

97. Riino

The chapter opens with a reference to Sja-anat, a feared entity among the Radiants, known for her ability to corrupt spren, especially the lesser ones, highlighting her dangerous and malevolent nature in the mythic landscape. This sets a tone of darkness and the looming threat of corruption within the world, emphasizing the mystique and peril surrounding certain powerful entities. The narrative then shifts to Kaladin's memories of his past as a slave, vividly recounting a harrowing escape attempt that ends in tragedy when Nalma is caught in a trap and dies. This flashback underscores the brutal realities of slavery and Kaladin's personal history of survival amidst violence and loss, shaping his character and motivations.

In the second part, the scene transitions to Kaladin in Shadesmar, the spiritual realm, where he employs his skills in stealth to scout a lighthouse. His cautious approach, aided by Lashings and his experience as a runaway, reveals his strategic mindset and familiarity with danger. The lighthouse, with its enormous bonfire and strange creatures like anticipationspren, symbolizes the mysterious and unpredictable nature of Shadesmar. Kaladin's observations of the lighthouse's interior and the old Shin man he glimpses through the window hint at deeper mysteries and potential threats, emphasizing his role as a vigilant scout navigating an unfamiliar and perilous landscape.

The narrative then shifts focus to Shallan and her companions, who are waiting in the shadows near an unusual, slow-moving growth that resembles a mushroom. She reflects on her feelings of vulnerability and the burden of her new role as Radiant, with her insecurities compounded by her recent trauma in Kholinar. The group's quiet anticipation, combined with her artistic attempt to understand the spren around them, illustrates her ongoing struggle to find stability and purpose amidst chaos. Syl and Pattern contribute their perspectives, highlighting the surreal and uncanny nature of

their environment, which blurs the line between the ordinary and the extraordinary.

The chapter concludes with a sense of cautious hope and introspection. Kaladin's reconnaissance and the group's observations underscore the theme of vigilance in the face of unknown dangers. Meanwhile, Shallan's internal dialogue about pain, acceptance, and her role as Radiant reveal her ongoing emotional journey. The blend of mystical elements, personal memories, and strategic planning creates a layered narrative that explores both external threats and internal struggles, emphasizing the complexity of navigating a world filled with danger and uncertainty.



Summaryer