



FRYAR'S DOOR



By: Ambahr Morales-Cuevas

DON'T OPEN THE DOOR
AT THE END OF THE
HALL...

LEGEND HAS IT THAT
WHOEVER OPENS THE
DOOR, UNLEASHES AN
EVIL SO DANGEROUS,
IT COULD DESTROY THE
WORLD.

Everything around me felt unfamiliar. I couldn't explain it, somehow listening to everyone's thoughts, yet their lips weren't moving.

As I sat in my seat of the bus, a shiver ran up my spine as thoughts consumed me. I gripped my hands together to get rid of the nerves, but it was no use. That's when I spotted the house. It was dull and dead. Maybe soon we will be?

"Where are we?" one of my classmates, Jordi, asked as I shrugged my shoulders.

The surroundings gave off an eerie vibe, as a crow perched itself on a tree next to the house, never touching the house and flying directly through, as if it didn't exist.

A mirror dimension. Interesting.

Walking inside, we were greeted with a face we had been shown in pictures before. Our host, Ambahr, was there, smile on her face as she welcomed us inside. A person suddenly ran past, tapping her on the shoulder as she turned.

"We lost them again." they said, as she furrowed her eyebrows in confusion.

"How many students do we have now?"

"Half."

Turning back around to us, she led us to a common area, where more students were waiting, all equally confused and intrigued at the new visitors.

I sat next to my classmates, not knowing anyone else to be able to sit with them.

“Quiet down please.” she said, as everyone turned to look at her. “We have some new students here today.” she motioned for us to get up, as we did, smiling at the rest of the students who analyzed us.

“Hi, I’m Mariona and these are my friends.” each of my classmates went around and introduced themselves before we sat down again.

“Please make sure you give them a warm welcome when we finish here.” she clapped her hands together, smile on her face. “I’m Ambahr, and I’ll be your advisor/mentor here. This will be your home for the rest of your life. Most of you are here because you have powers, and your parents wanted you to

learn to control them. That’s what I’m going to teach you here. You will learn to master them, utilize them in battle and learn to control them. The other half of you are here because your specialty for school is the abnormal. You are here to test us, to research what makes us tick and help us better understand the science behind supernatural abilities.”

Our home? The rest of our lives?

I raised my hand as she called my name. “The rest of our lives? We were told that we would only be staying here for a month, to learn English customs.”

“Sadly, yes, you will be staying here. Your parents sent you away to master your powers and fully control them. You are all going to be heroes, that’s what we’re training you to be.” she paused, “Look, there’s a door you will be seeing everyday that

is marked for you to NEVER, under any circumstances, open. So don't. It unleashes some horrors you can never imagine. Be wary and take care of each other."

She bid us goodbye and let us off, as most of the students went outside. She headed over to us, before sitting in a chair in front of the group. "So, how do you all feel?"

"Good." I paused, "Wait so what does the door do?"

"It contains a very powerful and evil being that we keep contained for security. It controls people it inhabits and it also unleashes various evils all across the world. We have to warn incoming students so they aren't surprised if they see a closed door." grabbing our hands, she squeezes them in reassurance. "Don't be scared, but look out for each other and be careful."

We all nodded in reassurance as she stood up, leading us to another room, where two students I had spotted last time wearing coats, were waiting with smiles on their faces. On the big screen, our faces were projected on the screen, as they were tapping on tablets.

"Here are your first students." she said, turning back to us.

"Good luck!"

She left us with the teachers, as we began training, each of us taking out place on the platform for them to test us.

It was my turn now as I was connected to the screen next to me, as the teacher measured my vitals.

“Ready?” they asked as I nodded. Pressing a button, my eyes widened.

That’s when it happened. The transmission, the connection, something inside me flipped and I was overwhelmed with thoughts and voices. Everyone’s thoughts floating through the air, voicing their opinions about someone behind their back or expressing concern about problems at home. Things I didn’t want to know came hurling at me, secrets were revealed and wounds were opened but only to me. It’s as if all the secrets in the universe had decided to feast on me, on my power, on my revelation. This had happened before, the feeling was the same I had felt yesterday, overwhelming and powerful. Yet, it wasn’t as nerve wracking as the first time it had happened.

The teacher’s lips moved, but their thoughts said something different. They pressed another button and another energy

surge flowed through me, electricity flowing through my body. My fingers sparkled, clouds forming over us as they pressed another button and fire sprouted from my hands.

It kept going on like this for a couple more minutes, as I was pumped with different powers, the teacher testing my Power Replication ability.

A button was pressed and the energy surge stopped, and I landed on the floor. I had been levitating a couple feet of the floor before the teacher stopped the training process for the day.

“That was better. We need to work on controlling fire and water, that got a little out of hand.” I nodded in agreement before they disconnected me and called the next student in.

Walking out of the room, I noticed the student standing across the hall from me, staring into space as I called his name. He stood in front of an open door, one we had been warned about. It was open, as he looked through before walking straight through the opening and disappearing from sight.

