

It was puppy Love

# It was puppy Love

By : mohsina alam

Melissa Jones has done it. You may think it's cliché, every film's storyline, but she really has fallen for her best friend. She is almost certain that Ryan likes her too, but when he introduces her to his new girlfriend, is everything ruined? Or will it turn out to be just like every other film, where Ryan will fall for Melissa? I mean anything could happen...

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## Chapter 1: A new beginning

It was Puppy Love: Chapter 1

A new beginning:

"Melissa! Get up, breakfast is on the table," I hear my mother call. I peer up out of my duvet to see the clock just past 10:00 AM.

"Coming," I reply. I stumble lazily out of my bed and over to the window. I pull apart the curtains to a bright stream of sunshine plastering against my window; Not what you want to see straight out of bed. I open the window a little bit, to let the cool August breeze float into my room. Summer is my all-time favourite season of the year, no school, you can go to the beach everyday and everyone just seems to be happier.

I wash, brush my hair and change clothes quickly and then pad downstairs. "Morning honey," my mum smiles

"Morning," I reply, "Whats for breakfast?"

"Pancakes!" Squeals my 5-year old sister, Scarlett. I sit down at the breakfast table, across from my 19-year old brother Jack. Since you practically know my family now my whole family know, I might as well tell you that my dad, Nate, doesn't live with us anymore. Him and my mum split up a while back, but I still see him quite often. "Jack, can you drive me into town later?" I ask him

"Yeah sure," He replies, "Do you want me to pick up Emily on the way too?" He asks. Emily is my BEST friend. Friend doesn't justify it actually, we're more like sisters. "Yes please," I smile.

"Oh, Melissa, can you take the dog for a walk first please?" My mum asks, frantically searching around the kitchen for her car keys, " I would take her out but I've got work early today."

"It's fine," I say to her, handing her the keys that were under the table all that time.

"Thankyou Mel," She smiles "I'll be back by 1.00. Jack, make sure Scarlett's cleaned up her room and wash the dishes please!"

Finally, my mum had left the house and I had attached my new puppy Skylar to her leash. I had gotten my Gorgeous border-collie as a birthday gift from my dad and I absolutely loved her. Me and Skylar skip down the path, enjoying the beautiful weather. I walk past all of my neighbours houses, we live on quite a quiet and small road, none of the neighbours ever seem to leave their houses;but on the rare occasion, you'll see someone come out to do a bit of gardening or whatever. At the end of the road, I see a moving van parked outside Miss Colchesters house. Funny, she never told us she was moving. I see a woman and a man come out of the house, obviously the new owners. The woman looks about my mums age, Dressed prettily in a floaty blue dress and strappy sandals; the man steps out from behind the woman, clearly they're a couple, hopefully with somekids my age. I realize how weird it must look, me just staring at their house, so I start to walk again; leading Skylar to the park.

The park is crowded with little shrieking kids, excited that school is over. They're running around everywhere! Over by the lake you can see old couples taking a walk and Just in the far corner you can see a few emo teenagers, dressed in all black and exchanging either ciggarettes or alcohol; possibly worse.

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I walk a little bit up the hill and sit on the warm grass. My puppy looks depressed; clearly she wants to be let of her leash but I didn't really want to let her go. After all, she was new to me and we hadn't really trained her properly. But what the hell, It's not like she was going to run away from me. Or so I thought.

"Skylar!" I yelled after her; she ran like a shot, it was pretty hard to keep up with her. She ran all the way to the swingboat section and then I lost sight of where she was. I was getting seriously worried, had I really lost my dog after having her for 2 weeks? I continue to run, not really caring what I look like. I turn around the steps, going near to the bridge, no-one really came to this part of the park because it was quiet and weird.

I walk around a bit; it's actually really nice. The tree's are tall, the waters clear and it is undeniably peaceful. Then I see Skylar at the other side of the pond, being stroked by some guy. He picks her up and looks around before he spots me.

"Is she your's?" He asks, smiling. I nod

"Um, yeah. She is my puppy," I reply. He starts to walk around the pond, coming over to my side. He is good-looking, I've never seen him around before and it's not exactly like my town is the biggest. Everyone knows everyone here. He must be new.

"Here you go," he says, handing me my puppy.

"Thankyou so much," I babble, "I was really scared I had lost her."

"No problem," he says, shrugging. There's a silence then and I'm guessing he didn't want to speak to me anymore, so I smiled and then turned around, ready to go home.

"Hey, wait," I hear him say behind me. I turn around again

"Yes?" I ask. He kind of stands there uncomfortably, looking like he's not really sure what to do.

"Urm... I'm new here," he starts "And I was wondering if you'd maybe be so kind as to come get a coffee with me? I could really do with a friend." I smile, of course I was going to say yes.

"Ok," I reply, keeping my calm. His green eyes light up and the corners of his mouth flick upwards into a smile.

"I didn't get your name though," he says.

"Oh I'm Melissa," I say, " And you are?" I ask

"I'm Ryan," He replies. "Ryan Matthews."

A/N: Hope you enjoyed! Comments would be much appreciated xx :)

## Chapter 2: Coffee at Nina's

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Coffee at Nina's

"So, erm, when did you move here?" I ask Ryan, trying to keep the conversation going.

"Yesterday night," he explains, "The moving van came today though." I think back to this morning, at the end of my road. The new couple. Come to think of it, they actually look like they could be Ryans parents.

"By any chance, are you moving on to Sea-Spray Avenue," I ask, curiously.

"Yeah!" He says, "How did you know?"

"I live down there. I saw a moving van outside your new house."

"Oh. Cool."

We step into The near-enough to empty Coffee shop. It's called Nina's, after its manager. The coffee shop has been up for years, way before I was born. I think back in those days, they used to sell milkshakes. All the teenagers used to hang out there, including my parents. Everyone used to be happy and vibrant back then; now the shop is just the local 'hipsters' place to hang out, or old ladies in the middle of the day, when they want a cute place to drink a hot cup of tea.

"Hey Nina," I say, seeing the tired manager sitting at the front counter.

"Hello Melissa," She smiles, "And who is your friend?"

"This is Ryan," I say, "He just moved here, from...urm,"

"Chelsea," He finishes.

"Right," I whisper, going slightly pink. Nina looks at me, then smiles. She can probably tell that I think Ryan is hot, It's not like I'm being completely subtle. I hoped he wouldn't think I was just weird though. "Well your bound to like it here, Ryan," Nina says, "It's a beautiful place to live and I can see you've already made a friend. Melissa is one of the nicest girls I've ever met."

"Nina!" I say, blushing violently. She just laughs and then Ryan chuckles a little bit. It was a really cute laugh.

-1 Hour Later-

Oh, I need to take this," I say, standing up, "I'll be back in a minute." I walk over to the window, and answer the Jacks call.

"Hello?"

"Melissa! Where the hell are you?!" He almost-screams. Whoops. I guess in all the excitement of meeting Ryan, I forgot to tell my brother that I'd be home a lot later. "Um, I'm with a friend, Jack. Sorry, I forgot to tell you."

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He sighs with relief, "It's fine. I was just worried that's all. Come home soon."

"Ok," I say, "See you later."

"Bye."

I hang up and walk back to the table. "Who was that?" Ryan asks inquisitively.

"Just my brother," I say, "I need to be home soon."

"Oh well we might as well go now then. I can walk you home, considering you live down the road from me."

"Thanks," I smile. We pay at the counter for our coffee and head outside. Skylar walks ahead of us, shaking her head like a little diva.

"Skylar is so cute," Ryan smiles, "I wish I had a puppy."

"Don't be fooled! Puppies aren't all perfect. The cleaning, barking and scratches are not exactly the most fun thing in the world."

"I guess it's worth it though."

