

Missing: Lily Harper

RCMP Detective Edward Marlowe

Case #921526

Log Entry #3

It has been two days since I was assigned to investigate the disappearance of high school sophomore Lily Harper. It took me 5 hours driving to reach the small town of Clearwater from HQ in Vancouver. The town seems like a place where everyone knows everyone else, although all towns have their secrets. Although it was a sunny day when I walked into the town, you could also see all the shadows cast by the trees. My first stop was to James and Holly Harper, Lily's parents, and they were the ones who reported her missing. They were kind and showed hospitality to me, but they were also deeply worried for their daughter. They described Lily as a sweet, hardworking girl who was always a good student, best subject English. She started working after school at the Early Grey Café about 2 years ago. Lily had a small but growing circle of friends and a best friend, Emma, who was very close and would visit the Harper house often. The Harpers told me that it felt like Emma was always around. Shortly before Lily's disappearance, Emma told them that Lily's boss had been bothering her and being very suspicious, but Lily hadn't said anything to them.

Log Entry #4

Following the lead from Mr. and Mrs. Harper, I went to the owner of the Early Grey Café, Nick Papadopoulos, for an interview. I walked into the café and I saw a big man who was hairy and had a scowl on his face, who looked like the boss. He was yelling at one of the cooks. I smiled at the man, introduced myself, and he nodded his head towards a room which I assumed was his office. I followed him and he gestured to me

to sit down, I asked him a few questions about Lily and he said things I didn't expect. Mr. Papadopoulos said she was a hard worker, a dedicated employee, and a really sweet girl. He said something happened the day before Lily went missing, "she walked into the café crying, and was holding a crumpled up note. I asked her what was bothering her but she didn't say, so I figured there was something wrong at school." He also told me that the following day, the day of the disappearance, was the first day of work that she had missed.

Log Entry #5

I arranged a meeting with the principal of Lily's school, Dr. Harold Poindexter, even though it was a Saturday. So I went into the school and I met with the principal inside his office. Dr. Poindexter barely seemed to know Lily as anything other than a name on a list. He was pretty much a waste of my time. But he offered to have the school janitor, Joe Wremmick, show me around the school. The hallways of the empty school gave me a chill. Although it was dark, you could make out that the school colours were red and white. We looked into Lily's locker and we found nothing out of the ordinary for a teenage girl: some makeup, snacks, clothes and textbooks.

After looking through the locker, I decided to interview the janitor. To my surprise, Mr. Wremmick knew a lot about Lily and her school life. He said the students talked freely around him and even did things they weren't supposed to do. It was like they thought he was a piece of furniture. He said that he overheard Emma talking with Lily underneath the school bleachers the day before the disappearance. He couldn't make out everything that was said, but he heard Emma raise her voice saying something about Lily hanging out with other friends. He also told me about a place in the woods behind the school where the students would go to hangout and do things they didn't want the adults to see. I thanked Joe for all his help, and decided to head into the woods. It was a sunny day but as I walked through the trees it got darker and

darker. Deeper into the woods I saw more and more cigarette buds, empty beer bottles and discarded wrappers lying on the dirt. Then something caught my eye, a bright white piece of paper, which couldn't have been there for more than a few days. I picked it up and read:

"I know all about the secrets that you've been trying to keep from me with those other girls. If you think you're still my friend, meet me in the woods tomorrow after school..."