

From **The Final Caveat of Phineas Bartholomew** by Dawson Moore

PHINEAS BARTHOLOMEW: 62. Somber and ominous.

### PHINEAS

I regret to inform you, but we have come to the end of humanity's reign on earth. There is nowhere for you to run, so I hope you'll stay in your seats as I relate how I first learned of mankind's impending demise, and my role in bringing it about. I rue the part I have played, but it hardly matters. This day was inevitable. The creeping horror was there, whether or not we knew of it, fought against it or not. It only waited for when it could escape and claim its ascendancy.

1988. Hellraiser is the popular in theatres, giving people the impression that hell and eternal torment is good for a few jumps and giggles. I had an interview for a job as a private courier and personal assistant at Ancient World Antiquities. I was newly married, newly graduated, and desperate for someone who carried about my Creative History degree from Brown.

The final application form deviated from the more standard application materials that had garnered me the interview. Questions like "what will people say about you when you are dead" and "are you afraid... of evil."