

**In This Moment**

by:

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LOVE  
What do you think?

Rickey remains focused on his game.

RICKEY  
(Unenthusiastically) You look great.

LOVE  
You didn't even see my outfit.

RICKEY  
I saw it earlier.

LOVE  
And what do you think?

RICKEY  
It's pretty feminine, but it doesn't matter what I think.

LOVE  
Is that bad?

RICKEY  
Again, it doesn't matter what I think.

Beat.

LOVE  
Any plans for the rest of the night?

RICKEY  
I was supposed to be hooking up with some guy, but I think I'm gunna finish my game and head to bed.

LOVE  
Are you sure you don't want to come out?

RICKEY  
I've got work at 6 AM.

LOVE  
We could leave early if you'd like.

RICKEY  
Nah, I'm okay. Just go have fun.

LOVE

Okay.

(Beat)

May I have a kiss?

RICKEY

(Sighs)

...Sure.

She walks over to Rickey. He gives her a stale kiss and goes back to his game. She stands still, hoping he'll change his mind.

Then, she grabs her purse and prepares to leave. Before she steps out...

LOVE

Okay. I'll see you later tonight?

Still not looking at her.

RICKEY

Be safe.

5 INT. ALEX'S APARTMENT (KITCHEN) - LATER

5

Some smooth jazz music plays...

**FOCUS ON** a nude painting of a woman's body, then a statue, then on a fluorescent sign against a wall that says, "why are we not having sex right now?"

The sound of laughing and talking can be heard as ALEX (20's) (she/her), a disabled woman, fixes a couple of drinks for the party.

CATALINA (Late 20s), a trans femme person, walks into the kitchen, grabbing the chips off the counter.

CATALINA

Alex? I hope you don't mind. I invited my friend Jay over.

ALEX

Yeah, that's fine.

CATALINA

(Excited) Great, he should be here soon!

They help Alex with the drinks. They both exit the kitchen into...

...Catalina follows Alex to an overly-sized couch where LOVE and AMORA sit. Alex sits with Love, and Catalina sits with Amora while they pass out drinks.

AMORA

So you've been on hormones for seven? Eight months?

LOVE

Nine months.

AMORA

Wow, that's exciting. How do you feel?

LOVE

Other than the unexpected PMS symptoms, I feel great.

ALEX

Welcome to womanhood!

AMORA

Are you and Rickey still a thing?

LOVE

Yes!

ALEX

They've celebrated a year together not too long ago.

AMORA

Okay now!

ALEX

Have you told them about Kai?

AMORA

(Intrigued) Kai? Who's Kai?

LOVE

He's my other partner. We've been dating for seven months.

AMORA

Damn, look at you!

CATALINA

May we see some pictures?

LOVE

Of course.

Love pulls out her phone and searches for photos.

CATALINA  
How did you two meet?

LOVE  
It's funny you should ask; we met  
over Instagram.

CATALINA  
You make it sound so simple.

LOVE  
I mean, we were just networking.

ALEX  
Just "networking."

Love looks at Alex, "Shut up, lol!" and she hands her phone to Amora.

LOVE  
Anyways, we eventually started  
talking more and more, and things  
just clicked.

AMORA  
(*To the phone*) Oh wow!

CATALINA  
I can see why.

ALEX  
That's exactly what I said!

AMORA  
(*To Love*) Okay, baby, I see you!  
How come you've never brought him  
around?

Amora passes the phone back to Love.

LOVE  
That's the thing. I have not met  
him in person.

CATALINA  
Wait, are you serious?

AMORA  
Does he not live here?

LOVE  
He lives in Nevada.

CATALINA

Are you sure you're not rushing into this? How do you know he's not some catfish?

LOVE

I mean, we've been Facetiming and going on dates and stuff, just not in person.

CATALINA

And you don't find that to be difficult?

LOVE

I'm not saying it isn't, but we've managed.

CATALINA

I think falling in love with someone you've never physically met seems ridiculous.

ALEX

I don't think it's ridiculous.

LOVE

I understand what you're saying, but you have to understand that this is my choice.

