

After a cigarette and a smidgen of rum, I've set a timer for 20 minutes of fan fic writing homework. Here goes...

World building & backstory:

The first slayer, Sineya, was the oldest daughter of the king and queen in ancient Madagascar. She was wise, fierce, kind, and beloved by the people. She pulled the scythe from the stone and killed a demon that was attacking the village, and was therefore entitled to become queen. Her brother and father did not want this to happen, so they convinced the Royal Council that a woman could only pull the scythe from the stone by using witchcraft. They sold Sineya to the Council, who turned her into the first slayer. She was forced to spend the rest of her life protecting the men who stole her kingdom from her.

When her mother, the queen Adriana, learned what Sineya's father had done, she returned the scythe to the stone. No one was able to remove it again until thousands of years later when Buffy followed the scythe's call and found it hidden in the Sunnydale temple.

Adriana tapped into dark magic through her pain and anger and cursed her husband the king, turning him into the first vengeance demon. Over thousands of years, he became known as D'Hoffryn. Their son became king, and Adriana could not bring herself to curse him too, but when Sineya was killed by a vicious demon and another young girl was called to the Slayer, Adriana was so furious that she unleashed her magic and forced her son to flee the kingdom with the evil men who had created the Slayer. These men became the Watchers. Adriana's other daughters and sisters became the Guardians.

### **Temple in Sunnydale, May 4, 2003**

Andriana: You must tell her that you are the last of us, Hasaka.

Hasaka: The child has been lied to enough, and she does not understand her power.

Andriana: We will tell her the truth when we reclaim her and the others. The slayer queen, the dark slayer, the sage, and the daemon... these sisters who do not know they are sisters. We have been silent for far too long.

Hasaka: I know you still grieve for Sineya. (Hasaka picks up the scythe). I will carry this to the child for you, and tell her what you have asked me to tell her. But first I must tell you goodbye.

Adriana: Do not say such things, Hasaka.

Hasaka: I will guard her as long as possible. You must guard her when I am gone.

Hasaka lifts her hand to Adriana's cheek and gently brushes away a tear. She kisses each of Adriana's hands, and then softly touches her thumb to the woman's forehead, lips, and collarbone.

Adriana lowers her head, sobbing as Hasaka walks away with the scythe.

### **Temple in Sunnydale, May 7, 2003**

After climbing down the crater, Adriana enters the temple ruins, torch in hand, her silvery white hair glowing softly in its long braid. She navigates fallen rocks and boulders, shattered earth, and deep chasms to kneel by Hasaka's broken body, and gently runs a hand over Hasaka's face to close her dead, empty eyes. Hasaka's body is glowing softly, the same silvery light in Adriana's hair flowing around her like a cocoon.

Adriana removes her necklace, a medallion red and silver like the scythe, and ties it around Hasaka's neck. She chants an ancient prayer, and light pours from the medallion, pulsing and encircling both women. There is a long, deep note of music, as if from a large clear bell, and with a cry Hasaka opens her eyes, struggles to take a breath, and reaches for Adriana's hand.

Hasaka: Adriana. What have you done?

Adriana: I could not lose you, too.

Hasaka: Did they survive? Is Caleb dead?

Adriana: Caleb is dead. Our girl cut that evil bastard in half. Buffy, Faith, and Willow survived. You were right about William; he came through for her in the end. But we lost Anya.

Hasaka: (looks up and mutters softly) I am sorry, little one. (Turning to Adriana) We must guard her soul.

Adriana: Yes. I have started searching for her, but will need Willow to help me with the ritual. All of the living slayers over the age of seven have been called. You were right about that, too.

Hasaka: So it begins. And the scythe?

Adriana: (smiling wryly) On a school bus headed east from Sunnydale, with a handful of slayers, the world's most powerful witch, a former Watcher, their friends, and a high school principal.

Hasaka: Somehow, that seems exactly right. Nikki would be so proud of Robin.

Adriana: And I am proud of you. Now we must go and help William. When you are ready, you are needed in LA.

Hasaka: A Guardian in the City of Angels. (smiling softly) What would Sineya think of that?

Adriana: We will ask her, when we are able to reclaim her spirit. I pray that she has found Anya. They are going to need each other. And we are going to need them both. Come now, there is much to do. And we are old.

Hasaka: (smiling and rising gracefully to her feet) You are old, sister. I was reborn about ten minutes ago.