

# Chapter Seven

Tris and Christina walk toward the Hancock building, their clothes still stained with Edward's blood, reflecting on the high mortality rate among their fellow transfer initiates. Christina clutches a piece of coal from the Dauntless Choosing Ceremony, a grim reminder of their past. Tris struggles to process Edward's death, recalling his talent and the violence that marked their time in Dauntless. Their conversation shifts to the few surviving initiates, including Myra, whose whereabouts remain unknown, highlighting the fragility of their lives and the bonds formed during their initiation.

As they enter the Hancock building, Tris and Christina discuss their uncertain future. Christina admits to understanding Evelyn's desire to stay and rebuild their fractured society, yet she feels compelled to leave out of curiosity. Tris, who lacks family ties, contrasts with Christina, whose parents prioritize her sister's safety but support her pursuit of an honest life. Their dialogue underscores the tension between safety and the unknown, as well as the personal stakes of their decisions.

On the rooftop, Tris, Christina, Uriah, and Zeke gaze at the darkened landscape beyond the city, speculating about what lies ahead. Uriah clings to hope for something new, while Zeke suggests the possibility of an empty world. Tris firmly asserts that they must venture out regardless of the risks, emphasizing the need to confront the truth. The group's silence and shared uncertainty reflect their collective anxiety and determination as they stand on the precipice of change.

The chapter concludes with Evelyn addressing a crowd at Erudite headquarters, announcing stricter rules in the wake of recent violence. Factionless soldiers maintain order, symbolizing the oppressive control now governing their society. This scene contrasts with the rooftop moment, underscoring the tension between the characters' desire for freedom and the harsh reality of their constrained world. The chapter leaves readers questioning what lies beyond the city and whether Tris and her friends will find

answers or further chaos.

