

Dear Diary,

Last night I just couldn't sleep! That tape that Lana didn't let me hear has been running through my usually empty mind all day! Luckily I did hear some of the tape, but it has left me with countless questions!

Voices diary, I heard voices! Children's voices just like me! However...

Who are they?

Are they alive?

Was it real?

Ugh, I bet 'Lana' knows. She won't even tell me why I can't go out! It's the same story every time, 'It's too dangerous' but if it's so dangerous, then why does she go out? Yesterday I even said I would go with her, but she still said no! 'Oh, you can go out when you're eight... no when you're nine... maybe when you're ten' Lies. Lies straight to my face. I'm thirteen. Thirteen. TEEN! Yet I can't even go with her! Pathetic. Just simply pathetic. She isn't my mum. It doesn't matter if she acts like it, she's not!

She traps me here, in the same goddamn grey walls, everyday just like she has for the past ten years!

I feel like a bird whose wings have been ripped off. Flightless. Trapped. Even a prisoner could relate to me.

It's pure hell living in here! Every second is an eternity for me. My dreams have been crushed multiple times and my happiness shattered like glass many years ago. What can I do? I'm under Lana's control. Plus, according to Lana I'm too 'young'! So what can I do? I know... ready for a little trip diary?

Clutching onto the recorder, I secured my mask and twisted the wheel-like handle round, taking my first steps into the 'forbidden outdoors'.

However, it wasn't anything like I expected. In fact it was the opposite to what I thought. Looking around, I only saw a town not worthy to hold its title anymore. No birds, dead plants...no people. It was lifeless. All of my questions had been answered except from one. Will I ever see them? It's a ghost town! My chances are low, every mile looks like the last. From broken buildings to shattered glass it was chaos. Everything was vandalised! But I had to find those kids, it's my destiny. And I know exactly where to look!

Coming to a halt, I arrived at the iron gates, which have rusted overtime, and dashed inside to see the reality nobody wished for. Bricks had fallen off the walls and the chalk on the ground was almost invisible. Worst of all...there were no children, not one.

Staring at my reflection, I felt different. Not unique... different. Like I don't belong. All I want is my life back... and this mask was the only obstacle.

Step by step, I ambled to the merry-go-round and sat down with the tape I wasn't allowed to hear, and pressed play. As I closed my heavy eyes, my memories came back to me from my childhood. My amazing family and friends who loved me for me. Only it was now. Lana kept me there for my safety...

Only two options remained: Live Hell on Earth or live happy in Heaven. What is the purpose of living? To suffer? I refuse. Please tell Lana I'm sorry. For yelling at her. Sorry I disobeyed her. Sorry I did this. Say I love her. It's better this way.

Yours,
Theo.