**FLASCware**

**Introspecter**

**The Thought-Provoking Game**

Milo was a relatively normal kid. He was born to wonderful and loving parents, Daniel and Jessica. As a young kid he was always curious and always wanted to know how the world around him worked. He would try dangerous things because of his curiosity.

“Curiosity killed the cat”, was never more applicable.

It was on his first day of pre-school that he met his first friend, River. Their lives eternally changed by a mere friendship that emerged from their parents’ choices to put them in the same particular school.

“Sometimes there’s no reason for things happening. They just happen.”

Milo and River grew up together. They formed their mutual group of friends throughout elementary school and high school but Milo and River stayed best friends throughout. They fought and made fun of each other but at the end of the day they had each other’s back.

“All good things must come to an end. When that is? You won’t know.”

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It’s been a year or so and I haven’t seen River in a while. I wonder how he’s doing? I’m sure he’s doing fine. I’m not doing anything with my life and he’s accomplishing a lot already. First year in the best university in town, top player of the school’s chess club, and even the top student in his program.

How can I stand up to that? I don’t have any special talent or natural skill in anything. All I do is sleep, eat, and stay on my computer for endless hours and then repeat.

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It was an ordinary day when I got the news that River had died because a car failed to stop at a stop sign…

I decided to visit his grave and remember my old friend one last time. It’s memories like these that are toughest to let go, but that just makes it that much more necessary.

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River always told me. Whenever there’s something you’re unsure of, just give yourself time and space. Go back to your memories and think hard. It’s in your thoughts and actions that you’ll learn who you are, even if who you are is a piece of shit.

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So I went back to my memories to give it a try. For River’s sake.

I remembered growing up with River. But then I also remembered how isolated I was at the same time. I was a selfish bastard, only caring for myself. I never shared anything. My snacks? I never shared a goddamn crumb.

It was in this black place that I realized all I did was hurt everyone around me, all for my own benefit. Narcissism, greed, and selfishness hurt everyone around me. (MINI GAME 1)

And even in times when people counted on me, I failed to help them. I let them down. There were times where I just ignored the situations. Other times, my help never really mattered. (MINI GAME 2)

Choices were always hard for me and I could never really make my own choices. I always felt my choices were influenced by those around me and that I never fully made my own choices. And even then I didn’t really believe my choices even mattered. Always being told what to do since a young age. My path was always built for me. I still have a choice. (MINI GAME 3)

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River was a good friend. If he were here, I’m sure he’d tell me to keep going forward no matter how slow.

Just don’t go backwards.