

## Chronicles of World City: Demons on Delivery (*Excerpt*)

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“Fuuuuuck it’s hot!” Cassielmara, or simply ‘Cassie’ to everyone else, cursed as she turned on the tiny fan mounted on the upper corner of the driver’s side of the massive delivery truck. The thing sprung to life quickly, buzzing annoyingly as it blew a small but steady stream of air over her face. Her entire body, from her long legs to the bangs of her platinum blonde, nearly completely white hair, were plastered with sweat. She grabbed one of those so-called cooling towels from the dashboard and wiped the worst of it from her face, neck and enormous breasts.

“Shit, these things don’t do diddly-squat!” she cursed before tossing the rag back onto the dash with a **PLOP** sound.

“It’s too humid for them to work right.” said a soft spoken voice next to her, “They work on evaporation or something... Ooooo, this looks tasty...! Look Cassie!” the voice’s owner said.

The truck pulled up to a traffic light, Cassie knew from their daily route it would take no less than seven minutes before it turned. Holding her foot on the break, she turned to see what her shortstack partner wanted to show her. Lilithmary held up her smartphone, one of those new model ones that looked like a plate of glass until you turned it on. The screen’s resolution was so high that even in this bright sunlight, Cassie could make out every detail.

“What about it, Lilith? It’s just a steak.” she replied.

Lilithmary, nicknamed “Lily”, pulled the phone back with a dour expression, “It’s not just a steak!” she said, her voice so soft even when she was angry she sounded like she was completely chill. The only way anyone could know what she might be feeling was from her overly expressive face.

“This is Moon Beef! It comes from cows raised up on the moon!” Lily told her. “The low gravity makes the cows grow fatter and their muscles are more tender, it’s like veal without the guilt!” the tiny demon girl said, quoting directly from the advertisement.

“Veal is cheaper.” Cassie said, “No way we can even afford an ounce of that on the Wage Slave earning’s we’re stuck with.” The two demonkin girls, commonly just thought of as demons by the general populace, were a pair of delivery workers for the World City chapter of the international Sahara online shopping service. The pay seemed so good online when she applied, but that was thinking of it in her old home town. In World City however? She and Lily were just **BARELY** over the poverty line! Seriously, without the fuel expense account, both of them would starve!

Lily gave her a pouty expression, her cheeks puffed out like a squirrel’s. “I know, but still...”

“Does anyone in town even sell that?” Cassie asked.

“World-Mart has it.” her partner replied instantly.

“Ugh, even with their discounted prices, everything is **SO DAMN** expensive!!!” Cassie cursed.

“You worry about money too much.” Lily said lackadaisically.

“And **YOU** don’t worry enough!” Cassie shot back. She then shook her head, “Where’s our first stop?” she then asked, wanting to change the subject.

“Residential area, we got two stops.” Lily said, looking at the monitor mounted on her side of the cab. On it was a birds eye display of World City, with a red line snaking through it and several green dots along the path. Cassie suppressed another curse, their path took them over nearly the entire city! And they didn’t even have that much! Their route was selected by some stupid A.I. based on how their truck was loaded, with the small stuff at the back being delivered first, and the bigger, heavier stuff last. Supposedly it was more efficient, but Cassie couldn’t see how. At least she didn’t have to pay for the gas.

The light finally turned green and Cassie began moving the truck along the street again. Some sweat dripped down into her yellow tinted eyes, stinging terribly, but she managed to keep watch on the road and still dab the worst of it away with the “cooling” towel.

“Stupid heatwave.” she muttered.

“Aren’t we supposed to be demons?” Lily asked.

“That’s got nothing to do with it! Besides, this is wet heat, way worse.” Cassie said, remembering how Lily explained why the towel wasn’t working as advertised. She continued along the path highlighted by the GPS, grateful for the brief stretch that they were on the highway, as the increased speed at least brought some welcome cooling wind.

The residential section of town they went to was in one of the nicer areas, where the houses had more than three feet of space between them. Pools became a more common sight, along with nicer cars. Every single house had central air, not a window unit in sight!

“It’s up ahead, I’ll get the package.” Lily said.

“Thanks, Lilith.” Cassie replied as the home in question came into view. The icon that represented their truck lined up with the green destination dot on the screen as Cassie pulled over next to the home.

"808 Victory, this is it." Cassie confirmed as she unbuckled herself and got up. Her butt hurt from sitting too long and she swished her tail from side to side as she stood up slightly in the cab and looked back into the cargo hold.

