

Chapter Forty-Five

The chapter opens with Tris reliving a traumatic moment, closing her eyes to avoid witnessing a death before sprinting into a blue-lit room filled with photographs and documents. She recognizes faces of friends and family among the materials, realizing this is where Jeanine develops simulation serums. As her vision clears, she hears voices ahead—Tori confronting Jeanine about her brother's death. Tris hurries toward the confrontation, driven by urgency and the need to retrieve critical information from Jeanine.

Tori, consumed by grief and rage, holds Jeanine at gunpoint, demanding accountability for her brother's death. Jeanine defends her actions as sacrifices for the greater good, but Tori remains unmoved. Tris intervenes, fearing Jeanine's death will prevent her from accessing a vital video file. A physical struggle ensues as Tris tries to stop Tori, resulting in Jeanine being shot in the leg. The tension escalates as Tris and Tori grapple for control of the gun, with Tris determined to protect Jeanine for the sake of the information she possesses.

Tris manages to seize the gun and points it at Tori, pleading for her to trust her. She explains that Jeanine holds crucial data only she can access, emphasizing the importance of the mission over personal vengeance. Tori, however, remains steadfast, declaring Jeanine's death her priority. The confrontation reaches a breaking point as Tori, undeterred by Tris's appeals, draws a knife and stabs Jeanine. Tris watches in horror as Jeanine collapses, her dying screams filling the room, while Tori murmurs her brother's name in grim satisfaction.

The chapter ends with Tris's desperate efforts thwarted, leaving Jeanine dead and the critical information potentially lost. The violent resolution underscores the themes of vengeance, sacrifice, and the moral complexities of leadership. Tris's failure to sway Tori highlights the deep divisions and raw emotions driving the conflict, setting the

stage for further turmoil in the story. The scene leaves readers questioning the cost of justice and the limits of loyalty in a fractured world.

