

IT HAD ALREADY HAPPENED

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VOLUME - I

CHAPTER

1

THE GROUP OF FRIENDS

PART - I

Introduction

The city of Grey Hollow was a place most maps forgot to mention. Hidden deep within a dense forest, it was surrounded by towering trees that blocked the outside world like silent walls.

The narrow streets were paved with old stone, and tall iron lamps flickered even during the day, as if the city itself never fully trusted the sunlight. People here lived simple lives — small shops, quiet schools, and houses that had stood for generations.

Life in Grey Hollow moved at a comfortable pace. Neighbors knew one another well, and evenings were often spent walking along quiet paths or talking beneath the glowing street lamps.

The forest surrounding the town added to its beauty, with birds singing in the branches and leaves rustling gently throughout the day.

Stone-paved roads curved peacefully between rows of small houses, local shops, and a modest school where children gathered each day.

The school stood near the center of the city, its playground filled with laughter and friendly conversations. Teachers

greeted students warmly, and the sound of the school bell echoed softly through the surrounding streets.

This is the best school in the city where more children are studied. This school was five kilometres from the police station. So if any problem police officers would take care.

Many students are good in behaviour. All are like a gang. There are many gang friends in school. Among the students of the school were five close friends — Jack, Arjun, Abdul, Aadhi, and James. They had grown up together, sharing school days, games, and countless happy memories.

After classes ended, they would go home along the same familiar roads, talking about homework, stories, and their small everyday adventures.

Some evenings they play in a park. James built a small doll home in the forest. So he went to that home and finished his work. He didn't have any fear that he was his forest. Because he was strong that no dangerous animals were there.

In the month of spring, this city looks beautiful. On one cool evening, as the soft fog slowly rolled through the streets and the trees moved quietly in the breeze.

The five friends gathered in Jack's home. Deep in the basement of Jack's house, five friends—Jack, Arjun, Abdul, Aadhi, and James—were huddled around a table.

They were playing a game that resembled Ludo, but it felt much older and far more strange. Instead of plastic pawns, the pieces were carved into intricate, heavy models, and the board was etched with symbols no one recognized. James was the first to lose, leaning back with a sigh of defeat.

Suddenly, Jack's mother called out from the top of the stairs. Jack went to the kitchen, where the warmth of the stove met him. "It's ten o'clock," she said firmly. "School starts tomorrow. End the game now and eat your dinner."

Not wanting to argue, Jack returned to the basement and told the group they would have to finish the game another day.

The four friends followed him to the dining hall, the wooden stairs creaking under their weight. As they ate, the room was quiet until James looked at Jack's sister.

"We heard a strange sound coming from your room earlier," James said, his voice curious. "What was that?"

"It wasn't me," she replied coldly, her eyes fixed on her plate. "I was only studying."

"Studying what?" Jack asked.

"Chemistry," she answered shortly.

"Which topic?" Jack pressed, but his sister angried.

"I don't want to explain my work to anyone, so just keep quiet," she snapped.

James caught Jack's eye and offered a small, knowing smile, but said nothing more.

After dinner, the friends grabbed their coats and headed out. Jack watched from the porch as they pedaled their cycles away, their silhouettes disappearing into the wall of gray fog.

As he turned to go inside, he spotted a lone police officer patrolling the dark path at the edge of the woods, the beam of his flashlight cutting through the mist like a knife.

Jack shivered, retreated to his room, and finally drifted into a restless sleep.

At 2:00 AM, the house was silent, except for the low moan of the wind through the forest trees.

Suddenly, Jack was jolted awake by a sharp, metallic scraping sound coming from the other side of the wall.

Heart racing, he crept out of bed. The floorboards felt like ice under his feet. He tiptoed toward his sister's room, noticing

a thin sliver of light bleeding out from under her door. He reached for the handle, but before he could touch it, the door swung open.

Jack's sister stood there, her face half-hidden in shadow. "What are you roaming around at this hour?" she whispered, her voice sharp and cold.

"I... I heard something," Jack stammered, his eyes darting to the cluttered desk behind her. "A strange noise. It scared me."

Jack's Sister stepped forward, blocking his view of the room. "It was probably just the pipes or the wind. Go back to sleep, Jack." She shut the door firmly before he could say another word.

Jack retreated to his room, but his mind refused to rest. Being an overthinker, he began to replay the moment over and over. Was that a chemical smell coming from her room? Why was she still awake? And that sound—it hadn't sounded like wind; it sounded like something heavy being dragged across the floor.

