A Court of Splintered Harmony

Reader Cheat Sheet

READER REFERENCE • PREVIOUS-BOOK SPOILERS

How to use this guide

This is a clickable memory-jogger for A Court of Splintered Harmony. Maybe you read the earlier ACOTAR books years ago. Maybe you skipped Crescent City. Or maybe someone just mentioned a character you swear you know, but you cannot remember why they matter. In case of that book emergency, open this guide for a quick explanation, then get straight back to reading. You do not have to read it from beginning to end.

HOW TO USE IT:

Click the chapter you are about to read. It will list characters and magical elements you need to know to follow the chapter. If you don't remember or know what they are, click on those to find out what happened to them in past books that are relevant to this story. You can also simply read all of the characters or objects if you just want a quick study before reading every chapter. PS. Once you land on a chapter or character there will be a link back to the top so you don't see any information you don't want to see.

SPOILER RULES: The character bios, history guide and chapter preps reveal events from earlier ACOTAR books, bonus chapters and the Crescent City crossover (including House of Flame and Shadow). The preps do not describe events or outcomes from Splintered Harmony. Future character lists can still hint at who appears, so select only your next chapter. Every prep has its own page and return links. The guide is still a working draft based on reading notes and secondary recaps, not a chapter-by-chapter check against the original text. Everything in this guide was copy pasted/taken from places, as I myself had to research each element. So I saved it for you.

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Character index and bios

History from the earlier books

Chapter prep index (select your next chapter)

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Jump to a character

Feyre Archeron • Rhysand (Rhys) • Nyx • Nesta Archeron • Cassian • Elain Archeron • Azriel • Morrigan (Mor) • Amren • Nuala and Cerridwen

Gwyneth Berdara (Gwyn) • Emerie • Clotho • Bryaxis • The House of Wind

Lucien Vanserra • Eris Vanserra • Beron Vanserra • The Lady of Autumn • Helion • Tamlin

Tarquin • Kallias • Viviane • Thesan • Keir • Devlon • Vassa • Jurian

Koschei the Deathless • The King of Hybern • Amarantha

Bryce Quinlan • Ruhn Danaan • Queen Theia • Silene • High King Fionn

Varian • Queen Briallyn • The Weaver (Stryga) • The Bone Carver • Helena • Pelias • Vesperus • Miryam and Drakon

Ianthe • Madja • Graysen

Character guide

The Archerons & the Night Court

Feyre Archeron

Former human huntress, now High Lady of the Night Court, Rhysand's mate and Nyx's mother. Each of the seven High Lords gave a fragment of power to resurrect her, leaving her with abilities linked to multiple courts. She defeated Amarantha, survived Hybern's war and nearly died giving birth to winged Nyx; Nesta saved Feyre, Rhys and the baby. Remember her complicated loyalties to both sisters, and that she was once Tamlin's lover.

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Rhysand (Rhys)

High Lord of the Night Court, Feyre's mate and Nyx's father. His realm includes both protected Velaris and the brutal Hewn City; his closest allies are the Inner Circle. He was imprisoned and abused by Amarantha Under the Mountain. Amren has urged him to become High King, an idea he previously refused. He has a bloodline connection to the ancient Dusk Court through Silene, revealed in Crescent City.

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Nyx

Infant son of Feyre and Rhys, born with Illyrian wings. Feyre's pregnancy almost killed all three of them because Feyre and Rhys share a death bargain; Nesta's sacrifice saved their lives. Because Feyre herself was remade with power from seven High Lords, readers have reason to wonder what Nyx inherited, but his precise powers are not established in the earlier books.

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Nesta Archeron

Eldest Archeron sister, Cassian's mate and founder of the revived Valkyries with Gwyn and Emerie. After being Made by the Cauldron, she developed terrifying silver fire and a bond with the Dread Trove: the Mask, Harp and Crown. She also Made weapons, notably Ataraxia. She survived the Blood Rite and Unmade Briallyn. To save Feyre, Rhys and Nyx, she surrendered most of her power but kept some. In Crescent City, she helped Bryce, received Gwydion and was marked with an eight-pointed star.

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Cassian

Illyrian general in the Night Court, Rhys and Azriel's lifelong friend, and Nesta's mate. He trained Nesta, Gwyn and Emerie as modern Valkyries, despite resistance from traditional Illyrian leadership. During the Blood Rite, Queen Briallyn controlled him with the Crown and almost forced him to kill

Nesta. In Silver Flames, he helped Nesta confront grief and anger; remember both their hard-won relationship and the training block she scorched with her silver fire.

