

# **Shatter Me Study Guide**

**Shatter Me by Tahereh Mafi**

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# Plot Summary

"Shatter Me" is the story of Juliette Ferrars, a girl with a most unusual ability as her touch can be dangerous and deadly. She has been incarcerated for a crime she accidentally committed. She is recruited for the current government's diabolical plans against her will, forcing her to learn how to be brave and face her own fears while finding love along the way. This is the story of a girl isolated in a futuristic society who breaks free of her bonds and learns how to fight for what she believes in.

Juliette Ferrars is a young girl who is trapped in a prison cell for a crime she accidentally committed a few years ago. Just as she thinks she is going crazy from being alone for so long, the guards inform her that she is getting a cell mate. At first Juliette is excited about this, but her excitement turns to dread once she learns that the cellmate is a young man. The young man's name is Adam, and Juliette cannot figure out where she already knows him from. At first, Juliette is afraid of him especially after he takes her bed and blanket, leaving her to sleep on the floor. The next day, their attitudes towards one another soften as Adam burns his hand on a plate of food and Juliette begins showing him how to acclimate to living in the facility.

Over time, their relationship grows. Juliette continues showing him things such as how to take a quick shower. Adam returns Juliette's bed and blankets once he sees that she is cold. Juliette still cannot stop thinking that she knows this man from somewhere in her past, but she does not ask him about it. After some time of living together, the soldiers come in to take Juliette away. Adam is revealed to be a soldier himself who was planted in Juliette's cell as a spy. Juliette is taken to Sector 45, a community under the rule of The Reestablishment, the governing political regime. She is taken to Warner, the leader of Sector 45 who has an offer for Juliette. He wants her to work with him using her deadly touch on rebels in exchange for a life full of riches and freedom. The idea is horrifying to Juliette, but Warner wants her to get a taste of what she could have and orders that she live in his compound. He also orders Adam to be her personal guard while she is there.

Adam takes Juliette to the compound where she is given a large bedroom with a closet full of the best kind of clothes. Adam tells Juliette that she should change into one of the dresses for dinner. He also hints that there are no cameras in the bathroom. Juliette refuses to dress up for dinner. Warner is disappointed in this but he is thrilled that Juliette is finally with him. Later, Juliette finds out that Adam has been beaten for Juliette's refusal to cooperate with Warner. As Juliette decides to cooperate and wear some of the clothes in the closet, she finds the notebook that she had in her cell. Adam kept it and hid it in the closet for Juliette with a note that shows that he is really trying to help her. Adam is moved in with Juliette again where they have a chance to start a romantic relationship and Juliette learns Adam can touch her without getting hurt.

Warner continues to get Juliette on his side, telling her how much she is needed by him. She is still disgusted by his actions, especially when he orders one of his own men to touch Juliette and when Warner executes one of the soldiers for giving food to rebels.



This disgust turns into sheer hatred when she is forced to touch a toddler during a sadistic experiment ordered by Warner. As Adam and Juliette's relationship develops, they formulate a plan to escape. This is enacted earlier than they had planned as Warner conducts a drill. During the escape, Warner is able to touch Juliette himself without getting hurt. Adam takes Juliette to a nearby nuclear field where he has hidden a tank. Using the tank, they are able to get to Adam's home.

Juliette is introduced to Adam's younger brother James, who has been living in Adam's home by himself. After James goes to school one morning, a soldier named Kenji shows up and is badly injured. He has been tortured and shot by Warner's men in an attempt to get information about Adam. Kenji has come to warn Adam and get him, Juliette, and James to a safe place. Shortly afterwards, the soldiers show up at Adam's home and they are forced to flee. Kenji cannot run, so Adam hides him and James in an abandoned building to hide until he can steal a car with Juliette. Kenji sedates James to keep him from worrying too much about the situation. As soon as they run out of the building they are caught by Warner and his men and Adam is shot.

Juliette is dragged off to another building where Warner professes his love for Juliette and his excitement over being able to touch her without injury. Juliette is able to use his sexual advances against him to steal his gun and shoot him. Juliette then goes to find Adam, who is badly injured as well and is hanging by his arms. Once he is set free he tells Juliette that Warner was planning on torturing him to death after he has had his way with her. The pair are able to steal a car as all of the soldiers have gone to help Warner. Juliette and Adam pick up Kenji and James and head to the safe haven that Kenji had mentioned.

Once at the facility, Adam is immediately taken to the medical wing. Juliette is furious and frantic, causing Kenji to sedate her as well. Once she wakes up, she finds herself wrapped up in a sheet with nothing else on. A tall blonde man enters and tries to ask her questions, but she wants to see Adam and James to make sure they are alright. Kenji comes in and assures Juliette that they are safe and lets her know that the facility's leader wants to meet her. He tells her that they have spent time and research trying to find her. Kenji finds Juliette some clothes after a brief argument with the blonde man, who is offended by Juliette's nickname for him and tells Juliette that his name is Winston. After Juliette gets dressed, Kenji and Winston take Juliette to see Castle, the leader of area.

Castle informs Juliette that this place is called Omega Point. It is a safe haven for people who have special abilities and that she is one of 56 people who are gifted. He himself has the gift of telekinesis and he would like for Juliette to become part of the rebellion against The Reestablishment. Juliette meets others who have a special ability and finds out that Kenji has the ability to become invisible and Winston can bend and stretch in any way that is needed. She is also reunited with Adam as he has been quickly healed. The next day, Winston gives Juliette a suit, boots, and gloves made of a material that will allow her to touch others. Armed with these items and having found a place where she is both loved and respected, Juliette no longer thinks of herself as a monster and is ready to fight for what she believes in.



# Chapters 1 - 5

## Summary

In Chapter 1 an isolated girl has just been informed that she will be receiving a cellmate. This will be the first person that she has talked to in almost a year as she remembers that she was put in the cell a long time ago by The Reestablishment, a political group that is trying to help improve society. The girl's only companion is her notebook, but she has to use her pen sparingly as it is the only one she has. After falling asleep, she is startled by the new roommate, and she is alarmed to find that it is a boy. She jumps off of her bed and into a corner to avoid him. The boy does not say much to her, instead he pulls her bed beside his and lays down to go to sleep, leaving the girl frightened and on the floor.

Chapter 2 finds the girl looking out at the rain as the boy is beginning to wake up. He asks the girl why is she in the cell, but she refuses to answer the question. Breakfast is served and the boy grabs the tray so quickly that he burns himself. This causes the girl to speak a bit nicer to him and he grazes her shoulder with his fingers. The girl goes back to watching the window, hoping that a bird will fly by. The boy questions her again, but she is aloof and refuses to carry on the conversation. Instead, she tells him that she is not to be touched, but does not tell him why. In her mind she says that she cannot be touched because bad things happen to people who touch her. As she is thinking about this, there is a knock at the door.

Chapter 3 opens with the door to the cell opening. It is shower time and the girl knows that she and the boy have to get to the showers quickly and silently. She leads the boy down a dark hallway to the showers and shows him how to take an efficient shower. Once they return to the cell, the girl sits on the floor but she is cold and knows she will be sick if she is unable to warm up soon. The boy sees her discomfort and gives her both blankets and pushes her bed back closer to her. He lays down in his own bed and introduces himself as Adam.

The girl keeps repeating that she is not insane in Chapter 4 as she suffers a nightmare, waking up Adam. He assures her that she is not insane and he lightens the mood with a small joke. Adam tries to sit next to the girl, but she denies him that ability causing him to be quiet. He mentions that he is hot, which causes the girl to instantly panic and question if he is getting sick. Adam says that he is not sick he just prefers the room to be cooler so he can sleep. He once again asks the girl her name and initially she refuses to answer, but after a minute or so, she says that her name is Juliette.

Juliette has a memory of how her parents treated her badly then abandoned her in Chapter 5. She is staring out the window when Adam wakes up. Adam asks more questions about the daily routine and of her family. Juliette still answers no questions about her past, only questions about life inside the cell. She then asks Adam about the outside world and he tells her that The Reestablishment has been changing things in a



negative way. Juliette only vaguely remembers the beginning of The Reestablishment before she was imprisoned. Breakfast is served again and the pair discontinue their discussion.

## Analysis

Chapter 1 begins with the protagonist stating how many days she has been isolated from other people. There is a great emphasis on exact amounts of time and measurement as the protagonist recalls the size of the room she is in and the amount of time she has spent there. There are no hints of names for the protagonist or information as to how the protagonist came to be in this predicament. There is a heavy use of the strike through method, the first evidence of this being upon the revelation that the protagonist will be receiving a roommate soon. These strike through's give the reader more of an insight as to what is building in the protagonist's mind. A small amount of back story is portrayed as a mysterious political group named The Reestablishment is introduced. They are responsible for the protagonist's imprisonment and it is revealed in a strike through that the protagonist's parents fully condoned the confinement. This also begins the theme of isolation as the young girl has not actually spoken to or interacted with anyone in quite some time. The theme of change is also introduced in this chapter as Juliette's living situation changes from being totally alone to having this new roommate.

It is also noted that the only thing that the protagonist has to occupy her time is a notebook that she writes in with a pen that is running out of ink, causing her to ration its use each day. Since she is soon going to be without the use of the pen, the protagonist is looking forward to having another human to talk to. This is mixed with a small sense of difficulty as she has not used any verbal skills in such a long period of time. The protagonist sleeps after spending most of the day practicing.

There is a big shock to the protagonist as she is awakened by the new roommate. Both are shocked as the new roommate turns out to be a male and the protagonist is female. The girl feels that this has been an intentional setup by the guards who have imprisoned her. This changes the girl's mind about the situation as she is frightened of this boy. There is an intriguing thought as she strikes out that he is gorgeous but adds that he is dangerous. This small detail can be viewed as foreshadowing of change in their views of each other. There is no conversation between the two, but the boy asserts his initial dominance of the situation by stealing the girl's bed, causing her to remain frightened on the floor. There is a question of sanity when the boy finally does speak to the girl, but he is offended when she will not answer him. The boy goes to sleep, but the girl cannot. The chapter closes with an ominous note about sleeping and screaming.

The second chapter analyzes the similarities between the girl and a raindrop. The main importance of this is that the girl feels that both she and raindrops are casually tossed. This is especially evidenced by the strike through comment that the girl's parents tossed her out of their home as carelessly as a raindrop. There is also an allusion to a mishap some time previously where her parents are convinced that the girl does not have



enough caring about other things to feed stray cats. This shows a deep divide between the girl and her parents that will presumably be touched upon more in a later segment.

The new roommate awakens but there is still apprehension on the girl's part to answer any of his questions. The strike through's prove more useful here as there is a brief indication that the girl is already familiar with the boy, but she does not know how that can be. The boy is easily offended again by the girl's attitude. In a show of his frustration, he instantly grabs the tray of food that is shoved into the room through a small hole. he burns himself, causing the girl to speak. She is sympathetic towards the boy, but the boy is so angry that he is sarcastic towards her. The boy touches the girl, causing her to flinch as she has not been touched in such a long time. There is a slight diversion at this as she looks out the window. This is the first time that she mentions the bird she hopes will fly by as birds are extremely rare.

Now the boy is sympathetic as he gently touches her to get her attention. This alarms the girl as it has almost been a year since she has been touched. The girl is filled with emotion as the boy is kind to her, presumably the first kindness she has been shown in many years. Unable to handle how she feels, she feels that she cannot say anything, although her statements in the strike through's reveal her unease. The girl does not reveal any details, but there is a hint towards an ominous reaction to touching her as she there is a revelation that deadly things happen due to her touch and that her own parents have never really touched her. She does not tell the boy this, perhaps in fear of his reaction. The theme of isolation is shown with this as she feels that she has been forgotten. Chapter 2 ends on a cliffhanger as knocking on the door signals to the girl that it is time to go to the showers.

In Chapter 3, the routines of life in the girl's cell is on display as she and her new roommate engage in the shower routine. As the pair go through a darkened corridor, the only signs of life are the screams around them, which makes the girl vaguely recall her own beginnings of life in her cell and her own hardships. There is a protocol to be silent, but the repercussions are unknown. The darkness and the order to be silent confuse the boy, which makes the girl curious. This turns into the girl genuinely wanting to help the boy and to be his friend.

Once they reach the showers, there is a certain amount of ritual in terms of how the girl demonstrates the quick shower with little time and resources. The only thing on the girl's mind is survival as she expects that the dark and vacant shower is where she will meet her death. The girl is quick with her shower, knowing what the consequences of not being quick enough or getting her clothes wet are. She is also pleased that the boy has quickly managed his own shower. This shows the girl that the boy is smarter than she had originally thought.

Back in their cell, the girl is still apprehensive of the boy. Unfortunately, her usual routine is interrupted by the fact that she cannot warm herself with her blanket as she usually does. She knows that she will get sick if she is forced to stay on the cold floor with her hair wet, but she says nothing to the boy. The dynamic between the boy and girl shifts as he senses her discomfort and gives the girl her blanket back as well as his own. This



is even further enhanced by the fact that he finally introduces himself as Adam. Adam even pushes the girl's bed back to her side of the room, as he feels ashamed that he treated her so badly in the beginning. The girl wishes that he would brush up against her again, partially denying to herself that she is disappointed that he has not. In this way, the chapter is able to close on a positive note as she falls asleep.

The beginning of the fourth chapter has the continuous line about not being insane as a strike through thought. This is an ideal that weighs heavily on the girl's mind, and it is highlighted by the action of her waking up in terror from a nightmare. The nightmare is not revealed but the girl's screaming has awakened Adam who shows genuine concern for the girl. This embarrasses the girl but Adam tries to be nonchalant about it. There is a definitive shift in attitudes by both the girl and Adam in this chapter. Adam seems very concerned for the girl and he tries to lighten the mood with a bit of humor. Numbers are still important here as the girl is very precise in how long it has been since someone has made her smile. In the strike through, it is learned that the girl's parents and everyone around her has abandoned her. She is finally getting the attention she has been craving but it is short lived as Adam wants to sit near her and she denies him. She is convinced that she is a monster but does not tell Adam this, presumably because she has lost the ability to trust anyone mixed with her insecurity over being touched.

The scene takes a dramatic twist when Adam says that he is hot, causing the girl to panic. She knows what it is like to be sick in this cell and does not want Adam to face the same thing. This emotion shown by the girl is the first true outward display of any feeling by the girl. In turn, Adam's apology for his previous action opens up the most important piece of information so far in the story as the girl accepts the apology and introduces herself as Juliette. This highlights a beginning friendship and the start of the relationship theme as he seems please by knowing her name.

The reader learns a small but important piece of information at the start of the fifth chapter. It is a brief recollection of thoughts that give the reader some insight into Juliette's past and how the theme of isolation is crucial to her character. It is even enhanced by an allegory in reference to the moon being isolated, much like Juliette. Juliette feels that she identifies more with the moon as it is cold and unemotional. The narrative heads in a different direction as there is a brief explanation of the current society, one of the key themes in the novel. This is only a brief interlude that shows the reader the conditions of the society and sheds a bit more light on The Reestablishment as a possible negative force.

More is known about Adam and Juliette's living conditions as Adam questions the daily routines. The topic directly feeds into a line of questioning by Adam as he is still trying to figure out Juliette's reasons for being in the cell. Juliette is evasive towards his questions, particularly the ones about her family. These questions do not infuriate Juliette, even though she does not directly answer them, she is grateful to have someone to talk to her. She is careful to continue hiding the secret that she carries with her, which is a foreshadowing of revelations to be made further in the novel.





More information about The Reestablishment comes from this section as Adam explains the changes and the group has made and the effects on current society. The reader learns that the world has become a more dangerous place than what Juliette remembers and this is the first mention of a rebellion uprising against The Reestablishment. This aids the reader in further understanding both the society and rebellion theme. The dialogue flips almost instantaneously as Adam once again asks Juliette why she is there, but it is of no use. Juliette still is too scared that Adam's reaction will be negative to trust him with sharing this with him. Once again, Adam is frustrated as his curiosity is overwhelming. The chapter ends with the pair settling down to a mysterious substance that is delivered as their only meal of the day with nothing else having been resolved.

## **Discussion Question 1**

How does Juliette react to the thought of a new roommate? What is her reaction when she finally meets Adam? Why does it take so long for her to warm up to him?

## **Discussion Question 2**

Describe life for Juliette inside the cell. Has her life been made easier or harder by Adam being placed in the cell?

## **Discussion Question 3**

How has Juliette been isolated other than being confined to a cell? Is she able to feel less isolated with Adam now with her?

## **Vocabulary**

scuttle, precariously, amorphous, apathy, furrow, insurmountable, skewered, ecosystem, modicum, regime, acquiesce



# Chapters 6 - 10

## Summary

Adam and Juliette have formed a daily routine in Chapter 10. They talk, but they do not talk about their pasts. As Adam is sleeping one morning, Juliette goes to the window to look at the soldiers on the ground wishing she could be like them. After a few minutes, she starts looking for the bird she keeps hoping to see. Adam wakes up and asks her about her notebook. He tells her that The Reestablishment wants to take away things like writing. When Adam tries to sit near Juliette, she pulls away and he asks her why can he not sit with her. She does not tell him and an argument begins and ends with the pair being silent with each other.

A group of guards come into the room the next day during Chapter 7. The guards are physically abusive and Juliette is too afraid to do anything. Juliette is convinced that these men were sent to kill her, but they do not. Juliette is dragged out of her cell and headed to an unknown place.

Juliette wakes up two days later alone and in an unknown place in Chapter 8. A guard enters the room and at first Juliette does not recognize him but quickly is afraid when she recognizes that the guard is Adam. She is taken to another room by Adam, who does not talk to her. In this room, she meets Warner, the leader of the area and learns that Adam is really a spy sent to watch her. The leader laughs at Juliette before telling her that he has an offer he would like to make to her.

Warner informs Juliette of his plans in Chapter 9. He says that has been watching her for a long time and is the one who had her imprisoned to make sure she is not insane. He adds that Adam was sent to live with Juliette after she proved during her isolation that she is not insane. Warner's main goal for Juliette is to have her torture political prisoners in exchange for freedom and a lavish life. Juliette immediately refuses this plan, but Warner tells her if she does not go along with it, he could have her killed. He places Juliette in Adam's custody, giving him a pair of gloves, and instructs Adam to show Juliette what life working for The Reestablishment could be like.

Juliette finally gets the chance to go outside in Chapter 10. Adam puts her in a car and they travel to a new building. Along the way, Juliette sees how the world has gotten worse and how The Reestablishment has not kept any of their promises to help society. The long ride concludes with the car pulling up in front of a massive building and Adam telling her to come inside with him.

## Analysis

Chapter 6 flashes forward two weeks as Juliette and Adam settle into a routine with each other. Although they are nice to each other, they still do not reveal much in the way of personal details about themselves. During this particular scene, there is the first



mention of soldiers in the area. Juliette feels that they take their own freedom for granted and she wishes she could be out there as well. This heavily plays on the theme of isolation as Juliette feels that being a part of the outside world would make her feel normal and like a human being. Juliette feels a small sense of hope as she watches the window, still hoping for the sight of a bird. The bird is a considered a metaphor of this freedom that Juliette lacks. Juliette's concentration on her elusive bird as she watches the window is broken by Adam and she places her attention on him. She is afraid that he will fall into the same depression that she has over the last few years. As he gets closer to her to bring her a blanket, she is again conflicted in terms of whether or not she wants him to touch her. He does not, but for Juliette her conflict is resolved in the fact that she wants him to touch her.

The notebook is mentioned again here as Adam inquires about it again with the contents of it still not revealed. This heads into a discussion about The Reestablishment and their intentions toward society. The reader should note that an important moment is taking place during this discussion as Juliette feels that she knows him but cannot figure out how. As Adam speaks about more changes in store for the public there is another shift in the narrative. He instinctively puts his hand on Juliette's back, causing her to snap out of her thoughts. She panics and her fear is very apparent to Adam, who is still confused about why he cannot touch her. There is a misinterpretation by Adam about Juliette's reluctance to be touched, setting off another argument. This puts tension back into the setting as Adam clearly does not understand Juliette's feelings on the matter. At the end of this chapter, there is more speculation that Juliette has met Adam previously but she is also frustrated as well that she not only knows that she met Adam three years ago but she does not remember how, but it seems that he has forgotten about her as well.

The tension does not lift in Chapter 7 as all communication has stopped between Juliette and Adam. Juliette feels that it is for the best, in her isolation she has learned that she cannot trust anyone plus she does not want Adam to get close to her in fears that she may end up hurting him. There is a brief allusion to Juliette's past as she thinks of her parents and how they were afraid of her and the efforts made to get rid of her. There is a revelation here that provides the reader with the reason that she has been incarcerated as she has committed a murder 3 years prior. Juliette feels remorseful about this and maintains that she the incident was purely an accident.

The scene abruptly changes and this is a section that sees the novel starting to evolve as a group of guards burst into the cell. Juliette is convinced that they have come to kill her and her fear is evident. There is no indication of what these guards want except to take her from the cell. They are disappointed that Juliette is not crying, she is too frozen with fear to move or make any reaction. Adam does not have a role in this scene as Juliette concentrates on what she perceives to be her impending death. The chapter closes on a cliffhanger as she is pulled out of the room with no indication of what is to happen next.

Chapter 8 jumps ahead to two days later, finding Juliette awakening from unconsciousness. There is evidence that she has been physically abused as she has



bruises on her face and is too sore for much movement. There is a certain amount of speculation as to why she has been separated from Adam. These speculations are quickly halted as a guard comes into the room to take her someplace else. At this point, there is a dramatic twist in the plot as one of the guards outside of Juliette's cell is Adam himself. Juliette's own shock is enough to paralyze her again, only to be hit by one of the guards.

A new character is introduced as Juliette is taken to what seems to be an interrogation room. There is a brief description of his physical appearance plus the inference that this new character will play a major and ominous role in the events in the novel. This man is clearly someone who is used to having his orders obeyed. He does not introduce himself, but his name tag says Warner. His demeanor is cool and casual, as if this situation is not new to him. It is clear that Adam is one of his subordinates when Warner calls him by his last name. The fact that Adam has been so kind to Juliette in the cells is a red herring as his main purpose was to spy on her. He says nothing to Juliette, but it is evident that she is hurt by this realization. There is also the subtle hint that she may have known Adam during her childhood as well, adding to the mystery of Adam's true character. Although Juliette is terrified she is able to ask about Warner's intentions. There is an added bit of intrigue to the rising action of the novel as this chapter closes with Warner saying that he wants to make a deal with her.

Chapter 9 is the dialogue between Warner and Juliette that defines his proposition. Warner is fully aware of Juliette's secrets and how she has come to be in this position. Juliette was intentionally incarcerated because of her secret and how much worth it is to him. The true purpose of Adam's role in this, as he is one of Warner's main spies, adds to the experiment of making sure that Juliette will not psychotically lash out at others. This notion disgusts Juliette but it also truly hurts her that the one person who has shown her any real kindness was just lying to do his job. There is a brief interlude of acknowledgement between the two and there is a small suspicion that Adam feels remorseful for his actions although he cannot outwardly show it. There is no desire to kill Juliette but Warner's proposition is very clear cut. Juliette can live by torturing others with her unnamed talent or she can die. This causes one of the main dilemmas of the novel as Juliette makes it known that she has no intention of going along with his diabolical plan. Warner's casual attitude towards her is continued as he dismisses her into Adam's custody with the order to take care of her. The hidden meaning in Warner's command is unknown at this point. There is a brief glimpse into Juliette's secret as Warner gives Adam a pair of gloves, telling him that these are needed at the close of the chapter.