He lay staring at the ceiling for the rest of the night, his imagination spinning dark theories until the first gray light of morning touched his window.

He got ready for school. He went to eat breakfast and his sister's finger was rolled with a bandage. He came out of the house. His cycle was very dusty. He cleared it and went to school. On that way he saw a crowd of police officers standing in a place.

The police officers caught a dead body from a well. He sees that and fears. He went to park his cycle in the school parking lot.

His school was the best school in the city. In this school, teachers are like a friend. But three boys in school were irritating others. They come to the parking lot and see Jack park his bicycle. They go and irritate Jack. Aadhi and Abdul come to this place. Jack does not want to fight with them.

“ James did not come today.” Aadhi said.

“Why?” Jack asked.

“ I don't know,” Aadhi replied shortly.

They go to the classroom. Jack’s enemy John also did not come. Jack and his friend were pleased that John did not come today. A teacher came to this class room and asked Jack to come in intervals.

In a Research place, Jack's sister was mixing two different chemicals. It exploded and she escaped with a small injury. Smoke filled the room. All are going out.

Her friend approached her because they were trying to create a chemical. This chemical exploded when it connected to stomach acid.

Jack went to the Canteen and saw that the teacher was sitting in the 2nd row. She was slightly sad. She saw Jack and told him to sit in that place.

“ James...James was missing” she said.

“ What ? What do you say?” Jack asked.

She replied He will not go to his home after leaving your house. In the morning James' parents called her and said this news.

James' parents were waiting in the police station. The head police came and said her son was missing. Police officer give water and said, “ Slowly said what was happened”

“ Yesterday he went to his friend's house. He said to me, he came before 10 o'clock. But he did not come until 2 a.m. so we asked Jack's Mother. She said he left the house before 10 o'clock. We waited for him for 10 hours but he did not come.” Mother said.

“ Any other friend's house was in that way or he went to another place.” a police man asked strangely.

“ No.. He does not have any other friends. I.. I was scared. Please...please...find my son.” said the mother.

“ Ok.. we found him . You don't worry.” said the policeman.

“ He was a child. Please find him quickly. Please” said my mother sadly.

It was 8 o’ clock . Jack and his friends in a park. This park was very quiet and cold. In this park, dogs are mostly living. Dogs are not normal. Jack and friends speak about James' missing case.

Aadhi said, “ That day we leave your house. James goes home in another way. We follow him. After some time, he is not there. We thought that he would go home.”

Jack said, “I thought he was missing that way.”

Arjun said, “ I thought he was kidnapped by anyone”

Jack said, "Tomorrow we will go and check the CCTV camera.”

It was 11 o’ clock. Jack was in the bedroom. He thought about James. He heard a sound which came into his sister's room. This sounds like a conversation between two members.

He sees the room in the key hole. But this hole was stuck by cloth. Jack goes back to his bed. Jack thought about his sister.

The next morning, he acts like he has stomach pain. So he did not go to school. He went to the road where Jack was missing.

Aadhi, Arjun, Abdul come to this place. They search for CCTV cameras. They found it.

They went to the shop and asked if they could see the CCTV footage. They see the footage. James was going to his room normally in camera 1 footage. But he did not camera 2 footage.

James said, " He was missing in between camera 1 and 2."

Aadhi asked, "You are sure."

James said, "Yes. He was missing between Camera 1 and Camera 2."

Aadhi Said, "maybe this is also known by police."

Jack said, "I don't know. But I am sure that he is missing and we want to find James."

Aadhi said, "We found him. What do you think about this case?"

Jack said, "This is a special case for us."

Part - II

A Missing case

Police officers are searching in the forest. Because they thought that James was captured by animals. The police officer and his assistant were searching sincerely. The assistant asked why you searched with full power. This is a normal missing case.

The police officer said, “ 10 years ago, my daughter was going to see her friend. But she did not come. We searched for her for 10 days with 6 members including me. I thought that if we came with more members there would be a chance to find her.”

Assistant asked, “ You have any Missing complaints after your Daughters missing case”

The police officer said, “ No. But the case has come. They are all investigated by other police. I went to my home town after my daughter went missing. I heard that the police officer died. So I came to investigate James’s case.”

The assistant asked, “ How many cases did he finish, sir.”

The police officer said, “ No one in that case was completed. I thought the case was only mysterious. It cannot come to an

end. But we tried to finish that. Because James was my friend's son.”

The assistant said, “ Ok . We will start searching tomorrow because I am going to another place.”

The police officer said, “ You go. We will search for him.”

