

Allegiant Study Guide

Allegiant by Veronica Roth

(c)2015 BookRags, Inc. All rights reserved.



Contents

Allegiant Study Guide.....	1
Contents.....	2
Plot Summary.....	4
Chapters 1-2.....	6
Chapters 3-4.....	8
Chapter 5-6.....	10
Chapters 7-8.....	12
Chapters 9-10.....	14
Chapters 11-12.....	16
Chapter 13-14.....	18
Chapters 15-16.....	21
Chapters 17-18.....	24
Chapters 19-20.....	26
Chapter 21-22.....	28
Chapters 23-24.....	31
Chapters 25-26.....	33
Chapters 27-28.....	36
Chapters 29-30.....	38
Chapters 31-32.....	40
Chapters 33-34.....	42
Chapters 35-36.....	44
Chapters 37-38.....	46
Chapters 39-40.....	48
Chapters 41-42.....	50
Chapters 43-44.....	52



[Chapters 45-46..... 54](#)

[Chapters 47-48..... 56](#)

[Chapters 49-50..... 58](#)

[Chapters 51-52..... 60](#)

[Chapters 53-54..... 62](#)

[Chapters 55-56, Epilogue..... 64](#)

[Characters..... 67](#)

[Symbols and Symbolism..... 71](#)

[Settings..... 74](#)

[Themes and Motifs..... 75](#)

[Styles..... 81](#)

[Quotes..... 82](#)



Plot Summary

Allegiant, the third book in the *Divergent Series* by Veronica Roth, opens up with Tris imprisoned for her traitorous actions in the previous book. While she is imprisoned, Tobias is debating what he wants to do. While he wants to support his mother, Evelyn, he also wants to leave the city. Tobias hears that Tris is going to be interrogated, but he knows that she will be able to resist the truth serum and come up with a lie to save not only herself, but Christina and Cara, who were also imprisoned with Tris. Tris lies and says she was manipulated into following orders from Marcus, believing him to have been working with Evelyn. The lie works and Tris and the others are released from prison.

Things in the city are shown to be very chaotic. Riots are breaking out, with the rioters calling for the death of factions. At the end of one riot, Edward is killed. This makes Tobias realize that Evelyn is at fault for taking away everyone's choice. As a result of the riots, stricter rules are put into effect throughout the city. In the aftermath of the riot, Tris is approached by a rebel group known as *Allegiant*. *Allegiant* wants to help Tris and her accomplices escape the city. Before leaving, Tobias rescues Caleb who was going to shortly be placed on trial. The two escape along with Tris and her group.

Everything soon turns chaotic and the group is attacked by *Dauntless* after leaving the city. Tori is killed in the attack, but Tris manages to escape and reconvene with Christina and Johanna, who inform her about the fate of the others. Tobias and several others are missing, but the group manages to get back together, with Tobias having suffered a gunshot to the arm. The group begins to explore the new landscape.

While exploring, the group meets a woman named Zoe, and much to Tobias's surprise, find her with his former trainer, Amar. Tobias is naturally surprised, since he believed Amar to be dead. Zoe tells them that she and Amar work for a group that was responsible for founding the city. Tris decides they can trust them and they are led to the Bureau of Genetic Welfare in what used to be O'Hare Airport. Zoe takes the group inside to meet their leader, David, someone Tris recognizes from a picture he was in with her mother.

David explains that their group used to be part of the failed United States Government. He tells them that the former government failed because they tried to weed out negative traits and emotions in their citizens. Obviously not everyone agreed with this which led to a huge civil war. After the war, all the genetically damaged survivors were put into cities where they bred and created genetically healed humans, the *Divergent*. David and his Bureau have been studying the surviving societies.

Everyone takes some time to process this information, with Tobias and Amar briefly reconnecting to discuss why he faked his death. Tris is given documents about her mother, discovering that her genes were considered nearly perfect. Tobias and Tris get their genes tested, with Tris discovering that she is *Divergent* and Tobias isn't. Tobias is hurt by this, but Tris sees him as the same person. The Bureau flies Tris and the



others out of the airport. Tris studies some of her mother's journal, while Tobias finds out that his father has been exiled from the city. That evening, Tobias is surprised by Nita, who sneaks him out of the Bureau to show him the fringe where the genetically damaged live. She tells Tobias the government only makes their lives worse, not better.

Tobias tells Tris about his meeting and takes her to meet Nita. Nita wants them to help her steal a memory serum that the Bureau supposedly wants to use to reset the memories of everyone in Chicago. Tris doesn't believe Nita, but Tobias decides that he wants to help her. Tris ends up being right and Nita sets off a bomb and takes David hostage. Tris learns that Nita has stolen a death serum and is using David as a human shield to escape. Nita and Tobias are stopped and arrested as traitors, although Tobias is soon set free.

While Nita was acting on her own accord, she hadn't lied about what the Bureau had planned. Tobias heads off to the city, wanting to inoculate some of the people still inside. In the city, Tobias manages to convince Evelyn to let everyone in the city be free and form an alliance with Allegiant. While that is going on, Tris tries to stop the Bureau from using the memory serum, deciding to inflict it on them instead.

Even though it is a suicide mission, Tris unleashes the memory serum on the Bureau. Even though she succeeded, David was still able to shoot her as the serum is being released. Tobias returns and mourns the loss of Tris, deciding to wipe his own memory. He's talked out of this though by Christiania. In the epilogue, Tobias is still sad about the loss of Tris, but he's determined to help everyone heal and turn the world into a better place.



Chapters 1-2

Summary

Chapter One

The first chapter of the novel picks up chronologically where the previous novel left off. Tris is imprisoned in Erudite headquarters, and is trying to make sense of the video that they broadcast to the entire faction system. The idea that her mother was once Dauntless, was part of the Bureau that set up the factions, shakes her to her very core. She's in the cell with Cara and Christina who help her to try and make sense of their situation and to formulate a plan of escape. While they are imprisoned in Erudite headquarters, it is the factionless who've captured them and are holding them prisoners. Chief among Tris's worries is the fact that Tobias has yet to find her and come to see her, even though they've been incarcerated for a few days. One thing is certain: if she manages to get away, she will go beyond the fence.

Chapter Two

Told from Tobias's viewpoint, the reader sees that he's as devastated as Tris at being apart from one another. However, in order to help her, he knows that he has to maintain his distance and appear to have sided with his mother. Still, the need to see Tris overcomes his good reasoning and he goes to see her. She immediately runs into his arms. He tells all of them that the city is under lockdown and that his mother is every bit as power hungry as Jeanine had ever been. He tells Tris that the only way he could get a chance to come and see her is that he's led his mother to believe that he's breaking things off with her. He also warns them that they are going to start interrogating everyone soon, using truth serum. Anyone who doesn't say what they want to hear will be convicted. Tobias tells her to go first when they bring the girls forward for interrogation and to tell a lie that will exonerate both Cara and Christina especially since they know that Tris can withstand the truth serum.

Analysis

Chapter One sets the tone for the book, that of incarceration and the longing for freedom. This is one of the major themes in the novel, and asks the question of how far one would go to have freedom. Tris's relationship with Tobias is strained since she has lied to him and sided with his abusive father to find and release the video to the entire colony. Still, she hopes that he will trust the strength and depth of their love for one another and believe in her. This interior monologue by Tris shows how she longs to be free from the war and its aftermath, that her spirit and soul are weary from the constant struggle. This will figure very prominently in the ending chapters of the book.

Chapter two has Tobias finally showing up to the cell where Cara, Christina, and Tris are being held. He is there under false pretenses, having told his mother that he is breaking



up with Tris. The exchange between them shows that their love for one another has gone beyond that of the physical and that they long for the communion and peace that they have not known anywhere else in their world.

In both chapters, but predominantly in Chapter 2 is a recurring motif: deceit. Both Tris and Tobias have knowingly and willingly opted to withhold certain truths from the other, rationalizing that it is to protect or spare the other's feelings or to keep them safe. However, the author shows the damage that this type of thinking causes in that it creates a rift between Tris and Tobias, which weakens them both physically and emotionally. Also evident is the fact that they are going to be asked to sacrifice yet again for the good of those around them.

Discussion Question 1

Why hasn't Tobias come to see Tris since her capture?

Discussion Question 2

Why doesn't truth serum work on Tris, and why is that different from other Divergents?

Discussion Question 3

Describe Tobias's mother and her ulterior motives in running the city. Is she any better than Jeanine? Why?

Vocabulary

ancestor, chaos, distribute, chastise, pulsing, wavering, paraphrasing, fitful, sacrifice



Chapters 3-4

Summary

Chapter 3

Tris is placed under the truth serum, which she manages to fight off, initially. Evelyn interrogates her while she's under the influence of the serum, but Tobias is there in Evelyn's shadows watching the procedure. He can't meet her eyes, even though Tris wants him to so that it will give her courage. Tris lies and tells Evelyn that she thought that she was acting under Evelyn's orders and that Marcus was carrying Evelyn's orders. When Evelyn asks why she didn't become a soldier like the others, Tris lies, again, and offers a partial truth: since shooting Will, holding a gun is difficult and it impairs her ability.

Evelyn is cruel and at one point leans down to whisper in Tris's ear that Tobias doesn't care for her and belongs to the new world order. Tris knows that Tobias belongs to himself, and not her. Evelyn knows that Tris has most likely fought off the serum, but there's no way to prove it and she can't summarily have her executed. She has her released. The new rules include no more factions, which means that everyone is to wear mixed faction clothing. Tris feels very out of sorts wearing bright Amity yellow. Later, in the barracks, Uriah tells Tris that Tobias wants to meet her secretly at Millennium Park after ten o'clock. Tris smiles.

Chapter 4

Tobias's lie to his mother, about breaking things off with Tris, seems to have made her warm up to him, but Tobias confesses that she still doesn't trust him fully. Evelyn does share that she's heard rumors of a small rebel group growing within their ranks whose goal is to leave the city...to go beyond the fence. She will prevent this at all costs she says. He offers to find out who they are for her, even though his motives are different than hers. She agrees and thanks him.

Analysis

Chapter 3, as told from Tris's viewpoint, shows her calling once again upon her own courage to fight the truth serum and tell a series of believable lies that will save all of their lives. They have no doubt that she would execute anyone who threatened her control. It occurs to Tris, even while she's under the serum, that they've simply traded one tyrant for another, and she's right. The reader sees how strong Tris truly is, both mentally and physically, as she battles through the serum, pretending that she and Tobias are not allied. She does this to save Cara and Christine, herself, and to buy Tobias time to figure out a plan for leaving the city. Throughout the series Tris has worried that she is weak, that she isn't strong enough to handle various situations, and yet, time and again she does rise to the challenge and meets it head on.



This chapter also reinforces the symbolism of the faction clothing as identification. By commanding that everyone wear mixed faction clothing, in effect, Evelyn is telling them that segregation will no longer be tolerated. However, as we see with Tris's reaction, forcing a new identity on the outside does not always change the inner landscape. In her mind she will always be Dauntless.

Chapter 4 is told from Tobias's viewpoint and readers see the inner turmoil that he is experiencing. He's having to watch the love of his life undergo torture at the hands of his mother, whom he barely knows. At one point he actually feels guilty about lying to her, the one person who'd been her only advocate when they both lived with Marcus. It is also evident that she feels that she needs to protect everyone, factionless and all factions, from themselves and the tyranny that they suffered under before. This may be a residual effect from the many years that she lived in an abusive situation with Marcus. He suggests to Evelyn when she snaps at him that he barely knows her and she softens with the realization that she left her only child to suffer with their tormentor. It is evident that she has regrets and this may feed into her bitterness and need to control all of the situations unfolding around her. To not be in control is to be abused, manipulated, and powerless. She is not willing to return to that type of existence. She tells Tobias that she would rather die first.

Discussion Question 1

Why did Tris wrap her lies in smaller truths?

Discussion Question 2

Discuss Evelyn's character. How does she rationalize what she is doing?

Discussion Question 3

What does wearing the mixed faction clothing imply?

Vocabulary

defying, fluorescent, interrogation, vibrating, exoneration, allied, indulge, dismantled, ideology



Chapter 5-6

Summary

Chapter 5

Tris meets with Tobias under cover of darkness in the park. He's brought along a backpack filled with picnic items. He tells her that they've never really had a date, like normal people do. Tris laughs, and later has the thought that chaos and destruction put a damper on one's love life and the dating potentials. They climb high onto a metal girder, spread out the picnic items and talk about the subjects that they've been avoiding. After they've reaffirmed their feelings for one another, Tris breaks the ice by jumping into the conversation that they need to have.

Chapter 6

Tobias overhears his mother talking about a demonstration that is being planned, and when Tobias walks through the cafeteria there is a 'feeling' in the air, as if something big is about to happen. At breakfast there is a commotion out front and Tobias sees a large group of the Factionless chanting 'Death to the Factions'. Most likely orchestrated by his mother, Tobias runs to the choosing room, where each of them had to declare the faction that they would choose. When he gets there most of the room is destroyed. He manages to save the choosing bowl, the one where he placed his blood and secured his escape from his father's abuse.

Analysis

Chapter 5

Tobias and Tris have a long needed conversation and the beginnings of a reconciliation is initiated. Of chief concern to Tobias is that Tris seems to have little regard for his feelings, that waking up and finding that she'd gone to her possible death, without even a word about it, was the worst thing he could think of for another person to do to someone they cared about. Tris counters with the fact that if she had told him that he would have prevented her from making the choice, indicating that he's in many ways his father's son. She says that sometimes he acts very condescending and controlling. This is the wrong thing to say, as it reminds him too much of his mother and his father, and their relationship. He reacts poorly to the truth. The entire argument hinges around the fact that both care for each other and, as a result, felt compelled to keep stressful and horrible information from the other. They vow not to do that ever again. What emerges is that love is truthful and it takes more courage to tell each other the truth, and to respect the other person enough to respect their choices, even if one doesn't agree with them.

Chapter 6



Interestingly, the scene in the Choosing Room is significant for Tobias. The symbolism of the bowl emerges as one of identity. This bowl, this choice that he's made was one that he had the power to make, where he, alone, decided his own fate and destiny. He rescues the bowl because he values that feeling of independent thought. Almost all of the other bowls are destroyed, and as a symbol of their old life, the message is clear: their old way of life is over.

When Evelyn comes to see how Edward, one of the Factionless that both Tris and Tobias had know at Dauntless, is. Tobias sees that his mother cares more for Edward, shows more concern and kindness than she has toward her own son. Tobias is hurt. Still, he sits with her as she mourns the fact that Edward has died. This is also another clear message from the author in regards to War... that the good die young, and things that are beautiful, and often innocent, are the collateral damage. The price is too high.

Discussion Question 1

What is the significance of the spot that Tobias has chosen to have their 'date'?

Discussion Question 2

Why does Tobias become upset when Tris tells him why she lied to him?

Discussion Question 3

What would have been a better course of action for both Tris and Tobias to have taken from the beginning?

Vocabulary

milling, aptitude, reliable, smirks, huddle, insistence, wincing, gulp, hazy, sledgehammer, tousled



Chapters 7-8

Summary

Chapter 7

Christina is sitting with Tris and musing with the others how, of all of them, there are now only six that are still alive... and out of those only two were nice (herself and Tris). Tris states that Christina is hardly to be considered nice, and they share a brief moment of hilarity. They meet up with Zeke and Uriah, and plot to leave the city.

