

Chapter Four

In Chapter Four of **Allegiant**, Tobias reflects on his strained relationship with his mother, Evelyn, as they discuss loyalty and the future of their factionless society. Evelyn, perched nervously on the edge of Jeanine's old desk, questions Tobias about his allegiance, referencing his past actions with Tris. Tobias, wary of her intentions, carefully navigates the conversation, admitting fear of the outside world while concealing his true feelings. The tension between them is palpable, underscored by Tobias's memories of his abusive childhood and his mother's unpredictable nature.

Evelyn reveals the emergence of a rebel group called the Allegiant, who advocate for leaving the city and restoring the faction system. She dismisses their ideals as fear-driven resistance to change, but Tobias privately sympathizes with their defiance. Though he rejects the factions, he recognizes Evelyn's control over the factionless as equally oppressive. The Allegiant's manifesto, aligned with the city's original purpose, sparks a quiet rebellion within him, even as he maintains a neutral facade to avoid suspicion.

The conversation turns darker as Evelyn hints at suppressing the Allegiant, prompting Tobias to fear violent reprisals. When he suggests using simulations, Evelyn reacts with anger, denying any resemblance to the tyrannical Jeanine. Tobias, however, remains skeptical, aware of her willingness to employ extreme measures for control. His internal conflict grows as he debates whether to warn the Allegiant or comply with Evelyn's demands, knowing her manipulative tendencies all too well.

In the chapter's closing moments, Tobias volunteers to infiltrate the Allegiant, masking his true intentions beneath a veneer of loyalty. Evelyn's gratitude feels hollow, a reminder of their fractured trust. As Tobias leaves, he grapples with the weight of his decision, torn between his mother's ruthless pragmatism and his own desire for genuine freedom. The chapter underscores the moral ambiguity of their post-faction

world, where alliances are fragile and trust is a dangerous gamble.

