

# Updated Version

The Aventhrope 1/24/17

Robyn Wheelock

p 5-6 : Kitchen ✓  
top of p 10 : L.R. ✓  
p 10 : pool room ✓  
p 11 : L.R. ✓  
p 15-16 : pool room ✓  
p 20 - top  $\frac{1}{2}$   
of 21 : L.R. ✓  
bottom  $\frac{1}{2}$  21-22 : Rachel's room ✓

p 15 Luna's / Reidlee's room ✓  
short portion p. 21 Luna's room ✓  
Luna hangs up bow ✓

p 10, 15-16, 21 - pool room

• p 10, 11, 20-21 - living room

p 15, 21 - reidlee's room

p 5-6 Kitchen

p 21-23 Rachel's room

p 6 porch

p 6 streets

p 1, 16-19 woods

p 10, 15-16, 21-23, pool room  
(2/24) + Rachel's room

p 10, 11, 20-21 living room  
(3/3)

p 6, 15, 21, streets, reidlee's  
(2/21) room

p 5-6, kitchen, porch  
3/4

EXT.SHOOTING RANGE. MORNING.

LUNA (A passionate monster hunter in her early 20s) stands alone in an archery range with her bow at her side. She wears jeans and boots, a dark, long-sleeved shirt, a hunting jacket, and a silver pendant. A flock of birds caw in the distance. She loads her bow and aims at the target. She adjusts her posture, pulling back her shoulders and planting her feet. She pulls her arrow back and shoots.

TITLE- THE AVENTHROPE

EXT.SHOOTING RANGE. MORNING.

Luna loads another arrow in her bow and aims it at the target. There is a sound off-screen: leaves rustling and the flapping of large wings. Luna looks over her shoulder and lowers her bow. The sound comes from a wooded area, but stops when Luna turns her head. Luna continues to look in the direction of the sound, furrowing her brow and squinting. The woods are overgrown and shadowy.

STELLE

(O.S.)

Luna. Luna.

INT. ESTELLE AND LUNA'S LIVING ROOM. EARLY EVENING.

Luna sits on the sofa in the living room she shares with STELLE (Luna's long-term girlfriend, and a senior in college studying Flute performance). Her laptop sits on her lap, open to an online forum about monster hunting.

STELLE

Luna, Are you even listening to me?

Luna blinks into the present moment as if it is a bright light.

LUNA

I was.

STELLE

Then what did I just say?

LUNA

You were talking about your...  
homework?

Estelle raises her eyebrows.

(CONTINUED)

---

3

LUNA  
No... your flute?

STELLE  
Closer.

LUNA  
Sorry, Stelle.

STELLE  
I was talking about my performance  
earlier today.

LUNA  
Right, what was it again?

STELLE  
The class reunion at MCU.

---

4A

LUNA  
Yes of course. How was it?

5A

STELLE  
Surprisingly good. Better than I  
usually play in public. I feel like  
I always play so well when I  
practice alone, and then at public  
performances I just...

good

---

1B

Luna has returned to reading at her computer. Stelle stops  
speaking mid sentence and her face drops.

---

3B(closer)

STELLE  
Lady Gaga was there.

Luna reads from her laptop intently and does not respond.

STELLE  
(increasingly facetious)  
She begged to guest star in my  
recital next Sunday.

Luna does not respond.

---

2B

STELLE  
Then she grabbed my ass.

Luna still does not respond.

---

3C(close)

STELLE  
You know Luna, you could at least  
pretend to be listening to me.

LUNA

Did you know there have been two banshees and an ogre sighted in Midwest City in the last month.

2c

STELLE

No there haven't.

LUNA

Yes there have.

STELLE

If a monster came within city limits it would have been on the news.

LUNA

I'm reading it here.

STELLE

Let me see. Luna, that's a forum. It's not a reputable news source.

1c

LUNA

Sure it is. Lots of hunters use this forum to ~~share~~ stories and ask for advice.

less hands  
2D →

STELLE

Exactly. Any idiot with a WiFi connection can logon and write some alcohol induced daydream he had about seeing Bigfoot cross main street.

humor 3D →

LUNA

Okay, it's stereotypes like that that keep "reputable news sources" from believing people who call in monster sightings. Also everyone knows Bigfoot's a myth. I'm reading about actual monsters that live in Midwest County.