The following day, Evelyn reveals a set of rules for everyone to follow. Curfew, and job rotations are the the new rules that are laid down. Once the meeting is done, Tris saves a Candor boy from being beaten up. Her actions brings her to the notice of a small rebel group calling themselves the Allegiant. They kidnap and blindfold her at one point telling her to meet the Allegiant tomorrow in the Candor Hideout.

She finds her way back to her room to be reminded by Tobias that her brother, Caleb, is being tried for treason.

Chapter 8

Tris gathers her friends to meet the Allegiant and pledge themselves to the company. Tris is still trying to figure out if she should care about her brother's trial or not. The group starts to wonder where Cara is and it turns out she was already an Allegiant member. The Allegiant want to send people through the fence and picks Christina, Tris, Tobias, Tori, Zeke, and Peter for the job. Zeke trades places with Uriah since he wants to stay and help take care of Shauna. They make plans for how they will elude their escorts when they next go into the city on a scouting mission.

Analysis

Chapter 7 shows Tris facing the real possibility that her brother may be executed. Part of her is still angry and upset with them for standing by while Jeanine tortured her. Another part of her still recognizes that he is her brother and the last family member she has alive. This chapter also takes an informal headcount of the team and the reader is reminded at the toll this rebellion has taken on everyone. The new rules that have been put in place are no better than living within the Faction system, and once again it becomes evident that one tyrant has replaced another and anyone who does not allow government by democratic means is destined to alienate the very population they purport to help.

The theme of Family is demonstrated clearly in this chapter in that Tris questions the definition of family and at what point one remains loyal to someone simply because of genetics. Her brother has committed the ultimate betrayal, and though he has



apologized for it, Tris has a hard time forgetting what he chose to do to her, and isn't convinced she can trust him. From Caleb's perspective the reader sees someone who is truly sorry and wracked with guilt over what almost occurred, and that he almost helped Jeanine succeed. He makes many attempts to reach out to Tris, to stay out of her way, to offer various things in order to get her to forgive him, but she turns him away.

Chapter 8 shows that already there is rebellion taking place against Evelyn's rules and regime. They call themselves the Allegiant and they recruit Tris and her friends to join them. Their goal is simple: leave the city and Evelyn behind. The theme of freedom and what that actually means is explored in this chapter, both in the section where the Allegiant talk about leaving the city and walking through the gates, but also when Tris is viewing their former zip line site. The feeling that she had when zip lining was the ultimate feeling of freedom for her, and even standing there she can feel it. This longing for control over one's destiny and freedom from oppressive rule is a strong thread that runs throughout all of the novels in this series. This is also a bit of foreshadowing in that at the end, the zip line will be Tobias's way of honoring Tris's memory and what she loved the most.

Discussion Question 1

What aspects of the Allegiant group make it different from the others?

Discussion Question 2

What does Chapter 7 suggest about families?

Discussion Question 3

How does Tris feel toward Caleb, knowing that he's about to go to trial?

Vocabulary

dazed, ashen, reorient, ransacked, anonymity, integral, succumbed, lurks, writhes



Chapters 9-10

Summary

Chapter 9

The overall action that occurs in this chapter is that Caleb is put on trial and it doesn't go well. Tris decides that she doesn't want to see him punished, but that for the most part he was doing what he thought was right at the time. Caleb isn't executed, but it still isn't off the table. Tris remembers him as her brother and not the Erudite drone attached to Jeanine. She decides to forgive him. Tobias says that he'll help Caleb escape his prison.

Chapter 10

Tobias decides to enter into his fearscape Sim test one more time. This is the Sim test that earned him the nickname, Four, since he only had four fears that he couldn't defeat or overcome. Now, he is certain that he can let go of at least most of them. The one that he has never been able to escape is of having to face his father. This time he manages to conquer all of them and is only able to do so when he realizes that he is always in control of what he feels and who he lets have control of him. Tobias breaks Caleb out of jail for Tris, and makes sure that Caleb knows that he's only doing it for Tris; that it was her idea. He tells off Caleb for being a traitor, and then Caleb and Tris escape to the train to head out of the city. Tris seems emotional about leaving a nameless city since it held so many memories.

Analysis

Chapter 9

Tris comes to a very important conclusion in this chapter. She realizes that Caleb belongs to her mother and father, and she needs to set aside her feelings about him to somehow try to save him. He belongs to them, and even though they are long since dead, she finds herself still wanting them to be proud of her. Thus, Tris has answered the question posed in the previous chapters about Family. Out of respect and honor for the memory of her parents, she will do what she can to help Caleb. Tobias respects her decision and agrees to break Caleb out of jail.

Chapter 10

This chapter is about 'letting go'. Tris is symbolically letting go of an old way of life by forgiving Caleb and leaving the city. Conversely, Tobias is also letting go in that he's finally able to conquer all of his fears and let go of those things that had been making him afraid. Confronting his father in his fear landscape is a turning point for Tobias as he realizes and embraces his own ability to determine his own destiny. This is something that Tris had learned before he did, something he did not understand about her. Now, he



does. Living by design, instead of by default, he is now her complete partner and soul mate. Readers also see Caleb proclaiming that he's not a coward, which incidentally is something that Tris has suffered from. Neither Tris nor her brother like to be considered weak or cowardly. This propensity to avoid being called weak or a coward will come back to motivate and serve as a catalyst for future actions and the author is using this as foreshadowing for events to come....where Caleb will offer himself up to go into the weapons lab and expose himself willingly to the death serum.

Discussion Question 1

How does Tris feel about Caleb's trial?

Discussion Question 2

What motivates Tris to try to forgive and save Caleb?

Discussion Question 3

What is the significance of Tobias's last trip into the fearscape simulation?

Vocabulary

ulterior, sector, simulation, plunger, muffled, claustrophobia, flux, calluses, phenomenon



Chapters 11-12

Summary

Chapter 11

The group of rebels gets off the train and gets to Johanna and the trucks that are waiting for them to go outside the city gates. After they jump from the train, Caleb tries to run but is no match for Tobias. Tobias warns Caleb to just keep his mouth shut. This turns bloody when they come under gun fire. Tori gets killed instantly and Tris freezes, remembering Will, her mother, her father, and countless others that have lost their lives. Tris loses sight of Tobias when they are separated, but is then found later with the others. He's bleeding from a wound he sustained to his arm. He and Tris fall into one another's arms, then get into the truck.

Chapter 12

As they ride in the truck Johanna tells them that now and again people would come outside of the gate and that the Dauntless guards would capture them and a memory serum would be administered to them. This serum resets a person's entire life. While they retain basic functions, they don't know who they are and can be 'reprogrammed' with new personalities and lives. Tobias is appalled at how cheaply memories and a person's identity are valued. Tris is still reeling from Tori's death. They'd had to leave her body, abandoned in a field, and this bothers Tris.

Analysis

Chapter 11

All of Tris's fears come to face her in the dark fields just before the gates to the city. First, she faces the fear that she will lose Tobias in a violent way, and then she has to pick up a gun again and shoot someone to defend herself. Reacting without thinking it is only after she's committed the act that saves her own life that she realizes that while she's been changed by Will's death, it no longer cripples her. Tobias, while injured, is not hurt too badly, and it is evident that both of them had been terrified that one or the other of them would not make it out of this alive. This foreshadows what actually happens at the end of the novel.

Chapter 12

This chapter talks directly to identity and one of the main themes in it. That a person's memories can be erased and 'reset' means that a person virtually loses who they are and can be 'remade' in a way that is more pleasing to the establishment. The danger if this should become commonplace is offered for the reader to consider. Johanna shares that Amity was entrusted to keep many secrets for the good of mankind. When they



press her for more information she does not tell them anymore. Tris does not engage in this conversation, as she's still reeling from Tori's death.

Discussion Question 1

What does the author imply about Tris when she's able to defend herself with a gun again?

Discussion Question 2

What is Johanna's motivation for keeping faction secrets?

Discussion Question 3

Why is Tori's death particularly painful for Tris?

Vocabulary

overcompensate, wiry, senseless, administered, providence, obscuring, cinders, hallucinated



Chapter 13-14

Summary

Chapter 13

Johanna and the group stop their truck and then they get out. Johanna leaves them to go back and continue to help those who are still Allegiant and will work against Evelyn. Before too long a large truck comes up carrying Amar, Tobias's old trainer from Dauntless. Tobias is ecstatic and there is a reunion of sorts. He finds out that Amar has been working with a group called the Bureau of Genetic Warfare. A girl, Zoe, who is with Amar's group tells them that they've been sent to bring them the rest of the way in. They don't trust them, but Zoe places a picture down and tells Tris that she should look at it. Tris does and sees a picture of her mother, a much younger version. She convinces the others that these are the answers that they've come for.

Tris briefly hopes that maybe her parents had a 'fake' death and were extracted from the project, too. As they make their way to the Bureau they see old billboards and advertisements that use words that they do not know, such as Coca-cola, energy drinks, and vodka.

The reappearance of Amar brings up a subtle symbolism of history repeating itself. Amar was a part of Tobias's history that he thought long gone. And now, of course, it is coming back to life, and was in actuality, never really gone. This would seem to be suggesting that human nature is ongoing and predictable, even when an attempt is made to control or manipulate it.

Chapter 14

They arrive at the remnants of O'Hare airport. Zoe explains to them what airports are as they have no idea. She goes on to explain that now the airport is the headquarters of The Bureau of Genetic Welfare. They monitor their experiments from a safe distance, with everyone inside the compound walls. The group is stunned and shocked by all of the additional information they receive by way of technology and comfort that was denied them in their factional living situation.

As they enter the compound there is a large block of stone. Over it is a clear container full of water, with only a small drip coming out of it to fall onto the stone. While Tris and Tobias haven't yet grasped what it could mean, later in the book it is a symbolic reminder to the workers that their commitment to a project is similar to water hitting stone; it takes a while, but it does accomplish the task. Zoe takes them through the scanners, which freaks Tobias out because it so closely resembles one of his fearscapes where he's trapped in a tight place. Once through the security checkpoint, where they are told they have to leave their weapons behind, the group is ushered into a room with a lot of monitors and screens. A man steps forward and introduces himself



as David. He tells them: "This is what we've waited for since the very beginning." (page 117).

Analysis

Chapter 13

Two significant things happen in this chapter. First is the return of Amar into Four's life, asking the reader to ponder the question of who is really dead and who is not, and what 'dead' really means anyway. The author is also asking the reader to consider that history, especially when it involves human beings, does repeat itself if care is not taken. In this case, Amar, Tobias's teacher has returned. This is foreshadowing as Amar has a few lessons left to bring to Tobias.

Secondly, Tris receives her own piece of past history: a picture of her mother. Zoe hands this to her as proof that they 'come in peace'. Tris is inclined to go with them just to get answers about her mother, if nothing else.

That Johanna will go back to the city to continue the fight and to assist the Allegiant suggests that Tobias and Tris are only the first of many that will make this journey to understanding where they came from and what they are, albeit unwittingly, a part of.

Chapter 14

Tris realizes as soon as they enter the compound at O'Hare that when they were living inside of the fence, the factions divided them. Now, she is very aware that all those divisions have fallen away and in the end, all they have is each other. In this chapter it becomes evident to the reader that all of the modern conveniences that we enjoy, even Coca-cola is a foreign concept to them; that they've been denied these sorts of things. Seeing the large stone with the water suspended over it is just one of many things that they do not understand, and Tobias is forced to face one of his fears because he must step into the confining space of a scanner. This also suggests, by way of foreshadowing, that their trials are not yet over and that their same fears are alive and well in this compound.

The mention of an experiment and projects set an ominous tone for this chapter, culminating in the introduction of David, the director of the Bureau.

Discussion Question 1

Who does Zoe seem to be?

Discussion Question 2

Why does standing in the scanner unnerve Tobias?



Discussion Question 3

What is Zoe's motivation in handing the picture to Tris?

Vocabulary

manipulate, adapt, expanses, sprawling, compound, slack, rephrase, incredulous, preliminary, distorted, obvious, masculinity, clustered, dingy



Chapters 15-16

Summary

Chapter 15

Tris realizes that the man standing with her mother in the picture she'd gotten from Zoe is David. This man attempts to explain the parameters and justification for the 'experiment' that they were all a part of. There was a war, he tells them, between the genetically pure (GP) and those that were Genetically Damaged. People's genetic material became 'corrupted' because of all the testing that was allowed onto the market without sufficient testing. The result was that many people were affected horribly. It was hoped that if they took the genetically pure and isolated them from the damaged that eventually nature would correct what they'd messed up. In essence, the faction systems were one giant social and scientific experiment.

Tris finds herself growing angrier with each revelation. All of the misery that they'd endured had been for nothing, in her estimation. The project's architects, whom her mother was a part, had attempted to 'edit' mankind. In effect, a breeding program was instituted, where desirable traits were established and passed down through several generations. Each descendant would be just a little better. This failed miserably. It resulted in what David calls The Purity War.

David shows them a map of what the world looked like prior to the Purity Wars, and then after. Whole masses of the population of the earth start disappearing on the visual that they have displayed. Because the very fate of mankind was at stake, the Bureau of Genetic Welfare was created. It would be their job to slowly alter the genes of volunteers who'd survived the Purity War to be placed in factions. Serums would be used to control the masses until such time as Divergent thinkers began to emerge. This would signal that the genes are healed. They also learn that there are many other project cities, but that theirs is the first to become Divergent and walk out of the city to find them.

He also says that what happened, with the various factions turning against the Divergent, was never in the plans. The group, completely overwhelmed, is shown to their quarters.

Chapter 16

Tobias makes his way to an Atrium to try to make sense of everything. He reminisces about his time with Amar and how he'd taken Tobias under his wing when he'd joined Dauntless. Amar joins him and tells him that he'd had to fake his death, along with many others, because they knew that they were Divergent and that Jeanine was rounding them up and executing them. Amar tells him that one other Divergent made it out with



him, George Wu (Tori's brother). This news strikes Tobias hard, as Tori just died one day short of being reunited with his long lost sister. He feels the loss deeply.

Amar also tells Tobias that his father's trial is about to start. He isn't sure how to feel about it, so he leaves the Atrium and goes back to their barracks.

Analysis

Chapter 15

Many of the questions that have been raised throughout the novels are now being answered. All of the characters react differently to the discovery that they were part of a huge experiment based solely on genetic perfection and purity. Tris gives up the hope that her parents have had a 'faked death' like Amar, but she clings to the photograph and looks at it several times throughout the novel, indicating her desire to be reunited with her mother once more.

David recites all of this information in an excited but detached way, as if the project's subjects were lab rats and not human beings. Tris comprehends what it is that David is saying, especially when he puts up the map of pre-war and post-war worlds. Whereas Tobias is sickened and confused, Tris understands, is slightly fascinated, and angry that people could have been so stupid and cruel.

Showing the map of the world brings the disaster into clear focus for both the characters and the readers. Given the amount of the genetic malfunctions and the widespread damage done, it is little wonder that drastic measures had been taken and questionable methods employed.

Chapter 16

Tobias struggles with several things in this chapter. First, his old instructor has literally come back from the dead. The sense of betrayal is palpable and he is angry toward Amar at first. However, he also remembers the good times and is able to forgive Amar when he learns why Amar had to leave. The senseless cost of war is approached in this chapter as illustrated by the death of Tori when she was only hours away from being reunited with her brother. On top of all the revealing news for the day, Tobias learns that his father is about to go on trial. He knows that the word 'trial' is really just a phrase with little meaning, as he knows his mother intends to level some major payback on him for all the misery he'd put them through. Part of him is glad that he's finally going to answer for his crimes in a very public way. The other part of him wishes that his mother wouldn't sink to his level, and just let it go. In the end, it wouldn't change anything, he realizes.

