

4. Architects of the Future

The chapter opens with Radiant, one of Shallan's personas, awakening to find herself captured and being carried by an unknown assailant. Despite the disorientation, she remains composed, relying on her Lightweaving abilities to maintain her disguise. Radiant assesses the situation, noting her captor's scent and the lack of physical restraints, while internally coordinating with her other personas, Veil and Shallan. Her primary focus is evaluating the danger, though she feels a sense of satisfaction from Veil, as their mission to infiltrate the Sons of Honor seems to be progressing.

Radiant reflects on the group's suspicions that Ialai Sadeas has taken control of the Sons of Honor following Amaram's death. The cult is believed to be plotting to seize the Oathgate on the Shattered Plains, though Radiant lacks concrete evidence. She resolves not to act against Ialai without proof, a stance supported by Dalinar. The internal conflict between her personas surfaces briefly, with Veil expressing frustration over past missed opportunities to neutralize Ialai, but Radiant dismisses these thoughts as unproductive.

The scene shifts as Radiant's captors arrive at their destination—a hidden chasm—where she is roughly deposited on wet rock. Veil takes over, feigning confusion and fear as she observes her surroundings and the robed figures surrounding her. The Sons of Honor, adorned in ceremonial garb, question her allegiance, testing her commitment to their cause. Veil plays the role of Chanasha Hasareh, a loyalist seeking to overthrow Dalinar, while secretly searching for signs of Ialai's involvement.

The chapter concludes with Veil's disappointment as she realizes Ialai is not present, indicating her disguise may not have garnered the high-profile attention they hoped for. The cult members, including Ulina, a rising figure in Ialai's circle, expound on their mission to restore the Heralds and the Almighty. Veil maintains her facade, but the

absence of Ialai suggests their plan may need adjustment. The tension builds as the cult's rhetoric hints at broader schemes, leaving Veil—and the reader—anticipating the next steps in their dangerous infiltration.

