

Sugar High Teaser

The trio delved into the basement. Various hallways led to vast storage rooms and chambers of unknown purpose. Several housed rusted machinery with no clear purpose. Finding a wall without spray paint was as challenging as it was for the girls to continue deeper. As they pushed on, Brooke found herself realizing how unprepared she had been for such an excursion.

“Guys...?” she whispered.

Jason was busy shining a light into an open duct. “Hmm?”

“I...have to go.”

“We just got here!”

“N-No, like... *I have to pee.*” Brooke was glad they couldn’t see her beet-red face in the darkness. She wouldn’t have requested such a thing if it weren’t a mounting urgency.

“Oh.” Jason grew quiet. “Well... There are a couple empty rooms down that hall.”

“*Jason!*” Nancy snapped.

“What?? It’s private and we’re alone! It would take twenty minutes to get back outside!”

“You can’t expect her to just go off on her own in an *abandoned factory basement and--*”

“I-It’s fine!” Brooke piped. “I have a flashlight! I’ll be quick...”

Nancy stepped forward. “Want me to come with you?”

Brooke knew completing her task would be hard enough on her own in such a setting and shook her head. “No thanks... Just don’t leave me.”

“We’ll be right here.”

Brooke shone her flickering light down a hallway presenting several open doors into blackness. Wishing not to be heard, she chose the furthest one down.

Jason joked, “Hope everything comes out ok! We’ll make sure to avoid that room for the rest of toni--*OW!*” A slap to his arm rendered him silent.

A damp corner was the last place Brooke expected to be doing such a deed. Unbuttoning her jeans, she almost exposed herself until fright gripped her chest.

GLOOORRP

SSSCHHHHMMLP

A sound like squishing Jell-O sent chills down her spine. Now impervious to the urge to relieve herself, Brooke was very aware of another presence in the room.

“*Hello?*” she whispered. She couldn’t imagine a drifter sleeping in such a place. It had to have been an animal.

GLOOORRP

SSSCHHHHMMLP

The sound was becoming more lively. Buttoning her jeans, Brooke approached the corner emitting the noises. A pile of ruined machines blocked a clear view. Peeking around the metallic pile, she found a gaping hole in the concrete wall. Its border extended briefly into the earth before stretching too deep for her flashlight to brighten. Terrors of what might be waiting in such a hole made her hair stand on end.

GLOOORRP

SSSCHHHHMMLP

Movement at her feet stopped Brooke's heart for several seconds. Jumping back and dropping her flashlight, it rolled across the floor to illuminate what looked to be a small pile of pink jelly. It reflected the light with neon brightness and jiggled with slow movements. Short nubs extended from its base like thick fingers searching for something.

"What the hell...?" Brooke whispered. Every sci-fi movie she'd seen had prepared her for this. The slime blob appeared low energy and emaciated. Feeling no immediate danger, Brooke approached.

GLOOORRP!

"Brooke! You need help in there??" Jason's voice echoed.

"Shut up! Leave her alone!" Nancy scolded.

The mass vibrated and bubbled at her proximity. Feeling as though it were staring at her, Brooke paused with caution. She didn't dare respond or yell for assistance for fear of startling the slime. Her sweaty hands tightened around the flashlight and gummy worms.

SSSCHHHHMLP!!!

Suddenly the thing launched forward with a thick tendril, striking Brooke in her gut.

"AAHHH!!!! HELP ME!!! HELP ME!!!! IT'S GOT ME!!!!" Her scream pierced the night and shot through the factory basement.