**CHAPTER 1**

BURDEN

Would anyone care? Would anyone notice? If I left this world now, this were the thoughts Jane thought to herself, Jane was an eighteen year old who lost her mum at about a year ago and she didn’t know how to feel about it, she couldn’t cry about it, ad continually pushed the topic away, she felt her family would be better without her, she always had this thought that life was wasted on her and she would always pray that God would give her life to someone else that might be better at this living thing.

Jane and her dad never saw eye to eye, she would just start crying in the middle of the night asking god why she was the one alive while her mum was gone, she kept asking god why he didn’t take her and bring her mum back, if an opportunity came to switch she was ready to, day after she look more and more fake, she would fake smile to the point she didn’t know the difference.

Be it watching a movie or seeing a mother and her child she would feel a deep hole in her heart, like something was missing, she would be overly nice and would be lonely but never admit it to her friends, she felt her friends had their own problems and she didn’t want to burden them.

Jane felt more out of place with her friends and family as time went by she looked for different things, she thought of drugs but remembered her mum warned her about it, so she decided not to try it, she tried therapy but it felt like they were asking her questions she was still finding answers to, she kept asking herself would the world really need me, would they miss me if I was gone,

Jane was lost in her own mind, didn’t know what to do with her life and she started hating herself more and more, one day Jane got back from school and decided to listen to a song, her playlist was not helping her, she had a collection of sad songs and she just started crying and bawling her eyes out her younger brother “Oscar” walked into her room and saw her crying and walked away, he had no interest in her at all, she kept asking for answers from her God but nothing came.

Jane decided that she has had enough, there was no point living, that it would be better to ask God physically, she tried hanging herself but fell down from her chair before she could tie her neck up and she hit her book shelf and all the books fell on her and one with the picture of her mother in it fell on her head, and it was a diary of her grandmother.

It started with,” *why is life so sad and cruel, why doesn’t it work out for me, did I do anything wrong, is this karma, did I hurt someone and this is revenge, cause if not why is my second half not with me right now, why is life so confusing, somebody anybody tell me why I should go on leaving, to* *whoever finds this I hope you find peace, this is my story*” Jane felt a weird sense of comfort that someone really understood how she felt and was not just trying to make her change the way she feel.

She never really knew her Grandmother and wanted to know more about her, and wanted to show it to her dad but she was scared they wouldn’t believe her and would make her feel foolish, so she decided to keep the diary all to herself, she continued reading, Jane’s grandmother was named Jenny and she was a splitting image of her grandmother, from the pictures of her when she was younger.

Jane knew very little about her grandmother and her dad, never spoke about his mum, but apparently she died during a boat cruise four years before she was born, Jane was never one to be curious about someone else, she but she wanted to know how her grandmother overcame the pain of being alone even when surrounded with her friends and family, that was a pain Jane could never let go of.

To Jane the pain was the only was to remember that her mum was real and she knew it was easy to forget the dead, so the pain was the only way to keep her close to her heart, jane knew that her dad and brother lover her mum but she hated them for getting over her so easily.

While reading Jane found out that her grandmother when she was about her age, “*I was an explorer, my parents where against it at first especially my mum but with my dad’s help we persuaded my mum and I was allowed to go on expeditions, my dad was my number one fan and would ask me to bring back souvenirs, every week I made a promise to write back to home, about my adventures and how I was coping, my dad arranged the best ship and crewmen for my adventures and I grew to love each and every one of them, we would find jewels and ancient and I would be scared the crew had their eyes on any of them and would steal some but I never had any problem with missing items even after 4 years of adventuring with all of them.*

*During the end of our expeditions we would turn in all the items we find at sea to the town treasurer and would be paid handsomely, it was a an amazing feeling being paid for having fun, every time I got home mum and dad would prepare a feast for the crew and I and it would be a party, we enjoyed each other’s company.*

*I loved to go to the sea shore and just draw, I was not very good but I did it anyway, and I kept practicing by helping the captain with the map sketches, though, it was always funny and scary when we would get lost due to my horrible sketches, but immediately we got back to our route the captain would drag my ear and ask me to redraw it, with a smile on his face, it was so fun being around them.*

