content with that, but Yoshi knew that he wanted her to stay. She looked away. Not wanting to see the pain she caused him. She hated herself for hurting him, but couldn't help it. "I'm going for a walk." Sesshomaru said. He glanced at Yoshi, hoping she would notice and she did. 'He wants me to follow him. I can't. I'll be leading him on if I do. I should stay here. Hold on a minute....' Yoshi thought. She sensed Naraku coming with Kohaku, Kanna, and Kagura ahead of him. Yoshi glanced at Sango. 'I have to take care of those three, now. I doubt Sango will want to see Kohaku.' She thought. She used her powers quickly to find where they were coming from. They were coming from the west. There was just one problem. Sesshomaru had just walked off that way. 'I have to go for Sango. She will get upset if she sees Kohaku under Naraku's spell. I just have to stay away from Sesshomaru.' Yoshi thought nervously. "I'm going to get some water." Yoshi said. It was the first thing she had thought of, but the river was in the other direction. She quickly left to avoid the questions. Once she was out of sight she started to run. Being so weak it wasn't very fast. Then she saw Sesshomaru sitting under a tree. 'He must be waiting for me, but I've got to get to Kohaku.' she thought trying to avoid him, but Sesshomaru saw her. He quickly got up and ran to her. She tried to stubbornly go around, but he stopped her. "Yoshiko, we need to talk." he said seriously. She tried to pull away again, but she was too weak. He noticed her expression and asked "What's wrong? Where were you going?" worried about her. "Naraku is heading this way with Kohaku, Kanna, and Kagura. I need to stop them." Yoshi blurted out desperately. "Then I'll help you. Just tell me where to go." Sesshomaru offered. "They're coming from that way." Yoshiko mumbled and pointed. He picked her up and ran off in the direction she had pointed in. 'At least this gives me an excuse to let him carry me. I love being in his arms. I wish I could stay here forever' Yoshi thought as she hung on tighter. 'I wish she would let me do this without a crisis. She's so weak now. I'll have to fight or else she'll be in Kagome's time, resting forever' Sesshomaru thought. They soon meet up with

Naraku's three minions. Kohaku was in his usual daze. Kanna was close to him and Kagura was in the front. "Kohaku." Yoshi whispered. The three were obviously confused when they saw Yoshiko and Sesshomaru. "Who's your new friend, Sesshomaru?" Kagura asked. "I'm Yoshiko. And I believe you are Kagura." Yoshiko said while getting out of Sesshomaru's arms. "What do you want?" Kagura asked. "You and Kanna get lost and I'll be happy. I need to talk with Kohaku." Yoshiko stated confidently. "You can't make him remember anything. And even if you could I need some wounds to show I actually tried. Otherwise Naraku will kill me. I'm supposed to weaken you all before he gets here." Kagura said hoping this stranger could help. "I can do that. I can also give little Kanna a scratch or two if you want." Yoshiko mentioned before summoning her staff. "Let's see you try." Kagura replied slightly amused. 'This girl thinks she can defeat me.' Kagura thought. Sesshomaru got in front of Yoshi. "You can't fight. You're too weak. Don't fight." Sesshomaru pleaded with a deep sadness in his eyes. Yoshi instantly closed her eyes. She called on her powers. When she opened her eyes Sesshomaru had his hand on her cheek. "You can't. You're still weak from uncovering your eyes before. Please don't." He whispered. His breathe was warm on her face. "I have to." She whispered back. Then she kissed his cheek. She tried to go, but he wouldn't let her. He gave her a loving embrace. She appreciated it a lot, but would never admit it. "I have to do it now. I have to go, Sesshomaru. You can do me a favor while I'm dealing with these guys." she told him. He loosened the hug to look at her. "Anything." Sesshomaru said willingly. "Go get Sango. I'll need her if I'm going to help Kohaku." Yoshi ordered. He nodded his head and then kissed hers before he took off. Her heart sunk as she watched him go. She wished he could have stayed. Then she was brought back to reality by Kagura's laughter. "Isn't that sweet. Sesshomaru loves you. And you love him, don't you." Kagura teased cruelly. "Well, if we are done with all that sweet talk." Kagura said then brought out her fan. "Let's get started. Dance of the Blade" she shouted. Yoshi quickly uncovered her eyes and thrust her staff into the ground. It created a small barrier. Once the dust cleared the barrier fell and Yoshiko was standing there. Kagura was impressed, but not much. "Nice trick. Let's see what you can do." Kagura invited. Yoshi smiled. She used her powers to go super fast and came up to Kagura. She used the dull end of her staff to stab Kagura with. She fell at once holding her stomach. "I can give Kanna a scratch while you stay here." Yoshiko whispered into Kagura's ear. Then she walked over to Kanna. "Will you fight?" Yoshi asked. Kanna looked to Kagura. Kagura shook her head. Telling her not to fight. Kanna shook her head 'no'. "That is fine then. I'll go give your sister another lesson then." Yoshiko said. She walked back to Kagura. Yoshi was smiling. "Look into my eyes, Kagura." Yoshi commanded. Reluctantly Kagura looked into bright, yet dark, purple eyes. When Kagura looked into her eyes she saw something that overjoyed her. She saw herself free. Naraku wasn't around and she somehow knew her heart was beating in her chest. Then it was gone. Yoshiko had looked away. "No... I want to see more." Kagura begged. "That is your future, Kagura. I can help you get it, but I need you to do something for me." Yoshi said. "Anything for my freedom." Kagura replied desperately. "Leave Kohaku with me. Tell Naraku we left for the Mountains in the North. We are really going to be at a nearby village, but we will be vulnerable for a while so I need you to get Naraku away. Do you understand?" Yoshi asked. "Yes. I'll make sure we stay away for at least two months if you can get me my freedom." Kagura replied trying to stand up. Yoshi helped her up. "If you think you can, go and drive him away now." Yoshiko ordered. Kagura nodded her head. Kanna came to stand beside her. "And I would appreciate it if you would not show Naraku anything in that mirror of yours." Yoshi told Kanna being careful not to look into the mirror. She nodded silently. They left quickly. Leaving a weak Yoshiko and a baffled Kohaku. Yoshi went to Kohaku. He backed away quickly. "Don't fear me I'm here to help you." she said only just loud enough for him to hear. She used what power she could spare and sent a feeling of relief and safety into him. His eyes fluttered shut as Yoshi walked up to him. She walked around and stood behind him for a moment then put her hand on his forehead. She put her other hand on his back right where his jewel

shard was imbedded. She was starting to erase what Naraku had done. She wiped away the memory of fighting Sango and all the other horrible things he had done. 'I can't believe this. I knew Naraku had made Kohaku do some bad things, but what I'm erasing is terrible.' Yoshi was like that for a long time before Sesshomaru arrived with Sango, Miroku, Kagome, InuYasha and Shippo. Kilala and Rin were not with them though. Sango immediately ran to Kohaku. "Wait, Sango. You can't touch Kohaku yet." Yoshi said with her eyes closed. "I need you to touch my shoulder and think of all the wonderful times with Kohaku. Don't think of when he, your family, and the village died. That wouldn't help me." Yoshi instructed. Sango nodded and grabbed Yoshi. She thought of when Kohaku was young and they would play together as children. Yoshiko kept the connection up for an hour. She kept giving Kohaku his memory. When it had been an hour Yoshi had given enough. "Sango, let go. I need to give him live. Let go quickly." Yoshi ordered. Sango did and then Yoshiko opened her eyes. Everyone was blinded by a vivid purple light. Sesshomaru tried to see if Yoshi was ok. Miroku covered Shippo and InuYasha shielded Kagome. Sango was overwhelmed. The light disappeared in a few seconds. When everyone looked they saw Yoshiko glowing and Kohaku was glimmering. Yoshiko passed out after that. She was lying on the ground motionless. Sesshomaru darted toward her. "Yoshiko! Yoshiko!" Sesshomaru shouted. He held her in his arms trying to wake her up. Kohaku just stood there. His eyes were glowing purple and then turned back to their normal color. The shard that had been in his back fell to the ground. "Sango." He whispered and then turned to see his sister. They saw tears in the young boy's eyes. He ran to Sango and hugged her. Sango started to cry. She couldn't even speak. "What happened? I can't remember" Kohaku said shook up. They both sank to their knees, overwhelmed. "Shhh. Its ok, Kohaku. I'll explain it all later." Sango said comforting him. She hugged him tight knowing that it was her brother and not Naraku's puppet. She was so relieved. "I'm taking Yoshiko back to camp." Sesshomaru said with Yoshi cradled in his arms. "Kagome and I will go with you." InuYasha said. "I'll go, too" Shippo happily volunteered. "I'll wait for Sango and Kohaku." Miroku said seriously. They nodded and left. Miroku looked at the brother and sister after the gang was gone. 'I should give them some privacy.' the monk thought. "I'll be nearby." Miroku said with his hand on Sango's shoulder. "No." Sango whispered. "We should be heading back. Yoshiko didn't look too good." Sango said bringing herself and Kohaku up. "Who is Yoshiko?" Kohaku asked. "And who is this?" Sango struggled for the words for quite a while before Miroku saved her. "I'm a friend and Yoshiko saved you, but we can wait until tomorrow for the details." Miroku said charmingly. Sango nodded and started to lead Kohaku. "Wait a moment. We almost forgot the jewel shard. I'll go back and get it." he said running back to where the shard had fallen. 'The shard is probably tainted. We'll have to have Kagome purify it when we get back to...' he found the shard on the ground. It was completely pure. For a moment Miroku even thought it looked purer than the shards Kagome had purified. He studied it for a second before being called back to reality by Sango. They went back to camp slowly. Yoshiko, Shippo, Rin, Kilala, and Kagome were asleep around the camp fire. InuYasha moved over, closer to Kagome, to make room for Kohaku. Sesshomaru was by Yoshiko. He never even looked at the three returning. He stared at her face, illuminated by the fire. 'Please be alright, my love.' he thought to himself. He lay down next to her and went to sleep. The returning trio sat beside each other in a clear spot by the fire. "Who are all these people, Sango?" Kohaku whispered to Sango. "I'm too tired to clear it all up now." Sango said and accidentally laid her head on Miroku's shoulder. She quickly realized it, but was too exhausted to correct her mistake. She just fell asleep there. Miroku cherished that moment. He helped her to her sleeping-bag and helped Kohaku get settled down. Then he talked with InuYasha before he went to bed near Sango and InuYasha went to Kagome's sleeping-bag.

8 - A Kiss Good Night

A Kiss Good Night Sango was the first up the next day. It was sunrise. She noticed Miroku and smiled. 'Thank you.' She said in her mind and brushed a few of his bangs out of his face. He had made sure she and Kohaku got back ok and he had helped her to bed. It wasn't just that though. She remembered other times when he had comforted her when Kohaku had appeared. She started the fire to make breakfast when she heard, "Is he alright?" "Who said that?" she replied. "Over here". It came from Yoshiko. Her eyes were closed, but she was still awake. "You shouldn't be up, Yoshi. Go back to sleep." Sango said as she walk over to Yoshi trying to avoid Sesshomaru close beside her. Yoshiko opened her eyes when Sango had reached her. "I just wanted to know how Kohaku was. The last thing I remember was giving him life and then I guess I passed out. I might not of if I hadn't already been tired." Yoshi said looking east to the beautiful sunrise. "Kohaku is fine. He doesn't even remember being at the palace." Sango said still in amazement. "Last night I woke up in the middle of the night. Everyone was asleep and for a minute I thought it had all been a dream. You and Kohaku. Then I saw Sesshomaru by you. I became overjoyed, again. I looked around and saw Kohaku by my side." Sango was crying a little now. "I don't know how to thank you, Yoshi. This is more than I ever could have asked for. You saved Kohaku without hurting him. He doesn't remember all the horrible things Naraku made him do. He is a little scared because of not knowing and all the new people, but he is alive." "Sango, I do these things because I know they're the right thing to do. I don't search for glory. And I would do anything for a friend like you. Kohaku could even be my friend. I'm going to miss you when I'm in Kagome's time. I will miss everyone else, too." Yoshi said closing her eyes again. "What about Sesshomaru?" Sango asked as she wiped away the last of her tears. "He cares for you and sometimes it looks like you care for him, but at other times it appears you are mad at him." "I'm never mad at him, Sango. I don't think I could ever be mad at him. Well, that's a lie. I could be mad at him for something, but I could never hated him or not like him." Yoshi said making sure Sesshomaru was asleep. "So you do love him. Why don't you tell him or at least stop acting weird around him?" Sango asked. "Because I don't want to get hurt. I've been through it a million times. I will start to care for people, but eventually they die and I'm left on my own. And for a long time a was afraid that he didn't care for me that way. When I was first born I did have a sweetheart you could say. He was the best, but then he died. I was heart broken for so long. After that I never fell for a man. Until his father came along. I fell-in-love so easy it scared me. Then when I told him how I felt he didn't return the feelings. At that time he had not meet InuYasha's mother. I still think of him from time to time. I was truly in love, but now I don't even now what this is. It is more than what I ever felt for his father." Yoshiko explained. "I'm sorry I mentioned it." Sango apologized. "It's ok. I needed to talk to someone. It feels good to get it off my chest." Yoshi said. They talked for a while longer. Yoshi liked talking to Sango. They understood each other. Soon Kagome and InuYasha woke up. Sesshomaru was up after them. Sango got a little nervous when Kohaku didn't wake up right away. Before long he woke up. Rin and Shippo were the last along with Kilala. It looked to be a really hot day. They decided to move in the morning and stop around noon until later that night. Yoshi had to have Sesshomaru carry her. If she had tried to ride Kilala she would have fallen off. Rin rode on Kilala though. Sango knew Yoshi was tense and didn't want to have Sesshomaru carry her, but she couldn't do anything. They were about a mile away from Kaede's village when they stopped for the night. "All of you can go ahead to the village I can stay here for the night. I should be able to walk tomorrow." Yoshi offered once camp was well set up. "Sango and Miroku could go ahead with Rin and Kohaku. InuYasha and me will stay. Sesshomaru

and Shippo can do what they want.” Kagome said. “I’ll stay.” Sesshomaru said. “Me too” Shippo added. “We should get going then. I’m sorry to leave you, Yoshi.” Sango said. She hugged Yoshi and went to the path. Miroku and Rin hugged Yoshi, too. Kohaku shook her hand. Yoshiko gave Kilala a pat on the head and said her good-byes again. After that Yoshi went to sleep. Sesshomaru stared at her. ‘I wish I knew why you hate me so much.’ he thought. Kagome and InuYasha went to find a place to take a bath. Shippo was nervous being left alone with Sesshomaru. “What do you plan to do when the jewel is finished, Shippo?” Sesshomaru asked out of nowhere. Shippo was shocked. Sesshomaru didn’t even look at him though. He just stared at Yoshi. “I don’t know. Probably stay with InuYasha and Kagome.” he answered. Sesshomaru nodded. “Why did you ask?” “I don’t know. I was just curious. It will be interesting to see what everyone does. The jewel and Naraku is the only reason you all stay together.” he replied. “That’s not true. We stay together because we are friends. Naraku and the jewel are just the things that brought us together.” Shippo corrected. “I suppose your right.” Sesshomaru admitted. They talked until InuYasha and Kagome returned. Shippo was surprised to find that Sesshomaru could be nice. Throughout their conversation he never had looked at Shippo, but that didn’t matter much. Yoshi slept all day. It was sunset when everyone became impatient. “I think we can just carry Yoshi. If she wakes up so what. It will be better for her to be in a warm hut, not out here in the cold.” Sesshomaru said. Everyone agreed. Sesshomaru carried Yoshiko in his arms. She looked so peaceful. He loved her, but didn’t know how to tell her. They made it to Kaede’s hut in about an hour. “Kagome, InuYasha, and Shippo. I did not expect to see ye here until tomorrow.” Kaede said. “Sesshomaru wanted to get Yoshiko here quickly.” Kagome said. “Where can we take her?” “Sango and Rin are in the next hut down. Miroku and Kohaku are in the hut after that. I think Sango is still up.” Kaede said. Sesshomaru nodded and left with Yoshi. “Is there something between Sesshomaru and the girl?” Kaede asked. “Her name is Yoshiko and Sesshomaru seems to care for her a lot.” Shippo said. Kaede thought about this for a moment. “Did you said her name was Yoshiko?” Kaede asked. The three in her hut nodded. “I think I’ve heard of her. Twice maybe. 90,000 years ago there was a story of a girl who had lost a loved one. She was very powerful. She went mad and went to hid in the mountains. A month later the mountains were gone. She had gradually worn away the mountain by punching and kicking it. One person went up there once before it was gone. He said that he saw purple eyes attack the mountain in indescribable ways that no human could have possibly done. It had terrified the man. When the girl came down he looked into those purple eyes and saw his death.” Kaede spoke the words with fear herself. She stopped there for a long time. “What was the other time you heard of her?” Shippo asked curiously. “It was soon after the death of the great dog-demon.” Kaede said calmly. Everyone was shocked and assumed that this girl was Yoshiko. “The girl was possessed by grieve, or so the story says. She eliminated any evil demon within ten miles of her. Her eyes were black and her pupils were blue. A dull blue. The blue of tears. The truly amazing thing was the girl never even saw any of the demons. Once she saw the dead dog-demon she... I guess you would say she exploded with power. That’s how she did it. It passed over a few villages and only the truly evil people died. Some didn’t feel good for days because of it. That’s all I have heard.” Kaede said. It didn’t surprise anyone that Yoshiko might have done that, but to that magnitude was a complete shock for them. *****Meanwhile***** Sesshomaru carried Yoshi to the next hut. Just before he was about to go in she awoke. “Sesshomaru, where am I?” Yoshi asked confused. “Your at Kaede’s village. I carried you here. It was a little easier with you asleep. You didn’t wiggle as much.” Sesshomaru teased. Yoshiko didn’t like it. She knew that was his way of flirting with her. She quickly got out of his arms. “I’m going for a walk.” She said before entering the woods. “Wait! You shouldn’t be walking!” Sesshomaru shouted after her. He ran after her. He soon caught up with her. She was now leaning on a tree. She was breathing heavily. “Yoshi. I should get you back to the village.” Sesshomaru said reaching for her arm to put around his neck. She moved out of the way. “I’m fine.” she said coldly. She

turned her back on him. "What did I do wrong?" he asked confused and hurt. "What is it? Am I not enough like my father? What? Why do you hate me?!" Sesshomaru asked raising his voice slightly. Yoshiko turned, but couldn't keep her balance and fell into Sesshomaru's arms. She had her hands on his shoulders and left her face buried in his shirt. He had his arms around her back. Finally she looked up at him for a moment. Just to let him see her crying. Then she hid her face again. "You never did anything wrong around me. You've done wrong in your past, but that doesn't matter. You are not as much like your father as InuYasha. You never had to be. And I... I could NEVER hate you, Sesshomaru. Never." Yoshi muttered into his chest. She heard his heartbeat steadily. It calmed her more than anything else. She was wondering what he was thinking. Next thing she knew his lips were on the top of her head. He stayed there for a few moments before removing his lips. "I'm sorry I made you cry. And thank you for telling me those things." he whispered softly. Yoshiko was stunned and felt her heart melt. She couldn't keep her feelings from him. She looked up into his eyes. She saw the love he felt. It reassured her that she wouldn't be hurt. She stood on her toes. Leaning in toward his face. They both slowly closed their eyes. Their lips were about to connect when Yoshi stopped. She thought of his father and her sweetheart. She couldn't go through all that again. She turned away and a new rush of tears came out silently. 'Why can't I get control of my emotions. I love him, but I wouldn't go through those feelings and I can't lose control of my powers again.' She thought desperately. Sesshomaru was puzzled beyond belief. She had almost kissed him. 'Why did she pull away?' He thought holding her tighter. He decided that he needed her to talk to him. He took one of his hands away from her back. Yoshiko felt that and was wondering what he was up to. Then she felt the hand slide up her side and arm to her chin. He lifted her face up so he could see it. When he saw she was crying again. "Yoshi, what's wrong? Why are you crying?" he asked trying to keep her looking at him and wipe away the tears at the same time. Yoshi tried to turn, but he wouldn't let her. He forced her to keep looking at him after the tears were gone. "Why did you pull away?" he gently asked. She couldn't speak for a minute. She didn't know what to say. "Sesshomaru, I..... I....." she couldn't say it no matter how much she wanted to. She couldn't just say 'I love you', so she said the first thing that came to her mind. "Let me go or I'll make you." she said forcefully. Sesshomaru just looked at her. He was hurt, but most of all he hated that she had almost kissed him and then wanted him to let go of her. 'How could she lead me on like that?' he thought looking at her. 'Maybe she is afraid of something. I love her. I need her.' he thought and knew in his heart and mind. "Make me." he quickly whispered before wrapping her into an indescribable, lustful and romantic kiss. Yoshiko's eyes snapped open wide. She tried to push away as hard as she could, but with her being weak and him encircling her even tighter with his arms. After a moment she gave up and gave in to what she was feeling. She let her eyes close. She started to kiss him back. She was able to show that she cared. She could let out the love. She felt everything melt away, worry, sadness, pain, and the scars of so many past life times. He enjoyed the kiss, but that didn't even barely begin to describe what he felt in the kiss and in his heart. Then it hit him. She had melted his heart. He actually had a heart and she brought it out. Yoshi started to want to intensify it. She brought her hands up to his cheeks. Bringing him closer to her. It pleased her craving, but brought more to Sesshomaru's heart. He wanted to show how much he loved and needed her. His lust kept growing. He couldn't help, but want her completely. He brought one hand to the back of her head. He pulled her some how closer than what they already were. He slide his other hand to her side. She was a little nervous when he did that, but let it go. The kissing was too overwhelmingly beautiful and wonderful to care. Then his hand started to snaked up under her shirt, touching her bare skin. Her eyes shot open. That was where she drew the line. She was not going to make love with him then and there. With one hand at her side and the other behind her head she knew she could push away. She swiftly pushed away. She was suddenly aware of what she had done and what a mistake it had been. She touched her lips. It had felt amazing and she amazingly regretted it. She turned and ran away. The only problem was

