

Blue Spring

It was a peaceful spring day and the cherries were in bloom. Everybody came into class excited, while I couldn't join in the merriment. In fact, I was trying to make myself invisible. *Just another ordinary day*, I thought. But as everyone sat down, I noticed that Ava was missing. Apparently, she was ill and wouldn't come to school for a while. When the bell rang, the others stormed out of class leaving me behind. Mrs. Smith called me to her desk.

"You're friends with Ava, right?" she asked.

Bewildered, I answered: "Kind of", which was a blank lie and we both knew that. Something in her eyes told me that this was a rhetorical question, to which this was the only answer.

"Ok, nice. Could you take her stuff to the hospital nearby? Your friend would be really glad to see you too." With that being said, she left the room.

So I took all of Ava's things and put them in my backpack. As I was walking through the door, a notebook fell down from her desk. I picked up the opened notebook and unintentionally saw a page. Immediately, I felt as if I had just read something I was never supposed to and had no other choice but to take everything and run to the hospital.

At the hospital, a nice lady at the front desk told me Ava's room number: A306. Hurriedly, I went up the stairs to her hospital room. Exhausted, I opened the door and saw a pretty girl, smiling widely at me. She had beautiful, blue, prepossessing eyes.

"Hi! Mrs. Smith came earlier this morning to let me know that you'll come to bring my stuff from school. Thanks Mike!" Each word and gesture she made were so natural that soon I felt as if we really were friends.

"No problem..." I took out the notebook. "And this." I handed it over.

Her perfect countenance fell apart. "Did you read it?"

"Only one page."

"So you did" she sighed.

"I didn't know that- that-"

"I'll die soon?" I couldn't say anything back. She said it with such an ease in her voice that I wasn't sure whether she was scared or had just accepted her fate.

She opened her notebook at the page and there was sadness in her eyes. It was a medical certificate.

"I didn't mean to read it. I'm sorry." I held my tears in.

"If you are" she had that wide smile on her face again. "Can you help me?" I was confused and just nodded.

"Nice! Can you come again tomorrow after school?"

The next day I went to A306 again. Ava had her notebook and opened it on a page. It said:

I want to go bungee jumping

"I want you to fulfill my wishes instead of me" she was smiling from ear to ear.

I didn't understand what she was saying. "I will absolutely not bungee jump"

"So you're scared?"

"I'm not"

We both burst out in laughter.

"Then try a Free Fall. Please?" She looked at me with puppy eyes.

"Fine" I answered. Right on that day I went to an amusement park.

On the following day I went to see her again to give her the show I took. She seemed to be honestly excited about it and hugged me tightly. "Thank you so much!" I felt my blood rush to my face. Then she grinned and took out her notebook again. Now she had another wish:

Love Letter

She saw my irritated face and said "Buy me cute paper for a love letter"

"To whom are you going to write a love letter?"

"That's a secret," she told me. Annoyed, I left the room and went to the nearest book store.

The next morning I visited her again to give her the pink letter. "Thanks!" she said and kissed me on the cheek. I turned away so she wouldn't see me grin. Then she took my hands and gave me the opened notebook:

You and me and the full moon

"On Saturday next week there will be a full moon. And I want to watch the full moon with you on the rooftop of this hospital. So please come here next Saturday." She was smiling but that time there was grief hidden behind her smile.

"Ok," I said, "Well then, see you next week." I left the room.

When I went to A306 the next Saturday, there was an empty bed. "No..." I couldn't believe it. Her parents were standing beside it and handed me a letter. "You must be Mike." her mother said with the same smile as Ava. I nodded. "She wanted you to read this, if the operation today didn't go well." her father handed me a letter. It was the love letter I had bought for her. *Thank you* was written on the envelope. As I opened the letter, tears were falling down my face.

Dear Mike,

I'm sorry that I can't watch the full moon with you today. By the time you receive this letter, I'll no longer be here. I am so thankful for everything you did for me and at the same time so sorry to have stolen your precious time for my self-indulgence.

My illness started when I was still little and got worse from year to year. I thought this was my fate but when I got in the same class as you, I thought that you were the universe's last gift for me.

There are words that I always wanted to tell you first.

Thank you for fulfilling my wishes.

Sincerely,

Ava

I looked at the three wishes and realized. I broke down into tears.

I love you too, Ava