As I slowly neared the door, out of curiosity, I was enveloped with dark thoughts and images. Images of death, destruction, and test subjects flowed through my brain. A surge of energy came through my body as I felt the full extent of my power but pushed the images away.

Two more students had walked through the door, smiling at me and wanting to beckon me over but I turned and ran.

Running from the door and what had just happened, I immediately searched for our mentor.

Coming across her office room, I knocked on the door and she opened, concerned look across her face.

“Hey hey, what’s going on?” she asked as I walked inside the room before pacing from left to right, my hands shaking from the sight I had seen. “Mariona,” I turned, “Talk to me.”

“I finished training today and when I walked out, I saw a door that was open, that I know shouldn’t have been open from the warnings on it, and a student walked through with two more. I walked over and pictures of death and destruction came at me. I saw test subjects, people that looked like ones I had seen before. It was a dark force, I think, and it was trying to get me to turn.”

She listened as I explained to her what had happened, before squeezing her hands together. "This is bad. This is really bad. We need to place this home on lockdown."

"Why? What's going on?"

She quickly pressed the red button on her desk as an alarm sounded across the home, the windows being closed shut as all the students ran inside.

"They're coming for you guys. The Fryar."

I knew that name. They were the dangerous beings we had been warned about when we first arrived. A dark force had been testing supernaturals and extracting their powers from their body's.

They created army's of powerful beings and fought against the heroes. It seems that they had come for the students, something we had been fearing.

She motioned for me to follow her back to the compound, as half of the student body was waiting there. I looked around, before spotting four of the students from my group. Concern running through my body, I jogged over to them.

"Where is everyone else?" I asked as they shrugged their shoulders.

Oh no. They had taken them.

Turning back to Ambahr, she understood what my look had been conveying, as she clenched her fists in anger.

We had lost half of the student body to The Fryar. They had tempted them into joining the group, as they succumbed to their powers. I didn't know why they had chosen them in particular, but we were going to find out.

"We will be training together from now on. The Fryar has taken half of our students, which means that something is happening. They're going to come for the rest of us, and if we can't learn to control our powers just yet, then it will be easier for them to take us." she explained as we all listened intently, fear coursing through us. "We need to stand together and not only protect each other, but the civilians living within us as well. We can't let them bring us down. We need to show them that we are stronger than them."

Looking between the students, we had a silent agreement. We needed to stand with each other, even if we didn't know each

other well. It meant that we needed to trust each other and put our full vulnerability in each other.

We were scared, that was evident in the room. The atmosphere was thicker, anxiousness and fear being shared between us. We didn't want to admit we were scared. We had to be brave. Be brave for each other.

So instead we kept it inside.

The next couple days were filled with us training and mastering our powers, something that was becoming easier as the days went by. Today, training had been grueling, as we each worked hard to master our powers.

There was something about knowing that I had to fight my own friends that made me scared of my abilities. I knew I had one

of the most versatile powers from everyone else, but I still couldn't measure my strength.

The first time I had ever used my powers, I accidentally put an innocent civilian in the hospital. I hadn't measured my powers before I used them so it caused some injuries.

I didn't want that to happen again.

Sitting in a classroom-like setting, we listened to what was being taught to us, the background of The Fryar and why they were recruiting supernatural beings to fight for them. Next to me, a classmate was listening and fidgeting with a pencil.

The pencil had been circling in the air, a couple centimeters off the desk. His gaze was directed to the pencil, a glare on his

features as he tried his best to get the pencil to flip, yet it kept circling clockwise.

Groaning under his breath, he stopped fiddling, the pencil coming to an abrupt stop and dropping onto the desk. Our teacher started announcing the end of class as he looked up, the pencil coming to rest between his fingers.

As the teacher dismissed us, everyone gathered their items and walked out, heading to the common area, where we met everyday before going to bed. I walked over to where the group was sitting and dragged a chair close, the rest of the student body settling in on open seats and facing the front, where all the teachers were watching, including Ambahr.

“We have news.” one of them began, as we stayed quiet, only a few gasps coming from students who had telepathic abilities.

“The Fryar are here. They’ve arrived.”

“Where?”

“They’re coming here in less than two days. We need to be ready. Tomorrow, you’ll be fitted with a suit, one you’ll have to use every time there’s training and fights between The Fryar.” Ambahr explained, as we fidgeted in our seats, discomfort spreading across the entire student body.

“You have all been making remarkable progress in training, so I have no doubt that you’ll be okay.”

No doubt, yeah right. They say it as if it wasn’t our first time fighting an unknown being.

Suddenly, a loud banging was heard from outside, as we flinched in response. The teachers pulled up live video feed from outside the home as we saw all the students that had been lured to the dark side standing and waiting.

“Suit up. It’s time.”