The setting for Juliette's narrative changes in Chapter 10. The relationship between Adam and Juliette is no longer friendly and has evolved into roles of guard versus prisoner as he informs her that they will be going outside. This is the first time in the novel that she is taken outside and has been years since she has had so much freedom. Although she has been terrified up to this point, being outside is truly fascinating for her. There is a brief description of the sensations caused by being outside. This is done using metaphors to further enhance the feeling of Juliette's excitement over being outside for the first time in years. This is short lived as Adam



touches her again to get her attention. It is curious that Adam disregards any kind of warning to not touch Juliette. The author also makes use of metaphors to describe not only Adam's touch, but his eyes as well as he looks at her. As Juliette is put into a car to be taken to a new location, there is a detailed description of the landscape mixed with a touch of remorse by Juliette as she has memories of life before the Reestablishment as well as the beginnings of the changes that they were to make. In this there is a distinction between the fantasy of what The Reestablishment has promised the country's citizens and the harsh realities of promises unfulfilled. The stark descriptions of things that Juliette sees as she passes by adds to the feeling of despair and hopelessness that the author wishes to convey to the reader. Eventually, the ride ends after an unknown amount of time in front of a nondescript building. There is no significant markings on the building, but the sheer size of this makes it clear that this is the main building in the area.

## **Discussion Question 1**

Are Juliette and Adam comfortable with each other as they are in the cell? How does this comfort change after they are taken from the cell?

## **Discussion Question 2**

What is Warner's plan for Juliette? Should she take the deal that is offered to her?

## **Discussion Question 3**

Discuss The Reestablishment. How are the plans that they originally told the people and what Juliette sees different?

## **Vocabulary**

incinerating, exhalation, abomination, sieve, curt, pompous, volatile, ravaged, haphazard, suffice, gluttony, insignia, convoluted, fickle



# Chapters 11 - 15

## Summary

In Chapter 11, Juliette arrives at a new facility. She hates the way everything looks too grand and ornate. As Adam is escorting her inside, she faints, causing Adam to carry her upstairs. Adam places her in her new room and informs her that he will be moving in as well. Adam says that Juliette must change into one of the dresses in the closet to meet Warner for dinner, but she does not want to go. Adam tries to show Juliette that there are cameras in the bedroom. He then tries to take Juliette into the bathroom, but she mistakes his intentions for him wanting to hurt her and Adam leaves the room.

Juliette uses her time alone in Chapter 12 to take a long hot shower. Once she is finished, she looks at the clothes in the closet then decides that she would rather wear her old clothes than the clothes that were made specifically for her. Adam comes back to escort Juliette to dinner and he makes it clear that she should have worn one of the dresses. Adam takes Juliette to the dining hall where Warner is waiting for Juliette to sit beside him. Warner is not happy that Juliette has decided to put her old clothes back on although for the most part he is condescendingly sweet towards her. He wants her to eat but he also lets her know that he is in complete charge of her situation.

After dinner, Warner takes Juliette back to her room in Chapter 13. Juliette tries to ask him questions to avoid him talking about his goals. Along the way, he orders a soldier named Jenkins to grab Juliette. Juliette tries to run away, but she cannot and Jenkins grabs her. Juliette's power is revealed to Warner and his men as Jenkins is severely hurt by her touch. Juliette faints again when she realizes that she is going to be grabbed by Adam and some of the other soldiers.

In Chapter 14, Juliette wakes up in Warner's bed. Warner tells her how happy he is to finally see Juliette in action. He brings her some food and water as he tells her that he finds her skill handy in trying to control his own troops so that he will not embarrass his father. Juliette is still upset over what happened to Jenkins, but Warner lets her know that he can tell that Juliette liked touching Jenkins even if it was just for a moment. Juliette has more questions for Warner, but he leaves saying that she should get some sleep, which Juliette does out of sheer exhaustion.

Juliette remembers a kid at school telling her to commit suicide in Chapter 15 as she is sleeping. When she wakes up, Warner is standing over her with more food and water. As she is eating, Warner informs her that he intentionally had Jenkins touch her as an example to his men and to put fear in them. He is convinced that if he were to not do that then Juliette would be in even more danger from his men. Warner wants Juliette to go back to her room and change and warns her that she will not like what happens if she does not. He hands her over to a waiting guard who happens to be Adam. Juliette tries to come near him to talk to him, but he does not want her near him. As he is opening the door, Juliette is able to get a closer look at him and she realizes that he has



been beaten. Juliette now fully understands that it is not she who will be punished for not doing as she is told, it is Adam.

## Analysis

Juliette arrives in her new setting in Chapter 11. The inside of the building shows the complete opposite of the poverty seen on the streets on the way to this place. This is also a visual reminder of the promises that The Reestablishment did not keep and their true nature as a cruel system. This continues to enhance the subject of society as it draws a stark parallel between The Reestablishment and the normal citizens. The use of metaphor is heavy here as she compares what could have been gained for the citizens with the amount of money spent on the interior of the building as well as the visualization of the amount of lives lost in order to have such a place. These thoughts take a physical toll on her and it is left to Adam to pick her up and carry Juliette and it should be noted that he has no fear of touching her. Juliette is too sickened and weak to provide much in the way of protest. There is a sense of weariness about Adam as he says her name and tries to talk to her as he puts her in a new room.

This new room is much more lavish than anything Juliette has ever had before. There is a brief description of the room as Juliette surveys the area. She is shocked to learn that Adam will also be occupying this room as her guard. The strike through method has returned in this segment as it has not been used very much in the previous chapters. This is to show the conflict that Juliette is having over being upset that she will be watched so closely and her happiness at having someone familiar in the room with her. Her decision is to be upset with this information. Adam seems deflated in this scene as if he too is upset about something. He motions towards the closet, informing Juliette that she will need to dress for dinner, much to her dismay. She does not want anywhere near Warner and is still wary of his intentions although in the strike through she admits she is starving. Adam leaves a clue about the truth of the room and the fact that there are cameras in there. He also infers that there are no cameras in the bathroom as he guides Juliette to it. There is a brief moment of surprise when he makes a motion to be quiet and there is a subtle hint that he has more to say as he starts to lift his hand. She vocalizes her fears that Adam is taking her in there to physically abuse her without the cameras watching. This notion is disgusting to Adam causing him to quickly walk away from the scenario.

Chapter 12 highlights a change in Juliette's living conditions as she is able to take a shower with plenty of soaps and hot water. The closet is filled with elaborate and beautiful clothing, something she has never had. Juliette chooses none of these items, preferring to show her displeasure at her situation by wearing her old clothes. The closet full of clothes shows Juliette and the reader that Warner has planned for Juliette's arrival, down to the last detail. The goal is that Juliette forget the horrible treatment that she has been put under and to see the pleasurable life that The Reestablishment can offer her.



Adam is still very hurt when he comes back to retrieve Juliette. He is dismayed at the fact that she has chosen to use her old clothes instead of some of the pretty dresses that have been made for her. There is a particular dress that he likes, a purple one that he continues to touch in a way that is meant to suggest to Juliette that she wear it. When she once again refuses to have anything to do with the clothes, Adam is again disappointed. He does not voice his opinion any longer, just heads out of the room to escort Juliette to dinner. This is a small act is one that contributes to the theme of rebellion as Juliette wants nothing to do with Warner or any plans he has for her.

The size of the dining room is bigger than Juliette had imagined giving a glimpse into how many people are in this area. It is no surprise that Warner is at the head table as their leader but he has also empty spaces besides him for Juliette as his guest of honor and Adam. Once seated, Warner is overly affectionate towards Juliette in his way of speaking. Warner almost seems to care about Juliette's well being as he wants her to eat. Once again, Julia has inner conflict as she is hungry but her hatred for Warner takes over as she refuses to touch the food. Slightly offended, Warner makes sure that Juliette is aware that he is in complete control of her situation as he gets the attention of the entire dining room. He also informs her with a fake smile that the way she is treated is up to him and he does not care about what she wants or does not want. There is an ominous hidden meaning as he also tells her that he requires her to look good when she is with him.

Chapter 13 fully establishes Warner as Juliette's nemesis during a conversation on the way to her room. Warner again makes his goals known in that he wants to use Juliette to gain more power over the people. Juliette tries to evade the conversation by asking for his first name, something that Warner will not give. Instead, he tries to barter for the information. He wants Juliette to touch him in an effort to learn the truth about her abilities. At this point the reader learns that Juliette's power is the ability to hurt or kill anyone she touches. This power is seen as the cause of Juliette's isolation and she considers herself a monster for having it. Warner's sadistic nature is in full force here as he orders an officer named Jenkins to grab Juliette and escort her back to the room. Jenkins is fully aware that something is unusual about Juliette, but he cannot disobey an order from his commander. Juliette is horrified at the callous way that Warner will be sacrificing one of his own men. As Jenkins grabs her, Juliette's ability is used for the first time in the novel but it is interesting to note the description of mild pleasure and excitement that Juliette feels. The key to Juliette's ability is that she has to be the one to stop the contact and it is curious that she does not immediately do so. Once she does so, however, Juliette comes back to her senses and is truly ashamed of what she has done. The reaction of the other men is a mixture of horror and confusion. She is panicking and screaming for someone to help her, but Warner is delighted in this demonstration of Juliette's potential. Juliette goes into hysterics while Warner nonchalantly tells Adam and other men to grab her as well and she feels both overwhelmed and sickened causing her to faint.

Juliette wakes up to Warner touching her in Chapter 14. Still repulsed by what she has done, she lashes out at Warner who is stilled thrilled that he has been able to see Juliette in action. He still tries to show that he genuinely cares for Juliette as he has





brought her food and water. The conversation reveals much as the reader learns more about Warner's purpose in keeping Juliette is to somehow keep control of his troops and that subconsciously he has a fear of letting his father down as his father is the one who gave him control of the area. As for Juliette, Warner is aware that Juliette has had a small pleasurable moment in hurting Jenkins. Warner will not tell Juliette if Jenkins is still alive and is evasive towards the rest of her questions. The suggestion that she go to sleep is clearly repulsive to Juliette as she is in Warner's bed, but he has no intentions of sharing it with her. As much as Juliette tries to fight her fatigue, she cannot and she falls asleep.

Chapter 15 begins with a memory of how someone suggested that Juliette should commit suicide, causing her to ask herself why she has not done so already. She realizes that the only thing that is keeping her from doing so is her hope that she may find someone who cares about her and who will take away her feelings of isolation. The narrative jumps to the current situation with Warner standing over her to wake her. There is still a false caring attitude with Warner as he speaks to her. The time has come for Juliette to be immersed in Warner's plans, but first he wants her to go back to her room.

The scene with Jenkins has had a grave impact on Warner's other soldiers as they now carry more guns around Juliette and the looks on their faces suggests their fear of her. Warner is pleased with this but he insists that the sacrifice of Jenkins was to ensure that Juliette would not be harmed by the other men if they knew what she can do. There is an exchange here between Warner and Juliette as to the purpose of making the men fear her. Warner insinuates that there are hidden forces at work that could cause him to lose control of his troops and then Juliette would be in true danger. There is a definite change in his attitude as he goes from protective to unfeeling as he demands that she changes into something decent in her room. He leaves her with an sinister statement about Juliette's likes and dislikes as she is released to a guard hiding in the shadows. Once Juliette is able to see the guard, she sees it is Adam, but something about his demeanor seems unsettling to Juliette. As she tries to come nearer, Adam withdraws making Juliette mistake his reluctance as his hatred towards her due to the Jenkins incident. She is wrong as she observes Adam closely and she notices that he is badly hurt. Juliette is heartbroken as the warning from Warner is now made clear. Juliette is not the target of Warner's mistreatment, Adam is. Adam is the one who will be punished for any of Juliette's negative behavior. This notion solidifies any feeling of anger that Juliette has towards Warner. There is another hint that Juliette's and Adam's pasts are linked as she feel feels that she cannot hate the little boy she once knew. As she enters her room, Adam pleads with her to wear the purple dress. Juliette is heartbroken over Adam's treatment, causing her to make the harsh decision to go along with what Warner wants in an attempt to keep Adam from being hurt again.

## Discussion Question 1

How does the building signify the broken promises by The Reestablishment? How big is the building? Are regular class citizens able to be in it?



## Discussion Question 2

Why does Juliette not want to wear any of the clothes in the closet? Is her protest working? How is Adam affected by Juliette's protests?

## Discussion Question 3

Why does Warner want Jenkins to grab Juliette? Is Jenkins aware of Juliette's ability? How does this affect the other men?

## Vocabulary

superficial, sustainable, expendable, lavish, superfluous, synchronicity, exertion, dissipate, meticulous, pristine, indignation, palpable, mirthless



# Chapters 16 - 20

## Summary

In Chapter 16, Juliette makes the decision to go along with what Warner wants for the time being to keep Adam from being further hurt. She goes into the closet to find the purple dress that Adam had previously mentioned. Instead, she finds the notebook that she had in her cell for a long time. Juliette remembers that Adam once told her that the bathroom has no cameras, so she goes in there to dress and to check the contents of her notebook. In it, she finds that Adam has written a cryptic note about things not being what they seem.

Warner arrives to take Juliette out of the room. He admires how Juliette currently looks but is uninterested in answering Juliette's questions on why he would hurt Adam. In an effort to make a joke, Juliette begins to mention Warner's mother. Warner is infuriated by Juliette's words and comes close enough to hit her. Before he can do anything, he walks off towards a door, wanting Juliette to follow.

Warner and Juliette go outside in Chapter 17. She loves being out in the open although she is with Warner, but he ruins it by pulling out a gun. As they stand on a ledge, they look down into a courtyard of soldiers. Warner greets the soldiers as the soldiers of Sector 45 and they give Warner and Juliette an elaborate salute as he introduces her to the crowd. Juliette sees Jenkins in the crowd and is happy that he has not been killed. Warner also says that he has a report from one of the soldiers. A soldier steps forward and reports that another soldier gave food and materials to a group of possible rebels. The accused soldier steps forward and Warner shoots him in the head after the soldier does not deny these claims.

The men are frozen in place for a short amount of time before being casually dismissed by Warner in Chapter 18. Juliette demands to know why Warner executed the man but Warner flippantly tells her that he has to act first sometimes in order to keep his men obedient. In Juliette's room, Warner says that she should rest before dinner and that she will not be disturbed. Juliette wonders about Adam but Warner will not answer her. Juliette thinks about how she once cared for him when they were much younger and is worried that he will be hurt again. Warner evades the questions and says that she should focus more on using her abilities to the fullest, causing Juliette to become angry and call her ability a disease. This is upsetting to Warner, who leaves so Juliette can rest.

Juliette cannot sleep in her own bed in Chapter 19, so she goes to sleep on the floor. She accidentally bumps into Adam who is also sleeping on the floor. Adam carefully covers Juliette up with a blanket to make her more comfortable and Juliette realizes she is beginning to have feelings for him and easily falls asleep. When she wakes up, Adam is not in the room. Juliette walks into the bathroom and finds Adam shirtless, his torso covered in bruises from where he has been beaten for Juliette's disobedience. Juliette



goes to say something, but Adam stops her. He checks the room for microphones and turns on the shower, pushing Juliette into it. He reveals to her that he can touch her without being hurt and that the first time he did it was one of the first nights in their cell when Juliette was having a nightmare. He also promises to get Juliette away from Warner as he knows what his true intentions are. Juliette wants Adam to kiss her, but he does not. Instead, he tells her has to get dressed and leave. As he is dressing, Juliette notices a tattoo of the bird she has been thinking about on his chest.

Juliette puts on a nice dress and meets Warner for breakfast in Chapter 20. She carries her notebook secretly with her and she thinks over what Adam has said about helping her escape. Juliette has faith that Adam will help her. Warner comes in and breakfast is served by some of the civilian citizens. Juliette notices that they are very poor and underfed, causing her to not want to eat. Warner says that she has no choice to cooperate and that includes making sure that she eats. Warner tries to reason with Juliette by using everyone's previous fear and hatred of Juliette to make her realize that she should join Warner. He also finds her attractive, which Juliette secretly finds as a compliment. The argument resumes for a moment when Warner again says something to upset Juliette. In order to diffuse the situation Warner tells her that he is 19 before he makes his exit.

## Analysis

Juliette is angry at what has happened to Adam in Chapter 16. She has no desire to cooperate with Warner, but she feels that she must in order to save Adam from being beaten again. This is a minor setback in her personal rebellion against Warner. Her anger is apparent as she delves into the closet to find the purple dress that Adam has suggested. There is a twist in the narrative as she is searching the closet, not expecting to find a surprise item - the notebook that helped to keep Juliette's sanity is in the back of the closet. Juliette's misgivings about Adam being a betrayer are finally put to rest as she understands that Adam has saved this important item for her. The tip about not having cameras in the bathroom is crucial here as she sneaks the notebook into there to check for missing pages and to dress. A startling revelation comes forth in the way of a sentence written by Adam alerting Juliette that things are not quite what they seem. There is no hint as to what the statement could mean, but Juliette is now at peace with the fact that she can still trust Adam.

When Warner arrives to get Juliette, his attitude is the same nonchalant and careless attitude that he has constantly shown. He is flippant towards Juliette's questions of why did Warner have Adam hurt. He does not care about subordinates like Adam and he feels that Juliette should not care as well. As Warner compliments Juliette on her choice of dress, she makes a grave mistake. She mentions Warner's mother in what was supposed to be a joke. The joke is not finished, but Warner's temper flares. giving the hint that there is a negative history between himself and his mother. Juliette's reaction is one of fright as Warner comes close enough to physically assault Juliette. Warner stops short of this and walks toward the elevator leaving Juliette to further wonder to herself about Warner's back story as they head out the door.



Juliette gets another chance to go outside in Chapter 17. Juliette's mood changes to pure happiness as she is out in the fresh air, which amuses Warner. Her happiness is taken away as she is brought back to the reality of the situation as Warner gets out his gun although Warner is very quick to indicate that he is not planning to use it on her. Warner and Juliette are on top of a ledge, looking down into a courtyard filled with soldiers. It is learned that the area in which Juliette is currently in is called Sector 45. Warner shows his command over them as he calls them to attention. There is an elaborate salute given by the men as he introduces Juliette to the troops, calling her a viable asset to The Reestablishment. The men still make their obedience to Warner known but Juliette knows that they are scared of her since all of them has already heard about the Jenkins incident. It is very relieving to Juliette to see that Jenkins is alive and that he has rejoined his troop.

The second item of business for Warner is to get a report from one of his soldiers. The men's attitude has shifted from their fear of Juliette to one of anxiety over what the soldier's report is about. Warner's silence is deliberate to add to the men's anxiety. The report is revealed to be an accusation against one of the soldiers. The soldier is accused of giving food and other materials meant for the citizens of Sector 45 to alleged rebels, showing that not only is a rebellion occurring but it is also affecting Warner's leadership over his soldiers. The rest of the men are visibly relieved that they are not the focus of Warner's report. The accused man steps forward. He is nonchalant and silent as the charge is read against him nor does he wish to respond in any way, suggesting that he knows he is guilty and what the punishment will be. Without speaking another word, Warner callously shoots him in the head adding to the men's and Juliette's fears.

Chapter 18 displays the visual effect that the execution has on the men. They remain in their places and keep their facial expressions calm as if nothing has happened. Juliette is the only one who thinks that this is a grotesque act which Warner just brushes aside. He places his focus back onto Juliette as she questions why he has done this. There is something depressing yet foreboding as Warner answers that she should be more mindful of the things going on around her as well as the fact that sometimes he has to unfortunately act first in terms of violence. This could be a reference to his knowledge of a rebellion building up and this also goes back to his previous statements about how he needs to control his own men.

Back in Juliette's room, Warner is insistent that Juliette rest and not be bothered until dinner. Juliette brushes this suggestion aside as she is more concerned about Adam and his well-being. Warner is inquisitive as to why Juliette is so worried about Adam but there is also a small amount of sarcasm as he asks her why should he matter. There is an allusion to the past here as Juliette's strike through indicates that she had cared for Adam sometime in her past. Juliette worries that Adam will be killed as she has not seen him yet that day. A brief dialogue occurs when Warner makes the suggestion that Juliette does not care for life and has the potential to be as great as he is. There is a difference in how Warner views Juliette's ability as a gift but Juliette sees it as a disease. Juliette's reluctance to believe in her ability leaves Warner infuriated as he tells her to get some rest before dinner.



Juliette and Adam are reunited in Chapter 19 as she unknowingly bumps into him as she tries to lay on the floor. She dislikes the ornate bed in her room and prefers the stark floor as that is what she is accustomed to, having slept on a hard cot during her incarceration. The previous day's violence is also the source of her unrest as she constantly has dreams of Jenkins and the executed soldier. Adam is surprised that she is on the floor. Juliette is filled with emotion as Adam tells her to lie down and he covers her with a blanket. This kindness is the first time that Juliette begins having feelings for Adam in a romantic sense. This feeling helps to ease Juliette's fears and aids her in falling asleep comfortably for the first time in a long while.

Juliette is given a shock and the reader sees the physical effects of Juliette's disobedience as she accidentally walks in on Adam in the bathroom after waking up. Adam is quick to try to cover the various bruises on his shirtless torso, but he fails. This fills Juliette with remorse as she knows that it is her actions that have caused Adam pain. He does not blame Juliette for what has happened to him which is reassuring to Juliette. She wants to talk to Adam but he is quick to silence her. The bathroom is more than likely bugged and he wants to avoid any conversations that could get the both of them in trouble. To aid in this, he searches the bathroom as well as turns on the shower faucet.

In order to make sure he cannot be heard by outside forces, he pushes Juliette into the shower. She is confused yet exhilarated as Adam presses close to her. There is a small amount of sexual tension felt by Juliette at this point since he is so close to her. This is quickly brushed aside as there is a major plot development. Adam admits that he can touch her without feeling any pain. This is a shock to Juliette as she always thought she would never be able to touch anyone again. Adam also intimates that he knows the real reason Warner is holding her hostage, but he will not go further with that statement. Instead, he reveals that he touched her while back in the cell. Juliette's nightmares caused him to reach out to her in an effort to console her, not caring that he could be hurt. Juliette cannot believe what she is hearing and cannot stop crying tears of joy over finally being cared about by someone. The declaration that Adam promises to break Juliette out of her situation is plot device used to advance the building action of the novel. There is a build up of anticipation as Juliette and Adam come close to kissing, but they do not. Instead Adam hurries out of the shower to dress and leave before he is missed, ending the possibility for a romantic interlude. Adam is mischievous when he tells Juliette that she may watch him get dressed, but with it comes another major development. On Adam's chest there is a tattoo of a bird fitting the description of the bird that Juliette has always wanted to see. This could be speculated that the bird is somehow Adam as he vows to work towards Juliette's freedom.

