



The *Wheel of Time* character and plot update

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A Summary of the Main Plot Threads and Characters in the Wheel of Time™, up through the end of Knife of Dreams.

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“The Trap Springs”

Rand al’Thor

Rand and his party continue to rest up at Lord **Algarin’s** estate in eastern Tear. With **Rand** are **Lan** and **Nynaeve**, **Logain**, **Min**, **Loial**, **Cadsuane**, **Verin** and **Alivia**, the four hundred year old *damane* who is destined to “help **Rand** die”. **Loial’s** mother, **Elder Haman** and **Erith** arrive and **Loial** is married before he can think. A huge army of Trollocs attacks and, for the first time, **Rand** senses what he believes to be **Lews Therin** wresting control of *saidin* from him. **Bashere** arrives with news that the meeting with **Tuon** is set. **Rand** and his party attend the meeting but it is a trap set by **Semirhage**. **Cadsuane’s** *ter’angreal* foil the trap and **Semirhage** is captured, but she throws a fireball that destroys **Rand’s** left hand.

“Rescuing Faile”

Perrin Aybara

Tallanvor sets up a meeting between **Perrin** and General **Tylee Khirgan** of the Seanchan army. They agree to join forces to free **Faile** and take out the Shaido in Malden. **Perrin** formulates the plan. They acquire tons of forkroot and dump it in the Malden water supply to disable the Shaido Wise Ones. **Perrin** also brings in **Tam al'Thor** and Two Rivers longbowmen.

Meanwhile, **Galina** forces **Faile** to get the Oath Rod from **Therava** for her in exchange for a promise of freedom. **Faile** gets the Oath Rod, but **Galina** traps **Faile** and her companions including **Maighdin (ex-Queen Morgase)** and **Alliandre** in a collapsing house. **Maighden** uses her weak channeling ability to signal for help and friends free them just as **Perrin's** forces enter the city.

Perrin is fighting his way into the city when **Aram** tries to murder him. **Masema** convinced **Aram** that **Perrin** is really Shadowspawn. **Aram** dies from a Shaido arrow and **Perrin** and **Faile** are finally reunited. They plan to head north, directly toward **Galad** and his 7,000 Whitecloaks.

Therava recaptures **Galina** and the Oath Rod and the surviving Shaido head back to the Aiel Waste forever.

“On the Run from the Seanchan”

Mat Cauthon

Valan Luca's circus and **Mat** and his eclectic party including **Tuon, Selucia, Thom,** and **Aludra** head northeast through Altara. **Aludra** picks up fireworks supplies in Jurador. An attack on **Mat** by a high ranking citizen/Darkfriend forces them to part company with **Valan Luca**. The Band of the Red Hand rejoins **Mat** and they set about skirmishing their way through the Seanchan army to leave Altara. Banner General **Karede** of the Deathwatch Guard has been tracking **Tuon** and finally catches up to **Mat**. **Mat** agrees to let him take her back to Ebou Dar. This completes **Lidya's** Foretelling and **Tuon** completes the marriage ceremony making **Mat** Prince of the Ravens. **Tuon** returns to Ebou Dar with proof the **Suroth** was behind the murder attempts and **Suroth** is made *da'covale*.

Meanwhile, **Mat** finally reads **Thom's** letter from **Moiraine**. The letter says she is held by the Aelfinn and Eelfinn and that **Mat, Thom** and one other can rescue her via the Tower of Ghenjei. **Bayle Domon** knows exactly where the Tower lies and can lead them there.

“Claiming the Lion Throne”

Elayne Trakand

Elayne fends off attacks by **Arymilla** while trying to discover who **Doilan Mellar** is working for. **Aviendha** discovers that she can read *ter'angreal* to determine their function. On **Rand's** orders she heads for Arad Doman with the rest of the Taardad Aiel to restore order. **Elayne** follows a lead on Mellar with **Vandene**, **Careane** and **Sareitha**. They discover the Black Ajah house with **Lady Shiaine** but they are captured. **Vandene** takes vengeance on **Careane** after learning she killed **Adeleas** but she and **Sareitha** are then killed. While the Black Ajah smuggle **Elayne** out of the city, **Birgitte** rushes back to the palace to get help from the Windfinders. The Windfinders blast the Black Ajah sisters and all are killed or captured. **Elayne** is freed.

Meanwhile, **Arymilla** launches an all out attack. **Elayne's** army triumphs and **Arymilla** and her supporters are captured. Most of the major Houses throw their support behind **Elayne** giving her the Lion Throne.