AMORA

Yeah, I'd have to agree. I don't find this ridiculous either.

CATALINA

Does Rickey know about this?

LOVE

Yes.

CATALINA

And Kai knows about him?

LOVE

Of course.

CATALINA

Wow, you truly are unconventional.

AMORA

As much as I love to hear all of this. I have to ask, are you doing okay?

LOVE

I am. Again, it's rough sometimes,  
but we've made it work.

ALEX

When do you plan on seeing each  
other?

LOVE

This upcoming year in March.

AMORA

Not too bad, just a couple months  
away. How come y'all haven't met  
each other sooner?

LOVE

Either our schedules don't align,  
money, or prior commitments.

AMORA

Ain't that the fucking truth.

CATALINA

Is Rickey and Kai okay with you  
being on hormones?

LOVE

Why wouldn't they be?

CATALINA

Listen, I don't mean to be harsh  
at all, but you know how cis  
people get. You'll go through your  
transition, and then they treat  
you like a different person.

LOVE

Well, they are both okay with it,  
and Kai is, in fact, trans and  
polyamorous.

AMORA

Even better! We're just glad that  
you're happy.

CATALINA

I mean, especially with the  
relationship that you're in. What  
you're doing is not easy at all.

ALEX

No relationship is easy.

CATALINA  
Of course, but like...I don't  
know, don't you get jealous?

LOVE  
Sometimes.

CATALINA  
What about you, Alex?

ALEX  
Who doesn't?

AMORA  
I think admitting to jealousy  
should be normalized. Denying it  
only makes it worse.

CATALINA  
*Unless you have nothing to be  
jealous of.*

AMORA  
Well, you tell me! Are you a  
jealous person?

CATALINA  
Not at all.

ALEX  
I find that very hard to believe.

CATALINA  
*(To Amora)* Would you be jealous if  
your partner saw other people?

Love is getting uncomfortable with this conversation. She then  
takes her phone out and **ON THE SCREEN** she texts Kai, "*Can I  
Facetime you later?*" She sends and keeps her phone close by.

AMORA  
I would, but like I said, as long  
as you talk about it, I don't see  
anything wrong with it.

ALEX  
And to say you don't get jealous  
is lowkey pretty absurd.

AMORA  
And it's no shade.

CATALINA

Listen, I am strictly monogamous, so what do I have to be jealous of?

ALEX

Now you sound highkey ridiculous.

CATALINA

Tell me, Amora, would you open up in a relationship?

*(Quick aside to Love and Alex)*

No offense to you two, but don't you think it's a gateway to just fuck whoever you want?

AMORA

Well, one, I think it's worth considering, and two, I believe that we should avoid assumptions about polyamory.

CATALINA

I just feel like there's no sense of self-respect. If someone I loved wanted to open up our relationship, I think we'd fight each other before it even happens.

AMORA

Careful now! You're starting to sound like one of those very ignorant conservative people.

CATALINA

I'm just asking a question!

AMORA

Catalina, how are you going to have an opinion and judge something that you've never had an experience with?

LOVE

Don't knock it till you tried it.

ALEX

Exactly! The thing is, ethical non-monogamy and polyamory are not gateways to cheating. Expecting one person to be the be-all end-all is daunting as fuck!

AMORA  
Preach, Miss Alex!

LOVE  
That part!

ALEX  
Why should anyone have to restrict  
themselves to loving just one  
person?

AMORA  
And let's be honest, is loving  
more than one person so bad?

Love checks her phone, and **ON THE SCREEN** Kai replies, "*I won't be able to Facetime, but I can still call.*"

CATALINA  
(*To Alex & Love*) Listen, I hear  
all of you. I just know for myself  
I could never do that!

AMORA  
AAAAAND, that's why you single!  
And it's no fucking shade!

Everyone except Catalina laughs at that statement.

ALEX  
Listen, it's understandable! It's  
not for everyone.

LOVE  
That's the thing: I am non-  
monogamous and polyamorous because  
it's who I am. Believe me, I am  
not out here, just fucking whoever  
I want. I am picky as fuck!

