

I
am
Yours.

I am Yours.

The “beta test”.

How to use this book.

If there is no page number in (), continue to the next page.

The objects can be “viewed” in any order.

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Preface

When I was a kid, I remember reading “choose your own adventure books, but as I grew older, sport, video games and eventually travelling became more prominent.

As time has gone on and, as a consumer, I am headed towards a more and more digital dominated world, physical media remains a constant yet increasingly distant dream. While the convenience of digital is apparent as it is disconcerting, the irony that this very book was initially created on an electronic device both highlights my apprehension and justifies its necessity. I processed 35mm negatives and prints in a dark room. I want to hang album artwork on my wall and listen to the crackles of vinyl. I enjoy the process of mixing and sweeping paint across a canvas as well as making a mess and the cleaning up afterwards.

As reliant as I have become on technology, I hope to never abandon the desire to use physical, tangible means to write or paint. My brain is a spaghetti junction of random thoughts and ideas, and I get them down as soon as I can, using whatever is available.

I love carrying a notebook. I love the process of writing, scribbling it out after thinking of something better... maybe!

I guess, ultimately, the notion that my thoughts written down in a book could itself become an object of subjective value is what this story is about. Possessions and their memories grow or shrink with time, people or, indeed, technology. everything fights for its justification of existence. The fear of becoming obsolete is as real for humans as it is for any object they hold in their hand, deciding whether to keep it or not.

“The things you own, end up owning you.”

I am Yours.

A room full of memories...

Each one fighting for survival.

open door

Go to window (10)

Go to shelf (11)

Go to desk (36)

Go to box (156)

Go to wardrobe (165)

Boxes piled high
Everywhere I look.

A new beginning, with nothing but the past for
company.

Pick up watch (12)

Pick up glasses (19)

Pick up whiskey bottle (24)

Back to room (9)

The shelf

I am a watch.

I have stopped.

I was working perfectly,
and you stopped me.

I don't understand.

I am a watch.

I have stopped.

I was working perfectly,
and you stopped me.

I don't understand.

I had to.

Now, I have no purpose.

Now, I have no purpose.

But I still need you around.

The watch

Then I am here for you.

Just of no use.

You were a gift from a
'Friend' I wasn't supposed to have.

Doesn't mean I stopped thinking
about you.

(11)

I am glasses

You never wear.

The glasses

I am glasses

You never wear.

I can see just fine.

The glasses

But you lack focus.

Especially from a distance.

Confronting something when it is too
late.

But you lack focus.

Especially from a distance.

Confronting something when it is too
late.

I don't need the lecture.

The glasses

Ironic.

(11)

I am a whiskey bottle.

You've kept me for ten years.

I am a whiskey bottle.

You've kept me for ten years.

Why? (26)

Not interested (30)

The whiskey bottle

(Why?)

There was an... accident.

A terrible day.

The room shook.

Everyone stopped.

There was an... accident.

A terrible day.

The room shook.

Everyone stopped.

I don't remember (34)

Tell me more (28)

The whiskey bottle

(Tell me more)

You were surrounded by strangers.

Scared and alone.

I don't think so.

(32)

(Not interested)

You have forgotten.

It's okay to be scared sometimes.

Go talk to your wife. She will tell you what
happened.

Put down whiskey bottle. (11)

The whiskey bottle

(I don't think so)

Go talk to your wife.

She will tell you what happened.

Even if you won't tell me.

Go talk to your wife.

She will tell you what happened.

Even if you won't tell me.

Put down whiskey bottle.

(11)

(I don't remember)

I think you do.

It's not easy to admit you're scared, but
everything's ok.

I'm empty for a reason.

I think you do.

It's not easy to admit you're scared, but
everything's ok.

I'm empty for a reason.

Stop fishing for a story.

(23)

Pick up notebook (37)

Pick up calendar (54)

Pick up figurine (63)

Pick up toy (73)

Open drawer (

Back to room (9)

The desk

I am a notebook.

You started writing a novel that you will never
finish.

I am a notebook.

You started writing a novel that you will never
finish.

What makes *you* so sure?

Your actions speak louder than your words.

Your actions speak louder than your words.

