

The Girl Who Was Supposed to Die Study Guide

The Girl Who Was Supposed to Die by April Henry

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Plot Summary

A teenage girl wakes up with all of her memories gone and finds herself in a cabin with men who plan to kill her. She discovers that she is missing fingernails and she has taken quite a beating. While one of her captors decides to return to Portland, the other drags her out back to finish her off. The girl realizes that she knows karate, knocks her assailant out, takes his gun, wallet, and cell phone, and then gets into his car, escaping.

The girl goes straight to a security office and asks for help, but a man named, Nowell, who claims to be a doctor from Sagebrush, a mental hospital, calls the security officer and says the girl, named Katie, is paranoid and has hallucinations. The officer keeps Katie in his car, but she pulls a gun on him and escapes, driving away.

[The reader should note that at this point the protagonist is still known as "Katie" but that her name will change about mid-way through the novel. This will be pointed out in the guide as she switches to a new name for the rest of the story.]

Katie, believing that she is far enough away, risks stopping at a McDonald's. It is here that she meets Ty. He gives her a free cup for water, and she eats her food while trying to figure out who she is and what has happened. Exhausted, she falls asleep and Ty wakes her up. Apologetic and embarrassed, she goes to use the restroom. While in there, she overhears the men who are chasing her talk to Ty. Ty says he hasn't seen Katie. When the men leave, Ty helps her escape and stay at his place.

Katie meets James, Ty's roommate, and the next day the same men are knocking on apartment doors trying to find her. She and Ty hide, and James gets the men to leave. The boys cut Katie's hair to look like a boy, and she and Ty escape on skateboards. They go to the café and then the library and discover that the security officer that was killed, as well as the cabin Katie woke up in, was burned down with human remains discovered inside. At this point Katie takes on the name "Cady" for Cadence, and she is known from this point forward as Cady.

Ty and Cady steal a car from the gym, and they head to Portland, where Cady thinks there are answers. They hear a woman who claims to be Cady's aunt speaking to the press, so they go to find her. The woman's name is Elizabeth and Cady doesn't recognize her, but Elizabeth seems to know her. She explains that Cady's parents are microbiologists and they found a virus that causes people to drown in their own blood. She says they developed a vaccine that could be used for biological warfare, and they are trying to keep it from the owners of Z-Biotech for protection. Cady deduces that they are the men who are chasing her, and they most likely want her to tell them where her parents are so they can get the vaccines.

Elizabeth, Ty, and Cady go to Cady's old house to try and find more clues. While there, Elizabeth reveals that she really isn't Cady's aunt. At this point one of the men that hurt Cady shows up. Cady learns that his name is Michael Brenner. Seeing the man causes Cady to gain all her memories back, and she remembers that Brenner had said that he



killed her little brother, Max. She breaks his arm and she and Ty get possession of a gun and tie both Elizabeth and Michael up. She learns that Max is really alive and the human remains in the burned down cabin were not from a human, but were from a chimp. Cady figures out that her parents left her a message. She calls a special encoded number and leaves a message, and her mom calls her back. She explains that Max is sick and that Cady needs to get the vaccine from Z-Biotech.

She and Ty take Elizabeth's keycard, dress as janitors, and sneak into the building at Z-Biotech. They tie up the security guard and go upstairs to get the vaccines. While there, they find the eggs that are growing the vaccines. They set them on fire and Cady takes the vaccine. Nowell shows up, and dumps what he thinks is the vaccine down the drain, but Cady really switches it with plain water. He finds out that the eggs are on fire, and he goes to open the place they are in. It creates a backdraft, and they all are burned. Firefighters show up and Ty explains what happened. Brenner, Nowell, and Elizabeth are all taken into custody without bail. Max gets the vaccine and is safe, and Cady's mom explains to her while she is in the hospital that her dad will be fine after surgery, and that Ty is okay, too. The story ends with Ty and Cady enjoying a ski trip three months later, trying to settle in to the lives of normal teenagers. Cady's parents are constructing a new cabin where the old one used to be, and the book finishes with Cady and Ty sharing a first kiss.



Chapters 1-2

Summary

Chapter 1

The main character wakes without any recognition of where she is, why she's there, or who she is. Two men are discussing what to do with her, and she is in considerable pain. One of the men thinks it's best to kill her, while the other says she's just a kid.

They argue, and first demands that the second captor kill the girl. He leaves, saying he has to go to Portland. The second man drags her outside, and on the way she realizes there are two of her fingernails on a table, and she also sees a chair with ropes. She realizes she must have been there before she woke up on the floor. Her train of thought is interrupted as the second man drags her outside to do as he was told.

Chapter 2

The main character tries to buy herself time by making herself limp and banging against all the furniture. She searches for a weapon and can't see one. She pretends to pass out and slips out of his grasp.

Once outside, the main character hooks her leg around the tree, bringing them to a stop. She suddenly acts violently, and using a rock, she hits him several times. She finally jabs him in the throat, and he passes out. Chapter 2 has a chilling end, as the girl realizes she has no clue who she is, but she has obviously been trained to defend herself.

Analysis

Chapter 1

Author April Henry starts the book off in an interesting way. She doesn't introduce the main character, because the girl knows nothing about herself. This doesn't give the reader any information other than what the main character learns along the way. This is a tool utilized by the author in order to place the reader in the same position as the protagonist. All the reader, and the girl, knows is that she is in danger, has been tortured, and is likely to be killed if she doesn't do something.

The only thing the character, as well as the reader, knows is the present and what her senses tell her. She knows she has had two fingernails ripped off, and that she is in danger. Through her, the reader can see what is going on. The men most likely kidnap her, or she has something they want. One man returns to Portland, giving scarce information about what they are truly searching for. The main character knows the man wants to kill her, and she has to act fast if she wants to survive.



Chapter 2

The question of what the main character does and why she is wanted dead by these people is even stronger in this chapter. She defends herself and wins against a man bigger and older than her, and it is uncertain, even to her, as to how she knows how to do that.

An allusion is made to David and Goliath, possibly giving a clue to the reader that this girl is religious. The allusion also provides a decent amount of imagery as well, as comparing the man dragging her to Goliath makes him seem like an even bigger problem to her. It immediately serves to portray her as the underdog.

From the first chapter, it is clear that she is young, as the men describe her as being a kid. This adds to the mystery of how she can easily fight a full grown man and win. It is obvious that she is not a normal teenaged girl.

Discussion Question 1

Discuss what the protagonist does and doesn't know in both chapters.

Discussion Question 2

What leads the reader to understand how and why the girl has lost her memory?

Discussion Question 3

Why do the two assailants and kidnappers argue about the protagonist?

Vocabulary

gritty, shredded, throb, nudge, oxblood, neutral, conscious, grunting, flit, upended, socket, arcs, slack, tremble, copper, clamp, fierce, reposition, piston, automatic



Chapters 3-4

Summary

Chapter 3

The main character, name still unknown, battles with herself over what she will do with the man she attacked. She worries that she killed him, but when she notices his ragged breathing, she's glad he's not dead. She knows there is something seriously wrong with him, though.

She finds the gun in his jacket and takes it. She ties him up with his belt, so he can't chase her if he recovers. She fishes through his jacket and retrieves the man's phone and his car keys. She isn't sure if she can drive or not, but she's willing to find out.

Chapter 4

On her way back into the cabin, the main character sees another girl. She screams and raises the gun to shoot her but then realizes it is a mirror and that she is staring at herself. She gazes at herself and tries to remember anything about who she is. She realizes that she is in her mid-teens, and she has one tooth that is loose, most likely courtesy of her captors. Other than that she has no recall of who she is or why the men would want to hurt her.

She finds an SUV out front, but before she escapes she feels as if she needs to go through the house. She finds a photo, and notices herself in the picture, but she has no recognition of the place or the situation depicted in the photo. She goes through the rest of the house quickly, and everything is ransacked. She leaves and gets in the car. Her actions are automatic; she knows how to drive.

Analysis

Chapter 3

The main character might not know who she is, but it is clear that she is not sadistic, as she battles with herself over what to do for a long time. She wants to run, but she's worried the man is dead. She argues with herself over her quandary, telling herself that the man had tried to kill her. She turns to other matters at hand, like getting away.

It's clear that the girl is highly intelligent, has some sort of hand-to-hand training, and although she is clearly shocked and worried, she acts rationally. She takes her assailant's gun, ties him up, and takes his phone and keys, which is atypical of a teenaged girl in this type of situation.



It is also evident from these first few chapters that the girl has been kidnapped and tortured, and that whatever it was that they wanted to get from her, they didn't get it. The reader also understands that the girl is quick on her feet, able to work through her obvious pain, and has enough training and survival skills to take the time to get the man's keys and phone, and then to case the cabin before leaving.

Chapter 4

Finally, there is something description-wise to show who the main character is. The reader has a much better grasp on the girl's age, which is in the mid-to-late teens. In the picture she finds, she recognizes herself, but doesn't recognize anybody else. There is some sarcastic humor in this chapter, as she doesn't want to lose her tooth since she has already lost so much, including her identity. Yet in comparison, losing her tooth doesn't seem all that bad.

Her actions with the car are automatic, which provides another clue. She must be old enough to drive. Also, with the house being ransacked, she still does not know what the two men were looking for. Although it seems that they haven't found it, the suspense of what they are searching for pulls the story forward.

The girl leaves the cabin, destination unknown, as she has no clue where or who she is or where she should go.

Discussion Question 1

Based on the girl's reaction to the man's unconscious state, what does it tell you about who she is?

Discussion Question 2

What clues seem to indicate that she's not a normal teenager?

Discussion Question 3

Why might she have lost her memory of who she is?

Vocabulary

ruts, ajar, sill, jerk, snarled, automatically, hollow, mangled, stir, holster, loop, stiffens,



Chapters 5-6

Summary

Chapter 5

The girl drives, figuring out it is late fall and that she is up in the mountains. She gathers all this information based on instinct and her thoughts, but she still can't remember facts about herself. As she thinks, she realizes it isn't safe out here and she shouldn't ask for help in case she stumbles across the other murderer.

She remembers she stole the man's phone and thinks she should call 9-1-1 for help. Yet reaching into her pocket, she hurts her fingers again and it causes her to think further about her decision to call someone. She figures that she can't tell them her location or name and that cell towers probably aren't close by. Plus, she doesn't want to wait for help somewhere and risk discovery by her captors. The chapter ends with the phone buzzing as someone calls it.

Chapter 6

In this chapter, the girl debates who the people are in the picture she took from the cabin, and she has a very strong feeling that they are her family. She believes the cabin is either her parents or her grandparents. As she thinks all this over, she continues to drive. She keeps looking back, to make sure she isn't being followed, and almost gets in an accident.

She remembers the phone could connect to the Internet, so she pulls up Google Maps and figures out she is in the middle of Oregon. On the phone, she discovers a ranch and a security office. She finds the ranch, which seems like a resort, and runs inside, begging for help.

Analysis

Chapter 5

This chapter sees the girl vacillating between trusting other people to ask for help and guarding herself from contact with others. It is clear that her thinking has become muddled, which may mean that she is experiencing some shock due to her situation. This chapter touches briefly on the theme of Family. She's seen herself in a photo with a group of people whom she assumes are her family, and yet there is no memory of them that she can recall.

Another, more pressing problem occurs when the phone begins to ring. The dilemma is whether or not to answer the phone. If she doesn't answer it, then the other assailant may think something is wrong and go back to the cabin quickly and may even catch up



with her. Answering it would definitely clue him in. There's also the fact that the man could simply trace the phone and come and get her. While it had, at the time, seemed like a smart thing to do, she's realizing that the phone is not so much an asset as a liability. She opts not to answer the phone. At least, she reasons, it will buy her some time.

Chapter 6

It seems once she starts to think too much, she begins to lose her ability to make the right decisions. Several events cause her to debate the proper action she should take. The first event is her injuring her fingers again as she rushes to almost call 9-1-1, and the second event is how she nearly gets into an accident because she is paranoid and constantly checking over her shoulder to see if she is being followed.

The reader gains some insight into the girl's personality through her indecision. She's paralyzed to some extent in that she is indecisive and unsure as to what the right move would be. Should she call for help, what's she doing in Oregon, where are her parents, and how did she end up in the cabin? All of these questions keep her anxious and paranoid.

Discussion Question 1

Discuss the dilemma of answering the phone when it rang.

