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Bryce Quinlan's life took a drastic turn when her closest friends were brutally murdered by a demon, leaving her shattered and determined to seek revenge. As the investigation unfolds, she finds herself entangled in a web of dark magic, danger, and mystery. Hunt Athalar, a notorious Fallen angel with unparalleled strength, is offered an irresistible deal: help Bryce find the murderer, and he'll be granted his freedom. As they delve into Crescent City's underbelly, they discover a sinister force that threatens everything they hold dear. Amidst the chaos, they find an unlikely bond in each other, forged by passion and driven by their quest for justice and freedom.Bryce Quinlan, a 23-year-old half-Fae assistant at Griffin Antiquities, finds herself at the center of an investigation. Her goal is to avenge her friends' deaths and she will do whatever it takes to achieve this objective. Hunt Athalar, a notorious Fallen angel, is now enslaved to the Archangels he once tried to overthrow. He has been forced to use his skills for one purpose: assassinating enemies without question.However, an offer from Bryce changes everything - help her find the murderer, and she'll be granted her freedom. As they delve deeper into Crescent City's underworld, they uncover a dark power that threatens everything and everyone they hold dear. In each other, they discover a burning passion that could set them both free if they'd only let it.This fantasy series by #1 New York Times bestselling author Sarah J. Maas offers unforgettable characters, sizzling romance, and page-turning suspense. It explores the heartache of loss, the price of freedom, and the power of love.Asphodel Meadows is the human district without a Head, while Bryce was tasked by Jesiba to find Luna's stolen Horn, an ancient Fae relic. Bryce and Danika plan to undergo the Drop into immortality together at 27, which will grant them full power and slow their aging. However, as a half-human who hasn't Dropped yet, Bryce is considered vulnerable, relying on a pricey Archesian amulet for protection from magical influence. Her father is an important Fae with a powerful son, her half-brother Ruhn Danaan.Danika's pack includes Connor and five others, while Ithan, brother to Bryce and Connor, is an honorary member. Danika and Bryce also befriend Fury, a mysterious individual of unknown pedigree, and Juniper, a faun ballet dancer. After stopping by the Heart Gate in Old Square, they attend a flat gathering with their pack to commiserate over Briggs' release.Bryce meets Reid Redner, human heir to magi-tech company Redner Industries, on a date arranged by Danika. However, she rejects him when he's late and instead texts Connor to go out with him, meeting Fury and Juniper at the club for an evening of partying. Afterward, Bryce returns home to find her door smashed and discovers a demon feasting on a downed angel; she chases it off but gets injured in the process.Bryce is taken to a holding cell where she's watched over by two angels: Isaiah and Hunt Athalar. Hunt, known as the Umbra Mortis or Shadow of Death, has a rare affinity for lightning and was part of the 200-year-old angel rebellion against the Asteri and Republic's hierarchy. When Ruhn calls, he reveals himself to be Bryce's distant cousin.They unexpectedly let go of Bryce, who is none other than the Autumn King's son and the Crown Prince of the Valbaran Fae. He also possesses extremely rare Starborn magic and has control over mist and shadows. Some even speculate that he is telepathic. With no choice but to release him, Isaiah lets Bryce go. Meanwhile, Briggs gets arrested for summoning a demon that killed the Pack.Days later, Ithan sends a text to Bryce saying she's not invited to Danika's funeral.Two years after that, Bryce meets Maximus Tertian, a 200-year-old vampyr, at the White Raven to sell him an artifact. However, Hunt and Isaiah visit her at the shop later on and inform her that Tertian was killed after their meeting, with injuries matching those of Danika's.Micah shows up and asks for Bryce's help in finding the killer as she's the only link between the murders. He needs to keep things under control before Archangel Sandriel's visit and the Summit next month, a significant event where Valbara's ruling powers discuss policy. It turns out that Hunt used to be owned by Sandriel, governor of northwest Pangera, and was even her twin brother Shahar's lover. She spent 53 years trying to break him but failed. Micah made a deal with Hunt, saying he'd free him if he took one life for every life he had during the rebellion - so far, he's taken 82 of the 2217 he needs to.Micah assigns Hunt to protect Bryce and help her investigate the murders as an incentive, he'll lower his debts to ten assignments