

Enna Burning Study Guide

Enna Burning by Shannon Hale

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Plot Summary

"Enna Burning" by Shannon Hale is an intriguing novel about the difficult decisions a young girl must make after learning the mysterious art of fire-speaking. After her brother is consumed by fire due to using the gift, Enna also learns fire-speaking, promising herself not to misuse it and suffer her brother's fate. However, as her country needs her help to win the war, Enna begins to lose herself to the fire and must struggle against the element to prevent it from consuming her as well. "Enna Burning" is an encouraging tale of bravery, self-identification, and friendship.

Leifer, Enna's brother, finds a vellum scroll, which allows him to learn the art of fire-speaking. However, when he loses his temper and accidentally burns Enna, Enna turns to her best friend, Isi, for advice. Unfortunately, Isi is having problems controlling her gift of wind-speaking and does not have any suggestions for Enna and Leifer. After Tira invades Bayern, Leifer joins Geric's army, using the fire to burn the Tiran forces, but he also burns himself up into a charred heap of flesh. Though distraught about her brother's death, Enna learns how to fire-speak when she finds the vellum stored in Leifer's clothes. Enna does not plan to burn until she burns the Tiran participant in the augury to save Finn's life. Therefore the augury predicts that Bayern will win the war with Enna's help, but without her, her country will lose.

Hoping to avoid her brother's fate, Enna promises not to tell a soul, not to burn a living person, and not to burn big. However, when she nearly burns a person, she realizes that she needs help and so she begins accompanying Finn and Razo on scouting missions in order to burn Tiran supplies. After they suggest that she is losing control, Enna decides to go to Eylbold alone, burning Isi when her friend tries to stop her. In Eylbold, Sileph, a Tiran captain, captures and drugs Enna. Using his people-speaking skills, Sileph woos Enna to believe that she loves him and to agree to burn for Tira, also using Razo and Finn as hostages when they attempt to save Enna. Distraught to realize Sileph has been lying to her, Enna refuses to fight for Tira. Inspired by Isi's bravery in entering the camp to tell her why they could not save her through a story, Enna shows her loyalty to Isi and Bayern by escaping her imprisonment and liberating Razo and Finn.

Enna rushes toward the capital to battle for Bayern, burning many of the Tiran forces. She believes that she is dying when something cracks inside of her and the heat rushes in, but Isi cools Enna with the wind. When Enna awakes, Isi takes her to Yasid to learn the secrets of the tata-rook, fire worshippers, hoping to find a cure. During the journey, Sileph comes for Enna, but he is killed by his own men. Finn also joins Enna and Isi, caring for the two girls as they are tormented by their elements. Enna and Isi also play with their elements during their journey. Upon reaching Yasid, they meet Fahil, the caretaker of the community of tata-rook, who believes Isi can blow the fire from Enna, but Enna suggests that she can teach the fire to Isi to help chase back the wind and allow her friend to find a balance. At Fahil's suggestion, the girls share their elements, forming a balance between the wind and the fire. They then return to Bayern where Isi

gives birth to a healthy son and Enna is made a member of Bayern's Own, Geric's personal band of soldiers.



Section 1: Prologue and Chapter 1

Section 1: Prologue and Chapter 1 Summary

"Enna Burning" by Shannon Hale is an intriguing novel about the difficult decisions a young girl must make after learning the mysterious art of fire-speaking. After her brother is consumed by fire due to using the gift, Enna also learns fire-speaking, promising herself not to misuse it and suffer her brother's fate. However, as her country needs her help to win the war, Enna begins to lose herself to the fire and must struggle against the element, lest it consume her as well. "Enna Burning" is an encouraging tale of bravery, self-identification, and friendship.

In the Prologue, the woman has a scorch mark from her chin to her brow and the vision in her left eye is still blurry, though she has been walking away from burning for several weeks. Spotting a forest on the horizon, she wonders if that will be far enough. She leaks fire unknowingly as she walks, occasionally throwing herself into the stream to assuage the burning. Recalling hot ash burning and her village in flames, she clutches the vellum to her chest and walks faster, remembering her purpose. Reaching the forest, she digs soil from a young fir tree and takes out the vellum to look at the beautiful knowledge. She now loves the fire more than her own flesh and although she knows she should destroy the vellum and the truth it contains, she will hide it to prevent destruction like the kind she caused. Maybe someday, someone with talent will read it and know its goodness. She prays they will be stronger than her as she buries the vellum beneath the tree. Laying down, the woman relinquishes her control over the fire and allows it to burn her as she burned others.

In Part 1: Sister, Chapter 1, Enna still has not become used to being mistress of the hearth fire since her mother died, so when she allows it to burn out while her brother, Liefer, is in the woods one night, she borrows embers from Doda, her nearest neighbor. Walking home, she sees the hearth blazing through the window, so she rushes to the window to see Liefer sitting by the fire. Noticing the vellum in his hand, Enna wonders where he found such a thing since parchment is rare in the forest. Rolling up the vellum and stuffing it in his bag as Enna enters the house, Liefer chides her for letting the fire die. Enna prods Liefer about his journey but knows he will not tell her about the vellum if he does not want to. When Liefer complains that the city folk of Bayern still think of forest dwellers as squatters, Enna reminds him they are citizens now. Liefer angrily breaks his bowl, apologizes and runs outside. Enna follows him, but he is already gone. The next morning, Finn visits Enna and insists on helping her with her chores, though he has been walking all day. She tells him about Liefer's strangeness and how she misses Isi, thinking of how easy it is to be with Finn. Returning home, Liefer apologizes to his sister, and when he quickly lights the fire, he ignores Enna's question about how he did it so fast. Addressing Finn, Liefer objects to Bayern enslaving forest boys and girls, claiming there are others who will fight if they decide to rebel. He claims the city started eyeing their lands because of that meddling foreign princess. He knows Isi is Enna's friend and he should be scared of her because she can speak to birds and the



wind, but he insists there is something bad about her and she will be the first to burn when the fighting starts. When Enna defends Isi, Leifer yells at her angrily, and Enna's skirt catches fire. Finn helps Enna beat the flames down, and looking horrified, Leifer apologizes and runs into the trees, ignoring Enna when she calls after him. Finn suggests Leifer can speak to the fire like Isi can speak to the wind, and Enna grows frightened of what Leifer may do next. She needs help because she cannot wait for him to act again and there is only one person to ask.

Section 1: Prologue and Chapter 1 Analysis

The Prologue introduces an unidentified woman who is walking away from the burning, thus introducing this concept. She recalls the horrors she has caused as she struggles into the woods, burning from inside, and buries the vellum containing the mysteries of the fire. This scene foreshadows the events of the rest of the novel as Liefer will find this vellum, and it will direct the story's events. The novel begins with Part 1: Sister as the first part of this novel focuses on Enna's role as Liefer's sister. In Chapter 1, Enna, the main character, is introduced, and the author explains how Enna is living in the forest after her mother's death to help her brother, Liefer, care for their home. Enna is not good at tending the hearth fire, and when she allows it to go out, she borrows embers from her neighbor, Doda; however, she returns home to find Liefer has returned from his journey in the woods and has rekindled the fire. His aptitude with the fire combined with the vellum that Enna sees him holding foreshadows the discovery that Liefer has found the vellum and learned the mysteries of fire. Liefer thanks Enna for sticking around after their mother died since he knows Enna finds the forest boring, especially after she lived in the city. Enna is shocked by Liefer's newfound hostility towards the Bayern, despite the fact that forest dwellers are now considered to be citizens of Bayern, and he rushes out of the house when he breaks a bowl in anger. Walking to the edge of the yard, Enna feels something is missing but does not know what she is mourning. She recalls how she never wanted to leave the forest before she went to the city, realizing she misses Isi, her best friend. She cannot be content after seeing all Isi has done, but maybe there is something like that for Enna if she knew where to look. Finn is introduced the next morning when he visits Enna, and Enna shares her concerns about Liefer with her friend. Her easiness with Finn foreshadows a future romantic relationship between the two, though Enna does not seem to consider this possibility. When Liefer returns, he talks to Finn about a possible uprising amongst the forest dwellers in rebellion against Bayern, blaming Isi for meddling in their affairs. Enna defends her friend, and as Liefer rages at her, her skirt catches fire, further indicating that he has learned the secrets of fire contained within the vellum hidden in the Prologue. After Liefer runs off, Finn reinforces this idea by suggesting that Liefer has learned to speak to fire as Isi speaks to birds and the wind, so Enna decides she must talk to someone for fear of what Liefer may do next. There is only one person she can ask, obviously indicating Isi, the only person mentioned thus far who has the power to speak to the elements.



Section 2: Chapter 2 and Chapter 3

Section 2: Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 Summary

In Chapter 2, Enna decides to go to the city for market day the next day. When Leifer returns, he promises never to burn her again, but he tells her he cannot get rid of the fire, insisting that he is learning how to control it. He refuses to teach Enna the fire. Upon reaching the city with Doda and Finn, Doda questions Enna about her relationship with Finn, and after claiming she needs a real man to handle her, Enna worries she has hurt Finn's feelings when she sees him nearby. The next day after Enna sets up her eggs to sell, she notices Razo and plays a prank on him by claiming she has an orange egg, the omen of good fortune and long life. Guards collect Enna to take her before the king and when Isi joins them, Enna realizes her friend helped her with her prank on Razo. Enna and Isi are glad to see each other, and when Enna asks to speak to Isi privately about Leifer, Isi motions the guards toward the palace.

In Chapter 3, Isi leads Enna to the treasury which is the only place she can escape the voice of the wind. Enna tells Isi what she suspects about Leifer's ability with the fire, but Isi does not know what to do for him. When Enna suggests learning fire language to help him, Isi objects because "there are consequences to learning to speak with any part of creation" (p. 37). The wind used to be peaceful, but now it presses her with its language, overcoming her, and Isi worries she will go mad. Demonstrating how she can create a wind from nothing, Isi summons an intense wind, frightening Enna as she explains it is easy to lose control and this is why Enna should leave the fire alone since it is more disturbing than the wind can ever be. Mentioning how old tales indicate people could speak all languages, Isi suggests the lack of balanced knowledge may be why the wind is so overwhelming. When Geric, Isi's husband and the prince of Bayern, joins them, Enna tells him about Leifer's antagonism toward Bayern, and Geric is disturbed at the thought of division because they may go to war with Tira, the kingdom to the southeast, and they need the support of the forest dwellers now. Enna suggests many forest dwellers would join Bayern's ranks if they believe they are important to the kingdom, and Geric and Isi agree there will soon be a war.

Section 2: Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 Analysis

In Chapter 2, Enna sends Finn home, promising to ride to the city tomorrow for market day with him and Doda. As she prepares for the trip, she tries not to flinch when she looks up and sees Leifer. Leifer cries and swears he will never burn her again, but when Enna asks if he can get rid of the fire, he insists he cannot but that he is learning to control it. Enna asks him to teach her the fire also, but he refuses. Enna is relieved to leave the forest in Doda's wagon, along with Finn who seems to realize she does not wish to talk about Leifer in front of the others. Reaching the city, the forest dwellers set up their market, and when one girl talks about her pending marriage, Doda suggests Enna and Finn will marry, but Enna claims she will need a real man to handle her. She



worries what Finn overheard when she notices him sitting on the wall nearby, but she decides he already knows they are not a couple. This again foreshadows their romantic relationship, especially as Finn seems upset by what he overhears. In the morning, Enna sets her eggs up to sell, and when she spots Razo who played a prank on her by convincing her that hens were laying brightly colored eggs, she calls out that she has an orange egg. Razo approaches and apologizes for the prank, but three palace guards collect Enna because an orange egg is an omen of good fortune and long life. Isi joins them as soon as they are out of Razo's sight, and Enna knows her friend sent the guards to tease Razo. Isi's head is covered so she will not be recognized, but she enjoys going to the market since she does not get out of the palace much. She is happy to see Enna, and it seems like her friend never left. Remembering, Enna tells Isi she needs to talk to her privately about Leifer, and without a question, Isi motions the guards toward the palace.

