

# **The Twelve (Book Two of the Passage Trilogy): A Novel Study Guide**

**The Twelve (Book Two of the Passage Trilogy): A Novel by Justin Cronin**

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



# Contents

<a href="#">The Twelve (Book Two of the Passage Trilogy): A Novel Study Guide.....</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">Contents.....</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">Plot Summary.....</a>	<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">Prologue, Chapters one through four.....</a>	<a href="#">4</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 1 and 2.....</a>	<a href="#">6</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 6-12.....</a>	<a href="#">8</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 13-20.....</a>	<a href="#">11</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 23.....</a>	<a href="#">15</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 24 through 28.....</a>	<a href="#">17</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 29 through 35.....</a>	<a href="#">19</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 36 through 40.....</a>	<a href="#">21</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 41 through 48.....</a>	<a href="#">23</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 49 through 54.....</a>	<a href="#">26</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 55 through 57.....</a>	<a href="#">28</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 58 through 62.....</a>	<a href="#">29</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 63 through 66.....</a>	<a href="#">31</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 67 through 71.....</a>	<a href="#">33</a>
<a href="#">Characters.....</a>	<a href="#">35</a>
<a href="#">Objects/Places.....</a>	<a href="#">40</a>
<a href="#">Themes.....</a>	<a href="#">42</a>
<a href="#">Style.....</a>	<a href="#">44</a>
<a href="#">Quotes.....</a>	<a href="#">47</a>
<a href="#">Topics for Discussion.....</a>	<a href="#">49</a>



# Plot Summary

The world has been taken over by virals, an altered race of vampiric creatures who kill and turn every human they can reach. Like traditional vampires, these creatures tend to hunt at night so humans are reasonably safe during the daytime. Humans can typically move around freely during the daytime though there are some daytime attacks that occur. The communities of humans who are surviving are usually forced to live behind huge walls with strict rules about guards and movement after dark.

The virals are manmade, the creation of research called Project Noah. Those infected with the virus are immortal and immune to human ailments. The original researchers hoped to create an immortality serum without the side effects. Amy Bellafonte, a young girl abandoned by her mother, is the only one to react as the researchers had hoped. The ultimate goal was to create a race of super-soldiers. When the virals break free, they cause the fall of civilizations and almost wipe out the human population.

Almost a century has passed when Amy finds her way to the Colony where a group of survivors are faced with the knowledge that the lights they burn all are about to fail. Those lights keep the virals at bay and without them the entire population of the Colony is doomed. Members of the Colony learn the answer to their problems may lie in Colorado, far from their California town. Though there is no mechanical transportation, circumstances prompt the group to set out with Amy. Along the way they discover the virals have killed off almost everyone and have begun, with a small group of humans, to create a system to raise humans to serve as a food source for the original virals. Their travels take them through dangerous situations until they find the original Project Noah site and learn about the research that caused the downfall of civilization.

Meanwhile, other communities are trying to survive and seeking ways to make decent lives for themselves and their families. They have constructed "hard boxes," small underground shelters capable of keeping virals at bay, for shelter in case someone is caught in the open when virals attack. In one such community, a group of families is caught in the open only to realize the virals themselves had hidden in the hard boxes.

In another region, a corrupt city has been created with the sole intention of providing food for the virals. In turn, the humans are drinking infected blood though not directly from the virals. This has made them immortal and very young in appearance, though they must continue to drink to maintain that. Each of the original twelve virals, known as "the Twelve," has infected others. When that member of the Twelve dies, all the virals die with him. As a group of travelers accompanied by Amy converge on that corrupt city, they come up with an idea to kill the remaining members of the twelve. The plan succeeds with Wolgast using a bomb to kill all the remaining Twelve except one, a viral named Anthony Carter who has already locked himself in an abandoned ship and is therefore unable to infect anyone else.



# Prologue, Chapters one through four

## Prologue, Chapters one through four Summary

The prologue is an excerpt from an official document presented at the Third Global Conference of the North American Quarantine Period, presented in 1003 A.V. in South Wales. The verses of chapter one describe God's disappointment in the wicked ways of man and His decision to create a flood, only this time it was to be a flood of blood. The savior of the human race this time would be a young girl named Amy. Sister Lacey was directed by God to watch over Amy and she did.

In chapter two, Amy was taken to Colorado where she was infected with the virus, but she survived, due largely to a righteous man who had befriended her. His name was Wolgast and he took Amy to Oregon where he discovered she didn't age or need food or sleep. Then Wolgast died and Amy was left to wander by herself.

In chapter three, Amy is ninety-eight when she arrives at the First Colony in California but the people there are afraid of her because they can't imagine how she survived in the open alone. And a group that includes Amy leaves the Colony, headed for Colorado. The remainder of that chapter describes other events that occur in this book, including the arrival at the Farmstead where they were somehow protected for a week of rest.

In chapter four, Lacey arrives to tell Peter that he is the one chosen to lead the believers to safety. There is also a brief description of the battle in which Lacey kills Babcock. After Babcock's death, Amy moves among the virals he'd created, blessing each as they died. And all these things were meant to show Amy and the other travelers what to expect during their journey.

## Prologue, Chapters one through four Analysis

Chapter one begins with the words, "For it came to pass that the world had grown wicked," indicating that this is God's plan for purging the world of those evil people. There is also a comparison to the story of Noah in the Bible in which the world was flooded, but this time, according to the passages in the Prologue, the world was washed in blood.

The first infected is referred to as Zero and his appearance prompted the decision to attempt to create a race of super soldiers. The story, as presented in the first book, is that a researcher discovered a virus that apparently cured all ailments in the host. A group of cancer patients had been cured of their cancer but had then gone mad. The research, called "Zero" because he was the carrier from which the Twelve was infected, had actually gone looking for the virus when he became infected. Zero and the Twelve were housed in a secure location in Colorado but they escaped. The researchers, in an attempt to find a way to use the virus without the side-effects, had also infected a child - Amy.



Sister Lacey appears in this story only during the prologue and the memories of some of the characters. Amy's mother had been on the run from police for murder and had dropped Amy at a church where Sister Lacey wound up taking on Amy's care. There was an immediate bond between the two and when Amy was taken by the FBI for the research, Lacey followed, directed by God to the place where Amy was being kept. Lacey later joins with Amy and some others to kill Babcock, one of the Twelve. When Babcock died, all the virals he had infected died too. This prompts the plan at the end of this book to kill the remaining eleven of the Twelve in order to bring an end to the viral population.

The First Colony is described only briefly in the Prologue but it's an important setting because it is the home of a group of the main characters of this book. The First Colony was created by the people of Philadelphia in an effort to save some of the children. Those youngsters were put aboard a train and sent to California where they lived in isolation for almost a century. The hope when they were taken there was that they could survive until the situation was under control. The place was made to last a decade or so and now, almost a century later, the batteries that power the lights that keep the virals at bay at night have begun to fail. Without those batteries, the entire Colony will quickly be overrun.



# Chapters 1 and 2

## Chapters 1 and 2 Summary

"The Ghost" is set in the Summer of 97 A.V. In chapter one, at the Orphanage of the Order of the Sisters in Kerrville, Texas, Amy is looking after children. Her last stop of the evening is at the bedside of Caleb who always asks Amy to tell him about his parents, Theo and Mausami. Caleb says he sometimes "sees" his parents though they are dead. Amy tells him to go to sleep and reminds him that his Uncle Peter will soon arrive with the Texas Expeditionary Army. Caleb says he's overheard talk that Amy is "very old," a fact of which she was unaware. She leaves the orphanage and goes to the wall where she calls to "them," in search of Wolgast.

In chapter two, Alicia Donadio, a lieutenant in the Texas Expeditionary Army, is in Carlsbad, New Mexico. She is infected with the virus though never turned into a full-fledged viral. Because she is infected, she has a telepathic connection to the other virals and senses that one of the Twelve, a man named Martinez, is hiding in the Carlsbad Caverns.

## Chapters 1 and 2 Analysis

There is a reference in chapter one of this section to the "thirdlings." The compound at Kerrville, Texas, is a confined space and families are allowed to have only two children because a population explosion would severely tax the resources of the city. It's noted that some of the children left at the orphanage are there because they are the third born and their parents are unable to pay the tax levied on a third child. The money situation is described later and is basically the same as in modern day United States though there are no bills and the actual currency is different. In the First Colony, everyone is also allowed a specific allowance and can "spend" that or trade for anything they want. Through both methods, there is the potential for class differences, the establishment of wealthy families and poor, but this doesn't really seem to have happened yet.

The latter part of chapter one of this section is somewhat confusing, and more so to the reader who hasn't read the first book of this series. Kerrville is surrounded by a wall and there are lights that burn all night to keep the virals at bay. Amy goes to the wall and calls out with her mind. Virals appear at the edges of the clearing and Amy isn't afraid of them. She seems to be Seeking Brad Wolgast, who had taken her when the compound at Colorado fell to the virals. She apparently doesn't find him. Her desire to see him is probably prompted by her conversation with Caleb in which he refers to missing his parents. Amy's mother abandoned her when she was very young and she never knew her father. The bond she forged with Wolgast remains stronger than many biological connections and will play an important role in the story later.



Alicia is described in detail. She is twenty-seven years old and has very short red hair and eyes that "glow with an orange hue." Alicia was severely wounded in the first book and Peter had possession of the virus that had been used on Amy. Knowing that Alicia was likely to die, he administered a small dose of the virus to her and she recovered but she is now extremely fast and strong. Over the course of the book, she begins to experience a thirst for blood and knows that she will eventually have to die in order to keep from becoming a full-fledged viral.

Alicia encounters a group of three virals in New Mexico and kills two of them outright. She has to fight the third and as they come to the moment of Alicia killing the viral, she realizes the viral's name was Mary, that she had been a mother, and that her final thought had been for her children. While there is no hope for the virals and they have become cold-blooded killers, they were once people and this will later become Amy's role - sending their spirits onward when they die.