We keep talking and laughing all the way home. When we turn the corner onto our street, Ryans parents are still outside, taking their belongings inside.

"Hey Ryan. Did you have a good time exploring The town?" Ryans mum says.

"Yeah, I really like it here," he says smiling.

"And who is that?" Ryans dad says happily, pointing towards me.

"This is Melissa," Ryan says, looking at me, "I met her in the park and then we went and got some coffee."

"That's nice. Hi Melissa, I'm Sarah," Ryans mum says, "And that's my husband Tom."

"Nice to meet you all," I say, baring a small grin, "Um, Ryan, I really have to go now, but I'll see you soon, Ok?"

He does that cute little half-smirk that boys tend to do then. "Ok," He echoes, "Bye!"

I look over my shoulder. "Bye!"

Today has been a good day. I've made a new friend and it was all because of Skylar. I smile and laugh a little, looking down at my beautiful puppy. "Thanks," I whisper to her, "If only you knew what you've done!"

A/N: Hope you like it! Sorry this chapter has been so short, but I was a bit stuck for ideas. And sorry it was mostly speech, they'll be a lot more description to come!

## Chapter 3: Fresh new school year

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Chapter 3- Fresh New School Year

-1 Year later-

I smoothed down my pastel-blue dress and checked my hair tied neatly in a bun once again. It was the first day back at school, and I hadn't seen people all summer, I wanted to make a sort of...come-back?

"Bye mum!" I yelled out of the door.

"Bye baby," I heard back, "Have a good day at school!" I shut the door and started walking towards Ryan's house. I had seen Ryan over the summer, but not for the past 3 weeks. Me and him were absolute BEST friends now, along with my best friend Emily, and his other best friend Cameron. We were a little group. It was cool. We were one of the only schools in the U.K to be able to wear what we want, so it was always cool to go back to school, and see who's style had changed and what not.

I walked up Ryan's driveway and knocked on his door. Sarah, his mum, opened it and beamed at me. "You look lovely today Melissa. Did you do something with your hair?"

I laughed, "Thank you Sarah," I smiled, "And yeah, I got it layered and partly high-lighted."

"Well it looks very nice," She said, smiling. And then she remembered what I was here for. "Oh! Ryan, Melissa's at the door!" I heard Ryan run from his attic-room, "Coming mum!" He replied, and then I saw him leap from the stairs.

"Ryan! Please, be more careful! One of these day's, you'll fall and break your neck, and it'll be no-ones fault but your own," Sarah scolded. "Please mum, I'll be fine! And see you later, bye love you!" He rushed before stepping outside and tugging on my arm to start walking. "Love you too!" Sarah yelled. I laughed, and Ryan looked embarassed. He ducked his head in shame, and started speed walking towards school. "Aw, Ryan, your mum's so cute," I laughed, catching up to him.

"Shut up," he laughed back, "So... I haven't seen you for a while."

"I know," I replied, "Where have you been hiding?!" He smiled at me, the bright sun and clear sky behind him, making it very scenic. "I haven't been hiding anywhere, I guess we've just been busy at different times. I missed you though." He replied. My whole body gleamed. It was little things like that, that made me love Ryan more. Oh god. Did I actually just say that?!

"I missed you too," I say, "Can you believe that we're starting our final year of high school today?"

"Oh how time flies," Ryan replied, "Hopefully this year is as good as last year, probably wont be, as we'll have loads of revision and stuff." I groaned at the thought. He laughed, "Don't worry, I'll help you get through it! Remeber last year, I made those little flash- card things for you? I'll come up with a little idea like that to help you again," Ryan finished. I thought a little bit, "Thanks," I replied, "They really helped!"

We turned the corner, onto Lake-Field High. We could see the shiny new Year 7's, all excited, moody year 11s, not happy to be back at school, year 9s who thought they were all 'tough' and 'hard' because they were

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smoking cigarettes, nearly coughing to death in the process. We walked straight in through the entrance, to be greeted by Lily Mcglough. "Hi guys!" She exclaimed, "I haven't seen either of you in so long!"

"Hi Lily," I replied smiling, "How was your summer?" Lily and me had been friends for years, not really close friends, but friends all the same. Anyway, she babbled on about her amazing trip to Spain and Ryan and me got a few words in to. "So nice to see you again," I said, "But I actually have to get going to get my new timetable from form."

"Ok, see you both later," she beamed, "We'll catch up soon, ok Melissa?"

"Of course," I replied. Before heading into a corridor to my form room.

"I need to go get my timetable, Mel," Ryan said, "But I'll see you and Emily and Cameron at break."

"Ok," I smiled, "See you later." He waved goodbye and then he was gone. I went into room D07 and saw my form tutor, Miss Hopkins. "Hi miss!" I exclaimed. She turned her head towards the door and gave me a huge grin.

"Hi love," She smiled, "Are you here for your timetable?" I nodded, before entering the room. She searched around her desk, before pulling out a piece of slightly-crumpled paper. "Here you go, Mel."

"Thanks miss," I replied, before walking out. I scanned the timetable, noticing that my first lesson was art. I headed up to the art studio on the top floor, smiling and saying hi to a few people along the way. When I got into the room, I was greeted by a massive hug from Cameron. "Melissa! I missed you, how have you been?"

"I've been great!" I laughed, hugging back.

"So, the last time I saw you was at Sarah Hoflins summer garden party," He said, "You know, the time when you were going to..."

"Shut up Cameron!" I said, looking around to see that no-one had heard. We sat down in our seats and then he started talking again. "You have to tell him at some point," Cameron continued, "You can't go your whole life without telling Ryan how you feel." I sighed. I knew he was right, but If I told Ryan I liked him, it could ruin our whole friendship, and that was the last thing I wanted to happen. "I will," I said confidently, "At some point this year."

Cameron looked at me and sighed, then half-giggled. "Of course you will," He said, "Because if you don't, I will."

At break, when art and Math was over, me and Ryan headed to our usual table, to see Cameron and Emily already there. When Emily spotted me, she leaped up and engulfed me in another hug. "Mel!" She shrieked, "I missed you!"

"I missed you too Em!" I laughed, "But we saw each other 3 days ago!!" She laughed and then we all sat down, bringing out our contribution to the group snack. I always brought the cookies, Emily the skittles, Ryan the juice and Cameron the strawberries. "Mmm," Ryan said "I have missed our group snacks!" we all agreed and started sharing the food, when Emily remembered something. "Guys, y'know Tanisha, the new-ish girl?"

"Yeah?" We all muttered.

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"She's having a back-to school party on Saturday, and she's invited me and told me to tell you guys you are all invited too."

"Cool," Cameron commented. "My social life has dissolved recently, it seems no-one is inviting me to anything."

"Haha, that's because you're a loser," Emily laughed.

"That's why you guys hang out with me, I suppose?" He said sarcastically.

"You're a bit of a tag-along, Cameron." Ryan stated, "I mean, no-one really asked you to hang out with us," He laughed. Me and Emily smiled and Cameron pulled a pouty face. "You guys are so harsh, Cameron is my favourite," I smiled.

"Thank you Mel!" He exclaimed. We carried on talking about pointless stupid things, until the bell went for period 3.

It was English, and I was alone in that, seeing as I was in AP English, and the others were in the lower set. I waved goodbye to them and made my way to the english corridor.

I knew what I had said to Cameron was true. I WAS going to tell Ryan, I liked him, whether it killed me or not. I HAD to make him know how I felt. And this was my last year. It was going to be my year. My turn to have everything go in the right way, finally.

## Chapter 4: Party time

It was Puppy Love: Chapter 4

Party Time!

"Is this alright?" I asked Emily, later on, when we were at my house.

"Um, maybe not, Mel," She laughed, "Green sparkles might be a bit *too* different!" I groaned. We had been searching my wardrobe for the past half-hour, trying to find something for me to wear to Tanisha's party. It was failing miserably. "I just want to stand out a bit," I protested, "Y'know, so I'm noticed more."

