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Hunter's Green

Project Hand-Over Notes

Dear Kelly,

Thank you again for choosing my service to edit your manuscript. The story has great promise, but too much of the action happens in the last few chapters and needs to be spread throughout the book from the first chapter.

The following notes have been composed to help you polish your story and consist of two parts. Firstly, you will find a list of action points. These give you a chapter by chapter bulleted outline of your story listing your main action points which will let you see where the story slows down, and where more needs to happen.

The second part gives chapter by chapter advice on what needs to change and what needs to stay. These notes expand upon the in-text comments within your edited manuscript. Your manuscript has been returned as a Word document with tracked changes. To accept or decline changes, go into the review tab within Microsoft Word. This will allow you to review them one at a time.

I hope these notes are of help to you and if you have any further questions I would be delighted to answer them.

Kind regards,
Anna Johnstone

ACTION POINTS

CHAPTER 1

- Alyssa gets dressed for school. She is filled with a sense of nervousness but cannot work out why. This is good and should be developed as it builds tension, however very little more is said about this over the course of the rest of the chapter. You need to build on her sense of foreboding.
- Alyssa makes breakfast in a daydream interspersed with long passages of backstory which do very little to further the plot.
- Alyssa walks to school with friends
- Alyssa notices a boy in the row behind her staring at her.
 - Finds out he's in her class
- Meets David.
 - Decides she likes him but doesn't fancy him.
- Adam and David appear to dislike each other.
- Jade flirts with Adam
- Alyssa invites Sophie and Emily to the bowling alley over the weekend.

CHAPTER 2

- Netball practice after school
- Alyssa tells Sophie and Amelia how Adam looked straight through her you need to make it more clear how he made her feel uncomfortable, and possibly raise the question of how all three of the new boys got onto the basketball team on the first day. Alyssa has a weird feeling end here is the opportunity to emphasise it.
- Alyssa has an unexplained dizzy spell.

CHAPTER 3

- Alyssa overhears Liam, David, and Adam talking about someone dangerous.
- Alyssa tries to probe David for information.
- The friends arrange to meet up in the evening.

CHAPTER 4

- They make their way to the Long walk,
 - Messing around taking pictures.
 - Something in one of the pictures scares them and they decide to go home.

- Alyssa has a dream about her childhood imaginary friend.
- Alyssa and Jade have a row and Alyssa tries to 'uninvite' Jade who refuses to be left out.

CHAPTER 5

- Alyssa cooks for her parents and gets ready to go out.
- Meets friends outside her house
- Plays a joke on Liam and David
- They go for a pizza
 - Alyssa notices that Liam, Adam, and David aren't eating
- They see a film and head home
 - There is an argument between Alyssa and Jade.
- Adam, Liam, and David insist on escorting everyone home, bar Jade who is sent home in a taxi

CHAPTER 6

- Alyssa meets up with her friends and goes to the bowling ally
 - Perfect score but finds it odd.
 - Notices Liam, Adam, and David keeping an eye on her.
 - David tries to fob her off, telling her that there is nothing to worry about.
- Alyssa has another dizzy spell
 - Notices that David and Liam don't have anything to eat.
- They begin to plan a joint birthday party.
 - David volunteers his uncle's house.

CHAPTER 7

- Alyssa corners Liam
 - Liam tells her what they were trying to get out of David.
- Alyssa has a row with Adam about him acting out of character and suddenly being concerned about her.
 - Demands to know the real reason that they were talking about her.
 - She clearly does not trust him
- Alyssa has another strange dizzy spell
- Alyssa goes for a run with her mother, and feels like she's being watched again
 - Alyssa talks to her mother about Adam
- Alyssa goes home and decides not to go to Sophie's to talk about the party.

- She receives a text from David
 - He has taken over control of the party and will arrange all the details with Adam and Liam. Tells Alyssa that his uncle has agreed to the party being at his house, but that his uncle is not one for company and doesn't want people around all the time.