*The captain had been exploring for twenty years before I joined his crew as part of the crew, he always loved talking about his daughter and would say that I looked just like her, and that I do, we would all go out to eat and she was the cutest thing ever, I loved talking with her, she is a very intelligent young lady.*

*On her eight birthday we took her onboard the ship and remodeled it to her liking, to surprise her, she said she loves unicorns, so we turn the ship to a very big and beautiful unicorn, it was very fun decorating the ship with everyone, I had a crush on the treasurers son, though he never really noticed me, on my twenty-second birthday the crew threw my a surprise party with my parents and we drank till midnight my parents left me to have fun with them and tasked the captain with bringing me home back safely.*

*During our drinking party we talked about so many things, and I was surprised as to how many of them had a crush on me, we were all drunk and didn’t care, all except the captain of course, cause he was tasked with taking me home, and in my drunken state I busted out a secret about my crush on the treasurers son, and immediately they all went quiet for some time and all turned to me, that was when I realized what I had just said.*

*Immediately they all jumped with joy towards me and started to drink some more but captain didn’t allow me any more drinks, they all started toasting to my name, as though I just announced her marriage, I was shocked and that kind of made me sober, I just burst laughing and they all joined in laughing, after some time the captain decided it was time to call it a night and took me back home, where my dad was fast asleep on the couch from waiting.*

*Morning came and it was back to work, I was in charge of compiling all the details of the items we had found every time we get back from exploring, since we hardly have time to stay away from the sea due to the sea miners, we work with, they are the ones that find minerals called “Glow Fish Plants” they are very medicinal and are very delicious when cooked, I have only had it once due to its very rare nature so we have a long time partnership with the miners to go in search of them.*

*The captain is the most famous captain in the region, his name also reaches other regions and rumors has it he is better than the captains there too but no one has ever confirmed I but I know he is very amazing, because the way he was when I first joined the crew was funny, I was just sixteen when I arrived and I thought he wouldn’t accept me cause I was a girl, but he left me to do whatever I wanted as soon as I followed his ship rules, I saw him as very lazy and uninspiring but all his crew had the upmost respect for him and he was very famous then too.*

*I was confused to say the least cause I didn’t see what was so great about him at the time but one day, during one of our explorations, I mistakenly poured stew on the map as I was looking at it and it messed the map up and we were very far from shore so, I was scared I felt they would yell at me and I would be sent out when we get home, but worst of all I felt we were lost and I started panicking.*

*But to my surprise they all looked at me and the man in charge of making the map went to the captain and my heart was filled with fear but he said to the captain that the map was spoiled and were lost, the captain knew I was the one that spoilt it so he called me and looked at me with a stern look on his face and he told me to watch the map maker.*

*He immediately started turning the boat and used the sails and the way the wind blew to figure out where they were and he ordered the crew to adjust for an upcoming storm but the skies didn’t have a storm cloud in sight, but everyone started running to their post and he looked at me, smiled and said “Buckle up daisy” I was confused but one of the crew held me to a pole.*

*Time passed and no storm cloud or anything and I was disappointed, I actually believed he was able to tell, I walked away from the crew member named tony, tony was in charge of cleaning the deck, and was now tasked with protecting e from the upcoming storm, he called me back to the pole but I didn’t listen, then the captain looked towards me and yelled “Stay Back Missy” and tony dragged me back to the pole as he was dragging me rain started pouring heavily.*

*In just few minutes the waves alone started turning and shaking the ship, I was so shocked, the storm was very strong and the ship felt like it wouldn’t hold, but everyone was so calm and then the captain was smiling as he steered us through the storm, I was so scared, but we got back home safely and everyone acted like it was a normal event, but I was overjoyed and scared at the same time.*

*The captain walked to me and apologized for yelling that he had to keep me safe and he would understand if i don’t want to come with them again, and I just hugged him and said I would love to come with them the next time and from there I kept on going on explorations with them and was put in charge of map making.*

*After the birthday party drama things went back to the way they were the next day, but the crew were acting a little secretive and immediately the captain sent me on an errand to the treasurer to drop an important message, and the captain gave me a ticket for a festival coming up that night.*

