

Chapter 133

In Chapter 133 of "All the Colors of the Dark," Saint enjoys a frosty morning, driving her year-old Bronco through a snowy landscape to meet Patch at the James Connor Correctional Facility, set discreetly in soybean fields. Their emotional reunion is brief but sweet, marked by smiles and a warm embrace as Patch limps slightly from a prior gunshot wound. Although initially carefree, Saint wrestles with concern for Patch, having visited him frequently during his six years in prison—though he never responded to her letters.

As they travel along Interstate 44, Saint reflects on how much Patch has missed. They share a simple lunch at a diner, discussing their lives and touching on the changes that six years and distance have caused. Patch inquires about a mutual friend, Norma, while Saint shares her professional achievements, partially sidelined by her feelings of detachment. The conversation weaves from shared memories to a mention of the past, hinting at their struggles and the impact of Patch's incarceration.

Discussing news coverage around a recent homicide case, Patch relates details he learned while in prison, including a context about prisoners' perspectives on freedom and walls. He expresses nostalgia for their youth, recalling events that shaped them while commenting on the distressing realities they faced. The dialogue reveals Patch's ongoing processing of trauma and desire to reconnect with memories long buried.

As they approach Monta Clare, Patch mentions having written to the judge about their past, eliciting memories of the dramatic shifts in their lives. Their exploration of hope mingles with a chilling recognition of the past. Viewing the town, Patch reflects on his childhood home, and while the present appears unchanged, deeper scars linger. Saint expresses hopes for a brighter future for Patch, reinforcing her unwavering support despite the weight of their shared history. The chapter closes with Saint's heartfelt encouragement for Patch to find his "paradise," revealing layers of resilience and a bond that both endure and cherish.