

## Senior Narrative Synopsis

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Partner: Ben Peterson!

The narrative will start with our main character, an old surly man (let's call him Stevens), walking around the barren wasteland that is a post apocalyptic society. In the distance, we see a vial glowing against the drab and grey forest-ish area. Stevens rushes towards this vial and it is apparent that he is limping or hurting in some way and he needs the vial in order to survive. suddenly, a group of scavengers appear and tackle Stevens, all of them grappling with him to get to the vial. Stevens barely escapes and runs into the forest away from the fight. While he's running through the forest, Stevens sees a glowing vial inside a supposedly abandoned house. Completely overcome with grief, panic, and sheer need for the medicine, he breaks into the house and injects/chugs/administers the drugs to himself. With a sigh of relief Stevens is finally able to feel like himself again. Until he hears a creak from behind and he turns around to see a little girl standing behind him, her mouth agape. The little girl thinks that Stevens is a man that her parents told her that they'd send back for her after they left for an unnamed promise land that Ben and I need to name later. Stevens is confused and still coming to after being deprived of the medicine for so long and doesn't understand what the little girl is saying. The girl is very excited and explaining to Stevens that her parents left to go "around the rock and through the stream, past the cave and they'd find Unnamed Promise Land!" Stevens freezes and stops trying to shake the girl and get out of the house. He has heard tale of the unnamed promise land before and the girl seems convinced that he's here to escort her to the promise land to meet her parents. Since the girl has such a copious supply of medicine left by her parents, Stevens agrees to accompany her on their trek to the Unnamed Promise Land. He's obviously annoyed with her but she won't leave him alone and stop bugging him. On their way to the promise land, they run into small scavengers along the way who Stevens has to defeat with the help of the little girl who is now learning from him. Stevens gives into the girl's insatiable curiosity of the ways of the world (since she was so sheltered) and begrudgingly teaches her how to fend for herself and how to be safe against scavengers and natural disasters. They get to know each other pretty well and are getting pretty close as friends. One night, the little girl is raving about how happy she is that her parents finally sent Stevens to go get her and bring her to the promise land. Stevens, feeling some sort of responsibility for the kid and not wanting to lie to her any more, admits to her that he has no idea who her parents are and if they're even alive. The little girl freaks out and gets sad, cries, maybe she runs away it's not very clear yet. Stevens faces his *abyss moment* and he feels like a terrible person for lying to this girl who has grown to trust him. He and the girl continue on their journey without talking and the little girl doing stubborn toddler behavior. He tries to talk to her and counsel her through her grief and eventually they make up after defeating another round of scavengers. Just as they emerge from that group of scavengers, they see the fog (which was the thing they needed to take medicine to protect themselves against) start to clear and a valley is revealed. Holy crap it's the Unnamed Promise Land. The two of them walk towards it and just as they think they're about to enter it, they get attacked by a final remaining scavenger. Stevens is critically injured by this blow and the little girl fends the scavengers off herself. After the fight is over and the girl won by herself,

Stevens is still left dying. He tells the little girl to take his backpack full of medicine and food and to go to the promise land and find her parents. She is sad and distraught but knows what she has to do and knows that Stevens supplied the skills for her to succeed on her own. Stevens dies and the little girl walks into the promise land with his backpack on her shoulders. End.