

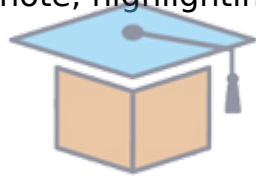
Chapter 7

In this chapter, we witness Dorian's desperate attempt to defend his city amidst a brutal wyvern attack. Despite sounding the alarm and trying to assist, he is restrained by his guards, who implore him to stay within the safety of his tower. From his vantage point, Dorian observes the chaos unfolding outside: wyverns tearing through buildings, snatching civilians, and unleashing destruction across the city. His initial feelings of helplessness are contrasted with his rallying of magic, as he attempts to use ice and wind to combat the monstrous creatures. The chapter emphasizes his internal struggle between fear, frustration, and a burgeoning desire to fight back.

As the wyverns approach his castle, Dorian's magic becomes more intense and deliberate. He recognizes his limitations and laments not having trained more or sought help from Aelin, who might have taught him to harness his powers more effectively. Despite his lack of experience, he unleashes his magic with fierce determination, aiming to destroy the wyverns and protect his people. His efforts result in a violent, bloody battle where ice and wind tear into the beasts and their riders, showcasing his growing mastery of destructive magic. However, the chaos outside continues to escalate, with the castle's defenses crumbling under the relentless assault.

The chapter's tension heightens when Dorian's tower is struck from behind, causing it to shake violently. A powerful witch appears, smiling with deadly intent, revealing her presence as she breaks into his tower through a gaping hole. Dorian's magic falters under the pressure, and he realizes he's not yet strong enough to fully control his powers. As more wyverns and witches attack, the castle's defenses collapse, and Dorian faces imminent danger. His quick thinking prompts a daring, last-ditch effort to escape—he flings ice into the wyvern's eyes and runs toward the door, risking everything for a chance at survival.

In the final moments, Dorian is severely wounded by the wyvern's tail and poisoned with venom, which paralyzes him and threatens his life. Despite his weakened state, he fights to stay conscious, summoning healing magic and attempting to crawl toward safety. The chapter ends with the witch commanding her wyvern, and Dorian's resilience and determination shine through as he struggles against the odds. The scene underscores his transformation from a reluctant ruler to a fierce, determined fighter, facing the chaos with a mix of desperation and resolve. The chapter leaves readers on a tense note, highlighting the high stakes of his battle for survival and the city's fate.



Summaryer