Chapter Forty-One

In Chapter Forty-One, Helion, the High Lord of the Day Court, arrives at the Hewn City riding a majestic pegasus, a rare and mythic winged horse. His arrival is marked by a sense of grandeur, though he originally intended to enter in a golden chariot pulled by snow-white horses, a plan thwarted by Rhysand's refusal. The chapter highlights the rarity and dwindling population of Helion's prized pegasuses, with only a few remaining due to historical and magical causes, including the destructive actions of Amarantha. Helion's most beloved stallion, Meallan, has been unable to produce offspring for centuries, adding a layer of tragedy to the lore surrounding these mythical creatures.

The scene shifts to the impressive display of Helion's pegasus, with Cassian and others admiring the creature's majesty. The stallion's proud demeanor and striking appearance evoke awe among the characters, especially Feyre, Rhysand, and Azriel, who are visibly impressed by the creature's beauty. Helion's casual yet regal presence contrasts with the mythic splendor of the pegasus, emphasizing his status and the significance of these rare beings in their world. Helion's interaction with Feyre is warm and friendly, offering her a ride, which she declines for safety reasons, hinting at underlying concerns about her health and the ongoing threat to her.

The narrative then reveals the underlying political and personal tensions. Rhysand and Feyre exchange silent communication about Feyre's pregnancy, with Rhys trying to conceal her condition from Helion, understanding the importance of her health and the political implications. Rhys's decision to shield Feyre's pregnancy underscores the delicate balance of power and secrecy they must maintain. Helion's acknowledgment of Feyre's condition with a congratulatory remark subtly hints at the significance of her pregnancy and its potential impact on their alliances and future plans.

As the chapter concludes, Helion's relaxed yet commanding demeanor remains prominent. He expresses a preference for the palace above ground over the dark, oppressive depths beneath the mountain, and engages Rhysand in a candid conversation about his assessment of their situation. The chapter ends with Helion's playful yet sharp remarks, highlighting the complex relationships and unspoken tensions among the characters. The scene sets the stage for forthcoming developments, emphasizing the themes of loyalty, secrecy, and the importance of mythic creatures in their ongoing struggles.