Over the intercoms in the hallways, instructions were being discussed, as we each ran to our rooms, before suiting up. Our suits were made of the colors our powers represented. Since my power was so versatile, I had a light grey suit with black streaks, while some had red suits with white streaks. Each of us quickly walked to the common room, where we stood on a platform that activated the door. We were more nervous than ever, they were on the other side, waiting for us.

The door opened, the light welcoming us as we locked eyes with another student watching us from across the road. The steps we took to reach them seemed endless, as we finally reached them, ten feet between us.

“Nice colors.” a voice boomed behind them as out stepped their leader.

Ambahr walked forward, anger coursing through her. “Says the one who took half our student body in the middle of the day. Thought you were smarter than that.”

“Well, it seems that we didn’t have enough resources this time, so we needed to resort to *borrowing*. Hope you don’t mind.”

“Of course I do. They were *my* students!” she yelled, as he only snickered in response.

“Well, seems like you’ll be fighting your own pack.”

The students took their positions across from us, as we did the same. My fists were clenched, as electricity flowed through me, the first power I was using. Let’s just hope I can control it this time.

“You’ll regret this, Ambahr.” he said as her hands glowed in response.

“We’ll see about that.”

She shot light beams from her hands towards him as he placed a shield in front of him, covering the hit. That was our signal. It was time.

Our group ran towards the opposing team, as I directed electricity towards my opponent. They deflected it, as fire was thrown in my direction. I quickly remembered what had been taught to me, as I placed my hands out and welcomed the fire, my body now covered in flames as I harnessed it.

My opponent was shocked, as I fought fire with fire against him. Quickly changing my power, I decided on super speed, quickly running around my opponent and extinguishing their flames. I was abruptly stopped, as I looked down, my foot now trapped in mud. Looking up, I noticed another opponent had created the mud, which didn't allow me to run anymore. I quickly pulled my foot out and changed my power again, now disappearing through a portal and appearing behind them. My next power was something I had harnessed a while before; Chaos Magic. I created a ball of what looked like fire, but was actually Chaos, bringing my arm behind my back and flinging it

forward, hitting my teammate square in the chest. He was flung back from the impact, as he quickly recovered, his eyes glowing green from the power that had been bestowed upon him as he called upon various different animals, his power being able to control animals, all towards me. One after the other, they began to attack me, as I warded them off with my power, putting a shield around me as I put them together before throwing them back at him.

His arms came up to defend himself but the animals scratched at his suit, tearing parts of it. His power had failed as the animals began destroying the one person that had controlled them.

It seemed that after that, the rest of the students on our side had teamed up with me, each of them being given Chaos Magic as we linked arms, creating a ball of energy that when

we unlinked our arms, sent the magic towards any living creature, throwing them off their rhythm or heavily injuring them.

The students on our side quickly took cover, but we hadn't warned our mentor, who was hit by the energy surge and was injured. Her suit that had covered her arms was ripped, fresh wounds now evident as she clutched them. We all headed her way to help her but she warded us off.

"Don't worry about me! Keep fighting!" she said, before turning back to the school, "Someone needs to go and close the door!"

Nodding, two students separated from the group, running inside and grabbing the edge of the door while we continued to fight, as I now came across another student who had the

power to control metal, as they got a metal cable to wrap around my body, bringing me up into the air. Squirming, I changed my power to strength, as I broke through the cable, grabbing the end and flicking it like a whip against his body, which flicked him away from the battle.

The students that had turned had been injured badly, as the last one surrendered before they disappeared. Black mists had surrounded where the bodies of the evil beings were as they floated back to the school, where they disappeared being the door, that had finally been closed. We all sighed as a student placed a table in front of the door and locking it, blocking the entrance from being opened. It seemed like the battle was over, as we examined our injuries. We didn't have deep wounds, but they had hurt us. One of the students that had the power of healing came over and was healing each of us one

by one. When it came down to healing long and deep wounds, she would close them but they would leave a big scar.

“You all did really well under the circumstances.” Ambahr said, still holding her arm as the rest of us nodded. “That was way bigger than I had expected. They’ll be coming back, but we’re safe for now.”

“What do we do now?” a student asked.

“Well, now we go back to what we were doing before this happened. We don’t need to train anymore, but you will each be leading training sessions for the new students coming in.”

“New students?” I asked, as she only nodded.

“We’ve recruited more, and they are strong. They each are different, but they’re willing to fight and learn to better control their powers. From now on, we are the heroes the world needs. We protect civilians from the evils of The Fryar. It’s our job, that if that door were to ever open again, we have to be in charge of making sure our people are safe. Making sure the world is safe. So stay sharp, stay alert, because if they come back, you need to be ready.”

It seemed like our story was far from over, as we each let her words sink in. We would become mentors for them. Something we had never done, seeing as we had just learned to control our own powers. It would definitely be a challenge, but with our faith in each other and the training we’ve received, we know we’ll be okay.

