

(Garcia & Stohl 17)

I'd learned my lesson. There was no telling Lena Duchannes where she could or couldn't sit. No matter what you thought about the Ravenwoods, you had to give her that. I slide into the seat next to her, smack in the middle of No Man's land. Like I had all week. Only this time she was talking to me, and somehow that made everything different. No bad-different, just terrifying. (Garcia & Stohl 26)

“But you’re not scared of everyone. You act the way you want and say whatever you want. Everyone else around here is scared to be themselves.” Lena picked at the black polish on her index finger. “Sometimes I wish I could act like everyone else, but I can’t change who I am. I’ve tried. But I never wear the right clothes or say the right thing, and sometimes always goes wrong. I just wish I could be myself and still have friends who noticed whether I’m in school or not.” (Garcia & Stohl 32)

“In my family, when you turn sixteen, you’re Claimed. Your fate is chosen for you, and you become Light, like Aunt Del and Reece, or you become Dark, like Ridley. Dark or Light, Black or White. There’s no gray in my family. We can’t choose, and we can’t undo it once we’re Claimed”

“What do you mean’ you can’t choose?”

“We can’t decide if we want to be Light or Dark, good or evil, like Mortals and other Casters can. In my family, there’s no free will. It’s decide for us, on our sixteen birthday.” (Garcia & Stohl 76)

“Were your parents gifted?”
 “I don’t know. Gramma’s never say anything. I told you, it’s like they never existed. Which just make me think, you know.”
 “What?”
 “Maybe they were Dark, and I’m going to go Dark, too.” (Garcia & Stohl 77)

In the effort to find a way to make Lena Claimed to be a Light Caster, Lena and Ethan meet up with Marian, Ethan's mum's friend. Marian helps and guides Lena and Ethan to find the solution. Marian also suspects that Lena will not necessarily be a dark Caster. Marian comforts Lena if she does not have to be too scared, because it has not happened yet.

After meeting with Ethan and Marian, Lena who is initially pessimistic that her fate is determined then became optimistic and has the hope of choosing her own destiny path and what she will become. Lena starts to think clearly and starts think about how she will not be able to be claimed as a Dark Caster.

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3.2 The Motive that Leads Lena Duchannes Does Something Different from Caster's Tradition

In the first problem, it has explained about Lena's character and characterization. Then, the writer wants to describe about the motive that leads Lena Duchannes does something different from Caster's tradition. Those motives are very influential which affect Lena to take decisions against Caster's Tradition.

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3.2.1 Lena Wants to Feel Like an Ordinary Girl

There are a lot of children who can't enjoy their social life because they are limited by their family so they can't get their existence, Like Lena whose her life is limited by her uncle. Lena is a migrant girl, since before entering the school Lena has become the talk of people in school because she is the nephew of Macon Ravenwood. Macon himself is someone who is not accepted in Gatlin, Macon is

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never seen out of his house so there is a variety of gossip about Macon and his family.

Macon Melchizedek Ravenwood was the town shit-in. let's just say, I remember enough of *To Kill A Mockingbird* to know Old Man Ravenwood mad Boo Radley look like a social butterfly. He lived in a run-down old house, on Gatlin's oldest and most infamous plantation, and I didn't think anyone in town had seen since before I was born, maybe longer.

“Are you serious?” asked Link.

“Totally, Carlton Eaton told my mom yesterday when he brought by our mail.”

Savanna nodded. “My mama heard the same thing. She moved in with Old Man Ravenwood a couple days ago, from Virginia, or Maryland, I don’t remember.”

They all kept talking about her, her clothes and her hair and her uncle and what a freak she probably was. That's the thing I hate most about Gatlin. The way everyone had something to say about everything you said or did or, in this case, wore. (Garcia & Stohl 13)

Since the beginning of her new school entrance, Lena has no friends.

Because besides she is the nephew of Macon Ravenwood, Lena's appearance is also considered to be strange by the people at her school. Lena even goes to school by driving her uncle's hearse. Lena has always been treated unpleasantly by the people at her school, but not with Ethan. Ethan feels Lena is a special girl, it is makes Ethan always tries to be friends with Lena.

Lena and Ethan then become friends and get closer. Ethan is very impressed by Lena because Lena never cares about her friends at her school. Then Ethan knows the fact that Lena and her family are not ordinary people, they are Caster. Although at first Lena hesitates to tell Ethan because Lena is afraid that Ethan will leave her, because Lena wants to be like a normal girl who has friends.

