Written by

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Draft 1 June 6, 2020 USC SCA 17822 192-405-4018 avaca@usc.edu OPEN INT. NARROW HALLWAY WITH A DOOR AT THE END The sounds of a labor hospital room

> DOCTOR (audio only) Push!

The door at the end of the hallway creeks.

DOCTOR (audio) That's it, one more push!

The cries of a newborn baby ring out, and the door opens. ANONYMOUS is shoved out of the door and it slams behind her. She turns to try and go back in, failing. Her cries mix with the sound of the newborn's.

> MOM (from above) Oh! Hello, baby.

DAD (from above) Aw, your the most beautiful thing I've ever seen-

Anonymous looks up, hopefully.

MOM (from above) We're always gonna be there to take care of you (beat) my precious baby.

TITLE CARD

Anonymous tries to take a step forward and falls out of screen. She lays on the floor confused why she can't move her legs properly. She tries to sit up multiple times, but only succeeds to roll onto her back. Mom and dad cheer from above so Anonymous tries again. She finally stands and does the "baby walk" (step step fall). Which proceeds to be a "toddler walk". Then she takes off running down the hall. She races down and crashes into an invisible wall. She rubs her forehead and looks at a label on the door that she ran into. It reads *Kindergarten*. MOM (audio only) You'll like it here. You'll make new friends here.

Anonymous shrinks back.

MOM (audio only) Don't worry we'll be back to get you in no time.

Anonymous is shoved inside. She sees a light shining through the door, she approaches and sees a boy through it. He's playing in dirt and waves at her. She waves back, then turns to the other side. A girl waves back at her. She offers to play chop-sticks with Anonymous. She agrees. Her new friend wins. They start running next to each other. Their fingers brushing the wall between them. They run until they reach a fork in the road. Above the doorway, a sign reads MIDDLE SCHOOL. Anonymous and her friend must part ways- but she doesn't want to let go.

> KINDERGARTEN FRIEND (audio only) Best friends forever.

Anonymous clasps half of a best friends necklace. She nods, and they take their separate paths.

Anonymous rounds the corner, and walks into a grungy hallway, there's kids shouting everywhere. She goes to one door after the other looking for friends. Every single one of them shouts something at her, or threatens her. She reels back and moves swiftly away from them. One pushes her. She sticks her tongue out at them. She finally comes to a door with people who want to be her friend, though they still aren't very nice. Two of them get into a cat fight right in front of her.

Anonymous is given a stack of homework, she's never had this much homework before. She continues to walk down the hallway, turning in papers, laughing when she sees her friends. She stops suddenly, realizing something. She looks down, towards her crotch and starts screaming. It's okay, it's okay. That's perfectly natural. Here...

Anonymous looks up at her mom in the ceiling. A pad is tossed down, hitting Anonymous in the face. She sighs in relief, then goes to her friends.

INT. HOME Mom looks down at Anonymous in the hallway.

> MOM (voice over) Where are you going?

ANONYMOUS

(audio only)

Out.

MOM (audio only) Not dressed like that your not

INT. HALLWAY Anonymous flips her off, and goes to the door to talk with her friends.

INT. HALLWAY (later)

Anonymous is walking and talking with her friends, until they start arguing again. Anonymous, exasperated looks to the side. In the distance she sees another doorway labeled HIGH SCHOOL. She looks to her friends, their fight intensifying, then bolts through the doorway. She immediately gains more homework. She goes to another door with new friends. They're all chatting when her friends look at someone behind her and giggle. Anonymous turns and sees a boy smiling. The music in the background shifts. Anonymous tucks a strand of hair behind her ear, shyly. She reaches out her hand to his- they touch through the glass. Anonymous keeps walking with her hand touching his, gaining more homework and turning it in. Even when she's laughing with her friends she's touching his hand.

INT. HALLWAY (later)

Anonymous finishes her SAT prep. Happily she goes up to BOYFRIEND's door, but he's distant and sad-looking. Her smile fades, her eyes well up. Boyfriend walks away, out of focus. Anonymous runs to the other end of the hallway, sad. One of her friends comforts her through the wall.

INT. HALLWAY

A dark, menacing door. It leads outside- its so bright one can't tell what's out there. The sign above it reads COLLEGE. The door is closed. Anonymous is breathing heavy. She's terrified. She suddenly goes to the door with one friend, her best friend who she never wants to leave. Her friend nods in encouragement. Then goes through her own door labeled college. She goes to her other friend, on the other side of the hallway.

> HIGH SCHOOL FRIEND 2 (voice over) It's time.

She leaves through her door. Anonymous breathes even heavier, and tries to back up but can't. The hallway behind her goes dark. She's moved forward by a force beyond her will. She gets closer to the door. She's freaking out and panicking. A dinging sound rings out- silencing her. The doors open. Still shaking, she goes out, into the unknown. In a hallway bigger than she's ever been in before. Even at this distance her breaths are still audible. She breathes in, out. In, out. In-

END