

The

The Curse Crystal



By: Lillian

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“I have to find it,” Courtney whispered to herself. She remembered that the person who cursed her told her the crystal was the only way to lift the curse and it was almost impossible to find. She stared at herself in the mirror. She always saw two eyes with dark purple surrounding a silver slit staring back. She looked scary and unique enough that she knew she would be captured and become a test subject against her will. She knew, if anyone knew about what she was, she would be locked up for life. The crystal she was looking for kept floating in her head.

She put on sunglasses, gloves, a scarf and a black leather jacket. She opened the front door for the first time in months. She breathed the cold winter air. She heard people talking everywhere and the voices drowned out the sounds of the city. “Why do I even live here? It’s not peaceful at all,” Courtney said to herself. But she knew she wanted to live in the city. She walked for hours searching for a clue to find the Curse Crystal. She passed an antique shop that had a map in the window. She saw the map in the corner of her eye and wanted to see if it could lead to the crystal. She looked and saw the map was a copy of the map that showed where the crystal was. The price of it was \$30.00 which was shown at the bottom of the map.

She entered the shop and asked for the map. The girl behind the counter brought it from the window. Courtney searched for her money. She finally found it in her jacket pocket and gave it to the girl behind the counter.

The girl behind the counter took it and asked, "Would you like a bag for the map?"

"No thank you, I am very busy," Courtney responded.

The girl said, "Ok then, have a nice day."

Courtney yelled, "Thank you!", while running out of the front door.

She sprinted for miles following the maps instructions. She saw a rocky plain, mountains and a deep dark shape on the map. Soon she ran out of air and dropped onto a bench.

She took off her sunglasses to wipe the sweat off her forehead just as a police officer walked by. He saw her aqua scales that were slowly covering her body, and she wished she could just stop it. Suddenly he called in backup.

She tried to get up but failed when he pushed her down and asked her to put her hands up. She did as he asked and slowly put her hands up. She turned around and let him cuff her. Soon the backup came and pushed her into the back of a police car.

She laid against the seat. Her mind racing of what they were going to do to her. She thought of them testing on her and poisoning her to see what kind of creature she was. Soon the car stopped at a red light.

When the red light turned to a green light the vehicle started moving again. When the car drove a mile down the street it turned into a parking lot. The vehicle was parked and the officer got out.

When he finished speaking he left and walked to the building. He disappeared behind the door not long after. Courtney tried to grab the keys and unlock her cuffs but the metal wall between the backseat and the front seat was too small to fit her hands through.

“Oh, come on!, why can’t I just fit my arm through the holes!” yelled Courtney to herself. She suddenly started to try and break the glass with her fists. Her fists were soon covered in bruises. The glass didn’t even crack. She screamed “No this has to work! I have to get out of here!”, she stopped and flung herself back to the seat.

Soon they arrived at the state prison. He opened the door and locked her up. He pulled her down long, straight, and winding pale gray hallways. After 10 minutes they finally arrived at her cell. It was nice and clean. It had no window and lots of bars covering the front of the room. It was very dark and quiet.

Later that night she got a tray of food. She finished it not long after. She tossed and turned all night trying to find a comfortable position on the lumpy prison bed. The next morning she suddenly woke up in a bright room. All she could see was a white light and a white ceiling.

The day passed and she never felt any better. She still didn't feel that good later that night. She knew what she had to do if she wanted to get out of there.

She crept over to the cell door and tried to pick the lock with her talons. It took a few times until the door swung open. She crept out of the room and into a long hallway. She walked down the hallway until another hallway intersected it. Two guards passed by. She crept up behind them and knocked them out by hitting them on the back of their heads with her fists.

She soon got to a parking lot doorway, but to her dismay, the doorway was locked, so she crept back to the guards and took one of their keys. She unlocked the door and threw the key to the ground.

The parking lot led to an elevator. She got inside and pushed the first level button. When she got to the first level she walked to the front door. Right before she reached the door two guards spotted her. She ran to them and threw them to the floor. They were knocked unconscious. She took their keys and unlocked the front door. Once she got outside she locked the door from the outside and ran for it.

She ran for hours and finally got home. She ran into her bedroom and put on jeans and a t-shirt. She felt great getting out of the tight prison clothes. She still remembered she left the map on the park bench she sat on. She put on her jacket and gloves, then sprinted to the park bench. The map was there but barely still on

it. The wind started to blow hard and the map went flying off the bench. She ran and ran for it but just couldn't catch it. She followed it for days until she made it to a mountain that had the map trying to slide off its tall side. The map somehow led her to it.