✓  
😊

2E

STELLE

Why are you looking up monster sightings?

LUNA

I saw something today at the range.

(CONTINUED)

STELLE  
You saw something.

Luna nods.

3E dose STELLE  
What did it look like?

LUNA  
I didn't get a good look at it, but  
I know it was there.

STELLE  
So you didn't see anything.

LUNA  
I know I saw something, I just  
don't know what it was.

STELLE  
You know, it could have been  
anything. Like a dog, or the wind,  
or-

LUNA  
You don't believe me.

STELLE  
It's not that I don't believe you.

4B LUNA  
Do you think I'm making this up?

2F STELLE  
I don't think you're making it up,  
but you claim to see a lot of  
monsters.

LUNA  
So what are you saying?

STELLE  
You are very... monster-aware. You  
can just be a little paranoid.

1D LUNA  
I think I've earned the right to be  
paranoid. I have seen what monsters  
can do.

2G STELLE  
I agree, but monster populations  
are going down. There haven't even  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

STELLE (cont'd)  
been any fatal attacks on humans in  
the last-

LUNA  
(sharply)  
Five years. Six next Thursday.

4C

2H

Stelle softens. Luna fidgets with her necklace.

all

STELLE  
I know. But within city limits,  
it's been decades. All I'm saying  
is that- is something burning?

INT. ESTELLE AND LUNA'S KITCHEN. MOMENTS LATER.

Stelle and Luna enter the kitchen.

LUNA  
Shit.

Luna opens the oven and a cloud of smoke escapes.

STELLE  
Luna, I asked you to set a timer.  
This is burnt to shit.

2A

Stelle closes the oven and turns it off. Luna knits her brow  
but says nothing.

3

STELLE  
Well, we can't eat this.

2B

Stelle reaches for her wallet.

4

STELLE  
I guess I'll walk to Big Brutus's  
and pick up a hot and ready-

Luna intercepts her and wraps her in her arms. Stelle does  
not smile

LUNA  
Now hold on.

Luna kisses Stelle's head.

5

LUNA  
I burnt dinner. I'll get the pizza.  
You stay here and practice for your  
recital... or just relax.

Stelle sighs.

(CONTINUED)

STELLE

Will you get the stuffed crust?

LUNA

You deserve nothing less.

Stelle cracks a grin and Luna kisses her on the cheek.

EXT. A STREET. SUNSET.

Luna walks down a residential street with a pizza box in her hands.

EXT. THE PORCH. SUNSET.

Cross-cut

Stelle sits on her porch, and raises her flute to her lips. She begins to play.

EXT. A STREET. SUNSET.

Cross-cut

Luna continues down the street. She hears a strange sound, leaves rustling and flapping wings. She stops and looks around, but sees nothing. Luna continues walking down the street.

She hears the noise again, stops, and again sees nothing. She stiffens, and quickens her pace toward home.

EXT. THE PORCH. SUNSET.

Long shot of Stelle playing the flute on her porch. The camera here is unsteady.

EXT. A STREET. SUNSET.

Luna walks through a residential underpass, almost home. She can hear Stelle playing her flute in the distance. Suddenly she hears the sound again, closer than ever.

Luna pulls out a pocket knife. She opens it, slowly approaching the end of the wall. As she nears the corner, the rustling and flapping grow louder. She turns, and brandishes the knife. There is nothing there. Silence. Not even the sound of Stelle's flute.

Luna puts away her knife and looks up. In the distance, she sees the shadowy figure of the Aventhrope, tall and dark, looking directly at her. Luna looks over her shoulder, but there is nothing and no one behind her. She looks back to the dark figure but it is gone.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

7.

Suddenly she hears a scream.

LUNA

Stelle!

Luna drops the pizza and races home.

INT. NEWSROOM. DAY.

NEWSCASTER

Earlier this week, Midwest City was shaken by the brutal attack of a young woman just outside her own home. The victim was bruised, with lacerations on the the chest and throat, but was not killed.

