

Chapter Thirty-Two

The chapter opens with the protagonist waking up with a severe headache, haunted by the realization that her brother Caleb may have betrayed her to the Erudite faction. She grapples with the painful possibility that he lied about leaving Erudite and questions when his betrayal began—whether during the attack simulation, their escape from Amity, or even earlier. The emotional weight of this revelation is compounded by her physical discomfort, as she struggles to eat and maintain her composure while being guarded by Peter, who taunts her with his usual sarcasm.

As Peter escorts her to the showers, they encounter Tobias and his guards in the hallway. In a sudden, calculated move, Tobias collapses, disarms a guard, and shoots his way free, grabbing the protagonist's arm to flee with her. Despite her disorientation and pain, she follows him, marveling at his Dauntless-like agility and precision. Tobias carries her when she falters, demonstrating both his physical capability and his unwavering determination to protect her, even as she questions his motives and the logic of their escape.

Tobias reveals that his primary goal isn't to escape but to locate Erudite's central control rooms, critical for disabling Jeanine's simulation data. He destroys surveillance cameras to avoid detection and leads the protagonist into a supply closet, where he explains his mission. His urgency underscores the high stakes: destroying these control points is essential to preventing Jeanine from weaponizing the Dauntless transmitters again. The protagonist, though confused, trusts him implicitly, reflecting their deep bond and shared purpose.

The chapter ends with Tobias preparing to share critical information, his intense gaze conveying both desperation and resolve. The protagonist's physical and emotional exhaustion contrasts with Tobias's focused energy, setting the stage for their next move. The tension between their immediate danger and the larger rebellion against

Erudite creates a gripping cliffhanger, leaving readers eager to see how their plan will unfold.

