

— January 25th, 1918. Morning. —

Frieda and Lui are on the grassy field where they usually sleep. Frieda is sitting criss-cross on the ground while Lui stands above her, keeping his transparent form.

LUI

You're meditating wrong.

FRIEDA

What do you mean?

LUI

You have to *focus*.

FRIEDA

(Annoyed)

I DO focus.

LUI

(Wagging finger)

No, no, no. The point of meditating isn't just to close your eyes and hope it works. You have to be able to *feel* the life pulsing throughout the planet. Inside of you.

Frieda (Rolling eyes): Mind telling me how?

Lui groans. He kneels down behind Frieda, speaking softly in her ear.

LUI

Let's try this. Dip your fingertips into the ground. Get some dirt under those nails.

Frieda does that. She leans forward, planting all ten fingers into the ground.

LUI

Pay close attention to every time the wind takes the grass into a different direction. Within the dirt, you'll feel the ground itself breathing.

FRIEDA

The ground breathes?

LUI

(Sarcastically)

Metaphorically.

Frieda rolls her eyes. She focuses on the ground below her. She begins to hear and feel a rhythmic beat within the ground, which then moves over to her entire body. Her heart, her breath match with the one she feels in the ground. She opened her eyes. Green lines wave in the air, drifting with the wind.

FRIEDA

(Amazed)

Woah...

Lui crossed his arms with pride. Smirking

— February 2nd, Evening —

Lui is once again feeding Frieda a healthy nighttime dinner.

LUI

(Pouring soup into bowl)

A Psychokinetic's body is primarily Aurae. A healthy body breeds Aurae. More Aurae means being more in-tune with the earth, which means being a better Psychokinetic.

Frieda takes a big sip of her vegetable soup.

FRIEDA

Actually, there are two things I want to know.

LUI

(Casually)

Spill.

FRIEDA

(Holds one finger up)

Why DID you throw me in that river?

LUI

When I first saw you struggling to use your powers, I thought it was because you had poor health.

FRIEDA

Why'd you assume that?

LUI

You look frail and skinny. What the hell did you do to your body?

FRIEDA

(Scratches head)

I may or may not have intentionally starved myself and stayed awake for days on end for three years.

LUI

I'm shocked you're still alive.

FRIEDA

(Holds up two fingers)

Did you enter my dream— Err, "Vision"?

LUI

Yeah.

FRIEDA

Why?

LUI

Remember the mental lock I mentioned? You won't be able to unlock your powers if something is blocking your focus mentally. I had to bring it out of you in order to help get you past that Hurdle.

FRIEDA

(Side-eye)

Are you being honest?

Lui: I told you I DIED. Why would I still be keeping secrets at this point?

Frieda (Sipping): That's fair.

— February 3rd —

Frieda is once again standing in front of a rock she tried to lift before. Lui stands from a distance, monitoring her.

LUI

This time, you should feel the Aurae inside of your own body. Channel it through your fingers and point it at that rock.

Frieda complies. Without issue, the rock floats up seamlessly. She doesn't even feel the same weight that punched her in her gut before. Lui looks up at her progress with a sense of pride.

— March 19th —

Frieda and Lui sit on the grass together, taking a rest from her training

FRIEDA

(Curious)

Lui, I've been meaning to ask for a while now. What *is* Aurae?

LUI

The way I see it, it's a life energy that pulsates within the planet and instills itself into all life on earth. Us, the animals, the plants, absolutely none of it could exist without it. It's practically life itself.

FRIEDA

(Cheeky)

Then how do YOU exist?

It takes Lui a second to register what she just said. Then he gets a salty look on his face.

LUI

(Realization)

Oh. Haha, because I'm dead. Very funny.

— June 29th —

Frieda is now trying offensive ice magic. Every time she fires a shard, her breath labors and she staggers.

FRIEDA

(Panting)

When did this get so hard? I was doing so good.

LUI

(Simply)

Temperament.

FRIEDA

(Confused)

Temperament?

LUI

It's in the name. *Psychokinesis*. The mind is by far the other most important part of learning magic aside from *Aurae*. A Psychokinetic's temperament tells what skills you'll naturally excel at, and what you'll naturally struggle with.

FRIEDA

I still don't get it.

LUI

You're very much a gentle soul. Environmental, healing and defensive magic, you're doing well with because you're learning magic to save and protect others. You're struggling with offensive magic because you're not naturally violent or a fighter.

FRIEDA

(Defeated)

So I can't learn it.

LUI

You can. Think of it as learning a new skill from scratch. Keep practicing and don't give up, and you'll learn it. Mental factors aren't the only ones. Your climate, family lineage, physical health and environment can all play a part in your temperament.

Frieda nods, gaining a deeper understanding.

— August 4th —

Frieda now excels at shield magic and other forms of environmental magic. She and Lui train, the ghost boy feeling proud of his new student.

— November 9th —

Bored one day, Lui stands up while he sits next to Frieda.

LUI

By the way, what was the name of your friend that got killed by those soldiers?

FRIEDA

Otto.

LUI

I need a last name too.

FRIEDA

Ackmann.

LUI

(Nods)

Got it.

Without a word, Lui vanishes, leaving Frieda by herself. About one minute passes, and Lui suddenly reappears.

LUI

He says he misses you.

FRIEDA

You can speak to him?

LUI

Yep. Every living thing on Earth that dies returns to the Lifestream. All your friends, relatives, everyone you care about is in a place called Paradise.

FRIEDA

Paradise?

LUI

The section of the Lifestream where all departed souls go. Good people who spent their life doing good things, and they're rewarded with eternal peace.

FRIEDA

And the bad people?

LUI

That's the netherworld. A shitty place for shitty people. That's where your father is.

FRIEDA

(Under breath)

Good

Frieda twiddles her fingers, looking at Lui expectantly.

FRIEDA

How... is Otto doing?

LUI

He's very happy where he is right now. He gets to spend the rest of eternity with his mom and dad.

FRIEDA

(Happy, yet sad)

Good. I'm happy he's resting peacefully.

Lui walks up to Frieda, placing a hand on her shoulder.

LUI

I told him about you and your mission. He says he's proud of you and that he's rooting for you to save Aegis for his sake. If you don't, he won't forgive you when you make it to Paradise.

FRIEDA

(Confidently)

I will. For his sake, too.