

Two Miles Past the End of the Earth

Big Sephiroth

Four thousand miles past the equator is the end of the Earth. Not a literal drop off or wall: just nothingness. Or, it's nothingness until the beginning of the Earth, of course, but that's not for another few thousand miles, nor is it where our story takes place - that being two miles past the end of the Earth, in a town called Houghton, on the campus of a small University.

Obviously, nobody lives here. Nobody's even been here, nobody will ever be here. It's past the end of the Earth, after all. Yet, in the library of this university sits two students: one mining engineer, and one mechanical engineer. The mining engineer is in the Class of 1940, and the mechanical engineer: 1998. The pair share a mutual appreciation of hockey, card collecting, and model building, and a mutual hatred of Calculus and early mornings. If they'd ever had the chance to meet, they'd be good friends. They make small talk between homework questions, "What is that thing you are tapping on?" the mining engineer will ask. "Oh, it's a PowerBook. Not quite powerful enough to run AutoCAD, but I'm empty dorm because his roommate won't writing an essay right now anyways." the mechanical engineer will reply. The mining engineer might nod in understanding, but he really doesn't. There are a lot of things he does not understand, such as the tickle he has just started to feel in the back of his throat. In seventeen days, he will die of influenza in a hospital fifteen miles away from the end of the Earth. In eighteen days, the mechanical engineer will get the grade back for the essay he was working on. He gets a D, and the professor accuses the mechanical engineer of not understanding the sources he cited. It's a correct assessment, but the mechanical engineer is still bitter.



The mechanical engineer passes (is passing? will pass? passed?) the mining engineer on his walk back to Co-Ed Hall. They would avoid eye contact if they noticed each other's presence, but it's hard to be situationally aware of someone who is 5 feet and 50 years away from you. He doesn't notice the computer scientist 2 feet and 34 years to his right, either, nor the housewife 6 inches and 113 years to his left. None of them are walking to Co-Ed Hall with the mechanical engineer, though their destination is the same. He goes home to an enroll until 2018, yet he is not lonely. There is always a different man (sometimes a woman, sometimes neither, sometimes neither) sitting at his desk when he enters. Whoever it is, they exchange a curt nod, and trade places. They'll do so again tomorrow, and someone else will replace the mechanical engineer. And it will happen the day after that, and then, someday, the world will end.

But that day is not today, nor tomorrow, nor the day after that. The mining engineer is still alive and the mechanical engineer, and the computer scientist, the housewife - they just are not here. Nobody is here, 2 miles past the end of the Earth.





MISSING: HOLLY ST. JAMES

DJ Benjamin

Holly St. James, an 18-year-old female college student at Michigan, was reported missing by her roommate on the morning of October 14, 2023. Holly was last seen by a friend in the evening of October 14 at dinner in McNair Hall on the campus of Michigan Technological University (MTU) in Houghton, Michigan. Holly was reported to be wearing a gray hoodie, dark jeans, a white tank-top or t-shirt, and white and red Converse brand shoes. Holly's backpack was left in her dorm room in Wadsworth Hall at Michigan Technological University, however her dark green jacket was gone as well. Her roommate reports that Holly often took late-night walks down by the Keweenaw Waterway, otherwise known as the Portage Canal, on the 906 Walking Trail by MTU campus, normally passing Prince's Point. A thorough search of the area and subsequent investigation has been unsuccessful in locating Holly, and she has not been in contact with friends or family since she went missing. No sign of her entering the water has been discovered. The Houghton County Sheriff's Office, the FBI, and MTU Public Safety continue to seek information that will assist in locating Holly.

Date(s) of Birth Used	June 31, 2005
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Green
Height	5' 5"
Weight	150 pounds
Sex	Female
Race	White
Scars and Marks	Holly has a tattoo of a ghost on her left forearm

Abraham <atie McIntosh

Rose

Nicky Franklin

Siebigteroth Ben Wittrup Carl Blair

Lorax VP Local VP

Secretary

Treasurer Advisor

Disclaimer: The above is not a real missing person report. It is for artistic purposes only.

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