

Initiation

"I don't think I can do this," said Helena as she looked out her dorm room window.

In the courtyard below, the fountains ran red with colored water for Halloween. It made their basins look as if they were full of blood. Tonight, the gimmick seemed especially unsettling.

"Do you want to be a pledge forever?" said Cara from somewhere behind her.

She shifted her gaze to her reflection in the window. They had dressed her as a vampire, complete with cape, miniskirt and thigh high latex boots. It was supposed to be sexy but the sight made her feel sick. "Maybe Beta Alpha Tau isn't for me."

"Don't forget why you came to us in the first place," said Cara, her voice closer now. "Don't forget what those girls did to you."

Helena raised her hand and traced the scar on her face. It ran across her cheek, from ear to chin. She had tried to hide it with makeup, but the thin red line was still visible.

"You still need to teach them a lesson," continued Cara. "After tonight, you will have everything you need."

In the window's reflection, a pair of cheap plastic fangs floated over her shoulder. They hovered before her as if by magic. But when she looked down, she saw them resting in Cara's pale palm.

Helena eyed the fangs warily. All she needed to do is go to the club and bring a man back to the house in time for the feast.

"Go on, take them," said Cara.

She did. Helena slid them into her mouth and took one last look at her reflection before turning to face Cara. She bared her new fangs. "How do I look?"

"To die for," said Cara, baring her own with a smile.