

Corvus

Your parents are very mundane. They don't understand the fact that Mother Earth is alive and her children are filled with magic. You didn't understand either until you met your spirit guide and doppelganger. She is a raven and you share your new name with her. The name your parents had given you was dreadfully mundane and it didn't make sense to keep it once you went through your first spirit journey with Corvus. You know that she was guiding you all through your life, but you didn't meet her until you were fifteen. That was the year that you started seeing the real world.

It started with the worst day of your life. You had just started high school. Your sister Angie was 17 and she had been walking with you to and from school. You had always been close with Angie and you enjoyed having the time to talk with her everyday. About a week in, she told you that she had a date after school and that you would have to walk home alone. You teased her a bit, of course, but you were happy for her.

Angie had asked you to make excuses for her at dinner, so it wasn't until late that evening that your parents started to worry. You tried to keep them from looking for her, thinking that her date had gone well and she had lost track of time. Then came the phone call. Angie's body had been found under the bridge near the school. She had been stabbed 4 times and bled to death trying to crawl to the road.

That night you cried for hours before finally falling into a fitful sleep. As soon as you fell asleep, Angie appeared to you. She came out of darkness like a swamp, with tendrils of shadow clinging to her skin. She pleaded with you to help her before fading into blackness again.

The next morning, you went through her things. You found your sister's altar with a ritual blade, an incense burner and a small book on magic. You knew that if there was a way to help her, this was it. You began to read the book and practiced what it taught. Less than a month after Angie's death, you went on your first spirit journey.

On that spirit journey you began to find the truth about the world. You met your spirit guide and doppelganger, Corvus. You renamed yourself after her because your birth name no longer seemed relevant. Corvus helped to guide you through the spirit realm over the past several months. She has shown you the magic that surrounds you and helped you to draw on the magic of Mother Earth.

You began to spend all your time with the book, and with Corvus, trying to learn what you needed to do to help your sister. Your grades began falling and your parents worried about you. You fought with them and finally told them about the vision you had. After that, they became much kinder to you, but they never really understood.

They sent you to a therapist. The therapist is very nice and tries to help, but she doesn't understand what's really going on any more than your parents do. You told her about the vision once, but quickly learned your lesson. She doesn't believe in magic, and if you talk about it at all she tries to "fix" you. Now you keep that part of your life to yourself. The therapist can still be helpful sometimes, but mostly she just wastes your time.

Therapy takes time you could be spending progressing in magic. You have spent months now working with Corvus, but you are still weak. You realized that you couldn't do this all on your own. You knew that the middle-class, mundane world where you grew up did not have people who could help you. You turned to the street. On the street people see the dark realities, and you hoped that this might have given someone useful insights.

Two months ago, on your sixteenth birthday, you found someone who can help. Hetty has been alive for hundreds of years and has learned many of the secrets of the world. You tried for weeks to get her to talk to you, and it finally paid off. Last week she agreed to take you on as an apprentice. You can't wait to begin learning from her.

While searching for a spiritual teacher you met Rose. Rose is a beautiful girl. She is a prostitute, but that isn't her fault. At least that's what you thought. You're not sure about that anymore. You started dating and she had you wrapped around her little finger. Eight days ago she

dumped you—just before your one-month anniversary. Since then you have realized that she was only using you the whole time. You thought she was real and that she understood, but to her you were just another John. She was only with you for the dinners and the gifts.

You have been avoiding the places she frequents, but tonight you had to come here. Hetty has been avoiding you and testing your resolve. You know that Hetty is always at Mel's fire when Mel has a fire. The last three times you saw Hetty she pretended not to know who you were, but you will persevere and prove that you are worthy of her teaching. Also, Hetty isn't the only person down here who knows things. Anyone else who knows some magic might be worth learning from.

Who You Know

Chris: Chris has got so many stories. Chris only hints at the magical though. You're sure that Chris holds the most interesting stories in reserve for special times and special places. Perhaps you can convince Chris that tonight is such a time and place.

Hetty: Wow... Hetty has been alive for hundreds of years. Hetty knows things. All sorts of things. Last week, Hetty agreed to take you on as an apprentice. Hetty has already begun to test you. Hetty is testing your desire to learn by pretending not to know who you are. You will pass this test by showing that you're willing to put up with anything to learn.

Sarah: She's attractive. You haven't really spoken with her yet, but you'd like to. She has a very powerful aura.

Alfred: He's had an encounter with the fey. He's been left ensorcelled in some fashion. You can sense that they have played some great trick upon him.

Manny: Manny has secrets. You can see it in Manny's eyes. Some of them be valuable. Some of them will be terrible.

Alex: Alex is also here looking for truths about the world. Alex doesn't believe in everything yet, but you can tell that Alex is receptive. Alex knows there is more to be known than the papers or schoolbooks will tell you.

Flash: Flash is a fey in disguise. It is possible that Flash is the one who has ensorcelled Alfred.

Jack: You don't need drugs. The world is strange enough.

Rose: Rose broke up with you eight days ago. In your anger and depression it has become clear that she was just using you for money, just like she uses all of the other people she sleeps with. You still can't believe that you thought there was anything more to it than that.

Mel: You've only shown up at Mel's fire a few times before. There is something special about this place. The right people here together could do powerful things, for good or for evil. You're fairly sure that Mel knows that this place is special and is a guardian of some sort to make sure that it isn't abused.