

The Chronicles of Diana Marsson
Chapter 20: Till Death Do Us Part

By

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A "Hercules: TLJ" / "Highlander: The Series" Crossover

1998
Revised: 2024

EVENTS THAT HAPPEN BETWEEN END OF LAST CHAPTER AND THIS ONE

- 1 2023 - The Year of the Rabbit
Michael Baton gets married to a woman named Renee.
- 2 2024 - The Year of the Dragon.
Kevin & Sam Baton have a son.
(The other Diana, Clark, and Ares return to Ancient Greece.)
- 3 2026 - The Year of the Horse.
Michael & Renee have a son.
- 4 2030 - The Year of the Dog.
Kevin & Sam have a daughter on Nov 30th. They name her Athena.
Athena is born under the sign of the Centaur (Sagittarius)
- 5 2032 - The Year of the Rat.
Michael & Renee have a daughter on July 30th. They name her Lucy.
She is born under the sign of the lion (Leo).
- 6 2035 - The Year of the Rabbit.
Earth has reached a state of Global Unity and peace. No more wars, no more turmoil.
- 7 2040 - The Year of the Monkey.
Duncan & Diana break-up. It is a mutual break-up. They part on good terms.

Athena is now 10 years old, and Lucy is 8 years old. Diana and Clark start spending more time with the girls, as the time is approaching when they will be old enough to help them rescue Ares. Diana and Clark train the girls on how to use a Chakram. They practice with Frisbees and boomerangs at first. Athena, being a little older, gets the hang of it a lot a faster. She becomes a pro in record time. Diana provides her with a replica of a Chakram. (The real one is back in the cave.) They do some target practice. Athena really is a quick study she gets the hang of things really fast.

- 8 2042 - The Year of the Dog.
It has been 100 years since Melinda and gang almost rescued Ares. Diana is sure that the girls will be ready by her perfect date. Her perfect date is really a range. Mar 21 - Apr 19 to be exact. That is when the sun will be in the zodiac sign of Aries. Of course the sign is a ram and not Ares, but the similarity is just too much to resist. She would love to rescue

(CONTINUED)

him when the sun was in Aries, and the Chinese zodiac sign is the Dog.

SATURDAY MARCH 29th 2042

9 EXT: SITE OF CAVE - MACEDONIA

DIANA, CLARK, ATHENA BATON, and LUCY BATON are standing a few feet away from the cave entrance. DIANA addresses the girls.

DIANA

Okay. ... Today is the day you've been practicing for. We have to succeed. The time is right. Are you ready?

LUCY / ATHENA

Yes, Diana. We are.

DIANA

Good.

They approach the cave. DIANA is in the lead, the girls are following behind her, and CLARK is following behind them. They reach the cave entrance and stop. DIANA turns and looks to LUCY. DIANA has forgotten that the lock will open for anyone now that the "seal" is broken.

DIANA

The first task is Lucy's.

LUCY steps forward. DIANA is standing beside the "door". DIANA points to the combination lock handprint.

DIANA

Open it.

LUCY places her hand in the print and mutters to herself.

LUCY

First ruby...

She turns the print to point at the ruby.

LUCY

...then emerald.

She turns the print to point at the emerald. The lock clicks. LUCY steps back. The door opens. DIANA smiles at LUCY.

DIANA

Very good.

DIANA enters. LUCY follows. ATHENA and CLARK follow.

CONTINUE TO:

10 INT: CAVE -- ENTRANCE WAY

They all stop just inside of the entrance.

DIANA

Step 2. Lucy. You and Clark stay here.
Athena, come with me.

LUCY goes to CLARK's side. ATHENA goes to DIANA's side. DIANA and ATHENA walk over to the "staircase" and descend. LUCY looks at CLARK.

LUCY

She's gone to get that Chakram thing,
isn't she?

CLARK

And once it gets here, you know what
you have to do, right?