INT. LIBRARY. DAY.

Two students, JILL and BEA sit at a desk watching a recording of the news report on a laptop.

NEWSCASTER

The MCPD insists that the attacker was human, but members of the council speculate that the violence of the attack implies the work of a monster.

The camera tracks to the right to reveal Luna sitting at the desk behind them. She is writing a post on the monster watching/hunting forum.

Text: SEEN- Unidentified avian/humanoid monster. Near First Presbyterian Church on Lullwood. Bipedal. Black plumage. Long beak. If you have seen a similar specimen or have any information about this monster/ its abilities, please email me at lunafitzp@gmail.com

Bea and Jill speak in low voices, but not low enough that Luna can't hear them.

BEA

So what do you think, human or monster?

JILL

I mean, the MCPD thinks it's human.

BEA

I don't.

(CONTINUED)



JILL

~~Really? Why?~~

BEA

I saw Estelle today ~~It definitely looked like it was more than just a physical attack.~~

It definitely looked like a magical attack

Luna looks up at the mention of Stelle's name and listens more closely.

JILL

~~Wait, Estelle was the victim?~~

BEA

~~Yeah.~~ Phil lives down the street from her. He said he saw the ambulances there that night. Anyway, I saw Stelle in Calculus today and she looked pretty freakin' cursed.

JILL

Please, monsters can't curse humans, only witches and-

BEA

Not true. My uncle's girlfriend had a near death experience with a satyr while hiking, and when she woke up she couldn't touch anything made of iron or see the color red for months. Doctors called it a curse.

JILL

Why do you think Stelle's cursed, though?

LUNA

Yeah, Bea, tell us.

Luna looks over the desk cover at Bea.

BEA

~~Oh. Hi Luna. I'm sorry, I had no idea you were sitting there.~~

LUNA

It's fine.

~~Luna walks around the desk and sits next to them.~~

(CONTINUED)

LUNA

What were you going to say?

BEA

Just that she has some of the same symptoms as my aunt... well, she's not my aunt. She's just my uncle's

LUNA

Get to the point.

BEA

~~Jack.~~ My aunt had a really weird cough for a while where she would cough up this iridescent stuff from the curse in her body. Stelle was coughing up the same stuff in class today.

LUNA

You were checking out Stelle's  
dirty tissues and you think  
something's wrong with her?

BEA

You asked.

LUNA

What made your aunt's curse go away?

BEA

She took some medicine?

LUNA

What kind?

BEA

I don't know, a potion, some pills.  
You're pretty interested for  
someone whose girlfriend isn't  
cursed.

LUNA

Just curious.

Luna picks up her bag and leaves.

L.R. INT. ESTELLE AND LUNA'S LIVING ROOM. EVENING.

Luna sits in the living room reading a book about monsters.  
Off screen, the back door opens and shuts. Stelle coughs.

LUNA

Stelle?

STELLE

(O.S.)

~Brief affirmative whistle~

Pool room

Luna rises from the couch and enters the kitchen where Stelle has set her flute case on the counter and is taking off her coat. She wears a dark turtleneck that covers her neck.

LUNA

Where have you been? It's almost dark. I was really worried.

When Stelle responds, she purses her lips and blows as though whistling, and the sound of a flute is heard.

STELLE

~Low, soothing whistle~

Stelle gestures to her flute case on the counter, unzips the case, and reveals her flute with ironic bravado.

LUNA

You were at rehearsal? Why?

Stelle squints at Luna and directs her attention to the calendar. The 19th of March is circled, with "Estelle's Senior Recital" written inside.

LUNA

You're still performing tomorrow?  
Are you sure you're well enough?

There is a awkward pause.

STELLE

~Whistles matter-of-factly~

There is an even more awkward pause.

LUNA

Well that's good.

Luna hesitates a moment.

(CONTINUED)

LUNA

I want to show you something.

LR

Luna walks into the living room and sits on the couch. Stelle follows but remains standing. Luna picks the book up from the table.

LUNA

So, this book is a registry of all the monsters in North America. It has descriptions and illustrations of every species on record, as well as their different abilities, uses in medicine, curses.

Estelle bites her lip and knits her brow.

