

Chapter 186

In Chapter 186 of "All the Colors of the Dark," Patch reflects on his daughter, envisioning her tending bees while wearing a new necklace, reminiscent of her grandmother's past. He finds himself deep in thought about the nature of people and their hidden rot, understanding that appearances can be deceiving. Despite being aware of the man's exterior, Patch knows that true insight requires looking beyond the surface to uncover the poison within.

While listening to Jimmy's remarks, Patch is distracted, consumed by memories of Saint, his friend, who epitomized goodness and care. He remembers her determination while wandering through bitter winter woods, persistently searching for him, and how she lovingly cared for her grandmother and Charlotte. Patch is struck by a sense of injustice, knowing this man has taken so much from someone who only gave, prompting a realization: he cannot allow his daughter to grow up in a world where good people remain passive. He reflects on the changes in himself, admitting to having abandoned his past self, yet recognizing the bond he shared with Saint—once a team, inseparable.

Addressing Jimmy, Patch probes his memory of their past interactions and Saint, specifically recalling the painful moment when she was accused of murdering Jimmy's child. Patch contemplates the complex themes of purpose, free will, and determinism, pondering whether Jimmy's actions were part of a greater narrative, or if he had the power to amend his wrongdoing. Despite his meditations on morality and fate, Patch understands the gravity of the moment and accepts that nothing he knows can alter what is about to transpire. Through introspection, he grapples with the inevitability of choices made and their consequences, setting the stage for a confrontation that may change everything.