***The Girl Who Drank the Moon***

***Chapter 39***

***Summary and Analysis***

***Summary in brief:***

Meanwhile, in Chapter 39, “In Which Glerk Tells Fyrian the Truth,” Fyrian is growing into an enormous dragon. Neither Glerk nor Fyrian understand why. Glerk spots Luna’s magic over a ridge. She is heading toward Xan’s magic, which he can also spot. Fyrian notices that the mountain is on fire, and they know they must move quickly to warn everyone. Antain notices Luna’s magic hurdling toward him and his new bird friend. He believes it is the Witch and he hides to kill her quickly when she arrives.

***Summary Part 1:***

As night falls, [Luna](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/luna) invites the sleepy [crow](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/the-crow) to rest in her hood. Luna isn’t tired and can’t wait for the moon to rise. She remembers [Xan](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/xan) teaching her about compasses and wonders if she’s drawn to the moon like a compass needle points north. She also feels drawn to Xan and can hear the clicking inside her.

***Analysis Part 1:***

When Luna specifically wonders if she’s drawn to Xan like a compass, it again makes the case that familial love is an inherently strong and powerful force that draws parents and children together regardless of the distance between them.

***Summary Part 2:***

[Fyrian](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/fyrian) shouts that he doesn’t fit on [Glerk](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/glerk)’s back anymore, and asks if Glerk is shrinking. Glerk says that Fyrian is growing and watches Fyrian’s nose enlarge, then one eye, then his feet. Fyrian is confused and asks how it’s possible to be bigger than Simply Enormous. Glerk tries to dance around the truth and says that Fyrian’s heart has always been enormous. Gravely, Fyrian asks if he looks strange. Glerk decides to be honest and says that he doesn’t know why Fyrian is the way he is. He’s growing and will be big like [Fyrian’s mother](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters). Dragonlings normally don’t stay dragonlings for 500 years, but Fyrian did—maybe because of [Xan](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/xan)’s spells or his own grief. Glerk admits that he, Xan, and [Luna](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/luna) aren’t giants.

***Analysis Part 2:***

When Glerk chooses to finally tell Fyrian the truth, it doesn’t illuminate much for the reader (or for Fyrian, for that matter), especially since Glerk can’t identify why Fyrian never grew in the first place. However, giving Fyrian this information allows Fyrian to get a better sense of who he is and how he fits into his family, which in turn will help him decide what kind of an adult dragon he’d like to be. Glerk’s honesty in this situation means that it’s more likely that Fyrian will continue to rely on him for love and support in the future.

***Summary Part 3:***

With tears in his eyes, [Fyrian](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/fyrian) asks what this means. [Glerk](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/glerk) admits that he doesn’t know, but soon they’ll know more and they’ll always be friends. Glerk lifts himself high on his tail and points down the hill. He can see [Luna](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/luna)’s magic emerging and says that Xan tried unsuccessfully to hold onto Luna’s childhood. Fyrian asks if Luna is turning into a dragon, but Glerk says that Luna is becoming an adult and a witch at the same time. Fyrian puts his ear to the ground and tries to attract Glerk’s attention as Glerk watches [Xan](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/xan) transform. Fyrian roars that the mountain is on fire and that he remembers that he and his mother felt it first last time. They need to warn Xan.

***Analysis Part 3:***

By reaffirming that he’ll always be Fyrian’s friend, Glerk makes it clear that growing up doesn’t mean that Fyrian will be alone. It’s important to note the shift here between Glerk being the expert and Fyrian being the expert. Now that Fyrian knows better who he is and that something odd happened to his childhood, he can remember that he’s experienced similar things with the volcano before—and together, he and Glerk can decide what to do with that information.

***Summary Part 4:***

[Xan](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/xan) feels horrible and doubtful. She tells herself that she loved and protected the babies, but thinks that she should’ve been curious. [Antain](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/antain) tells Xan that once the moon rises, he’ll kill the [Witch](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/symbols/the-witch) and they can go home. Xan thinks that she’d love to transform and tell Antain everything once the moon rises. She might even be able to magically send him home. Antain hears something and suggests that the Witch might be coming. Xan rolls her eyes and looks down the hill. She sees [Luna](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/luna) and another figure she doesn’t recognize. Antain hides with a knife so he can slit the Witch’s throat.

***Analysis Part 4:***

Remember that according to the stories Antain has heard, the Witch can take the form of a young girl. As far as he’s concerned, the Witch could very well be Luna. This shows that by choosing to tell stories in which the Witch can take ay number of forms, the storytellers in the Protectorate can make it so that it’s easy to shift the blame onto anyone female who has the misfortune of ending up in their path.