Eliana Almudena Latorre Melendez

CHOICE

ReadWorks Quill

When Dennis woke up, Mac was gripping the steering wheel, Anna was holding her leg, and Jeremiah was looking at her with worry and fear in his eyes. Dennis immediately remembered the situation they were in.

"Where are we going?" He asked while regaining control of the truck, "I know we said that we would try to find Petey's radio station, but we need more water and food." Mac just nodded.

Jeremiah's voice cut through the silence, "I think t-that my house is somewhere near," he said with a quivering voice. "I saw a park that I used to go to sometimes."

Mac spoke for the first time since Dennis became conscious, "Do you think it would be a good idea to stop?" Mac shared a look with Dennis. He still remembered what had happened the first time they went near a city.

"I am not sure, but maybe we could gather some supplies," Jeremiah murmured. Dennis shook his head. Many things could go wrong, and he was about to explain his thoughts when Mac started speaking once again.

"It is our best choice," Mac sighed before continuing. "Do you know where to go from here?" Jeremiah replied with a nod, and soon they were heading towards his home.

After a few minutes of driving in complete silence besides Petey's music playing on the radio, Dennis parked the car in front of a beautiful house with white bricks and a small garden. It would have been a perfect view if the windows weren't shattered and if the door didn't have scratches on it. The four of them got out of the car, and Mac pushed open the door.

Crack!

Crack!

The four of them jumped at the sound only to find that it was caused by Dennis stepping on a stick. Dennis searched his surroundings in an attempt to make sure that there were no zombies around. The town seemed abandoned, but he still felt that something was missing.

The door opened to reveal a wooden dining table with one leg broken and broken glass on the floor. The four of them walked in, and Mac used the few seconds of calmness to examine everybody. Anna had dark circles under her eyes and her hair had knots all over it. Dennis had a large bruise forming on his head and his eyes held a look of desperation. The last person on the group that Mac looked at was Jeremiah. His eyes seemed tired and his clothes were dirty. Mac was sure that he was not better than them.

As they explored the house, Dennis saw a painting that seemed to have something behind it, and the four of them became alert. His hand slowly reached to touch the painting and he found a hidden

ReadWorks[®]



brown door. Dennis looked at Anna's, Mac's, and Jeremiah's expressions, but he did not move until Mac pointed at the handle. Dennis turned the handle and a creaking noise was heard as the door opened. A white room with large bookcases was revealed. There was a computer in one of the tables in the room, and it appeared to function.

"Do you know what is this!?" Exclaimed Mac while looking around at the machines.

Jeremiah shook his head, but then a confused look settled on his face, "I-I think I remember my parents bringing some of *them* to this room."

"Why would they do something like that?" Questioned Anna.

Mac heard Dennis calling for them from the computer, "Guys, I think that the infection started long before anyone knew about it. This are experiments of cures that were tried. All of them resulted in failures, but one file is not completed," Dennis eyes widened, "What if this is the cure, but it was never tried on anybody?"

"Then I am the only person that you can use as an experiment," all pairs of eyes rested on Anna.

"What happens if the experiment fails? It could kill you. It is too dangerous," blurted Dennis.

"I-I don't want to hurt anyone else," insisted Anna.

The four of them shared looks, "Whatever happens we will stay together," Dennis assured everyone.

Anna entered a glass room, and Mac pushed a button that caused gases to come into it. Anna shouted in pain as smoke covered her. Jeremiah closed his eyes, but as the smoke dissipated, Anna stood in full health with the cut on her leg entirely cured.

Dennis smiled like a Cheshire Cat while he watched Jeremiah's eyes turn into stars as he ran towards Anna. The four of them hugged each other tightly; not wanting to get separated. Neither of them knew what would happen next now that they had a cure, but they knew that they would face it together as a family.

ReadWorks[®]

Quill