part chapter

Ever Diamond

pro The Crime

I Crime Action

II To the Market...

III and back again

IV Evidence and Pardon

War of the West

Characters

King Albert

Millie (Lela's Horse)

Jim Buck (beggar)

Firestar (Pony's Horse)

Nurse (Smith)

policeman (Bergon)

teacher 1 (?)

teacher 2 (?)

principle (?)

Pony (Land Fighter)

Tom (Land Fighter)

Lela (Ancient Weapons Master)

Bill Jones (mad man)

Stallion (Warrior)

Brittany (Enchanter)

Bo (Bergon's Son)

Kelsey (Smith's Daughter)

Jaimee (Warrior)

Teagan (skilled fighter)

Kord (blacksmith)

Steven (hunter)

Matt (murderer)

Cassie (Jeweler)

Ericka (sorceress)

Permissions for Name and Personality a Character in a Book.

(Signed)

Brittany [redacted]

Bo [redacted]

Kelsey [redacted]

Jaimee [redacted]

Kord [redacted]

[redacted] [redacted]

Steven [redacted]

Matthew [redacted]

Cassie [redacted]

Ericka [redacted]

Special Thanks to:

ONE

Tom was up at 6:00am on the Monday morning that his life would start to change. He got up and turned off the alarm, then turned on the light. Changed his clothes and got his wallet and pocket knife to put in his pocket. When he went for his change, he stopped to examine the money more closely. The 5 or 6 pennies and dimes were meaningless to him so he shoved them into his pocket. also, the old quarter he put in his pocket. What remained seemed to have deeper meaning then what everyone else was. Everyone else was money, he was memories. A Delaware quarter head a picture of Paul Revere but it was the horse he wanted. "Much rather have a Virginia." he said to himself. The Virginia quarter as he remembered it has the picture more of the horse than anything else. Another quarter of Crater Lake, he just liked it. The last quarter was a bicentennial. Last week he's traded a paper dollar for a dollar coin. the year was 2000. A half dollar had been given to him for helping and old man at an auction. He shoved the coins in his pocket.

The clock read 6:23am and he had to leave for the bus at about 6:40am. He was 16 but didn't have a license to drive or even a permit. The bus ride wasn't that bad, it gave him time to think. There were some people that would talk to him, but he still felt alone.

He went to the kitchen and opened the fridge to find something to eat, but he (without knowing it) had already made up his mind to ger a plum so he wouldn’t create suspicion for his step-dad.

His brother and sister were already in where but they didn't eat anything. They sat still in front of the TV. The satellite guide covered the screen for 5 minutes without warning before they noticed what had happened. His step-dad turning it on so they couldn't see the show. (Maybe they'll get their show on and get ready to go.)

He got his jacket on and started to get his backpack on when his little brother Dean asked where he was going. "I'm going to the bus." He walked over to the door and opened it and went out. Once out of the door he walked over to the opposite side of the porch and grabbed his Machete and started down the dirt hill.

When his little brother and sister came down the hill he was chopping the limbs from the 2007 ice storm. It was well into April now so they weren't in the way but they needed cleaned up. When the bus came, he stabbed the Machete into the ground and ran up the stairs. His seat was 2 seats from the back on the right. He sat down took his backpack off and took out a book and started to read. 20 to 30 minutes later a friend of his came on. Her name was Pony and her 16th birthday was last week, and he had given her a shirt with horses on it because he knew she loved horses. If was quite some time before either said a word. He could see the answer on her face before he asked, "Did you weekend go well?"

"Yeah, it was great." in a cheery voice. That weekend her friends came over to her house to spend the night.

"Do you think you can do me a favor?"

"Depends, what is it?"

"Could you give this to Brittany?" Tom holds out a note with Brittany's name drawn on it.

She took is looking a little disappointed. "Sure, I have biology with her first block."

He sits back in his seat for a moment and starts twitting with a ting that appears heavier than an ordinary ting, he seemed to be deep in thought. I looked over a her and she was playing with her Magical Wrench. He taps her on the shoulder, and she jumps. "I would like you to have this, it will protect you." He holds out his hand in a fist so she can't see the ring inside. Trusting him she holds her hand under his, he drops the ring. The weight of the ring makes her hand drop a little.

"I can't accept this." she replies.

"I cannot use it any more, consider it a gift from a friend. It will protect you." She looks at the ring, it looked like copper but felt like lead. She looks back over at him.

He seems to be trying to ignore her glance, but she sees him look at her from the corner of his eye. No longer able to deny the fact that he knew she'd looked at him he gave her a reassuring nod. She looked at the ring again, then at him. Then she put the ring on her right-hand ring finger. She was spooked when it automatically adjusted to hit her finger. Now she knew it wouldn't come back off but out the reaction she tried anyway.