LUCY

(nod affirmingly)
Make the two pieces, one.

CLARK

Right.

CLARK thinks to himself.

CLARK (THOUGHT)

*Kind of ironic that if you look at the
steps taken... Arrive at cave, Ruby
selected, Emerald selected, Staircase
descended... and then take the first
letter of each word... You get Ares.*

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

11 DIANA AND ATHENA

DIANA and ATHENA reach Clark's "imaginary walls". DIANA walks over to the shield hanging on the wall.

(Note: The shield is attached to the wall on hinges. There is a hole behind it. In the hole, are the two pieces of the Chakram.)

DIANA opens the "shield safe", the pieces are still there. She breathes a sigh of relief. She motions for ATHENA to come over. ATHENA comes over.

DIANA

Athena, reach in and remove both pieces. ... One at a time, and hand them to me.

ATHENA removes one piece, hands it to DIANA, then removes the other piece and hands it to DIANA. DIANA looks at ATHENA to make sure she isn't going to faint or anything.

DIANA

How do you feel?

ATHENA

Fine.

DIANA

You sure?

ATHENA

Yes.

DIANA

Good.

DIANA closes the "shield safe" and turns to ATHENA.

DIANA

Wait here. I'll be right back.

DIANA walks off. ATHENA watches DIANA turn the corner.

PAN TO:

(CONTINUED)

12 AROUND THE CORNER

DIANA vanishes.

CUT TO:

13 CLARK AND LUCY

LUCY is looking at CLARK, when DIANA materializes behind her - in the shadows. DIANA walks over and hands the two pieces of the Chakram to CLARK.

DIANA

Give me 10 seconds. Then give these to Lucy.

CLARK nods. DIANA walks into the shadows and vanishes.

CUT TO:

14 ATHENA

ATHENA is studying the hallway. DIANA turns the corner and approaches her.

DIANA

Now, remember...

(beat)

Do not become distracted by what you will see inside.

(beat)

Focus on your task.

ATHENA

I'm ready.

DIANA

Good. Take my hand.

DIANA offers her hand. ATHENA takes it. They walk through the "alpha" wall.

CUT TO:

15 CLARK AND LUCY

CLARK looks at LUCY.

(CONTINUED)

CLARK

Okay, Lucy. Here you go.

CLARK hands LUCY the pieces of the Chakram. The magnetic bond between the two halves is strong. They come together on their own. Once joined, there is a flash, and LUCY collapses, dropping the Chakram, but not breaking it. CLARK picks it up.

CLARK

She did it.

CLARK sends the chakram to DIANA and takes LUCY out of the cave.

CUT TO:

16 DIANA & ATHENA

The cave has started to come to life. The torches lit the moment they entered. The Eye starts to glow, and hum.

DIANA

She did it.

A beam of light comes out of The Eye. The beam strikes the sarcophagus. The beam works its way around the lid, unsealing it. The Chakram arrives on the floor beside ATHENA. ATHENA picks it up. DIANA is drawn to the sarcophagus.

ATHENA

Diana? Where are you...

DIANA reaches the sarcophagus as ARES rises. DIANA mutters the following line.

DIANA

By the gods, you're...

ARES turns to her. He says his line as he gets out of the sarcophagus.

ARES

Di... Diana? Is it really you?

She brings her hand to the side of his face in a caress. Tears are starting to form in her eyes, tears of joy.

(CONTINUED)

DIANA

Yes. Yes, it's me.

She embraces him, tightly. She holds him for a few moments, then looks at him.

DIANA

I'm getting you out of here.

ARES

But...

She brings a finger to his lips.

DIANA

Sh. Quiet.

She looks at him for a few more moments, then turns to ATHENA, who, despite what is going on, seems to be in complete control of herself.

DIANA

Now. Throw it.

DIANA points to The Eye.

DIANA

That's your target. Hit The Eye.

