

In the beginning, Sweetland has absolutely zero interest in signing off on a resettlement agreement, despite the majority of the town having already signed off, and some of those residents were sending increasingly aggressive messages. Sweetland didn't want to leave the island because he had spent so much of his life there, and because of all the people from his past who were connected to the island. Among those who had also chosen to stay were Loveless and Queenie, who were both good friends of Sweetlands. Eventually though, Queenie dies and after the death of Loveless' cow, he decides that he would be better off leaving the island, so this leaves Sweetland as the final person left preventing the rest of the island from leaving. Jesse, Sweetland's nephew, wants Sweetland to stay as well, since he spends so much time hanging out with him. Sweetland does like spending time with Jesse because he reminds him so much of his brother who died when he was 18, who Jesse has coincidentally named his imaginary friend after. When Sweetland tells Jesse of how Hollis died he still blames himself but, Jesse tells him that Hollis isn't mad at him, which causes Sweetland to realize that maybe it was time for him to move on from the island, in a way it was closure. Jesse still believed that Sweetland wasn't going to leave the island no matter what happened, but when he found out about it he set out to look for Sweetland, and fell to his death in the process. His death took a huge toll on Sweetland, and he realized he couldn't leave the island and a few days before everyone left he faked his death and hid so he could stay and live out the rest of his days on the island. Sweetland spends most of his days on the island recalling his past and realizing how lonely and desperate for others he is, and he begins to see things and hallucinate, which eventually leads to him getting himself seriously injured. In the end, Sweetland manages to make it back to his home, where he has several hallucinations, one of which where the Priddle brothers show up and attempt to help him. Sweetland knows he most likely won't make it, and he accepts that it was his time to go, happy that he got to spend the rest of his life on the island and would go on to be with the rest of the people from his life that had left before he did.

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