"It will come off when you no longer have a use for it." Tom reassured her. They both walked in silence until they were in school.

TWO

When the school they started toward class together but still neither spoke. She had gone off in the direction of the Science Hall when Tom lost sight of her. He had gone toward the Gym.

Brittany was already in class when Pony got there so she took the not out of her pocket and handed it to Brittany. "I was told to give this to you." Brittany opened is and it read:

*I have given her the ring and I wish I could do more for her lud there is nothing left for me to do. I would like for you to wish her luck for me. One more thing, please give her the Ever Diamond.*

Brittany folds up the note and looks at Pony. Brittany thinks to herself "She doesn't look ready for the Ever Diamond."

"What's wrong?" Pony asks.

Brittany tries to respond quickly as possible, like coming out of a daze, "Nothing!"

Pony jump, not expecting such a quick response. "Meet me after class." Brittany said.

The rest of the hour was testing over Chapter 12; Genetic Structure. They both finished early, but neither looked at each other. When the bell finally ran, they waited for one another by the door. Brittany was the first to talk, "Tom wanted you to have this." She handed Pony a black oak box about 6 inches squared by 2 inches high.

Pony was reaching out her hand for the box when Brittany shoved if in her hand. "Hide it!" She had noticed Lela coming down the hall. Lela has been noted for being a rogue for a very valuable thing. The two waited until Lela was out of sight before looking at one another again. "This is the Ever Diamond. it is very valuable so protect it may be very helpful to you. There are many uses for it which I'm sure you'll discover later on. I have to get to class now, just promise me you will keep it safe."

When Brittany left Pony took the box out of her hoodie pocket and examined it carefully. It was extremely well crafted, and it was very heavy for its size. The bell rang and she almost dropped the box. Shoving it back into her pocket, she rushed off to class.

THREE

Pony's next class was Art with Tom. She got there and saw him sitting at a table alone. She sat next to him and he looked up at her and smiled. "It's ancient and has almost unlimited uses." Tom started to tell her but saw in her eyes that she hadn't even looked at it yet. "Where is it?" he asked. She takes out the box and sets it on the table. "Go on, take a look." She slowly opens the lid. inside it is lined by fine velvet. A huge 4-inch ring was in the center, it appeared to be made out of glass. he continued "it is made out of pure diamond, making it indestructible. Now take it out of the box." Pony reaches down for it as if it were going to bite her. the ring wasn't as heavy as the box. "You may wonder why such a heavy box. I'll tell you the story."

"Many years ago, everyone was into magic and war, but when the new King came into order, he saw his people killing each other. He made it law that people caught using magic or battling would be sent to a dungeon, where they would be tortured for 10 years. This stopped most of the people but some were made Protectorates for the King. When the war had started, the King's army had been outnumbered by far. The King ordered the Protectorates to make him something powerful enough to protect his own country. They had made that ring and named it the Ever Diamond. The name means "indestructible diamond". The king had died before he could use the Ever Diamond. The Protectorates was what would happen to the country if the Ever Diamond was to fall in enemy hands. The Black Oak box was made with lead in the bottom of the box. Their plan was to throw the box into the sea. It would sink to the bottom and be forgotten. But it was never thrown, an enemy spy had gotten it and taken it to their king. He saw it was the most valuable thing in the country and decided not to waste any more time on them. The poor country's population quickly grew and without warning they attacked, overthrew the king and regained the Ever Diamond. The Protectorates hid it in their king's tomb. It was recovered by Lela only 3 years ago. Frustrated because she was a rouge and couldn't use the ring, she sold it. It was pure diamond so it was extremely valuable, meaning only a rich person could buy it. Cassie, being a jeweler, was rich and the find sounded like business. She bought it, but found no real purpose for a 5lb ring so she sent it to Brittany to find out what the ring did. After a while she found the ring could see past, present and future. Just look in the center of the ring and run your finger around the ring like a clock, starting at 12. For the present it will look like a map and you pinpoint what you want to see, when put something in the ring and it teleports. Let’s try it once for practice."

Pony sets the ring on the table and starts at the opposite side of the ring and moves her finger back to the 6 o'clock position. She looks in the center and sees Brittany shoving the box in her hands. She looks at Tom and he motions for her to move time forward. So, she starts at 12 and moves forward to 6. She sees the ring turning red, like the color of blood. It didn't seem possible, not in the next half hour.