ATHENA takes a deep breath, stares at The Eye for a few moments, then tosses the Chakram. Direct hit. The Chakram hits The Eye and returns to ATHENA's hand. ATHENA smiles as she catches it. The hidden door opens. ARES looks at the door. DIANA takes his hand in hers.

DIANA

Come on, let's get you out of here.

They head to the door. ATHENA follows.

CUT TO:

17 EXT: CAVE

CLARK and LUCY are sitting on a bench about 5 feet from the cave.

(CONTINUED)

LUCY
So, did it work?

CLARK
I'm not sure. I...

LUCY
Look...

LUCY points to the cave. ATHENA, DIANA, and ARES emerge.

CLARK
Well, I guess that answers the
question. It worked.

LUCY
Who is that man with Diana?

CLARK doesn't answer. ATHENA, DIANA, and ARES reach them. LUCY
looks at ARES.

LUCY
Who are you?

ATHENA
(smile)
I freed him.
(beat)
He was trapped inside some sort of
stone casket. Just like Diana said.
(beat)
It was amazing. I...

LUCY goes over to ARES and looks up at him.

LUCY
What's your name, mister?

ARES looks to DIANA before he answers. She smiles and turns to
LUCY.

DIANA
His name is Ares.

DIANA looks back at ARES. LUCY seems to be trying to
understand.

LUCY

Ares? That's a strange name.

DIANA looks back at the girls. ATHENA speaks before DIANA can say something.

ATHENA

Ares? As in the God of War Ares?

ARES looks at her and smiles.

ARES

Yes.

ARES looks from ATHENA to LUCY and then back to ATHENA.

ARES

(smile)

Thank you for freeing me.

(drop smile)

I've been trapped in there for a long,
long, time.

DIANA turns to ARES, who is starting her.

DIANA

I promised you then, that I'd get you
out. I'm just sorry it took so long.

ARES smiles at DIANA. His hand cups her face.

DIANA

I've missed you so much.

ARES rests his hand under her chin.

ARES

And I you, D.

ARES brings her lips to his. He kisses her. She melts into the kiss. He hugs her tightly. CLARK looks at the girls.

CLARK

Okay you two. Your job is done here.
Time to go.

LUCY

But we can't just leave Diana out here
in the middle of nowhere.

CLARK

Yes, we can.

CLARK takes their hands in his, and heads to the car.

DIANA and ARES, who are behind them, vanish.

ATHENA turns back to say something, and notices they are gone.
She looks around.

ATHENA

Wh... Where'd they go?

CLARK turns and sees that they are gone.

CLARK

Oh... they're around.

They continue to car.

CONTINUE TO:

18 EXT: CAR

They reach the car. CLARK opens the back door, on the driver's side, and LUCY gets in. ATHENA stands with arm resting on the door. CLARK opens the driver's door and is about to get in. ATHENA turns to him.

ATHENA

Clark?

(beat)

Who are you guys? Really?

CLARK

What do you mean?

ATHENA

If that guy really was Ares, *thee* Ares,
and he knows Diana, that would mean
that she would have had to have been
around back then.

(CONTINUED)

CLARK gets in the car. ATHENA gets in the car.

CONTINUE TO:

19 INT: CAR

CLARK turns around, leaning his arm on the back of the seat, and looks at ATHENA.

CLARK

You wouldn't believe me if I told you.

ATHENA

Try me.

CLARK stares at ATHENA.

CLARK

My you are an inquisitive little girl today, aren't you?

ATHENA gives him a look.

ATHENA

Clark, I may be little, but I'm not stupid.

(beat)

My father named me after the goddess of wisdom for a reason you know.

CLARK takes a breath, then snaps his fingers. LUCY and ATHENA are frozen in time. CLARK thinks. He looks at them.

CLARK

Okay, you two, listen up. ... You will forget everything that happened here today. Everything. The three of us went exploring, and that's all. Nothing exciting happened.

