## Invisible

A Story Treatment

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Title: Invisible

The Present Day. Singapore, Day.

A teenage boy with unkempt black hair named Chris, 17 is seen waking up from his bed with a tired look on his face as he hits his alarm clock. He gets dressed in school uniform as he stares at himself in the mirror. He tries to style his hair as he keeps looking at a poster of Luke Skywalker for reference. He ultimately gives up, as more of his room can be seen. There are various posters of TV shows and movies lining his walls, like Doctor Who and Star Trek among others, he also has DVDs lining the shelf. Chris takes his pen from his study desk and points to the mirror like from Doctor Who before pocketing it. As the boy is about to leave, he stares at a picture of his younger self and his parents. He puts it face down on his study desk and he walks out of the room.

Now he is sitting in class, writing down on his notebook. Various students are talking to one another, all except the boy who is alone. He even overhears a group of girls talking about him, saying why even a "weirdo" like him is still allowed in class. He ignores them. The chatter stops as the teacher enters. The teacher begins talking about a new student and invites her in.

The new student enters the classroom as everyone except the boy stares. The student is a she and has long black hair with a smile on her face. She introduces herself as Abigail who is from Australia. The teacher assigns her to sit beside Chris.

Abigail walks over to the now named boy Chris. She sits beside him and greets him politely. Chris doesn't respond and ignores her. Abigail is slightly annoyed and asks him what's his problem. Chris still acts the same way and just brushes her off.

The day continues till the teacher instructs the class to find a person to pair up with for a science research assignment. Chris at first just asks his usual classmates who have partnered up with him before. But, all of them have partnered up with their own friends leaving Chris without a partner. However, he learns from them that Abigail also doesn't have a partner.

He ultimately asks her whether if she wants to partner up with him for the assignment. She agrees happily and Chris just says he plans on finishing it today. So, he arranges to meet up with her after school at the nearby library. Abigail asks him

whether this means that they are friends however Chris coldly states they aren't.

After school with the sun setting, Chris waits for Abigail to arrive. She arrives, running up to him and tries to start up a conversation as they start walking to the library to no avail. However, once they arrive, they find the library to be closed. Chris sighs at this before telling her that they are going to his house instead for the assignment due to it being close by. Abigail still can't get Chris to talk as he responds either short answers or not at all.

They both reach Chris's house. As they enter, Abigail sees the various pictures of him and his parents on the wall. However, when Chris shows her around the house, she catches herself when she is about to ask about his parents.

When they enter Chris's room, Abigail sees for the first time Chris's room. She is enthusiastic about the posters lining the wall, talking about the shows in detail. She also sees the DVDs on his shelf as she is quite amazed at it. She asks Chris whether if it is ok she borrows one of his DVDs. Chris looks at her curiously, not saying a word before he tells her that he allows it. As she cheers about this, Chris gazes at her for a while before turning around and asking her that they start their assignment.

As they work on their assignment, Abigail is talking wildly about how much she loves each of the shows that Chris surrounds himself with. Chris is surprised about this before resuming his usual expression. As he asks her how is she so interested in this, she replies that some specific characters got her hooked which coincidentally Chris also likes. They start talking more with Chris even chuckling at one point getting Abigail to smile.

When Abigail is about to leave, Chris hesitates as he mumbles something before quickly telling her that he is willing to talk with her sometime. As she looks back towards him, she teases him about it for a bit before she smiles and says she doesn't mind, walking with a spring in her step.

After some days later, Abigail and Chris are walking on the way to school. They are having a conversation, with Abigail asking Chris more questions about which shows he is currently watching. Chris is shown to be smiling at Abigail's enthusiasm and answers her politely. Abigail smiles before asking Chris whether he wants to accompany her to go to a classmate's party.

Chris stops in his tracks and is silent about it, not giving her an answer. As Abigail looks at him, she tells Chris that

he should at least give it a try. Chris immediately just coldly asks her to leave him alone for the rest of the day. Abigail is shocked at the declaration, before being sad. Abigail says that Chris should hopefully at least try to open up to others besides her as she cares about his well-being. She then walks away from him, heading towards school by herself.

