

## 34. A Flame Never Extinguished

The chapter delves into the philosophical and strategic discussions among Adolin and the Radiants as they prepare to negotiate with the honorspren. Odium's destructive nature is highlighted, emphasizing his preference for annihilation over assimilation to maintain his purity as a god. Meanwhile, Adolin stands as a striking figure, clad in a black uniform, leading the council with a mix of warmth and authority. The cold, symbolic fire contrasts with his demeanor, setting a tone of tension and urgency as the group debates their approach to the honorspren.

Veil, pretending to sketch while observing the meeting, struggles to coax Shallan out of her shell, sensing her resentment over past conflicts. The Stump, an outspoken Truthwatcher, critiques Adolin's proposals, arguing that guilt and threats will not sway the honorspren. Her pragmatic wisdom and fearless demeanor stand out, as she challenges Adolin's strategies and urges a more honorable appeal. Veil admires her depth, noting how others reduce her to her age, while she sees the richness of her character.

The Radiants, including Godeke and Zu, weigh in on the debate, with Zu dismissing the honorspren's stubbornness with blunt honesty. Adolin's uncertainty grows as the group nears Lasting Integrity, and Veil worries about the mission's success. The stakes are high: if the delegation fails, Veil may need to infiltrate alone to find Restares. Adolin's lack of confidence in his plans becomes evident, and the group's skepticism further undermines his resolve, leaving him visibly disheartened.

Radiant attempts to rally Adolin by seeking input from Beryl, a knight-in-training, but her inexperience leaves the question unanswered. The Stump reiterates the need to appeal to the honorspren's sense of honor, a point Adolin slowly considers. Radiant reflects on Jasnah's scholarly but impractical approach, realizing that honor must be the cornerstone of their appeal. The chapter ends with Adolin dismissing the group for

breakfast, still grappling with how to craft a compelling argument that resonates with the honorspren's ideals.

