

## Chapter XIII

### **What were your thoughts on the first scene where they flee [REDACTED]? Was everything logical in your opinion?**

It's a good scene. The pace is fast, as it should be. This is the event where (afterwards) [Character C] must absolutely realize that [Character G] is trustworthy and not her enemy. She has to let go of any lingering doubts of those previous fears in order for the story to progress. She saved [Character G]'s life, but by enabling their escape, he has also saved hers.

### **What were your thoughts on the short dream sequence? Does it fit here? Would it be better if it was longer, told more about [Character F] and [Character C] and their situation back then?**

I don't think it should be longer. The question of what [Character C]'s role is, is timely given what is about to be revealed about her after she wakes up. I wouldn't change the sequence.

### **What are your thoughts about [Character G]'s lie, that he didn't reveal how he suspected what [Character C] was?**

Something important seems to have been forgotten that I feel is relevant to this scene. [Character G] originally tried to pique [Character C]'s curiosity by asking her, "Aren't you curious who did this to you?" This means [Character G] has known from the very start that a third party did something to [Character C]. And, by virtue of having asked the question, [Character G] has also already admitted this knowledge to [Character C]. Yet, it has never, ever come up again in the story. [Character C] has never asked him about who it could have been. That is *her* fault, not his.

So, in this chapter when [Character C] says, "You knew all along" well... Yes, she's accusing [Character G] of knowing all along that the identity of the person was [Character V], *but...* I don't feel like it's anything she should get terribly angry over. He already told her that he knew *something*. Even if he never admitted that he suspected it was [Character V], that's not a lie, as [Character G] rightly points out. It's reasonable for him to have decided not to tell her until he was sure.

This reveals a problem with the story. The question of "who did this to me" should have, at some point, become rather important to [Character C], especially after she starts dreaming about [REDACTED]. She should have asked [Character G] questions like, How does he know someone did anything to her? What are the clues? We also know that [Character C] discussed her nightmares with [Character G]. She could have (should have) asked him if he had any ideas.

[Character G] admits to [Character C] that [Character V] started experimenting with magic. If [Character C] is smart, and has been thinking about "someone did something to me", and has pressed [Character G] for answers to her other questions, she *probably* would have put this suspicion together for herself along the way, just as [Character G] did.

I think it's important that you do something to resolve this forgotten thread. Right now the story seems to ignore it and that seems to have been done on purpose simply for the convenience of this particular argument. Potentially, you could use the exploration of the question as a way to

[REDACTED]. If you do that, then that will of course necessitate reshaping the argument they have at this moment.

I also think, for the reader at least, it's going to have been pretty obvious from the most recent chapters that [REDACTED]. [REDACTED], so this revelation isn't really going to be a surprise. That doesn't necessarily mean you should change how the revelation hits [Character C], because her reaction to it is quite good—just don't expect the reader to say, "I didn't see that coming!"

**In your opinion, was this the only reason he was interested in [Character C]? After all that they went through, is it well-founded that [Character C] thinks he was lying to her for selfish reasons?**

No, it's not well-founded that [Character C] thinks he was lying for selfish reasons, because he hasn't actually lied about anything.

I also don't believe that [Character C] being [REDACTED] is why he has been interested in her. After all, when they first met, unless [Character V] previously told him about one of her experiments that got away and what [Character C] looked like (unlikely), he wouldn't have known she was an experiment at all. All he would have sensed at the ceremony is that she was a rogue in hiding that someone did something to.

**Is being [REDACTED] and why it's dangerous well-explained in your opinion?**

Not in this chapter. The reader could do with a refresher about the dangerous implications.

**[Character A] and [Character V] were after some [REDACTED]. This aspect will be only revealed later (and now that I think about it, not very clearly at all. It will come back in the next book though.) Is this okay in your opinion or should there be some theorizing about it now/soon in the story?**

Yes, they should talk about it now and in the near future of the story, even if it's a thread that is purposefully left hanging for the second book. You don't want to make something like that too forgettable, else by the time the second book comes around, readers will have a hard time picking up where you left off.

**What was your favorite part in the chapter and why?**

The first scenes where they are escaping. Even though [Character G] is reluctant to [REDACTED], the two of them work well together and show trust for one another. I also liked [Character G]'s apology near the end of the chapter, even though [Character C]'s thoughts surrounding it need to be tweaked.

**Were there any parts you didn't like? Why?**

No.

**Do you have any other comments or suggestions?**

This chapter has a couple of typos and formatting mistakes that should be cleaned up. There's more modern slang in it too.

[Character C] guesses that a day or two has passed since she fell unconscious. Why isn't she ravenously hungry? What has [Character G] been doing for food while he was waiting?

In a previous chapter, you described how [Character C]'s magic carved wounds into her flesh. Why isn't she injured in that way now?

**On a scale of 1-10, how much did you enjoy the chapter?**

8