"It can only go so far into the future. To see the present poke the table in the center of the ring and move the ring around like a computer mouse." Try to teleport this note to Cassie, she's in Math class right now." She puts her finger in the center of the ring and the center becomes a minimap. Math was in the same hall so she found it quickly. Focusing in on Cassie and giving her the note was easier than she thought. "Very good! Cassie will also need this." handing her a blue tear shaped rock that looked like sapphire.

FOUR

In the Math room Cassie had just received the note which to her seemed heavier than necessary. She opened it and found a 4-inch key and instantly recognized it as a keyblade because of the gold chain at the end of it. The note read:

*I'm returning this to you for safekeeping. I hope you'll understand if I don't want the responsibility of protecting it. Pony needs a chain for the Angel's Tear Drop. Then Teagan can train her.*

Cassie whispers to herself "I'm going to need the Tear Drop if I'm to put a Chain on it." And just like magic the Tear Drop appeared She grabbed for it but too late; it hit the floor. Quickly as possible she put her foot on it and slid her feet together under her desk. She looked over at the teacher to see if he had noticed, He had, he was looking straight at her. She looked back at her book and got an idea of how she would pick it up unnoticed. Acting like she read a question wrong, she erased the previous answer she wrote down. Sweeping the shreds of eraser off, she hit the pencil onto the floor and slid it over next to the stone with her feet. Then she picked them both up. Crossing her arms and hunching over the book to reread the question, she drops the stone down into the inside pocket of her jacket. Now she had to make it through the hour without being caught. The teacher no longer paid attention to her, but she didn't want to create suspicion so she raised her hand.

"Yes, Cassie?"

"Can you come check and see if I did this right?"

FIVE

When the bell finally rang, Cassie was walking toward the Art room when she heard screams of fear. There was a gunshot from a handgun and she saw Pony fall to the ground. Cassie remembered her keyblade and grabbed it off the chain around her neck. After about a second the keyblade started to glow a bright mystical light. The key blade went from 4 inches to about 4 feet. No wit actually had a sharp blade. She ran up to see who the shooter was, Matthew. He started running away with something in his left hand, gun in right. Cassie started running after him but she wasn't fast enough to catch him. She stopped to see what was in his hand, it was the black oak box. Her heart began to race. If he found out whet the ring could do, why would all be killed.

Cassie turned her attention toward Pony, Brittany was already there. Cassie thought she was dead, but Brittany said the most unthinkable thing, "She'll be O.K."

"How the hell can you say something like that when she just got shot in the head!"

"Me and Tom had given her the guardian angel's ring." Cassie just stood there for a moment.

"What about the Ever Diamond?" I saw him run away with the Black Oak Box.”

Brittany look sat her then looks at Pony then Pony holds up her hand; in it is the Ever Diamond. Her atm suddenly goes slack, and the ring falls out of her hand. Cassie and Brittany ignored the ring. Brittany took out her cell phone and dialed 911. The bell rand but neither moved.

SIX

When the ambulance and police arrived; the two girls told the police what had happened while the medics got Pony into the ambulance. They knew very well that would happen if the mentioned the Ever Diamond, they would be worse off than Pony. “Do you know of any reason that he would do this?” One policeman asked. The two girls looked at one another as if searching go the answer. Brittany shook her head. “If you think of anything else you can call us.” And one of the men handed the girls a card with his name and number on it. Something catches Brittany’s eye but she tries not to look. She motions for Cassie to hide the Ever Diamond. Cassie looks over at the ring from the corner of her eye. At first, she didn’t move but when the police man turns to look around at the scene. Very quickly Cassie grabs something out of her pocket and hands it to Brittany. The police man turns around and looks at them. “When she (pointing at Pony) wakes up could you give this to her.” Brittany said holding out her hand to show a tear shaped sapphire with a short silver chain at the top of it. “Tell her it’s an Angel’s tear drop.”

As Brittany distracted the policeman Cassie had walked over and picked up the Ever Diamond., Cassie turned to Brittany and looked pale, but did the best she could not to show it. The ambulance had been there longer than necessary and it was a relief when it finally left. “I don’t see why I couldn’t” the policeman responded after a little thought. He got into his car and followed the ambulance out of sight. Brittany looked at Cassie, “What, is something wrong?”

“It’s the ring, it’s red like blood.” And she held out the ring to show Brittany. It didn’t just look like blood, it was blood, but only on the inside. “I’ve never seen it do that before.” Brittany said trying to break the silence. Cassie still didn’t speak, she just stood staring at the ting in her hand. Slowly she started to speak, “I know someone who has.”

“Who?”

