

# CHAPTER THIRTY-EIGHT

The chapter opens with a grim reflection on the nature of poison and medicine, emphasizing that in unfamiliar situations, it is better to try every possible antidote, even if it results in death, as it provides valuable learning. This sets a tone of desperation and urgency, highlighting the peril faced by the characters in a lethal confrontation. The narrative quickly immerses the reader in a chaotic battle scene where the protagonist, Violet, is falling uncontrollably amidst destruction, her senses overwhelmed by pain, disconnection from her powers, and the chaos around her. The urgency to save her becomes palpable as her allies scramble to respond to her critical condition.

As Violet's consciousness wavers, her body is described as being caught in a moment of intense suffering, with her allies desperately trying to diagnose her condition. There is speculation that her symptoms may be caused by magic rather than poison, as her blood turns black—a sign of something far more sinister and mysterious. Xaden, deeply concerned, pleads with her to fight the paralysis and poison affecting her, revealing the depth of their emotional bond and the stakes involved. The scene underscores the dire physical state she is in and the urgency to get her medical help, with her allies debating the best course of action amid the ongoing battle.

The narrative then shifts to Violet's limited awareness of her surroundings, where she is unable to communicate or move, trapped in a state of agony and helplessness. Her mind is filled with fear and despair, contemplating her impending death and the possibility that her injuries are fatal. Despite her inability to speak or act, her mind remains painfully aware of the presence and concern of those around her, particularly Xaden, who is determined to save her at all costs. The chapter emphasizes the physical and emotional toll of her wounds, as well as the peril of failing to reach medical aid in time.

In the closing scenes, Violet's consciousness fades again into an uncertain limbo, with her contemplating her own mortality and the potential loss of Xaden if she dies. The narrative concludes with her feeling the wind and the wings of her rescuers as they fly over the cliffs of Dralor, symbolizing both danger and hope. Despite the agonizing pain and the threat of death from the poison, her resolve to survive for Xaden's sake endures. The chapter ends on a note of tension and anticipation, with the characters racing against time to save Violet's life amidst the ongoing chaos.