# Chapters 6-12

## Chapters 6-12 Summary

In *The Familiar*, chapter three begins with a case file from the Denver Police Department in which Dr. Lila Kyle is being interviewed. The interview takes place in "year zero," shortly after the escape of the Twelve. The police officer doing the interview manages to ascertain that Dr. Kyle was in the hospital the previous night and was called to the emergency room to see a patient who had experienced some sort of bite. Lila is disoriented and can't seem to answer questions. The officer says nine people were killed in the emergency room the previous evening and that police are trying to piece together what happened. She says she has to think about her own unborn child and that she can't think about what happened any more.

In chapter four, Bernard Kittridge is staying in an apartment on the nineteenth floor of a building. He has sealed off the elevator so there is no access to the apartment and, from the balcony, has been killing off virals and posting the videos to the web. Bernard was working at Outdoor World where a rich man named Warren Filo was a customer. Bernard knew that Warren was out of town when the virals attacked, and chose his apartment as one that could be fortified. He becomes known as "Last Stand in Denver" until the electricity fails. Then he knows the authorities have found him and he expects to be arrested. He makes it out of the city in Warren's sports car.

In chapter five, Lawrence Grey wakes in a motel room at the Red Roof Inn. He doesn't remember getting there. He's with another man who says that Grey will be ravenously hungry for blood within a few days. The man leaves behind a gun when he departs, telling Grey he should keep it in case he decides he wants to kill himself. When he leaves the motel room, he finds death and destruction outside. He hears a voice calling. He chooses a pickup truck from the abandoned vehicles nearby and begins to drive.

In chapter six, Danny Chayes is mentally challenged and depends heavily on routine to get through the days. His mother is dead and he is almost out of food after waiting for several days, trying to decide what to do. In the end, he goes to the bus depot and boards his bus, planning to run his route for lack of a better plan. None of the children appear at their designated stops but when he reaches his final pickup spot, he honks the horn and the boy, Timothy, appears with his older sister, April. April says hasn't seen another living person and asks Danny to take them to Mile High where she understands there is an army. Danny doubts that can be true, but he begins to drive.

In chapter seven, Lila Kyle hates the color she's painting the nursery and decides she will go to the hardware store. She notes the piles of dirty dishes in the sink and decides the hired woman probably hasn't shown up for work.

In chapter eight, Deputy Director Horace Guilder finds himself answering to the Joint Chiefs of Staff regarding the virus outbreak, which has by now virtually wiped out





Colorado and is quickly spreading. He explains about Project Noah which created vampires and that it "seemed like a good idea at the time." Guilder knows about Amy and he is searching for her through a tracking device. Guilder has ALS. He believes some version of the virus is the key to saving his own life. A member of his staff later catches sight of Lawrence Grey.

## Chapters 6-12 Analysis

Chapter three is the first chapter of the section titled "The Familiar." The title isn't explained until near the end of the book. Lila Kyle is actual Brad Wolgast's ex-wife. She is pregnant when the virals escape and cause the downfall of civilization, and she actually sees one of the early attacks occur while she's working in the hospital, long before the public knows what happened. Lila herself is later infected and becomes a blood-drinker, but she is never a full-fledged viral. However, she later has power over humans and sometimes helps capture humans used to feed the virals. In some ways, these blood-drinkers - called "red-eyes" - are similar to the familiars commonly associated with witches.

It's not really clear why the authorities take the time to track down Bernard when the virals are killing off people by the thousands. As Bernard makes his way to the garage where Warren's car is parked, he sees the red dots that indicate laser beams from guns, indicating he is being pursued by some sort of police or military. This aspect of the story is never explained but it is very early in the attacks and the military is trying to keep control of the situation.

Lawrence Grey is a registered sex offender who worked on Project Noah. The details of that research are not revealed in this book, but Grey - like all the employees and the test subjects - was chosen because he had no family and no one would miss him if he never reappeared in society. When Grey wakes in the motel, he has no memory of leaving the compound and his initial thought is that he'll be in trouble for doing so. The workers were not allowed to leave for any reason. Grey was actually attacked during the escape of the virals and is now infected with the virus. He will play a pivotal role in the story as the storyline unfolds, serving as a blood donor for the red-eyes for almost a century.

From the first introduction of Lila Kyle, it's obvious that she's had a break from reality. She is actually Brad Wolgast's ex-wife. In the first book it was explained that the two had divorced because of their grief over the death of their daughter, but they were still in love. In this book, the reader learns that Lila's break from reality is her way of trying to protect herself from more grief in the face of her worry over her unborn child, who she knows will be a daughter.

There seems to be some means of tracking pedophiles and it's apparently because of this that Lawrence Grey comes to Guilder's attention. One of his staffers says they found Grey through a "signal." When Guilder asks how they knew Grey was from the

Project Noah compound, the staffer tells him that all the workers on the level with the virals had been registered sex offenders.



# Chapters 13-20

## Chapters 13-20 Summary

In chapter thirteen, Danny is driving through Iowa. When they catch sight of Omaha, the entire city is on fire. They search for a way across the river and find a school building Kittridge believes he can defend. They plan to spend the night there and find some canned food in the cafeteria. That night, April joins Kittridge while he's standing watch. Kittridge shares a story of his time in the war in the Middle East and April seems to understand him more than he'd expected. Kittridge gives her one of his guns as protection. The next morning, they find a military convoy and Kittridge introduces himself as a medically-discharged Marine, capturing the attention of Porcheki, the commanding officer. She agrees to take Kittridge's group to her base.

In chapter fourteen, Guilder prepares to leave the city. He stops first by the nursing home where his father lives. There are no nurses or orderlies in the building and Guilder smothers his father to death with a pillow rather than leaving him to face some other certain death.

In chapter fifteen, Grey and Lila find a tanker blocking the road. Grey is hearing voices in his head and believes it's the original viral who is called Zero. He is about to turn around when the voice says there is a "gift" inside the tanker. He gets inside the truck and finds the floor covered with blood, which he begins to drink. He hears a jet overhead and jumps out. He's now covered with blood and Lila tries to run from him. Then they are both captured by Guilder's men.

In chapter sixteen, Kittridge's group arrives at a military installation. Their cell phones and weapons are taken. The bus is moved away and they are assigned a tent. They soon discover there are rumors of being moved to another location but no one really knows when or even if it will happen. Kittridge is worried that they might have been safer outside the installation.

In chapter seventeen, Grey wakes to find he's confined and Guilder is questioning him about where he was for the three weeks after the virals escaped. Grey doesn't remember. Guilder is presented Grey's files from when he was taken to the Colorado installation and notes that he looks much younger and healthier now. He learns that Lila was married to Brad Wolgast and thinks her presence with Grey cannot be coincidence. Guilder is urging his team to isolate the virus he is certain is in Grey's body. Guilder is dying and believes this is the answer to his own immortality. It becomes clear that Grey has bonded with Lila. He is worried about her and keeps asking Guilder about her whereabouts and her well-being.

In chapter eighteen, Kittridge's group remains on hold in the compound. The people there are becoming worried and restless. On the fourth day after their arrival, a Red Cross worker named Vera tells Kittridge there are plans for moving and that most of the



FEMA workers have already left. Kittridge plans to talk to Porcheki, and warns the others to get their belongings together and to remain close in case they have to take action on their own, like stealing the bus. Kittridge learns that a group of virals is nearby. Meanwhile, Grey is being examined by Guilder's group when an alarm sounds in the building. His one thought is to rescue Lila but he's still being restrained.

In chapter nineteen, Kittridge's group is gathered, prepared for an early morning evacuation. Kittridge tells Danny that if anything happens to break up the group, Danny is to drive north and avoid the main roads. Kittridge has retrieved their guns and again gives one to April. April says she is still a virgin and tells Kittridge that if she's going to die, she wants him to make love to her. He agrees and they find a place to be alone for awhile. Then the buses begin rolling in and they have to get ready to leave.

That evening, a member of Guilder's team discovers an executive order calling for bombing of the entire region that includes Guilder's location and the compound where Kittridge's group is located. The order states there are some two hundred thousand virals and that all civilians on the ground there are assumed to be infected and should be killed. Guilder agrees that it's time for his group to leave and he sets out to notify his superiors first.

In chapter twenty, Kittridge's group stands close together as they prepare to leave, but Tim is lost in the crowd. Kittridge shoves April aboard the bus and stays behind to find Tim. Guilder's location is bombed. In chapter twenty-one, Guilder's building is being shaken by nearby bombs and his only thought is to get Grey and Lila out of the building. Grey has escaped his bonds and he kills Nelson and drains him of blood. Lila, Grey, and Guilder make it to the roof and are in the helicopter when a shockwave from a bomb hits. The chopper goes down and Grey knows almost immediately that Lila's baby is dead. She is pouring blood and Grey realizes she might die as well. He hears a voice instructing Grey to save Lila and he pierces his skin, letting her drink.

Meanwhile, Kittridge finds Tim and manages to start a jeep but the crowd turns it over, leaving Kittridge and Tim injured and without transportation. Kittridge is holding Tim close when the bomb hits. Danny is in the convoy when they see the approaching pod of virals. Danny realizes what the others don't and instead of slowing down, he hits the gas so they are doing more than eighty when they hit the wall of virals. In chapter twenty-two, they arrive in Chicago. There are helicopters everywhere and they decide to circle the city and continue on. They pick up a few others along the way. April realizes she's pregnant and knows the child will be a boy. She decides to name him Bernard for Kittridge but with her own last name, Donadio, so that he'll carry part of each of them.

## Chapters 13-20 Analysis

When Lila is in bed the night after she meets Lawrence Grey for the first time, her mind is a whirlwind of thoughts. It's obvious she does know what's going on outside but is focused on keeping the reality at bay. She acknowledges that her husband David is dead and won't be coming home, and that there are "monsters" outside. She hears the



yelp of a dog and knows it's been killed, but she pushes the reality away each time, forcing herself to think about her unborn child. The reader has to remember that Lila has spent many years grieving the loss of her daughter, Eva. She believes the child she is carrying will be a girl and seems to be seeking a replacement for Eva. This will become an important part of Lila's existence over the coming decades. It's also important that the reader remember that Lila's ex-husband is Brad Wolgast who appears much later in the story as something of a viral. Wolgast saved Amy when the virals originally escaped and has a bond to her stronger than any biological father-daughter relationship.