Discussion Question 1

What was the Purity War about?



Discussion Question 2

Why does the author directly compare the Purity War to World War II Holocaust victims?

Discussion Question 3

What is the author's purpose in bringing back the character of Amar?

Vocabulary

sprawled, chasm, atrium, vibrant, pragmatic, impenetrable, resurrection, savor, dormitory, advisement



Chapters 17-18

Summary

Chapter 17

Tris wanders around the Airport Compound and finds herself in the front area where they first arrived. She stands in front of the large chunk of rock with the suspended water dripping onto it and contemplates its meaning. Zoe finds her and tells her that it means that what they do takes time, but that eventually it does make a difference. Meaning, that while there is forward momentum, it is going very slowly and it will take a long time for a difference to be noticeable. Eventually, Tris goes to the lab to collect something belonging to her mother. She learns that her mother had near perfect genes, which is why she was invited to come and live at the Bureau. She came there when she was fifteen and her name wasn't Edith at all. It was Natalie. She made a journal, and this is what David gives to Tris to read. She can't quite bring herself to do it yet. David, and one of the lab assistants, Matthew, state that they'd like to test both Tobias and Tris to see which generation they are and if the damage has been reversed.

Chapter 18

Tobias and Tris leave the lab and go off to try and make some decisions. First, they haven't yet decided if they are going to stay at the Bureau permanently, or if they'll leave soon. Additionally, they need to decide if they want to know about their genes. Tris is excited to know, but Tobias is more cautious. What good can come of knowing, he asks her. Tris isn't sure that she wants to show Tobias her mother's journal, not until after she's had time to read it. So, she keeps it secret from him. Tobias is carrying some heavy issues of his own, however, as his father is on trial and it is being broadcasted.

At the end of this chapter the two have decided that it will be okay to go and get the testing done, vowing that it will not change anything, that it is more of a curiosity and to help the scientists. Tobias regrets the decision when they learn that Tobias is still Genetically Damaged and Tris is Genetically Pure.

Analysis

Chapter 17

The statue with the dripping water is an important element in this chapter, not only for the significance and message for the scientists, but to impress upon the reader that changes on the magnitude that they are attempting will take countless generations to fix. Whereas, it is suggested that creating the damage didn't take any time at all. This puts forth the theme of what is normal? In other words, who is to say what is to be considered 'damaged' or 'pure' when it comes to genes? Who decides what is acceptable as a trait and what is not and who is really qualified to make that



determination? Tris inherently understands all of this while she is looking at the stone and does not need Zoe to interpret things for her.

The theme of segregation is demonstrated in this chapter, as Tris finds that they are grouping people by their genes: genetically damaged, or genetically pure. While there are no factions, there is still separation. None of them seem fair and Tris does not accept the labels that are placed on her. She is unable to see how others, like Tobias, can't walk away from the labels.

Chapter 18

The difference in personalities between Tris and Tobias is very evident in this chapter, as they must make a decision about having the genetic tests or not. Tris can only see the outcome as answering a question, but without any fallout. Tobias sees the answer as potentially damaging. This shows that Tris tends to be more the optimist, perhaps reflecting her good childhood, as compared to Tobias's pessimistic reaction, for much the same reason.

He fears that they will turn up as some sort of damaged goods, or that the scientists aren't going to do what they say they will do. Both of their arguments for and against are valid, and in the end, neither one wants to give in to the other. This causes both of them to grow angry with one another. Finally, Tobias goes along with it because he can't stop Tris. Tris, learning the truth, still remains true to her belief..that it doesn't change who you are. Tobias believes, however, that he is not worthy of Tris, that he is somehow lessened now, and that society is to blame.

Discussion Question 1

What message does Tris seem to gather from the stone statue?

Discussion Question 2

Why does the news of the test results upset Tobias so much?

Discussion Question 3

Compare and contrast Tris to Tobias as to their perspectives on David and the Bureau.

Vocabulary

draped, stragglers, suspended, refracting, persistent, implemented, complex, glimpses, tersely, advocate



Chapters 19-20

Summary

Chapter 19

Tris struggles to understand Tobias's anger over the test results. She can't understand how he believes it changes anything between them. After the testing Nita speaks to Tobias alone which makes Tris really jealous. Even though he is damaged, Tris sees him the same as she always has. Zoe tells Tris that they are going to take anyone who wants to go, on an airplane ride. Tris is thrilled, but Tobias, with his fear of heights, isn't inclined to agree. They all get on an airplane and head out, where Tris learns that the Bureau uses the airplane for surveillance missions. This is where Tris learns about 'the fringe', which is where all of the people not involved in the experiments live. The Bureau keeps an eye on them so that they don't try to get into the experimental areas and cause trouble.

That night Tris opens her mom's journal to find out her mother had lived in the Fringe areas, had killed a man and was abducted to have her genes tested. In Chapter 19 the symbolism of her mother's journal is introduced. With it Tris unlocks secrets to herself and her mother, and it is a way that she is able to still draw comfort from her mother, even though her mother is gone. The journal represents her link to her mother, and to her own inner strength. Her refusal to share it with her brother is indicative of the fact that she's still considering whether or not to forgive him. She doesn't want him to poison this memory of her mother like she believes he has done everything else.

Chapter 20

Tobias meets Nita clandestinely, and Nita explains the divisions of GD and GP, Genetically pure and Genetically Damaged. she has heard about Tobias's results and wants him to meet the other GD, who act as support staff for the compound. Nita tries to tell Tobias that being GD is just a label and it doesn't change how human he is. Tobias doesn't buy it.

About that time, Tobias learns that they are about to give a verdict on his father's trial. He runs up to the control room to view it. When he learns that his father will be exiled from the city, never to return to it, he's unsure how to feel. He's angry that the man does not seem the least repentant for anything.

Analysis

Chapter 19

What Tris and the others witness as they fly in the plane are hundreds of destroyed cities and towns, charred to the ground. The complete devastation that must've come as



a result of the Purity War sobers her. What chokes her into silence is to learn that the world is much larger than she imagined. Peter asks how big Chicago is in comparison to the rest of the world and Zoe's answer silences them all. Tris finds some comfort in Zoe's words, however. Being so small as to be negligible is to be almost free. The symbolism of the airplane joins with many of the other recurring freedom motifs evident in this book.

The theme of identity is demonstrated in this chapter when Tris opens her mother's journal and begins to read the accounts recorded there. She can't believe that her mother was more like her than she thought. She is shocked to learn that her mother, too, had killed someone in self-defense, protecting someone else. As a result of that she had been kidnapped, had her genes tested, and was brought to the Bureau. In some ways she is finally able to forgive herself for killing Will.

Chapter 20

Learning that he isn't genetically pure, Tobias's self-worth takes a nosedive once again. In essence, he's still part of the problem and not part of the solution like Tris, who is genetically pure. When Nita, another genetically damaged individual, tries to comfort him and explain that being GD isn't all that bad, it has the opposite affect in that it makes Tobias even more determined to do something rash.

Adding to his collection of confusing emotions and battling allegiances, is the fact that his mother is a tyrant, and his father is on trial for his life. When he is not sentenced to death, but exile, he is relieved and unsettled at the same time.

Discussion Question 1

Compare the people who live in the Fringe to those who live at the Bureau. Who is really better off?

Discussion Question 2

What is implied by David's reaction and treatment of Natalie when she is first brought to the Bureau?

Discussion Question 3

What did Tris learn about the world while flying on the airplane?

Vocabulary

derail, steering, descend, purity, reassurance, churning, bustling, verdict, lingering, hollowness



Chapter 21-22

Summary

Chapter 21

During a simulated 'attack drill' the next morning, Tris sees that Tobias is looking worn and pale, depressed. He grows angry and snaps at her when she says that the tests mean nothing. He says that he's a little more distraught over his father's verdict and accuses her of not understanding at all. Tris muses on the fact that without their factions and those rules, they all seem to have lost their sense of purpose.

Tris reads her mother's journal and learns that David asked her to insert herself into the Chicago project because the divergent were being murdered and they think that the killer is at Erudite headquarters. She agrees to go, explaining that she thinks it might be an easy thing since she's young enough not to have chosen a faction, yet. They'll place her in Dauntless because of her tattoos, and then she can choose Erudite. The next entry shows how she ended up in Abnegation: she met a boy named Andrew and together they decided to join Abnegation. This is against what she'd agreed to with David, but she's in love and sure that she can still do her job.

Chapter 22

The last entry in the journal is a death certificate, and with this finding Tris' chances of a reunion with her mother are dashed. She developed a suspicion that David was jealous of her mother's relationship with Andrew, the boy she joined Abnegation with. Tris goes to Zoe to ask more about her mother and her family. When Tris finds Zoe, she is watching Evelyn Cam. Zoe tells Tris that they monitor it 24/7. At the present moment they are watching her thoughtfully touching a small blue abstract sculpture of a wave frozen in time. Tris knows that this used to belong to Tobias.

Zoe takes her to the lab and explains how Tris's parents met and that it was Andrew, Tris's father, who observed Jeanine conducting an experiment on a factionless man. Tris tells Zoe that Marcus was not GD, but was also Divergent, so Zoe's theory that the GD were causing the problems in leadership in the city is flawed. Zoe demonstrates one of the themes of the novel, which is nature versus nurture when she says: "A man surrounded by genetic damage cannot help but mimic it with his own behavior."

Zoe leaves, and Matthew starts talking about genes and hands Tris a biology book so she can learn, too. Tris decides to tell Caleb about the journal, only to find out he has had paper documents about their family already. She storms out of the room to Tobias, and the two share a tender moment.



Analysis

Chapter 21

The fact that the Bureau still feels the need to practice 'attack drills' sends a clear message: no one is safe in this world. Tris uncovers more of the history of the time before the factions and begins to understand the kind of person her mother was as she reads more of the journal. When she learns of her mother's disobedience and her determination to join Abnegation with Andrew, it makes Tris happy to know that 'faction before blood' wasn't her mother's motto...in fact it was 'love before faction'. Tris understands this completely and, once again, identifies with her mother. This is a bit of foreshadowing as well, since her mother died by stepping in front of a bullet meant for Tris; something that Tris will do in the end, too.

An interesting question is brought up in this chapter in regards to a person's sense of purpose. Where does a sense of purpose come from? Before, in the factions, their purpose was decided for them. But, given free will and choice, how does one choose? The theme of Choice is demonstrated and embodied within this question.

Chapter 22

In this chapter the symbolism of the blue sculpture is introduced. Evelyn is viewed on camera thoughtfully stroking it and staring at it. Tris knows that it was a gift from her to Tobias and that as Abnegation faction they shouldn't have had anything so vain in their possession. Hiding it from Marcus all of those years was something that both she and Tobias shared. It is also a clear indication that Evelyn does care deeply for Tobias and that she loves him in her own way. Tris is hopeful that this signals that some reconciliation might be possible in the future.

Also in this chapter there are two contrasting points of view offered in the genetic debate. Zoe's views toward genetics and the purity of the genes differs from Matthew's. Even Tris points out some fallacies in Zoe's thinking, but Zoe, like David, is convinced that their outlook is the only one that is correct. Matthew challenges this thinking and gives Tris the biology book so that she can learn more and make her own choices about the matter.

Discussion Question 1

What is causing Tobias to be upset about what he's learned?

Discussion Question 2

Tris learns that her parents choice of Abnegation wasn't the narrative she'd been raised with. How does this make her feel?



Discussion Question 3

Why does Tris say that all of her former Dauntless friends have lost their purpose?

Vocabulary

jittery, accusatory, trickle, dispel, genetic, mimic, lashed, biased, unprecedented, candied



Chapters 23-24

Summary

Chapter 23

Tobias goes to meet Nita again. He mentions that the feel of his hair growing out and touching the top of his collar is a strange feeling, and that he misses the ritual of keeping his hair trimmed. Nita meets up with him and she takes him to a large room that has all of the project's 'subjects' tagged and listed in a pedigree type tree. They are all matrilineal, making Tris a second generation because her mother came from outside the city. Tobias thanks her for the tour, but moves to go back to the barracks when she stops him. There's someplace she wants him to see. As they walk she tells him that the GD are viewed as expendable to the Bureau and that they are conducting unspeakable experiments. She wants Tobias to join them in their fight against the Bureau's plans. Tobias wants proof, and she says that he will see it soon enough.

Nita takes Tobias into the Fringes, where people live outside of the Bureau and the Project Faction Cities. Many of her GD friends have escaped from the Bureau to live on the Fringes, as free people. Tobias sees poverty, disease, and unhappiness and he is not a first convinced that it is a better way to live. However, he sees his first deer and is struck by how beautiful it is. Nita makes him promise not to tell Tris because knowing will put her in danger.

Chapter 24

In this chapter Tris and Christina bring up the nature versus nurture debate again. Tris counters that the gene for blue eyes is different from one for green eyes. She asks how someone can arbitrarily decide what is good and what is bad. Christina offers the opposing side's argument in that behavior and lowered ability suggest that they are bad. Tris counters that there are so many factors that go into someone choosing a certain way of life, and not the least of it is genetics. They both agree to disagree.

Tobias walks in looking serious and Christina leaves them to talk. Tobias tells Tris everything, despite Nita's warning not to. At first Tris is upset, but then she realizes that Tobias hasn't hidden anything from her. Nita has offered to show Tobias proof of the horrible testing and developments that the Bureau keeps hidden. She will show it to him that night, and Tobias wants Tris to go with him.

Analysis

Chapter 23

When Tobias mentions that his hair is now grown below his collar the author is indicating that the rules that once governed them before have gone, and that they are



free to choose how they will do something as simple as wear their hair. Tobias muses that he actually misses having his hair cut short, the routine, the ritual of it. To Tobias, with so much unaccounted for and not able to be trusted, something as simple as routine and predictability are seductive.

When Tobias asks Nita how she intends to affect change, she says that she will try to do so from within the Bureau, but that many, like those living in the Fringe have chosen to live that way, outside of any government's oversight, just to enjoy their freedom. When Tobias asks Nita how she intends to 'work from within' this is when the reader learns that the Bureau isn't as altruistic as they seem. Tobias is once again wondering if there are any 'good people' left in the world.

Chapter 24

The theme of Nature vs Nurture is demonstrated in this chapter as exemplified by the discussion between Christina and Tris. Though the conversation is not adversarial in tone, both girls present logical arguments for and against genetic purity. This asks the reader to consider what they would consider 'damaged', and who actually gets to determine what 'damaged' is. The overall point that Tris ends up making, several times throughout this chapter, is that each individual should decide what 'right' is for them, and what 'damaged' means to them. She believes that people should be given the choice to decide their own views as regards something as basic as their own bodies.

Discussion Question 1

What is Nita's motivation in showing Tobias the experiment pedigree tree?

Discussion Question 2

What does Nita hope to accomplish by showing Tobias the Fringe?

Discussion Question 3

What are Tris's thoughts when Tobias tells her about his meetings with Nita?