She ran on rocky terrain for miles in blistering heat. The only cover from the heat was the forever blowing wind. She was very tired and weak. She grabbed the map and looked at which way to go. She saw that the map showed the mountain that was right in front of her. The mountain was an obstacle on the map. It had giant spikes forming on its sides. She started to place her foot on the first spike. She grabbed onto the next and pulled herself up. She kept doing that pattern till she reached the top. It was becoming dark outside and she could see great big mountains in front of her. She started to slide onto spikes until she was three spikes away from the bottom. She jumped for it but slipped.

She grazed her side on one of the spikes. She screamed in pain. She looked at her side and it was bleeding. She ripped off part of her shirt and tied it around her side. She tied it so tight she could barely breathe but it was the only way to stop the bleeding.

She finally reached the bottom and started to walk to the next mountain while trying to hold her side. She was so tired she just couldn't get past the mountain, so she sat against the side of its tall slender cone and fell asleep.

She woke up and the sun was just barely rising. She tried to get up but couldn't because of her aching side. She used her arm to

push herself up. She finally got up and looked at the giant peak of the second mountain. She knew how hard it would be to get past it but she had to.

She grabbed onto the rigged edges of the rocks forming to its sides. She later got to the top. It took, about seven hours to reach the top because of her wound. Once she reached the top she began to side step down the other side but she fell into a giant opening.

She felt heat rising from the bottom of the mountain. She looked down and saw a giant pool of lava. She was barely holding onto the ledge with her right hand. She knew if she put her other hand onto the ledge her side would hurt more than she could imagine. Sweat dripped off her dark brown hair. She grabbed the ledge with her other hand just as a squirt of lava touched her. She noticed it didn't hurt at all! She thought that she might be immune to lava, but she never wanted to check that out. Well she was part lizard! She finally got to the top of the ledge and pulled herself out of the volcanoes crater.

She checked her wound. It seemed to be infected. She knew she couldn't go back, at least until she turned back to her normal self. She got up and jumped the gap. She slipped and slid down the other side of the mountain. A rock hit her side. She held her breath and straightened her legs until she hit the bottom. She stayed there until morning.

She woke up, just as the sun rose just upon the mountain tops. She pushed herself up and checked the map. She was still on

the right path. She followed the path forward. She was so exhausted, she almost slipped off the edge of a giant deep canyon. She couldn't see the bottom. She had nothing that could get her across it.

All of a sudden, the ground started to tremble. A giant long rock came out of the other side of the canyon. It slowly grew and moved forward until it reached the other side. It seemed to her like a bridge. She stepped on it and it slowly reversed back into the wall it came from. When the rock got close to the wall she jumped off and landed on the ledge in front of her. She looked forward and saw a giant cave opening.

The cave was dark except for the small, blue crystals growing on the walls of the cave. She stepped inside. It felt eerie in some way. She looked at the map to see how to get to the crystal but the map ended there. She knew she would have to find it on her own, but it would be dangerous. She walked forward for at least fifteen feet, then saw four dark tunnels. She looked left to right but just couldn't figure out which tunnel to go through. She saw the one closest to the first tunnel on the right and walked through it.

She soon came across a dark room. She heard growls and screams. It seemed to know her fear. She saw nothing. Suddenly she saw the crystal. She sprinted for it but got pulled down by a monster. It looked just like the monster she saw in her nightmares. A large werewolf with glowing red eyes towered over her. Green drool hung from its sharp teeth and dripped down its jaw. She

rolled with all her force and knocked the paws away. She pushed herself up and sprinted toward the wall. She used all her strength to pull a rock from the slick silver walls.

She threw the rock at the lunging werewolf. It smacked it smack center in the face and made the werewolf crash to the ground.

She sprinted towards the crystal thinking everything was ok. Suddenly another creature appeared in front of the crystal. It was a dark, red eyed, shadowy figure, looming in front of her.

She started to panic. Then an idea came into her mind. **How could these creatures exist, especially two that came from my nightmares?**

She thought maybe the room created what she imagined. She knew what to do. She relaxed and stopped thinking. She heard and felt nothing anymore. She got up and sprinted towards the gem. When she was close enough to touch it she stopped. She grabbed the crystal and spoke into it "Let me be me once more." She turned back into herself, but when she had a strange feeling she changed back to the lizard self. She walked back home and healed. She lived on and on with a happy life. No one knew about her or what she did. So she didn't hide anymore. She had a choice of which form she could take, which turned her darkness to light.