In Chapter 3, Isi dismisses the guards at the palace and opens the door with the wind, causing Enna to note that Isi's skill with the wind has improved greatly. Leading Enna somewhere quieter because she is affected by crowds, Isi takes Enna to the treasury, the only place where she can get a few moments of quiet since she can now feel and hear the wind constantly. Explaining that she thinks Leifer has learned to control fire but not well, Enna tells Isi the story, worrying about doing something before Leifer does something worse than burn her legs. Isi explains that all things have a language, but since most are difficult to learn on one's own, she suggests the vellum contains writing about fire-speaking, though it is doubtful that the vellum bestows its power on Leifer. Noting that fire must be more intense than wind, Isi does not know what to do for him, but she rebuffs Enna's idea to learn the fire to help him, explaining how overbearing the wind has become. Isi's suggestion about the lack of balanced knowledge being why the wind overwhelms her so foreshadows her attempts to seek a balance much later in the novel. When Geric joins the girls, he informs Enna that he needs the support of the forest dwellers because a war with Tira, the kingdom to the southeast, is likely imminent.



Section 3: Chapter 4 and Chapter 5

Section 3: Chapter 4 and Chapter 5 Summary

In Chapter 4, Geric calls a meeting of forest javelin bearers at Sprucegrove and informs them that Tira has struck Bayern, capturing two of the towns in the southeast portion of the country. The king has taken his army to defend Bayern, and Geric will meet him with his own army. When Geric asks for volunteers, the boys are quick to offer to follow him to war. Oddly, Leifer also joins Geric's army, his anger at Bayern replaced by a desire to burn Tira. Isi also asks Enna to accompany her to the war as her maiden, and Enna is surprised to learn that Finn will also follow Geric into battle.

In Chapter 5, as Geric's army marches south, Enna watches Leifer. Soon the whole camp knows about his talent. Finally, Leifer offers to teach Enna, but she refuses because fire is too dangerous and destructive. On the fourth morning, Geric calls a halt before leading the army forward. Enna and Isi are the only women who do not leave for an encampment. At the top of the hill, they see the Bayern king leading his army, and when the captains lead the forest army down the hill, Enna looks away as three forest boys are quickly cut down. Looking for Leifer, Enna spots flames as Leifer burns Tiran soldiers, and she worries her brother cannot control the fire. The Tirans cheer and the Bayern forces stumble backward as the king falls. Enna feels a mix of horror and relief as one whole corner of the Tiran troops burst into flames, and Isi notes the battle is changing; Leifer is in the middle, not on fire but somehow burning. Tiran troops climb the hill, believing the girls are the cause of the flames, and Enna and Isi do not tell the troops differently in order to give Leifer more time. Isi causes the wind to impede the Tirans' progress, but the Tirans continue to approach as Isi begins to lose control so Enna threatens to burn all of them if they touch Isi. The Tirans are diverted when Geric crests the hill with one hundred forest boys who quickly defeat the Tiran attackers. There are cheers from the Bayern below, but Enna's stomach chills when she cannot see Leifer. Enna runs down to the battlefield to search for Leifer, and she finds him too quickly; his skin is charred and stiff as if he burned slowly like a roast, and she curses herself for not stopping him, finding no consolation in the fact that he won the battle. Finding the vellum in Leifer's tunic, Enna wonders if it will explain why he changed. Needing to understand what happened to him, she reads the vellum, a record of the great power of shaping fire written by a River woman. Closing her eyes, Enna can see the words and the world feels filled with heat as she says "fire," causing a stalk of wheat beside her to smoke in the rain.

Section 3: Chapter 4 and Chapter 5 Analysis

In Chapter 4, Geric calls a meeting of all forest javelin bearers at Sprucegrove. Upon her arrival, Enna goes to Isi and Geric's tent where she learns that they have received news. Addressing the forest dwellers, Geric assures them of their place as citizens of Bayern and tells them Tira has struck, taking Folcmar and Adelmund, and they are



moving north. The king set out with his army today to defend Bayern, and Geric is to meet him on the fields of Ostekin with his own army. Geric asks the boys to join him, and they are quick to respond affirmatively. As Isi enters her tent to escape the wind, Enna notices Leifer who is eager to follow the king, and his anger at Bayern has been replaced by a desire to burn Tira. Enna wonders if his inconsistency is caused by the fire, but Leifer does not know. He only knows it feels right to pledge himself to the prince and fight Tira, and he promises that Enna will be proud of him. While Leifer speaks with Geric, Isi asks Enna to come with her as her maiden, but when Geric rejoins them at the tent, he insists that Isi is not coming to Ostekin because he cannot lose her. As Isi wins the argument, Enna slips outside and is surprised to find Finn who wants her to know he is going to war so someone can tell his mother if he goes missing. After Finn walks away, Enna notes that everything has become quite serious.

In Chapter 5, Enna is disturbed by the boys' levity since she saw the battle after Isi exposed the false princess to the Bayern king two years ago. Leifer refuses to teach a fourteen-year-old boy to speak to fire, and he does not want to talk about it when Enna asks if the vellum is related to the fire. When Leifer volunteers to teach Enna fire, she refuses because it is too dangerous, but he argues that it also provides heat and light and makes him feel alive. While the company marches during the daylight, Enna and Isi ride in a supply wagon with two other forest women who discuss how Bayern used to harass Tira before the current king, and now, their peace is seen as weakness so Tira will not rest until it has repaid its old debts of blood and plunder. Walking for a bit, Enna joins Finn who is uncomfortably silent, and when he tells her goodbye, Enna realizes he believes he will die, making him seem stronger than the brave boys who believe they are invincible. As they reach Ostekin where the Bayern king is meeting his Tiran foes, Isi notes that the Tiran forces are greater, but Bayern is standing its ground for now. After the king is killed, Enna realizes she must get Isi away so that Tira cannot kill the entire royal family in one day, but the mule refuses to move. As the tide of the battle changes because of Leifer's efforts with fire, Tiran troops climb toward Enna and Isi, thinking the girls are the ones controlling the flames, and the girls encourage this thought to give Leifer more time. Geric crests the hill in time to prevent the Tirans from attacking Enna and Isi, and cheers erupt from below as the Tiran flee. Shocked they won, Geric credits Leifer for changing everything. After the Tiran flee, Geric tells the troops it is not over until all of Bayern is cleared of the Tiran. When Enna runs down the hill to search for Leifer, she is distraught to find his charred body on the battlefield, and she curses herself for allowing him to burn. Finding the vellum, Enna reads the words and sets fire to a nearby stalk of wheat, accepting the burning inside of herself and foreshadowing her role in the war. This chapter also ends the first part of the book as Enna is no longer a sister now that Leifer is dead.



Section 4: Chapter 6

Section 4: Chapter 6 Summary

In Part 2: Warrior, Chapter 6 begins with Enna insisting on dragging Leifer to the nearest pile herself when the soldiers begin piling the corpses together. She sets fire to the wet wood, promising that she will not use the fire again as a last gift to Leifer, and she walks away as his body burns, promising him that she will never burn again. After a short visit home to the Forest, Enna returns to Ostekin, and Isi is glad that her friend has returned. Enna feels guilty that she has not yet told Isi about the fire. Enna grows restless during the multitude of war counsels during the fall, and a Tiran prisoner's comments fill her with the desire to burn. To distract herself, Enna takes a ride on Merry, her mare, but when they get lost in the snow, Enna finds herself in a Tiran camp. When a guard grabs Merry's bridle, Enna sets fire to a tent, distracting the guard long enough for Enna to escape.

Section 4: Chapter 6 Analysis

Chapter 6 begins the second part of "Enna Burning," which is titled Warrior to indicate this focuses on Enna's role as a warrior in the novel, and this foreshadows her involvement fighting for Bayern during the war. Enna puts the vellum in her tunic and tries to understand what it means about all living things giving off heat and how fire recalls it was once part of something living and seeks to be so again. When the men pile the corpses, Enna insists on dragging Leifer to the nearest pile herself, refusing Isi's claim that he should be buried in honor as a hero as she worries Isi will not approve of her rash action. As the men try to coax flame from the wet wood to burn the bodies, Enna finds heat in the men's bodies draws it into herself and sends it into the wood, promising herself she will only use the fire this once as a last gift to Leifer. She walks away as Leifer's body burns, promising him she will never burn again. Two weeks later, Enna returns to the forest to check on her home, and she is surprised that Finn decides to stay with the prince instead of accompanying her. Reaching home, Enna fights the ridiculous hope that Leifer will soon walk through the door, but her sense of the heat becomes more distinct and the awareness feels like her last link to Leifer. Returning to Ostekin at the end of the next week, Enna heads toward the councilman's house where Geric has established his headquarters. On the way, she finds soldiers threatening Isi and chases them away. Isi is glad Enna has returned because Enna makes her feel safe, and Enna feels guilty she has not yet told Isi about the fire, but she promises she will strive to be the most valiant queen's maiden in Bayern history. That autumn is filled with war councils, and Enna grows restless. One day, a Tiran prisoner's comments about Bayern girls enrages Enna so that she feels the desire to comply with the fire's demands. She walks outside, recalling how Leifer told her he had to use the fire, but this just makes her more determined to overcome it. Taking a mare, Merry, for a ride, Enna gets lost when it begins to snow, but when she rides toward a fire, she finds herself in a Tiran camp. A guard grabs Merry's bridle and calls out "spy!" Feeling the fire, Enna pulls

it inside her and sends it into the tent, causing the soldier's grip to loosen so that she can ride Merry away from the camp.



Section 5: Chapter 7 and Chapter 8

Section 5: Chapter 7 and Chapter 8 Summary

In Chapter 7, Enna searches for Finn to ask for advice, but while he is sparring, she talks to Razo. Razo asks why Enna was never with Finn and tells her that Finn is now dating Hesel, a town girl. Since she cannot ask Razo for advice, Enna attends a war counsel with Tira where Tiran Captain Sileph questions Geric about sending a fire witch to attack Tiran camps, looking directly at Enna as he talks. Enna explains that she and Isi only pretended to conjure fire during the battle. After the Tirans leave, Enna suggests that an augury be held, and Talone, the captain of the Bayern army, agrees. Enna is upset when she realizes that the augury requires someone to die. In Chapter 8, Enna is distraught when Finn volunteers to fight for Bayern in the augury. As the Tiran attacks and Finn defends, Enna pleads silently. The crowd is dismayed when the Tiran disarms Finn, and feeling heat, Enna's heart seems to chant "do something, do it, burn it, burn and burn" (p. 106). As the Tiran swings his sword toward Finn's chest, Enna knows she should not help, but Finn will die if she does not, so she pulls heat into her chest and sends it into the Tiran's sword, causing him to falter and allowing Finn to disarm and spear him. The crowd cheers as Finn decapitates the Tiran prisoner and Monulf assures Geric they will be victorious. Enna thinks about the silent promise she has made to Bayern; the augury is clear: Bayern will be victorious with her help and will be defeated without her. Facing southeast toward Tira, Enna makes a new decision. "She would save Bayern" (p. 110).

