

Helena takes Michael to visit The Yard, a shunned place where human children born in the Realm are imprisoned. There Michael meets Ishmael, one of the children possessed by a spirit from the Blasted Plain, and Ishmael predicts that rebellion will break the Pact and Alyons will lose everything. Upon their return to her apartment Helena invites Michael in. She admits having feelings for Michael, but insists that she cannot love him the way she would want to because the union of woman and man in the Realm brings forth abominations like Ishmael. "Don't you see? They've taken love away from us." She asks instead for Michael's friendship, and asks that he help their rebellion by stealing *sani* powder from the Cranes.