

Chapter 28: Day 14

The chapter begins with the protagonist, Day, recounting his hostile reception at the hospital after being rescued from Denver's Capitol Tower. He resists medical treatment, threatening staff and demanding to see his brother, Eden, as well as June and proof of the Patriots' release. His outbursts are broadcast live, fueling public concern, but he eventually calms, easing tensions among the crowds. The doctor informs Day he's been pardoned and that Eden will arrive soon, though their mutual distrust is evident.

Day's emotions shift when he learns Eden is nearby. Overwhelmed by the prospect of reuniting with his brother after their separation during the plague, he disregards the doctor's attempt to discuss concerning X-ray results. When Eden arrives, Day is struck by his improved health, though Eden's vision is severely impaired. Their reunion is emotional, with Eden clinging to Day, who cherishes the moment as a rare victory amid their struggles.

The doctor interrupts, urging Day to return for a private discussion. Reluctantly, Day agrees after ensuring Eden's safety, though he remains wary of the doctor's intentions. Inside the room, the doctor reveals a troubling discovery in Day's brain scan, pointing to an anomaly near his hippocampus. The chapter ends on a cliffhanger, leaving the nature and implications of this finding unresolved.

Throughout the chapter, Day's fierce protectiveness of Eden and his distrust of authority figures are central themes. The reunion with Eden offers a fleeting sense of hope, contrasted by the ominous medical revelation. The tension between personal joy and looming uncertainty underscores the fragility of Day's newfound stability, leaving readers anticipating the consequences of the doctor's discovery.