

56. Always with You

The chapter opens with Dalinar experiencing a vision filled with uncertainty and intrigue, questioning the identity and knowledge of a mysterious figure who seems to possess insight about Adonalsium. This figure's subterfuge and concealment evoke a sense of mystery, prompting Dalinar to grapple with the implications of this knowledge and its connection to broader cosmic forces. The narrative then shifts to a detailed scene set in an ancient fortress, where Dalinar observes a civilization characterized by classical architecture, bronze weapons, and Soulcast armor, suggesting a time over two thousand years in the past. This vision hints at a complex history of conflicts and alliances, emphasizing the layered history of Roshar.

Dalinar, Navani, and Jasnah analyze the vision, attempting to contextualize the historical events they witness. They identify the scene as a multiethnic coalition engaged in battle, possibly during the aftermath of the Desolations, with signs pointing to a period after the loss of the Radiants and the Recreance. Jasnah hypothesizes that the fighting could involve remnants of Voidbringers or parshmen, and the scene indicates a significant conflict that occurred long after the Voidbringers' initial departure. Navani expresses a determination to locate the site, Feverstone Keep, to uncover clues about the past and the mysterious events that led to the Radiants' retreat.

The narrative then shifts focus to Dalinar's interaction with Yanagawn, the young emperor of Azir, who is shown observing the vision from a vantage point. Yanagawn's frustration with the visions' emotional toll highlights the burden of knowledge and the uncertainty that accompanies Dalinar's revelations. As the vision unfolds outside the fortress, soldiers and Radiants abandon their Shards and armor, symbolizing a profound moment of sacrifice and despair. Dalinar reflects on the haunting nature of these scenes, emphasizing the inexplicable act of men willingly relinquishing their

powers amidst a tragic battlefield.

In the final part, Dalinar discusses the significance of these visions with Yanagawn, stressing their importance for future strategy and survival. Dalinar perceives Yanagawn's potential as a leader who might hold the key to understanding Roshar's history, despite his self-doubt. The chapter concludes with a tone of cautious hope, as Dalinar recognizes the importance of sharing this knowledge, even if the full meaning remains elusive. The visions serve as a reminder of the deep mysteries and enduring struggles that shape their world, underscoring the importance of wisdom, leadership, and the pursuit of truth amidst chaos.