Kittridge was badly wounded in the war when a man arrived with a bomb in the backseat of his car where the man's young son was also seated. Kittridge says the man had the trigger mechanism in his hand and it was obvious he was about to set off the bomb, killing everyone nearby. Kittridge, with literally seconds to make a decision, had run from the blast. He was injured but survived. When he's telling the story to April, Kittridge says there was always a choice and that he should have chosen something other than running. April counters, saying she doesn't know why he would think he'd had any options. Kittridge says he could have held the man's hand. It seems likely that the man would have fought for control of the detonator and that it would likely have gone off anyway, but Kittridge obviously feels guilty because the little boy died. This is important later when the group loses connection with Tim and Kittridge chooses to remain behind in a desperate situation in order to try to save Tim.

Major Porcheki is with the Iowa National Guard. When she and her convoy encounter Kittridge's group, she is the only one of the soldiers who isn't wearing a mask. Apparently, at this point, there is some question as to how the virus is transmitted and at least some people believe the virus might be airborne. When Porcheki tells Kittridge she'll take his group along, she also tells him that he shouldn't tell anyone he and his group are from Colorado. By the point, there is probably a great deal of panic that would put the entire group in danger from civilians and possibly even from the military.

There are a couple of interesting characters picked up by Danny's group when they encounter the FEMA trailer. A young boy name Jamal is covered with tattoos. An older woman named Mrs. Bellamy is a former school teacher. Jamal's language is rough and he's rude when he first joins the group. What's interesting is that Mrs. Bellamy stands up to him, getting him mostly under control by acting like a teacher who is faced with an unruly student. They form something of a bond because of this and their comments back and forth provide some comic relief. At one point Mrs. Bellamy pulls a tissue from her sleeve, an action that would have been discreet and ladylike when she was a young woman. Jamal tells her it's an unsanitary habit and she points out his tattoos, saying the first word that comes to her mind when she looks at him is "hepatitis." One of the other men "moans" about their back-and-forth, and suggests they "get a room."

When April, Danny, Pastor Don, and their group arrive in Philadelphia, they find another compound. They are directed to leave the bus and move with the other refugees. Pastor Don, who has become the leader of the group, steps out of the line of people streaming past. The others join him. Though they are out of fuel and are becoming somewhat desperate, they decide they need



As April travels with the group on the bus, she discovers she's pregnant. She decides to name the child Bernard for Kittridge and Donadio for herself. One of the major characters in the future of the United States is Alicia Donadio, who grows up in a confined community until she leaves with a group and winds up in Texas. The relationship is never defined but it seems likely that Alicia is April's grandchild or great-grandchild.



# Chapter 23

## Chapter 23 Summary

The section titled "The Field" begins with a sign that appears at the exit of a town warning those who pass through the gates that they are entering the "orange zone." The sign indicates those who pass through should keep an eye on the clock, note the locations of hardboxes which provide a safe haven from the virals, and that anyone left outside the city walls after dark should not expect to be rescued. The year is 79 A.V.

In chapter twenty-three, Dee Vorhees and several other women decide to take their children on a picnic in the orange zone while the men work the fields on a particular day. Her daughters, Nitia and Siri, have been outside the walls before. Her husband, Curtis, gives in, especially when all the other husbands are pushed by their wives as well. The children are excited with the outing. Also among the group is Dee's brother, Nathan, who everyone calls Cruk and her former lover, Tifty, who is the father of her daughter Nitia, though they agreed it was a mistake and have never acknowledged the affair, allowing Nitia to grow up believing Curtis is her father. The children know they are not to wander past specific landmarks but are given the opportunity to play and roam in the relatively open space.

Early in the day, Cruk believes he sees something "shiny" in an area that is believed secure. Later he sees it again and discovers it's a large trailer pulled by a truck. Suddenly there's the beginning of a solar eclipse and the sun begins to fade. There are screams to run to the hardboxes, which are large, secure places large enough for a few people to hide. The men suddenly realize virals are emerging from the hardboxes. Curtis is rushing into the rows of corn, looking for his daughters, when he sees a woman who says, "You're tired," and Curtis suddenly can't even hold his head up. Tifty grabs him and jerks him out of his trance but claims not to have seen the woman. At the end of the day, many are dead, others are missing, and the event comes to be known as the Massacre of the Field.

## Chapter 23 Analysis

As youngsters, Curtis, Cruk, Tifty, and Curtis's brother, Boz, go on an evening adventure at Tifty's urging. They are in a drain pipe when the water is released and the pipe floods, killing Boz. Curtis never forgives Tifty for creating the situation that killed Boz. To make the situation more intense, Tifty and Curtis's wife, Dee, had a one-night stand and Dee became pregnant with Nitia from that event. Tifty and Dee agreed never to let it happen again and they live with the guilty secret. Though Curtis doesn't hide his dislike of Tifty, Tifty pledges to take care of the entire family, including Curtis. Much later in the story, Tifty will find Nitia.



An important aspect of the massacre in the field is seen when the bodies are being recovered. While many are dead, others aren't recovered at all. Some of them are actually captured by the virals rather than being killed outright. Another important aspect of this section is that the virals apparently knew the eclipse was coming. Light keeps the virals at bay and attacks in the daylight are virtually impossible. The fact that the virals are hiding in the hardboxes shows a level of planning and knowledge that seems not to have existed before this. Another important aspect of this scene is the presence of the woman and the big metal truck and trailer. The woman is Lila Kyle and she has become something like Grey at this point, and is being used by Guilder to do his bidding.





# Chapters 24 through 28

## Chapters 24 through 28 Summary

The Cave opens in 97 A.V. and begins with maps of New Mexico and the area around Carlsbad Caverns. In chapter twenty-four, Amy dreams of Wolgast. He tells her she has to go to "him," referring to Anthony Carter. As her vision of him fades, Amy cries out, pleading with him to stay. He promises to never leave her.

In chapter twenty-five, Peter Jaxon has been hunting the Twelve for five years. He knows they each go back to a place near their origins, either their birthplaces or the prisons where they were held prior to their involvement in Project Noah. He wants to find Anthony Carter but Houston is an "impenetrable swamp." He knows where the others will be but has yet to lead a successful mission for any of them. Peter is in the mess tent one day when he's joined by Satch Dodd, one of the survivors of the Massacre of the Field. Peter knows there's a meeting of the officers and when he's called in to join them, he finds Alicia Donadio there.

Alicia believes one of the twelve, Martinez, is in the Carlsbad Caverns. She has a plan to kill him. There is a great deal of discussion about her plan and in the end it's decided that she and Peter will go down a particular shaft together while a crew that includes Satch Dodd sets a bomb in a different location. Alicia finds that Martinez is no longer there but he's left behind a man named Ignacio who was infected at the Colorado compound. The man is some sort of viral and begs Alicia to kill him. Meanwhile, there's a problem with the bomb and Dodd has to return to reconnect a wire. He's attacked by a flock of bats and sets the bomb off early, killing himself in the process. Alicia and Peter barely escape.

In chapter twenty-six, Peter is injured and remains in the medical bay for ten days. Alicia comes to visit and they talk about a movie they'd seen once, a bit of entertainment provided by a military installation. The movie was Dracula and Alicia says she's studied the movie since then and that it's something of a handbook for dealing with virals. Peter and Alicia are in trouble for their role in the botched attack. Alicia has new orders. When Peter is able to move around again, he's told he's being transferred to the Oil Road. Peter knows it's a discipline measure.

In chapter twenty-eight, Amy is wracked by pain one day and told to go rest. She doesn't understand the pain, but one of the nuns believes she might be beginning her menstrual cycle. Amy wishes she were a normal teen and this was happening. Wolgast comes to her again and says she is to make her way to a ship where "he is waiting for you," again referring to Carter.



## Chapters 24 through 28 Analysis

There are references to several characters who were important in the first book of the series. These include Theo and Maus. Theo was Peter's brother and Maus was his girlfriend. Maus was pregnant with Theo's child when they were traveling from the First Colony with Amy. When Theo and Maus were reunited, they stayed at a farmhouse where Caleb was born. They have since died. Another of that original group, Sara, is no longer with them either. She had been in a relationship with a man named Hollis who Peter still sees sometimes, but has been missing since a particularly brutal viral attack. They assume she's dead but Peter and some of the others will come to believe that some of those "taken up" by the virals aren't actually dead.

Alicia has a strange connection with the Twelve because she was infected with the virus in the first book of the series. When she gets near Martinez, she learns his entire story. He'd been imprisoned for killing a state trooper but that wasn't his only murder. The more important murder in his memory is a waitress named Louise. Martinez raped and strangled her to death. This death impacts Alicia heavily and she especially wants to kill Martinez because of the horrible way Louise died. Martinez actually got away with Louise's death but was later stopped by a police officer and Martinez had killed that man. The murder was caught on the video recorder from the officer's car and that had put Martinez in jail. All the original twelve were sentenced to death for various crimes. They were all guilty except Anthony Carter.



# Chapters 29 through 35

## Chapters 29 through 35 Summary

Part five is "The Oil Road", and it opens with a map of the path from the Freeport Refinery to Kerrville, Texas, where there is a large settlement. In chapter twenty-nine, Michael Fisher is in his bunk in Freeport, Texas. He works at the refinery and he and his girlfriend, Lore DeVeer, are having sex. He's a little late for work and finds that he's assigned a dangerous job, not as punishment, but because he is one of the few capable of handling it. Michael learns that Peter will be arriving soon.