Cassie looks up, “Lela”

SEVEN

They take off running toward the history hall. Stopping short of the door to hear the announcement on the intercom. “Intruder is no longer on campus. You must report to your 3rd block class before lunch. Thank you.” Cassie looks at Brittany “she’ll be here next. Let’s just wait for her.” Tom walks out with the teacher following behind him. He looks at them “What happened to Pony?” The teacher looks at them as if to see if they were guilty or not.

“Are you in on this too?”

Brittany responds, “In on what?”

“You two can join Tom.” The teacher said as he pushes the three of them toward the principal’s office.

Brittany leans over to Cassie, “It’s your turn to get us out of this one.”

“I don’t think there’s any way out.” Cassie whispers back. They all enter the principal’s office. He’s turned around in his chair. “I would like to talk to them alone.” he said. The teacher leaves making the room silent. “I have heard what you did, Cassie. The policeman told me that you tried to catch the intruder, is that right?”

She had to think for a moment, “Am I in trouble for using my keyblade? Nobody was really hurt. “Yes, that is correct.”

“I saw you two,” pointing at Cassie and Brittany, “you did very well trying to catch the man who did this, for that I’m going to cut you a break.”

They felt their hearts race. “What do you mean?” Cassie asked

“I mean I know about your magic,” searching for the word he swings his hands wildly in the air. “THINGS!” he suddenly said. “But if the teacher finds out I still have no choice but to take action.”

Cassie feels her hand hit the ring. It somehow reminded her of the shooter, Matthew. “Are you going to help us catch the shooter or not?”

“No, I don’t believe it is my job to do that. What I can do it give you the name of someone who can help you. Have you heard of Steven?” They shake their heads. “He is a good trapper; he can make a trap to catch this guy. Just think of how fast we could ger him behind bars.”

Brittany’s cell phone rang. “May I answer that?” the principle nods his head. She opens it and answers, “Hello?” On the other line you could hear it was another girl in panic.

“Have you heard what happened to Pony yet?”

“No, I SAW what happened!”

“Oh sorry.”

“Is that all you called for?” Brittany asks.

“No, I called to tell you I’m at the hospital.”

“Do you know where she is yet?”

“She’s in room 314.”

“I’ll be there in a few minutes. Cassie will stay here and talk to Lela about the Ever Diamond.”

“What about the Ever Diamond?”

“Well, it’s blood red.”

“Should I come?”

“No, you stay there.” And Brittany hung up without saying good bye.

Cassie looks at Brittany, “Who was that?”

“It was Teagan, she’s at the hospital. I want you to stay here and talk to Lela.” Cassie agrees.

“What about me?” Tom asks.

“You should go see Steven.” Brittany tells him. She looks over at the principle, “You won’t tell anyone anything will you?”

“Of course not.”

EIGHT

CHAPTER I

Brittany makes it appear that she’s going out on a lunch date with Tom so that she can leave the school. She drops Tom off at Steven’s house and goes on toward the hospital. When she arrives, there are many rain clouds in the sky. “I hope it doesn’t rain; she says to herself as she starts up the walk. When inside she sees the help desk. “Excuse me, where is room 314?” The lady at the desk points to Brittany’s right without looking up. “Thank you.” Brittany said. She goes and reads the numbers aloud. “300, 302, 304, … wow, it’s really quiet in here… 310, 312.” She moves to the nest door, “here it is” She quietly opens the door, trying not to disturb anyone. As soon as she was inside, she can tell it Pony’s, there are 3 pictures of her and her horse. She heard a voice that she didn’t recognize, but she knew she had heard it before. She took a few more steps. The voice had been the policeman from the school.

“She had just woken up about 10 minutes ago. As promised, I gave her the rea drop. I was just telling her about my horses from when I was a young child. She seems to be going well.” There were a few moments of silence. “I guess I should get back to work.” And with that said he leave.

Brittany walks over to her bedside and softly says, “How are you, Pony?” She had expected to see her head wrapped up, but it wasn’t.

“I think I’ll live.” She says weakly. Out in the hallway Brittany can hear the Policemen’s voice again, the two look up to see him and Teagan enter the room.

The policemen foes to Pony’s bedside and looks at the area on her forehead where she was shot.

Teagan could tell that she didn’t like him looking at her like… evidence. She isn’t an object you can put in a little plastic baggie and take to court. “Leave he alone!” The policeman stops and look sat her. “She was shot in the head, and didn’t die. Is that official enough?”

“What about the killer?”

“Attempt of murder.”

“Good enough for me.” And he writes down what she said and leaves. As he opens the door a nurse comes in.

