Choose Your Own Adventure 2014

**1A: Varun**

John is nearing the end of the audio tour at Alcatraz. He is happy that the audio tour is almost over and that he will soon be leaving the island to go back home to San Jose, even though he paid $10.50 to take the Caltrain to San Francisco, $7.25 for a low-priced and healthy churro,, and $27.72 with his Black Diamond Visa Credit Card to take the ferry to Alcatraz in the first place. He is like that Stanford senior who pays money to enroll in Sleep and Dreams, goes to Sleep and Dreams, waits the entire class for the class to end, and then goes to sleep and dreams. Kyle, the male whom John considers to be his best friend, even though Kyle does not reciprocate the feeling, is waiting in front of John.

The voice in the audio tour tells John to look to his left to see the steps leading up to the hospital.

John has no free will, so he looks left. He does not know that he subscribes to a deterministic view of the universe, so please do not tell him.

He sees a set of steps. There is absolutely nothing special about these steps. They are just steps. Do not impose your own fantasy of these steps on these steps.

John asks Kyle if the hospital is worth the intense cardiovascular exercise involving the set of steps. Kyle wants John to shut up and says no.

John’s crush, Mary, bounces down the steps to the hospital and sees the two men. She exclaims that the hospital was the very best part of the entire Alcatraz tour. John is surprised at this new revelation and considers his options.

**Option A (Joseph-2A Page 2):** John, Kyle, and Mary take the ferry back to SF and go to a restaurant, where John tries to nudge the group towards having a threesome.

**Option B (Gillie-2B- Page 3):** John runs up the stairs to the hospital, even though the hospital area is about to close.

**2A: Joseph**

Don’t make a scene and embarrass yourself, John thinks to himself. He silently trails Kyle and Mary to the ferry. The ferry is cramped as tourists rush back to the city to enjoy the last hour of sunlight. Kyle, John, and Mary sit side by side on the top deck. As the ocean breeze blows Mary’s luscious brunette hair all over John’s face, John takes a deep whiff of her scent and feels his left elbow graze the side of Kyle’s pectoral. Kyle works out a lot. John always knew that. But now, John suddenly wants more than just to know about it.

Inside him his repressed desires grow explosively. John becomes lobotomized under the weight of his feelings.

“Hey John, we’ve docked.”

“I have a stomach cramp,” John hunches over, trying to conceal a hard secret.

“Help me up, Kyle,” John grabs Kyle shoulder. Kyle reaches over and pulls John up. Kyle wants to look like he’s not flexing so he can impress Mary. But he is flexing, and John feels every fiber of Kyle’s muscle caressing his back.

“Let’s get dinner. I’ll feel better when I have some food in my stomach,” John suggests. Kyle, John, and Mary catch the trolley and arrive at a Taqueria.

“I sure could use a big juicy burrito right now,” John smiles at Kyle. Kyle prefers tacos.

“How about you, Mary?” Kyle turns to Mary.

“Oh, whatever you fellows want,” Mary said.

“Let’s get our food to go and hang out at my place,” John offers.

**Option A (Preet-3A – Page 4):** John's burrito is carried off by an enormous bird, along with Kyle.

**Option B (Kent-3B- Page 5):** John, Mary, and Kyle find golden tickets in their burritos and win a trip to the Taqueria meat packing plant.

**2B: Gillie**

As John trudges up the stairs, he feels tired and worn. The stairs spit him out into a long, narrow passageway with grimy, tiled walls. By now, the fatigue spreads across his body, fogging his head. John barely hears the static on his audio guide, barely registers that someone new is speaking.

The new guide urges him forward in a voice that is very female, very Australian: “Walk fifty feet,” she whispers softly. “Proceed into the surgery ward.”

John and the rest of the tourists trudge down the corridor into a room with one, tiny window and an operating table. Next to the table, a broken heart monitor collects dust.

“Approach the operating table,” the guide continues. John knows, in his heart of hearts, that the guide is blonde, probably wearing a bikini. “John,” the woman says softly, “Lay down on the bed.”

John puts down his backpack and hoists himself on the bed. “That’s good.” The woman’s voice is breathy.