Juliette is ready to begin the day in Chapter 20. She does not bother to protest with her clothing, she immediately puts on a flattering dress to ensure that Adam does not get into any more trouble. She is still amazed by the events that transpired in the previous chapter and ponders Adam's promise to take her away from Warner. There is a small amount of disbelief on her part as she has been betrayed before, but she decides that Adam is truly sincere at this point. She is also curious as to how Adam can touch her but no one else can. All of these things provide a hope that Juliette has never imagined



before. Her notebook is with her, but she has kept its existence a secret that is only between herself and Adam.

As Juliette sits by herself in a drawing room, Warner steps in and is still acting very pompous towards Juliette. A dialogue occurs where Juliette is trying to get more personal information about Warner such as his age. Warner does not give this information, making his character still mysterious. He jumps straight towards his main objective. He has devised a schedule for Juliette and he wants to go over it while they eat. The difference between the regular citizens of Sector 45 and the military is evident here as the people serving Warner and Juliette appear malnourished and impoverished. Juliette cannot eat knowing that she lives in opulence while the citizens live in poverty. Warner does not see or care about Juliette's feelings as he proclaims that she is to cooperate fully with what he wants, the first of which is to eat. This brings about a conversation where Warner is once again trying to make Juliette realize her potential. Warner hones in on the fact that everyone who has ever known Juliette regards her as a monster. In his twisted way, Warner is trying to sympathize with Juliette so that she will see things from his point of view. His offer is to treat her as an equal, something no one has been willing to do. There is also the subtle hint that he finds Juliette physically attractive, trying to add to Warner's ploy of getting Juliette on his side. For a brief moment, the compliment makes Juliette consider Warner's words as a compliment even though she knows he is a liar. The feeling is lost when Warner makes the mistake of stating that they are the same kind of person, drawing Juliette's ire once more. In an effort to calm her down, he gives an answer to one of Juliette's questions that she has previously asked by telling her that he is 19 years old.

## Discussion Question 1

Why is Adam beaten? How does this change Juliette's mind about cooperating with Warner?

## Discussion Question 2

Why is Warner quick to execute one of the soldiers? Does this help in keeping control of his men?

## Discussion Question 3

How is the relationship between Adam and Juliette starting to evolve? Can she really trust him?

## Vocabulary

aparse, callous, palpitations, glint, rivulets, angular, haphazard, semblance



# Chapters 21 - 25

## Summary

Juliette is bored as she spends most of her time with Warner in Chapter 21. She has been instructed not to have any interactions with the guards. To keep her from doing this, Warner spends most of his time with her. He tells her of all the changes that The Reestablishment hope to make. Juliette is even unable to talk to Adam although he still sleeps in her room, causing her to start to lose faith in Adam's intentions. When Juliette sees Warner again, she wants him to take the cameras out of her bedroom. Warner is reluctant to do so as he still thinks Juliette may be dangerous. He makes Juliette remember what happened to land her in jail in the first place as she accidentally killed a small boy. Juliette gets mad at Warner for this, but Warner continues to talk about how he is attracted to her and that they would still make a good pair. He intends for Juliette to torture rebels and other prisoners into giving him whatever information he needs. Warner then states that he will only remove the cameras if she touches him. Warner becomes frustrated with Juliette's lack of vision and of wanting revenge against those who have hurt her. In order to hurt her further, Warner says that Adam volunteered to spy on Juliette as he knew her once from school as a monster. At first Juliette agrees to this, but then she stops as she does not want to give in to Warner's plans and refuses to touch him. Instead she runs towards the door and into Adam who has just been waiting outside. He is instructed to take Juliette back to her room and to disconnect all of the cameras, with a warning to Juliette that he expects her to live up to their agreement since he has done so.

In Chapter 22, Juliette remembers being in school and being teased by the other students because of her ability. As she sits by herself one day, a car comes along and Adam is thrown out of it his father constantly beating him. Juliette pities him but says nothing about it. As Juliette remembers this, she and Adam discuss the child's death while Adam is disconnecting the cameras from her room. Adam says that he believes Juliette when she says that it was an accident and that he was misinformed. He also says that he wanted to talk to her but when he got the chance it was too late as she was already taken away. Although Adam thinks that Juliette does not remember him, Juliette says that she does. The pair embrace and start kissing, but it is interrupted when another guard uses the telecom to ask Adam why the cameras have been disconnected. After Adam says that the order came from Warner to do so, Juliette and Adam hug and kiss each other again with Adam declaring that he needs to help Juliette escape soon.

Juliette thinks about her past in Chapter 23. Because she liked Adam, she did her best to stay in the school she was in. They did not talk, but they were always around each other. Juliette also remembers the small boy she accidentally killed and how she forgot she could not touch the boy. After remember this, she tries to explain these things to Adam. He admits that he was misled by others but he fully believes Juliette. The pair admit to each other that they have known who the other was at the beginning of their





time together in the cell, but just did not know how to admit it to one another. Juliette embraces Adam and they share a romantic moment before the intercom comes on question Adam on why the cameras are deactivated. After Adam clears things with the other guard, he and Juliette share another embrace. Adam tells her of Warner's plans to quash a rebellion movement in three weeks. Adam plans to sneak Juliette out then while the troops are moving out. Juliette is worried that Adam will not come with her, but Adam promises to go wherever she does and that he will never leave her. This causes Juliette to be the happiest she has ever been in her whole life.

Two weeks have gone by in Chapter 24 and Juliette does her best to play along with whatever Warner wants. Warner is warming up to Juliette and tells her quite a bit about his life. Warner is becoming jealous of Adam and tries to make sure Juliette has little contact with him even making him sleep outside of Juliette's room occasionally. When Adam and Juliette are together, he tells her of what is going on in the military as well as more about Warner's obsession with Juliette.

The next day, as Warner and Juliette finish breakfast, he gives her a skimpy outfit to wear and takes her to the basement. Along the way she sees other soldiers and she realizes that she is one of the only girls in the compound. Once in the basement, Warner puts her in a room as he watches from the other side. A toddler is also put into the room as Warner reveals that Juliette will be forced to touch the child to live up to her previous agreement. The room becomes a torture chamber as moving spikes appear. Juliette is forced to think about how she will save the child.

In Chapter 25, Juliette is forced to act quickly and grab the child, knowing that to do so will hurt or possibly kill him. Juliette tries to make as little contact as possible, but it cannot be avoided and the child is hurt. Warner is delighted to see this, which infuriates Juliette. In a blind rage, she destroys the concrete wall behind her to grab Warner. Warner's troops try to step in, but Warner tells them he will kill them if they retaliate against Juliette. Juliette informs Warner if he ever makes her do something like this again, she will kill him.

## Analysis

Life with Warner is on display in Chapter 21 as he takes up most of Juliette's time. Juliette is bored with the tedium of constantly listening to Warner. There is a strict policy against interacting with the other soldiers, making Warner the only contact that Juliette has. Warner is informative about the radical policies that The Reestablishment is preparing to make although Juliette does not care to listen. These changes show a dictatorial society that is progressively worsening for the citizens but not for the military. As if Warner is omniscient, Warner will not even allow Juliette to speak to Adam although this is difficult as they are still living in the same room. There is a moment of desolation felt by Juliette as the silence continues, making Juliette question whether or not Adam is going to live up to his promise.



Juliette has her own tricks up her sleeve as she finally starts to emerge from her fears. She is assertive towards Warner in indicating that she wants the cameras taken out of her room immediately. Her rationale is that she cannot be expected to cooperate with Warner or his cause if she is treated like a prisoner. In this way she hopes to manipulate Warner into giving the privacy that she wants. Warner denies Juliette's request on the basis that he feels she is too dangerous still and needs to be watched. This brings about a comment concerning the crime that led to Juliette's original incarceration. There is a flashback triggered here of how Juliette was in a store beside a little boy who was being mistreated by his mother. Juliette's compassion takes over and instead of remembering that she cannot touch anyone, she reached out to help the boy. Instead of actually helping, Juliette's touch killed the boy. At this point, the reader learns that this is the underlying reason why Juliette feels she is a monster.

This memory causes Juliette's temper to flare enough to threaten Warner. There is a heightened sensation of excitement from Warner as this is the moment he has been waiting for. He has been patiently waiting for Juliette's temper to elevate and for her to want to strike out at anyone who would get in her way, even if it is him. Warner's words are seductive as he again proclaims that the two of them would be a perfect pair. This does not impress Juliette, her mind is focused on getting what she wants. In some ways, Warner is trying to bolster Juliette's confidence. The dialogue between the two is the usual banter over how much Warner wants Juliette to use her ability as he thinks she can do great things and Juliette's repulsion at being a pawn in Warner's schemes. There is an interesting twist to the conversation as Warner agrees to Juliette's wish if she touches him. Warner fully knows that he could be hurt or killed, he has a curiosity not only know what she can do, but how much pain he can handle.

Within this exchange, more details over Warner's intentions are given. There is a slight reference to Warner's father and how Warner is using Juliette to somehow impress his father but no more information about his father is given. There is also a notion that while Warner finds Juliette attractive and irresistible, she is only valued by The Reestablishment for their own gains in terms of controlling the rebels. It will be Juliette's job to torture the rebels into giving pertinent information. Juliette wants no part of this, her anger continuing to rise once she has heard Warner say these things. Warner cannot understand why Juliette is against this idea. He feels that Juliette should want to punish those who have been mean to her all of her life, but it is not in Juliette's nature to retaliate against others. This is a source of frustration for Warner as his efforts to sway Juliette are still unsuccessful. As she is affirming this, this is the first time that she calls Warner by his name. It does not go unnoticed by Warner who feels that it is a positive sign in Juliette coming to be on his side.

Another key revelation in this lengthy dialogue is that Adam volunteered to be with Juliette. It is learned that Adam remembers Juliette from school, but from Warner's point of view, Adam's memories are not positive. This is humiliating to Juliette as all of this time, she has believed that Adam truly wanted to help her. This is a ploy to manipulate Juliette into hating Adam and to goad Juliette into wanting to touch Warner just to somehow punish him. This trick works as Juliette tells him to take off his shirt. This delights Warner, Juliette is finally turning into the person he wants her to be. Juliette



stops right before touching Warner as she has come to her senses. She will not give in to her impulses and touch Warner. She knows that by doing this it will be seen as a sort of cooperation and she is not willing to do that. First, she wants Warner's reassurance that she will have complete privacy in her room. Warner gives an evasive answer to the question, giving Juliette further reason to not go ahead. She is so mad by the trap that she is in that she bolts towards the door, hoping to escape. Adam is standing at the door. He is expressionless and there is no omniscience in how he is handling seeing Juliette running away from Warner with his shirt off. This does not matter to Warner, but he has achieved informing Adam of Juliette's crime as he purposefully intended to talk about Juliette's alleged crime with Adam just outside the door. Warner has a kind moment when he tells Adam to undo the devices in Juliette's room. Before anything else can be said about this decision, Warner makes it clear that he is doing this only because he expects Juliette to touch him at some later point.

As Adam takes Juliette to the elevator back to her room in Chapter 22, there is a flashback that provides Adam's back story. This takes the reader back to the time Juliette and Adam were in the third grade. Juliette's isolation was apparent here as the other school children teased and mocked Juliette because she cannot be touched. They were hurtful with their words to her and she spent most of her time by herself. Adam was a young scared boy who was beaten by his father in front of Juliette for an unknown reason. The father placed blame on Adam, although it is not revealed what he has done. In this, Juliette felt pity for him, but she did not speak to him. This is revealed as the first time that Juliette wants to know more about and possibly befriend Adam.

The scene switches back to the current time. Juliette feels remorseful that Adam has heard about her crime. She is also hurt that Adam has had prior knowledge of this and never mentioned it to her. Adam has been misinformed by peers at school as he has always been led to believe that Juliette maliciously did kill the child. Juliette is able to inform him that it was not the case, the death was an accident and Adam seems satisfied by this. There is a confession by Adam that the day she was taken away was the day that he was going to gather his courage up and talk to her as he is disconnecting the cameras in Juliette's room. This gives the reader the knowledge that Adam has always liked Juliette, but Adam is also upset as he thinks that Juliette does not remember him. At the admission that Juliette has always known exactly who he is, there is another serious plot development. Juliette and Adam share a brief moment of intimate contact for the first time and there is a description of the happiness that Juliette feels as her feelings for Adam have been reciprocated.

The romantic interlude is interrupted by a head guard radioing into the room demanding to know why the cameras are cut. Adam tells him that it is Warner's command, but the guard does not quite believe Adam, saying he will have to confirm this. Afterwards, Adam and Juliette resume their tender moment. In these moments, Juliette is fully capable of forgetting all of the negativity surrounding her and her own thoughts about being a monster. Sensing this, Adam reaffirms his need to get Juliette out quickly.

More of the back story between Adam and Juliette comes forth in Chapter 23. There is no communication between the two but the attraction is apparent on Juliette's side as



she does her best in accepting her isolation and trying to make sure she is not kicked out of school. It is hard for her, but she wants to stay so that she can get to know Adam better. It is apparent that there is a silent connection between the two, but neither one is willing to make the first move towards friendship. It is also clear that Adam is persecuted by his peers as well.

The narrative flashes back again to the incident where Juliette kills the small boy. Juliette maintains that she was just trying to help the child. Usually Juliette does not touch people but the boy looked so helpless that she momentarily forgot as she was so angry at the mother for treating the child badly. It is due to this incident that she spends three years in and out of various facilities, but the details of her stays are not fully stated. The day that Juliette accidentally killed the boy is the last time she saw Adam. Being reunited with him three years later, Juliette notices how much Adam has changed physically. There is an admission that Juliette has always known that it was Adam in her cell in some small way, but because she has chosen to repress most of the memories from her past, it was harder to truly recognize him. As she thinks of this, she also ponders what she looks like herself, due to her confinement and lack of self esteem, Juliette has not looked in a mirror in over three years.

The privacy is once again interrupted by someone knocking at the door. This introduces a new character to the plot. Kenji is an inquisitive yet comical guard, but his presence and his sarcastic wit is an annoyance to Adam. Juliette automatically hides in a corner, something she may have learned to do during her incarceration. It is unknown what is said to Kenji to make him leave the area, but it is obvious that the conversation has embarrassed Adam. There is another small romantic interlude, during which Adam asks Juliette how she feels, something no one has asked her in a long time. Her desire to leave the compound is overwhelming, but there is a warning from Adam that it has risks. There is another development as Adam declares that the military will be moving against a rebel uprising soon. This is the opportunity that Adam is looking for to get Juliette out. His intentions are to sneak her out while the soldiers are on the move, giving them time to escape without being detected. Juliette is delighted but nervous about this news as she wonders if Adam will come with her. Adam cares deeply for Juliette and promises to come with her, but she is skeptical. Upon questioning Adam as to why he wants to come with her, he gives examples of all of the times that Juliette has helped others without receiving any thanks or gratitude from the kids they knew in school. This adds to Juliette's back story and a more detailed look at the ways in which she has been isolated. Adam is overcome with emotion as he talks about this and the fact that he has always wanted to be with her. This is also emotional for Juliette as well as she has been so alone and everyone around her has viewed her negatively that Adam's words are something entirely new for her. As Adam adds that they have three weeks until the military operation, this is a rising action to the plot as it is the starting point for planning Juliette's escape.

The story progresses ahead by two weeks in Chapter 24. Juliette is patient and is playing the role that Warner wants to pass the time. Juliette still feels angry towards Warner, but she is willing to play along because of what she knows from Adam. During this time, Juliette notices a change about Warner. He is more talkative and leans on



Juliette for company. Warner believes that there is a parallel between Juliette and himself as he has been raised in a negative environment with his father. The mother has not been mentioned since Juliette trying to make a joke in a previous chapter, even Adam has no knowledge of Warner's mother. Juliette can sympathize with Warner, but she does not claim to be equals with him as she does not have the same goals as Warner.

The relationship between Adam and Juliette has stalled at this point as there is little ability to contact each other. Even in her bedroom at night, there is the possibility that Warner will make one of his unannounced visits as he has been frequently doing. Adam claims that this is because Warner has had a deep obsession with Juliette even before she arrived in Sector 45. There is an admission that because of Warner's research, Adam realized that it was Juliette and in order to get close to her, Adam made sure that Warner knew about his past knowledge of Juliette. During this monologue, Adam also reveals that Warner's ruthless mentality is starting to fade. His mental status is starting to become questioned by his own men as his obsession with Juliette deepens. Warner ultimately wants Juliette to be a willing participant in his actions and will not force her. Adam regards Warner with a disdain as there is a slight hint that Warner is trying to keep Adam and Juliette separated as Warner wants Juliette all to himself. This is evidenced by Warner's occasional forcing Adam to sleep on the floor outside of Juliette's bedroom so they have no chance to talk.

When Juliette does get a chance to talk to Adam, it is always an informative dialogue about events in the military and other pertinent information for Juliette. There is a sense that Juliette is overcoming her feelings of isolation as she lays with Adam when she can. This comfort provides Juliette with the ability to sleep without nightmares. Unfortunately, she knows that she is getting too comfortable with the situation and there is a foreshadowing statement about this as Juliette knows that this comfort can easily be taken away.

The scene shifts to the next morning with Warner and Juliette at breakfast. Warner's physical attraction to Juliette is apparent as he orders her to put on a small outfit with the excuse that he is doing an experiment. Adam is shocked to see Juliette in this kind of dress, but he does not want to reveal his true emotions for fear of exposing his relationship with Juliette. There is disappointment and anger in Adam's voice when Warner tells Adam the he will be handling Juliette by himself for a while as they leave to go to a new area. This is a basement of sorts but it reminds Juliette too much of the cell she just came from. Warner pushes her into a mirrored room by herself, where she has a heightened sense that something dark is going to happen. She finds out that this is not just a basement but a torture chamber with spikes coming out of the floor and ceiling. Warner has tricked Juliette into this area because of the deal that was made previously. Warner's sadistic nature has led him to an experiment that Juliette cannot escape as a toddler is sent into the room. This causes a serious conflict within Juliette as she knows that if she were to touch the baby, he would die, leaving the chapter on a cliffhanger.

Chapter 25 picks up right as Juliette is considering her dilemma. This is a short but incredibly dynamic chapter as Juliette is forced to save the boy and try to get him to



safety as quickly as possible. She is aware of the fact that this means that the boy will wind up hurt, but she is powerless to stop that as she does not want him impaled on the spikes. The child's discomfort is clear as he screams while Juliette holds him. Warner is thoroughly impressed by this and the reason for the small outfit is made clear as Warner wants to expose as much of Juliette's skin to the child as possible. The experiment is quickly concluded, the result being that Warner is able to see Juliette cause physical pain with her touch. Juliette is furious at this point. This brings about a major change in Juliette's character. No longer does she find herself weak and her fury brings about another surprise development as she smashes the concrete wall behind her. This is also a shock to Warner but he is more excited than ever now that Juliette has something new for him to try to develop. The men around Warner seem bent on protecting Warner, but Warner makes it clear that any retaliation against Juliette will get themselves killed by Warner himself. Juliette tries to calm herself down but seeing Warner's glee over this new situation, she makes an ominous warning about what will happen if she is ever forced into a horrible position again.

## Discussion Question 1

Why does Warner want Juliette to touch him? Is Juliette reluctant to touch him? What changes her mind about her decision?

## Discussion Question 2

Why has Adam taken the role of Juliette's guard? Are his intentions genuine? How does their past play into their current roles?

## Discussion Question 3

How does Warner feel about Juliette? What is the purpose of putting Juliette into the torture chamber?

## Vocabulary

admonishment, writhed, morph, palate, postulations, reverberate



# Chapters 26 - 30

## Summary

Adam finds Juliette in the shower in Chapter 26. As she cries about hurting the child Adam tries to console her. As he is doing so, the pair embrace and begin to have intimate contact, but Adam breaks this off to give Juliette privacy in the shower. After she comes out, she does not see Adam. She dresses and hides her notebook in one of the pockets before she notices that Adam is in the corner. The pair begin kissing again and taking off each other's clothes, but before things can go any further, an alarm sounds. Juliette convinces Adam that he has to go so nothing is detected but Warner walks in. After ordering Adam out of the room, Warner walks over to Juliette and notices something odd about her dress. After ripping the dress, he finds that Juliette is hiding her notebook and grabs Juliette. As Warner does this, someone quietly enters the room, there is a click, and the person orders Warner to let Juliette go or he will be killed.

In Chapter 27, the person is revealed to be Adam who walks in to save Juliette. Adam hits Warner in the back of the head with his gun and Juliette grab's Warner's. Adam and Juliette have been packed and ready to go waiting for the military to leave on their operation against the rebels, but they agree that this would be the perfect time. At first they want to use Warner as leverage against any remaining soldiers, but they decide to climb out the window and use Adam's rope to get down the tower. As an injured Warner lies on the floor, he insists that Juliette would be better off with him and that she does not truly know Adam or his intentions. He feels that Juliette should come to the right decision as they could fall in love and enjoy a life of power together. As Warner continues to threaten Adam and try to appeal to Juliette, there is a revelation that there is no security breach, the alarms are part of a well planned drill. Juliette finds the idea of staying with Warner repulsive and she gets ready to go out the window with Adam. After Adam is safely out, Juliette starts to leave, but Warner tries to grab her legs unsuccessfully. Juliette is able to escape, but she soon realizes that Warner just touched her without causing himself any pain.

Juliette and Adam get out of Warner's compound in Chapter 28. Warner's soldiers are soon in pursuit of the pair and have declared a curfew on the citizens in the area. As the people go to their houses, they are shoved and abused by the soldiers. Juliette tries hard to keep up with Adam, but she cannot. After some time, Adam realizes this and they stop in an alley where they take a small break and he tries to get Juliette to breathe like him to make things easier. They try running again, but eventually Adam picks Juliette up and carries her as he runs. Once they reach the edge of Sector 45, Juliette and Adam jump a fence into a desolate area. Adam explains that this area will protect them as his tracking signals have been mixed to show that he is dead, giving them time to get further away. Juliette asks what kind of place this is and Adam explains that The Reestablishment used this area once as a nuclear power site but it had exploded. Adam is immune to nuclear radiation and when Juliette asks how she will be affected, Adam responds that Juliette is also immune. Warner previously had tests performed on



Juliette during her incarceration to prove this, resulting in the fact that medically Juliette is normal. Juliette makes a joke about this and Adam tells her it is time for them to go home.

Adam takes Juliette to a shed at the edge of the nuclear field in Chapter 29. Inside a tank is hidden and Adam says that he put it there once when Warner sent him out in the field and since Warner trusted him completely and Warner was trying to cover up his own hidden agenda, the tank has sat for all this time. Adam also feels that hiding the tank was also a good way to be prepared for anything that might occur. Adam sees the cuts on Juliette's legs and says that they need to get them treated as possible to avoid infection, which is a disappointment to Juliette as she thought that he was going to kiss her. As the pair leave the shed, Adam says that he is taking her to his actual house.

As Adam and Juliette head to what he considers his house in Chapter 30, Adam informs Juliette that his father has been dead for some time, but Juliette does not ask about his mother. While Adam drives, Juliette is quiet as she ponders everything that has happened. She tries to not believe that Warner can touch her, instead she tries convincing herself that it did not happen. Juliette is unsuccessful in doing so and she knows that if Warner knows that he can touch her, he will double his efforts to find her again. This is so upsetting to Juliette that she does not realize that she is crying. She asks Adam why he cares so much, but he is silent until he pulls into an underground garage. When he stops the tank, he explains to her that he has always had feelings for her since they were in elementary school but he never got a chance to tell her. The pair begin kissing again but Adam stops to tell Juliette that they are at his house. They resume kissing and begin to take each other's clothes off, but a voice from outside the tank stops them, with Adam jumping out of the tank and saying the name "James".

