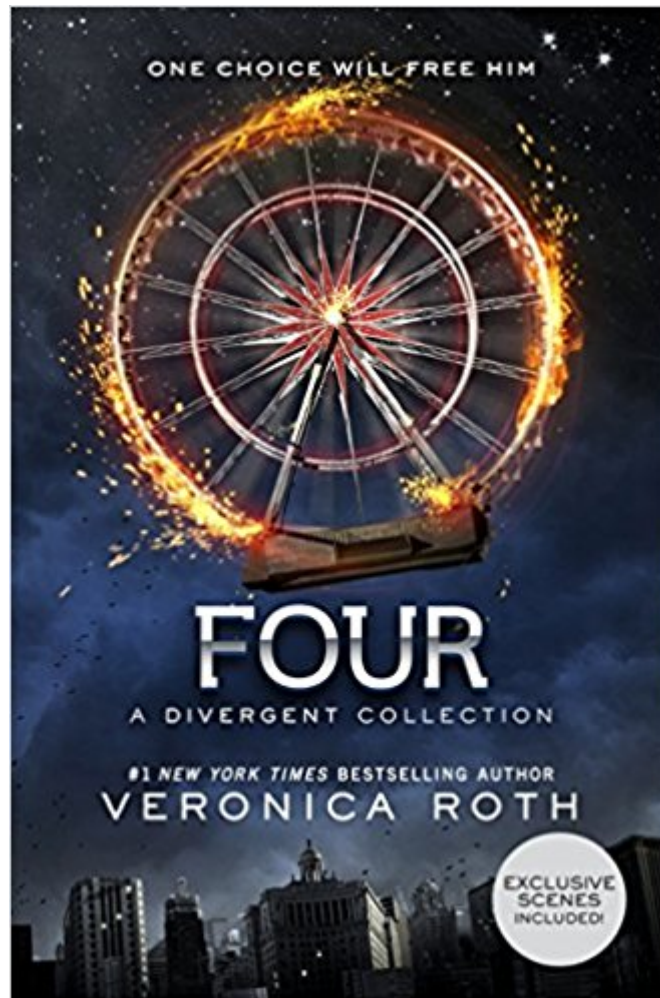




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Four: A Divergent Collection



Synopsis

Fans of the Divergent trilogy by #1 New York Times bestselling author Veronica Roth will be thrilled by *Four: A Divergent Collection*, a companion volume that includes four pre-Divergent stories plus three additional scenes from Divergent, all told from Tobias's point of view. This collection also makes a great pick for fans of the blockbuster movies who want to delve deeper into the character played by Theo James. Readers first encountered Tobias as "Four" in Divergent. His voice is an integral part of *Allegiant*. Readers will find more of this charismatic character's backstory told from his own perspective in *Four: A Divergent Collection*. When read together, these long narrative pieces illuminate the defining moments in Tobias's life. The first three pieces in this volume—*"The Transfer," "The Initiate,"* and *"The Son"*—follow Tobias's transfer from Abnegation to Dauntless, his Dauntless initiation, and the first clues that a foul plan is brewing in the leadership of two factions. The fourth story, *"The Traitor,"* runs parallel with the events of Divergent, giving readers a glimpse into the decisions of loyalty and love that Tobias makes in the weeks after he meets Tris Prior. Also includes three additional scenes from Divergent, told from Tobias's point of view! Don't miss Veronica Roth's thrilling novel *Carve the Mark*.

Book Information

Series: Divergent

Hardcover: 285 pages

Publisher: Katherine Tegen Books; 1st edition (2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0062345214

ISBN-13: 978-0062345219

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 1,815 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #42,062 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #63 in [Books > Teens >](#)

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Customer Reviews

Gr 7 Up—Giving further voice to Four (Tobias Eaton), this collection of seven short stories provides the backstory of the "Divergent" trilogy and will be a hot commodity thanks to the success

of the film *Divergent*. Fans of the novels are given access to the thoughts and emotions of one of their favorite characters, while also learning more details about secondary characters like Eric, Zeke, and Shauna. Listeners will better understand how Tobias was raised by a tyrannical father and an absent mother and how joining Dauntless was a life-changing decision that catapulted Tobias from a fearful and withdrawn boy to become Four, a strong and confident leader. Two years pass within this collection, from the first story of Four's initiation into Dauntless until he meets Tris in the final stories. Narrator Aaron Stanford provides a serious and strong voice, which captivates listeners. An excellent addition to existing "*Divergent*" collections. —Suzanne Dix, *The Seven Hills School*, Cincinnati, OH --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

“Fans of *Divergent* who can't get enough —and maybe even the rare reader who missed the first rush —will snap up this relatively stand-alone story collection told from the perspective of Tobias (aka Four). — (ALA Booklist) “*Divergent* fans will thoroughly enjoy this extra bit of backstory, which is filled with names and places that became beloved in Roth's bestselling trilogy. Roth's storytelling retains the same mix of tension, uncertainty, and hope that made the original stories irresistible. — (Publishers Weekly)

