

THE LOST PEACE INCIDENT

By Henry North

Directions:

Approximate GPS coordinates: 33° 57' 9.9534"N, 84° 32' 58.7034"W

Use the address for the Marietta Welcome Center as a guide: 4 Depot St NE, Marietta, GA 30060

From the Welcome Center, head to the East and enter Glover Park after crossing over the road West Park Square. Head towards the center of the park to the fountain, preferably on the side closest to West Park Square and opposite the Glover Park Bell.

Oh, great, she's late again? I don't know what more I was expecting from Julia. There was never a single moment in the span of years that I have known her that she was ever actually on



time for one of our dates. It didn't bother me much at this point, but she could at least call. Eh, whatever. I'm currently sitting on the edge of the fountain, looking around at my surroundings. Marietta Square is a quaint little place and it seems to always be abuzz with activity even when stores are closed for the day. I find it to be the perfect place to do a little people watching, because you never know what you might see. There could be break-dancers performing on the stage near North Park Square, people walking their dogs through the paths that stretched from the center of the park like a perfect spider web, and sometimes there is a chance a group of random people would gather and begin playing instruments

together on the sidewalks of the storefronts. The stores that surrounded the Square were each quite interesting and added their own flavor to the area that helped make it feel diverse. Honestly, where else could you go to an antique shop, grab some Australian baked goods or Thai cuisine, go to a court hearing and then relieve that stress at a hookah bar, all within less than half a mile from each other? I could spend all day figuring out multiple different schedules for what to do here and when to do it.



Seriously, Julia has to be the worst best friend ever, having me wait like this. What time is it anyway? Dammit, I left my watch at home. I'll just look at the court house, it has a clock on it, and there's

another one a bit further back from it. Hmm, 2:24; haven't been waiting too long. Wait a minute, somethings not right. The other clock says 11:34, but they should be the same. That's odd, I wonder if they know about that huge discrepancy. You think someone would have said something about it by now. I could probably let them know when I'm not stuck waiting for someone another day, so I'll think about something else for now.

Now I'm noticing more things that aren't exactly what they should be. The train that is located on the playground seems to be off somehow and I can't quite put my finger on it. Ah, that's it; the acronym "W & A. R. R." now just spells WAR. Why would they change that? I didn't know what it meant, but I feel it had some significance. And the stone bell seems to be... glowing? Not all of it, but just the words written on it. What were they again? I had to remember them for a class. Ah, yes, it's coming back to me. "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land onto all the inhabitants thereof..." Wait a minute, what is that blinding light? And what's happening to the sky, it can't be becoming night time, can it? No, the sky is fine, but it seems darkness is falling around the Square. What's happening to the people, they seem to be fading into dust? It's completely dark now, all except that damned glowing bell. Did I just set something in motion through speaking those words? Someone is here now, but they are being silhouetted by the light emanating from the bell. They are walking closer to me... Julia?



These are the last of the Firsthand accounts of what occurred that Friday in Marietta Square, from the phone journal of a Zachary Matthews. Outside of the affected area, witnesses claim to have seen a black shroud begin to appear over the Square and cover it entirely, allowing for no entrance or exit by vehicle or pedestrians. Some claim they saw a beautiful woman cloaked in gray and white robes being the only one able to walk into the area. She was said to have been crying black tears, but had a look on her face as if she was on a mission. Most accounts of that day say that after seeing the woman go inside the Square, somewhere between ten and twenty minutes later, the woman appeared above the black dome, but now with wings; one of the wings was angelic in nature while the other was bat-like and demonic. All accounts do include hearing the following words before the darkness finally dissipated: "The inhabitants are now freed, the prophecy fulfilled."

Everything seemed like it had gone back to normal, but the investigators who arrived on the scene moments later saw more unexplained phenomenons. Marietta Square was empty. Not a single human or animal was found in there; the only noticeable remnants being the cars left stopped on the four streets surrounding the middle of the Square and the phones and other objects that seemed to have been left behind by the approximately 375 people who have now gone missing. All the stores were empty and food was left half-eaten in the restaurants. The clock and train mentioned in Zachary's journal were not different from how they normally were, but the Glover Park Bell had been cracked. Marietta Square is no longer a welcome area to most, but the few who brave its mysterious past sometimes say they hear whispers of the Square's lost inhabitants and for a ghastly moment, everything is bustling with an echo of activity again, as invisible cars drive by and music plays from thin air.