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Elain Archeron

Middle Archeron sister, forcibly Made High Fae by the Cauldron. She became a Seer; among her visions was the cursed firebird queen Vassa. Lucien recognised their mating bond when she emerged from the Cauldron, but Elain has neither accepted nor formally rejected it. She gardens, lives close to Feyre and Nyx, and is friends with Nuala and Cerridwen. In the Hybern war she stabbed the king with Azriel's Truth-Teller, allowing Nesta to finish him.

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Azriel

Night Court spymaster, Illyrian warrior and shadowsinger. Childhood captivity and cruelty left him with scarred hands and long-standing shame. He wields the ancient dagger Truth-Teller; Crescent City reveals its twin is the sword Gwydion, later held by Nesta. His shadows scout and listen. Rhys forbade him from pursuing Elain because she is mated to Lucien; in his Silver Flames bonus scene, Azriel tried to pass Elain's returned necklace to Gwyn through Clotho.

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Morrigan (Mor)

Rhys's cousin and Third in the Inner Circle, associated with a power called Truth whose workings remain mysterious. Keir, her father, rules the Hewn City; her relatives arranged a marriage to Eris, then brutalised her when she refused. Eris left her at the Autumn border, though the full story is unresolved. She slept with Cassian to escape that marriage and later confided to Feyre that she is romantically drawn to women. She has also handled difficult continental diplomacy.

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Amren

Ancient, feared adviser and Rhys's Second. She was once an otherworldly being with devastating power, but sacrificed that form to defeat Hybern's army and returned as High Fae. She understands the Book of Breathings and the Dread Trove, encourages ruthless political thinking, and previously argued that Rhys might become High King. She is romantically involved with Varian of Summer Court.

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Nuala and Cerridwen

Half-wraith twin sisters who work as Night Court spies and attendants. They can move unseen and belong to Azriel's intelligence circle, but also have a genuine friendship with Elain. They were among the first people to make Feyre feel at home in the Night Court.

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The Valkyries, the library & its darkness

Gwyneth Berdara (Gwyn)

Priestess at the House of Wind library and a close friend of Nesta and Emerie. She survived an attack on the temple at Sangravah, during which her twin Catrin died; Azriel helped rescue the survivors. Her heritage includes a river-nymph grandmother and an Autumn Court grandfather. She sings with the priestesses, trains as a Valkyrie and became a Carynthian by completing the Blood Rite. Azriel's bonus chapter connects her to the returned necklace.

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Emerie

Illyrian shopkeeper in Windhaven and Nesta's friend. Her abusive father clipped her wings, leaving her unable to fly. She trains with Nesta and Gwyn as a Valkyrie; all three reached Ramiel's summit in the Blood Rite and became Carynthians. She understands the Illyrian camp system and its misogyny from personal experience, and has shown an attraction to Mor.

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Clotho

High Priestess of the House of Wind library, a refuge for women recovering from violence. Her hands and voice were damaged by previous abuse, so she commonly communicates through writing. Gwyn is among the women she protects. In Azriel's Silver Flames bonus chapter, he asked Clotho to pass a necklace meant for Elain to Gwyn. Her name also evokes the mythological spinner of fate.

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Bryaxis

Ancient, terrifying being once confined in the darkness beneath the House of Wind library. It can exploit its victims' deepest fears. During Wings and Ruin, Feyre bargained for its help against Hybern, promising a window through which it could see the sky and stars. After the war, Bryaxis vanished, and its whereabouts were unresolved at the start of this book.

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The House of Wind

Sentient magical residence overlooking Velaris, with the priestesses' vast library beneath it. The House befriended Nesta during Silver Flames, provided her with books and food, and responded to her emotions in playful and comforting ways. It is a place of Valkyrie training and healing as well as an important Night Court stronghold.

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Autumn Court & complicated alliances

Lucien Vanserra

Feyre's old friend and former emissary of Tamlin's Spring Court, raised as Beron's youngest son in Autumn. Beron had Lucien's lover Jesminda executed, and Amarantha took one of his eyes; a magical mechanical eye replaced it. He now lives with Vassa and Jurian in the human lands as part of the Band of Exiles. Elain is his unaccepted mate. Helion of Day, not Beron, is secretly his biological father, though Lucien does not know.

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Eris Vanserra

Beron's eldest son and Autumn Court heir. Once betrothed to Mor, he publicly left her wounded at the border; his actual motives remain disputed. He has secretly negotiated with Rhys and Cassian about replacing Beron. Briallyn used the Crown to control him, and Beron later punished him. Eris is politically useful but should not be mistaken for a reliable ally simply because he opposes his father.