## Analysis

Chapter 26 brings the development of Juliette and Adam's romance to a new level of intensity as Adam tries to console Juliette once he finds her on the shower floor. She is ashamed of herself and filled with a new hatred for Warner because of the basement incident. Adam is aware of what has gone on and as he is trying to console her as he joins her in the shower. Juliette wants to die as she feels she cannot go on living as a monster but Adam tells her that it is Warner who is warping her mind into making her believe that about herself. In this, if Warner is able to convince Juliette that she is a monster then Juliette will see that the only choice she has for a decent life is to join Warner is his perverted quest for power. Juliette is afraid of living this way and would rather be dead than to give in to Warner. Adam makes his promise again to take her away, but Juliette is still skeptical as she does not know why Adam would want to do this. The scene is heightened as they share an intense physical moment as the pair kiss after Adam declares for the first time that he is in love with her. There is nothing overly sexual in this scene although Adam's clothes partially come off. There is a mention of the bird tattoo on Adam's chest, Juliette wants to see it as she makes the comparison that Adam is the actual bird that will carry her into a better life. This scene ends quickly with Adam leaving the shower, giving Juliette time to be by herself. Since Adam is gone





she has time to ponder over what has just occurred as she chooses what to wear. There is still a hesitation to use the dresses in the closet, but she knows she has no choice. Her preference is to wear dresses that have pockets so that she can keep her notebook safely hidden. Adam is actually in a corner undetected as he watches Juliette, but once she realizes he is in the room the pair embrace and kiss again.

Before the intimacy can be elevated to a more adult level, the alarms all over the building sound. The interruption is an unwelcome one for Juliette and Adam as the cause of the alarm is unknown. Juliette insists that Adam leaves, if he stays then there would be more suspicion that something is going on between the pair. At this point Warner walks in and automatically notices that there is something going on between Adam and Juliette. In order to make things look official, Adam lies by saying that he is unsure what to do with Juliette, but Warner is too clever to not know that they are hiding something. Warner is in control of the room now and orders Adam to go with the other soldiers. Warner fakes interest in Juliette's dress as he realizes that something about the dress's silhouette is not quite right. This leads to the discovery of Juliette's notebook, causing an extremely tense moment between Warner and Juliette. The tension is mounted further by someone walking into the room, with the ominous order for Warner to get away from Juliette or else he will be killed.

Chapter 27 is filled with action as this could be seen as the climax of the novel. Adam takes on a role of savior as he has entered the room threatening to kill Warner if he does not let Juliette go. Warner has now become the trapped one as Adam has hit Warner in the head and Juliette is able to take his gun. Juliette is now braver than ever before and she is determined not to be underestimated. Adam is pleasantly surprised at this new sense of independence by Juliette, but Warner is not, saying that he has known that Juliette would be fearless all along. Warner's captivity and the soldiers handling the intruders is an unexpected twist for Adam and Juliette but it is a welcome one as they now have the ability to leave a week earlier than planned. Warner uses psychological tactics to try to convince Juliette to stay, but the more he goes on the more his rants slip into an odd rambling of how Warner knows that Juliette would be better off staying with him as she has a potential for a greater life. Adam's voice interrupting this rant is a bit scary for Warner for just a moment, but Warner continues rambling. There is much to be learned in this however as this becomes a dialogue between Adam and Warner. In this, the mystery is heightened as Warner intimates that Adam still is not the person that Juliette thinks he is. There is supporting evidence as the alarms that were ringing are revealed to be a drill and there is speculation that Warner knows a lot more about Adam than what he is saying.

The plan to escape is hastily concocted since they have weighed the consequences of trying to jump out of the window or how to use Warner as leverage with the other soldiers. It is fortuitous that the pair have been packed for quite some time and that Adam has made sure to pack an abundance of rope, which will be useful to climb out the window. They know they must act fast once the window is broken, as the guards will be in the room within a matter of seconds. This escape will be the main action of ending Juliette's isolation but it will also help the plot change course as well. There is a tone of desperation in Warner as Juliette and Adam make their plans for Adam to catch



Juliette at the bottom of the building because he has finally figured out that Adam has the ability to touch Juliette without harm. This incites a new fury towards Adam and a new determination to keep Juliette for himself. As Adam gets out quickly, Warner tries to grab Juliette but is unsuccessful. There is a startling revelation that Juliette considers only as she is making her way down the rope to safety. Warner has the ability to touch Juliette as well without being harmed.

Chapter 28 showcases the flight to freedom for Adam and Juliette as they safely get out of the compound. This is a chapter filled with danger as the pair are being pursued by Warner's soldiers. This is also a highly descriptive section as Juliette takes in the surrounding areas they run. The citizens' houses are very shabby and small. The streets are dirty and in need of repair. There is an uncaring nature about the military towards the citizens as they announce the curfew. Soldiers run through the streets, shoving and abusing the citizens. This is a highlight of the theme of society and how the citizens are treated by The Reestablishment.

For Juliette, the action is happening too quick for her to process. All of the chaos in the street and the fact that she has not been physically active is slowing her down, although she knows what is at stake if she stops. Juliette has no clue as to where they are going, she is running mindlessly trying to keep up with Adam. Adam does not seem to be slowed down or fatigued by all of this running. As he is a soldier, he has been trained on how to handle exhausting moments like this. Adam knows that Juliette has had no experience with this and stops as soon as he can. Adam's fatigue is visible once they take a brief rest, but he is able to brush this aside as he helps Juliette to breathe like him so that she can run. Their break is short lived as gunshots are fired. Juliette knows that Warner will stop at nothing to kill Adam at this point but that she must be kept alive. Adam is aware of this as well plus the fact that Juliette is not capable of keeping up with him. He picks Juliette up to make things easier, but it is clear that running is just as hard on Adam at the moment. Once they reach the fence that borders Sector 45, Juliette is able to climb and successfully get over the fence. This shows a new resolve by Juliette to prove that she is not useless and that she is capable of handling the highly stressful situation.

This other side of the fence is a new location that is intriguing to Juliette. Adam mentions the inability for Warner to track them in this location, making it the perfect place to hide. Adam goes into the origins of this secluded place as it was at one time a nuclear power site. After it was exploded, The Reestablishment quickly cleaned the area and covered up the fact that it had been there at all. Adam also explains that soldiers are injected with a serum that sends signals to the military where a soldier is. The nuclear area interferes with that signal, making it look like the soldier is dead. This is a perfect foil for Adam as his tracking signal is currently sending a misleading signal. It is a curious notion that the radiation in the area is not affecting Adam and Juliette. Adam has an explanation for this as well which reveals that he has a special ability himself. He is able to go through radiation without being affected, leaving the question as to if he has other abilities. Juliette questions why she is not affected but Adam reveals that she has been tested for her ability to withstand radiation exposure at some point in her incarceration under Warner's orders. This makes Juliette even more useful to Warner as



she can go in places that he and his men cannot. As Adam tells her that all of her medical testing proved that she has no medical problems, Juliette is able to make a small joke about being normal. This is amusing to both Adam and Juliette as this is the first time that Juliette has shown any sense of humor. Juliette has finally evolved from being an isolated and depressed individual to someone who is starting to value herself and find happiness. The chapter on a happier note as Adam tells Juliette it is time to go home.

The concept of home is foreign to Juliette in Chapter 29. Juliette feels exhilarated that she now has a place to go to and someone to be with, giving her the sense of freedom that she has never known. There is a shed at the end of the nuclear field that Adam takes her too. At first Juliette is confused, but Adam reveals that the real reason he has taken her there is to get the tank he had been hiding. Adam recalls how he was able to convince Warner that the tank was broken. Warner's shadiness and his infinite desire to impress his father is in further view as Warner has to hide this and say that the tank was destroyed by rebels. More insight into Adam's role in Warner's military is unveiled as Warner at one time trusted Adam completely as his immunity to radiation is highly useful. Adam is able to use this trust to get closer to Juliette, progressing the sequence of events in the novel. Adam also states that the hidden tank is one of his ways of being prepared, but Juliette does not know for what reason.

By this time, Adam has noticed the cuts and scrapes all over Juliette's legs as he helps her into the tank. Juliette mistakes this for a possible romantic moment, but Adam is all about practicality as he says that the wounds need to be tended to before an infection sets in. Juliette is left a bit speechless in this as there is the possibility that she is secretly hoping that the moment could turn into a romantic interlude. This causes a brief moment of tension for Juliette as she does not know what to say until she tells Adam that they need to go. She also asks about the possibility of being tracked but Adam is able to assure her that the serum will not work since Warner always had to redo Adam's serum due to the nuclear interference. This is a relief to Juliette, but there is not much time before Warner will be able to figure out that Adam has gone to the nuclear area. With this, Adam once again tells her that they are leaving to go his actual home.

Juliette is surprised to learn that Adam has a house in Chapter 30. It isn't really Adam's house, but he does not really elaborate on what he means by that. There is a touch of anger by Adam after Juliette asks Adam about his father and his reply is that his father is dead. There is no details to the relationship between Adam and his father and it can be speculated that it was Adam's father that pressed him into the military. There is not mention of Adam's mother and Juliette is too nervous to ask. The scene goes quiet, giving Juliette a chance to consider what has transpired recently. The fact that Warner can touch her gives Juliette a definite cause for worry. If Warner knows this information, Juliette will not be able to protect herself from Warner's advances. She also knows that Warner will not stop until he finds Juliette as his obsession with her worsens. There is an attempt to convince herself that Warner's ability to touch her is imagined due to the haste in escaping, but Juliette knows that the reality is that Warner did not scream like other people scream from her touch. This causes a flurry of doubt and panic that she could possibly lose Adam and be trapped with Warner forever if she is caught.



Juliette does not realize that during her thoughts she has started crying. By this point, Juliette is mentally and physically exhausted. She still cannot bring herself to understand why Adam cares about her so much. This outpouring of emotion is first met with silence by Adam who is concentrating on driving. Once he is able to securely pull into an underground garage, a dialogue ensues. There is a release of emotions on Adams part as he tells her why he has been attracted to Juliette for so long. Juliette has a brief return to doubting herself, but Adam is quick to take this doubt away from her as he recounts the ways she has shown that she is not the monster that Juliette thinks herself to be, evoking memories of when the two of them were in elementary school. The theme of relationships is at a high point as this leads to another intense physical moment that has the potential to turn more sexual. As a brief deviation, Adam mentions that they have arrived at their destination of his house. Juliette is too caught up in the heat of the moment to really pay attention to what Adam is saying as Adam stops touching Juliette. The intensity of their touching is going further than it has in the novel, but once again, the course is interrupted just at the brink of sexual intercourse. The interruption comes from a small voice on the outside of the tank, causing Juliette to panic and Adam to instantly jump out. The voice is identified as James, but the chapter ends before any clarification or information about this character is given.

## Discussion Question 1

Why did Warner plan a drill for the soldiers? Could he have known that Adam and Juliette were getting closer?

## Discussion Question 2

What does Warner stand to lose if he loses Juliette? How does he try to convince her to stay?

## Discussion Question 3

Why does Adam keep a tank in the nuclear field? How does the nuclear field affect Juliette and Adam? Why is this important to Warner?

## Vocabulary

erratic, incredulity, incriminating, breach, feeble, asphyxiated, semblance, indifferent, synchronicity, conspicuous



# Chapters 31 - 35

## Summary

In Chapter 31, the voice on the outside of the tank is James, Adam's younger brother. Adam introduces Juliette to James. As Adam gets their bags, James tells Juliette that he knows a lot of things about Juliette because she is all Adam can talk about. Juliette wants to know if the situation has become dangerous for James as Warner will likely try to come after James to get to Adam. Adam agrees, but he assures Juliette that it will be a while before Warner figures out where James is. Adam also mentions that this will give him and Juliette plenty of time to prepare for the fight ahead. As James and Adam walk to the door of their apartment, Juliette watches and wonders what part she has to play in this little family.

Juliette sees Adam's apartment for the first time in Chapter 32. It is very nicely decorated and maintained, something that James is proud of since he is not allowed to have actual visitors inside the home. James explains to Juliette that the street he lives on is for orphans and that they all share living conditions but Adam has made sure that James is the only one in this area. James puts a small metallic looking item into a microwave, but Juliette yells for him to stop thinking that it will explode. James and Adam explain that this is not the case and that the machine is not a microwave, but a device to make small packages of food bigger so that people will not be so hungry. Later, he goes on to explain how The Reestablishment distribute food and talks about the curfew and of how people can be shot if they are found outside after curfew. Adam asks James that he not discuss the fact that he and Juliette are there with anyone and James completely understands saying that he will keep their secret. Sometime later, he falls asleep, giving Adam and Juliette a chance to talk privately. Adam talks about how long it has been since he has seen James and that he was able to keep in contact with him and tell him about Juliette through an untraceable phone line. Juliette wonders why Adam has told James so much, but Adam responds that it is because he has been looking for her ever since the day she was arrested. He goes on to share how he has always felt about her, resulting in Juliette telling him she loves him. James does not know what to say to this and he carries James off to bed. As Juliette watches the two of them, she realizes that Adam is fighting to keep his family intact and to protect her.

Adam wants to take a look at Juliette's cuts in Chapter 33. Before he does, he explains to Juliette that he had no other way to provide for James than join the military. Juliette is understanding of this and Adam's mood changes to where he is excited to finally have Juliette in his home. Juliette changes the subject by asking about Adam's tattoos, particularly the bird tattoo. Adam says that he got it because it he kept thinking of it as it symbolizes hope and freedom. Juliette responds that she has as well frequently as the two hold each other for a considerable amount of time.

Juliette finally gets her cuts bandaged and prepares for bed. She comes out of the bathroom and finds that Adam has made a bed on the floor. After getting into bed, she



tells Adam that she meant what she said when she told him she loves him. They start kissing again and they want to do take things further, but they cannot. James has had a nightmare and wants to sleep with them in the living room. Adam puts James to sleep beside him and apologizes to Juliette for needing to cool things down for the night. Juliette does not mind this and tells him that they can continue some other time.

James finds Juliette and Adam sleeping together in Chapter 34. He is inquisitive as to what is going on at first, especially since he thought Juliette could not be touched. Adam is slightly embarrassed that they have been caught, but he takes James into another room to explain his and Juliette's relationship. Once they come out of the other room, James is still curious but Adam reminds him that it is time to get ready for school. Juliette watches as Adam helps James. As she watches this, Juliette begins to realize that maybe she is capable of being a part of a family and is not so much of a monster after all.

Juliette eats a breakfast of cereal but James still eats his metallic packets because he will get in trouble from The Reestablishment if he is caught wasting them in Chapter 35. Soon, he goes to school and Adam hits the shower leaving Juliette by herself. As Adam showers, there is a knock at the door. Worried that it is Warner, Juliette grabs a couple of guns, giving Adam one. The knocking dies down, but Adam recognizes a voice calling out to him. It is his friend and fellow soldier Kenji who has been shot and badly hurt. Adam is confused how Kenji came to his home, but as he is attending to Kenji's wounds, Adam learns that Warner had Kenji tortured for information about Adam. Kenji was able to run away but was shot in the process, before making it to the shed in the nuclear field. He was carried to Adam's home by a large man who warned Kenji not to tell anyone that he was taking him to Adam's house. After telling Juliette all of this, Juliette questions whether or not Kenji would still have the tracker serum still in his system. Adam admits that it is possible and that they will have to take James and leave the apartment. This is upsetting to Adam as he has spent many years trying to make this a safe and comfortable home for James. He wants Kenji to leave as he is unsure about the serum, but Kenji wants to take them to a safe house. He also mentions that he has already mentioned Juliette to the people there and that they would like to meet her. Juliette does not like this idea and she makes her opinion known to Kenji. Kenji blows this off and gives another joke, but Adam warns him to stop. Kenji does not listen to this and makes a final joke, a bit more sexual in nature, causing Adam to break his nose.

## Analysis

The voice from the end of the previous chapter is introduced in Chapter 31 as Adam's 10-year-old brother James. He is very outgoing and is happy to finally meet Juliette. This shows that Adam has spent much previous time talking about Juliette, much to her embarrassment. Adam is slightly embarrassed that James has revealed that Adam has spent a great deal of time talking about Juliette. He is also nervous that Juliette will not like James being there, but Juliette is more concerned if James is okay with her being there. James is a comical character who is happy to have his brother home. Juliette



feels an instant liking for James as he makes jokes. There is a slight worry that Warner will find Adam which will lead to James' safety being compromised. However, Adam is confident that it will take some time for Warner to find them. Warner knows that Adam has a brother, fortunately there are no public records of where James lives, allowing James to live with Adam in safety. There is a foreshadowing statement made as Adam says that in the meantime they can prepare themselves to fight back against Warner; the pair are not clear of all of the danger just yet.

The playful relationship between James and Adam is an emotional moment for Juliette. This is the first time that she has seen a loving and caring family in action. As James and Adam walk with Juliette they play and joke together. It is unknown when the last time James has seen Adam was. James is clearly happy that Adam has come home. Juliette thinks that the moment is bittersweet, possibly because she does not know how she fits into this situation.

The inside of Adam's apartment is on full display in Chapter 32. It is a nicely decorated place that James says is just for him. It is to be wondered how much time Adam gets to spend in this area. There is also a statement about the living conditions of others in the same neighborhood. The entire street is a haven for the orphaned children in the area. This saddens Juliette as she wonders how these children have come to such circumstances. James seems happy with his current living situation. There are other kids in the area that he sees, but it is an explicit rule that they are not allowed actually into the apartment, although no real reason is given. It is presumed that this is the case due to the fact that Adam has created this space solely for James and it could also be that the other areas are not as nicely put together as this one. Juliette is alarmed to find James putting something metallic into a microwave called an Automat, but quickly learns that it is not actually a microwave. It is a contraption that turns small squares of processed food into a larger size. This is disconcerting as Juliette views this as people eating a fake sort of food to drive away their hunger. This is a stark contrast to the plentiful amounts of real food that Warner keeps in his compound for himself and his soldiers.

There are many things that Juliette does not know about this new society as she settles into the apartment. James is very informative in helping Juliette learn these things. Juliette comes to understand the food rationing process and how it is related to a person's ability to aid The Reestablishment. James does not feel that this is right, but he knows that there is nothing that can be done about it. The military situation in the area is also discussed and how the soldiers have the ability to shoot people at will if they are out after curfew. This brings to mind a request from Adam that James does not discuss the fact that he and Juliette are in the area. They want to remain hidden for as long as possible and knowledge of their whereabouts would be highly useful to The Reestablishment. James is young, but he also knows that this information is a life or death situation for Adam, so he agrees to keep their secret.

The frequency of James and Adam's interactions is detailed, the two have not physically seen each other in six months. Adam explains how he has been able to tell James all about Juliette through the clever use of official reports to an untraceable phone line.



There is a revelation that Adam has been looking for Juliette ever since she was incarcerated for the small child's death. He explains his fears that something bad was happening to her and finding her again became his number one goal through any means necessary. Adam's search for Juliette has lasted many years, although Juliette still does not understand why, but she is truly happy that they are reunited. Adam also explains his responsibilities to taking care of James. As he carries James off to bed, this becomes a poignant scene for Juliette as she realizes that everything that Adam has done has never been for himself, but for her and James.

Chapter 33 begins with Adam wanting to take a look at the cuts on Juliette he mentioned in a previous chapter. There is a new and happier demeanor about him as he feels at peace and excited to finally have Juliette in his apartment. The only thing to mar this happiness is a brief moment of sadness where he tells Juliette that the only way he had to provide for James was to join the army although Juliette has not asked what his motivation for joining the army was. Juliette's feelings of excitement and happiness are developed into metaphors throughout this chapter, starting with how she describes her own blushing. The symbol of the bird is further examined here as Juliette takes off Adam's shirt and inquires about the meaning of the tattoo on his chest. There is no deep meaning to this tattoo other than Adam feels that the bird symbolizes hope. It is a curious notion to Adam that Juliette says that she has been dreaming constantly of a bird looking just like it. As the pair embrace, nothing more is said about this object as Juliette feels fully secure in Adam's arms.

The scene finally progresses to the bathroom so that Adam can fully treat Juliette's cuts. These do not seem serious as there is only a light mention of him and the story progresses to Juliette emerging from the bathroom to find Adam has made a makeshift bed on the floor. As they lie in bed together, there is another mention of the fact that Juliette has said that she loves Adam, but curiously, Adam still has no answer to this statement. Instead, he lies there, unsure of what to do next until Juliette asks him to touch her. This begins another intimate moment full of kissing and touching, but not progressing much further. There is a full description of the way Juliette feels from Adam's touch as she continues to want more from him. This scene is interrupted with the intrusion of James, changing Adam's focus from Juliette to the boy. This seems like a regular occurrence as James is suffering nightmares that Adam thought was getting better. This scene leaves Juliette as just a bystander as Adam devotes himself fully to getting James settled in to sleeping beside him. The use of the strike through method has not been used in quite a few chapters, but makes a reemergence here as Juliette thinks about Adam and James' parents and ponders what has become of her own. Adam feels slightly guilty that the romantic interlude has been disrupted, but Juliette is understanding as she she says they can resume at another time.

Although the pair slept for most of the night separately, Juliette finds herself waking up beside Adam in Chapter 34. This is a comical scene as James wakes up and finds the pair together. He cannot believe that Adam actually slept next to a girl and more importantly a girl that should not be touched. Adam is particularly embarrassed about having his brother see him like this, but James is more curious about the situation if anything. Adam lets James in on his secret that he can touch Juliette, but Juliette has a





strike through moment where she remembers that Warner can as well. There is no convincing James that it is just a coincidence that Adam can do so. James shows an innocence and humor that is refreshing to Juliette, but it seems to be annoying to Adam at this point. As he takes James into another room to talk, the actual conversation is not given, but James' demeanor has changed dramatically. He is a bit quieter and more embarrassed to talk to Juliette. This is slightly saddening to Juliette as she worries that James will think that she is trying to ruin his and Adam's relationship. Just as James begins to question Juliette about the status of her relationship with Adam, he is gently prodded by Adam to get ready for school. There is no ill feeling between the two as Adam helps James prepare for school. Juliette is once again a bystander in these actions. She is left to herself giving her a chance to further explore what life must be like for James especially as he is on his own most of the time. There is a small sense of depression as she remembers that she does not have a relationship like that within her own family, but watching Adam and James makes Juliette hopeful as she is building her relationships with them. In this, Juliette states that she is starting to embrace her feelings more and that she is having more positive thoughts while starting to lose the thoughts that she is a monster.

