Scene Brainstorm:

1. Prologue: Elyse is possessed by the Demon.
2. Adyn bonds the Demon Narzha.
3. 3 scenes where Adyn’s powers begin to very subtly manifest.
4. Adyn’s village is destroyed by agents of the Alignment upon discovering his connection to the Demon Narzha, and in the chaos, he teleports to Olkira for the first time and promptly meets Zo.
5. Zo’s favorite sibling and best friend is conscripted as a miner, one of the deadliest jobs on the planet, and it requires them to travel far from home.
6. Zo announces to their parents that they want to study to become a politician. However, the test is across the sea and they’ll need money to cross.
7. Zo learns that some ships have been destroyed crossing the sea. Faulty equipment and Sand Beetles are to blame.
8. Zo meets Adyn (same scene from Zo’s perspective).
9. Zo learns they can World Hop in their master’s study with Adyn’s help.
10. Zo and Adyn travel across the sea and are captured by guild members, who indoctrinate them in the ways of the guild.
11. Vylith blinds herself and her brother.
12. Vylith and her brother are scooped up by the Alignment and teleported to Luxor Majoris.
13. Vylith’s convoy is assaulted by the guild and her brother is killed, along with a friend she made on the train.
14. Vylith escapes the guild and rejoins the Alignment willingly.
15. Vylith foils one of the guild’s plots.
16. Elyse escapes from prison (five years earlier – Prologue of Book 2? May be off screen)
17. Elyse foils one of the guild’s plots. (The guild assumes Elyse and Vylith are both Alignment agents).
18. Adyn, Zo, and M-Jenn are told their next mission will be big, and the Guild leader isn’t sure if they are ready for it. Adyn is ready but the other two are reluctant. It will involve them infiltrating the University of Pharphesus, but they aren’t told what the mission objective is. Just to get high ranking and to learn as much as they can about the internal hierarchy and how they produce so many channelers.
19. The Guild leader reveals to the crew that their mission is to stop all the new recruits from being able to join the Alignment. Their primary objective is to break the recruits out and bring them back to join the Guild.
20. The crew is discovered by the Chancellor, and he sicks Vylith on them, and tortures them to get information about the guild out of them. Elyse steps in and breaks them out.
21. Elyse tries to deprogram them from the guild. Elyse reveals to Adyn that she is his sister, but that she is not ‘on his side.’ She reveals that the guild was recklessly sending out new recruits to try to find Demonic artifacts and ruins despite the possibility of them encountering still living Demons. They stopped doing that after it backfired on them, but her and her family (and that whole sect of the guild) were the casualties of that folly. She was only able to escape by making a bargain with the Demon to let it one day regain control of her completely, in 7 years (or so). She is on a clock.
22. Adyn and Elyse fight over their ideologies, with Zo and M-Jenn ultimately taking Adyn’s side and they escape Elyse.
23. They rejoin the Guild and are told by the Guild leader that because they failed in their mission and were discovered, that they have to go for Plan B: destroy the dormitories and kill all the new recruits before they can join the Alignment (despite the fact that maybe only 30% will end up becoming Alignment Enforcers while the rest will stay on as researchers or just go live their lives). Adyn is brainwashed enough to agree, but Zo and M-Jenn escape and go back to Elyse.
24. Adyn nearly blows up the dormitory, but the gang is able to stop him in time from making that mistake.