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

***Chapter 20***

***Summary and Analysis***

***Summary:***

In Chapter 20, “In Which Luna Tells a Story,” the narrative style takes a distinct turn from the previous chapters. This tale is related from Luna’s first-person perspective and is addressed to Fyrian. The story centers on a girl with no memory and concludes with, “Yes. This is all one story. This is my story. I don’t know how it ends” (166). Luna tells Fyrian a story. It’s about a girl with no memory, a dragon who never grows up, a grandmother who lies, and a swamp monster that loves everyone but doesn’t always know what to say. Luna says again that it’s about a girl who has no memory, but also has no memory of *losing* her memory. There was a man in a robe and a woman on the ceiling, screaming “she is mine.” There was a Tower too. There was something scary in the woods, though it might be that the woods themselves are scary. Luna wonders if the world itself is poisoned with evil and lies. She tells Fyrian that she doesn’t believe that part.

***Analysis:***

By shaping what she knows into a story, Luna is able to test out some of her theories. Her response to Fyrian about not believing that the world is poisoned shows that in many ways, Xan has successfully insulated Luna: Luna is hopeful and thinks well of others, rather than believing that the world is just horrible for no reason. As she practices telling stories, Luna also learns that they’re powerful—talking like this helps some of these things feel truer.