

# The Handmaid's Tale: (a)i The opening

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Quotation	What it could mean	Later links
the games that were formerly played there		
felt-skirted as I knew from pictures		
a palimpsest of unheard sound		
a revolving ball of mirrors		
the hands that were on us there and then		
that talent for insatiability		
the army cots that had been set up in rows		
spaces between so we could not talk		
old ones that still said U.S.		
The lights were turned down but not out		

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Aunt Sara and Aunt Elizabeth patrolled; they had electric cattle prods slung on thongs from their leather belts.		
Guns were for the guards, specially picked from the Angels.		
two by two around the football field		
A chain-link fence topped with barbed wire		
The Angels stood outside it with their backs to us.		
Something could be exchanged		
That was our fantasy.		
Touch each other's hands across space		

- What are we not told?
- What questions do we have at the end of Chapter 1?