

# **TRAPPED WITHIN THESE HALLS**

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## INT. CLASSROOM - HALLWAY-DAY.

In the classroom there are 20 students, everyone is staring at the clock. The PROFESSOR (40) is sleeping in his chair. The clock reads 3:39 p.m. Suddenly, the clock hand changes; now it reads 3:40 p.m. The bell rings.

All the students stand up, laughing, talking and playing. The PROFESSOR wakes up and stands to say a few words.

## PROFESSOR

Well, guys, there isn't much to say. Today is a bittersweet day. Today marks the end of our time together. We've grown together, and I want to thank you for your commitment. You all have left a mark on this institution, and I'm sure you will leave footprints in the world. And, well... you may now leave.

All the students run out of the classroom; they go down the stairs. There's a big crowd and a lot of noise. Some are talking and others are in the cafeteria. On the side, there are four students talking: LANA (16), CLARISSE (17), LUKE (17) and SALVADOR (17).

## LANA

(worried)

Are you sure? It doesn't seem like a good idea.

## LUKE

Nothing's going to happen.

## CLARISSE

Come on Lana, it's the last day. We have to enjoy it.

## SALVADOR

Guys, if we want to do it, we should hide now.

## INT. OLD CLASSROOM-DAY.

The four run to hide in an old classroom on the third-floor. Once there, CLARISSE and SALVADOR make sure the doors are properly closed. While LUKE tries to dust off some stored chairs, he realizes that LANA is scared and worried.

## LUKE

Hey, what's wrong?

## LANA

I'm worried. I have a bad feeling about this.

LUKE

Nothing's going to happen. Don't think about that, think of this as our last adventure before you and Salvador move to another country. Try having fun, okay?

LANA

But...

CLARISSE interrupts her.

CLARISSE

Doors are locked. Now let's start the sleepover! They begin emptying their backpacks. From them, they pull out candy, food, blankets, games, flashlights, and a laptop.

INT. OLD CLASROOM-NIGHT.

The group is playing cards.

SALVADOR

I won!

CLARISSE

That's not fair. You cheated!

They all set the cards aside and take food out of a backpack, passing it around.

LUKE

And, what are your plans for this week?

LANA

Nothing really. I will spend time with my family before leaving.

SALVADOR

Maybe we could go out other day, before we leave.

CLARISSE

Of course, we have to. Oh, I'm gonna miss you guys so much.

LUKE

Let's not talk about that. We should watch a movie. They put a movie on the laptop. As they watched, they gradually fell asleep one by one. Then LANA gets up to go to the bathroom. She notices the computer is on, and turns it off.

INT. BATHROOM-NIGHT.

When she gets to the bathroom, she washes her face and looks herself at the mirror. Then hears a noise and goes out to see what it is.

INT. HALLWAY-NIGHT.

She sees a classroom with the door slightly open and the light on.

LANA

It must be nothing... they probably just forgot to turn off the light. Whatever, I'm sleepy.

She returns to the classroom.

INT. OLD CLASSROOM-DAY.

SALVADOR wakes everyone up.

SALVADOR

Hey, guys, wake up! We have to hide.

CLARISSE

(yawning)

What?

SALVADOR

The cleaning stuff should be here soon. We need to be downstairs before they realize we were up here.

Everyone stands up and puts away their things.

INT. CLASSROOM NEAR THE ENTRANCE-DAY.

The group go downstairs and hide on a classroom near the entrance.

LUKE

How much do we have to wait? I'm getting bored.

SALVADOR

The cleaning stuff is supposed to arrive at 8.

LUKE

(annoyed)

It's already 8.

SALVADOR

I know, but we have to wait.

They wait for two hours, and nobody arrives. LANA looks at her clock.

LANA

Almost two hours have passed, and no one has arrived yet.

SALVADOR

Someone'll be here soon. Just wait.

LANA

How about we call our parents?

CLARISSE

Are you nuts? My parents think I'm at your house. They will kill me!

LANA

But there's no other way. Just try.

LUKE takes out his phone, but there's no signal.

LUKE

Weird. No signal.

