

THE DEATH CURE: Chapters 51-55

James Dashner

(Audio https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aaUm0nK_ZXA&t=12145s)

❖ A. SKIM ch. 51-55. Order the text: match the descriptions with the number of the chapter.

Ch.	Vince apologizes for the rough treatment, then he tells Brenda and Thomas that there are a few hundred people left in the Right Arm. Vince himself is not immune, and he probably has the Flare. Thomas then explains to Vince why he (Thomas) is especially important for WICKED. The main problem is that all of the weapons are stashed in WICKED's headquarters. However, the Right Arm have a way to make WICKED's weapons unusable.
Ch.	The Right Arm gives Thomas a newer van, and Lawrence is put behind the wheel again. The plan is to make it to the hangar without dying. Thomas is equipped with a pistol. Lawrence decides to take the highway to the hangar, since it's the fastest way. On the way, they see a bunch of cars driving in circles. Lawrence decides to just drive through. A car crashes into the van's side, spinning the van out of control. Luckily, no one is hurt. But then Thomas sees a Crank about twenty feet away staring at him – it's Newt.
Ch.	Thomas demands that Lawrence stop the van. Thomas gets out of the van and approaches Newt. He asks Newt if he remembers him. Newt isn't past the Gone yet; he still has his senses – he remembers Thomas. Thomas begs Newt to go with him, but Newt explodes with anger. He yells at Thomas, shouting about how Thomas always tries to play the hero and save the world. Newt is also furious that Thomas ignored the message and wouldn't kill him. Then Newt charges Thomas, but someone from the van shoots a Launcher. It misses. It turns out that Newt tried to kill himself back in the Maze. He climbed up a wall and jumped off, but he didn't die. Newt then starts shouting at Thomas to kill him. Thomas refuses, and Newt screams more and more. Then his eyes clear and he trembles, and in one last moment of sanity, he pleads Thomas softly to kill him. Thomas pulls the trigger.
Ch.	Thomas is surprised by how calm he is and declares that the Right Arm people can drop him off a few miles away from WICKED and let him hike in. That way it'll look like he made the trek himself in order to return. Vince agrees and also settles on moving the rest of the Gladers and immunes to the Right Arm's headquarters. Thomas learns how to use the device from Charlotte Chiswell. After he plants it, the device will take about an hour to render the weapons useless. Thomas then promises he won't let himself get killed—as long as Brenda doesn't let herself get killed.
Ch.	The Right Arm's secret weapon is Charlotte Chiswell. She used to be the lead engineer for the biggest arms manufacturer in the world. Chiswell has a way to render WICKED's weapons useless. So, if Chiswell can disable WICKED's weapons, then there will be an even playing field -- hand-to-hand combat. Vince continues: the Right Arm has three Bergs, and they'll hand over the immunes they have now in order to look like they're part of WICKED. Somehow, the Right Arm needs to get Chiswell's disabling device inside the WICKED headquarters. If they can do that, then they'll blow a hole in the wall and let everyone else in. Ultimately, Vince wants to stop the spread of the disease, whereas WICKED has been trying to find a cure.

❖ B. Listen to the audio (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aaUm0nK_ZXA&t=12145s) and follow along with the text, *ch. 55 ONLY (6:46:38)*. Pause the recording after each expression below and mark the time (both in the chart below and in the margins of the text).

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• *scratches and bruises covered his face*
.....

• *he'd stumbled upon a friend*
.....

• *The he started to drive off*
.....

• *Let go of me!*
.....

• *Those Cranks are way past the Gone*
.....

• *Madness lurked behind them*
.....

• *Thomas begged*
.....

• *He doesn't mean it*
.....

• *Enough to hear me out.*
.....

• *Thomas had frozen in place.*
.....

• *You expected a bloody hug?*
.....

• *Make amends! Repent for what you did!*
.....

• *Thomas pulled the trigger.*
.....