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The chapter opens with Tindwyl chastising Elend Venture for his decision to leave Luthadel, calling him a fool for abandoning his people during a time of crisis. Elend, dressed in a riding uniform prepared by Tindwyl, remains resolute, asserting that he will protect his people in a different way. Vin, injured from recent battles, sits quietly on her horse, her inexperience with riding evident. Tindwyl accuses Elend of shirking his duty as king, but Elend retorts that the people rejected him and now he must focus on larger events, hinting at his journey to Terris.

Tindwyl confronts Elend about the true purpose of their trip, revealing that Vin believes herself to be the Hero of Ages and seeks divine power in the northern mountains. She dismisses Vin's beliefs as delusions, comparing them to Kelsier's deification. Elend defends Vin, stating that he trusts and supports her unconditionally, even if her beliefs seem fantastical. His unwavering loyalty to Vin underscores their deep bond, as he prioritizes her mission over political responsibilities, despite Tindwyl's scorn.

The tension escalates as Tindwyl accuses Elend of cowardice for leaving his people, to which he responds with a commanding order for her to leave. Before departing, she points out a package from Sazed meant for the Keeper Synod in Tathingdwen, adding a final jab about Elend's "exile." This exchange highlights the clash between Elend's personal convictions and Tindwyl's rigid expectations of leadership, emphasizing the emotional and ideological divide between them.

The chapter concludes with a quiet moment between Elend and Vin, where she thanks him for his support. Elend reaffirms his trust in her, acknowledging the possibility that her beliefs might be misguided but choosing to stand by her regardless. This intimate exchange contrasts with the earlier confrontation, underscoring the strength of their relationship and their shared determination to pursue their mission, even in the face of skepticism and adversity.