

Chapter Twenty-Five

Tobias and Tris meet Nita in a hotel lobby for a secretive midnight rendezvous. Nita is visibly upset that Tobias brought Tris, accusing him of breaking his promise to protect her. Tris sharply points out that Nita manipulated Tobias by appealing to his protective instincts, which unsettles him as he realizes he may have been deceived. Nita defends her actions, insisting she was trying to prevent Tris from being arrested for knowing classified information, and reluctantly agrees to let Tris join their mission.

The trio proceeds to a laboratory deep within the compound, where the atmosphere is tense and clandestine. They meet Reggie, Nita's ally, who is also genetically damaged (GD). Reggie shows them a series of disturbing historical images depicting suffering and war, suggesting the Bureau has hidden the truth about past conflicts. The photographs, showing outdated weapons and atrocities, imply that genetically pure people were responsible for ancient wars, contradicting the Bureau's narrative. Tobias and Tris are visibly shaken by the graphic evidence.

Nita and Reggie argue that the Bureau is not just misinformed but actively harmful, citing their involvement in the attack simulation that led to the Abnegation massacre. Tris struggles to reconcile this with her belief that the Bureau means well, while Tobias questions their motives, pointing out the inconsistency in the Bureau supposedly valuing genetically pure individuals yet aiding in their destruction. Tris recalls Evelyn's claim that the Divergent were most common among the factionless, not Abnegation, adding another layer of doubt.

The chapter culminates in a revelation of the Bureau's darker role in the factions' conflicts, leaving Tobias and Tris to grapple with the implications. Nita's revolutionary fervor becomes more pronounced as she accuses the Bureau of enabling violence. The encounter forces Tobias and Tris to confront the possibility that their trust in the Bureau is misplaced, setting the stage for a deeper exploration of truth and betrayal in

the chapters to come.