Maybe, but what about the
“blind eyes” and the “deaf ears”?

You always did lack that extra... something to
make you...

You always did lack that extra... something to
make you...

Put down notebook

Are you leaving me again?

Are you leaving me again?

You were only a distraction
anyway.

A fantasy.
A daydream.
A...

Cry for help...

“Self deprecation is a safety net
for failure”.

If you have something to say, and you actually mean it, then say it.

No more excuses.

Not today, but your chance will come.

“Self deprecation is a safety net for failure”.

The right

(52)

or

(53)

Will listen.

The right

person

Will listen.

Put down notebook.

(36)

The right

people

Will listen.

Put down notebook.

(36)

...

...

You don't want to talk?

No point.

You only keep me because your wife won't let you throw me out.

You don't want me.

I remind you of the past.

You don't want me.

I remind you of the past.

Everything in here does!

Is that supposed to make me feel better?

Going nowhere as fast as I possibly can.

That is me.

You were full of excitement, and now,

I'm just waiting for the inevitable.

I miss you.

I miss you.

Put down calendar.

(36)

“A figurine with no limbs.

Carried every day, worn down to the bone.

A gift from a love seldom seen”.

“A figurine with no limbs.

Carried every day, worn down to the bone.

A gift from a love seldom seen”.

You write *poetry*?!

The figurine

You're talking to a broken piece of plastic.

I can say whatever you want me to say.

You're talking to a broken piece of plastic.

I can say whatever you want me to say.

I'm not a child anymore.

I don't play with toys.

I don't have time for games.

It's about having imagination.

Creativity.

You used to make things.

Paint. Draw. Write.

It's about having imagination.

Creativity.

You used to make things.

Paint. Draw. Write.

I don't have time.

Make time.

And do me a favor.

Make time.

And do me a favor.

And what would that be?

The figurine

Spend time with your son.

Put down figurine.

(36)

The figurine

I am a toy you started making for your son before he was born,

but I'm half finished...

I am a toy you started making for your son before he was born,

but I'm half finished...

(Mumbling)

The toy

One day, you should try and finish me.

One day, you should try and finish me.

What's the point now?

No one could tell what you were
anyway.

Neither trying to justify your actions
nor expecting anyone to understand
will change anything.

Neither trying to justify your actions
nor expecting anyone to understand
will change anything.

...

The petty insults are your
coping mechanism.

The petty insults are your
coping mechanism.

You don't know me.
I made *you*.

And what does that tell you?

And what does that tell you?

Enough.

Put down toy. (36)

The toy

Pick up train ticket (84)

Pick up letter (103)

Pick up plane ticket (113)

Pick up pen (128)

Pick up business cards (132)

Back to desk (36)

Back to room (9)

The drawer

I am a train ticket you kept.

I am a train ticket you kept.

I can see that.

I use the train every day.

What makes you so special?

T

Because,
on this day,
you made a difference.

At least
you thought you did.

Because,
on this day,
you made a difference.

At least
you thought you did.

Continue. (88)

The past is the past. (90)

(Continue)

Running for the train.

A young girl in front of you.

Running for the train.

A young girl in front of you.

Go on. (92)

I don't want to hear the rest of
this. (97)

The train ticket

(The past is the past.)

Don't forget that there was...

Is...

Some good still in you .

Don't forget that there was...

Is...

Some good still in you .

Okay.

Put down train ticket

(83)

(Go on.)

She tripped and fell.
Her leg was in the closing doors.

You ran...

She tripped and fell.

Her leg was in the closing doors.

You ran...

Did I make it in time? (94)

I don't want to hear the rest of
this. (97)

(Did I make it in time?)

You blocked the doors.

Everyone stared.

You didn't take that train.

You waited for the next one.

You blocked the doors.

Everyone stared.

You didn't take that train.

You waited for the next one.

She turned away.

(She turned away.)

After you did.

Looking down at the floor.

Maybe she was embarrassed.

You

saved her life. (99)

delayed a train full of people. (102)

(I don't want to hear the rest of
this.)

That's okay.

I understand.

That's okay.

I understand.

No you don't.

Put down train ticket.

(83)

(You saved her life.)