"By Ryan, you mean," She jeered, "Melissa, please tell me you're going to tell him, at some point." I nodded, and laughed at her worried face, "Of course I will, I just need to find the perfect moment." I said, putting away the green sparkly dress. She sighed, "You don't need a perfect moment. You just need to take the moment and make it perfect."

"Where'd you get that from, Tumblr?!" I laughed, "But very true Em. Anyway what am I going to wear?!" She rooted around a draw for a second and then ran over to my wardrobe. "What about this?" She asked. She held up a 80s-inspired black skater skirt, with a little white lace crop top, a crochet belt to wrap around my waist and then some cute gladiator-sandals.

"Perfect," I smiled, "So what are you wearing?"

-3 Days Later-

I heard a knock at the door, followed by the hollering of my mother telling me Ryan was here, and then Skylar started barking. Seriously. Our house was a mad one. "Coming mum!" I yelled, slicking on a quick coat of eyeliner and then applying some fake eyelashes in the speed of light. I grabbed my bag and then went downstairs. Ryan was in my kitchen, talking to my little sister, sipping some coke. He turned around when I came in and smiled at my appearance. He himself looked very nice, in a casual Ramones tee, a checkered top layered over and then some blue skinny jeans.

"Hi," I said, "Sorry I was so long."

"It's no problem, Scarlett here was just telling me about her school play on Tuesday," He smiled. My little sister grinned, and turned to Ryan, "Ryan, will you come and watch, with mum and Mel?" She asked.

"I'd be honoured too, if that's alright?" Ryan answered. My mum smiled at his sweetness, before I went out in the hall to get my shoes. When I came back, they were all making plans about the play, saying that Emily and Cameron had to come too. Finally, when they had finished, me and Ryan decided to get going for the party. "Don't be too late now honey," my mum said, "Your curfew's 11. Any minute later, and you'll be grounded, understood?"

"Yes mum," I muttered

"Good. Have fun then, you crazy kids!" She laughed, before shutting the door. We started walking towards the bus stop, that was around the corner. "Y'know, I don't even think I've said more than 10 words to Tanisha," Ryan laughed.

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"She's in my chemistry class. She's really pretty, super nice too," I said, "I don't really speak to her much though. Her and Emily are quite good friends though." We got onto the bus and it drove over to Burgess Hill, where Tanisha lived. It was one of the nicest parts of the small town, really quiet and serene. All the gardens had neatly-cut hedges and the doors were adorned with flower garlands. When we arrived at her door, it was already open, so we just went in. It was absolutely manic. There were shoes everywhere, cups with what looked like punch but was probably something else scattered around, and the sound of Marilyn Manson blaring away in the garden. "Woah," Ryan said, carefully walking past all the spillages, "Looks like things got heavy fast." I laughed.

"D'you know half the people here?" I whispered. He looked around to see unfamiliar faces, sitting on the sofa, dancing, laughing. "They must be her friends from her old school," He replied, "C'mon. Everyone we know is probably outside."

We went outside and Tanisha looked over. She smiled and then came over to us. "Hi guys! So glad you could make it!" She babbled. I smiled, "No problem."

"Well, I hope you have a good time, drinks and food are over there, enjoy yourself!" She said, before walking back over to her friends. Me and Ryan then saw Emily and Cameron, eating food, so we walked over to them.

"Hey guys!" Cameron exclaimed, "You have to try this quiche, it's amazing." Emily smiled at me, and handed me a piece of cake. I took a bite, and it was amazing. I don't know where she got it from, but I'd have to hit up Tanisha for details at some point. "Will you come to the bathroom with me, Mel?" Emily asked. I ate the last bite and then nodded.

We headed inside, walking upstairs. There was a girl, mascara all down her face, hair messed up and one shoe off sitting on the top of the stairs, crying softly. "Are you alright?" I asked sitting down next to her. She looked up at me, slightly confused, "Do I know you?" She asked, rubbing her eyes.

"I don't think so. I'm Melissa. Why are you crying?" I asked, Emily handing her a tissue. She gingerly took it, and wiped her eyes and nose. "Thank you. I'm Victoria, Your probably from Tanisha's new school right? I'm one of her friends, from her old school." She said, breathing out a little air.

"Come-on honey, let's get you fixed up, and then you can tell us what's up," Emily soothed. She laughed, and then smiled. We got up and headed into the bathroom. "God, I look a mess," Victoria muttered, before brushing out her hair, washing her face and then applying mascara and lipstick again. Emily checked herself in the mirror, smoothing her hair down. I breathed out, the air in the room stale and suffocating. "So," I began, "What's the problem?" She sighed, fidgeting with her fingers and playing with her hair. "Me, my friend Anna and my boyfriend Matt all came to this party together. I lost Matt in the crowd, but didn't worry too much. Me and Anna had a nice time together, but then I decided to go look for him. And when I found him..." She breathed in, "He was kissing some other girl." She mumbled.

"Oh, I'm so sorry!" Me and Emily both said, going over to give her a hug.

"He clearly doesn't deserve you," I said.

"If he's going to act like a twat, you should move on," Emily chimed in.

She sighed, and we all broke apart. "It's just...It's hard y'know? I mean, I loved him. It's not going to be easy just to get over him." Me and Emily both looked at each other. "But you know what? This is a party! I'm not going to let that get me down. It's a start of a new school year, I can meet new people. Starting with you two," She smiled.

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"That's the spirit!" Emily laughed, "Now let's go downstairs, show everyone that you don't need Matt." So we went downstairs, a lot of people coming inside as it had gotten cold. "Looks like the party's only just begun," Victoria smirked. I laughed, and pulled her and Emily to the dance floor. We all giggled, and started to dance like lunatics. And as the clock hit 8:30, it was clear there was a lot more to come.

## Chapter 5: Catch that vase!

It was Puppy love- Chapter 5

Catch that vase!

The sound of glass smashing against the ground was almost invisible; compared to the loud thumping music that was blaring out of DJ speakers. It had just turned 10, and I had started talking to some friends from school. Everyone was a little tipsy, now I'm sure there was something else in that punch. A lot of people had left already though, but a lot had also turned up. I didn't know many of them, but everyone was having a good time, enjoying themselves. I walked into the kitchen as suddenly someone yelled, "The vase is falling!" and then Zac, a decent nice guy from school, caught it just in time and put it neatly back on the top shelf. Good thing he did, I think it was a wedding present for Tanisha's parents. Speaking of them, they clearly would NOT be happy with the state the house was in. I tried to find Victoria, I hadn't seen her since me and Em left her on the dance floor. That girl had so much energy, especially for someone who had just broken up with her boyfriend.

I was about to go back into the living room, when I heard squeals outside. I ran to see what everyone was looking at, and all I heard was 'Kiss! Kiss! Kiss!' I saw Maddie Burton and some other girl, locking heads in the middle of the crowd. The girl stroked Maddie's face and then grazed her hand against her thigh. This was clearly enough to get her turned on, because Maddie then roughly took her face and full on kissed her. It looked like she wedged her tongue in her throat, and then they started to get a little...Inappropriate, shall I say? They released each other's faces, and everyone was just looking and cheering. The girl then took her hand and lead her inside, It was clear what they were going to get up to. It completely shocked me, I'd known Maddie since we were 8, and I used to see her and her family at church; she used to wear Pinifores and play with Bratz dolls. Now, I think she'd be kicked out of church, only wears micro minis, and the only thing she'd like to play with is, I guess, that girl.

-The Next Day-

"Everyone looks awful," Emily whispered, as we walked past gloomy pale faces. Everyone was clearly hungover from last night's events, but a lot of people hadn't even bothered to show up. Me and her both sat down on a bench in the school gardens, waiting for the bell to ring. "So, last night was somewhat, eventful," I began.