Discussion Question 2

Why is overthinking something not good for the girl?

Discussion Question 3

Discuss the theme of Family as it is touched upon in Chapter 5.

Vocabulary

graveled, pitted, evidence, speedometer, cones, scraps, chatter, shiver, frame, display, flare



Chapters 7-8

Summary

Chapter 7

The girl runs into the security office and hastily explains what is going on to Officer Dillow. He originally thinks she is one of the guests at the Lodge, but after hearing her story he becomes worried. Once Officer Dillow becomes concerned that she might be on drugs or be intoxicated. She tells him that she pushed a man down and knocked another one out. Officer Dillow doesn't seem inclined to believe her.

Seeing that the Officer is not listening to her and taking what she's saying seriously, she hands the wallet she has taken from her assailant to Officer Dillow and they flip through it. The man's name on the license is Michael Brenner. The Officer says he will take her to the police station where they will know what to do with her. He has her lie down in the back of his police cruiser, but the girl notices that the cruiser never moves and that Officer Dillow doesn't get in the vehicle. When she calls out to him, Officer Dillow calls her "Katie" and says that he's talked to the people at his station and that they've said that she's confused and has come from a mental hospital. She is told that her doctor, Dr. Nowell, is coming to pick her up. She eavesdrops on the Officer's call and learns that Michael Brenner is dead. He is described as being one of her orderlies at the mental hospital, which Katie is sure isn't true.

Chapter 8

Katie tries to convince Officer Dillow that she isn't crazy by showing him the photo. She tries to imagine herself with Brenner in the situation that Dillow describes, but she still remembers him dragging her through the woods, not as an orderly. She shows Dillow the gun to try and convince him that she isn't lying, asking him to consider that she might be telling the truth. When he sees the gun he immediately backs up and Katie realizes how it must look to him. A plan forms.

She threatens Dillow with the gun. He tries to convince her to put it down, saying that he will truly listen to her. She knows that he's lying to buy time until the Doctor can arrive. He says the caller ID on his phone showed that the call came in from Sagebrush, but he admits that it is possible that Dr. Nowell has lied to him. Katie is through listening to him. She makes him get into the back seat of the cruiser where she locks him in. She runs for the SUV.

Analysis

Chapter 7



Although she should feel safe, she feels worse being in the security office. This feeling proves to be right, as Officer Dillow puts her in his police car and explains that she's a resident of a mental institution. Nothing makes sense, but the girl, now identifying herself tentatively as Katie, is wondering if any of what Officer Dillow is saying is true.

Katie is terrified, and she doesn't feel like she is mentally ill. She fully, one hundred percent believes that what is happening to her is real. She feels that her proof is her mangled hand, but that can be explained in the other side of the story as well. Officer Dillow believes the exact opposite, that everything she says is part of her delusion. Additionally, she knows that she's been chased and that Ty could verify that, if she knew where he was at this point.

At this point Katie doesn't know who to believe. Identity as a theme is demonstrated in this chapter as Katie must try to determine who she is as a person in order to make some sort of decision. She is well aware that the decisions and choices that she makes in the next few minutes are going to have consequences that may haunt her for years, such as Brenner's death. Though she doesn't know her name, though she assumes it is Katie, she knows that she feels badly to have possibly been responsible for Brenner's death, that she feels as if her life is in danger, and that her injuries would seem to support her story rather than the one that she is being offered.

Chapter 8

In the end, Katie determines that staying put would not be in her best interest. Dr. Nowell will either kill her, or lock her up for a long time. Dillow promises to listen to her once she threatens him, and Katie almost trusts him. Yet it is clear that he doesn't trust her, and that makes up her mind for her.

False Pretenses as a theme is demonstrated in this chapter as Katie must try to discern whether Dillow is telling the truth or trying to hand her back to the people who've been holding her captive. She doesn't feel that the story she continues to hear from others about being an escaped mental patient is correct, though she can't explain why this would be so. In the end, she makes the decision to get away until she has more pieces to the puzzle, since the extent of her injuries, information she overheard while at the cabin, and other evidence she's gathered lead her to believe her own story and that it is absolutely necessary that she get away.

Discussion Question 1

How has Katie's knowledge of herself advanced in Chapter 7-8?

Discussion Question 2

Discuss Officer Dillow's situation in regards to whether to believe Katie or not.



Discussion Question 3

What finally helps Katie to make up her mind to run away from Officer Dillow?

Vocabulary

echo, paranoia, budge, prisoners, inpatient, vinyl, hallucinate, fluorescent, disinfectant, visualize, conjure, schizophrenic



Chapters 9-10

Summary

Chapter 9

Katie isn't sure what to do, and as she drives she considers her options. She could drive to a real police station and hope that they take her seriously. Katie quickly realizes that her reception there won't likely be much better as they all believe that she's an escapee from a mental institution. Hunger and exhaustion start to catch up with Katie, and she realizes that she needs to pull off of the road and at least get some food.

She finds a McDonald's and searches for money in the SUV. She eventually finds 11 quarters. It takes her a while to build up the strength and confidence to run into the McDonald's. After she, once again, checks for police, she leaves the safety of her SUV.

Chapter 10

While staring at a family that is in line, Katie tries to jump start any sort of memory that she might have about her own family. After awhile she realizes that she's made them uncomfortable and she moves to place her order. The cashier that takes her order is a nice looking boy about her age. He smiles and is nice to her, so much so that she almost tears up just hearing a friendly voice. While she's eating, she uses a napkin and writes down notes about what she knows about herself and her situation, and questions about what she doesn't know, but needs to know desperately. She is so tired and the restaurant is practically vacant, that she feels as if she can risk catching a short cat nap. She is jolted awake to find the cashier boy gently shaking her and asking her if she is okay. He tells her that his name is Ty.

Angry that she's allowed herself to be so careless she runs into the McDonald's bathroom to try and figure out what to do. What if the boy recognizes her and turns her in? Before she can get much further in her thinking she hears a voice that she'd hoped never to hear. It is the other kidnapper, the one that told Brenner to finish her off. Katie hears Ty tell the man that there is no girl here. Katie can't be certain if the man has left or not. She's trapped.

Analysis

Chapter 9

Katie questions herself a lot in this chapter. She doesn't feel like a schizophrenic, but she still feels guilt for killing someone. She realizes that her actions can point to her being mentally ill, and although she feels like she has clarity, she is worried that on some level maybe they are right and she's just totally delusional. She recalls that mentally ill people don't actually know that they are mentally ill.



Katie's sense of self is still in crisis, and beyond that she is alone. The theme of Family is strong in both Chapter 9 and 10, but in particular what is driven home is the fact that when someone doesn't have a family to lean on in times of trouble, and no friends to speak of, then a person tends to feel exposed and vulnerable. At this point in the story, Katie doesn't even know where she should be driving to, or toward whom. She just knows that she needs to keep running to stay safe.

Chapter 10

The theme of Family surfaces again in this chapter as Katie stares a little too directly at a family in McDonald's, so much so that the father becomes alarmed. Katie realizes how she must look to the average person in the restaurant, so she quickly orders, then seeks out a darkened area to eat and think. The fact that she can't remember her family, her parents, or anything about them leaves her rudderless, so to speak. She has no idea where to turn next or even how to begin finding them. It is so overwhelming that it, and her recent ordeal, catches up to her and she falls asleep.

Ty's kindness touches Katie. She connects with him a little, and although she still doesn't believe she can trust anyone, she feels less alone because of Ty's gesture. He doesn't make her feel as if she's a psychotic escapee from an institution, and the fact that he doesn't recognize her from any sort of poster or bulletin being circulated around indicates that the search for her is being kept fairly quiet.

Discussion Question 1

What has the other assailant most likely done to find her?

Discussion Question 2

Why does Ty's kindness resonate so deeply with Katie?

Discussion Question 3

What are Katie's options now that she's in the restroom with only one way out?

Vocabulary

bolted, swivel, dangles, snort, understatement, dispenser, clack, indrawn, punctuated, shaky, memorized, polyester



Chapters 11-12

Summary

Chapter 11

Still in the bathroom at McDonald's, Katie closes the door quietly, and immediately starts to try and figure out how she can escape. She realizes the bathroom has no windows, and that if she stands on a seat and locks the door, the men won't be fooled. She holds the gun, ready to shoot, just as the door opens. She debates whether she should shoot the man coming in or not, and is about to until she realizes it is Ty. He immediately jumps against the door and puts his hands up.

Through the door, she sees that the hall is empty. Ty says the guy asked for her, and he told them she was never there. He says they're closed and that he'd decided to bring in cleaning supplies into the bathroom so his presence in there won't look suspicious to anyone. He tells Katie that there are actually two men, and he describes them as being silver-haired and bald.

Katie explains to Ty that she has no idea who she is or what the men want with her. She puts the gun away and Ty relaxes. As she talks he comes closer to her and when she shows him her torn fingernails, he takes her hands in his. As he does this, Katie realizes there are bruises on her wrist that she hadn't noticed before.

Ty says they showed him a picture of Katie that looks as if it was printed from the internet. In the picture, she seemed to be celebrating something. When Katie looks desperate, Ty offers to go and see if it is safe for her to try and leave. Unfortunately, he returns in only a few minutes, telling her that he had been wrong. There are three men searching for her and they are all over her SUV in the parking lot. Katie reaches for the gun, again.

Chapter 12

Ty quickly tells her to put the gun away and says he has an idea. He says that he wants to help. Katie wants to refuse, as she doesn't want him getting hurt or killed. She remembers the broken nails on the table and is scared that maybe the men won't just kill her, they will torture her, too, or even Ty if he's in the way. However, she realizes that she doesn't have any other options and she accepts Ty's help.

Ty leaves, then wheels in a trash can for her to climb in to, which she does with Ty's help. The trash can smells of mold and grease, and Katie finds it hard to breathe. For some reason the strong smell jolts a memory, and Katie remembers the image of a 1950s photograph and a teacher reciting a Greek philosopher's phrase. Since she is beginning to remember mundane things, she hopes she may be able to remember more.



Ty leaves her in the trash can and plans on driving a few times around the block to make sure nobody follows him, and then he plans to return to get Katie. Katie has her own memory, one of her playing hide and seek and half enjoying it. Now, she only feels terror. She hears footsteps coming near to where she is, and she can't reach the gun because of the cramped conditions in the trashcan.

Analysis

Chapter 11

Katie really finds herself in trouble when she realizes that the men who are after her are now in the restaurant, and that the original assailant has brought back up. She desperately begins to think, realizing that she can't escape the bathroom. As always, she is quick thinking, but there are constant problems in front of her.

Overall, up until now, Katie has had the goal of finding out who she is, what the right story is, why the men are trying to kill her, and where her family is. However, she must work towards multiple other goals before she can find out anything. Currently, she needs to escape the men who came into the restaurant. The threat of them killing her makes her put everything else on hold.

Ty seems to believe her and this gives Katie enough of a support system to start to think about next steps. That he is willing to place himself in danger to help her touches her, and it irritates her that she has to accept his help because she knows that the men chasing her are dangerous and won't blink an eye at harming Ty.

The picture Ty speaks about is a symbol of the past, and Katie desperately wishes she could remember it. She doesn't know who she used to be, but judging by the picture, she knows that at some point in the past she was happy and loved. The picture seems to bolster her assumption that she is not mentally ill and that for some unknown reason people are trying to make it look like she is.

The reader isn't told much about Ty's character, but already it is evident that he is a kind person, intuitive, and willing to help. He also is knowledgeable about the town, and is savvy enough to mask his movements in the building so as not to arouse suspicion from the men in the parking lot. The fact that it is he who comes up with the escape plan is significant and foreshadows his future involvement with Katie.

Chapter 12

Katie, although she doesn't realize it, is beginning to learn more and more about herself and her character. Her compassion for Ty and her desire to protect him continue to prove that she is mentally stable. Yet she realizes she needs help and she allows Ty to come to her rescue. The theme of Teamwork is demonstrated in this chapter as Katie must be willing to ask for and be willing to accept, help. She learns that working with someone can help her to reach her goals in a safer and faster way than if she were to try and accomplish the same thing on her own.



The trashcan symbolizes physically how Katie is feeling emotionally, in that she is so cramped inside of the can that she can't reach her gun (a symbol of her ability to protect herself). In the trashcan she is vulnerable, relying solely on Ty to help her. This is a large step for her since up until this time she has not been able to trust anyone.