Vocabulary

crinkle, ritual, inscribed, encompass, trepidation, vertical, oligarchy, sham, co-conspirator, shudder



Chapters 25-26

Summary

Chapter 25

When Tris shows up at the meeting place with Tobias, Nita is hostile and accusatory. Tris accuses Nita of manipulating Tobias and this shuts down any further argument that she might have offered. Nita resigns herself to the extra company and takes them into the lab where she shows them slides from past wars in mankind's past. Nita points to this as proof that the GP can start wars and cause upheaval as much as the GD can, and that the Bureau is suppressing the information. She says that when the Bureau learned that Edith was going to release the video before it was time, they gave Jeanine the attack sim that enslaved the minds of the Dauntless...which led to the total annihilation of Abnegation. This is still not enough proof, so Nita tells them that the government has been threatening to shut down the programs because none of them can figure out how to live in peace, and usually at the last minute David finds a way to calm things down. This time, unfortunately, the only way to do that is to do a complete reboot. Erasing all of their memories and resetting them.

Tobias asks what Nita plans to do. She says that she intends to destroy the memory serum stating that its their greatest source of power over the subjects in their experiments. Nita leaves them to talk, and Tris argues with Tobias, who wants to go along with Nita's plan.

Chapter 26

Tris stays in the lab after Tobias storms out of it and turns back to look into the microscope again. She hears someone walk into the lab. It is Caleb, her brother. He asks if she is all right and she opens up on him vehemently, saying everything that she's been holding back for a while. He tries to reason with her, even offering some advice that their mother once gave him. This is the last straw and Tris punches him in the face. A guard breaks them apart and Caleb goes from the room. Shortly after that Matthew walks in and he and Tris begin a conversation about the various serums and Tris learns that they've improved the serums. They no longer have to be injected...they can be made airborne.

Tris tells him something that makes him realize that she's been talking to Nita. He asks her what she knows and it becomes obvious that Matthew is Nita's inside informant. He asks Tris if she knows what Nita is planning, stating that at first it was okay to help her but that Nita had gone rogue and was planning to break into the weapons lab and steal, not the memory serum, but the death serum. He explains to a shocked Tris that the death serum has been aerosolized and can kill vast numbers of people, instantly. Both Matthew and Tris run from the lab. As they make their way quickly down the hallway,



Tris sees Uriah standing by the large sculpture with the water drip. Just about the time he waves at her the wall next to him explodes.

Analysis

Chapter 25

When Tris congratulates Nita on her skillful manipulation of Tobias, he's shaken by the statement. It forces him to face the fact that maybe he does lie to her for the wrong reasons, that maybe he is so used to lying instead of telling difficult truths, that any chance he's offered to deceive her, he takes. This shames him, though he says nothing, and it is an indication that he has recognized something that he does not believe any longer.

When Nita leaves them to talk, both Tris and Tobias state their cases to one another, hoping to change the other's mind. Tris suspects that Nita has more planned than just taking and destroying the serum, but Tobias thinks that it's better than sitting still taking no action at all. The fact that he's been seeing Nita behind Tris's back comes back to figure into the argument and Tobias accuses Tris of not wanting to go along with the plan because she's jealous of Nita. Tris denies it and is exasperated that Tobias won't see past his feelings of insecurity over the genetic testing results.

Chapter 26

Tris and Caleb have a violent confrontation in this chapter that has been many chapters in the making. In a direct comparison between the two characters the reader sees that, while Tris has matured and gained wisdom, Caleb is still much the same as he was when he joined the Erudite faction. He is still trying to rationalize and justify what he did to Tris. Disgusted by the fact that he can't see what is clearly happening right in front of him, has been happening all along, it is just too much and she punches him. Mentioning their mother to her is the final straw and she is intent on continuing to beat him until the guards come and pull them apart.

The last portion of this chapter is pivotal because Tris learns that the serums have taken a lethal evolution....they can be distributed through the air. And Nita is determined to deliver the death serum to the Fringe people in order to start another war. Though Tris wants to rush to help Uriah who is injured seriously in the blast, she realizes the greater good much be served and she goes with Matthew toward the weapons lab.

Discussion Question 1

Why doesn't Nita really want Tris involved?



Discussion Question 2

What is Nita's real agenda?

Discussion Question 3

Why does the author place Uriah in a position to become critically injured?

Vocabulary

mechanical, deflated, even-keeled, critique, unstable, replication, cryptic, aerosol, anarchy, fringe



Chapters 27-28

Summary

Chapter 27

In the Weapons Lab Nita and a helper are holding David at gunpoint. They want him to give them the passcode that will let them into the weapons lab. David refuses and they shoot him in the feet. Next, Nita injects him with a serum that is a blend of truth serum and fear serum. David continues to babble and scream. Tris is almost there and can hear David's screams. She sends Matthew for help and continues without him. Tris enters the lab, wounds Nita, then rescues David, only to put a gun to his head and tell them that if they try to shoot at them, that she'll kill David to keep them from getting the passcode. The bluff almost works until she is about out of the door, then they open fire.

Chapter 28

This chapter opens in the hospital where both she and David have been taken. She learns from the nurse that David will recover but that it will be a long time before he walks again. There's no news on Uriah, but judging from the closed doors and activity, the news will not be good. Christina is there and she is beside herself because no one will give her any information on Uriah. Tris looks everywhere for Tobias, but can't find him. Christina tells her that Tobias was arrested with the other rebels. He had been caught trying to disable the security system to the control room right before the attack. Tris leaves to find him.

Analysis

Chapter 27

The theme of government control is demonstrated in this chapter in that the haves and the havenots have reached a critical juncture. Those living in the Fringe places want the comfort and security that those inside the compound enjoy. And those within the compound want their experiments to continue so that they will have a reason to stay in relative ease and safety. Nita threatens to end that ease and comfort, as well as disrupt the projects by her access and attempt to steal the death serum.

Chapter 28

Both chapters are brief but what the reader learns from them is that the worst fear that the Bureau has had, has happened. Using underground tunnels people from the Fringe and the GD staffers from the bureau have attacked their compound. Tris and Tobias differ in their opinion of motives, especially when it comes to Nita. Tris and Tobias find themselves on separate sides of this 'war' and as a result, when the dust settles, Tris has to go find Tobias in jail.



Discussion Question 1

Why does Nita give David the serum?

Discussion Question 2

Why does Tris put her gun to David's head?

Discussion Question 3

What does Chapter 28 tell readers about the theme of nonconformity?

Vocabulary

garbled, gleam, topples, surges, grimace, searing, diversions, clutching, smear, invaders, disabling



Chapters 29-30

Summary

Chapter 29

This chapter shows Tobias in a holding cell with some of the other conspirators. He feels sick to his stomach, then asks Reggie, one of the conspirators, if Nita has told him the truth, about wanting to steal the memory serum. His silence speaks volumes to him and not for the first time he regrets not listening to Tris.

Tris comes down to the prison and the guards recognize her as 'the girl that saved David' and they allow her to speak to Tobias, even though it is against the rules. She doesn't mince words and tells him that because of his actions Uriah will most likely die. Tris tells Tobias that she isn't sure that she can ever forgive him for what he's done. A council meets to interrogate the captives and releases everyone but Nita, claiming that they are GD and can't be held responsible for their impulsiveness. Nita will serve life in prison.

Chapter 30

Tris, Cara, and Christina are gathered in Uriah's room where he is in a coma. He is unlikely to survive since the brain damage is extensive. Tris admits to herself that she had meant to break up with Tobias, but for some reason was unable to do it. It makes her hate herself for her weakness. Cara accuses her of always seeming to be in the middle of a conflict when it flares up, and Tris states that she just kept a dangerous weapon out of the hands of some dangerous people, but that she is NOT aligned with the Bureau.

Tris is reminded about a saying that the Abnegation had where pride was concerned: Pride lands people to the truth of what they are.

Analysis

Chapter 29

Tobias regrets his actions even before Tris comes to see him. He understands that he's allowed himself to be used, and worse yet, he's betrayed Tris's trust...again. He buys into the doctrine of the Bureau when he accepts their edit that he was genetically damaged and, therefore, not capable of making a rational decision. When Tris arrives she knows just what to say to lay his soul bare, and he feels her words deeply. He has very little to offer in way of defense and he doesn't speak much during their brief exchange. At this point in the book, he is almost as low as he can fall.

Chapter 30



Uriah's serious injury and impending death drives home the theme of War in that Uriah is always depicted as the 'happy' Dauntless friend. He has been Tris's friend for a long time, has always been supportive of the others, even remaining optimistic when there wasn't much to hold on to. Now that has been destroyed and the reader understands that war destroys beautiful things, often the very things it is designed to protect.

Discussion Question 1

Why does Tris intend to break up with Tobias?

Discussion Question 2

Why is Uriah's impending death important to this scene?

Discussion Question 3

How do the council treat those who are deemed genetically damaged?

Vocabulary

probe, conviction, valid, casualty, unconscious, giddy, sophisticated, liberate, proxy, inoculated, deficiency



Chapters 31-32

Summary

Chapter 31

Unwilling to go back to the barracks where he'd have to face everyone, Tobias wanders into the control room and looks at the screens depicting different parts of the city. He sees his father at the entrance of the Erudite headquarters. Johanna confronts him and refuses to shake his hand. She says that the truth about how he treated his wife and son is out and she can't be his friend any longer. The theme of domestic violence is demonstrated in this chapter especially when Johanna confronts Marcus and calls him what he is.

Marcus says that the peace can be restored, that Evelyn is a tyrant. Johanna reluctantly agrees to allow Marcus to help her rally and grow the Allegiant rebels. The monitors switch to Evelyn and it is apparent that she has been crying. An assistant knocks on her office door to report that Marcus has not left the city. Patrols are sent to find him. Evelyn muses that she just wants him gone and Tobias understands and sympathizes with her at this point.

Chapter 32

This chapter sees David thanking Tris for what she did for him and urges her to run for a seat on the Governing Council. She doesn't want to, but sees a strategic reason for accepting his offer. She asks him point blank about the Death Serum and David tells her the truth...it is as bad as it seems.

Analysis

Chapter 31

The theme of the aftermath of domestic violence is explored in this chapter when Johanna confronts Marcus outside the Erudite headquarters. She immediately and without fanfare tells him that now that she knows the truth about him that they can no longer be friends. She begrudgingly admits that they may still need to be allies, but that would be as far as it would go. He has lost her friendship and her respect. This confrontation between them demonstrates the theme of domestic violence in that the damage that is often done lasts well beyond the physical wounds, wounds that may never heal and that scar deeply into one's psyche. Johanna becomes the judge and jury that no one else has been able to do, and for Tobias to witness this must be cathartic in some respects. Someone understands what he went through, and on the plus side, he is able to view his father in a different light. His father truly didn't believe that what he was doing was wrong. He was that damaged, himself. Tobias finds himself pitying his father for not understanding the deeper truths.



Chapter 32

This chapter is mostly about Tris and David, and David's background with Tris's mother. It explains that David felt close to Tris's mother because they have come from a similar background. He offers Tris a seat on the Governing Council and she takes it, not because she has any allegiance to the Bureau, or David, but because she sees it as a strategic move that will give her access to anything that the Bureau may have planned.

Discussion Question 1

What does Johanna say to Marcus about his treatment of Tobias and Evelyn?

Discussion Question 2

How does Tobias feel when he watches the exchange between Johanna and his father?

Discussion Question 3

Why does Tris agree to sit on the Governing Council? What are her ulterior motives?

Vocabulary

pavilion, milling, hollow, disciplinarian, self-effacing, backdrop, girder, crouch, coma, bouquet



Chapters 33-34

Summary

Chapter 33

Oddly enough, this chapter opens with Peter and Tobias having an actual conversation that doesn't involve screaming or accusations. Peter has been trying to wrap his head around the size of the world. He believes that because the world is big that the things he's done really don't matter. Tobias sets him straight, then heads for the Atrium. Cara comes by. She tells him that a better prepared group of GD'ers are meeting up soon. Tobias declines, but Cara convinces him. Tobias is shocked when he sees Tris sitting there in their meeting. She refuses to make eye contact. When the meeting breaks Tris and Tobias find themselves alone. They argue and nothing is solved. Tris leaves Tobias wondering if things are over.

Chapter 34

Tris goes on patrol with Amar and George Wu, Tori's brother. When Tris and the group arrive at the Fringe she is struck by how impoverished everyone is. She asks Amar if he ever helps them. He says the best way to help them is to look at the long range plans and fix the genetic defects. That's scant relief for the people who are suffering now, thinks Tris. She understands why her mother and father felt compelled to join Abnegation.

They head to a village and a gunfight ensues due to the fact the people think the military is there to hurt them. Tris is separated from the group and is rescued by a Fringe dweller named Amy, who tells Tris that she wishes the projects would be disbanded because they perpetuate the notion of genetic purity. Suddenly, Tris sees George being held at gunpoint by a young boy. Tris saves him. She then finds out Amar and George are lovers and Tris is sworn to secrecy about their relationship.

Analysis

Chapter 33

Two unlikely people have a civil conversation in this chapter: Peter and Tobias. Tobias is struck that he can actually have a civil conversation with Peter and he begins to view Peter as someone whose choices have determined a course of action that Peter feels unable to break away from. He wonders if Peter ever wishes he'd made different choices. At this point in the novel, Tobias certainly thinks that way. The reader also sees that Peter wants to believe that the things he has done don't matter, that the world is too big for someone as small as he is to matter. Where he sees freedom, Tobias sees risk. He tells Peter that it matters, that one person, one life, matters. They part.



Chapter 34

A different point of view is introduced in the chance meeting between Amy and Tris in the Fringe. Tris's belief system is challenged when she learns from Amy that the Bureau and the Government have determined what and who is to be considered damaged or pure. She says that the projects are an abomination, not those with genetic 'damage', and that there isn't any such thing...that it is a lie perpetuated by the government to justify what they do.

Discussion Question 1

Why does Peter think that what he's done in the past doesn't matter?

Discussion Question 2

How does Amy view the world?

Discussion Question 3

What does Tris learn about Amar and George and what do they ask her to do? How does this tie in with the theme of nonconformity?

Vocabulary

vicious, stalls, collapsing, resign, beckons, upright, transport, reciting, gaping, corruption



Chapters 35-36

Summary

Chapter 35

Meanwhile, back in the control room, Tobias is searching for his parents. He finds his mother first. She's in the Erudite headquarters talking with some of the workers. Suddenly, he sees the Allegiant attacking and tells the other workers in the control room to turn up the volume and zoom in. The Allegiant have attacked a storehouse full of weapons and are now moving onto another target. Cara, who was once the leader of the Allegiant tells them that the group is made up of all the factions, even Amity and Erudite. Peter and the others who've joined them to watch the drama unfold are incredulous. Tris worries about the outcome.

Chapter 36

Both chapters are short in that they are setting the scene for the upcoming confrontations within the city. In this chapter, Tris has returned from the Fringe and it has started snowing. She goes to their dorm rooms and finds Caleb there. He fills her in on the Allegiant attacks led by Marcus and Johanna. She is able to begin to make amends with Caleb, then leaves for the genealogy room. She finds Tobias and they reconcile.

Analysis

Chapter 35

This chapter is beginning to lay the foundation for the large showdown that will eventually take place between the Allegiant and those still in power in the city, and even against the Bureau. Tobias is the first to tell the others from the city what has been going on. It seems to all who watch the drama unfold that the old 'might makes right' is being played out in front of them. Marcus and Johanna are securing weapons and numbers in order to combat the factionless. What is significant is that Cara mentions the diversity of the members within the ranks of the Allegiant. She says that they are from all the various factions, not just Dauntless. Many of the others are shocked, but Cara says that it makes them stronger. This message about diversity making a group strong is a pointed message about embracing the differences in others.