CHAPTER 8

- Alyssa meets Adam in the Garden.
 - She tells him about her imaginary friend

CHAPTER 9

- The taxi is late.
- They arrive at the party
 - Alyssa notices the groups of new people staring at her
 - Liam dances with Alyssa
 - Adam dances with Alyssa
 - Olivia speaks to Alyssa about Adam. So that they cannot be together because one of them will end up being hurt. Adam is not pleased about his sister speaking with Alyssa.
 - Justin dances with Alyssa
- Alyssa notices that the three new groups are all on their guard, but wary of each other than they are of the partygoers.
- Alyssa gets lost looking for the bathroom. Meets David's uncle

CHAPTER 10

- Jade confronts Alyssa.
 - Seems to think she is in a relationship with Adam, and that Alyssa is trying to divert him.
- David tries to kiss Alyssa. She is not pleased tries to push him away, but he won't seem to take no for an answer.
 - Angered by the refusal, David's face changes.
- Adam steps in and sends David back to the party
- Adam arranges a taxi for him and Alyssa to go home
- Adam somehow manages to get into her house without a key and knows that her parents are asleep in the lounge. Knows where her bedroom is and claims it's because he saw the

light go on? How would he have known that if he wasn't loitering in the garden before he called.

- Alyssa confronts Adam with her questions.
 - Adam answers without actually answering
- Sophie, Amelia, and Justin go round for pizza,
 - Alyssa tells Sophie and Amelia while she went home early, but deliberately does not tell her friends what Adam told her.
 - They sit watching TV

CHAPTER 11

- Alyssa waits for everyone to be asleep and then goes out to the garden.
- Adam turns up and tells her that he has to take her to meet one of her relatives on Wednesday
 - Tells Alyssa that he had been tasked to watch over her, but not by who.
 - Asks Alyssa not to tell Liam or David that he had been there talking to her.
- David apologises for what happened at the party
 - Sophie is no longer convinced that David can be trusted and points out that they have not known them long enough to judge their characters.
- The group arranges sleepover at Amar's on the following Friday.

CHAPTER 12

- Alyssa tells her friends that she is going into town rather than walking home.
 - Goes to meet Adam.
- Alyssa meets the person who called her to meet her
 - Adam, David, and Liam tell Alyssa what they really are.
 - Liam changes into his werewolf form to prove to Alyssa that they are not lying.
- Alyssa learns who Lucille really is.
 - Learns that her powers will come when she reaches 16.

CHAPTER 13

- Lucille gifts Alyssa with a protective talisman.
 - Instructs Alyssa not to tell anybody what she learned that evening.
- Alyssa goes to the garden to dig for more information from Adam.
- Alyssa and Adam kiss as part of a party game.

CHAPTER 14

- The girls get ready for bed. They talk about the boys and kissing
- They sit down to watch a film.
- Adam takes Alyssa's hand under the blanket.
- Alyssa worries that Liam might be her pair, which would hurt Amelia and begins to panic
- Alyssa notices that David and Liam seem hostile to Adam when they get back in from the garden after Alyssa get some air.

- Adam tells them that some of their friends will be joining them on the picnic. The group is not certain of them.
- The group play rugby, and Alyssa allows her powers to surface.
 - There is a falling out between David and his friends.

CHAPTER 15

- They eat lunch.
 - Alyssa goes to play rugby again
 - Alyssa is joined by David and Adam
 - David explains that Oliver had been causing trouble all morning.
 - Olivia catches up with Alyssa, and asks her what been going on between her and Adam
 - Alyssa won't tell her
 - Reassures Olivia that this is nothing going on between them and that Adam is not interested in a relationship with her.
 - Olivia seems surprised and can't believe that Alyssa can't see it.

