

Lost and Afraid

Grade	<u>7th</u>
Fiction	<u>✓</u>
Poetry	<u> </u>
Nonfiction	<u> </u>

Chapter 1, The Scaring

Some things can harm, some things can fix, but what happened to me was unbelievable and scary. One very rainy night I went on a car ride with my mom and my sister.

We decided to go on this very long and busy road and of course, I didn't have my seatbelt on. It's like it was destined to happen. Let me tell you about my history and who I am. Hello, my name is Haily and I'm the tough girl at school that is mean to a lot of people. But remember karma always finds its way back to you.

Anyways, you may ask why we were driving because literally, no one would drive at that time but we were in desperate need for ice cream and there was this 24-hour open ice cream shop that had just opened up. We made it there but something didn't feel right. There was this man with a mask and black clothes on and I asked my sister, "Do you see him or is it just me, it's the man in black clothes over there." "Are you crazy! No one is here." My sister responded. I felt my heart skip one beat, two beats, and then three. I stopped breathing because I was so scared. But when someone opened the door to come in he had vanished.

When we finally got our ice cream we were headed home on the slick roads. There were barely any cars there. Suddenly my life flashed before me when this car came out of nowhere and crashed into us. It was like I fainted but somehow I still saw what was going on. My sister was through the windshield, and my mom's head was in an airbag. They were both breathing so I knew they were ok. And I couldn't find my body. I got out of the car and saw me on the road. The people who crashed into us called the ambulance.

When the ambulance arrived he picked us all up one by one and escorted us to the ER. The truck left without me but my body was still in there. I was very cold and weak. I started to walk the same way as the truck went so I could maybe catch up. When we were getting ice cream we had to travel for some reason so it was going to be a long way.

I walked past the tall trees, the pokey bushes and with the wild animals. Everything looked so innocent but I knew that everything was the opposite of innocent. I was halfway to the place we lived and my legs gave out on me. Then I saw my lord and savior. A bus bench. I sat down and waited because I couldn't walk anymore. I remembered the place they would drop me off in my town. And it was close to the hospital.

Soon enough the bus got there and I got on. There were 2 people there and they oddly looked familiar. I sat in the front of the bus and waited. The ride was very awkward and confusing. I was trying to rap everything around in my head but I couldn't.

Chapter 2, The destination

When the bus dropped me off I went straight to the hospital and found my mom and sister. It wasn't crowded like usual which was very helpful. My sister and my mom didn't have any bad conditions but then I looked at me and I was hooked up to multiple machines. I had some burns from the road, glass in my body. My sister and my mom were crying for me and it broke my heart more than it was.

Sometimes bad things happen and you can't do anything about it which is the part that sucks. I then started to think about all of the bad things I have done and I knew why this happened. I've told people things that I don't want to bring up because I'm not very proud of it. I stood there shaking looking at my body. The doctor then came to tell my mom and my sister the news and all I heard was "She is in a-" I didn't hear the rest because a crew came running by with a body in a roller is what I call it.

I got into the room with my body in it and started to cry. I didn't know what to do to go back. I lied in the exact position that my body was in and I came to life. My mom and sister were in the room and I said quietly, "If anything happens, I love you both so much." I then went back to being a ghost I guess. They called for a doctor but it was too late. I was already sleeping again.

When people love you they tend to care about you and want you to stay alive. But that is the hard part because we all know that we are going to die sometime in life. When I saw my tiny family crying, sobbing over me I got sad. I couldn't take it anymore. I walked out of the building and sat on the sidewalk. No one saw me, no one could touch me, I was invisible. It seems like something cool to have but it sucks knowing that you might die. Suddently this little girl, a toddler that wasn't a ghost, saw me. I didn't think I was ever going to be so happy that someone saw me before.

"Hello! I'm Emma and I'm looking for a friend. She said with no fear. The name sounded familiar and she looked like someone I have bullied before. I stood up saying "Sure." She took me home which was right behind the hospital. "What's your name?" She asked.

"Haily, Haily Baker." I said.

"Wow I wish i had that name, it sounds so pretty."

I looked around and asked, "Do you have any food?"

"Yes go into the kitchen and it should be a drawer that says snacks go help yourself."

When I got back to her room with food I said, "I need to go and check on my family." She nodded her head and I was on my way to the hospital. I came back when there were a lot of people around but luckily I was invisible so I could just slide through.

When I got to my room my mom and my sister were sitting there anxious for a test that I didn't know was going on. I sat there on the same seat as my mom and hygge her. She jumped feeling my presence. "Haylie?" She said, sounding confused. I picked up a marker from a whiteboard in the room and spelled yeah. My sister and my mom stood there shook and I started to laugh. Ok I know it's bad to laugh but you should have seen the look on their faces. They were speechless and I went over to my sister and hugged her and she hugged back.

