



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 Crossroads of Twilight.

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"Walking into a Trap"

Rand al'Thor

After cleansing *saidin* at Shadar Logoth, **Rand** and his party rest up at Lord **Algarin's** estate in eastern Tear. With **Rand** are **Lan** and **Nynaeve**, **Min**, **Cadsuane**, **Verin** and **Alivia**, the four hundred year old *damane* who is destined to "help **Rand** die". Meanwhile, because of his mounting distrust for **Mazrim Taim** and his cronies, **Logain** leaves the Black Tower. At Caemlyn he meets with **Davram Bashere** and together they Travel to Cairhien to find **Rand**. There they join **Loial** and **Karldin**, recently returned from their tour of the *stedding*, their mission from *A Crown of Swords*. They were mostly successful in asking the Ogier to guard the Waygates. Together, they Travel to Tear where they join up with **Rand**. **Rand** sends **Logain**, **Loial** and **Bashere** to treat with the Seanchan and, in the final scene, agrees to a face-to-face meeting with the Daughter of the Nine Moons. The message comes from High Lady **Suroth**, a known Darkfriend, and **Tuon** is with **Mat**, so there is certainly trouble ahead.

“Hunting Faile”

Perrin Aybara

Perrin and **Berelain** continue the quest to rescue **Faile** from the Shaido. **Masema** and his men accompany them, but he is half mad and his true motives are a mystery. They have finally located **Faile** in the town of Malden where she is held by tens of thousands of Shaido led by **Sevanna**. **Perrin** has a startling vision of **Rand** and **Nynaeve** at Shadar Logoth. He restocks his troops at the town of So Habor, but the grain is infested with vermin and ghosts walk the streets. In an act of desperation he mutilates a Shaido warrior then throws away his axe (for good?). At the end he agrees with **Tallavor** to meet with the Seanchan to ask for help in fighting the Shaido at Malden, a deal with the Dark One.

Meanwhile, **Faile** is a prisoner of the Shaido, held *gai'shain*, in the town of Malden. With her are **Morgase**, **Alliandre** of Ghealdan, and **Bain** and **Chiad**. As if that is not enough, she is trapped between **Galina**, an Aes Sedai who is Black Ajah, and **Therava**, one of the Wise Ones, who have given her near impossible and conflicting tasks. Despite these pressures she plans her escape, possibly with the help of one of the Shaido warriors. As for **Morgase**, her imprisonment seems to be restoring some of her strength of character. Outside of her few retainers, the whole world believes that she is dead, some at the hand of **Rand**.

“On the Run from the Seanchan”

Mat Cauthon

After successfully escaping from Ebou Dar, **Mat** travels slowly across Altara with **Valan Luca's** circus. He still holds **Tuon**, the Daughter of the Nine Moons, and her aide **Selucia** prisoner. Or are they? **Tuon** has sworn not to escape. **Mat** also has a startling vision of **Rand** and **Nynaeve** at Shadar Logoth. Resigned to his destiny, **Mat** attempts to court **Tuon**, but her reactions are...inscrutable. At the end, he orders the death of a runaway *sul'dam*, then returns to the camp to learn that **Tuon** has offered her personal protection to most of the circus, except for him! With **Mat** are **Thom**, **Juilin** and **Amathera**, once Panarch of Tarabon. **Thom** grows increasingly moody over the contents of his letter from **Moiraine**. **Aludra**, the Illuminator, is also with the circus. She taunts **Mat** about finding her a bellfounder. We're pretty sure we know why!

“Claiming the Lion Throne”

Elayne Trakand

Elayne holds Caemlyn but her grasp is tenuous and the city is under siege by the forces **Arymilla** who also wants the Lion Throne. **Birgitte** is now Captain of the Queen's Guard though she hates her position of authority. **Aviendha** continues to split her time in Caemlyn between Wise One training and acting as personal attendant and bodyguard to **Elayne**. **Elayne** slowly builds her support, but will it be enough? Her pregnancy continues to affect her moods. It seems likely that **Arymilla** has help from the Dark Side and all the evidence says **Elayne** has powerful enemies inside the palace as well as out.

