

Alternate History by Tyrese (year 11)

Tyrese was our winning entry for our novel-opening competition. The task was to create an intriguing opening for their own original opening to a novel of any genre: Tyrese has selected the magical-fantasy genre.

Chapter One

The clock struck twelve and he was here again. It was 1939, but not the one he remembered or feared. There were a dozen more guards than usual at the station, he noted as he dodged the harsh light punishing the window.

As he exited the black carriage, he put on his best brimmed hat and stretched his mouth into a vague smile. He reached into his grey blazer and amongst oddly shaped clockwork, lay a silver ticket.

‘Morning’, he nodded with a mixture of friendliness and intrigue.

The guard, who stared indifferently, wore green khaki strips of red lining on the lapels on his

shoulders. His eyes were stationary as if at a distance from the human world, but inside he was running a cold calculation.

The passenger held up the silver ticket and the guard swiftly grabbed it ,using his wax-like hand: the gate coiled open. The suited man departed and became part of the darkness. Maybe there he would find the answer-between the cold stone floor and his lost footsteps.

He had used the tunnels once before, but now they were covered in dead , rotting vegetation.

Adric . He thought, looking at the symbol on the wall.

‘Don’t trust them; they’ll change everything!’

He recalled the screams and sighed.

A low whistling sound travelled through the tunnel.

The man raised his fists and turned sideways.

Flash

‘So, you’re here too’.

The whole world fell silent.