

Chapter 22: ODA: ME, AND YOU

The chapter opens with Tonkee and others observing the Moon's unchanging presence in the sky, despite its erratic shifts in shape and color. Tonkee, though not an expert, attempts to track its movement using an ancient writing tool, but her efforts are thwarted by seismic activity and her own limitations. Meanwhile, the Obelisk Gate dismantles itself, with the obelisks dematerializing and descending into Corepoint's chasm. The onyx obelisk, however, is preserved in the ocean, a deliberate act by its creators to safeguard it for future use, though the narrator ominously hopes it remains undiscovered.

Nassun, grieving the death of a loved one, is found by Tonkee sitting beside their remains. The two share a moment of quiet sorrow, united in their loss. Later, Nassun and Danel retrieve Schaffa from Warren, where the other Guardians have turned to jewel. Schaffa, weakened and disoriented, comforts Nassun as the group gathers under the Moon, perhaps mourning or simply seeking solace in each other's company. The scene underscores the emotional toll of the cataclysmic events they've endured.

Elsewhere, the narrator, Gaewha, and Remwha confront the aftermath of Nassun's choices. Remwha, weary from millennia of existence, expresses his desire for an end, but Gaewha reminds him of their purpose: to improve the world. After a tense exchange, they and other ancient beings descend to the Earth's heart, negotiating an end to the Seasons in exchange for the Moon's return and the obelisks' sacrifice. The Earth accepts, releasing trapped souls and signaling a new era of balance.

Months later, the narrator returns to find Nassun and the others adapting to their new reality, surviving on meager resources. Though they've shown resilience, their long-term survival depends on returning to the Stillness. The chapter closes with Nassun still lingering by the pylon, hinting at her unresolved grief and the uncertain future ahead. The narrative reflects on themes of loss, renewal, and the cyclical nature of

history, leaving room for hope amid the devastation.