- Amelia comes round to meet Alyssa to go shopping.
 - Alyssa and Amelia discuss Adam and his friends
 - Amelia asks Alyssa what's been bothering her. She's not herself and she's wondering if it has anything to do with Adam.
 - Adam informs Alyssa that she will be going to see Lucille again on the following Wednesday
 - Alyssa is woken by something in her room
 - Something is outside her window

- Alyssa is worried by what she saw outside her window.
 - Adam had gone back to his old insular self.
 - Alyssa goes to meet Lucille again. Adam's family are there for some reason.
 - Adam's family explain the connection between green and Fae magic

- They tell her that the experiences with dizziness will increase and intensify as she gets closer to her sixteenth birthday.
- Alyssa asks what happened to her parents.
- Lucille explains that her sisters anger increased over time and punishing Lucille and Joseph with the curse hadn't satisfied her need for revenge.
- Lucille's sister killed her daughter, Meralda, and then every generation after that.

CHAPTER 16

- Alyssa makes a decision to do all she can to prepare herself for facing Evelyn.
- Adam's parents explain that they've known every member of her family and that they are older than Lucille.
- Lucille tells Alyssa that Alexander and Osanna have been working as double agents to protect Alyssa's family.
- Alyssa discovers that Adam's parents hope that she will be the one to end Evelyn's role and become the new Queen.

CHAPTER 17

- Lucille tells Alyssa said that she should not be with her adoptive parents when she goes through her changes and invite her to stay with her.
- When Alyssa gets home, she starts to feel panicky again and has a dizzy spell.
 - Once she can see again, she finds Adam pinning her down.
- Adam and Alyssa go out into the garden to discuss their relationship.
 - Adam and Alyssa kiss again
 - Adam tells her that he will be avoiding her from now on
- Sophie tells Alyssa that Adam and Jade are suddenly officially a couple even though Adam has not once paid her any real interest.
- Alyssa has a dizzy episode at school and feels her powers coming to the surface.
 - Begins to physically change
 - Alyssa goes home from school and decides to avoid her friends over the weekend.
 - Adam turns up in her room.
- Alyssa tells of them off about going out with Jade when he knows how horrible he she is to everybody.
- Alyssa tells Adam to pass the job of protecting her onto David on Liam, so she wouldn't have to see him again.
- Alyssa sinks into a depressive state.

CHAPTER 18

- Alyssa's mother comes to check on her

- Alyssa goes downstairs to eat
 - Her parents talk about work
 - Alyssa brings up the subject of Lucille and not having her birthday party at home. She tells her mother that Lucille is a cousin and her mother's side.
 - Alyssa calls Amelia to discuss Saturday night. Adam has been told not to bring Jade along when he hangs out with them.
 - Alyssa tells Amelia that she isn't really that bothered about Adam and Jade
 - Decides to tell them what she can about Lucille.
 - Alyssa is woken in the night by a nightmare about Evelyn
 - Alyssa goes for a run and feels like she's being watched.
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- Alyssa tells her friends about meeting Lucille. Amelia has more trouble taking in the news than Sophie.
 - Adam arrived the party despite having told Alyssa that he will be staying away from her.
 - Alyssa doesn't appreciate the way Adam cosies up to her parents, and thinks he's trying to go out of his way to hurt her.

CHAPTER 19

- Alyssa's mother tells gives her impressions of Adam, Liam and David.
 - Back at school, Alyssa has to cope with seeing Adam with Jade again. Jade seems to be going out of her way to rub it in Alyssa's face.
 - Amar talks to Alyssa about Adam. He is noticed that Adam is always looking at her and can't understand why his with Jade even if he isn't interested in her. He also thinks Adam is in love with Alyssa.
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- Lucille tells Alyssa that she is planning a party for Adam's birthday, and all Alyssa's friends would be invited.
 - Alyssa meets friends of Lucille's who say she looks like her mother.
 - Adam's parents disapprove of Jade
 - Alyssa and Lucille discuss immortality

CHAPTER 20

- Alyssa asks Lucille how she copes every time she loses a family member.
- Alyssa asks Lucille what her parents were like.
 - Lucille tells her what her parents looked like, and that her father was a werewolf.
 - Alyssa tells Lucille what her mother about her.
- Alyssa sees the face outside her window again.
 - Adam shows up and asks when she was going to tell him.
- Adam joins Alyssa's family for Christmas dinner.

