

Chapter 131

In Chapter 131 of "All the Colors of the Dark," Saint isolates herself in her apartment for two weeks, engrossed in tracking a pirate with the help of Himes. During this time, she obsessively listens to hours of interviews and studies transcripts, including tapes from her grandmother's answering machine. This immersion in another world keeps her engaged, allowing her to escape from her own troubles.

She recalls vivid imagery that she associates with her grandmother's memories, marking various locations on her map. As she reminisces, she often draws parallels between the places her grandmother described and those she visits in her mind. For instance, she marks Oklahoma where the sky at Baldy Point and Lake Altus-Lugert are vividly described, and South Carolina for Fort Sumter's historic allure. The heaviness of her isolation leads her to eat little except for canned soup and to consciously shut out sunlight, fully committing to the world encapsulated by her research.

After forty hours of this mental journey, she finds herself back in Monta Clare, reflective on moments from her past, especially relating to Patch. The memories are rich and detailed, as she vividly remembers mining villages and significant locations like Denver. Over the next five days, she continues to delve into Joseph Macauley's memories, retracing routes from various places including Cottonwood Falls to New York City and New England to Montana. Her findings culminate in a clear route on her map.

After extensively analyzing the last tape, Saint draws a bold red circle on the map to signify her conclusion. She deciphers that the pirate's actions were not random but rather reflective of the girl's journey. Filled with newfound clarity, Saint feels that she understands the pirate's next intentions. She reaches out to Himes, determined, stating, "The pirate. He's seeing what the girl saw. I think I know where he's headed next." This revelation hints at a deeper understanding of the connection between the pirate and the young girl.