

Kyle (as Lincoln) (00:00):

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Delainey (00:39):

January 17th. Today was an okay day, if you can call it that. Bren and I got in a fight over her magnetic notebook. How was I supposed to know it's for decoration only? If you don't want it used, then don't hang on the refrigerator. Of course, once again, Mom didn't defend me. Laney, you know how your sister is. Just leave her things alone, blah, blah, blah. Why am I the one that always has to compromise?

(01:02):

[a faint knock]

(01:05):

There's Mom. Time for bed, Delaney. Don't forget to take your meds. Delaney. I know the routine, Mom. I wish writing really was the cure for all things. Anyway, it is getting late.

Narrator (01:22):

Delainey, last name unknown age 15, personal diary.

Delainey (01:29):

January 28th. Had a great session today. Came up with a lot of great ideas and plot points. Now, if only I could figure out how or even where to start. I really like the one Brecklin came up with, but I also like Sophie's idea. Ugh, why is creativity so damn hard? I need coffee February 7th. I got a lot of writing done today. Talking with Anira really helps get the creative juices flowing. I'm so lucky to have a friend like her in my life. Isn't it crazy how you can meet a random stranger and they become a major part of your life? It's kind of weird to be honest, but it's also truly beautiful. We go through our lives, meeting people for getting people and everything in between all the time. We never really stopped to think about how the system of life works. Oh, I like that.

(02:19):

[typing]

(02:26):

Expand upon this later. Um...right. How the way we treat people could play a huge part in their wellbeing or lack thereof. Honestly, I could probably go on for hours about this. Right now, I have to remain focused.

(02:41):

February 21st. I overheard Mom and Dad talking about something called Apollyon while preparing dinner. They got all hush hush when I walked in. They were acting weird and not being their normal selves, so I jokingly asked if they were getting a divorce to break the silence. Gotta laugh at a Dad. I asked him what Apollyon is and he said, oh, don't worry, Laney. It's an adult thing.

(03:06):

Why do adults think that works? I mean, it did this time, but they could have just told me it was no big deal. Anyway, goodnight.

[\(03:15\)](#):

March 3rd. It's strange how our brains pick up on little things that we never notice until something changes the smell of cookies, baking the color of someone's eyes or a full classroom. Dylan Jacoby missed school today. It wasn't until chemistry our third class together that I realized he wasn't there. It's not like we're friends or anything, but when the prospective valedictorian of your class who's never missed a day in his life is gone, he tends to raise an eyebrow or too. What if he decided to leave this small town behind and run away to make something of himself? Okay, Laney, he's probably just sick. I'm being a bit melodramatic. It's the writer in me. I guess <laugh>. Well, the crickets have taken over for the birds. I'll consider the adventures of Dylan later

[\(04:07\)](#):

March 6th. Dylan has missed three straight days of school now, and oddly, no one seems to be concerned. I asked Dr. Langston about him today, but she gave the typical adult answer of not to worry. Everything will be okay. Generally when someone says that it's just the opposite and I can feel it. Everything is not okay. Hey, March 7th. Remember that thing Mom and dad were whispering about Apollyon? AVS they're calling it. It's made its way to our little town of Amethyst Falls. Turns out Dylan didn't run away. He's in the hospital. Turns out Dylan's sister, Clarissa, was studying abroad in Honduras when all non-residents were evacuated, I guess so they wouldn't get sick, but Clarissa got sick anyway. She died two days after coming home. It was on the news. Dylan's parents are gone too. They didn't say anything about Dylan, just that he was in the hospital. I hope he'll be okay. Who am I kidding? He won't be okay. Even if he makes it. How does someone recover from losing their entire family? I wouldn't know what I would do if I didn't have mom and dad and Bren.

[\(05:37\)](#):

March 29th, the governor has declared a statewide mandatory lockdown. Other states are doing the same. Everything has been canceled. School is obviously closed. We're all just home now. Rations were delivered yesterday. Of course, some people aren't with this decision, calling him a member of a fascist regime, right? It's it been taking place, but what's that gonna solve? I, for one, don't mind staying in the house for a while. Well, aside from missing my writer's group, that is Bren, on the other hand, isn't a fan of it. I caught little Miss Social Butterfly sneaking back into the house the other night. I thought about telling on her, but she promised to buy me anything within reason, of course, for my birthday next month. It's not like she did anything super awful, right? So I'll keep her secret. Well, I'm telling you, but no one's gonna be reading this

[\(06:35\)](#):

March 31st, Bren is having trouble breathing. She kept us all up with her coughing. The news said that we should stay away from her, but mom keeps making sure she's okay. I don't know if I should tell them she left the house. Maybe I should, I I don't know. What will it change if she's got this?

[\(06:55\)](#):

[sudden coughing]

[\(06:59\)](#):

They won't let me leave the room with my compromised system and all. I can't tell them that I'm coughing too. Mom and Dad are already so worried about Bren and, and honestly kind of frantic. I can hear Dad making call after call after call to the hospital, I guess. He threw something against a wall earlier. It really scared me.

[\(07:20\)](#):

[intense coughing and wheezing]

This transcript was exported on Jun 05, 2024 - view latest version [here](#).

[\(07:28\)](#):

Things on the outside have gotten worse. The local news station is just running written updates online. There's no one in the studio to report anything. I know I said I liked being in the house, but I don't like being stuck in my room like this. I have to do something to keep myself from going loopy. Journaling is definitely helpful. I feel better when I do this. It's like my thoughts can live outside me. Maybe they'll still be here when I'm not. [cough] I, I, I shouldn't be so melodramatic, right?

[\(08:00\)](#):

[more coughing and wheezing]

[\(08:06\)](#):

I'm almost 16, only three days away. [sniffle] I was looking forward to so much: driving, getting a job, [laugh]. I guess Bren won't be buying me anything.

Narrator [\(08:28\)](#):

This episode of Chronicles was written by Van Donnell, directed by Faith McQuinn, featuring the voice of Abigail Hacker Produced by Faith McQuinn, editing by Faith McQuinn, sound mix by Joshua Suhy. Credits by Matthew Boudreau. Theme music by Alice in Winter.

[\(08:46\)](#):

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