"Got it," Lily said, holding up a normal-sized package. She tossed it over to Cassie who caught it with ease. She then grabbed a scanner from the glovebox, scanning in the barcode to note the delivery was complete before stepping out of the truck. She hopped down from the door, catching her own reflection in the side view mirror.

*'Not too shabby!'* she thought as she smirked at the image of her tomato red skin, yellow gold eyes, and short, curved black horns. For a demonkin, Cassie knew she was hot! And not just because of the flaming tip of her long serpentine tail. Well, it wasn't actually on fire, but it looked like it was to most who didn't know demonkin biology. Pasting on a smile, Cassie began walking up towards the house.

The house was beige mullin color with dark blue stucco style roofing. The front area's exterior was lined with fancy looking pillars. Up in front there was a small set of concrete steps which seemed a little overly dramatic to her. The steps lead to the front door which wasn't the usual type most houses had. The owner had chosen to have a set of double doors installed, but unlike standard doors they were rounded instead of squared off at the top. The doors had a gold colored door knocker shaped like a crown, complete with some gemstones embedded in it. The second floor of the house possessed a balcony that went around its entire exterior, going all the way to the backyard area. The driveway to the house was massive in size, triple that of a standard driveway. Cassie wondered just how many cars did the owner have to need that much space.

The instant Cassie began walking up to the house she could hear a dog barking. Her tail swished irritably. She hated dogs, they were loud, messy, and all around annoying.

Ignoring the noisy beast, Cassie checked the name and address one last time just to be sure. Meilani Williams, 808 Victory Drive, World City. She ascended the steps to the front doors and was thankful that there was a regular doorbell there as well. She pressed the button and the dog barking got worse as she heard the unmistakable sound of paws running on the floor up to the door.

She almost hoped no one was home, at least then she could just leave the package by the door and be done with it.

"Jett, down already!" Cassie heard a woman's voice yelling at the dog from the inside. She could hear the sound of a lock being turned before the left hand door swung open. Cassie leapt back with a yelp as a tiny black dog jumped up at her, looking as though it were trying to knock the box from her hands while yapping loudly.

"Jett, chill out!" the woman who opened the door yelled, catching the dog in mid-air.

**“ARF ARF ARF ARF!”** the dog barked repeatedly.

“I am **SO** sorry, he **REALLY** wants to bring the box in.” the woman apologized as she held the dog tightly.

“It’s fine, I don’t really take it personally.” Cassie said, giving a well rehearsed speech.

“Well still, I’m sorry, one second.” The woman apologized before placing the dog back inside the house and handing him the package. The dog trotted back inside as the young lady closed the door. She had long pink hair that reminded the demon woman of cotton candy, a pretty face and a sexy figure that would make a succubus jealous. The woman was dressed for the heat in a salacious pair of workout shorts in a shade of pink that nearly matched her hair. They were trimmed at the edges with white and might have been a half size too small. Though from the way they accentuated her curves, that was probably on purpose. She wore a high cut t-shirt that was a powder blue color and showed off just enough underboob to be enticing without risking nipple slippage. Well, so long as she didn’t run anywhere.

Her big blue eyes were sincerely apologetic, which was refreshing. Cassie had lost count of how many people unconsciously got on edge when they met her for the first time. Demonkins just have that effect on people. Stupid old religions had given them a bad reputation.

“Anyway, how can I help you?” the woman asked.

“Package for Meilani Williams, is that you, miss?” Cassie asked.

The woman shook her head in the negative, “No, that’s my mom, I’m Xaria, her daughter, I can sign for it.” Xaria told her as she approached. Cassie nodded and tapped a few controls on her scanner, bringing up a blank screen on the surface.

She then held it out to Xaria, “You can sign with your finger,” she told her. The pink haired did just that while humming to herself.

“Wow, you have some crazy good handwriting!” Cassie said, most people made the sloppiest signatures on the screen, but Xaria’s was not only legible, but neat and practically beautiful.

“Meh, chicken scratch.” Xaria said with a smile, “Thanks.” she said.

“Please shop with us again.” Cassie said, the line again sounding very rehearsed, before nodding and turning away. Xaria waited until she was more than half way back to the truck before turning to head back inside. She could hear the dog barking again.

“That’s enough, no treats for you tonight!” she overheard Xaria tell the unruly mutt.

“Is it safe?” Lily said from inside the truck as Cassie returned. The girl had a deeply rooted phobia of dogs. Something from her childhood.

“Yeah, wild little beast is locked inside the house.” Cassie told her. “Where to next?”