Discussion Question 1

What does the trashcan symbolize in Chapter 12?

Discussion Question 2

Why does Ty become involved?

Discussion Question 3

What does the picture that Ty describes tell Katie about who she is and her past?

Vocabulary

reality, tempting, flare, rancid, reek, flimsy, smother, degrees, brewpub, complex, pastes, pliers



Chapters 13-14

Summary

Chapter 13

Katie debates whether she should risk standing so she can grab the gun. She knows that if she does that she may give away her position. She slowly lifts the lid and sees another teen who most likely works in the neighboring mall. He has his earbuds in listening to music and seems to be walking in her direction. Katie sinks back down and worries that he is going to find her, but he walks past.

A car drives up, and Katie hopes it's Ty, but she is still too frightened to risk taking another peek out of the can. Shortly, Katie hears Ty's voice talking softly to her. She gets out of the trash can and Ty urges her to hurry since the men are watching the movie theater across the road next to the mall. They manage to get her to Ty's car and she immediately flattens herself in the back. She notes that the backseat of the car smells like wet dog. She wonders for a while if she likes dogs or not. She can't remember.

Headlights shine through the back window of the car causing her to worry that the men are following them. But after Ty makes a few turns, the headlights are gone. Katie wants Ty to just let her out, but Ty doesn't want to do that. He knows that she will be in more danger if he does that, so he refuses. He suggests she go to the cops, and Katie tells him how the security officer from Newberry Ranch didn't believe her. Ty offers to let her crash for the night at his house, and Katie wants to know if his parents will care. The chapter ends with him saying he lives on his own and Katie agrees to stay.

Chapter 14

Katie asks Ty if it is safe enough for her to sit up, now. Ty makes sure that nobody follows them, and then he tells her it's probably safe for her to sit up. Katie doesn't want to follow Ty into his apartment, but she doesn't really have another choice. He unlocks the door, and she follows him, gun ready.

Ty calls out into the apartment, and Katie finds out he has a roommate and a dog. His roommate, James, is a bit older than Katie. Ty goes to make Katie some food, and James begins to question her. She is on edge, and tries to answer his questions without giving too much away. He wants to know if her parents know where she is, and she says she isn't sure. He offers his phone, but she pretends to check Brenner's phone, instead.

Ty makes gumbo, and the three of them eat in mismatched chairs at the tiny table. Katie thinks that James is gay, and wonders if Ty is gay, too. Ty shows her his room, and offers her a shirt, a shower, and toothpaste. Katie finally takes a shower, but does so quickly as she just doesn't feel as if she can let down her guard. She notices when she



takes the shower that her body is covered in bruises. Whoever worked her over really didn't care if they killed her or not.

Analysis

Chapter 13

Ty and Katie are very similar in their desire to protect the other. Katie doesn't want Ty getting wrapped up in helping her, and Ty doesn't want Katie to be alone. This makes them a good team. The theme of Teamwork is further advanced in this chapter. By hiding Katie in a trash can and helping her, even though it puts him in danger, Ty highlights the theme of teamwork.

Katie mentions how she has been in the rear of two different cars today: the police car and Ty's car. The police car smells bad, like vomit, and she feels trapped in the back because of the plexiglass protection. Ty's car smells like dog, which is a comforting smell to Katie. Both vehicles represent the owners and their relationship to Katie. The poor experience she has in the police car foreshadows her experience with Officer Dillow. However, her experience in Ty's car is the opposite. Both men claim they are trying to help her, but it seems Ty is telling the truth. She trusts him because he has done nothing but try and help her so far. Still, she doesn't completely trust him and rushes through her shower.

Ty may try hard to help Katie because he has nobody else. He says he lives on his own with a touch of bitterness, and this could be a huge factor as to why he feels compelled to help Katie. Katie realizes that she keeps agreeing to what Ty suggests, even though he is a stranger. She then realizes she may know more about him than herself. With Officer Dillow, their relationship is a one way street. Dillow knows all about Katie, but she knows nothing about him in return. She and Ty exchange information, which makes her a little more comfortable with him.

Chapter 14

Brenner's phone dying is a constant reminder to Katie of what she did to the phone's owner. She continues to press the power button until the phone eventually dies, symbolizing what she believes she did to Brenner. Additionally, other symbols appear in this chapter. The mismatched chairs around the table symbolize how completely different and mismatched the three people sitting there are. James is unsure about Katie and why Ty brought her there. Ty is helpful and supportive, and Katie doesn't trust anyone, even herself.

Katie wonders about Ty being gay, and figures he isn't. This can foreshadow some future romantic interest between the two, as she seems relieved when she figures out that he isn't gay when he blushes as he sees her in his t-shirt.



Katie still feels vulnerable, even with a locked door. This can foreshadow that although she may seem safe with Ty, they aren't safe if the guys figure out where she is. It may also mean that her captors did more to her than she remembers.

Discussion Question 1

Discuss how each person at Ty's apartment feels about Katie being there.

Discussion Question 2

Discuss the symbolism of the two vehicles that Katie has hidden in that day.

Discussion Question 3

In what ways has Teamwork, as a theme, been demonstrated in both chapters?

Vocabulary

motor, freeze, threshold, wordless, roots, scalp, deserted, swears, urge, expert



Chapters 15-16

Summary

Chapter 15

Katie overhears James and Ty talking. James doesn't want Ty to keep Katie there. Ty and James continue to argue, and Ty says that the men who came for her said she needed her meds, but that he doesn't believe them. James doesn't believe Katie's story, even hearing it from Ty, and says that maybe the men were right. Ty says that if James had met the guys after Katie, he would believe Katie, too. James doesn't want Katie to steal his stuff. Hurt, Katie shows herself. She says she will just leave. They both end up convincing her to stay, but she does so planning to leave the next day.

Chapter 16

While sleeping, Katie has a dream about a little boy, and the two of them dancing like animals. She wakes up and doesn't recognize the bedroom she's in, until she remembers the previous day. She hopes that since she remembers yesterday, maybe she will continue to remember things. She notices that someone washed her clothes and folded them, and she hopes it's James instead of Ty.

She finds the boys eating Trix cereal, and Ty asks how she she is feeling. She says she is achy, and he decides to take a look at her fingers. He takes the bandages off and makes make-shift nails out of tinfoil to protect her fingers.

James makes eggs for breakfast, and Ty says he is going to stay home from EMT school. Katie tells the story of what happened again, and James thinks Dr. Nowell is using a spoof card, which will show that he's calling from Sagebrush when he really isn't. Ty asks to look at Brenner's phone, which Ty charged over night, and looks through Brenner's cell. He finds lots of text messages from Nowell. The chapter ends with the three discovering the security officer at Newberry has been found shot dead in his police car. Katie is quick to tell them that she didn't do it, that all she did was cuff him to the seat so that she could get away. Ty and James look alarmed.

Analysis

Chapter 15

James is very adamant about Katie not staying, now. He says they don't need trouble, and he tells Ty that they both know what the cops are like around there. Katie wonders what that might mean and that the two of them may be involved in some bad things.

Katie overhears Ty and James arguing about her and she understands James's concern. She's inconvenienced them enough, not to mention placed them in possible



danger, so she determines to do the right thing and just leave. However, their conversation makes it seem like Ty really likes to help people and gives them the benefit of the doubt. The fact that he doesn't believe what the men told him about Katie needing meds, might point towards him truly being trustworthy.

James is mostly worried that Katie will steal his stuff, and Ty completely doesn't care. This points to the fact that James is worried about tangible things and Ty is worried about someone else's well-being. This can foreshadow that James will make Katie's life harder, just because he is looking out for himself. It also begs the question as to how the two became roommates to begin with.

Chapter 16

Her dream at the beginning of the chapter brings up some possibilities. It is not sure, but it is probably a memory of her little brother. It's not just the memories that are slowly coming back. Her hope that James looks after her clothes instead of Ty expands the theory of her developing feelings for Ty. The theme of Coming of Age is demonstrated in this chapter as Katie must deal with the feelings that she is starting to have for Ty. That she is in the situation she is in begs her not to allow herself to become emotionally involved with someone, but she is learning that oftentimes the heart is going to do what it is going to do. It is clear that she most likely has not had this type of feeling for someone because she is confused by the feeling.

Ty's character continues to develop. By using tinfoil to create makeshift nails, it seems that he is innovative and comes up with ideas about how to fix things. It is also evident that he likes helping people in need, especially those who are suffering medically. From the beginning he has been worried and attentive towards Katie's well being.

The spoof card that James thinks Dr. Nowell is using is a symbol pointing toward the theme False Pretenses. Katie does this out of necessity, and Dr. Nowell does it to hide his true activities and whereabouts. There is also the continued rumor that Katie is an escaped mental patient, which is beginning to lose ground as Katie discovers more about her true self.

Discussion Question 1

Compare Ty to James.

Discussion Question 2

Why doesn't James think it is a good idea for Katie to stay in the apartment?



Discussion Question 3

What can one infer from the fact that Katie doesn't want it to have been Ty who washed and cleaned her clothes?

Vocabulary

mollified, professional, electroshock, vibe, amusement, facsimile, reasonable, hitching, sloshes, tender, sulci



Chapters 17-18

Summary

Chapter 17

Katie, Ty, and James crowd together to read the article, and Katie is terribly shaken. She tells them that she locked Dillow in the car and left. She can tell that they aren't sure if they should believe her or not. James appears openly hostile while Ty looks as if he pities her.

Katie explains that maybe whoever killed Dillow did it because Dillow actually started to believe her. Maybe he asked too many questions. She feels guilty because she took his gun and he couldn't defend himself against whoever shot him. James suggests that her fingerprints are probably all over the police car. Katie thinks that maybe whoever killed Officer Dillow did it to put the blame on her.

The three of them figure out that the men are easily tracking Katie because she has Brenner's phone. She immediately turns it off. Just at that time, James looks out of the window and sees some men, three of them, going door to door. There's no way to escape out the back, and there is no place to hide.

Chapter 18

Katie considers jumping out of the window, but she can't see how far down the drop is, and the screen behind it is stuck and won't pop out. She realizes she's whimpering, then stops as soon as there's a knock at the door. Ty yanks Katie down the hall to his room, and James answers the door. Ty and Katie hide in Ty's closet.

James sounds unusual as he answers the door, and Cady pulls out her gun. Ty puts his hand on the gun and shakes his head "no," and he holds her. She reacts to being pinned, even if it is a hug. When he is gentle but firm she begins to cry. He comforts her and kisses her forehead while they wait to see what will happen. They don't hear footsteps approaching.

Analysis

Chapter 17

Katie worries that maybe she might just be delusional and maybe she did actually kill Dillow. She knows that she killed Brenner, so why wouldn't she have been capable of killing Dillow, she reasons. Once again the theme of Identity and discovering who she is, is demonstrated in this chapter. She feels that deep down she is not a killer, or someone who is given to paranoid delusions. She can't say why she knows this, only that she is sure. However, when certain instances present themselves they provide her with just



enough evidence to doubt her own self knowledge. It is difficult to have an identity when one is not even sure of a name, a family, or a former life.

James mentions that her fingerprints are all over the cruiser, and this foreshadows the possibility that trouble may escalate for her if she is accused of Dillow's murder. Brenner's phone, which symbolized her connection to that situation, has now become a liability.

Although James somewhat doubts Katie and has reservations about keeping her there, Tyler still wants to protect her. They are both now involved in her problem, and if they don't want to get in trouble they must help her. The other two may feel pressured to help Katie, not because they want to. but because they don't have another choice.

Chapter 18

Once in the closet, hiding, Ty restrains Katie from pulling the gun, and Katie immediately wants to fight him. She doesn't fight him, but allows him to comfort her, something she's not allowed anyone to do thus far. This is a prime example of how Katie trusts Ty. This also serves to further develop Ty's character as someone who protects and takes care of others.

He understands that she's freaked out and panicking, and instead of allowing her to endanger them both with the gun, he manages to disarm her, then hold her close until she stops struggling. What the reader can take from this is the fact that Ty might be on the wrong side of the law, but he's not about to shoot someone, and since he's going to school to be an EMT, the reader can see that he values life, even if the life belongs to someone who is trying to hurt him or someone he cares about. The fact that James doesn't give her away also suggests that both boys are committed to keeping her safe, at least for the near future.