Section 5: Chapter 7 and Chapter 8 Analysis

In Chapter 7, Enna rushes back to Ostekin, and though she considers turning to Isi for advice, she decides it is unfair to burden her friend now. Searching for Finn, she finds him about to spar, and Razo greets her as Finn takes his place in the ring. When Razo asks why Enna and Finn were never together, Enna claims Finn never pursued her. As Finn wins the match, Razo tells Enna that Finn now has a girl, Hesel, and when Enna claims Finn does not need a town girl, Razo accuses her of jealousy. Unable to share her secret with Razo, Enna returns to the public building in time for a war counsel with Tira. She notes that Isi seems calmer, and Isi explains the physician gave her a tea that dulls her communication with the wind. Enna takes her place behind Isi's chair as the Tiran delegation enters, led by Captain Tiedan who argues with Geric about the war and the possibility of peace. Sileph, a Tiran captain, steps forward and asks why Geric sent a fire witch to attack a Tiran camp on the eve of these peace talks, and when Geric claims no knowledge of these attacks, Sileph suggests Enna can explain the fire, and she explains that she and Isi only pretended to conjure fire, swearing Leifer taught his art to no one. As the talk finishes, Enna notes that Sileph is handsome, foreshadowing her future romantic involvement with the Tiran captain. After the Tiran leave, Enna feels the impulse to chase them out of Bayern, but the council decides to wait out the winter and not attack the taken towns. Talone will lead training, defending and spying from



Ostekin while Geric and Isi return to the capital. When Enna mentions an augury, the council decides to pit a Tiran prisoner against a Bayern soldier tomorrow in a fight to the death to get a glimpse of the future of their war with Tira. Enna is upset that the augury requires someone to die, and the entire camp seems to feel the tension that night though Talone does not report the pending augury.

In Chapter 8, Enna accompanies Geric and Isi to the augury in the morning, and Isi thinks they should do this in private to avoid discouraging the troops since she does not believe the augury foretells the truth. When Monulf asks for a Bayern representative, Enna is distraught when Finn volunteers and takes his place in the ring against an older, desperately ruthless Tiran prisoner who obviously intends to kill Finn as quickly as possible. When Finn begins to lose the augury, Enna seems compelled to do something, and she uses the fire to burn the Tiran's sword, causing him to drop his weapon and allowing Finn to decapitate his opponent. Her reluctance to see Finn injured reveals her feelings for him and foreshadows their future romantic relationship. Ignoring Isi's questions about what is going on, Enna leaves to be alone and think about what she has done; by interfering in the augury, she has made a silent promise to Bayern so she will be giving her kingdom to Tira if she refuses to fight now because the augury clearly predicts that Bayern will be victorious only with Enna's help. She knows she has done wrong because she promised never to use the fire, but she could not allow Finn to be killed. Enna decides to save Bayern.



Section 6: Chapter 9

Section 6: Chapter 9 Summary

Enna makes three promises to prevent herself from making Leifer's mistakes: never to tell a soul, not to burn a living person and not to burn big. After sewing the vellum into her skirt, she rides into Eylbold and sets fire to a tent. Upon returning to Ostekin, she encounters Razo, lying that she was on a scouting mission. When Isi mentions returning to the capital in three days, Enna refuses to leave Ostekin until she has done her part, lying that she is still in mourning for Leifer. Enna returns to Eylbold several nights, but she feels she is accomplishing nothing. When she is forced to burn a Tiran in Eylbold, she feels guilty for breaking her second promise. When she returns to Ostekin, Razo again approaches her because he knows she is not a scout and he has heard rumors of burning in Eylbold. Enna tells him her secret, breaking her first promise, and asks him to help her because she needs someone to pull her back in case she loses control. Enna begins to feel hopeful after Razo agrees and claims they will be heroes.

Section 6: Chapter 9 Analysis

Laying awake and thinking of Leifer's mistakes, Enna swears never to tell a soul, not to burn a living person and to only use small bits at a time, hoping this will prevent her from repeating Leifer's death. She sews the vellum inside her skirt in case she needs it again and rides to Eylbold, the nearest taken town, at sundown. After tying Merry to a tree, Enna nears the camp, feeling the heat throb. It seems impossible as she tries to pull the heat inside her, but when she hears a twig snap, she releases her fear and sets flame to an uninhabited tent. As the men shout, she runs back to Merry and hurries back to Ostekin, the memory of the heat feeling astonishing, unbearable and lovely. Razo is one of the sentries, but Enna lies that she was on a secret scouting mission. The next afternoon, Isi is sitting by Enna's bed when she wakes, and she wonders if Enna is sick because the wind sees her differently. When Isi mentions they are riding back to the capital in three days, Enna lies that she cannot leave because she is still in mourning for Leifer because she cannot leave Ostekin until she has done her part. After Isi and Geric ride north, Enna returns to Eylbold that night and sets another tent on fire, and she spends the following week listening to Talone's reports from scouts and learning that nothing is changing. There has been no word from Eylbold, so Enna feels her burning is accomplishing nothing. She must find a way inside. That night, she sets fire to barrels in Eylbold, but a Tiran demands she surrender. Her only option is to burn him, lest she die, so she burns him and flees back to Ostekin, feeling guilty that she has failed in her promise to never burn a living person. Upon Enna's return, Razo approaches her. He has talked to Talone and knows she is not a scout, plus he has heard rumors about fires in Eylbold. Enna tells him everything, including the outcome of the war if she does not play her part. She needs his help because the fire is strong and she nearly lost control last night so she needs someone to pull her back if she goes too far. Razo agrees to do it for Bayern. They will sneak into a taken town where Enna can

have a larger effect. As he insists things have to end well and that they will be heroes, Enna begins to feel hopeful.



Section 7: Chapter 10

Section 7: Chapter 10 Summary

Enna is excited when she and Razo set out for Folcmar, and they wear Tiran uniforms to disguise themselves. As Razo memorizes the layout of the camp and estimates the number of soldiers, Enna sets fire to racks containing spears and armor, and she and Razo escape in the ensuing chaos. On the way back to Ostekin, Razo suggests they need a third person because he cannot guard Enna while he is scouting. When she meets Razo to go to Adelmund a week later, Finn is with him. Swearing Finn to secrecy, Enna shows him the fire and assures him she is being careful. The next morning, the three ride into Adelmund, and Enna sets fire to a storage tent, Finn shouting and pointing as she sets fire to various buildings in the camp. After they leave the Tiran-occupied village, Enna admits that she has missed Finn. In the middle of the night, she wakes to his hand on her hair as he admits all he has ever wanted is to be near her.

Section 7: Chapter 10 Analysis

After Enna has spent a week in Ostekin with the heat constantly assaulting her, she is eager to work again. She is excited when Razo tells her that he is going on an assignment to Folcmar. It is a long ride, and in the morning, Razo produces two Tiran uniforms so they can enter Folcmar undetected, warning they must be careful about speaking lest their Bayern accents give them away. As they walk through the camp, Razo seems to be memorizing the layout and estimating the number of soldiers, and Enna feels better knowing she is so close to being able to burn. Noticing racks containing spears and armor, she thinks this will make a difference. As a soldier questions Enna and Razo, Enna sets fire to the racks and points it out to the soldier, allowing Enna and Razo to move away slowly and leave Folcmar. On the ride back, Razo decides they need a third person because he cannot guard Enna while he is scouting. Enna counsels herself to have patience over the next week, and when she looks for Razo and finds Finn, she teases him about Hesel, but he does not laugh. Finally, Razo tells Enna they will go to Adelmund in two days, and when she meets Razo, she finds his second rider is Finn. Razo points out that Finn is trustworthy, but he did not tell Finn about Enna's secret, though he doubts Finn will leave since he was furious when he learned Enna and Razo shared a tent and seems to think he needs to defend Enna's honor. When Enna asks how Finn got away, he says he is not inhibited because he was the champion of the augury, and he does not know if Enna saw it, but he was thinking about her. They set up camp, but Finn insists on sleeping outside of the tent. In the morning, they don their stolen Tiran uniforms and ride into Adelmund. Noticing Tirans who are not soldiers which indicates they are planning to stay, Enna wants to burn them, and the fact that Razo and Finn do not notice her agitation encourages her. She asks Razo for permission, and when he gives it, Enna sets fire to the roof of a large storage tent. Finn points to various buildings, crying "over there" as Enna sets fire to them, and as they ride out of Adelmund, they joke about "over there."

Enna admits she has missed Finn, and he agrees. At camp, they retell their favorite stories that Isi told them, and Enna convinces Finn to join her and Razo in the tent that night. She wakes in the middle of the night to Finn's hand on her hair as he says all he has ever wanted is to be near her before going to sleep, again foreshadowing their future romantic relationship.



Section 8: Chapter 11

Section 8: Chapter 11 Summary

Enna wants to return to Eylbold after learning that the Tiran are building gallows, but Razo is sent back to Adelmund where the mission goes badly, and Enna sets a tent on fire so they can escape during the distraction. On the way back to Ostekin, they capture a Tiran spy, but Enna nearly sets him on fire, reassuring herself that all that matters is her resistance; however, Finn and Razo believe Enna is losing control and they should not go out again for a while. Because of this, Enna decides to go to Eylbold on her own, but on the way, Isi confronts her about reports of a fire witch. Unable to think clearly, Enna attempts to burn Isi when her friend tries to stop her, and though Isi summons the wind to blow the fire away, Enna is distraught that she tried to set her best friend on fire. She rushes to Eylbold where she enters the town, disguised as a captured Bayern woman. As she burns the gallows from which three scarecrows hang to represent Geric, Isi and the fire witch, Enna becomes aware of Sileph watching her from across the square, and feeling heat behind her, Enna realizes it is a person, but pain strikes her in the back of the head and everything goes black.

Section 8: Chapter 11 Analysis

Enna begins looking at Finn more the next day and she finds him pleasant to look at. Back in Ostekin, Finn tells Enna that Razo was lying about Hesel. When reports arrive that the Tiran are building gallows in Eylbold, Enna wants to burn the gallows, but Talone sends Razo back to Adelmund. The mission goes badly as they are questioned at the perimeter and Enna sets a tent on fire to serve as a distraction so they can escape. On the ride back, they capture a Tiran spy riding with news of a Bayern disguised as a Tiran setting fires in the captured towns. The fire wants to go into the Tiran's body, but Enna fights to send it into the ground at his horse's feet. As they continue back to Ostekin, Enna tries to forget her desire to set a person on fire, but she reassures herself that the fact she resisted is all that matters. Once they reach Ostekin, Finn and Razo suggest they should not raid again for several weeks because Enna needs a break, and Finn notes that she has a wild look like Leifer did before the end. Enna insists she is not close to losing control, but they do not trust her judgment now. When they leave her alone, Enna decides she must go to Eylbold alone because the gallows seems like a good target. As she rides Merry out of Ostekin at full night, Isi confronts her about Geric receiving reports of a fire witch and Isi suspects Enna. She knows Enna is trying to help Bayern, but she has begun to change and Isi is worried that the fire is overpowering and using Enna. Enna cannot think clearly except anything except burning the gallows and ending the war, so when Isi grabs her wrists to stop her, she thrusts fire at her. Luckily, Isi uses the wind to blow it away before it grabs her. Enna cannot believe she tried to set her best friend on fire, but before she can apologize, the heat returns to her and she is reminded of the gallows. She rides away as Isi calls for the guards. The world feels wrong, and burning is the only way to set it right again.



Enna finally realizes why Leifer burned her that night; the fire saw her as an obstacle. She wonders why the augury did not hint that she would have to give up everything to fulfill her mission. Leifer's fate now seems unavoidable since she has broken two of her rules. Stopping outside of Eylbold, Enna sends Merry away to ensure she does not hurt her. She disguises herself as a captured Bayern woman and enters the town, noting three scarecrows hang from the gallows to represent Geric, Isi, and the fire witch. Without calling to it, Enna feels the heat in the camp, and it wraps around her, ready for them. She sets fire to the scarecrows and the gallows before becoming aware of Sileph stepping out across the square. Two archers stand beside him, but before Enna can send heat at them, a new source of heat appears behind her. When she tugs at it, Enna realizes it is a person, but as she turns, pain strikes the back of her head and she falls into darkness.



Section 9: Chapter 12 and Chapter 13

Section 9: Chapter 12 and Chapter 13 Summary

In Part 3: Prisoner, Chapter 12, Enna wakes for short periods to be given a bitter water that forces her to succumb to her dreams again. She cannot feel the heat because of the drugs, and her powerlessness angers her. She wakes to Sileph who offers her plain water and brings her food, soothing her with his voice. He questions her about her gift and asks her to teach him, claiming it will help her position if she is a teacher and he will be able to protect her. Recalling the war, Enna realizes the enemy is trying to steal her weapon for their own use. She claims she cannot teach him. Sileph promises not to drug Enna anymore, and he has her clothes washed. When a guard tries to molest Enna, Sileph beats the guard and promises Enna that no one will touch her. Enna feels empty as she returns to sleep.

