

# Chapter 4: Feyre

Feyre walks through the bustling Rainbow district of Velaris, where High Fae and faeries prepare for Solstice amidst the first snowfall. The lively scene contrasts sharply with her memories of the same street months earlier, stained with blood and chaos during the war. She pauses outside a newly restored art gallery, its fresh paint and decorations masking the destruction it once endured. The weight of the past lingers as she observes her reflection in the window, momentarily lost in thought before noticing the curious gazes of patrons inside.

The chapter delves into Feyre's dual role as both a witness to Velaris's recovery and its High Lady. She reflects on her weekly audiences with Rhys, where they address citizen concerns ranging from trivial repairs to complex economic issues. Though initially unsure, Feyre has grown into her responsibilities, learning from Rhys's patient leadership. The paperwork piles up, but she takes pride in contributing to the court's governance. Her thoughts also drift to the city's less fortunate areas, including the rundown neighborhood where her sister lives, hinting at unresolved social challenges.

Feyre's introspection reveals her gratitude for the life she now leads—far removed from her impoverished human past. She marvels at her ability to wander the artists' quarter freely, a privilege she once could only dream of. Yet, the scars of war remain visible in the city's damaged buildings and empty lots. She notes Rhys's efforts to support the community through Solstice donations, to which she adds causes close to her heart, such as aid for human refugees and Illyrian war widows.

The chapter closes with Feyre confronting a half-crumbled, grayish building, a stark reminder of the war's devastation. This physical decay mirrors her internal struggle to reconcile Velaris's vibrant present with its traumatic past. Her observations underscore the ongoing work of rebuilding—both the city and her own sense of purpose—as she continues to navigate her role as High Lady. The juxtaposition of festive preparations

and lingering ruins highlights the delicate balance between celebration and remembrance.

