

# Chapter 29

In Chapter 29 of "Crown of Midnight," Celaena Sardothien races through the city streets, desperately trying to reach Nehemia's chambers before the assassin's threat materializes. Discarding her cloak and weapons to increase her speed, she pushes herself to the limit amid the quiet, deserted streets. Her thoughts are consumed with urgency and determination to protect her friend, contemplating who might be behind the attack and how to thwart the threat. Her mind is tense with fear and resolve as she nears the castle, knowing that time is running out and that failure could mean losing Nehemia forever.

Celaena's strategic instincts kick in as she avoids the heavily guarded main gates, opting instead for a less monitored garden wall to make her way inside. Her physical exertion is intense, and she scrambles over the wall with silent agility, driven by the need to reach Nehemia's room and ensure her safety. The moonlit snow and her racing heartbeat emphasize the perilous nature of her mission. Her focus is unwavering as she plans to barricade Nehemia and confront the assassin, vowing to eliminate the threat and retaliate against anyone who harms her friend.

Upon entering the castle, Celaena's urgency intensifies, and she disregards the guards to reach Nehemia's chambers swiftly. Her thoughts are filled with anger and determination, as she intends to deal with whoever is responsible. Her encounter with Dorian, who is present but unaware of her frantic rush, highlights her isolation and the intensity of her mission. She is resolute in her purpose, driven by her role as an assassin and her loyalty to Nehemia, refusing to let anything stand in her way. Her mental and physical exhaustion underscores the gravity of her task.

The chapter culminates in a devastating discovery: Nehemia has been murdered. Celaena bursts into the room to find blood everywhere—Nehemia's bodyguards slain with their throats cut, and Nehemia herself lying broken on the bed. The scene is

gruesome and tragic, marking the loss of her friend and ally. The muffled shouts from outside the room suggest the threat is still imminent, but Celaena's focus is fixed on the horrific sight before her. Her grief and rage are palpable as she confronts the brutal reality of Nehemia's death, setting the stage for her next actions in the aftermath of this devastating event.