“The Rebel Aes Sedai”

The Rebel Aes Sedai

Following **Egwene's** capture, **Siuan** brings news from *Tel'aran'rhiod* that she is okay and still in charge. **Beonin**, a traitor, flees to the White Tower. **Lelaine** and **Romanda** renew their attempts at control. **Merise** and **Jahar** arrive with a message from Rand, that those Aes Sedai loyal to **Egwene** may bond Asha'man to balance the number of bonded Aes Sedai. **Jahar** detects someone using *saidin* to try to listen in. **Romanda** finally connects **Kairen's** and **Anaiya's** murders to their common friend **Cabriana Mecandes**, and orders the arrest of **Halima Saranov** (aka Aran'Gar aka Balthamael reborn), but it is too late. She and **Delana** already fled.

“Within the Tower”

Egwene and the White Tower

The Sitters continue their search for the Black Ajah, but the heart structure proves effective and they quickly run into a dead end. **Alviarin** has the rest of the Black Ajah trying to identify the hunters. **Alviarin's** orders through **Elaida** have been so effective that the Ajahs are at each others' throats and the White Tower is near civil war. **Elaida** seems oblivious.

On **Elaida's** orders, **Egwene** is left free but reduced to novice and drugged to limit her channeling. She maintains her dignity and her claim to the Amyrlin Seat despite repeated punishment. She gradually wins the respect of many Aes Sedai and open admiration from the novices. She still has not had a face to face meeting with **Elaida**.

Tsutama Rath, head of the Red Ajah, orders Red sisters to approach the Black Tower with the intent of bonding Asha'man. Six Red sisters meet with **Mazrim Taim** and he quickly agrees to let them, but his final words, “Let the Lord of Chaos rule,” are ominous.

“Friends and Acquaintances”

Gawyn Trakand and the Younglings were last seen camped in the village of Doilen near Tar Valon. They have been there since their return from Dumai's Wells. In the Crossroads of Twilight prologue he receives orders from **Elaida**, but we do not know what they are or what happens after that. **Galad Damodred** is leading a faction of the Whitecloaks somewhere north of **Perrin's** army. **Moiraine Damodred** fell through the twisted red doorway with **Lanfear** at the end of The Fires of Heaven. According to her letter, she hopes that **Thom**, **Mat** and one other will rescue her from the Aelfinn and Eelfinn. **Rodel Ituralde** is fighting a campaign against the Seanchan army in Arad Doman while the Aiel, Asha'man and **Darlin** all try to restore order and the Sea Folk bring supplies.

"Forsaken Roundup"		
Name	Status	Notes
Ishamael	Reborn	Killed by Rand at the end of <i>The Dragon Reborn</i> . Reborn as Moridin . Currently Nae'Blis
Lanfear	Reborn	"Held" for a time by the Aelfinn and Eelfinn after falling through the redstone doorway while battling Moiraine, Lanfear's soul now inhabits a new body and goes by the name of Cyndane .
Moghedien	Alive	Under Moridin's control. Whereabouts unknown.
Be'lal	Dead	Dead. Balefired by Moiraine at the end of <i>The Dragon Reborn</i>
Asmodean	Dead	Dead. Killer unknown. The Dark One has no plans to bring him back. (Robert Jordan actually stated that he <u>cannot</u> be brought back. Visit theoryland.com for more information)
Graendal	Alive	Still initiating much of the chaos in Arad Doman from behind the scenes. Is probably involved in more things than we know.
Semirhage	Alive	Captured by Rand after a failed attempt to collar him.
Aginor	Dead	Killed by Rand at the end of <i>The Eye of the World</i> . Reborn as Osan'gar and posed as Dashiva . Killed again by Elza and Narashima's defense group at the battle of Shadar Logoth.
Balthamael	Reborn	Killed by the Greenman at the end of <i>The Eye of the World</i> . Reborn as Aran'gar and posing as Halima . Exposed by the rebel Aes Sedai and on the run.
Demandred	Alive	Whereabouts unknown.
Messana	Alive	Not in very good standing with the Dark One these days for failure to show up at the battle of Shadar Logoth. Still hiding in the White Tower.
Sammael	Dead	Killed in Shadar Logoth at the end of <i>A Crown of Swords</i> , though someone apparently is posing as him.
Rahvin	Dead	Balefired by Rand at the end of <i>The Fires of Heaven</i>

The Forsaken

Since the battle at Shadar Logoth we have only seen **Moridin**, **Demandred**, **Graendal**, **Cyndane** and **Moghedien** at a brief meeting. Their current whereabouts and activities are unknown. **Moridin** (**Ishamael** reincarnated) is now Nae'blis so he will certainly play a key role. He still holds the mindtraps of **Cyndane** and **Moghedien**. **Osan'gar** (**Aginor** reincarnated) appears to be well and truly dead this time. Robert Jordan has confirmed that **Demandred** is not posing as **Mazrim Taim**. **Graendal** is likely still in her palace in Arad Doman; we expect to see more of the most underrated Forsaken. All evidence says that **Cyndane** is **Lanfear** reincarnated, but anything more is speculation. **Semirhage**, set a trap for **Rand** but it failed and she was captured. **Jahar Narishma** detected **Aran'gar** (**Balthamel** reincarnated) channeling *saidin* in the rebel Aes Sedai camp and she is now on the run. **Mesaana** is still in the White Tower suitably chastened after her confrontation with **Shaidar Haran**. We have not seen **Padan Fain** since his failed attack on **Rand** in Far Madding. He is a wild card so who knows where he will turn up next?