she was running away from the village and very weak still. She ran for a few minutes before she had a combination of tripping and fainting. Either way she fell and laid there. She had a complete break down. She was sobbing with very few tears left to let out. She couldn't catch her breathe. She panted and wanted so bad to be in the village. 'Why did I have to push him away? I couldn't have just walked into the hut and went to bed, but then...' she thought remembering the kiss. The way it felt with their lips pressed together. 'I wouldn't have been able to kiss him. I might have lost my virginity, but I didn't and it wouldn't have mattered.' she finally decided. She stayed there on the ground. She was lost in the thoughts of Sesshomaru. She feel asleep soon enough to not notice Sesshomaru pick her up. He carried her back to the hut the girls were suppose to be in. Kagome and Sango were awake. Rin was asleep in a corner with Kilala. Sesshomaru laid Yoshiko near Rin and quietly left. He looked back at the girl he loved before he was gone. Once he was gone Sango and Kagome looked at Yoshiko then each other very confused and worried. They had both seen Sesshomaru's face. He was sad and hurt. When he left though they saw love in his eyes. They saw true-love. "What was that about?" Kagome asked completely puzzled. Sango shock her head. "It's a long story, but I think they know how each other feels now. Or at least Yoshi knows how Sesshomaru feels. I think we should go to bed. Its late and you have to help Yoshiko through the well tomorrow." Sango pointed out. They went to bed then, but Sango was awake for a little while. 'I hope Sesshomaru didn't push her too far. I wonder if Yoshiko did any thing to make him realize how she felt. Oh well. Those are questions that I will probably never get the answers to.' Sango finally thought before drifting off to sleep.

*****Hey. I hope U like this chapter. I have been busy with school lately. I think I might not post another chapter until after Christmas. I have a Tamora Pierce story I want to work on and another shorter InuYasha story. If I get 10 comments before Christmas I'll post chapters 9, 10, 11, and MAYBE chapter 12 on Christmas all at once. They don't have to be nice, but tell me something Please!!!!

9 - The Vision of Death

The Vision of Death The next morning Yoshiko found herself waking up near Rin. 'How did I get back? Was it just a dream?' Yoshi wondered still sleepy. She tried to get up but couldn't. She was so weak and tired. She decided to lay there and think of Kagome's time, but all she could think about was Sesshomaru. 'I hurt him last night. I knew I shouldn't have tried to kiss him. If I hadn't done that then he wouldn't have kissed me or stuck his hand up my shirt. I wish I could take it back. I need to change in Kagome's time. I can't come back here the same, but I love him. I don't want to lose him. I just need to change enough to change his mind about loving me' she thought and then it hit her. 'He loves me' she thought sweetly with a giggle. That giggle woke Rin up. "Yoshi. When did you get back?" Rin asked with a yawn. "Last night. I'll be leaving this morning though. I'm going to rest in Kagome's time." Yoshiko explained. "I'll come back." she said when she saw that Rin was disappointed. That made Rin happy. They talked for about ten minutes before Kagome and Sango were awakened by their chatter. Yoshiko could hear the question for her in their minds. "Kagome. Sango. I can't answer those questions. Not now." Yoshi told them sadly. They just nodded their heads understandingly. "When do you want to leave, Yoshi?" Kagome asked. "After everyone has gotten up and I've said good bye to them." Yoshi answered holding back tears. "Even Sesshomaru?" Sango asked and then quickly covered her mouth. "I'm sorry, Yoshi. I didn't mean to. You don't have to answer." Sango apologized. "It's ok." Yoshi assured her with a weak smile. "I will say good bye to him if he wants to say good bye." They waited an hour before the guys were up. They had come into the girl's hut for breakfast and stayed there while Kagome got what she needed before they got up to leave. Sesshomaru had not been at breakfast. He had come into the room earlier to say that the rest of the guys were asleep and then left. When Yoshi tried to get up she fell back to the ground. "Yoshi." many of them said. "I'm alright, but I think someone will have to carry me. I'm sorry" Yoshiko said sadly. "It's alright. Can't InuYasha or Miroku carry you?" Kohaku suggested. "I'll carry her." came a voice from the entrance to the hut. Sesshomaru walked through. "I'll carry her to the well and through it to Kagome's time." Sesshomaru said while walking through the crowd of people around Yoshiko. He gently picked her up and cradled her in his arms. "Sesshomaru..." Yoshiko started, but then decided not to say anything. She simply enjoyed the moment while she could. They walked to the well at a good pace. It didn't take long to reach it. For Yoshiko the walk was way to short. She wanted to stay in Sesshomaru's arms longer. Either way she was set down on her feet. Sesshomaru supported her on one side and Kagome held the other side. Kohaku was the first to say good bye. "Good-bye, Miss Yoshiko" Kohaku said diplomatically. "You can call me Yoshi you know. I didn't save your life to get a polite acquaintance. I saved you for a friend and to gain a friend." Yoshi said wisely. Kohaku smiled grateful for her words. He hugged her as best he could. "Thank you, Yoshi." He told her quietly. He then walked to the trees to wait. Shippo was next. He climbed up Kagome's shoulder and jumped to Yoshi's. He hugged her around her neck. "We'll miss you. Bye." he said before leaving. Yoshiko grinned. Rin was after that. She looked at Sesshomaru. She wasn't sure of what to say. "When will you come back?" she asked. "In about two or three weeks. I will come back Rin. Kagome's world is much safer for me. Especially because Naraku is probably mad with me." Yoshiko tried to explain. "Can't you apologize or something?" Rin asked hopefully. "No. I can't apologize for doing the right thing." Yoshiko said wanting to kneel down and hug her. She tried but nearly fell. She was lucky Sesshomaru caught her. "Thank you." she whispered blushing slightly. Once she had her balance back she leaned on Kagome more. Rin hugged her quickly. "Good-bye." Rin whispered before running to Kohaku and

Shippo at the trees. Yoshiko wanted to cry now. Rin was such a sweet a girl and to hurt her was killing Yoshi. After a slight tiff over who went next Sango walked up to Yoshi with Kilala on her shoulder. Sango hugged Yoshi. "I hope you can find peace and get rid of those feelings you dread in Kagome's time" Sango whispered into Yoshi's ear on Kagome's side. "I'll try." she whispered back. Kilala nuzzled her before Sango left for the trees. Miroku went up to Yoshi after that. "Don't worry about Sango. She'll come around." Yoshiko said after a few minutes of silence. He smiled a little, but it wasn't a truly happy one. "Thank you. I'm not going to say good-bye though. I'm going to say I'll see you soon." Miroku said proudly. It made everyone, but Sesshomaru giggle. He just smirked. Miroku hugged her swiftly then joined the others. InuYasha walked up to them and shocked them. "I'm going to help you all to Kagome's time. I will say my good-byes there." He said looking at Kagome lovingly. They looked to the others and waved good-bye. They jumped through the well. Sesshomaru was back to carrying Yoshiko. Kagome and InuYasha just held hands. They saw the lights come and go. Then they were in the bottom of the well. "You and InuYasha go up the well. Yell when you both are out so Sesshomaru can jump up there with me." Yoshiko instructed. They nodded and started up the ladder. Yoshiko looked up into Sesshomaru's golden eyes. "I'm sorry about last night." Yoshi began. "It's ok. You were not feeling well. We can talk more when you get back." he said understandingly. "We're up!" Kagome shouted from the top of the well. He looked at her with eyes that said it all. He was sad that she had to leave and that their private time together was cut short, but he was happy that she was in his arms and was going to be getting better here. All Yoshi could do was smile back and hold on as he leaped up and out of the well. Sesshomaru carried Yoshiko up to Kagome's room. Kagome's family wasn't home so no one saw the dog-demons. Kagome opened the door to her room. She stopped InuYasha when he tried to go in. "Give them some privacy. You and me can say good-bye out here." she said slyly. Kagome shut the door as she leaned in for a kiss from InuYasha. Sesshomaru laid Yoshi down on Kagome's bed carefully. Then he kissed Yoshiko's forehead and hand sweetly. "I hope I didn't scare you into staying in this place." he said hopefully. "I told Shippo, Rin and everyone else I would come back. It would break Rin and Shippo's hearts if I didn't come back. And I would miss everyone." Yoshi said never looking at Sesshomaru. Then she looked up at him. "Especially you, Sesshomaru." she said quietly. His heart felt as if it would burst. Then Yoshiko realized her mistake. "I mean... I like having you around and it's nice to know that I have you to save me all the time." she said just barely saving herself from Sesshomaru's love. He was incredibility saddened by that. 'I thought she might have loved me. At least I know she cares about me and I know that she isn't mad.' Sesshomaru thought somberly. "I thought you were the all powerful one here. You're the one who is always trying to save the world all at once." Sesshomaru flirted with Yoshi. She gladly smiled, but that was all she gave him. He wanted to hear her giggle before he left. He would have to wait until she came back. He kissed her again on the head before walking to the door. 'God I love him.' Yoshiko thought as she was enchanted and aroused by the memory of his kiss.*****Meanwhile***** Kagome had shut the door and was leaning in to kiss InuYasha. He backed away a little. "I'm worried about Sesshomaru." InuYasha said concerned about his brother. "InuYasha, he's a big boy. He can take care of himself." she convinced him. He smiled and kissed her lustfully. They hadn't kissed like that since they had talked about what they had seen in Yoshiko's eyes. He wrapped his arms around her tight. Feeling her sides in pleasure. He was making her moan slightly and want more time. She felt his face and his back, loving how strong and sturdy he was. Their tongues danced and moved even more than their hands. InuYasha pinned Kagome against the wall gently. He pushed up against her. It made her nervous for a minute, but she let it be. She had thought of making love to him before, but she never thought she would actually do it. They weren't doing it, but that had been closer than ever. She wanted to say good bye romantically and passionately because she was planning on staying for a few days, if not a week. She knew Yoshiko needed someone to look after her for a few days at least. She was going to miss InuYasha for those few days. She didn't

know why she would miss him so much though. InuYasha's hands started to slip down to Kagome's thighs when, Sesshomaru came out of Kagome's room. "I'm sorry. I was just leaving." Sesshomaru said quickly before leaving the two nearly-lovers alone. They both giggled as they blushed. Then they looked into each others eyes. "I think I'm going to stay here for a few days before I come back." Kagome admitted sadly. InuYasha loosened his hold on her instantly. "Why?!" he shouted. He was upset that he couldn't see her for days. One day he might be able to live without, but more than that would be murder for him. "Yoshi will need me here for a few days. I can't have my family wait on her hand and foot all day. I'll need to help for a little while." she said wanting him to not be mad at her. "I'm sorry. I'll come to you as soon as I can." Kagome apologized before trying to kiss him. He wouldn't let her though. He wanted to look into her eyes longer. She backed off, confused as to why he hadn't kissed her. He gazed into her hazel eyes and knew she loved him. He lowered his face close to hers. Their lips were so close. "I love you, too, Kagome." he whispered, tickling her lips. He then teased her by gently caressing her lips with his. He never pressed his mouth on hers very hard at all. She fell into his arms even more. He held her up to keep her from falling. He backed away for a moment to make sure she was alright. "No." she whispered the second his lips were off of hers. She quickly gave him an erotic kiss. She touched him all over. He wanted to go to her room, but Yoshiko was there. 'Damn. I wish we could go somewhere private.' he thought passionately. He put his hand up her shirt. Kagome was wondering 'How long is the family going to be gone? We either need to get a room or we need someone to pull us apart.' she thought as they began to soul kiss again. "Kagome, are you out there?" Yoshiko asked from in Kagome's room. InuYasha and Kagome finally stopped making out. Kagome smiled slightly. "I'll be there in a minute." shouted back. She lightly kissed InuYasha. "I'll see you soon." she said before entering her room. InuYasha let out a sigh before leaving Kagome's house and time. ***** It took Yoshiko a month to recover enough to even walk a mile. She spent three months all together in Kagome's time. For the first week all Yoshi could do was lay in Kagome's room with her thoughts. She always thought of Sesshomaru. She didn't know how to react to him when she would go back to his time. She decided to avoid him the best she could. That was all she could do. During the second week she gradually started to move around the house more and more. After a month she helped out around the house and shrine. She enjoyed it more than just sitting around the house, but she would tire herself out before quitting. Kagome's grandfather lectured her about that a lot. Kagome's mom and Yoshiko got along well. Sota had a little crush on her when he first saw her, but after he saw her uncovered eyes one time he avoided her. He had seen a man at the shrine helping his mother, but she had looked a lot older. What he didn't know was that he had seen himself. Once it had been six weeks Yoshiko decided to spend the night in Feudal Japan. Kagome gladly agreed. They were planning on staying at Kaede's village. Kagome had said she and InuYasha might go off on their own. Miroku and Sango had been sharing a hut recently. Surprisingly Miroku kept his hands to himself. Kohaku, Rin, and Shippo had been in another. InuYasha was alone in the sacred tree every night. He would stare up at the moon and dream of Kagome. Sesshomaru had gone away to get his mind off of Yoshi. When Kagome helped Yoshiko out of the well everyone, except Sesshomaru was there. Even Kaede was there to greet Yoshi and Kagome. "Hello everyone." Yoshiko said kindly. Yoshi was wearing jeans and a huge T-shirt. Kagome had a small bag for the stuff they needed. As soon as she was out of the well and on the ground Rin and Shippo ran to her and hugged her. Yoshi just smiled and hugged them back. Kohaku walked to her after them and gave her a friendly hug. She gave one to him as well. Once Shippo, Rin, and Kohaku backed off, Sango came forward to greet her friend. "It is great to have you back." Sango whispered before joining the kids. Miroku slowly walked up to her after that. "We've missed you." he said before hugging her. "She has came around a little." he told her quietly. He let her go with a smile. Kaede came over to hug Kagome. She only shook Yoshi's hand though. "I would like to get to know you a little better, Yoshiko." Kaede said wisely. "I would like that, too. And I am those two

girls you heard about. I never harmed anyone, except demons when I did those things.” Yoshi said looking into Kaede’s thoughts. Kaede looked surprised at first, but after a second she just smiled and walked to the others. InuYasha came to say ‘hello’ next. “Hello. It’s nice to see you on your feet again.” he said before hugging her tight. “Thank you for letting me see your eyes uncovered.” he thanked her so only her and Kagome could hear. They both smiled as InuYasha pulled away. “Where is Sesshomaru?” Yoshi asked curious. Everyone’s happy faces went sad. Yoshi quickly looked into their thoughts. ‘She’ll be upset.’ InuYasha was thinking. ‘I don’t think she’ll like it.’ Miroku thought. ‘She might be a little relieved’ Sango was thinking. ‘I wonder where he is.’ Rin was thinking curiously. “You don’t know where he is.” she said sadness coming to her when it shouldn’t have. ‘What am I saying? I should be happy. This way I don’t have to hurt him and I don’t have to fight my heart, but still....’ Yoshi thought upset with herself. She thought of their good-bye and their kiss. ‘I should tell him. I can’t though. I will probably get hurt. I need to look in a mirror. I hate doing that though. I see my own future and it is never good.’ she thought passionately. Everyone stayed in one hut that night, even InuYasha and Kagome. They slept in each others arms though. Miroku slept next to Sango, but she made sure it was a safe distance. Kikyo was curled up between Rin and Shippo. Shippo, Rin, and Kohaku slept in a line on one side of the hut. Yoshiko didn’t sleep well that night. She sat in the door way looking up at the stars. ‘Where are you, Sesshomaru?’ she thought desperate to know if he was ok. Now Yoshi was in her pajamas. They were light blue silk shorts with stars on them. She had a spaghetti strap shirt on that said ‘Make a wish’ on it. If she raised her arms you could see a sliver on her middle. She was about to go in and try to get to some sleep when she felt someone coming. It was Sesshomaru. He advanced on Yoshiko at a quick pace from the woods. He looked down into her eyes. He didn’t say a word. He bent down to give her a sweet kiss. He was almost there when Yoshi turned away. “Sesshomaru, I... I need to figure some things out still.” Yoshi said trying not to look at him. She didn’t want to see if she had hurt him. Eventually he made her look at him. He didn’t look sad. All Yoshiko saw in those eyes was love, true-love. This time when he bent down to kiss her she let him. It took all her strength not to kiss him back. Sesshomaru noticed that she didn’t return any feelings, but she hadn’t turned away or tensed up. That gave him hope that maybe she just needed to know a few more things before she could admit anything. ‘I hope she will say that she loves me as I love her.’ he thought trying to get her to kiss him back. Finally he gave up. “Please learn what you need to know soon.” he begged her with their faces only a few inches away. “I will.” she said not letting it show that she was hopelessly wanting another kiss. Sesshomaru couldn’t tell, but was hoping beyond hope that he could kiss her again. He backed away to look at more than her eyes after a moment. Yoshiko wished he hadn’t done that. She just kept looking into his golden eyes. “Are you back for good, now?” He asked curious. “No. I have to stay a while longer. It is hard for me to even walk very far as it is.” Yoshi answered sadly. He rested his head on hers out of sadness and disappointment. “When will you come back, or are you staying now?” Sesshomaru said thinking that she might not want to come back to this time with him here. “I should be coming back in about two months. I just need to be able to use my powers well again before I come back. In this time there is usually someone after me. Or someone is in trouble and I would need to help them, but in Kagome’s time I can just rest. I like it there because I’m finding myself. I’m finding out what I want and need to know. I would never want to stay there though. It’s too boring and I want to come back to...” she paused there. She had almost said ‘you’. That would have cause a catastrophe. “You want to come back to what?” Sesshomaru said longing for her to say ‘you’. “I want to come back to all my friends.” she put in cleverly. This made him turn away disappointed. When she saw this she couldn’t bare it. She put her hand to his face turning his face toward hers. “I also want to come back to you. You are one of my best friends.” she added making his spirits lift. He caressed her cheek lovingly after she let her hand drop. They stayed that way for hours. Content with the feel of the other being so close. Their bodies weren’t more than a foot apart. He kept his hand on her cheek. She

just sat there willing to let him do whatever he wanted to do now. She stared into his eyes until sunrise. She saw so many things in his past and future. Then she saw something that terrified her. She saw Sesshomaru holding her. He was crying openly in front of InuYasha and the gang. Everyone was banged up pretty good. Kagome and InuYasha were leaning on each other for support. Miroku was holding Sango as she had seen when she uncovered her eyes to Miroku. Rin had a few scratches. It didn't look like she had been there for the actual fight. Rin was holding Shippo in one arm and a sleeping Kilala in the other. Kohaku wasn't in too bad of condition, but he had been part of some kind of battle. He had his hand on Rin's shoulder. Then Yoshiko noticed herself and Sesshomaru again. His tears fell onto her face. They washed away blood and dirt as they ran down her face. Sesshomaru had deep scratches on his face. She looked the worst though. She was cut up all over. Her midnight black hair was diluted with her blood, demon blood and dirt. Red liquid was streaming from her slightly parted lips. Sesshomaru held her close, bending his head over hers. She couldn't see her face any more so she looked at the rest of her body. The jeans she had had on looked like torn up shorts then. One of the sleeves to her T-shirt had been blasted off only just leaving the shoulder on her body. Her other arm had a long cut up the inside of it. Someone had tried to cut her throat because she had a small scratch there. The bottom of her shirt was a jagged, torn up mess. You couldn't tell what the hell her shirt color had been. Blood was swiftly escaping her body. It was then that she took a good look at her chest and stomach. She saw that they weren't moving. She wasn't breathing. She was completely still. Finally Sesshomaru had lifted his head. He was only able to wail now. He had lost all the tears he possessed. She had never seen him like that. She looked to everyone else. They were crying, too. Her face had been somewhat cleaned by Sesshomaru's tears. She looked at herself again and realized she was dead.