LUNA

I was thinking we could go through it together and you could, um, show me, or whistle, if any of them look like the one that attacked you.

Estelle looks at Luna and shakes her head.

LUNA

Come on, Stelle. We need to tell the council what kind of monster attacked you so that maybe they can help.

STELLE

~Whistles slowly and deliberately, as if she is trying to explain something.~

LUNA

Stelle, it's not good that you're still... whistling! The council could put us in touch with specialists who know about treating unusual maladies.

STELLE

~Whistles with frustration, at a more rapid tempo~

LUNA

Okay, fine. You don't have to look at it with me. Just, please, could you look at it? When you can?

Stelle gazes solemnly at the book.

*matter of fact  
I wasn't attacked  
by a monster.*

*God could you  
just listen to  
me for once in  
your life?*

(CONTINUED)

STELLE

~Soft low wistle~

Stelle walks to her bedroom. Luna places the book back on the table. Luna's phone beeps. She picks it up and reads the notification, which reads "One new email. Subject: Black Avian Monster Sighting."

INT. A MEETING ROOM. AFTERNOON.

Luna enters the room. Dr. Wilson sits in an armchair and rises when she enters. They shake hands.

LUNA

Dr. Wilson?

DR. WILSON

At your service, Ms. Fitzpatrick.

LUNA

Call me Luna.

DR. WILSON

Any relation to Kelly Fitzpatrick?

LUNA

She was my mother.

DR. WILSON

That explains your own prowess with the bow.

They both sit. Luna fidgets with her necklace.

DR. WILSON

I appreciate you meeting with me on such short notice. Time is truly of the essence.

LUNA

What do you mean?

DR. WILSON

As you know, the council provides funding to scholars who wish to research local species of monsters.

Luna nods. *-you know this*

DR. WILSON

I have been conducting research for the last three years. In my studies, I encountered several

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

*briefcase  
card  
papers  
light*

DR. WILSON (cont'd)  
descriptions matching yours in  
sources dating as early as the 18th  
century. But as they matched no  
descriptions any known monsters,  
alive or extinct, I dismissed them,  
until I encountered the aventhrope  
for myself.

LUNA  
The aventhrope?

Dr. Wilson produces a manila folder on the table between  
them.

DR. WILSON  
I expect you will recognize this  
creature.

Luna takes the folder and opens it. It contains pages of  
descriptions of the aventhrope's traits and behaviors as  
well as several illustrations and blurred photographs.

LUNA  
That's it. This is exactly what I  
saw. Why isn't it in the registry?

DR. WILSON  
It's never been caught. Only  
monsters that have been killed or  
captured are registered.

LUNA  
What do you know about it?

DR. WILSON  
It's extraordinarily quick. It can  
transport itself from one place to  
another in the blink of an  
eye. It's drawn to shiny or  
valuable objects. It collects them.  
In fact, it stole my wedding ring  
from my hand the first time I  
observed it in person.

LUNA  
But what about other magical  
properties? Does it tell omens, set  
curses?

DR. WILSON  
We know don't know, and that's  
actually where you come in.

(CONTINUED)

Luna sits back slightly, surprised.

DR. WILSON

To learn more about the magical chemistry of a new species, we must conduct an autopsy. A creature that can teleport at will is very difficult to catch. I have attempted to do so for months, to no avail, and had given up the pursuit entirely until I discovered that you had personal interest in catching the beast.

*Card*

~~Why?~~ <sup>LUNA</sup> *Right. Okay*

DR. WILSON

The deadline to apply for the funds to continue research is tomorrow morning. If I haven't captured a specimen by then, I won't receive funding to continue my ~~work~~ *Research*

Luna stares at him gravely.

DR. WILSON

I realize that this is a presumptuous request given the brief time frame for execution, but I would be truly grateful for-

<sup>LUNA</sup> I'll do it. *lean in.*

DR. WILSON

Excellent. You will be compensated for your services, of course.

He hands Luna a business card.

*have*

DR. WILSON

When you shoot the aventhrope, call me and give me your location. I'll take it from there.

INT. LUNA'S ROOM. AFTERNOON.

