

Asphyxia

Dangers of the depth

1.

Dear Mary,

Greetings from the pacific ocean, 6 miles under the sea level. The expedition is going well. We found the right spot and began to dive to the seabed. Sadly the floodlights stopped working ten minutes ago. The sonar waves are the only way to keep track of our way.

But at least the recorder still works so I can tape a little diary for you to listen to when I come back. How is our little one? I'm sorry I'll miss Emma's fourth birthday. You'll tell her daddy loves her, won't you?

Love, Ben

(1.2.

I'm excited. It took months of planing. Gathering information, talking to people, collecting money. It was so exhausting. But we made it! Finally. There is an ancient city waiting to be discovered.

1.3.

It's more work than I expected. Sitting in the dark, staring into the mud, hoping to discover a conspicuous stone. Or brick. Or pillar. I don't know. Keeping my eyes open. Love you.)

2.

Shit! We crashed into a rock. The submarine is damaged, Matt is checking the impact. I hope there are no serious cosequences. Need to focus on the environment. I can't see a damn thing down here.

3.

Bad news. The oxygen tank took damage and we are constantly losing precious recources. Hope the air suffices until we finish our mission. But don't worry – we got plenty left.

4./(5.)

I can feel the loss of oxygen in the cabin. Got an annoying headache. Matt didn't come back yet. Hope he fixes the tank and

we finally stop losing oxygen. Addmittedly I'm a bit nervous. I know you can't hear me right now but feeling like talking to you is quite soothing.

Level 2

5./(4.)

I was following a canyon that led me into a cave. It was the only way. I hope there is an exit not far away. Guess I'll find out soon.

6.

I constantly perceive a dull knocking in my head. Or is it the door? I don't know... got no time. Need to focus on what's in front of us. Breathing gets heavier. The thought of you is what keeps me going. I'll be back soon. Love you.

7.

I hear scarifying noises. Like screams! They make me dizzy. The headache got worse. What kind of creatures are living here? Hope this is finally over soon. But I can't give up yet. The mission is too important.

8.

Where the hell is Matt? He should have been back by now. I can't go looking for him, I need to keep the submarine on track. My hands started trembling. Hope he is fine.

9.

The screams just won't subside. Still don't know where they come from. They seem familiar somehow. Like I heard that voice before. I can't think straight. I'm getting tired and my head feels like its about to explode. Give Emma a hug from me.

Level 3

10.

The cave is starting to become different. The walls changed colour. They got red somehow. Where am I? Did I discover hell? Am I dead? This can't be real.

11. I know where I heard the voice before. It was Matt's voice. When I realized that I hurried out of the cabin just to find him laying on the floor. He was not moving. He is dead. I could swear he was screaming just seconds ago but his body was already cold. My mind is playing tricks on me. How should I go on? I need to go on. I'm afraid.

12.

Today is Emma's birthday. Is she wearing her pink dress? I bet she does. She loves it. And I'm sitting here. Miles under the sea level, staring into the dark, hoping to find something that will make me famous and rich. I'm realizing I was already rich before. Because I have you two. I want to get out of here.

13.

I found a picture of you and Emma in my pockets. I was so relieved when I found it. I'm just sitting here staring at it, unable to make a move. I have a really hard time keeping the submarine on track. Oh, and I started praying again. Laugh at me, but it feels very consoling.

14.

I'm finally convinced I'm in hell. Originally I wanted to discover an ancient city... but hell? That's truly trailblazing. Sounds weird, doesn't it? First man to discover the location of hell. An honor I would gladly grant someone else. How should I describe hell? It's not just a location... it's more like a feeling. I'm still not sure if this is real or if I'm just hallucinating but I'm quite sure I'll never come home again. I'm tired and breathing is almost impossible.

Laura snaps the submarine; screen turns black

15. Goodbye my love.