

# 35

Vin grapples with profound grief and betrayal following Kelsier's death, suspended in the mists as she reflects on his broken promise to catch her. The mists, indifferent to her pain, mirror her desire to escape her suffering. She questions Kelsier's integrity, comparing his abandonment to Reen's honesty, and feels the weight of his failure against the Lord Ruler. Her emotional turmoil is compounded by the recent massacre of skaa, leaving her disillusioned and questioning the purpose of Kelsier's sacrifice.

Sazed finds Vin on the rooftop and attempts to console her, offering a perspective on faith that endures despite failure. He argues that true belief is tested in moments of despair, not just in success. Vin, however, remains bitter, insisting Kelsier was unworthy of their trust and never had a viable plan to defeat the Lord Ruler. Sazed's calm demeanor contrasts with Vin's anger, as he subtly defends Kelsier's legacy and the skaa's growing reverence for him.

The conversation shifts to the skaa's perception of Kelsier as a religious figure, which Vin dismisses as absurd given her personal knowledge of his flaws. Sazed, ever the scholar, sees value in documenting these emerging legends as part of his study of religions. Their exchange highlights the tension between Vin's raw grief and Sazed's measured wisdom, as well as the broader theme of how figures are mythologized after death.

The chapter closes with Vin and Sazed standing in silence, the city shrouded in mist and sorrow. Vin's emotional wounds remain open, but Sazed's steadfast belief hints at the possibility of eventual healing. The night's quietness underscores the unresolved tension between despair and hope, leaving Vin's path forward uncertain but not entirely devoid of light.