In Chapter 13, Sileph continues to administer the king's-tongue to Enna, professing that Tiedan orders him to do so for fear of her fire, but he promises it is temporary and holds her as the drugs invade her senses. Beginning to feel comfortable with Sileph, Enna tells him about her life, and he talks to her about the future when they can be together. Sileph eventually persuades Enna to agree to teach him the fire, and he stops administering the king's-tongue until much later each day; however, Enna claims she cannot remember where she draws the heat and pretends that she cannot burn as she considers how to be prepared to escape should the opportunity arise. One evening, Sileph's flirtation with Enna is interrupted by a guard who needs Sileph urgently. Sileph forces Enna to drink the liquid before leaving, but she vomits it up as soon as he leaves the tent, laying down to wait for the minimal effects to wear off from what her body has already absorbed. Sileph returns shortly, claiming he has a way for Tiedan to feel safe with Enna without keeping her on king's-tongue. Sileph carries Enna outside where she sees two swollen, bloodied prisoners: Finn and Razo.

Section 9: Chapter 12 and Chapter 13 Analysis

With the end of Enna's role as a warrior comes Part 3 in which Enna is a prisoner of Tiran. In Chapter 12, Enna is kept sedated at first, and when she wakes fully, she is angered by her powerlessness since she cannot feel the heat. Sileph also visits her, bringing her food and water. His voice is calm and soothing as he talks to her, and her body eases though she remind herself she is not safe. Sileph's ability to make Enna feel at ease foreshadows the discovery that he is adept at people-speaking. Sileph recounts seeing Enna at the peace counsel and three times at night, claiming he would rather watch her than stop her. Sileph also tries to convince Enna to teach him the fire, claiming it will improve her position in the camp, but Enna knows that the enemy is trying to steal her weapon and refuses. When Sileph asks if she burned on the battlefield, Enna admits it was her brother. Since she cannot think, Sileph suggests she will find a way to teach him with a clear mind and promises no more drugs. He cuts her



bonds and brings a captive Bayern woman to clean her clothes, and Enna worries the Tiran will find the vellum in her skirt hem. Enna falls asleep naked, wrapped in a blanket. She wakes to a man wanting retribution because she burned his friend, but as the guard pulls at her blanket, Sileph enters and beats the guard, flinging him from the tent. He promises that he will let no one touch Enna. Noting he is nothing like Finn, Enna wants to ask him to stay with her, but she realizes that is ridiculous. This event foreshadows her romance with Sileph. She has never felt so empty as she tries to warm up under the blanket.

In Chapter 13, the Bayern woman returns Enna's clothes in the morning and Enna is relieved to find her vellum is still in the hem. Sileph enters with drugs; he wishes he did not have to drug her, but Tiedan's orders are to keep her a little drugged to hold back the fire. Praising her bravery, he promises this is temporary and he will see her burn again. Sileph holds Enna as the drugs spread through her body, and she is comfortable leaning against him. When she is sober, she tells him about her life because she wants his trust and it makes her feel a little like herself. Sileph carries her to the privy, and being outside makes her recall how much she used to feel outside. He promises that one day they will walk together in Ingridan when this is all over, but he must keep her drugged as leverage to ensure she does not burn the Tirans' tents down around them. He begs her to teach him fire so Tiedan will feel safe enough to revoke the order to drug her. Enna objects because of the war, but she does not see Sileph as an enemy. Sileph confesses that soon more Tiran armies will march and Bayern will be lost, so Enna agrees to teach only Sileph to use fire. He stays with her as the drug loosens its grip, and Enna nearly cries out when she can first gather heat again. She tells Sileph how the heat fills a place in her chest but claims she cannot remember where she draws the heat, fearful of revealing everything. Hopeful to learn, Sileph puts off drugging Enna until late, but when he tries to get her to burn, she resists, pretending she still cannot though she feels the heat. He administers the kings-tongue and stays with her until she falls to sleep. Enna thinks of escape, knowing she must be prepared to act if the opportunity arises. Her chance comes a few days later when she is feeling alert, though she is exhausted from her effort not to burn. Sileph asks what it feels like to burn, and when Enna claims she cannot burn big like Leifer did, he suggests it would be different if she surrendered to the fire instead of trying to control it. When Enna asks why he is so interested, he claims he does not have a wife, but their flirtation is interrupted by a guard who needs Sileph immediately. Sileph gives Enna kings-tongue and promises to return as soon as possible, but as soon as he leaves, Enna vomits up the liquid, though some is already in her body. She lays down and waits for the effects to wear off, feeling uncomfortable at the idea of disarming Sileph and fleeing, but she is anxious at the idea of getting away, even though she has nowhere to go since Isi, Razo and Finn are all angry at her, and Bayern will soon be gone if Sileph speaks the truth. The noises outside alert Enna to the fact that there is an intruder, and she feigns near unconsciousness as Sileph returns and tells her he has found a way to make Tiedan feel safe around her without drugging her, but she must remember it is good for them before she sees what is waiting. When Sileph carries her outside, Enna is distraught to see Finn and Razo, bloodied and beaten. This foreshadows Sileph's intention to use Enna's friends as hostages to control her use of fire.



Section 10: Chapter 14 and Chapter 15

Section 10: Chapter 14 and Chapter 15 Summary

In Chapter 14, Enna does not want her friends used as hostages, but Sileph insists their presence gives her power, warning her that Finn and Razo will be executed if she sets any loose fires in camp. Back at the tent, Sileph tells Enna that Finn and Razo were sent with a third boy to assassinate her, but it would be wise for her to pretend to care for them. Enna punches Sileph when he insults her friends and Bayern, so he leaves her alone for two days while the king's-tongue leaves her body and she regains her mind. Enna is haunted by the idea that Finn and Razo planned to kill her. When Sileph returns, he apologizes for his thoughtfulness and informs Enna that they are riding out on a mission, taking Razo with them as a hostage to ensure she behaves. Enna wants to burn Tira after seeing Razo's condition. When they arrive at an abandoned farmhouse, Enna dismounts, grabs Sileph's knife and holds it to his throat, demanding he release Razo; however, Sileph refuses, reminding her that Finn will be executed even if she and Razo manage to escape. After Enna relinquishes the weapon, Sileph encourages her to practice by setting fire to the house, but Enna is furious when two Bayern spies run out. Sileph's men kill the first spy, but telling Enna it is for her sake, Sileph allows the second Bayern spy to go free.

In Chapter 15, Enna admits to Sileph that burning again felt amazing, but she accuses him of trying to trick her when he says he wants to be with her. After Sileph points out that she has nothing left in Bayern, Enna agrees to burn for Tira and surrenders to Sileph's kiss. She spends the week being in love with Sileph and riding out on missions with Sileph always there to reassure her when she ponders whether she is doing the right thing. Then, Sileph tells Enna they will march and she will join them. As Enna pretends to sleep, Sileph leaves the tent to talk to Tiedan, and Enna overhears how everything about her capture was Sileph's plans in his effort to woo her. When Sileph returns to the tent, Enna punches him for lying to her and refuses to march with him. Sileph warns he will return for her, and Enna feels like a fool after he leaves.

Section 10: Chapter 14 and Chapter 15 Analysis

In Chapter 14, Enna knows they came for her as she looks into Razo's and Finn's sad eyes, and when Sileph tells her this is their chance and Finn angrily demands Sileph not address Enna by her name, she pushes out of Sileph's arms angrily and demands they be let go. Sileph insists their presence gives her power, but he stops her from walking toward Finn, refusing to let her hurt herself for these boys. Losing control when Finn and Razo are taken to a holding room, Enna gathers heat, but when Sileph warns her that the boys will be killed if any loose fire is sighted in camp, she releases it into the fire. Taking Enna back to her tent, Sileph explains the boys were sent to kill her so Tira would not have her in their power, and the third boy with them threatened as much before Sileph's men killed him. Sileph says that it is wise for Enna to pretend to care for



them, and when she claims she does, he is infuriated that Bayern sent her friends to kill her. Enna punches him in the jaw, so he throws her to the ground and leaves her alone for two days, allowing Enna's mind to become her own again as the kings-tongue leaves her body. She cannot believe Finn and Razo would kill her, but Sileph's words haunt her. Regardless, she will not burn because she cannot allow her friends to be killed. On the third day, Sileph returns with food and apologizes for his thoughtlessness in not realizing Enna had hopes of returning to Bayern. He would not let her go so easily if she were his, and Tira wants her. Sileph and Enna will ride out on a mission today, and when Enna objects to forsaking Bayern, Sileph argues that Bayern has already forsaken her. Dressed in Tiran garb, Enna feels like a Tiran, and she realizes this is how Sileph wants her to feel. Razo accompanies them as a hostage in case Enna gets out of control, and noting his injuries, Enna thinks "I'll see Tiedan burn" (p. 203). When they reach an abandoned farmhouse, Enna worries she or Razo will be tortured, so as she dismounts, she grabs Sileph's knife and holds it to his throat, demanding they release Razo. Sileph refuses, pointing out his men will likely kill her before she can kill all of them and Finn will definitely be executed even if Enna and Razo manage to escape. Leaning closer to Sileph, Enna realizes she is falling in love with him, and chiding her stupidity, she throws the knife down and asks why they are here. Sileph brought her here to burn this empty house as practice. Though she knows she should not burn, the space inside her fills with expectation, and Enna sets fire to the house. When two Bayern spies run out, Enna is furious at Sileph, but he swears he did not know. The first spy is shot down by his people, but he allows the second to flee, telling Enna it is for her sake.

In Chapter 15, Sileph leads Enna back to her tent once they reach camp and asks if it felt good. She admits it did, and he calls her amazing as he lifts her into the air, confessing he has been longing to see her burn and he wants her to be with him. Accusing Sileph of trying to trick her, Enna reminds herself that they are enemies, but he points out that she has nothing left in Bayern; her family is dead, the queen does not trust her, her friends came to kill her, and the Bayern spy will report she burns for Tira. Sinking, Enna agrees to burn for Tira, and Sileph promises that when the war is over, they will marry and live in a large house. He kisses her, and surrendering, Enna "let go of fears and just let herself feel" (p. 213). Enna is in love with Sileph all week, and they ride out to burn Bayern supply carts and such. Whenever she questions if she is doing the right thing, Sileph is there to reassure her and allow her to keep burning. Then, Sileph is gone for two days, and more soldiers arrive. Sileph returns to tell Enna it is time to march and she will come with them to burn. Though she wants the war to end quickly, she knows she cannot burn people. As she pretends to sleep, she thinks of how different it is with Sileph than with Finn. Sileph wants much more than to just be close to her. Thinking Enna asleep, Sileph leaves the tent to talk to Tiedan, and Enna eavesdrops. Tiedan trusts Sileph to woo Enna and make her burn for Tira, praising him for his plans to build the gallows as bait and to use Enna's friends as hostages. When Sileph returns to the tent at dawn, Enna punches him in the jaw for lying that the plans came from Tiedan. Sileph apologizes for his lies but insists he truly wants Enna with him, claiming she will come with him to burn and can tease him about his lying days later. Enna refuses, threatening to burn wherever she pleases if he forces her. Jaw tightening, Sileph claims she will change her mind and beg to stop Bayern from being

destroyed when she can force them to surrender. He will be back for her and she will come. When he leaves, Enna feels like a huge fool.