CHAPTER 21

- Alyssa and her mother wrap emergency presents for Adam
- Adam opens his present, and claims to like it, but Alyssa is not convinced.
 - Adam confesses to having read her diary which is why he bought her a new one with the lock
 - Adam explains that only she can unlock it.
 - Does this mean that even if somebody has key, it won't work for them? If so, you should explain this.
 - Adam tells her of a belief that her family will end Evelyn's rule.
- Alyssa's uncle digs for a little more information about her and Adam stops he is convinced that they are just friends.
- Alyssa realises she painted her childhood imaginary friend into her art assignment without having meant to.
 - Alyssa is becoming worried about the face at her window, now that she knows that she wasn't imagining things.
- Lucille meets Alyssa's adoptive parents
- Adam tells Alyssa that Olivia will be watching her the next day, as he is going fishing with Alyssa's father.

CHAPTER 22

- Alyssa decides to go to the library to read up on ferries and folklore. None of it matches what she already knows.
- Alyssa feels like she's being followed, and not by Adam.
 - Alyssa realises she's not wearing her protection talisman.
 - Oliver steps out from the shadows and attacks her.
 - Adam comes to her rescue after Alyssa tries to escape.
- Adam takes Alyssa to see Lucille for healing
 - Oliver is taken to face Joseph.
- Adam takes Alyssa home.
 - Adam tells her parents that she was mugged.

CHAPTER 23

- Alyssa's parents are angry that Alyssa was late home.
- At school David and Liam bombard Alyssa with questions. Liam tries to make out that Oliver's behaviour was David's fault, but Alyssa defends him saying that even though she didn't like him, she had not expected him to attack her.
 - Liam holds David responsible for the actions of his friend.

- Alyssa remembers the anger and resentment Oliver held toward David. She knows that his attack had something to do with him.
- Alyssa suggest a girley night in to distract Sophie from prying about David.
- David is upset about what happened to Oliver but acknowledges that he had been growing more out of control.
- Sophie and Amelia go back to Alyssa's house for dinner and they talk about David and Liam
 - The conversation moves on to... Week away with Lucille and they offered to help her pack.
 - Alyssa decides she feels sorry for Jade because she knows that Adam is only going out with her to make her jealous

CHAPTER 24

- Alyssa's parents drive her to Lucille's house.
- Lucille tells Alyssa the names of her real parents
- Alyssa has a week to master control of her new powers or she will not be able to go home.
- Alyssa requests that she be left in peace to undergo the change alone.
 - Lucille reassures Alyssa that the change will not hurt
 - Lucille leads her up to her room.
- Alyssa unpacks her belongings and answers her messages.
- Alyssa has a nightmare about Oliver.
- Alyssa begins to change
- Alyssa finds her new-found strength difficult to deal with.
- Goes downstairs to find out who her parents and is relieved it isn't Liam or David
- Adam turns out to be her pair, but his cruel behaviour towards Alyssa is too much to forgive.

EXPANDED ADVICE

PROLOGUE

See in-text comments.

CHAPTER 1

Chapter 1 is very lengthy and you use a lot of time describing their classes. A better idea would be to break it into scenes between break times and lunch time, and make more use of dialogue. For the first chapter you need to do more to maintain the reader's interest as not a lot happens in this Chapter 2 justify length stop I also think you could emphasise the weirdness around David Ryan and Adam by having strange things happen around them such as flickering lights, or sparking electric sockets which would hint at least about something strange and supernatural about them. For this to be a fantasy novel something fantastical needs to be happening straight away. For instance, *Neverwhere* by Neil Gaiman, begins in the real world and Neil emphasises how mundane his everyday life is. The weirdness starts very quickly when Richard comes across an injured lady Door who materialises out of nowhere in front of him shows the reader straight away, not only what kind of person he is but also that something very strange is about to happen to him.

