

Chapter 244

Saint entered Grace Falls, observing children playing freely down a spacious street lined with tall trees. She paused to consult her map, noting the large houses on generous lots, with vibrant camellia contrasting against the white clapboard exteriors. As she traced the route with her finger, her phone rang. It was Himes.

“Are you there?” he inquired.

“I am,” she replied.

Himes informed her that he had accessed satellite images of the town and knew the location of the house. Saint gripped the phone tightly, processing the information as she watched a mother gently walking with her children, one notably secured on reins. Outside, ominous storm clouds began to accumulate in the distance.

“I hear that Alabama State Troopers are coordinating with the local police department,” Himes added, his tone serious.

“They’ll shoot him dead,” Saint stated bluntly, reflecting the urgency of the situation.

“Then it’s crucial that you find him first,” Himes pressed.

The tension in their conversation mirrored the storm approaching, as Saint realized the stakes were higher than ever. She knew time was of the essence, and failure was not an option. With a clear mission in mind, she prepared herself for the challenges ahead, focusing on the tasks required to confront the storm, both literal and figurative, that was looming on the horizon.

The chapter establishes a sense of urgency and tension, showcasing Saint's determination and the high stakes involved in her mission, while also depicting the serene yet foreboding setting of Grace Falls. The contrast between the innocent activities of children and the grave conversations about potential violence adds emotional depth to the narrative, fortifying Saint's resolve and the looming challenges ahead.