

After 2 months of wrestling with the ending of our wonderful show, I am now presenting an argument against the way it was played out. I'm going to start with a dialogue between Chloe and Linda.

Scene: Linda's office. Chloe needs advice to deal with her very young daughter who is acting out. At this point I'm going to theorize that Rory is about eight or nine.

Linda: So what's the problem?

Chloe: It's Rory. she's acting out. She's very, very angry at the fact that her father is not here. I don't know what to do or say, and I'm just afraid it's just going to get worse.

Linda: You're absolutely right it's going to get worse. A lot worse. But before we do that I want to make an observation. I find it interesting that both you and Lucifer have missing parents.

Chloe [confused]: What?

Linda: Well, you did have your father until your teenage years, but then he went away. Lucifer had his father until his "teenage years", such as they were, and was ejected from heaven. And now both of your daughters are growing up without their fathers. That is a family pattern. And this pattern is likely to continue in the future generations unless it is changed.

Chloe: I've not thought of it that way.

Linda: Of course not. But that's my job—to look at what factors create the adults that we grow into. And in everyone's case, abandonment issues are very strong. Because when you lose a parent, especially early on, you always feel lost and often rejected, like you weren't good enough for your parent to stay. This unfortunately happens when parents divorce, or die, or go away and never return, and it's worse the younger you are. In this case, Rory knows that her father is out there but that according to what she believes, he doesn't want to see her, for he has rejected her. We adults all know why Lucifer is not here.

Chloe: But she's the one who insisted on us him not being here so that she could have a wonderful life.

Linda: I'd like you to really assess her wonderful life. Is it a wonderful life for her to be angry all the time? Or rageful, or hateful? She came back in time because she was so enraged at her father that she intended to kill him. And in not quite killing him, she tried to kill LeMec, and almost did. She is a cauldron of rage, and if you think it's bad now, with her angel abilities, it's going to get worse. Would you rather raise a child who is bitter and angry even though there is no need for it? She could have her father back in an instant. [They both nod.] If you see a child in this kind of distress, and there is an easy solution, wouldn't you do something about it?

Chloe: Of course I would!

Linda: And that's what I'm getting at here. Rory said she had a wonderful life with you, but in fact, in her heart she feels abandoned, and abandoned children grow into adults who have a very difficult time having healthy relationships because they never feel worthy enough. In this case, down deep Rory feels she wasn't good enough for her father to stay.

Chloe: I know what it was like. When my father died, I had to become a parent to my mother.

Linda: Yes, but he died. Just like Dan. Even though he did, Trixie knows he loves her. Imagine how much worse it is to know that your father is alive and isn't even interested in being around. You can say everything about Lucifer loving his daughter, but he's not there. And that's what I'm talking about here.

You are not only an adult, you are Rory's parent. I know you are a responsible loving parent, and as such, you now need to be the parent who makes the hard decisions for the best interests of your child. That's a parent's job. So ask yourself, what is best for your child? The demand she made as her time-traveling self, or the need she has as a child? That decision was made in the 20 seconds before Rory disappeared, which you accepted, but now it's hurting her badly. You gave up all of your power to this decision, both of you.

Chloe: What am I supposed to do?

Linda: What would you like to do?

Chloe: I'd like for us to be a family, all of us!

Linda: Then what's stopping you?

Chloe: The time loop.

Linda: You are saying that because of this time loop, you can't make any changes at all, that every decision is absolute..

Chloe: Well, personally, I'd like to do free will.

Linda: And so would Lucifer. He's the inventor of free will, for goodness sake's. Why are you choosing to be constricted by this decision?

Chloe: Because of the time loop. Things will change.

Linda: They will. For one thing, Rory won't be an angry, resentful, hating child, and there won't be a hole in her heart from feeling abandoned.

Chloe: And how will Lucifer know what his calling is?

Linda: It will come another way.

Chloe: But...but the timeline will change.

Linda: Well, let me point out that Amenadiel is God. If anything starts to change, he can fix it.

Chloe: You're right. I have God on my side. [long pause.] You're actually saying that it's more important for our daughter's love and health to be a family.

Linda: And screw the timeline.

Chloe: I need to talk to Amenadiel, and I definitely need to talk to Lucifer.

End of Dialogue.

I want to amplify a few of the comments that I've made here. First of all, I am a psychotherapist whose clients have been working with these kinds of issues and for many years. Everything Linda says here is good psychotherapy. This is what I would say and do as a therapist if this were my client. Decisions don't have to be absolute. It goes against everything in this show, particularly separating these two people for so long. I could live with them being separated for 20 years but that's on her side, while on his, it's many many thousands of years. That just makes my heart hurt.

So this is my take on what ensues. Amenadiel summons Lucifer, and the two parents talk, and they decide to screw the time loop and be loving parents to their daughter. He comes back up to earth and turns healing hell into a day job. And everything is changed. He's there with with Chloe even at the end, and so is Rory and everyone else.

The other thing about time loops is this: If breaking the time loop creates a different path, I can guarantee you that one of the different paths will be that Rory will not be murderously angry. She'll be happy as a child and typically rebellious as a teenager, and maybe her weaponized wings will be not quite so alert to danger. A child who is abandoned will be looking for someone to love them and into many instances will make consistently bad choices in relationships, whether they want it or not. They are trying to fill the hole in their heart.

So in sum, I am making the decision as a therapist that my client's well-being is more important than a stupid time loop. That means Chloe and Lucifer have a loving family life on earth—and then eternity together to heal hell. So that's how I'm going.