The reader needs to be introduced to Adam, David and Liam far earlier in the chapter (preferably within the first three pages), but there is something clearly quite strange about all three of them and you bring this across very well (creep factor eight). In order to bring this introduction forward I would remove a great deal of the backstory to keep the momentum of the narrative flowing. Remember this is about your main character's perceptions and reactions, and she can hardly react when very little is actually happening.. While it is good that you have a detailed image of where your main character lives the reader doesn't need to know about the layout of the house she lives in what her parents day unless it is pertinent to action points within the plot. Young adult fiction tends to be character driven rather than plot driven, and backstory which doesn't move the story forwards will not hold their interest.

The in text comments will indicate where I think sections should be removed. The tension and mystery around Adam, Liam, and David is good but not you need to do more to emphasise Alyssa's feeling of foreboding, her sense of imminent danger (real or imagined), and what is at stake (her exam results). There are some minor inconsistencies between what the characters say and do but nothing that can't be fixed or developed. You introduced Jade as a mean girl and then have how greet the group nicely, no catty barbs are thrown, and there is no discernible tension

between Jade and the rest of the group. You need to make Jade and Lauren visible antagonists within the narrative.

This chapter needs a hook to keep the reader going. Something dramatic needs to happen to keep the reader interested. Had something strange happened during practice that the girls could discuss on the phone in the next chapter?

CHAPTER 2

If Jade's presence is a worry to Alyssa, then you need to have made the reason why clearer in the previous chapter because as far as the reader is concerned the only thing Jade has done wrong is talk to Adam, a boy that Alyssa has not even spoken to.

The basketball/netball practice scene needs to matter, the only thing the reader learns from this scene is that the new boys are very good at basketball, and that Jade turned up to support Adam. Other than his looks, what is it about him that your main character find so distracting.

You need to avoid repeating things about the story that the reader already knows. So far you reminded us that the Alyssa had promised to call Sophie twice, and then again when Alyssa returned home you reminded the reader that she had promised to tell them why she looked so flushed after assembly.

Why have the girls not picked up on his odd behaviour: Adam wouldn't talk to any of the group, but he hung around with them all day.

I'm a bit unsure about setting Sarah up with Ben as it seems to jump suddenly from Alyssa thinking about Adam to an entirely new conversation. However, you have set the feeling of rising creepiness up really well in this chapter and left it at exactly the right point.

CHAPTER 3

Nothing really seems to happen in this chapter. It needs a hook. If the chapter can be removed from the story without affecting it in any way, then the entire chapter can be cut. Something significant needs to happen to Alyssa which either changes her outlook or her perception of normal. Is she hearing things that nobody else can hear? You say later in the book that her senses are heightened, but up until that point she seemed like an ordinary teenager.

CHAPTER 4

The memory of the imaginary friend is a nice touch

You refer to Jade as being the mean girl, but the reader needs to see evidence of this right from when you introduce her character. You need to show the reader her being nasty so they can understand why they don't want to be around her, and puzzle over why Adam isn't sending her on her way.

CHAPTER 5

Great foreshadowing. Alyssa is picking up on their odd characteristics, and has noticed that they turned up to a group meal having 'already eaten'.

CHAPTER 6

You have done well to get Alyssa's thoughts and feelings across, however you need to consider the timescale. If this is set during the first weeks of year 11 then it is September and her exams won't be until the following June. It also takes a long time for the story to get back on track with Alyssa meeting up with her friends. You need to condense the run up to her going out.

You need to be more aware of the possible. You have 8 people not including the driver travelling in one ordinary 5-seater saloon.

Too much of this chapter is taken up by them getting to the bowling alley. Much of this can be cut without affecting the story. It needs to focus more on the strange things happening around Alyssa and that will provide you with the hook to keep the reader going to the next chapter.

