Gems – Sample Line Edit Angela Traficante, Lambda Editing

Chapter 1

Summer. Boston. Outside Park <u>S</u>street <u>S</u>station. Trees overhang <u>all over</u> the <u>entire</u> park, and their leaves cause the ground to be dappled with sunlight. It's cooler than a normal summer day.

"Hi, Jason?" I hear when I finally toss aside my notebook and answer my ringing cell phone.

"Hi, yeah?" I say. I don't recognize the voice.

"It's Emily..." the voice says.

I pause. Do I know an Emily? And then I realize I do. Derek's girlfriend. Crap.

"Oh, Emily..." I sa<u>y.id</u>, "Hi. I'm really..... I mean, we're really not supposed to be on our phones while at-... camp.-"

"Derek said you get some alone time in your rooms in the afternoons, but he's not picking up." I can almost hear the pout in her voice. "Do you know where he is?" "Uh..." I begin.

How do I explain where Derek is? How can I possibly say, *Emily, we're not at camp,* we're at Haven, a special place designed for teenagers with psychic abilities. Derek got himself in a shitload of trouble last night and is quite possibly being kicked out of the program by the Swami as we speak?

-The long and short? ÷I can't. Not only would she not get it, but I would probably be kicked out of Haven myself for breaking the only really important rule: not telling people about us.

"I don't know," I $\frac{\text{finish}_{\text{continue}}}{\text{ed}_{\sigma}}$ " $\frac{\text{b}}{\text{B}}$ ut I can tell him you called. He's supposed to meet me soon."

Supposed to have met me 45-fifteen minutes ago, I think, annoyed.

"Thanks, I appreciate it₁-" she says.

"Okay. Bye, Emily."

"Bye."

The start of an annoying day₁, I can already tell. I pick up the notebook and glower at it. I can't do the automatic writing that Lira, the Swami's assistant, has been trying to teach me for a week. Looking into a mirror, or a pool of water_and seeing an image is one thing. Trying to pick up the verbal communications of the decaesed or never-living is practically impossible. Hell, Lira can't even do it herself, yet she expectsed me to figure it out.