AMORA  
A-fucking-men to that!

CATALINA  
(*To Love*) Then let me ask you  
this: is it hard being in a  
relationship with them while  
competing with other people?

LOVE  
I'm not competing with anyone,  
Catalina. My partners and I choose  
to be together because we want to  
be together.

CATALINA

But isn't it hard sitting here  
knowing that Rickey or Kai could  
be fucking someone else?

LOVE

Excuse me?

AMORA

You know what y'all? I think we  
should change the topic. Cause  
this ain't that type of night, and  
I am definitely not trying to  
break anything up.

Love and Catalina glare at each other. That almost got ugly.

LOVE

Sounds good to me.

7

**INT. LOBBY AREA - LATER**

7

Love is by herself. She takes her phone out of her purse and  
calls Kai on speaker. She paces around the room, waiting  
patiently. Kai picks up, his angelic voice filling the room.

KAI

Well, hello, beautiful!

LOVE

Hey, baby, I hope I'm not  
disturbing you.

KAI

Not at all. What's going on?  
Shouldn't you be having fun?

LOVE

Today's just been...not great.

KAI

Do you want to talk about it?

LOVE

Not really.

KAI

Are you sure?

LOVE

Catalina just said some things  
that pissed me off.

KAI

I'm sorry to hear that.

LOVE

Can we actually not talk about me right now?

KAI

Yeah, that's fine. What would you like to talk about?

LOVE

I don't know. I just...I just want to hear your voice.

*(Beat)*

How are you doing?

KAI

I'm doing okay. I've been going through a rough time with some personal and work stuff.

LOVE

I'm sorry to hear that. Is there anything I can do?

KAI

You being here for me is good enough.

LOVE

Are you sure?

KAI

Yes, baby, I promise.

Beat.

KAI (CONT'D)

Guess what?

LOVE

What?

KAI

*(Sings)*

*You're my honeybunch, sugarplum  
Pumpy-umpy-umpkin  
You're my sweetie pie  
You're my cuppycake  
Gumdrop, snoogums-boogums  
You're the apple of my eye  
And I love you so and I want you  
to know*

*(MORE)*

KAI (CONT'D)  
*That I'll always be right here  
 And I love to sing sweet songs to  
 you  
 Because you are so dear*

Beat.

LOVE  
 Kai?

KAI  
 Yes, baby?

The silence between them is heavy.

KAI (CONT'D)  
 Is there something else you need  
 to tell me?

LOVE  
 I think I'm going to break up with  
 Rickey.

KAI  
 (Sighs) Tonight?

LOVE  
 Yes.

KAI  
 How do you feel about that?

Love is overwhelmed by this question. She's doing her best to hold her composure.

LOVE  
 Really fucking scared. I don't  
 want to do it, but I know I have  
 to.

KAI  
 I know this can be hard, but  
 remember you're doing this for  
 both of you.

LOVE  
 I know.

KAI  
 Do me a favor, close your eyes.

Love closes her eyes.

KAI (CONT'D)  
Are they closed?

LOVE  
(*She chuckles*) Yes.

KAI  
Good...

Her eyes stay closed, and her imagination takes over reality as everything is imagined in 8MM. The **SOUND** of ocean waves crashing. Kai appears, and as he narrates, he simulates.

KAI (CONT'D)  
...I place my hand on your shoulder as I brush your hair away from your neck. Wrapping my arms around your waist as I rest my head on your shoulder. Holding you close and tight next to me...

Love and Kai holding each other very close, wishing that it was real. Kai disappears.

KAI  
I love you, honey.

LOVE  
I love you too, baby.

KAI  
Call me afterward, I'll be awake.

LOVE  
Okay, I will.

8 INT. APARTMENT HALLWAY - LATER

8

We follow Love, walking past the elevators back to Alex's apartment. The elevator dings and opens as a man walks out...

JAY (O.S.)  
Hey, excuse me?

LOVE  
Yes?