I suddenly woke up in my body afraid and feeling sore. I was hooked up to machines. Feeling like I want to die because of the pain and the thoughts of how bad of a person I am. I then smiled because my life might be somewhat normal again.

"She's awake!" The doctor yelled.

"Oh my baby!" My mom said walking into the room.

"Ughh" Is all I could say. The doctor was explaining some of the injuries that I faced and said something that would change my life.

"I have some bad news, in order to save you, we had to take your legs but the good news is you are alive."

I looked down and I had no legs. I had hoped it was just a dream but of course it wasn't. I broke down in tears and hoped I would figure out how to live with myself. I had to stay the night but my sister and my mom went home to sleep in their beds, luckys. When I was alone I started to sob because I didn't want to be with them and let them see me crying. I thought about how I take my anger out on people and I didn't want to do that to them but I can't help it and they know that.

Chapter 3, Home sweet home

They sent me home with a wheelchair and some medicine just in case I was in pain. When we got home I went straight for my bedroom, but there was only one problem, it was up the stairs. "Mom can you come help me up the stairs?" I asked. She came and helped me up so I went into my room and locked the door.

I was useless at this point. I can't eat by myself, i can't go to my room without help and most of all I can barely go to the bathroom. I guess it was something I needed to get used to. It's ok I don't need legs... That's what I kept on telling myself. What is going to happen when I go to school? Are people going to be the ones making fun of me? Am I going to get more karma? Honestly I didn't want to go back to school. It's so boring and I don't have legs. There was something that I thought of though. Since that pandemic hit I can do online so they will only see the top half of my body. I texted my mom to come to my room and was ready to ask her. She came eventually and I asked, "Hey can I do online school?"

"Sure whatever makes you happy." She responded.

My mom didn't really care about my grades, she only cared about my health and my safety and said I can live with her as long as she lives and I don't know what I want to do with my life. I mean look at me I

can't do anything. I can't do sports which is something I want to do now because I have been studying sports recently and most of all I can't get a job.

My mom came into my room to have a talk with me.

"Hey, how are you feeling?" She asked.

"I'm alright, don't you think i'm useless now? Like I can't get a job, I can't do sports, I can't do anything at this point." I said, raising my voice.

"Well you can do it, you just don't know that you have the ability." She said.

"Easy for you to say, you have legs." I said turning the other way in my bed.

It was the weekend when this happened thank the lord and on Sunday I started to think about how my life was never getting back to normal. I know that sometimes people say to get used to it, and you will get used to it and it just takes time. I don't want it to take time though because I want to do some sports but I can't with no legs. Literally all sports include running and I don't like it. I can try to get used to running in my arms. But I don't have very much arm muscle and I couldn't even run when I had legs. I normally rode the bus before I lost my legs but my sister was always there to help me. So was my mom but she was usually at work so I counted on my sister. She went online with me so I wouldn't have to be alone which meant a lot to me so I wasn't alone. She would try to cheer me up but most of the time it didn't work because of my insecurities kicking in.

It was finally monday and I was miserable because online school was so boring so I decided to not go to school and just watch T.V all day because I was so

smart. Some teachers say that I am too smart for school. But I disagree with them knowing it was true tho so I didn't go to school.

It was tuesday, i did the same thing over and over again and my mom didn't care because she knew that I knew like college math and I was in JRhigh all the time. People are judgey, you do something wrong, you get judged, you do something cool, people are jealous of you and if you are too nice people don't like you. You just can't win I guess. I could barely fit in before, emagine what I have to go back to school for. I bet the people I was laughing at will laugh at me. But the people I hang out with are not the greatest. We are known as the bad kids of the school. You know the one group that skips school and does all of the bad stuff that you can do. I want to change. I don't want to be popular because of how mean I am, I want to be known for doing sports and being nice to people. But my reputation was already set.

"How do you change your reputation?" I searched up on google. One thing came up and it was a video.

"Hello it's Kara here and i'm going to do a video on how to change your reputation. First if you are the mean person at school, make someone's day by bringing them chocolates, flowers or something that they like. You can start to make some apologies to the people you were mean to, then try to make as many friends as you can. But if someone doesn't want to be your friend don't flip out on them just simply say, "oh ok I get it." And that is how you can change your reputation. Now I couldn't do any of this because I was online and I couldn't see people in person at the moment.

Sometimes all you need to do is email them because I refuse to go to school like this. I started with one

person after another and eventually I emailed everyone in the school.

Chapter 4, The Excitement

My mom came home very happy that day, "Why are you so happy, you're never happy after work?"

"The doctor called and they can give you these lags that are sort of robotic looking but the most out of it is you will have legs!" She said with a smile that warmed my heart.

The next day we got to the doctors and they pulled out these legs that looked almost real. I put the socks on and put a leg on. It felt so weird and cool at the same time. I put the other one on and tried to stand. I got frustrated because I couldn't stand for a little until my mom said, "Be patient! It is going to take some time to get used to these."

"Mom, do we get to keep these?" I asked.