Chapter 36

Tris has missed out on the initial information about the Allegiant uprising. She is told what is going on and she is shocked, wondering what it all means. She manages to begin to repair the trouble between her and her brother, then finds Tobias and begins to repair and mend that relationship. In contrast, their former city is coming down.



Discussion Question 1

What does Cara tell everyone about the Allegiant members that shocks them?

Discussion Question 2

Why was Tris not in the control room to watch the Allegiant attack?

Discussion Question 3

Contrast and compare Caleb to Tobias, the two males in Tris's life that she's currently upset with.

Vocabulary

scroll, merciless, thoroughfare, perceptive, surveillance, usurp, allying, starchy, genealogy, option



Chapters 37-38

Summary

Chapter 37

Tris goes to her first meeting and finds out Chicago is about to crumble and riot. David wants to use the serum to reset everyone. Tris doesn't like that idea because it becomes apparent that they don't want to reset the people because they care. They want to reset them to save their jobs and the experiment. Then it comes back to her, something that David had said to her in the lab a few days prior. He'd suggested that those in the cities are not to be viewed as anything more than subjects, saying to her: If we are going to win this fight against genetic damage, we will need to make sacrifices. You understand that don't you? They decide that they will reset the entire city in the next two days. They adjourn and Tris leaves to tell the others what she's learned.

Chapter 38

Tris goes to the dorms and finds Cara and Tobias. She tells them the plans that the Council has for resetting the city. Tris introduces one of the main themes in this chapter, which is that of Government overreach, and Governmental control. She is angry and tells Tobias: "They can't do this. They can't erase everyone. They shouldn't have the power to do that. All I can think is that this would be so much easier if we were dealing with a competently different set of people who could actually see reason. Then we might be able to find a balance between protecting the experiments and opening themselves up to other possibilities."

This is when Tris comes up with the idea to reset the Bureau and the Government instead of the population inside the cities. Tobias warns her that she is essentially doing what she has accused them of doing. She counters with the fact that they don't care about human lives and don't see them as anything more than lab rats. She sees them as people.

Analysis

Chapter 37

Tris sits in on the council meeting and is appalled at what she sees. They have no regard for the human lives that they monitor. This is evident in the way that they are only too willing to reset everyone's memories to save their experiment. When Tris remembers David's words: Sacrifices will have to be made, this is direct foreshadowing reminding the reader that at some point, some great sacrifice may occur.

Chapter 38



Tris immediately reports what she's learned to Tobias and Cara, who argue about what to do with the information. From Tris's big rant about those in charge, one can see that her grasp of the government's over involvement has brought about the state that they are all in at the present time. She sees that the only way for the human race to rebuild itself is to stop dividing itself over barriers, borders, genes, and labels. A government is no longer the body it was designed to be when it oversteps its bounds and starts to hinder and hurt the very people it is supposed to be protecting.

Discussion Question 1

What is David's solution to the current uprisings in Chicago?

Discussion Question 2

What does Tris say is the only way for the human race to rebuild itself?

Discussion Question 3

What does Tris think a government should be like?

Vocabulary

prop, flush, glares, repetitive, wedges, poised, intend, inconvenient, viruses, rendering



Chapters 39-40

Summary

Chapter 39

In Matthew's lab, Cara and he discuss the various manipulations that are possible, in theory, with the memory serum. It should be possible to hold back enough memory serum to have some to use on the Bureau's people, inoculate themselves and key personnel, who should remember everything, and still allow those who receive the serum to function to some degree of ability. Most notably, Tris states, they will be able to place people in charge who will do a decent job of things. Unfortunately, Tris points out, the passcode that would let them into the weapons lab, where the memory serum is kept, is still unreachable, and the only one who came even close to getting that code is Nita. Tris hates it, but she has no choice but to reach out to Nita. Nita is reluctant to trust Tris, but when she hears about the plan and those involved, she relents and helps. She tells Tris that if the passcode is wrong, it will release the death serum in aerosol form, that not even GPs can resist it. Tris postulates that since she, alone, of all the GPs can resist all of the serums so far that she may be able to resist the death serum, too.

Meanwhile, the stakes are raised when Christina joins them saying that Uriah is brain-dead. She wants to go into the city to get his family so that they can say good-bye to him before the memory reset. Tris says that they should go into the city to inoculate not only Uriah's family, but Christina's as well.

Chapter 40

Tobias is worried about how he will tell Uriah's family about his condition. He feels guilty because Zeke, Uriah's brother had asked Tobias to watch over him. Cara advises him to tell Zeke the truth, opting for confession over admission, then to give Zeke time alone to deal with it in his own manner. Christina pulls Tobias aside and suggests that they just reset one or the other of Tobias's parents. That way the conflict and impending war won't happen, and the Bureau won't see a need to reset every single one of them. Tobias agrees that this would be easier....but which one to reset? Christina says that she'll create a diversion that will give them the excuse to split up, allowing Tobias a chance to get through and reset one or the other of his parents. Amar does not know what their ultimate plan is, as he is loyal to the Bureau. Tobias doesn't want him involved, so their plan must involve no harm coming to Amar or George.

Analysis

Chapter 39

Tris decides that getting to the memory serum and the death serum is of paramount importance, and without speaking with Tobias about her intentions, goes to see Nita



who fills her in about the weapons lab's safety protocols. It is in this chapter that the reader sees that, whether she realizes it or not, Tris is willing to once again risk her life to save others. She has no idea if she will be able to withstand the death serum. Additionally, her maturity is shown when she realizes that she needs the information that only Nita has. Despite her personal feelings toward Nita, she goes to see her.

Chapter 40

Tobias struggles with guilt in this chapter, and he feels that he has much to be guilty for. First, there's the way he mistrusted Tris's judgement and chose Nita over her. Then, there's Uriah. Charged by his family to watch over him, Tobias feels that he has failed and that he should have done something more to watch over him, to keep him safe. Most of this chapter explores the depths of Tobias's self-loathing. This boils down to the fact that, in comparison to Tris, he doesn't really know who he is. This makes him indecisive and moody, which many mistake as aloofness or contemplation.

Discussion Question 1

What does Tris hope to accomplish by meeting with Nita?

Discussion Question 2

What is it about Tris's character that makes her confident enough to risk her life once again?

Discussion Question 3

Based on what you know about Tobias, which parent will he opt to reset?

Vocabulary

implicit, pliable, dwindling, creased, discarded, concocting, gestures, plucking, coax, concede



Chapters 41-42

Summary

Chapter 41

The group determines that whomever goes into the weapons lab is most likely not coming back out. This is because they don't have the passcode and no way that they can think of to get it. Caleb volunteers saying: "Everyone's staring at me. Don't think I don't know it. I'm the one who chose the wrong side, who worked with Jeanine Matthews; I'm the one none of you care about, so I should be the one to die." (page 408). He goes on to directly ask Tris that if he does this will she finally be able to forgive him. She tells him yes, but that this is NOT what she wants from him. He volunteers anyway. Later, Tobias and Tris talk about Caleb's right to do what he's chosen to do and Tris realizes that it is how Caleb is choosing to show his love for everyone. She still feels guilty about it. Tobias reminds her that love has the power to heal.

Chapter 42

In the morning both Tobias and Tris realize that they may need to teach Caleb how to shoot a gun. After the training session Tobias ends up in at the hospital. He goes there to sit with Uriah and finds Matthew there, too. Tobias confronts Matthew about why he is even helping. Matthew says he wasn't supposed to be dating anyone who was GD, but he was feeling rebellious and started dating a girl. Then, it became serious. Some of the GP patrol caught her and beat her to death. Ever since then, he says, he's been waiting for a chance to take them down. He also shares that he would have volunteered for the task that Caleb has now undertaken except he wanted to live at least long enough to see them suffer the consequences of their actions.

Analysis

Chapter 41

In this chapter the relationship between Tris and Caleb is featured. The reader sees Caleb acting much in the same way that Tris did earlier in the storyline when she volunteered to go to Erudite headquarters to sacrifice herself. In much the same way, guilt is propelling Caleb to do the same thing. Tris learned from that action that life is too precious to be so easily offered up and she tries to get her brother to see this, and hates that on some level she's glad that it's none of her friends that are going to lose their lives. She and Tobias later discuss Caleb's decision and Tobias reminds her about what those living in Abnegation say about allowing others to sacrifice themselves for others if it is the way that they choose to show their love. Tobias and Tris finally overcome any remaining barriers between them and Tris says: "...that's what love does, when it's right-makes you more than you were, more than you thought you could be." (413) This is directly meant to apply to Tris and Tobias, but it can also so aptly apply to Caleb as well.



Chapter 42

The revelation that Matthew gives Tobias as to his motives for helping them illustrates the theme of Government Control and just how far the Bureau will go to keep the rules and the project ongoing. Suppressing and killing those who differ or disagree is the complete definition of a population that is oppressed. This chapter fully illustrates the possible outcomes should a government be allowed to have this much power over its people. It should be mentioned that there are a number of people who believe that they have nothing to lose by taking on risky missions, because the Government has left them no other course of action to affect change.

Discussion Question 1

Compare and contrast Tris and Caleb's characters at this point in the novel.

Discussion Question 2

Why does Matthew say he didn't volunteer for Caleb's suicide mission? What does this tell you about Matthew's feelings for the Bureau?

Discussion Question 3

What is Tris's observation about love?

Vocabulary

tingles, remorseful, momentarily, sparsely, colliding, pliable, bulkier, birdlike, invested, repercussions



Chapters 43-44

Summary

Chapter 43

Tris and Tobias steal some time away and go into the Atrium. Tris muses that so much of their time together has been spent in life or death situations that having a peaceful moment together feels foreign. She looks forward to a time when that is the norm. They are going to have to split up in order to accomplish both tasks: getting into the weapons lab, and going into the city to memory serum one of Tobias's parents (and to tell Uriah's family about his impending death).

Chapter 44

Tobias and the others ready themselves for the trip into the city. Tobias warns George, who is monitoring them from the control room to inoculate himself against the serum. George doesn't ask questions, but nods. Tobias wonders why Peter had been so adamant to come along with them into the city and makes a point of keeping an eye on him. When they are within a few miles of the Hancock Building, where the resistance is holed up, Christina fakes a pee stop. She jumps out, pretends she is taking care of business, then sabotages Amar's tire. Several miles down the road it blows out.

Tobias convinces Amar that he knows where there's another vehicle, that he'll go on without them while they fix the tire, and will meet up with them later. Peter volunteers to go with Tobias which makes him angry. He lets him come along because he knows to argue too much will give things away. When the others leave he turns to Peter and tells him he's not going for another truck and that he's going to stop a revolution. If Peter is in, he will live. If not, he will die. Peter agrees to follow Tobias.

Analysis

Chapter 43

The full reality of this world is brought home for the reader when Tris states that she's never known a time in the last few years when her life wasn't in danger, that she didn't have to continually struggle. This reinforces what happens when science is left to run amuck, and governments gain too much control, the author would seem to suggest. Both Tris and Tobias want to assist the other in the horrid tasks that both of them have to bear, but they know that they will have to separate. Proclaiming their love to one another, they separate. The reader, at this point, hopes that they get their chance for a happy ending, because if anyone deserves one it would be them.

Chapter 44



The most notable thing in this chapter is Tobias's willingness to shoot Peter pointblank if he threatens to expose his plan to anyone. Peter, who has a track record of betrayal seems to agree with Tobias, but the reader is right to be warier than Tobias. Peter has very few redeeming qualities, and why he volunteered to come along on the trip in the first place is still up in the air.

Discussion Question 1

What is Tris regretting about the events that are coming up?

Discussion Question 2

What are Peter's most likely motives for coming with Tobias?

Discussion Question 3

What is the author suggesting about governmental power?

Vocabulary

shaft, obscuring, vapor, tangled, stealth, shroud, languishing, intervene, silhouette, shudders, scowling



Chapters 45-46

Summary

Chapter 45

Tris joins Matthew and Caleb in the lab. Caleb has just finished verifying that the attack simulation serum is real. Tris is incredulous that on the potentially last day of his existence he is in a lab acting normal. Matthew makes Caleb recite the activation code that will enable the memory serum weapon, and then another button that will deploy it instantly in the compound. Tris asks Matthew if she can be alone with Caleb and he leaves. They reminisce about when they were younger.

Tris muses about what forgiveness truly is and concludes that perhaps it is: "...just the continual pushing aside of bitter memories, until time dulls the hurt and the anger, and the wrong is forgotten."(Page 445)

Their timetable moves up when another impromptu emergency drill is called. The entire base will be on lockdown in less than an hour. They leave immediately.

Chapter 46

As Tobias and Peter walk, Tobias asks Peter why he didn't inoculate himself against the memory serum. Peter attacks Tobias to get the memory serum, and says that he wants it so that he doesn't have to be the way he is currently. After a brief fight, which Tobias wins, Tobias promises him that when everyone gets reset that he will let Peter get reset and won't stop him. Peter agrees and they continue on.

Analysis

Chapter 45

Caleb is in the lab, acting normal, but Tris also figures that he wants to make sure that he is giving his life for a good reason. The banter between brother and sister reminds the reader, as well as the siblings, that they have a history together and that it is worth remembering and honoring. It is during this time that Tris takes the initiative to ask Caleb one last time why he is doing what he is doing. He confesses that the guilt of what he chose to do for Erudites is eating him alive and he just wants that feeling to end. Tris doesn't like this answer and argues with him. The announcement about the drill stops this line of conversation and it becomes clear that they don't have time to argue.

Chapter 46



This chapter shows that some people, if given the chance to forget, would take that option. Peter embodies that choice in this scene. Tobias tells him that it is the coward's way out, but Peter doesn't care. Tobias agrees to allow him that choice when the time came.

Discussion Question 1

What has Peter realized about himself?

Discussion Question 2

Why does Caleb want to verify things in the lab prior to going to the weapons lab?

Discussion Question 3

Why is the timetable moved up for Caleb's attack on the lab?

Vocabulary

microscope, analyzing, sequences, dulls, procedure, commence, clatters, twinge, explosives, ordinary



Chapters 47-48

Summary

Chapter 47

Meanwhile, Caleb, Mathew, and Tris are making their way to the weapons lab. Caleb is wearing the clean suit and a backpack full of explosives. They are worried because the lights are still on and Cara was supposed to have cut them by this time. They ask Matthew to shoot a gun in the air making a diversion so that they can get into the lab. It almost works until they get close to the lab. Some guards stop them. In this moment, Tris truly forgives her brother. Caleb is coming apart at the seams, shaking uncontrollably, while Tris is calm and level-headed, a product of her Dauntless training. She quickly tells him that there's no way that he would survive going into the lab or the death serum, and that she can't bear for him to die; that she loves him. He tells her that he loves her too and gives her the backpack. Tris makes the guards think that she's taken Caleb hostage and uses him as a shield until she is at the door to the lab. Brother and sister say good-bye.

Tris manages to blow the locked door off of the lab, but is shot in the arm as she enters. The death serum is immediately released.

