Chapter 45

The chapter opens with a surreal perspective as the narrator witnesses events through another's eyes—later revealed to be Rhysand's. Amarantha stands shocked as the narrator's lifeless body lies nearby, its neck twisted unnaturally. Lucien, overcome with grief, removes his fox mask to reveal his scarred yet handsome face. Tamlin, witnessing the narrator's death, transforms into a beastly rage, his fangs bared as golden light erupts, blasting Amarantha against a wall. The scene sets the stage for a violent confrontation, charged with raw emotion and impending vengeance.

Tamlin shifts fully into his beast form, attacking Amarantha with relentless fury. Despite her attempts to fight back with dark magic, a protective golden shield surrounds him. The Attor and guards try to intervene, but other faeries block their path. Lucien throws Tamlin a sword, which he uses to impale Amarantha before tearing out her throat, ending her reign. The silence that follows is heavy with the weight of her demise, marking a pivotal turning point in the conflict.

The perspective shifts back to the narrator, who realizes Rhysand has been her unseen observer. Tamlin, now returned to his fae form, cradles her broken body, weeping uncontrollably. Lucien and others watch in sorrow as High Lords begin to approach. The Autumn Court's High Lord is the first to offer a glittering spark of light, followed by the Summer and Winter Court leaders, each bestowing a similar gift. Their actions suggest a collective acknowledgment of the narrator's sacrifice and a unified hope for her revival.

The Dawn and Day Court High Lords add their luminous contributions, and finally, Rhysand steps forward, declaring their debt repaid as he releases his own spark. Tamlin, his hand glowing with radiant energy, places a shining bud on the narrator's heart and whispers his love, kissing her as the chapter closes. This poignant moment blends grief, hope, and the promise of renewal, leaving the reader anticipating the

consequences of these powerful acts.