*I was so nervous I knew what they were driving at and it was not subtle at all but it was nice, tony decided to take over all my responsibilities for the day, I was so grateful to God for giving me great friends, I walked over to him with a perfect plan but I got cold feet, and just dropped the message and as I was leaving I gathered all my courage to ask him but he said he already had a date, that he was sorry.*

*I was so sad and I walked back to the ship and took over from tony and thanked the captain, no one asked me anything cause they figured out it didn’t go as planned, so the captain sat for time thinking of something to cheering me up, but I had no idea at the time and was just frustrated, he decided we should set sail, but it was night time.*

*But we all set sail to the unknown and the crew kept asking where they were heading but he just kept saying to head north, and we kept moving for some time and then the crew started smiling and I was confused and we entered a cave where the captain threw a lantern to the side rocks and the ceiling lit up and it looked so beautiful, like stars and they were looking at me with their side eyes, trying to find out if I was feeling better, so I started laughing and they all jumped with joy and they threw a small dance party on deck and we drank till dawn on the ship.*

*The next morning we went back to shore and started to unload the items we didn’t yesterday, I was in a very good mood and I felt loved, on shore while unloading the items I was hit by a very cute guy and he just kept apologizing, immediately I was surrounded why almost all the crew members asking him strange questions and..”.* Jane’s reading was interrupted by her brother, was came to call her for dinner.

Jane still didn’t find what she wanted but she unexpectedly found peace reading her grandmothers story, like she had something important to do, that was to figure out who her grandfather was, something that would help keep her mind away from the pain she feels inside.

At the dinner table, her dad didn’t say a word all through and packed his dishes, when dinner was over Oscar was in charge of washing the dishes, she rushed up to her room tidied up the mess she made earlier and picked up the diary and went on with the story “*the man that stumbled on me was a researcher from the mayor’s office, after introducing himself, he was warned to stay away from me, and although it was very nice of them i felt embarrassed and told them not to worry that I would be fine.*

*He said he was in search of an Item called the “legendary ink” after hearing him the whole crew started laughing, while the captain asked him if he had a map to this ink and he said yes but it was a long journey, and the captain asked how much they were willing to pay and after hearing the price the whole crew were ready to set sail they told me to go home and I was furious that they didn’t want me onboard.*

*I got back home and asked my parents, and they were hesitant at first but my dad eventually let me go but asked me to promise that I would always listen to the captain and he asked the captain if I could come and he said it might be dangerous but if they were fine with it then I could come.*

*We set sail the next day after making all the necessary preparation for a very long journey, we started moving very deep into the ocean and it was already night fall and had not gotten to our destination, the researcher was named “Levi cross” and he was a very fascinating guy he had no idea about the sea and yet he was so calm even during a storm, I walked up to him to find out more about what he was looking for but he rudely asked me to leave him alone.*

*So I left him for the time being but I pestered him every other day, we spent six days on the journey before we found a landmark on the map that was closer to the island we were looking for, after continues pestering he told me that the ink is an item that lets you enter into the world of your choosing, any tale you write, you enter into it, and it was last used by a man who hid it on the island but died before he could come back to retrieve it, so am looking for it.*

***CHAPTER 2***

THE ISLAND

*During the journey levi was like he was in his own world and was so engrossed in the map, after a few more days they finally got to island though it took longer than I expected, but we got ashore and a few of the crew went with cross to help find the ink and I was told to stay on boards the ship and that I did, eventually we found the ink and they returned to the ship but as they were leaving, something strange started happening the water started to rise and the island was sinking.*

*The crew started running to the boat and they all survived but the island was gone, they immediately went back home, and pondered on what just happened, I saw something like a ray of light just when the island started sinking like something was leaving the island, I got home and told mom and dad about what happened and surprisingly they told me to take a break from the ocean for some time, like I was grounded for nothing.*

*I was so upset but I stayed away from the sea and was on my way to tell the captain, until I saw cross looking for a ship that would take him to ocean again, I just walked passed him and spoke to the captain, he understood and even apologized to me to putting me into that situation, but I told him it wasn’t his fault, on my way back home I saw levi again pleading and begging boats to take him to ocean he looked devastated.*

