

78. The Revel

The chapter opens with a strategic alliance among scholar Radiants aimed at disrupting the enemy's supply of Voidlight, which is crucial for their transformations and power. This coalition's goal is to weaken the opposition by denying them vital resources, thereby gaining an advantage in ongoing conflicts. The focus on this clandestine effort highlights the importance of intelligence and covert operations in their broader struggle. It underscores the delicate balance of alliances and the tactical measures taken to ensure their side's survival and dominance in the ongoing war.

Veil's character is central to the narrative, revealing her internal conflict as she exposes herself during a covert operation. She is disguised as "Swiftspren," and her presence at a clandestine revel involves navigating suspicion and danger. Veil wrestles with her identity, contemplating whether to adopt a false persona or remain true to herself, knowing the enemy could recognize her. Her internal dialogue reflects her struggle with authenticity and survival, as she suppresses the desire to abandon her true self for a safer, more fabricated identity, emphasizing her resilience and complexity.

As Veil approaches the Oathgate platform, she encounters cult members and guards who are suspicious of her intentions. She maintains her composure, presenting herself as someone seeking enlightenment and answers from the rising orange glow at the top of the platform. Her strategic behavior and careful negotiations reveal her skill in deception and her understanding of the cult's rituals. Veil's plan involves climbing the steps to confront the unknown, trusting her allies' tests and her own resolve, with her safety hinging on her ability to blend in and stay alert to threats.

Meanwhile, the narrative shifts to Kaladin, who is engaged in a routine patrol and reflects on the aftermath of a storm in the city. His observations of the damaged buildings and the strange behavior of the windspren set a tone of unease. The scene

transitions to a formal military inspection led by Azure, showcasing the discipline and morale of the troops. Kaladin's interactions reveal his aspirations and the respect he garners within the military hierarchy, while also hinting at underlying tensions and the broader political landscape. The chapter ends with a glimpse of Veil reaching a smaller, more refined monastery, hinting at her ongoing mission and the larger mysteries awaiting her.