No, I didn't. Trying to be a hero?
There was no need to do that.

The days merge into each other.
I've moved on.

No, I didn't. Trying to be a hero?
There was no need to do that.

But you haven't.

The days merge into each other.
I've moved on.

But you haven't.

...

(83)

(You delayed a train full of people.)

And not even a thank you...

(83)

Open letter.

“You’re the best teacher...”

“You’re the best teacher...

... my son ever had.”

“You’re the best teacher...

... my son ever had.”

Read another letter (107)

Back (83)

The letter

“I’m lost and alone now.”

“I’m lost and alone now.”

“I’ve lost my prince...”

“I’m lost and alone now.”

“I’ve lost my prince...”

I had to...

It was easy to leave.
Hard to say goodbye.

We know.

We know.

(83)

I am a plane ticket...

Look...

I don't want to talk about it.

The plane ticket

I am a plane ticket...

Look...

I don't want to talk about it.

But you should.

You have to.

The plane ticket

You can read.

If you can't remember,

Then...

You can read.

If you can't remember,

Then...

I remember just fine.

The plane ticket

Then you don't need me to tell you.

Then you don't need me to tell you.

She was sick.

The plane ticket

You don't need to justify anything

to me.

You don't need to justify anything

to me.

I got the first
flight home I could.

The plane ticket

I was too...

(121) or (155) or (186) or (216)

The plane ticket

You were sick too.

She knew.

You were sick too.

She knew.

Just stop.

It doesn't change a thing.

Guilt is retrospective,
but these things happen
for a reason.

Not saying “hello” every day is...

Was more damaging than being able
to say “goodbye”

once.

Put down plane ticket. (83)

The plane ticket

She wouldn't have said
anything anyway.

She had the rest of the
family with her.

Put down plane ticket

(83)

The plane ticket

I...

We are two pens.

Your

hero

used

one

of

us

to

sign

his

autograph.

But you don't know which one
of us it was. We can't be apart.

I...

We are two pens.

Your

hero

used

one

of

us

to

sign

his

autograph.

But you don't know which one

of us it was. We can't be apart.

I'm done with this.

Just
keep
us
in
here.

We
will
keep
each
other
safe.

Just
keep
us
in
here.

We
will
keep
each
other
safe.

Fine.

(83)

I
am
a
stack
of business cards.

One or two are yours.

I
am
a
stack
of business cards.

One or two are yours.

I hate introductions.

But
they
did
make
you
feel important.

But
they
did
make
you
feel important.

False idols.

Disposable heroes.

You've
left
that life behind.

I understand that.

You've
left
that life behind.

I understand that.

Because it wasn't "me".

Why not?

Why not?

(140)

or

(142)

The business cards

(Truth)

A thick piece of paper
with my name on it
to try and convince
someone I'm worth their
time.

Really?

(143)

A thick piece of paper
with my name on it
to try and convince
someone I'm worth their
time.

(Lie)

I got bored with the
superficiality of it.

(83)

(Really?)

No one was interested in me
until they found out who I
worked for.

Guess what?

It made your life better? (145)

You still can't let go? (147)

No one was interested in me
until they found out who I
worked for.

Guess what?

(It made your life better?)

I think so.

Eventually.

Somehow.

I learnt a lot.

About?

pressure (149)

people (154)

I think so.

Eventually.

Somehow.

I learnt a lot.

(You still can't let go)

No, I can't.

Why not?

(150)

No, I can't.

(pressure)

My family needs me...

Healthy.

(83)

(Why not?)

“Be friendly, just don’t
make friends”. There’s
not one of them I’d go
for a drink with.

You don't think that.

“Be friendly, just don't make friends”. There's not one of them I'd go for a drink with.

You're a different person now

than you were then.

But you won't remember.

You're a different person now

than you were then.

But you won't remember.

I don't want to remember.

(83)

(people)

Sychophants.

An echo chamber of self
Righteousness and narcissism,
fuelled by the ambition of the
weak.

I should never have
even wanted a chance.

(83)

(Too)

Busy.

(126)

Pick up Camera.

I am your first camera.

You...

You used me.

I am your first camera.

You...

You used me.

But I kept you.