SALVADOR

I don't have signal either.

CLARISSE

Great, we're trapped and there's no signal.

SALVADOR

We'll have to keep waiting.

Another half hour passes. CLARISSE is leaning against the wall tossing a small ball in her hands. The rest are laying on the floor.

CLARISSE

This is boring. When are we leaving?

LANA

Guys, don't you think it's strange that there isn't any signal and the cleaning stuff hasn't arrived yet? I mean it's really late already.

LUKE

We have to accept it. No one's coming, it's probably their day off. We're trapped.

SALVADOR

For the first time, Luke is right. We're trapped and there's no way out.

CLARISSE

Come on, you can do something, you are the intelligent one, right? You always come up with great ideas. I don't know... maybe we could use the window?

LANA

That's a terrible idea.

CLARISSE

You have anything better?

LUKE

We should just wait until someone comes.

CLARISSE

And what are we going to do until they arrive?

LUKE

I don't know... maybe we could have some fun. There is no way out so we don't have many options.

INT. OLD CLASSROOM-NIGHT.

The group return to the old classroom in the third-floor. They start playing board games.

CLARISSE

I'm starving... Do we have something to eat?

LANA

No... We've already eaten everything. There's no food, no water. And the cafeteria is closed.

SALVADOR

No one has come. We still are trapped.

LUKE

Let's just sleep, it's the only thing we can do. Someone must come tomorrow.

LANA

Did anyone tried calling again?

SALVADOR

Yeah, but still no signal.

Everyone goes to sleep. While everybody is asleep. CLARISSE hears something strange; she wakes up everyone.

LUKE

(sleepy)

What's wrong? Why would you wake us up?

CLARISSE

Guys, do you hear thar? Where does that come from?

LANA

I heard something like that last night, but I didn't think much of it. Thought it was part of my imagination; I was half asleep.

CLARISSE

We should go see.

CLARISSE takes out a flashlight. Everyone leaves the classroom.

INT. HALLWAY-NIGHT.

The group walks through the hallway, searching for the noise.

LANA

Look! There! The lights are on in that classroom.

SALVADOR

The noise comes from there.

CLARISSE

What are you waiting for, let's go see.

They head to look through the half-opened door.

LUKE

There are people there. What are they doing here at this time?

CLARISSE

Maybe the same as we're doing.

SALVADOR

I don't think so.

LANA

Shh. Shut up and listen.

Through the half-open door, we see a group of 5 people talking, all with worried faces.

PERSON 1

I already told you. We don't have time anymore.

PERSON 2

We must do it faster. We need more.

PERSON 3

But it isn't working. We are only getting negative results.

The group looks at each other.

LUKE

Clearly, they are not students, but I don't understand anything. What are they talking about?

SALVADOR

(disgusted)

Shit... no, no, no, no. This can't be happening.

LANA

What happened?

SALVADOR

(disgusted)

Have you guys seen what's on the floor?

They look down and see a body lying on the floor. CLARISSE and LANA scream. The group inside the classroom turn toward them.

PERSON 1

Did you hear that? There's someone in here.

PERSON 4

That's not possible. Everything is locked.

PERSON 3

(angry)

Don't stand there. See if anyone is there. If they discover us...

PERSON 5

(serious)

If they discover us, we kill them.

The guys get scared and run away. The group in the living room sees shadows moving away and follows them

LUKE finds a place to hide, a storage room.

LUKE

Here!

They enter and lock the door behind them.

INT. STORAGE ROOM-NIGHT.

They begin to breathe heavily from the fright.

LUKE

What the hell did just happened?

CLARISSE

(scared)

I have no idea...

LANA

(raising her voice)

IT'S YOUR FAULT CLARISSE! I told you I had a bad feeling, and as always you ignored me.



CLARISSE

My fault? Do you think I expected this? I... I don't

SALVADOR

Shh... Girls, please, not now. There's no time for blaming. Let's worry first about getting out of here or we are going to die.

LUKE

(desperate)

We don't have our things. What are we going to do? Time passes, no one finds them.

LANA

It's been an hour and nobody is coming.

