

It was written by J.D. Salinger. Holden Caulfield, a seventeen-year-old boy from Pencey, had been kicked out of Pencey. He watched the school's game from a hill as a good-bye to the place. Suddenly, he had an urge to go to the Spencers. They were around 70 years old, and Mrs. Spencer was very kind to him. Mr. Spencer was a History teacher at Pencey and read an essay about Egyptians written by Holden in previous exam with scolds and sarcasm. He went back to his room, and read a book for a while. Then, Ackley barged in. Ackley was a nosy bastard, who was always nagging about something. He asked for a nail cutter and cut his nails on the floor. Then, Stradlater barged in and asked for his coat for the date that night. Holden did not want to lend it as they are not the same weight. But he did lend it. Then, Holden and Stradlater went to the canteen for the meal. Stradlater talked about his date named Jane Gallanger. Holden knew her and asked him to send his regards to her. Stradlater asked another favor to him. He wanted Holden to write an English Composition for him. Holden, Ackley and one other friend went out to New York for fun.

When he got back to his room, he wrote a composition he had promised to Stradlater. However, he wrote about his brother's bat, which made Stradlater angry. Holden was anxious to know whether he and Jane had had any intercourse that night in a car. Then, he socked him and he was held down by Stradlater. But Stradlater boxed him in his nose as he refused to shut up and kept calling him moron. Then, he went into Ackley's room and turned on the light. He talked to him for a while. Then, he grabbed his box and got onto a train to Penn Station. He met a student's mother, who was genuinely nice and charming. He gave the name of a janitor as his. When he lighted at New York, he tried to find someone but could not decide whom to call and left the booth. And stayed at a hotel. He wanted to call someone badly. So, he called a girl whom a friend of his had introduced. She was mad at calling her at that late time. But when she remembered his friend's name, she got quite friendly but was so busy and it was very late that they did not go for a cocktail.

So, he came down to lobby, and saw two ugly girls and one blonde. She asked them to dance with him. The blonde one danced like a pro but she was a stupid one as they were waiting to see movie stars in the lobby. He bought drinks for them. Then, he started to think about old Jane, and the time they went golfing together and all sorts of things and he got sore when he thought about her date with that Stradlater. He hailed a taxi, and asked along the way where the

ducks go when the lake freezes in winter. The driver did not give a satisfactory answer. He stopped at Ernie's and ordered a drink. People next to him were talking boring stuff to their dates, then he met his brother's ex-girlfriend. He walked forty blocks to get back to the hotel. A guy at the elevator asked him whether he was interested in a pleasurable night. He was too depressed to deny and said he wanted a throw. Then, a prostitute named Sunny came up to his room. He was a virgin and too depressed to do anything. So, he just talked with her for a while and gave her five bucks for a throw, but she said it was ten. Finally, she left. He could not sleep, so he opened the door and saw the elevator guy named Maurice and Sunny trying to get into his room to settle those ten bucks. Eventually, Sunny got his wallet and took five bucks. As Holden called Maurice a moron, he socked him in the stomach and left. He did not sleep well that night.

In the morning, he wanted to eat something but was too afraid that they would send his breakfast with old Maurice. So, he phoned old Sally to make a date at noon. Then, he went out in a taxi and ate a heavy breakfast with two nuns. Then, he thought about suitcases, museums, movies, broadways, and his sister, Phoebe. Then he met with his date, Sally. She was late but good-looking as hell with a beautiful beret. They went to see the Lunts, which was not bad though. But they met an old acquaintance of Sally's, who was talkative and stayed till the end of the show with them. It annoyed Holden. Before they went home, Sally proposed the idea that they go skating. She was marvelous when she was in a skating suit. Then, Holden asked her to elope with him somewhere as he hated college and New York. She said she could not. Then, he called her a royal pain in the ass, which made her cry heartedly. She was mad at him and went home alone. Holden tried to call Jane, but she did not answer. So, he phoned an intellectual friend to have a fruitful conversation. He waited at that lousy hotel for Luce to show up. He did come but they didn't have an intellectual conversation. Holden was quite drunk that night and he pretended that he was hit in the gut. He gave a call to old Sally.

It was freezing outside, and he got chills. He broke the record for Phoebe at Central Park, so he decided to sneak into her room. He read her books and notes for a while, then he woke her up. She knew it was him and that he was kicked out of Pency. She was angry about it. Then, she asked what he liked a lot and what he wanted to be. He answered that he liked Allie and if he could be anything, he wanted to be a catcher in the rye. Their parents came home late as they were attending a party. He phoned Mr. Antolini before he sneaked out of the house. He went to

Mr. Antolini, who was very nice to home, and made a couch for him to sleep. All of a sudden, he woke up and saw Mr. Antolini patting his forehead. He made an excuse and went back to the station to fetch his suitcase. He slept on the bench that night. In the morning, he wanted to make a cabin for himself and move West. So, he went into Phoebe's school and asked an old lady to give her a note saying to meet him at the Museum. Phoebe did come but with a suitcase of her own. She wanted to come with him. He said he could not allow it. Finally, he gave in and gave up the idea of moving away. He promised Phoebe to come back home afterwards. They went to the Zoo, and she rode on a carrousel. And the story ends.

Summary by Thura Htoo

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