A dramatic plot twist begins to occur in Chapter 35 with Juliette eating breakfast. Her breakfast is the cereal that Adam has brought, but James still has to eat the little metallic packets. If he does not, then The Reestablishment could punish him for wasting supplies. This is not fair to Juliette as she gets a real breakfast but he does not, but James is quick to assure her that this is okay as he has gotten used to this kind of food. While James is at school, a mysterious person knocks on the door to Adam's apartment while Juliette is enjoying the morning and Adam is in the shower. This brings on an instant sense of paranoia by Juliette. She is convinced that Warner has finally caught up to her, although she also knows that Warner would not bother to knock on the door. Juliette's desire for self defense causes her to get out two of the hand guns in Adam's bag. Adam is out of the shower at this point and they ask each other who could possibly be knocking at the door. There is a question of whether it is the lady that helps James and delivers his food packets. The knocking that had began intensely has now slowed down to weak light tapping. There is a heightened feeling of suspense as someone can be heard outside moaning then falling in front of the door.

Adam is quickly trying to decide if he should open the door or not, but the pleading voice behind the door is a recognizable one. It is Kenji, a character that is only briefly mentioned in a previous chapter during Juliette's time with Warner. There is a visible tension between Adam and Kenji as Adam allows him into the apartment. Kenji is seriously hurt, but it is unknown how he was hurt or how he got there. Adam instinctively knows that Kenji has been shot, but he also wants to maintain order in his home as he demands that Kenji go into the bathroom. Adam wants to protect his brother from seeing any sort of blood in the area as James already has nightmares of something horrific from his past. Juliette goes unnoticed for a few moments, but when Kenji actually sees her, he cannot believe that she is with Adam. His sense of humor has returned, but it comes off as insulting to Adam and Juliette as Kenji calls Juliette "the psycho chick." It is revealed that Warner's search for them is still on, but he wants Adam dead.



Kenji and Adam spend a considerable amount of time in the bathroom as Adam tries to give him medical attention. Juliette is still holding a gun, with the foreshadowing thought that she may have to actually use it soon. Much is revealed during this segment as the reader learns that Kenji and Adam are actually friends. Due to this, Warner has had Kenji tortured trying to get as much information as he can about Adam's whereabouts. This plan did not work and Kenji was shot as he escaped. This brings a moment of panic to Juliette as she realizes that Kenji still has tracker serum in his blood. It is a saddening moment when Adam admits that there is the possibility that Warner could be on his way with his troops. This makes living in the apartment very dangerous at this point and he must now get both Juliette and James to a safe new place. As Juliette and Adam touch, they are unknowingly spotted by Kenji who is marveled by the exposure of Adam's secret. Adam becomes infuriated by this as this is now information that could eventually be used against them and he tells Kenji that he has to leave as he has brought too much danger to Adam's home. In order to diffuse the situation, there is an offer of another location that Adam can take Juliette and James to. Although Adam and Kenji are friends, Adam is highly suspicious of Kenji's motives, especially since Kenji has been able to find Adam's home so easily. The mystery is added to as Kenji explains that he too was able to go through the nuclear field and he found the same shed that Adam hid the tank in before blacking out from the pain that he was in. Curiosity is added as he goes further to say that an unknown man carried him out of the shed and promptly delivered him to Adam's door. The only hint to this man's identity is his overly large size and the fact that the man told Kenji to never reveal Adam's location.

Adam immediately wants Kenji to leave, but Kenji has nowhere else to go. There is a small argument in which Adam shows his mistrust of Kenji. Adam's main concern is James' safety as this apartment has always kept James safe now they will have to leave it and go into hiding. The apartment took years for Adam to make it to what it currently is and Adam feels that he will have no other options to get James to safety as he knows that Warner will come after James to get to him. Adam thinks James is too young to have to deal with all of this, especially after all of the trauma he has already been through. As a reference to the state of society, Kenji's answer is that everyone has had to deal with traumatic experiences. Defeated, Adam wants to hear more of this safe place Kenji mentioned, but Kenji's sense of humor is back as he makes more jokes about Juliette. Adam's protective nature comes into play as he threatens to kill Kenji if he continues being disrespectful. There is a hint that something has already been planned as Kenji says he has informed the people in this new place about Juliette and that they would like to meet her. Juliette is slightly offended by this as this makes her look like something that Kenji just wants to show off. Another joke made by Kenji, this time a bit more sexual in undertones, results in Adam breaking Kenji's nose.

## Discussion Question 1

How does James' living arrangements differ from the rest of the neighborhood? How is this a reflection on society?



## Discussion Question 2

Describe James and Adam's relationship. Is James wholly dependent on Adam? What may be the cause of his nightmares?

## Discussion Question 3

How does Kenji arrive at Adam's home? What does Kenji's arrival mean for Adam, James and Juliette?

## Vocabulary

toiletries, falters, infinitesimal, fissure, flailing, muffled, grimace, distraught, perceptible



# Chapters 36 -40

## Summary

Adam worries about James and the fact that he has been through a lot in Chapter 36. He says that he never told the truth about their father because James' nightmares are bad enough without that knowledge. Adam leans on Juliette for advice as to what to do, but the only real solution is to rely on Kenji to get them to the safe place he has mentioned. Adam does not like the thought of leaving the home he has spent a good bit of time trying to create, but he knows he has no choice. Kenji tries to speed things along but in the process, he asks about Adam's ability to touch Juliette. Juliette refuses to answer Kenji's questions about this, so Kenji tries flirting with Juliette. This angers Adam, causing a brief discussion about their past friendship. Adam does not mention that he and Juliette are romantically involved with each other and Juliette wonders to herself why he does not. Kenji again tries to make jokes, causing Adam to ask why they are letting him stay. Kenji's response to this is that they need him to get where they need to go. James arrives home from school before anything else can be said.

James is told that they will be leaving the home soon in Chapter 37. He is excited about this as he will get to leave with Adam and he feels he can be of some use. Kenji and Adam talk about how they will get to this safe place and Adam informs Kenji that he has a tank. Kenji is excited and starts cursing, but Adam cuts him off saying James does not need to hear it. As the men talk, Juliette looks around the room, thinking of all of the opportunities for a normal life that she will miss. Kenji swears again, but this time it is because he and Adam hear a noise coming from outside. They both know that it is the military and that the soldiers have finally found them. Adam quickly takes the group to James' room where they can escape through a hidden door. They are chased out in the street where a curfew is being called, causing people to panic. Juliette wonders why this area is inhabited with only elderly women and orphans as well as how Adam was able to set up a home there. As they run, Kenji's wounds make it difficult for him to keep up. He request to be left behind, but Adam refuses saying that Kenji is needed to show them the safe place. Adam finds an empty building for the group to hide in for a moment. Adam sees James' fear and he realizes that James could be hurt if he stays with Adam and Juliette since they are the ones the military wants. Adam asks Kenji to stay in the building and to watch over James so that he and Juliette can steal a car. Kenji agrees to this, but Adam assures him that if James is hurt Adam will kill Kenji. Juliette and Adam run out of the building in search of a car to steal.

As Juliette and Adam run through the streets in Chapter 38, Juliette knows that she must do whatever it takes get to safety, especially for James' sake if anything happens to Adam. As they run through an empty warehouse, the soldiers are closing in saying that they only want Juliette. They try to make a deal with Adam to let him go in exchange for her, but Adam refuses, shooting at the soldiers. He does not want to kill them only to hurt them. Juliette and Adam find an exit all the way at the back of the



warehouse. Once they step outside, they are captured by the soldiers that have surrounded the area.

Juliette is dragged into a building by Warner in Chapter 39. He can now touch her with no gloves and is excited as now he feels he can have an intimate relationship with Juliette. He declares his love for her, but Juliette is disgusted with this idea. His hands are all over her body, which helps her to see the gun hidden in his jacket. Quickly Juliette comes up with a plan to make Warner feel like he is getting what he wants so she can steal the gun. She gives in to Warner, making him happy as he kisses her and promises that he will love her like she has always wanted to be loved. Juliette is still repulsed by all of this, but she plays along with Warner just long enough to get his jacket off and to his gun. She quickly grabs it, surprising Warner as she pulls the trigger and he is wounded.

Juliette flees from Warner in Chapter 40 having just shot him. She is solely focused on finding Adam as she runs. Juliette finds a pool of blood near the spot they were captured in. She is able to use the trail from this pool to find a building but the trail stops. Realizing that Adam may be in this building, she tries to open the door but finds it locked. Juliette becomes frustrated by this and punches the door so hard that it breaks. She is able to pull the door apart and enter. Juliette searches the area quietly, hoping to avoid notice by any soldiers in the area. She does not see any, but towards the back of the building she sees Adam hanging by his arms. His clothes are bloody, he is covered in cuts and bruises and his leg has been shot. He is surprised that Juliette has come to rescue him but extremely grateful that she has. Once Juliette cuts him down, Adam tells her that Warner was planning to come back and slowly kill him after he had his way with Juliette. Carefully, Juliette is able to get Adam back to the front door and he is impressed that Juliette was able to break open the door by herself. Juliette is successful in finding a car to steal, but she also makes an unexpected find as there are fresh fruits and vegetables in the back of the car. Thinking that this may help Adam, she gets him to eat one of the bananas. Once he has done so, he asks Juliette how she was able to get away from Warner. She does not give Adam much details, but says that she shot Warner and shows Adam his gun. After a moment to think, Juliette tells Adam that she actually does not know how to drive.

## Analysis

Adam is panicking that something will happen to James as a result of Kenji's appearance in Chapter 36. There is another brief mention of Adam's father as Adam rambles on about how James does not know the truth of what happened to their father. This is obviously not the cause of James' nightmares, which leads to the reader questioning the subject of the nightmares. The only clue as to what could have happened is Adam saying that James has seen a multitude of dead people. Adam is despondent at this point as he feels he has failed in everything that he has done to provide for James. This is the first time that the reader sees Adam as unsure of what to do, as it is Juliette who is in command of the situation. Juliette is the one who tells Adam that they must consider Kenji's idea and Adam relents, as he has no where else to take



James and Juliette. This goes against his instincts as his mistrust of Kenji is still present but he knows he must act soon.

As Adam, Kenji, and Juliette pack to leave as soon as James comes home, Adam looks around the home he has spent so long to create. He is filled with sadness that his efforts have been in vain. Kenji seems to have recovered from his punch in the face quickly as he is prodding Juliette and Adam to get moving and pack. Kenji is curious as to how Juliette can touch Adam, but Juliette does not want Kenji to know anything about her or her ability. Kenji is playful and flirty with Juliette although both she and Adam find it highly annoying. There is no declaration of a relationship between Adam and Juliette to try to keep Kenji from flirting with Juliette. This is confusing to Juliette as their feelings are obvious and it is slightly hurtful. It can be guessed that Adam says nothing in order to protect Juliette as it is still unknown if Kenji can be trusted.

It should be noted that the problems between Kenji and Adam seem to stem from a possible previous incident that is not given at this time. Kenji makes a reference to their past friendship which is obviously over. Adam does not elaborate on his problem with Kenji, but he makes it clear that the only reason that Kenji is allowed to stay is because Juliette says they have no choice but to trust him. Kenji tries to add humor to the situation to lighten the mood, but this is unsuccessful. Adam questions Kenji's usefulness, but Kenji assures him that their survival depends on him sticking around. Before the conversation can be continued, James arrives home from school.

In an undisclosed conversation, James is made aware of the situation quickly in Chapter 37. Instead of being frightened by this turn of events, James is excited about this as it seems like an adventure along with the fact that he will be helping Adam. Adam confesses everything to James in an attempt to make him understand the importance of leaving the home. James' reaction to all of this is unusual for a boy of that age, but he is alright with this. This is due to the fact that James has already seen his share of tragedy previously. There is a brief discussion regarding the mode of transportation to get to this new place. There is quite a difference in the length of time it would take to get to it by foot as opposed to by car. Adam considers using the tank, which excites Kenji. His use of curse words is infuriating to Adam as he would prefer that James not listen to that kind of talk. Kenji is apologetic about this, but once again, James is nonchalant. Meanwhile, Juliette is surveying the room, thinking about her own loss as she feels she is losing the possibility for a peaceful family life with James and Adam.

There is a dramatic shift in the novel's tone towards panic and action as Kenji cuts the conversation short. There is movement outside of the front door. As Adam and Kenji are soldiers and are trained for this, they know what those sounds are. The military has found Adam's home and are breaking in. As an example of the careful planning Adam has put into this house, there is an emergency exit hidden in James' room. Just as the military is entering the front door, Adam leads everyone out the emergency door. This begins a running pursuit of the group. Kenji is struggling to keep up as his injuries keep him from running fast. There is a suggestion just to leave him, but Adam refuses based on the fact that they need him to show them where they are going. The entire community now knows that the military is in pursuit of the group as a curfew is called, causing panic



in the streets. There is a deviation in the flow of the scene as Juliette takes in their surroundings. This area is solely inhabited by orphans and elderly ladies, causing Juliette to question not only how does Adam have a home in this area as well as why there are no actual families or other type of people here.

The scene shifts back to the drama at hand as Adam makes a hasty decision as they enter an empty building to catch their breath. He knows that the military is only after him and Juliette and that Kenji is going to be unable to keep pace with them. This forces him to make a hard decision. The use of the tank is out of the question at this point as it will surely be noticed. Adam has a conflict in the fact that he needs to keep James safe, but he realizes that he cannot keep James safe as long as he is with Adam. Against his own judgement, Adam makes a plea to Kenji to stay in the building and watch James. James' bravado has worn off and he is now terrified at the thought of being parted from his brother, but Adam makes a promise that he will be back as soon as he is able to steal a car. To let Kenji know the seriousness of his duty to watch James, Adam threatens Kenji that he will kill him if James is hurt. With that the chapter ends as he and Juliette race out of the building leaving Kenji and James behind.

Chapter 38 is filled with action as Adam and Juliette run through the streets into crowds of people trying to get into their homes before they are shot by the military. Juliette is more concerned for Adam than she is for herself. She knows that the soldiers will not kill her as they have been given orders to bring her back to Warner but they are to immediately kill Adam. The soldiers are close enough to start shooting at the pair and for Adam to start shooting back. There is a silent and unspoken agreement between them that if anything should happen then Juliette is to save herself so that she can care for James. Juliette is determined to be useful and not slow Adam down, but she still has the problem with stamina as they run through an old warehouse. The situation is bleak as the soldiers close in on them. There is some shooting involved as the soldiers try to deceive Adam by saying that they will let him go if he just gives them Juliette. Adam maintains that he only is shooting to disable the soldiers, but this is not explicitly clear. Desperate to find an exit, which is successful, but also indicates another turn in the plot. Just as they come outside, they are captured as Warner's men have surrounded the doorway.

Chapter 39 continues the main action at the end of the previous chapter as Adam is shot immediately after stepping outside. This is a scene of chaos as Juliette is dragged away by someone. Once Juliette is alone with her captor, she realizes that the person who has grabbed her is not wearing any kind of protection against her. It is Warner and Juliette realizes that he has figured out that he can now touch Juliette unharmed. Warner is still just as sick and twisted as he is happy to see Juliette again. The reader should note that Warner's attitude towards Juliette is one of love, not anger. He is extremely happy that he can touch Juliette unharmed and hopes that Juliette can appreciate this. This realization opens up the way for him to begin a physically intimate relationship with Juliette, something that is repulsive to Juliette. This turns the scene more towards a forced romantic one as Juliette continues to claim that she has no interest in ever joining Warner. Warner is convinced that Juliette will come to his way of thinking in time, once he has had the ability to show her that he truly loves her.



Juliette sees no clear way of getting out of this situation. Warner is too physically powerful and too smart to not be able to defend himself if Juliette attacks him. As a plot device to deceive Warner, Juliette begins to give in to Warner's desires. Warner is unaware of the deception Juliette is formulating, instead he is relishing the fact that Juliette is starting to come around to his way of thinking. Warner is able to finally get his wish of being able to kiss Juliette and it is all Juliette can do to keep herself from getting sick. She knows she must go along with this to get his jacket off so she can grab his gun. This is an example of how Juliette has evolved into a fierce individual as previously she would have been too scared to do anything. This is a highly detailed scene that is the most sexual in the novel. This deception is successful as Juliette is able to lull Warner into a false sense of security and grab his gun. Before anything else can be said or done, she pulls the trigger making this the first time she has ever actually used a weapon. The sound of the gunshot is a surprise to Warner but is empowering to Juliette. This new sensation is thrilling to her, not only is she finding herself capable of getting out of this situation by herself, but her shot did not miss and Warner is hurt.

Juliette does not stick around to see the extent of Warner's injury in Chapter 40. The only thing that is on Juliette's mind is trying to find Adam and hoping that he is not dead. There is a small inner conflict as the strike through method makes a brief return while she wonders if Adam is alive or not. In this scene, Juliette realizes two crucial things about herself. The first is that she does not know how to drive a vehicle, which could prove difficult in trying to rescue Adam. The second is a curious realization of the various kinds of guns the military uses but she is hopeful that she can learn more about guns at some later point.

As Juliette evades passing by soldiers, she makes a startling discovery. A pool of Adam's blood on the street that no one has cleaned up yet. This is a lucky find for Juliette as there is a trail leading away from this blood, which will help to find Adam himself. The sight is horrifying to Juliette, but she knows in order to save Adam she has to suppress her feelings and move forward. Mysteriously, the trail ends in front of a building she has not been in before. Juliette reasons that Adam must be inside the building as there is no other evidence of having been taken somewhere else. Juliette becomes frustrated with the situation as the door to the building is locked and she is unsure of her gun skills to shoot the lock off. Juliette shifts her thinking to putting more emphasis on the task at hand of getting into the building, but there is a strike through deviation where she is thinking of how Warner recently touched her. This triggers her feelings of rage, causing a reaction that has only been mentioned once in a previous chapter. She is able to easily break down the door with her hands. Juliette realizes that while this is a great ability to have, she has no clue what actually causes her super strength or how long it will last.

Juliette takes on the role of rescuer as she scours the building hoping for any sign of Adam. She is convinced that he is not dead and this mentality fuels her search. Although she is not a soldier, she moves with the same cautious speed that a soldier would use. Once she finds Adam, she witnesses a grotesque scene as Adam is hanging by his arms, his body is covered in blood, cuts and bruises. Adam is relieved yet shocked to see Juliette. Juliette's saving grace is the fact that the soldiers have left





Adam by himself, they never figured that Juliette would get away from Warner and come save Adam. There is a bit of irony here as the rope holding Adam up is the same rope that was used in their escape from Warner's compound. Although there is no time to do so, the pair exchange a kiss as Juliette helps Adam. The building is much larger than they thought, making trying to get out more difficult. Adam reveals that Warner's plan was to torture Adam to death for taking away Juliette. He was shot in the leg during the previous chapter as a method to detain him long enough for Warner to have his way with Juliette before coming back to kill Adam.

After a long and painful walk, Juliette and Adam finally make it to the door Juliette recently broke open. Adam is speechless at the damage he sees has been done to the door but he is also impressed by Juliette's power. Adam's pain is very visible to Juliette, she knows that she has to get him to safety quickly. Juliette is more dominant in this section as it is she who finds a car to steal. There is a surprise find in the backseat of this car, actual fruits and vegetables that are extremely rare and valuable. It is not known how these items have come to be abandoned, but Juliette feels very lucky for finding them. Juliette wants Adam to eat one of the bananas, in hope that their nutritional value may somehow help Adam. There has not been much thought given to how Juliette has escaped from Warner until this point. Adam cannot believe what he hears when Juliette tells him that she shot Warner but she proves it by showing Adam Warner's gun. She does not mention what happened in the room with him. Her inability to drive is a slight dilemma which lends a slightly comical and more upbeat end to the chapter.

## Discussion Question 1

Why is Adam sad that he has to take James away from the house? How does James react to this?

## Discussion Question 2

Why does Juliette give in to Warner's physical advances? How does Warner trusting her help Juliette escape?

## Discussion Question 3

What is Warner's plan for Adam? Why are there no guards surrounding Juliette when she finds Adam?

## Vocabulary

expletives, fathom, elaborate, conspicuous, dispersed, erratic, turbulent, feral, volatile, precariously, tourniquet, modicum, belatedly



# Chapters 41 - 45

## Summary

In Chapter 41, Juliette drives to the building where Kenji and James are hiding. She is worried about the fact that no other cars or soldiers are on the roads as she tries to drive. Once at the building, she finds Kenji and James. James is fast asleep as Kenji has drugged him to keep James from becoming too afraid of what is going on. Adam appreciates that Kenji has watched over James and that he is safe. Kenji drives instead of Juliette and she sits in the back seat with Adam because his injuries are starting to get worse. As Kenji tries to drive as fast as he can, he notices that Juliette is kinder to Adam. He finally realizes that Juliette and Adam are in a relationship. Adam says that they are not really as he never asked Juliette and that she can date whoever she wants. Juliette's reply is that she only wants him and how she will prove it when he is feeling better.

Kenji gets the group quickly to an underground building in Chapter 42. He gets out of the car and gets a medical unit to come with a stretcher for Adam with the orders to get him to the medical unit. As the medical officers come to take Adam away, Juliette inquires about James who is still asleep. Juliette is a bit upset about James being drugged, but Kenji states that he did this as a necessity. Adam is taken to the medical wing, but Juliette wants to follow. She is denied by Kenji, but she continues to want to know what will happen to James and Adam. Kenji maintains that both are safe and Juliette should stop worrying. This incites more worrying and panic in Juliette and Kenji is forced to have to do something he does not want to do.

Juliette wakes up covered in a sheet and alone in Chapter 43. A man comes into take Juliette's vitals and examine her. When he asks if she knows the color of her eyes, Juliette says that she cannot as she has been locked up for so long without any mirrors. Juliette wants to know where she is and why she is naked. She also wants to know how she was touched with no one being injured. The man explains that if a person wears latex gloves they will be able to touch her. She needed to be cleaned as she was extremely dirty and covered in blood. Her clothes were destroyed, as the possible germs on them could be infectious to others within the facility. As the doctor explains this, she realizes that Warner always wore his gloves to touch her, except for when she was trying to escape. Juliette knows that because Warner has figured out he can touch her, he will always be looking for her.

At that moment, Kenji walks in looking like he has completely recovered. Juliette apologizes for accidentally hurting him. Kenji shrugs this off and makes a joke about Juliette secretly being attracted to him. The doctor, who Juliette has been thinking of as Blondie, suddenly gets frustrated and asks Kenji what his purpose for being in the room is. Kenji remembers what he is supposed to be doing and says that he is there to introduce Juliette to someone named Castle who wants to meet her.



Blondie wants to know why Kenji has not told Juliette about this place or Castle in Chapter 44. Kenji is adamant that had he told Juliette the truth earlier, then she would have refused to come. Upon hearing this, Juliette demands clothes and to see Adam. Kenji makes a joke about Juliette being naked under the sheet, but Juliette is not in the mood to hear it. Once Juliette calls the doctor Blondie, he becomes irritated and introduces himself as Winston. Winston orders Kenji to find her some clothes, calling him "Moto" which offends Kenji. Kenji replies by calling Winston 'Blondie' knowing that it will aggravate him as Kenji leaves. Juliette asks why Kenji is called 'Moto', and Winston says it is because his last name is Kishimoto and that he gets mad when people shorten it. Juliette wants to know why Winston got mad at Kenji for being called Blondie if Kenji is not allowed to get offended as well when his name is changed. Winston says that there is a difference, but Juliette calls him a hypocrite anyways.