In chapter thirty, Peter arrives at Kerrville, Texas. His first stop is to visit his old friend, Lucius Greer. Greer is in prison because he left his post. He has found peace in his existence and cites his belief that God is in control. They talk about several of their mutual friends and the situation. Peter then goes to visit Caleb, who is thrilled at the surprise. Peter says they can do anything Caleb wants and he wants to go to the dam where they put in some time swimming though Peter suggests it's a good idea to keep the adventure secret from Sister Peg, a nun who runs the orphanage and who scares everyone. When Peter and Caleb return, Peter sees that Amy is cooking dinner for the orphans and nuns. When Peter is leaving later that evening, Amy asks that he promise to be safe and he believes there's something more than a casual request involved though he doesn't know what it is. That night, Amy dreams of Wolgast who says she has to help the man in the ship.

In chapter thirty-one, Peter and Michael meet up. Michael takes Peter for a ride and reveals that he's been learning to sail. Peter isn't comfortable on the boat but it's obvious it's become a passion of Michael's.

In chapter thirty-two, Alicia is headed north on her mission. One morning she finds a horse and names it Soldier. She crosses into Iowa and later enters a place she names Field of Bones where thousands of skeletons lie. They are apparently virals and Alicia can't figure out what might have happened to them.

In chapter thirty-three, Michael and Peter set out with a convoy of tanker trucks carrying fuel bound for Kerrville. They have trouble soon after leaving but Michael decides they'll continue, despite the delay. When they reach a bridge, there is a woman standing in the middle of the road. Michael brings his truck to a halt and calls for some backup while ordering others to remain in their trucks. She tells Peter he's tired but he is only puzzled. She seems disappointed that he hasn't responded but then raises her hands and Peter dodges as one of the trucks explodes. Then more attackers appear and then Peter sees a shiny metal truck and trailer rushing to the scene. Everyone is trying to make sense of the situation when the virals arrive. Some of the humans are being "taken up" and one of the soldiers causes a massive explosion of the trucks to avoid that. There is one vehicle left and Peter, Michael, and Lore rush from the scene in it. They have to jump from the moving vehicle to beat the virals to a nearby hardbox.



In chapter thirty-four, Amy arrives in the prison after making the guards fall into a deep sleep. She and Greer leave together. In chapter thirty-five, Julio Martinez is being called by Zero. He wonders about Babcock, knowing that Babcock is no longer alive.

## Chapters 29 through 35 Analysis

Michael was known as "Circuit" while he was living in the First Colony. There, he was in charge of keeping the electricity on - vital for the survival of those who lived there. When Peter left the First Colony with Amy, Michael was among the group that joined him. The two have the shared history of that journey from California clear across the country, but have not recently been together.

There were rumors after the virals were released that other countries quarantined the United States by dropping mines along the coast. Their intention was to blow up any ship that tried to leave the U.S. When Michael takes Peter for a short sail in his boat, Peter points out that there might still be live rounds out there. Michael cites a boat that arrived at the coast very recently, filled with skeletons and obviously able to get past any minefield that existed. The real draw to Michael is that virals are unable to swim and can't get to humans if there is a water barrier.

There's an interesting situation that occurs between Lila and Peter during the attack on the Oil Road. Lila says that Peter is "very tired," just as she did to Curtis Vorhees in the Massacre of the Field. When Lila said that to Curtis, he immediately felt so tired that he could barely hold his head up. However, when Lila says those words to Peter, he is confused and doesn't feel anything. This confuses Lila but then the explosions occur and the attack escalates, and Peter is running away. The significance is not explained.

The Twelve are in trouble because the vampiric race they've created has almost wiped out the human population. Zero says he has created "our sister" to watch over them. That sister is actually Lila Kyle. Lila is living in a place called the Homeland, introduced in the next section of the book. She is what's known as a "red-eye." She drinks blood but is not vampiric as the ordinary virals have become. She is able to communicate with the virals, including the remaining eleven of the originals.



# Chapters 36 through 40

## Chapters 36 through 40 Summary

The Insurgent takes place in Fort Powell, Iowa, in the year 97 A.V. and opens with a call from the director to help bring insurgents to justice. In chapter thirty-six, the city is called the Homeland and is under Guilder's control, but there are insurgents who have set bombs and caused problems for the government. A woman named Sara is among those being held. An older woman, Jackie, is very sick and Sara is worried about her. The city is ruled by the red-eyes. They are super-sensitive to light and feed on blood, but not the way the true vampires do. Sara was from the First Colony and she learns that dozens of those who had lived there were also taken prisoner and many have died.

There's a huge construction site Sara and Jackie pass on their way to work each day. She doesn't know its purpose.

In chapter thirty-seven, Guilder is angry about the insurgent known as Sergio. He believes it's an individual man though that isn't the case. He looks around his offices which are part of the Midwest State University, Guilder hears a report from his chief of staff, Fred Wilkes, who is also a red-eye. Guilder is perplexed by the fact that dozens have "tasted the blood," but somehow Lila Kyle is the only one of them who has developed the ability to communicate with the virals. Guilder hates that Lila has that power. He'd often tried it himself, going into the "feed lot" where the virals are fed during the early days of the Homeland. When Lila gets in range of the virals, they drop to their knees and she acts like a "purring cat with a litter of kittens." But she is the only one with that power. Guilder thinks it might have something to do with the fact that Lila is the only woman among the red-eyes. Guilder is soon dying for blood but knows that it takes the blood of Lawrence Grey to fulfill the thirst he feels.

In chapter thirty-eight, Sara wakes to find Jackie is gone. Sara believes Jackie is in the hospital and fakes an illness, hoping that once she's there she'll be able to save Jackie, though she doesn't have a real plan. When she arrives at the hospital, there's a blast from a bomb and she's rushed away by a woman. When they are some distance from the compound, the woman knocks Sara out with a rag soaked in a chemical.

In chapter thirty-nine, Lila Kyle is trying to focus on the fantasy life she's created for herself though it's sometimes difficult. Guilder arrives and forces her to face the reality.

In chapter forty, Sara wakes and discovers the woman who took her away is Nina. Sara discovers that Eustace is there. He's another member of First Colony and Sara had believed he was dead. Eustace says they've hacked into the red-eye security system and that Sara's identity has been changed. They also say that Jackie is a member of Sergio and that she's dead.



## Chapters 36 through 40 Analysis

The Homeland is very much like the descriptions of the concentration camps created by Germany to eradicate the Jewish population. The people are forced to work in deplorable conditions with little food and poor clothing. Sara knows that having a pair of shoes stolen is tantamount to death. A person who can't keep up with the requirements of the soldiers will simply be killed. Anyone who is sent to the "hospital" for medical care is never seen again. Those taken into the city as prisoners are stripped and hosed down. Their heads are shaved. Then they are tagged. Something that apparently looks like a military dog tag is grafted into the skin of the arms of the prisoners, all reminiscent of the stories of the concentration camps.

As happens often when a race is being persecuted, there are a few willing to stand up against the oppression. Sara is one of those. When Jackie is obviously near death, Sara tries to force her captors to provide medical care. When Jackie is taken to the hospital, Sara fakes an illness, believing she can find a way to save her friend. There is also a group of insurgents who have adopted the name "Sergio." Their strategy is to continually attack the red-eyes as a group. Because Sergio doesn't exist as one person, the attacks continue even when one or more of their group dies. It's a good plan because the morale of the insurgents can't be crushed by the death of a single leader. There are multiple leaders and the idea of "Sergio" continues, even when members of the group die.

Sarah recalls her life prior to her arrival at the Homeland. She was a nurse at First Colony. She's Michael's sister and was romantically involved with Hollis. She was pregnant when she and Hollis were separated several years earlier. She gave birth at the Homeland and was told the baby died. Sara regrets that she didn't tell Hollis she was pregnant.



# Chapters 41 through 48

## Chapters 41 through 48 Summary

Chapter forty-one is the first chapter of the section titled "Outlaw." Michael, Peter, and Lore are rescued the day after their explosion. It takes them a day to return to Kerrville. Peter is questioned at length and learns that Amy broke Greer out of jail. Peter describes the woman he saw when the tanker convoy was attacked and learns from a military colonel named Apgar that the woman was also seen on the day of the Massacre of the Field. Apgar says sixteen people were apparently "taken up" by the virals that day. Apgar and Peter talk some more with Apgar giving a great deal of information that seems to be coincidence but add up to something more. He then tells Peter that the paperwork sending Peter to a new assignment has been "misplaced" and that Peter has about three days before the situation will be resolved. Meanwhile, Amy and Greer are traveling toward the coast and Amy is obviously unwell but insists it's not serious.

In chapter forty-two, Grey is being tortured with just enough blood to sustain his life. Bags of blood are constantly being drawn from his veins and used to sustain the red-eyes. He is now referred to as "The Source." Guilder says Grey is Zero's favorite and Grey says Guilder is mistaken to believe he is safe by doing what Zero and the others want. Guilder tells Wilkes to step up the torture of the human prisoners in an effort to bring Sergio to the open.

In chapter forty-three, Peter, Michael, and Lore go in search of Hollis and Tifty. Hollis meets up later with Peter, Michael, and Lore and tells Michael for the first time that he'd planned to marry Sara before she disappeared. After some hesitation, Hollis agrees to take the three of them to Tifty.

In chapter forty-four, Alicia is still traveling. She arrives in Iowa at the university campus. Her attention is drawn to two buildings. One is still under construction, the same one Sara had noticed each day on her way to work. The second is the stadium and she spends several days observing before she decides to go inside the fence. She hides on top of a truck as it enters the stadium and can feel the presence of the virals. She sees humans and realizes they are going to be fed to the virals. She has orders not to make contact but can't bring herself to stand by while the humans are slaughtered.

In chapter forty-five, Sara has a new identity as Dani, Lila's maid, thanks to the work of the Sergio group. She's afraid some of the guards will recognize her but it doesn't happen. She's told about her assignment and reports to Lila's room where she realizes Lila is living in a fantasy world. She also discovers that Lila has a daughter named Eva. Sara almost immediately realizes the child is Kate, her own daughter, snatched away the moment she was born.



In chapter forty-six, Amy is in Houston with Greer. She finds the ship, the Chevron Mariner, and knows that Carter is inside. She puts Greer to sleep before she heads to the ship.

