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

***Chapter 21***

***Summary and Analysis***

***Summary in brief:***

In Chapter 21, “In Which Fyrian Makes a Discovery,” Fyrian has what he thinks is a nightmare. He wakes alone deep in the forest with no memory as to how he got there. He sees a house and a pair of tiny boots. Just then, he hears growling come from behind a tree. He is scared and shouts Luna’s name three times, which yanks him out of the forest and back into bed with Luna. She assures him that it was only a dream, but Luna finds black boots in the house the next morning. There is an inscription on the boots that read, “Do not wear us unless you mean it” (179). Luna puts them away in a box in her house.

***Summary Part 1:***

[Fyrian](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/fyrian) sings [Luna](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/luna)’s name over and over as he dances and lands in her palm. Luna smiles. She and [Xan](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/xan) have been home for two weeks, and Xan has been sick since they got home. Luna kisses Xan’s cheek, and since Xan is already asleep, Luna lets Fyrian sleep on her bed. She warns him that if he snores, she’ll kick him out. Fyrian promises not to snore and gives her his word as a Simply Enormous Dragon. He wishes [his mother](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/antain-s-mother) was around, but immediately takes this back and says that [Glerk](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/glerk), Xan, and Luna are more than enough. He jumps into Luna’s pocket and falls asleep. Luna falls asleep knowing that she loves her family, but she has questions.

***Analysis Part 1:***

The way that Fyrian amends his wish for his mother shows that he’s somewhat uncomfortable with the possibility that he can love his mother and still love Xan, Glerk, and Luna like family. This speaks to Fyrian’s status as a true child (or dragonling), as he doesn’t yet have the mental skills to think about the possibility that he can love everyone equally. However, it’s also worth noting that nobody has pointed this out to him—so in this sense, Fyrian is in the dark and having to figure this out for himself.

***Summary Part 2:***

[Fyrian](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/fyrian) begins to snore and in no time, his breath creates a blister on [Luna](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/luna)’s hip. She pulls him out and, half asleep, yells at him to get out. He disappears immediately and Luna falls back to sleep as her blister fades. Fyrian dreams of [his mother](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/antain-s-mother) trying to tell him something from the other side of the castle as the old man climbs onto her back. They dive into the volcano and Fyrian sobs, jerking himself awake. He has no idea where he is, and his body feels strange and puffy. He shouts for [Xan](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/xan) and [Glerk](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/glerk), and reasons that he sleep-flew here, though that’s never happened before. Fyrian finds that his wings don’t work. He flaps them and they blow leaves off of trees, which he tells himself always happens.

***Analysis Part 2:***

To the reader, it’s clear that Fyrian is actually a much larger dragon in this dream or sleep-flying session. When Fyrian tries to tell himself that he sleep-flew and that his wings are always destructive, it shows that he’s learned from Xan how to make things feel true: all he needs to do is tell himself that it’s true. However, doing this does mean that Fyrian isn’t able to allow himself to consider that he’s actually a large dragon right now, which keeps him from truly understanding this situation now or later.

***Summary Part 3:***

[Fyrian](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/fyrian)’s heart feels achy after dreaming about his mother. [Fyrian’s mother](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters) was a beautiful dragon, and Fyrian wonders how many years it’s been since he’s seen her, but thinking about time makes his head hurt. He reasons it hasn’t been too long. Fyrian tries to take stock of his condition. He remembers his mother telling him to sing his fears away, and starts to sing that he’s not afraid. His feet thump heavily, but Fyrian thinks that they’ve always been that way. Fyrian asks where he is, and a figure appears in shadow. Terrified, Fyrian approaches and realizes that it’s a chimney with no house. Upon closer inspection, he finds stars carved into it and a mother hawk living inside it. The hawk is tiny, and Fyrian figures that he’s no longer in the land of the giants.

***Summary Part 4:***

[Fyrian](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/fyrian) sees that he’s in a ruined village. There are pictures of dragons, a volcano, and a girl with starlight for hair. He remembers [Fyrian’s mother](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters) introducing him to [Xan](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/xan), who would care for Fyrian someday. Then, Xan had freckles and braided hair. Fyrian thinks that this can’t be right—he never knew Xan as a young girl. Fyrian starts to cry as he remembers Xan crying. He wonders how long it’s been and remembers Xan warning him of how dangerous sorrow is. Fyrian peeks into the central tower and pulls out a pair of tiny boots with silver buckles. He remembers that the boots from the castle were giant and reasons that these are different. He remembers the magicians warning Xan and Fyrian to not touch them.

***Summary part 5:***

Something growls in the forest. [Fyrian](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/fyrian) sings to himself and remembers that there are tigers in the woods. He shouts that he’s fierce and begs for the creature to not hurt him. Suddenly, he remembers [Xan](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/xan) telling him that they’re family, and that if he ever wanders away and gets scared, he should say “Auntie Xan” three times quickly and a magic rope will bring him back. As the growling approaches, Fyrian shouts for Xan. Nothing happens. He shouts for Luna, and Luna lifts Fyrian out of her pocket, realizing that her burn is gone. Fyrian says that he was scared and in a strange place with a monster. Luna suggests that they both had bad dreams. They go back to sleep.

***Summary Part 6:***

[Luna](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/luna) wakes up with [Fyrian](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/fyrian) curled up next to her. She tries to wake him, but he doesn’t stir. Luna notices a pair of big black boots. They smell somewhat familiar and the heels say, “Do not wear us unless you mean it.” As Luna picks up a boot to inspect it, pain shoots through her head. After a while, her headache disappears. She throws the boot in a wooden trunk where she keeps her treasures. She decides to tell [Glerk](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-girl-who-drank-the-moon/characters/glerk) and thinks of all the other things she wants to do. Luna knows that there was something she wanted to ask Glerk about, but she can’t remember what it is.