Luna enters her room and places her phone on the dresser. She begins rifling through her closet. Her cellphone dings, revealing a text from Stelle. Luna ignores the ding and changes into a long sleeved, black t-shirt.

(CONTINUED)

Taped to Luna's mirror is a picture of a woman in her thirties wearing a silver pendant necklace, the same one Luna always wears. Luna looks at this photo as she pulls an olive green jacket from the closet and puts it on. The cell phone dings again, and Luna ignores it. Luna removes her tennis shoes and pulls on a pair of leather boots.

Luna walks to her dresser and opens a small wooden box. She pulls a pearl necklace from the box and places it in her hunting bag. The phone dings a third time and Luna picks it up from the dresser. She looks at the messages without opening them, and turns off her cell phone. She places it inside her hunting pack, picks up her bow and leaves the room.

INT. ESTELLE AND LUNA'S LIVING ROOM. MOMENTS LATER.

Luna walks into the living room and heads for the door.

STELLE

(O.S.)

~Greeting Whistle~

Luna freezes and looks behind her. Estelle is there, wearing her coat and setting down her Flute case. Stelle pulls her phone out of her pocket and looks inquisitively at Luna.

STELLE

~Brief Whistle~

Luna tries to hide her bow behind her back.

LUNA

Hey Stelle, Sorry, my phone died right when I was reading your texts. I might have to miss dinner tonight.

Stelle sees the bow and narrows her eyes in suspicion. She whistles interrogatively and begins to cross the room to stand between Luna and the front door. Luna brings her bow out from behind her back.

LUNA

I didn't forget about your recital! I'm just going to go shoot some birds, blow off some steam first.

She tries to pass Stelle, but Stelle doesn't move. Stelle holds eye contact with Luna, until Luna resigns and explains herself.

(CONTINUED)

"Where  
are you  
going?"

Jesus Stelle, I'll  
be there I just need  
to



LUNA

I met with a researcher today, he's studying an unknown breed of monster that might be the beast that hurt you.

Stelle begins whistling and shaking her head, calmly but firmly. Luna speaks over her. *"Luna, please listen to me"*

LUNA

I saw it just before you screamed. It's called the Aventhrope. Dr. Wilson needs the specimen by tomorrow morning and I told him I would shoot it for him.

Stelle whistles fervently, losing her composure, but Luna pays no attention to her.

*"I wasn't attacked by a monster"*

LUNA

~~I'll be back in time for your recital, I swear, but I have to do this.~~ He's going to study it, and he might figure out how to bring your voice back. ←

Luna reaches for the doorknob, but Stelle backs against the door, blocking Luna again. Luna stops. She takes Stelle's shoulders.

Stelle looks at Luna and does not make a sound. Luna kisses her and gently moves her out of the way.

LUNA

I'll see you at the recital.

Luna opens the door and leaves. Stelle watches her go with a furrowed brow.

EXT. NEAR THE WOODS. AFTERNOON. 22

Luna arrives at the woods and parks her car.

23 EXT. THE WOODS. AFTERNOON. 23

Luna enters the woods. She walks until she is deep among the trees, the noises of civilization faded away. She pulls the pearl necklace from her bag and hangs it from a branch. She hides, sets her hunting bag on the ground and removes her quiver. She loads an arrow in her bow.

The wind blows softly. Luna hears footsteps approaching. She waits until they are near, and then she steps out from her hiding place, with her arrow aimed.

(CONTINUED)

The camera cuts to Stelle standing, shocked, before Luna's bow. Stelle wears her concert attire and carries her flute case. Luna lowers her bow immediately, angry.

LUNA

Why did you follow me? You have to get to your recital.

Stelle whistles pointedly.

LUNA

You have to go. You're going to be late.

Stelle whistles pleadingly, and pulls on Luna's sleeve, gesturing her head out of the forest.

LUNA

Leave. It's not safe for you.

Stelle continues to pull on Luna, whistling urgently.

LUNA

No. I'm trying to keep you safe.  
Just go play your recital.

There is the sound of a branch breaking. The girls fall silent. The necklace is gone from the branch where Luna hung it. The camera cuts back to Luna and Stelle. Behind them, in the distance, is The Aventhrope.

