Ryan was a normal high school girl; concerned with friend groups, popularity, her parent’s recent and dramatic divorce, boyfriends, boy-friends, her kid brothers, and everything under the sun that seemed to have the utmost importance in such a fast paced time. She blended in, and she was very good at it. She didn’t attract too much drama (but dealt with it when she did), had a group of friends she loved, and sports teams she dedicated her time to. Ryan acknowledged everything around her that she experienced on a day to day basis, and really appreciated her life – thinking that this was it, and she’d found herself, and happiness. However, growing up in one town her whole life, and never really having the opportunity to be out on her own, Ryan felt somewhat trapped and wished for a way out.

One day Ryan woke up, and she went to 1st period ceramics class like any other Monday. On her way to school, she got caught in traffic as usual, and spent 5 minutes trying to get down the hill into the parking lot as to avoid her 5th tardy that semester (and a trip to the principle’s office). Bumping music to try and switch her focus from the dumb blonde, botox filled Danville mom’s driving their Range Rovers through the parking lot obviously did not know how to help traffic situations flow any smoother, she began to daydream about what project Mr. Aguayo would have them starting today. Maybe a serving dish, or a plate, or a huge mug she could paint deep red and fill with hot chocolate and marshmallows on a cold winter’s day. Then all of a sudden, without Ryan even noticing, she was in her seat in Ceramics class listening to her teacher talk about the chip bowl they would be creating that morning in class. It took her a few minutes to realize that, hold on, hadn’t she just been in her car stuck behind that annoying white range rover? How’d she get to her seat? Did she just blank on the entire walk to class? Beginning to panic, Ryan ran to the parking lot as soon as Mr. Aguayo stopped talking. Even though class had already started, traffic was still pretty bad, and she arrived at the stop sign to see an old, red Toyota blocking the entire road. It was her red Toyota, she realized, and there was nobody in the driver’s seat! Shocked, she jumped into the car and moved it immediately, realizing she must have been in some kind of trance and accidentally walked out of the car in th e middle of the street. Right? No, she couldn’t have.

Intrigued, Ryan sat in her car, and thinking that she was insane but had nothing to lose, thought long and hard about the nice, grassy football field 400 yards to her right. With her eyes still closed, she felt the soft, dewy grass under her hands, laughing at how impressive her imagination must be. Realizing she had to get back to class, Ryan opened her eyes and found herself sitting in the middle of the football field. In shock, she ran back to Ceramics, aware that she couldn’t tell anyone about her recent development of power just in case they thought she was absolutely crazy.

The next few days opened up a new world of possibilities. Little Ryan, stuck in small town Colorado, could visit any place she wanted. As she practiced, her potential grew. She realized she could use her powers for anything she desired, and could take herself down both a good or evil path. Many thoughts crossed her mind; travelling the world one afternoon at a time, keeping her tan all year round by travelling to different beaches, bringing her leftovers to starving kids in underdeveloped countries, or never having to ask for an allowance again because she could teleport out of stores with no fear of ever being caught with whatever she had in her hand. Day by day, her confidence increased. She visited new cultures, and immersed herself with new people and ways of life. She became aware of how much was really going on in the world, and experienced first hand the social difficulties she’d only heard of in humanity classes. She could bring equipment to sick people, help in the aid of natural disasters and really save lives. Or, she could use her powers to benefit herself. Trapped and supposedly happy Ryan realized the scale to which she could use her powers to do good in the world, and this opened up her heart and made her feel fulfilled in ways that she could not even imagine. She experienced freedom, and felt weightless – her connections with others around the world having filled a void that she was unaware she even possessed.