



The Golden Cloud

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Chapter 1 – Covers

Lillyanna Smith was so excited for her first day of her high school freshman year. As she crawled into bed, she dreamed about making new friends and future boyfriends after being homeschooled her whole life up to this point. This was the second time she had ever set foot in an actual school building, the first didn't go so well. That day ended up being the worst day of her life, no one was being very nice to her and instead they acted offended when she was around. There would be many possible reasons why that day was a disaster...maybe it was because she was younger than all of them, shy, enjoyed school too much or possibly the people she met that day were judgmental. Whatever the cause, she decided private school was not for her at that time, and resumed homeschool. But now she was ready to try private school again. Lillyanna quickly scrambled to pull the covers over herself all the way to her chin, while trying to forget the dark memories that she just recalled. She decided to instead start thinking about the Greek legends she always heard her dad tell her.

Lillyanna's absolute favorite god was Aphrodite, goddess of love because she is very beautiful and passionate. Her thoughts started calming down about 10 minutes later and, a bit after that, she was asleep.

Chapter 2 – Morning

"RING! RING!" Lillyanna's alarm seemed to yell.

"Uggg" Lillyanna groaned, with her hair in her face from repeatedly rolling over in her bed last night.

"RING! RING!" her alarm clock hollered back. Reluctantly she sat up and scooted towards the edge of her bed.

"RING! RING!" her alarm clock repeated, urging Lillyanna to move faster. Finally she reached her clock. She quickly pressed the X button, relieved to hear the ringing sound suddenly stop. She then stood up and got out of bed.

From the bottom of the stairs she heard her Dad call to her "Time to get up lil' Lilly!"

"I'm coming", Lillyanna groaned back with the feeling of tiredness seeping into her voice. "And please don't call me lil' Lily any more, it sounds so babyish and I'm almost 14" she moaned, sounding very tired and just a little upset.

"Okay, okay, fine. I'll try not to call you that too often anymore but I have breakfast ready so get dressed and come down." Lillyanna's Dad replied.

"Alright," Lillyanna responded as she walked towards her dresser to change out of her nightgown and into normal clothes. Next to her dresser sat Lillyanna's vanity. On the vanity chair were the clothes she had picked out for herself yesterday. She decided to wear a thin see through white shirt with flowers on them over a white undershirt. She had light blue shorts with black sneakers and socks with cat ears on them. After getting dressed, Lillyanna hopped down the stairs to the sight of her dad cooking her favorite breakfast, confetti pancakes. It only took five minutes for Lillyanna to finish seven of them.

"Wow Lilly, you devoured those pancakes!" Lillyanna's Dad said amazed. After Lillyanna brushed her teeth and hair, she sprinted outside and hopped on to her bike to ride to school, which was a block away and a quick ride.

The warm fall air blew against Lillyanna's face as she flew down her street on her bike. As she swiveled and turned around the other kids walking, she saw something, or more like she saw someone that caught her eye. This someone wasn't just anyone, this was someone...it was Baily.

Baily was rude to Lillyanna when Lillyanna and her dad were taking a tour of the school to see if her dad could enroll Lillyanna. When Lillyanna's Dad was talking to the principal and Lillyanna was waiting for them to finish Baily walked up to her and started being rude.

Perhaps Lillyanna was being a bit overdramatic when she was thinking about what was possibly the worst day of her life. But that day wasn't exactly her favorite moment ever. She quickly pushed that thought away and instead started thinking about the time and that she only had two more minutes to get in the parent waiting room for her meeting with the principal. The meeting was required as part of her first day at a private school and she really needed to be early and if not that, at least on time

Chapter 3 – First Day

As Lillyanna sprinted into the office, she heard a sharp and lethal voice

"Don't run in the hallways" it ordered. The voice was coming from the secretary.

"Sorry ma'am", Lillyanna quietly responded. "I'm looking for the Principal's office."

"You're the new girl?" the secretary questioned her.

"Yes, ma'am" Lillyanna answered.

"Good, you were almost late" the secretary strictly responded.

"Sorry ma'am" Lillyanna worriedly said.

"But you weren't, so go on in" the secretary said, annoyed.

After Lillyanna got checked in, given her schedule and instructed as to how things worked around her new school, Lillyanna was off to her last class before lunch, ELA.