Section 11: Chapter 16

Section 11: Chapter 16 Summary

Feeling imprisoned, Enna considers helping Sileph but is disconcerted by her willingness to burn Bayern and worries the fire is consuming her will. Two days later, a Tiran woman brings wine to the soldiers, and bursting from her tent, Enna is shocked to see Isi. Since the guards forbid Isi to visit with Enna, Isi talks to the guards about Sileph's gift of people-speaking as a means of warning Enna, and then she tells a story about how a country is unable to save their prince from a dragon because they must defend their land instead. Touched that her friendship with Isi is not lost, Enna decides she must demonstrate her loyalty. Overhearing the guards talk about how Tiedan is marching on Bayern's capital while Geric's army is distracted defending Fedorthal from Sileph, Enna recalls that the augury predicted Bayern would win the war but only with her help. When the guards fall asleep, drunk on Isi's wine, Enna sneaks from her tent, setting fire to soldiers who attempt to hinder her from finding Finn and Razo. Releasing her friends, she realizes they, along with Isi, are the last of her family, and she determines to keep them. After learning that Sileph's claims of a third boy is another lie, Enna is furious. They fight their way out of camp and follow in the wake of Tiedan's army, learning from a Bayern scout that Isi reported Tiedan's intent to march on the capital so Geric had time to pull his army from Fedorthal. When they reach a valley a few hours outside of the capital where Geric's and Tiedan's armies collide, Enna yields to the fire, burning the Tiran forces. She thinks it is all over as she feels the heat burst inside her, but as she loses consciousness, she feels the wind blowing over her body.

Section 11: Chapter 16 Analysis

Enna has never felt so imprisoned; she cannot stay but has nowhere to go. She will not burn for Sileph but cannot burn against him because he holds Razo and Finn hostage. She cannot return to Bayern for fear of being jailed for treason since she tried to burn Isi. Maybe she can agree to go to Tira with Sileph on condition of Razo and Finn's release after the war ends. She considers helping Sileph burn but is distraught at her willingness to burn Bayern, thinking "perhaps Isi's warning had been right after all" (p. 222). Two days after Sileph leaves, a Tiran woman enters the camp, and Enna is irritated by the woman's boldness in riding through the country because she claims this is now Tiran land. Enna bursts from her tent only to be stopped by guards, but she is shocked to recognize Isi disguised as a Tiran woman. Isi asks to speak to the fire witch, but the guards prohibit it so she talks to the guards about how she suspects Sileph has the gift of people speaking, attempting to warn Enna because the gift is dangerous since it is hard not to adore people who can people speak. The soldiers ask Isi to tell them a story, so she complies, telling a tale of a dragon who imprisons a prince and his people are forced to defend their land instead of rescue the prince when the dragon leaves its lair. Enna is touched that Isi came to tell her they could not rescue her through a story, and she knows their friendship is not lost. She must do something to show her



loyalty to Isi and Bayern. Enna burns the vellum, hoping to get rid of her gift with fire, but nothing changes as the vellum is reduced to ash. Drunk on the wine Isi brought, the soldiers talk about how Sileph is harassing Fedorthal so Bayern leaves its capital exposed, allowing Tiedan to march on the capital. Enna thinks that perhaps Bayern is not lost after all, and she remembers the augury predicted Bayern could win with her help. This is her chance to make things right. When the guards fall asleep, Enna leaves her tent, telling the soldiers who question her that she is going to the privy. When they grab her, she burns the sword, threatening to kill him if he calls out or tries to run. She ties them up, but her fire alerts the sentry so she sets the ground in front of him ablaze. She is horrified when he catches fire, feeling that keeping her promise is the only safeguard to not losing herself completely to the fire, but Finn and Razo are more important. Since the soldiers will not tell her where her friends are being kept, Enna questions a captive Bayern woman who leads her to the building where they are held, but a soldier holds a sword to Finn's neck. Setting fire to the other three guards' pants, Enna tells the soldier to let Finn go and she will allow him to un, so he complies. She frees Finn and Razo, and the woman tells her Tiedan is marching west of Ostekin toward the capital. Enna is relieved to be with Razo and Finn, realizing they, along with Isi, are the last of her family, and she is determined to keep them. When she asks them about the third boy who came with them, Razo and Finn tell Enna they came alone. Talone did not even know. Enna is enraged at another of Sileph's lies to keep her unsure, but she tries to force herself to remain calm for fear of burning her friends. She tells them they are going to ride north because she needs to finish this, and they fight their way out of the camp, riding in the wake of Tiedan's army. Feeling the tremendous heat from far ahead, Enna cannot bear the thought of Razo and Finn being killed, but they refuse to leave her. Running into a Bayern scout, they learn Isi reported that Tiedan's army was marching on the capital so Geric had time to pull his army back from Fedorthal and the scout is now taking messages for reinforcements. Finally, Enna, Razo and Finn reach a valley a few hours from the capital where the two armies collide. The Tirans greatly outnumber the Bayern. Unable to turn back now, Enna rides near the Tiran central force, trembling to begin. Stating that she misses Leifer, Enna sets fire to the nearest group of soldiers, trying not to surrender control too quickly though the fire begs her to let go. Yielding, she slips from her horse and continues to burn. Sending fire into a man's bones, Enna vomits, feeling betrayed that the living can also be fuel, but she cannot stop. She lies on her stomach, crying as she burns, and though the Tirans try to flee her flames, she burns them before they can run. Enna feels the heat burst inside her, and imagining Leifer's burnt body, she thinks it is all over. She falls forward, and everything seems to be slipping away when she feels a new sensation, the wind, and she wonders if Isi is near. Finn tells her to hold on, but Enna feels no pain as she exhales and falls asleep.



Section 12: Chapter 17

Section 12: Chapter 17 Summary

Fighting to regain consciousness as Part 4: Friend begins, Enna finds herself in her old room in the Bayern palace, being tended by the physician. Isi is the only one in the room when Enna fully wakes, and she explains how she felt Enna on the wind and cooled her during the battle. Isi praises Enna for resisting Sileph so well but warns that her friend is still dying from the fire burning inside her. The next time Enna wakes, Isi tells Geric that she and Enna are returning to the Forest because she believes she has found a way to heal Enna. After dismissing their escort at Enna's home, Isi confesses she has done some research on the fire-worshippers in Yasid, the kingdom to the south, and they are going there to seek help. When Enna objects to Isi leaving her husband for so long, Isi orders Enna to live. The girls depart in the morning, and Enna struggles with her fever during the difficult journey. She does not understand why Isi does not hate her after she tried to burn her, and Isi claims she does not want to lose the best friend she has ever had. During their journey, Isi listens to Enna tell her why she learned the fire without lecturing her. They begin experimenting with the fire and wind, and when two Tiran soldiers attempt to kidnap them, they encircle the men with fire and send them on their way, terrified. Though Enna senses an increased heat from Isi, Isi insists she is alright. One night, Enna wakes burning with fever, and leaving the tent to ask Isi to cool her off, she finds Isi held at knifepoint by Tiran soldiers. She asks what they want, and Sileph steps forward, announcing he has returned for her.

Section 12: Chapter 17 Analysis

As Part 4: Friend opens, Enna's role again changes to that of friend to Isi. Enna fights while unconscious; "the struggle with the fire became a struggle to survive" (p. 248). As she struggles to wake, she is given liquid and spits it out, fearing kings-tongue, but finding herself in her old room in the palace, she drinks. Enna gains consciousness for a few moments at a time, often finding Isi at her bedside. When she fully wakes, Isi is the only one in the room. Wanting to explain, Enna begins sobbing, and she feels pain in the cracked place she injured on the battlefield. She is guilt-ridden about burning hundreds of people alive, and she admits Isi was correct about the fire's power being too much for one person but wonders why she is not burned up. Isi explains that she felt Enna on the wind and cooled her. She also tells Enna that the war is over now and that Finn and Razo survived. Enna knows why Leifer died; he surrendered to the fire and let himself burn out because it hurt less than seeing what he made, and Enna would have done the same. Claiming no one else could have come out of this as well as Enna, Isi knows Enna did what she thought was best, but she worries her friend still may not live because the fire is still burning inside her. Enna cannot hold it back anymore as it leaks inside of her. When Enna next wakes, Geric is in the room, and Isi tells him she believes she has figured out what Enna needs to heal and is taking her back to her house in the forest. Since Isi reminds him that he cannot neglect his duties as king to accompany



them, Geric sends them with an escort, but as soon as they reach Enna's house, Isi sends the escort away, claiming it will take two or three weeks. Enna can tell the queen is lying about how long it will take. Once they are alone, Isi explains she has done some reading on Yasid, the kingdom to the south where fire-worshippers dwell, and they must have a secret for using the fire without being destroyed. When Enna objects to leaving Geric for three or four months, Isi orders Enna to live, and Enna agrees because Isi never orders her in anything. Departing in the morning, Enna and Isi ride through the forest as Enna constantly battles to restrain the heat and her fever. She cannot pretend things are the same between them because she tried to set Isi on fire so Isi would be right to hate her. Isi admits it hurt, but she forgave her because Enna is the best friend she has ever had and she does not want to lose her. She praises Enna for resisting Sileph so well despite his skill at people speaking. Travel eventually becomes easier, and Enna tells Isi what Leifer's death felt like and why she read the vellum. Isi listens without chiding, understanding Enna's struggles and her sadness. One evening, their talk stops, and they begin playing with the fire and wind. Shortly after they cross the Bayern border, two Tiran soldiers approach them, intent on kidnapping them. Enna warns the men to go away, and she and Isi giggle as they take hands and, using fire and wind, encircle the men with fire. Removing the circle, Enna again warns the men to run, and they comply gladly. Mounting their horses, Enna and Isi continue heading south, but two more weeks of travel does not improve Enna's fever, and Isi also begins to suffer from her effort to control the wind. Enna feels an increased heat from her friend, but Isi insists she is alright. When Enna wakes burning from fever one night, she searches for Isi to send a breeze to cool her off, but Isi is not in the tent. Outside, Enna senses more heat than could come from Isi, and she is enraged to find a group of Tiran holding a dagger to Isi's throat. She can burn them, but they have arrows and she fears hurting Isi. When she asks what they want, Sileph steps forward and proclaims he came back for her.



Section 13: Chapter 18 and Chapter 19

Section 13: Chapter 18 and Chapter 19 Summary

In Chapter 18, Isi says Enna's name in warning as Enna is struck by Sileph's good looks. Embracing Enna, Sileph insists he still wants her, but Enna pulls away, claiming his gift no longer works on her and he should go away because she does not want to burn him. Enraged, Sileph claims he has worked too hard and lost too much to let Enna go. Isi's horse, Avlado, bites the man holding Isi, so Isi mounts her horse and calls the wind as Enna summons the fire to disarm the Tirans. Though Sileph claims he loves her, Enna sees him as proud and ruthless, and when she threatens to burn him, he pushes her to the ground, but Isi uses the wind to extinguish the fire before it burns Enna. As Enna struggles with Sileph, Finn comes rushing into camp to battle Sileph, and as they battle, three of Sileph's men throw daggers into his back, claiming they should have done so weeks earlier. The Tirans leave after expressing their hope to never see Enna again. Finn holds Enna as she cries, happy to be with her, and in his arms, she feels like herself again, unlike how she felt with Sileph.

In Chapter 19, Enna fears what she will become without the fire, and Finn cares for her and Isi as they are tormented by their elements. They finally reach Yasid and ask where to find the fire-worshippers, the tata-rook. Beyond the city, they defend a young man meditating on a platform when he is harassed by young boys from the city, and stepping forward, Fahil, the caretaker of this community of tata-rook, introduces himself, warning that it is dangerous to play with the fire. He admits that the fire is not an easy gift to possess and tells Isi how fire-speakers are also taught water-speaking in order to form a balance. As Isi asks him to teach water-speaking to Enna, Enna loses consciousness.