CLOSE UP ON LUNA'S FACE. O.S. THE SOUND OF THE AVENTHROPE'S WINGS.

The girls jump, and turn around. Luna points her bow at the source of the noise. The aventhrope is gone.

Stelle lets out a low, frightened, whistle. Luna scans the forest, her bow loaded. In the distance, between the trees, she sees the figure of the aventhrope step forward. She shoots her arrow, but the aventhrope disappears.

Close up on Luna, searching for the aventhrope in the distance with narrowed eyes.

O.S. There is the familiar sound of flapping wings and rustling leaves.

Luna turns around and shoots, but nothing is there and her arrow is lost to the trees.

Luna breathes heavily, loading her bow for a third time, looking away from the camera, Stelle approaches her, whistling and staring at something out of frame.

Luna  
Shit,

(CONTINUED)

STELLE

~Soft, trembling whistle~

LUNA

Shh.

Stelle pulls on Luna's shoulder. Luna turns around.

LUNA

What?

The aventhrope is standing only five feet away from them. Luna stares with her bow at her side. The aventhrope crouches slightly, then tilts its head forward, looking intently at Luna's necklace, which has fallen out from inside her shirt and sits exposed within her unzipped jacket. Luna slowly raises her bow to the aventhrope. She pulls back the arrow.

The aventhrope opens its claws, and cocks its head. It takes a step forward and caws.

Luna releases her arrow with a shout. The camera lingers on Luna. But the aventhrope has vanished again and her arrow is lost.

LUNA

Damn it. I know I brought some extra arrows.

She turns to her hiding spot where her hunting bag sits on the ground. Suddenly the aventhrope's claws reach over her throat. Luna gasps. Stelle whistles frantically. The aventhrope wraps its talons around Luna's necklace.

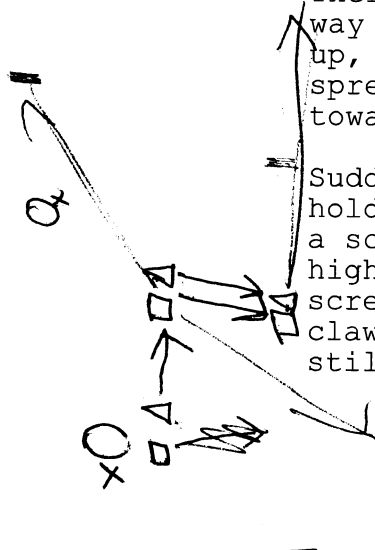
LUNA

No! No! Let Go!

Luna pulls away. The necklace breaks and falls to the ground. Luna grabs it and scrambles toward her hunting bag. There is the sound of flapping wings, and suddenly, Luna's way is obstructed by the feet of the aventhrope. Luna looks up, still crouched on the forest floor. The aventhrope spreads its wings, claws exposed, and points its beak towards Luna, screeching.

Suddenly, Stelle steps between the aventhrope and Luna, holding her flute case over her head, her mouth open wide in a scream. Her scream begins as the sound of a flute, high-pitched, and screeching, then transitions into a human scream. The aventhrope lowers its wings and retracts its claws. It takes a step back. It looks at the flute case, still raised over Stelle's head.

(CONTINUED)



Stelle lowers the flute case and opens it. The silver flute shines in the light of the setting sun. The aventhrope wraps its claws around the flute case, and is gone.

Stelle suddenly is struck with a coughing fit. She hunches over, and coughs into her hands. Luna rises.

LUNA

Stelle, are you okay?

Stelle stops coughing and stands up straight. She turns to look at Luna.

STELLE

Why did you have to make it about you?

LUNA

What?

STELLE

On my day, the one day I asked you to prioritize me, you decide to go hunt some giant magpie by yourself? What the fuck is wrong with you?

LUNA

I was trying to ~~help you.~~ *protect you*

STELLE

*help you.*  
Bullshit. You were trying to avenge your mom.

LUNA

That's not true. I wanted to protect you.

---

STELLE

Well don't! You don't get to use my assault to moralize your paranoia.

LUNA

It isn't paranoia. You were attacked less than a week ago.