CHAPTER 7

Why did Alyssa not ask Liam why they wanted to know what she had said to David?

There is quite a bit of general chatter in the dialogue of this chapter. Every sentence of dialogue needs to either develop the character, move the plot forward, or both. While chatter occurs in real life it does not work in fiction (even in character driven fiction) because it slows the narrative down and will distract the reader from what is actually going on.

This chapter really needs to end after Alyssa spoken to her mother.

David takes over control of the party arrangements and claims that he, Liam, and Adam would be setting it up, but Liam and Adam were not at the meet up with Sophie to make any plans.

When Adam calls late in the evening why does she say there's no problem when she is still angry with him? When you have him call her to apologise you need to make it clearer what he is apologising for. Does he mean he is sorry for talking about her with David and Liam right in front of her, or is he referring to becoming defensive when she wants to know why he suddenly cares about how she feels?

Is Alyssa not concerned that Adam got her garden so quickly after their telephone conversation. Why did she not ask him how he got there so fast?

CHAPTER 8

This chapter is a good opportunity for Adam to open up a bit more to Alyssa. He is obviously comfortable talking to her or he would not have visited her in her garden. The conversation needs to convey more information to the reader than that he fancies her but won't be doing anything about it. Why did this conversation require a late night visit to her garden?. I would suggest he accidentally let something slip about why they are watching how and why they are all suddenly starting at the school together. If Adam really wants to be left alone, then why is he still socialising with Alyssa and her friends?

If Adam didn't feel the same as Alyssa, why did he need to make sure how she felt? His actions don't really make sense.

Details about planning the party slow the narrative down. You have already established that David has taken control of arrangements, but the reader doesn't need to know every detail. At this stage in the story you really need to be expanding on who David, Liam, and Adam are, and why they are so interested in Alyssa or you will lose the readers interest. Remember you are writing for a young adult audience and they do not have the patience of an adult.

Alyssa needs to be worried more about why Adam considers her a threat, and less about the party and her social life. What is stopping him from acting on his feelings?

Your timeframes seem confused again, as you continuously refer to them leaving school soon, as if it were only a few weeks away, when you began the story at the beginning of the academic year in September and they are only three weeks into the year. Sometimes it helps to use an old calendar or week to view diary to plot out your main events so you have a better idea of when things happen.

CHAPTER 9

Why is David going to school an hour and a half away from where he lives? Earlier in the story he escorted Alyssa's friends home as they were on his way. This implies that he lives locally.

Also be aware that you were talking about a group of under sixteen-year-old teenagers you don't apparently have jobs, where are they getting the money to go out and socialise all the time? The taxi journey of that length would cost at least £70. It would be better to make the party more local.

You have made it clear that David's uncle lives in a big old house, and Alyssa takes the time to notice the artwork in the hallway, but what is significant about it? Are there portraits of Liam, David, and Adam? Do they look older than they should do, for instance are paintings dated to the eighteenth or nineteenth century? How would Alyssa react to them? Do they scare her? If you mention the surroundings of the character, they need to be important to the story and have a bearing on the narrative going forward?

Your timelines become jumbled again during the party. When Liam and Alyssa are dancing you say that the friendship developed more over the last month, but in the last chapter you say that they are only three weeks into the new school year.

Why does Adam go to dance with Alyssa when I had agreed not to speak to each other where avoidable?

This chapter has a very good hook at the end it builds tension and makes the reader want to find out more about David's uncle.

CHAPTER 10

Why does Jade have the impression that Adam is going out with her? He doesn't seem in the slightest bit interested.

When Adam is explaining that Alyssa is different he says that she has had a while to come to terms with the fact that something about them normal however he has been evasive and distant throughout the book you need to weave in some more strange occurrences around Adam, Liam and David that only happen around those three. When they were on the long walk Adam wasn't with them, so she has no reason to tie the two together. Adam needs to tell her more about who he is and what is happening to her than "you'll find out in a week or so".

