

THE DEATH CURE: Chapters 65-73+epilogue

James Dashner

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

❖ A. **SKIM** ch. 65-73 + the epilogue. Order the text: match the descriptions with the number of the chapter.

Ch.	The man holding Thomas down then lets him go and Thomas kicks Janson in the face, knocking the knife away. Thomas gets the knife and throws the knife at the stocky guy, nailing the guy's neck, and he collapses, dying. Thomas then reaches the building with the Right Arm. The Right Arm people say they've been looking for him and that they're about to blow the whole place up.
Ch.	The people in the Right Arm point Thomas in the direction to find Vince. Thomas finally reaches a room with Vince and Gally. Thomas tells Gally to follow him instead of staying with Vince. Despite being enemies back in the Glade, Gally smiles and decides to trust Thomas. Thomas and Gally run to a nearby office, and inside they find the rest of the gang.
Ch.	The whole horde of people makes a dash toward the escape. Meanwhile, people are getting crushed by the ceiling stones. Finally, the gang reach the cliff and they get inside the room with the Griever pods. The Griever pods start opening.
Ch.	About two hundred people have made it out of the Maze, but they have all stopped moving. They're at a stairwell and don't know whether to go up or down. Brenda says they need to go up. An explosion sounds, and everyone starts running up. Finally, they reach the maintenance room and get to the Flat Trans. Beyond it is a vast forest of green with trees and flowers. Thomas orders one Glader to make sure everyone makes it through the Flat Trans, while he stays near the back. The explosions get louder and louder as people make it through. Just as the end of the line gets near, Janson's voice. Surrounding Janson are WICKED security guards. Janson pulls out a knife, and so do the other guards. The Gladers all find weapons of their own, and the two sides charge.
Ch.	Inside the Flat Trans, Brenda starts entering code into some control panel. It clicks, and the doors open to the outside world. Brenda then turns to Thomas and Minho and tells them to get out, so they do. When Thomas and Minho step out, they realize they're in paradise: an ocean, a beach, a forest. Brenda then pushes some more buttons, and the Flat Trans (which entered into a wooden hut) catches fire, along with the hut. A few hours later, Minho is ordering people to do certain things to make sure they all survive. Thomas and Brenda take a seat and start talking. Brenda says that they have over 200 people, and they're all immune, so it'll be a good start. Thomas is suspicious of how sure Brenda sounds, as if she knows something he doesn't. Brenda reassures Thomas that it's nothing at all. Then they kiss, and the sun starts to go down.

Ch.	When they reach the Glade, they see hundreds of people. There are even babies and little kids among the crowd and some other people they knew back from the Maze. Thomas helps divide the Immunes into groups with the rest of the experienced Gladers as group leaders. Just as they're about to run, a large crack sounds, and the ground starts shaking. It's the Right Arm's explosions. A massive chunk of rock falls from the ceiling and crushes a group of people. Blood sprays everywhere.
Ch.	After Thomas shows everyone the letter from Chancellor Paige, they all agree that they have to trust her word and follow the paths and directions. The gang starts running towards the Maze so that they can get to the Munies—but they get ambushed. After some struggling, the gang fights off the ambushers. The gang eventually gets to the chamber that had the Griever pods back in Book One. It's the room they found when they escaped the Maze. Thomas climbs a ladder, everyone else follows, and they reach the cliff of the Maze.
Ch.	The two groups crash into each other like soldiers in an ancient battle. Thomas gets matched up with Janson. Thomas deals the first blow, stabbing Janson right in the armpit. The two struggle back and forth. Finally, Thomas finds enough strength to elbow Janson in the face, and strangles the man. Minho runs up to him: it turns out that all of the heroes won their battles. A chunk of stone falls right where Thomas is standing. As the stone's about to land, Thomas is knocked to the side by Teresa, who is then crushed by the stone. Just as she's about to die, Teresa tells Thomas she's sorry. Thomas can't believe what he's seeing: he's pulled by Brenda and Minho, and they dash toward the Flat Trans. They make it, and they jump through.
Ch.	Teresa screams at Thomas to listen to her: all he needs to do is reach inside the Grievers' skins, and inside there's a handle switch that will kill them. Thomas runs around, shutting off Grievers and killing them. The very last Griever spins forward with machines in its belly, slices through a bunch of people with its blades. More deaths. Thomas yells at Minho to get everyone into the maintenance room, while Thomas distracts the Griever. Teresa tries to help, but the Griever starts sucking her face into its blubbery skin, suffocating her. Thomas smashes the Griever, then plunges his arm into its flesh, finds the switch and it turns off.
	In the Memorandum, Paige states that WICKED failed, but they also succeeded. Paige anticipated the outcome of the Trials, so she put in an alternate solution to save at least a portion of the human race. With the help of two of her partners, "two wisely placed Immunes", Paige was able to have the best possible outcome. Brenda and Jorge have sent the Immunes to a safe place where they can start civilization over as the rest of the world is driven to extinction. Paige also notes that releasing the Flare virus was a method of population control. She blames the government for this abhorrent crime. Paige adds that she has no idea how history will judge the actions of WICKED, but WICKED really only had one goal, and that was to preserve the human race. Paige's last line is this: "As we tried to instill in each of our subjects over and over, WICKED is good".

❖ B. Listen to the audio (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aaUm0nK_ZXA&t=12145s) and follow along with the text, *ch. 73 and the epilogue ONLY (8:45:35)*. 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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| • <i>in case any nasty debris came flying through</i> | • <i>he was one hundred per cent positive</i> |
| • <i>Thomas wondered</i> | • <i>the vanishing light of day</i> |
| • <i>They'd come to paradise</i> | • <i>the sun's light vanished below the horizon</i> |
| • <i>everyone scraped and bruised from top to bottom</i> | • <i>I anticipated this outcome</i> |
| • <i>a cliff overlooking the ocean</i> | • <i>as a means of population control</i> |

❖ C. Answer the questions below. Write at least 6 sentences.

Why do you think the book is called 'The Death Cure'? How does this title relate to the plot? What connection is there between the title and WICKED?