“Captured by the Enemy”

Egwene al’Vere

The siege of Tar Valon is at a stalemate because the Salidar Aes Sedai cannot prevent supply and recruiting ships from docking. **Egwene** teaches anyone strong in Earth how to convert iron to *cuendillar*. Meanwhile she continues to suffer from headaches that are only alleviated by **Halima’s (Aran’gar** once known as **Balthamel**) massages. **Sheriam** serves as **Egwene’s** Keeper of the Chronicles. She continues to have moments of odd behavior. In particular she reacts badly to the Sitters’ proposed alliance with the Black Tower. In the climax of Crossroads of Twilight, **Egwene** reveals her strategy. The two strongest heartstone makers will convert the harbor chains, permanently blocking the harbors. **Leane** is her number one pick and **Kairen Stang** number two. But **Kairen** is murdered leaving the second chain to **Bodewhin Cauthon**. There are other mysterious murders in the Salidar Aes Sedai camp attributed to *saidin* so we have a strong suspicion who is responsible. At the last second, **Egwene** takes **Bode’s** place. She converts the harbor chain only to find that it is a trap. She has been betrayed and is now in the hands of the White Tower.

“Within the Tower”

The White Tower

After an extended absence **Alviarin** returns to the White Tower. She seemed to have **Elaida** well under control, but during her absence **Elaida** took advantage of the appearance of the Salidar Aes Sedai army to regain power. In terror of being unmasked as Black Ajah, **Alviarin** summons **Mesaana**. Moments later **Shaidar Haran** appears. He is more powerful than ever; his presence negates all channeling and **Mesaana** appears as a “tantalizingly familiar” face. He marks **Alviarin** as his own and orders her to find the hunters for the Black Ajah. He begins his punishment of **Mesaana** because she ignored the summons to Shadar Logoth to fight **Rand**. It involves much screaming. Now **Elaida** is back in control of the White Tower, but the Sitters hunt the Black Ajah while **Alviarin** hunts the Sitters and **Elaida** seems oblivious to all of it.

“Friends and Acquaintances”

Gawyn Trakand and the Younglings are 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** has not been seen since he procured a ship for **Nynaeve** and **Elayne** at Samara in The Fires of Heaven. He is presumably rising in rank in the Whitecloaks somewhere in Amadicia. **Moiraine Damodred** fell through the twisted red doorway with **Lanfear** at the end of The Fires of Heaven. She has not been seen since and is presumed dead. But is she really?

"Forsaken Roundup"		
Name	Status	Notes
Ishamael	Reborn	Killed by Rand at the end of <u>The Dragon Reborn</u> . Reborn as Moridin . Currently Nae'Blis
Lanfear	Reborn	Apparently killed by Moiraine at the end of <u>The Fires of Heaven</u> . "Held" by the Aelfinn for a while and then reborn as Cyndane .
Moghedien	Alive	Most likely alive. Under Moridin's control.
Be'lal	Dead	Dead. Balefired by Moiraine at the end of <u>The Dragon Reborn</u>
Asmodean	Dead	Dead. Killer unknown. The Dark One has no plans to bring him back
Graendal	Alive	Is probably involved in more things than we know.
Semirhage	Alive	Probably in Ebou Dar, posing as a significant Seanchan person.
Aginor	Dead	Killed by Rand at the end of <u>The Eye of the World</u> . 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 <u>The Eye of the World</u> . Reborn as Aran'gar and posing as Halima .
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.
Sammael	Dead	Killed in Shadar Logoth at the end of <u>A Crown of Swords</u> .
Rahvin	Dead	Balefired by Rand at the end of <u>The Fires of Heaven</u>

The Forsaken

Since the battle at Shadar Logoth we have not seen **Moridin**, **Demandred**, **Graendal**, **Cyndane** or **Moghedien**. Their current whereabouts and activities are unknown. **Moridin** (once known as **Ishamael**) is now Nae'blis so he will certainly play a key role. He still holds the mindtraps of **Cyndane** and **Moghedien**. **Osan'gar** (once known as **Aginor**) 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 the one once known as **Lanfear**, but anything more is speculation. **Anath**, who we believe is **Semirhage**, is in seclusion in Ebou Dar, probably dealing with the disappearance of **Tuon**. We assume **Mesaana** is still in the White Tower but we do not know her condition after he encounter 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

After cleansing *saidin* at Shadar Logoth, Rand and his party rest up at Lord Algarin's estate in eastern Tear. He sends Logain, Loial and Bashere to treat with the Seanchan and, in the final scene, agrees to a face-to-face meeting with the Daughter of the Nine Moons. The message comes from High Lady Suroth, a known Darkfriend, and Tuon is with Mat, so there is certainly trouble ahead.