CHARACTER GLOSSARY

Rand al'Thor

Someone posing as Sammael orders a massive Trolloc attack on Rand at Lord Algarin's estate. They repel the attack, but Lews Therin takes control of Rand for a short time. Rand also sees increasingly clearer images of Moridin, the other blurry face in his head. He Travels to Tear where the rebels have agreed to accept Darlin as king. He sends Darlin and many of his Aiel to Arad Doman to restore order.

Perrin Aybara

Perrin enters into agreement with the Seanchan army under General Tylee Khirgan to free Faile and take out the Shaido in Malden. They procure tons of forkroot and dump it into the Malden water supply thereby disabling the Shaido Wise Ones. Perrin brings in longbowmen from the Two Rivers under Tam al'Thor and together they soundly defeat the Shaido and free Faile. Perrin intends to head north with his follows, directly toward Galad and his 7000 Whitecloaks.

Mat Cauthon

Mat and his followers leave Valan Luca's circus. After rejoining the Band of the Red Hand, he conducts a successful campaign to keep Tuon out of the hands of the Seanchan army. After the completion of Lidya's Foretelling, Tuon finally completes the marriage ceremony. He sends her back to Ebou Dar with Banner General Karede. As we leave them, Mat, Thom, Noal, Olver and the rest will head for the Tower of Ghenjei to try to rescue Moiraine.

Loial son of Arant son of Halan

Loial is with Rand in Tear when Elder Haman, his mother and Erith arrive. He is married in short order, then takes part in the defense against the Trolloc attack. After learning that the Ogier are discussing the Book of Translation, he agrees to speak at the Great Stump while Elder Haman takes up his task of sealing the Waygates.

Min Farshaw

Min spends all of Knife of Dreams with Rand.

Egwene al'Vere

Egwene conducts a campaign of passive resistance and conquest in the White Tower. Although she is dressed as a novice, forced to drink forkroot (to keep her from embracing large amounts of *saidar*), and beaten on a regular basis by the Mistress of Novices, Egwene remains strong and stives at all times to set the ultimate example of what an Amyrlin should be like. Many Aes Sedai listen thoughtfully as she discusses Elaida's errors and she has a strong following among the novices.

Aviendha

On Rand's orders, Aviendha went to Arad Doman with the Taardad Aiel to help restore order. She has a newly discovered Talent of reading *ter'angreal* to discern their use and operation.

Elayne Trakand

Having defeated and captured Arymilla, Elayne now has support of fourteen of the nineteen major Houses and can claim the Lion Throne. However, much of her support came under duress and arsons continue despite the capture of Shiaine, Daved Hanlon and the Black Ajah cell, so all may not be well in Caemlyn.

Gawyn Trakand

We last saw Gawyn and the Younglings camped in the village of Doilen near Tar Valon. They had been there since their return from Dumai's Wells. In the Crossroads of Twilight prologue he received orders from Elaida, but we do not know what they were or what happened after that.

el'Nynaeve Mandragoran

Nynaeve accompanies Rand in his travels. She left Lan at World's End with a mission to ride across the Borderlands collecting an army.

al'Lan Mandragoran

After extracting a promise from him to ride to Fal Moran before entering the Blight, Nynaeve dumped Lan at World's End then contacted a series of Malkieri expatriates. Lan is riding across the Borderlands collecting an army to fight at Tarwin's Gap.

Moridin

Since the battle at Shadar Logoth we have only seen Moridin (formerly Ishamael) briefly in a meeting of the Forsaken. His current whereabouts and activities are unknown. But, as Nae'Blis, he is first among the Chosen and will likely play a larger role in these final novels. We have also seen his face appearing in Rand's mind.

Aran'gar

Masquerading as Halima Saranov, Aran'gar is one of the male Forsaken (Balthamel) reborn into a woman's body. She murdered Kairen Stang and Anaiya probably because they asked too many questions about their friend Cabriana Mecandes. She and Delana fled the rebel Aes Sedai camp after Jahar Narishma detected her channeling *saidin*.

Osan'gar

Having died for a second time at the battle at Shadar Logoth, Osan'gar (formerly Aginor) seems to be well and truly dead.

