



Between the Lines

Author: Kevin Liang



Dou stare at the blinking light on the ceiling. The fixture seems to pulsate, as though shifting in and out of existence, distorting the fibre-glass ceiling panels around it. *Just lie here and watch.*

No! You scramble to your feet. This deep, gazing at one thing for too long can be dangerous - but at the same time, wandering eyes might not always like what they find. You try to shut them, but it's as though your eyelids have turned to glass.

A cry from the floor calls your attention. Penny is lying nearby on her side, staring at her hands in horror. You hate to think about what she is seeing there. *The ever-consuming.*

"Come on, we have to get moving." You haul her to her feet and point her ahead. Though you can't be sure, it looks as though you're in the corridor of a school - a far cry from the intended meadow. "Do you know where we are?"

"I taught history here," Penny says quietly. She snuffles and takes a deep breath. "Until three years ago."

You spare a quick glance at her, and see tears shining on her cheek. *The salt water calls to it.* One rolls down her chin, falling and landing on a piece of paper lying on the floor...



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