

Chapter 37

The chapter opens with a tense and urgent scene where Amren fiercely confronts a door, her power radiating as she slams her fist into it, signaling her desperation. The narrative quickly immerses the reader in a chaotic environment filled with water rushing into a chamber, creating a life-threatening situation. The protagonist, caught in the flood, attempts to safeguard a mysterious object stored in their jacket while fighting to stay afloat. Amren's fierce determination is evident as she tries to hold back the water and protect their escape route, emphasizing the high stakes and intensity of the moment.

As the water level rises rapidly, the characters struggle to maintain control and find a way out. The protagonist hoists Amren onto their back, trying to reach the stairs amid the surging floodwaters. Amren's command over the water becomes crucial as she calms and redirects the current, enabling them to move forward. Despite their efforts, a massive wave crashes down, sealing the stairs and trapping them in a watery tomb, which leads to a moment of despair where the protagonist feels certain they will drown, overwhelmed by the relentless force of nature and their own exhaustion.

The scene shifts as the characters are overwhelmed by water-wraiths, ethereal beings that seize them amidst the chaos. The protagonist's body seizes as they are pulled underwater, experiencing a moment of near-death. The water-wraiths, speaking in hisses, declare that their sister's debt has been paid before disappearing into the dawn sky. The characters manage to surface, gasping for air and battered but alive, with the rising sun illuminating the aftermath of their ordeal. This encounter underscores the supernatural elements at play and the dangerous, unpredictable nature of their environment.

In the final moments, the characters reach a secluded cove where Rhysand unexpectedly appears, questioning their actions. Tensions flare as Amren and the

protagonist express their frustration over nearly drowning and the loss of their powers, which had been nullified by the hostile environment. Rhysand's concern shifts to the object they retrieved, which is implied to be of significant importance. The chapter concludes with a sense of relief mixed with ongoing tension, as they regroup and prepare for what lies ahead, underscoring the perilous journey and the stakes involved in their quest.

