

# Chapter 150

In Chapter 150 of "All the Colors of the Dark," Patch embarks on a long drive that stretches for seven hours. Fatigue nearly drives him off the road, prompting him to open the window to the humid air, trying to shake off the weariness. He clutches an old ordinance map, though its usefulness is limited due to the numerous marks he's drawn upon it. During a brief stop to glance at a river, he is filled with disappointment; it holds none of the treasures sought by the old miners—only a silted reminder that his quest for Grace may end in despair. The absence of glitter signifies the harsh reality that if his journey concludes, it won't be in the hopeful reunion he desires.

As he approaches Monta Clare, an ominous feeling envelops him, and memories flood back as he drives past Rosewood Avenue toward Parade Hill. Leaving his truck behind, he walks to see Misty, where old emotional wounds resurface. He acknowledges he missed a movie she referenced, but feels sorrow at their continued disconnect. Misty's nod suggests understanding; years of his shortcomings have led her to lower expectations of him. Patch suggests they go somewhere together, hoping to connect, but she insists she cannot continue on that path, leaving him momentarily lost.

Before departing, Misty leans in to kiss his cheek—a tender gesture that seems to carry more significance than he recognizes. As Patch prepares to leave, he spots a discarded yellow hairband in the bushes, triggering old memories from their past. Compelled by nostalgia, he picks it up, pondering how to express his feelings, yet uncertain of the right words. However, just as he is about to knock on her door, a light flickers in the window next to him. His heart sinks as he sees Misty with someone else, abruptly dismantling the hope he had clung to and reinforcing his sense of isolation as the world around him continues to move forward, indifferent to his plight.