In chapter forty-seven, Peter's group reaches Tifty's hideout. He's furious at the intrusion but Peter and Hollis convince him he needs to listen. Once he hears Peter's ideas - including the theory that some who were taken up on the day of the Massacre of the Field are being held captive - he agrees to give Peter the information he seeks. He says the virals are vulnerable only in a few places, including the roof of the mouth, the chest, and the base of the skull. Their metabolism slows if they don't eat, so they can live for a long time without blood. Peter fights one and discovers she become vulnerable when he catches her eye and doesn't look away.

In chapter forty-eight, Amy is with Carter and she knows about the woman he was accused of killing, Rachel Wood. Carter, knowing how dangerous he is to the world, had Brad Wolgast lock him up in the ship. Carter says he knows what Amy has to do now and she asks him to tell her.

## Chapters 41 through 48 Analysis

In chapter forty-one, Apgar refers to those who were "taken up" in the Massacre of the Field. The implication is that they might literally have been "taken" rather than killed, and that they might still be alive somewhere. Apgar gives Peter this information which starts Peter's journey. Apgar points out that there were also more than ninety people "taken" from the First Colony, Peter's original home in California. Apgar also questions the fact that Martinez wasn't in the cave, that Amy and Greer are now missing, and that Alicia had orders from a civilian source that might have been related to the questions Apgar has. He talks about the woman Peter saw on the road and says there has been no news from another colony, Fort Kearney, in months. If the reader focuses on the Biblical aspects of this story, it's easy to see that God is bringing together a cast of characters for the final scene in the book, the typical good-versus-evil showdown that is bound to occur.

Soldier's purpose is to make Alicia's life better, providing some help as she's traveling in difficult circumstances. It's noted that there's "something celestial" about the animal and when Alicia no longer needs him for transportation, he's simply gone. Much later, when she needs him again, he'll be back.

Alicia and Amy are each undergoing changes during this section of the book. Alicia has been hyper-sensitive to light since she was given the virus in book one. Her eyes are orange and she almost always wears shaded glasses. Now that's changing. Her eyes are returning to their natural color and she is no longer so sensitive to the light. Meanwhile, she's beginning to thirst for blood. It's not serious yet but she fears it will become a problem. Meanwhile, Amy is aging as she normally would as a late teenager. When she meets up again with Peter, she'll have the appearance of a young woman rather than a gangly teenager. Neither transformation is explained in this book.





Guilder goes to a great deal of trouble to fulfill Lila's fantasy world. Lila questions Sara as if Sara has just been hired by Lila's husband. She sometimes refers to her husband as David and sometimes refers to Brad. She believes Eva is alive. Actually, Guilder provides a child to pose as Eva and that fantasy is played out until the child grows older and Lila begins to fret that it isn't really Eva. At that point, the child is replaced with a new "Eva."

Amy is in a building with Greer just before she goes to the Chevron Mariner where Carter is being held. She is somehow transported into a vision in which she is holding a cardboard sign, just as Carter was the day he met his victim, Rachel Wood. In Amy's vision, Wolgast gives her a ride to her meeting with Carter.



# Chapters 49 through 54

## Chapters 49 through 54 Summary

The Changeling opens with chapter forty-nine. Sara wakes from a dream in which she's trying to tell Hollis they are going to have a baby. Sara is desperate for more time with Kate and the two are quickly bonding. When Kate wakes, she's excited about the snow and Sara, after getting Lila's morning routine started, takes Kate out to play in it. Sara manages to get a message out to Eustace's group and they reveal that she's right about Kate's true identity. According to Nina, Kate will escape the city only if Sara goes through with the plan Nina and Eustace are putting in place. She also learns about the Source, which is Grey, and that they feed him human blood and take his blood to keep the red-eyes going. All the red-eyes are ageless but have to have Grey's blood regularly or they age rapidly. All look young and healthy. Sara is told she'll be given detailed instructions when it's time for her part in the plan.

In chapter fifty, Alicia is being tortured for information. She was captured after attacking the red-eyes and killing several. The red-eyes believe she has information about Sergio. In chapter fifty-one, Amy and Greer are traveling north after Amy's meeting with Carter. Amy dreams often of Wolgast and they talk often of their deep love for each other.

In chapter fifty-two, Tifty has a plan to travel north from Texarkana to Iowa where they believe the virals are now gathered. Tifty has a great deal of experience and many tricks. For example, he pours a liquid around their camp and says the virals won't detect human presence, meaning they are safe from attack. They aren't attacked but they also don't see any sign of virals, a fact that bothers Peter more as the days pass. They stop on a hill overlooking a scene they can't figure out.

In chapter fifty-three, the torture of Alicia continues as Guilder tries to make her talk about Sergio. He can't believe she doesn't know. Guilder realizes the people in the compound have to produce more babies and begins thinking about how to make that possible.

In chapter fifty-four, there's a noticeable change in Lila each time she receives more blood and Sara, playing with Kate, sees that change when Lila returns to the living room. Kate, who has confided in Sara that she doesn't believe Lila is her mother, now says she doesn't like Lila. Lila returns to her fantasy world and asks Sara to go with her. She believes she's going to a formal function for her husband, David. Guilder eventually gives in to her demand. Meanwhile, Alicia escapes and is on hand to see what happens with Sara and Lila. Lila has some sort of control over the virals and they cluster around her until she releases them to kill several humans being given to them for food. One of the humans reveals a bomb, shouts "Sergio lives," and detonates it.



## Chapters 49 through 54 Analysis

The situation involving Amy, Wolgast, and Carter is not fully explained but seems to be set in some alternative manner. Amy is in the ship with Carter but she's also traveling with Wolgast. It seems some aspects of these scenes are only in the minds of the characters. All are presented as tangible meetings and it's left to the reader to decide.

While the humans in the Iowa compound are not at all buying into the situation, they are also being brain washed to some degree which helps keep them in line without a large number of guards to control them. This is another case in which the situation is reminiscent of the concentration camps created by Germany to eradicate the Jews. The main difference is that the human population of the Homeland is being used to feed virals. This prompts Guilder to realize the humans have to produce more children in order to reach the ultimate goal of providing enough food for the virals.

The scene Peter and the others find is apparently the field filled with bones where the mass of virals had died. It's likely the same field Alicia had seen earlier because she traveled this way. They try to come up with a theory but don't have one that makes any sense. When Carter's situation is revealed - that he's confined himself to a ship with no means of escape - the reader may think back to the mass of virals Alicia found earlier during her travels. It seems possible they are Carter's virals and that he allowed them to die or even encouraged it. It also seems possible they died because there were too many virals for the food supply. Michael comes up with the theory later that the thousands of virals created by the Twelve are actually like the feathers on a bird, and that the "molting" was a natural process to lessen the threat on the food supply.



# Chapters 55 through 57

## Chapters 55 through 57 Summary

The Arrival begins with chapter fifty-five, Guilder is furious that Lila allowed the virals to continue walking toward the humans even after the bomb was revealed. Guilder goes to the barracks and begins killing people at random when they can't tell him about Sergio. Wilkes, who has been Guilder's chief assistant, tells Guilder he's out of control and Guilder kills him too.

In chapter fifty-six, Peter's group run out of fuel about seventy miles from their destination in Iowa. It's brutally cold and at one point they find a shelter and burn copies of an encyclopedia. In chapter fifty-seven, Alicia gets away in the chaos following the bombing. She is lying on the ground, trying to recover from the wounds of her torture, when Amy finds her. Guilder realizes the members of the Twelve are near and that his plans are coming to fruition. He dresses as eleven huge virals appear. He assumes the smallest of the group is Carter, who was also small in life. Guilder tells them they are "at home at last" and pledges to give them everything they need.

## Chapters 55 through 57 Analysis

Grey hears the voice of Zero who says that Grey will have a "special place" in the "new world." Zero compares Grey's life to that of Job in the Bible. He says that just as God tested Job, Zero has tested Grey.

As the remainders of the Twelve arrive, Guilder's plan seems to be coming together. The reader may not yet understand that the huge construction project underway at the Homeland was to serve as housing for the Twelve and that Guilder's entire purpose has been to create a place for the Twelve to live in comfort. At one point, Grey tells Guilder that the Twelve are merely using him but Guilder seems to believe he's beloved and will be cared for. He could be compared to the anti-Christ of Biblical theory related to the end of the world. Words such as "rapture" are used in the book to help the reader make the connections. The fact that eleven virals show up and seem to be the remainder of the Twelve is a clue to the reader that things are not as they seem. Of the original Twelve, Babcock has been killed outright and Carter is locked on a ship, meaning there are actually only ten. It's noted that the eleventh of the group that arrives is smaller than the rest and everyone assumes it's Carter. It will later be revealed that it's Wolgast, posing as one of the Twelve but with the goal of killing them.



# Chapters 58 through 62

## Chapters 58 through 62 Summary

In chapter fifty-eight, Sara knows she'll soon be called on to carry out Nina's plan. She doesn't know what it is but suspects she'll be a suicide bomber. Her only thought is that her death gives Kate a chance to live. Sara spends as much time as possible with Kate but their time feels final and Kate, who has bonded with Sara, senses it as well. One day Kate gives Sara a note that indicates there's a bomb in a specific place in a nearby shed. Sara hides to read it but Lila interrupts, asking for chocolate. Though Sara doesn't know what it is, she heads for the kitchen, hoping someone else will know what Lila wants. On the way she encounters a woman she'd known before taking her new identity. The woman cries out to Sara, calling her by name, and prompts a guard's recognition of Sara as well. Sara tries to kill herself before being taken, but she's captured before she can.

In chapter fifty-nine, Amy, Greer, and Alicia encounter Nina and convince her to hear their story. Meanwhile, Kate is crying frantically for Sara and Lila escapes her tantrum by going into the bathroom where she finds the egg containing the note left by Sara. She opens it, hoping to find chocolate inside.