“My family is different from other families. Trust me, you can’t handle it.”

“I don’t want to tell you. Because this could be my last chance to be a normal girl, even if it is Gatlin. Because you’re my only friend here. Because if I tell you, you won’t believe me. Or worse, you will. (Garcia & Stohl 57)

“Ridley and I were like a sister. We slept in the same room and we were home-schooled together. When we moved to Virginia, we convinced my grandma to let us to go to a regular school. We wanted to make friends, be normal. The only time we ever spoke to Mortals was when Grandma took us on one of her outings to the museums, the opera, or lunch at Olde Pink House.”

“It was a disaster. Our clothes were wrong, we didn’t have a TV, we turned in all our homework. We were total losers.” (Garcia & Stohl 76)

“With my uncle, the infamous Macon Ravenwood, who thinks school is a waste of time and the good citizens of Gatlin are to be avoided at all costs? He’ll be thrilled.”

are not destined to be together. They can't physically together without killing each other. Thus Macon says that their relationship is impossible.

“...that you and Ethan can never be together, not physically. Casters and Lilum cannot be with Mortals.” She smiled, relishing the moment. “At least not without killing them.”

Casters cannot be with Mortals without killing them.

It all made sense now. The elemental connection between us. The electricity, the shortness of breath whenever we kissed, the heart attack that had almost killing me – we couldn't be together physically.

“That you and Ethan can never really be together. You can never marry, never have children. You can never have future, at least not a real future.” (Garcia & Stohl 204-205)

As explained above, the second reason why Lena does something different resists Caster tradition is because Lena falls in love with Ethan who is a Mortal, but her tradition not freely allowing Lena to have a relationship with Mortal. Although both of their family dislike each other and try to keep them away, there is even a story about the history of their great-grandparents who do not end happily because Caster and Mortal are not destined to be together. But they are still struggling with their relationship.

3.2.3 Lena's Family Have No Free Will

Every Caster at the age of sixteen will be Claimed. They can choose whether they will be a Light Caster or a Dark Caster, just as the average human can choose to be a good person or a bad person, but to Caster that nature will last a lifetime. And once Claimed it will not be changed.

But Lena is told that her family doesn't have the free will to choose her own way of life whether to be a Light Caster or a Dark Caster, when they turn into sixteen, their destiny is determined by their nature.

“Things had already gone wrong by then. Ridley turned sixteen. Then she was gone, and I had to leave school.” (Garcia & Stohl 149)

The next day, though after being embarrassed Lena still chooses to go to school and confront them. Lena knows she'll be blamed for the chaos at the party last night.

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The Parents feel uncomfortable with Lena's existence at school. They make petitions and gain support for Lena's kick from school. They hold a disciplinary committee meeting to get Lena out, they make up stories and make fake mistakes that Lena did not even do. The parents also attack Lena brutally with false accusations. They fabricate the story that Lena has a psychiatric illness and attacked the students in her old school. One of the parents even drags about the case of Lena's parents.

“That’s impossible.” I could barely hear Lena’s voice in the shrieking wind. (Garcia & Stohl 202)

“I don’t understand.” Lena’s legs gave out from under her and she fell to her knees in the mud and tall grass, her long black hair dripping around her. “You’ve always had a choice. Your uncle has always known that.” (Garcia & Stohl 202)

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you will be capable of that kind of evil. Isn't that right, Sarafine? Tell Lena what happened to her father, since you are such a proponent of the truth." (Garcia & Stohl 205)

However, what Lena chooses has consequences. Lena's fear finally comes true. Lena chants the dark spell of The Book of Moons, and the book asks for a change. Finally Macon sacrifices himself, Macon was killed.

“Amma, where’s Ethan? What happened?”

But she didn't answer me. For the first time ever, Amma was speechless. She was staring at Uncle Macon's body, dazed.

“Never thought it would end like this, Melchizedek. After all those years, holdin’ the weight a the world on our shoulders together.”

“Amma, what’s going on?”

She raised her eyes to meet mine, her voice barely a whisper. “You can’t get somethin’ from the Book, without givin’ somethin’ in return.” (Garcia & Stohl 214)

At first, Lena feels depressed because she does not have the choice to determine her own life. But when he already has a choice, Lena is also burdened because her choice has consequences that affect her family. When Lena chooses to be the Caster of Light, then her uncle, Macon, who is a Lilum of the dark will die. And if he chooses to be a Dark Caster, Lena can save his uncle and Ethan, but Lena must sacrifice his family from the Light Caster.

