

# Chapter Forty-Four

The chapter begins with the protagonist and Marcus entering a surreal, blue-tiled hallway with two doors. Despite the lack of visible security measures, the protagonist feels uneasy about the absence of locks or scanners. They decide to split up, with the protagonist choosing the left door and Marcus the right. Before parting, Marcus suggests that if the protagonist finds Jeanine, she should use coercion to achieve their goals, highlighting Jeanine's vulnerability to pain. The protagonist hesitates, worried about her ability to bypass security or locate the right files, but proceeds nonetheless.

Upon entering the blue-lit room, the door locks behind her, trapping her inside. A disembodied voice identifies her as "Beatrice Prior," revealing her faction origins and confirming her Divergent status. The room's advanced technology raises questions about how it recognizes her and what "second generation" means. The voice then declares her an intruder, and the room fills with tinted vapor, plunging her into darkness. The protagonist's fear escalates as she realizes she is at the mercy of Jeanine's sinister designs.

The scene shifts abruptly to the Dauntless training room, a familiar yet unsettling setting. A blue door appears, and the voice—now resembling Jeanine's—warns that she has five minutes to reach it before poison takes effect. Panicked but determined, the protagonist attempts to move forward, only to be blocked by a doppelgänger of herself. The double mirrors her fighting style and tactics, making it nearly impossible to bypass. A brutal physical confrontation ensues, leaving the protagonist injured and struggling to devise a strategy to overcome her identical opponent.

As the chapter concludes, the protagonist grapples with the paradox of defeating herself. The doppelgänger's knowledge of her every move forces her to think beyond her usual tactics. The encounter underscores the psychological and physical toll of Jeanine's traps, emphasizing the protagonist's resilience and resourcefulness. The

chapter ends on a cliffhanger, leaving readers wondering how she will escape the deadly simulation and whether Marcus faces similar challenges in his parallel room.