10 - Changes

Changes Yoshiko snapped out of the vision and found that she couldn't breathe. Her eyes bulged. She tried hard to suck in air, but couldn't. She tried to breath in through her nose, but she couldn't get any air. She was suffocating. Her head fell back against the door post. Sesshomaru was trying to figure out what was happening. He shifted her head so he could see her face. Her mouth was wide open, but she wasn't breathing. He didn't know what to do. She was dieing right in front of him and he didn't know how to save her. Her eyes were closed now. He did the last thing he could think of. He kissed her. He breathed in and out trying to help her. It took a couple of tries, but she finally started to breath. Sesshomaru pulled back wanting her to breath on her own. She was breathing deeply now, taking in all she could. Sesshomaru moved down so their faces were at the same level. He was slightly panting from the shock and helping her breath. It was too much for Yoshiko. She rested her head on his chest. She could hear his breathing and his heartbeat. It relaxed her. "What.. happened?" Sesshomaru panted out. He looked down at her head. "Yoshiko?" She didn't know what to say. It had been the most realistic vision ever. It had hurt her deeply to see Sesshomaru like that. "Sesshomaru... I don't... I can't talk about it." Yoshi replied with tears starting to stream down cheeks. He moved back to look at her face when he smelt the mix of salt and water. Once he saw it he pulled her back into a strong embrace. He couldn't bare to see her like that with tears in her eyes and falling from her face. He didn't ask anymore questions. The sun was fully up now. They could hear Kagome and InuYasha start to wake up. "I should go." Sesshomaru said pulling away. He looked into her eyes and wished that that moment could last forever. He wished it could just be him and her for eternity, no one else to bother them. Then he remembered Rin and decided against that wish. "Are you going to be ok?" he asked wanting her to say that she needed him to stay. "I'll be fine. I was just shocked and a little scared." she said still uneasy. Sesshomaru bent down and kissed her good-bye. She fell into the kiss, loving every second of it. He slowly pulled away. When they had completely separated he swiftly kissed her head and hand as he had the day he left her in Kagome's time. He walked away slowly not turning away until he reached the woods. Yoshi sigh with only love in her heart. 'I need to stop this. If I don't make him change his mind I'll hurt him by dieing. I have to do something and avoid him. I should still look in the mirror though.' Yoshi thought as everyone started to wake up. "Good morning everyone." Yoshi said after she knew everyone was up. "Were you up all night?" Sango asked concerned. "Yes. I couldn't get to sleep." Yoshiko lied. "When do you want to go back?" Kagome asked curious. "After breakfast." Yoshi replied. It was a bit of a shock to Kagome that Yoshi would wanted to leave so soon. They had breakfast soon after that. The good-byes were less teary. Yoshiko wished she could have seen Sesshomaru again. Kagome and InuYasha decided to just say good-bye then and there. They gave each other a swift and passionate kiss. That raised a few giggles from their audience. Everyone else just hugged Yoshi and wished for her to get well soon. Little did they know that Naraku was on his way back. He was furious with Kagura and Kanna for losing Kohaku. He would be back in two months. Yoshiko could sense this even from Kagome's time. She decided not to mention it. She would just have to work hard to get well quickly. It was one week before Yoshiko and Kagome were to return to Feudal Japan for good. Yoshiko was in the bathroom. The mirror was clouded from her just taking a hot shower. She took in a deep breath. 'I have to do this. I'm strong enough that if I see... if I see my death then I can fight off the vision. I wont suffocate again.' Yoshi calmed herself. She took another deep breath and wiped the mirror clean. She looked at her reflection. In her own eyes she saw pain, hurt, and Sesshomaru. She saw friends comforting her. All these things were part of her past. She needed to see the future. After a

minute she saw the battle field. She saw Sesshomaru as before. And she was dead. She looked around and saw Kanna and Kagura. They were happy. They seemed...free. Naraku was dead. She tried to find a clue as to who killed Naraku and how. Then she noticed the purple glow in her hands and around her eyes. Yoshiko turned away from the mirror. 'I die killing Naraku. I guess that it would be worth it. Miroku would be free of his wind tunnel. Sango, Kohaku, and InuYasha could get their revenge. But Sesshomaru...' Yoshi thought. 'I'll have to make sure he doesn't have feelings for me before that happens.' The next week Kagome and Yoshiko returned for good. Everyone was shocked by her new look. Yoshiko had cut her hair to her shoulders. It was now a chestnut-brown with dark red highlights. It was curly as usual, but she left it down now. She had bangs that fell into her eyes a lot. She had new jeans on. She had a plain white long sleeve shirt under her black tank top. She had brand new clean tenor shoes. She even had a new bracelet for InuTaisho's soul. It looked almost the same though. Either way, everyone was happy to see her. Sesshomaru wasn't there though. Yoshi suspected that he wanted a private greeting and didn't realize she was there. The first night Yoshiko had a hut to herself. Kagome and InuYasha shared a hut as did Miroku and Sango. Rin, Shippo, Kohaku and Kilala shared another hut. Yoshiko was fully recovered and could sense that there were two weeks before Naraku came. She stayed up half the night waiting for Sesshomaru. She knew he would be coming. She sensed him about a mile away at midnight. A few minutes later he was there. He walked in with the strangest look on his face. It was the look of lust. The look of a man in love. Yoshiko had dreamt of Sesshomaru looking at her that way, but now she had to fight the joy that was running through her veins. She had to deny her heart and him what they had always felt. It was not just selfishness anymore, but the longing to keep him from the immense pain that she feared. "Yoshiko, you've changed." he said with a smile on his face as knelt down to give her a kiss. Yoshi turned away. 'Damn. This is going to be harder than I thought' Yoshi thought trying to make sure he couldn't kiss her. "Sesshomaru, I thought about stuff and... I can't be with you like that. I care about you but, it's just I don't love you. I'm sorry. I would still like to be friends though." Yoshiko said afraid to look at him. He felt his heart stopped. 'She doesn't love me. I thought she loved me.' Sesshomaru thought with his heart breaking. He grabbed her roughly. "What are you talking about? Why did you ever let me kiss you?" Sesshomaru shouted in her face. His demon side coming out all to well. "I never meant to and I was always weak when you kissed me." Yoshi explained. "You kissed me back once and you never even tried to stop me the other times." he pointed out loudly. "I'm sorry. Could you please just leave now?" Yoshi asked never wanting to see the pain she knew she had caused him. He forced her to look at him though. "Why are you afraid to love me?" Sesshomaru asked compassionately. She was surprised that he knew her so well. Yoshiko didn't know what to say or do. He had figured her out. It made her happy that he was so intoned to her but, she wanted him to stop loving her. She just looked into his eyes. He loved her. That was obvious to the world. "I can't tell you. And I don't love you." she said trying to get him to stop saying 'love'. It was too distracting to her to know that he loved her so much. His face went cold and sad. He looked down and let go of Yoshiko. He quietly walked to the door. "Are you sure you don't want to see me?" Sesshomaru asked over his shoulder even more obviously hurt then ever. "I want to see you, Sesshomaru. Its just I don't love you. I would love to be your friend though." Yoshi said trying to make him feel better. "I guess that will have to do for now." he said regretfully to no one in particular. He left the hut after that. Yoshi fell back on to the floor. 'I can't believe I pulled that off. I can't believe I just told Sesshomaru I didn't love him.' she thought sadly. 'I need to get some sleep. I can deal with this stuff tomorrow and hopefully Sesshomaru will be here tomorrow as well.' Yoshi thought as she drifted off to sleep. *****Meanwhile***** Sesshomaru walked into the woods like a zombie. 'Should I stay? She said she wanted to be my friend but, I know she is keeping something from me. Something is wrong. I liked it better when the only human I cared about wasn't grown up and didn't lie to me.' Sesshomaru thought hating humans for that moment. 'I love her. Why can't she open up to me? I need

her. Why can't she see that?' he thought with the image of her face that night. The night she had stopped breathing. 'She saw something in my eyes that concerned her. Maybe I hit her for some reason? Or could I have gotten her in trouble and she got injured somehow? No. I would never let anything like that happen.' he thought sure of himself. 'But what if...' he thought with the memory of the night she had yelled at him. When he had held her close and kissed her. He had pushed her too far. He might have made love to her without her wanting it. 'Could I have gone too far? Could I have gone all the way with Yoshiko? Or even worst, raped her?' Sesshomaru thought terrified of Yoshiko being raped the first time she had sex. He found a comfortable spot on the ground and laid his fur down. He then laid down to go to sleep. 'I need to stay away. I need to fight my feelings and show her I would never do that to her.' he thought positive that that was what she had seen. 'I probably shouldn't even kiss her for a while. I'll just avoid getting too close to her also.' he thought before falling asleep.***Meanwhile*** Yoshiko woke up from a terrifying dream with a gasp. She was panting. She had dreamt of that vision. 'I don't think I can get back to sleep.' she thought carelessly fiddling with the soul bracelet. 'I need to talk to someone. I feel so alone.' The bead suddenly light the whole hut with a bright light. After a few moments the intense light faded away. 'I forgot I haven't talked to InuTaisho in a year. I can go to the lake and talk to him.' she thought getting up to go to the lake. She had forgotten that once a year she could use the soul bracelet for an hour to talk to InuYasha's father. She loved this time of the year for that reason. Yoshi knew she had to talk to him about the vision and her feelings for his eldest son. She was lost in the thoughts of what to tell InuTaisho first when she laid eyes on the lake. It was beautifully clear. She gracefully walked on the water. She was using a little of her magic not to sink in the water, but not too much. None of this was ever too tiresome. 'I have missed him.' she reflected as she came to a stop on the water, watching as the ripples flowed away from her. She sat crossed legged on the water's surface. She carefully took off the bracelet that held InuTaisho's soul. She let the bead hang at the bottom and swirled it in the water. She started to sing an ancient song quietly to the water. Asking it to make the shape she wanted. She slowly lifted the bracelet making sure the water followed the bead. She sang out a final note before the foot tall column of water took the shape of her old friend InuTaisho. Yoshi smiled broadly. "Hello, Yoshi. Has it really been a year already?" InuTaisho's voice came from the water. Yoshi's smile became even brighter. He always helped her forget her worries, but he couldn't make her completely forget them this time. "Yes, it has been a long year here. How is Izayoi?" she asked curiously while losing some of the fake smile she had put on for him. "What is wrong Yoshiko? I know you. You have something to talk to me about. You almost always do when you summon me." he said wisely. Yoshi smiled and shook her head at her own stupidity. 'He always knew how I felt.' she thought sighing. "It is about a vision. I saw my death ...in your son's eyes." she nervously said. "In who's eyes?" he asked becoming more and more concerned for his old companion. "In Sesshomaru's eyes. And mentioning him, I'm having trouble with him." she said embarrassed. "He loves you doesn't he. I always thought someone in my family would eventually fall in love with you. I would have thought InuYasha to fall for you." he reasoned with himself. "Actually, now that you mention him, he has fallen in love with a human. She is very beautiful. She has the powers of a priestess. Her name is Kagome, but she is from the future. He seems happy and..." "Yoshiko! Stop. Enough he is happy with a human that is all I need to know and besides I know. I look in on him from time to time. So Sesshomaru is in love with you. Do you feel the same?" InuTaisho asked boldly making Yoshi blush from babbling and his forward question about her feelings for his son. "I... I do care, but..." Yoshiko quickly sensed the area around the lake for miles. Sesshomaru was asleep almost a mile away. "I love him more than you can imagine. I want to be with him so bad. He has changed for me. He is kinder. I know he changed a lot for Rin long before me, but still. He is also so handsome. Sesshomaru is wise too. He is strong and courageous in battle, but I can't be with him." Yoshi rambled and then suddenly came to a stop with a yell and a sigh of exhaustion. "I don't want to lose control of myself

again. I told you of when my first sweetheart died and of when you died. That is if I live to see him die. If my vision comes true I will die maybe... in at the very most a year. It will devastate him. I don't want to put him through that." she finished with the look of depression on her face. "Wow, you sound like Izayoi after she met me." he stated surprised. Yoshiko gave him a questioning look. "I listened to some of her talks with you." he answered her unspoken question. "I have no idea what to do, but it was nice to talk to you. Hell it was nice to just talk to someone about all this. I'm afraid if I tell anyone else they'll send me home or won't let me help fight Naraku." "Who is Naraku?" InuTaisho asked worriedly. Yoshiko gave him a fake shameful look. "I thought you said you looked in on InuYasha. Naraku is just an enemy. He is very powerful though. If you don't have any ideas as to what I should do then I would like to talk about something else. You're only here for an hour and I have been rambling on about my problems for at least ten minutes." she said with a smile. He smiled at his old friend. 'I have missed her. I hope she doesn't join me in the after life too soon.' he thought bitterly. They talked constantly for the rest of InuTaisho's time there. They talked about Izayoi and the rest of his family. He never did give her any suggestions to her problems. A few minutes before InuTaisho left a single tear fell from Yoshiko's eyes. "Yoshi, please don't cry. I'll see you in another year. Tell Sesshomaru and InuYasha I love them and Izayoi misses InuYasha." he said as the water that gave him temporary life slowly fell away. "I will." Yoshiko replied before he was gone. Once he was no longer there she let out a heavy sigh. 'I wonder what comes next?' she thought as she went to her hut. She opened the door and gazed at her hut. Sesshomaru was there he was fast asleep though. He looked so peaceful. He was in the corner sitting with his back to the wall. 'He must have come back while I was gone.' she pondered as she gracefully and quietly walked to him. She started to feel dizzy and fell, catching herself on the wall. 'I'm tired, but why? Oh who cares? I just need some sleep.' Yoshiko laid down a few feet away from her true love. After half an hour of tossing and turning in the freezing cold she gave up on sleeping by herself. She slid over to Sesshomaru, curling up in his arms and immediately fell asleep.

11 - Soul Searching

Soul Searching Yoshi woke up with a headache. She was surprised to find Sesshomaru gone. 'I wish he would make up his mind and either stay or leave' she thought searching for him with her powers. She sensed Naraku was coming faster. 'I need to lead him away from the village.' she quickly decided. She got up and went to Kaede's hut first. She needed her help. She ran to the hut and swiftly walked in. Kaede was asleep still. Yoshiko shook her until she awoke. "Yoshiko, what is it child?" Kaede asked a little more concerned than she probably should have been. "Its Naraku. He is coming faster than I thought he would. He will probably be here in an hour. He is looking for us. If we leave now he will more than likely not stop here. Could you wake everyone and help them gather things?" Yoshi asked hurriedly. "Yes, of course. What will you need?" Kaede asked eager to help. Yoshiko stood and pause for only just a moment. "Kagome should know everything." she said before heading to the door. "Oh. Don't bother Rin or Kohaku. I think they should stay here for now. If we are lucky we can lead him away and at least injure him, but Rin shouldn't go. Kohaku probably could, but I'm not sure his memories of what he did for Naraku won't come flooding back. I believe that's it." she said quickly before leaving the hut. Kaede got up and ran to catch her. "Wait! Where are you going?" Kaede asked as she caught up to Yoshi. "I'm going to find Sesshomaru. Naraku is furious and we could use his help." Yoshi replied. Kaede looked skeptical. "Are you going to find him because everyone needs him or is it because you need him for yourself? I heard your conversation last night. I think you need to sort some things out and you might want to tell someone what you are protecting him from." Kaede said and then turned to run to the huts that housed her friends. 'Should I talk to someone else about that vision? InuTaisho wasn't a lot of help.' Yoshiko wondered for a second then shook her head. "I need to go." she said out loud to no one. She used her powers to sense for Sesshomaru. She soon found him. He was laying at the base of a huge tree using his fur as a pillow and blankets as he usually did. He was so gorgeous and looked so sweet like the night before. She wished she could of just kept looking at him like that, but she needed his help. "Sesshomaru, wake up." Yoshi said as she shook his shoulder. She suddenly sensed Naraku getting far too close. "Sesshomaru! Come on we need to go." she shouted as she pulled him up. "What is going on? Yoshiko? What are you doing?" he asked half asleep still. "Naraku is coming. He is going to be here in a few minutes. Now hurry up." she nagged him pulling him along quickly. He didn't have to be told a third time. He picked Yoshi up and carried her back to the village faster than ever. 'I shouldn't be carrying her, but we need to hurry.' he thought with the wonderful feeling of her in his arms. Once they arrived at the village he quickly let her go on the ground. Everyone was up. Rin and Kohaku were out there, and Kohaku had some stuff ready to go. "Are you going Kohaku?" Yoshi asked hoping he would say no. "Yes. Kaede told me you didn't want me to come, but I'm a demon slayer. That is what I do. I should help you all defeat Naraku." he protested. "But do you realize that it wasn't the demon slayer who slaughter villages or other demon slayers? It was Naraku and he will use it against you. I don't think you're ready." Yoshi tried to convince Kohaku. "I'm coming. I want to come. If Naraku tries that stuff I'll come back to the village. Sango, can't I come." he asked his sister knowing that she wouldn't turn him down. "You can come, but I don't want you staying if it gets too serious." she replied putting a hand on his shoulder. "Alright, but we need to go now. He is way too close as it is." Yoshi said trying to round up a few of her things quickly. "I thought ye said we had an hour." Kaede said shocked. "He is speeding up. He will probably be here in a few minutes, but I'm not sure. He keeps gaining speed." Yoshi said getting her packs on Kilala's back. Miroku was going to ride her. InuYasha offered to carry Kagome and Sango. Sesshomaru