CLARISSE

Are you suggesting we go out? With five killers on the loose?

LANA

That's not what I said. We need to find another way to escape or at least get our things first to try to call again.

SALVADOR

The longer we stay, the more dangerous it is. One of us has to bring the backpacks, we have useful things in them.

They look at each other nervously.

LUKE

(hesitating)

I... I can go.

CLARISSE

Are you sure? You know it's dangerous.

LUKE

I know, but someone needs to bring the backpacks. LUKE stands up and walks toward the door.

LANA

Be careful, please.

LUKE leaves the old classroom.

INT. LABORATORY-NIGHT.

The group of people from before are having a meeting in the laboratory.

PERSON 5

You can't let them tell anything. If it's necessary  
kill them.

PERSON 4

They are just kids.

PERSON 5

(angry)

I don't care. They can't escape. You hear me?

INT. OLD CLASSROOM-NIGHT.

LUKE arrives at the old classroom and finds their backpacks with  
all their belongings scattered around. He tries to put  
everything in order, but suddenly he hears footsteps.

LUKE

(scared)

Who's there?

The lights go out and when they come back on, LUKE's body is  
lying on the floor. He is dead.

INT. STORAGE ROOM-NIGHT.

All the group is laying on the floor, worried.

LANA

(scared)

Luke is not coming. It's been half an hour. We  
should go look for him.

SALVADOR

It's too risky.

LANA

You said that staying longer would be more  
dangerous, it's time to escape. If something  
happened to Luke...

CLARISSE

I also think we should go now.

The group leaves the old classroom.

INT. HALLWAY-NIGHT.

The group walks through the hallway.

LANA

The plan is to find Luke, take our things and escape.

CLARISSE

Our plans never work out.

SALVADOR

How optimistic Clarisse..

As they were about to reach the storage room, they see someone chasing them.

SALVADOR

Split up! Head for the exit!

They scatter. CLARISSE runs, trying to go downstairs, but she's struck on the head and pushed down the stairs. She falls to the ground, lifeless.

INT. NEAR THE EXIT-NIGHT.

SALVADOR and LANA reunite.

LANA

(shaken)

Clarisse! Where's Clarisse?

SALVADOR

If she's not around here, it's because..

LANA

Don't say it, please.

SALVADOR

There's no time to mourn the losses. We have to find a way out.

LANA

There's no way out. Don't you understand? We're dead.

SALVADOR

There's always a way out.

Footsteps get closer.

LANA

They're coming.

SALVADOR

Lana, you find a way out. I'll distract them.

LANA

(crying)

No, I... I can't. You're right... There must be another exit, another solution, something we haven't thought of.

SALVADOR

There's no time. I'll distract them. Escape!

SALVADOR runs off to distract them.

LANA stays behind, panicked, trying to figure out how to escape. Then she hears SALVADOR screaming.

LANA

(crying)

No, no, no, no...

She rushes to the door leading outside and sees a metal gate secured with a padlock.

LANA

(to herself)

Come on... think... think...

She looks around desperately and spots a small metal paperclip on the floor. She grabs it, her hands shaking as she bends it, trying to use it to manipulate the padlock. Carefully, she twists the paperclip into a key shape, inserts it into the lock, and manages to open it.

She pushes the gate as far as she can. The gate opens just enough for her to squeeze an arm through. She starts trying to push the gate open slowly, easing it just a little to slip more of her body through. Suddenly, she hears footsteps approaching. Panicked, she stops trying gently. With a surge of desperation, she forces herself through the narrow opening, scraping her arms and shoulders against the metal. She manages to get out.

EXT. STREET OUTSIDE SCHOOL-NIGHT.

LANA sprints, gasping and disorientated. She runs as fast as she can, but she stumbles and falls. Looking down, she cries out and notices someone's feet approaching.

LANA

(crying)

Please... help me... my friends...

LANA slowly raises her head. There is a POLICE OFFICER standing right in front of her. LANA recognizes him as one of the persons in the laboratory. Her face is frozen with fear.

LANA

(horrified)

No... It can't be...