Juliette gets dressed in Chapter 45 from Kenji's clothes. she makes a comment about the size but Kenji tells her that they do not have fancy dresses like she is used to wearing. Juliette asks about Castle and other questions, but Winston feels that if Kenji has not said anything by this point, then Castle should be the one to tell her everything. Juliette still wants to know where Adam and James are, but all Kenji tells her is that they are safe.

Kenji and Winston give Juliette a small tour of the area. Juliette asks more questions about the place, but Kenji does not give much of an answer. Kenji does give a confession to Juliette. Although being shot and beaten was not part of the plan, his arrival at Adam's house was planned and that this particular group has always been looking for her. Before Juliette can say anything she is pushed into a room to wait for Castle. A few minutes later, Castle walks in and begins talking to Juliette. He knows all about her, including her new ability to break walls. Juliette's reply is that she still will not answer any questions until she knows that Adam and James are safe. Castle likes this approach and says that he admires her loyalty. He takes Juliette out of the room and as they walk through the facility he is greeted with respect by all who he passes. Juliette gets the hint that this place has a bigger purpose than just a hiding spot as Castle introduces it as Omega Point.

## Analysis

Juliette makes an attempt to drive in Chapter 41 although she has never driven anything before in her life. Adam is too injured to do this for her. Both of their minds are focused on finding Kenji and James where they were left in a previous chapter. The process is slow because Juliette is very clumsy in her handling of the car. This movement is jarring to Adam, but he is understanding of this but Juliette is sorry that she has to hurt Adam in this way. Adam is holding up well in this circumstance, the true extent of his injuries is not well known at this point. The scene is very eerie as there seems to be no one on the streets, including the military. Juliette finds this very curious especially as a curfew has been called and there is no one to monitor this.



Once Juliette arrives at the building she thinks she and Adam left Kenji and James in, she finds that they are fine and have been undetected. There is a moment of understanding between Juliette and Kenji once she is inside. Kenji is aware that Juliette has had to rescue Adam and that there could be injuries. Juliette is aware that Kenji needs to be the one driving as her driving is not very good, causing jolts to Adam's body. Although Kenji is injured himself, Kenji agrees to this, showing that his character is becoming much more reliable than what Adam and Juliette previously thought. Adam is appreciative of Kenji taking care of James and keeping him safe, which alleviates much of Adam's worries. Juliette worries for James' well being also in that she wishes to spare him from seeing Adam broken and bruised. Thankfully, James is asleep, making his role in these actions minimal. Adam is appreciative that Kenji has been protective of James. This does not solve Adam's trust issues with Kenji, but for the time being, the issue is resolved.

Kenji is made aware of the romantic situation between Juliette and Adam by accident. This is slightly embarrassing for Juliette, but more so for Kenji as he is interested in her. Adam's condition is deteriorating, causing Kenji to try to drive faster, but he notices the sudden change in Juliette's demeanor towards Adam. It is softer with Adam as she promises that he will be alright once they get to safety. Although Kenji is embarrassed, he says that he should have known what was happening as Adam seems to be a totally different person around Juliette. While Adam has feelings for Juliette, he does not feel that they are an official couple as he never asked Juliette to be his girlfriend. Adam seems shy as he tells Juliette that she can have her choice of being with whoever she wants, but Juliette is solely focused on Adam romantically. This scene solidifies their relationship as Kenji tries to be comical by saying he will give them some privacy.

Chapter 42 shows the group's arrival at a totally new place that is underground and hidden from The Reestablishment. This is an incredibly large place, complete with its own medical unit and other amenities. Kenji takes on a more serious and authoritative role, a change from his usual sarcastic and joking self. He is able to order staff and is listened to with respect, showing that he has been in this place before. Juliette's main concern is where the medics are taking Adam and what will happen to James. Kenji makes a revelation that he drugged James while Adam and Juliette were captured. This draws a severe amount of annoyance not only by Juliette, but Adam who overheard it as well. Kenji states he only did it to protect the boy as he did not want the boy to start panicking that Adam has been gone so long. As it was his job to protect James, Kenji feels that he has done so by drugging him as Kenji knows that there was the possibility that something bad could have happened to Adam and Juliette. This excuse still does not sit well with either Juliette or Adam, but their focus shifts as Adam is taken away on a stretcher.

Juliette is demanding when she says that she must go with Adam. She is afraid to be in this strange new situation by herself, no matter how nice the people are to her. Kenji is still showing his authoritative side but he is also more gentle with Juliette as he knows that she worries about Adam. Juliette questions this new assertiveness but Kenji does not have the time or inclination to discuss this. His first priority is to calm Juliette down as she becomes more hysterical. Kenji's reassurances are not helpful to Juliette, as



they do not offer any sort of conclusive information about their location or Adam's injuries. Juliette has no clue what is going on and she is suddenly afraid and distrusting. She demands an explanation to why she cannot go with Adam to the medical wing. The scene and chapter are abruptly cut to a halt due to an unknown action which Kenji obviously does not want to do, but does so anyways as Juliette is screaming.

The narrative jumps forward to an undisclosed time in chapter 5. Juliette is awake in an unmarked room with no clothes, just a sheet on top of her. A new individual is brought into the scene, but his name is not given. He seems to be a doctor or some other person in charge as he checks Juliette's vital signs. Juliette is still apprehensive about her situation. The man is unimpressed by Juliette's demands for knowledge. He is straightforward and focused on his duties. As he asks Juliette about the color of her eyes, there is a pause as Juliette concentrates on trying to remember the color of her own eyes. It has been many years since she looked at her reflection, due to being in a small cell with no mirrors.

Juliette catches on to an important element as the doctor continues asking questions. She realizes that she is totally clean which means he must have touched her at some point. The doctor explains that cleaning her is a necessity as they cannot allow any kind of germs into the facility and her blood covered clothes as well as dirt and cuts and bruises poses a health risk. This does not answer Juliette's questions, but the doctor gives a brief explanation that latex gloves give the ability to touch Juliette without harm. This item gives Juliette the sudden memory that Warner always wore gloves when around her. This also causes an epiphany for Juliette. Once she hesitated during the escape from Warner's compound and he reached for her with his bare hands, Warner realized that he is immune to her power. This was a pivotal point that she clearly missed until now, but she is currently aware that she will always be hunted by Warner. With this comes the new fear that he is not dead and will soon be after her.

In an effort to calm herself down as well as to not be naked anymore, Juliette inquires about her clothes, but they have already been destroyed because of possible contamination. A new key item makes its first mention here as the doctor says that a special suit has been created for Juliette. Juliette's reaction is of mild shock which causes the doctor to fake being afraid. It is learned that before Juliette blacked out in the previous chapter, she touched Kenji and he is now injured. Juliette is instantly ashamed of her action, she had no knowledge that she had done such a thing. In the narrative, this is the first time that the doctor is referred to as Blondie as he assures her that this behavior is to be expected. It is learned that he does have some medical and psychological training, but there is no clear answer as to what he actually does.

Despite all of this, Juliette's main thought is about Adam and his whereabouts. Before she can get a more elaborate answer other than he is recovering, Kenji appears. His own recovery is remarkable as he is no longer covered in injuries. Juliette takes some time admiring his features as she apologizes to Kenji for hurting him. Kenji's comical style has come back to him as he talks to Juliette. He is able to be light hearted about Juliette's romance with Adam although there are underlying tones that make it evident that Kenji is attracted to Juliette as well. The scene is interrupted by Blondie as he is



quick to be rid of Kenji and inquires about Kenji's purpose for being in the room. Subtle hints suggest that there is some kind of dislike between the two men, but nothing is directly spoken. Instead, Kenji states that the purpose of his visit is to introduce Juliette to another character, named Castle, in the facility.

Blondie seems disappointed and slightly aggravated that his exam is being disrupted in Chapter 44. His aggravation is further heightened when Juliette asks about the identity of this man. Blondie's aggravation comes from the fact that Kenji has not done his job in informing Juliette as to the place they are going and the people in it as he was driving them. Kenji maintains that Juliette would have protested being there if he had told her, which leaves the question of what kind of facility this is.

Because of this, Juliette is once again defensive and apprehensive as she demands to see Adam and to have a set of clothes. Kenji tries to diffuse the situation and provide a distraction by commenting on Juliette's lack of clothes. The blonde man gets offended by Juliette calling him Blondie as he has never introduced himself. Here the reader learns that the man's name is Winston and that he is something more than a doctor. He seems to outrank Kenji especially since Kenji obeys an order to bring Juliette a new set of clothes. A hidden conflict between the two men is expanded upon as Winston and Kenji trade verbal attacks. Both are offended by what the other one calls him. There is also evidence that the man Castle is someone of great importance as Kenji does not want to draw his anger at not getting Juliette to him quickly. As soon as Kenji is gone, Juliette has the ability to try to get to the root of their conflict. The only things that are learned with this attempt is that Kenji's last name is Kishimoto and he is easily offended if someone tries to deviate from that name. Juliette does not understand why Winston would do something like that after he is offended by her calling him Blondie. There is something foreshadowing Winston's statement that the circumstances are not equal, but Juliette finds this to be hypocritical.

Kenji makes a sarcastic comment about the differences between The Reestablishment and where they are currently as he gives Juliette clothes. She is appreciative of them, but they are oversized, causing Kenji to make the comment about not having fancy dresses. This is a particular insult stemming from Juliette's previous living situation and her abundance of clothes. Juliette inquires about Castle and Kenji gives an explanation as to who he is. Castle is the leader of the group, but as Kenji has not told Juliette about this place or what the group is about, Winston feels that it will be necessary for Castle himself to give the explanations. This does nothing for Juliette's mistrust and fears. Winston feels that Juliette is too tenacious but Kenji makes every effort to tell her that Adam and James are being well cared for.

A tour of the facility is given as Kenji escorts Juliette who is amazed at the size and the efficient running of the facility. Juliette has many questions, but for the most part, Kenji is evasive. This gives the scene a darker mood as there is a touch of apprehension surrounding Kenji. There is a large admission made by Kenji as he confesses that this group has always been searching for Juliette. More is revealed in that coming to Adam's house was not accident or lucky occurrence as Kenji has always known where Adam's



secret home was located. Before Juliette has any ability to respond to this confession, she is shoved into a room to wait for Castle.

The scene jumps ahead by only a few moments as Juliette finally meets Castle. His physical description suggests that he is a middle aged man who has experienced quite a bit of life and is suited for authority roles. He has a kind attitude but Juliette is not believing any of it as she has learned to not trust other authoritative men because of her experience with Warner. Castle has had prior knowledge of Juliette and her incarceration, plus her newest ability of breaking walls with her hands. Castle is intrigued by Juliette and her abilities but once again, Juliette is not interested in hearing anything from anyone until she can verify that Adam and James are safe. Castle says that her loyalty will come in handy in this place and is the first person to be totally understanding about Juliette's concerns. Juliette's tour of the facility continues with Castle and as they walk, Juliette notices the amount of respect that Castle is given by everyone they come across. As the chapter ends, Juliette realizes that this is more than just a hideout for a few people as Castle gives the official name of the facility, Omega Point.

## Discussion Question 1

Why does Juliette want to move Adam to the back seat of the car? How does Adam feel about this?

## Discussion Question 2

Why does Kenji drug James? How does Kenji's persona change in this segment?

## Discussion Question 3

Why are Kenji and Winston acting so evasive towards Juliette's questions? How does Castle view her questions?

## Vocabulary

furrowed, elaborate, insatiable, protocol, superficial, flustered, obscene, cryptic, unfazed, cavernous, smattering



# Chapter 46 - Epilogue

## Summary

Castle explains the purpose of Omega Point to Juliette in Chapter 46 as they walk through the facility. He wants this place to be a beacon of hope to the world's citizens. Castle also goes on to explain how The Reestablishment has been conniving the world since they came into power. Juliette does not believe this at first and wants to know why she was brought to this place. Castle does not answer at first, just informs Juliette about the medical wing, which they are at as Juliette is able to see Adam through a window. While Juliette is staring at Adam as he comfortably sleeps, Castle informs her that she is not the only person living there with special abilities and that there are many more just like her.

In Chapter 47, Juliette is shocked to learn that there is a considerable amount of people in Omega Point that have an ability. Coincidentally, Castle reveals that he too has a special ability of being able to move objects with his mind. As they walk along, someone calls out to Castle from around the corner. Castle goes around the corner to meet this man who tells Castle of The Reestablishment's movements. Castle brings the man around the corner and introduces him as Brendan, a British man who is completely white. He goes to shake Juliette's hand, but remembers that he cannot touch her as she will end up shocked. Juliette and Brendan share a brief laugh about this as it is usually Juliette who is reluctant to touch anyone on account of her ability. Her day is made even better by Castle's offer to actually go into Adam's room to see him.

Juliette is finally able to see Adam again in Chapter 48. Juliette notices that the door has been locked, but Castle tells her that is so Adam's treatment process could go on undisturbed. When Juliette walks in she is amazed by Adam. He looks amazingly well and is sleeping comfortably. Juliette touches Adam, panicking Castle, but when he sees that Adam is unharmed, he is amazed. He finds that this is useful information as he has been researching various abilities for a long time. Juliette wonders if Adam has any special abilities himself, but Castle is unsure of this. He leaves after he notices that Juliette and Adam want to spend some time alone together. Shortly after he leaves, a pair of twins walk in. They are Sonya and Sara the healers of the medical unit who have been attending to Adam. They bring James in to see Adam and he assures his older brother that things are going well and that he is happy. Soon, Sonya and Sara leave, giving Adam and Juliette a chance to talk about Omega point. Juliette learns that there were always rumors in the military about a place like this and of people with mysterious abilities. Those rumors are considered true once Adam found out early on in his military life that Warner was searching for Juliette as she was to be an initial part of raising a super army and that Kenji is a member of Omega Point who works as a spy. This causes Juliette to question whether or not she really did kill Warner.

The answer to that question comes in Chapter 49 as Kenji appears. Juliette has only shot Warner in the arm and he will be on the hunt soon. Kenji assures Adam and





Juliette that the security around Omega Point is very strong and that The Reestablishment would have a hard time of finding them. Juliette asks Kenji if he has a special power and he admits that he does by showing her he can turn invisible. Kenji says that this has been useful to be a spy for Castle in watching Warner's movements and to find Adam's home to make sure that Adam would not turn out like Warner. Kenji also tells Adam that he and James will be moving in with Kenji and Juliette will stay with Sonya and Sara. Adam tricks Kenji into leaving by asking for pants so that he and Juliette can kiss. Kenji sees them through the observation window and makes a joke about it. Adam gets in on the joke as well saying he will sneak out to see Juliette sometime in the night. Kenji strongly warns against this as the halls are heavily guarded at night.

In Chapter 50, Juliette is staying in Sonya and Sara's room. In the morning, Winston knocks on the door and invites her to breakfast to meet some of the other residents before training. Juliette accepts and they start walking to breakfast. Along the way, Juliette learns that Winston has the ability to be super flexible. He is ashamed of this ability, but Juliette thinks it is great and tells him not to be ashamed of it. Before getting to the dining hall, Winston takes Juliette to the room she originally woke up in. Inside are Kenji and Adam. Adam wants to talk to Juliette by herself, but Winston wants her to try on her new outfit. Adam kicks Kenji and Winston out, promising that Juliette will have the outfit on when they come back. Once in private, Adam thanks Juliette for saving his life and rescuing him. Juliette does not know what to say, so she tries on the outfit. It is super light and comfortable, but she feels it makes her look like a gymnast. Adam denies this by saying that she looks sexy and like a superhero.

Winston and Kenji re-enter the room in the Epilogue. Juliette is concerned that her hands and feet are still exposed, but Winston gives her matching gloves and boots. All of the materials in the outfit make it so Juliette can touch someone without causing harm. This pleases Juliette and she finally feels like she is confident and alive, ready to take on whatever challenges may come next.

## Analysis

The name Omega Point has special significance in Chapter 46. As they walk, Castle explains that Omega is the last letter in the Greek alphabet and this is a parallel as the facility is the last hope for mankind. More is revealed as Castle goes on to explain the origins of the group, the size, and other pertinent information about the group. This chapter is the beginnings of the resolution of the novel in that it is beginning to give answers as to the questions of rebellion and the need to change society. It also informs the reader how The Reestablishment has been getting fresh fruits and vegetables through hidden farms. The manipulation of The Reestablishment is on display here as Castle explains how The Reestablishment has been operating to keep the citizens in the dark about what is really going on. Juliette is skeptical of all this as she has never known about any of this. Castle is amused by Juliette's continued skepticism, but he is patient as he continues to explain things to her. This segment is part of the society



theme as the Omega Point facility is its own society in direct contrast with The Reestablishment.

Once he is finished giving his account of what is going on Juliette is curious as to why Castle wants her. Castle is evasive but it does not matter to Juliette once Castle arrives at his destination. They are standing at an observation window looking in on Adam. Juliette's heart surges with happiness as she sees that she should have trusted everyone when they said that Adam is fine. Even though Adam's injuries were life threatening, at this point, he looks as if nothing has happened to him. In this, Castle is able to slip in the biggest revelation of the novel. There are more people with unique abilities living in the facility.

Juliette is shocked into being speechless by this admission in Chapter 47. This is the first time that she has ever heard of anything like this. Castle's admission that he also has a special ability is comforting to Juliette as she now has a kindred spirit who knows her agony over thinking she is a monster. Castle's ability is telekinesis, the ability to move things with his mind. Juliette is surprised to learn that there is a name for this skill but also saddened to hear that there is no name for her condition.

Juliette is anxious to meet the other gifted people, this is the first moment that she is not an outsider but one of a group of many. She gets her chance to meet one of the others when a man named Brendan suddenly calls out to Castle. Brendan remains unseen as Castle has to go around a corner to see him. The sound of his British accent is heavy and hard to understand to Juliette. Juliette overhears a conversation between the pair that is completely foreshadowing as Brendan talks about The Reestablishment's growing forces and tank movements. It is not known that he is gifted as well until Castle brings Brendan into view to meet Juliette face to face. He is completely bright white and has a unique electricity ability. This becomes a slightly comical scene as he goes to shake hands with Juliette but remembers that he could shock her and hurt her. This is ironic as it is usually Juliette who refuses to touch others. They both agree that due to both of their abilities that they should not touch each other at all. This joke makes Juliette happier than she has ever known as she has met and been accepted by another person who knows the complications of not being able to be touched. Another high point for Juliette comes from the Castle's offer to finally say hello to Adam.

It is a curious notion that the door to Adam's room is locked in Chapter 48. Castle is able to ease Juliette's sudden worry as he explains that it was done to protect Adam as Juliette is often impatient and if she ran in then his healing treatment could have been interrupted. It is also curious that although Juliette does not see any jasmine flowers, the air is heavy with the scent of it. Juliette is very happy to see how much Adam has healed. She does not think as she reaches out and touches Adam. It is Castle's turn for panic as Juliette does this thinking that Juliette is going to hurt Adam. His panic turns into amazement quickly as Juliette confesses that Adam is someone she can touch without repercussions. She does not include Warner in this at this time choosing to keep that information secret. Castle makes an allusion to destiny as he feels that their relationship is not coincidental, but he does not proceed with any more thoughts on the subject. There is also an admission that Castle has been doing a great amount of



research on people with special abilities for many years. Juliette is curious if Adam has a special ability as well since he can touch Juliette, but this is still unknown. Castle is unsure of this, and he leaves, noticing that Juliette would like some alone time with Adam. He is understanding of Juliette's needs and feelings, making her feel more at ease.

Adam is awake, bringing a great sense of joy to Juliette. Their private reunion becomes less private with the intrusion of two girls, Sonya and Sara. They are identical twins and the healers of the area. They have been successful in completely healing Adam, much to Juliette's appreciation. Adam asks about James, whose presence has been absent for a great deal of the narrative. The sisters inform Adam that James is safe and happy with the other children. This delights both Adam and Juliette as they both now know that James has been taken care of. Once James and Adam are reunited, the visit is only long enough for James to tell Adam how happy he is to be there, resolving his brief role in the story.

Sara and Sonya leave as well, finally giving Adam and Juliette the first amount of privacy in quite some time. They share their information about Omega Point. Juliette seems to be contented here and Adam admits that he had a small amount of knowledge about the facility. Most of his knowledge was through various rumors but he found those rumors to be true once he found out that Kenji is in the military as a spy for them. Warner's original intentions for Juliette are made clear. Warner at one time had heard these rumors as well and had heard of Juliette's crime. Since he figured that these rumors must be true since Juliette is proof, he realized that there are potentially more like Juliette and he wanted to increase his power using people with their abilities. This is a lot to take in for Juliette, but she is certain of one thing, that Warner is not dead and that he will be coming after her.

Chapter 49 effortlessly picks up where the previous chapter ends as Kenji appears to confirm Juliette's suspicions. Adam is still angry with Kenji over the use of a sedative on James, but Kenji in his usual comedic style blows him off. Kenji makes a remark towards Juliette about wearing his clothes, much to Adam's chagrin but Juliette is able to quickly explain about the loss of her own clothes. An ironic twist occurs when Kenji delivers his message and the purpose of his visit. James and Adam will be sharing housing with him from now on, something that is infuriating to Adam and confusing to Juliette as she had assumed that she and Adam could have a space of their own.

There is also an update on Warner's condition as Juliette finds out that she only shot him in the arm. This wound explains why there were no cars on the road previously as all of the soldiers were called back to guard Warner. This conversation is informative as the security of Omega Point is divulged. The amount of measures taken to keep the people safe is comforting to Juliette and Adam. As a deviation from this topic, Juliette inquires about Kenji's abilities and she is shocked to learn that he can turn himself invisible. This is somewhat infuriating to Adam, who is now aware that Kenji had been spying on Adam's secret location for a long time. This has been useful in Castle's quest to find people who are gifted as well as to spy on Warner. There is also the revelation



that Kenji had to spy on Adam as well to make sure of Adam's intentions towards Juliette.

These admissions are not particularly endearing to Adam, but he and Juliette are now caught up on what has been going on behind the scenes. Adam uses the ploy of needing pants to get Kenji to leave the room so that he and Juliette can have a few moments of privacy. This moment of intimacy becomes humiliating for Adam and Juliette as Kenji has returned with the pants. He has not entered the room, but Juliette and Adam have forgotten that there is an observation window that people can look through. Adam's nature has turned mischievous as he asks about sneaking out to see Juliette. This receives a dire warning from Kenji as the facility is heavily regulated.

The final chapter of the novel, Chapter 50, shows Juliette easing into life in Omega Point. She is staying with Sonya and Sara but has woken up before them and is able to answer the door. Juliette gets the opportunity to learn of another who has a special ability although she has already met him. Winston confesses that he too has an ability, but he is ashamed of his as all he can do is be super flexible. Juliette sees no shame in this and for the first time, she is consoling someone instead of being the one who is consoled. This can be seen as another highlight of the change theme. He invites Juliette to breakfast so that she can meet even more people, and Juliette excitedly agrees. This is also so that she can prepare for her training as she will learn how to harness and control her abilities.