JAY (20's) (he/him) a clean-cut, stylish man with warm eyes and glowing skin. A **DISTANT SOUND** of ocean waves flushing through him.

JAY  
I'm sorry to bother you, but I'm  
looking for apartment 3G. I'm Jay.

Jay and Love stare into each other's eyes in silence. The awkwardness is filled with unspoken language between them.

Love is entirely at a loss for words, mesmerized by Jay. It's as if they've known each other long before their existence.

LOVE  
Yeah, I was actually on my way  
there...I'm Love.

INTERCUT TO:

9 INT. APARTMENT HALLWAY

9

They are walking down the hall back to Alex's Apartment, side by side. Centimeters apart. The tension between their auras desperately asking to be touched.

JAY (V.O.)  
Nice to meet you, Love.

LOVE (V.O.)  
Nice to meet you, too.

Their eyes stare at each other every chance they get, talking to one another.

10 INT. ALEX'S APARTMENT (LIVING ROOM) - LATER

10

**MONTAGE. EVERYTHING'S INAUDIBLE.** Everyone at the party laughs, drinks, and enjoys their time with each other.

Jay, from time to time, gazes long and hard at Love. At times, she glances over and sees him looking.

They are always finding time to be lost in their souls. They are too shy to speak to each other, leaving their eyes to do all the work.

JAY (V.O.)  
You look beautiful.

LOVE (V.O.)  
Thank you. You look very handsome.

At one point, they separate themselves from the group and go to the kitchen to grab another drink. They laugh, smile, and hold each other's attention.

Jay's lips softly pressed against a glass of Long Island. The ice clacking as the alcohol moisturizes his plump lips—a work of art in motion.

Love's eyes gleam as they reflect against the fluorescent lights in the room. A big cheesy smile comes across her face, a beautiful and genuine smile that cannot be fabricated.

11 INT. ALEX'S APARTMENT (KITCHEN/FRONT DOOR) 11

1:35 AM. Love is in the kitchen washing the glasses as Alex escorts a sobered-up Catalina out the door.

CATALINA

My Uber is here. Thank you again for having me over.

ALEX

Anytime!

Catalina exits the apartment as Alex closes the door. Amora is lying on the couch with blankets over them.

AMORA

Miss Alex, are you sure I can stay? Cause if you want to, I can head home right now.

ALEX

Yes, you can stay.

AMORA

Okay, good, cause if I tried to go home, I might've passed out on the sidewalk.

ALEX

Of course!

Alex walks over to Love.

ALEX (CONT'D)

S000, you and Jay?

ALL following conversations in *ITALICS* are signed and subtitled *AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE*.

LOVE (CONT'D)

*Shhh! He'll hear you.*

ALEX

*Sorry.*

LOVE  
It's okay.

ALEX  
You like him?

LOVE  
Is it obvious?

ALEX  
You two have been looking at each other all night. I'm surprised you two didn't invade my bedroom.

LOVE  
Oh my god, Alex!

ALEX  
What?! Are you going home with him tonight?

LOVE  
No.

ALEX  
You suck.

LOVE  
Whatever. He is handsome...I think I like him.

ALEX  
Obsessed. I'm sorry about Cat.

LOVE  
You're fine.

ALEX  
Does Jay know?

LOVE  
About my partners? I'm not ready to tell him yet.

ALEX  
Fair. Did you tell Kai?

LOVE  
I did. He told me to have fun.

ALEX  
Again, obsessed!  
(MORE)

ALEX (CONT'D)

*Listen, I know it's hard, but if you wait too long to tell Jay about your partners. It could be bad.*

LOVE

*I know. I'm just waiting for the right time to tell him.*

ALEX

*Understandable.*

*(Beat)*

*Are you okay? What else is on your mind?*

The night is almost over, and Love is in her head. She contemplates telling Alex but then stops everything she's doing.

LOVE

*I'm breaking up with Rickey tonight.*

ALEX

*Oh...I'm sorry. Does Kai know?*

LOVE

*Yeah.*

ALEX

*What are you going to do?*

LOVE

*I-*

The bathroom door opens, and Jay walks out.