The doctor said, "They are totally free, we all get what you are going through and we would like to offer the legs for free."

My face lit up like a Christmas tree but brighter. The doctor held my hand as I stood up in the legs. I had some tears of joy and so did my mom. But that night I couldn't stop thinking about the crash and the little girl. Was it just a dream? I remember very little because my brain has been so busy with thoughts that I could barely keep up with them.

The crash was cold, dark, and filled with fear. It keeps on replaying in my head and I didn't get why. If it was something that I want to forget why, why does it keep on popping up in my head? I tried to do the math but my brain was not agreeing with me at the moment. It was friday thank the lords, the weekend will give me some time to get used to the legs I got. I worked my butt off because all I wanted at this point was to be happy and normal again. Of course I wasn't happy before but I might be if I'm better to people who are good to me. I may look and act tough but half of the time I'm sad, lonely and afraid on the inside.

Something that I say in my head all of the time is, fake it till you make it and I don't know if I can make it like this anymore. I don't want to be the mean girl in the school. I'll let this wannabe girl named Emma be that for me. I don't like that girl. She was my friend for a while in kindergarten until I found out that she was copying me in first grade. I tried to tell her to stop copying me but she wouldn't listen to me. I started to get super mad at her and eventually things escalated very fastly. We got into a fight and now we aren't friends anymore. She said some pretty mean things to me so I don't want to bring it up.

Anyways there are some good people in my life that I didn't know were there because I was too busy with being a popular kid. Her name is Sasha. She is so nice to me and I really do not deserve her. But then again

I don't deserve anyone who was nice to me when I was mean to them. I had to make things right.

Chapter, 5 Back to School

The next day was monday and the whole school looked dead. Everyone was so tired and worn out from the weekend partying, and I was just the happy one there. Sometimes I just put some headphones in and listen to music to get through the day calling people bad names if they tried to talk to me but now my plan is to make people's day better. I walked up to this girl with a black hood on and baggy sweatpants on.

"Hello," I said in a happy voice.

"Oh I'm sorry was I in your way?" She asked, sounding scared to death of me.

"No I would just like to apologize for what I have done and I am fixing my emotions and my reputation." I said.

"Oh well if you want to be friends with me you know where to find me." She said with a sigh of relief

I was in the middle of making someone's day better than the demon walked up to me, aka Emma. She looked at me confused because dressed differently like in sunflowers and light jeans. She was mad and shocked.

"Hey, who do you think you are? You're supposed to make this a competition!" She said with a rude tone.

"Well unlike some people I want to act nice and confident rather than copy someone else." I said back with a nice voice.

She then stormed off and it honestly made my day that she was mad at me.

It reached lunch and I went back to the girl in the sweat pants and the hoodie because I needed to have someone to eat lunch with. I walked up to her and said, "Hey do you want to eat lunch together?"

She agreed to have some lunch with me so we sat at the lunch table, but there was one problem. She didn't have lunch.

"Hey, why don't you have lunch?" I asked.

She held her stomach saying, "My mom can't afford it."

"Well I have some money if you want to go buy a school lunch." I offered.

"Really? You would do that for me?" She asked.

"Sure, anything because you were forgiving for me and you're helping me change how people see me." I said.

I walked up to the lunch ladies and bought lunch. It was only like five dollars. It was pizza that day so that was why. I came back to a big smile on her face. I gave her the food and then Emma walked up to me with a group of people.

"Hey loser, you're finally being nice to people? I bet you only gave up my style because you got too jealous." Emma said with a rude tone of voice.

"Umm no I was actually the first one to wear those clothes so technically that was my style. But no i'm not jealous i'm just letting you have it like a nice person would. I said back in a regular tone.

"Fine I didn't want to have to do this but me and my group want to fight you." Emma said, looking confident.

"Ok try me." I said back.

The first person to take the hit was this bald dude, he tried to punch my face but I blocked it by grabbing his wrist and making him punch himself. Then it was this really weird girl with a mohawk. She was super easy to take out. The rest of the group ran away as I walked towards Emma. She looked scared for her life. I pushed her and said, "Don't you ever bring up the past again because I will not hesitate to bring you down. Next time you try to make me feel bad about myself try to look at the type of person you are."

She then ran off somewhere crying as I sat back down next to my friend. She looked surprised for some reason because I can be nice but also threatening. The principal then called me to the office.

Chapter 6, The Consequences

I walked into the office and sat Emma in the nurse acting like she got really hurt. I know this sounds bad but I really want her to move somewhere else or like die. Sometimes you can't be your boss though or you can't be tough because either way you will get some consequences. Your confident people try to break you down, you're happy, you're weird, if you aren't confident you're a loser. You just can't win can you. "You know why I called you down here right?" he said. "Yes I do and I think you need to check the cameras because that was not my doing." I said walking off into the distance. I went to my friends house and had a sleepover. It was the best day of my life.
To be continued...