Demandred

Since the battle at Shadar Logoth we have only seen Demandred briefly at a meeting of the Forsaken. His current whereabouts and activities are unknown. Robert Jordan has confirmed that he is not posing as Mazrim Taim.

Graendal

Since the battle at Shadar Logoth we have only seen Graendal briefly at a meeting of the Forsaken. She appeared to be making an alliance with Aran'gar. Her current whereabouts and activities are unknown, but she is likely still in her palace in Arad Domon.

Cyndane

Since the battle at Shadar Logoth we have only seen Cyndane briefly at a meeting of the Forsaken. Her current whereabouts and activities are unknown. We assume that Moridin still holds her mindtrap. There is near-conclusive evidence that she is Lanfear reincarnated.

Mesaana

Since her confrontation with Alviarin and Shaidar Haran we have only seen Mesaana briefly in a meeting with the Forsaken. She is still in the White Tower, but looks wan.

Moghedien

Since the battle at Shadar Logoth we have only seen Moghedien in a brief meeting of the Forsaken. Her current whereabouts and activities are unknown. We assume that Moridin still holds her mindtrap.

Semirhage

Semirhage set a trap for Rand with herself disguised as the Daughter of the Nine Moons. Cadsuane's *ter'angreal* disrupted the plan and she was captured, but she blew off Rand's hand with a fireball. She is presumably Rand's and Cadsuane's prisoner.

Padan Fain

We have not seen Padan Fain since he set the ambush for Rand in Far Madding in Winter's Heart. His current whereabouts and activities are unknown.

Tuon Athaem Kore Paendrag

With Lidya's Foretelling completed, Tuon completed the marriage ceremony with Mat and Banner General Karede saw her safely back to Ebou Dar. Rand sent her an emissary requesting a meeting to discuss a truce. When she learned that her mother, the Empress of Seanchan was killed, she went into mourning. It is believed by most of her followers that she will declare herself Empress soon.

Aludra

Since procuring supplies in Jurador, Aludra has kept busy designing and manufacturing bombs for Mat to use against the Seanchan. She is accompanying Mat and Thom to the Tower of Ghenjei.

Galad Damodred

Having slain Eamon Valda, Galad is nominally the new Lord Captain Commander though there are factions of the Children who do not follow him. He and his 7000 followers are not too far north of Perrin.

Moiraine Damodred

Moiraine fell through the twisted red doorway with Lanfear at the end of The Fires of Heaven. She was presumed dead, but the letter she left for Thom states that she is actually a prisoner of the Aelfinn and Eelfinn in the Tower of Ghenjei. Thom and Mat are on their way to attempt to rescue her.

Faile Aybara

Perrin finally freed Faile from the Shaido. They are now heading north in the direction of Galad and his 7,000 Whitecloaks.

Logain Ablar

Logain is working as for Rand. It appears as though he leads a faction of Asha'man within the Black Tower that are loyal to Rand.

Alviarin Freidhen

Alviarin tries to deal with her penance from Elaida and her mark from Shaidar Haran while she coordinates the search for those who hunt the Black Ajah. She tries to tempt Egwene with offers to help her escape.

Sheriam Bayanar

With Egwene in captivity, Sheriam seems to be in limbo and unsure of her role. Her odd behavior in discussions related to the Black Tower continue.

Elaida a'Roihan

Elaida rules the White Tower with a heavy hand, oblivious to the near civil war building between the Ajahs. She is obsessed with controlling the White Tower and having absolute obedience. She believes that she can deal with Egwene by ordering her back to novicehood..

Morgase Trakand

Morgase is with Perrin, freed from the Shaido. Outside of her few retainers, the whole world believes that she is dead, some at the hand of Rand.

Thom Merrillin

With Tuon safely back in Ebou Dar, Thom is on his way to the Tower of Ghenjei to rescue Moiraine from the Aelfinn and Eelfinn. Mat, Noal, Olver and numerous others are with him.

Alivia

The four-hundred year old former *damane* was part of the group that defended Rand and Nynaeve at the battle of Shadar Logoth. She is currently with Rand. In Winter's Heart, Min had a vision that Alivia would "help Rand to die".

Cadsuane Melaidhrin

The old Aes Sedai who still seeks to "teach Rand to feel again" is still with him. Although she tries to keep up to date with the many events going on, her primary focus is on Rand, and making sure she can properly guide him. Her relationship with Rand as his advisor seems to have stabilized, but we still know nothing of her ultimate motives.

Web Resources

- *Wheel of Time* News <http://www.dragonmount.com>
- Chapter Summaries for all books <http://www.encyclopaedia-wot.org>
- Post & read theories <http://www.theoryland.com>
- Talk about the books: <http://forums.dragonmount.com>
- <http://wotmania.com/wotmessageboard.asp>
- The Gathering Storm info page http://www.dragonmount.com/Books/Gathering_Storm
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