Chapter 48

Meanwhile, at Erudite Headquarters, Peter and Tobias are standing out front. Peter asks how they are going to get in and Tobias says that he's just going to bank on his mother's reputation and walk right in the front door. Peter reminds him that she sent armed thugs after him when they all tried to leave before. He tells Tobias that he will go with him, but that if Tobias is wounded or disabled that he will take the memory serum and run away. Tobias says that he expects nothing more of him.

They walk right in the front door and are immediately surrounded and held at gunpoint. Tobias recognizes one of his former neighbors from Abnegation and is shocked to see her holding a gun. They talk and she tells Tobias that now she gets to have a sense of self-preservation. Tobias is glad to see it. Someone goes to get Evelyn. Tobias goes to see his mother, alone, leaving Peter in the hallway.

Tobias puts his cards on the table with his mother, showing her the serum and telling her why he wants her to drink it. He gives her the choice: Be his mother, or be a tyrant, but she can't be both. With tears in her eyes, she chooses to be his mother.

Analysis

Chapter 47



In that moment, when the guards are holding them at gunpoint Tris remembers her brother, how he was before the choosing. She sees someone who is not a coward, someone whom she loves. She realizes that they are both a part of each other and always will be. She sees that he is shaking horribly at what they are facing, while she is calm, her Dauntless training kicking in. This is when she decides that it has to be her to take the backpack in, to take his place. Caleb violently argues with her but she threatens to shoot him in the leg and he knows that she means it. Stopping to argue any further will ruin the mission, so he relents. At this moment they are reunited and have forgiven one another.

Chapter 48

This chapter has several notable moments happening. First, there is the cameo spot by one of Tobias's former neighbors. She is carrying a gun which was forbidden in Abnegation. The fact that she is now allowed to protect herself empowers her and Tobias sees what a disservice has been done to everyone by forcing them to adhere to too strict a code. Secondly, the confrontation that was bound to happen between mother and son occurs. Tobias tells the truth, as hurtful as it is, then begs his mother to choose between him and the life as a tyrant. She chooses him, and Tobias is shocked and overwhelmed at her choice, which is made quickly.

Discussion Question 1

What other choices did Tris have other than taking the backpack from Caleb?

Discussion Question 2

What has Matthew's role been in the last few chapters?

Discussion Question 3

What has the dissolution of the faction system enabled citizens to do?

Vocabulary

apology, torsos, enthusiastic, earnest, gleam, detonation, vestibule, machinery, fumbles, initiate



Chapters 49-50

Summary

Chapter 49

Tris muses that the death serum spray smells like smoke and spice. She describes its affects, and that it wants her to lay down and go to sleep. She fights that desire by repeating the names of her friends, over and over to stay awake, fighting the serum. This chapter is all about her fight with the serum and how her body is tired and wants to die, but her spirit will not let her. She says: "I am not done yet, I am not." (Page 467).

She manages to withstand the death serum, but just as she shoves herself up off of the ground, there is a gun pointed at her. It is David.

Chapter 50

David is unwilling to believe that she's been able to withstand the death serum without some sort of inoculation, which only he, David, has. Tris accuses him of releasing the attack sim that killed her parents, her mother. David says that he did warn Tris's mother, but that she didn't stay out of harm's way. Tris plays a card that she's long carried towards David and asks him if he loved her mother. He admits that he did, but that it is over. Then Tris spits at him: "My mother taught me all about real sacrifice. That it should be done from love, not misplaced disgust for another person's genetics. That it should be done from necessity, not without exhausting all other options. That it should be done for people who need your strength because they don't have enough of their own. That's why I need to stop you from 'sacrificing' all those people and their memories. Why I need to rid the world of you once and for all." (Page 473) She lunges for the release button and types in the code.

David's gun goes off hitting Tris. Tris hangs on long enough to get the code entered and then hit the button. David shoots her again. She slides to the floor. Tris imagines that she sees her mother coming toward her. After a brief interchange, Tris goes with her mother into the light.

Analysis

Chapter 49

That the author would feel compelled to give something called 'death serum' a pleasant smell is significant. It illustrates that to Tris, death is not something to be feared, but that it is a curiosity, even natural and normal. This is important as in the next chapter, Tris does die. What is also significant in this chapter is the theme of friendship being demonstrated when the one thing that allows her to fight off the death serum is to repeat the names of her friends over and over, remembering what they'd done for her, what



they needed from her, what they expected. This shows that friendship, true friendship, gives a type of strength that can last beyond and through death.

Chapter 50

In a heroic confrontation, Tris takes on David and his ideologies in the weapons lab. It is ironic that the only person that has the antidote to the death serum is David. Tris, who is able to fight off the serum has just shown him that nature can still hand science its head on a plate at times, overcoming a serum that it was thought none could survive. Aside from the tragedy of Tris's death is the soliloquy that she offers on the topic of sacrifice, and how there is only one type of sacrifice that is worthy of that title. She repeats things that her mother taught her, that she is strong for those who cannot be strong, and that she will not allow him to continue to harm others any longer.

Discussion Question 1

How does Tris fight off the affects of the death serum? Why does this give her strength?

Discussion Question 2

What is David unwilling to accept about Tris and her abilities?

Discussion Question 3

What does Tris define sacrifice as?

Vocabulary

reject, molasses, stoke, collapsing, squint, devices, capital punishment, exposed, quaking, delirious



Chapters 51-52

Summary

Chapter 51

It is clear that Tobias and his mother will make a better life together in this chapter. In this chapter she reaches out to Marcus to negotiate a peace treaty. Tobias remembers something that Tris once told him: "...when you have to choose between two bad options, you pick the one that saves the people you love. I wouldn't have been saving Evelyn by giving her that serum. I would have been destroying her."(Page 477).

He takes the serum and gives it to Peter in the hallway who takes it without fanfare. When Tobias asks him what he wants to remember, to be told when he comes out of it, Peter says "nothing". He resets Peter and later the reader sees Peter who has lost all sense of who he is, except for this name. Later, Marcus comes to the park to meet with Evelyn. Johanna is there. Tobias holds a gun on his father, and Marcus holds a gun on Evelyn. Evelyn's terms are that everyone be allowed to leave the city that wants to leave the city, that those who are keeping arms to protect themselves be allowed to do so, that leaders will be voted into office, and that he, Marcus, would never take any leadership position ever again. At first Marcus balks at the idea, but Johanna persuades him into agreeing.

Tobias goes to find Uriah's family and to tell them what happened. Taking Cara's advice, he tells them what happened. They say that they need time to think about the news. Tobias says that if they want to see Uriah that they are leaving immediately. They agree to come with them.

They arrive back at the Bureau headquarters where Cara tells Tobias that Tris is dead.

Chapter 52

This chapter is extremely short, as if Tobias is remembering in fragments all of the different reasons that he loved Tris. He is remembering her first jump into the net after choosing day.

Analysis

Chapter 51

A peace is brokered and Tobias's father is exposed for what he is. Removed from power he is no threat to anyone anymore. Johanna, having the calmer mind, will most likely be involved in the democratic process that is evolving. Evelyn's terms are accepted and the peace is begun. Peter is reset and it seems that he will be a better person because of it, offering the reader a chance to examine the possible ramifications of a 'do-over'. Tobias



has to tell Uriah's family that he is dying, and ironically, does not know that Tris has died.

Later, when he finds out that Tris is dead, the author uses the white space on the page to off-set the phrase: all I'm doing is standing still. The weight of her death drops on the reader as it does on Tobias and the effect is powerful. The theme of war is demonstrated in this chapter in that quite often it is the young that suffer the heaviest losses in a war, and that love often doesn't survive.

Chapter 52

The brevity of this chapter shows the disjointed and fragmented state that Tobias is in. His loss is deep, cutting, and disabling.

Discussion Question 1

Why does Evelyn make the requests that she does in regards to the treaty?

Discussion Question 2

Given the facts, and with a total memory reset, what does the author seem to suggest about the newly 'reset' Peter?

Discussion Question 3

Why does the author offset the last phrase in Chapter 52?

Vocabulary

brushes, negotiate, agreement, strain, vial, origin, trained, sentiment, capable, duping, entirety



Chapters 53-54

Summary

Chapter 53

Tobias muses (in one short paragraph that comprises the chapter) that all those years that he was around her in the Abnegation colony, he never noticed her. He never noticed her until she jumped. He says, "I suppose a fire that burns that bright is not meant to last." (Page 492).

Chapter 54

Tobias finally goes with Christina to see Tris's body. He and Christina are overcome with grief. Tobias falls to the floor by the exam table where Tris's body is, and screams.

Analysis

Chapter 53

This chapter, though extremely short, is loaded with many messages for the reader. Tobias muses that he never really noticed Tris when she was in Abnegation. This is because she was like everyone else there, that she had not truly come into her own, and neither had he. In leaving a life that didn't suit either of them, of taking the risk to be who they truly were, that's when they found themselves, and each other. He also states, perhaps in a way to make peace with her death, that her fire burned hot and bright and that she was bound to burn out.

It is also interesting to note what 'isn't' in this chapter. There are stages that people go through when they grieve, the last one being acceptance. In this chapter, so soon after her death, there is no anger, no recrimination for what she did without him. There's no bargaining with a higher power for just one more moment. He is simply bereft and numb.

Chapter 54

This chapter is also short, which highlights the fact that Tobias can't think, can't speak, can barely register what is going on. This is the part of the grief process where he begins to beg for just one more word, glance, or kiss from her. Knowing it will never happen, ever again.

Discussion Question 1

Why does the author make Chapters 53 and 54 so short?



Discussion Question 2

What did Tobias mean when he said: "I suppose a fire that burns that bright is not meant to last." (Page 492).

Discussion Question 3

What are some of Tobias's fondest memories of Tris and why does he prefer to remember her that way?

Vocabulary

funeral, sector, meant, morgue, unyielding



Chapters 55-56, Epilogue

Summary

Chapter 55

Tobias can't sleep so he takes to roaming the halls at night. He says that after the memory serum was released and everyone was reset that they were told that human nature is complex, that all genes are different, but that didn't mean they were defective. Tobias shares that he is in a strange state of wanting people around him, but also just wanting to be alone. He says that he finds himself terrified of some great something that he can't put his finger on.

Tobias wanders into the front of the building where Caleb is standing on top of the large rock sculpture, where he's released the valve and instead of a steady drip, there is a deluge. Tobias starts to leave when he sees Caleb but he asks him to stop. It is clear that Caleb has also not eaten or slept well. He tells Tobias that Tris's last words were that she didn't want to leave. Tobias snaps at Caleb, basically asking why he wasn't the one dead, as they had planned. Caleb has no answer to this, and totally agrees.

As if there's not already enough heartbreak, Christina comes and finds Cara and Tobias and tells them that they are unplugging Uriah. David is there, overseeing the procedure. His mind has been reset and he has no memory of what he's done. But Tobias remembers and lunges for him. Evelyn intercedes and keeps him from killing David. Tobias learns that the new 'truth' is that Tris was a rebel who tried to sabotage the center. Uriah is unplugged and dies.

Chapter 56

Leaving the city, Tobias goes back to his old neighborhood in the Abnegation sector to his old house. After clipping his hair short again, he removes a vial of memory serum from his pocket. He is wondering if he should take it and end his pain. The idea of becoming someone new is appealing. Matthew has told him that Chicago will be the only free and self-sufficient colony in existence and that it will be the only place not governed by people who don't believe in genetic damage. He hopes others will trickle in to the city and they will all grow stronger together.

Christina has followed him and they talk about whether or not he will take the serum. She says, "You can't become a person she would hate. And she would have hated this." (Page 505). She comforts him and gets him to realize that he will get through this pain, and that she will help him.

Epilogue

Two years have passed and Evelyn returns to the city of Chicago. One of Johanna's requests has been that Evelyn leave and not come back to the city; however after a few



years, Johanna relents and gives her permission to return. Tobias tells his mother that they are going to scatter Tris's ashes. He tells his mother that the city has rebuilt itself and that it is peaceful and nice. He has a nice apartment near the water and he lives next door to someone who calls Chicago, the fourth city, because it has been torn down and rebuilt four times. His mother gives him the blue wave statue from his childhood and he agrees to keep it in his apartment.

He leaves to go to the top of the Hancock Building, where the zip line is. All of Tris's friends are gathered there, waiting for him. He allows himself to be zipped into the harness, face first, just as she used to do it, and launches himself out and over the edge. He releases her ashes as he goes along the zipline, finally able to come to terms with his loss.

Analysis

Chapter 55

The releasing of the water onto the sculpture by Caleb is significant in its symbolism. Caleb and those like him will rebuild, and they will not adhere to the principles of the last regime. By changing the sculpture they are taking charge and changing their own future. It is clear that Tobias blames Caleb for Tris's death, and that Caleb understands her sacrifice better than Tobias does. Watching Uriah's family say good-bye reminds him that he hasn't been able to let go of Tris, and he's unwilling to do so.

Chapter 56

Tobias needs to get out of the city, so he takes a truck and finds himself back in Abnegation's sector. He goes to his old home. He finds the old hair clippers and shaves his hair back to Dauntless length, again. This shaving of his hair is symbolic of his desire to return to who he was before, but it doesn't work. He feels broken. The ritual of cutting his hair short does nothing to ease his pain. Christina, who has gone through a similar loss, talks him out of taking the memory serum. It is clear that she will be able to get him to come back from this eventually.

Epilogue

For two years, the reader can assume, Tobias has grieved Tris's death, and has finally come to the point where he can let go. The fact that Tobias's neighbor calls the city, the fourth city, can be assumed to also be a play on Four's former name, indicating that the city is, in many ways, an extension of him. Civility and peace have returned to the city; it is healing itself. And so is Tobias.

Discussion Question 1

What has Tobias done since Tris's death?



Discussion Question 2

Why would Johanna ask Evelyn not to live in the city?

Discussion Question 3

Why does Tobias do what he does with Tris's ashes?

Vocabulary

skyline, accelerator, illuminating, extreme, passively, calluses, isolated, abundant, expert, meager, suspended



Characters

Beatrice 'Tris' Prior

Tris is one of the main characters (protagonist) in the Divergent Series. She has a very low self-esteem which most likely stems from her upbringing in the Abnegation sector of this world. In this installment of the series, Tris is faced with one last revolution against the Bureau of Genetic Welfare. She and Tobias, her boyfriend, share the narrative role. In this novel, Tris has come into her own, and while still suffering from self-doubt, also is much calmer, levelheaded, and decisive in her decisions.

Tris receives a tablet resembling an iPad from Zoe that contains data about Tris's mother, and through this tablet, she finds out things that her mother and she has in common. For instance, she learns that both of them had elected to be in Dauntless, that they are both stubborn, that they both fall in love and will make decisions based on that love. She takes comfort in the fact that in the journal her father and mother deeply loved one another. That, in fact, her mother had left the Bureau in order to enter into Abnegation together, opting to take the memory serum and have themselves, reset.

At the end of the book, Tris decides that her brother, Caleb, is sacrificing himself for the wrong reasons provoking her to sacrifice herself. This action, as well as countless others, show Tris to have come full circle from the initial person that the reader met in book one. In Divergent, the reader sees a young girl, unsure, with low self-esteem, hoping to make her parents proud; to be someone who can be strong, who can be selfless. In Divergent, she is all those things, and it culminates with her sacrificing her life for the rest of them.

