

2. One Problem Solved

The chapter opens with a vivid depiction of the chaos and logistical challenges faced during the aftermath of a conflict. Adolin Kholin finds himself supervising the unloading of supplies in a vast, dark cavern that has been converted into a staging area for refugees and soldiers. Despite the disorder, Adolin is focused on ensuring that the supplies, including alcohol and water, are distributed according to orders from his aunt Navani. His observations reveal the strain on both the infrastructure and the people, many of whom are weary from recent battles. Adolin's sense of duty compels him to manage the situation with a mixture of authority and concern for the well-being of the displaced.

Amidst the logistical chaos, Adolin's personal struggles surface as he grapples with guilt over recent violence, particularly the possibility that he may have killed Torol Sadeas. His physical injuries—an aching wrist and a bruise—mirror his internal turmoil. The chapter emphasizes his desire to stay busy and avoid dwelling on his actions, which weigh heavily on his conscience. His focus on minor details and the day-to-day operations serve as a distraction, yet the shadow of doubt about his morality persists. This internal conflict underscores the emotional toll war and leadership exact on individuals like Adolin.

Meanwhile, Dalinar Kholin's storyline unfolds with a tense scene of political and physical conflict. Dalinar arrives at a scene of a violent confrontation between soldiers, where a highprince's body has been discovered in the tunnels. The scene is charged with suspicion and chaos, as accusations fly about the circumstances of the death. Dalinar's authoritative presence manages to restore some order, and he quickly deduces that the body has been left untouched for hours, indicating that the death was either accidental or staged. His investigation reveals the complex and dangerous political landscape, where loyalty and treachery are intertwined with the brutal

realities of war.

The chapter concludes with Dalinar's somber reflection on death and violence, highlighting his familiarity with the sight of fallen men. As he examines Sadeas's mutilated body, he recognizes the wounds as the work of an assassin—an act that signals deeper intrigue and treachery within the ranks. Navani's disapproval underscores the gravity of the situation, emphasizing that the political tensions are escalating. The chapter's tone underscores the brutal, often grisly nature of leadership during wartime, where death is both a familiar and a feared presence, and where every event could have far-reaching consequences.