The whole day Abigail ignores him completely. Even when Chris tries to approach her, she does everything to avoid him. Chris goes back home lying on his bed. He lets out his frustration and anger, then crawls into a ball in the corner. When he stares at the picture on his study desk, he slowly starts to break down and cry. After a while, he composes himself.

On the day of the party, Abigail arrives with uncharacteristically without a smile on her face, looking depressed as she sees everyone having fun. She tells the host that she is going out of the house for a breath of fresh air. However, when she is outside walking on the sidewalk, Chris appears and sees her. He apologizes to her and says he just wants a talk with her, but Abigail still keeps giving him the cold shoulder.

As she is about to walk away, Chris sincerely tells her that he didn't want to go because he "feels like a burden". Abigail gives Chris her attention and tells him that it isn't true. He then tells her if that was the case why would others not care to notice him, not even his own parents. He tells her why he should even try and tells her "no one cares enough about me, even if I was gone".

As Chris looks down at his feet after saying that, Abigail after a brief moment of silence starts talking. She says that she hates living here since everyone looks at her like an alien. That if she had the choice she would "never enter the plane to just be here". This is even harder for her as she "left behind everything that made me, me". Her parents even left her in her aunt's care all the way in Singapore, making her feel "lost". All she wants is to "feel alive" and be free in how she lives her life. She assumed that Chris was going to "leave her behind like everyone else already did", and she wishes she could "let him get out of her head".

Both are silent from their confessions before Abigail says she forgives Chris. Chris asks her whether if she is willing to be friends with him for a long time. She laughs that he asked such a dumb question and smiles, before accepting his offer. They both enter the party and have the time of their lives. They even dance together. Chris also stares at her general direction from time to time if Abigail isn't aware.

However, when the next song is about to play, Abigail checks her phone and she is nervously fidgeting. Chris asks if something is wrong but she tells him that she has something on and runs off without any explanation. Chris tries to grab her hand but she pulls away from him. She leaves him standing at the same spot in shock and in heartbreak, as everyone in the party is happy and joyous except for Chris. Chris slowly leaves the party and just walks with heavy steps back to his house.

On the way back, he sees Abigail's house with all the lights on. He musters up the courage and knocks on her doorstep, wanting some answers from Abigail. But, her aunt opens the door instead. He asks what might be wrong with his friend with a tone of concern. After much persuasion, Chris finds out that she is moving back to her parents as they want to settle down with her. Abigail agreed and is catching a flight in a few days time.

Chris is in shock and Abigail slowly walks out from hiding, seeing him face to face. Before Abigail can speak, Chris cuts her off and asks her when she knew about this. She doesn't respond as Chris's feelings turn into anger and betrayal. He asks her to never see him again and leaves, not noticing Abigail break down in tears.

Couple days pass as Chris returns to school. However, he looks at Abigail's seat which is empty. Chris tries to get rid of his feeling of guilt until he hears a group of girls whispering near him. They talk about what happened to Abigail during the party. They say that it's better off that she left the party since she was always a "weirdo". Chris stares at his bag for a while before picking it up and rushes off, ditching class in the process.

However, he arrives at Abigail's home and knocks on the door to no reply. He drops to the floor, tears on his face. He sees a letter under the door and picks it up. He reads it silently before he stops sobbing and clutches the letter in determination. He calls a cab and asks to be driven to the airport.

Chris arrives and sees Abigail waiting. He tries to speak with her but Abigail is not willing to talk to him. However, Chris says what he has been feeling recently with her around. He ends it by saying "you are my oldest friend and I just want to face the world with you by my side. Could you stay with me forever through thick and thin?".

She smiles with sadness as she says that it took him long enough. Unfortunately, Abigail has to board the plane in a few minutes as her aunt got them plane tickets. She tells him that

no matter how much he wants her to stay, he "can't stop fate from running its course".

She tells him that even though she will not feel homesick anymore, she says that "part of her heart will still be here with you" and that he should "treat this friendship not like it's your last but your first". As she is about to leave, her final words to him are "never forget me and I will never forget you, maybe someday we will see each other again and feel just as happy then like how we are right now".

As he stares at her leaving, Chris screams at her saying he promises. Abigail smiles at him and Chris smiles through his tears. He wipes them away before smiling. He starts walking away towards the opposite direction through the sea of people in the airport with a sense of closure and determination through his firm footsteps.