

A FLASH FICTION SERIES



UNDERLAND

RILEY CHAPPLE

AUTHORS NOTE

Special thanks to the Publishing module at The University of Winchester for enabling me to produce this publication.

My housemates for providing an entertaining source of inspiration when it came to writing.

WRITING & DEVELOPMENT

The following is a work of fiction, inspired by the work of Lewis Carroll and his novel 'Alice in Wonderland'.

All characters in these stories are a work of fiction.

All events in these stories are fictional. Some, however, are drawn from the first-hand experience of the author, and do in no way reflect everyone's opinions or experiences.

All of these stories were written for the sole purpose of entertainment and enjoyment to the reader.

ARTWORK

Special thanks to the various artists at DeviantArt for giving permission for their artwork & photographs to be used. I in no way, claim ownership over the material used. I only claim ownership over the edits & alterations made, as well as the writing included in this book.



CHARACTERS



ALICE

A rather intelligent, but timid girl, with a smart mind

HATTER

The man who has enough knowledge to be leader of the group.



RABBIT

An annoying and very formal Rabbit, who believes he's right in everything.



WHITE RABBIT

The over-thinker of the group, who is always seeking answers.



CHESHIRE CAT

A rather cheeky and mischievous cat with a hidden agenda.



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ALICE



I ALICE

The girl that appeared to have fallen out of a story book was timid, but brave to say the least. Long brown hair thick enough to look like a helping of chocolate ice cream atop a vanilla sundae, eyes as brown as the coffee stains you'd find on old parchment, her body was as smooth and curvy as the perfect stone you'd use to skip across a lake.

The key trembled in her hand as she took the first few steps forward. The wind from above seemed to be pushing her forward, eager to see which of the two options she was going to choose. As she stepped forward towards the strange and abnormal looking door, the sky began to break open. A warm summer shower began to rain down on the girl.

The girl increased her pace, sheltering her eyes from the rain with her hand. The cobble path on which she was walking down began to twist and turn. The key remained tightly gripped inside the girl's hand, waiting to meet the lock on the other side of the door.

WHITE RABBIT



II

WHITE RABBIT

The White Rabbit worried about what awaited him on the other side of the door. How long would it take to die he pondered? How would he know if he had died? His face twitched and itched as the thoughts became more vivid in his head. Questions exploding in every direction. Death was the only thing that he could think about.

The key was inside his blazer pocket, hidden from the eyes of the outside world. There was no way of knowing the answers to any of the questions that he continued to have. The only information he knew to be true was that he had a key, and in front of him was a door. This was something that didn't tickle his fancy – a lack of information.

He tiptoed forward with great hesitation, unsure if this world would throw any surprises at him. The sky turned dark, the twinkling of starlight the only thing that lit the path in front of him. As he approached the door he sud-

denly thought to himself, what would happen if he turned the key the correct way instead and lived?



HATER

III

HATTER

The concept of a life-changing key was a new one to him. A door that when opened would lead you to your destiny, or a portal to your immediate death. Oddly enough, the idea of these possibly being the last few moments of his life didn't appeal to him. The Hatter, like so many others that had taken this challenge, wanted to vanish and forget that this whole experience had ever happened.

The sky remained tranquil as if it was getting ready for the dawn of a new day. The young man looked at his pocket watch and smiled at the time. The hands on the clock didn't move, stuck on the last moment that Hatter had been in the real world. The key dangled around his neck, twinkling in the last few moments of the newly birthed light, before the world became completely eclipsed in its warmth and tenderness.

He marched towards the door with anticipation and hope. If one worries over everything, then the world around them becomes twisted and dark.

As the door appeared to move towards the man, the world around him began to unhinge and dissolve itself into a state he had already imagined. A world of his creation which he knew to be true. He smiled and opened his arms to it, ready to accept the outcome which that had already been decided upon.



RRABBIT

IV

RABBIT

He stood still and glared at the door, his foot tapping against the path on which he stood. Was it eagerness? Was it annoyance? It was difficult to tell at this point. He pulled out a small spoon from his pocket, a dish from his coat, and a cup from his rucksack. He gripped the plate firmly, after placing the cup daintily on top of it.

Despite his earlier frustration, he seemed to show excessive care when it came to the art of tea making. The cup began to fill up with a brown coloured liquid. Two leaves fell from a nearby tree, twisting themselves into small green cubes that dissolved in the liquid and created the brew.

The tea started to dissolve out of his cup as if it was never there in the first place. Rabbit's bottom lip quivered as his concept of heaven had vanished from his grasp yet again. In its place was a small brown key that laid at the bottom of the empty tea cup. Naturally the young being put two and two together and assumed that the key would fit in the door that was in front of

him. He stepped forward, with the idea of making another cup of tea firmly planted within his head.



**CHESHIRE
CAT**

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