Discussion Question 1

What indicates, in Chapter 18, that both James and Ty are committed to helping Katie stay safe?

Discussion Question 2

How does Katie struggle with a sense of identity?

Discussion Question 3

How have the men been able to find Katie so easily?

Vocabulary

slats, snicking, capable, embrace, tickles, alternative, kaleidoscope, raps, conceal, panic



Chapters 19-20

Summary

Chapter 19

James enters the room, and tells them that it is okay to come out of the closet. He says the guy at the door showed a badge, but not long enough for him to really look at it. He says that they wanted Katie for questioning involving Dillow's murder. James tells them that he got rid of the men by claiming he had two roommates who were sleeping. He says that their demands that he wake them up violated his gay rights. Not wanting to step into that situation the men left quickly, James adds with a large smile.

The men didn't mention anything about Katie being from Sagebrush, either, James says, and he thinks it is because maybe someone will call and check and find out that she was never there. He tells Katie that now he believes her.

Katie hopes this means that Dillow isn't really dead, but James and Ty think he is, to help frame her for the murder. Katie thinks she should leave to protect them, and James thinks they should make Katie look the exact opposite of how she looks now to disguise her. James cuts her hair, while Ty looks for some of their smaller clothes. They dye her hair dark brown. While he's dyeing her hair James remarks that he doesn't see any sort of trauma to her head, which he says he would have thought she would have sense she has amnesia. Ty says that there are other ways that amnesia can happen, like extreme emotional or psychological trauma. Katie supposes that is exactly what happened, but no one really knows how to reverse it.

Katie now looks like a young boy, and dresses in Ty's clothes. Outside of their apartment, two men are looking at license plates and Ty asks Katie if she can ride a skateboard. Ty has decided to stay with her until they come up with a better plan. They give her the name of Nate, since it sounds like Katie. She hides her fingers in her pocket, and Ty promises to call James when they are safe. They leave.

Chapter 20

Ty and Katie leave the apartment, and Katie glances at the men in the parking lot. One looks straight at her, but looks away. Katie tries to walk normally, but then worries that maybe these men have been studying the way she walks and more. She realizes that Ty is speaking to her and giving her a lesson in skateboarding, and she listens. He compares skateboarding to gondoliers, and Katie immediately knows what he is talking about. She doesn't know if she's actually experienced it or because she's just seen it on TV.

Ty tells her to just try to keep her balance and not go super fast. A voice in her head tells her: don't act, be. Katie figures out that riding a skateboard is quite easy, but she realizes she doesn't know how to stop.



Analysis

Chapter 19

James is now fully on Katie's side due to the fake badge routine that the men try with him. It seems they have dropped the explanation of Katie escaping from a mental hospital, possibly because they might get more assistance from people if the public thinks she is a criminal.

James's protection of Katie shows his alliance with her. Sides are clearly forming, as people can either believe Katie or believe the men coming after her. James, Ty, and Katie are all outside the mainstream. James is gay, Ty lives on his own, even though he's in high school, and Katie has no idea who she is. They make a good team, and they trust each other. The theme of Teamwork is demonstrated in this chapter as the three work together to hide, disguise, and escape from the three men pursuing Katie. It took all three of them to pull it off, and Katie is well aware that she would never have been able to pull all of this off without their help.

Since Katie doesn't even remember who she is, changing her look may be a way to create a new her. She must constantly change and find different ways of hiding and escaping, especially since the men after her are constantly bringing in more people to help them. Ty may also be in danger, as they know where he works and where the SUV was parked. Katie thinks the best way to protect Ty is to leave on her own, but it might be the opposite. They can all help each other, whereas if she is alone she can't help Ty and he can't help her. This continues to develop the theme of Teamwork, as one cannot succeed and be safe without the other.

Chapter 20

Ty telling Katie to just keep her balance signifies how unbalanced she is with everything happening. The voice telling her not to act, just "be" might actually be a memory, as is suggested. Katie thinks that perhaps the training that she has received, training that obviously included how to use side arms and karate, most likely used the mantra to "don't think...be." Other than that, though, she still doesn't know where any of this knowledge has come from.

Riding the skateboard signifies Katie's life currently. She has no idea how to ride a skateboard, and she has no idea how to live her life. Don't act, be serves as a mantra for saving herself and also riding a skateboard. Yet with her unknown ability of how to stop, this also points to her not being in control of the situation.

Discussion Question 1

Discuss the theme of Teamwork as it is exemplified in Chapters 19-20.



Discussion Question 2

What shows that James now believes Katie?

Discussion Question 3

Why don't the men in the parkinglot give Katie a second glance?

Vocabulary

surge, frame, exchange, drastic, guarantee, lops, concentrate, paddles, clacking, tucked, gondolier, unseen, depths



Chapters 21-22

Summary

Chapter 21

Back on the skateboards, Ty suddenly turns around a corner, and Katie tries to follow. Her board goes out of control and she falls. Ty runs over to help her. She's okay, but her palms are scraped. He tells her that she did well for her first time. She thanks him but is tired of being on the street and feels really exposed. He suggests going to a little coffee shop that is within walking distance.

At the coffee shop, Katie meets Audrey, a friend of Ty's. Ty introduces Katie as Nate. Katie thinks Audrey doesn't believe she's a boy. Audrey seems to flirt with Ty, and Katie asks for room in her coffee for cream. They sit down, Audrey leaves, and Ty asks Katie where she wants to go, and what her next move might be. Katie wants to know what happened to her, and where her family is. and why the men are chasing her. She decides that a library is probably the best place to go, so she can search multiple newspapers and newscasts. Ty checks his phone, and Katie thinks he should get rid of his battery and turn it off so they can't track him, too.

They talk about Audrey, and Ty explains how they were both homeless for awhile. However, he refuses to go into detail about how he became homeless. Ty changes the subject and wants to see the picture Katie has of her family. The chapter ends with him noticing something in the background.

Chapter 22

What Ty has noticed in the photo was that they are standing in front of a sign for an academy. Ty thinks her family was on a vacation when something went wrong. Katie feels as if they're dead, and worries that if she searches harder, she will find out they are. Ty wants to go back and get his car so they can go to Portland, but Katie refuses because it isn't safe.

Ty checks to make sure the coast is clear and then they walk to the library. They go to the computers and search on the term, memory loss. They find out that she probably has dissociative fugue, which is a sudden memory loss because of an event. The article ends saying that memories come back as soon as they disappear. Ty thinks she forgot everything because she was tortured. Katie worries about why they pulled her fingernails out.

They find a news article about her, which explains that her name is Cady, and that she sold her family's Datsun, then ran away. She feels unsafe after reading the article, and hopes nobody recognizes her. From this point forward, she refers to herself as "Cady," a nickname for "Cadence."



Analysis

Chapter 21

Katie falling off the skateboard signifies how out of control she is with her life. Likewise, she still doesn't know who she is and why all of this has happened to her. Her sense of loss is so strong in this chapter that it threatens to overwhelm her.

Audrey flirting with Ty exposes more information about Ty, such as how he most likely knew about sex, drugs, and cigarettes. When Audrey asks Katie if she wants cream in her coffee, Katie immediately knows that she does. This little bit of information makes Katie feel good for a short while because she has yet another piece to the puzzle that is her life and her memory.

Overall, Katie wants to discover who she is other than discovering that she's mentally ill. Katie discovers that Ty was homeless and that Audrey still is. This further progresses Ty's character as being able to get himself out of tight situations and helping others who are struggling. This also points to how Ty knows a lot about the streets of Oregon and what goes on. He wants to help Audrey because of her situation, and this is also most likely why he's helping Katie. It seems he gives everybody the benefit of the doubt. Yet, he still doesn't go into detail about how he came to be in his situation, so Katie feels as if he is hiding something. Trust is extremely important in their relationship, and Ty may be jeopardizing that because of his pride.

Chapter 22

At first, Katie thinks that Ty sees this whole episode as a game. She feels it is real because she is the one constantly at risk. However, after she learns about his homelessness, it seems he may just be looking for adventure and she is where he finds it. This may be bad for Katie later, because if he only wants to have a good time, her safety might not always figure into the equation.

Katie feels very alone in her situation. With the information about dissociative fugue, it foreshadows that Katie's memories could come back soon. The information about her family brings back the theme of Family and the fact that she feels, for some reason, that they are all dead. She also believes that this may be the actual reason she suffered from amnesia, not the torture (though both could do it).

The news article about Katie explains that her name is actually Cady, not Katie, as many of her pursuers have called her. The reader should note that from this point forward Katie is now "Cady" and will be referred to by that name in the guide. Despite the story, Cady doesn't feel like she knows anything more about herself and she definitely doesn't feel like the person they describe in the article. This is more information that indicates that she is being framed, and foreshadows more trouble to come.



Discussion Question 1

What was discovered about Ty in Chapter 21?

Discussion Question 2

How does Katie feel when Audrey flirts with Ty?

Discussion Question 3

What new information has Katie learned in both Chapters 21-22, especially about her identity and name?

Vocabulary

lops, interspersed, brusque, underline, flicks, ransacked, cradled, hyperventilate, reflections, windbreaker, shafts



Chapters 23-24

Summary

Chapter 23

Cady scans the room in the library to make sure nobody is looking at her. Although Cady thinks Ty won't believe her, he does, and thinks that the people who are after her must have removed some of the footage from the camera. Cady isn't sure and, once again, begins to question whether or not she might actually be who and what the papers say she is. If it is true, then the possibility remains that she may have done something terrible to her family, and it makes her feel sick.

Ty searches for her on Facebook, and Cady jokes about how her page says she is female. They read through her statuses, and they realize that the last one was posted right after Dillow was shot. She does not recall making any posts, especially since her run-in with Dillow. Cady is convinced more than ever that maybe she is mentally ill. Ty points out that someone could be logging in and posting as her, that it's not that difficult. Cady listens to him, but doesn't quite believe him.

Chapter 24

In the library, Cady thinks that the status is proof that she did something. She starts smacking herself in the head trying to make herself remember something, and Ty makes her stop. Ty ends up convincing her that since the men were looking for her before Dillow was killed, that means she probably didn't kill Dillow. That also means that she didn't write those Facebook posts, either.

He wonders why so much is visible on her profile when everybody else has strict privacy settings. He points out that she doesn't have any pictures other than her profile, and he points out that it is clear proof that she is being set up. Cady thinks that she is average, and that's why her Facebook page is so bland. Ty tells her she isn't average, and then he notices that the comments on all the posts are today, yet the posts are from weeks ago. This proves his theory, he explains.

Analysis

Chapter 23

They decide that she needs a new name that is more representative of who she is now. They settle on the name Cadence. Ty says he likes Cadence because it's different. When Cady reads the newspaper article it floors her. She can't imagine doing something like that, but she has no frame of reference, no memory to refute the article.



Cady has no idea who she is supposed to be, and the person that everyone says she is, is completely opposite to how she really feels. The theme of Identity is demonstrated, both in Cady's name change, but in Ty's disclosure about his past and how he used to live on the street. Then when she reads her Facebook posts she is even further confused as to her identity as most of the posts don't sound like what she would have written the newspaper article displays her as being a certain type of person, and yet, she doesn't feel as if that is how she really is. Without knowing who she really is, who her parents are (or were), she simply has to consider the fact that she will need to reinvent herself, rather than continue to look for answers.

Chapter 24

Cady's tragic flaw is her confidence. Before, she was certain of many things: she wasn't a murderer, she was a decent person, she was able to handle most situations because of some training that she'd received. And yet, when she reads the news article and sees the posts that she supposedly wrote, it puts her in a tailspin. She begins obsessively smacking herself in frustration, which can be a sign of mental instability.

The theme of False Pretenses shows up in this chapter both in Cady's name change, but also in the Facebook posts, which indicate that someone else has hacked her profile and is posing as her. What the perpetrators hope to gain is unclear, but clearly many people, places, and things are not as they appear.

Discussion Question 1

Why has Cady given in to self doubt?

Discussion Question 2

How does Ty support Cady after her discovery in the library?

Discussion Question 3

Discuss the theme of identity in these chapters.

Vocabulary

androgynous, panned, entry, hollow, updates, sweeps, bushy, suicidal, altered, manipulate



Chapters 25-26

Summary

Chapter 25

Ty says that they need a car. Cady is still reeling from their discovery in the library and can't think clearly. Cady doesn't want Ty to leave her alone. He doesn't want her to get rid of him either, so he asks what she wants to do. She thinks it's a good idea to go to Portland to try to find her family and her house. He suggests hitchhiking and she refuses. They decide the Greyhound bus might be their best option, and on their way to the bus she sees an old volcano in the distance. Ty explains that it's not dead, just sleeping, and Cady feels a connection to the dormant killer.

