

Deleted Scene, Chapter 6 "Bad Blood" ***A City of Glass Extra***

Jace looked at Alec steadily. Then he said, "What's between you and Magnus Bane?"

Alec's head jerked to the side, as if Jace had slapped him or pushed him. "I don't — there's nothing —"

"I know better," Jace said, forestalling him. "I'm not stupid. Tell me the truth."

"There isn't anything between us," Alec said — and then, catching the look on Jace's face, added with great reluctance, "any more. There's nothing between us any more. Okay?"

"And why is that? Magnus really liked you."

"Drop it, Jace," Alec said in a warning tone.

Jace was having none of being warned. "Magnus says it's because you're hung up on me. Is that true?"

There was a moment of utter silence. Then Alec gave a despairing howl of horror and put his hands up to cover his face. "I am going to kill Magnus. Kill him dead."

"Don't. He cares about you. He really does. I believe that," Jace said,

managing to sound only a little bit awkward. "Look. I don't want to push you into anything, but do you maybe want to —"

"Call Magnus? Look, that's a dead end, I know you're trying to be helpful, but —"

"—kiss me?" Jace finished.

Alec looked as if he were about to fall off his chair. "WHAT? What? What?"

"Once what would do." Jace did his best to look as if this were the sort of suggestion one made all the time. "I think it might help."

Alec looked at him with something like horror. "You don't mean that."

"Why wouldn't I mean it?"

"Because you're the straightest person I know. Possibly the straightest person in the universe."

"Exactly," Jace said, and leaned forward, and kissed Alec on the mouth.

The kiss lasted approximately four seconds before Alec pulled forcefully away, throwing his hands up as if to ward Jace off from coming at him again. He looked as if he were about to throw up. "By the Angel," he said. "Don't ever do that again."

"Oh yeah?" Jace grinned, and almost meant it. "That bad?"

"Like kissing my brother," said Alec, with a look of horror in his eyes.

"I thought you might feel that way." Jace crossed his arms over his chest.

"Also, I'm hoping we can just gloss over all the irony in what you just said."

"We can gloss over whatever you want to," Alec said fervently. "Just don't kiss me again."

"I'm not going to. I have other business to take care of." Jace stood up, kicking his chair back.
"If anyone asks where I am, tell them I went for a walk."

"Where are you actually going?" Alec asked, watching him walk to the door. "To see Clary?"

"No." Jace shook his head. "I'm going to the Gard. I'm going to break Simon out of jail."

© Cassandra Clare