

# Chapter 228

In Chapter 228 of "All the Colors of the Dark," the aftermath of Nix's death unfolds as Lacey's becomes quieter, with only the locals remaining to reflect over sweet cream pancakes and coffee. The community mourns a figure who maintained order for nearly thirty years, and Charlotte shares her thoughts with Saint as they walk to Monta Clare High. It's the night of Marty Tooms' execution, the man responsible for taking Patch, prompting Charlotte to question the fairness of it all, wondering if it should hurt. Saint reassures her in a soft tone, but Charlotte feels that Tooms deserves a harsher fate.

At the station, Saint receives a call from Himes, revealing that Patch is likely en route to North Dakota, where he may have a girl. Himes also updates her regarding Joseph Macauley, who brought his sister back home, symbolizing a restoration of life. Post-call, Saint encounters Jasper, who delivers surprising news: Nix left her his house in his last will, a revelation that leaves her stunned and perplexed. Jasper provides her with documents and keys but cannot explain Nix's motives. He hints at the absence of any other heirs, suggesting the house might now belong to her.

Later, Saint returns home to find forensic examiner Stevie Harris at her yard, where bones were recently discovered. The two women proceed to the site of the discovery, where Stevie informs her that the bones are canine and have been there for a long time. Their investigation was delayed, and Stevie, who appears weary, hands Saint a gold tag found alongside the bones. As she reflects on the findings, Saint's phone rings, and she rushes inside to answer, indicating a new development in her day.

Overall, this chapter encapsulates themes of loss, inheritance, and the lingering impact of past actions within a tightly knit community. The characters grapple with both emotional and practical repercussions, each navigating the complexity of their intertwined lives as they face difficult truths.