if he solves the case quickly. Ruhn visits his father but doesn't know that the Oracle foresaw their royal line ending with Ruhn. The Autumn King wants him to consider a political marriage to Hypaxia, the new witch queen, and tasks him with finding Luna's Horn, which he hopes will rekindle the Fae's power.Bryce suspects the Viper Queen of the murders but visits her and finds out she had an alibi. She then meets Ruhn, who tells her that the Horn was once in possession of Pelias, the first Starborn Prince, who used it to fight demon hordes during the First War.However, this led to a new demon being created - the Kristallos - which is connected to the murders and seems to be calling out to both the Horn and Ruhn's own Starborn power. Before he dies, Pelias banishes the demons to Hel but leaves behind the broken Horn.Another body is found, an acolyte of Luna's Temple, and Hunt confesses to Bryce that the angel she saved was actually Micah - though Micah doesn't want anyone knowing this. Hunt also reveals he suspected Bryce for a time before storming off.Around-the-clock protection surrounds Ruhn as he uncovers a hidden truth about Prince Pelias' family. The Starborn's connection to the Horn is revealed, requiring "light that is not light" and "magic that is not magic" to repair it. Meanwhile, Declan discovers Danika was at Luna's Temple on the night of the theft. Hunt seeks guidance from the Oracle but is told to stay away from Bryce. Bryce shares a cryptic message about his visit when he was 13, revealing the Oracle's blindness for a week. As they investigate further, another murder occurs near ley lines, and Declan finds swapped camera footage from that night. Suspicions fall on Sabine, Danika's mother, who had access to swap the footage. Bryce and Hunt then track Viktoria, a wraith in Micah's Triarii, who leads them to FiRo, where they follow unusual temperature variations. They visit Tharion, the River Queen's Captain of Intelligence, and ask him to monitor for any anomalies. Next, they confront Sabine, who denies Danika was at the Temple that night and accuses Bryce of her murder. Ithan and Amelie are hostile towards Bryce, believing she cheated on Connor before his death. In the past, their behavior pushed Bryce close to taking her own life, but Juniper intervened. After a fight with the Kristallos, Hunt's magic is neutralized by the demon's bite, but they're able to defeat it together. Sabine arrives, gun in hand, and accuses Bryce of killing Danika, revealing that Danika stole the Horn and Sabine covered for her. Bryce remains in shock for five days before Ruhn shares news about a new synthetic healing drug called synth. Tharion discovers eight bodies he believes were killed by the Kristallos, raising questions about Danika's true killer. Aidas, Prince of the Chasm, appears to help Bryce and Hunt, revealing that Asteri have spun false tales about Hel and deeper demons have no interest in Midgard.Viktoria discovers her new, potent acquisition: Nkk, an aquatic entity with lethal capabilities. The investigation into Danika's murder reveals Redner Industries had redacted information about a synthetic substance containing obsidian salt, used to summon demons. Tharion provides crucial evidence that Danika was involved in trading the substance before her death. Meanwhile, Bryce commemorates Danika's anniversary by buying croissants, only to find one with "trash" iced onto it, sparking a violent confrontation.The group convenes to discuss their actions, and Sabine demands retribution against Hunt for attacking Amelie. Micah, however, refuses to kill Hunt but cuts off his wings as punishment. During the meeting, Bryce reveals her secret bargain with the Under-King, trading her eternal resting place in the Bone Quarter for Danika's passage. Bryce discovers incriminating evidence of synth experiments on Danika's Redner Industries accounts, which led to the murder of a pack of vanir. As Hunt sleeps, Bryce finds her old flat on fire and receives an urgent call from Tharion about a deal going down by the river.The scene unfolds with the Viper Queen selling synth to Hunt, while Micah and others arrive, revealing Hunt's plan to distribute synth among rebels. However, it was later discovered that Danika had stolen the formula two years ago and sold it to Tertian, who became an addict. The obsidian in the synthetic substance was responsible for summoning the Kristallos, which killed indiscriminately.In the aftermath, Hunt is locked up, Justinian is publicly crucified, and Viktoria is brutally torn from her body and left at the bottom of an ocean trench. Part Four begins with Sandriel torturing Hunt with a slideshow of photos he took with Bryce, claiming ownership over him. A medwitch delivers a vial of synth antidote to Bryce, which she stores in Jesiba's