

The Brink

Complete darkness had swallowed every particle of air in the historic theater. Raising his hand up in front of his face Jeremy Cartwright knew it was there but had no visual evidence. Upon his shoulder from behind in close proximity a different unfamiliar hand lightly landed. Cold chills raced down his spine. His body vibrated slightly. Whispering into his ear a voice offered encouragement.

"Not so bad. Believe me, I have seen worse. The one before you, well, I'll put it this way. Custodial services had to be called. Streaming in a way nobody likes to see." Initially caught off guard Jeremy steadied himself. There was a comforting relaxing feeling provided by the presence of someone else. In an instant his reprieve sped away as the unknown stranger spoke again.

"Almost time." An outline had been provided but still he knew very little. What were the odds? Better than when an historic first ever signee began and went on the exploratory trip five years ago but a lingering reality was to a degree haunting. No one had ever went the distance and returned. Off his shoulder flew the hand as a spotlight appeared in front of his feet.

Like a guiding light it moved forward the length of a step that was to be taken. "On you go." Turning his head no one was to be seen. There was only the voice to be heard. "Once you place your name on the contract there's no turning back. Until then the choice is yours. Risk - Reward. Is it worth the chance? That's the question only you can answer." A nudge sent Jeremy one step forward.

After ten strides a wooden chair appeared. Ruffling of papers broke through the air from below the stage. At the end of the pinpointing of the desired document an instruction was directed. "Please have a seat Jeremy. Welcome to Hello From The Other Side." From above a contract was lowered. Out of the clasps attached to it Jeremy removed the agreement. His time of reckoning had arrived.

