

68. Aim for the Sun

The chapter begins with a reflection on the cognitive behavior of spren at the tower, challenging the assumption that the Sibling had deliberately withdrawn from humans. The narrator, Wit, presents a nuanced view, suggesting that the spren's actions may not be driven by intent but perhaps by other factors. This insight hints at a deeper understanding of the nature of spren and their relationship with the cognitive realm, emphasizing that appearances can be deceiving and that understanding these entities requires careful observation and interpretation.

Wit leads Shallan to a secluded tavern, an overgrown, clay-like structure that appears almost alive with crewm. Inside, the atmosphere is quiet and somewhat eerie, with signs of recent activity and high prices that raise Shallan's eyebrows. The innkeeper's hostility contrasts with Wit's playful, teasing demeanor, as he attempts to secure a private space for their conversation. The scene sets a tone of tension mixed with wit, illustrating Wit's tendency to defuse conflicts with humor and charm, even in unwelcoming settings.

As they settle into a private room, Wit and Shallan engage in a candid dialogue about identity and purpose. Wit comments on her attempt at a disguise, criticizing her walking style and noting the importance of owning one's persona. Their exchange reveals Wit's philosophical outlook on aging, wisdom, and the passage of time, with Wit describing himself as an ancient, curious anomaly—an entity shaped by countless lifetimes and experiences. This introspection underscores the chapter's theme of identity, aging, and the layers of history that influence one's present self.

The conversation deepens into reflections on Wit's past vows and his role in the world, emphasizing his commitment to being present whenever needed, despite the ambiguity of his whereabouts. Wit's wisdom, humor, and hints of sorrow paint a complex picture of a man who has seen much and remains enigmatic. The chapter

concludes with a playful yet profound dialogue about sincerity and stupidity, highlighting Wit's disdain for superficiality and his appreciation for genuine honesty, even if it leads to mischief. Overall, the chapter explores themes of perception, identity, and the nuanced nature of wisdom and age.