JAY

*Sorry I took so long. Are you heading home soon?*

LOVE

*Yeah. I just need to finish the dishes real quick.*

JAY

*May I take you home?*

ALEX

*Yes, you may! I can take care of the rest.*

LOVE

*Are you sure?*

ALEX  
I'm positive.

Alex sends Love off with a hug and kisses on the cheek. Jay grabs Love's belongings.

ALEX  
(To Jay) You get her home safe!

JAY  
(Chuckles) Yes ma'am

ALEX  
Call me if you need anything.

LOVE  
(To Alex) Okay. (To Jay) You ready?

JAY  
Ready whenever you are.

AMORA  
(Flirty) You two have fun!

**12 EXT. 2 GOLD ST. - NIGHT 12**

They exit the apartment complex. Jay and Love stop in their tracks to face each other. He smiles at her as she interlocks her arm underneath his as they walk along the street.

**13 EXT. FIRST AVE. & E HOUSTON ST. 13**

They walk up to a taco truck and order food from the register. Jay, tuning out the world, is mesmerized by her beauty and focuses on her.

The sharpness of her jawline...

The softness of her skin...

The glimmering of her eyes...

**14 EXT. 15 MINETTA ST. 14**

The same street in *"If Beale Street Could Talk."* They walk side by side in the middle of the road, holding each other.

The night is quiet, and no one is in sight but them. It's almost as if Love and Jay are the only ones who exist on this giant planet.

15 INT. DOWNTOWN 2 TRAIN HOUSTON ST.

15

Love and Jay shyly walk inside the train. They sit directly next to each other. Love crosses her foot over the other with her legs close to Jay's.

Making an effort to flirt casually, she grazes her hair from one side to the other, exposing her neck. Jay notices and smiles.

He locks eyes with Love and sets his hand on his thigh closest to Love. Asking kindly to place his hand on her thigh.

She grabs his hand and places it on her upper thigh. He softly grips her thigh, making sure he's holding onto her real tight.

They stare deep into each other's souls like before. It's almost as if they are floating in frozen time. Nothing in their world exists other than each other.

16 EXT. LENOX RD - LATER

16

It's very late and very early in the morning. They are still holding onto each other, Jay with his arm wrapped around Love's waist, walking back to her apartment complex.

JAY  
Favorite movie?

LOVE  
Just one?

JAY  
Just one!

LOVE  
That's like asking "*If I could eat one meal for the rest of my life. What would it be?*"

JAY  
Okay, okay, how about this? How about your three favorite movies?

LOVE  
Okay. My three favorite movies would have to be "*Moonlight*"-

JAY  
I love that movie.

LOVE  
Right!

JAY  
Did you see *"If Beale Street Could Talk"* last year?

LOVE  
I did, and I loved it.

JAY  
What else?

LOVE  
Ummm *"Roma."*

JAY  
I didn't like that one.

LOVE  
Whaaaaaat?

JAY  
I just didn't get it.

LOVE  
Maybe it's because you haven't watched it with me.

JAY  
Maybe. We'll have to find some time to watch it together.

LOVE  
I'd like that.

JAY  
And your third and final?

LOVE  
*"Auntie Mame."*

JAY  
Never heard of that one.

LOVE  
It's this old movie about a bunch of rich white people, but it's worth the watch. One of my favorite quotes from the movie is *"Live! Live! Live! Life is a banquet, and most poor suckers are starving to death!"* It reminds me to always be open to possibilities.

JAY  
I love that.

LOVE  
What about you?

JAY  
"Moonlight," "Get Out,"-

LOVE  
You like scary movies?

JAY  
Nah, I just like Jordan Peele and Daniel Kaluuya's fine ass.

LOVE  
(*Chuckles*) Daniel is pretty hot.  
What about your third one?

JAY  
It would have to be "Waves."

LOVE  
I've never seen "Waves." Maybe we'll have to watch that movie together as well.

JAY  
Well, then, it's a date.  
Technically, the second date.

LOVE  
Oh really? The second?