Section 13: Chapter 18 and Chapter 19 Analysis

In Chapter 18, Enna is struck by Sileph's handsomeness as he claims he has been looking for her. Isi says Enna's name in warning, remind Enna of their situation. Sileph embraces Enna, claiming he still wants her and insisting he can forgive her for burning his countrymen. Enna is no longer enchanted by his voice as he flatters her so she tells his men to put down their arrows because she does not want to burn them. Pulling away from Sileph's reach, Enna admits his persuasive gift worked on her, but now she just feels sorry for him and asks him to go away so she does not have to burn him. When she claims she has had enough of his attempts to seduce her, Sileph's loving expression turns to rage. He has worked too hard to let Enna go. She is supposed to be his answer, but he lost everything because Tiedan blames him for their army's failure since he kept Enna captive too long, yet he still wants to be with her. Sensing a shift in heat and noticing Avlado, Isi's horse, move closer to Isi, Enna talks to distract the men as Avlado bites the shoulder of the man holding Isi, causing him to drop his knife. Isi summons the wind, and guessing what she will do, Enna calls her fire, and together, they disarm the men. Enna is relieved when Isi mounts Avlado, hoping her friend will be



safe. The men advance on Enna, but Sileph forbids them to touch her because she is his. He insists his lies were necessary and he loves her, enraging Enna who now sees Sileph as a proud, desperate, ruthless man. She tells him she was a shell before, and this is what she is; she will burn him. Claiming they will burn together, Sileph pushes Enna to the ground, but the wind extinguishes the flames before they touch Enna. She cannot bear to burn him even as he grips her throat, and the wind battles him, allowing Enna to escape his grasp. When a voice from the north calls out, Enna turns to see Finn rush into camp and attack Sileph. As they battle, three daggers fly into Sileph's back, leaving Enna relieved and horrified simultaneously. Pol, Sileph's lieutenant, retrieves the daggers, and another soldier claims they should have done that weeks ago. Expressing his desire to never see Enna again, Pol leads the Tirans away. Finn greets Enna but does not try to woo her, happy to simply be with her, unlike Sileph. He holds her as she cries, and worrying they cannot undo this moment if it happens, Enna realizes it already has happened and she was too dim to see it. In Finn's arms, Enna feels like herself again, not angry or helpless like with Sileph. Kissing her, Finn promises to be better.

In Chapter 19, their travel is slow and painful as Enna struggles with the fever, and she fears the death that the fever promises as much as being cured for she worries what she will be without the fire. Finn cares for Enna and Isi as they are tormented by fire and wind, and Isi spends her healthy times studying the Yasid language. Enna is haunted by memories, but she knows the memories will not haunt her so fiercely once the longing to burn is gone. Two months after leaving the palace, they reach Quapah, the first town in Yasid and ask where to find the tata-rook, fire worshippers. Riding beyond the city, they find a young man sitting on a platform, but he ignores their questions. They defend him when four boys from Quapah throw rocks at him and insult him, using Enna's fire to frighten the boys into running away. Another man approaches them, warning it is dangerous to play with such a force. Isi talks to the man and introduces him as Fahil, the caretaker of this community of fire worshippers. Fahil says the fire is not ugly but it is not an easy blessing, and he has never heard of a northerner possessing the knowledge. Agreeing that Enna is dying, Fahil explains that the man on the platform is water-speaking because those with fire are also taught water to form a balance. As Isi asks Fahil to teach Enna to water-speak, Enna feels weak and unable to stay attached to the earth. All that she sees as she fades off into unconsciousness is that everything fades to black.



Section 14: Chapter 20

Section 14: Chapter 20 Summary

Enna wakes off and on in a low bed with Isi in a nearby cot and sitting by her on the floor is Finn who explains both girls have been resting for two days. Though Enna and Isi wake at the same time, Enna spends the day in bed while Isi talks to Fahil in the next room, and when Isi returns that night, she explains it takes years to develop rain naturally and Fahil does not know if it can be taught, plus he does not think Enna has enough time to learn it; however, there are tales that fire knowledge can be erased from one who is consumed by it without learning the rain, and though it is tricky, Fahil and Isi believe they should try whatever they can now. Fahil believes they should attempt it at the sacred place on top of the hill. When Fahil offers Isi a donkey for the climb because she is an expectant mother, Enna understands why she has been sensing extra heat from Isi, and she feels guilty because Isi only has about three months left and Geric does not even know she is pregnant with Bayern's heir. Enna is determined not to fail Isi again. At the top of the hill, Isi explains Fahil will try to burn the fire out of Enna quickly by placing a coal on her tongue to burn the words of fire and the acts of fire from her being, and he hopes the fire will not remember her afterward. Isi does not want Enna to do it because they are unsure if it will work, but Enna insists, not because she believes it will work but because she wants to show Isi that she is willing to atone for what she has done. The heat rises in her and when Isi pushes it away with the wind, Fahil grows excited as he claims the wind erases things. Isi wants to try to blow the fire out of Enna, but she will have to surrender to the wind in a way she never has before. Finn begs her to try, and Enna trembles with hope. As Isi releases the wind and pulls the heat into the air, Enna feels a tearing pain, and though she tells herself to surrender her control of the fire, her fear makes her hold on tighter because she is afraid of losing everything. She apologizes to Isi because she cannot surrender, and when she tells Finn that she is afraid to surrender because she fears she will lose herself again, he explains how he surrendered at Eylbold when Razo was captured to save Razo's life, suggesting there are different kinds of surrender. Enna realizes Finn did not give himself away; he made a choice to save Razo, and looking at Isi, she is ashamed of how selfish she has been, thinking only of herself and not Isi's health. Enna's control slips with her increased emotions, and the heat finds her without her calling to it. The touch is unbearable like the constant touch of the wind is to Isi. Suddenly, Enna suggests Isi can learn fire to temper the wind as fire and rain do to one another. Fahil agrees this may work and suggests it could work for both of them, believing they can use their friendship as a bridge to share their elements with each other. Enna does not care about herself, but she agrees to try for Isi's benefit. After trying to explain their elements to one another, Enna and Isi hold hands, and Enna tries to feel the wind as she silently urges Isi to feel the heat, attempting to will the heat to become more aware of Isi. Reaching for the wind, Enna realizes she is trying to touch Leifer, and she acknowledges that she is clinging to the fire as her last tie to her brother. Focusing on Isi, Enna sends all of her thoughts toward healing her friend, and the wind and fire rushes between the two girls. Both can now feel the heat and the wind, but neither are as obtrusive as they were. Enna is



amazed to hear the wind's voice, and Isi plays with lighting fires. Enna can still feel the heat, but it no longer sticks to her. Enna and Isi feel great now that they have found balance; the heat pushes the wind, and the wind takes the breath from the fire. Finn is thrilled because he feared someone would have to die for this to work, and though he was not hoping to die, he would choose to die if one of them had to. Telling Finn he is too good, Enna kisses him, meaning that things might be alright. She laughs, feeling like a burden has been lifted from her shoulders, and Isi and Finn join in as Fahil looks at them like they are all crazy which makes them laugh even harder.

Section 14: Chapter 20 Analysis

Enna and Isi both lose consciousness for several days, and upon waking, Isi immediately begins talking to Fahil about how they can save Enna; unfortunately, he does not believe she has enough time to learn water-speaking. Instead, they will attempt a ritual that is meant to erase fire knowledge. As they head towards the sacred place where they will perform the ritual, Enna learns Isi is pregnant, and she feels like a horrible friend for being so self-absorbed that she did not notice. She also feels guilty that Geric does not know his wife is pregnant because Isi is too concerned with helping her friend. Determined not to fail her friend again, Enna wants to proceed with the ritual, though Isi and Finn try to dissuade her because it will be painful and they doubt it will work. When Isi uses the wind to blow heat from Enna as she nearly succumbs to the fever, Fahil grows excited because the wind can blow things away. Isi attempts to blow the fire from Enna, but Enna is unable to surrender the fire for fear of losing everything. After talking to Finn about various ways of surrendering, Enna is again struck by her selfishness in being unaware of how Isi's health has suffered during their trip, and she thinks that maybe the fire can temper the wind as with water, hoping for a way to ease Isi's suffering. Fahil agrees this may work and suggests the girls' close bond may allow them to share their elements with one another. Isi and Enna hold hands and try to will their elements into the other, and after they finish, both can feel both the wind and the fire. Both girls are excited by the lessened pressure of their elements and the balance makes the elements bearable now.



Section 15: Chapter 21

Section 15: Chapter 21 Summary

Fahil wants them to rest for a few days, but Enna insists on getting her pregnant best friend back to her husband so they leave in the morning after Isi talks to Fahil about renewing trade between the two lands. The change is immediate in Enna and Isi, but they seem to improve daily as the wind and the fire hold each other back. They return to Bayern at a walk for Isi's sake, and Isi's pains increase as the size of her belly does, and she is grumpy while Enna is over-attentive. Finn finds them both delightful. Though she is anxious to return Isi to Geric, Enna fears the consequences of burning, and she hopes she will be able to see Isi home and sneak back to the forest with Finn. The thought is disappointing because she is sure she could serve Bayern well with the balance between wind and fire, but she is sure she cannot be forgiven. Once they reach Bayern, they follow roads leading past inns, and Enna sends messages to Geric, informing him that Isi is expecting a baby any day. Enna wants to stop at an inn and wait for the baby, but Isi insists on riding every day until two days from the capital when she screams in pain, walks into the nearest cottage and plops down on a bed. Enna explains to the owners that Isi is the queen and is about to give birth in their home. When the pains really begin, Isi jabbars in random languages, but Geric arrives with half the court, rushing to Isi's bedside to deliver the baby. Enna is relieved that at least one of her messages went through. After the birth mistress kicks everyone except Geric out of the room, people outside push logs against the door and press Enna to step on one. She is afraid to see a noose and she apologizes when Talone appears. Talone strips Enna of her title as queen's maiden and makes her one of Bayern's Own at Geric's command, praising her as Bayern has never before seen such a warrior. The crowd applauds, and Enna feels strange in front of so many people as Razo chides her for not smiling. As they celebrate that night, Enna is ecstatic to hear the healthy cry of a baby, and the birth mistress signals her inside the cottage where she finds Isi and Geric completely happy as they introduce her to their son, Tusken. Enna tells them that Tusken is perfect, and as she holds him, she feels at home in her own skin. Everything feels right. She is glad Finn is by her side because he is all she needs. As the wind blows her hair through the window, she listens to it speak and realizes that she is home.

Section 15: Chapter 21 Analysis

Enna insists on leaving the day after the ritual, and Enna and Isi both improve daily as their elements are now balanced and no longer harass them so harshly. Enna is relieved to be free of the fever, but she feels even better seeing Isi's joy at resting from the wind. They do not talk about how the exchange may affect the baby, but Enna still detects a healthy amount of heat from Isi's middle. Finn is entertained by Isi's pregnant irritability as well as Enna's over-attentive care. Enna wishes she could serve Bayern further, but she is certain she cannot be forgiven for her actions during the war. Though Isi tries to press on to the capital to reach Geric before giving birth, she is forced to stop



at a house to deliver. Luckily, one of Enna's multitude of messages managed to reach Geric, so he arrives at the house shortly after Isi goes into labor. While Isi is delivering her child, Talone pulls Enna in front of a crowd to strip her of her rank of Queen's Maiden as a consequence of her actions during the war; ironically, he instead bestows upon her the honor of being one of Bayern's Own, Geric's personal guard, praising her actions during the war. Enna is pleasantly surprised to find that the consequences of her burning are the opposite of what she expected and feared. She thinks of how much has changed in the past year and wonders who she will be now. Enna is happy to meet Tusken, Isi, and Geric's infant son, and as she holds him with Finn by her side, everything feels right. She knows that she is finally home.



Characters

Enna

Enna is the main character in "Enna Burning." She is a Forest girl who is best friends with Isi, Queen of Bayern. Isi asks Enna to be her maiden before they go to Ostekin to battle with Tira. Leifer, Enna's brother, finds a vellum scroll which allows him to learn the art of fire-speaking, but when he loses his temper and accidentally burns Enna, Enna turns to her best friend, Isi, for advice. Unfortunately, Isi is having problems controlling her gift of wind-speaking and does not have any suggestions for Enna and Leifer. After Tira invades Bayern, Leifer joins Geric's army, using the fire to burn the Tiran forces, but he also burns himself up into a charred heap of flesh. Though distraught about her brother's death, Enna learns how to fire-speak when she finds the vellum stored in Leifer's clothes. Enna does not plan to burn until she burns the Tiran participant in the augury to save Finn's life; thus, the augury predicts that Bayern will win the war with Enna's help, but without her, her country will lose.

