

Chapter 39

Feyre remains imprisoned in her cell, where Rhysand ensures she receives regular meals despite her continued resentment toward him. Isolated and tormented by distant screams, she obsessively ponders Amarantha's riddle to no avail. The tattoo on her palm, a constant reminder of her bargain with Rhysand, seems to mock her with its possible connection to Jurian's fate. One night, she even imagines it blinking, blurring the line between reality and her growing unease.

After days of solitude, two shadowy High Fae females arrive, sent by Rhysand to retrieve her. They transport her through the dungeon walls as if she were made of darkness, glamoured from the guards' sight. Feyre is taken to a secluded room where the faeries bathe her and begin painting intricate designs across her body, including intimate areas, despite her protests. The humiliation deepens as they dress her in a revealing gossamer gown, leaving little to the imagination and heightening her vulnerability.

Rhysand appears, revealing the purpose behind her transformation: she is to accompany him to a party as his escort. He explains that the paint and dress serve as a deterrent, ensuring no one else touches her—a claim he emphasizes by marking her shoulder, which mysteriously repairs itself. Feyre bristles at his possessive tone, realizing he views her as his property beyond their agreed bargain. Despite her fury, she has no choice but to comply, her defiance stifled by the consequences of resistance.

As they approach the throne room, Feyre's discomfort grows under the stares of faeries and High Fae, including Lucien's smirking brothers. The sheer dress and painted body make her feel exposed and objectified, while the eerie music foreshadows another ordeal under Amarantha's rule. The chapter ends with Feyre steeling herself for the spectacle ahead, her dignity stripped away but her resolve

lingering beneath the surface.



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