was stuck carrying Yoshiko and Shippo and Kohaku. They headed West toward Naraku. 'I hope this isn't it. I should write a letter or something to Sesshomaru. I can deal with that later though.' she thought clinging tighter to Sesshomaru. He noticed this. 'Why is she holding on so tight? Is she scared? What did she see in her vision?' Sesshomaru wondered. Their thoughts were interrupted by Naraku. He was in front of them. He had on his baboon cloak. "So who is the new girl who thinks she can turn my servants against me?" he asked seemingly in a good mood. Yoshi quickly got out of Sesshomaru's arms and walked up to the front of the group. "I'm Yoshiko. It is nice to finally meet you. Although I do believe we've seen each other before." she said raising her hand to summon her staff. It appeared and scared Naraku. "How did you do that? I had InuYasha right where I wanted him. Then you had to protect the whole village. How could you create a barrier so large and strong so quickly? I was sore for weeks after I was flung from it." Naraku said frustrated now. "I can do more than put up a barrier." Yoshi said as she headed for him. InuYasha stepped forward to help, but Kagome grabbed his shoulder and held him back. "No. I think Yoshi should deal with this for now. Let her weaken him a little." Kagome said looking at her friend move forward quickly. InuYasha nodded and stepped back beside her. He held her hand to reassure her and himself that everything would be alright. Yoshi had come forward and tried to stab Naraku. He put up a barrier which only slowed Yoshi. Her staff stopped for a minute and then she pushed it through. She landed there in front of Naraku. He swiftly moved forward to use one of his tentacles to choke her. This frightened her a little at the memory of the scratch of her throat. She only just got her arms up in time. It hit her right hand wrist hard. He broke the bracelet that held InuYasha's and Sesshomaru's father's soul. It fell to the ground in the dirt. Yoshiko watched as it fell. She couldn't break away from the arm lock or he would kill her for sure. Naraku noticed this. "What do we have here?" he asked teasingly. He used another tentacle to grab the bead. Yoshi tried to get it but couldn't. He crushed the soul in his hand. Yoshi's eyes bulged. Her arms fell. His tentacles wrapped around her whole body. Sesshomaru and InuYasha started to run for Naraku. Kagome was too stunned to do anything. Shippo clung to Kagome in fear. Sango and Miroku and Kohaku headed for Naraku, but were slower than the demons. Yoshiko was inside Naraku's tentacles. Her eyes were closed. 'That was the last piece of him I had. He is gone now. What am I going to do? I can never talk to him again. I told him I would see him in a year.' Yoshi thought with anger growing in her heart. Sesshomaru, InuYasha, Sango, Miroku, and Kohaku were close to Yoshi when there was an explosion. When the dust cleared everyone saw Yoshiko. She wasn't the same though. She was glowing black and red. As she opened her eyes Naraku saw her eyes. They held all of her fury, sadness, and grief. They were black with red spirals coming from her now blue pupils. She pointed a finger at Naraku and said something in a dead language. Light shot from her finger. Naraku was smart enough to dodge the worst of it. It did hit most of his left side though. When the light was gone Naraku's shoulder was barely attached. His leg and side was completely fried. He called for Kanna and Kagura. They helped him, Kagura reluctantly and Kanna quietly. Once he was gone Yoshi's breathing became labored. Sesshomaru rushed to her. He reached her just in time because she collapsed into his arms. "Yoshiko? Are you alright?" he asked very worried. Her eyes flickered as they changed back to blue. She looked at him with tears in her eyes. "He's gone. Your father's soul is gone. I'm so sorry I just... I..." she couldn't finish. It was too much. She pulled herself closer to his chest. She felt like the world was ending. Sesshomaru could only hold her close and let her cry. "Shh. Its ok. It will be alright. I'm here. Naraku is gone. Just rest now. I'll carry you to the village and you can rest." he said as he stroked her head. Once Yoshi had nodded he picked her up. He pasted by everyone with his eyes closed. "We can head back slow." Miroku said after Sesshomaru was gone with Yoshiko. "There is no need to hurry now and I think Yoshi needs to be alone with Sesshomaru." "I think your right." Sango said. Miroku turned to her a little shocked that Sango agreed. She smiled at that. "Let's go then." Shippo said from Kagome's shoulder. They headed back to the

village.*****Meanwhile***** Sesshomaru tried to hurry back to the village quickly with Yoshi. She was clinging to him tightly. 'I shouldn't be carrying her or letting her cling to me like this, but she needs someone right now. I really shouldn't have stayed in the hut with her for so long either.' he thought feeling sorry for her. He soon got her to the village. He walked into Yoshi's hut and he laid her down. Tears were streaming down her face. Her bangs were covering her eyes though. Sesshomaru moved them back to look at her eyes. Her eyes were closed. She was asleep. He decided to leave her alone and let her sleep. He got up to go, but Yoshi grabbed his arm and stopped him. "Wait. Please don't go. Don't leave me alone, Sesshomaru. I need you here right now." she pleaded with her eyes closed. He looked at her and was confused. 'She might be a little weak and she just lost my father for the second time. That's probably why she said she needs me.' he thought wanting her to want him there and not just who ever she could get. "I'll stay." he said tucking her hair behind an ear. They smiled a little. Hers from relief and his from the joy of comforting her. He sat against the wall and pulled her to him. 'I shouldn't be leading him on like this, but I need him now.' she thought desperately as she was pulled into a loving embrace. She leaned her head back to look at Sesshomaru's face. "I'm sorry, Sesshomaru. It's all my fault. I should have blocked him sooner. I took his soul all those years ago, too. I just don't know how you or InuYasha can be here for me after all I've done." she said crying brand new tears. He just wiped away the tears. "I'm not angry with you and neither is InuYasha. You can't blame yourself." he said leaning his head on hers. A single tear rolled down her cheek. He kissed it away not wanting to see her cry anymore. He hugged her tighter to let her know he wasn't going anywhere. 'If only he had kissed my lips. He has been less romantic around me lately. A week ago he probably would have kissed me.' she thought as she softly cried into his shirt. They sat there in each others arms all night. In the morning Yoshi found herself laying on the floor alone. Sesshomaru was sitting in the door way. "InuYasha, Kagome, Shippo, Miroku, Sango, and Kohaku haven't come back yet. Can you sense them?" he asked concerned for his brother. Yoshiko closed her eyes and sensed them coming slowly. "They're coming. They're just taking their time. Sesshomaru, can we talk about last night and the night before?" Yoshiko asked hoping he didn't hate her, even though he had as good as said that he didn't care about what happened between her and his father, she was afraid of what had made him shy away from her. 'Why am I so worried about why he isn't as romantic with me anymore? Isn't that what I wanted?' "I'm not mad at you. You don't need to apologize for anything. I understand you don't care for me the way I care for you. As to my father..." he shrugged. "He asked you to. It was in the past. If you are able to forgive me for what I've done why can't I do the same for you?" he asked reasonably. She nodded her head and got up. She walked over to him and sat down next to him. "I am sorry that I can't tell you my vision, though. I can tell you that you didn't do anything wrong. It shouldn't happen for a little while so don't worry." she said and hesitantly laid her head on his shoulder. All he could do was enjoy her presence. 'I love her so much. Why can't she love me, too? It has to be what she saw in the vision. What could she have seen?' he thought wanting to hug her so bad. 'I need to stop leading him on. Maybe I should just go find Naraku and die without him there.' she thought as she sensed the others coming closer. 'I can decided later.' she concluded as she heard them greet her and Sesshomaru.

12 - Water Beings

Water Beings After everyone was happily reunited they spent the rest of the day waiting on the depressed Yoshiko. Now that there were several other people there Sesshomaru didn't have to hold her or touch her even if he wanted to. Everyone wanted to comfort her, but now she just wanted to be alone. She would sit in the corner of her hut and not say a word even if someone was talking to her. She didn't eat anything for a long time. Weeks passed. Everyday she would sense where Naraku was and went to the lake for the night and stayed there until sunrise. After a month of this Kagome and Sango decided to get everyone to come to a picnic to cheer up Yoshi. Rin and Shippo were really excited. Especially since Kagome was bringing candy from her time for them. Kohaku, Miroku, and InuYasha were glad to help out. Sesshomaru was slightly reluctant, but would do it for Yoshiko. The next day Kagome brought Shippo and Rin with her to get Yoshiko long before dark and her daily walk to the lake. "Good afternoon, Yoshiko." Kagome greeted her as she was exiting her hut. "Hi, Kagome. Hello Rin, Shippo." she greeted the two young ones with a fake smile. "Yoshiko everyone is going to be at the bone eaters well today for a picnic. We would love it if you came." Kagome said sweetly. "Please come, Yoshiko." Shippo begged. "We haven't all been together in a long time. Please, Yoshi." Rin said using her nickname to try and make her happy. It only back fired though. 'InuTaisho used to call me that. Its all my fault.' Yoshiko thought grimly. Her fake smile completely faded away. "I'll be there in a moment. I just need to go fix my hut up a bit. You can wait if you want. I'll only be a moment." she said kindly exercising her acting skills. As she turned toward her hut Kagome notice tears gathering in her eyes. "Um... We'll be here when you come out. Take your time." Kagome said resting her hand on Yoshiko's shoulder. It only helped Yoshiko feel a little better. 'Maybe this will be good for me.' Yoshiko thought before entering her hut to dry her eyes and magically take away the evidence.**Hours Later** The picnic had been going great. Now Yoshiko was no longer faking her smile or her slight giggles. They all sat in a circle. Kagome sat in InuYasha's lap beside Miroku who was quite close to Sango. He had spoiled his recorded of nine weeks without groping Sango in two seconds. She had let it slid, but whispered something to him. He had gone pale and no one wanted to guess what she had said. Kohaku was beside his sister with Rin on the other side. They had become fast friends in the past few weeks. Sesshomaru sat between his adoptive daughter and the guest of honor, Yoshiko. They weren't to close though. Sesshomaru still thought he should listen to her and fight his urge to be with her like his brother and Kagome were together. Kilala and Shippo were playing behind Kagome and InuYasha. By the looks it was tag and Kilala was winning. Everyone was happy. Yoshiko was in a good mood and wasn't thinking about her problems. Then InuYasha slapped his neck. A speck of something fell to the ground. "It is so good to taste you master." the flea Myoga said from beside Yoshiko. "Myoga, is that you?" Yoshiko asked joyfully surprised. 'I haven't seen him since... since InuTaisho died.' she thought becoming depressed again. "Yoshiko! I haven't seen you in decades. What are you doing here?" he asked. "I ran into InuYasha and Sesshomaru a while ago and where have you been? Staying away from the battles?" she teased with what little pleasure she had left. "Well... I... That doesn't matter. Where is the bracelet? The one with InuTaisho's soul." he asked abruptly. Yoshiko's head was immediately lowered. She tried to say something, but couldn't. Tears where gracing the rims of her eyes. 'I've let everyone down. He's gone and its my fault again. Sesshomaru, InuYasha, and even Myoga have lost what little they had left of him. I never even got a chance to show them InuTaisho's soul in the water. I was selfish and talked to him by myself.' Yoshiko thought wrapping herself in guilt. Sesshomaru noticed her sad and guilty look. "Its gone. I'm sorry Myoga, but we lost it about a month and a half ago it was

destroyed.” Sesshomaru said for her and put his hand on hers letting her know he was there for her. “That is too bad.” he said quietly. Yoshiko looked around at everyone. They were in a sad mood now because of her. She felt so bad, like she just wanted to disappear off the face of the planet. “I think I’ll go to my hut now. Its getting late.” Yoshiko said looking at the colorful sunset. “Do you want someone to come with you?” Sango asked kindly. “No thank you. We’re not that far from the village. I’ll be fine.” she answered trying to hurry up and get away. No one else asked her questions as she left. Once she was out of sight she sensed to see if any of them were following her. ‘I guess they don’t care if I get home ok.’ Yoshiko thought upset. Instead of going to her hut she went to the lake as she always did. She walked steadily there not noticing that after she had sensed the group Sesshomaru had left to find her. He was following her scent about twenty yards behind her. Once she reached the lake she stopped at the edge of the water. She remembered when she had spoken with InuTaisho and let a few tears slip from her eyes. She gracefully stepped onto the water. She stayed above the surface, but still made ripples. ‘What is she doing?’ Sesshomaru wondered from the edge of the woods. He made sure he stayed out of sight though. He watched as she come to a stop at the center of the lake. Yoshiko stood there breathing silently. ‘Who stood I call on?’ she pondered for a moment then called on the person she talked to almost every night. She started to sing quietly. Water raised all around her. She was inside a column of rushing water. Sesshomaru couldn’t see her for a few minutes and then the water started to fall away. What was left surprised him more than anything. Yoshiko stood in the same place, but was now wrapped in a man’s arms. He was blue like the water. His face was hidden from Sesshomaru’s sight. He was about to run out there and do something he knew he would regret. Suddenly when the man lifted his head Sesshomaru saw the man’s face. It was his own. “My dear Yoshiko what is wrong?” he asked wiping away a stray tear from her face. “I... I just needed to be with you.” she said burying her face in his shirt. He simply clung tighter to her and stroked her hair comforting her. “Yoshi you need to understand that it wasn’t your fault. We all make mistakes. Please don’t dwell on this one. Naraku destroyed him not you. You have a lot to worry about. You need to get over this to help the others. You know they’ll need you soon.” “I know. Thank you. I needed this tonight.” she said lifting her face to stare into the water blue eyes. “What you need is Sesshomaru. You should tell him. He loves you and would do anything for you. I should know. He is just confused and mesmerized by you. Why don’t you tell him you...” she silenced him with a finger. She looked serious. ‘Why doesn’t she tell me WHAT?!?!’ Sesshomaru wondered desperately from the shore where he had slowly and quietly advanced to during their conversation. “He is here. I should send you back.” she said disappointed. Swiftly kissing his cheek she passed her hand over his eyes and he sank back into the lake. Then she turned to the really Sesshomaru on shore. “Why did you follow me?” “What was that?” he asked as she approached him. Once she was on land she walked up to stand only a couple of feet away. “Well?!” “It was a water being. I create them from the water. They are real people I create from the water.” she explained. “Why are you creating those things?” he demanded stepping closer and waving his hand toward the lake. This was all too much for her. She let tears start to fall from her eyes. “Because I feel like I can’t talk to any of you anymore. I feel like a disappointment and a burden. I have hurt you and InuYasha and I...” she couldn’t finish through the sobs. She just looked into his eyes terrified of being hurt or hurting her friends. She didn’t see anything in those eyes. With a new found disappointment she turned to run away. He grabbed her roughly by the wrist. “You what?” he asked his voice dangerously cold. She swallowed hard trying to gain the courage to tell him that she had summon his father with out telling him. All she could do was shake. She was afraid of what he would do. He let out an unhappy sigh. He loosened his grip on her wrist to pull her into a loving embrace. “It is alright, Yoshi. I’m not mad I just wish you could come to me with your worries rather than have to create someone else. I love you Yoshiko. No matter what I will always love you.” he told her holding her the same way the water being of him had. They stayed that way for a long time before Sesshomaru leaned

back to look at her face. "Now will you tell me what you were going to say?" he asked caressing her cheek lovingly. She swallowed hard and took a deep breathe before beginning. "The bracelet... I could use it to make a smaller water being of him with it. It would be him not just a creation from my memory or my imagination. I had talked to him the night before Naraku broke the bead. I can...I could only bring him back once a year for an hour. I... I told him I was going to talk to him in a year and now..." she couldn't finish. Sesshomaru just pulled her into his arms. He stroked her hair trying to calm her with the new tears flowing from her eyes. "Shh. It is ok. Don't worry. We'll figure this out." he said hurriedly. He stepped back to look straight into her eyes kneeling so he was at the same level. "Let's go back to the village. I'm staying with you tonight though. I don't want you coming back here. I want you to come to me when you need to talk to someone, ok?" She nodded with her eyes closed releasing the last of her tears. "Good. If you want I can carry you." he suggested trying to lighten the mood. She giggled and smiled for a brief moment. 'Now I remember why I love him so much.' She nodded 'yes' to his offer. He grinned happily sweeping her off her feet. It didn't take long to reach Yoshiko's hut to both their disappointments. He gently set her on her feet. For a moment they looked into each others eyes. It seemed like an eternity when it was only for a second. He saw the need in her eyes. The need for a love to hold her and comfort her. 'I don't care if she doesn't love me. I love her and I will be here for her whether she likes it or not.' he thought cupping her face in his hand. 'I love him, but I don't want to hurt again. I don't want to lose him if I let myself have him.' she thought leaning her cheek into his hand. 'I can't hold back tonight though.' she decided stepping closer. "Sesshomaru, I..." she was cut off by his lips being pressed firmly to hers. It was passionate, loving and simply perfect for the both of them. He picked her up a few inches off the ground and carried her to the corner. He gently pressed her back against the wall having never broken the kiss. He reluctantly pulled away enough for them to talk. "Sesshomaru why did you do that?" Yoshi asked shocked and privately overjoyed. "I love you and I can tell you need someone right now. Please Yoshi. Please let me be here for you. Let me in. Tell me why your so scared." He told her leaning his face close to hers and at times burying it in her neck taking in all her wonderful scents. The whole time she had thought she was going to faint. His breath had warmed her face and made her nervous and thrilled at the same time. "Sesshomaru, I... I just want to be friends." she said, but seeing the discontent and disbelief on his face made her correct herself. "... but you are right. I'm scared of... something and I do need someone right now. I love for it to be you." she said only making him frown. "I need to know what we are going to be then. Do just want to be friends? Or lovers? What? What do you really want Yoshi?" he asked loosening her from his hold. "I want to just be friends, but... but not tonight. Tonight I need you to be more to me. I don't want to make love though. That is something I'm not ready to do even with someone I do love. Do you understand?" she asked hoping beyond hope that he could. He looked at her with the strangest look. She had to look into his mind to tell what he was thinking. 'Tell me what you're scared of. Tell me you love me. I need you why can't you need me too.' she heard him think. In a moment of weakness she quickly brought her lips to his. She moved her lips over his lovingly trying to let him know she did love him. When they parted they both were out of breath. "Tonight whatever we want to be and then just friends in the morning?" he asked making sure. She quietly nodded. He swiftly kissed her putting all the love, passion, and tenderness he could put into it. "You do realize no more kisses after tonight then. No more loving touches. No more holding each other. I wouldn't be able to handle it. I wont be teased Yoshi. If you don't love me than you've got to help me move on by staying away. Do you understand?" he asked caressing her cheek. She as shaking. 'Can I really go without him? Can I stand not to touch or hold him? I have to. Or I could...' she looked into his eyes looking for the future. She saw exactly what she hoped she wouldn't. She saw her death. Herself being cradled in his arms. It seemed different some how, but she didn't continue looking to see what had changed. 'I can't tell him. This will help him get ready to lose me.' she decided. "I know." she whispered with her head down. She was letting out a tear of frustration. Her

face was lifted by Sesshomaru. She kept her eyes closed afraid to see his beautifully perfect face unhappy. He put his lips to the tear kissing it away. "Why are you crying my sweet?" he probed tenderly. "You probably shouldn't call me 'sweet' and it is nothing. Just hold me for now." she pleaded pulling him into a tight embrace. He hugged her back wanting her to just be happy. After a little while he gently turned her around and pulled her to his chest. He gradually sat down leaning his back to the wall letting her sit comfortably in his lap. She rested the back of her head on his shoulder while he leaned forward letting his lips lightly rest on her shoulder with his arms tightly wrapped around her waist. "I love you" he whispered as sleep over took him. She sighed and turned into him more. 'I love you more' she thought placing her lips on his before drifting off to sleep with him.

13 - Going Away for Awhile

Going Away for Awhile Sesshomaru awoke just before sunrise. 'My last chance to change her mind. After this we will be just friends.' he thought as he leaned his head down to kiss her lips lightly. He lingered for only a moment to wake her up. He smiled down at her fluttering eyes and confused face. Once her memory kicked in she smiled back. "What time is it?" Yoshi asked hoping that it was still night. "It is just before dawn my sweet. Are you sure you just want to be friends after this?" he asked pleading with both his eyes and voice. "I'm sure. I can't be with you Sesshomaru, even if I wanted to. I'm sorry to be with you like this and then ask to just be friends, but I needed you last night." she told him looking away. She was on the brink of crying. She hated doing this to him. He cupped her cheeks in his hands bringing her eyes up to meet his. "Its ok, Yoshi. I wish I could understand though, but I know you wont tell me." he said making her want to look away badly. "Yoshiko just know that I love you and no matter what I always will." he finished and kissed her forehead. "Let's just make the best of our last few minutes as... as... as whatever we were last night." he suggested lowering his face to hers. She was the one to close the gap though. They kissed forgetting about the rest of the world for a moment. In that precious minute or so they belonged to each other. They weren't two separate people. They were one person. For that moment Yoshiko had soul, but it was when she thought she had felt truly alive, truly whole she pulled back afraid. She had been scared because of the new sensation. "Why did you pull away?" Sesshomaru asked panting slightly from the effort of kissing her so passionately. "I... I... I don't know. I felt... never mind" she said curling up into him. He looked surprised and was wondering why she was acting so strange. He didn't want to ask her though. In a way he knew she wasn't sure exactly what happened. "Yoshi, it is daylight" he whispered to her as the first rays of sun light hit them through the doorway. "Let's go find the others. I think it is about time we go after Naraku. We need to find and defeat him." he said trying to get up, but Yoshi held him down for a minute. She looked in his eyes searching for something. He didn't know that she was looking for her death again though. She looked and found it. Same as always. Once she was done seeing it tears were forming in her eyes. She didn't want to cause Sesshomaru that much pain. "Do you think we can stay here for another day or two?" she asked hoping that if he said yes she could run away and take care of her little mess alone. "No Yoshi we have stayed here long enough." he told her sternly. "Yoshiko we have been here for over a month. We need to go after him and take care of this." "I suppose your right, but..." she wanted to tell him so bad. "The vision." he finished for her. "How did you know?" she asked sitting up more. He sat up after her. "I know because I'm guessing that you saw the vision in my eyes just now. Am I correct?" he asked. She couldn't find the words. He knew her so well it amazed her. All she could do was simply nod her head. He smiled a little at her shock. "Have you told anyone what the vision is of?" he asked curiously as his smile faded. "I told InuTaisho, but he is the only one. I don't want anyone else to know Sesshomaru." she said getting frustrated. "Why? Why is this vision so terrifying? Why can't you tell me?" he asked reaching for her hands to hold. Yoshi didn't let him hold them though. She looked at him with sad eyes shaking her head. "You don't want to know what it was Sesshomaru. Trust me. You'll find out soon enough." she told him getting up and leaving the hut. 'I wish she would tell someone. She is obviously worrying herself to death over it. I need to get Kagome and Sango to talk to her.' he decided.**Days Later** The group had just stopped for the night. They had decided to leave Kohaku and Rin back with Keade. Rin would be safe there and Kohaku could help protect the village if a demon attacked. InuYasha and Miroku were leaving to go hunt for their supper since they wanted to save the Ramen for later. Yoshiko, Sango, and Shippo went to find a source of water and a place to bathe.