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Beron Vanserra

Cruel, powerful High Lord of the Autumn Court and father of Eris. He subjected Lucien to abuse, had Lucien's lover Jesminda killed, and is hostile to progressive court politics. His wife's relationship with Helion means Lucien is not his biological son. Beron has made dangerous alliances before, including cooperation with Briallyn.

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The Lady of Autumn

Beron's unnamed wife and Lucien's mother, trapped in a deeply abusive political marriage. Her past romance with Helion, High Lord of Day, is the secret behind Lucien's parentage. Her sons and court obligations complicate any hope of leaving Autumn.

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Helion

High Lord of the Day Court, with formidable spell-cleaving and knowledge-based magic. He once loved the Lady of Autumn and is Lucien's true father, although Lucien remains unaware. Helion has also tried to break the curse on Vassa, so his importance runs across Autumn family history and human-land politics.

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Tamlin

High Lord of the Spring Court, Feyre's former lover and Lucien's former closest friend. His decisions during Feyre's captivity, the conflict with Rhys and Hybern's invasion destroyed much of his trust

and political standing. His damaged, barely governed court remains a complication for Prythian's alliances.

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Other courts, the Hewn City & the human lands

Tarquin

Young High Lord of Summer Court, who wants meaningful reform and peace. Feyre and Rhys betrayed his trust while stealing a portion of the Book of Breathings from Summer. His cousin Varian is Amren's partner. Summer has its own interests and old wounds, not simply automatic loyalty to Night.

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Kallias

High Lord of the Winter Court and Viviane's mate. He and Viviane protected their people during the war, including children threatened by Hybern. His court is one of the seven independent courts and has its own reasons to mistrust grand political schemes.

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Viviane

Winter Court leader and Kallias's mate, whom she helped protect her people while Kallias was trapped Under the Mountain. She is a politically important counterpart to her High Lord and an example of female leadership outside the Night Court.

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Thesan

High Lord of the Dawn Court, gifted with healing magic. His household and court were involved in the alliance against Hybern. Do not confuse Dawn with Helion's Day Court; both have distinct rulers and political interests.

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Keir

Mor's abusive father and steward of the Hewn City, the harsh, aristocratic subterranean part of the Night Court. He answers to Rhys as High Lord but controls his own courtly power base. His treatment of Mor explains much of her history with Eris and distrust of that social hierarchy.

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Devlon

Leader of the Illyrian war camp at Windhaven. He enforces traditional camp attitudes, including restrictions on women's fighting and flying. He resisted Nesta, Gwyn and Emerie's training and represents the deeply rooted social divisions within the Night Court.

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Vassa

Human queen from Scythia, cursed by Koschei to take the form of a firebird, typically by day. Her freedom is limited and the curse remains an open threat. She lives and works with Lucien and Jurian in the Band of Exiles; Elain's earlier Seer visions helped bring her into the story.

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Jurian

Human general who fought the Fae centuries ago. Amarantha kept his awareness trapped in her ring as punishment, and he was later resurrected. He sided with Prythian against Hybern and now lives with Lucien and Vassa in the Band of Exiles, providing political perspective from the human lands.

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Old enemies and the larger threat

Koschei the Deathless

Ancient deathless sorcerer confined to a lake on the continent. He is associated with Vassa's firebird curse, the captive women at his lake and Briallyn's schemes. In older folklore, Koschei hides his death outside his body; the novels have not fully explained his immortality. The Weaver and the Bone Carver are his siblings.

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The King of Hybern

Former Fae king who sought conquest through the Cauldron, destroyed the dividing Wall and aligned with Amarantha's earlier regime. He forced Nesta and Elain into the Cauldron and killed their father. In Wings and Ruin, Elain stabbed him with Truth-Teller and Nesta beheaded him. The king is dead even if Hybern remains politically important.

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Amarantha

The tyrant who cursed and controlled Prythian Under the Mountain before Feyre killed her. She imprisoned and abused Rhys, stole Lucien's eye and kept Jurian's consciousness trapped in a ring. Her court and legacy shaped many characters' trauma. She is dead by the time of Splintered Harmony.

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Crescent City connections — for readers who skipped it

Bryce Quinlan

Crescent City's main heroine, a Starborn Fae from Midgard. She arrived in Prythian with the Starsword, found the ancient Dusk Court history with Nesta and Azriel, and temporarily took Truth-Teller. Nesta later helped her by lending the Mask. Bryce ultimately returned the Mask and Truth-Teller and gave Nesta the Starsword (Gwydion), pointing to the eight-pointed star on Nesta's back.

