COOKIE RUN KINGDOM: THE CURSE OF PASSION, AN INFECTION AU EVENT!

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- Premise/Background Info and (a little bit) Beginning of the Outbreak

Welcome to CURSE OF PASSION! This is an infection AU event premised around Hollyberry and an oc of mine, Astaroth and inspired by the negative effects of happiness.

Background info: Astaroth, also known as “The Manifestation of Hatred,” is Holly’s other counterpart—more specifically, the negative or dark side of her. The infection AU begins when Astaroth is killed or essentially erased from Holly.

Why is it bad that Astaroth is erased? Because Holly needs her to be balanced. Holly needs her to stay sane. Holly needs her to be able to feel anything other than happiness. To get rid of Astaroth is to make Holly unable to feel anything other than pure euphoria, which, if too much, can be just as deadly or even deadlier than too much hate.

- Beginning of the Outbreak

With that being said, the outbreak begins with Hollyberry as patient zero, or the first carrier of the virus. With Astaroth’s erasure, she can now only feel happiness which over time slowly drives her to insanity and with that creates an overwhelming desire for her to seek happiness and love not only for herself but for others, too. But that desire is so overwhelming, it suffocates others. But to reject her love in any way or any time would cause her to attack others, spreading the infection.

- The Virus (Curse of Passion)

The Virus is called “The Curse of Passion” because it originated with Hollyberry, the Hero of Passion. The virus essentially causes its victims to develop an overly positive, loving/affectionate and enthusiastic/joyous personality and a deep desire for happiness and love not just for themselves but for others as well. “So what’s up with that? Doesn’t sound like an infection so much.”

Well, the catch is that it’s so much that’s its suffocating and overwhelming, and rejecting their love/company in any way causes them to become agitated and upset when rejected, leading to hostility which will very likely lead to one becoming infected or killed.

The virus spreads through physical contact, whether it’s bodily fluids, being bitten, etc. There are 3 phases/stages to the virus:

Stage 1 is almost asymptomatic other than possible swelling of the infection area.

Stage 2 involves a period of drowsiness, irritability and headaches, with the victim’s eyes and pupils beginning to change colors (leaning towards pink for the eyes and yellow for the pupils) and the pupils distorting in shape.

Stage 3 turns them into a Smiler, making the victim develop a positive, affectionate and joyous personality and a desire for love and affection for themselves and others. By this time, their eye colors have turned entirely pink and their pupils have become yellow hearts. They can infect others by this stage.

- **“The Smilers” (The Infected)**

The infected are titled “The Smilers,” for obvious reasons that they’re usually always smiling and have a positive personality anyway.

There is no way to tell for sure if someone is a Smiler by looks alone, except for the eyes. Yet it is risky because being spotted by a Smiler is dangerous as they will take anything and anyone for company. They desperately seek it but prefer other cookies and those they know/are close to while at it.

The Smilers have an excessive amount of dopamine, leading to excessive adrenaline as well, giving them high power in all areas (strength, speed, endurance, etc). Attempting to flee from them is no-go and will almost always

guarantee death. Your best option is to just try to stay clear of them as much as possible.

However, if you are spotted by a Smiler, get ready for a fight. Your best bet here is to kill them. But remember that it will be difficult to kill a Smiler because of how much adrenaline they have which will make them more powerful and last longer than they should!

To summarize the Smilers…

- The Smilers are those infected by “The Curse of Passion” and possess extraordinary and overwhelming strength, speed, endurance and overall power due to excessive adrenaline fueled by dopamine making them dangerous. Stay away as much as possible, but if spotted, kill them.

- **Extras**

I do have a small idea for a “cure,” that being the resurrection of Astaroth since she would be immune to the virus due to being (almost entirely) unable to feel anything but hatred. Astaroth would be able to cure the Smilers by eliminating the excessive dopamine with her hatred… but this may be subject to change, since this is still a rough draft.

Feel free to let me know if you’d be interested in participating in an event like this! If enough people are interested in participating I’ll probably kickstart the event with writing a post about Astaroth’s death.

Thanks! ^_^

YOUR CAPTAIN SPEAKING, AHAB.