Kagome stayed at camp to start the fire and get everything set up with Sesshomaru and Kilala to protect her. "Kagome?" Sesshomaru asked hesitantly. Kagome turned to look at him. He seemed worried about something. He had been quiet ever since their picnic to cheer Yoshi up. "What is it Sesshomaru?" she asked concerned giving him her complete attention. "I'm concerned for Yoshiko. She saw a vision in my eyes when she came back for that one night while she was healing. It terrified her. She even stopped breathing for a minute she was so scared. She hasn't told me what it was of. She has only told one person and he is dead. I was hoping you and Sango could ask her about it. Kagome this is really important to me. This thing... This vision is worrying her to death." he told her honestly showing how much he cared for Yoshiko's well being. "You really love her don't you" she mused. He could only nod. "I'll talk to Sango sometime soon and we will speak with her. Don't get too worked up Sesshomaru. I'm sure there is a good reason why she is keeping this a secret." Kagome said encouragingly. 'Should I tell him she loves him?' Kagome wondered seeing how much he was bothered by the fact that Yoshi was in some kind of trouble. 'No! Sango told me it was a secret. I can't tell him.' "Thank you" Sesshomaru said interrupting her thoughts. She gave him the best smile she could and nodded her head. "She means the world to me. I want to help as much as I can." he confessed to her. "Don't worry. Sango and I will take care of this." she told him as InuYasha and Miroku returned with about four rabbits. "That didn't take too long" Kagome said as InuYasha came to sit next to her. "There was a small group of rabbits close by and we thought we could go fishing for more food after Sango, Yoshi, and Shippo come back." he said as he dropped the rabbits in front of her. 'Those are just disgusting.' Kagome thought looking at the small bloody bodies. InuYasha noticed this and picked them up. "I'll take care of these now." he said and gently gave her a kiss on the cheek before going into the trees more to skin the rabbits. "Thank you." Kagome yelled back to him before getting back to the fire she needed to start. Shippo, Sango and Yoshi soon returned from finding both a hot spring and a river. InuYasha went to the river, after getting directions from Yoshiko to the river, for fish. "Sango can I talk with you for a minute?" Kagome asked motioning for Sango to follow her to the edge of the woods. Sango followed her very confused. "What is it Kagome?" she asked in the lowest whisper she could manage. "It is Yoshiko. Sesshomaru asked me if we would ask her about a vision she saw. He says that he knows it is scaring her to death and he wants us to talk to her about it. Do you think we can talk to her in the hot spring tonight?" she asked in a hurry. "Yes, but does Sesshomaru know what it is about?" Sango replied suddenly concerned for her friend. "He said she saw it in his eyes, but he doesn't know anything else. Think about it Sango lately she hasn't been talking with any of us, she has been doing everything we ask and then just runs off. Think of another time she did that" Kagome told Sango. She looked at Kagome like she was crazy though. 'I can't think of anytime Yoshiko has been anything, but nice and outgoing around us except for...' Sango thought coming into realization. "When she told us about the soul bracelet." Sango said finally. Kagome nodded her head. "She had been scared that we would leave her because we didn't want her around anymore." "Yes. She must have seen something pretty bad. She is hiding it well though. I didn't notice her being quiet until I really thought about it. So we are going to ask her about it tonight right?" "Of course. We need to help her if we can." Sango said as they started to head back toward the camp. InuYasha soon returned with a few fish. "Do you guys think you could cook supper while we take a bath?" Kagome asked grabbing Sango and Yoshi's hands. "Sure Kagome just hurry back." he replied as he started to get the rabbits and fish ready. "Thanks" she said from the edge of the woods. The girls quickly walked to the hot spring. Yoshiko never questioned why they were going to the hot springs before supper and that was making Kagome nervous. 'She must know we are going to ask her something, but I don't think she knows what the question is' Kagome thought stripping of her clothes. It wasn't long after they got in that Sango broke the silence that surrounded Yoshiko these days. "Yoshi remember when you told me how you felt about Sesshomaru after you saved Kohaku?" she asked from the opposite side of the spring. "Yes" she

answered suspiciously. "Well I told Kagome about it. I hope that is ok." Yoshiko simply nodded. Sango then continued hesitantly. "We were just wondering if there was something else you wanted to tell us. If there was something new happening between you and Sesshomaru." "He asked you to try and get me to tell you about the vision didn't he." Yoshiko said surprising Sango. "He asked me earlier today. Yoshi he is really worried about you. He says that you are worrying yourself to death." Kagome told her with concern on her face and in her voice. "He is right. This vision distresses me a lot, but I won't tell you, him, or anyone else for that matter." she said stubbornly. When she noticed their hurt looks she thought 'I need to tell them something or else they will start having everyone ask me about it' "I... I wish I could tell someone, but it is my problem. I'm trying to take care of it on my own." she said less forcefully. "Is there anything any of us can do to help?" Sango asked. "You.. Well..." Yoshiko started but could never finish. She sighed deeply. "Could you ask Sesshomaru to leave for a little while? I can't have him around right now." "Does this have anything to do with what he was doing in the vision?" Kagome asked. Sango gave her a questioning look. "He told me she saw the vision in his eyes." she said. "In a way yes. It does have something to do with his presence in the vision." Yoshiko answered. "What was he doing?" Sango asked. Yoshi could only shake her head. "If I tell you that you might figure out what the vision was of. I can't let that happen. Will you ask him?" she finish pleading with her eyes for the favor. "Why can't you ask him?" Kagome asked curious. "I can't bring myself to do it. I have wanted to ask him to go away so many times, but when I try I... I just lose it. I forget what I was going to say or I start thinking how I can't bear to be without him." she said tear gracing the rims of her eyes. Sango and Kagome quickly went over to comfort her. "It is ok Yoshi." Kagome said putting her arm around her friends shoulders. "We can go back to camp first and we will talk to him before you come back. Does that sound alright?" Sango asked sitting in front of Yoshiko. She nodded her head trying desperately to stop crying. "How long do you want us to have him go away for?" "For about a month or so" Yoshi answered. "Okay we will go back soon." Sango said getting in on the group hug. "Thanks you guys. I really appreciate this." Yoshiko mutter in the middle of the hug. "Anything for a friend." Kagome said. So after that Kagome and Sango quietly left Yoshiko with her thoughts as they headed to camp with a mission. They were greeted with puzzled looks. "Where is Yoshiko?" Sesshomaru asked. "She is staying at the hot springs for a little while longer. Sesshomaru can we talk?" Kagome said leading him to the edge of camp with Sango following. "Well? Did she tell you what she saw in the vision?" he asked impatiently. "No, but she did ask for us to do her a favor." Sango said sadly. "What was it?" he asked suddenly nervous. "She wanted us to ask you to leave for about a month." Kagome said trying not to make eye contact. It was silent for a minute. "Did she say why?" he asked confused. "Yes, but we are not supposed to tell you." Kagome said guiltily. He nodded his head and turned from camp to leave. She knew that he must be falling apart on the inside. She remembered how InuYasha used to leave her for Kikyō. 'At least I knew why my love wasn't with me. Why my heart ached every night I wasn't with them. He doesn't even know that she loves him. I wish I could help.' Kagome thought sadly. "Kagome?" he asked over his shoulder snapping her out of her thoughts. "Yes" she answered afraid of what he would say. "Could you just tell Yoshiko that I love her and I'm not going to give up on her?" he asked broken hearted. "Sure. I'll make sure she knows." she replied. He smiled before taking off into the starry night. "I hope he will be ok" Kagome said quietly. "What did you say Kagome" Sango asked. "Nothing" she answered shaking her head. They walked back into camp with sad faces. Sango went to play with Kilala and Shippo while Kagome went to InuYasha. She sat beside him leaning her head on his shoulder. "Kagome what's wrong? And where is Sesshomaru going?" he asked trying to get a good look at her. She gazed into his eyes. He was very confused now. "Kagome what's going on?" he asked again concerned for her. "Thank you for telling me you love me. Thank you for always being there for me." she said lovingly embracing him. He peered around camp to see that no one was watching them. He then hugged her back. "Kagome why are you saying this? You're starting

to worry me a little.” he told her kindly. She leaned back in their embrace to look into his golden orbs. ‘I don’t know if Yoshiko would want me to tell him. Maybe I shouldn’t’ she thought. “You can tell him Kagome” Kagome heard in her mind. She looked past InuYasha to see Yoshi give her a weak smile and disappear back into the woods. Kagome took a deep breathe before beginning to explain everything. “Yoshi loves Sesshomaru, but can’t or won’t tell him. She recently saw a vision in his eyes that is scaring her. Sesshomaru had us, Sango and me, talk to her about it tonight. She told us she would not tell anyone what the vision was of. She also requested that Sango and I ask Sesshomaru to leave for a month or so. That is what we were talking to him about and why he left. This just reminds me of when... when I didn’t know you loved me. It reminds me of those times when you left me for Kikyo and I’m just happy that I know you love me. I don’t know what I would do without you.” Kagome confessed on the brink of tears. “Kagome...” he didn’t know how to responded to that. He just focused on her eyes and caressed her cheek trying to comfort her. “Kagome I will never stop loving you. I don’t know how I was ever so stupid as to think I could. I thought I didn’t need love. I thought it was just some silly emotion that would go away in time, but it never did. In the two years we have spent together I have never been able to get rid of or forget my love for you.” he told her sweetly before giving her a loving kiss. This brought brand new tears to her eyes. “Why are you still crying Kagome?” he asked after breaking the kiss. “Because that was so romantic and I’m happy.” they both giggled as he wiped away her tears. They were so wrapped up in the moment that they didn’t realized everyone was staring at them. Miroku silently scooted close to Sango. “I hope you know I love you” he whispered in Sango’s ear. She blushed insanely. She turned her face to see him gazing at her with the strangest look in his eyes. It was a serious, but happy look. She was breathless. He smiled happily at her while slowly bringing his face closer to hers. Sango’s face must have been redder than InuYasha’s shirt by now. Just before their lips met she felt something groping her rear end. ‘SMACK’ Miroku sat next to Sango with a very red hand print on his cheek. Everyone in camp except Sango and the perverted monk himself sighed and said “Miroku” in unison. “He will never learn” Shippo added going to start supper with Kagome, InuYasha, and the newly arrived Yoshiko. Authors Note:Hi Please don’t hate me for making Sesshomaru leave. I couldn’t have him around for what I’m doing in the next chapter or two. Do not worry! Sesshomaru will come back soon enough. It might take 3 chapters at the most, but he is coming back. I hope you liked this. I will try and put Kouga, Ayame, and Kikyo in here eventually. Please keep reading! J

14 - Kouga's Confessions

Kouga's Confessions It had been three days since Sesshomaru left. It was nearly noon and the gang had stopped for lunch. Yoshiko had been talking with everyone a lot more. She seemed much happier, but it wasn't really that way. 'Things have been going great lately, but I miss Sesshomaru already' she thought sadly while she finished eating her ramen. "Yoshi" Shippo said from her shoulder. She turned her head slightly making sure not to make him fall off. "What is it Shippo?" she asked kindly. "Why did Sesshomaru leave?" he asked curiously. Yoshi looked away letting her bangs cover her sad eyes. No one had told Shippo what was going on. "Shippo can you come here for a minute?" Kagome asked from the other side of the fire. She smiled at Yoshiko encouragingly. Shippo quickly jumped from Yoshi's shoulder to the ground and ran around the fire to Kagome. Yoshiko sighed in relief. She didn't want to explain the whole story to him. She didn't even want to talk or think about it. Yoshi watched as Kagome happily played with Shippo and Kilala. She looked at InuYasha and saw him proudly smiling at Kagome. She knew he was thinking the same as her without using her powers, but she knew something he didn't. "InuYasha, I sense a jewel shard coming." Kagome said standing up from the ground. InuYasha walked over to her while Sango and Miroku grabbed their weapons. Yoshi stayed sitting though. Suddenly a twister came into view of the group. It stopped in front of Kagome and disappeared. The persistent, delusional, and stubborn wolf demon, Kouga, was left in its place. "Hello my dear Kagome" Kouga said grabbing Kagome's hands. "I have missed you, but I'm here to take you back to my den to become my mate." he said getting very close to Kagome. InuYasha quickly stepped in between them and pushed Kouga back. "Leave her alone Kouga. Kagome is never going to be your mate!" InuYasha shouted in his face. "I love her Mutt-face. Why wouldn't she want to be my mate?" Kouga said confidently. "Because I love her!" InuYasha shouted back in his face. Everyone knew this, but had never heard him say it and never thought they would hear him say it. "Kouga." Kagome said from behind the two demons. InuYasha and Kouga turned to look at her. She quietly walked up beside InuYasha and put her arm around his waist. "Kouga I can't be your mate and I don't want to be your mate. I love InuYasha and he is my mate now." InuYasha smiled down at his mate and wrapped his arms around her shoulders. Kouga and everyone else except Yoshi stood with their mouths wide open in shock. "Wh... When did this happen?" Kouga asked shakily. "About a month ago" Kagome answered leaning on InuYasha. No one could say anything. Miroku, Sango and Shippo had no idea that had happened. "Kouga please leave. I love InuYasha, not you. I want to stay here with him." Kagome told him. He just stood there. "Mutt-face what did you do to make her say that?" Kouga shouted at InuYasha. "I..." InuYasha started. "Kouga, InuYasha didn't do anything." Yoshiko said not even looking at them. "And who are you?" he asked still furious. Yoshiko looked up at him with purple eyes that hypnotized him. No one except Kouga looked directly into her eyes. Kouga was the only one to see a vision. The others watched in shock. Miroku, Sango, and Shippo in the most. They stood together near Yoshiko. InuYasha and Kagome held tight to each other. Finally Yoshi looked away ending the vision. Kouga gasped for air. He immediately bowed low to Yoshiko. "Forgive me Seer. I did not recognize you." he said diplomatically. "I showed you something I think you should fix." Yoshi told him. The rest of the group were watching the two talk intently. "It shouldn't happen for a few years, but I want you to fix it now before it is too late." Yoshi said quietly getting up and walking to Kouga. She lifted his head to look into his eyes again. "She needs to know now, so go" Yoshi commanded him. He swiftly got up and disappeared in his twister. "Yoshi..." Sango started, but none of them knew exactly what to say or ask. "Why did Kouga bow to you?" Miroku asked. "Centuries ago I was traveling through the mountains

and ran across their tribe. They were weak from a war they had only just barely won. I stayed and helped them heal, but the tribe leader, Kouga's father, wasn't getting better though. At that time I hadn't used any of my powers on them. The tribe begged me to help him so I did. I used my powers to heal him. They celebrated for days. Finally when it was time to go I had a talk with Toshiro. That was Kouga's father's name. He asked me how I healed him. I told him of my powers and he was stunned. He asked me to show him his future, more specifically his death. I showed him and he proclaimed to the tribe I was to be honored for centuries to come. He told them of my powers. At that time Kouga was just a pup so I'm not surprised he didn't recognize me." Yoshi finished telling them. "How is it that she is involved with so many people?" InuYasha wondered. "So that is why Kouga bowed to you and called you Seer." Kagome said. Yoshiko nodded yes. "What was the vision you showed him?" Shippo asked from Kagome's shoulder forgetting InuYasha and Kagome's surprise they shared with the group. "Ayame." Yoshi said simply and started walking away.

Kouga searched all night for Ayame. He finally got a whiff of her around midnight. 'I need to talk to her. I need to keep that vision from coming true.' he thought remembering it. ****Flashback**** "Kouga!" Ayame shouted getting in between Kouga and Kagura's Dance of Blades. Blood sprayed all over Kouga's face while Ayame's body fell back into his arms losing consciousness. Her head came to rest on his shoulder. Her form was limp in his arms. "Why did you do that Ayame?" Kouga asked her. Ayame's eyes were fluttering shut. "I wanted to save you Kouga. I love you." she confessed to him with a weak smile. Kouga pulled her tight to his chest. "Ayame you idiot. You shouldn't have done that." Kouga told her softly. He was furious and sad at the same time. "Why? Why was it wrong of me to save you? To save the man I love?" she asked innocently. He felt his heart break for her. "It isn't, but I wish I could have saved you." he said feeling tears gather in his eyes. He caressed her cheek not knowing what to say. "I'm sorry Ayame. I love you." he told her as he leaned down to kiss her. He felt her kiss him back for a minute and then she was dead in his arms. He pulled away to see a smile on her lifeless face. He softly laid her down on the ground before getting up and going to face Kagura head on. ****End of Flashback**** He came to a river. Ayame was there sitting on the edge with her feet in the water. She was staring up at the crescent moon and hadn't even noticed Kouga's arrival. He was mesmerized now. He completely forgot about warning Ayame and confessing his love for her. He felt a light blush grace his face when she turned to look at him. Her hair danced in the wind as she brought her feet out of the water. She gracefully walked to Kouga never looking away from his blue eyes. She was confused by the look Kouga gave her. She had never seen it before. She came to a stop just in front of him. The wind around them stopped. It seemed as if time was standing still for them. She could hear his heart beating fast in his chest as if he had ran to her as fast as he could. "Ayame I need to tell you something." he told her closing the gap between. There was merely an inch separating them. He put his hand to her cheek unsure of what to do. "What is wrong Kouga?" she asked concerned. "Do you remember the tale of The Seer?" he asked her nervously. She simply nodded her head. "I ran into InuYasha and Kagome. She was with them. She isn't a fairytale. She is real and she showed me something. She also helped me realize something." "Kouga you are scarring me." Ayame told him. He couldn't handle it anymore. He caught her up in a loving embrace. Ayame felt her cheeks turn a dull red. "I'm sorry Ayame. The Seer, she showed me... she showed me your death. She showed me you sacrificing your life to save mine. I don't want to see that happen ever again." he told her leaning back to look into her eyes. He saw a mixture of fear for her life and joy at saving him. The corners of his mouth turned up slightly to form a small smile, but he quickly became serious again. He leaned his face in close to hers slowly closing the gap. Then Ayame stopped him by putting her hand on his chest holding him back. "What about Kagome? I thought you loved her." Ayame asked. "I wanted her for her ability to see jewel shards and I liked pissing off Mutt-Face." he said with a true smile. He then finished the task he started. He

kissed her. It was a loving kiss that grew deeper by the minute. He reluctantly pulled away to look at her face. She was beautiful to him with her gorgeous green eyes and her fiery red hair. Her smile melted his heart. She was happy to be with him and this overjoyed him. "I love you, Ayame. Will you be my mate?" he asked her sweetly. "Of course." she answered quickly and wrapped her arms around his neck tightly. She kissed him passionately. She almost made him fall over she kissed him so hard. She broke the kiss playfully. "I love you." she told him. "And I love you" he told her before pulling her into bliss again by kissing her romantically. 'I wont let you die Ayame. I will save you and I will always love you.' Kouga thought lowering her to the ground.

