

## 8. Surrender

Kaladin navigates a burning manor, deeply unsettled by a recent loss of his Stormlight powers, which he had come to rely upon like a trusted weapon. He discusses the threat of enemy fabrials that can nullify their abilities with Syl, his spren companion, who describes the experience as feeling "faded." The fire around them is described with vivid, almost sentient malevolence, consuming the delicate wooden structure. Kaladin pushes forward, using his Stormlight to heal minor burns as he searches for a way to the cellar, ultimately dashing through the flames to reach a dark tunnel leading underground.

Upon entering the cellar, Kaladin discovers two prisoners manacled to the wall, one of whom is Jeber, a familiar face from his youth. Both are dead, their eyes burned out by a Shardblade. Syl alerts Kaladin to a hidden alcove where Moash, a former ally turned traitor, stands with Roshone—a man who once tormented Kaladin's family—held at knifepoint. Before Kaladin can react, Moash slits Roshone's throat, leaving him to bleed out on the stone floor. Kaladin is paralyzed by the surgeon's instinct that the wound is fatal, unable to save Roshone despite their bitter history.

Moash coldly observes Kaladin's futile attempt to rescue Roshone, mocking his willingness to save even his worst enemies. The scene triggers Kaladin's memories of Moash's betrayal in Kholinar, where he killed King Elhokar. The confrontation is charged with unresolved anger and grief, as Kaladin grapples with Moash's twisted justification for his actions. The chapter highlights the moral complexity of vengeance and mercy, as Kaladin's instincts to protect clash with his personal wounds.

The chapter ends with Kaladin roaring in fury, leaping to his feet as Roshone's death echoes the trauma of Elhokar's murder. Moash's taunts and the Bridge Four salute—a gesture now tainted by betrayal—deepen Kaladin's anguish. The scene underscores the themes of loss, betrayal, and the struggle to uphold one's principles in the face of

personal pain. The fire, both literal and metaphorical, serves as a backdrop to the emotional inferno consuming Kaladin as he confronts the consequences of Moash's choices and his own unresolved past.