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Ruhn Danaan

Starborn Fae prince from Midgard and Bryce's half brother. His powers are associated with shadow and mind-speaking, and his ancestry runs through Theia's daughter Helena. His family line helps explain the ancient links among Midgard, the Night Court and the lost Dusk Court; he is not a present-day Prythian ruler.

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Queen Theia

Ancient High Queen once married to Fionn and mother of Silene and Helena. She rebelled against the Daglan but later helped plot Fionn's murder with Pelias, then led some Fae through a rift to Midgard, where the rulers were the same predatory beings called the Asteri. Her divided Starborn power and stolen weapons tie the two worlds together.

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Silene

Daughter of Theia who returned from Midgard to Prythian. She hid the Dusk Court's story, helped create the Prison as it is known now, and married into the Night Court. Her descendants include Rhys. Her magical record in the Prison is one of the most important historical revelations in House of Flame and Shadow.

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High King Fionn

Ancient High King who helped overthrow the Daglan and ruled alongside Queen Theia. His decisions about succession were tied to Theia, Helena and Pelias; Theia and Pelias conspired in his murder. His reign supplies a precedent for Prythian's debated High King title and the old weapons of royal power.

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More people worth remembering

Varian

Prince of the Summer Court, cousin of High Lord Tarquin and Amren's partner. He links Summer politics to Rhys's Inner Circle and survived the Hybern war.

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Queen Briallyn

One of the human queens Made by the Cauldron. The Cauldron aged her instead of preserving her youth; she allied with Koschei and sought the Dread Trove. With the Crown she controlled Cassian during the Blood Rite, until Nesta Unmade her. Briallyn is dead, but her schemes fractured trust among courts.

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The Weaver (Stryga)

Terrifying creature of the Middle, sister to Koschei and the Bone Carver. She collected valuable and magical things in her cottage. Feyre retrieved Rhys's ring from her; later, the King of Hybern killed her during the war.

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The Bone Carver

Ancient being imprisoned beneath the Prison island, brother to Koschei and the Weaver. He knew old magic, showed Feyre unsettling forms and helped fight Hybern. He died in that war. His siblings' relationship matters when older death magic resurfaces.

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Helena

Daughter of Theia and sister of Silene. She remained on Midgard and became an ancestor of Bryce and Ruhn's Starborn line. The Horn's journey to Midgard is bound to her part of the ancient Dusk Court history.

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Pelias

Ancient Fae warrior involved with Theia. Together they conspired against High King Fionn, and Pelias later worked with the Asteri/Daglan during the migration to Midgard. His betrayal complicates the mythology of Fionn's supposedly golden reign.

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Vesperus

One of the ancient Asteri/Daglan trapped beneath the Prison, the former Dusk Court. Bryce freed her while searching for answers, and Nesta killed her with Ataraxia. This happened in House of Flame and Shadow, not in Splintered Harmony.

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Miryam and Drakon

Former human queen and Seraphim prince who helped fight slavery and Hybern. They live on Cretea, where the Cauldron was taken after the war. Their history matters to questions about who controls the Cauldron and what alliances remain beyond the seven courts.

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Ianthe

A priestess of the Spring Court who claimed religious authority while manipulating Feyre, Tamlin and Lucien. She betrayed Nesta and Elain to Hybern and was later killed by the Weaver during the war. Her history is useful whenever the old priestess hierarchy or Hybern's collaborators are mentioned.

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Madja

Trusted Night Court healer who has attended Rhys's inner circle for years. She cared for Feyre during her dangerous pregnancy and for other members of the court after injuries. Her role is medical, not a political office.

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Graysen

Human lord's son and Elain's former fiancé. Their relationship fell apart after Elain was forcibly Made High Fae, and his family was hostile to the Fae. His history helps explain Elain's grief about losing her human life.

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The other books: the history refresher

This section spoils the published ACOTAR books, the bonus chapters and the Crescent City crossover. It does not reveal later events from Splintered Harmony. If you want to experience Crescent City unspoiled, skip the crossover paragraphs and use the character index only as needed.

The seven courts and the High King question

Prythian has seven courts: Spring (Tamlin), Summer (Tarquin), Autumn (Beron), Winter (Kallias), Dawn (Thesan), Day (Helion) and Night (Rhys). Each court is sovereign. A High King would rule above them all; ancient Fionn held that title, and Amren previously urged Rhys to consider it. Velaris and the Hewn City are both inside the Night Court but exist under very different social arrangements.

