

Chapter Twenty-Eight

In Chapter Twenty-Eight of *Tower of Dawn*, Yrene and Chaol face a tense situation after an unseen assailant threatens Yrene outside their suite. Recognizing the danger, Yrene summons Prince Kashin, who arrives swiftly and organizes a thorough security detail to protect them. Chaol, confined to his wheelchair, reflects on his limited ability to defend Yrene, calculating that his best option would be to throw his weapons to buy her time. The chapter highlights his internal struggle with helplessness and his determination to prioritize Yrene's safety over his own.

The encounter reveals the looming threat of Morath, as the assailant is suspected to be a Valg agent. Yrene maintains remarkable composure while recounting the incident to Kashin, though she omits her suspicions about the attacker's motives. Kashin, furious and protective, orders a heavy guard presence around the suite and the palace. His concern for Yrene is evident, but she surprises both men by insisting she feels safer staying with Chaol, despite his physical limitations. This moment underscores the growing trust between Yrene and Chaol.

Kashin's departure leaves Chaol and Yrene alone, where their unspoken bond becomes more apparent. Yrene's decision to stay with Chaol rather than return to the Torre under guard speaks volumes about their evolving relationship. Chaol, though touched by her trust, remains vigilant, knowing the Valg's capabilities firsthand. The tension lingers as they prepare for a sleepless night, with Chaol refusing to leave his chair and Yrene reluctantly settling into the bed, still shaken by the ordeal.

The chapter closes with a poignant exchange as Yrene asks Chaol about the experience of killing someone, revealing her inner turmoil. Chaol admits his own inexperience with killing, hinting at his unresolved trauma. This moment of vulnerability between them deepens their connection, setting the stage for further emotional and physical challenges as they navigate the threats surrounding them. The

chapter masterfully blends suspense, character development, and the fragile beginnings of trust in the face of danger.