"Don't even start," She laughed, "It was crazy! Apparently, after we left, the party carried on till 1.00 AM, until someone called the police." I stared at her, my eyes going massive.

"No," I said slowly, "Seriously?!"

"Yeah, that's why Tanisha isn't in this morning. Her parents were...less than happy." She chuckled lightly. The bell suddenly rung and me and Em both got up, and headed toward our first lesson, French. What a lovely way to start the morning.

Maddie Burton was in my Physics class, which happened to be after French. Everyone was looking at her as she walked in, they all clearly knew what happened. She looked awful, her face pale, no make-up, eyes dark. She looked like she could be sick any minute too. "Hey Maddie," Brett Collins whispered as Miss Mantons back was turned, "Have a good night yesterday?"

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She sat fairly close to me, so I could see her clench her fists. Obviously, she knew people had been talking about her, but then she breathed out. She straightened her hands and turned around to face Brett. She leaned over his desk, cleavage on show, and then started to speak. "It was good, actually. Natalia wasn't half bad, if you know what I mean." She then stood up straight and winked at him, before he turned a startling shade of purple. I laughed to myself, who would've known we all turned out the way we did?

When the final bell had rung, I went outside to meet Ryan. He was there, playing on his phone, so I walked up to him and covered his eyes with my hand. He laughed and then peeled them off. We started walking, the sun was out and shining and the sky was bright blue. "Everyones been talking about last night," he began, "where did you go anyway? I didn't see you much."

"Oh, I was with Lily and Kate and Bethany most of the time. I met some new people though." He laughed and then smiled at me, "Oh yeah? So did I."

"Why were you laughing? Who did you meet?" I asked, slightly confused.

"I met this girl. Anna." He started, before I cut him short.

"Anna? Anna Blake?" I asked

"Yeah! How d'you know her?"

"I don't." I said, "I met this girl called Victoria, and she was there with a friend called Anna Blake."

"Oh." He replied, "I met Victoria briefly too. Anyway, have you seen her? Anna, I mean."

"No," I said, it sounding sharper than I meant it too. He looked a bit worried, as if he'd upset me or something. I flashed him a grin to let him know I was joking. "Anyhoo," He continued, "She's beautiful. And we talked about loads of things. We have so much in common. It was so weird. I got her number, and I'm contemplating asking her out on a date."

I can't describe the feeling I had just then. My heart just....dropped. This wave of sickness came over me, and I couldn't speak. Finally, I choked up, "That's great Ryan. You should totally ask her out."

He smiled, "I really like her. Anyway, We'll talk later ok?" He said walking up into his house

"Yep," I yelled back. As soon as he got in, I ran over to my house. Luckily, there was no-one in, so I was free to just sit there and cry.

## Chapter 6: love sucks

It was puppy love- Chapter 6

Love sucks

Scarlette was at my dads, and Jack was gone for the week on a lads holiday. Mum was working late today. So I was alone, which was really good. I let the tears fall, I didn't even try to deny them. It felt like my whole life was crumbling, and I was letting the ashes fall all around me. There was nothing I could do, he liked this girl, and I had told him to ask her out. Why did I do that? Why didn't I say, 'Oh Ryan, play it cool' or 'Get to know her first'? I couldn't possibly say that now, he'd know something was up. I had to face it; it was no-ones fault but my own.

A half hour later, I picked myself up and went to my room. I wiped my tears and moisturised my face, making sure to clean off all the mascara stains on my cheeks. I then brushed my tangled hair and tied it in a quick bun. I peeled off my Jeans and top and threw them in the laundry basket. Rumaging around in the bathroom cabinets, I found some lavender bath salts and started to run a bath, I needed some relaxation. I lit some candles and played a relaxation tape that I found in my brothers room, letting the warmth of the bath take over me.

I heard mum come in about 40 minutes later, while I was drying myself. I drained the bath, and walked out in my bathrobe. "Hey Mel," She yelled quickly, "Have you had something to eat?" I put on some clothes and then went downstairs, feeling rather peckish. "No," I replied.

"Oh well I just brought a few things, I though since Jack and Scarlette were away we could order in pizza and maybe watch a film? We could also do each others nails, and talk a bit, like we used too," She said, whilst unpacking some cupcakes and chocolate. I smiled, whilst she offered me a yoghurt pot. I took it, even though I felt a bit queasy.

"That sounds great mum, but I have loads of revision to do tonight. Maybe tomorrow?" I lied. I could see the disappointment on her face, but she quickly masked it. "Yeah ok, that's fine love."

"Sorry," I replied.

"No, don't be!" She protested, "You have exams to study for so chop chop, hit the books." I spooned the last mouthful of yoghurt into my mouth and threw the pot in the bin. I went upstairs after that and put my Ipod on shuffle. I might of told my mum, but not quite yet. I felt bad about ruining her plans, and I didn't really want to start peaking about my own peronal problems. The only person I wanted to speak to was Emily. I decided to text her, asking her to come over

*Hey Em, come over in a bit? Xxxx*

She replied within 5 minutes

*Sure, I'll be there in 10 x :)*

I turned the kettle on and put some hot chocolate powder in 2 mugs. I decided to make a cofee for mum and put it at her computer desk. When the kettle had boiled, I poured in the water and added whipped cream, marshmallows and then some chocolate sauce on Emily's drink and Vanilla syrup on mine. That's the way our drinks had always been. Just as I was about to take them upstairs, I heard a knock on the door. I opened it and

## It was puppy Love

Emily walked in, taking her drink from my full hands. She closed the door, and took off her shoes. We went upstairs, and still neither of us had said anything. That's how close we are, no words actually need to be said.

"So... what's up?" Emily started. I sighed and took a sip of my hot chocolate. My stomach was churning, and my hands were quite uneasy. "Um, I have something to tell you, and it's quite hard for me."

"Oh god, please don't say you slept with someone at the party and you're pregnant or something!" She exclaimed, a look of horror on her face. I burst out laughing and smiled, "No! It's not like that!" I said, "It's, um, to do with Ryan."

"Did you...did you ask him out?" She questioned.

"No. Quite the opposite in fact. He met a girl called Anna at the party, who's friends with Victoria."

"And?" She pushed for more details.

"He likes her." I finally coughed up, tears welling in my eyes, "And I told him to ask her out." Immediately, Em took the mug from my hands, and I layed down on my bed. Slowly, tears slid down my cheeks, and she handed me a kleenex tissue. I wiped my eyes, and then Emily began to speak. "I'm so sorry, Mel," she started, "It must really hurt."

"It does. But I'm mostly just angry with myself, because I told him to ask her out, and why haven't I asked him out? He might of said yes, Em, and now he'll never know."

"Don't blame yourself. It's not your fault that he met someone else. Who knows, she might be horrible, and he might hate her in a few weeks." I laughed, and sat up straight.

"He won't though. He said she's beautiful. And if she's anything like Victoria, she'll be really cool." I sighed.

"The worst thing is, you have to face him everyday." Emily said.

"And pretend like there's nothing wrong." I finished.

## Chapter 7: Dealing with the heartbreaks

It was puppy love- chapter 7

Dealing with the heartbreaks

Going to school the next day had to have been one of the hardest things I've ever done. It just felt so lonely. Everyone was acting normal and stuff, but the atmosphere was just different. I felt alone, even though there were people right next to me. My first lesson was geography; I was seriously regretting picking it as an option, it was such hard work and I just generally found it SO boring. I walked alone through the halls; I hadn't walked with Ryan that morning. I texted him saying I had to go in earlier, and was going home later so I couldn't walk with him either times. I just couldn't face him. It'd be too hard.

"Hey," Cameron smiled at me.