*I walked up to him and asked him what happened and he said that due to the recent event the mayor has stopped funding the exploration and he was left dry with an incomplete mission, and that he wanted to go in search of an item, a pen to be exact, and I asked him out of ignorance if he couldn’t just get any pen that I had a pen on me that if he had ink to refill it, and he looked at me with a frustrated look on his face and said he is not looking for just any pen but a legendary pen used to write on the book.*

*I felt like this whole thing was just a very dumb quest he was on to, cause looking for a pen, book and ink, just sounded weird but he looked very serious, so I said to him, “What If I am able to find you a ship would you tell me why this item is so important” and he looked at me, trying to find out what my angle was, but he said to me, alright fine, he said to me “The items were legendary weapons of mass destruction or mass creation and only one man ever stumbled upon it, his name was “Henry Cross” he was my great-grandfather and he allegedly stumbled upon it coincidentally when exploring and as luck may have it all the items were on the island in the same so he didn’t need to search for each individual pieces.*

*But now I have to search of each and it’s frustrating, like the universe is against me” I asked him what he needed the items for, because the items sounded too powerful to be in the hands of one man, and Levi said “he wishes to use it to fix the world and to stop conflict and hunger in the world”, I was skeptical about his story but i promised him a boat which I arranged for him, I told him to wait until I was free to venture back into sea.*

*He agreed and after two week of me begging my parents they eventually let me go back to the ocean, and my first solo mission was to help Levi, since I worked with the captains crew I was an honorary crew, and was allowed to captain a small boat of my own, I would have asked the captain to take me but he went on a job and won’t be arriving any time soon and I had to get the job over with quickly, so I went on my own, though I told a little lie saying the captain allowed me to go on my own but, it was a tiny lie and It won’t hurt anyone.*

*Our journey started at the breaking of dawn and we were off, I was so excited to prove I could man my own boat, we spent four days on the journey and the food supply was running low and we still had not found any landmark, found on the map with Levi, I decided it was time to go back and restock items, when we got to shore, I immediately went in search of the captain to apologize for using his name to get a boat, but I couldn’t find him and everyone, I asked, directs me back home, so I went home and saw my parents in a black attire.*

*I was scared to ask why, but I did anyway and my mom held me by the collar and asked me where I went to with tears in her eyes and my dad just couldn’t look at me, I was confused, then the treasurer walked in and told me that, the captain arrived two days after I left on my journey and after hearing I went on my own to explore he was scared and went out to find me, allegedly he figured out, where I was heading to, through the other captains that levi begged to, to take him,*

*The captain embark on a journey to find me but met with a creature and it destroyed the ship and killed everyone on the ship, after some time a rescue ship was sent to look, for the captain and I and that was how they found their bodies, I was done, I couldn’t think of anything else, except how I sent the captain to his death, I was running insane, not knowing what to do next, I visited their graves everyday crying all day, and begging for a second chance, but nothing, I remembered what Levi said about being able to create a new world.*

*I could easily rewrite the world, in which the captain survives, I went straight to Levi and asked him to show me the map and asked him to come with me to find those items, he asked me why and I refused to tell him, he said that he doesn’t want to hurt anybody else, he was devastated for the deaths of the crew, I told him that I want to use the items to bring the captain and crew back to life, and after two minutes of arguments and continuous deliberation, we embarked on the journey.*

*I wrote a letter to my parents apologizing and saying, I have a plan I fix everything, and I left the next day.”* Jane was devastated tears were pouring down from her eyes, that was all Jenny wrote down, but Jane wanted to know what happened next and if they were able to save the captain and the crew, Jane ran to her dad and asked him about the captain and his crew, her dad was surprised as to where she heard about them.

He told her that they died, a long time ago, they crashed on an expedition, and that was all he knew about the matter, she was frustrated, because he didn’t want to know more about, his own grandmother, so she went back to my room annoyed and frustrated, still trying to find some answers, and she took a second look at the diary, and that was it.

