## Jane

"Indifference is paralysis of the soul, a premature death."

## History

Mary, Billy and Alex are former schoolmates of yours. You have been tied together by an event that occurred at a school trip five years ago. The boys got drunk and started pouring drinks into Mary, your best friend, as well. Last time you saw them was when Alex was groping Mary and dragging her away from the eyes of other people, with Billy staggering in tow. It was obvious what was going to happen next. You are absolutely certain that Alex raped Mary. And Mary's behavior during the following days only strengthened your opinion. Why didn't you call for help? Because you were afraid. So you ignored Mary's misfortune and told yourself that things would work out on their own either way. That it has nothing to do with you. The main thing is it wasn't you. The idea of you being in her place that night was absolutely terrifying to you. You just turned and ran. Besides, Billy was there too; he could have done something as well. He is to blame as much as you.

## Characteristics

You're a coward: you prefer to ignore someone else's misfortune rather than getting involved in anything. The case of Mary being raped wasn't the first or the last; however, the consequences have been the worst so far. You always find some excuse for your behavior, so your conscience doesn't exactly keep you up at night. What puts the most pressure on your psyche is the fact that you're into girls, although you have never admitted that to anyone and you never will. You rather let other men hover around you in false hopes; all in all, it is flattering and you do not discourage them. You know all too well what to do to make guys notice you. From time to time, you get hanky-panky with someone; a long time ago, that someone was Alex. Furthermore, it gives you confidence. You are constantly confused by who you really are because you get attracted to both boys and girls. But Mary - that's a whole other level. You are madly in love with her. Mary was the first person to appear in your erotic dreams. What does it mean? Are you a lesbian?

## Relationships with others

Mary used to be your best friend. But ever since she was raped, your relationship is not what it used to be. You haven't seen each other since you graduated from high school; Mary never came to any of the reunions. You are madly in love with Mary. You never blamed yourself for how your relationship faded since you always knew there could be nothing more than friendship between you two. You assumed that Mary was heterosexual and so you never took the first step. From time to time it did occur to you that Mary may also be a lesbian and also in a closet, but you never worked up the courage to find out. After the rape,

Mary changed profoundly; she closed herself from the world. That is how you remember her. Silent and lifeless.

You despise *Alex*. However, you have never showed it and you never plan on doing so. Alex has always been very confident and charismatic and he wasn't one to be messed with. He was always inclined to bullying (Billy, for example) and violence; it all peaked five years ago when he raped Mary. You always <u>wanted to be on his good side</u>; that is why you don't resist when he wants to talk or dance with you.

You like *Billy* far better. Even when you were all still in high school you noticed that Billy has a thing for you; his very shy attempts at getting closer to you are pleasant, so you don't discourage him and <u>you let him chase after you</u> in his subtle shy way.

When you met after all those years, everything went right back on track with Billy and Alex. Billy was again the shy and timid one. You don't despise him as you despise Alex. As far as Mary's rape goes, Billy's blame is only a little bigger than your own - he was there, but he didn't intervene. Unfortunately, Billy is easily susceptible to Alex's influence and Alex takes advantage of that. You never understood how exactly Alex controls Billy. When it comes to Alex, Billy is a complete pushover.

You rather ignore other people's misfortune than get involved in someone else's trouble.