“You’ve come a long way,” she says.

“I know,” John mumbles, curling into the fetal position, a bit of drool running from his mouth.

“Now,” she says, “It’s time to rest.”

**Choice A (Jinhie-3C-Page 6):** When John wakes up, he is bleeding in the crook of his left arm and the hospital is empty of visitors.

**Choice B (Joseph – 3D – Page 7):** John doesn’t wake up—yet. The other tourists are also good listeners, and their audio guides direct them to gather around the operating table.

**3A: Preet**

The seagull is stuffed with a ridiculous amount of leftovers from tourists. The bird is fat in all the right places, making a perfectly cushioned chair for Kyle. He’s comfortable, but still hungry and tries reaching for the burrito nestled in between the bird’s shoulder blades. Like most burrito makers, the Taqueria employees haven’t figured out how to distribute burrito contents evenly. The sour crème layer starts to wet the haphazardly wrapped tortilla, the combination of sogginess and incompetence undoes the folding. Sour cream rains down from the sky, falling on tourists who mistake it for bird droppings.

And poor Kyle doesn’t have time to grieve for his burrito. Kyle begins plucking at the bird’s feathers, hoping this will help him steer the seagull back towards Mary and John. The bird feels violated and dumps Kyle. Kyle begins to free fall.

**Option A (Abby- 4A-Page 8):** Kyle awaits his demise: a children’s bouncy house party.

**Option B (Luis - 4B –Page 9):** Kyle decides it the right time to show his true self to San Francisco and the world.

**3B: Kent**

John, Mary, and Kyle take an all-expense-paid trip to Boonville, Missouri to tour Tacotown Foods, a state of the art meat processing facility that produces beef for 80% of the world’s taquerias.  John hopes it will be romantic.  Mary hopes it will give her an opportunity to expose inhumane treatment of animals.  Kyle hopes he will walk away with a lifetime supply of lean beef for his muscle-building regimen.

When they arrive in Boonville, the air is thick with the smell of manure and rotting flesh.  The town consists of a Walmart, some disgruntled looking houses, and a gigantic factory with a sign reading “TACOTOWN FOODS: FEEDING AMERICA ONE TACO AT TIME.”  As they pull up to the factory, a man steps out and introduces himself.  He’s missing a couple fingers and smells strongly of manure but other than that looks nice enough.

“Hi, I’m Randy, and welcome to Tacotown Foods!  I’ll be your guide for our tour today” he announces in a chipper voice.

John, Kyle, and Mary introduce themselves, and the crew enters the factory together.  The pass through a door reading “FACTORY ENTRANCE” and find themselves in an observation area with windows through which they can see a small assembly line where live cows enter one end of a large, enclosed steel box and packaged meat comes out the other end.

“Here at Tacotown foods, every cow is treated with respect.  From the day of it’s birth, each cow knows it has a noble mission to feed hardworking American families…” Randy continues his speech, but Mary has lost interest.  In the corner of the room, she sees a door marked “DO NOT ENTER.  EMPLOYEES ONLY.”  It’s opened just a crack, but an unbearable stench wafts in through that crack.  Mary slips through the door to investigate.

**Option A (Molly-4C –Page 10):** John and Kyle follow Mary to find out what is really going on at Tacotown Foods.

**Option B (Molly – 4D –Page 11):** The factory alarm goes off.

**3C (Jinhie):**

John opens his eyes and finds himself on the operating table, alone. He feels a sting in the crook of his left arm. Ah well, small price to pay. Sleeping up here was definitely a lot better than completing the audio tour. Mary had been right – the hospital was the best part! He struggles to haul himself off the bed, smashing his audio guide in the process. His left arm is beginning to feel heavier and heavier. His annual workout was starting to pay off, he thinks with a smile. He picks up the broken guide with his right hand and approaches the hospital door. He could unlock the door from the inside, but there’d probably be a guard out there and he really doesn’t want to be forced to pay for the broken audio guide.

He shifts the audio guide to his left hands and raises his right hand to – wait, hands? Left hands? He lifts his left arm and finds that he has sprouted a third arm out of the crook of his left arm.