"How are you," I said, slipping into my seat next to him; shrugging my bag off my shoulder.

"Bit tired. But fine," Cameron replied. Mr McKee silenced the class then, to take the register. Whilst we were bringing out our work from our folders, Cameron brought out a bag of jelly beans from his bag. "Energy," he smirked, "a lot of work to get done today."

"This is why I love you," I exclaimed, taking a handful of the sweets. Why did I find it so easy to tell other people I loved them? I was so stupid. For a half hour, Mr McKee turned the radio on, and me and Cameron shared jelly beans, took rainfall and song along to the cheesy pop songs playing through the speakers. Ed Sheeran had just finished, and then on came Taylor Swift, 'Teardrops on my guitar'. Y'know when a song describes your situation so perfectly, you get a little confused, as if the song was written for you? That's how I felt. I'd hate to say it, but Taylor Swift got how I was feeling. Weird.

"Why is this playing? Swear it came out like 4 years ago?" Cameron laughed

"It did. I really don't like it," I frowned, popping another jelly bean in my mouth.

"C'mon, you've got to love a bit of Taylor Swift!"

"She's way too overrated. Like, she doesn't even sound that good live." I protested.

"Whatever, she's hot and that's that," Cameron smiled.

"Whatever you say," I smiled.

Mr McKee walked over then, checking everyone's work. He peered at our writing and then smiled. "Excellent work Melissa. You too, Cameron, writing could be a little neater though."

Cameron looked appalled. "Whatever," he muttered, getting up to throw the discarded empty jelly bean packet.

It was break time a little while later. Me and Cameron put away our folders and started to walk out of the classroom.

## It was puppy Love

"Hey, guess what? Ryan told me he had some news, we'd better get down to find out what it is!" Cameron suddenly exclaimed. I felt sick to my stomach when he'd said that. I couldn't deal with it.

"You go. I have work to do in the library, I'll catch up at lunch," I lied.

"Oh? Are you sure? What about the news?"

"I'll find out later," I assured, "I have to go now; I'll see you in a bit Cameron."

I started to walk away, up the stairs again. I hid in the library, pretending to read a book, when all the words jumbled up in my head. I had a headache, and I felt so sick, almost like I was coming down with a fever. Maybe I was.

"Hey Melissa!" Lily exclaimed. I smiled politely at Lily's happiness.

"Hi Lily."

"What are you doing here? You're never usually in the library," she said sitting down.

"Um, just catching up on some reading, what about you?"

Lily started babbling on, but my mind was far away from the topic of homework. Suddenly the room was spinning, and I couldn't see properly. I couldn't hear, and when I tried to stand up, I suddenly collapsed. I hit the ground, sharp pain shooting through my body.

"Melissa?" I heard Lily frantically shriek, "Someone help!"

A/N: Hope you guys liked that chapter! Stay tuned to find out what happens to Melissa!

## Chapter 8: Blackout

### It Was Puppy Love- Chapter 8

#### Blackouts

When I woke up, I found myself in a strange smelling room in an uncomfortable bed with tight sheets. I was in hospital? Man, how bad was my fall? I sat up in the bed and saw that it was just past 12, I think I collapsed at school, about an hour and half ago. I was just peering out of the window, when suddenly a nurse came in, smiling with my mum just behind her.

"Woken up already? That's a good sign," She said, "You might want to get back into bed though for a while. The doctor will need to check for any sign of injury, and possibly take a blood test. We'll just need to make sure you're 100% ok before we can send you home."

"Okay," I mumbled, getting back into the bed.

"I'll just leave you both to talk then," The nurse finished before slipping out of the room. As soon as she left, mum came and sat on the bed gingerly, as if she didn't even really know what to do. "Are you ok honey?" she started, "It's so unexpected that anything like that would happen to you. Were you feeling sick before or did you have a headache?" She asked.

"Mm something like that," I lied.

"Well your dad will be here in a while, but maybe you should just rest up. The doctor will be here in a minute too, so hopefully it will all be alright and you'll be able to leave soon." The nurse came in right after my mum had finished her sentence, with the doctor this time. The doctor walked over to me, smiling. "Hello, Melissa is it? I'm Doctor Kyle. So, can you tell me how you were feeling right before you fainted?"

"Um, I felt a bit sick. And really dizzy." I said

"And how long was that for?"

"Possibly 10 minutes, before I fainted. Do you know why I fainted?" I questioned.

"Well, the dizziness could've possibly been caused by lack of blood flow to the brain. And that can happen when you're under emotional stress or pain." Doctor Kyle explained.

"Oh."

Doctor Kyle laughed. "Do you mind just sitting up for me Melissa? I'm just going to have a look around your eyes and neck for signs of injury."

I sat up a little more when Doctor Kyle turned on a little torch and looked around my neck and peered into my eyes. "I think you're alright on the injury front. Nothing should hurt, right?"

"No, I'm fine," I replied, "I have a bit of a headache though."

"That's perfectly normal. I think we'll just take your blood pressure, and then you get some tablets. You should be fine to go home after that, if everything is normal." They then took my blood pressure and waited

## It was puppy Love

for results. They were back within 5 minutes and said everything was fine. "Just take these tablets every night for 4 nights so we can absolutely certain that you're ok. If anything like this happens again, or you just feel really sick like you did, contact us or your GP." The nurse finished.

"Thank you," my mum smiled, as she got me my shoes. We walked out of the hospital and got into the car and drove home in a peaceful silence. I didn't feel like talking and I was thankful my mum got that. As soon as we got home, I crashed out on the sofa and fell asleep.

-3 hours later-

I felt someone shake me slightly and I opened my eyes to see my little sister, looking at me cautiously. "Oh, you are alive. Phew." She said. I laughed at her ditziness and got off the sofa. "When did you get back from dad's?" I smiled, giving her a hug.

"Mum picked me up from school and she's at work now. Dad is cooking dinner, I think." She babbled, "What happened to you? Mum said you fell."

"I did." I replied, "I don't really know why."

"Are you ok now?" She questioned.

"Yes thank you, Scarlette."

"Good, because I want to play with my dolls and Jack isn't here to play with me. So I need you."

"Okay. Let me say hello to dad first." I went to the kitchen, to see my dad pop some garlic bread into the oven. "Hey Mel," He smiled giving me a hug.

"Hi dad."

"So how are you? Did you sleep alright?" He asked.

"Yeah I'm fine. And I slept ok too. Did Em call?" I replied.

"Yes," He said, "She'll be over to see you in an hour or so, and she's staying for dinner too."

"Okay, did anyone else call?"

"Um, Cameron and Ryan did." He shrugged, "They'll be over for dinner too, actually, along with your mum. Y'know Mel, you have some great friends. They really care about you."

"Yes I know," I smiled. But then I felt sick. As I remembered that Ryan liked someone. Cameron and Emily knew now aswell. They'd all be over for dinner and there would be no escape from it. There's no escape from it anyway. This is my life from now. And that's a depressing truth.

A/N: Hope you guys like this chapter, I feel it might be a bit bad so sorry about that! It'll get better asap, so please keep reading, leave comments too? xx

## Chapter 9: Dinner at the Jones's

It Was Puppy Love- Chapter 9

Dinner at the Jones's

I was really not looking forward to my friends coming over for dinner. I just wasn't up for answering questions and having to talk and be friendly. I wanted to go back to bed and sleep for a whole year.

Unluckily enough for me, my parents had already set the table and cooked, well rather heated up, a large meal. I sighed as I looked at myself in the mirror for the last time before I went downstairs, checking that my hair looked ok, and if my make up was still in place. "Mel," I heard my dad shout, "Can you come downstairs now?"

"Coming," I replied, droopily stumbling down my stairs. I was greeted by Skylar's face as she tried to jump on me. I gave her a loving stroke and picked her up, taking her with me to the dining room. I saw our blue and white china and tall gold-rimmed glasses being laid out on a clean white table cloth. We only had them out when we had guests, as my mum would know, but my dad is a pretty smart guy. He only likes the best.