Chapter 26

Cady has to walk past the police department sign and she thinks about going in and talking with the officers, but she figures she will immediately be separated from Ty and locked up by people who don't believe her. Ty looks at her as if to ask her about the police station, but the two don't exchange words. An understanding seems to pass between them and they keep going. They wait to buy tickets for the Greyhound at a bowling alley, and then they skateboard while looking for cars that might be following them.

They do spot a Lexus staying in the parking lot longer than normal, and they leave. They really don't have anywhere to go, though. Ty comes up with a plan. He and Cady go into a thrift store where he buys gym apparel for them both. Then, they go into a gym where Cady creates a diversion by pretending to drop a weight on her foot. While the attendants are helping her, Ty steals a pair of keys from the drop box. She thanks the attendants and tells them she just wants to go home. She leaves and she and Ty get into a Subaru. When they get in, Cady questions the theft, but Ty convinces her. The owner of the Subaru walks out, sees they are stealing his car, forcing them to have to speed away.

Analysis

Chapter 25

Setting is a huge part of the story. In places where Cady should feel safe, like a library or with a security officer, she feels unsafe. She doesn't trust people or places, and she is extremely insecure. This shows that anything bad can happen anywhere, even in broad daylight when most people think they are safe.

Despite Cady's earlier declaration of wanting to go things alone, now she has formed a bond with Ty and doesn't want to be left alone. She hates that she feels so needy, but



she is truly afraid of being alone. Ty doesn't seem to mind and even seems to enjoy the fact that someone needs him. This allows the reader another glimpse into his character and motivations.

The volcano in the distance represents a couple of things. First, it is a looming danger, however dormant it might be at the moment. This foreshadows catastrophic events that might be possible in the future. Secondly, it is a dormant killer and Cady can't help making the association between the volcano and herself considering she feels volatile and under pressure as well.

Chapter 26

In a way, Ty is Cady's lifeline. He is the only thing she feels close to currently, and connected with, and she needs him to help her escape. Yet, she also needs him mentally to help her figure out who she is, and his constant support reassures her. Ty is like Cady's only family in some respects. He knows her just as well or better than she knows herself. This desire to keep him close, feeling that there is safety in numbers demonstrates the theme of both Teamwork and Family. Though they are not related, as far as Cady knows, she views him as her family right now.

Cady's little diversion signifies how stressed out she really is. Although she is just doing it so Ty can steal the keys and get them out of there, she does question the ethics of their actions once they are in the Subaru. Ty can't believe she even questions it as it is a way to get away from the scene quicker than waiting on a Greyhound bus.

Ty's lack of remorse over stealing the Subaru could be a result of his homelessness and doing anything he can to survive. She wonders, as they drive away, if she truly knows him as well as she thinks she does. The theme of False Pretenses is demonstrated in her concern and worry about Ty's true nature. At this point, she's fairly certain that anybody is capable of anything, like Ty stealing cars or her being able to kill Brenner. Ty seems like a great person, but when she reflects on their actions the last few days, she has to admit that stealing cars, skipping school, handling guns, and lying might point to a darker side of Ty's nature that she hasn't been willing to consider.

Discussion Question 1

In Chapter 26 why does Cady have pause to question Ty's character?

Discussion Question 2

Discuss the theme of False Pretenses in Chapter 26.

Discussion Question 3

Discuss the symbolism of the volcano in Chapter 25.

Vocabulary

parallels, motorist, crisp, cinder, volcano, lava, reconsider, scenario, reveal, mysterious, yodel



Chapters 27-28

Summary

Chapter 27

Ty and Cady drive past the owner of the car, and Ty tells Cady to duck down since the owner of the vehicle has most likely told the cops that two people took his SUV. He tells her that the latches in Subarus are difficult, but Cady somehow already knows how to do it. She lies down in the back seat and watches Ty.

She finally is able to fully observe him without him noticing, and she decides that he is attractive. Ty gives a full speech as if he is a pilot and they are on an airplane, and Cady asks how he knows all that. He explains that his parents divorced, and he would always fly to Colorado to visit his dad.

Ty tells her a little bit about his past. He says that his mother remarried and he didn't get along with the new guy at all. One night he took new guy's BMW and crashed it. He explains that his parents kicked him out, then. Cady thinks that even though she's done some bad stuff, her parents would never do that. She is shocked at the certainty of her assumption. Ty explains that he is helping her because when he was in trouble, James and Audrey helped him. Cady falls asleep, and dreams about a man by a bowling alley coming to attack her, and to shoot her brother. She is startled awake as Ty calls her name, obviously in a panic.

Chapter 28

Cady wakes in a panic because of the tone in Ty's voice. The radio is on and he tells her quickly that they are talking about her. Because of her earlier dream she believes that she knows a little more about who she really is, but then what she hears on the radio chills her. The radio explains that the cabin owned by her family had been set on fire, and that human remains were found. Cady fears that her family has been killed, and that's what has caused her amnesia. More about her family is exposed as she learns her parents were microbiologists and friends have not seen them for days. The radio also says Cady has been using drugs and stealing, but does not mention Sagebrush, the mental institution.

Cady's aunt speaks on the radio, and she says that she fully believes that Cady is not guilty. The reporter describes Cady, and claims she is not wanted as a suspect, just a person of interest. Cady thinks that maybe the first assailant, the man in the oxblood shoes, dragged Brenner back into the house and set it on fire in order to continue to frame her.



Analysis

Chapter 27

Cady finally fully realizes how attractive Ty is and that she is indeed attracted to him. It seems that she hasn't had much experience with relationships, and most likely never had a boyfriend prior to her memory loss. This introduces the Coming of Age theme in the story. Experiencing new things, things that mature her world view and her view of herself indicates that she's moving away from childhood and into young adulthood.

Ty's revelation about his past, and that his only family members rejected him, indicates that he understands the feeling of loss. This is most likely part of the reason that she feels the need to help Cady. He tells her that he's helping her because he is paying it forward due to Audrey and James's help when he was homeless. Cady realizes that somehow she knows that she didn't come from those types of situations, herself.

Ty's former life might show why Ty refuses to leave Cady, because he knows what it's like to feel alone and lost. Cady's dream about her little brother proves that really, above all else, she wants her family to be safe.

Chapter 28

Cady continues to learn more information about herself. She realizes that she now has another person who is an ally, her aunt Elizabeth. Yet there are conflicting descriptions on the radio show. No mention of Sagebrush has been made, so it is clear Cady is not mentally ill. However, her friends label her as a drug dealer who steals from them. Her aunt labels her as a sweet girl who sends her emails all the time. All of the definitions for Cady are always complete opposites, constantly keeping her guessing as to who the real Cady is.

Learning that her parents were microbiologists seems to click with her, though she can't say why. Through her inclinations and assertions she has come to understand how her family "felt" even if she still doesn't know who they are or where she is from. The dream about her brother, she realizes, was most likely not a dream and she is saddened by the knowledge that her brother may actually be dead.

Discussion Question 1

What does the reader learn about Ty in these chapters?

Discussion Question 2

What is Ty's motivation for helping Cady?



Discussion Question 3

What sort of mental picture does Cady have about her family?

Vocabulary

whirls, addict, newscaster, innocence, whip-sawed, wiggle, presence, encoded, angle, cargo, recoils



Chapters 29-30

Summary

Chapter 29

They reach Portland, get Burger King, and stop at a payphone. Ty calls the hotel where they know Cady's aunt is staying, and asks for Elizabeth Quinn. Ty tells Cady when he returns to the vehicle that her aunt is relieved to hear she is okay and that she knows what is really going on. They go up to her room where her aunt answers the door, and immediately hugs Cady. She asks Cady what happened, and Ty explains again that Cady doesn't have any memory.

Elizabeth quizzes her on what she remembers, and hints that Ty should go. He says he is going to stay. Elizabeth says this is extremely dangerous and he shouldn't get involved. Ty answers by promptly sitting down in one of the chairs in the room.

Elizabeth explains that Cady's mom called her the day before saying she was going on the run with Cady's dad and brother, Max. Elizabeth explains that Cady's parents are virologists and that a few years ago, a girl unexpectedly died. On the way to her funeral, her boyfriend became extremely sick and also died. Elizabeth explains that they drowned in their own blood.

Chapter 30

Still in Elizabeth's hotel room, Cady still doesn't remember anything, even after Elizabeth tries to explain. Elizabeth brings up the hantavirus, which is carried by field mice. The mice usually spread it amongst themselves, but when it rained a few years before, the mice multiplied. Their droppings and the resulting fumes were accidentally breathed in by eight people, who all died.

Cady's parents began to figure out what happened and tested rodents. When Z-Biotech was sold, the new owners ordered her parents not to talk about their vaccine results. They consider it biological warfare, and the owners want to research how to defend against it.

Elizabeth explains that with the vaccine, the people in charge can decide who dies and who doesn't. Then, the people who set off the virus can make certain demands from the people who are infected, such as money or people in the government stepping down.

Analysis

Chapter 29



Cady finally feels confident being with someone who really knows what is going on. Elizabeth explains that the situation is extremely dangerous, and the rising climax points to the reader soon finding out what is happening. Whereas before, Cady doesn't have her family and Ty is her only friend. The theme of Family is demonstrated in this chapter as Cady considers that she is now with someone who can fill in the missing pieces for her. Even though Cady doesn't recognize Elizabeth, she trusts her because she knows enough details that Cady trusts her. The trust is reciprocal. Elizabeth believes Cady is innocent, so Cady trusts Elizabeth. It is one of the first mutual things Cady feels confident in.

The disease of drowning in blood symbolizes how Cady feels about everything that is happening to her. She doesn't even know who she is, and her lack of knowledge and doubt of herself is signified by the disease where people drown in their own blood. It could also be foreshadowing that one's own body, one's own blood, will be their undoing.

Chapter 30

The field mice hosts are symbols for Cady. She does nothing to cause problems intentionally, but leaves a destructive path, regardless. With the explanation of Z-Biotech and their overall goals of exploring biological warfare, it is not too difficult for Cady and Ty to now put some things together. The story she gets makes sense of the confusing events that have transpired the last few days for Cady.

From this chapter, it seems the U.S. government are the ones who want to use the virus illegally against others. This again highlights the theme of False Pretenses. With this theme being highlighted with the government, it might also foreshadow Elizabeth and who she really is, which may be opposite to who she makes herself seem to Cady.

Discussion Question 1

Why does Ty decide that he will stay even though it is evident that Cady is with her relative?

Discussion Question 2

Discuss the theme of Family in these chapters.

Discussion Question 3

What does Cady learn about herself in these two chapters?

Vocabulary

links, interlaced, vaccine, tetanus, fascinated, advantage, corridor, heels, slender, temple, viruses



Chapters 31-32

Summary

Chapter 31

Elizabeth, still in the hotel, tries to explain as best she can about what has transpired. Cady's parents are named Janie and Patrick. They are both microbiologists who developed a vaccine to the hantavirus. However, they caught wind of what Z-Biotech was intending to do with the vaccine and the virus and began to secretly collect evidence against the company so that they could go to the authorities. Elizabeth explains that Cady's parents' activities became known and in a panic they took their children and went on the run. They destroyed all of their research save for some of the vaccines, which they took with them. They had been on their way to get Cady from school but when they got there she'd already been taken. Elizabeth says that she had been with them that day. She also tells Cady to call her Liz.

Elizabeth says that Cady may be the only person who knows where Janie and Patrick are, and she is the only way to find them. Elizabeth suggests taking a trip back to Cady's home in an effort to perhaps jump start her memory. She confirms that Cady's parents had taught both she and Max, her brother, self defense for many years. She says that it looks like it came in handy, and that she takes back all of the jokes she made in the past about the training. Cady takes all of the information in stride and agrees to go with her back to her old home. Ty remains interested but silent through out the entire dialogue, as if he is studying Elizabeth and doesn't quite trust her.

Chapter 32

They all get into Liz's car and start to drive to the house in the rain. Cady tries to remember anything, but nothing looks familiar. Once they pull into the neighborhood, Cady thinks things are starting to look familiar. The rain increases. Liz tells them that they should go in through the back door, which they do. They get inside, and Cady remembers herself as an actress in a play long ago.

