

CHAPTER THIRTY-TWO

The chapter opens with Tris and Tobias (Four) walking to the dining hall after spending intimate time together, where they talked, kissed, and napped. Tris observes that Tobias seems lighter and more cheerful than before, though she remains wary of any disappointment from him. Upon arrival, they separate to avoid drawing attention, with Tris joining her friends Christina and Will at their table. The group discusses their future roles in Dauntless, with Christina considering a training position like Four's, while Tris contemplates becoming an ambassador to other factions due to her transfer status. The conversation reveals tensions, particularly around Peter's ambition to become a Dauntless leader.

Christina presses Tris about the leaders' laughter during her fear landscape simulation, noticing Tris's tell when she lies. Tris reluctantly admits her fear involved intimacy, sparking teasing from Christina and Will. The mood lightens as Christina shares her own fear of moths, leading to playful banter. This moment of camaraderie contrasts with Tris's underlying anxiety about her Divergent identity and the leaders' scrutiny. The scene highlights the characters' vulnerabilities and the bonds forming between them, even as Tris struggles to fully trust her friends with her secrets.

The atmosphere shifts as Eric addresses the Dauntless crowd with a brief speech, mocking Erudite eloquence while praising Dauntless values like bravery and action. Though Tris doubts Eric's sincerity, she finds solace in the faction's ideals, which still resonate with her. The announcement of the initiation rankings electrifies the room, with Tris stunned to see her name at the top. The relief and joy she feels momentarily eclipse her fears about being Divergent, reinforcing her sense of belonging in Dauntless.

The chapter closes with Tris's friends celebrating her achievement—Will hugs her, and Christina reacts with tearful excitement. The rankings reveal Uriah, Lynn, Marlene, and

Peter as the other top initiates, with Tris noting Peter's continued presence with resignation. This triumph marks a pivotal moment for Tris, validating her struggles during initiation. Yet the lingering threat of her Divergence and the faction's corruption under leaders like Eric foreshadow ongoing challenges, even as she embraces her hard-won place among the Dauntless.