In chapter sixty, Guilder considers his plans. He knows the eleven virals have developed a habit of eating a great deal and that it'll be tough to break that habit. He plans to provide a diet of "donated human blood" and livestock in order for the human population to recover. Sara is taken to a room where she's on a gurney and medical procedures are apparently being performed.

In chapter sixty-one, Nina's group accepts Amy and Alicia though they are initially skeptical. The large-scale plans of Nina's group are nearing culmination. With the discovery that Sara has been discovered, there is a major component of their plan in jeopardy. Amy comes up with a new idea. Meanwhile, Tifty's group is traveling. They find an old diner for shelter and are becoming desperate for food. Peter finds a cache of food nearby and takes it back to the others. Then they are suddenly under attack and Peter manages to shoot one of them before they discover it's Alicia's group. In chapter sixty-two, Amy drives into the Homeland and surrenders, claiming to be Sergio.

## Chapters 58 through 62 Analysis

Nina's note is given to Kate in a plastic egg, the kind used in Easter hunts. Sara is afraid to read the note in front of anyone and hides in the bathroom to read it. However, Lila interrupts her Sara's time and she's forced to hide the egg in a drawer in the bathroom. This proves to be fateful because Lila finds it later and learns where the bomb is hidden.

Early in the story, Lila asks her servant for chocolate. The reader must remember that it's been ninety-seven years since civilization collapsed and there are things that are



simply no longer available. Chocolate is one of those and the people of the current generation don't even know the meaning of the word. When Lila asks for the chocolate, the girl insists she doesn't know what Lila is talking about which prompts Lila to dismiss the girl. The girl pleads, knowing it means she'll be put to death as food for the virals, but Lila refuses to get in touch with reality at that moment and sends her away anyway. When she asks Sara for the chocolate, Sara doesn't know what it is either but goes looking for something that might appease Lila. The lack of specific items doesn't bother the majority of the current generation because they've grown up without knowing what's missing. But the red-eyes seem to feel specific losses keenly. At one point, Guilder is preparing for his day and stops to brush his teeth. He laments that no one has been able to make decent toothpaste since the fall of civilization. In another scene, Peter's group is hiding in an old diner and Michael finds a menu. He wonders about the idea of meatloaf, saying he understands the "meat" part but can't figure out why someone would eat it in a "loaf." These references are incidental to the story.

There is a disjointed conversation between Alicia and Amy with Alicia saying she's always known Peter loved someone else. There is a history between Amy and Peter in book one. There, Peter was trapped in a mall and Amy saved him. There seems to be some romantic connection between them but it's never been acted on by either, other than a brief kiss Amy gave Peter on the cheek. Amy in turn says there are things happening that Alicia can't understand. Alicia has begun to crave blood and is worried about it. She says she won't allow herself to turn into a blood-thirsty viral and asks Amy to never tell Peter the truth about that. The true meanings behind their conversation isn't revealed in this book and the reader is left to assume it will be revealed in the next book.



# Chapters 63 through 66

## Chapters 63 through 66 Summary

The next section of the book is titled "The Darkest Night of the Year" and takes place in December of 97 A.V. The section opens with a flyer circulated by Guilder's office that Sergio has been captured and will be executed the following day in a public event. In chapter sixty-three, Amy's plan is coming together. Their hope is that Guilder will allow the members of the Twelve to kill Amy and the plan is for Eustace to run into their midst and detonate a bomb, hopefully killing them all. There is little security around the compound and they slip in easily, joining the prisoners headed for the execution. Amy is being taken to the arena by a guard and warns him that he's going to die if he doesn't let her go. Lila faces reality and is sorry that so many little girls have been forced to play the role of her daughter Eva. Lila wishes she had died and says if there was a heaven, she'd have spent eternity inside a dream in which the real Eva was peacefully sleeping in her crib.

Inside the arena, Peter meets Nina for the first time. Hollis and Michael, intent only on saving Sara and Kate, head for a building they believe to be the correct location. Michael says that if only one of them can make it out alive, it will have to be Hollis, and makes Hollis promise. Greer stops to pray and has a vision. He's suddenly aware of Wolgast though he doesn't know who Wolgast is.

Meanwhile, Lila makes it to the basement where Grey is being held. In chapter sixty-four, she releases Sara, then urges her to get Kate and run away. In the stadium, the crowd isn't cheering Guilder or the pending execution as Guilder had planned. Back in the basement, Lila releases ether into the rooms and finds Grey. She is horrified at his condition, promises it will soon be over, and finds a match. Sara finds Kate and heads out of the building. Back in the arena, Eustace is hurt and drops the bomb. Amy speaks to the virals and recognizes Wolgast. Amy then transforms to look very much like the Twelve. At that moment, Lila lights the match.

In chapter sixty-five, the building where Lila is collapses and the explosion is heard three miles away in the arena. There's an all-out battle in the arena and the death of Grey apparently causes Guilder to wither and die in a matter of seconds. Greer rushes into the melee, his entire being focused on saving Amy. Eustace is down and the bomb is free. Nina and Tifty are each attacked. Peter rushes to get the bomb but discovers Wolgast has it. Amy grabs Martinez, a member of the Twelve, and pulls him upright, baring his chest while Alicia stabs him. Peter has a moment of connection with Wolgast in which he sees all Wolgast's past before Wolgast sets off the bomb and Amy swoops in at the final second, saving Peter.

In chapter sixty-six, Greer and Eustace are miraculously alive. Tifty is dying and lets Nina know that her name as a child had been Nitia, and that she's his daughter. Michael and Hollis meet Sara and Kate, and the groups reunite.



## Chapters 63 through 66 Analysis

As chapter sixty-three opens, it's noted that the various players are together, apparently drawn there by Amy, including Peter, Alicia, Hollis, Michael, and Greer. It's noted that Amy either won't tell them how it's happened, that she doesn't know, or that she can't express it. Amy herself has changed, maturing in the time between leaving the orphanage and meeting up with Peter. She's more beautiful than ever and it's noted that she is no longer a child, but is now a woman.

Guilder has named the huge complex to be used for Amy's execution the Temple of Life Everlasting. He's calling himself the High Priest of that temple and refers to the "Dawn of the New Age of Cooperation Between Human and Viral." As he's preparing for the event during which Amy will be executed, he decides that he has to dress the part. Instead of his traditional dress clothes, he pulls the image of a priest from his memory. He chooses to wear a robe but needs something similar to vestments. He ultimately uses curtain tiebacks for that adornment.





# Chapters 67 through 71

## Chapters 67 through 71 Summary

The next section, *The Kiss*, begins with chapter sixty-seven. Some of the former prisoners of the Homeland decide they'll remain there, creating a life for themselves without the red-eyes in control. Sara and Hollis have a home of their own with Kate and Sara works in the infirmary, returning to her family each night. Sara discovers a young woman whose last name is Apgar.

In chapter sixty-eight, Amy is missing and presumed dead in the explosion. Then Greer feels her presence and she appears to Peter in a dream, fully formed into a viral.

The final section is the Epilogue, *The Golden Hour*. In chapter sixty-nine, Amy is again on the ship with Carter who says they'll still have to face Zero and that he's worse than all the other Twelve combined. In chapter seventy, Amy has the opportunity to say farewell to Wolgast.

In chapter seventy-one, as the book comes to a close, Alicia wakes out in the open with the vision of millions of stars above her. It's cold and she's amazed to be alive. She hears a voice in her head, calling "come to me." The voice says "The others are gone, you will be my one," and Alicia knows who is calling to her. She mounts Soldier and heads to him.

## Chapters 67 through 71 Analysis

In chapter sixty-eight, Alicia is struggling with her thirst for blood. She believes she hasn't fully turned viral but that she will if she drinks. With this in mind, she begins taking blood from the infirmary and hiding it away. Her plan is to drink the blood, turn viral, and wait for the sunshine to kill her.

Amy's farewell to Wolgast is very sad though she is happy that his life has ended on this note. Amy and Wolgast spend some time together before arriving at a beautiful scene that is apparently back in the mountains where the two had hidden after the virals escaped and where Wolgast became a viral himself. In Peter's vision, Amy is a full-fledged viral but she is apparently just a young woman in this scene with Wolgast. Wolgast says she seems happy and then asks if she's in love. She says she is and that she believes the young man loves her in return. She doesn't identify him but it seems likely it's Peter. As Wolgast is about to leave Amy behind, she tells him that heaven is a place where everyone he loves is there, waiting for him. There's a cabin in the distance and a woman with a baby is seen on the porch as the chapter comes to an end. It's noteworthy that Amy calls him "Daddy" though there is not a biological connection between them.

Alicia knows who is calling her but she doesn't say the name aloud. It seems fairly obvious that it's Zero, the original of the infected virals from the Colorado compound. The ending is meant to lead the reader into the final book of the series.



# Characters

## Amy Bellafonte

Referred to sometimes as Amy NLN, which stands for No Last Name, she is a form of a viral though without the thirst for blood exhibited by the others infected with the virus. Amy has an important connection to the original twelve virals and she uses this connection to destroy some of them in this story. Amy is originally infected because it's believed the virus would not have the detrimental side effects if introduced to a child who is not fully developed. The virus keeps her from aging for almost a hundred years but she matures dramatically at one point in this book. Amy is referred to as chosen to be the savior of the human race, similar to the ark of the Bible story of Noah. Amy is living with the nuns at the orphanage in Texas as the story opens. There she has settled into a seemingly normal life as a member of the convent. When she grows ill one day, one of the nuns suggests she might be about to begin her menstrual cycle. Amy wishes that could be the case and seems to desire a normal life for herself. She is happy to see Peter when he arrives to visit Caleb, and there seems to be a strong connection between Amy and Peter, though that is not fully explained in this book. Amy is able to use her connection to the virals as the book comes to a close in order to kill ten of the original twelve.