JAY  
Yeah, I mean, we had drinks, got some food, spent a lot of time together willingly, and now I'm walking you home.

LOVE  
Fair enough. Second date it is!

17 INT. 115 LENOX RD APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

17

They have arrived as she turns and stops to face him.

LOVE  
I had a great time tonight.

JAY  
Me too. Sorry for keeping you out so late.

LOVE  
If I didn't wanna go out, I  
would've said no.

JAY  
I know. I just felt like I needed  
to apologize.

LOVE  
You know, you apologize too much.

JAY  
Do I?

LOVE  
Yeah, I don't think I like it.

JAY  
Well, what are you gunna do about  
that?

LOVE  
Apologize again, and you'll see.

With every "Sorry," they lean in closer and closer. His hands wrapped around her waist. Her hand reaches around his neck.

JAY  
I'm sorry...I'm sorry...I'm  
sorry...

...their lips meet for the very first time. It is a passionate kiss that feels like they've been kissing like this for a long time. Like they knew just exactly how to kiss each other.

**This is the moment they have been waiting for. A moment that only lasts for a few seconds but feels like a lifetime.**

JAY  
Can I be honest?

LOVE  
You can always be honest with me.

JAY  
This might sound a little bit  
crazy, but I think I am in love  
with you.

LOVE  
I think I am in love with you,  
too.

They hold each other in this moment before inevitably having to part ways.

JAY  
Can I give you my number?

LOVE  
Of course.

She takes her phone out and gives it to Jay. He puts in his number and hands it back to her.

A message from Catalina is on the lock screen saying, "When you get a chance, call me." He responds with, "Sounds good. I'll call you later. I'm dropping Love off."

Love sends a quick message to him, and he reads it. **ON THE SCREEN:** LOVE: This is Love! [Purple heart emoji]

JAY  
I'll call you tomorrow...or in a few hours?

They laugh very shyly.

LOVE  
I'll be looking forward to it. Get home safe.

JAY  
I promise.

He gives her one last departing kiss...and as he goes, she watches him leave.

**18 INT. 115 LENOX RD APARTMENT 3RD FLOOR**

**18**

Love exits the elevator door and walks down the hall towards her apartment.

Moments later, a random man walks out of her apartment, and as they pass by each other, she stops and watches him enter the elevator. She is confused and a bit furious.

**19 INT. APARTMENT BEDROOM**

**19**

Love enters and sees Rickey on the bed, lounging on his phone half naked. He has not acknowledged her presence.

LOVE  
I thought you said you weren't in the mood tonight.

RICKEY  
I changed my mind.

Beat.

LOVE  
Can we talk?

RICKEY  
Sure.

She prepares herself for one of the worst moments in her life. Her heart races, she becomes fidgety, and everything in her feels like she's about to explode.

She takes a seat and faces directly at Rickey. He hasn't looked at her at all.

LOVE  
I don't think I can do this  
anymore.

Rickey turns to Love, shocked. Now she has his attention.

LOVE (CONT'D)  
I feel like ever since I started  
hormones. You've been distant...

INTERCUT TO:

20 INT. APARTMENT - FLASHBACK

20

**These flashbacks are inaudible.** Rickey playfully chases after a pre-transitioned Love trying to tickle her. They are both having an enjoyable time.

LOVE (CONT'D) (V.O.)  
...I don't understand how or why  
because you were the one who  
pushed me to be who I am,  
and...now that I have chosen who I  
am...You said nothing would  
change, but everything changed...

21 INT. APARTMENT - FLASHBACK

21

Rickey is teaching Love how to smoke for the first time. She takes a hit, breathes out, and coughs aggressively. They then both begin to laugh.

LOVE (CONT'D) (V.O.)  
...All these men walk right in and  
get exactly what they came for.  
They never have to ask for a  
single thing...but me...

**22 INT. APARTMENT - FLASHBACK****22**

Rickey sits on the bed as Love straddles him. They hold each other very close, inches apart. They are deeply enamored with each other. These were the happiest moments of their life.

LOVE (CONT'D) (V.O.)