The story so far, book by book

A Court of Thorns and Roses: Feyre breaks Amarantha's curse Under the Mountain, dies, and is resurrected as High Fae. A Court of Mist and Fury: Feyre falls in love with Rhys, discovers her Night Court family, and watches Hybern force Nesta and Elain into the Cauldron. A Court of Wings and Ruin: the courts unite against Hybern; their father dies, Elain and Nesta kill the king, and the Wall falls. A Court of Frost and Starlight: the war's survivors try to rebuild, while painful personal and political problems persist. A Court of Silver Flames: Nesta rebuilds herself, trains the Valkyries, confronts the Dread Trove and saves Feyre and Nyx at great cost.

How the Archerons became Fae — and why Hybern matters

Feyre was originally human, died defeating Amarantha and was remade by gifts of magic from all seven High Lords. The King of Hybern later forced Nesta and Elain into the Cauldron, turning them Fae. Elain emerged a Seer and Lucien recognised their mating bond. Nesta took power from the Cauldron against its will. During the war, Elain stabbed the king with Truth-Teller and Nesta beheaded him; the king is dead even though Hybern remains a political name.

Where are the human lands, Hybern and the continent?

Prythian contains seven Fae courts in the north and the formerly Wall-divided human territory farther south. Hybern is a separate island kingdom across the sea, not another of the seven courts. The human lands and mainland continental kingdoms have distinct politics; names such as Vallahan, Montesere and Rask do not refer to Prythian courts. When characters argue about another kingdom's allegiance, it helps to ask whether they mean a High Lord, the surviving forces of Hybern, or people outside Prythian entirely.

What happened in A Court of Silver Flames

Nesta trained with Cassian, grew close to Gwyn and Emerie, and helped resurrect the Valkyries. The three survived the Illyrian Blood Rite and became Carynthians. Queen Briallyn used the Crown to control Cassian, but Nesta Unmade her. Nesta had learned to wield the Dread Trove, Made powerful blades and formed a close bond with the sentient House of Wind. Feyre's dangerous birth forced Nesta to give up most of her power to save Feyre, Rhys and Nyx; the Mother let her retain some.

The Valkyries, Blood Rite and Illyrian politics

The original Valkyries were a female warrior order. Nesta, Gwyn and Emerie rebuilt its training at the House of Wind with Cassian and Azriel. They were forcibly entered into the brutal Illyrian Blood Rite on Ramiel; making it to the mountain's summit earned them the rare title Carynthian. Nesta remained behind to protect her friends. The Illyrian camps have long restricted women's freedom

and flying, and a warrior's Siphons help focus raw magical power. Remember this background when Illyrian rank, the Valkyries' legitimacy or Nesta's choices are discussed.

The magical objects worth recognising

The Dread Trove comprises the Mask (commands the dead), Harp (opens passages and can affect time), and Crown (controls minds). The ancient Horn, concealed in Bryce's tattoo, is connected to that history. Nesta's Made blades are a different set of objects; Ataraxia is her sword. Azriel carries the dagger Truth-Teller, twin to the long-lost sword Gwydion. The Cauldron that Made the Archerons is a separate ancient source of power, held on Cretea after Hybern's defeat.

The House of Wind, the priestesses and Bryaxis

The House of Wind in Velaris is a sentient refuge where Nesta began to heal. Beneath it, a deep library shelters priestesses recovering from violence; Clotho oversees the sanctuary, and Gwyn is one of its residents. Far below the library lived Bryaxis, an ancient creature associated with terrible fear. Feyre made a wartime bargain to gain Bryaxis's help against Hybern, promising a window onto the stars. Bryaxis vanished after the war. Keep that earlier bargain in mind without assuming what will happen in this book.

The Crescent City crossover in 90 seconds

At the end of House of Sky and Breath, Bryce Quinlan crossed into Prythian. In House of Flame and Shadow she explored the Prison with Nesta and Azriel. It was once the lost Dusk Court, connected to ancient Queen Theia and her daughters Silene and Helena. The old Daglan rulers of Prythian are the Asteri who ruled Midgard; Silene's line leads to Rhys, Helena's to Bryce. Bryce borrowed the Mask, returned it and Truth-Teller, and gave Nesta her Starsword—Prythian's Gwydion—along with an eight-pointed-star mystery. You do not need a second series memorised; the main consequence is that Nesta and Azriel learned dangerous history and Nesta chose to help Bryce.