“Would you like some lunch?” the nurse asks. Pony looks over at the schedule board to see the nurse’s name. It reads *Mrs. Smith*.

“Sure.”

Brittany looks at Teagan and says, “We should go get something to eat too.

NINE

Back at the school Cassie is sitting next to Lela talking. She had the Ever Diamond in her had showing Lela. Lela was acting careful not to touch the ring. “This will ‘learn’ from any jewelry. It wasn’t the guardian angel ring that saved her, it was the Ever Diamond. The two must have touched at some point.

Cassie says, “she had them in the same hand when we found her.”

Lela continues, “That’s it then. The blood in the ring is her very soul. The only reason she is alive is because she had the Ever Diamond.”

“So now what do we do?” Cassie asks.

“The last time this happened was when the King died. To free the King’s soul the kingdom had to find the man who killed the King, and that man was to be killed.”

Cassie goes pale thinking about having to kill someone, “I can’t just kill a person!”

“I overheard you talking in the office. Steven will succeed. If he doesn’t, I can do it for you. But there may be more difficulties that this though. The difference is that Pony didn’t die. So, this may not be the true solution.”

“So even you didn’t know the answer?” Cassie asks. Lela says, “I will not promise you anything.” Lela gets out a dollar from her purse, “Here go get you something to eat.” Cassie pushes her hand back and shakes her head. Lela tells her, “You must ear, it will help you think.” This time Cassie takes the dollar and goes over to the snack machine. Reading through the choices she gets some fruit crackers and puts then in her jacker. She looks around. Someone taps her on the shoulder and she jumps.

“Hi, my name is Bo and I’m the police officer’s son, and he told me to make sure that you know everything that we find out about Pony’s shooter. This here is my girlfriend, Kelsey.”

Kelsey takes over from there, “I’m Pony’s nurse’s daughter and I will be keeping you informed on Pony’s condition.”:

Both Bo and Kelsey gave Cassie their cards with name, number and address on them.

“How is Pony?” Cassie asks.

“She’s healing incredibly fast.” Kelsey says with surprise. “Anything else?”

“No, not at the moment.”

Bo tries to cheer her up by pointing at another card, “Ring then digits right there to chat.” And they walk back into the crowd.

From behind Cassie gets grabbed by someone, hand over her mouth she is drug into an unoccupied classroom. The attacker tried to take the keyblade from her necklace but she already had it in her hand. She bits him in the face with the handle of the keyblade and knocks him out. She goes over to the door. It’s locked, but how? She quickly realized he turned the handle around so it locked from the inside. This meant he had a plan to get out, or the key. She has to keep him alive.

TEN

Tom was over at Steven’s house talking business. “I’m not exactly sure what’s going on yet but I was told we need som3eone to help catch a man, a killer not less. Brittany had filled him in on some details but she didn’t say who was shot, so he still didn’t know what the big deal was.

“What kind of killer?”

“One that kills people!”

“No, I mean where, when why how, who and I hope people.”

Tom thinks for a moment then quickly says, “Matthew, with a handgun at school for an invaluable object.”

“I’ll do it but it comes with a price, say about 100 dollars today plus 25 for each extra day.”

“Is that dead or alive?” Tom asks.

“That’s if I even catch him.”

“We want him alive.”

“Then $65 a day, plus $250 for when I catch him.”

“Ok, let me write that down.” Tom takes out another piece of paper and writes it down. “May I use your phone?”

“Go right ahead.” Steven says.

Tom goes into the kitchen and picks up the phone and dials Brittany’s phone number.

ELEVAN

At the hospital Teagan and Brittany are headed back to Pony’s room where Brittany’s cell phone rings. She answers.” Hello?”

“Yeah, it’s Tom.”

“And what did Steven say?”

“He said he’d do it for $65 a day plus $250 for when he catches the guy.”

“Tell him it is not a deal; we’ll pick you up in about 30 minutes.” They were outside Pony’s door when they were talking.

From Pony’s room, “was that Tom?”

Brittany tried to change the subject, “Have you named the new colt yet?”

“Yes, we named it Firewing.” Realizing what Brittany was trying to do she added “Who told you that?”

“Ok, I’ll tell you the truth, we haven’t told Tom you were the on shot. We didn’t want him to worry about you.

Mrs. Smith came in, “Sorry, you can’t stay here right now. You may wait outside the room.”

“No, we should be going.” Teagan said. The two girls picked up Tom and went back to the school. Lunch was over now but none of the went to class. They wanted to talk to Cassie. She should have been in Biology right now so that’s where they went. After asking the teachers where she was and not finding her, they knew there was trouble.

TWELVE