CLARK notices that ATHENA is still holding the Chakram. He takes it from her and zaps it to the warehouse. CLARK then turns around and starts the car. Once the car is started, he snaps his fingers. The girls unfreeze. CLARK drives off.

CLARK

So, having fun yet?

(CONTINUED)

ATHENA

This is boring. I want to go home.

LUCY

You said we'd see exciting things. All I've see so far is sand and hills.

ATHENA

Don't forget the cave.

CLARK gets a look of shock on his face. Cave? What cave is she talking about? She was supposed to forget about the cave!

LUCY

There was nothing in that cave. Nothing.

ATHENA

You mean you didn't notice the writing on the wall?

LUCY / CLARK

Writing?

ATHENA

Yeah.

CLARK

What did it say?

ATHENA

Don't know. It was just a bunch of symbols.

CLARK wonders if she ATHENA is remembering the "warning" wall.

LUCY

If it was just symbols, how do you know it was writing?

CLARK

Hieroglyphics?

ATHENA

No. It wasn't Egyptian.

CLARK

I don't remember any wall with writing on it.

ATHENA

Well I do. That was the only exciting thing I've seen all day.

ATHENA stares out the window.

ATHENA

And I intend to find out what it means.

CLARK begins to probe her mind, trying to find out what she remembers.

CUT TO:

20 INT: DIANA'S HOUSE - BEDROOM

DIANA and ARES are making up for lost time. They are in the heat of passion. He is kissing her neck.

DIANA

Oh, I've missed you. I...

She has completely melted under his touch. He suckles her right breast. She gasps. He brings his lips to her neck and then to her lips. He kisses her deeply as his fingers pry open her walls. She gasps as he pulls them open. He holds them open as he forces his tongue into her mouth. She grabs his tongue and sucks on it. Pulling it in. He moans. He can't stand it anymore. He wants her. He wants to be in her. He thrusts himself inside her. She gasps as he enters her. It's been so long since he's been in her. So long since he's been with anyone. He wants to take her fast, and hard. And then do it again. He wants to make her his again, and again, and again.

CONTINUE TO:

21 TIME FLIES MONTAGE

They make love for hours. Over and over and over again.

CONTINUE TO:

(CONTINUED)

22 KITCHEN

DIANA and ARES are sitting in the kitchen. They are having something to eat.

ARES

If I had've been freed in 1942, I was going to prepare for our meeting.

DIANA

(raise eyebrow)

What? I wasn't born till...

ARES

I know that.

DIANA

Then what...

ARES

Since I was now aware of my little sister's warehouse, and the Ambrosia that was hidden in there. I planned to go to the warehouse, open the case, and take the chalice. Then, in 1996, a few months before my dear brother would land in your back yard, I planned to visit you. Tell you who I was, and...

DIANA

What makes you think I'd believe you?

He flashes her that wicked, playful, smile of his.

ARES

I'd convince you.

He looks at her seductively.

ARES

I can be quite convincing.

DIANA

Oh, I know.

ARES

Then, once you accepted me, I'd offer you the Ambrosia.

DIANA

Aren't you forgetting that Herc would still arrive, and then...

ARES

No, I hadn't forgotten.

(beat)

I realized that, that was the only thing I couldn't stop.

(beat)

But I was determined to stop the loop.

DIANA

I...

ARES

If you didn't go back with him, the loop never would have started. And if it never started, then everything would be as it was meant to be. If you never went back in 1996, you wouldn't have had any reason to go back in 2024. And if you didn't go back in 2024, I wouldn't have been trapped in that cave. And if I wasn't trapped in that cave for...

DIANA places her hands on his and looks him in the eye.

DIANA

Stop. I hate temporal physics.

(beat)

But you're right. We've really messed up the timeline.

(beat)

Co-existing with duplicates of ourselves. H...

ARES looks at her with a raised eyebrow.

ARES

What?

