

# 17. A Proposal

The chapter opens with an epigraph detailing a unique metal used by the Fused, which is lightweight, resistant to Shardblades, and interferes with Radiant powers. Navani Kholin notes its scarcity, as the Fused reserve it for themselves rather than their soldiers. This sets the stage for the ongoing conflict and the technological disparities between the factions. The epigraph underscores the strategic challenges faced by the coalition of monarchs in their war against the Fused.

Navani observes Shallan and Dalinar collaboratively summoning a luminous, interactive map of Roshar using their combined Radiant abilities. Shallan's Lightweaving merges with Dalinar's Bondsmith powers to create a detailed, topographical representation of the continent. The Mink, a paranoid newcomer, reacts with awe and curiosity, testing the map's boundaries. Navani, ever the scholar, focuses on the mechanics behind the phenomenon, sensing an almost dreamlike quality to the Light's transformation.

The map's capabilities are demonstrated as Dalinar zooms in on Azimir, revealing troop numbers and strategic details. The Mink meticulously examines the data, while Navani observes his reactions. Queen Jasnah Kholin arrives with her enigmatic Wit, adding a layer of tension and intrigue. The Wit's changed demeanor and cryptic behavior hint at deeper mysteries, contrasting with Jasnah's practical and commanding presence. Their dynamic suggests underlying political and personal complexities.

The chapter concludes with the Mink analyzing the war's two main fronts, particularly the stalemate in Emul. The coalition's cautious advances are complicated by the lurking threat of Tezim, the mad Herald Ishar, who remains a wildcard. Navani's reflections on the Mink's potential conclusions highlight the precarious balance of power and the uncertain future of the conflict. The interplay of magic, strategy, and

personality drives the narrative forward, leaving readers anticipating the next developments.

