

CHAPTER ELEVEN

In "Chapter Eleven - Castle Rock" of "Lord of the Flies," the narrative introduces a chilling dawn scene where Ralph, Piggy, and the twins (Samneric) desperately seek to rekindle their extinguished signal fire after it was stolen by Jack's tribe. Ralph, plagued by a swollen cheek and the oppressive ashes, fights against the elements, while Piggy's eyesight diminishes, leaving him vulnerable and anxious about their dire situation. They convene for an assembly, emphasizing urgency to reclaim Piggy's glasses, essential for both his vision and their survival.

Ralph is filled with fury as he recounts the theft of their fire and reflects on the harrowing shift into savagery. Each boy's role becomes more pronounced: Ralph embodies a semblance of civilization and hope, while Piggy, despite his limitations, voices the pragmatic need for order and cooperation. They plan to confront Jack—Piggy's determination to reclaim his glasses becomes a rallying point for the group. As they approach Castle Rock, tensions mount, underscoring the conflict between civilization and savagery.

When confronted by Jack's tribe, Ralph attempts to assert his authority through the conch, symbolizing order and democracy. However, he is met with mocking laughter and hostility, which escalates into violence. During the confrontation, Piggy tries to advocate for peace using the conch, but chaos ensues, culminating in a tragic and violent outburst; Piggy is struck and killed when a boulder is pushed by Roger, symbolizing the complete collapse of any civilized order among the boys. Ralph's realization of the loss of Piggy and the destruction of the conch highlights the ultimate triumph of brutality over civilization, leaving Ralph isolated, fearful, and consumed by despair amidst the remnants of innocence obliterated by the primal instincts unleashed within them.