

Chapter Sixty-Five

In Chapter Sixty-Five, Nesta embarks on a solitary journey across a desolate landscape, determined to locate her friends Emerie and Gwyn, who are missing after the brutal Rite. She explores the terrain beyond the valley, climbing a tree to survey her surroundings. Her thoughts are filled with concern for her friends' safety, and she reflects on the possibility that they might be in different dumping grounds designated for the Rite. The chapter highlights her resolve to find them, despite the overwhelming obstacles and her own physical injuries, including bloodied hands from her wounds, which remain unhealed due to the magic's suppression during the Rite.

As she navigates the rugged terrain, Nesta's awareness of her surroundings intensifies. She notices the barren slopes of Ramiel, a stark reminder of the peril she faces. Her mental state fluctuates between hope and despair, especially when she considers Cassian's advice and the law that forbids rescue efforts. She recognizes that no one can save her or her friends, and she is forced to confront the harsh reality that her safety depends solely on her own resourcefulness. Her internal dialogue reveals her growing determination to survive and protect her friends, even in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds.

Throughout her escape, Nesta's connection to her magic becomes a central issue. She observes the glowing bracelet and charm she made, which act as beacons of hope and connection despite the magic restrictions imposed by the Rite. Her attempt to harness her magic is thwarted, as the surrounding magic suppression prevents her from drawing on her powers. This realization deepens her understanding of her identity as both a Made object and a person, emphasizing her resilience and the importance of her inner strength. Her awareness of her mortality and her will to survive motivate her to continue moving forward, despite the physical and magical barriers.

In the final moments of the chapter, Nesta's instincts kick in when she is suddenly targeted by danger—an arrow whizzes past her, indicating she is not alone in the hostile environment. She quickly assesses her surroundings, hiding her charms and weapons to avoid detection. Her immediate focus shifts to survival—finding water, shelter, and safety before nightfall, all while remaining alert to potential threats. The chapter ends with her cautious awareness of the ongoing danger, underscoring her unwavering resolve to endure and protect her friends, no matter the cost.

