

ONE QUESTION: WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST FEAR? SPIDERS? DARKNESS? OR MAYBE HOPELESSNESS?

YOU ARE WITH YOUR FAMILY; IT'S CHRISTMAS, AND YOU OFFER TO GO WITH YOUR BROTHER AND COUSIN TO A CAVE NEAR YOUR HOUSE BECAUSE YOU LOVE CAVING. THE PLACE IS NARROW, BUT YOU CAN PASS BETWEEN THE ROCKS BECAUSE YOU ALREADY KNOW THE CAVE. AT ONE POINT, YOU TRY TO GO THROUGH A PASSAGE THAT IS DOWNHILL. YOU PUT YOUR HEAD IN FIRST, THEN THE REST OF YOUR BODY, TAKE A BREATH, AND... YOU GET STUCK. YOU ASK FOR HELP FROM YOUR BROTHER AND COUSIN. THEY GO TO GET YOUR FAMILY WHILE YOU REMAIN STUCK IN THAT PLACE. ABSOLUTE SILENCE SURROUNDS THE CAVE, BUT A SOUND BREAKS THE SILENCE: A DROP THAT DOESN'T STOP CRASHING ON THE ROCKS NEAR YOU. HOURS PASS, AND THE AUTHORITIES CONTINUE WITH RESCUE EFFORTS. EACH DROP YOU HEAR MEANS ANOTHER FAILED ATTEMPT. YOU FEEL THAT EVERYTHING YOU'VE DONE, YOUR DREAMS, YOUR HOPES, NOTHING MATTERS BECAUSE YOU ARE TRAPPED IN THAT HOLE. THE RESCUE IS IMPOSSIBLE, AND YOUR FAMILY STARTS SAYING GOODBYE TO YOU. YOUR MOTHER SAYS THAT YOU'LL ALWAYS BE HER BABY, YOUR FATHER SAYS THAT HE'LL ALWAYS BE PROUD OF YOU, AND YOUR BROTHER SAYS THAT YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN AN INSPIRATION TO HIM. WITH EACH FAREWELL, YOU KEEP HEARING THAT DROP THAT DRIVES YOU CRAZY BECAUSE YOU KNOW THAT EACH DROP MEANS A SECOND LESS OF YOUR LIFE, EACH DROP MEANS YOUR BROKEN DREAMS, EACH DROP MEANS HOPELESSNESS.

THAT STORY WAS TRUE, AND THE POOR GUY REMAINED TRAPPED IN THAT HOLE THAT BECAME HIS TOMB, HEARING THAT DROP FOR THE REST OF ETERNITY.

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