

Day 14

9:55 a.m.

When I was in fourth grade, I was tormented by the class bully, Jeffery Hugh. He was a husky kid with bright orange hair and freckles everywhere. He always told me that I was stupid or fat. But what hurt me the most was when he told me that when the world ended, I was going to be the only one left behind. I never thought that he would be right.

My thoughts drifted back to the events of last night. I remember Renee coming in to wish us a good night's sleep. And I remember snuggling with Ryan and getting ready to fall asleep. Then we heard the scream. I was completely terrified. We were defenseless.

When we opened the door, the screaming continued. Ryan grabbed the lamp. I was honestly terrified. I knew Ryan was too because when I grabbed his hand, it was shaking. If you think rationally, it was ridiculous for teenagers to deal with this kind of threat. We'd already witnessed the world falling to pieces. We'd lost everyone and everything we loved. We'd both been dreadfully ill. Who knew what was going to hit us next?

We followed the scream, and it led us into the living area with the two couches and broken TV. We peeked around the corner and what we saw made my stomach seize. Renee was facing Jason. She was talking madly and gesturing wildly. I didn't realize why until I saw what Jason was holding in his hand. One of the butcher knives from the kitchen was firmly in his right hand. His face looked smug, slightly annoyed, and almost threatening. Renee continued her ranting.

“Who the *hell* do you think you are, walking around like some crazed man with a knife in your hand? This is supposed to be a place of refuge! There are children here!” she continued on.

Ryan squeezed my hand. He put

down the lamp before walking out of the kitchen and toward the pair.

“Ryan, no!” I whispered loudly. He shook his head and continued forward. I wanted to cry. We had no idea how crazy Jason could be. I wished I’d listened to Ryan when he voiced his suspicions earlier.

“Hey, guys what’s going on here?” Ryan asked quietly.

Renee turned and looked at Ryan. Her face was a pale and her eyes were dilated.

“I come out of the bedroom to get some water from the kitchen, and I find this man walking around here with a butcher knife! He claims to be on the lookout. But he fails to realize that there is nothing in the world to