The second part of the chapter does little but repeat elements of what went on at the party and slows down the narrative. While it is understandable that Lissa wanted to tell her friends, what went on between her and David and then her and Adam, very little happens in this segment that moves the story forwards.

CHAPTER 11

The conversation in the lunch queue does nothing to move the story forwards is whole section slows the narrative down because you are repeating things that the reader already knows, however Sophie's new wariness about David is good. You need to keep that thread going. If they are talking it needs to be about more than party arrangements. What is going on with the photograph with the floating eyes which they appear to have forgotten about? Could Justin be investigating its himself?

CHAPTER 12

You refer to all the craziness going on around Alyssa, but up until this point the craziest thing that has happened around her are the eyes and the photograph, and you haven't referred to it since it happened. Issue referring to Adam, Liam, and David's odd behaviour?

It's good that we're getting somewhere close to knowing Alyssa's background, but there needs to be more hints of this earlier in the book. It needs to be woven through rather than all come at once in this chapter. This will provide you with your chapter books and keep your reader engaged.

CHAPTER 13

The party is a nice touch but a few inconsistencies creep in. Why did they order food, if they all brought something for the group? More needs to happen in this segment to move the narrative forwards to the next plot point. For instance, why does Alyssa need protection? What has been killing off members of her family for generations? Does it have something to do with the Queen of the Fae?

CHAPTER 14

It is good that you show Alyssa having doubts about keeping secrets from her friends. This gives the character dimensional and shows her as a real person. I also like that the other characters are noticing odd characteristics about David, Liam and Adam. She cannot be the only body he notices of things about them and her friends need to be asking more questions about their strange behaviour. They also need to be talking about more than how attractive they all are.

If you review the conversations the girls have, the vast majority of the content has been about the boys rather than the strange things that happen around Alyssa.

By this point in the story I am wondering about the significance of the character, Jade. She certainly seems antagonistic but her role within the story seems only to be a means to contrast her nastiness with the nicer natures of the other girls. Why is she so fixated on Adam and keeping Jade away from her? And if Adam is truly uninterested why did he not discourage her from hanging around with him and laying claim to him as her boyfriend?

If Alyssa is facing a form of danger which has required her to have a protector all her life, should Lucille not have told her about it? Alyssa is panicking about the danger her friends might be in but if she does not know what the danger is herself how can she be worried about it?

I feel that Adam's Liam's and David's friends need to have been introduced earlier in the story. Even if Alyssa doesn't know what they are. The discovery of what they are would help explain Alyssa's sense of danger at the party. The rugby game at the picnic helps to raise the tension but don't Alyssa's friends notice how fast she moved? While they might forget Adam, David, and Liam's friends, how are they forgetting what Alyssa did?

CHAPTER 15

Would it not take more than being tripped over during a rugby game to make Oliver go after Alyssa for revenge? Is he not more offended about being sent away from the group? You need to make the reason Oliver would go after Alyssa clearer.

Don't waste time discussing what the reader already knows. Alyssa and Amelia do not need to have this conversation about what went on covered it slows the narrative down and doesn't do anything to progress the story because it's going over things that have already happened.

The part where Alyssa wakes to find a monster at her window needs to happen far earlier, preferably within the first or second chapter, excluding the part where she knows that the supernatural world is real. If you do decide to keep it where it is this would be an ideal place to end this chapter and begin another as it provides your hook.

When Alyssa meets Lucille again why doesn't she ask about the creature at her window straight away? I would have thought that would be in the forefront of her mind given that she's

supposedly in enough danger to need a permanent protector. Why does Lucille need Adam's parents present when explaining what happened to Alyssa's parents.

CHAPTER 16

This chapter does well for world creation, but Alyssa really needs to start asking some questions that are pertinent to what has happened to her such as the creature at her window and the eyes in the photograph.