Before they can go to breakfast, they stop in the same room that she found herself in during a previous chapter only this time Adam and Kenji are waiting for her. Adam and Juliette only have eyes for one another but Kenji is quick to interject to make his presence known. This is the introduction of the final key item, something that is extremely crucial to Juliette. Winston offers her a small slip of purple fabric to try on. Adam kicks out Kenji and Winston as he wants to talk to Juliette without other people around, causing irritation to Winston as he wants to discuss this fabric with her. Adam assures Winston that she will try it on and when he comes back Winston can talk all he wants. Out of modesty, Adam turns around so that Juliette can change. It should be noted that while this piece is very small, Juliette is able to slip it on and be extremely comfortable in it. In an emotional moment Adam thanks Juliette for saving him, which is ironic as the whole purpose of the novel is to save Juliette. Once in the suit, Juliette is completely happy with the fit of it and the lightness of it. Adam is content with what he sees, but Juliette finds the outfit a bit comical and says that she looks like a gymnast. As the chapter closes, Adam tells her that she looks like a superhero.

The epilogue is the final act of the novel, providing the reader with the closure of the narrative. It takes place right where Chapter 50 leaves off, as Kenji and Winston come back into the scene. Winston has a key piece of information about Juliette's new suit. It makes Juliette's touch harmless. For the first time in her life, Juliette will be able to feel others without possibly killing them. Winston provides a matching set of gloves and boots to complete the outfit. Juliette is amazed by these items and now feels confident enough to look in a mirror. As the novel finishes, the theme of change is complete as



Juliette feels more alive than she has ever felt before and capable of fighting for those she cares for.

## **Discussion Question 1**

What is the significance of Omega Point to the world? What is so special about the inhabitants?

## **Discussion Question 2**

Why is Castle shocked that Juliette can touch Adam? What does this mean for his research?

## **Discussion Question 3**

What is important about the suit Winston gives Juliette? How does this impact how Juliette feels?

## **Vocabulary**

perverse, malleable, orator, empathize, mesmerizing, corporeal, centripetal, gawking, luxuriate



# Characters

## Juliette Ferrars

Juliette is the teenage protagonist of the novel. She once lived with parents who could not stand her and considered her a monster as did others around her because she has a touch that is so painful that it can be lethal. Because of this ability, Juliette has been shunned by her family and her community and was often the victim of verbal, emotional, and physical abuse. She has been in many different treatment centers and detention facilities as she has been unwanted by everyone around her. At the age of 14, she accidentally killed a small child as she was trying to help him. She was incarcerated for this and was eventually placed in the cell that she is in at the beginning of the novel.

Juliette's time alone has caused much emotional damage. She considers herself insane after some time and she has lost the ability to stand up for herself or remember much of her past as she has lost any desire to do either. When Adam becomes her cellmate, Juliette finds herself starting to feel again as memories slowly come back to her. She remembers that Adam is someone she used to know. As the novel progresses, Juliette's feelings for Adam deepen as she remembers him as the boy she would always see, but he would never talk to her.

Once she is put in Warner's compound in Sector 45, Juliette becomes more rebellious. When she sees the closet of clothes upon her arrival, she refuses to wear any of them. It is only after she learns that Adam is being beaten for her disobedience that she decides to cooperate. She prefers choosing dresses that have a pocket so that she can hide her notebook.

Juliette is the focus of Warner's obsessions. He is trying to convince Juliette that she needs to align herself with him as he can potentially take her farther in life. Juliette does not believe this. She does not want to become a monster who is only used to torture others based on Warner's whims. She has been experimented on since the beginning of her incarceration for various things like mental capacity and radiation exposure. When she is forced to touch the toddler as she is getting him to safety in Warner's torture chamber, Juliette gains the power to knock down walls with her hands when she is furious. The new skill is exciting to Warner and he feels that it is another weapon he can add to his arsenal.

Juliette undergoes a transformation of sorts throughout the entire novel. As she is first isolated and depressed, she views herself as a monster. This is helped along by the mistreatment at the hands of her family and others. She believes that she has no place in the world and that she would rather die to keep from hurting others. Over the course of the novel, Juliette has seen how a good life can be. It is not a life of excess, riches, and revenge that Warner wants for her. It is the quiet family life that Juliette observes while she is with Adam and James. Through her observations, Juliette sees that she is not the monster she thinks and that she could have a happy life with Adam by her side.



She is extremely protective of Adam and has developed a fierceness and desire to kill any person who would try to take him away from her or to capture her.

## Adam Kent

Adam comes to live in Juliette's cell at the beginning of the novel. The pair build a tentative friendship during this time but it is destroyed once Juliette is taken out of the cell and it is revealed that Adam was placed there to be a spy by Warner. Adam and Juliette went to school together when they were younger. He was a protective figure of Juliette but never got the chance to get to know her. Adam uses his knowledge of Juliette to earn his place as Warner's spy.

As the novel progresses, Adam becomes much more than a cellmate, guard, and spy. He becomes Juliette's romantic interest and partner in escape. Adam joined Warner's military with the hidden purpose of finding Juliette again. Adam is beaten if Juliette misbehaves while she is with Warner, much to Juliette's horror. After Juliette finds this out, Adam suggests she wear a purple dress from the closet. This is his clever way of giving her secret notebook back to her.

Adam concocts a plan to escape from Warner. The plan is foiled when a drill shortly before their planned escape time is called. This forces Adam to move up the plan as he saves Juliette from Warner assaulting her. He takes Juliette first to a shed in a barren field. He explains that this was a nuclear power testing site but the radiation does not harm him. He has hidden a tank in an old shed, which is able to take him and Juliette to his own house.

Adam has spent many years putting this house together. It is stylish and comfortable, unlike any other place on the block. His younger brother James lives in the house. Adam is James' only living relative and so it is imperative that Adam protect James from everything. This is ruined by Kenji's arrival at his home with the military following close behind him. As they flee from the home, Adam is forced to leave James with Kenji so that Adam and Juliette can run somewhere else. Adam is captured shortly after this and shot in the leg and Juliette is dragged away by Warner.

Adam is found hanging by his arms in another old building. There are no guards around him due to Warner being shot, which makes it easier for Juliette to rescue him. Adam's condition deteriorates as Juliette steals a car to let Kenji drive. He is grateful to Kenji for watching over James, but disgruntled when he finds out that Kenji has sedated him. Once at Omega Point, he is immediately taken to the medical unit as his injuries are life threatening. He is given treatment by Sonya and Sara who heal him to the point where he is back to normal. He is still aggravated with Kenji, and is extremely disappointed that he will be living with Kenji and James. Once Juliette is given her special suit, Adam helps her try it on. When she says that she looks like a gymnast, Adam responds that she does not look like a gymnast, more like a superhero.



## Warner

Warner is the leader of the troops in Sector 45. He is sadistic and unfeeling as he has no problems with getting his own men hurt or killed. Warner is deeply infatuated with Juliette's abilities. He wants to use them to instill fear and control over his own men and potential rebels in the area. He has been given control of Sector 45 by his father. There is a deep seated desire to impress his father, sometimes causing him to disregard his father's orders. Warner feels that having Juliette by his side and using her ability to torture others, he will gain his father's respect by keeping control of the citizens and troops and getting crucial information from rebels.

Warner is a ruthless and sadistic killer, something that he takes pride in. Shortly after Juliette is transferred to Warner's compound, as the troops are standing at attention, there is a report that one of the soldiers has given alleged rebels food and supplies. The soldier comes forward and Warner executes the man where he stands with not much explanation.

Warner is deeply obsessed with Juliette, but for two different reasons. The first is the fact that with he can use Juliette for advancing his military agenda. He wants to use her power to torture rebels into giving him information about their activities. He also wants to keep his troops in line by using the fear of being tortured by her. In this way the soldiers that seek to usurp power from Warner will be less likely to attack him.

Warner has been studying Juliette from the beginning of her incarceration. He has performed radiation testing on Juliette as well as observed her in isolation to make sure that she is not psychotic. The last part of his experiments on her while in her cell is to add another person to see if she lashes out at others. Warner uses Adam as a spy for him, not knowing that Adam has an agenda of his own.

Warner has been planning for some time to get Juliette. He has planned an elaborate bedroom for her as well as a closet full of dresses. In Warner's agenda, he hopes that Juliette will see what he can offer her in terms of a extravagant life where she will want for nothing. He also wants to play on the fact that others have treated Juliette like a monster and do not want to be around her. He feels that if he can show her that he wants to be her equal in getting revenge against those that hurt her, she will be more likely to want to stay with him.

There is also undertones of a physical attraction to Juliette. He demands that she look attractive while in his presence. Juliette makes the mistake of refusing to do so once, but she changes her mind about that after Warner has Adam tortured for Juliette's disobedience. He is amazed by the way Juliette looks in dresses, always complimenting her on her dress choices. There is a definitive jealousy towards Adam when it is clear that Juliette cares more about Adam's well being than being with Warner. When the drill happens and Juliette and Adam prepare to escape, Warner begs for Juliette to stay, not only on the basis of that he thinks she could be a great ally but on the curious basis that he wants her to love him.





Warner wastes no time in trying to locate Juliette. He tortures Adam's friend Kenji, in hopes of finding out more information on Adam and where he could have taken Juliette. Somehow he is able to follow Kenji to Adam's house, where a chaotic escape occurs. After leaving Kenji and James in an old building, Adam and Juliette run into another building. As they are fleeing out the back door, The Reestablishment's soldiers are there with Warner. Warner shoots Adam in the leg and drags Juliette off to an old school room. There he once again makes a plea for Juliette to stay with him, but Warner is more aggressive with his touching of Juliette. This is due to the fact that he has figured out he can touch her without harm. He is now free to put his hands all over Juliette's body in an attempt to begin a sexual relationship with her. At first, Juliette is repulsed by this, but once she sees the gun hidden in Warner's pocket she gives in long enough to get the gun away from him. Juliette shoots Warner and runs away.

At first the soldiers think Warner is dead, causing some of them to take control of the military. Warner is not dead, only shot in the arm. He plans on getting Juliette back one way or another. He has spent too much time and resource on Juliette as well as his own feelings towards her that make it impossible for Warner to ever give up looking for her. Warner has been studying people with different abilities for a long time, but his research on Juliette has been the longest.

## Kenji

Kenji is introduced as a fellow soldier within Warner's compound. He comes to Juliette's room one evening for an unknown reason, but his sarcasm and ill mannered jokes become a quick annoyance to Adam and embarrassing for Juliette. The next time Kenji is seen is at Adam's apartment unannounced. He has escaped from Sector 45 after being tortured in an attempt by Warner to get information on Adam. Unfortunately, there is the possibility that the tracker serum is still working in Kenji, causing Juliette and Adam to consider taking James and fleeing the apartment.

Kenji has a sarcastic wit and makes jokes when not appropriate. When the reader first meets Kenji, he is making comments about Juliette being a psycho and wants to know if Juliette can really hurt people. He is still making these comments when he encounters Juliette again at Adams apartment. This causes Adam to elbow him in the face, breaking his nose and adding to the large amount of injuries he has already sustained.

Although Kenji is an unreliable character, he is also trying to help. When Juliette and Adam are making plans to flee from the apartment, Kenji offers them a safe place to go. He adds that he has already spoken to the others that live in this place and that they are interested in meeting Juliette. During the flight from the home, Kenji realizes that he is slowing Adam and Juliette down. They run into an abandoned building where Adam has no choice but to leave James with Kenji. Kenji agrees to keep James safe while Adam and Juliette are gone. Sometime during this, Kenji sedates James for his own good.

Once Adam and Juliette return, Kenji drives the car to Omega Point. Once there, he takes on a more authoritative and assertive role as he gets medics to handle Adam and



he tries to console Juliette. She is combative and demanding although Kenji tries his best to assure her she is in safe hands. He finally has to touch her and sedate her as well. Once she wakes up and after a brief visit with Winston Kenji enters the room. He has come to escort Juliette to see Castle. A minor argument breaks down between Kenji and Winston, with Winston calling him Moto as his last name is Kishimoto.

Later it is revealed that Kenji has always been a spy for Castle. It was his mission to also track Juliette's whereabouts so that she could be brought to Omega Point. He has also been helpful in spying on Warner's plans and other military secrets. Kenji was also assigned the task of monitoring Adam to make sure that Adam was not going to harm Juliette and that he was not one of the soldiers who is like Warner. Kenji has been able to do all this by becoming invisible. Once Adam heals up, Kenji, Adam, and James become roommates, much to Adam's disappointment.

## James

James is Adam's 10-year-old brother. He is introduced after Adam and Juliette are able to escape from Warner's compound. James lives by himself for the most part in Adam's apartment. He is allowed to play with the other children as long as he does not bring them into the apartment itself. James has not seen Adam in six months but he constantly gets phone calls at a neighbor's house whose line is untraceable. Through this, he knows a lot about Juliette, but he is surprised to see Adam and Juliette sleeping together.

Adam is extremely protective of James. James is the only other member of Adam's family, their father having been dead for quite some time. Due to an unknown tragedy, possibly witnessing his father's death, James has nightmares. When Adam is there, he is able to console James but it is unknown how James handles his nightmares when Adam cannot be with him.

When Adam makes the decision to flee the home, James originally thinks that it is going to be an adventure. Shortly after he is told, the military shows up on the doorstep forcing a chaotic flight from the home. After Adam is forced to leave James with Kenji in the abandoned building, Kenji sedates James to keep him from being scared and worried. This angers Adam, but Kenji feels that it was the safest thing to do.

After Kenji takes the group to Omega Point, James is sent to play with the other children in the area and is being taken care of by Sara and Sonya. When Adam wakes up, they bring James into the room where he is happy to see Adam again. He is excited because the other kids are nice to him and he gets chocolates as treats from the twins. He is fitting into Omega Point well and this makes Adam very happy.

## Winston

Winston is the doctor who looks after Juliette after coming to Omega Point. He is a tall young man with bright blonde hair. Kenji calls him Blondie but Winston is highly



offended by this. In turn, Winston calls Kenji "Moto" as his last name is too hard to pronounce according to Winston. When Juliette suggests that he call Kenji by his first name, there is an awkward pause as if the suggestion is somehow offensive to Winston. When Juliette admonishes Winston about this, his reply is that their circumstances are not the same, but Juliette thinks he is being hypocritical.

Winston also has a special power, although he is ashamed of it as he feels that there is no use to it. He is super flexible and can stretch himself if necessary. Juliette finds this skill fascinating and says that he should not be ashamed of it, but Winston would prefer to have something more powerful.

## Castle

Castle is the leader of Omega Point. He is a tall man, with dreadlocks, a slim yet tall build, and a rugged face. He is believed to be in his mid 40's but Juliette is not so sure about this. He has a cool and calm manner of speaking. He understands Juliette's reluctance to trust anyone as well as her fierce loyalty. Juliette trusts and likes him immediately as he genuinely seems interested in helping her.

As Castle shows Juliette around Omega Point, he makes her feel more at home by telling her that there are more people like her and even introduces a man with special abilities to her as well. Castle has been doing extensive research on not just Juliette but others with abilities as well. Castle himself has a special power, telekinesis, the ability to move things with his mind. This makes him relate to Juliette even more, as he once thought of himself as a monster. Over time, with the development of Omega Point and the resistance movement, Castle becomes the most respected person in the facility.

## Brendan

Brendan is one of the first people introduced to Juliette in Omega Point. He comes to Castle, but he waits behind a corner so that Castle can come talk to him. Brendan informs Castle of The Reestablishment's current movements and other things. Castle has Brendan come around the corner to introduce himself to Juliette. Juliette instantly notices Brendan's extreme white skin and hair. When Brendan reaches out to shake her hand, he stops. He cannot touch Juliette without electrocuting her. This is an ironic twist in that it is usually Juliette who has to withdraw from any contact. Brendan and Juliette are able to laugh this off and agree never to try to touch one another.

## Sonya and Sara

Sonya and Sara are the medical unit's healers in Omega Point. They are twins with deep brown hair that is worn in pony tails. They wear matching silver jumpsuits with gold ballerina shoes. They are modest when Juliette and Adam praise them for their medical skills, saying that one sister is better than the other. Juliette is allowed to stay in their quarters with them to begin settling into life in Omega Point.



## Benny

Benny is the neighbor lady who distributes The Reestablishment's food packets and takes care of the children. She has a special fondness for James and Adam, sometimes giving James sugar, which is extremely rare during this time. Benny has an untraceable phone line and through it, James and Adam can talk about Juliette. Benny does not know that Adam and Juliette are hiding in the house as James is made to promise to not tell even her.



# Symbols and Symbolism

## Notebook

Juliette's notebook is the only thing in her cell that keeps her company. Her pen is running short of ink, making writing in it a rare experience. Adam would like to know what is in it, but Juliette will not allow him to see it. After Juliette is transferred to Sector 45, Juliette thinks she has lost her notebook. She finds it again in the closet full of clothes in her new bedroom. Adam hid the notebook in the purple dress he kept wanting Juliette to wear, but it fell out on the closet floor. Once Juliette finds it, she takes into the bathroom so that it will not be seen on camera. The last entry of the notebook is a brief note from Adam telling her that everything is not as it seems.

## Bird

Every day, Juliette looks out of her window hoping to see a bird flying by as they have become rare creatures. Juliette dreams everyday of a white bird with gold on top of its head. Juliette does not see this bird in actual form, but she does find a bird fitting the description as a tattoo on Adam's chest. This tattoo is seen as the metaphor for Adam being the bird carrying Juliette to freedom.

## The Reestablishment

The Reestablishment is the political group that is now in control of the land. A long time ago, they promised peace and hope for a better future for the world as food has become scarce and the world has turned into a wasteland. Instead, they have used their power for their own selfish purposes. They rule the people with an iron fist and have made life harder for everyone except for themselves. While they live in opulence, the people around them can barely find food or shelter. Anyone who opposes The Reestablishment is either tortured into submission or killed.

## Juliette's touch

Juliette's touch is the central focus of the novel. It is dangerous and has the ability to severely hurt or kill people who attempt to touch her. When Juliette was a little girl, her parents found this out about her. They hated her for this and called her a monster and is the cause of her isolation. Everywhere she went she was ostracized for this ability. At the age of 14, Juliette reached out to help a little boy who had fallen, but her touch killed him. Afterwards, she was imprisoned in several places before being put into the cell she occupied at the start of the novel. She has been placed in this cell by Warner, the leader of a group within The Reestablishment. Warner wants Juliette to use her ability to torture rebels or disobedient soldiers. Warner and Adam are the only two people who have the ability to touch Juliette without harm to themselves.



## Purple Dress

After Juliette is transferred to Sector 45, she is taken to a room with a closet filled with clothes. On Juliette's first day there, she refuses to wear any of the clothes in the closet. When Adam comes to take her to dinner with Warner, he is eyeing and lightly touching this dress. Upon seeing Juliette wearing her old clothes at dinner, Warner disapproves of this and Adam is beaten for Juliette's disobedience. When Juliette sees Adam again, she finds out that the consequences for Juliette's behavior is that Adam will pay the physical price for this. Adam whispers to Juliette that she should wear the purple dress. When Juliette reaches into the closet to grab the dress, she also feels something familiar to her. It is her notebook from when she was incarcerated. Adam recently put the notebook in the pocket of the purple dress, but it had fallen to the closet floor.

## Tracker serum

All soldiers are injected with a serum made of particles that send signals back to the military regarding the status of the soldier. It is useful when men are out in the fields in case something happens to them. When Adam goes out to the nuclear field, the signal is damaged and Adam is shown as dead every time. Warner constantly has to replace the serum in Adam when he comes back to the compound. When Kenji arrives at Adam's home, Juliette and Adam realize that Kenji's tracker serum could possibly be working properly enough to lead a signal right to the home. This causes Juliette and Adam to take James and flee to a safer area.

## Automat

This is a microwave-like device that changes the molecular composition of these small foil food packets into larger sizes. There is no nutritional or taste enhancement, this is purely a scheme to enlarge the item so that people are filled with a considerable less amount of food. The food packets are rationed by The Reestablishment, with people who are more helpful to The Reestablishment getting more than others. The allotted food must be eaten, if anyone is caught wasting their ration, they will be severely punished.

## Bananas

When Juliette steals a car after rescuing Adam, she is pleasantly surprised to find grocery bags in the back seat containing fresh fruits and vegetables. These items are a rare luxury for the citizens, causing Juliette to wonder who would leave such a valuable item in the car. In order to somehow help Adam regain a bit of his strength, Juliette gets Adam to eat a small part of a banana. Even Adam is surprised to see the bananas as they are so rare that even Warner does not have them in his compound.



## Car

Having a car is a necessity to get Kenji, James, Juliette, and Adam to safety. When Adam and Juliette separate from Kenji and James during their escape from Adam's house, Juliette and Adam are going to go find a car but they are captured by Warner and his men instead. Once Juliette rescues Adam, she is able to find a car on the street by herself. Juliette cannot drive, making the trip to pick up Kenji and James slow and bumpy, aggravating Adam's wounds. Once she picks up Kenji and James, she has Kenji drive. It is in the car that Kenji learns of Adam and Juliette's romance, but instead of being jealous he uses it for a comedic moment.

## Juliette's suit

After Juliette arrives at Omega Point and has been reunited with Adam, Winston says that he has a special suit for her. This suit is of a lightweight material and stretches to fit Juliette's body perfectly. The purple material allows Juliette to have a complete range of movements and is a breathable fabric since she will be in it for long periods of time. The outfit is complete with lightweight boots and gloves. The special thing about this ensemble is that Juliette can wear all of this and not hurt anyone with her touch, unless she wants to.



# Settings

## Juliette's Cell

At the beginning of the story, Juliette is enclosed in a small cell with one window by herself. She is imprisoned for accidentally killing a boy with her touch. She is informed that she will be getting a new cellmate and eventually she learns that his name is Adam. Over the course of a few weeks, she gets to know a bit more about Adam as well as what has happened to society while she has been incarcerated.

## Sector 45

The world has been divided up into over 3,300 sectors each with its own ruling person. Sector 45 is the community that is under Warner's control. This area was given to Warner by his father to command. The military is housed in a large palatial compound, but the regular citizens are left with little in the way of food or shelter. A rebellion is rising in this area and it is Warner's job to stop it in any way he can. This is the reason he has kept such a close eye on Juliette and his desire to use her as a torturer to get information from the rebels.

## Basement

Warner takes Juliette to the basement after breakfast one morning after having her change into a skin revealing outfit. Warner puts Juliette into one of the small rooms while he stands outside. He tells her that she is to keep her promise of showing what she can do. The room is actually a torture chamber with spikes coming in and out of the floor, walls, and ceiling. As soon as Juliette finds this out, a small child is put in the room with her. Warner says the goal is for Juliette to save the child from death, but Juliette knows that to touch the boy means she will have to hurt him. Juliette does this to Warner's satisfaction, causing Juliette to become so angry that she smashes the wall to grab Warner and threaten him.

## Nuclear Field

Adam and Juliette flee to a large field hidden behind a fence as they make their escape. Juliette wonders why the soldiers will not follow them. Adam replies that at one time this place was a nuclear power site but it blew up and The Reestablishment has since covered it up so that no one knows about it. The other soldiers will not go into the field because the radiation will kill them, but Adam is immune to the radiation and has been there many times doing tests for Warner. Juliette finds that she has also been tested for radiation and seems to be immune as well.





## **Adam's Apartment**

Adam takes Juliette to his apartment outside of Sector 45. It is a nice apartment that is well decorated and mainly occupied by James, Adam's younger brother. The apartment is in an area that is inhabited by the orphans of The Reestablishment. James is allowed to play with the other kids, but they are not allowed actually inside the apartment as a safety precaution. The safety of this home is breached when Kenji arrives after he escapes from Warner.