At the back of the book and at the back was a map glued to it and it hard a n “X” marked on it and she immediately went out to find the x the map was taking me, to my surprise it took me to a tombstone beside a tree, it was the captains tomb, she went where the x was and started digging, it was farther from the tomb to cause any disruptions to the tomb.

Jane came across a box and inside was a book and a bottle of ink, but no pen, she took them back home and took time to process what she just found, because if it was what she thought, then why didn’t Jenny save the captain, did it not work, or did she die before, she could do it, but then how did the box get there, Jane went ahead to show her dad the diary, but he couldn’t read it, apparently, it was in a weird language, and the man was shocked how she could read it, but to her it was in English, she figured it was for her eyes only, she tried reading it to her dad and brother, but all they could hear where weird sounds.

She sounded like a fool, her brother felt she was pranking them and walked away, she realized, it was for her only, no other person, so she opened the book and immediately was sucked in, she finds herself in a forest, she was terrified, she stayed put for about an hour due to the utter terror she felt, but she knew she had to find a way out, so she started moving slowly around the forest.

She unfortunately stumbled upon a creature, that was feeding on a man, the creature was other worldly, and it looked like a bear with the shape and face of a wolf, she tried to turn back slowly but immediately she turned her back, it was right in front of her and was about to rip her apart, she saw her live flashing before her, she started shaking and fell to her knees, crying and looking at the beast about to eat her.

Just before the creature could touch her the hands were pushed away by a blade, and it was a man right in front of her, he picked her and ran away, the creature was knocked out of balance and was badly injured on his hands, so it couldn’t chase after them.

The man took her to a camp and a lady was in charge of her medically and he left her there, she was unable to thank him, the lady took care her but was also surprised she had no scratches at all even though she was save from a “PackaBear” and Jane asked her what a PackaBear were and what the place was, the lady was shocked due to how ignorant Jane was, and asked her how she got here and Jane said she was in search of her grandmother, the lady introduced herself as “Nightshade” that it was the name the people call her and the man that saved her was called “Rogue”.

Jane found out that the creature that almost ate her, was in fact a monster of pure chaos and destruction and have been terrorizing villages for a seventy years and each decade a new hero born to fight the creatures and reach the castle deep in the monster region.

But they all failed, so we stopped trying to reach there, Jane asked why the others don’t just go on their own without a hero, Nightshade said that the hero is a supernatural being with upmost powers and can singlehandedly kill the creatures at the other side and can stop them from spawning, so Jane asked where the hero was.

Apparently the hero stopped reincarnating for the ten decades and everyone has completely giving up on the hero, Nightshade said she still has hope that the hero is going to be born in their generation, she suspects that the hero might be Rogue, due to his superhuman strength, but they have checked and he is not the hero just a very strong guy.

Evening came and Rogue arrived with more survivors in the forest, there was a fireplace gathering and Nightshade

*with cross to find the legendary pen, a lot of years pass and she gets with cross and has a child, she drops with her parents and leaves to find the pen, for years she lkept searching till the point she stop coming back home completely or writing when she finds the pen, she finds out that she would need tp sacrifice a life to bring a life back and cross was against that and with that they went their separate ways but she stole the pen from him and did it anyway, she created a world in a book that I wll introduce before the full story to jane and that is how jane will enter the world using the message written at the cover of the diary and she would go find the book and the pen hidden near the captains grave and janes journey begins to find out what haopend with her grandmother and cross, jenny was possessed by a demon and it was trapped by jenny in her body, and that demon has been unable to leave the book and feeds on humans to build enough power to escape or atleast send creatures to the real world but due to jenny sacrifice the power she gets from the humansa gets grained fast to sustain her control on the humans and cant find enough to fuel the portal to the other world, nightshade is a part of the demon and is tasked to kill the hero as a child every time he is born and in doing that making the threat of the hero birth irrelevant*

my dad jane asked about her grandfather but no one knew who he was, her never married jenny, jane loved to explore different places around the world and she loved bringing things back to her home to her parents, jenny and her dad were very close and he always supported her expeditions overseas, financially and emotionally, her mum was against it but eventually was persuaded to let her chase her dreams