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**The Last Thirteen: 9**  
**By James Phelan**

- Sam and Zara have managed to escape the apartment house where Hans and his Guardians had been holding them. On the run, they slip into a boutique hotel. The gracious lady staffing the desk makes them tea and then lies to the Guardians about their presence. She tells Sam and Zara she dreamt they would come and she would help them. Do you think she would have helped them if she hadn't had this dream? Why or why not?
- Tobias tells Eva he doesn't know why Sam's dreams lead him to the other dreamers. What possibilities does he suggest? What do you think?
- Tobias tells Eva he thinks she's one of the 13 Dreamers. Do you agree? Why or why not?
- "We are united by a common enemy – we have no choice but to trust them, and they us." Do you agree with this statement by the Professor about this "uneasy but necessary alliance" as it's later described?
- In the first book of the series Lora explains to Sam that Shiva is the inside contact at the Enterprise. Where do you think his real loyalties lie?
- After hours of research, Jedi, Tobias and Xavier find similarities between the map in Sam's dream and the Cantino map. They share what they've learned about Alberto Cantino and the cloud people, the Chachapoya, of the Amazon region. How does including these factual details add verisimilitude to the story? Does it make the story more "real" to you? What more can you learn about this explorer and these native peoples?
- Eva shares with Sam the advice her mother used to tell her: "you should do one thing every day that scares you." What do you think this means? Do you think it's good advice? Why or why not?
- Lora and Eva agree to meet with Mac. Do you think this is a good idea? Why or why not?
- The meeting with Mac has been set up at the Willis Tower in Chicago. Have you ever heard of or visited this landmark? Why is it famous?
- As the meeting with Mac proceeds, Eva asks herself, *We've got all the backup we could need. So why do I feel so nervous?* Why do you think she's so nervous?



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- In his letter to Sam Dr. Kader says he fears he will be taken by “forces that oppose us.” Who do you think he means?
  - How much of the information in the book about the Tesla towers is true?
  - The Dreamers were created by Bureau 13. What is Bureau 13?
  - Hans and his Guardians are close behind Sam as he sets off on the Roosevelt-Rondon ferry up the river. How do you think Hans learned so quickly where Sam was headed?
  - The Amazon River and surrounding area is often a setting for adventures both real and imaginary. Who were Roosevelt and Rondon and what facts can you learn about their expedition?
  - Why do you suppose Sam says to Rapha, “You sure do like your movies.”?
  - Alex and Shiva pair up in the gaming world in order to destroy nightmares in the Dreamscape, pitting themselves against Matrix. Would you have wanted to play? Why or why not? What are some of the games you enjoy playing and why?
  - Mac proposes to Lora and Eva that they go behind the back of the Academy and the Enterprise to stop Hans and Stella by delivering the Dreamers to him. He claims to have “cut a deal” with Solaris. How do you think they’ll respond? What would you do in their position? Do you think either Mac or Solaris can be trusted? Can they trust each other?
  - *The Last Thirteen: 9* ends as Sam and an unconscious Rapha plummet down the rocky cliff clutching the bar of the glider canopy in an attempt to escape Stella and her Agents. What do you think will happen to them in the next book?