15 - The Death of a Hanyou

The Death of a Hanyou InuYasha was sitting impatiently across from the flap of the hut. His black hair fell down his back. His claws and fangs were gone. His golden eyes were now dark brown. It was the night of the new moon and he was human. Kagome sat next to him. No one else was in the hut. They were all outside standing guard. "InuYasha you need to calm down. We still have about an hour till sunrise." Kagome told him. He looked at her frustrated. "How can I calm down when we are in such danger? Kagome, Sesshomaru isn't going to be back for three weeks, Yoshi has been acting weird lately, and Naraku has constantly been sending demons after us for the past few days. I'm worried that he knows and is going to come after us before morning." he confessed to his mate. She just gave him a weak encouraging smile. She put her hand to his cheek. He couldn't help but lean into her hand. Her skin was soft and her scent was so beautiful to him. It was easy to smell even in his human form. Kagome moved to sit in front of him and look him in the eye. "It will be ok InuYasha. Yoshi will take care of us all. Miroku, Sango, and I are not helpless either. Shippo can take care of himself if he needs to. Don't worry." Kagome told him softly. They both smiled at each other. He turned her around and pulled her to his chest. He put his head on her shoulder and his arms around her stomach. "I trust you Kagome, but I can't help worrying about you. I'm the one to usually protect everyone." he told her calmly. "I know. It won't be long till sunrise though so calm down. Just sit here with me and relax." She told him leaning her head back to look at his dark brown eyes. She smiled at him. He leaned his head forward to kiss her. It was a slow sweet kiss. InuYasha put his head back on her shoulder once it was done. "I love you" he whispered in ear then nuzzled her neck. He brushed his lips across the bite mark that he had made to mark her as his mate. She couldn't help giggling. "InuYasha stop. That tickles." She told him trying to get away. "I know. That's why I did it" he told her with a huge smile. She smiled back. She sat up wanting to kiss him when they heard shouting outside. "Some one must be attacking" he said tightening his hold on her. "I should go help" Kagome said trying to get up. "No you just said they could take care of themselves. Stay here." he told her not letting her get up. "InuYasha they might need help. I don't want to leave you but I need to." she told him pleading for him to let go with her eyes. He did slowly. She gave him a weak smile and a quick kiss before getting up. She grabbed her bow and arrows and left him alone in the dark. When she stepped outside she saw two ogres, five cat demons, and a large snake demon. The snake was black with two thin red stripes down each of its sides. The cat demons had various colors. Miroku couldn't use his Wind Tunnel because of the poisonous insects that now surround the hut. He was fighting off a black cat demon. She saw Sango fighting off the ogres. Yoshi was taking care of the snake demon. Kagome then noticed the four other cat demons come toward the hut. She quickly shot at them. She hit three of them, but an orange one got by. It came up to her fast and raised its claws. Kagome ducked her head and closed her eyes readying herself for the pain, but it never came. She cautiously looked up to see InuYasha stands in front of her. "Inu... InuYasha?" Kagome was stunned. Then he fell back. She caught him in her arms. His chest was covered in claw marks. Blood was slowly seeping out of the cuts. "Are you ok Kagome?" he asked her weakly. She nodded her head. He smiled. "That's good." he said closing his eyes. Kagome hugged him tight. The cat demon was not done though. It was ready to attack again. Its bloody claws were being raised again. "No" Yoshi shouted from her battle with the snake demon. She was there fighting one second and then she was in front of the lovers. She blocked the demon's blow. She materialized a sword. The hilt was simple except for the purple crystal at the end. The blade was long, shiny, and SHARP. She beheaded the demon in one fluid movement. She turned to Kagome and InuYasha behind

her. "Are you two alright?" she asked kneeling down beside them. "I'm fine, but InuYasha is unconscious." she said obviously worried he wouldn't be ok. Before Yoshi could heal him the snake demon came after them. "Come on." Yoshi ordered picking up InuYasha and pulling Kagome up. She took them to Miroku who had defeated the first cat demon. Sango needed help with the last ogre though. "Miroku can you hold the snake demon off for a few minutes?" Yoshi asked in a hurry. "Yes just hurry up and help Sango" he said getting ready to fight. Kagome had InuYasha in her lap again. She was trying to stop his bleeding with shreds of his shirt. "Hold on InuYasha" she told him. She looked to the east. It was getting lighter. "Hold on. It is almost sunrise. Just hold on." she told him over and over again. Yoshi came to Sango's side. She blocked the club the ogre swung at them with the sword. Then Yoshi ducked so Sango could throw her Hiraikotsu cutting the ogre in half. They didn't even stay for a second. They quickly ran to Miroku, Kagome, InuYasha, and Shippo who had finally showed up on Kagome's shoulder. Kilala had been protecting him and was now helping Miroku fight the snake demon. Yoshi and Sango came to a stop beside him. "We have to hold him off for a while. The sun will be coming up any minute." Sango said. Miroku and Yoshi nodded. Yoshi glanced back to see Kagome and InuYasha still sitting there. InuYasha was unconscious in Kagome's arms. "Kagome get out of here." Yoshi shouted back at them. Her guard was left down and, taking advantage of that, the snake demon got by her. Yoshi quickly noticed her mistake. She saw the demon rush toward Kagome and InuYasha. She appeared at Kagome and InuYasha's side, but only had time to grab one of them. The snake demon then wrapped its prey with its slender body. It squeezed tight. "InuYasha" Kagome yelled from Miroku and Sango's side. They were holding her back after Yoshi had dropped her and went back for InuYasha. Kagome had tears in her eyes. She turned and embraced Sango needing to know everything would be ok. Sango comfortingly hugged Kagome. Yoshi soon appeared with InuYasha. "The snake bit him before I got there." she said panting. Kagome instantly ran to InuYasha. The snake demon turned to attack again, but Yoshi stopped him. She threw her sword into his head right between the eyes immediately killing it. The snake slowly sank to the ground to be forgotten by the group. Yoshiko spun around to see Kagome wailing over InuYasha's body. She clung to him bringing his head to her chest. Her face was covered in tears. Yoshi noticed InuYasha was in his hanyou form, but the sun was still not quite up yet. "Is he ok?" Yoshi asked worried. Kagome looked at her with the saddest most heart broken look she had ever seen. "He.. Is .. Dead" she said between sobs. "Wh... Why did...you save me? You should...have saved...him" Kagome bent over to cry into her dead mate's chest. Yoshi felt so bad and wish that there was more she could do. "Kagome I..." Yoshi didn't know what to say. She knew she did the right thing saving Kagome instead of InuYasha. "I might be able to help" she said coming to sit beside Kagome. Kagome's head shoot up from InuYasha. "How?" she asked desperate. Yoshi took a look at InuYasha's injuries. He had a huge bite mark on his right shoulder where the demon bit him. He had the claws marks on his chest from the cat demon. All of these cuts were still leaking out blood. Dirt was mixed in with the blood here and there. Yoshi put her hand to his rib cage. She sensed the poison standing still in his body and his crushed organs from the snake demon. "Kagome...I'm not sure." Yoshi told her honestly. The blood being tainted with dirt and the poison AND almost all the organs nearly destroyed was going to make this very hard. "What is wrong? I thought you said you could help" Kagome said sadly. "Kagome I might be able to bring him back, but..." Yoshi said looking at the lifeless InuYasha and the heart broken Kagome. "But what? Can't you bring him back?" Kagome asked shaking now from crying so hard. Yoshi looked her straight in the eyes. She need to be sure that this was the right thing to do. "Kagome I could die. Resurrecting someone takes a great deal of power and I have used some of mine in the battle." Yoshi informed her still looking for a sign that she needed to bring him back in Kagome's eyes. "Please just try" Kagome begged and then Yoshiko saw it. It was a little girl and her twin sister in their mother's arms. They looked to be about five. One was crying. Her name was Moriko. She had black hair that went just past her shoulders. On top of her head was a pair of

cute black dog ears. She was wearing a beautiful white kimono with vines of gold at the bottom and a bright orange obi. Moriko's mother held her head to her right shoulder. Moriko's closed eyes were a honey brown like her sister's, but were filled with tears. Her sister was reluctant to show it but she was just as sad and depressed. Her name was Katana. She had silver hair that went to her waist. She also had dog ears, but hers were silver. Their mother always found it hard to look at Katana because she was so much like her father. Katana wore a stunning kimono that was red and faded to white and then to black at the bottom. It had white flowers embroidered on it all over. Her obi was a brilliant gold. Her mother held her with her left arm. "Mommy the kids in the village told us to get lost and threw stones at us" Moriko told her mother shakily still crying. "It's ok sweetie. We can go see grandma Keade and cousin Shippo. Maybe Uncle Miroku and Auntie Sango will be there. Sango should be having the baby any day now." her mother told her. This made her feel a little better. She had been looking forward to having another cousin. "I would have kicked those dumb kid's butts if I hadn't been trying to calm you down." Katana said rudely. "Katana why do you have to be so mean to your sister?" their mother asked looking Katana straight in the eye. "Why did daddy have to die? Why did we have to be half demons? Why does that man Naraku always come after us? Why does that priestess try to hurt you all the time? I don't know mother." she said cruelly. She jumped out of her mother's arms and ran off. 'She is so much like her father. Stubborn, arrogant, and rude, but she hasn't softened yet. I wish she could be more like he was before he died' she thought holding Moriko tight. She knew that had scared Moriko and that she needed her mother's reassurance. "She will be back soon enough." "But...why did daddy have to leave? What was he like?" Moriko asked innocently. Her mother looked into her eyes and saw the pain of not knowing him. She saw the uncertainty of who she was because she didn't know her father. She remembered the struggles when Naraku or Kikyo would attack. Moriko's mother couldn't stand it and pulled Moriko into a tight embrace. She cried unable to help it. It had not only been hard on them but on her raising her two daughter alone without her true love by her side. It saw the most tear jerking vision ever, but she would not let herself cry. She nodded her head. "I'll do it. I'll resurrect him, but if I do die tell Sesshomaru my secret." Yoshi told Kagome sternly. Kagome nodded her head vigorously. Yoshi took a deep breath unsure of what would happen. "Kagome get on the other side of him" Kagome obeyed going to the opposite side of Yoshi. She went to hold his hand but Yoshi stopped her. "Don't not until I say." Yoshi commanded. She closed her eyes. 'I have got to do this.' she thought before calling on her powers. She placed her hands on his chest. Yoshi first started by healing his external wounds. Then she replaced his blood that he lost. She got rid of the poison, dirt, and infection after that. She took a deep breath trying to calm her nerves. She wasn't even done healing him and she was exhausted. 'I thought this was supposed to be the easy part. She repaired the crushed organs before taking another breather. She kept her eyes closed the whole time. "Kagome I have healed his body. I need your help to call back his soul." Yoshi told her moving one hand to his heart and the other to his forehead. "Kagome put your hands on top of mine." Yoshi instructed her. Kagome quickly obeyed. 'Please InuYasha come back.' Kagome thought desperate. Yoshi started to glow a faint purple. It traveled through her hands into InuYasha and up Kagome's arms. The three were filled with the glow, but it soon became a blazing light. The other three watching shielded their eyes from the light. Kagome found herself in a white mist. She spun in circle searching for something, anything of than that haze. Suddenly she felt a hand on her shoulder. She turned to see Yoshi. "Yoshi where are we?" Kagome asked afraid. "We are between life and death. We need to find InuYasha. Being that he only just died he might still be here, but we need to hurry. Start calling his name." Yoshi told her. They shouted his name over and over but he never came. "Kagome I'm sending you back. Don't take away your hands. Just stay there. I need to go into the underworld to find him." "But I want to find InuYasha. I want to help bring him back." Kagome said determined. "No just go. Trust me Kagome. InuYasha's life isn't the only one in danger right now." Yoshi told her. Yoshi knew Kagome wanted to find InuYasha

herself, but she let it go because Kagome did trust her. Kagome opened her eyes to see Yoshi glowing brightly and InuYasha had a dull shimmer to him. Kagome looked at her love. His eyes were closed. He had died just as he changed back into his hanyou form. His dog ears were back in his mess of silver hair. She bent down to his face. "InuYasha please come back. Come back to me InuYasha." Kagome whispered into his ear. She lightly kissed each ear before leaning back. She then noticed his eyes flutter open. "Ka...Kagome" he said weakly. Kagome felt tears of joy sting her eyes. She immediately leaned over and kissed him passionately. "InuYasha I thought I would never be with you again" she told him once she pulled back. He smiled at her. "I'm ok. I just need some rest." he told her closing his eyes slowly. Kagome nodded her head. She then looked to Yoshi to thank her. She saw Yoshi laying on the ground. Miroku, Sango, Shippo and Kilala were all at her side. "Is she alive?" Kagome asked instantly. "She is alive, but her pulse is weak." Miroku said. He started to lift her up. "Kilala can you change form and carry Yoshi?" he asked of the two tail. "We should take these two back to Keade's village. Yoshi is going to need time to rest and InuYasha will need to heal." Sango said. Kagome nodded her head and tried to help InuYasha stand, but Sango had to help her. They put Yoshi and InuYasha on Kilala's back. "Kagome you get on and go with." Sango said. Kagome could only smile and hug her. "Thank you." she whispered before getting on. Sango, Shippo, and Miroku watched them fly away. They waited a moment to let it all sink in. Yoshi had risked her life to save InuYasha's. They were in a state of shock. "Come on you guys. We need to get back to the village." Sango finally said gathering their discarded materials. "Shouldn't we find Sesshomaru?" Miroku asked. "He said he would be near the village. When he smells Yoshi he will stop by to check on things. Especially since we are not with them." Sango said walking away with Shippo on her shoulder. 'Now what is going to happen next?' Miroku thought following

Sango. _____ Author's Note Hi! I am sorry to tell you but it will take some time for me to write the next chapter because I have school and I want to put at least one picture on this site and I guess need time to not rush the story too much. I have the ending almost perfectly planned out. It is hopefully a little obvious as to what is going on with Kagome and if it isn't tell me and I will clarify it. Thank you so much to Kakashikuns_lover60 and raysbabygal the only people to actually comment on more than one chapter. Well that is about it for me comment please! BYE

16 - Just Friends

Just Friends All InuYasha saw was black nothingness. It was dark, lonely, and cold there. He remember saving Kagome and then that was it. 'I wonder if she is alright. I am glad I saved her even if it cost me my life. There is something bothering me though. In the past few days her scent has changed. It wasn't a great change I couldn't smell it when I was human. Heck I could barely smell it when I was half-demon.' he pondered this in his lonely domain. 'I know the scent is familiar but I can't think of it and it was so subtle.' he thought getting frustrated. "InuYasha! INUYASHA! Where are you?" he heard someone yell to him. He thought he had heard that voice before, but he couldn't remember. "I'm here. Where are you? Who are you?" he shouted back. He kept turning frantically trying to find the person looking for him. "InuYasha this is Yoshiko. You need to help me here. InuYasha you are dead. I'm trying to bring you back. I can't do that unless you really want to come back to life. You need to want to come back more than anything. Kagome and everyone else need you." Yoshi told him seriously. 'Kagome...' he thought before longing to live, before needing to live and be with Kagome more than anything in the world. Suddenly Yoshiko was right in front of him. "Yoshi is Kagome ok?" he immediately asked. "She is fine, but we have to leave now." she said before taking his hand. Then it all was a blur. It was still dark, but he wasn't alone. He knew his mate was by his side. She was saying something to him. Then he felt her lips touch each of his ears sending a wonderful sensation through his body. He slowly opened to see Kagome looking at him. "Ka... Kagome" he whispered weakly. He could smell the tears form in Kagome's eyes. He wanted to reach up and touch her cheek, but couldn't no matter how hard he tried. He felt her kissing him. 'I must be in heaven' he thought as he kissed her back best he could. She pulled away slowly. "InuYasha I thought I would never be with you again" she said to him. He couldn't help, but smile at her. He was so happy to be alive. 'Now I can grow old with her. I can be with her forever.' he thought becoming sleepy. "I'm ok. I just need some rest." he told her. 'I can raise a family with her. A family. I think that may be it.' he thought as he dozed off into a peaceful sleep. That was the last thing he remembered. He was now waking up. He had unknowingly been asleep for almost two days. He slowly opened his eyes. He was in Keade's hut. He unsuccessfully tried to sit up. "InuYasha?" Kagome asked from the other side of the room. She quickly came to his side. "How are you feeling?" she asked gently grabbing his hand. "Fine I guess. Kagome... did I die?" he asked unsure if the memories had really happened or if they were just a dream. "You died. Yoshiko brought you back though." she said with a mixture of joy and sorrow on her face. She could only muster a weak smile for him. "Kagome what's wrong?" he asked attempting to get up again. "InuYasha please don't try to get up." she told him. She sighed thinking of the right words to say. "Yoshi hasn't woke up yet. I think in a way she had to die to bring you back and then herself too. She also had to heal your body before bringing back your soul. She collapsed after you came back to life." she informed InuYasha. "She... She risked her life to save mine. Why?" he asked very confused. "I'm not sure. She said something about your life not being the only one at stake, but I thought she was referring to herself. I'm not so sure anymore." she told him just as flustered by that puzzling question. There was a long awkward silence before Kagome spoke again. "It doesn't matter. You are fine and she is alive too." she said lacing her fingers through his hair. "I was so scared." she confessed. He brought his hand to hers and pulled it to his heart. "I'm here now. I was a little scared too." he admitted to her. He gently pulled her down to lay next to him. He rolled over onto his side and pulled her to his chest. "I'm sorry I worried you." he told her before giving her a chaste kiss. It was long, sweet, and filled with love. Once it was finally done Kagome tucked her head underneath InuYasha's chin. He took a deep breathe smelling

Kagome. He could tell she was happy. There was that faint smell though. He still couldn't think of it. 'What the hell is that smell? It isn't really a bad scent. I can recall smelling it a lot. Not exactly like this though. It was on a lot of fat women. Wait! Could Kagome be...' He thought. He instantly pulled back to look at Kagome. "Kagome have you been feeling weird, or nauseous lately?" he asked her. "Not really. Why?" she asked wondering what he was thinking. He put his nose to her stomach and took a deep breathe. When he looked back at Kagome he had a huge smile on his face. **Meanwhile** Yoshi laid in the middle of a hut. Sesshomaru sat next to her holding her hand. 'Why did you do this Yoshi? Why did you risk your life for him?' he thought caressing her face. He had been in the village ever since Yoshi had asked him to leave. He had been surprised to see Kagome riding on Kilala with an unconscious InuYasha and Yoshi. He hadn't left Yoshi's side since her return. "Please wake up." he said again for probably the millionth time. He squeezed her hand a little tighter wishing she would answer. Slowly, barely even noticeable, she opened her eyes. She stared into his golden eyes while he looked back into her sapphire ones. Yoshi quickly looked away though. It was too much for her. He was too irresistible to her. She also had a feeling he had been with her for a long time. He gently, but forcefully brought her gaze back to him with the hand that had never left her cheek. "Why did you do that?" he asked her confused and hurt. She opened her mouth to speak, but nothing came out. 'What do I tell him?' she thought frantic. "Don't answer." he said after a moment and let his hand drop from her cheek. She gave him a dazed look. He sighed in disappointment. "Even if you did answer me it would just be a lie." "I'm sorry Sesshomaru." she said trying to sit up. "Don't" he told her softly pushing her back down to the floor. "You're still weak. You've been asleep for almost two days now." he told her once she was lying comfortably on the floor. "Has InuYasha woke up yet?" she asked. "I don't know. I haven't left your side since you came here. Kagome comes around noon. Rin, Kohaku and Keade have gone to another village. The village was being attacked by low level demons. They should be back soon and Sango and Miroku haven't come back yet." he told her solemnly. "They might not be back for a while. Where is Kilala?" she asked curious. "She's around here somewhere. Why?" "Miroku and Sango could get here a lot faster if she went and got them." she pointed out. "I'll have her go get them the next time she comes by. Now I need you to answer a question for me." he told her taking her hand again. She slowly nodded suspiciously. "Why the hell did you risk your own life to save that damn hanyou brother of mine?" he asked his voice becoming angry, rude and cruel. She saw his old self come out. His eyes flashed red for a second when his frustration got the best of him. He noticed her face turn from tired and defeated to worried and a little scared. He sighed. "I'm sorry. It's just that I have been here worrying myself sick over you and I want to know why. I want to know why my lo ... my best friend in the world... the person who is most dear to me gambled her life." he told her with such a passion she wanted to embrace him and tell him that she loved him and didn't mean to hurt him but she couldn't. All she could or would do was gently squeeze his hand reassuringly. "Sesshomaru... I... There are people who are going to need him more than me in the years to come." she told him trying to dance around the exact reason for saving InuYasha. "Like who? Who could need him more than you?" he asked out raged again letting his temper go. "Kagome needs him way more than she could ever need me Sesshomaru." she replied quickly sitting up in anger starting to get frustrated. "I need you just as much as Kagome needs him, maybe more!" he retorted. This hit home for her. She had known that if she died it would have hurt Sesshomaru, but she also knew that it would hurt just as much if not more if she had been killed by Naraku. "You know that Yoshi. I have told you time and time again that I love you and always will. You knew that it would hurt me so why? Who else needs my brother more than you?" he asked trying to look into her eyes which were directed as far away from him as possible. She felt so shameful and guilty at how much she had hurt him. She heard him take a deep breath calming himself. He put a hand reassuringly on her back between her shoulder blades. Yoshi felt him breathing into her ear when he lowered his head to it. It was warm and comforting to her. "Please tell me. Trust me

Yoshi.” he whispered in her ear sending a shiver down her spine. “Sesshomaru...” she turned her head slightly but still couldn’t look him in the eye. She shakily took a deep breath making a sad attempt at gathering courage. He gently put his finger under her chin and lifted her head to look at him. She saw much more love and compassion in his eyes than she ever thought anyone could feel for her. She couldn’t help, but feel safe with him there. “Promise you wont tell?” He simply nodded ‘yes’.

