# Chapter X

In the chapter, the protagonist finds himself in an unsettling situation with individuals he perceives as captors. A turbulent period has passed, during which he has become aware that the bulges under their jackets conceal weapons. The ordeal is compounded by the strange atmosphere of this new environment, which is starkly different from what he is accustomed to.

One of the attendants, dressed in a white robe, suggests that he was part of the Discovery Service, framing his current circumstance as a "mission of discovery," a notion he must embrace as part of his role in this brave new world. It presents his predicament not solely as captivity, but as a task he can approach with agency—he can tackle it effectively or poorly.

At the end of a long corridor, he arrives at a door leading to a room where an officer awaits. Inside, he encounters a small ghostly figure—a girl with black hair and brown skin, her bright presence juxtaposed against the dim surroundings. Captivated by her ethereal beauty and striking features, he feels a surge of emotion, causing him to avert his gaze, uncertain if others also perceive her presence or if she exists solely for him.

The officer introduces himself; she is his "bridge" to the future—a cryptic yet pivotal role in his newfound circumstances. As days stretch into weeks and months, he reflects on the girl's features—similar yet distinctly different from those of an Inuit woman he is reminded of, adding layers to his perception of her. The connection he senses is complex, intertwined with guilt and a deep-seated longing.

Moreover, the narrative hints at themes of divine intervention, as the thoughts drift toward the nature of God's will and mercy. The protagonist believes that it is by divine providence that he is linked to this girl, suggesting a purpose to their connection that transcends his current plight. Ultimately, the chapter closes on an ambiguous yet poignant note, where the character navigates feelings of redemption, fate, and the intricate interplay of memory and desire.