Liz pressures Cady to find where her parents hid something like maybe a flash drive, or maybe they had a hidden safe. Cady can't remember. Cady claims she can't remember anything, and Liz pulls a gun on her. To Cady and Ty's shock, Brenner steps out from another room, a sadistic smile on his face.

Analysis

Chapter 31

The theme of Teamwork as well as Family are demonstrated in this chapter as Ty knows he may be placing himself in danger if he goes with Cady and Elizabeth to the house,



but he refuses to leave Cady. Abandonment has been a big issue, as has trust. Ty is the only person Cady fully trusts, because even the things Elizabeth tells her she doesn't remember. However, Elizabeth is willing to risk herself, too. The theme of Family reinforces that fact that, at least in Cady's mind, family represents people that she can trust, and are people that she's known and loved for many years, even if she doesn't remember them at the moment.

Elizabeth knows that she and Cady will get in severe trouble if they get caught by Biotech, and she tries to convince Ty to not come with them, that it is a "family" issue now. Ty refuses, because in his mind, Cady is also "his" family, and he's not about to leave her with Liz, whom it is apparent he does not trust. Ty and Elizabeth both think Cady still can access her memories by being at the house. They are supportive, but Cady is full of doubt.

Chapter 32

At the beginning of the chapter, the weather sets the tone for the impending action, indicating that all is not well or right and that there is likely to be some sort of trouble waiting for them at Cady's house. The reader may note that the rain increases in intensity when they reach the house, and it is clear something bad is going to happen.

Liz's true nature starts to come out as she becomes frustrated with Cady's spotty memory. In comparison, Ty is gentle about probing Cady for information. Liz seems desperate and hungry for information. She pressures Cady to find something, and the tension begins to build, culminating in the disclosure that Brenner wasn't dead as Cady thought, but alive and well, and threatening her once again.

Discussion Question 1

Discuss the theme of Family as it is exemplified in Chapter 31.

Discussion Question 2

How does the weather set the tone for Chapter 32?

Discussion Question 3

Why didn't Ty trust Liz, but Cady did?

Vocabulary

incubate, replicate, embalming, accusations, formula, protest, landmarks, sole, sociopathic, resonated, eagerly, flickers



Chapters 33-34

Summary

Chapter 33

In the moment of her capture, once again, Cady begins to remember things. Cady has a flashback where she remembers that just before they went on the run, she was doing her homework when her father and mother walked into the room looking very serious. Cady wondered what she had done and why she was in trouble this time. They said they had to explain something to her. Cady thought they were getting a divorce, but her parents told her that it was nothing like that. They began telling her about the new owners of Z-Biotech and the family called the Radleys that all died in a terrible fire. Another man from Z-Biotech died while diving because he spoke about leaving the company. Her mom tells her that she has signed her and Max up for martial arts classes, and her dad showed her that he had bought a gun. He was going to teach her how to shoot it.

Back in the present, Cady realizes that she's remembered everything now, that her memories have all returned. She also almost chokes as she realizes that the one she loves most is dead.

Chapter 34

Cady has another flashback. This memory takes her back to the day before she was kidnapped. She got off her bus at the high school. She had forgotten her phone and decided to go back and get it. Cady was distracted, and didn't realize that the alarm in her house wasn't going off. Before she could register anything something was pressed against her face and she blacked out.

When she woke up, she could tell that there were men who were searching her house. She had known that she needed to pretend she wasn't awake. One of the men, however, had discovered that she was really awake and had cuffed her ears, and then separated her arm muscle, where he pinched a nerve with his fingers. He wanted to know where her parents were, and she hadn't had an answer. He kept asking her where her parents were and she kept denying that she knew anything. He said that he had to do bad things, and threatened to shoot her if she didn't tell him where her parents were. He told her that her brother was dead, and said they would bring her the body for proof. She felt the man slam her into the floor, and then she lost all memory.

Analysis

Chapter 33



Once again, Cady is trapped, not only physically in her old home, but also trapped inside of her memories, which are coming back. She suddenly recalls events from the day that she was captured. What haunts her most is that she also remembers that someone in her family is dead at the hands of these people, maybe even her Aunt Liz.

The theme of Family is continued in this chapter as Cady realizes that just because someone is related to you, doesn't mean that they have your best interests at heart. This is evident in Liz's character. Ty hasn't trusted Liz from the beginning, and now his suspicions are confirmed. This also suggests that Ty understands what Cady has just learned, which is that sometimes family members aren't kind or caring.

This section also serves to tie together some loose ends for the reader, to offer motivation for the attacks, and to explain how Cady lost her memories in the first place, where she received her martial arts training, and where she learned to handle a gun.

Chapter 34

With her memories almost all restored there is an interesting component that has entered into Cady's decision making process. Before, when she had no sense of identity, it was easier to determine what she should do. She had no one to consider but herself, and possibly Ty. Now, with her memory restored, she realizes that what she says and does, or doesn't say and do, could impact the lives of her family. She also feels the betrayal that came with Liz's participation in her abduction and torture. She also realizes, in this chapter, that it is Max, her brother, who is dead.

In this chapter the reader ties up some loose ends, and watches as Cady comes face to face with the man she thought she'd killed many chapters earlier. On the one hand, she must be glad that she isn't a murderer, but on the other hand, the man is even angrier and even more motivated to hurt her to get what he and Liz want. What is also evident is that the Biotech company has a "do whatever it takes" attitude with obtaining the research notes and in particular to find her parents.

Discussion Question 1

How is Cady trapped, once again?

Discussion Question 2

Discuss the theme of Family as expressed in Chapter 33.

Discussion Question 3

What is the author's purpose in mentioning a few times that Cady was an actress before her abduction?

Vocabulary

veneer, exploded, exploiting, besiegers, catapulted, hollow, percussive, slid, gauge, imaginary



Chapters 35-36

Summary

Chapter 35

Lulled into a false sense of Cady's inability to protect herself, Brenner turns his back on her. Cady takes advantage of this, screams and throws herself at Brenner and Liz. Yanking her hands free, she attacks Brenner first and breaks his arm. Liz threatens to shoot Ty if Cady doesn't let Brenner go. Cady does, and Brenner whines that he's only a computer scientist and didn't sign up for all of this nonsense. He storms out of the room.

In the process, Cady realizes that Liz isn't her aunt, as her mother only has a brother. Liz explains that she is the vice president of marketing. She explains that Cady's parents wouldn't give up their information for her life, and that hurts Cady. Cady realizes that Ty is shifting his stance, readying himself to try something, so Cady pretends to focus on Liz. Liz explains that Brenner is the chief of information technology and doesn't have the stomach to do what needs to be done. In that instant Ty breaks free and lunges at Liz. Cady also goes into action Cady presses a knife against Liz's neck. She throws the gun to Ty. Liz explains that Max isn't dead, that the body that was burned in the cabin was really just a chimpanzee. Liz explains that Dr. Nowell is waiting to hear that Ty and Cady are dead. She says if Cady and Ty will let her go and forget they ever saw her that she will help them get what they want.

Chapter 36

From the other room Brenner complains about the pain in his arm and Ty explains that it's one of the most painful bones to break. Cady and Ty tie them both up and shove them into her parent's room. Liz explains that the human remains in the cabin are from the monkey and that it was Dr. Nowell who shot Officer Dillow.

Cady wants to leave right away, but Ty insists that they fix Brenner's arm at least. They splint Brenner's arm, because Ty convinces Cady they are better than the killers. Cady feels like she is missing something obvious, and she tries to go over everything she knows, mentally. Ty and Cady leave their would-be assassins alone and go to her room. Cady remembers what has been bothering her. In the early reports the news articles always state that she sold the family's Datsun (a breed of dog) and ran away. Only her family has never owned a Datsun of any sort. She thinks that it might be a way that her parents are reaching out to her. Acting on her hunch, she finds a listing for the Datsun, and gets a phone number from the clues within the listing. She calls the number and leaves a message for her parents, hoping that her hunch is right.

Analysis

Chapter 35



The theme of False Pretenses is demonstrated in this chapter as Cady discovers that no one is who she thought they were (except Ty). Liz is not her aunt, she is the vice president of marketing. Brenner isn't a henchman, but rather the IT guy who was roped into helping Liz. Her parents must still be alive, so they are not dead as she has been told. Then there is the fact that Max is not dead. Lastly, she realizes in the next chapter that her family never owned a Datsun and that this is most likely a false lead meant to catch her attention so she would try and contact her parents.

The theme of Teamwork also surfaces in this chapter as Ty and Cady work seamlessly together to subdue two adults with weapons in their hands. Then, later, they collaborate on their next move. This is a big development for Cady who didn't trust anyone in the beginning, much less work and play well with others.

The reader learns that Dr. Nowell is really the lead scientist for Z-Biotech and that he is the wearer of the oxblood shoes that Cady remembers from her first capture. The oxblood shoes represent blood, death, and power. This gives the reader an idea of what Dr. Nowell is actually like in person, though the reader, nor Cady can remember actually seeing him.

Chapter 36

Cady and Ty become foils for one another in this chapter. This can be seen in their treatment of Brenner after Cady breaks his arm. Cady wants him to suffer, but Ty doesn't think that they should as it would lower them to their captor's level. Also, Cady trusted Liz wholeheartedly while Ty remained skeptical that an aunt would just miraculously appear when Cady most needed to find someone from her family.

Cady's discovery of the clue about the Datsun that her parents left, characterizes how intelligent she is and that her parents know how she thinks. This is the first mention of teamwork that doesn't involve Ty. The theme of Family surfaces again as Cady makes that call to the place where she's hoping to reunite with her parents. The need to protect her family is strong, and she knows that they feel the same way towards her.

Discussion Question 1

Describe Brenner's character as revealed in Chapter 35.

Discussion Question 2

What makes Cady think that the Datsun is a clue from her parents?

Discussion Question 3

How is Ty a foil to Cady's character?

Vocabulary

keening, limp, clarity, nuisance, incredulous, justify, compliant, lanyard, conference, stagger, exploit, surreal, orchid



Chapters 37-38

Summary

Chapter 37

The phone rings immediately, but it's not the number Cady dialed. She answers, and it's her mom. Janie questions Cady about what her grandma got her for Christmas just to make sure that it is truly Cady. Cady gives the right answer and her mother starts crying. Cady asks about Max and her father, and Janie says they aren't in great shape. She then warns Cady about Elizabeth, and Cady tells her everything that has happened to her.

Janie tells Cady to brace herself but that she has bad news. She says that Cady's father was shot when they were attempting to escape with the evidence that they had against the company. In the aftermath Max was exposed to the hantavirus and is suffering from the symptoms now. Her father had recovered, but Max won't. The only vaccine that they had is still located in Z-Biotech's offices, hidden from those in charge. Janie thinks that Cady might have a chance of getting the antidote if she can get Elizabeth's keycard and get into the building. Cady asks for details, then goes into the next room where Elizabeth is.

Chapter 38

Cady and Ty buy janitor supplies and uniforms, then put it in Elizabeth's car. Janie explains to Cady and Ty that they can access any doors with Elizabeth's pass. Ty says that they should try to look the part, so he'll try and speak some sort of foreign language when they go to work. Cady thinks this is pretty stereotypical of him to assume, but he shrugs it off.

They reach the gate and get inside with Elizabeth's card. The security guard questions them, clearly not buying that they are janitors. Cady panics and pulls a gun on him. They tie him up in a conference room, then get into an elevator and head to the third floor.

Analysis

Chapter 37

The theme of Family is demonstrated heavily in this chapter as Cady is reunited with her mother and learns of the fate of the rest of her family. Her need to protect them and do whatever she has to do to help is evident. She's willing to risk her life to go into a heavily guarded and secure facility to find the antidote to help her brother, regardless of the risk to herself.



The other reason Cady decides to go into Biotech is that she knows that without the antidote there is no case against Biotech, and none of the documentation against Biotech will hold up without it. If she and her family are to ever be safe, she has to make sure that the world knows about Z-Biotech's plans to weaponize the hantavirus.

Chapter 38

Cady and Ty demonstrate the theme of False Pretenses as they attempt to pass themselves off as janitors/cleaning staff. The guard immediately suspects them and Cady is forced to pull her gun on him. In each instance it is Cady who jumps to action, often with the gun or violence, and it is Ty who keeps her in check. They work well together, demonstrating the theme of Teamwork.