It is single most awesome thing that has ever happened to him. All those times he’d been holding a plate of food in one hand and a drink in the other, desperately wishing he had a third hand to eat with. All his dreams have come true with arrival of this new hand.

Deciding he is well-armed, John unlocks the door and pushes it open.

**Option A (Matt- 4E – Page 12):** John finds no one on the other side of the door and catches the last ferry back to San Fransisco, where he proceeds to put on a street juggling show aided by his new arm.

**Option B (Sydney- 4F – Page 13):** John finds a corpse with one arm removed.

**3D (Joseph):**

John sleeps like a baby and the tourists gather around him, watching him sleep...like a baby.

“In front of you is the operating table and on top of that is a wax replica of the ‘Birdman’ Robert Stroud. During his time here, Stroud was frequently given anesthetics to due to insomnia and violent behavior,” the audio tour guide explains.

“Wow, it feels so real,” a little boy says as he pinches John’s face. In dream state, John interprets the touch as Mary’s hand against his face. Mary and Kyle start to get concerned that John still hasn’t returned.

“Let’s leave him here and catch the ferry back,” Kyle is tired of John third-wheeling him and Mary.

“Great idea! We need his car though,” Mary adds.

Kyle grunts and heads up to the hospital, “I’ll check on him.”

Kyle sees a swarm of tourists groping and taking selfies with John, who curls up lifelessly on the operating table. He rushes to the table, scatters the tourists, and jumps on top of the table to give John CPR. Kyle is not trained to give CPR but he plays the tuba, which is close enough.

The tourists pull out their cellphones and start recording. They hope the video goes viral on Youtube or WorldStar. Maybe they’ll title it: Drunk guy makes out with wax statue.

**Option A (Jonathan- 4G – Page 14):** security come to break up Kyle and John, but Kyle is very insistent on resuscitating his friend.

**Option B (Julia – 4H – Page 15):** Kyle is very bad at CPR and passes out on top of John. The room locks and a clown-face comes up on TV. It’s Saw 7.

**4A: Abby**

Kyle gets a beautiful view of the city as he free falls, but he's worried about where he would end up. He lands in a bright bouncy house that looks like a clown vomited all over it. Luckily, three kids break Kyle's fall. He hears them all screaming and keeps falling over as he tries to walk out.

The kids are super angry at Kyle for squashing their brethren. They pull at his limbs, trying to bring him down and hitting him with their fists.

"Help me! Someone help me!" Kyle screams before a kid whacks him in the head with a stuffed rabbit.

He sees the parents outside and tries to call to them, but instead they're all laughing, thinking this entire affair is really cute. Someone of them are even capturing this special moment on their phones.

Kyle struggles against the onslaught of kids, finally falling out of the bouncy house on his back, and passing into eternal sleep peacefully. Goodnight sweet prince, and may flights of 5-year-olds sing thee to thy rest.

**4B: Luis**

Kyle falls 30,000 feet and lands in Fisherman’s Wharf, San Francisco, California. He is angry but unhurt. As usual, Fisherman’s Wharf is overflowing with bustling tourists and exotic street performers. Kyle has had enough. He is ready to show the world that he #wokeuplikedis.

With a guttural roar, Kyle rips off his “I support Miley Cyrus” t-shirt to reveal muscled pectorals and finely sculpted abs. He puts on his shoulder-length, bubble-gum pink wig and his six-inch, steel-grey stilettos. Now he is ready. “Kyle” is short for Kyleeandra—his stage name. Kyleeandra is a totally fierce, absolutely fabulous diva that simply cannot tolerate burrito-snatching seagulls, threesomes that never actually happen, and audio tours that end in disappointment.

Kyleeandra struts along the sidewalk in Fisherman’s Wharf. His hips swing violently as he tries not only to display his bodacious assets but also to navigate the mosaic of pigeon shit that decorates his path. Kyleeandra approaches Boudin Bakery, where the bushman is scaring unsuspecting pedestrians. The Bushman leaps from his leafy barracks to terrorize his next victim, but Kyleeandra has other plans. He takes his stiletto, aims, and hurls it at the Bushman’s back. Kyleeandra has been working out and getting all the gains. The stiletto blasts the Bushman onto the road. The near death experience causes the Bushman to realize the error in his ways. To reform, he opens the first Better Bushes Bureau—a soon-to-be-national business whose purpose cannot be disclosed here.