“Kagome... She’s... The night you left Kagome became... pregnant.” she told him slowly. His jaw just dropped in astonishment. “When InuYasha wakes up he will probably tell her.” she added. “So this is why you saved him.” he said after a long silence. “This is why you saved Kagome before InuYasha. And then risked your life to save him.” he said with his hands still on her back and under her chin. She nodded looking at his shocked face. “Is it going to be healthy, the baby?” he asked which was the first thing that came to mind. Yoshi giggled a little at this. “Yes. They’ll be very healthy.” she answered. “They?” he asked. “They. Kagome is going to have twins.” she informed him with a smile. They both felt the tension lift. “But remember you promised not to tell anyone.” she reminded him. “Of course. Can you tell me more?” he asked letting his hands finally drop away from her body and sat comfortably next to her. “Their names will be Moriko and Katana. Moriko takes after Kagome. She will be kind of quiet and shy, but the loyalist of friends. Katana on the other hand will be almost exactly like InuYasha with looks and personality. I think that InuYasha being alive will make her less like him though. Both of them will be beautiful, happy, and healthy. They will be the first out of dozens of children.” she finished telling him. He smiled at her and she gladly smiled back. “Why can’t we always be like this? Why can’t I be around you... hold you without you being scared?” he asked. She turned her head away never wanting to have to answer that question. “Yoshi I understand you are afraid to love... or you just don’t feel that way about me, but can’t you at least let me be around you? Let me embrace you without you asking me to leave for a week.” “Sesshomaru...it’s not that easy.” she said quietly still not looking at him. He again placed his hand gently under her chin to force her to look at him. “Yoshi you asked to be just friends. Friends trust each other. Friends can be with friends and not act like you do. Rin and Kohaku can be around each other without acting like you and they’re just friends.” he said starting to get frustrated. Yoshi gave out an unladylike snort. Sesshomaru gave her a questioning look, but Yoshi just shook her head. “I love you and you have to accept that.” he told her as he started to caress her cheek. “I can’t do this anymore Yoshiko. I can’t have you kissing me and clinging to me for dear life one minute and then telling me to get lost the next. It hurts too much.” he confessed. She saw agony in his eyes. When she used her powers she felt him go through just as much pain as she had. “I’m sorry.” she said after minutes of silence. “Sesshomaru I have been afraid to love. To even care about someone for years. Ever since your father died. I lost control of my power then. It was the same as when Naraku crushed his soul. I also lost it when my first love died. I care for you, Kagome, InuYasha, Sango, Miroku and so many other people now. I don’t know what I would do if I lost any of you.” she told him honestly. He dropped his hand from her chin to embrace her. “Yoshi I will never leave you. I will never hurt you. If I’m going to die just... just tell me and I’ll leave or I’ll find a way to be with you forever. I don’t care what. I’ll do anything as long as you stay with me. Please.” he told her lovingly. She thought she might cry but she kept it together. ‘I want to be with him so bad. Maybe it is better to have loved and lost than to never have loved at all.’ she thought returning the embrace.

17 - Shippo's Question

Shippos Question It had been a few days since everyone was told that Kagome was pregnant with InuYashas child that Shippo asked a very interesting question. Everyone was around a fire inside a hut. Kohaku, Rin and Keade were still gone but were supposed to be back the next day. InuYasha was holding Kagome in his arms when Shippo jumped into her lap. Kagome you said you were pregnant, right? He asked innocently. Yeah. Whats it to you? InuYasha answered rudely. Kagome lightly nudged him in the ribs to warn him to be nice. He simply fehed it before Shippo continued. I was talking to Kagome, InuYasha Shippo said to him with an annoyed look on his face. I was wondering, Kagome. Where do babies come from? he asked curiously. Everyone in the hut froze when he had first asked. They all suddenly were looking at InuYasha and Kagome. Sesshomaru, Yoshi, Miroku, and Sango couldnt help, but start laughing at them once their faces had turned a brilliant shade of red at the memory of how they had made the twins that were growing inside Kagomes belly. They were trying their hardest not to laugh and/or giggle, especially Sango and Yoshi for Kagomes sake. They were covering their mouths but that couldnt hold the laughter in. UmShippo Didnt your parents ever tell you? Yoshi asked without out laughing somehow. Shippo looked down to avoid the others stares. No. They never got around to it. he said sadly. Im sorry Shippo, but I dont think this is the time to tell you. Maybe when you are older. Kagome finally said. But Miroku said he would give me ten gold pieces if you told me about were babies come from. he said without a second thought. Suddenly everyone was looking at Miroku. Miroku InuYasha growled out as he sat Kagome down gently. Miroku scrambled to his feet backing up away from the very pissed off hanyou. You have three seconds to run. InuYasha warned as he raised his hand to count down on. 1. 2. 3. he said and then was running after Miroku who had run outside and had about a fifty yard head start. Kagome, dont you think you should stop him before he kills Miroku? Sango asked concerned after a good ten minutes of the wild goose chase. After that stunt he just tried to pull? No way! Kagome answered strongly while getting up to watch her mate chase Miroku with nearly red eyes. Then again I might as well stop him now before he gets carried away. Kagome said. She walked a few feet away from the hut so InuYasha would defiantly be able to hear her. InuYasha! she yelled to him. Once he turned to see her she continued. Either stop now or Ill use the S word. she said firmly. Why? He deserves a good beating for that! he yelled back before continuing his chase. I mean it! If you dont stop now Ill say it! she warned one final time. InuYasha just shook his head no. Fine! Sit BOY! she screamed loud enough to hurt anyones ears but especially Sesshomarus, Kilalas, and InuYashas. Sometimes it amazes me how much they can fight. Sesshomaru mused as InuYasha got out of the crater he had created. Its just a normal day for them I guess Yoshi answered watching the couple make-up.

Authors
Notel know this is a short chapter, but Im working on the next. It is SO NOT fair though! After watching The Tragic Love Song of Destiny (Part 1 &2) I cant hate Kikyo! It is so not right, but I can so blame everything on her. If she hadnt. Well actually Im going to rant & rave in the next chapter so youll have to wait till then. I was trying to make this funny. Please tell me if it worked cause I am new at writing funny chapters. I also wanted (got told to) write more stuff about Shippo. I hope you like. The next chapter will be coming soon! (I hope)

18 - Kikyo's Good-Bye

Kikyos Good-Bye It had been a week since everyone found out Kagome was pregnant and she thought it was time to go home. She felt it was passed time to tell her family. They were also really low on supplies. InuYasha was going with Kagome to her time and would be there to support her when she told her family. Sesshomaru and Yoshi were going to go to the well with them to see them off. Kagome and InuYasha had already said good-bye and explained how they would probably be gone for a week or so. Bye, Kagome. I hope your family takes the news well. Yoshi told her encouragingly as she hugged Kagome. I hope so, too. Kagome replied as they let go. She then turned to InuYasha. Lets go. she said as she took his hand intent on jumping into the well, but he stood still when she tugged at his hand. InuYasha? Is something wrong? she asked concerned. Its her. That dead woman. Sesshomaru answered for him with his nose lifted slightly toward the breeze as was InuYashas. Kagome immediately and visually tense. Her grip on InuYashas hand had also tightened. What do you think she wants? Kagome asked InuYasha stepping closer to him obviously worried. What if she found out about my pregnancy and wants to kill my baby? Kagome thought paranoid as her hand subconsciously went to her stomach. I dont know, but we should probably go. he said as he turned to look at Kagome. He could sense and smell the fear radiating off of his mate. He cupped her cheeks in his hands and brought her forehead to his. Itll be ok. I wont let her hurt you or the baby. he told her while looking her straight in the eyes. She gave him a weak smile for trying, but was still scared shootless. He pulled her close in a soothing embrace. Everything will be alright. You two dont have to leave, but Kikyo did find out about Kagome being pregnant. Yoshi informed them. How?! InuYasha shouted in disbelief. They share a soul, InuYasha. And Kikyo has great spiritual powers. It is no trouble for her to sense what is going on with Kagome. Yoshi told him. But why dont you want us to leave? If Kikyo found out I was pregnant than dont you think she would want to stop my pregnancy? Kagome asked hanging onto InuYasha for support. She needs to move on and you need your whole soul. You both need to be here for that to happen. Dont worry Kagome. InuYasha, Sesshomaru, and I are here to protect you. There is no way Kikyo could harm you. Yoshi told them. But shouldnt I go get the others? Your still a little drained from bringing InuYasha back to life. Sesshomaru asked getting ready to leave. No. That wont be necessary. Kikyo said from the edge of the clearing before Yoshi had a chance to answer. Kikyo leave me and Kagome alone. InuYasha said stepping in front of Kagome to protect her. Whos that? Kikyo asked disinterestedly. Im Yoshiko. You probably dont remember me. I visited you when you were about thirteen and still training to be a priestess. Yoshi said calmly while Sesshomaru, Kagome, and InuYasha let their mouths drop in shock. Kikyo on the other hand seemed amused. So you are still alive. What did you do to not appear to change? Kikyo asked forget about Kagome and InuYasha for the moment. Im what you might call immortal. It is almost impossible to kill me and I cant age. I guess I neglected to tell you that when I spoke with you. Yoshi said to her as calm as ever while everyone else was being crept out. Yoshiko was acting so strange. She was so calm and confident and intimidating now. Well see how immortal you are after this. Kikyo said before she quickly brought up her bow with an arrow on it and let go in the blink of an eye. It was a sacred arrow with a lot of Kikyos power in it, more than usual, too. Yoshi didnt even blink when the arrow was coming at her. About two feet from Yoshis body the arrow shattered as it hit a barrier. How did she do that? Kikyo wondered furious that Yoshi had so easily defeated her attack. I also forgot to tell you I have other powers besides seeing. Yoshi said simply. This is a special one of my own making. She added as her body fell to the ground. Her essence was left standing though. Kagome and Kikyo were the only ones who could see because of their powers. Yoshi

put on a devilish smile at their shocked faces before entering Kikyos body. Just as soon as she had entered Kikyo fell to the cold hard ground as Yoshi had a minute ago. Why did she do that? Kagome wondered as she stared at Kikyos body. Sesshomaru and InuYasha were at Yoshikos side checking to see if she was alive. Sesshomaru was quick to place Yoshi in his lap. Shes alright. Kagome told them without taking her eyes off of Kikyos body. It was as if she was in a trance. What do you mean? She just collapsed. How can she be alright? Sesshomaru asked hotly still feeling around her neck to find her pulse. Because she left willingly. I dont know how to explain it, but I saw her essence enter Kikyos body after she passed out. Thats why Kikyo fainted. I think Yoshi went into her mind to talk to her and make sure that none of us got hurt. Kagome explained to them. ****Meanwhile**** Yoshi opened her eyes to see a dessert of sorts. It was barren of anything, completely lifeless except for her and Kikyo. Kikyo was standing a few feet away. This was her mind. This place reflected how she felt. I can understand why she is so depressed but this is a little overboard. Yoshi thought as she approached Kikyo. Why are we here? Kikyo asked looking at her surroundings. So I can talk to you and it will be easier to remind you of what I had told you before I left. Trust me, once we are done talking it will all seem clearer and much easier. Yoshi told her simply. She waved her arm in a circular motion and an image appeared in it. Kikyo was now seeing exactly what had happened. ****Flashback**** Yoshi in the out fit of a priestess with her jet black curly hair tied back stood in front of a thirteen year old Kikyo. Kikyo wasnt wearing the usual red and white outfit because at that time she hadnt been made a full priestess yet. She was wear similar clothing, but it was all blue. Now Kikyo remember what I told you. Yoshi said kneeling down with a sweet voice. She talked as if she were talking to a younger sister trying to warn her not to steal from the cookie jar. You told me Be careful who you trust and be careful who you help because not everyone should be saved. Kikyo repeated for Yoshi exactly as she had been told. Good. Please dont forget this. It is very important that you remember it. Yoshi said then gave Kikyo a hug before walking out of Kikyos room. Wait! Yoshi! Kikyo shouted. Yoshiko stopped and looked back. Where are you going? she asked sweetly. Im going to be traveling for a while. If you dont remember what I told you we will meet again and we wouldnt be allies anymore. Yoshi warned. She quickly left after that. ****End of Flashback**** Why are you even here Kikyo? You died years ago. Why have you come back to torment InuYasha? Yoshi asked after the image disappeared. I didnt come back willingly! I was brought back and I have never meant to hurt InuYasha. Kikyo told her angrily. Yes you did. You meant to hurt him when you thought it had been him who had killed you. Also, you may not have willingly come back to life, but you sure have been doing your best to stay here now. Yoshi retaliated. No one wishes to die, Yoshi, let alone be killed. I doubt anyone would allow themselves to be taken before their time for a second time and neither will I. Kikyo replied. You are not alive Kikyo. You are already dead. You are just a shadow of your former self. You can be so intimidating and so wise and powerful, but to me and on the inside you are so naïve. Yoshi said with a little of a laugh. How dare you I doubt you even know what your one single major mistake all those years ago was. Yoshiko said with a superior attitude. I trusted InuYasha when I should have just killed him the first time I met him. Kikyo said looking down in shame. I was right. You dont know what you did wrong. You obviously didnt listen to me carefully enough. I said to be careful of who you trust and to be careful who you help because not everyone should be saved. I never said to close of your heart and dont trust anyone. InuYasha didnt need saving. He just needed a friend. So knowing that now what do you think your mistake was? Yoshi asked thinking that she probably wouldnt understand. I dont know. I didnt do anything wrong! Kikyo shouted in frustration. Yes you did. Naraku or should I say Onigumo. You saved him. If you hadnt saved him he wouldnt have called on those demons and become Naraku, he wouldnt have killed you, and then you wouldnt have trapped InuYasha to the sacred tree. You and InuYasha would have lived happily together. He would have become human for you, Kikyo. Yoshi explained to Kikyo letting go of her superior confidence. Kikyo looked confused for a moment. What do you mean? Are you saying I could have lived with InuYasha? Kikyo asked in disbelief.

Yoshiko simply nodded her head. But why is he with Kagome then? If he loved me and wanted to be with me then why is she the one having his baby? You and Kagome share the same soul. Your soul and InuYasha's soul were meant to find each other in any life, meaning you two are soul mates. When you died in this time and InuYasha's soul stayed alive that effected souls in the future. You and InuYasha were suppose to die around the same time and then be reborn in Kagome's time, but since InuYasha didn't die Kagome's soul mate in her time was never born. The well acted as a bridge between the times so things could be set right. Now they will, but if you hadn't saved Onigumo you could have had InuYasha's children so many years ago. Yoshi told her with pity laced into her voice. Why is Kagome so different from me then? I understand him being with her now, but I don't understand why she is so different if we share the same soul. Kikyo questioned. Souls grow over time as they are reborn and as they are put into different situations they grew up different. Kagome was raised without high expectations from her family. They just wanted her to grow up right with an education and for her to be happy. That is why she is so different and that is why InuYasha may love her more than he did you. Yoshi explained. So he does love her more? Kikyo asked sadly. He might but you can't change that Kikyo. You are dead and it is time for you to move on. Yoshi said a little more aggressively than she had wanted to. Can I say good-bye to InuYasha and Kagome first? Kikyo asked shyly. Yoshi nodded and took her hand. It is good to see you let down your guard again. Yoshi said kindly. They soon disappeared from Kikyo's mind to come back to the real world. **Meanwhile** Yoshi had been out for half an hour and everyone was starting to get worried. Kagome soon saw Yoshi leave Kikyo's body though. Once Kikyo sat up she and Kagome both watched as Yoshi reentered her own body. She slowly opened her sapphire blue eyes. Thank Kami you're alright. Sesshomaru said when he saw her open her eyes. He then pulled her into a tight embrace. Yoshi couldn't help but smile at how much he cared. She gently pushed him away to look to Kikyo. Kikyo say your good-byes now and I will help you move on. Yoshiko said kindly to her. Kikyo nodded once and walked forward. She stopped in front of InuYasha. InuYasha, I'm sorry. I hope you are happy with Kagome she said simply before standing on her toes. She slowly brought her lips to his with her hands on his chest. It wasn't a kiss meant to show how much she loved him. It was just a simple peek on the lips to remind him that she cared. That made both Kagome and InuYasha very uncomfortable. InuYasha didn't do anything, but stand there with his golden eyes wide open. Kagome was on the border of being pissed and hurt, but held it in. Kikyo let go of him quickly. She caressed his cheek softly. Then she turned away from him. She walked up to Kagome and took her hands into her own. You are my reincarnation, aren't you? Kikyo said after studying her features attentively. I didn't quite believe it at first. Good luck with the baby and please take care of InuYasha. I'm sorry I was so cruel to you. I'm glad to see my soul grow to become like you and now I don't feel so bad about giving back your soul. Kikyo said as tears tried to escape from the lifeless eyes but couldn't. Kikyo gave Kagome a quick hug and then turned to Yoshi. I'm ready to go. she said sadly. Yoshi beckoned her and then took her hands. This won't hurt at all. It will just feel like your falling asleep. Yoshi informed her comfortingly. Kikyo consented and took a deep breath. Yoshi closed her eyes and squeeze Kikyo's hands a little. Kikyo also shut her eyes as Yoshi did. In a second Kikyo's body was slowly turning to dust from her feet up. Just as her face was disintegrating she whispered Good-bye to them all. Sesshomaru went to Yoshi's side to help her stand because she had suddenly become weak from using her powers. Kagome and InuYasha hugged in relief that the battle for their love was over and they could be together without Kikyo to try and get between them. InuYasha? came Kagome's quiet voice after a few minutes. Yes? Why did you let Kikyo kiss you? Kagome asked pulling away from him with a death glare on her face. InuYasha instantly became tense. Well What was I suppose to do? She was just saying good-bye, Kagome. You know I love only you. InuYasha said nervously trying to sweet talk her. InuYasha SIT! SIT! SIT! SIT! SIT! Kagome shouted before jumping into the well and being surrounded by the brilliant blue lights of time. I guess the hormones have officially kicked in.

Sesshomaru thought aloud. I think your right. InuYasha is not going to like Kagome when those kick in more and more often. Yoshi informed him. Did I really deserve that? InuYasha asked as he came out of his crater. No, not really. Just go to her time and actually say Im sorry and she will be satisfied. Trust me the good thing about those hormones is that when you get on her good side shell be nicer than usual. Yoshi let him know. Well I guess I should follow her then. Ill see you two in a week. he said before leaping into the well to follow his mate. Dont worry InuYasha. Everything will turn out fine for you and Kagome. I just wish I could say the same for Sesshomaru and me. Yoshi thought as she looked at the man that she loved with all her heart and yet she wouldnt let herself have him.

19 - The Time Has Come

Warning: There is a lime in this chapter!

