

Chapter 9

Feyre devises a plan to seek out Lucien alone, hoping to gather information or leverage. She learns from the servant Alis that Lucien is on border patrol and heads to the stables, only to be intercepted by Tamlin. Despite his offer to accompany her, Feyre politely declines, noting his strained attempts at hospitality. Tamlin's frustration is evident, but he retreats, leaving Feyre to proceed with her mission, determined to avoid his scrutiny and focus on her objective.

Upon reaching the stables, Feyre observes the masked stablehands, who ignore her, likely due to her role in Andras's death. She finds Lucien already mounted and prepared for patrol. He taunts her with a hunting invitation, questioning her abilities as a Fae-killer. Feyre recognizes his mockery but seizes the opportunity, agreeing to join him despite her discomfort. She remains wary of Tamlin's potential interference and Lucien's unpredictable demeanor.

As they ride into the woods, Feyre remains alert, assessing her surroundings for survival tactics rather than admiring the scenery. Lucien comments on her silence, prodding her about her hunting skills. Feyre adjusts to the unfamiliar weight of the provided bow, reflecting on her past sacrifices to acquire her own equipment. She maintains a guarded distance, aware of Lucien's dual nature and the potential dangers of their interaction.

The chapter highlights Feyre's strategic thinking and resilience as she navigates the complexities of her captivity. Her interactions with Tamlin and Lucien reveal the tension between her human instincts and the faerie world's unpredictability. The hunt with Lucien serves as a test of her adaptability, while her internal monologue underscores her determination to survive and outmaneuver her captors, even as she remains wary of their motives.