## **Left Behind**

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He woke up to the sound of his alarm. The sunlight streaming through his bedroom window seemed almost blue and a bit pale. As he sat up, he could feel his now tousled longer hair gently caressing his drool covered chin. In a daze, he slowly got up and walked into the bathroom. Looking in the mirror, he saw an unknown face staring back at him. She was the same height as he was, with the same-colored eyes and, albeit longer, hair. Still sleepy, he did not realize what was going on until he looked down and realized that his t-shirt was fitting him differently than before. With a high-pitched yelp, she looked back into the mirror, almost pressing her nose into the glass to see what had happened. She quickly looked back down at herself and soon, there was no mistaking it. He had been transformed.

She sat down on her bed, with her face in her hands and tried to make the panic fade away. Her heart beating a mile a minute, she tried to breathe deep and long but could only manage quick, short bursts. She looked up from her trembling hands and balling up her fists, she began, in a voice alien to her, "A black chair, a pink photo frame, a strip of pills, a Nintendo Switch and a stuffed toy shark." Two deep breaths and she began again, "The carpet beneath my feet, the blanket under my legs, the phone next to me and..." She paused as she felt her now long hair with her fingers, "...my hair." Another deep breath and she said, "The cars going outside, the AC cooling my room and the second alarm because I never wake up on the first one", her voice catching on the last one as her lip started to tremble as well. Getting up off the bed, she walked over to her bathroom and poured out her little cup with mouthwash. "The smell of mouthwash and the lingering scent of my soap from the shower I took last night" she said in a quivering voice before placing the cup back down. She closed her eyes and looked upwards

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as she felt tears streaming down her cheek. Flicking out her tongue to grab a stray tear she said, "A salty little tear" with a smile.

She simply stood there for a while, letting the tears pour down her smiling face. She could feel the still rising sun warming up her toes as she hugged herself, feeling the soft skin with her palm. Fully basking in the realization of what had happened, she just stood there, euphoria washing over her entire being. She took off her clothes with her still shaky hands and stared at her new body, feeling it through. As she continued to admire herself, she started touching her new skin like a child with a new toy. Gone was her old body completely, with the ugly reminders of being born a boy replaced with the body she wanted all along. Giddy with excitement, she walked into the shower and let the hot water run down her body. Her skin felt more sensitive, a bit receptive to the heat of the water yet she enjoyed it.

Finishing up in the bathroom, she walked out with her towel tied around her, much higher than it was yesterday. She opened her closet and rummaged in the back until she found the clothes she had been waiting a long time to wear. She slipped them on and looked at herself in the mirror. A beautiful woman looked back at her wearing a cute summer dress. She twirled in front of the mirror and giggled as she felt the hem spin about her. She walked over to her window and felt the sunlight on her entire body this time. The brilliant gold sunlight shone brighter than it ever did before.