The Time Has Come InuYasha jumped out of the well to find Kagome on the stairs that lead to the door. She had her head on her knees and her hands tangled in her hair. Kagome? InuYasha said quietly. Is something wrong? asked cautiously walking toward her. He stopped in front of her and kneeled down. She still hadnt moved a muscle. InuYasha brought his hand to her chin and lifted it slowly. He saw that her eyes were filled with regret when his golden orbs met her brown ones. Kagome, whats wrong? he asked sweetly cupping one of her cheeks in his hand. I just feel bad. I shouldnt have yelled at you. I was so mad at Kikyo and then I took it out on you. I know you didnt want her to kiss you. Im sorry. Kagome told him. It was probably just your hormones. I understand. Actually I came to apologize to you. he said to her. They smiled at each other happy to have everything sorted out. Come on. InuYasha said as he stood up pulling Kagome up with him. We still have to talk to your family. he said as they walked up the stairs, but Kagome stopped him by grabbing his wrist before he could opened the door. InuYasha, I was thinking that maybe um. Thinking what? he asked concerned at how nervous she was. I was thinking about maybe going back to the Feudal Era permanently. Kagome said slowly. InuYashas jaw dropped from shock. Are you sure, Kagome? I mean this is your home and you grew up here and your family is here and and he rambled on and on. InuYasha stop. Kagome said commandingly. She took his hands leading him to the stairs. They both sat down beside each other. InuYasha, I love you and that means my home is with you, wherever you may be. I can come visit my family when I feel like it and even if I couldnt you mean too much to me. I have missed so much school that there is no way I could have a good life here. I want to be in the Feudal Era with you and our friends. I want to raise our children there. Kagome told him with pure love showing in her voice and her smile. What do you think your mother will say about it? he asked concerned. I think she will be disappointed, but shell understand, eventually. Kagome told him. A huge smile spread across InuYashas face. Then he jumped up and picked Kagome up bridal style. He started laughing and spinning around from his excitement. InuYasha put meput me down. she ordered him between giggles. Im sorry. Im just so happy that youll be staying in my our time. he told her while setting her gently on her feet. He swiftly kissed her with a joy he had not felt for some time. After a few minutes of kissing they hugged and went to give Mrs. Higurashi, Sota, and Grandpa the news of Kagomes pregnancy and her moving to the Feudal Era.***** Sesshomaru, Yoshi, Sango, Miroku, and Kaede sat around a small fire in Kaedes hut. Shippo, Kilala, Rin, and Kohaku were already asleep in a neighboring hut. Everyone was excited about Kagome and InuYashas return, which was the next day. Sesshomaru? Yoshi said from across the fire. Can I talk to you outside? she asked. This caught everyones attention. Yoshi had been quiet for the past few days. She had only spoke with Rin or Shippo when they had bugged her for ten minutes straight. He nodded his head yes and followed her outside. They had been able to be around each other without the usual awkwardness. Once they were a good distance from the hut and into the forest Yoshi stopped. Sesshomaru do you remember that time I had a vision and had trouble breathing afterwards? she asked fear written all over her face. Yes. You never told me what the vision was of though. he answered. Well I want to tell you, but I need you to promise me something. she told him forcefully. Anything Promise that youll let me fight in the final battle with Naraku. It is going to happen soon after Kagome and InuYasha come back so I need you to promise me now that you wont stop me. Yoshi told him with a new found determination in her eyes. Yoshi, what is this about? he asked worried. Just promise me. she pleaded. Ok I promise I wont interfere. Now tell me what the vision was of. The vision It was of Yoshi could barely speak. She was very nervous. Yoshi Yoshi, your hands are

shaking. Calm down and just tell me. he told her soothingly. He took her hands in his and started to caress them softly. I dont think I can tell you so Ill have to show you. she said closing her eyes. When she opened her eyes Sesshomaru saw a purple light then the vision. He saw Yoshi in his arms. She had cuts all over her body. She was coated in dirt and blood. He noticed that he was crying. Yoshi closed her eyes therefore ending the vision. Was Was she dead? She must have been. It looked like she had lost a lot of blood. Sesshomaru wondered for a second. Now you know. she said looking away from him. Why? he asked with a hint of anger in his voice. I I wanted to protect you from getting hurt. Yoshi replied without looking at him still. Suddenly she was knocked up against a tree that stood behind her. Sesshomaru had pushed her back forcefully into it. He now had her hands pinned on either side of her head. Yoshi couldnt help, but look at his face. He was growling ferociously at her. So you decided to hide your feelings and make me suffer until you could leave. I love you Yoshi! Whether you love me or not wont change that. If you die I will die inside. Did you really think that would change if you didnt love me? he shouted in her face. Sesshomarus eyes were becoming red. His true form was coming out and he was losing control of his normally calm temper. I thought I was protecting you! she replied. She was surprised again when his lips locked with hers. It was a hungry kiss, full of need and desire, but most of all love. He reluctantly pulled away before she had time to react to it. All I want from you is your love. That is all Ill ever need from you. he told her. Yoshi could already feel her insides melting. Maybe I should tell him. He already knows so why shouldnt I just tell him I love him? Yoshi thought staring into his still furious golden red eyes. Im not going to let you get away this time Yoshi. he said before kissing her. Their bodies were pressed so close together that every part of their bodies could be felt by the other. Yoshi could feel a warmth gathering in the pit of her stomach. It was a comforting and alluring heat but it also terrified her in some way. Sesshomaru was too distracted with Yoshis soft lips to notice that she had become tense in his arms. Soon his tongue had found its way into her mouth. He decided after some time that kissing wasnt enough for him anymore. He brought her hands above her head and held them there with one hand while he let his free hand wander down her side and up again. The desire and lust was still too much for him though. He let her hands go. Both his hands then traveled along her sides to her hips and pulled her towards him so that she could feel him. Yoshi let her hands fall to his shoulders. It was happening so fast that she didnt know how to react. She just returned the kiss and stood still. Sesshomaru finally took his lips away from hers to trail kisses down her neck then to her collar bone. Stop. Yoshi managed to say after his assault to her neck. Sesshomaru please stop. she whined. Sesshomaru took his lips from Yoshis neck to look at her straight in the eye. Yoshi, you have pushed me away so many times. Im not going to let you do that again, to me or to yourself. he said before going back to her creamy skin. But, I just cant do this. Yoshi said just barely suppressing a moan of pleasure at the feelings his kisses were creating. If you didnt want me to do this then whyhavent you pushed me away? he said between kisses. I she started to reply, but had to stop to let out a moan. He was running his tongue over her collar bone now and was wandering lower. I dont want to hurt you. she managed to get out after the initial shock. After that Yoshi was squeezed tightly between the tree and Sesshomarus body. His hands had pinned hers up again. His claws were now out and piercing the tree. She could feel his well chiseled chest pushing against her breasts. She also felt his hardened member on her thigh. I am tired of you trying to protect me. Im tired of you holding back your feelings. he shouted at her. He brought his face only millimeters from her face. She could feel his warm breath on her face. The warmth in her stomach was spreading to the rest of her body. I need you. Please dont push me away. I want to be with you now if youre going to die and leave me in the next few days. he whispered before gently placing his lips on hers. He slowly let his mouth glide along hers. I cant push him away! Yoshi thought desperately as she melted into his arms. He let hers hands go and once again she placed them on his shoulders. He pulled away and gently put his hands on hers. He slowly guided her hands to the folds of his robes and opened it to reveal his chest. Yoshis hands were now resting on his chest. She

wanted to get away. She wanted to run from the sadness that she knew would be coming once this was done, but she couldnt even move a muscle. Sesshomaru cupped her cheeks in his hands and kissed her sweetly. It was a quick kiss to reassure her, but it didnt work one bit. Every muscle in her body was still tense and frozen stiff. Once he had pulled away he let his hands drop to the hem of her shirt. He gently and slowly, as if to torture her, pulled it up and over her head to reveal her blue bikini style bra. He tossed her shirt to the ground before kissing her lips passionately. His hands traveled up her bare sides and arms and stopped at her hands. He then intertwined their fingers. I love you with all my heart. he rasped out after he had stopped kissing her. His golden eyes gazed deeply into her sapphire ones. He kissed her quickly again before letting his lips traveling down to her collar bone. Yoshi couldnt help but moan at every kiss he planted on her burning skin. She felt like she was on fire in every place their bare skin touched. His lips soon found their way to her chest. Their hands came apart and his wandered to her back and hip. Hers went to his head which was awfully close to her breasts. Suddenly his hands came back up and landed on her breasts. He gently caressed them sending shocks of pleasure through her body. I cant do this. Yoshi kept repeating in her head trying to forget the feelings he was causing her to feel. I cant do this now. What if my vision doesnt come true? I could be the one to lose him and this would only make that worse. Yoshi pondered as Sesshomaru was reaching for the clip to her bra. Stop Yoshi whispered. She felt him shake his head no. Sesshomaru I mean it. she said more forcefully. This finally brought his attention away from her chest. I cant do this. Why do you keep running? he asked her still breathless from the kissing. Because Im always scared to death. Im scared of losing love again and again. Yoshi said on the brink of tears. She roughly pushed him away from her and went to grab her shirt. I dont ever want to lose love ever again. I feel bad enough losing my friends, but when I truly love someone it hurts a million times worse. I cant go through that for a third time. Yoshi spoke as she put on her shirt. It was then that Sesshomaru realized he couldnt force her into this. Im going to leave, just until Naraku comes. Ill fight in the finally battle and I guess well see what happens after that. Yoshi said stepping away to leave, but Sesshomaru stopped her. He grabbed her wrist. He pulled it back so hard Yoshi spun around and lost her balance causing her to fall into his bare arms and chest. Please dont leave. We dont have to do anything, but please just dont leave. he pleaded gently. Yoshi slowly regained her balance and eased herself out of his arms. If I dont leave now I will give in and regret it later. Yoshi told him quietly. She caressed his cheek and quickly kissed his cheek before turning to leave. She walk for a few feet then turned around. I promise Ill be back in time. she said before disappearing. I cant believe I let her go. No matter what I cant let her die in the final battle. After that we need to figure this out. Sesshomaru decided before going back to the hut to give the others the bad news.

20 - The Final Battle

The Final Battle He was surrounded in darkness, but it was a comfortable one. He knew it was a dream he was in. He also knew she was there somewhere. He could feel her presence all around him. Yoshi had created this dream for him. He couldn't explain how he knew, but he did. Sesshomaru a voice called to him from behind. He quickly turned to find Yoshi standing there and the darkness disappeared. He could only see grass and sky except for one single sakura tree which Yoshi stood under. She smiled weakly at him when their eyes locked. He could see a fear in her blue eyes that he had never seen there before. Yoshi, what's wrong? Sesshomaru asked as he slowly walked toward her. The time has come. Hell be there after sunrise. she said simply. He felt his heart drop to his stomach. The woman he loved was going to die and she wouldn't let him do a damn thing about it. How can that be? Kagome and InuYasha just got back yesterday. Sesshomaru said unbelievably. He had thought it would have been a few days before Naraku attacked. Im sorry, but its true. Hell be there soon. I just wanted to make sure you told everyone. she replied coolly. She was trying as hard as she could not to cry and cling to him. She was scared, but she couldn't help it. She had never known the fear of death because it wasn't a possibility before, but now it was almost certain she would die. I told everyone after Kagome and InuYasha got back. They were shocked but we worked out a plan. Rin, Kohaku, Kilala, and Shippo are going to stay behind. Well lead Naraku away from the village so the people dont get hurt. Miroku, Sango and I will take care of Kagura and Kanna while InuYasha and Kagome try to break Narakus barrier. Once InuYasha or Kagome break through well all hit him all at once with everything weve got. So you dont have to fight if you dont want to. Sesshomaru told her. Kagura and Kanna wont be there. Naraku killed them once he found out they had betrayed him, but even with them gone it wont be enough. He is too powerful with the jewel to be beaten by all of you. I need to help you. Yoshi told him regretfully while trying to convince herself that everything would be alright. Her head was down. She couldn't bare to look at him. She knew he was disappointed and sad, but to see those feelings in his golden eyes would break her heart. YoshiSesshomaru said lovingly as he lifted her chin. Please be careful. I dont know what Id do without you. he told her caressing her cheek. I I think I would die without you by my side. Sesshomaru! Dont you dare say that. So many people need you alive. What would Rin do without you? She sees you as her father. Yoshi yelled at him outraged. Then dont die on me and everyone will be happy. he told her. Their eyes locked in an awkward moment. I should go. she said hesitantly not daring to look away. He nodded his head solemnly. I shouldnt but this could be my last chance. Yoshi thought as she rose on her tip toes to brush his lips with her own. It would have looked like a simple kiss to anyone else, but to both of them it meant the world. It was probably be the last time they would ever be like that ever again. Good-Bye! Yoshi whispered as she pulled away and taking the dream with her.***** Sesshomaru awoke drenched in sweat. Why? Why does she always get close to me then push me away? he thought sadly. He looked around to see that everyone was still asleep. He quietly walked over to where Rin was sleeping. Rin If Yoshi dies during the battle I cant promise that Ill come back. he thought remorsefully. He swiftly kissed the top of her head before leaving the hut. He walked to the edge of the forest. The black night sky was fading to blue meaning the sun would rise soon. Sesshomaru was staring at the horizon so intensely that he didnt notice Inuyasha walk up beside him. Whats wrong, Sesshomaru? he asked his brother. Yoshi visited me in my dreams. She said Naraku will be here after sunrise. Kanna and Kagura wont be there though. he said blandly. InuYasha couldnt imagine what torture it was for you to know your true love would die, but not be able to stop it. We should distance ourselves from the village now so he cant hurt the villagers.

InuYasha said turning to go wake the others. Wait. InuYasha can you do me a favor? Sesshomaru asked and InuYasha nodded. If I dont make it through the final battle will you look after Rin? Sesshomaru I dont know if I can I mean I will be having two little girls running around in a few months and I need to get used to being a father to Shippo also. I think it would be too much for me to take care of Rin. InuYasha rambled on. Sesshomaru saying he might die made him nervous. Do you really think youll die in the fight though? . No, but I dont know if I can go on without Yoshi alive. What would you do if Kagome died today? I dont know. I would probably lose it. My demon blood would probably took over and go on a killing spree, but if it didnt I wouldnt have a reason to live and probably starve myself to death. Then promise me youll look after Rin if Yoshi doesnt make it. I promise. InuYasha answered determinedly. Thank you, brother. You should get everyone ready now. Sesshomaru told InuYasha before heading north away from the village. Ill go on ahead and stop about two miles away from here. InuYasha nodded his understanding then left. ***** It had been fifteen minutes since InuYasha left and the sun would rise any minute. Where are they? The sun is rising and Naraku will becoming any minute. If they dont get out of the village before he comes the villagers could get hurt. Sesshomaru thought while waiting impatiently. Then he heard a scream come from the village. shoot! he thought before taking off as fast as he could run. He reached the village in a record time of two minutes. Naraku was already there and destroying the houses on the west side of the village. Kagome, Sango, and Miroku were trying to get the villager out of harms way while InuYasha held Naraku off. Sesshomaru quickly went to his brothers aid. Sesshomaru used his Toukijins Dragon Twister (A/N: I cant remember if that is the right name but oh well thats what Im gonna call it.) on Naraku, but as usual it was deflected by his barrier. InuYasha then tried to use his red Tetsusaiga to break the barrier, but even that didnt work. It is useless. Youll never get through my barrier. Naraku shouted to them as Kagome, Sango, and Miroku came back from evacuating the villager. Naraku snaked out one of his tentacles toward Kagome. It was clear that it was meant to choke her. InuYasha quickly ran to her and got in the way. The tentacles was wrapped around his throat choking him to death. He was raised high into the air. InuYasha! Kagome shouted frightened that InuYasha might die since he had dropped his sword. Suddenly a throwing star cut through the tentacle allowing InuYasha to fall to the ground. Kagome ran to him without a second thought as to who had just saved her mate. Everyone else turned to see Yoshi. Her hair was pulled back into a pony tail. She was wearing cargo camouflage pants, a dark green tank top, and a pair of sneakers. Yoshi went to Kagome and InuYasha first to make sure he was alright. Kagome had InuYashas head resting in her lap. He was still unconscious from the lack of oxygen. Is he okay? Yoshi asked Kagome as she kneeled down next to her. Kagomes head snapped up to look at Yoshi. Yoshi? When did you get here? Were you the one who threw that throwing star? Kagome asked. Yoshi nodded as she stood up. He should be waking up in a minute. Yoshi said before turning to enter the battle. Naraku! Today you die! Yoshi yelled to him. She materialized her spear. She ran toward Naraku with the spear held high. Once she was a few yards from him she launch herself into the air to come straight down on Narakus barrier. The sparks few wildly as Yoshi fought through the barrier. Yoshi closed her blue eyes and then opened purple ones. The spear glowed purple as it sucked away the barrier. Yoshi landed a foot from Naraku with her spear ready. Damn Wench! Naraku yelled in furry. One of his tentacles came up to attack Yoshi, but she blocked it. Unfortunately Naraku had anticipated her block and sent another behind her to stab her in her right shoulder. Blood flew into the air from the wounded and yet Yoshi just stood there with a blank face. No fear, pain or anguish showed in her eyes, not even shock. That only served to infuriate Naraku. He pulled the blood soaked tentacle from Yoshis shoulder to quickly wrap around her waist and hurl her to the side. Within seconds Sesshomaru was at her side and everyone else was attacking Naraku. Yoshi are you okay? Sesshomaru asked concerned. He helped Yoshi sit up and looked at the wound. The tentacle had gone straight through the shoulder, but luckily

the tentacle wasn't that big or she might have already bled to death. Sesshomaru quickly took off his outer robe and tore it into neat stripes to wrap the wound in. Sesshomaru can you help me? Yoshi asked him as he finished bandaging the wound. He could tell by the weakness of her voice that she had used a good deal of her powers to drain Naraku of his barrier. What do you want me to do? he asked. Just sit behind me and make sure I don't fall over. She said simply. He didn't question her, but was hesitant to obey. Why does she need me to support her? he wondered. Yoshi turned her eyes purple again and stared at where Naraku was. She lifted her left hand in the air. She started to murmur ancient words Sesshomaru didn't understand. She chanted those words over and over again until the Shikon Jewel formed in her hand. It was black as night, but when Yoshi closed her eyes and spoken a foreign word the jewel became pure again. Once Yoshi opened her eyes to see the purified jewel in her hand she fell back into Sesshomaru. Her head landed on his right shoulder. Yoshi? Yoshi! Are you okay? Sesshomaru asked panicked. Yoshi lazily nodded her head. Sesshomaru I need you to do me another favor. I need you to make sure Kagome gets the jewel. she told him as she sat up weakly. No you stay here. I'm sure we can beat Naraku now that he doesn't have the jewel. Sesshomaru said quickly pulling her back down by her waist. He is still powerful Sesshomaru. Someone else will die here today if I don't. Yoshi told him and turned in his arms to look into his eyes. Fine let them die. I don't care as long he started, but was cut off. The twins will die if I don't! Yoshi shouted in his face. I'm not going to put Kagome and InuYasha through that. Sesshomaru backed down with knowing this information. I don't want to lose her, but InuYasha and Kagome would lose their first two children, my nieces, if she doesn't. Isn't there anything I can do to give you more strength. You must have used a great deal of power from summoning the jewel and purifying it. Sesshomaru asked hopefully. Yoshi looked down at the ground thinking of only one way. You could give me some of your strength, but then you'll be defenseless. If someone attacks you won't be able to do anything. Yoshi warned him. I don't care just tell me what to do. Sesshomaru said confidently. You don't do anything. I'm sorry, but this really is the only way I know how to take strength from another. Yoshi said quickly before placing her lips to his in a chaste kiss. When she pulled away both their lips parted and a mist of golden light transferred from his mouth to hers. Sesshomaru then fell back to the ground. Yoshi leaned over his face to kiss his forehead. I'm sorry. She whispered. Then she put the jewel in his hand. She got up and turned to see the battle still raging on. It appears that Miroku's right arm was broken, probably so he couldn't use the wind tunnel. Sango was with him and didn't seem to have any serious injuries other than a deep cut to her left leg. InuYasha and Kagome were also together and didn't appear to have any fatal wounds. Naraku though barely had a scratch on him. Stop! she yelled to her friends as they prepared to attack again. He's mine. Yoshi announced. When she past Kagome she whispered to her Please go take care of Sesshomaru. InuYasha also heard and took Kagome to his brother. I hope you know what you're doing Yoshi. he thought. Miroku, Sango, get out of here. she warned the two as she readied herself for battle. Do you really think you can kill me? Naraku asked arrogantly. Of course I can. You don't have the jewel anymore so you can't rematerialize yourself. she said just as confident. She ran as fast as she could at him. Both raised their hands and collided. Their hands were locked together and each was pushing as hard as they could to make the other fall. Yoshi then closed her eyes and concentrated. When she opened her eyes again they were glowing purple. Die Naraku! she shouted as she released all her power to blast him off the face of the Earth. Everything within a hundred yards was blown away or destroyed from the blast of power. As the dust cleared Yoshi stood in place. I did it. Naraku is dead and my friends are safe, but I'm so tired. Sesshomaru she thought as she collapsed to the ground with no one to catch her or stop her head from hitting the rock. A/N: I know it is very mean of me to end the chapter here, but I have to have a few good cliffys before I end it. There will be another chapter and maybe an epilogue. Hope you liked. BYE!