

Chapter 148

In Chapter 148 of "All the Colors of the Dark," the narrative begins with the protagonist making a phone call from a pay phone outside her motel, surrounded by fragrant lilacs and the bustling atmosphere of cars navigating the roads beneath the towering mountain. She reflects on her long afternoon spent at the Summit County Police Department, during which she prepared her report and drowned her sorrows in poor pizza, all while monitoring her thoughts.

As the call connects, Patch's voice greets her, revealing the time. She promptly apologizes, indicating her realization of its late hour. Patch, likely in a solemn mood, inquires about her well-being, and she visualizes him in the darkened confines of his home. A sense of foreboding creeps into her words as she describes the intimidating mountain nearby, suggesting it holds the potential for great destruction.

Their conversation veers into a personal territory as she hints at Misty possibly having a husband, reflecting on the limits of her relationship with Misty—they meet infrequently, only on Sunday mornings, and their discussions remain firmly in the past. Patch seeks clarification about a parole officer, to which she acknowledges her meeting, sharing a light-hearted laughter with him, hinting at a developing bond.

However, the air shifts as Patch reveals his constant thoughts about her and the shadow of Jimmy, who has weighed heavily on her heart and mind. She brushes off the conversation's somber turn, insisting that it was a long time ago, masking her inner turmoil. The topic of motherhood surfaces, triggering her reflections on lost potential and unfulfilled dreams—she wrestles with the haunting image of mothers in playgrounds and what could have been had circumstances been different.

She then invokes the memory of Summer Reynolds, painting a vivid picture of the girl with striking hair and eyes, who brought with her an air of mischief. Their reminiscing soon turns poignant, culminating in a sudden disconnection as she hears the click of the phone, punctuating the emotional depth of their conversation and her own unresolved feelings.