"Oh, Nate, you didn't have to go to this much effort," My mum said, quickly bustling around, "It's only Melissa's friends."

"I know. I still would like the room to look nice though." He replied. Skylar wriggled out of my arms then, and started barking when she heard the doorbell ring. She ran towards the door and howled as I opened it to a smiley Emily. "Hey!" She exclaimed, giving me a hug.

"Hi Emily," My parents chorused from the dining room.

"Hey Alicia, Nate," She replied. We went to the living room, and I knew then that the questions would begin.

"So how are you?" She asked.

"Honestly, I'm fine now. The doctor said I'd need some rest but I should be fine."

"That's good. Did he say why you fainted?"

"No, not really. He said it could've been caused by emotional stress." I explained

"You dont think it's because of..." She hesitated. I knew what she meant. It could of been the reason why. I'm pretty certain anyway.

"Maybe." I answered, just as the doorbell rung again. My mum beat me to the door, and in came Cameron and Ryan. Ryan looked unbelievably hot, that my jaw nearly dropped. He looked at me and smiled, and I thought I was going to melt.

"Hey," He said, wrapping me up in a Ryan-scented hug, "How are you?"

"Good," I replied, smiling at him. Cameron was giving my mum some courgettes , for some reason.

"Here you go, Alicia. My mum said you wanted these because you were making a stir fry."

## It was puppy Love

"Aw thank you Cameron, tell your mum I say thank you."

"Okay," He grinned. He stepped onto Ryan's side and engulfed me in a warm hug.

"Right dinner's ready kids. Coming?" My dad questioned rhetorically.

We all sat down, my mum and dad at either ends of the table, me, Emily, Ryan opposite me, Cameron opposite Emily and then Scarlette at the end of the table. Skylar had her dog food, while we passed around garlic bread, potato wedges, and naan bread with some dips.

"Dinner here is always good," Cameron said, wolfing down everything on his plate."

"Wait, Cameron, you have salsa on your lip," My little sister exclaimed, picking up a napkin and wiping his mouth. We all laughed, as she looked confused. "What?" She asked, "I was only trying to help." Small talk was made as we finished starters and then a came a fish fillet with vegetables, probably accompanied with a slice of awkward as the first chat about me started.

"So do the doctors know why you fainted Mel?" Ryan questioned.

"Um, not really," I said taking a bite of my fish, "They said stress maybe."

"Oh," He replied, "Probably from school and stuff then." He looked up and gave me a quick smile. Damn it, I wished he'd stop doing that, I nearly died each time.

"How is school for you lot?" My mum asked, "Last year of high school, the pressure's on."

"Good, actually, surprisingly," Cameron smiled, "I'm finding the workload easier this year then last year."

"Really?" Emily asked, "I'm not!"

"We're going to have to start studying a lot more," I said, groaning at the thought, "How is that you get such good grades when you barely study Ryan?"

Ryan mockingly played offended, "I do study!" He huffed.

"Not much anymore," Cameron teased in a sing-songy way, "Not now that you have a girlfriend." I stopped chewing. Girlfriend? Already? I thought he was just going to ask her out, take it slow. I was clearly wrong.

"Girlfriend?" My mum smiled, "Who is it?"

"Oh, a girl I met at a party, her name's Anna." He smiled as he was saying it. It made me feel sick.

"Oh how sweet," My mum said, sipping her wine. I wished we could of just had dessert at that point, to get rid of the bitter taste in my mouth.

Dinner continued, but the whole time I was far away. I didn't want to be here. I wanted to be a million miles away and never come back.

A/N: Hope you enjoy this chapter! Comment what you think will happen next!

## Chapter 10: Meeting Anna

It was puppy love- Chapter 10

Meeting Anna

-2 weeks later-

"Hey, Melissa, wait!" I heard Emily call behind me.

"Urgh, that sounds so weird, you calling me Melissa. You always just call me Mel!" I replied, waiting for her to reach my side. We walked towards Maths together, slightly late. "Oh. Yeah that is weird," she laughed.

"So what's up?" I asked. I hadn't seen any of the group together in a little while, just them separately. It was rare that I even saw Ryan anymore, he'd always be off to go see Anna as soon as school finished.

"Well, um, I've been speaking to Ryan, and um," Emily hesitated. I rolled my eyes.

"What? What did he say? Why are you even so scared to talk to me about him?" I questioned, it coming out a little ruder than I intended. "Woah. Don't get stressy," she retorted, "Anyway, he wants me and you to hang out with Anna and Victoria today."

"Oh my god. Are you serious?" I asked. She nodded her head slightly embarrassed.

"Hey but you like Victoria! So it can't be that bad. And you have me."

"I guess, but you can't expect me to be thrilled." I sighed

"No. Of course not."

I spent the rest of the day thinking about our meet. What was Anna like? Was she beautiful and coldhearted? Was she cute and kind and lovable? I had no idea what to expect. I didn't know anything about the girl. Victoria seemed nice enough, so maybe Anna was too. I hate the fact that Ryan expects us to be friends. It's not like he has no right, but it just sucks. I hoped Anna would be really stuck-up, rude, cold and any other synonym's for those because frankly, if she was nice, it would make it a hell of a lot harder to hate her.

-A few hours later-

It was after school and me and Emily had headed to a cafe called Krazy Kats near the high street. We got there a bit before Victoria and Anna, so we ordered drinks for us and sat down.

"Hmm, never been here before. Have to say, I prefer Nina's," Emily commented.

"I have once before. I think this is where everyone from Newman hangs out, considering it's pretty close to the school," I replied, sipping on my strawberry and papaya smoothie.

"And there's people in school uniform." A few minutes went by and then a redhead and blonde peeped through the door.

"They're here," Emily said, in a sing-songy voice. I rolled my eyes and drummed my nails on the table.

## It was puppy Love

"Great."

Anna, the blonde, walked slightly behind Victoria as they made their way over to us. They were in the same school uniform as nearly everyone else in the room. "Hello! It's nice to see you again," Victoria smiled sitting down next to me, whilst Anna pulled up a chair and took a seat next to Emily.

"I know, I didn't get your number or anything at the party," I replied, "Hi, Anna is it?" I questioned. Anna's face perked up a bit from her slightly slumped position, "Yeah, hi. You're Melissa right? Ryan said you had the straight brown hair, blue eyes," She trailed off. I smiled at the thought of him talking about me.

"Yep. And that's Emily," I answered.

"Shall me and Anna get our drinks and then we'll come join you again?" Victoria asked.

"Yeah, let's go. Be back in a minute girls," Anna quickly replied, standing up. They walked up to the counter, and then I took in just how tall and skinny Anna was. Her legs were to die for, she looked like she could be a model. She had a beautiful oval shaped face with blonde hair silhouetting it just right. Her eyebrows and cheekbones were both prominent, something I felt a deep pang of jealousy for, because all my life I'd been teased on my 'chubby cheeks'. Her eyes were kind of similar to mine, a light shade of blue and quite big, a little glassy even. She was beautiful, and had a really cute voice. I saw now why Ryan jumped at the thought of being her boyfriend after just a little while.

Anna and Victoria came back with coffee's and sat down smiling, "So how did you and Ryan meet, Melissa?" Anna questioned.

"Um, I was walking my dog in the park, and she ran away from me, and then Ryan found her. We went for a drink after, got talking, and made good friends," I answered, sipping my smoothie.

"That's cute," Victoria remarked, taking a drink of her coffee; "Urgh, this is disgusting Anna. I wish I stuck to a smoothie."

"Smoothie's are lame." She replied, making me feel about 2cm tall and a whole lot younger than her.