## Peter Jaxon

A civilian who joins the Expeditionary Army, he is Caleb's uncle and is identified in the prologue as the one chosen to lead the believers to safety. Peter is a self-confident young man who isn't at all afraid of danger though he is afraid of putting others in danger. When the group as a whole is threatened, Peter rushes to protect them despite what it means to him personally. Peter is torn between his duty to the group and his personal safety only because he is the only living family of his nephew, Caleb. When Peter meets up with Tifty's group, he discovers they are studying virals in an effort to find weaknesses. Peter volunteers to fight a particularly violent viral and discovers that she allows him to kill her once he makes eye contact. At that moment, Peter learns about the viral's previous identity as a mother and a woman, and that she is relieved to have him kill her to end her suffering. Peter was a member of the residents of the First Colony in the first book and was among the group that left shortly after Amy's arrival. Even then he was trying to find a way to save the group as a whole.

## Anthony Carter

One of the Twelve, he is referred to as Carter by most. Carter was a convicted murderer with no close family, as were all the original Twelve. He was accused of drowning Rachel Wood after inappropriately touching her daughter, but that was not actually the case. In fact, Rachel was severely depressed when she picked him up on the roadside.



She offered him a job doing lawn work and called on her friends to do the same. Carter loved her deeply and though he was uneducated and poor, he was not wicked. Carter hadn't meant for her to die and had actually tried to save her, but he realized that she wanted to die. While he might have presented that information in order to save himself at trial, his love for Rachel was so deep that he was willing to die rather than sully her reputation. This is typical of Carter's actions and when he becomes a plague on humanity, he has Wolgast lock him on a ship so that he won't hurt anyone else. There, he spends his days in a fantasy in which he works in Rachel's yard and watches her body rise and fall in the pool.

## **Lila Kyle**

Former wife of Brad Wolgast, she is pregnant when the attacks occur but is so worried about the baby that she hides from the reality. Her first child, a daughter named Eva, died. Lila was never able to get past the grief of that loss. When her unborn baby is killed in a crash, Lila hides from that reality as well. She is infected with the virus and becomes what is known as a redeye. She has an incredible connection to the virals as a whole and helps with several horrific attacks on humans. Lila lives in the Homeland under Guilder's rule with a series of young girls posing as Eva to keep her in touch with the fantasy world she's created for herself. Carter saves her in the opening pages of the book and she goes to him, killing them both to escape the nightmare they're living, as this book comes to a close.

## **Michael Fisher**

He is a member of the Colony who leaves in search of another civilized city. He is good with electronics and motors and is responsible for a crew in the oil refinery in Texas. Michael is a devoted friend and dedicated to his men, putting their well-being above his own. He's devastated when most of his men are killed during a viral attack.

## **Alicia Donadio**

A lieutenant in the Texas Expeditionary Army, she has been infected with the virus but has not turned into a viral. As this book opens, she feels a connection to one of the Twelve, Martinez, and makes it her mission to find and destroy him. Alicia is strong because of the virus but she's also an emotionally strong woman. She hates weakness in herself and considers it her duty to protect others.

## **Horace Guilder**

A Deputy Director who is the one to tell government officials about the research that had created the Twelve. Guilder is the head of the Homeland and becomes a red-eye from consuming the blood of Lawrence Grey. He sets himself up as a priest of sorts and is cruel in his dealings with humans.



## Lore DeVeer

A resident of Texas, she works at the oil refinery where Michael works and the two of them are lovers. Lore is outspoken and outgoing, willing to take chances and usually unafraid in any situation.

## Bernard Kittridge

A former military man, he is living in Denver when the virals take over. For the first days after civilization crumbles, Bernard takes refuge in an apartment building where he streams video of killing off the virals. He is known as "Last Stand in Denver" for his heroics. When the power goes off and he's forced to leave, he meets up with another group of survivors and winds up responsible for them though he doesn't intend to allow that to happen. He fathers a child with a girl he meets named April. He dies trying to save April's brother.

## April Donadio

A teenage girl who catches the bus driven by Danny Chayes after civilization crumbles. She is tough but scared and feels a complete responsibility for her brother, Timothy. When Timothy gets lost as the virals attack their compound, April tries to remain behind to find him. She has a child from her brief union with Bernard. She is obviously an ancestor of Alicia Donadio but that relationship is not explained in the book.

## Hollis

A man who originally came from the First Colony, he was romantically involved with Michael's sister, Sara, and fathered a child with her. After Hollis loses Sara, he becomes involved with a group led by Tifty and follows Tifty to the final fight against the redevies and the Twelve.

## Sara

Michael's sister, she was romantically involved with Hollis and was pregnant when they became separated. She is a captive of the red-eyes but has a determination that prompts her involvement in the insurgent group called Sergio. Sara goes underground for the insurgents as a maid to Lila Kyle. There, she is known as Dani. For the sake of clarity, she is referred to as Sara throughout this guide, except in direct quotes.



## **Danny Chayes**

The young man who is mentally challenged and drives a school bus. Danny decides to drive his bus one morning despite the fact that he believes almost everyone is dead because he doesn't know what else to do.

## **Tifty**

A man who was among those in the field on the day of the solar eclipse and the massacre. Tifty has had an affair with the wife of another man and they have a child though the girl does not know Tifty is her father until he rescues her at the end of the book. Tifty is known as an outlaw because he has broken away from society and the military, studying the virals and looking for a way to kill them.

## **Caleb Jaxon**

The nephew of Peter and son of Peter's brother Theo. Caleb's parents, Theo and Mausami, are dead, leaving Caleb in the care of the orphanage. Caleb is a sign of hope for several of the characters, having been born in dire circumstances in a place that seems to have been divinely protected. He is a curious boy and happy though he longs for more time with Peter.

## **Brad Wolgast**

A former FBI agent who worked for the researchers in the previous book, he is responsible for bringing Amy to the research lab. During that trip, Wolgast and Amy connect and that connection continues after Wolgast and Amy are both infected with the virus. Wolgast, though infected, has such a strong bond to Amy that he does everything he can to protect her, even down to the last moment of his life. Wolgast poses as one of the Twelve in the final scene of the book in order to kill the others.

## **Lucius Greer**

A former military man, he is in prison for leaving his. The early years in prison took a toll and Greer found a connection to God which gives him peace in his life now. Amy breaks him out of prison to help with the final fight against the virals.

## **Lawrence Greer**

He is an escapee of the original compound in Colorado and is referred to at one point as being the only one to escape. Lawrence is a convicted pedophile and this apparently makes it possible for officials to track him after he leaves Colorado. Lawrence feels a strong connection to Lila Kyle and tries to protect her. It's his desire to save her that

eventually leads to his downfall and results in his capture. Grey spends the next century serving as a host for the red-eyes lead by Guilder. He dies when Lila finds him and blows up the building where he's being kept.

## **Kate**

Daughter of Hollis and Sara, she is taken from her mother at birth and Sara is told her daughter died. Kate lives out the early years of her life as Lila's daughter Eva. For the sake of clarity in this guide, she is referred to as Kate throughout the story.



## Objects/Places

### Viral

The name used to describe those who are infected with the virus that turns them into vampiric beings, usually after they are bitten.

### Expeditionary Army

The army of Texas, it is a tight-knit group of soldiers who face horrific conditions in their quest to fight the virals.

### Project Noah

The name of the experimental research that creates the original twelve virals and infects Amy.

### Chevron Mariner

The ship where Anthony Carter has locked himself away from humans and where he and Amy meet face-to-face for the first time.

### Houston

Where the Chevron Mariner is.

### The Carlsbad Caverns

Where Alicia believes a member of the Twelve, Martinez, is hiding.

### Denver

Where Lila Kyle is working as a doctor when the Twelve escape and where Bernard Kittridge kills virals from an apartment until the electricity goes off.

### Mile High

A military installation where Danny Chayes arrives with April and Timothy, hoping to find safety. It's where they meet up with Bernard Kittridge.





## **Nebraska**

Where Danny Chayes arrives with his busload of people, hoping for safety. Instead they are used as bait for a group of virals.

## **Freeport, Texas**

Where the oil refinery is located where Michael Fisher works.

## **Kerrville, Texas**

Where a settlement of people are living including Amy and Caleb.

## **First Colony**

A place in California where a few dozen people were living until their capture, including Sara Fisher.

## **Soldier**

The name of the horse Alicia finds when she's traveling alone.

## **Red-eyes**

The name given to the race of people, including Lila Kyle and Horace Guilder, who are feeding off Lawrence Grey's blood.

## **Homeland**

The name given to Fort Powell, Iowa, where groups of humans are being held in deplorable conditions and forced to work for the red-eyes.



# Themes

## The Desire to Live or Die

Horace Guilder is dying of an unnamed disease when the virals escape. He sees the virus as a means of prolonging his own life and escaping death. It's because of this selfish desire that he originally comes into contact with Lawrence Grey and keeps Lawrence chained up as "the Source" of the redeyes' food supply. It's not difficult for Guilder to talk others into joining him.

The opposite side of this desire for immortality is equally important in this book. The people who are turned into virals have less of a desire to live and actually embrace death. As Peter kills the large female viral in Tifty's compound, she thanks him for allowing her to die.

That's also the case with Lila Kyle and Lawrence Grey. Lawrence pleads with his captors to kill him but they continue to torture him and keep him alive. Alicia is another example of this side of this theme. She has fought the continuing urge to drink blood which she believes will turn her into a full-fledged viral. But as the book comes to a close, she gives in to the desire and drinks, fully planning to lie down and wait for the sunlight to kill her. Rachel Wood, the woman Carter is accused of murdering, has given in to her desire for death long before the virals escape. And is highly depressed and when she falls into the swimming pool she gives in to the desire to die. Her death sets in motion Carter's role as one of the Twelve, notably different because he's the only one of them who isn't an evil man at heart.

## Destiny

The idea that a group of people are destined to commit specific actions is a common Biblical teaching and that idea is mimicked throughout the book. Even before the virals escape, Lila Kyle has a tenuous grip on reality, is pregnant, and is still grieving the death of her firstborn daughter and her divorce. Between the time of the viral attack and her capture at Guilder's hands, she makes a connection with Lawrence Grey and feels a need to take care of him. This makes her suited to her role in the red-eye compound and makes it easy for her to destroy the building where Grey is being held captive, releasing both of them from their earthly lives.

