

Chapter 27

Feyre reflects on Tamlin's explosive rage earlier in the day, which forced her and Lucien to leave the dining room. Overwhelmed by the aftermath, she retreats to her room, avoiding dinner and painting, while the echoes of Tamlin's fury linger in the manor. Her thoughts drift to Rhysand's ominous warnings about the blight, Under the Mountain, and the deadly Amarantha, who commands the High Lords. The weight of these threats unsettles her, especially knowing Tamlin is desperate to keep her hidden from Amarantha's reach.

Tamlin visits Feyre's room, apologizing for his outburst but delivering shocking news: he plans to send her home to protect her. He claims he'll take responsibility for her life-debt, bypassing the Treaty's terms. Feyre protests, questioning whether she did something wrong, but Tamlin insists she was perfect—his decision stems from his inability to shield her from the dangers looming over Prythian. His vulnerability surfaces as he admits his own powerlessness against Amarantha and her forces.

Their conversation grows tense as Feyre demands answers, but Tamlin refuses to elaborate, emphasizing that her safety depends on her departure. He warns her to keep her time in Prythian a secret, fearing Amarantha's spies. Feyre pleads to stay, willing to face the threats alongside him, but Tamlin's fear for her outweighs her defiance. He reveals the Attor and worse creatures serve Amarantha, making Prythian increasingly perilous. His desperation peaks as he confesses the thought of her in their hands terrifies him.

Despite the unresolved tension, their emotions culminate in a passionate kiss, a fleeting attempt to defy the inevitable separation. Feyre clings to Tamlin, hoping to halt time, but the chapter ends with the unspoken understanding that their goodbye may be permanent. Tamlin's lie—"not forever"—hangs between them, a fragile comfort amid the looming storm of war and Amarantha's shadow.