Kyleeandra realizes that his true calling is to protect the people of the Wharf. He abandons his friendships with John and Mary—two love sick fools that go on to marry and adopt a giant seagull. He buys the small but posh condo above Boudin Bakery. Kyleeandra is ready to serve as San Francisco’s hunky, most fabulous vigilante.

**4C: Molly**

Mary steps through the door and directly into a hole in the side of the cow. The digestive acids instantly dissolve Mary, to her chagrin. Randy, John, and Kyle stand at the doorway, somewhat irritated about what they have witnessed. Randy retrieves a piccolo a plays a tune. Hearing his signal, a hoard of Oompa-Loompas clean up Mary’s remains while singing a cautionary song:

*Oompa Loompa Doompa-De- Doo*

*I’ve got another puzzle for you*

*What do you get when you open closed doors?*

*Fall through a hole into a cow’s core*

*Why did you think it would ever be fun?*

*No one enjoys a pH of 1*

*You’ll dissolve on contact*

John, Kyle, and Randy continue the tour. John trips and falls into a meat processor. Out comes the piccolo, and the Oompa-Loompas arrive.

*What do you get with your laces untied?*

Before the song continues, Kyle and Randy walk to the latter’s office. He puts his hand on Kyle’s shoulder.

“My dear boy,” he says. Kyle feels grease seep through his shirt onto his shoulder. “My dear boy,” he repeats, “you did it! You won the meat packing factory.” Kyle pauses for about five minutes, then speaks.

“What do you mean by that?”

“Out of the three of you, you are the only one who made it this far! You’ve won!” Kyle finally feels a sense of achievement. The cow enters on a conveyer belt. Kyle stares at the cow, then at Randy. And at last, the threesome occurs.

**4D: Molly**

A guard grabs Molly, and she is arrested for trespassing. Kyle and John say, “just kidding,” and step back over the line. They are therefore exonerated.

They visit Mary in jail the first opportunity that they get. Mary tells John and Kyle that even though she only got to see a glimpse of what was beyond the door, a glimpse was enough and she no longer has any interest in their petty fantasies. Kyle and John are surprised at this reaction and decide that she is being brainwashed. Even though Mary has only been in jail for a short time, her physical deterioration is evident. Because her prison diet consists of reject beef and some unidentifiable fleshy substance, she has ballooned to nearly twice her original weight, in addition to having come down with a case of scurvy. Sitting in the Walmart parking lot, John and Kyle hatch an elaborate plan in order to break Mary out of the Boonville jail. Mary is dubious at first, but agrees to the plan once John and Kyle remind her of all the things she will be able to do once she is free, such as eat fresh tacos and go on another night tour of Alcatraz.

 That night, John and Kyle quietly slip inside the Boonville jail and attempt to fetch Mary, who has fashioned a Mary-shaped figure out of rotting beef to go under her sheets. Unfortunately, this is a jail, so their actions do not go unnoticed and Kyle and John are caught and arrested for trespassing. They spend the rest of their days in identical jail cells, thinking of new ways to get out, as the smell of rotting flesh and failure fills the air.

**4E: Matt**

There is a guard on the other side of the door, and as it opens, it whacks into his back and knocks him over with a solid whack. John leaves the audio guide behind and quickly descends down the stairs, stealthily crawling on all fives.  He skitters outside and sprints to make the ferry. As he sits down sweaty and five-armed, he is unable to figure out what to do with his awkward body.

This is nothing new and has nothing to do with his new arm. There is nothing special about this awkward situation. It is just an awkward situation. Do not impose your own fantasy on this awkward situation.

He sees Kyle enter the bathroom in front of him, and a moment later, Mary joins him. The women on either side of him, who had been too busy squirming to escape his arms to notice, assume that whoever is in the bathroom has an anger issue and severe constipation. John shifts awkwardly and accidentally slaps one of the women in the face. After this, John decides he will never move again.