Adam's parents' relationship to Lucille and Alyssa needs to have been explained at the beginning of the previous chapter, when Lucille explains that her parents' death is due to her sisters crusade for revenge.

Have Adam Liam and David been thrown into Alyssa's path in order to influence her choice of a pair? How would this work if her pair is already decided? Are they trying to steer her away from Adam in order to protect him and their family from Evelyn? If not this would make a very good subplot and you need to weave this thread into earlier parts of the story.

There is a considerable amount of repetition of what the reader already knows in this chapter you need to avoid going back over previous conversations and events which are not pertinent to the plot. Alyssa is in clear danger from Evelyn and has not yet mentioned the creature at her window or the eyes and the photograph earlier in the story. These details need to be explained sooner rather than later.

CHAPTER 17

If Alyssa was supposed to be staying away from Adam, then why did he turn up repeatedly to socialise with her and her friends, and keep coming to see her in the garden? Should she have been avoiding her friends too? His attitude seems a little unfair.

Why suddenly pair Adam with Jade and then have him still follow Alyssa even though he said he was trying to stay away from her?

CHAPTER 18

The focus of the first part this chapter needs to be Alyssa and what happened to her at school. Shifting it to her parents work troubles distracts the reader from the story.

The timelines are getting confused again. You refer to Alyssa's birthday being around exam time but that isn't until June, so why is she starting to change now?

CHAPTER 19

The section where she is at school and talking to Amar about her feelings is repeating what the reader already knows and going over things that have happened rather than pushing the story forwards. The action in this chapter doesn't get going until Alyssa goes to visit Lucille again. Something needs to build the tension at school to really merit that much build-up before meeting with Lucille.

CHAPTER 20

If Alyssa doesn't want Adam to be around her, why invite him to Christmas dinner? Why not have her parents invite him without her knowledge instead. This would build tension.

The Christmas dinner scene, while nice, doesn't do anything to advance the story. We need to learn something new about Adam or Alyssa that the reader hasn't discovered yet and which is pertinent the story.

CHAPTER 21

If Alyssa doesn't want Adam to be around her, why invite him to Christmas dinner? The diary with a magic lock was a nice touch. I could have done with one of those myself.

The Christmas dinner scene, while nice, doesn't do anything to advance the story. We need to learn something new about Adam or Alyssa that the reader hasn't discovered yet and which is pertinent the story.

The second part of this chapter is much better than the first, but I'm still concerned about the pacing. The narrative seems quite slow.

If Lucille wasn't what Alyssa's mum had expected, what had she been expecting? Why did Olivia and Blake come to Alyssa's party? It's not usual for guests to bring siblings along to a party in somebody's home if an invitation is not extended.

You also haven't explained who Alyssa needs protection from. If people think that Alyssa is destined to usurp Evelyn's power as Queen of the Fae, are there no factions trying to protect the

Queen by removing potential threats? Adam needs to have told her what that creature was, and why it couldn't get in when he can.

CHAPTER 22

The situation with Oliver needs to have happened earlier.

Why have they not considered that there was a traitor in their midst before? Evelyn had to have found her ancestors somehow.

CHAPTER 23

Alyssa's parents are very unhappy that she came home late with Adam, but I'm surprised after she explained that she was attacked they continued to be angry that she was home late. Would her explanation not have mollified their anger?

Does David not have any idea why Oliver would want to get back at him? During the attack Oliver seem to be out for revenge. David needs to explain why Oliver will want revenge. What has happened between them in the past that would lead him to do something like attack Alyssa just to hurt him?

Why does Sophie assume that Alyssa would tell her anything that David told her in confidence? Why does Alyssa not set her straight on that?

CHAPTER 24

This is the night that Alyssa changes into her supernatural self. While I understand why you left this to the last chapter, ideally this needs to occur after the halfway point but no later than 75% of the way through the book. This would leave space for you to examine some of the consequences of her change and make that part of the story.