Relationships and political grievances to remember

Elain has not accepted Lucien's bond; Azriel's feelings for her caused Rhys to intervene, and the necklace intended for Elain was redirected toward Gwyn. Mor's traumatic history with Eris remains unresolved. Beron's claim to be Lucien's father conceals Helion's parentage. Cassian and Nesta ended Silver Flames together after surviving serious trauma. Koschei remains trapped at his lake, Vassa is still cursed, and the Night Court has reasons to distrust several potential allies.

Koschei's curse, his siblings and the remaining danger

Koschei the Deathless is an old, lake-bound sorcerer who keeps women captive and cursed the human queen Vassa into a firebird. His siblings were the Bone Carver, imprisoned beneath the Prison, and the Weaver, who lived in the Middle; both died during the Hybern war. Queen Briallyn had dealings with Koschei before Nesta killed her. In the real-world folktale, Koschei hides his death outside his body, but the books have not established every detail of that mechanism. Do not assume the folklore and the novel's magic follow identical rules.

Chapter-by-chapter prep — choose only your next chapter

Each page is a spoiler-light cast and old-book reference card. It lists names, objects and history from the earlier books, never what happens or how a chapter ends. Open only the chapter you are about to read, then use Back to Start. Character names link to biographies where those exist.
The currently available breakdown supports the Prelude and Chapters 1–24. Entries are based on an external reading recap, not a direct verification against the novel. New-book-only names are listed without plot explanations.

PREP DIRECTORY

Read this before the Prelude
Read this before Chapter 1
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For editorial cross-checking: Reviews from a Bookworm, October 2026. External recap contains full-book spoilers. Do not follow it while reading.

READ THIS BEFORE THE PRELUDE

↖ Back to Start · Chapter Prep Index
Characters appearing or speaking: Azriel
Other names referenced: Rhysand (Rhys) · Cassian · Morrigan (Mor)
Additional names introduced in this book: Maxtus · Azriel's half-brothers
Older-book names, objects or terms: Illyrian wing customs · Azriel's shadows
Earlier-book refresher: Earlier books establish Azriel's scarred hands, Illyrian childhood abuse, and bonds with Rhys, Cassian, and Mor.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 1

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Characters appearing or speaking: Azriel
Other names referenced: Rhysand (Rhys) · Feyre Archeron · Koschei the Deathless
Older-book names, objects or terms: Made objects · Azriel's shadows · Koschei's lake-bound curse
Earlier-book refresher: Azriel is Rhys's shadowsinger and spymaster. Koschei's curse and the power of Made objects predate this book.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 2

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Characters appearing or speaking: Feyre Archeron · Rhysand (Rhys) · Morrigan (Mor) · Azriel
Other names referenced: Nyx · Ianthe · Koschei the Deathless
Additional names introduced in this book: Vallahan's king, queen and prince · Duke Valderic of Bernion · the Mistress of the Unseen
Older-book names, objects or terms: The Cauldron · The Dread Trove · Made objects · Children of the Blessed
Earlier-book refresher: Ianthe was a priestess from the earlier books. Feyre was remade with gifts from all seven High Lords, and the Dread Trove surfaced in Silver Flames.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 3

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Characters appearing or speaking: Azriel · Rhysand (Rhys) · Feyre Archeron · Morrigan (Mor) · Amren
Other names referenced: Nesta Archeron · Bryce Quinlan · Eris Vanserra · Nuala and Cerridwen · Queen Theia · Silene · High King Fionn
Additional names introduced in this book: Vallahan's royal family
Older-book names, objects or terms: Truth-Teller · Gwydion / Starsword · The Dread Trove · Made blades · the Prison / Dusk Court
Earlier-book refresher: House of Flame and Shadow links Truth-Teller and Gwydion, reveals the Prison's Dusk Court history, and explains Nesta's decision to help Bryce.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 4

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Characters appearing or speaking: Cassian · Nesta Archeron · Rhysand (Rhys)
Other names referenced: Bryce Quinlan
Older-book names, objects or terms: the Prison island · Made objects · the eight-pointed star
Earlier-book refresher: Nesta is Cauldron-Made. Bryce's Crescent City crossover connected her to the Prison, ancient Starborn history and the eight-pointed star.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 5

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Characters appearing or speaking: Azriel · Cassian · Morrigan (Mor) · Feyre Archeron · Elain Archeron · Rhysand (Rhys) · Nyx
Other names referenced: Devlon
Older-book names, objects or terms: Windhaven and the Illyrian camps · Nyx's birth · Elain's Seer power
Earlier-book refresher: Windhaven's warrior traditions and Elain's relationship with Feyre's family were established before this book.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 6

