

“You Look Good, Tris.”

The chapter opens with the narrator, seemingly intoxicated, laughing at a comment made by Zeke in the chaotic environment of the Pit. The narrator’s disorientation is evident as they struggle to steady themselves, while also attempting to suppress memories of an Abnegation attack. Their attention shifts abruptly when they spot Tris in the crowd, noting her altered appearance—less covered up than usual—which sparks a moment of self-reprimand for their lingering thoughts. The narrator’s impulsive call to Tris sets the stage for their interaction, highlighting their lack of inhibition and Tris’s striking presence.

As the narrator approaches Tris, they clumsily compliment her, stumbling over their words to avoid implying she looked immature before. Tris responds with equal brevity, her wariness palpable as she questions the narrator’s reckless behavior near the chasm. The conversation takes a more intimate turn when the narrator notices Tris’s tattoo of three crows, symbolizing her fears. This observation leads to internal musings about why she would embrace her fears rather than hide them, contrasting with the narrator’s own shame. The tension between their playful banter and underlying vulnerability is underscored by Tris’s guarded demeanor.

The narrator’s attempt to invite Tris to join their group is met with hesitation, as they acknowledge their drunken state and the unvarnished version of themselves they’re presenting. Tris’s willingness to engage, despite her apparent discomfort, hints at a deeper connection. The narrator’s physical proximity to Tris—leaning in close, noticing her scent and the softness of her skin—reveals their attraction, which Tris neither rejects nor fully reciprocates. Their whispered compliment, “You look good, Tris,” is met with laughter, leaving the narrator to ponder whether her amusement signals genuine affection.

The chapter closes with Tris's warning for the narrator to stay away from the chasm, a moment of concern that contrasts with their earlier flirtation. Her smile lingers in the narrator's mind, sparking hope that she might still care for them, even in their flawed state. The narrator reflects that Tris, unlike alcohol, offers a more meaningful escape from the world's harshness. This realization underscores the chapter's themes of vulnerability, attraction, and the struggle to confront one's fears and desires.

