**Week 9 Chapter Summaries**

**Life and Death and the Quantum Wave Function to**

 **Wild and Free**

**Life and Death and the Quantum Wave Function**

* Hugo also lives multiple lives just like Nora
* Instead of a library he has a video store, and instead of books he has VHS tapes
* Instead of Mrs. Elm, Hugo has his Uncle Philippe as his guide
* Hugo says that he called people like him and Nora “sliders” and that he has met others
* Hugo tells Nora that the “universal wave function is real”
	+ He explains that in quantum physics, every alternative possibility happens simultaneously
	+ There are an infinite number of different parallel universes
	+ At one point in time, you are doing a million other things in other universes
* Hugo says that because their brains can’t comprehend the complexity of open quantum wave function, it creates something easier to understand like a library or a video store
	+ It’s like a mental metaphor
	+ Nora knew that “everything humans see is a simplification”
* Nora asks Hugo how many lives he’s lived and he says nearing 300
	+ He says there will never be a life that I truly want to live forever
	+ He says he kind of likes being a slider
* Hugo tells Nora you can be creative about the regrets you want to undo
	+ He undid a regret about not doing aerospace engineering and became an astronaut
* Nora kisses Hugo

**If Something Is Happening to Me, I want to Be There**

* Nora and Hugo sleep together
* Nora thinks of Camus quote, “I may not have been sure about what really did interest me, but I was absolutely sure about what didn’t”
* Nora feels like she hasn’t even been there at all

**God and Other Librarians**

* Nora asks Mrs. Elm if she is God and she responds, “I am who I am”
* Mrs. Elm reminds Nora if she died in a life, there’s no way back to the library
* Mrs. Elm tells Nora she has a lot of barriers that stop her from seeing the truth about herself
* The library only exists as long as the the time is midnight because then her root life is still somewhere between life and death
* Mrs. Elm tells Nora to be careful and advises her to choose visiting alternate lives carefully before the library disappears
* Mrs. Elm asks what Nora wants, and Nora starts to think about playing music

**Fame**

* When Nora enters this new life, she is surrounded by people with guitars and she hears people chanting
* Ravi is there playing the drums
* Nora asks where Joe is and Ravi tells her he’s dealing with the press
	+ Nora wonders why he isn’t playing in the band with them
* In this life, Nora is still in The Labyrinths and they are about to play the encore in Sao Paulo, Brazil
* Nora suggests singing Beautiful Sky but a band member tells her to sing “Howl,” a song she doesn’t know
* Nora then suggests singing “Bridge Over Troubled Water”

**Milky Way**

* When Nora walks out onto the stage she’s blinded by the lights pointing towards her
	+ She thinks of it as a milky way of camera flashes and phone flashlights
* The crowd is so loud that it sounded threatening at first
	+ Nora imagines herself as Hercules facing the Hydra
* She realizes she is capable of a lot more than she had known

**Wild and Free**

* When Nora walks on stage and hears the crowd cheer for them, she feels the power of fame for the first time
* When she speaks to the crowd and they roar back, she compares herself to a terrified Cleopatra
* She has a Henry David Thoreau tattoo of the quote, “All good things are wild and free.”
* She sings with her eyes closed because she’s scared
* Nora thinks that she feels more alive singing than she ever did swimming
* Nora gets a text from Izzy of a picture of a whale and the Thoreau quote
	+ Izzy also texts her thanking her for getting her tickets to the show
* Nora looks different, with a white stripe in her hair, vampiric make-up, and a lip piercing
* She checked her instagram and saw that she posts her poetry
* A woman sits down with Nora and goes over the rest of the tour dates
* Nora still wonders where Joe is but is too afraid to ask
* Nora gets a video call from “Ryan Bailey,” who calls her “babe” and asks if they’re still friends