DIANA realizes that ARES doesn't know that she and Clark returned before they left.

DIANA

When Clark and I returned, we landed in 2016, not 2024.

ARES

Why?

DIANA pretends not to know.

DIANA

Not really sure.

(beat)

At least right now, there is only one of everybody.

ARES

Is there?

She raises an eyebrow, questioningly.

DIANA

What do you mean?

ARES

(look at her)

How do you know that sometime in the future we don't interfere again? Maybe...

DIANA

No. Let's promise that we will never interfere in time again.

ARES

I still think if we could find a way to stop the loop before it began...

DIANA

What do you mean?

ARES makes a chalkboard materialize in the room. He approaches the board. A pointer appears in his hand. He points the pointer at the board.

The following is displayed on the board.

=====

TIMELINE INFRACTIONS

Infraction #1: Hera sends Hercules to 1996.
Result: Hercules and Diana return to Ancient Greece.

Infraction #2: Diana lands in Ancient Greece.
Result: Hera sends her back.

Infraction #3: She lands in 1997, and learns she is pregnant with Herc's Son.
Result: Diana returns to Ancient Greece in 2024 with Clark and Ares.

Infraction #4: Diana, Clark, and Ares land in Ancient Greece.
Result: 2 Ares'. The future Ares kills the present Ares. The future Ares in entombed. Diana & Clark return.

Infraction #5: Diana and Clark land in 2016. 8 years before they left.
Result: 2 Dianas and 2 Clarks. Until 2024 when 1 set goes back.
=====

ARES

If the result of Infraction 1 was changed so that only Herc went back...

Momentary pause. He looks at her.

ARES

...then infractions 2-5 would never have happened.

(beat)

Herc would return, alone, and all would have unfolded as it should have. I would never have been entombed...

DIANA

But you would have entered The Game. Lost your godhood.

ARES

Yes. I know.

DIANA

Wait...

(beat)

The moment Herc would leave 1996, we'd have the same problem we had when we went back.

(beat)

There would be two of you.

ARES

Only until 2003.

DIANA

2003?

ARES

Remember?

(beat)

Duncan MacLeod killed, or will kill, Aphrodite in 1997. And I challenged him in 2003.

DIANA

Yeah, but...

She sees where he's going. ARES knows she knows.

ARES

Right. You stopped me. Only this time, you wouldn't be there to stop us. Even if you were there, that me would never have met you, so...

DIANA

Are you saying Mac would've killed you?

ARES

We would have to make sure he did.

DIANA

But we can't interfere. The rules forbid it. You know that.

ARES

We'd find a way. Because if Mac didn't...

DIANA

We'd have a temporal anomaly.

ARES

Yes. And I wouldn't be able to kill myself this time because that me would be in The Game. An Immortal playing The Game would have to do it.

DIANA

Yes but...

Momentary pause. She shakes her head.

DIANA

No. Stop. Just stop.

ARES

Stop?

She goes to him and takes the pointer out of his hands.

DIANA

No more talking about fixing time.

ARES

I...

She wraps her arms around his neck.

DIANA

No more talking at all.

She kisses him. He returns the kiss. After a few moments, she breaks the kiss and looks at him.

DIANA

I've missed you.

ARES

And I you.

DIANA

Take me. I want you to...

Momentary pause. They vanish.

CONTINUE TO:

(CONTINUED)

23 BEDROOM

They materialize on the bed. They are both naked. He is on top of her.

ARES

You want me to what?

DIANA

(smile)

You're a god. Read my mind. Give me what I want.

He stares at her and probes her mind.

ARES

My, my, my. Aren't you adventuresome.

DIANA

Don't think you can handle it?

ARES

Oh I can handle it, D. It and more.

DIANA

Good. Then show me. Give me all you got, tiger.

He kisses her fully, deeply, passionately, on the lips. As his hands begin to explore her body, we...

FADE OUT.

(CONTINUED)