## **Omega Point**

Omega Point is the safe haven that Kenji mentioned at Adam's home. It is the main location of the resistance movement being led by Castle.



# Themes and Motifs

## Isolation

For Juliette, the theme of isolation is prevalent in terms of her character. From a young age, she has been isolated from the world. First her parents isolated themselves from her when they found that her touch could be painful or lethal. For the parents, it is if Juliette has ruined their lives and is not someone worthy of their time or attention. In minor flashbacks, the reader sees that the parents have an unending hatred for her and others around her treat her as a monster.

Juliette's parents believed that she has ruined their lives. They wanted a perfect life and family, and because of Juliette's ability they felt that they have been robbed of it. They constantly mentally, verbally, and physically abused Juliette. She spent most of her time at home locked in her room and she tried to stay out of their way as much as possible. Her parents also had a large yardstick, which measures how far away from them she has to be at all times.

At school, Juliette was considered a freak and someone the other kids do not want to get to know. She was often bullied by her peers and even her teachers. They taunted her with questions as to why she does not kill herself. She was physically abused by the others and no one seemed to want to help her. She was left by herself while the others play. Juliette ended up switching schools frequently as no one wanted to deal with her. At her final school, she encountered a boy named Adam. Although the two did not really talk to one another, it was clear that Adam was protective of her. This did not help to cure her isolation as Adam never truly made contact with her.

At the age of 14, Juliette was incarcerated for the murder that she accidentally committed. No one believed her when she tried to explain that she did not mean to do it. She was put into several facilities, including mental asylums and went through all kinds of treatments like shock therapy. She was finally transferred to a cell in an unknown location where she is at the beginning of the novel. She does not see the other inmates, she only hears them as they are tortured or begging to be let out.

The end of Juliette's isolation begins with Adam becoming her cellmate. This is a tumultuous time for Juliette as she learns to trust others. There is a roller coaster of trust and betrayal as Juliette tries to break free of her isolation. After being transferred to Sector 45, Juliette comes to trust Adam more especially as he has secretly given her notebook back to her. Juliette's isolation is taken away as the romance between her and Adam begins. Once Adam and Juliette escape, Juliette is able to meet others in a small group of resistance fighters. Some of them, including Adam, have various abilities of their own. This helps Juliette to feel as if she is not a monster knowing that others have felt the same way she does. Towards the end of the novel, Juliette is given a suit of clothes that keeps others from being hurt by her touch.



Adam in his own way is also isolated, although isolation is not at the center of his character development. He has been abused by his father and there is no mention of his mother. At school, he watches over Juliette, although he does not contact her. The other kids regard Adam as more of a curiosity; they do not tease him but they do not go out of their way to be friendly with him either. After Adam and his brother James become orphans, they are isolated and have no one to rely on. This and the necessity to find Juliette again causes Adam to go into the military and suffer brutality and harsh conditions.

## Society

Before Juliette is incarcerated the world is beginning to deteriorate. Food is becoming more scarce and the land is dying. Animals are becoming extinct and the weather is becoming more unpredictable. It is a gradual change, with no one really noticing it, but over time these changes become inevitably unlivable. The Reestablishment started speaking out about this publicly quite some time before Juliette is incarcerated. They promised peace and a return to normality.

Over time, these conditions worsen for the people. Widespread chaos ensues and The Reestablishment is able to dominate the world. All of the cities are destroyed and nothing is the same. The world is broken up into over 3,000 sectors with one person ruling each of them. The people are ruled with fear. There is no desire on the part of The Reestablishment to share power or to make the lives of the people easier.

At the beginning of the novel, Adam tells Juliette about the changes to society that The Reestablishment wants to enact. They want to do away with all languages and build their own. Writing will be a thing of the past, making Juliette's secret notebook an extremely rare item. Works of art are to be destroyed. History will be rewritten to the satisfaction of The Reestablishment. All facets of life from the past will be eradicated to the point where the people will only have knowledge of The Reestablishment.

Within each sector there is a hierarchy that is played out. The top tier is the military. They get the best of everything: food, housing, and other items. Inside the compound Warner lives in the walls are magnificently adorned with all sorts of art. The rooms are filled with expensive looking furniture and everything looks as if there has been no expense spared. Even Juliette's room is ornate. Inside the room is a closet full of the best clothes and more than she could ever want. At meals, Warner and his men are served the best foods. They are served by citizens and Juliette notices that the citizens look undernourished and like they have all been mistreated. Once Juliette is on the run with Adam, she sees that their housing is nothing compared to the military's. The citizens' houses are no more than huts lumped together and are relatively small. As she stays in Adam's house, she learns that food is strictly rationed and they are not given much. Each home gets a set of tiny ration packs that a person can put in a machine called an Automat to heat and make bigger. Any kind of wasting of these packs will result in severe consequences.



After Juliette gets to Omega Point, Castle tells her of The Reestablishment's deceptions. Castle first talks about how man has made the world decay through their over use of harmful chemicals and other ecological problems. Then he goes on to tell Juliette of how The Reestablishment has been secretly growing and processing their own food, but not necessarily sharing it with the common citizens. The Reestablishment basically keeps the best for themselves and leaves the rest to the citizens. Many citizens who are able to work are put on farms to work the land. Those who are not working on the farms are considered expendable and can be killed at will as they are the citizens of the sectors.

The purpose of Omega Point, Castle says, is to try to undo what The Reestablishment is doing. They are their own society that is grouped together to try to bring the truth to the citizens and free them from tyranny. Omega Point is a haven for people who have special abilities, their families, and other supporters. The society in this area is a free thinking society, but it is also heavily regulated so that they are not found. They do not allow germs or infectious items in, which is why Juliette is cleaned and her clothes burnt. Everyone is trained to control their abilities. There is a school, which James is excited to attend, and the way of life is one where everyone embraces their uniqueness. In this, Juliette feels that she will truly fit in here and she can be a productive member of this society.

## Rebellion

Since the world has been dominated by The Reestablishment, there are those that oppose this rule and mean to take back control of society. Rebel factions have been popping up all over the world and The Reestablishment deals with rebellions harshly. When Juliette is living in Warner's compound, one of the first things he does is to take Juliette to see the troops. As they are saluting Warner and Juliette, one of the men has a report that a soldier has been giving food and aid to a party of rebels. Warner calls this man out and asks him if he denies the charge. When the man does not deny them, Warner shoots him in the head immediately.

Juliette is infuriated by this scene and demands to know why he would do such a thing. Warner's reply is that there is a rebellion going on, not only in the streets, but with his own men. He is secretly having a hard time controlling his men. When Warner has one of his men grab Juliette, he has a reason to do so in front of the men. When they see the soldier get hurt from touching Juliette, they become frightened. Warner says that their fears of being touched by Juliette is one of the ways he can keep them in line so they will not try to usurp his power. Warner also feels that Juliette's powers could come in handy with the outside rebels as well. With Juliette's touch, he can torture prisoners into giving him any information about the rebellion that he wants. Juliette absolutely refuses to do this, but Warner thinks that she will eventually come around to his way of thinking.

Juliette is a bit rebellious herself. When she first arrives in Warner's compound, she is shown to her room. Adam suggests that she change for dinner with Warner, but Juliette



refuses. She does not want to be taken in by Warner's false promises and she does not trust his intentions. Instead, she wears the same clothes that she came to the compound in to dinner, much to Adam's dismay. Warner is disappointed by this, but he also enjoys Juliette's rebellious spirit although he is a bit annoyed at her refusal to eat. Unfortunately, due to Juliette's small rebellion, Adam winds up beaten as a warning to Juliette to comply with Warner's wishes. In order to save Adam, the next time Warner sees her, Juliette is wearing one of the dresses from the closet.

Although Adam is in the military, he is also a rebel in his own way. He has only joined the military and become close with Warner to seek out Juliette and to rescue her from Warner. In the notebook he hides in the closet, he writes that not everything is as it seems. He makes sure that Juliette is aware of the hidden cameras in the bedroom as well as the fact that there are no hidden cameras in the bathroom. While in the bathroom, with the showers running, he informs Juliette that he has been purposefully searching for her and that he intends to get her out of there. Two weeks later, Adam is successful in getting Juliette out, and Adam is listed as a rebel to be killed by Warner.

Kenji is also another rebel hiding in the military. He is actually a member of Omega Point, but he has infiltrated Warner's army to keep tabs on Warner and to also rescue Juliette. Kenji knows of Adam and has been keeping tabs on him as well to make sure that Adam is not truly working for Warner. Kenji's rescue plans for Juliette are foiled when Adam takes Juliette back to his home. Kenji is tortured for information about Adam and is barely able to escape using his invisibility power. When Kenji arrives at Adam's house, the military also shows up to capture Juliette and Adam. They are eventually caught after hiding Kenji and James in a safe place. Adam is hauled off to another building to be tortured to death, but this plan fails as Juliette shoots Warner and she is able to rescue Adam.

Adam and Juliette are taken to Omega Point. Kenji lets it be known that his primary goal was to get Juliette to this place originally. Omega Point is a haven for people with special talents and is a stronghold for the rebel activity in the area. In this place, the people with special abilities are trained to use their powers as they know that a war is coming between themselves and The Reestablishment. As Juliette settles in and becomes encouraged by the opportunities this place holds, she finds herself ready to begin her training so that she may join the rebel efforts as well.

## Relationships

Juliette has not had a relationship with anyone for most of her life. She is considered a monster or a freak by all of the people around her. Her parents never loved her and made sure that she knew it every chance they got. When the military arrested her, her parents did not try to stop it, they were instead glad to see her go. Other people around her were also glad that the problem in their community was gone. In school, Juliette tried very hard to make friends, often sacrificing herself for the sake of others in an attempt to have someone want to be around her. These attempts were only validated as



long as the person could use Juliette, but she was abandoned once the person did not need her.

Over time, Juliette has had no actual relationships with anyone. She has been in and out of mental institutions, detention centers, and eventually locked into the cell she is at the start of the novel. She has absolutely no contact with the outside world. The only time she is talked to is when the guards tell her that she will be getting a new cell mate. Once Adam arrives, he treats her harshly at the beginning to show his dominance. He feels ashamed of this later as he notices Juliette cold and wet in the corner after shower time. After this, a tentative friendship forms, although Juliette keeps thinking to herself that she somehow knows Adam from her past.

As time goes on, Juliette's feelings for Adam grow, but this is not without problems, especially when she finds out that he is a spy for the military. Once she finds out through his note in her notebook that he really is on Juliette's side, the feelings turn romantic. Adam shares these feelings for her as he helps her to remember that they have known each other since the 3rd grade. Adam has been searching for her ever since Juliette was incarcerated for the murder she accidentally committed.

Juliette's captor, Warner, wants to try to have a relationship with Juliette. In his perverted mind, he feels that he can sway Juliette's feelings by first showing her what life could be like if she decides to stay with him. Next he tries to play on the fact that Juliette has been an outcast all of her life and that he can help her get revenge on everyone who has ever wronged her. The more Juliette tries to resist, the more Warner is persistent. It is evident that Warner also has some sort of romantic interest in Juliette as well, but he can do nothing about it as at first he cannot touch her except with his gloves. When Juliette and Adam escape, Warner is outraged but yet tries to use the fact that he can love her better than Adam will to try to get Juliette to come back. In this attempt, Warner reaches out to Juliette and accidentally touches her but there is no pain. When he captures her again, he feels that he can now truly love her and be intimate with her since he will not be hurt. This idea is sickening and frightening to Juliette, but she is able to use this against him to steal his gun and shoot him.

Adam has another significant relationship as well. Juliette learns after they escape from Warner's compound that Adam is hiding a younger brother in a home in an area of elderly people and orphans. Adam's brother James is only 10 years old and is the most important person in Adam's life. It is evident when James sees Adam again for the first time in 6 months that the brothers have a deep connection. This connection is extremely important as they are both orphans and have had only each other to rely on for quite some time. Later in the evening, Juliette sees how deep this relationship goes as James has a nightmare and Adam gives him a kind of tenderness and patience Juliette has never seen in Adam before.

Once Kenji takes Adam, Juliette, and James to Omega Point, Juliette is able to finally see the potential in having more relationships with others. She learns that there are over 50 other people who have some sort of ability. This puts her at incredible ease for the first time in her life. As Adam heals from being injured by Warner's men, Juliette and



Adam are secure in their romance and Juliette is now surrounded by others who care for her and respect her and she will do the same for them as well.

## Changes

The entire novel sees the evolution of Juliette and her emergence as a powerful entity. When Juliette was young, her parents found out the hard way that she could be touched. This made them extremely angry towards her because they felt she ruined their lives and dreams for a perfect family. As such they were abusive towards her. As she grew, kids at school teased her and also were abusive towards her. As a result she was considered the school freak, had to constantly change schools, and was not accepted by anyone around her. This was the start of Juliette's isolation and depression.

In third grade, she met a boy named Adam who did not talk to her, but seemed to be protective of her. He watched over her and wanted to talk to her but he could not as he did not know what to say. Juliette wanted to be his friend, but she did not say anything either for fear that he would turn away from her. Her depression and loneliness continued for years afterwards with both of them trying to find the right words just to say hello to one another. The opportunity was lost when Juliette is taken away for the accidental murder of a young child.

As Juliette suffers at the hands of several detention facilities, she continues her slide into a deep depression. She no longer looks at herself in the mirror and she is convinced that she is a monster who deserves to die. At the beginning of the novel, Juliette faces a mixture of fear and anxiety as she learns that she will get a new cell mate. The fear in Juliette is brought heavily into focus as a man named Adam is put in the cell with her and he steals her bed, blanket and pillows. Instead of demanding them back, she is so used to her ill treatment that she says nothing about this. Juliette's partial recognition of Adam is actually the spark that ignites the changes that continues to occur throughout the novel. After Adam is kind enough to give Juliette her blanket and bed back, a friendship is struck up, although it is a tentative one where she still has issues with trusting Adam completely. After Juliette is seized by the guards at the end of her prison stay, she learns that Adam is actually a member of the military which causes her to shut down again just after she is willing to start truly trusting him.

After Juliette comes to Warner's compound, Juliette adopts a mistrustful, rebellious nature. She learns of Warner's plan to use her as a torture tool and she resists. She still considers herself a monster, but Warner wants her to see her own potential. Juliette is starting to change into someone who is a bit stronger as she refuses to cooperate with Warner's plans. There is also a shift in how she feels towards Adam, especially after she sees the note that was written in her notebook. Her mistrust in Adam is lifted and she recognizes him as the boy she used to know. This is a monumental change as their relationship goes from awkward friendship to a beginning romance.

Juliette grows stronger in her desires to be free and in her caring for Adam. As she and Adam plot their escape, she is starting to feel romantic feelings for Adam. As they begin



to share more intimate moments together, Juliette realizes that she is actually in love with Adam. She finds a new mental and emotional strength as well as a physical ability as she is determined to get away from Warner as well as a new ability when Warner has the audacity to put a child's life in danger so he can put Juliette through an experiment. This strength serves her well as she gets her chance to escape Warner during an afternoon drill. The escape causes her to be bold, as she would have never attempted an escape from anywhere before, but she is successful in this. Her desire to get away safely with Adam propels her to do things she was physically incapable of previously, such as running through the streets and climbing fences.

Once at Adam's home, there is another change in Juliette. As she meets James and he is instantly attached to her, she is beginning to feel that she could be happy in a quiet life with the two of them. She sees Adam's interactions with James and she begins to realize that maybe she is not the monster that she was always told she is. She wants to fight to protect her life as well as theirs. She gets her chance when she and James are captured as they are trying to flee from the military that has come to Adam's house. By deceiving Warner during his sexual advances, she shoots a gun for the first time, injuring Warner. She is brave as she rescues Adam from hanging in an abandoned warehouse.

After she rescues Adam, Juliette drives a car for the first time, although she does not do it well. Once Kenji takes Juliette, Adam, and James to Omega Point, she is changed again as she is starting to feel the acceptance and freedom she has always longed for. She finds others with special abilities and those that want to train her on how to use her abilities. She is also given a suit that will help her to touch others and not hurt them. In this, her evolution is complete, for she has finally become a fierce, strong, and most importantly, loved woman.



# Styles

## Point of View

The point of view of the novel is in the first person omniscient view. This is designed to give the reader a thorough look at Juliette's thoughts and feelings as she goes from being isolated from the world to thrust into the middle of a rebellion against an evil regime. The heavy use of the strike through method throughout the novel adds to this point of view as the reader is able to learn of Juliette's inner conflict. With this, the reader is made more aware of Juliette's feelings and her desire to be free but her feelings that she can never be free as she considers herself a monster.

## Language and Meaning

The language of the novel is fairly simple. The narrative is not too complicated in terms of word meanings, but the constant use of metaphors add to the ability to visualize Juliette's situation and to help empathize with her feelings. There is no complicated jargon or technical wording that could complicate the flow of the story. The narrative is filled with metaphors, such as the bird who symbolizes Juliette's hopes for freedom. The dialogues throughout the novel keep to the point of the story and are helpful in aiding the actions occurring around them. It also gives the reader a chance to fully see how Juliette's mind is developing and gives imagery to Juliette's feelings. There is little in the way of expletives or sexual innuendos, although towards the end there is occasional use of these, making this novel acceptable for young teen readers.

## Structure

The novel is broken up into 50 chapters. Each chapter is between 4 and 5 pages in length. Most of the chapters begin right at the ending of the previous chapter, giving a seamless flow to the structure of the novel. This also keeps the novel solely focused on Juliette and Adam. There are brief flashbacks strewn throughout the story, which aids in providing a back story for primary characters such as Juliette and Adam. A large portion of the beginning of the novel deals with Juliette's isolation in the prison cell and the revelation that she is wanted for use in torture tactics by The Reestablishment. The middle part of the novel provides the climax and Juliette's escape while being introduced to other characters who also have special abilities. The last part of the novel turns the story into a romance between Juliette and Adam that has been blossoming since Adam was originally put into Juliette's cell. This is mixed in with scenes of dramatic action surrounding their escape from Warner's compound, their recapture and their flight to a new safe haven where Juliette meets others who have abilities and who can help her to prepare for a battle to come.



## Quotes

I will never fight back because I'm too petrified too paralyzed too paranoid.  
-- Juliette (chapter 1 paragraph 33)

**Importance:** This quote shows the powerless nature that Juliette has at the beginning of the novel. As she has been ostracized for most of her life, Juliette has come to the decision that she is a horrible person and that she cannot try to change her own fate. When she gets a new roommate named Adam, he automatically takes her bed and pillow as his own. Juliette is too scared to fight Adam back and is forced to sleep on the cold floor.

Truth is a jealous, vicious mistress that never ever sleeps, is what I don't tell him. I'll never be okay.  
-- Juliette (chapter 6 paragraph 47)

**Importance:** Adam is concerned about Juliette as they get to know each other. He tries to reach out and touch her, but in fear of hurting Adam, she shies away to avoid his touch. Adam mistakes this for nervousness and says that she will be okay. Juliette feels that she will never be okay as long as she can never touch anyone.

They wanted to believe they could go back to worrying about gossip and holiday vacations and going to parties on Saturday nights, so The Reestablishment promised a future too perfect to be possible and society was too desperate to believe. They never realized they were signing away their souls to a group planning on taking advantage of their ignorance. Their fear.  
-- Juliette (chapter 10 paragraph 49)

**Importance:** Juliette is describing the nature of current society. The downfall of society brought about promises by The Reestablishment to create a utopia where life would be even better than before. The people believe these promises in hopes that they can go back to having carefree lives, but The Reestablishment used the people's hopes against them for their own selfish purposes.

Life is a bleak place. Sometimes you have to learn how to shoot first.  
-- Warner (chapter 18 paragraph 22)

**Importance:** Warner executes a man claimed to be giving food and materials to rebels. There was no trial or due process as Warner callously asks if the man has done these things before shooting him in the face. Juliette is mortified over this and demands to know why he has done such a thing. The quote is Warner's explanation to Juliette as he has already intimated that he knows that rebels are on the move and that even his own men would like to take him down.

The world suddenly means something to me, the possibility of humanity means something to me, the entire universe stops in place and spins the other direction and I'm



the bird.

-- Juliette (chapter 19 paragraph 79)

**Importance:** Adam promises Juliette to get her free from her imprisonment. He is also able to touch her and he has romantic feelings for her. This is the first time that Juliette has felt like a normal human being. For Juliette this is the first step away from isolation and towards freedom.

I'd follow you anywhere. You're the only good thing left in this world.

-- Adam (chapter 23 paragraph 70)

**Importance:** Adam makes his promise to get Juliette out of Sector 45 during the upcoming military operation. Juliette worries that he will not come with her and that he will remain with the soldiers once she is set free. Adam has always had feelings for Juliette and once he is able to get Juliette out, he cares too much for her to go out alone, instead he wants to stay by her side wherever she goes.

You've been so caught up in the details of your own fantasies you failed to notice the dangers right in front of your face.

-- Adam (chapter 27 paragraph 15)

**Importance:** As Adam and Juliette prepare to make their escape and are holding Warner momentarily captive, Warner makes the threat that he will destroy Adam. Warner is furious that Adam has deceived him. This response to Warner's fury shows that Warner has been spending too much time not keeping his focus on what is actually going on around him. Instead, Warner has been solely focused on the fantasy that Juliette would join him.

He's fighting for so much more than himself.

-- Juliette (chapter 32 paragraph 65)

**Importance:** As Juliette watches Adam put James to bed, she realizes that Adam has sacrificed a lot for his family and for her. He has purposefully subjected himself to being a part of the military's diabolical plans and has been beaten and tortured. Adam has done this to protect the only family member he has left and because he is in love with Juliette.

I'm too poor to afford the luxury of hysteria right now.

-- Juliette (chapter 40 paragraph 55)

**Importance:** Juliette is horrified to see Adam hanging by his arms and severely injured in the warehouse after she escapes from Warner. He is covered in cuts, bruises and blood as he has been shot in the leg and beaten. Warner's intentions are to first have his way with Juliette then come back after some time to slowly torture Adam to death. Juliette knows that she must remain calm although this scene is extremely gruesome for her. If she slips up and acts irrational she could be caught again and Adam could be killed.



Fear is a great motivator.

-- Castle (chapter 46 paragraph 5)

**Importance:** Castle is explaining the importance of the resistance movement as he talks about The Reestablishment and what they have done. They have been purposefully keeping the citizens in dirty conditions with little food and basic necessities. This quote shows that The Reestablishment choose to rule over the people by using fear tactics instead of trying to democratically rule them.

I realize for the first time that he's given me wings of my own. He's helped me fly away and now I'm stuck in centripetal motion, soaring into the center of everything.

-- Juliette (chapter 49 paragraph 67)

**Importance:** This signifies Juliette's evolution from a scared and isolated girl into a free and fierce young woman. She has found freedom, acceptance, and love, the things she has been searching for all of her life thanks to Adam who was the first to truly care for and believe in her.

You saved my life.

-- Adam (chapter 50)

**Importance:** Adam is thanking Juliette for rescuing him from Warner and saving his life. This is an ironic statement as Adam's original main goal was to save Juliette's life.