

106. Law Is Light

The chapter begins with a reflection on Ba-Ado-Mishram, highlighting her as a notable figure among the Unmade, described as a high-princess and a commanding presence during the Desolations. The narrative hints at her intelligence and significance within the enemy forces, drawing a mysterious connection to the ancient god Odium. This sets a tone of deep history and mythic resonance, emphasizing the importance of understanding these ancient entities and their roles in the ongoing conflicts on Roshar. The mention of her as “most interesting” underscores her pivotal role in the lore and the complex web of divine and demonic influences shaping the world.

Szeth of Shinovar embarks on a journey with the Skybreakers, traveling southward over several days and stopping amidst storms, which reveal the ancient nature of the creatures and the land itself. As they reach Marat, Szeth reflects on its unique political structure—loosely connected cities led by a highprince, functioning as a cultural hub rather than a true nation. The stop at Marat underscores the interconnectedness of the world’s geography and politics, serving as a strategic waypoint between major kingdoms. Szeth’s observations reveal a landscape rich in culture but seemingly insignificant on the broader political stage, emphasizing the layered complexity of Roshar’s societal fabric.

The narrative shifts to a scene of destruction in a coastal town, where Szeth and Nin investigate the aftermath of violence. They find a ruined courthouse, bloodstains, and remnants of civilian life, illustrating the chaos wrought by invading forces. Nin’s discussion about justice raises questions about morality and the justification of violence, especially when ordinary people are caught in the crossfire. Nin’s perspective suggests that justice can sometimes be a matter of perspective—what appears unjust to one may be deemed necessary or justified by others—highlighting the moral ambiguities faced by those enforcing or interpreting justice in wartime.

Finally, Nin confesses to a failure in his long-standing mission to prevent another Desolation, revealing the death of Honor and the destabilization of previous divine safeguards. Szeth witnesses Nin's regret and the emergence of a missing Honorblade, symbolizing the fractured state of divine power. The chapter concludes with a somber reflection on the difficult path ahead, as Nin prepares to pursue justice in a world where traditional notions of righteousness are challenged. The chapter emphasizes themes of moral complexity, the weight of divine authority, and the ongoing struggle to restore order amid chaos and loss.



Summaryer