

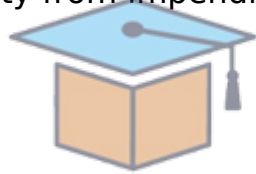
# 81. Ithi and Her Sister

The chapter opens with a scene of strategic secrecy and concern over the potential consequences of certain actions, hinting at the delicate balance of power and the risks involved in using mystical artifacts. Melishi expresses confidence about the outcome, but Naze-daughter-Kuzodo warns of unforeseen side effects, emphasizing the tension between intent and consequence in their magical endeavors. This sets a tone of cautious experimentation and highlights the stakes involved in their mystical manipulations, which could impact not only their immediate environment but also broader political or spiritual realms.

The narrative then shifts to Kaladin, who introduces himself in a formal setting within a barrack, where a small group of military personnel and officers are gathered. As Kaladin interacts with Azure and Battalionlord Hadinar, the conversation reveals underlying tensions about the use of a Soulcaster and the secret techniques employed to avoid attracting dangerous spren. Kaladin's guarded attitude underscores the clandestine nature of their activities, and the scene underscores the importance of secrecy in their efforts to manipulate magical resources without alerting enemies or causing chaos.

Further exploration uncovers a hidden tunnel beneath the city, used by Azure for covert operations. Azure demonstrates her ingenuity by cutting through stone to extract building material without drawing attention, revealing her fears of the city's instability. The group discovers a concealed chamber where a skilled female ardent uses a fabrial, indicating the presence of a genuine Soulcaster. This discovery raises questions about the true source of their magical power, as Azure's reliance on the woman suggests a layered approach to magic, blending ancient technology and mystical craft to sustain their defenses.

The chapter concludes with a discussion about the broader strategic situation, focusing on a mysterious ancient device capable of instant teleportation. Kaladin reveals the existence of this device in Kholinar, which could be instrumental in saving the city if activated correctly. The soldiers' excitement contrasts with Kaladin's cautious tone, hinting at the complex logistical and magical challenges they face. The chapter ends with a sense of urgency and unresolved tension, as Kaladin hesitates to disclose the location of the device, emphasizing the high stakes and the delicate nature of their plans to save the city from impending disaster.



Summaryer