

## Hopelessly Hopeful

I stare at myself in the mirror. My eyes bloodshot red and pu y from crying, my hair is a mess, my face is pale, I have dark circles under my eyes, and my lips are dry. God i'm fucking ugly. No wonder Ben never loved me.

The whole thing with Ben has taken a toll on me, he's the one who kept me going, the one who kept me sane.

But now, I'm going crazy, and I feel as though I have nothing to go on for. He was the most important man in my life, the one who I trusted to never hurt me.

He let me down.

I take another swig of alcohol and turn up the music. I look at the polaroid picture of Ben and I together, we look so happy. He looks so happy.. I guess he wasn't happy with me.

He didn't love me, the whole time he told me he did, he lied. I must have looked like such a fool, I feel like such a fool to think someone like Ben could love someone like me.

My voice is annoying, I'm a piece of work, I'm not worth it, I'm fat, ugly, bad at sex, I'm a bad kisser, unlovable, no wonder my father le us before.

I never thought of myself that terribly until the one I love told me those things.

I know I told Ben I hate him.. But I don't really, I hate that I love him.

"I fucking love you," I spit at the picture of us, as if Ben could hear me.

I wipe the tears from my eyes, I have to stop crying at one point.

It's been a month since I told Ben to get out of my life. Some days he respects what I want, other days he just tries to say hi to me. I don't speak to him at school, or outside of school. If i see him in the halls or class I walk the opposite direction or I ignore him.

My parents are worried about me I know, I guess I don't eat much anymore, but I'm never hungry. I just drink a lot of water and alcohol.

"Honey! Your father and I are leaving now, are you going to be okay alone?" My mom shouts from downstairs.

"Yeah I'll be fine!" I shout back.

All I do now is stay home, I don't want to go out, I don't go over to Cindy's anymore. I only talk to her at school, I just don't want to talk to anyone else but Ben, and that's not happening.

I lay down in my bed and close my eyes, trying to picture better days. I hear a knock on my window, who would be here at ten in the evening.

"Go away," I shout.

I hear the window open up and someone enter.

"Roni.." I hear his voice.

I sit up and look at him, God I missed him being in my room. I've missed him. I take a sip of the alcohol and stare at him, standing up.

"What have you done to yourself?" Ben mumbles, heartbreak in his tone.

"Don't act like you care," I spit at him.

"Roni, I do care," Ben walks closer to me.

I take a step back, "please don't shove me," I look down, hugging myself.

"Roni no.. I-" Ben sounds hurt that I thought he was going to hurt me.

"Why would you care about someone like me, someone who is just fat and ugly," I change the subject back, staring at him, still keeping my arms to me.

I could see Ben wince at my words.

"Roni I didn't mean any of it," He tries to walk closer to me.

"N-no that's close enough, do not try to come closer or even touch me," A er everything physical that he did to me.. Who knows what he'll do. Even now.

"If you loved me, even the slightest, you would've dealt and let me heal a er our break up, but you turned into a dick. If i meant anything to you, you wouldn't have began dating the skank," I begin to cry.

"God I am fucking annoying, just hearing the shit i'm saying," I wipe my tears, looking anywhere but at him.

"You're not annoying, I could listen to you for days, please let me show you how sorry I am, there's no words that I could even begin to explain how sorry I am, but over time I could show you," Ben pleads.

"Ben don't you get it? Whether you are telling the truth, I'm still going to think that you think I'm annoying or I'm a piece of work, I will never forget it because the fact is, is that you said those words," I push Ben back.

"I know nothing can take back what I said, but I promise you, I only think highly of you, I only love you,"

"Your promises don't meant shit to me anymore Benjamin. I don't trust you, not even the slightest.. not even at all" I spit at him. "You don't love me, you told me you don't love me, stop wasting your time on this annoying piece of shit" I air quote 'annoying piece of shit' cause that's one of the things he called me.

"God Roni you aren't a piece of shit, you aren't annoying, I'm so sorry. Please, give me another chance to gain your trust back, to show you that I truly love you, I will **never** lay my hands on you again, I don't know what came over me. And I know I don't deserve another chance but-"

"I should've known from the start you and I wouldn't work out and that we are not meant to be, a er all you did insinuate that i'm a slut and you cheated on me for the first of many times, not even two months into the relationship, and we constantly fought because of you cheating the first time, I have never let it go, I can't let it go, and I cannot and will not let this time around go. I regret everything that you and I had, it would've saved me a lot of pain if I had just stayed away from you." I rant, feeling so stupid.

"I know what I did, I should've treated you better and not done all this shitty stu to you, but we can work, we're meant to be together-"

Suddenly something just snaps in me.

"I don't mean anything to you, you never loved me, I love you for fuck sakes Ben! I fucking love you! You broke me, you broke me, save all your lies, I don't need them, stop wasting your time on someone who isn't worth it, go fuck your new girlfriend! Love your new girlfriend, and stay out of my life!" I sob, hitting Ben all over.

I don't care where I hit him, I just hit him. I let out all my anger and frustration, I feel Ben grab my wrists, telling me to stop. Before I know it, I'm in Ben's arms, crying. "You were right, i am fucking crazy,"

He holds me close to him, he squeezes me tight when I call myself crazy. I just sob in his chest.

"You never loved me.. That's what broke me," I cry.

Ben picks me up and lays me down on my bed.

"Don't let me go," I cry as his grip loosens, all I want is for Ben to hold me.

Ben gets in the bed with me as he holds me close to him, I feel less lonely, I feel like a part of me is back, completing me.

"I love you so much Roni, you don't understand, I broke up with Jessica, I never loved her, and I nevercheated on you in Mexico, I just said that to try to get to you, how selfish of me," Ben whispers so ly to me.

I close my eyes as he brings me impossibly closer to him.

I'm half of asleep when I feel him let go of me and get out of my bed.

"Ben," I mumble.

"Yes love?"

"If it's not too much to ask, i just don't want to get on your nerves anymore but please don't go," I beg.

"Are you sure? I will stay, I would love to," he whispers.

"Yes,"

Ben gets back in the bed and wraps his arms around me, kissing my forehead.

"I just want it to be done Ben,"

"Done what?"

"Fighting, I don't want to feel this way anymore, I don't want to feel like i'm nobodies choice, like i'm worthless. I want us to be us again," I yawn.

"You aren't worthless, I'm so sorry i ever said that. You're my first choice, you'll always be my first choice. I want us to be us again too, more than anything,"

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