One of the overall motivations for Cady doing what she is doing is that her brother, Max, is in grave danger from his exposure to the virus. There is no known cure except for the precious few vials that were hidden in Biotech. Her parents had been trying to get to their hiding place at the company to retrieve the samples on the day they were discovered and pursued.

Discussion Question 1

Discuss the theme of Family in these chapters.

Discussion Question 2

Describe how Cady and Ty work together as a team.

Discussion Question 3

How has learning the truth and regaining her memories motivated Cady?

Vocabulary

tension, duress, legitimate, bioweapon, desiccator, ramped, slug, wired, rattles, wrench, primary-colored



Chapters 39-40

Summary

Chapter 39

Ty and Cady get into the lab and Cady realizes how clean and high-tech it is. Ty thinks the air is weird, but Cady assures him it's just negative airflow. Her mother had told her that there were eggs in the lab that were incubating the disease and that they would need to take a few of those, as well as destroy the rest. They find the eggs, but there is a problem. Cady realizes that the eggs have to be set at a certain temperature to be safe, otherwise, they could also contract the virus.

They search for ways to start a fire and heat up the eggs. Ty works on starting a makeshift bunsen burner stovetop, while Cady searches for the vaccine. She starts to worry that the workers discovered it, because it is not where her mom said it would be. She eventually finds it and worries about Nowell discovering that they are there, as they have been in the lab longer than she'd planned.

Her worst fear is realized as the door opens, and Nowell appears, wearing his oxblood shoes. He talks with Cady and Ty calmly, and says he has an app that let him know that Elizabeth had entered the building. He knew it wasn't Elizabeth, however, because she was not answering her phone. Cady imagines he will kill her, Ty, and her family and blame it all on her supposed mental disorder. Nowell orders them to drop the gun, and it doesn't take him too long to deduce why Cady's mother would have risked sending her to Biotech. He knows that Max is sick. At that, Cady pleads for Max's life, but Nowell holds up the vaccine, which he has discovered, and pours it down the drain. Cady doesn't tell him that she's actually pulled a bait and switch routine, thanks to Ty. The real vaccine is safe in her pocket.

Right after, an alarm sounds and Nowell realizes that they have set the eggs on fire. He opens the door to the interior laboratory area and when he does it causes a backdraft and flames shoot out of the door. The oxygen is sucked out of the room and Cady passes out.

Chapter 40

Cady wakes up in a hospital room. Her mom is standing next to her. Cady asks about Max and her mom clarifies that he is okay, although he is running a small fever. She applauds Cady for her plan of switching the vaccine that Cady found, with a vial of water, which is what Nowell dropped down the sink.

Cady asks about her dad, and her mom explains that he has to have surgery but that he will be okay. Ty is also okay with only a few burns like Cady has. She tells Cady that Nowell, too, was burned badly, but it also seems that he will recover. She finds out that



Elizabeth and Brenner are also in custody and, finally, she thinks that everything is actually over.

Analysis

Chapter 39

This chapter sees Cady and Ty hoping to get into the lab, retrieve the eggs and the hidden vial of antidote and get out without being seen. This doesn't pan out as they had hoped and none other than Nowell strolls in to the lab. Cady's first reaction is to pull her gun, but it doesn't seem to phase Nowell who takes great joy in toying with her emotions. Meanwhile, the theme of Teamwork is highlighted in that Cady took Ty's advice and placed a decoy vial in line of sight for anyone that might think to come into the lab. They originally did this because they didn't want anything to look out of place and figured it would buy them some time when they made their getaway.

The symbolism of the Oxblood shoes appears in this chapter and the reader, as well as Cady, know that they belonged all along to Nowell. He is the one that ordered her to be killed in the earlier chapters, and it is he that has been the chief antagonist throughout the novel.

Chapter 40

Fire, as a symbol, can be seen to be a tool used for purging something. Nowell uses it to kill the Radleys so he could destroy the evidence that there was a vaccine. Then, his employees burn the cabin to the ground to cover their tracks and continue to frame Cady. Lastly, Cady and Ty use the fire to purge the lab of the deadly virus and the bio-weapons that were in the process of being made.

In this chapter, many of the loose ends are seamed together and the reader gets to see Cady reunited with her family. No one dies, though they are still ill or injured as of this chapter. Cady is glad that everything is over and that both Brenner and Elizabeth have also been taken into custody. Cady is also very aware of Ty and what he's done to help her and her family. She makes sure that her mother understands the role that he played and how important he is to her. This is something that even she hasn't admitted to herself until this point.

Discussion Question 1

Discuss how the image of fire is used throughout the novel.

Discussion Question 2

Why did Nowell need to get rid of the Radleys, and stop Cady's parents?



Discussion Question 3

How is the theme of Teamwork explored in Chapter 39?

Vocabulary

contaminants, audible, airflow, scrabbling, snuffing, infinitesimally, backdraft, triggered, notified, flash, crooked



Chapter 41

Summary

Chapter 41

The chapter starts three months later. Cady and Ty are skiing near where the old cabin had been. Her parents are thinking of rebuilding it. Ty catches a snowflake on his tongue, and Cady mentions how each snowflake is different, like fingerprints. They stop to discuss the entire ordeal that they both went through.

Cady explains that Nowell had definitely been tracking her using Brenner's GPS in his phone and that he did use a spoof card like James thought. Ty puts his arm around her, and Cady wonders if he likes her as much as she likes him. They are both back to school and life is somewhat normal. She tells him about her bad dreams involving Max being the one to burn or that Ty is sick, and he offers her hot chocolate from a thermos bottle. On the plus side, he tells her, the government is making more hantavirus to distribute to farmers who were exposed to the hantavirus. Nowell's plan has been officially stopped.

Ty and Cady stand together, and he kisses her. She remembers to not act, just be, and she kisses him back.

Analysis

Chapter 41

Though the theme of Moving On is late in appearing in the novel, it is center stage in this last chapter. The fact that both Ty and Cady have recovered from their injuries and have gone back to school indicate that they are moving on with their lives in the wake of what was a very tragic set of circumstances. Additionally, Cady's parents have moved on as well since they will go forward with rebuilding the cabin. Max has recovered and is back at school and is continuing with his martial arts training.

Ty also moves on as he overcomes his fear of skiing. This is a large step for Ty as his father had died while skiing. Cady worries Ty will be scared to ski, yet he takes the precautions necessary and skis well. Cady no longer reaches for a gun when she is upset, which indicates that she's put many of her former actions and reactions to bed.

The theme of Identity is also demonstrated in this chapter as Cady finally realizes that she is special, like the snowflakes, and she accepts herself for who she is. She knows that somehow she survived a set of circumstances that might have killed someone else and she takes a certain pride in knowing that she was stronger than she suspected.



Discussion Question 1

What has made Cady realize that she is special and unique?

Discussion Question 2

Discuss the theme of Moving On as it is discussed in this chapter.

Discussion Question 3

How are Ty and Cady coping with going back to normal activities?

Vocabulary

evergreens, rivulet, groomed, contractors, frothing



Characters

Katie/Cadence/Cady

Cadence or "Cady," first known as "Katie," grows in many ways throughout the novel, as she originally completely forgets who she is. She is young, only 16 years old, and knows how to do karate and defend herself against grown men. She can also take being tortured, and she is definitely brave and loyal.

She has a lot of different personas throughout the story, described by other characters, yet none of them are true. She is said to be mentally ill and schizophrenic, and then she is said to be using drugs and stealing, and then she is characterized via Facebook as suicidal and a murderer. However, through these false personas, Cady evolves into someone who is an actress, gets good grades, is loyal, and will do anything to protect her family.

Her goals throughout the novel include remembering who she is, escaping the constant dangers from the men chasing her, and finding her family. She evolves throughout the novel, and eventually learns to trust again through her friendship with Ty. While being constantly on the run, Cady shows that she is very quick on her feet and quite mature for being a teenager. She "comes of age" in the story because of all the obstacles that she overcomes.

Ty

Originally working at McDonald's, claiming he was kicked out of his home for wrecking his step-dad's car, being homeless, and then living on his own while still in high school, Ty doesn't seem like the greatest influence on Cady. However, she eventually learns that he is taking online classes to be a paramedic, and he wants to help other people.

He gives those in need of help the benefit of the doubt, like with Audrey and especially Cady. He characterizes himself and Cady as being better than their pursuers, and refuses to do any lasting damage to anyone.

Ty is very loyal, and he sticks by Cady through all the bad things that happen. He is compassionate and is the first person after her memory loss that Cady feels she can trust. It becomes clear that Ty is not a troubled teen, but a person whose support structure wasn't there for him. He is also resourceful as he lives on his own and is going to school. Cady constantly wishes for an adult to provide a grown-up opinion, but Ty often fills this role as he is very mature for his age.



Nowell

Nowell is the antagonist in the book, the new person in charge of Z-Biotech. He is characterized as greedy and evil, and he only wants the Hantavirus vaccine to use it to his advantage and possibly ruin the lives of many people. He is guiltless and never feels bad or doubts his intentions, which makes him even worse. He is the man with the oxblood shoes that Cady remembers from her initial capture.

Elizabeth

Elizabeth is a liar above all else, having lied about being Cady's aunt. She takes advantage of Cady's family, and she, like Nowell, is confident that her decisions aren't bad even though they clearly are.

Brenner

Brenner is the computer scientist helping Nowell, and he is the first to cave. He doesn't plan on killing anyone, but is obviously quite greedy as the first mention of big amounts of money sway him to participate.

Officer Dillow

Officer Dillow is kind and just does his job as he should. He doubts Nowell, as he should, and ends up dead for it. Initially, he doesn't believe Cady, but then when he hears from Nowell he begins to suspect that Cady is telling the truth.

James

James is Ty's roommate. He originally has his doubts about Cady, but since Ty is so adamant, he starts to believe her. He helps them escape from the men who come looking for her, but doesn't appear again in the book after that. Cady suspects correctly that he is gay.

Max

Max, Cady's brother, is sweet and young and truly innocent. He is a person who truly does not deserve having the Hantavirus, and when he becomes infected, his entire family works together to stop the progression of the virus. They succeed, and Max stays alive. At first Cady thinks that he's been killed as remains were found in the burned down cabin. It is only when Elizabeth confesses to Cady that Max is still alive that Cady regains hope to continue looking for her parents.



Janie

Janie is Cady's mother and is the one that takes charge once she is able to communicate with Cady. She is a microbiologist and discovered what her company was planning to do with the hantavirus.

Patrick

Patrick risks himself and his family in order to gather evidence and create an investigation around Z-Biotech. He has to, as he feels it is the right and ethical thing to do. He is shot trying to bring the information out of Z-Biotech.

Audrey

Audrey is only mentioned in one chapter and is characterized as homeless. She is used to help develop Ty's character more, as her situation shows how he always tries to help people.



Symbols and Symbolism

Weather

Weather in the novel foreshadows danger or trouble for the protagonists. In many situations the reader will see the weather go from bad to worse just before something horrible happens. For example, when Cady and Ty are in the car with Elizabeth on the way to Cady's house, it is raining. The rain gradually increases, building suspense, until Elizabeth and Brenner finally reveal themselves to Cady and Ty.

Field Mice

The field mice that carry the Hantavirus in the story symbolize and represent Cady in some respects. Like Cady, they are harmless and unsuspecting, and yet in the long run, they end up being very lethal and deadly. Cady is similar. She is just a 16 year old girl, and she is not the cause of all these problems that revolve around her family. Originally, she is not even affected by what is happening at Z-Biotech, as it is just her parents. However, she is dragged into the situation, and as the story evolves, leaves a path of destruction in her wake.

Dreams

Cady has several instances where she has dreams. However, the reader also suspects, as does Cady, that the dreams are actually memories that are coming back into her mind. They also serve to offer information to the reader as to who or what Cady might be involved in and who her parents are.

Hantavirus

The cause for death from Hantavirus is drowning in one's own blood. Most times with the Hantavirus, there is nothing to be done to prevent death. However, Cady's parents develop a vaccine that would render the hantavirus inert in those vaccinated, which is what Z-Biotech does not want.

Social Media

In the story, Cady's Facebook account is hacked and is used to incriminate her in her parent's disappearance. Later, there are other instances where social media is used to lure Cady and Ty into traps. Thus, the author seems to be suggesting that one must be careful where Social Media is concerned.