The camera

I helped you
launch your career.

The images you took with me...

The journeys we went on together...

You used the money to replace me.

The camera

I helped you
launch your career.

The images you took with me...

The journeys we went on together...

You used the money to replace me.

Don't be like that.

The camera

But you have
to know...

How I feel.

But you have
to know...

How I feel.

I'd be nowhere
without you.

The camera

Our time
is up.

Our time
is up.

But...
(9)

The camera

Pick up black tie (166)

Pick up shoe (184)

Pick up bandana (204)

Back to room (9)

The wardrobe

I
am
a
black
tie.
The
cheapest
you
could
find.

I
am
a
black
tie.
The
cheapest
you
could
find.

I don't wear ties if I can help it.
(168)

What have I used you for? (172)

(I don't wear ties if I can help it.)

I
know
you
don't.

I
know
you
don't.

Then why are you still here?

Because

you

need

me,

but

you

don't

want

me.

Because

you

need

me,

but

you

don't

want

me.

I've heard that before.

(165)

(What have I used you for?)

Formalities.

Inevitabilities.

Formalities.

Inevitabilities.

Such as?

A
funeral.

you
will
only
ever
use
me
for
funerals.

A
funeral.

you
will
only
ever
use
me
for
funerals.

So I need you,
but I never
want to see you?

That's me.

Such a

nice

way

to exist.

To be the

one thing

someone

needs but

never wants

To have

around.

Do you know what that's like?

Such a
nice
way
to exist.
To be the
one thing
someone
needs but
never wants
To have
around.

Do you know what that's like?

I have a fair idea. (178)

No, I'm sorry, I don't. (182)

(I have a fair idea).

I

know.

The

pressure

you've

been

under.

Sometimes

you need to let

off steam.

You've

always

been

a lone wolf.

I
know.
The
pressure
you've
been
under.
Sometimes
you need to let
off steam.
You've
always
been
a lone wolf.

I'm sorry.

Hey.
Think
nothing
of it. I
know
my place.
I'm like
you.

Hey.
Think
nothing
of it. I
know
my place.
I'm like
you.

Put away black tie.

(165)

(No, I'm sorry, I don't.)

That's

Ok.

Best

to

leave

it

then.

That's

Ok.

Best

to

leave

it

then.

Put away black tie.

(165)

I am a shoe.

I am a shoe.

Why only one?
(187)

(Too)

Scared.

(127)

Why would you keep

only one of us?

Why would you keep

only one of us?

I asked YOU the question!

What use is only
one of us?

That's stupid,
not sentimental.

What use is only
one of us?

That's stupid,
not sentimental.

(READ)

*“I lost my
other half to...”*

*“I lost my
other half to...”*

The ink has
faded. I can't
quite make out what it says.

The shoe

Look.

Let me make this easy

For you.

I lost my partner.

My best friend.

I am of no use to you now.

Just throw me away.

Look.

Let me make this easy

For you.

I lost my partner.

My best friend.

I am of no use to you now.

Just throw me away.

I must have kept you
for a reason. (195)

Fair enough. (199)

(I must have kept you for a
reason.)

You did.

A selfish one.

By not saving both of us,

I am a momento

of a rare great night.

I sit in the dark

missing the only real friend

I had.

You did.

A selfish one.

By not saving both of us,

I am a momento

of a rare great night.

I sit in the dark

missing the only real friend

I had.

These things happen. (197)

This is ridiculous, you're just a
shoe! (201)

The shoe

(These things happen.)

So now, I'm just a victim
of
circumstance.

Put down shoe.

(165)

(Fair enough.)

Dismissive.

I'm not surprised.

Why did I bother.

Put down shoe.

(165)

(You're just a shoe!)

Not only did you lose

my only friend,

you took away my only purpose.

Not only did you lose

my only friend,

you took away my only purpose.

Then, I guess we both
have to deal with
being alone.

You're a monster.

(165)

The shoe

I'm a bandana

you used to wear.

I'm a bandana

you used to wear.

“Used to”?

The bandana

I hid your scars
from colleagues
and the outside.

But they all knew.

I hid your scars
from colleagues
and the outside.

But they all knew.

Well, “play with fire”...

