

Chapter VII

In Chapter VII, the scene unfolds in Pastor Meeks's office, where the protagonist wakes up to a cacophony of disputes. Disoriented, she finds herself on a blue plaid sofa, witnessing Pastor Meeks furiously arguing with a thin deliveryman bearing a large pink Bible. The pastor, exasperated, criticizes the color of the Bibles, questioning their suitability for his congregation. The deliveryman, appearing meek and sad, attempts to explain he's merely following orders, but is quickly overshadowed by the pastor's wrath.

Simultaneously, a heated exchange occurs between her brother Fish and Miss Rosemary. Fish insists that Mibs doesn't need a doctor and should simply go home, while Rosemary struggles to retain control over a telephone, desperate for adult intervention. The chaos escalates, with Fish disrupting the office by climbing over the pastor's desk to rally their grandpa, who, unfortunately, is asleep and oblivious to the turmoil.

Amidst the bickering, the protagonist's internal struggle begins. She hears two distinct voices in her head, engaged in an argument that mirrors the external chaos. As she grapples with her confusion, flashes of a prior encounter come to mind, particularly a moment involving Bobbi's tattoo that inexplicably spoke to her. Feeling overwhelmed by the noise and unable to concentrate, she yearns for quiet to focus on her own aspirations.

The commotion in the room makes her feel unnoticed and trapped; she yearns to escape to Salina Hope Hospital to connect with her father and activate her latent abilities. The tension around her swells, with contrasting arguments about pink Bibles and emotional appeals to adults spiraling out of control. Noticing an opportunity to flee, she quietly slips away, relieved to leave behind the disarray and the torment of the voices tormenting her thoughts.

Outside the pastor's office, she encounters Will Junior, who shows concern for her well-being and holds the birthday pen set she lost. In desperation, she implores him for a means of escape, reflecting her urgent need for freedom from the chaos around her.