**** ABSOLUTELY NO SPOILERS ****For those of us, and there are many, that were disappointed with *Allegiant* (*Divergent* Series), Veronica Roth's collection of novellas in *Four: A Divergent Collection* (*Divergent* Series) is a kind reminder that the *Divergent* series was really a good trilogy if only more depth and distinction was delivered from Tobias' perspective. Each novella is very short, with the entire book totaling about 300 pages. It was a breeze to read through in two sittings. The set of novellas document events that take place both before and during the first *Divergent* novel and helped me fill in the many gaps left in the story of Tobias' life. Starting two years before Tris transfers to Dauntless, we are given a new, albeit still limited, perspective of the characters in the original *Divergent* novel. The first three novellas, *The Transfer*, *The Initiate*, and *The Son* have the most depth and kept me really interested. It gave me a great new vantage point similar to re-reading *Divergent* through the eyes of a new narrator. In *The Transfer*, we are immediately entangled in the Dauntless world reminiscent of Tris' initiation. The books focus on Tobias' life, his choice to flee, and the emotions that haunted him in doing so. *The Traitor* brings together the time when Tris arrives in Dauntless. This gives the reader, in my opinion, a different understanding and appreciation of Four's character as told in *Divergent*. *Four: A Divergent Collection*

is nicely written and uniquely put together as short novellas. However, I am not sure it makes up for the disappointment with how Allegiant ended. And given the interviews from Veronica Roth's book tour, it looks like the final nail is in the coffin of a series that never adequately concluded.

Do you know what I forgot? Veronica Roth's writing sucks me in! When this book came in the mail, I could not forget about it. Normally books don't bother me until I pick them up. This one did. I couldn't forget about how much I wanted to read it. Her writing is fast paced and fun. This made me forget my bitterness and anger about this series and once again put me in the thrilling and amazing Divergent world. Four's story was even more addictive than the original Divergent series to me. These short stories are fast paced and really got me inside Four's head. He is thoughtful and I loved seeing him grow and change as he switched factions and found his place in Dauntless. This gave an even more complete picture of the world and characters. There are so many sides to Four and it is interesting to see him make his way and discover some of the problems within his society. Lots of hints about the future and you can see the foreshadowing for the Divergent trilogy. I loved it, there were parts that dragged for me, but seeing things through Four's eyes was fantastic. I highly recommend it especially if you loved Divergent. Individual Story Ratings: The Transfer: 4/5 The Initiate: 5/5 The Son: 4/5 The Traitor: 5/5

THE TRANSFER I'm loving the inside perspective into Tobias' life. This first part of the mini-series takes us through his choosing and his transition from Tobias to Four. Short but worth the read! **THE INITIATE** As Four goes through Initiation, he succeeds above what anyone would expect. Thankfully, Amar is understanding of his status as Divergent, and keeps his secret. However, when Jeanine Matthews becomes suspicious of how well he is doing for an Abnegation-Dauntless transfer, it may cost more than he expects. In this short story, we also begin to see where his hate of Eric comes from. **THE SON** As Four becomes a full-fledged Dauntless member, he is invited by Max to be part of a leadership learning track. As he begins to excel at it, he realizes that the position isn't what he wants. As he tries to figure out who keeps breaking into his room, he stumbles across some evidence that keys him into the imminent faction divisions we learn about in Divergent. **THE TRAITOR** Reading Divergent first is definitely a must before this book. Here we follow Four's story as he meets and gets to know and trust Tris. As he continues in his quest to understand what Max and Jeannine are planning, he meets up with old rivals and confronts fears.

NOTE: The Kindle version does NOT have Free Four or the "three exclusive scenes" that are

apparently included in the print version. Because of this, just buy the books separately. There's no reason to spend MORE for the collection. I was really looking forward to reading from Four's POV, because even though Tris may have had a better story, I found Four to be a more compelling character. These novellas were just OK. Not as bad as Allegiant, but not nearly as captivating as Divergent - which I loved. There were some inconsistencies with the main trilogy which was disappointing to see. (Where are the editors?!) The last novella (Traitor) seemed rushed to me. Lots of dialogue, but not nearly as much of Four's inner monologue as we saw from Tris in Divergent. I would have rather had fewer, well-fleshed out scenes than a bunch of short-takes with little development. After the disaster that was Allegiant and the ham-handed way these novella's are written, I think I am done with Roth. She can't seem to write well with a deadline. There is some excellent fanfic out there that is worth your time though. Do a search for "Determinant: One choice changes everything". That book is a replacement for Allegiant and the author is also doing some stories from Four's POV which are also very well done. Divergent 5 stars Insurgent 4 stars Allegiant 1 star Four 3 stars

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