As she stepped into the classroom, Lillyanna was surprised to see no kids. Lillyanna was worried. What if she was really late? Or too early? Or maybe she was in the wrong place altogether? Then Lillyanna noticed the teacher sitting on a desk reading. "Excuse me miss" Lillyanna started to say.

"Yes?" the lady at the desk asked with a tinge of impatience, not looking up. "Am I late?" Lillyanna questioned.

The lady then looked up "No, you are actually about a minute early" she concluded. Lillyanna relaxed.

Lillyanna chose to sit right in front of the chalkboard. The class went extremely fast and Lillyanna could argue that this was her favorite subject. After what seemed like five minutes, the lunch bell rang and then it was finally time to eat. Lillyanna decided to go check out the afterschool clubs and maybe try out for some of them. As she was walking up to the giant billboard, Lillyanna was overcome with excitement and jitteriness. Stepping up to the board, one of the clubs immediately caught Lillyanna's eye...cheerleading club. Ever since she was a child, Lillyanna wanted to be a cheerleader, enamored by their high jumps and ability to get the crowd all fired up. Lillyanna excitedly put her name on the signup sheet and then started looking at the other clubs.

After she finished signing up, she turned to leave and found herself looking straight into the eyes of Baily.

"Ha, you think you can just come to this school and immediately be the best already? I get that you're smart and everything but I would erase your name from the cheerleading club if you don't want to make a fool out of yourself." Baily said.

Lillyanna bit her lip and quickly walked away to eat her lunch. The rest of the day was uneventful and went smoothly. Lillyanna was relieved to see that she only had 3 classes with Baily.

Chapter 4 – The Necklace

When Lillyanna got into bed that night, all she could do was think about what Baily said to her at school that day. After Lillyanna finally feel asleep, she was too tired to even move and settled into a deep sleep.

Lillyanna woke up on a cold marble ground. As she got up, she saw towering pillars. She also saw a very large set of doors towering twice her height, maybe even higher. As she pushed them open, she noticed the doors were much lighter than she expected. Stepping outside she saw a magnificent garden with a granite fountain spewing clear blue water. Lillyanna was confused.

Suddenly a giant hole opened where she was standing and she fell into a deep hole of darkness. For a few seconds she could not see anything until her eyes adjusted to the dark. She noticed that she didn't look or feel hurt at all.

When Lillyanna turned around, she saw a faint light. She slowly walked towards the light. The closer she got, the glow from the light got even brighter. As she came closer, she saw the glow was coming from a glowing necklace. It had a gold clasp on it with a long, black chain.

As Lillyanna reached out to touch the necklace, it burst into light. It startled Lillyanna so much that it caused her to completely fall back. Where the necklace once was, there was now a beautiful lady floating in its place. She had long, wavy brown hair. She was wearing a gold top with skirt that was half purple and half rainbow. She also had angel wings that were a slightly light gold. Her eyes seemed to change color. When Lillyanna first saw her, her eyes were blue. Then Lillyanna would blink and the lady's eyes would be green. Sometimes they would be multiple colors at once. Each blink the lady's eyes would change to a completely different color.

"Hello Lillyanna Smith" the woman started. "I'm Iris". Lillyanna was too awestruck to even say or do anything.

"I see you are having some trouble with another girl" Iris continued. Suddenly the necklace Lillyanna saw before appeared in the goddess's hand.

"This charm will help you and give you good luck, keep it safe." In an instant, the necklace appeared around Lillyanna's neck. It was surprising warm, but not hot.

Chapter 5 – New Luck

The goddess started to dissolve and after she was gone, the light went out completely. Lillyanna started to hear her alarm clock ringing. Realizing her eyes were closed, Lillyanna opened them to the view of her bedroom and everything seemed to be normal again.

"Ugggg, that was a weird dream," Lillyanna groaned, disappointed that it was just a dream.

Switching her alarm clock off, she walked to the vanity and looked in the mirror, still trying to fully wake up. Looking into her reflection in the mirror, Lillyanna noticed that the necklace was still on her neck. Lillyanna was in awe. Then she remembered tryouts and hurried to get ready.

Lillyanna aced the tryout. The coach told Lillyanna that she might even be the captain and Bailey was green with envy.

That night Lillyanna looked out her window, fingers lightly playing with the necklace. "Thanks Iris, you are amazing" Lillyanna said out loud. As she spoke the words, Lillyanna swore she saw the necklace glow a little.