Tobias “Four” Eaton

Tobias is Tris's boyfriend. He shares the narrative light with her throughout Allegiant. He is scared of his ability to kill, as well as unsure of how he wants to use it. Tobias, unlike his girlfriend, does not want to be a revolutionary. He is struggling with the fact that he is “genetically damaged” and not Divergent. The only thing that he is sure of is his love for Tris. In Allegiant, Tris and Tobias constantly fight over the fact that he will ask for her opinion or advice and doesn't listen to it in the slightest.

Tobias's character is one of constantly conflicted emotions. Though he appears strong, confident, and capable, when compared to Tris's inner landscape, the reader sees that he is actually the weaker character of the two. Having never known the nurturing childhood that Tris has known has left him indelibly scarred psychologically. All of the remaining fears in his fear landscape pertain to family members and his issues with them. Both his father and mother represent two sides of a very terrible coin, and neither is above using him for their own endgame. Tobias is very aware of this, and it makes his decisions all that more difficult.



In the end, Tobias's mother, Evelyn, is the one thing that keeps him going after Tris dies. When Tobias presents her with an ultimatum...choose leadership and power, or to be a mother.....she chooses him. His fear at attempting the zip line comes back at the end of the novel as he embraces the thrill and freedom of it to honor Tris's memory. At the end of the novel, readers see him trying to make his peace with Tris's sacrifice, and his attempt to live life on a different level than before.

Christina

Christina endures a lot of suffering throughout the book, only to make her life philosophy a lot more powerful. She keeps Tobias from brainwashing himself with the serum. She points out early on in *Allegiant* that the transfer initiates that they started with are starting to die, leaving them with six initiates. She loses her friends Uriah and Tris. Christina is Tris's best friend, and even as she deals with Will's death at Tris's hand, she eventually remains Tris's friend.

Cara

One of the founding members of the Allegiant, Cara is also going through an "identity crisis" but a much different one than Tris's or Tobias's crisis. She is trying to shape her view of the world they live in and where in this world she fits in. Cara is the reason that everyone is able to get out of the city. She is smart and honest, always telling those with her what she thinks and how she feels about it. She was put into the genetically damaged category.

Evelyn Johnson

Evelyn is the mother of Tobias and at the end of *Insurgent*, left with much power which is not a pretty sight. Tobias believes Evelyn to be cold, but when her dear friend Edward dies, Tobias sees that she isn't all bad. She is faced with two choices at the end of *Allegiant*; drink the memory serum to reset herself or give up the position of power and do what is best for the city. She surprises everyone when she takes the second option, choosing her son and the city over power.

Caleb

Caleb is Tris's older brother. He betrays her and almost gets her killed. Because both Tris and Tobias have a hard time forgiving him, he is willing to sacrifice himself for forgiveness from them. Tobias really doesn't like him because of his cowardice. When Tris ends up sacrificing herself instead of letting him die, Caleb becomes more broken, having to carry around the guilt that her death brings. Caleb is a complex and weak character in that he seeks knowledge, but doesn't stop to activate or accumulate any wisdom to go along with it. This makes him an easy target for anyone with a persuasive manner about them, like Jeannine.



Uriah

Uriah is optimistic about life outside of the city. He is ready to start new adventures and explore the world. When he sees that the real world is not what he hoped it to be, Uriah remains happy go-lucky and flirtatious. Tobias's actions cause Uriah to go into a coma when a bomb goes off. He never wakes up, finally dying.

Peter Hayes

Peter is down in the dumps throughout Allegiant due to all of his bad decisions. Everyone in the group pretty much hates him and doesn't believe that he can change, but he claims that he wants to. Peter drinks the memory serum to erase who he was to become someone new. The new Peter lives in Milwaukee and has a boring office job.

Marcus Eaton

Marcus is Tobias's father. He is exiled for the fact that he beat his wife and child. Johanna has Evelyn agree to never let Marcus be in charge of anything, not even sweeping the floor. For Marcus, this is the worst punishment that he could receive as he is a power-hungry control freak. Tobias's fear of his father is one of the only four fears that he could never quite overcome.

The Bureau of Genetic Welfare

These guys are the masters of the experiment in Chicago. Zoe, the girl who gives Tris the tablet, is a part of the Bureau. Matthew and Nita are objects of jealousy for Tris and Tobias. The lab tech and his assistant want what Tris wants, except that Nita wants to destroy them. Tobias eventually pairs up with her to destroy the Bureau and ends up killing Uriah. David, the Bureau head, wants to reset anyone who went wrong in the experiment using the memory serum. He ends up in a wheelchair when Tris uses him as a shield in a gunfight with Nita.

David

David is the director of the Bureau of Genetic Welfare, and was already in a position of power when Tris's mother was sent there. It is he who is pictured in the photograph along with Tris's mother. He has an electronic journal that Tris's mother sent to him during her time working there. Tris learns that her mother's real name was Natalie. David does not view what he's undertaken with any hint of trepidation or regret. He favors Tris because of her ties to Natalie, but in the end, must be stopped before he can create an even greater evil.



David is wounded when a bomb goes off in his laboratory. He survives and ends up in a wheelchair until the end of the novel, when he is killed.

Matthew

Matthew is called a lab assistant, but Tris figures out that he really does most of the work for the Bureau. Later on in the story, Tris finds out that he's been helping Nita because he doesn't agree with the GD versus GP formulas that David enforces.

Nita

Nita is one of the people who live at the Bureau headquarters. She is kept there as a worker, but treated like she is inferior because she is one of the GD (genetically damaged). She and Matthew are involved. However, because she knows who Tobias is, she attempts to seduce him into joining them to help in sabotaging and stealing various lab items. Tris finds out that Nita has been meeting Tobias after hours to talk to him about taking on a mission and she tells Tobias that Nita is bad news.

Amar

Amar was Four's former instructor at Dauntless. He spotted Four before he was named, Four, and took him under his wing, helping him learn to fit in and leave his Abnegation ways behind him. Four credits Amar for saving his life on more than one occasion over the years. It is a shock for Four to learn that Amar is still alive, as Amar had reportedly been killed in an explosion when he'd jumped off of a Pire and was killed below. On reflection, Four realizes that they never did recover much of a body after that. Amar has been living and working for the Bureau ever since that time. He tells Four that he had to leave because they'd just come out with a serum that could detect the Divergent...and he was one.

Tori

Tori is one of the first characters that Tris meets. They first meet in Divergent (book one) during the sorting ceremony. When Tris's test scores are inconclusive because of her divergence, Tori hides it and saves Tris's life. Later on, after Tris has joined Dauntless she befriends Tori and shows her some of the customs and ways of the Dauntless faction. She sports a hawk tattoo. Later, she is killed as they try to leave the city. This is particularly horrible due to the fact that if Tori had lived one more day she would have been reunited with her brother, whom she'd thought dead all these years.



Symbols and Symbolism

Clothes

Each faction wears clothing that is representative of their world views. For example, Abnegation wears all gray, while Amity wear yellow and bright clothing. The clothing that all of the characters wear are actually not by their choice, but by the direction of those in charge of their faction. Even when someone chooses the faction that they will serve in, their clothing is decided. So, in a greater sense, the clothing represents that one's personal choice is often not a personal choice at all, but rather is a connection to one's surroundings and society.

Factions

Each faction has chosen to make certain areas their 'village' or 'city' unto itself. Each choice says something about the faction that lives there. For example, the Erudite have converted an old library, while the Dauntless live in a defensible pit. In essence, the author is trying to say that a lot about one's identity is wrapped up in where one lives

Tattoos

Tris and most of the other Dauntless sport tattoos that mean something to them. Tris's birds in flight show how free she feels living in Dauntless as opposed to Abnegation. It also represents her freedom to love and make the choice to sacrifice for them. It also represents her family, whom she deeply loves. Others, like Tori, get a tattoo of something that they formerly feared, but fear no longer.

Guns

Weapons play a central figure in all of the series, but in particular represent raw primal power. At first, Tris falls in love with the power that a gun gives her. Considering that she's spent most of her childhood feeling powerless, the feel of a gun is a pretty heady thing. Later, however, she realizes that guns don't equal power, and in the end, it is love that is the most powerful weapon of them all.

Serum

There are many variations of serums that are used throughout the entire series, but the main serums in the last book include a serum that will 'reset' an individual's memories, allowing them to forget terrible things, or terrible actions, and replace them with socially acceptable ones. This is what Peter chooses to do at the end, and forces the reader to



ask the question of themselves as to whether they would 'reset' themselves if given a chance.

Armbands

Even the Factionless create an identifying symbol...an armband. This allows them to supposedly identify who is on their side. This is reminiscent of several regimes in our historical past where a militaristic government has taken control and forced this type of identification on the masses.

The Bureau Sculpture

In the foyer at the Bureau there is a large chunk of stone on display. Suspended over this is a large tank of water that slowly drips over the stone, gradually wearing it away. The author suggests, through Tris, that the stone is the problems that the human race is facing and that the drop of water is what is actually being applied to the problem. Meaning, that while there is forward momentum, it is going very slowly and it will take a long time for a difference to be noticeable.

Genetics (defective and effective)

The Bureau, of which Tris's mother was a part, had made the determination that certain genes are to be labeled defective and unworthy of being allowed to survive. This, of course, smacks of the whole eugenics argument, of course. Who decides what is normal? And, aren't the divergent thinkers of Tris's world what they've been waiting for? Because everything that happens does so because of one's genetic codes, making it intensely personal, the author seems to be suggesting that labeling others is a dangerous road to go down, one that may be hard to return from.

The Zipline

Several times before, and in previous novels, Tris and some of the other Dauntless have zip-lined out over the city in Chicago. Tobias has always turned Tris down whenever she's asked him to try it with her. She tells him that the zipline makes her feel alive, free, and in control of her own destiny to make choices. At the end, Tobias, to honor her, spreads her ashes as he makes the descent via the zip line. It also represents his coming to terms with her death by this act.

Tobias's childhood statue

This statue is made of blue glass and is abstract; it resembles falling water. It would have been forbidden in an Abnegation household, and yet, Evelyn had gotten it for

Tobias. The fact that after all these years she still has it shows that she still deeply loves her son and regrets having to leave him.

The Airplane

When Tris and the others arrive at the Bureau, the next day Zoe arranges for them to all take a ride on the airplane. Tris is thrilled while the others are slightly disturbed by the adventure, Tris notes that flying that high up, being reduced to just a speck, is a type of freedom.



Settings

Chicago

This is where the first two books take place in the Divergent series. Chicago is fenced in, letting the imagination wonder as to what is outside. In *Allegiant*, Tris and the others break out and are introduced into the outside world, in a post-apocalyptic reality check.

Outside Chicago

Everyone believes that the outside will be different, but when they break out, they soon learn it isn't much different than where they were from. With a world as big as theirs now, some of the group wonder how they could matter.

The Fringe

The Purity War left the United States in ruins. Many people who lived near Chicago now live in the O'Hare Airport in the Bureau of Genetics or in a run down version of the suburbs, known as "The Fringe". The Fringe is made up of houses with boarded windows, where all the residents carry a weapon to defend themselves. The residents are mostly made up of people who have been exiled, or are factionless.

Bureau of Genetic Welfare

Located in the deserted and functionless O'Hare airport in Chicago, the Bureau of Genetic Welfare has their headquarters. They established themselves there after the Purity War in an attempt to correct the genetically damaged populations. David is the director of the Bureau, and of the project that involved Tris's mother.

Erudite Headquarters

Located in what was once a large several storied library, it once served as the Erudite headquarters. After Evelyn's forces defeated Jeanine, the Factionless made it their headquarters. It is from there that Tris and her friends escape.



Themes and Motifs

Nature vs. Nurture

Genetics plays a huge role in *Allegiant*. The United States government believes that genetics is something they can control. They thought that they could get rid of the bad traits within the population to create a perfect world. In their eyes, anyone who didn't have perfect genes wasn't worth anything and just caused problems. The Divergent were created in an attempt to breed a genetically superior species. When Tobias learns that he isn't Divergent he believes himself to be inferior, but Tris is convinced that he's still the same person and that nothing has changed between them.

Likewise, there are several instances in the novel where Tobias's upbringing is contrasted with Tris's. The fact that she has had loving parents has given her a foundation that does not shift when it counts. Tobias does not have that, and the lack of that firm foundation is something he feels constantly. Additionally, the question about whether being genetically predisposed to something is supported or discouraged according to environment is explored, not only through the creation of the factions, but in the Purity Wars, and the consequent divisions that exist in the Bureau.

Peter offers interesting insight into the nature vs nurture controversy in that he is clearly sociopathic in nature. He has little regard for anyone but himself, and yet, when he is 'reset' it is reported that he has a low level, boring desk job in the city. There is no mention of his acting in subversive ways anymore. Therefore, the author would seem to be suggesting that environment and therefore nurture plays a large part in whether or not a person's darker tendencies ever emerge. Placed in a Dauntless situation, where violence is encouraged, Peter's worst proclivities knew no bounds. Reset and placed in a dull, repetitious lifestyle, he adapted and as far as the reader knows was able to live normally and without issue.

If one were to accept the 'nature' over 'nurture' in Tobias's case, then Tobias shouldn't have been able to succeed. Nevertheless, he still helps Tris because he knows that it is the right thing to do. It's just part of how he was raised and shaped. Tris's mother is shown not to believe we are just slave to our genetics either and she passionately fought for those considered genetically inferior to have their rights, knowing that what matters most is how they are raised, not just what's in their genes.

Family

When Tris and her group reach the Bureau they are given access to all of their resources. This gives Tris a chance to finally learn more about her mother. Through learning about her mother, Tris is also able to learn about how the world used to be, finding out that her mother didn't want to follow David which is why she chose Abnegation. She wanted to fight for people who didn't have rights and truly believed in



changing the way the world worked. Reading about her mother helps shape Tris and ultimately helps in her final decision to oppose David and use the memory serum on the Bureau instead of on Chicago. Tris is essentially completed as a person because she was able to find out where she came from.

However, the issue of family isn't quite resolved until she can forgive Caleb. At one point Tris questions what it means to be 'family' with someone. Is it more than genetics? Is it a shared purpose, goal, or similar interests? Or is it all of those things? She finally has her answer when she views her brother, not as the traitor he had chosen to be, not as the defeated and ready to die soldier, but as the brother she loved, grew up with, and shared her dreams and aspirations with. This, then, was her answer and is what made her willing to save him from himself.

While Tris shows the importance of family, Tobias also shows that family simply isn't about genetics. Throughout the series, Tobias is at odds with his family members. Tobias initially struggles because he feels he should be loyal to his mother simply because they are family. Ultimately though, he comes to realize that even though they are related, it doesn't mean that she's right. This is what motivates Tobias to join with Tris. At the end of the book, Tobias is shown to have essentially adopted his friends as new family. Basically, family is important in shaping us, but we are the ones who get to choose our family.

Of note, too, is the way that the adults in the series view family. To Tris's mother, family is everything. As the reader learns about Edith Prior (Natalie) and her former life, it becomes clear why family would be of ultimate importance to her, having never had one. Likewise, we see Evelyn as a young mother, sacrificing herself time and again to shield her young son from an abusive father. Then, in an act of self preservation, leaving the family and the child behind.

Government Control

When we learn about the history of the Bureau we learn that the United States government fell because they essentially wanted to control the genetics of everyone by eliminating the traits they found undesirable. Even in the present we can see the damage being done by groups looking to assert their control. Evelyn rules over Chicago and is shown to enforce harsh laws to better control the populace. The Bureau wants to use the memory serum to wipe the memories of everyone in Chicago clean. Each time, the government presents themselves as trying to make things better for everyone.