...I have to ask you for a hug or a kiss. I do everything I can to get you to look at me. I miss what we had, but the man I fell in love with is now a stranger...

**23 INT. APARTMENT BEDROOM****23**

LOVE (CONT'D)

...I love you so much, Rickey, but I can't keep wondering if you love me.

Love and Rickey are both in a vulnerable space together. They sit together silently until...

RICKEY

You're right. I have been distant. I understand what you're saying. Thank you for being honest with me.

Love nods, acknowledging that she hears him.

RICKEY (CONT'D)

I'm just gunna say this and I don't mean to be rude but...I told you so.

LOVE

Excuse me?

RICKEY

I told you early on in our relationship that if we were to break up, I wouldn't be able to do it. It would either be something we agreed on, or you would be the one to do it. So...I told you so.

Love is pretty frustrated by his response instead of sticking up for herself, she just leaves it alone.

LOVE

I'm going to sleep on the couch.

RICKEY

I'm gunna get ready for work. We can talk more about this later.

LOVE

Okay.

24

**INT. APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

24

Love is keeping her composure as much as she can. She slowly saunters to the bathroom. A soft mumbled ringtone goes off in her purse. She pulls out her phone...it's Jay. She answers.

LOVE

Hello?

JAY

Hey, did I wake you?

LOVE

No, you're good. Is everything okay?

JAY

Yeah, I uh- I wanted to talk to you about something.

LOVE

Yeah, of course. What's up?

The silence is deadly—Love yearns to know what's happening.

LOVE

Jay?

JAY

Yeah, I'm still here.

LOVE

Say what you have to say. You can always be honest with me.

JAY

Catalina told me about you and your...men.

LOVE

Oh.

JAY

Yeah. Listen, I- uh...Imma be honest...

(MORE)

JAY (CONT'D)  
I'm not that kind of person, and I  
don't think I ever will be...

Long Pause. The silence plunging the knife deeper & deeper.

JAY (CONT'D)  
I'm sorry.

LOVE  
Don't be. Thank you for being  
honest.

JAY  
Of course...I uh...I'm going to  
get some sleep. I'll talk to you  
later?

LOVE  
Yes. Of course. Have a good day.

JAY  
You too.

The phone call ends. She is completely shattered from the inside. Her feelings swamp over her body, and the pressure builds on her shoulders. A piece of her feels like it's dying.

**25 INT. APARTMENT BATHROOM - LATER**

**25**

LOVE stares into the mirror at her full face of makeup. She feels like hell and even feels like a part of her has died. She holds back all the tears.

She grabs a makeup wipe and strips away the paint from her face. She glares once more at her face, looking at the boy she once was and the girl she's desperately trying to become.

**26 INT. APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - MORNING**

**26**

9:32 AM. Silence...Love lays on the couch, bundled up in an oversized blanket. A soft mumbled ringtone goes off. She looks, and it's Kai. She is indecisive about answering.

Her emotions are still heavily built on her shoulders. She knows that at any moment, she can shatter into a million pieces...RING...RING...RING...she answers.

LOVE  
(Breaking) Hello?

KAI  
Honey?

LOVE  
Hi, baby.

KAI  
What's wrong? Are you okay?

The question alone breaks her heart. She can't help but let her feelings exist. She cries as Kai remains silent, listening patiently. She then somewhat regains the energy to respond.

LOVE  
Ummm...no. I just...I really wish you were here.

KAI  
Do me a favor. Lay down and close your eyes.

She lays down and gets comfortable. She is allowing her imagination to take over her reality once again. We hear the sound of the ocean one last time...

**27 INT. A PRIVATE SPACE**

**27**

Love and Kai sit inches apart, staring into each other's eyes. They pull together and hold one another in a warm embrace like a perfectly fit puzzle. Holding onto this moment.

KAI (CONT'D)  
I am holding you very close. You are safe in my arms. I love you.

LOVE (V.O.)  
I love you, too.

**IN THIS MOMENT**

The credits roll as we watch Love and Kai hold each other until...

**28 THE END**

**28**