Perrin Aybara

Perrin has finally located Faile in the town of Malden where she is held by tens of thousands of Shaido. He has a startling vision of Rand and Nynaeve at Shadar Logoth. He restocks his troops at the town of So Habor, but the grain is infested with vermin and ghosts walk the streets. In an act of desperation he mutilates a Shaido warrior then throws away his axe (for good?). At the end he agrees to meet with the Seanchan to ask for help in fighting the Shaido at Malden.

Mat Cauthon

After successfully escaping from Ebou Dar, Mat travels slowly across Altara with Valan Luca's circus. He still holds Tuon, the Daughter of the Nine Moons. He has a startling vision of Rand and Nynaeve at Shadar Logoth. Resigned to his destiny, he attempts to court her, but her reactions leave much room for speculation. At the end, he orders the death of a runaway *sul'dam*, then returns to the camp to learn that Tuon has offered her personal protection to most of the circus...except for him.

Loial son of Arant son of Halan

In *A Crown of Swords*, Rand sent Loial and Kardin to visit the *stedding*. In *Crossroads of Twilight*, they finally return to Cairhien. They were mostly successful in asking the Ogier to guard the Waygates. When Logain arrives, Loial accompanies him and his party to Tear where they join up with Rand. Rand sends him, Logain and Bashere to treat with the Seanchan.

Min Farshaw

Min spends all of *Crossroads of Twilight* holed up with Rand in Lord Algarin's manor in eastern Tear.

Egwene al'Vere

The siege of Tar Valon is at a stalemate because the Salidar Aes Sedai cannot prevent supply and recruiting ships from docking. Egwene teaches anyone strong in Earth how to convert iron to *cuendillar*. Meanwhile she continues to suffer from headaches that are only alleviated by Halima's (Aran'gar's) massages. In the climax of the book, Egwene reveals her strategy. The two strongest heartstone makers will convert the harbor chains, permanently blocking the harbors. Leane is her number one pick and Kairen Stang number two. But Kairen is murdered leaving the second chain to Bodewhin Cauthon. At the last second, Egwene takes Bode's place. She converts the harbor chain only to find that it is a trap. She has been betrayed and is now in the hands of the White Tower.

Aviendha

Aviendha continues to split her time in Caemlyn between Wise One training and acting as personal attendant and bodyguard to Elayne.

Elayne Trakand

Elayne attempts to consolidate her position in Caemlyn. The city is under siege by the forces of Arymilla who also wants the Lion Throne. Elayne slowly builds her support, but will it be enough? Her pregnancy continues to affect her moods. All the evidence says she has powerful enemies inside the palace as well as out.

Gawyn Trakand

Gawyn and the Younglings are 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.

el'Nynaeve Mandragoran

Since the cleansing of *saidin* at Shadar Logoth, Lan and Nynaeve stay with Rand in Lord Algarin's manor in eastern Tear.

al'Lan Mandragoran

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Moridin

Since the battle at Shadar Logoth we have not seen Moridin (formerly Ishamael). 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.

Aran'gar

Masquerading as Halima Saranov, Aran'gar is one of the male Forsaken (Balthamael) reborn into a woman's body. She continues to minister to Egwene's headaches. There have been several mysterious murders in the Salidar Aes Sedai camp attributed to *saidin* so we have a strong suspicion who is responsible.

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 not seen Demandred. 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 not seen Graendal. Her current whereabouts and activities are unknown, but she is likely still in her palace in Arad Domon. As perhaps the most under-rated Forsaken, look for Graendal to have a big impact in these final novels.

Cyndane

We have not seen Cyndane since the battle at Shadar Logoth where she was humbled by Alivia, the uber-deadly former damane. Her current whereabouts and activities are unknown. We assume that Moridin still holds her mindtrap. Most fans believe that she is Lanfear reincarnated.