John is stuck in place as he sees Kyle and Mary quickly leaving. He notice Mary’s red face and the scratch marks on Kyle’s neck and feels a twinge of envy.

John spends several years honing his juggling talents and becomes known as the “Juggling King of San Francisco”, putting on shows across the city. He only runs into John and Mary once in that time period. His innuendos about ball-juggling skills and fifteen fingers fail to convince them to join him. That is not a problem as he is now able to juggle several threesomes at once.

**4F: Sydney**

John opens the door to find a bloodied corpse, rotting on its side. Its left arm is missing. In his already heightened emotional state, John reacts so profoundly to the sight of the corpse that he has an immediate psychotic breakdown.

After the breakdown, John is a changed man. He no longer thinks about threesomes and meaty pectorals. He decides to become a priest, and spends the next ten years of his life preaching to the world about the wonders of abstinence.

After his decade-long stint as a priest, he meets the love of his life, Lorretta. As fate would have it, Lorretta was born with two right-arms. Together, John and Lorretta fit like a glove. They spend the rest of their days blissfully in love. Lorretta loves how John can feed her cereal while consecutively typing up his autobiography on Google Docs.

On the other hand, Kyle ends up with Mary, who ends up murdering him with a chainsaw.

**4G: Jonathan**

“I know what I’m doing, nobody try to stop me,” Kyle yells between breaths of CPR.

“None of us were trying to stop you,” a security guard says.

Another security guard says, “Should be trying to stop you?”

The first guard pipes in: “Shouldn’t you at least be attempting to continue resuscitating your friend instead of arguing with us?”

“Right,” Kyle says as he turns his attention back to John. John is looking a bit worse for wear, and Kyle doesn’t really know what he’s doing but he figures more CPR never hurt anyone.

“Hey, I’m not sure this guy knows what he’s doing,” says the second security guard.

“Should we stop him?” The first security guard is confused. He’s never had to do anything more complicated than tell people to plug in their headphones for the audio tour to work. He is uncomfortable with this newfound responsibility.

“I think we should stop him,” the second security guard says. He is also confused, but he is determined not to let the first security guard know that. He turns to Kyle. “We are going to try to stop you now, okay?”

“I explicitly told you not to do that!” Kyle says between life-giving breaths of CPR.

The security guards walk over and try to pull Kyle off of John. Kyle grabs onto John to keep from getting pulled away, but forgets that John isn’t in any way attached to the table. John begins to slide from the table.

The security guards pull. Kyle falls onto the floor mid-CPR-breath, John flops on top of him. The tourists take picture.

The fall wakes up John. As he comes to, he realizes that he is lying on top of his male-best-friend, Kyle, who has his arms locked around him and his lips pressed against John’s.

Mary was right. The hospital was the best part of the tour.

**4H: Julia**

Predictably, all of the tourists start screaming. Someone starts crying. Someone else starts praying. Someone curiously looks at the TV, wondering which Saw movie is currently playing.

Downstairs, Mary hears the noise. Worried about John, Kyle, and – more importantly – her ride home, Mary darts up the stairs only to find a locked door.

Mary is frustrated, tired, and very, very ready to get out of this prison. Her memory of the prison will be forever marred by the image of three red-faced, overweight security guards bouncing off the door as if it was a trampoline while frantic high-pitched shrieks emanate from the other side. Mary will later spend most of her life savings on a therapist as she tries to forget this traumatic event.

At the moment, however, Mary is not aware of how badly she will be traumatized by this night – she’s just angry. In her rage, Mary, who took karate until the fifth grade, aims a kick at the door, which, amazingly, opens.

She shoulders her way through the still-screaming crowd until she reaches the operating table and the still-passed-out John and Kyle. Ignoring their pitiful yet oddly cute collapsed state on top of each other, Mary hoists one man on each shoulder and proceeds to march all the way to the ferry and drive all the way home. Six months later, John and Kyle decide it was love all along and get married, Mary starts therapy sessions, and they all realize they will never forget this Alcatraz adventure.