Alicia Donadio is another example of this theme. A young woman named Amy Donadio meets up with a brave soldier named Bernard Kittridge. Their meeting is apparently by chance and they make love one time before Bernard is killed. Amy is pregnant and her line continues down to Alicia, who becomes an important key in killing several of the Twelve and who sets out to kill Zero as the story comes to a close.



There are other examples, including Horace Guilder's illness that makes him susceptible to the idea of becoming a red-eye and Anthony Carter who is actually an honorable man unjustly sentenced to death.

Perhaps most importantly is the presence of Amy who was one of the test subjects as a young girl and grows up to fight against the virals. The fact that Amy comes together with an elite group suited for a final showdown against the Twelve is never explained other than as an instance of divine destiny.

## Accepting reality

The Twelve seem to believe they can create a vampiric race and that there will always be plenty of humans to fill their voracious appetites. The virals are almost impossible to kill because they are incredibly fast and immune to most wounds except when their hearts are pierced. They can grab a person and be gone before the person has time to react. Less than a century into the reign of the virals, they have killed off almost the entire human population. The problem then becomes how to provide food for the main body of virals, eleven men who are the leaders of all the others. It seems the virals would be incapable of stopping the killing on their own and would annihilate the human race. It's not clear how they come to accept the reality of their situation, but they eventually do. That's where Horace Guilder comes in, setting up a compound that will be designed solely for the comfort of the Twelve and to provide enough humans and livestock for them to feed adequately.

There are other examples of this theme, specifically seen in the case of Lila Kyle who lives in a fantasy world throughout most of the story. Lila believes she is living her normal life with her daughter, Eva. However, as the book comes to a close Lila accepts the reality of who she has become and decides to put an end to the situation. She creates a bomb and kills herself and Lawrence Grey, eliminating the red-eyes with that action.



# Style

## Point of View

"The Twelve (Book Two of the Passage Trilogy)" is written with an almost-unlimited perspective from an omniscient point of view, and there is no focus on any single character. There are, however, some limitations, mainly seen in the lack of thoughts from the virals' point of view. The reader learns that their hunger for blood makes them irrational because Amy has a connection to them and learns of that. But the thoughts - if there are any - from the original Twelve are hidden with the exception of Anthony Carter. Even in that case, the reader learns about Carter's thoughts because Amy learns about them. Another limitation to the perspective is seen when the group from the Colony arrive at the settlement where humans are being fed to the virals. The reader learns about the true happenings and purpose of the settlement only when members of the group from the Colony learn about them. The author builds suspense with the group's feelings of unease and the thoughts that something isn't right about the place long before the reader learns what's really happening there. The focus and perspective shifts by scene, and that's necessary because there are so many settings, time periods, and characters. The use of the perspective and the omniscient point of view are acceptable and appropriate to this story.

## Setting

The story is set in a futuristic time in the United States. There are some dates included in the story but these are in reference to the time the virals escaped and caused the fall of civilization. For example, the section titled "The Ghost" occurs in the summer of "97 A.V." The initials are obviously a play on words referencing the traditional "A.D." which refers to the years "After the Death" of Jesus in the modern calendar. The physical settings are mainly in the western half of the United States and actual towns are used as physical settings. The objective is likely to add a level of believability to the story by using real settings in the story. Kerrville, Texas, is among those and that city has become a refuge, as have other places in Texas. As civilization fell, Texas and California severed from the United States and set out to protect themselves. Texas was at least moderately successful in their endeavor. There are a number of specific physical settings, including "The First Colony" in California where Michael's group is living when Amy first arrives at the gates. There are extensive descriptions of some of the settings, including this one. There are high walls fortified to keep the virals from breaking through at ground level, but there are also huge lights that keep the entire compound lit up at night, another tactic to keep the virals at bay. The compound in Colorado where the original Twelve were infected is another specific setting. Lawrence Grey wakes after the escape at a Red Roof Inn near that compound. Other specific settings include The Field at Kerrville, Texas, where the virals massacre several families, Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico where Alicia believes she'll find one of the Twelve, and the ship where



Anthony Grey has locked himself away from humans. Descriptions are appropriate for the story and the time.

## Language and Meaning

This book is the second of a series and could be a stand-alone novel, but the reader who has not consumed the first book will not understand some aspects of the story. For example, it is never fully explained how the virus came into being. It was discovered in a reasonably contained jungle area with only a few infected people until a party of researchers went there. Most of them were killed but the one who survived is housed in a secure place and studied. The vampiric creatures are immortal and immune to human ailments, including cancer, but they are still vampires. The researchers believe they can use the virus to create an immortality serum but the original subjects escape and take over the world. The story is filled with death and fear but there is an undercurrent of hope. The struggle to survive remains a constant issue for the characters as they try to find ways to live semi-normal lives and thrive. The prologue is written to sound like Bible verses and there are references to God in that section. One verse indicates that "the LORD said: As in the days of Noah, a great deluge shall sweep over the earth, and this shall be a deluge of blood." The project that infected the twelve prisoners with the virus and set off a chain of events that caused the downfall of civilization was called Project Noah. Several of the characters refer to divine intervention and their personal beliefs in God but the religious aspect of the story is not an overriding theme.

## Structure

"The Twelve (Book Two of the Passage Trilogy)" is divided into fourteen sections. They are titled Prologue, The Ghost, The Familiar, The Field, The Cave, The Oil Road, The Insurgent, The Outlaw, The Changeling, The Arrival, The Assassin, The Darkest Night of the Year, The Kiss and Epilogue: The Golden Hour. The lengths of the sections vary greatly. The part titled The Field, for example, contains only a single chapter and it is quite lengthy. The part titled The Familiar contains chapters three through twenty-two. The prologue and epilogue are not typical in that they contain multiple chapters. The prologue consists of chapters one through four and the epilogue includes chapters sixty-nine through seventy-one. The prologue contains a series of numbered verses that are very much like traditional King James Bible verses but they explain the story line up to this point. Noteworthy of the prologue is that each chapter is titled by the word "chapter" and a number that is spelled out. The final chapter of that section is "Chapter Four," but the next section of the book, The Ghost, begins with "Chapter 1." This means there are a total of seventy-five chapters in the book though the final chapter is "Chapter 71." The book does not flow in chronological order and this may be very confusing to some readers. This skipping around is partly due to the vast cast of characters and the inability to follow a single character's life in chronological order. For example, Chapter 24 describes an outing taken by several families just outside a secure compound. They are attacked by virals. One of the children, a girl named Nitia, is assumed dead but she makes an appearance later when she briefly reunites with her biological father, Tifty,

who were both survivors of the viral attack but are not heard of after chapter 24 until late in the book.



## Quotes

"And a decree shall go forth from the highest offices that twelve criminals shall be chosen share of the Zero's blood, becoming demons also; and their names shall be as one name, Babcock-Morrison-Chavez-Baffes-Turrell-Winston-Sosa-Echols-Lambright-Martinez-Reinhardt-Carter." Prologue 1:6

"Mrs. Kim taught the violin, kids coming over to her house for their lessons, and on summer days when the windows were open Danny could hear them playing, twinkle-twinkle and Mary-had-a-little-lamb and other things he didn't know the names of. Now there was no violin and Mrs. Kim was hanging over the porch railing." Chapter 6, Danny Chayes

"So it was that Deputy Director Horace Guilder (were there any actual directors anymore?) had found himself sitting before the Joint Chiefs (enough stars and bars around the table to start a Girl Scout troop) to offer his official assessment of the situation in Colorado. (Sorry, we made vampires; it seemed like a good idea at the time.)" Chapter 8

"The baby was where her thoughts belonged. Not with the house, or the noises from outside (there were monsters), or David not coming home (dead David), or any of the rest." Chapter 9, Lila Kyle

"A great round shape, wrapped with a glowing penumbra, was sliding over the sun. An eclipse." Chapter 23

"The boy Martinez could have watched for hours, and did just that and when the rabbit failed to perish by nightfall, he carried it to the barn and returned to the house and ate his supper and went to bed in his room of toys and trophies, waiting for morning, when he could watch the rabbit die some more." Chapter 35

"For it was inevitable; they had built a race of pure rapaciousness. Their Many, created to protect them, had devoured the earth like locusts, leaving nothing in their wake." Chapter 35

"A unique amalgamation of form and features that was the only one in all the universe. There was no doubt in Sara's mind." Chapter 45



"What a shock it would be to historians of the future to learn that Horace Guilder, High Priest of the Temple of Life Everlasting, Rebuilder of Civilization, Shepherd of the Dawn of the New Age of Cooperation Between Human and Viral, had sanctified himself with a pair of curtain tiebacks." Chapter 63

"He's surely the worst of 'em. Put 'em all together and you still ain't got one Zero."  
Chapter 69

"'Because that's what heaven is,' said Amy. 'It's opening the door of a house in twilight and everyone you love is there.'" Chapter 70

"Come to me, Alicia. The others are gone, you will be my one." Chapter 71



## Topics for Discussion

Who is Amy? Who is Peter? What is it that brings them together? What are their roles in saving humans? Are they successful? Why or why not? What do you believe their fates will be as the story comes to a conclusion in the next book? Why?

Describe any six characters in the book. What are they like? What are their strengths and weaknesses? Which do you most identify with? Why? What are their relationships to each other?

Describe any three specific settings in the story. What is the purpose of each setting? Does the setting seem realistic considering the story? Why or why not? What are the most important aspects of each?

How does Danny come to be driving a school bus? List at least three people who are on Danny's bus. How does each happen to be with Danny? What is the fate of the group of passengers?

There are several instances in which it seems a higher power is at work. Describe at least two of those.

Who is Alicia? Who are her ancestors and how are they spared from the original attacks of the virals? Compare Alicia to Amy. How are each infected with the virus? How are each changing throughout the book?

What do you consider the most important theme of the book? Why? Give at least three examples of this theme in the book.