Hoping to avoid her brother's fate, Enna promises not to tell a soul, not to burn a living person and not to burn big; however, when she nearly burns a person, she realizes that she needs help, so she begins accompanying Finn and Razo on scouting missions in order to burn Tiran supplies. After they suggest she is losing control, Enna decides to go to Eylbold alone, burning Isi when her friend tries to stop her, and in Eylbold, Sileph, a Tiran captain, captures and drugs Enna. Using his people-speaking skills, Sileph woos Enna to believe that she loves him and to agree to burn for Tira, also using Razo and Finn as hostages when they attempt to save Enna. Distraught to realize Sileph has been lying to her, Enna refuses to fight for Tira, and inspired by Isi's bravery in entering the camp to tell her why they could not save her through a story, Enna shows her loyalty to Isi and Bayern by escaping her imprisonment and freeing Razo and Finn.

Enna rushes toward the capital to battle for Bayern, burning many of the Tiran forces. She believes she is dying when something cracks inside of her and the heat rushes in, but Isi cools Enna with the wind. When Enna awakes, Isi takes her to Yasid to learn the secrets of the tata-rook, fire worshippers, hoping to find a cure. During the journey, Sileph comes for Enna, but he is killed by his own men. Finn also joins Enna and Isi, caring for the two girls as they are tormented by their elements. Enna and Isi also play with their elements during their journey. Upon reaching Yasid, they meet Fahil, the caretaker of the community of tata-rook, who believes Isi can blow the fire from Enna, but Enna suggests that she can teach the fire to Isi to help chase back the wind and allow her friend to find a balance. At Fahil's suggestion, the girls share their elements, forming a balance between the wind and the fire. They then return to Bayern where Isi gives birth to a healthy son and Enna is made a member of Bayern's Own, Geric's personal band of soldiers.



Isi

Isi is the Queen of Bayern after Geric's father is killed during the battle at Ostekin. She is best friends with Enna and has the gifts of wind-speaking and bird-speaking. Unlike most brunette Bayerns, Isi has waist-length, blonde hair. When Enna asks Isi for advice concerning Leifer's control issues with fire-speaking, Isi does not know what to suggest, but she does tell Enna that learning fire-speaking to help her brother is a bad idea because such powers come with dire consequences. She is currently having problems with wind-speaking as the voice of the wind presses on her and overwhelms her. Isi begins to suspect Enna of learning fire-speaking when she hears of a fire witch burning Tiran occupied villages after Leifer's death, but when she confronts Enna, Enna tries to burn her.

While Enna is imprisoned in Eylbold, Isi enters the town, disguised as a Tiran woman, to warn Enna that Sileph has the gift of people-speaking, as well as to tell Enna a story to explain that they cannot rescue her because they must focus on defending Bayern from the Tirans. This inspires Enna to show her devotion to Isi and Bayern by escaping and rushing toward the capital to help defeat the Tiran forces. Enna nearly dies when the fire leaks inside her during the battle, but Isi cools Enna with the wind. When Enna awakes, Isi takes her to Yasid to learn the secrets of the tata-rook, fire worshippers, hoping to find a cure. Finn also joins Enna and Isi, caring for the two girls as they are tormented by their elements. Enna and Isi also play with their elements during their journey. Upon reaching Yasid, they meet Fahil, the caretaker of the community of tata-rook, who believes Isi can blow the fire from Enna, but Enna suggests that she can teach the fire to Isi to help chase back the wind and allow her friend to find a balance. At Fahil's suggestion, the girls share their elements, forming a balance between the wind and the fire. They then return to Bayern where Isi gives birth to a healthy son and Enna is made a member of Bayern's Own, Geric's personal band of soldiers.

Finn

Finn is a Forest boy who secretly loves Enna, and all he wants is to be near her. He fights for Bayern during the war, and he goes on several secret missions with Razo and Enna. When Sileph captures Enna, Finn tries to save her and is captured and held hostage until Enna escapes and frees him and Razo. Finn finds Enna and Isi while they are on the way to Yasid and accompanies them on the journey, taking care of the girls as they are assaulted by their elements. Eventually, Enna realizes that she loves Finn in return and they are happily together.

Sileph

Sileph is the Tiran captain who imprisons Enna and uses his gift of people-speaking to manipulate her into believing she loves him and agreeing to burn for Tira. After the war, Sileph tries to convince Enna that he still loves her, becoming enraged when his



persuasive abilities no longer work on her. As he fights with Finn, Sileph is killed by his own men.

Razo

Razo is a Forest boy who is friends with Finn and Enna. A scout in Geric's army, he goes on several covert missions with Enna and Finn, and he joins Finn in the attempt to rescue Enna after Sileph captures her.

Leifer

Leifer is Enna's older brother who finds the vellum and learns the art of fire-speaking, though he has difficulty controlling it. He fights for Bayern at Ostekin, burning many Tirans and winning the battle, but he dies when the fire consumes him.

Fahil

Fahil is the caretaker of the community of tata-rook in Yasid that Enna and Isi go to in their attempt to save Enna's life. He tries to help Enna, suggesting Isi can use the wind to blow the fire from Isi, and he agrees that the wind and fire may balance one another when Enna suggests it.

Geric

Geric is Isi's doting husband, and he becomes the King of Bayern after his father is killed during the battle at Ostekin.

Talone

Talone is the captain of Bayern's army.

Tiedan

Tiedan is the leader of Tira's army.

Tusken

Tusken is the healthy baby boy that Isi gives birth to after returning to Bayern from Yasid. He is named after her father.



Objects/Places

Bayern

Bayern is the main setting of "Enna Burning." It is Enna's home country. Geric and Isi are king and queen of this country. Most of the novel's actions occur in Bayern.

Tira

Tira is the nation to the southeast which decides to invade Bayern. Much of the novel is spent at war with Tira.

Sprucegrove

Sprucegrove is the location where Geric calls a meeting of the Forest javelin-bearers to assure them of their importance to the kingdom. Unfortunately, Tira invades Bayern so this meeting turns into a request for volunteers to join the army.

Forest

Enna is from the Forest which is on the outskirts of Bayern, but Forest dwellers have recently gained citizenship in Bayern due to Isi's influence.

Ostekin

Ostekin is where the first battle occurs between Bayern and Tira. This is where Leifer dies and where Enna obtains the gift of fire-speaking.

Eybold

Eybold is one of the villages captured by Tira where Enna, Razo and Finn go on scouting and burning missions. This is also where Sileph imprisons Enna after luring her by building a gallows.

Folcmar

Folcmar is another village captured by Tira where Enna, Razo and Finn go on scouting and burning missions.



Capital of Bayern

Tiedan marches on the capital of Bayern while Sileph attempts to distract Geric's army by attacking another town. There is a large battle between the two nations in a valley near the capital during which Enna helps Bayern win by burning many Tirans, but she nearly dies.

Yasid

Yasid is the kingdom south of Bayern where Enna and Isi travel to learn the secrets of the tata-rook. This is where they learn to find a balance between the wind and fire by sharing their elements.

Vellum

A woman hides the vellum in the Prologue which contains the secrets of fire-speaking. Leifer finds the vellum but cannot control the fire, and after he dies, Enna learns fire-speaking and hides the vellum in her skirt hem. She burns it during her imprisonment in Eylbold.



Themes

Friendship

One of the most important themes in "Enna Burning" is the theme of friendship. This is particularly important in the fourth part of the novel which focuses on Enna's role as a friend. In the beginning of the book, Enna thinks of the time she spent in the city with her best friend, Isi, and she turns to Isi for advice when Leifer has difficulties controlling his fire-speaking abilities. During the war, Razo and Finn accompany Enna on her missions to burn Tiran supplies and keep her safe, and after she is imprisoned by Sileph, they risk their lives trying to rescue her. While Enna is imprisoned, Isi also faces the danger of sneaking into Eylbold, disguised as a Tiran woman, in order to warn Enna of Sileph's people-speaking skills and to explain why they cannot rescue her through a story. Determined to show her loyalty to Isi and Bayern, Enna escapes her imprisonment and frees Razo and Finn. Enna nearly dies while battling the Tirans with her fire, but Isi feels her on the wind and sends the wind to cool her down.

During Enna's following illness, Isi cares for her, researching the tata-rook in Yasid and taking Enna to Yasid in hopes of finding a cure after Enna wakes. During their journey, Isi explains that she forgave Enna for trying to burn her because she does not want to lose the best friend she has ever had. The girls play with the fire and wind, and when Finn catches up with them, he takes care of them as they are tormented by their respective elements. Enna feels like a horrible friend for not realizing Isi is pregnant, and she is eager to share the fire with Isi in hopes of lessening her friend's suffering from the wind. Due to their close friendship, Enna and Isi are able to share their elements and find a balance between the fire and the wind. After the ritual, Enna is eager to get Isi home to Geric, and she feels at home for the first time in a long time while holding Isi's newborn son, Tusken, and standing with Finn, Isi and Geric, her new family.

Speaking Gifts

An important theme in "Enna Burning" is the gift of speaking that several of the characters possess. Isi is gifted with the abilities of wind-speaking and bird-speaking. She is plagued by the voice of the wind, though, and it assaults her even when she does not call on it. After finding the vellum, Leifer learns to fire-speak, but it is difficult for him to control. Overwhelmed by the fire, Leifer allows himself to burn to death after defeating the Tiran forces by burning them at Ostekin. Finding the vellum on Leifer's corpse, Enna also learns to fire-speak, and she goes on midnight rampages through Tiran-controlled villages to burn the Tirans' supplies. She begins to lose control and is captured by Sileph. Sileph has the gift of people-speaking which allows him to manipulate others' feelings for him, and he uses this gift to manipulate Enna into believing she is in love with him and agreeing to burn for Tira.



When Enna burns the Tiran forces outside of the Bayern capital, something inside her breaks, and the fire leaks into her, causing her to become very sick. The only reason she does not burn out like Leifer did is because Isi feels her on the wind and sends the wind to cool her. Once Enna is well enough to regain consciousness, Isi takes her to Yasid to learn the secrets of the tata-rook, the fire worshippers. They learn that the tata-rook maintain a balance by also learning water-speaking, but Enna's death is too imminent for her to learn water-speaking. Instead, they decide to try a ritual, but when Fahil realizes that Isi has the gift of wind-speaking, he suggests she can blow the fire from Enna. Enna suggests that Isi can learn the fire to balance the wind and keep it from tormenting her, so Enna and Isi shares their elements, gaining peace as they find a balance between the fire and the wind.

War

Another important theme in this novel is the war which occurs throughout most of the novel. When Tira invades Bayern, Geric and his father gather an army to defend their land. Geric asks for volunteers among the Forest dwellers, and one of these volunteers is Enna's brother, Leifer, who uses his newfound gift of fire-speaking to burn the Tiran forces at Ostekin. Sadly, he also burns up. Enna finds Leifer's vellum and gains the power of fire-speaking, though she swears never to use it. Things change during the augury when Finn is about to be slaughtered and Enna uses the fire to disarm the Tiran prisoner, indicating that Bayern can only win the war with her help. Thus, Enna decides to do her part for Bayern in the war against Tira. Enna secretly goes out on missions with Finn and Razo to burn Tiran supplies while they are scouting Tiran-invaded villages.

When Finn and Razo suggest that Enna is losing control, she goes on a mission to Eylbold on her own and is captured. Sileph manipulates Enna into burning for Tira until she realizes that he is lying to her and that her friendship with Isi is still miraculously intact. To show her loyalty to Bayern and Isi, Enna escapes and rescues Finn and Razo who are being held hostage to keep her from burning the Tirans. She rushes to the valley outside the capital where Geric's army is facing Tiedan's forces. Enna uses her gift with fire to burn the Tiran forces, allowing Bayern to win the war. She nearly dies, but Isi feels her on the wind and sends the wind to cool her. Later, after Enna and Isi return from Yasid, Talone appoints Enna as one of Bayern's Own at Geric's directive for her unprecedented bravery during the war.