Mismatched Chairs

In James' apartment there are three mismatched chairs around a rickety table. The author suggests that the three mismatched chairs work as a grouping, just as James, Cady, and Ty work together as a group. This emphasizes the theme of Teamwork.

Trash Can

In McDonald's Cady hides in the trash can to avoid detection. While she hides in there she feels very trapped in the enclosed space. She also realizes that while she is physically trapped, she is also emotionally and mentally trapped because she has no idea who she is or why the men want to kill her.

Skateboard

The skateboard symbolizes Cady's life at that point. She feels that she has gained some sort of equilibrium and is in control of her life. Of course, that assumption goes upside down when she takes a turn too sharply and falls, injuring herself. Thus, she realizes that she's not as in control of things as she thought she was.

Snowflakes

At the end of the story Cady has realized and come to appreciate the differences in people, including herself. She realizes that just like snowflakes it is those differences that make things interesting.

Eggs

In the laboratory there are eggs incubating the deadly virus. This is not only symbolic of the developing disaster that would come from the eggs reaching full maturation, but it also represents a new hope for Cady as she understands that taking a few of the eggs (properly prepared for travel) as well as the vaccine are the keys to bringing down Z-Biotech.



Settings

The Cabin

At the beginning of the novel, Cady finds herself in a cabin in the mountains. While she remembers nothing at first, later she remembers that it was her family's vacation home. This cabin is burned to the ground by Elizabeth, Nowell, and Brenner. Inside the cabin was a dead chimpanzee that they had experimented on.

James's Apartment

When Ty needs to find a place to take Cady to hide from the men, he takes her to James's apartment. Cady finds the apartment to be nice, if not on the shabby side. She understands that both boys are on their own.

Z-Biotech

This is the company that is preparing to create a doomsday virus. It is also where Cady and Ty must go if they are to obtain the vaccine that will save Cady's brother, Max. This is where the final showdown and climax of the novel take place.

The Gym

When Cady and Ty need to find a way to get out of town fast, Ty comes up with a plan to steal a man's vehicle while he is in the gym working out. Cady pretends to drop a weight and when the attendant from the desk walks over, Ty steals the keys.

Elizabeth's Hotel Room

When Cady believes that she has found a relative who can give her some answers she must visit her in a hotel room. Her aunt Elizabeth is in town trying to find Cady and her family (or so she says).



Themes and Motifs

Identity

In the novel the idea of identity is center to the plot line. Literally, Cady doesn't know who she is. While most teens are trying to find themselves Cady literally must find out who she is. The stakes are considerably higher and each clue that is offered to both Cady and the reader, begins to offer a clearer view as to who Cady is as a person, as well as who her family is.

What begins to emerge is that Cady is none of the things that she is told that she is. At first, she is told that she is an escaped mental patient who stole the family car and possibly injured people. Then, she is accused of being a drunkard and drug user. Last, she is accused of being a murderer.

What Cady understands about herself is that she has an immediate aversion to all of the stories that are told about her, even though she doesn't know who she is, completely. She does know who she is NOT, thanks in large part to Ty who supports her efforts to recover her memory.

Identity in the novel is shown to be something that a person develops over time, and is a collection of one's desires, dreams, beliefs, and moral structures regarding life and love.

Teamwork

Teamwork appears consistently throughout the story, and is really the only way Cady gets out alive. Ty is her main friend who helps her, but later on, her parents help her, too. This theme shows that not many things can be accomplished alone, and it's always okay to ask for help.

The first appearance of teamwork is when Ty helps Cady get out of the McDonald's without being seen by the men who want to kill her. Although he barely knows her, he decides to help. He brings in a trash can and they put her in there to hide her long enough to load her into the car. Alone, Cady can't escape. Yet together, they think of a way that will get her out of the sticky situation safely.

Another instance of teamwork is stealing the car to drive to find Elizabeth. Cady must create a believable diversion while Ty finds keys in a gym. By being an actress, Cady's diversion of dropping a weight on her foot is quite believable. With Ty being homeless, he knows how to make himself unseen, and they steal the car without getting caught. Without each one of their past experiences, that would not have happened as smoothly.

Another instance of teamwork which involves Ty, Cady, and Cady's mom, is when Cady must break into Z-Biotech to steal the vaccines. Her mom tells her how to get into the



building and where the vaccines are. Ty helps her with their janitor disguises, and he also helps with setting all the eggs on fire to destroy more of the viruses. Cady assists by switching the vials so Nowell just dumps a bottle of water and not the actual vaccine. Without any of them, they couldn't have accomplish that plan.

Family

Family is a very big theme in the novel. Originally, Cady doesn't remember who her family is, and all she has is the picture she finds in the cabin. However, as she continues to escape the men chasing her, she realizes she must find her family and look after them even though she doesn't know them.

Gradually, Cady learns more about her family through the press. The things the press say that she did to her family doesn't sit well with her, because she feels like she wouldn't treat her family that way. She also knows that, even without remembering her family, that they love her unconditionally.

Ty's family is opposite of Cady's, as his father dies and his mom doesn't care much about him. His step-dad kicks him out. This helps Cady realize the theme of family even more, as she doesn't want to take hers for granted.

The author suggests that the definition of family isn't just those who are related by blood, but that they are a group of people who are brought together by something in common. Family are people who are loyal and who can be trusted, and for a long time the only person in Cady's life that provides her with that is Ty. He is all she has for a while, and they form their own familial bond that helps her realize what family really means.

False Pretense

Many people lie and people are not as they appear throughout the duration of the novel. The reasons behind the lies range from protection of self to greed, but Cady experiences all of them. Many people pretend to be somebody else to her just to get what they want.

Nowell pretends originally to be a doctor from a mental hospital to try and convince Dillow that Cady is mentally ill and suffers from hallucinations. He lies to get Dillow to keep Cady for him, as he wants to either find out what she knows or where her family is, or kill her.

Another character who misrepresents herself is Elizabeth Tanzir. She originally tells Cady she is her aunt, and that is to try and establish trust to get Cady to give her the information that she needs. Cady originally trusts her, but not as much as she trusts Ty. Once Elizabeth realizes her false pretense doesn't work, she reveals herself.



Much of the people pretending to be someone they aren't is to teach Cady not to be so naïve. She trusts people, but learns to not trust too easily. All the lies in the story eventually help Cady discover the truth about who her family is, why they were in danger, and what she can do to help them all.

Coming of Age

Many teen novels have a Coming of Age theme in them, and this one is no different. Although Cady's coming of age story is different than some, she still goes through conflicts and lost trust that result in her becoming more mature. Some of these incidents involve Ty, learning to trust, and remembering who she is.

Cady experiences many emotions that normal teenage girl have. One of those experiences is social media use and, although someone hacked into her profile, Cady realizes that she exposes all of her thoughts on Facebook.

Another issue Cady struggles with is acceptance. She feels abandoned, and is very clingy. Many teens can feel singled out as they grow up, and they can relate to Cady feeling panicked about keeping Ty as a friend. Once she realizes her family is in danger, she desperately tries to save them out of fear of being abandoned.

And finally, Cady faces many obstacles and must make many decisions that mature her beyond her years. When faced with life and death situations she chooses to do the right thing, regardless of the consequences to her own safety.

Moving On

The last chapter is significant, as it depicts Ty and Cady both returning to their normal lives. Despite their harrowing experiences, they can now gladly return to their lives as teenagers. They each move on in different ways.

Ty is able to move on and leave behind his hurt and bitterness at his father's death because he is able to ski with Cady in the last chapter. Ty's father had died on a skiing trip many years before, an accident that left him homeless. Cady is afraid that he won't be able to ski without feeling badly, but she is wrong. He has realized some things about himself as a result of their experience, and he is able to let the past go and move forward in his life.

Cady's family is moving on as well, as they have determined to rebuild the cabin that was burned down. They are near where Cady and Ty are skiing attempting to determine what the cabin will look like and how they will move forward with the rebuilding.

Lastly, Cady realizes who she is and accepts herself for her own individuality. As a result, she isn't afraid to move forward with her dreams and her ambitions.



Styles

Point of View

The story is written in first person, from the point of view of Cady. Usually, first person POV allows for the reader to truly be in touch with the main character as they are constantly reading their thoughts. However, the book takes a strange turn with the POV since Cady has completely forgotten everything about herself. This allows her and the reader to gradually learn about her life. The reader feels left out of the loop sometimes, due to Cady's lack of knowledge.

Language and Meaning

The vocabulary in the story is fit for older teens, as Cady is 16, but very educated. Her parents are scientists and she is the oldest of their two kids, so she uses mature words. However, the language doesn't always fit Cady's personality. Most times she is very grown up and makes great on the spot decisions when she is put under pressure. The book is action packed, and some of the vocabulary revolving around biological warfare may be a little hefty for younger readers. The concepts are strong too, and this may be a book dedicated to older teens just because Cady is quite mature for her age as are the concepts and situations she deals with. There is also a lot of medical jargon in the story, especially about her fugue state. By introducing the character of Ty, who wants to be a paramedic, he is able to help explain some of the vocabulary to Cady, in turn allowing it to make sense to the readers as well.

Structure

The way the story is structured, with Cady not knowing anything about her past at first, unites the reader and the narrator as the reader learns things about Cady's past at the moment she does. It also allows the author to offer backstory in a way that the reader finds relevant and useful. Since Cady can't remember her past, she must actively search for it, along with the reader.

The book is comprised of 41 chapters ranging from 10-19 pages each. There are only a few flashback sequences, which are easily identified and explained.



Quotes

You need to take care of things here. Take her out back and finish her off.”

-- Dr. Nowell (chapter 1)

Importance: This lays out the primary conflict in the first chapter and sets the tone for Cady's situation.

We're not going to Bend, are we?”

-- Cady (chapter 7)

Importance: She's talking to Ty about where they should go next, and he suggests the coffee shop. Cady is upset because it is very public and someone might recognize her as the mental escapee.

And, Cady? Dr. Nowell told me that when they found Michael Brenner, he was dead.

-- Officer Dillow (chapter 7)

Importance: This was what Officer Dillow believes about Cady, at first. He tells her that Brenner is dead, that the authorities have said that she's a dangerous mental patient.

Maybe it's a good thing I don't remember it.”

-- Cady (chapter 11)

Importance: At this point Cady is questioning her own adamant belief that she's sane. She begins to look at the facts that are being presented, and she is now doubting her own sanity.

Speak for yourself. I live a little higher up the food chain than you. But I am not carting everything I own in to work just to keep it safe from some crazy chick.”

-- James (chapter 15)

Importance: This is Jame's conversation with Ty after Ty brings Cady back to hide at the apartment. It shows how he is initially suspicious of Cady.

So you wouldn't have to go back to the mental hospital. Who else would have a reason for shooting him?”

-- James (chapter 17)

Importance: James says this and it indicates that he now believes Cady's story.

Do you know how to ride a skateboard?

-- Ty (chapter 19)

Importance: Ty is going to disguise Cady as a boy by cutting her hair and having her



ride a skateboard. The skateboard makes her realize that she is not as in control of her life as she thought she was.

Oh, Cady! You've changed your hair!"
-- Elizabeth (chapter 29)

Importance: Elizabeth convinces Cady that she is her aunt by recognizing the Cady has changed her appearance.

I'm not going anywhere. Not until Cady is okay."
-- Ty (chapter 29)

Importance: When Cady and Ty are in Elizabeth's hotel room, Elizabeth tries several times to get Ty to leave because it is a family matter. Ty refuses to leave because he doesn't trust Elizabeth and it indicates his attachment and feelings for Cady.

Aren't those things really two sides of the same coin?"
-- Ty (chapter 30)

Importance: Ty says this when Cady mentions something about loyalty and family. Ty's experiences with his family don't mirror Cady's experiences.

We don't know who we can trust."
-- Dad/Patrick (chapter 33)

Importance: Cady's father says this to her when they speak on the phone. He's reiterating what Cady already knows, which is anyone could literally be working for Z-Biotech.

You killed him! You killed Max."
-- Cady (chapter 35)

Importance: At this point in the book Cady is frustrated, tired, grief stricken, and angry. She is holding a gun to Elizabeth's head and is very willing to pull the trigger. Ty convinces her not to do it and Elizabeth tells Cady the truth, that her brother is alive.