↖ Back to Start · Chapter Prep Index
Characters appearing or speaking: Azriel · Elain Archeron · Rhysand (Rhys)
Other names referenced: Lucien Vanserra
Older-book names, objects or terms: Elain–Lucien mating bond · Azriel's shadows · Azriel's Winter Solstice bonus chapter · the rose necklace
Earlier-book refresher: The Silver Flames Azriel bonus chapter establishes his gift to Elain, Rhys's objection and the politically risky mating bond.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 7

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Characters appearing or speaking: Azriel · Nuala and Cerridwen · Nesta Archeron · Rhysand (Rhys)
Other names referenced: Cassian · Gwyneth Berdara (Gwyn) · Bryce Quinlan · Queen Theia · Silene · High King Fionn
Older-book names, objects or terms: Illyrian Siphons · the Symphonia · the Dread Trove · the Prison / Dusk Court · Gwydion
Earlier-book refresher: The Siphons belong to Illyrian warrior history; the Symphonia appeared in Silver Flames. Fionn, Theia and Silene are tied to the Crescent City crossover.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 8

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Characters appearing or speaking: Cassian · Eris Vanserra · Azriel
Other names referenced: Beron Vanserra · Rhysand (Rhys) · Feyre Archeron · Nesta Archeron
New-book participant: an unidentified visitor
Older-book names, objects or terms: Autumn Court succession · the Mother · Hybern's war
Earlier-book refresher: Eris is Beron's heir with a complicated history of cooperation with the Night Court; the King of Hybern died in Wings and Ruin.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 9

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Characters appearing or speaking: Feyre Archeron · Rhysand (Rhys) · Lucien Vanserra · Jurian · Vassa
Other names referenced: Koschei the Deathless · Tamlin · Helion
Older-book names, objects or terms: Vassa's firebird curse · the Band of Exiles · the Veritas orb · Lucien's parentage
Earlier-book refresher: Vassa's curse, Lucien's unaccepted mating bond and his secret connection to Helion come from earlier books. The Veritas orb is a previously established truth-showing object.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 10

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Characters appearing or speaking: Nesta Archeron · Gwyneth Berdara (Gwyn) · Clotho
Other names referenced: Azriel · Cassian · Bryce Quinlan · Feyre Archeron · Rhysand (Rhys) · Nyx
Additional names introduced in this book: Deirdre · Roslin
Older-book names, objects or terms: the House of Wind library · the Valkyries · the Blood Rite · the Bryce crossover
Earlier-book refresher: Clotho oversees the priestesses' library; Gwyn trained with Nesta and Emerie and survived the Illyrian Blood Rite.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 11

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Characters appearing or speaking: Azriel · Emerie · Feyre Archeron · Tarquin
Other names referenced: Rhysand (Rhys)
Older-book names, objects or terms: the Illyrian Blood Rite · Siphons · Summer Court diplomacy
Earlier-book refresher: Emerie is one of the revived Valkyries and a Blood Rite survivor. Tarquin's Summer Court has longstanding reasons to treat the Night Court cautiously.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 12

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Characters appearing or speaking: Nesta Archeron · The House of Wind · Feyre Archeron · Rhysand (Rhys) · Azriel
Other names referenced: Cassian · Kallias · Thesan
Older-book names, objects or terms: Nesta's training block · the fallen Wall · the High King question · Winter and Dawn Courts
Earlier-book refresher: The sentient House helped Nesta heal during Silver Flames; Prythian's Wall fell in the war, and Amren previously raised the idea of a High King.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 13

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Characters appearing or speaking: Cassian · Nesta Archeron · Feyre Archeron · Elain Archeron · Lucien Vanserra · Nyx
Older-book names, objects or terms: mating bonds · Nyx's birth and Nesta's sacrifice
Earlier-book refresher: Elain's bond with Lucien remains unaccepted; Nesta sacrificed much of her power to save Feyre, Rhys and Nyx in Silver Flames.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 14

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Characters appearing or speaking: Feyre Archeron · Rhysand (Rhys) · Nyx · Morrigan (Mor) · Cassian · Nesta Archeron

Other names referenced: Clotho

Older-book names, objects or terms: Nyx's birth · Mor's power associated with Truth

Earlier-book refresher: Mor's gift of Truth is associated with her longstanding, still-mysterious power. The earlier books establish Nesta's sacrifice at Nyx's birth.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 15

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Characters appearing or speaking: Azriel · Feyre Archeron · Elain Archeron · Lucien Vanserra · Rhysand (Rhys) · Cassian · Morrigan (Mor) · Nyx · Bryaxis

