

## INTRODUCTION

I spend a lot of time trying to fit in, to blend into the crowd and stay fairly unnoticed. I look like any other person but I have a Charisma that I need for my job. It draws people to me when I need them to be and keeps them away when I don't. While I can't turn it on and off I *can* adjust how charismatic I am depending on the situation, but most of the time I maintain a neutral setting that allows me to be around people without affecting their natural response to those around them.

I also have the gift of beauty which I promise you I'm not egotistical about. I still haven't decided if it's a good or bad thing though, it comes in handy a lot of the time with men. I don't even have to adjust my Charisma to get their attention, but with women...let's just say it's not exactly easy to make friends when you're prettier than every other girl you know.

My appearance is different when I need to use my powers for work. My eyes turn crimson, my teeth become razor sharp and venomous and my hair gets kind of wild on its own like it has built in volume. (Too bad that's the only time it happens, every girl can use a little natural volume right?) I've been told that I look pretty impressive when I need to use my extra powers but I avoid it when I can. When I'm left with no other choice, everything that attracts people to me is enhanced, and honestly there's just no escaping me.

I have a very special job. I collect souls for a higher power, souls that have been traded for advancement in life. I don't collect all souls. Some people are truly good to their word, they pay their debt and can even move on to a better place when their time is up. There are always a few idiots who think they can break a contract with the ultimate evil.

This is where I come in.

I collect the souls of the shadiest people you could ever meet; those consumed by greed, power, sex, and of course, money. These are usually the only kind of people with the guts to make a deal with the devil, but once in a while we get those who are struck at a young age by a sudden bout of influenza or an unexplained medical mystery that only leads to death; parents

who will give anything for their children or spouses willing to give their life for the one they love.

The ones who do it out of love or desperation usually make their payment and go on to live happy and debt free lives, but even then, you'll run into one who thinks they can outsmart evil and get away with it.

That's when I get the call to take care of business.

My name is Saydie Mason, I'm forever 19, and I'm a demon.