Chapter 3: Cassian

Cassian, struggling to contain his frustration with Devlon and the Illyrian warriors, chooses to leave rather than risk escalating tensions. He reflects on his brothers Rhysand and Azriel's unique abilities, such as winnowing, but prefers his own method of travel: flying. As he stretches his wings, he deliberately ignores the warriors below, using their resentment as a tool to assert dominance. Taking to the skies, he embraces the biting cold, finding solace in the freedom of flight and the familiarity of the mountainous terrain.

The chapter delves into Cassian's connection to the Illyrian homeland, a place of both beauty and danger. He notes the presence of ancient, hidden threats lurking in the mountains, far worse than the Illyrians themselves. These creatures, though mostly vanquished, still emerge under cover of darkness, a reminder of the land's untamed nature. Cassian's thoughts briefly turn to Feyre, wondering if she knows the true dangers of the region, before he focuses on his destination: the sacred mountain, Ramiel.

Ramiel stands as the heart of Illyria and the Night Court, a place of reverence and ritual. Cassian recalls his participation in the Blood Rite, a brutal competition where he and his brothers triumphed centuries ago. The Rite, though controversial, serves as a necessary outlet for Illyrian aggression, preventing larger conflicts. Cassian muses on its enduring significance, hoping this year's Rite might ease the growing discontent among the warriors, especially after the recent war.

As Cassian soars toward Ramiel, he reflects on its timeless presence and the symbolism it holds for the Night Court. The mountain, both beautiful and isolated, embodies the strength and resilience of Illyria. Cassian's journey underscores his deep ties to his heritage and his role as a leader, balancing the need for discipline with the understanding of his people's fierce nature. The chapter closes with a sense of

foreboding, hinting at the challenges ahead for Cassian and the Night Court.