Older-book names, objects or terms: Truth-Teller · Azriel's shadows · Bryaxis's old library bargain

Earlier-book refresher: Feyre bargained with Bryaxis for help against Hybern in Wings and Ruin. Truth-Teller is Azriel's dagger; his shadows are part of his magic.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 16

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Characters appearing or speaking: Nesta Archeron · Bryaxis · Feyre Archeron · Clotho
Other names referenced: Cassian · Rhysand (Rhys) · Nyx · Azriel
Older-book names, objects or terms: Ataraxia · the House of Wind library · Bryaxis's disappearance after Hybern
Earlier-book refresher: Nesta Made the sword Ataraxia; the House of Wind's library is Clotho's sanctuary, and Bryaxis vanished after the Hybern war.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 17

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Characters appearing or speaking: Feyre Archeron · Amren · Azriel · Elain Archeron · Lucien Vanserra · Rhysand (Rhys)
Other names referenced: Tamlin · Nesta Archeron · Cassian · Nyx
Older-book names, objects or terms: Hybern's war · Spring Court · Azriel's shadows · the Elain–Lucien mating bond
Earlier-book refresher: Amren lost her original power during Hybern's defeat. Lucien was once Tamlin's emissary; Elain's mating bond and Azriel's shadows are earlier-book history.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 18

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Characters appearing or speaking: Nesta Archeron · Cassian · Feyre Archeron
Other names referenced: Madja · Bryaxis · Rhysand (Rhys)
Older-book names, objects or terms: Madja's healing role · Nesta–Cassian mating bond · Bryaxis's library bargain
Earlier-book refresher: Madja is the Night Court healer known from the earlier books; Nesta and Cassian are mates, and Bryaxis once made a bargain with Feyre.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 19

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Characters appearing or speaking: Lucien Vanserra · Elain Archeron · Azriel
Older-book names, objects or terms: the Cauldron · Hybern's war · the unaccepted mating bond · Lucien's family history
Earlier-book refresher: Hybern forcibly Made Elain through the Cauldron; Lucien recognised their mating bond, which Elain has not accepted.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 20

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Characters appearing or speaking: Azriel · Elain Archeron · Lucien Vanserra · Rhysand (Rhys) · Cassian · Nesta Archeron · Feyre Archeron · Morrigan (Mor)

Older-book names, objects or terms: Truth-Teller · Azriel's shadows · the Blood Duel · Elain–Lucien mating bond

Earlier-book refresher: The Azriel bonus chapter explains the Autumn Court Blood Duel threat and Rhys's concern about the political consequences of Elain's bond.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 21

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Characters appearing or speaking: Nesta Archeron · Elain Archeron · Feyre Archeron · Azriel · Gwyneth Berdara (Gwyn)
Older-book names, objects or terms: the House of Wind · the Valkyries · the Blood Rite · Gwyn's priestess community
Earlier-book refresher: Gwyn and Nesta survived the Blood Rite with Emerie, and the sentient House of Wind and the library priestesses were important in Silver Flames.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 22

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Characters appearing or speaking: Nesta Archeron · Rhysand (Rhys) · Feyre Archeron · Elain Archeron

Other names referenced: Azriel · Graysen

Older-book names, objects or terms: the Mask · the Harp · the Crown · Ataraxia · Gwydion / Starsword · Made weapons

Earlier-book refresher: The Mask, Harp and Crown are the Dread Trove; Nesta Made Ataraxia, and Bryce left the ancient sword Gwydion in Prythian.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 23

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Characters appearing or speaking: Azriel · Cassian
Other names referenced: Lucien Vanserra · Elain Archeron
Additional names introduced in this book: Erebos (new-book character; no previous-book biography)
Older-book names, objects or terms: Truth-Teller · shadowsinging · Illyrian training
Earlier-book refresher: Truth-Teller is Azriel's ancient dagger and the twin of Gwydion; Cassian and Azriel's training history goes back centuries.

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READ THIS BEFORE CHAPTER 24

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Characters appearing or speaking: Nesta Archeron · Amren · Morrigan (Mor) · Elain Archeron
Other names referenced: Rhysand (Rhys) · Azriel · Bryce Quinlan
Older-book names, objects or terms: the Prison / Dusk Court · the Dread Trove · the Mask · Gwydion / Starsword · Elain's Seer gift
Earlier-book refresher: House of Flame and Shadow connected the Prison to the Dusk Court and left Gwydion with Nesta; Elain's Seer abilities began after the Cauldron Made her.

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