Lena then chooses to spell the dark magic from The Book of Moon, and Lena's choice asks for reciprocity. Macon, Lena's uncle finally died. And as a result of that choice Lena had to endure the pain of losing an uncle who has cared for and protected Lena since childhood. Lena keeps locking herself up after her uncle's death because of a decision Lena has chosen to sacrifice her loved ones.

“I know there’s nothin’ I can say that’ll keep you from doin’ it. (Garcia & Stohl 212)

Lena knows if chanting a dark spell to revive someone is crossed of the laws of nature, there are huge consequences like what Genevieve has done in the past. Amma who initially forbades Lena then help Lena, and she hopes it will work.

BLOOD OF MY HEART, PROTECTION IS THINE. LIFE OF MY
LIFE, TAKING YOURS, TAKING MINE. BODY OF MY BODY,
MARROW AND MIND, SOUL OF MY SOUL, TO OUR SPIRIT BIND.
BLOOD OF MY HEART, MY TIDES, MY MOON. BLOOD OF MY
HEART. MY SALVATION, MY DOOM. Lightning struck me, the Book,
the crypt, and Amma. (Garcia & Stohl 213)

From the explanation above we can see how Lena shows her existence by fight for her relationship even for some people especially Lena's Family, Lena's decision to make relationship with Mortal is a wrong way. Lena's family always tries to separate Lena and Ethan because in her family, Caster could not have a

always wants be Light Caster because she won't be bad person. So Lena figures out how to make her Claimed to be a Light Caster.

One day they came to Ethan's house, and there they get a clue by accident. The clue is from Lila, Ethan's mother that was dead. It is seem impossible, but Lila is like giving Lena and Ethan help from another world. Ethan's mother codes for Lena to Claim herself. But Lena still does not understand because Lena does not know how to Claim herself.

“There are 26 letters in the alphabet, right?”

“Yeah.”

“

“If A is 1 and B is 2—let me write it out.”

“Careful. Sometimes I used to do it backward, where Z was 1.”

“25, 15, 21, 18, 19, 5, 12, 6.” I looked at Lena, and held out the paper. I was already a step ahead. “I think—it’s meant for you.”

It was as clear as if my mom was standing in the study, telling us in her own words, with her own voice.

CLAIMYOURSELF

It was a message for Lena.

My mom was there, in some form, in some sense, in some universe. My mom was still my mom, even if she only lived in books and door locks and the smell of fried tomatoes and old paper.

She lived. (Garcia & Stohl 169)

Even when Lena and Ethan studied The Book of Moons, Ethan finds an explanation about the day of Claimed. As written in The Book of Moons Lena explains to Ethan that every Caster could choose to be a Dark Caster or a Light Caster. And the nature will be permanently attached to the Caster who has Claimed.

“... UNTIL THE DARKENING BRINGES THE TYME OF
CLAYMING, AT THE SIXTEENTHE MOONE, WHEN THE PERSON
OF POWERE HAS THE FREEDOME OF WILLE & AGENCIE TO
CASTE THE ETERNAL CHOICE, IN THE END OF DAYE, OR THE
LASTE MOMENT OF THE LAST OURE, UNDER THE CLAYMING
MOONE...”

T. S. Eliot. Robert Frost. Bukowski. I recognized some of the poets from her shelf and her walls. Except for the Frost, Lena got it backward, which wasn't like her. Nothing gold can stay, that's how the poem goes. Not green.

Seventeen moons, seventeen years,
Eyes where Dark or Light appears,
Gold for yes and green for no,
Seventeen the last to know. (Garcia & Stohl 217)

At first Lena know that she and her family have no free will and can't chose over
Claimed as Light or Dark Caster because of the curse of his great-grandmother

Genevieve. But even so Lena would not give up, Lena tries to find a way so she could decide her own fate. By looking for a moon book that has cursed Genevieve, Lena studying and searching for ways or spells that could remove Genevieve's curse or a way to avoid being Claimed as a Dark Caster.

Until at last Lena know that she has the choice to decide her fate. Sarafine, Lena's mother offers Lena to become a Dark Caster and gives her a way to live with her loved ones and not to kill her beloved uncle, Macon. But Lena refuses to accept it, she still chooses her own choice and won't be a Dark Caster. Lena decides to Claim herself to be half Light and half Dark to save her whole family, a choice that has not been in his family all this time.