STELLE

Yeah. And guess what? It wasn't by a monster.

INT. ESTELLE AND LUNA'S LIVING ROOM. NIGHT.

Stelle sits on the couch. She has changed into a hoodie and pajama pants. Luna stands against the opposite wall, still in her hunting clothes, with her arms crossed. She does not look at Stelle. The air is tense between them. Finally Luna takes a breath and speaks in a monotone.

LUNA

Was it somebody we know?

STELLE

Yes.

LUNA

~~Oh my god, Stelle.~~ We've got to report this to the council. If this person's still out there-

STELLE

I can guarantee that reporting him to the council will not help.

LUNA

*Why?* ~~What are you saying?~~ *He shook your hand at the award banquet last month*  
Stelle looks at Luna gravely. Luna sits next to Stelle on the couch.

LUNA

What do we do?

STELLE

I have an idea.

Luna looks at Stelle.

STELLE

First, we should go to bed and get a good night's sleep. Tomorrow I want to go eat a nice breakfast together at Magnolia's, and then I want to call Dr. Zhao, tell him my flute was stolen-

LUNA

But that doesn't solve the-

STELLE

Then what do you suggest, Luna? *cough*  
I can barely talk about it to you, I don't want to tell everyone.

Stelle takes Luna's hand.

(CONTINUED)

But, Stelle, if  
we don't

So do I. But I can't  
just pretend that  
this didn't  
happen. If ~~you~~ you  
don't name

I know! God Luna,  
can we talk  
about it in  
the morning?

I'm sorry.

STELLE

I want to go back to enjoying being  
alive.

LUNA

This whole thing makes me sick.

Me too STELLE

~~I know.~~ (She clears her throat.)  
~~Maybe someday if I get all this~~  
shit out of my throat I'll go on  
record, press charges. But I need  
to leave this behind me for now,  
okay?

I know I should press  
charges, after I get  
all this shit out of  
my throat. But I just  
want to go to bed right  
now.

LUNA

Okay.

Luna nods, holding back tears. Stelle embraces her. Luna  
melts into the hug. They both hold each other for a moment.

LUNA

What about your flute?

STELLE

It's insured. I can have a  
replacement shipped in a couple of  
days.

INT. LUNA'S ROOM. MOMENTS LATER.

Luna removes her boots. She takes off her coat, and puts it  
in the closet. She places her hunting bag on the floor of  
the closet and then places her bow on top of it and closes  
the door. She places her mother's broken necklace in a  
jewelry box.

INT. STELLE'S ROOM. MOMENTS LATER

Stelle is sitting in her bed looking at her laptop. Luna  
enters. Stelle looks up.

STELLE

Dr. Zhao's letting me reschedule.

LUNA

That's a relief.

Luna walks to the window and looks into the darkness. As  
Stelle speaks, she closes her laptop and puts it away.

(CONTINUED)

STELLE

I think it's mostly a relief to him. He'd been trying to convince me to postpone the recital all week.

Stelle looks up at Luna, who is still looking out the window.

STELLE

Luna. Are you listening to me?

LUNA

Yeah.

She closes the blinds, walks to the bed, and sits next to Stelle.

LUNA

He's probably grateful you're alive. If I were an orchestra conductor, (She kisses Stelle's shoulder) and my most talented player (She kisses Stelle's cheek) had had as many near-death experiences as you have in the span of a week (She sits behind Stelle, wraps her arms around her, and kisses her head), I would be wrapped around your finger, until you were ready to perform the recital of a lifetime.

*tries to kiss Stelle*

STELLE

What about the Aventhrope?

*What about it?*

LUNA

~~It's not my top priority.~~ *important anymore.*  
*Kiss.*

STELLE

~~But~~ didn't that guy need it by tomorrow? Should you email him?

Stelle and Luna slide under the covers. They share a small kiss.

LUNA

I'll deal with it in the morning.

EXT. STELLE AND LUNA'S HOUSE. NIGHT.

External view of Stelle and Luna's bedroom window. The light behind the blinds goes out.

Fade to black.

page 1, shot w/ Aventhrope in distance  
page 6, shots of Stelle playing flute

---