Style

Point of View

The point of view in "Enna Burning" is the third person and limited. It is also reliable. This is shown by the fact that the narrator does not have access to the thoughts and emotions of all characters, though she is privy to Enna's mind most of the time. This point of view is useful because Enna is the main character so the narrator is able to share her hopes, fears, doubts and so forth as Enna attempts to control the fire. The narrator is also able to show Enna's relationships with other characters through her thoughts and actions which is a very important aspect of the novel, especially the last part which focuses on Enna's friendship with Isi.

The novel is comprised of a large amount of exposition with a significant amount of dialogue scattered throughout. This is effective as it allows readers to focus on the events of the narrative and on Enna's thoughts while also granting readers access to the interactions between characters which indicate the development of her relationships with other characters. The viewpoint of the novel stays focused on Enna.

Setting

"Enna Burning" is set in an imaginary world in which the nations are based on a medieval feudal system of government. The novel is set mainly in Bayern with some events occurring in the nearby nations of Tira and Yasid. The characters are mainly citizens of Bayern and Tira who are at war with one another through the majority of the novel. There is also some emphasis on the difference between the Forest dwellers and the town citizens of Bayern as Forest dwellers recently acquired citizenship due to Isi's influence.

Bayern is the main setting of "Enna Burning." It is Enna's home country as well as the country that Geric and Isi are king and queen of. Most of the novel's actions occur in Bayern. Tira is the nation to the southeast which decides to invade Bayern. Much of the novel is spent at war with Tira. Sprucegrove is the location where Geric calls a meeting of the Forest javelin-bearers to assure them of their importance to the kingdom. Unfortunately, Tira invades Bayern so this meeting turns into a request for volunteers to join the army. Enna is from the Forest which is on the outskirts of Bayern, but Forest dwellers have recently gained citizenship in Bayern due to Isi's influence. Ostekin is where the first battle occurs between Bayern and Tira. This is where Leifer dies and where Enna obtains the gift of fire-speaking. Eylbold is one of the villages captured by Tira where Enna, Razo and Finn go on scouting and burning missions. This is also where Sileph imprisons Enna after luring her by building a gallows. Folcmar is another village captured by Tira where Enna, Razo and Finn go on scouting and burning missions. Tiedan marches on the capital of Bayern while Sileph attempts to distract Geric's army by attacking another town. There is a large battle between the two nations



in a valley near the capital during which Enna helps Bayern win by burning many Tirans, but she nearly dies. Yasid is the kingdom south of Bayern where Enna and Isi travel to learn the secrets of the tata-rook. This is where they learn to find a balance between the wind and fire by sharing their elements.

Language and Meaning

The language used in this novel is fairly casual and informal, and the sentences are constructed fairly properly. This accessible form of writing aids reader comprehension, especially in regards to the abstract, magical aspects of the story. The language makes the novel quite easy to read. The language tends to characterize the characters, specifically the difference between the Bayerns and the Tirans. It also helps to clarify the relationships between the characters.

The novel is comprised of a large amount of exposition with a significant amount of dialogue scattered throughout. This is effective as it allows readers to focus on the events of the narrative and on Enna's thoughts while also granting readers access to the interactions between characters which indicate the development of her relationships with other characters. The language aids the writing style by making foreign and magical concepts easy for young readers to grasp and overall, the effect of the language is to aid comprehension.

Structure

"Enna Burning" is divided into a Prologue and twenty-one chapters that are separated into four parts of the novel. There are three hundred and seventeen pages in the novel, and the chapters average between ten and fifteen pages in length. They are numbered, rather than titled. The chapters are fairly short but detailed, and the entire novel spans a period of approximately one year.

"Enna Burning" by Shannon Hale is an intriguing novel about the difficult decisions a young girl must make after learning the mysterious art of fire-speaking. After her brother is consumed by fire due to using the gift, Enna also learns fire-speaking, promising herself not to misuse it and suffer her brother's fate; however, as her country needs her help to win the war, Enna begins to lose herself to the fire and must struggle against the element, lest it consume her as well. "Enna Burning" is an encouraging tale of bravery, self-identification and friendship. The novel's pace is quite slow, but it is easy to read. It contains flashbacks to the early part of Enna and Isi's friendship which is detailed in the first book of this series. Overall, this book is entertaining and extremely enjoyable to read.



Quotes

"Thanks for sticking around all year, after Ma... and everything. I mean it. You know... I can tell... I see how you look. You're not always happy here... The Forest isn't exciting for you, after living in the city, I guess. Stay a while longer. I think it'll liven up soon" (Leifer, Chapter 1, p. 5).

"He's just Finn. We've been friends too long and I know him too well, you know? And he's still a boy, Doda. If I ever find a man, he'll have to be a man, really a man, to handle me" (Enna, Chapter 2, p. 23).

"Once, people could speak to all things, and that means to me that it's possible for us to learn all those languages again... There are three different gifts- people-speaking, animal-speaking, and nature-speaking. Some people are born with the ability to learn one. I knew others from my home kingdom who had people-speaking from birth, and all their lives they knew how to talk to people just so, to encourage love and loyalty. I wasn't born with wind speech- I was sixteen when I first understood its words, so who knows when and how a person can learn?" (Isi, Chapter 3, p. 34-35).

"I want to be Bayern. I want to be loyal to the king. Before, I was just angry, and now, I don't know, that's all gone, and instead there's Tira. They're the enemy. It's like the fire's just been waiting for them, and now it's time to burn. I should tell the prince" (Leifer, Chapter 4, p. 47).

"You're my sister, my whole family, and the smartest person I know. What you said before... if you want me to try to teach you, I will" (Leifer, Chapter 5, p. 53).

"You make me feel safe, Enna. I'm so glad you're back" (Isi, Chapter 6, p. 77).

"The omen was clear- with her help, Bayern's armies would be victorious, and without, there was only defeat" (Chapter 8, p. 109-110).

"All right, then. I will never tell a soul, I'll never burn a living person, and I'll keep it small, just bits at a time. I swear, Leifer, I swear" (Enna, Chapter 9, p. 111).

"You must've known I'd ask Finn. You have to admit he's the most trustworthy person we know, besides being a good soldier and good company... I didn't tell him about you, if that's what you're worried about. So you can still send him home, if you like. But I think we need him, and I'll be honest- now that he knows we go on scouts together, I don't think he'll leave easily. He about spitted me when he found out we'd been sharing a tent. Called me some name I didn't know. He thought he had to defend your honor" (Chapter 10, p. 135).

"All I've ever wanted was to be near you" (Chapter 10, p. 143).

"You're not going to say a word, are you, Finn? Well, I'm not afraid. You're spooking us, Enna-girl. You're, you're not right" (Chapter 11, p. 149).



"It's not an evil thing, Isi. I'm not. Please don't hate me. You don't believe in the augury, so you can't see what I'm seeing. Finn would've died, Isi. He was fighting for all Bayern, and he would've died. I'm so afraid. Please don't make it harder. I know what I have to do, but I'm so scared, and I just need to keep moving, keep going until it's done. If I stop to think, I might get too scared, and I can't stop now" (Chapter 11, p. 154).

"I wonder if you remember, but we have met before. My name is Sileph. I saw you in that Bayern prince's council in Ostekin. Enna, isn't it? I remember you well. How you stared at me! As though you wished to light me on fire with your gaze. How could I forget that expression? Your mistress the queen just looked down and didn't say moo. There is not much to her, is there? But not so with her maiden. I will admit I was struck with you. And I wondered what hair you hid under that scarf" (Chapter 12, p. 169).

"You are, Enna. You are amazing. This is temporary. You will shine again, I promise. I will see you burn again" (Chapter 13, p. 180).

"But they can't be punished for me. They didn't do anything...No, they don't know anything. They're just stupid boys...No, I didn't mean that. I just meant it's not your fault, it's mine, and I need to fix it." (Chapter 14, p. 194).

"Those bastards. Sending friends to kill you, or worse, sending your friends to be captured and killed before you, and leave you knowing that no other rescue will come. They must not value you at all, or you would not have come alone in the first place and would not now be subject to such a pathetic rescue" (Chapter 14, p. 198).

"I have wanted you to be with me. I knew how we would be together, didn't you? You must feel something" (Chapter 15, p. 211).

"I am not letting you go, Enna. I will be back for you, and you will come." (Chapter 15, p. 220).

"Sileph harassing Fedorthal, Bayern responding and leaving the capital exposed, Tiedan on the march to the capital. She had to act. Sileph had seduced her with his people-speaking lies, but maybe Bayern was not lost after all. Besides, what of the augury? It said that Bayern would win, but with Enna's help. For a time, she had forgotten" (Chapter 16, p. 230).

"It's worse, Finn. I started to let go out there, burning people and all. The fire wants to keep going; it wants all of me. I've got to stop for a minute, so I can last until we find the army" (Chapter 16, p. 238).

"I know now why Leifer died. Part of it was just what happens when you use that much fire, but part of it was choice. He surrendered to it and burned big, but then knew he couldn't live to see what he'd done, so he let himself burn out. It hurts, but not as much as seeing what you've made. I would've done the same as Leifer" (Chapter 17, p. 251-252).



"Thinking of me, were you? Well, many of us did not make it through that one. I do not blame you, Enna, truly. War is brutal. I am just relieved that it is over. No matter now who won. But what has plagued me these past weeks is that you might not know, no matter the outcome, that I still wanted you." (Chapter 18, p. 270).

"Do not do this. Do not make me kill. You know we are for each other. I made you what you are, and you will make me what I am to be. They were necessary lies. Do not let such trifles make you disbelieve that I loved you, Enna" (Chapter 18, p. 274).

"Inside Finn's arms, Enna did not feel like the helpless girl shut up in an enemy tent, or the angry, blazing girl who had confronted Sileph. Now she felt she was herself again, just Enna, just who she wanted to be. His touch told her so" (Chapter 18, p. 277).

"He says, it's no ugly thing to be a fire worshipper. The sun is the manifestation of the Creator, and fire is the manifestation of the sun. But it is not an easy blessing. That's why they're all here" (Chapter 19, p. 286).

"But when a person knows both heat and water, they form a balance. The language of the fire doesn't overwhelm them, tempered by the presence of the water, and the water can't consume the person because of the threat of the heat always near." (Chapter 19, p. 288).

"Fahil says rain has never been taught. And it takes years for the tata-rook to develop it naturally...Fahil doesn't think you have the time to try... and I think he's right" (Chapter 20, p. 291).

"It's not exactly how fire and water work, but I'm thinking that wind and hear affect each other all the same. If you added my fire to your wind, I think both would keep the other at bay. Wind brushes away the heat, heat changes and scatters the wind, and neither voice would be able to get close to you unless you called" (Chapter 20, p. 301).

"You have...Balance. The heat changes and pushes the wind... And the wind takes the breath from the fire" (Chapter 20, p. 107).

"I'm certain this is not the queen's wish, but acts must be accounted for. However, we won't stop there. For stubborn bravery and ingenuity in defense of the kingdom, His Highness bids me make you one of Bayern's Own, a member of the king's personal hundred-band... She fought in secret, she was captured and imprisoned, and she escaped in time to stop Tira's invading force before they could overwhelm our army and invade the capital. Never has Bayern seen such a warrior" (Chapter 21, p. 314).



Topics for Discussion

How does Liefer die?

Why does Enna learn the language of fire?

Describe Enna's imprisonment in Eylbold.

What is Sileph's gift? How does he use it against Enna?

Who is Isi? How does she demonstrate her devotion to Enna?

How do Enna and Isi learn to escape the pressures of the fire and wind?

What consequences does Talone impose upon Enna for her actions during the war?