"So, you guys go to Newman right?" Emily pushed, trying to move the conversation forward.

"Yes," Victoria said, "It's a bit of a crap school, but alright as long as you have the right teachers and right friends." I could tell they were the 'popular' girls, the ones everyone envied.

"Yeah, didn't someone nearly get killed there?" I piped up.

"That's a bit drastic. I think you're thinking of Billy Otter and Frankie Justice's fight last summer. Billy had to get a stitch in his forehead, but I don't think it would've killed him," Anna said, "You guys go to Lake-Field, don't you?"

"Lucky!" Victoria exclaimed, "You get to wear your own clothes, and not stupid tartan skirts like us, like who even came up with the idea of tartan, it's disgusting." Emily and me both laughed, it was a lot better having Victoria here than just Anna. She kept it from becoming awkward. Just then, Justin Bieber started playing in the cafe, and Emily got a lot happier, she loves him.

"I love this song!" she said.

## It was puppy Love

"Really? I find Justin Bieber kind of irritating," Anna replied, "I prefer Conor Maynard any day. No offence, Emily."

"None taken," Emily spoke quickly going a little red. I could tell she felt the same about Anna, as much as she is annoying, you want to impress her.

An hour passed of trying to make conversation, but finding there wasn't much to say. Anna shot down any sort of conversation starter, or replied with quick, one-word sentences to any question anybody asked her. I just don't see the appeal of her, apart from the fact she's beautiful. I envied her so much, because she's one of those people who are going to get far in life without trying. She's effortlessly smart, but her personality was so bland. How could Ryan put up with it? He's one of the most energetic people I know!

"I think we'd better be off, Vic," Anna muttered, checking her watch.

"Okay, why?" Victoria laughed.

"We've got Charlie's remember?"

"Oh. Okay," She got up, "Bye girls, it was really nice to see you again, I'm sure we'll see you again sometime."

"Oh okay, bye!" Me and Emily chorused. Anna started walking out without any kind of bye, and then me and Emily got up.

"So? What do you think of An-" Emily started, I cut her off short. I tried to think of something to say, and then I got it.

"I hate her."

## Chapter 11: High hopes

It was Puppy love- Chapter 11

High hopes

It was a dark November morning, my alarm clock beeped, waiting for me to react, but I was too tired to move a muscle. I was up all night revising, and I don't think I got more than 3 hours of sleep. I yawned, and rolled over to my front. I sat up, stretched and pressed the button on the clock. I willed myself to get out of bed and padded to the bathroom. I brushed my teeth and quickly showered, by that time it was just past half 7. I went back to my room and pulled on a woolly jumper and thermal leggings, boots and a winter coat over the top. I pulled my hair into a neat ponytail, and added some foundation and chapstick to complete my nearly 'au natural' look.

"Melissa," I heard my brother call, "Ryan's here." I raised my brows at the thought. I hadn't walked to school with him in over a week. Why was he knocking today?

"Coming," I replied, grabbing my bag and walking down the stairs. I reached the bottom, and held onto the stairwell. The corners of his mouth perked up as he saw me, and I flashed a grin back. "Hey," I smiled, "What are you doing here?"

"Come to walk with you silly," He replied. He wrapped his arm in a loop, gesturing for me to intertwine mine into it. I did, and laughed whilst doing so. "So," He started, "Are we ok?"

"What do you mean?" I questioned. He took a breath in and raked his free hand through his hair.

"Well, y'know. We haven't spent much time together recently. And I guess that's my fault, I've been constantly seeing Anna and forgetting about you; and Cameron and Emily obviously. I miss you," He spoke, his breath turning into cold smoke. My insides were all warmed up, despite the freezing British weather.

"I miss you too." Is all I could think to say.

"So can we spend an evening together? Just me and you? We can watch films and catch up, I'll make you cookies," He mused.

"Even though I'm the one that contributes the cookies to our group snack," I laughed, "But that sounds really nice." He looked at me and grinned. "Perfect, tomorrow night?"

"Um, Jack asked me to his basketball game tomorrow night. Tonight?" I asked.

"Yeah, sure," He replied. I felt so happy. I had my best friend back and we finally could hang out alone. But it feels tainted, because in the back of my mind I see Anna's smug face, the look she gave me when she first walked into the cafe our first meeting, saying 'ugh what is this girl' and making me feel about 6 years old. I needed to get one up on her, and to do that, I needed Ryan to spill the deets about Anna. The good, the bad, the pretty and the ugly. Everything.

## Chapter 12: Destroying love

It was Puppy love- Chapter 12

Destroying Love

It was about 5:00 and I fixed myself up for Ryan's. I was dressed in the same clothes, but I put my hair out and a coat of red lipstick. It made me feel more confident, sexier. I made my way downstairs, and called to my mum, that I'd be home later, with that I was out the door.

The cold breeze hit me like a rock, and at that point I decided I hated English weather. When I was older, I wanted to move somewhere It was warm 24/7. At least for the winter. I knocked on Ryans door, and he opened it, a bowl of popcorn in tow.

"Come in!" He smiled, so I followed him into his warm house. His mum stood in the kitchen, "Hey Mel," She called out.

"Hey," I replied, before dropping my coat on their sofa and wrapping up on the floor, where Ryan had spread blankets and pillows and a whole lot of food.

"Whats all this?" I said, Ryan never really made much of an effort when we watched films, but today he'd really gone all out.

"Oh, well I thought I'd treat you. Pizza's on the way, Ham and Pineapple, your favourite." He replied

"But you hate ham and pineapple?" I questioned

"Mine is on the way too, I would never eat that, urgh" He shuddered, I laughed, "So what are we watching tonight Ryan?"

"21 Jump Street, and possibly The hobb-" I cut him off.

"We're not watching The Hobbit, it is literally the most boring film ever. And it's so long!"

"Fine, what do you want to watch then?" He huffed.

"Dont be grumpy Ryan, we're still watching 21 Jump Street and I wont make you watch any rom-coms." I replied. I kneeled down beside their DVD collection and sifted through the enormous pile of rom-coms, actions, horrors, sci-fi and more. Ryans family we're very into their films.

"Oh I know! What about Easy A? That's amazing!" I exclaimed.

"Okay," He smiled, "Put in in." So I did, and then I sat next to him and his body heat made me feel the warmest and happiest I'd ever been. We shared popcorn and sweets and settled in to watch Emma Stone be hilarious in Easy A. The pizza got to Ryans about halfway in the film, so we paused it and went to collect the food. When we sat back down, I quickly started talking before he switched the film back on.

"Ryan, can I ask you a question?" I asked. He looked at me intently before answering with a simple yes. "Well, I was just wondering... what's made Anna so special to you: Why do you like her so much?"

## It was puppy Love

He looked a little confused, "Why? Don't you like her?" He said

"No I do. She's really nice," I lied, "I was just wondering, you've not really told me much about her."

"I don't know. I like her smile. She's fun, and smart, and crazy hot," he laughed, "I guess she's just great." My heart felt cold, why couldn't he say those things about me? It hurt.

"Okay," I replied, "Turn the film back on then." So he did. It got to about 11, by the time we'd finished both films. I'd had a great night, despite the tainted parts, when we talked about Anna. "Right, I should be off now," I said, getting up. Ryan got up too, and grabbed my coat. As I pulled my boots on, he slipped the coat around my shoulders. I stood up straight and hugged him. I was about to break away, when I realized he was still holding me. As I swivelled my head, I realized how close we were. Our noses touching, I could feel his breath on my cheeks. Our mouths were millimetres away, and a little lean would be all it took to create my first kiss. I closed my eyes, ready for the taste of his lips, but all that came out was "I should go."

"Yeah," He whispered back, "Yeah, you should." He tore his hands away from my back and opened the door. And then I left without looking back, even to say bye.

