Mark, a once regular teenage boy with a deep love for coffee, ponders his life while at a coffee shop. He has not yet been able to truly understand the new changes occurring in him. Now every time he drinks coffee, he can hear people’s thoughts.

Mark came upon this discovering weeks ago, but still hasn’t been able to figure out why, or what use it had. He would take a sip of coffee and suddenly the thoughts of others would pervade his own, an awkward situation at family breakfast. The peculiar thing was that drinking water would instantly turn off others thoughts, allowing Mark to have his own mind back.

Mark’s picked up the coffee that was in front of him, eyeing it strangely. He couldn’t understand how such a delicious, normal substance could have those effects on him. There must be some reason why, or some use. The thoughts of others were unimportant to Mark, who preferred to not know what others think.

While he was staring intensely at his cup of coffee, a young girl walked up to his table and sat across from him. After the actions elicited no responses from the extremely focused Mark, she made a soft coughing noise. Mark looked up with surprised and gasped. This girl, Sara, had been his crush for years, but he rarely spoke to her. Mark was always nervous around her and believed that she didn’t like him.

“Hi,” said Sara said with a sweet smile. “How are you?”

“Hi Sara. I’m…I’m great. You?” Mark answered nervously, trying not to look at her.

“I’m great, I just saw you sitting her and wondered if I could join you?” She asked, leaning forward slightly.

“I uhm.. I would… uhm.. like that.” Mark replied, taking a sip of coffee to try and hid his nervousness. Instantly his head was filled with random thoughts from the people with in the café.

“Great! It’s been so long since we have talked!”

Suddenly, a thought came forward in Mark’s head. It was Sara’s. Sara was thinking about him! Sara liked him too! Mark knew then, the usefulness of his new power and its benefits.

“Hey Sara, how about I buy you a cup of coffee and we go on a date?” Mark finally asked the question he had been dying to ask for years, and with an extra dose of confidence.