

“He needed to be special. Somehow. To make people like him. So he’d hear his mouth go on and on like it had a life of its own.”

Liam thought he was the most boring kid to have ever walked the earth. He lived an average life in a small town where everybody knew everybody and nobody wanted to know him. Sure, he had a small group of friends growing up but those relationships never last, and neither did his. Walking through the hallways he avoided eye contact with every person who passed, just watching his awkwardly giant feet shuffle beneath him. The first day of school is always the worst day. For Liam, it was the beginning of his senior year, so hopefully it would fly by. His therapist told him to not let his anxiety keep him from trying new things this year.

Walking into English, he noticed the desks in the classroom were already organized into groups. Great. Carefully picking his seat his clammy hands left wet marks on the table. Kids started to slowly file into the room, Liam’s table was the last to be filled. As Mr. Berry welcomed the class he suggested that everyone at the table introduce themselves and tell a little bit about them, as these would be their seats for the rest of the semester. Icebreakers were almost as bad as mom’s cooking to Liam. Waiting for someone at the table to start, he avoided eye contact as usual. The girl sitting across from Liam cleared her throat and started talking about her summer, filled with road trips and music festivals, Liam was more than interested but she would never be attracted to someone like him. He looked up when she finished her story and his eyes met with hers. As soon as he opened his mouth the room was filled with endless lies. He couldn’t stop and he knew what he was doing. She was his next victim.