Mesaana

Mesaana ignores the summons to Shadar Logoth to fight Rand. Alviarin calls to her in desperation after Elaida turns the tables on her. Mesaana begins to punish Alviarin, but Shaidar Haran appears. His presence negates all channeling and Mesaana appears as a “tantalizingly familiar” face. He marks Alviarin and sends her on her way as he begins Mesaana’s punishment. We do not know her fate.

Moghedien

Since the battle at Shadar Logoth we have not seen Moghedien. Her current whereabouts and activities are unknown. We assume that Moridin still holds her mindtrap.

Semirhage

In Ebou Dar, “Anath” stays in seclusion after the disappearance of Tuon, the Daughter of the Nine Moons. However, there are rumors in the streets about Tuon. Logain, Loial and Bashere meet with High Lady Suroth and she extends an invitation to Rand to meet the Daughter of the Nine Moons. Something is not right as Tuon is still on the run with Mat.

Padan Fain

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

Tuon Athaem Kore Paendrag

Tuon travels with Mat and Valan Luca’s circus across Altara. Nominally a prisoner, she swears not to attempt to escape and seems to be good to her word. Resigned to his fate, Mat attempts to court her but her reactions are...inscrutable. Perhaps that has something to do with what she learned about her future in a Foretelling.

Aludra

Aludra continues to travel with Mat and Valan Luca’s circus. In Ebou Dar she teased Mat about why she might want to find a bellfounder. We can think of a good reason!

Galad Damodred

Galad has not been seen since he procured a ship for Nynaeve and Elayne in The Fires of Heaven. He is presumably rising in rank in the Whitecloaks somewhere in Amadicia.

Moiraine Damodred

Moiraine fell through the twisted red doorway with Lanfear at the end of The Fires of Heaven. She has not been seen since and is presumed dead.

Faile Aybara

Faile is a prisoner of the Shaido in the town of Malden. As if that is not enough, she is trapped between Galina and Therava who have given her near impossible and conflicting tasks. Despite these pressures she plans her escape, possibly with the help of one of the Shaido.

Logain Ablar

Because of his mounting distrust for Mazrim Taim and his cronies, Logain leaves the Black Tower. At Caemlyn he meets with Davram Bashere and together they Travel to eastern Tear to join Rand. Rand sends Bashere, Logain and Loial to Ebou Dar to treat with the Seanchan.

Alviarin Freidhen

Alviarin returns to the White Tower to learn that Elaida has usurped her power. In terror she summons Mesaana, but moments later Shaidar Haran appears. He marks Alviarin as his own and orders her to find the hunters for the Black Ajah.

Sheriam Bayanar

Sheriam continues to serve as Egwene's Keeper of the Chronicles. She continues to have moments of odd behavior. In particular she reacts badly to the Sitters' proposed alliance with the Black Tower.

Elaida a'Roihan

Alviarin seemed to have Elaida well under control, but Elaida took advantage of the appearance of the Salidar Aes Sedai army and Alviarin's extended absence to regain power. Elaida is back in control of the White Tower, but she seems oblivious to the cat and mouse game between the Black Ajah and the Sitters who are hunting them.

Morgase Trakand

Morgase is a prisoner of the Shaido in Malden along with Faile and Alliandre. Her imprisonment seems to be restoring some of her strength of character. Outside of her few retainers, the whole world believes that she is dead, some at the hand of Rand.

Thom Merrilin

Thom continues to travel across Altara with Mat and Valan Luca's circus. He grows increasingly moody over the contents of the letter from Moiraine.

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's group in eastern Tear. 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 with him in eastern Tear. 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. At the end of Winter's Heart, she and Rand seemed to reach an agreement in which he actually asked for her help as an advisor.

Web Resources

- *Wheel of Time* discussion list <http://www.dragonmount.com/list.php>
- Chapter Summaries for all books <http://www.encyclopaedia-wot.org/>
- Post & read theories <http://www.theoryland.com/>
- Talk about the books: <http://www.dragonmount.com/Boards/>
- <http://wotmania.com/wotmessageboard.asp>
- Knife of Dreams info page http://www.dragonmount.com/Books/Knife_ofDreams/

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