The assistant said, “ Ok. Carefully check.”

Police see that any camera is near this place.

Jack goes in front of camera 1. He sees that all places are like a forest. Arjun said that we will go to camera 2. All members go to camera 2 in the forest way.

Jack's sister kept a chemical at her research centre. She sees that in a microscope. She said that the chemical was ready now.

5 members in the center including Jack's sister were in a secret room. They see a wall. That was like a different fluid was formed in the wall. This fluid was moved in millimetres.

Jack's sister through the chemistry in this fluid. It became a fire and the fluid became small. All are clapping. All members encourage her about this experiment.

James' mother thought any kidnappers or thieves kidnap James. So his mother waited near the phone. Jack's father

went out to search for James. Jack's father starts his car and goes to the forest.

Jack and his friend see that a different fluid was near camera 2. They see Arjun touch them with the help of gloves. The fluid pulled him . Jack and Aadhi saved him. Arjun was scared. Jack keeps the fluid in a small box in small amounts. This fluid was moving to all parts of the box. They saw that and were shocked about its movement.

Arjun said, “Where is Abdul?”

All are thought and search Abdul. Abdul is also missing. This news was spread to all places in that city.

This is the 16th person who missed. Jack's parents told him not to go out. This is the same as in Arjun, Aadhi home.

A police officer sees a road in the middle of a forest. Police officers go by this road. He saw a house that was like a research centre.

He saw a watchman. He asked him if he wanted to go inside of this place. But the watchman was not allowed. The policeman returned home.

James’s Mother was alone in her home. She heard the sound of James. She goes to James' room. She saw that music was playing in his room. She was scared and ran out.

Jack was in the basement. He saw the game board at first they played. He saw that James' coin was in standing position.

He heard the sound of James' voice. He went in the direction of sound. He heard that the sound was high. He was scared and ran to the hall.

Police officers find a dead body from a well. It has one body. It doesn't have a head. All are thought that it was James. Jack and his friends are upset about it. Police said that this is James' body.

They all came to James' funeral. James' mother cried the whole day. She was not sure that it was James ' dead body.

On that night, Jack thought that if James died, who would hear the sound? Jack thought about that full night. Jack wants to find out how James died. Is it murder by a person or any other ways?

Jack thought also if any monster is in the city. But his mother surely said that there are no monsters in this city and also in the world.

Jack thought about a book that was about a monster.

A few months ago, Jack was in the school library. He saw a book. It was a book about a story of a monster and a boy. The book's name is "IT HAD ALREADY HAPPENED" Written by "Daniel Rajkumar".

Daniel Rajkumar's First and last book. He said in the first line of the book "It was an unexpected experience in my life."

Jack opens the book and sees a black photo. In this photo, the background and entire colour is mostly black. He saw a person in this book. This was not like a person but it had a body like a person. It has nails like lions.

Jack goes to the classroom and takes his rough notes. He noted the Book's name and author's Name.

Now, Jack is in the school library and remembers that the Book "IT HAD ALREADY HAPPENED" he goes and searches for the book. But the book is not there. He went to the librarian and asked for the book.

The librarian said, " This book contains violence and it is not best for children like you. So we give it to another library."

Jack said, "Which library do you give the book to?"

The librarian said, "I thought of the city library because it was near to our school. And this book did not have any duplicate copy. It has only an original copy. So it will be a chance for anyone to borrow from that library."

Jack goes to the City Library and asks the librarian about the book. But the Librarian said to search for a full library.

Jack, Arjun, Aadhi search for a full library. They search for six hours. The book is not there.

Aadhi said, “ We wasted our time .”

Arjun said, “Yes. We waste our time.”

A Short man with Black colour dress was coming to the library. He had a long beard. It covered his neck fully. His hair had grown very long. He put a book on the table. Jack runs to the table and sees what book is this.

Jack was happy. Because this is the book which they search for.

Jack asks his friend to come near the table. They see that book. This book looked terrific.

Jack kept the book at home. Jack started to read the book.

Jack's Mother was at the dining table. She speaks to Jack's father about the activities of Jack.

Jack's Mother said, “Jack was completely changed after his friend went missing. And his sister also changed .”

Jack's father said, “Why? Is there any problem?”

Jack's Mother said, “ The problem is for him about James..”

Jack's father said, “He was changed in a few days. Don't care about him.”

Jack was in his room. He took that book and read it. At first it was interesting. After some time Jack's face turned sad. After reading the whole book Jack knows what is happening here. Jack was worried that he had read that book.