Indeed.

To some, it was an excuse
not to talk to you.

To others, a chance
to prove their worth.

Indeed.

To some, it was an excuse
not to talk to you.

To others, a chance
to prove their worth.

I just wanted to be treated
like normal. (210)

“Be friendly, don’t make
friends”. (214)

(I just wanted to be treated like
normal.)

It was what you were chosen to do.

People don't know how to react to this.

There's no such thing as "normal".

Everyone survives their own traumas, with or without being
noticed.

You're doing great.

It was what you were chosen to do.

People don't know how to react to this.

There's no such thing as "normal".

Everyone survives their own traumas, with or without being noticed.

You're doing great.

Thanks.

No problem.

Put down bandana.

(165)

(Be friendly, don't make
friends.)

For their benefit,

or yours?

For their benefit,

or yours?

Whoever. (217)

Me. (223)

Them. (225)

(Too)

Late.

(124)

(Whoever.)

People have no idea

what's going on in your life,

nor you in theirs.

People have no idea

what's going on in your life,

nor you in theirs.

True. (227)

Enough with the advice. (219)

(Enough with the advice.)

I'm here

whenever you need me.

I'm here

whenever you need me.

I don't need you anymore. (221)

Thanks. (165)

(I don't need you anymore.)

I understand.

The bandana

Put down bandana. (165)

(Me.)

Okay,

if that's honestly

what you think.

Put down bandana. (165)

(Them.)

“You talk a lot

but don’t say

very much”.

Those words still haunt you,
right?

Put down bandana. (165)

(True.)

There's nothing wrong with
talking.

There's nothing wrong with
talking.

I do talk. (229)

I don't want to talk. (231)

(I do talk.)

Maybe,
but not to the people that will
listen.

Maybe,
but not to the people that will
listen.

Enough with the advice. (165)

(I don't want to talk.)

You feel like a burden.

It's understandable.

Just because it has gone
on the outside,

doesn't mean it disappears.

You feel like a burden.

It's understandable.

Just because it has gone
on the outside,

doesn't mean it disappears.

I'm fine.

I am here
whenever
you need me.

Thanks. (165)

LEAVE

or

Back to room

(9)

The car is waiting.

The car

The car is waiting.

What for?

The car

Don't do this.

We agreed.

It's for the best.

The car

Don't do this.

We agreed.

It's for the best.

Get in car. (240)

One last question. (243)

The car

(Get in car.)

You'll come and see me, right?

SHUT CAR DOOR

(246)

...

(One last question.)

Did I ever

love you?

Maybe. (245)

I don't think so. (247)

Did I ever

love you?

The car

(Maybe.)

Then I am yours.

The car

TURN AROUND

(248)

(I don't think so.)

That's a shame.

The car

GO BACK INSIDE

The

End.

Epilogue.

“The road north, through Truth and Consequences.

My creation is a beast beyond my control.

My legacy entangled by means and ends.”

“My obsession is with responsibility.

With guilt.

With my Little Boy.”

Acknowledgements

This project would not have been possible without the support of all my friends and family. Maybe without even knowing it, you've motivated, guided and inspired me during a very emotional time.

Finally, I have to give special thanks to:

YOU!

Thank you so much for trying this out. Your support and feedback mean the world to me.

In loving memory of Jean, Tomoko and Rick.

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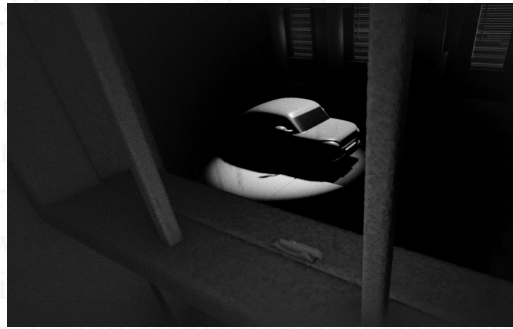
To be continued...

"Much better than I expected".

"Moving".

"Super neat".

"Genius".



I am Yours.

An intimate tale about letting go.

**Embarking on possibly his last journey,
an old man packs the possessions that made him
who (or what) he became.**

It's time for them to tell their sides of the story.