Chapter Thirty-Three

In this tense chapter, Cassian and Nesta race into a dangerous situation, desperately searching for Azriel amid a thick mist and treacherous terrain. Cassian's urgent shout for Azriel underscores the gravity of the moment, highlighting the urgency to locate his brother. As they navigate the landscape, Cassian's keen senses detect the faint glow of Azriel's Siphons, revealing the ongoing confrontation with enemy soldiers from the Autumn Court. The scene is charged with uncertainty, as Cassian's instincts drive him to dive into the mist, risking his life to reach Azriel and assess his condition amidst the chaos of the battlefield.

Cassian's swift and decisive actions demonstrate his commitment to his brother, despite the peril involved. After spotting the enemy soldiers, he quickly determines they are Autumn Court soldiers, their presence suspicious and potentially treacherous. With Azriel wounded—an ash arrow having pierced his wing—Cassian's priority becomes engaging the enemies and protecting Azriel. His tactical approach involves feeding his power into his Siphons, preparing for a brutal fight, and launching a silent descent into the firefight, where he unleashes a relentless assault on the soldiers, blood and magic flying in the chaos. Azriel's weakened state, with his Siphons blazing and his wing injured, underscores the high stakes of their confrontation.

Meanwhile, Nesta remains perched on a sturdy tree branch, trembling from exhaustion and fear. She witnesses the fierce battle below, her body trembling from the effort of clinging to the branch and the oppressive silence surrounding her. Her thoughts are consumed with worry for Cassian and Azriel, recalling their previous brushes with death and the possibility that they might be injured or worse. Her helplessness is palpable as she struggles to hold on, knowing she cannot aid in the fight but desperately wishing she could. The oppressive atmosphere and her physical weakness amplify her sense of vulnerability amid the chaos unfolding below.

As the battle rages on, Cassian and Azriel's fate hangs in the balance, with Cassian's relentless killing spree indicating that they have been gone too long. Nesta's mind races with fears that both brothers might be gravely wounded, especially after seeing Azriel's injured wing. Her helplessness deepens as she contemplates the possibility that they are in dire need of help, yet she remains powerless to intervene directly. The chapter ends with a chilling sense of uncertainty, emphasizing the high stakes of their mission and the looming threat that the enemy soldiers pose, leaving the reader tense for what comes next.

Summaryer