safe, leading to her decision to proceed with caution.Hunt cannot be left to his fate, no matter what happens. As Sandriel escorts Hunt out of his cell, Bryce offers to buy him but is refused. Ruhn rescinds the offer and Bryce is attacked by Kristallos. The Summit has begun with many attending, including Sandriel, Hunt, Fury, Jesiba, and Queen Hypaxia. During the meeting, Micah arrives secretly in the archives and sends live footage of an interaction to the screens. It is revealed that Micah has known about the Library of Parthos for a long time and its existence challenges the vanir's right to rule. The Priestesses who protected the library are also found to be the original owners of the Archesian amulets, with Bryce being the Horn. Danika had stolen the amulet, ground it into dust, mixed it with witch ink, and tattooed it on Bryce's back without her consent. Micah plans to use the Horn to summon an army from another world.As Micah seeks to claim the Horn's power, he plots to manipulate events to unfold in his favor. He targets Danika, hiding the Horn and using Briggs as a scapegoat to mislead those searching for it. Meanwhile, Bryce is unwittingly pulled into the game after Micah seeds the idea of searching for the Horn in her mind. As Bryce navigates the complex web of intrigue, she finds herself hunted by Micah, who injects her with synth and uses the Kristallos to guide her toward the Horn. The stakes escalate as Micah orchestrates a series of events, including a bomb detonation and an attack on Bryce's flat. When Bryce finally discovers the truth, she confronts Micah and ultimately dispatches him in a brutal showdown.As the city descends into chaos, Bryce faces off against demonic hordes unleashed by the Horn's power. With the shelters closing their doors, she joins forces with Ithan and other non-magical creatures to protect the innocent from the infernal invasion. As the last of the shelters seal themselves, Bryce makes a heroic sacrifice, pushing Ithan inside just as the doors close, leaving herself outside to face the impending doom alone.Micah's machinations have set in motion a catastrophic sequence of events, and it remains to be seen how Bryce will survive the coming apocalypse.The Asteri's plan was foiled by Bryce's heroic actions. She, the heir to the Starborn Fae, had more Light than any since the First Wars. Using her unique power, she commanded the Horn to close the Gate's portal and protect the city from invasion. Meanwhile, Hunt managed to escape with his friends after Sandriel was killed. As the Asterian Guard bombed the city, Bryce found shelter but was injured, only to be saved by Hunt who took a direct hit to shield her body.When she came to, Bryce realized that her own power and connection to the Gate could be used for good or harm. She called out for an Anchor to help guide her back to life during the Drop, a process where her body would die but generate massive power. In desperation, she asked Danika's remnant, which still lingered in the Bone Quarter Gate, to anchor her.Bryce made the Drop, sacrificing herself to harness the power of the Firstlight and channel it through the ley lines to heal the city and close the portals. The result was nothing short of miraculous - buildings were restored, injuries healed, and demons fled as the portals closed. After briefly ascending, Bryce chose to return and speak with Danika's remnant, which managed to boost her back to life.As she regained consciousness, Hunt administered chest compressions until she woke up fully. Rigelus, one of the Asteri, called in gratitude for their help, lifting Hunt's SPQR tattoo as a symbol of forgiveness and urging them to use their powers discreetly from then on.They'll face the consequences if they do something wrong. Jesiba meets Aidas at the Oracles Park. She questions him about his secrets regarding Bryce and learns that he couldn't trust anyone with the truth. Aidas had previously thought Theia's Light was destroyed when she died fighting Pelias on their last battlefield, but it has been discovered to be within Bryce. He mentions Hunt's father would have been proud of what Hunt did, yet only Jesiba truly understood him. Jesiba moves the Library and warns Aidas not to betray them this time, and he assures her he won't. That's a wrap on House of Earth and Blood. If you enjoyed our summary with spoilers, you might be eager to read the book. You can purchase House of Earth and Blood or continue with its sequels like House and Sky and Breath by clicking the links provided. We'd love for you to join our team if you're passionate about reading and writing; check out our contributor page for more information. In exchange, we offer promotion for your blog, website, or social media account. 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