

Life in Dystopia

Tuesday 4th February 2025

16:00 - I've just finished my Latin class. What a waste of time! Does anyone even speak Latin these days? I don't know why my parents think it will be beneficial for me to learn but I just go along with it.

My name is Valentina, and I am 12 years old. I started this diary to remind myself how great my life is. A bit arrogant perhaps but that's me. I'm joking of course. I just think it's cool to keep records of my life.

17:00- The tension. The anticipation. The nerves. The Chase. That's a bit of an overdramatic introduction Bradley Walsh. I mean, really? It's a TV show for losers to announce to the whole nation they're poor. Pathetic!

Suddenly, the show got interrupted. It changed to the ITV news channel saying there's a national broadcast. Probably just some political party trying to get votes in the next election.

The Prime Minister came on screen announcing they were removing the NHS. It was going to be made private. I honestly don't care. My family has never worried about money before- my mum doesn't even have to work. I'm sure my life will continue as normal.

Monday 28th April 2025

7:00- Mum starts a job today. It's weird seeing her go off to work. She's working at the local bakers. Mum says it's only because she gets bored being at home all the time. I'm not sure I believe her. I overheard her and Dad talking about his pay being lowered around a month ago. I hope they're unrelated matters.

Wednesday 18th June 2025

8:00- It's my birthday! I'm 13 finally. I love my birthday; my parents spoil me every year.

16:00- When I got home, something felt off. There was only 1 present waiting on the table. My dad gets home around 6pm so I'm sure he will have something else for me then.

18:00- Mum says Dad has to work late and to open my present now. So, I only have 1 present? When did my parents become such cheapskates?

Saturday 7th March 2026

10:00- We've moved house. The house is horrible. Only 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Not to mention where we live! It's utterly horrendous and dangerous! I'm the laughing stock of the school! None of my friends talk to me anymore, those snakes. I'm so embarrassed of my

life. How on earth has the stupid NHS ruined my life? My dad's a doctor for goodness sake. We should have loads of money. UGH I hate this!

Tuesday 1st September 2026

7:00- I'm starting at a new school today. A state school of all schools. I can't believe it. I have no hope for this day.

16:00- School was awful! I'm surrounded by poor people. I cannot believe this is my life. Some girls tried to be friends with me, but I walked away. I can't associate myself with these people.

On the walk home, I saw so many homeless people begging for money. The streets were covered in litter. It's so gross.

Wednesday 12th May 2027

17:00- My dad is sick. Like properly sick. I never thought this would happen. He's a doctor; he's supposed to help other people who are sick. He needs an operation, but we can't afford it. I have no idea what to do. My mum is crying and I can't help her so I go up to my room and cry on my own. My dad is going to die and there is nothing I can do to help.

Friday 12th May 2028

My dad's funeral. Exactly one year after his diagnosis. An awful coincidence. I don't know how I'll be able to bear all these feelings of grief. My mum tries to be strong for me- for us- but it's not helping.

We're moving to a studio flat in a few weeks. It's horrible but that's the only place we can just about afford now. The neighbourhood is run down- even worse than the one we're in now, if that's possible. There's dodgy people everywhere. My neighbours are... well I don't even want to talk about them.

Saturday 29th December 2029

We're not coping well. My mum barely speaks to me. She goes to work, comes back and goes to bed. Every single day. I offered to get a job but she said no- to stay in school. I don't see the point but I do anyway.

Wednesday 19th June 2030

She waited until the day after my birthday. I went to bed. Woke up. A note. Left on the table.

Mum left. She actually left. I-I don't even know what to say. How have I lost them both?

I don't understand. I offered to get a job. I'm 18 now and will leave school in a month. I thought things would start to improve. I guess I was wrong.

Monday 20th October 2030

There's protests everywhere. People want to bring the NHS back. I often forget that's what started all this mess. I can't say I disagree with these people but nothing can bring my parents back.

Friday 13th June 2031

They say Friday the 13th is unlucky. They aren't wrong. I've been kicked out of the apartment. I don't know what I'll do now.

Wednesday 12th November 2031

An old friend from school has let me stay with her- Natalie. She's not been doing great either.

Tuesday 5th October 2032

Nat lost her house too. We're now on the streets. It's cold and wet and rainy. We're not even fully into winter yet.

But we've made some friends here- Luke and Tom. We all share what we have. It's not much but we survive.

Thursday 30th June 2033

I'm alone once more.

I found a £50 note on the floor. That's like treasure to us. I gave it to Nat to look after while I slept. When I woke, they were gone. They'd stolen the money and ran.

Wednesday 28th September 2034

People think the protests are starting to work. They will bring the NHS back. I hope so. I've been feeling ill lately, it's like the flu.

Saturday 4th February 2035

The Prime Minister announced a referendum to bring the NHS back. I would vote but I'm too ill to move. My flu never left.

I don't think I'll ever know the result. I'm so exhausted. My eyes are tired as I write this. When I close them, I get this haunting feeling. It's as if I'll never open them again.