I don't know why I did what I did. Even lying here at 3:00 in the morning, I'm still confused. He's everything that I wanted, he was prepared to kiss me. But *I* pulled away? *I* was the one to stop it? I don't know whether I felt guilty or what, but all I know is, the boy down the road, with a girlfriend, was ready to kiss me.

## Chapter 13: Broken hearted

It was Puppy love- Chapter 13

Broken-hearted

Jack dropped me off at school the next day. We chatted about his holiday, and my life, and how he was planning to move to Canada for the year with his friend Korey. I laughed at this, saying things like 'Oh where are you planning to get the money from', and he'd reply with something like 'Maybe I'll become a hit-man'. It wasn't a long drive to school, but It was nice to catch up, and it felt like old times, before love and school got in the way of a slightly weird brother-sister friendship.

"See you later," I said, as I jumped out of the car.

"Have a good day at school! Bye!" He waved. I waved back and headed into the building, in search of Emily. She was standing by her locker, texting furiously fast. I tapped her shoulder and she looked up, annoyed. When she realised it was me, she smiled. "Hey," I said, as we walked together, "Who are you texting?"

"Urgh," She replied, "Cameron started this insult war thingy with me last night, and It's 8:15 in the morning, and it's still going on! I have to admit, it's pretty funny, but very...what's the word...?"

"Insulting?" I suggested.

"Exactly!" She exclaimed.

"Hmm, I dont know about you, but I think you and Cameron would make a *fine* couple," I giggled.

"Ew! No way! He's so immature! Are you being serious?" I stopped laughing, and pulled a blank, emotionless face.

"Deadly. Serious." She laughed and swatted my arm.

"Dont do that, It's weird. Anyway, enough about me. How did last night go?!" I tried to stay calm, but my smiling face betrayed me. "Um, we kind of, almost, kissed?!" I said. Emily turned around to face me.

"You what?! Oh my god, Mel! Wait, but why did you *almost* kiss?" I sighed at the memory.

"Well we were basically getting ready to say bye. And we were hugging. And he held on a little too long and our faces were touching ohh... and then I said I should go," I blurted out.

"Why did you say I should go you idiot?" She questioned.

"Gee thanks for being symathetic Em. But the truth is, I dont know. It was the STUPIDEST thing I could've done."

I didn't see Ryan until lunch. Me and Emily were sat eating at our usual table, when Ryan and Cameron strolled on. Cameron sat down next to me, and Ryan stayed up. Emily patted the seat next to her, as if to say, hey sit down here, but he shook his head. "Sorry Em, I'll be back , but can I steal Mel a sec?" He asked.

## It was puppy Love

I turned around, and nodded my head. I got up, and followed him to an empty bench. "So... anything in particular you want to say?" I questioned. His hands were in his pockets, and he stared up at the ceiling, sighing. I have to admit, I was a little frustrated. "Um, well. So, about last night..." He started.

"Yes?" I said.

"It didn't mean anything right? I mean, we didn't kiss, and It's not like we have feelings for each other right? It was perfectly harmless. But even so, can we keep this from Anna? I would want her getting the wrong idea, you know?" My heart suddenly pounded against my chest, aching, cracking into a million shards. It was like someone had got a knife and stabbed my heart, as hard as they could. It was to the point where I was numb with pain, but I managed to choke out, "No, of course it didn't mean anything. It was late, and we were tired."

"Okay cool," He smiled, "We good?"

"Yeah we're good." The lunch bell rang, meaning it was the start of lesson. We both stood up simultaneously, and waved to each other, I was headed towards math and a life of misery and pain.

The lesson started and Bethany Baker-Halter sat down next to me. She was her usual bubbly self and I tried to smile and talk for a while, but then I just got bored of trying and pretended I had a headache to prevent her from trying to talk to me. This wasn't entirely false, I did actually have a headache, but It was fuelled with the anger inside me, not the sadness. I mulled over my 'Ryan situation', and one thing became evident. He was an arse in this whole situation. If it didn't mean anything, why couldn't I tell Anna? It was like he was ashamed of me, and in that case, why wasn't he the one to pull away? Why was it me, that ended things? Me, the single one, not him, the one in a relationship. It wasn't fair, and I thought back to when he asked me whether we were good, and how I answered yes. Well, the answer was no. No, we were not good. If there's one thing I dont want to be, I dont want to be his puppet on a string. I didn't need Ryan. I would be perfectly fine without him.

A:N/ These chapters are getting shorter and shorter lol! But I promise, the next one will be longer! Big things are happening soon :)

## Chapter 14: Flames

It was Puppy love- Chapter 14

Flames

I'd never really been in a proper relationship. My first kiss was in year 9, with Jesse Knight. I went out with him for about a month and a half, and that's about as far as my dating life had ever gone. I thought Ryan would be my best friend- turned into boyfriend- into life long partners kind of thing, but I guess not. It probably wasn't healthy for me, to be so...obsessed? Maybe obsessed wasn't the right word, but you get what I mean.

It was a Saturday, and me and Emily had made plans to go shopping for Christmas presents, as it was nearing the start of December. I got up and washed, and dressed in my old faded jeans, Timberland boots, and of course my green parka. It wasn't the most stylish of outfits, but I wanted to be comfortable. I quickly straightened my hair, and threw some makeup on, and I was out the door. I was a little hungry, as I missed breakfast, but I was sure I'd eat something at Emily's house. I walked quickly, it was cold and if I breathed I could see my breath in the air. I liked it, but I couldn't help but wish Summer would come along quicker.

I arrived at Emily's house at 9:50 AM, and I knocked on her door. She lived in a pretty cottage with her mum, and a chic flat on the other side of town with her dad. It was only her and her mum, so it was always nice and quiet. Her mum answered, and ushered me in. "How are you Melissa?" She asked, "Emily's having breakfast in the kitchen, would you like something?"

"Ooh yes please!" I answered, "And yeah I'm fine thank you." I sat next to Emily who was eating her eggs and toast, and then her mum gave me a serving of eggs also. We quickly finished them, and were on the bus on the way to town by 10:10. We shopped until lunch, and I got my sister and dad's Christmas presents. I also got a top for me, retail therapy I guess?!

We fell into a booth at Pret A Manger for lunch, we were both SO tired and hungry. We were eating sandwiches, drinking hot chocolate, and chatting, when the door opened, and in came none other then, Victoria and Anna. Victoria immediately spotted us and waved. We waved back politely, and then she walked over to us. "Oh god," I muttered, my hand keeping my forehead up. "Hey guys!" She smiled, "Long time no see, eh?"

"Yeah, how have you two been?" Emily asked to both of them, as Anna had joined Victoria.

"Really good, thank you," Anna answered, "Can I quickly borrow Melissa, is that okay?" I felt a bit worried, what could she need me for? "Um, okay, I guess," I answered.

"Great," She smiled, "Come with me to the bathroom, I need to touch up my lipstick."

So I followed her towards the shop toilets, and sure enough, she touched up her lipstick. I felt slightly uncomfortable, just standing there. When she had finished, she turned around and gave me a mean glare. "So here's the thing," She started, "I know you like Ryan, but sweetie, he's mine. And I need you to back off, okay?"

"Err what?"

## It was puppy Love

"Stay away from him," She said getting closer to me, "He doesn't like you. Who would, you're just a desperate little girl." She smiled. "So I'm going to let you go this time. But if I hear so much as a peep from Ryan over your latest 'best-friend sesh', I'm not going to be so kind. Okay?"

"Are you threatening me?" I asked in disbelief.

"No," She answered, "I'm warning you. Stay away." She started walking away, and I felt weak. I needed to shoot back, so I just uttered, "If he likes you so much, why did he kiss me?" She slowly turned around, and I regretted it the minute I said it. What was I supposed to do?

It was puppy Love

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