In reality, all they are doing is lying and trying to exert their control over the populace. People simply end up suffering and society essentially collapsed when the United States tried to make a genetically superior race. Tris and Tobias fight for the rights of those that are considered genetically damaged and forced to live on the Fringe. In addition, Tobias makes his mother give up the power she has over Chicago, and Tris gives her life to keep the Bureau from taking control of everyone's memories in the city.



Every time the government lies and tries to take control away from the people, we as a society suffer.

What the author makes clear, utilizing several different themes as vehicles to do so, is the fact that when governments begin to perceive themselves in a godlike manner, to view the general population as something less than human, that there is a very real danger to everyone, and the entire race as a whole. This is shown in the scene where Nita shows both Tris and Tobias old footage from World War II as evidence that the Purity War had happened before, and what the aftermath had been. She points out that millions perished and that the government didn't learn their lessons and had attempted to do the same thing, and were in the process of doing the same thing. Seeing these pictures and the old news footage helps convince Tris that the current government and leaders needed to be 'reset'.

Though Tris could not reset all of the world's leaders, she knew that by resetting the one group that they could serve as an example of a solution that could work. In the end, Tobias states that it did work and that more and more people were coming to the city to rebuild, and to live. There are no more divisions and factions, and beautiful things are beginning to thrive once more. It is then, and only then, with this realization that Tobias realizes he must become one of the leaders, because this is what Tris sacrificed her life for.

Choice

Throughout the novel most of the characters end up having to make choices. Some of those choices are made for them, and they are unaware of them (such as the faction experiments), while other choices are forced upon them. Tobias must choose which parent to support, or none of them at all. Tris has to choose to let the hope that her mother might still be alive go. She also must truly forgive Caleb for his shortcomings, and to leave the city to find the truth.

Christina has to make a solid choice as well, when she learns that Tris killed her boyfriend, Will. She finally is able to see the situation for what it was and to forgive her friend. She counsels Tobias, when he has to go and speak to Uriah's mother and family, that what helped her to make the choice was that Tris didn't even try and rationalize what happened, but rather said how it made her feel and how horribly she regrets it. Then, Tris gave her friend the space necessary to make her choice. Choice, then, is shown to be one of those things that freedom, true freedom, affords. Those who do not live in freedom (another theme in this book) have all choices removed from them.

Choice is also shown to be a motivation for change. The desire to have control over one's own destiny, to have the freedom of choice is one that motivates nearly all of the divergent, because they can see the possibilities and potentials that having a choice would bring to the lives of everyone in the experiments. In essence, then, removing choice from the population didn't make them stronger, or better, or more pure....it took away their potential for vast good and impactful possibilities and innovations.



Choice is also shown to be something that is a precious commodity and one that should not be given up lightly, especially to principalities and governments. The author, through the characters of Tris and Tobias, seems to be suggesting that always asking questions, never blatantly accepting explanations or rationales, is the mark of a truly thinking individual. And that without this type of curiosity and stubbornness civilization, and potentially mankind, is doomed.

Segregation

The Faction System that has been instituted as a type of behavioral modification in the project cities has, by its very nature, been a type of segregation. Those who have a tendency to act a certain way are grouped with those expressing similar traits. To further separate everyone they are told that they will wear certain colors and certain styles of clothing. So, for example, those living in Amity wear cotton clothing, colored yellow and bright colors, and the style is one that is in line with working on a farm. Conversely, those living in the Dauntless faction wear black leather, have shorter hair, and carry weapons.

However, segregation shows up in other ways. When Tris's group reaches the Bureau she finds that they are grouping people by their genes: genetically damaged, or genetically pure. While there are no factions, there is still separation. None of them seem fair and Tris does not accept the labels that are placed on her. She is unable to see how others can't walk away from the labels.

In this way Tris acts as the agent of change in many ways, combating the separation that the government has enforced on them. As a divergent thinker, someone who does not conform to one way of thinking, she is unable to grasp the reason for the separation. She sees the strength that the diversity brings, and this is reinforced by the tattoos on Tobias's back....her true love.

Lastly, segregation is shown to make a group of people weak. The strongest group are those who are considered Factionless...who have no 'group' or 'label' placed upon them. There are so many of them that they become a force to be reckoned with...demanding freedom from their conditions. In this way the author is stressing the importance of unity, freedom, and the strength our differences can offer to a cause.

War

Throughout the novel there are wars of all types going on. First, there are the literal wars between the Factions. Then there are the Purity Wars that Tris and her group learn about when they reach the Bureau. Later, there are consistent wars between friends, lovers, and family members. In each case, war is shown to be ultimately destructive and does not solve anything. The Purity Wars were over only because the entire human race almost went extinct.



Tris and Tobias both confront their own eagerness to fight and challenge others, and realize that often the most strength comes from not fighting as opposed to giving in to one's inclinations and impulses. This is true when Tris offers herself up to the Erudite Headquarters, refusing to fight, hoping to buy everyone some time to figure out how to bring down Jeanine.

The physical war going on is the backdrop to the emotional war that takes place between many of the characters. First, Christina has to come full circle in forgiving Tris. They psychologically alienate one another for a while before finally both realize that they not only need each other, but that they miss the friendship that they once had. Thus, war is shown to be a destroyer of friendships. Then, there is the continual running war between Tris and Tobias. Neither understands the others need for space and freedom. Tobias has the need to control those things around him so that he feels secure, while Tris needs to be allowed to take the risks that she chooses worthy.

At one point in the novel, Tris observes that she and Tobias have never had a chance to experience what it would have been like to be a real couple, have real dates, and experience falling in love that way. War is shown to be a destroyer of love, and the beautiful. This is reinforced with the death of Uriah, who is arguably the nicest, most optimistic one of the group. His death, and the death of many young and innocent lives underscores the brutality and senseless nature of war.

Identity

The idea of identity moves throughout the entire series but culminates in this final book, *Allegiant*. From the beginning the reader has seen identity being wrapped up in a faction, clothing, and way of life. Now, of course, they find that it is more intimate than that: one's genetic makeup. When Tobias finds that he is genetically damaged (or so the Bureau says) it shakes his own idea of himself. Even though he is Divergent, he is still 'damaged'. What does damaged mean? He struggles to come to terms with this information and who he is, not only to their cause, but more importantly to Tris.

Tris has had to change and allow her identity to shift and evolve from the beginning. At first, she was Caleb's sister who was not very good at giving to others. Then she was a Dauntless initiate, and not a very good one, at first. Then she beat the fearscapes, earned her spot on the team, and fell in love. Throughout the entire novel she struggles to find her own source of strength, thinking at first to find it outside of herself. When she learns that part of her own identity is her own inner strength, then the reader sees a character who really comes into her own and is able to face the struggles that confront her.

Other characters de-evolve, so to speak. Caleb at the beginning of the novel is very good at what he does with Abnegation. However, it is a lie that he's harbored for years since he had been secretly studying Erudite books behind their backs. This doesn't change when he becomes Erudite and goes so far as to assist in the capture and



torture of his sister. Later, he transforms again into someone so wracked with guilt that he is seeking a way to end his life and change his identity.

The overall message on identity through this novel is that one's identity comes from one's willingness to be who they are and to have the courage to remain true to that even if it upsets others.

Domestic Violence

There are several occasions when domestic violence and abuse are addressed. Tobias talks about it many times and the fact that it is one of the major fears that he was never able to conquer speaks to how traumatic and long reaching the effects of his abuse were. In many ways it has crippled him because he finds himself needing to control many of the circumstances that he finds himself in. This hurts his relationship with Tris, in that he becomes upset and withdrawn when she takes risks with her life. He thinks that he should have been consulted...for permission, which Tris resents.

Likewise, the character of Johanna, with her burned face, indicates that she, too, was the victim of abuse. In Chapter 31 when she confronts Marcus about his abuse of Tobias and Evelyn, she says: "Please. I have watched how your son behaves, how your wife behaves. I know what people who are stained with violence look like." She pushes her hair behind her ear, exposing her maimed face. "We recognize our own." From this phrase the reader can gain a stark reminder of how this type of 'war' can often take place behind closed doors, in the silence of suburbia, even in a place of tranquility such as Amity.

This is also true of Evelyn whose abuse was so severe that she turned to another man for comfort, was exiled and removed from the son that she'd protected all those years. When Tobias finally confronts her about her leaving, she doesn't even try to fight him, or to offer justification. Later, when Tobias realizes the truth, and sees that she's kept the blue statue, he realizes that his overall assumption of her had been wrong.

As the subject of domestic abuse applies to the overall novel, it is shown that most often those who perpetrate the abuse rationalize it in many ways that are simply inexcusable to those on the outside. Marcus states that he was not abusive to Tobias at all, but that he was instilling discipline and mental stability to the boy. He rationalizes that Evelyn needed to be guided, because that was a husband's 'duty'. Likewise, the Bureau takes the same tone in regards to those who are considered genetically damaged, doing what they do because it is for their own good.

Styles

Point of View

Allegiant is told from alternating points of view; first Tris, then Tobias. Interesting to note is that in the first books, Tobias is referred to in the chapter headings as Four, which is his Dauntless name. Later, when Tris discovers his identity and gets to know him, he is no longer Four, but Tobias. This alternating points of view gives an interesting view to the reader on many events that take place. It is very obvious that often times both Tris and Tobias' motives are different, assumptions are completely off base, and that until they fully communicate with one another, there is tension between them. This is told in first person, however, so the reader is given insight into Tris and Tobias's inner thoughts.

Language and Meaning

The language is geared for 9th grade (U.S.) and higher as some of the vocabulary and concepts are of a mature nature. The use of journals and discovered literature offers additional insight through the use of what they call 'archaic' language, as well as offers invented words and slang that are presumably a part of this futuristic world. The use of figurative language submerges the reader in a sensory delight, enhancing the experience through extended descriptions of people, places, and events.

Structure

The book is comprised of 56 chapters and an Epilogue, with alternating points of view between, mainly, Tris and Tobias. It is structured so that the plot progresses but is viewed through the lenses of two varying points of view. The plot sequencing follows setting changes, ironically enough, and adds to the final climax and catharsis at the end.



Quotes

We don't know what's happened out there since they put us in here, or how many generations have lived and died since they did. We could be the last people left.

-- Tris (chapter 7 paragraph Page 44)

Importance: This quote underscores the thought that everyone in the group is having about going beyond the city gates. They could be entering into a whole lot of nothing on the other side. Tris tells them that it really doesn't matter what might possibly be out there because there is nothing left for them on the inside of the gates. Here, readers see Tris taking a leadership role. The next day, when Evelyn passes her new rules, Tris and the others realize that going outside of the gate is their only real option, now.

I take a deep breath. I'm not sure where that swell of desperation came from, but now that I've acknowledged it, it's possible to ignore, like a living thing has awakened from a long sleep inside me. It writhes in my stomach and throat. I need to leave. I need the truth.

-- Tris (chapter 8 paragraph Page 54)

Importance: Tris isn't sure why she needs to know, she just knows that she has to find out the truth, not only about her mother, but about why they are inside of the gates. She wants to make sense of her world, its ugliness, the death. She wants it to have been worth it for some reason. This quote indicates her desire to make sense out of something that seems very senseless to her at this point.

I have never had parents who set good examples, parents whose expectations were worth living up to, but she did. I can see them within her, the courage and the beauty they pressed into her like a hand-print.

-- Tobias (Four) (chapter 9 paragraph Page 67)

Importance: Tobias observes Tris in this moment and he admires her spirit and her strength. He finds her courage beautiful and it is apparent that he loves who she is.

I open the door to the fear landscape room and flip open the small black box that was in my back pocket to see the syringes inside. This is the box I have always used, padded around the needles; it is a sign of something sick inside me, or something brave.

-- Tobias (Four) (chapter 10 paragraph Page 69)

Importance: Tobias knows that he's about to leave the city and that he will never again face his fears in this way. He wants one last time to battle them, to come out on the other side having bested some of them at least. He knows that so much has changed for him that there is really only one thing that frightens him now (losing Tris).

It's stupid to miss a thing when there are so many people to miss instead, but I miss this train already, and all the others that carried me through the city, my city, after I was brave enough to ride them. I brush my fingers over the car wall, just once, and then



jump.

-- Tris (chapter 11 paragraph Page 89)

Importance: The train signifies many things to Tris. It is a symbol of her initial freedom when she chose the Dauntless faction, and it was also a place where she and Tobias first found love. The train has always brought her to good things, and this time it is taking her away from the known and into the unknown.

His fingers slide into my hair and I hold on to his arms to stay steady as we press together like two blades at a stalemate. He is stronger than anyone I know, and warmer than anyone else realizes; he is a secret that I have kept, and will keep, for the rest of my life.

-- Tris (chapter 22 paragraph Page 228)

Importance: This scene is where both Tris and Tobias are able, at least for a short while, express their feelings for one another. In a time and place that doesn't support love, much less offer stability or promise, they are struggling to cling to their time together. Their love is symbolic of the love that is destroyed when war happens, that the innocent are slaughtered and something beautiful stained.

Though I know that he had something to do with the attack simulation, and with all those deaths, I find it difficult to pair those actions with the man I see in front of me. I wonder if this is how it is with all evil men, that to someone, they look just like good men, talk like good men, are just as likable as good men.

-- Tris (chapter 32 paragraph Page 320)

Importance: Tris is talking about David, who, at this point, is in a wheelchair as the result of an attack on the lab. She's talking about how looks can be deceiving.

Most of our time together has been spent running from one threat or another, or running toward one threat or another. But I can see a time on the horizon when that won't need to happen anymore. Maybe then we can find out if we do as well with the quiet moments as we have with the loud ones.

-- Tris (chapter 43 paragraph Page 430)

Importance: This expression of Tris's hopes for the future indicates that she is beginning to believe that maybe there will be a time and a place when she and Tobias can simply enjoy living together instead of constantly fighting and struggling.

For me, it feels like driving from truth into a lie, from adulthood into childhood. I watch as the land of pavement and glass and metal turn into an empty field. The snow is falling softly now, and I can faintly see the city's skyline up ahead, the buildings just a shade darker than the clouds.

-- Tobias (chapter 44 paragraph Page 437)

Importance: Tobias says this after Amar drives them through the gates back into the city limits. He marvels that Amar can do it without noticing it at all, like he's used to it.



But for Tobias and the others it is still significant, and represents a move from innocence to maturity, from ignorance to knowledge.

Chaos and destruction do tend to take away a person's dating possibilities.

-- Tris (chapter 5 paragraph Page 25)

Importance: Tris is commenting on the fact that nothing about their relationship has progressed normally. This is another statement by the author showing that war destroys beautiful things and possibilities.

...when you have to choose between two bad options, you pick the one that saves the people you love. I wouldn't have been saving Evelyn by giving her that serum. I would have been destroying her.

-- Tobias (chapter 51 paragraph Page 477)

Importance: This is where Tobias is deciding that giving his mother the serum would be the worst thing that he could do to her, that she would lose herself. He can't bear to do that to his mother, and so he appeals to the person he hopes she can be.

You can't become a person she would hate. And she would have hated this.

-- Christina (chapter 56 paragraph Page 505)

Importance: This is where Christina has followed Tobias back to his old Abnegation home because she fears that he's going to do something to himself. She stops him from making a big mistake by taking the memory serum. This is what she tells him that makes him change his mind.