

# Love101

By : Scarletbloom

Meet the geek! Autumn is a normal 16 year old girl ready to find her true love! With her heart racing with just the sight of the popular hottie Luke Wellington, she must find away to make him finally like her, but it is not easy if you are constantly bullied by your classmates! With the help of her unexpected new friend Isaac, not only must Autumn leave her old geeky self behind in order to finally reach a perfect love life, but she must also uncover Isaac's hidden past!



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# Love101 : Chapter 1

## Preface

He knelt down in front of Autumn and reached in his tux's inner pocket. He pulled out a small square box and Autumn felt her heart drop. That's when she knew. In two simple words, I do, she would become his wife, his love, and everything would be perfect.

He faced upward and looked her right in the eye. His eyes were twinkling underneath the moonlight coming in from the large window. Then he spoke the words that crushed Autumn's heart into rubble.

"Pleaseâ will you marry me?" His voice was so deep and heavy with emotion. Autumn fell to the ground before him and threw herself into his strong arms.

Tears streaked down Autumn's face and onto his shirt but she didn't care, she was too happy to worry about things like her make up running or looking crappy. Autumn pulled back enough to look in his glittering eyes. "Yes, oh yes! I'd love to!" She whispered with joy and excitement. She leaned closer, mesmerized by the stunned look on his face. Barely three inches away from his soft lips and the comfort of his embrace, she launched herself with impatience at him and fell of her bed.

## **Chapter 1: The Geek**

Autumn woke with confusion at first. Where was she? One look at the stuffed dolls and the pink painted walls revealed this horrid location was her bedroom. So that meant that the romantic situation was just a dream, huh? She remembered how pretty she was in the dream compared to the image of herself she was seeing in the mirror. Damn, it had to be a dream. Her face flamed with the realization of what she had just dreamed of. She conjured up the handsome face that had proposed to her. Like that would ever happen!

Autumn knew who he was. Everyone knew who Luke Wellington was. With his perfect unblemished skin, his soft sandy blond hair with chocolate brown highlights (she didn't even know that was a natural hair color!), good body with a six pack, topped off with deep pale blue eyes that could look deep into your soul. Or as Autumn like to call him, her dream guy.

Autumn got out of bed and stumbled toward her full length mirror, surrounded by childhood stuffed animals she still wasn't willing to part with. She looked at her reflection in the mirror, pale ivory skin (which was probably the best thing about her), long straight reddish-brown hair tied back in a ponytail, creepy shining green cat eyes- with a hint of grey in them- hidden behind a big pair of glasses, and a small slender body frame that looked so fragile as if she could break at any given moment. Yup, thought Autumn, I am definitely a geek.

Turning away from her mirror, before she could hurt her own feelings anymore, she got ready for school. She walked toward the large light pink closet doors to get her uniform (at least the students couldn't tease her about her clothes since they were all wearing the same thing). She pulled at the doors and walked into her over crowded walk in closet. Even though it was full, most of it she didn't even bother to take a single glance at them. Half way through the closet, Autumn stopped dead in her tracks. It wasn't there! Her uniform wasn't there!

Stepping out of her closet and running to her mother's room she asked, "Mom, where is my school uniform?" She entered the room only to realize she wasn't there. She walked toward the living room and paused before turning the corner.

He sat there, a boy about her age she didn't know was sitting on the coach, staring at the blank TV. Then she saw an even more horrible thing. Her uniform neatly ironed and washed was laid out on the coach right beside the boy. Autumn looked down at her pajamas. She wore a full body, fluffy white material with bright pink hearts and warm brown little bears.

Something hit her head. She looked up and saw that the boy was right in front of her with his hand on top of her head. He gave her a cute smile, revealing shiny white teeth. "Hello there. I didn't know Autumn had a little sister, you're such a cutie. Can you call your sister? I have to take her to school today." Autumn's heart stopped for half a second, and then she blushed so much she was sure she looked like a tomato.

Her eyes stung, which meant she was going to cry any second now. With her eyes glued to the floor, she quickly ran toward the coach and grabbed her uniform, ignoring him when he tried to reach for her, and ran back to her room, locking the door firmly behind her. Running out of strength she collapsed right in the front of the door with tears already streaming down her face.

### ~Isaac~

He'd done it. He had made a little girl cry. His mind, which loved tormenting him, re-winded and replayed the way she ran back to her room trying to hide her tears. That probably explained why he was getting a C- in Parenting Class. He walked toward the hallway and stopped right in front of a door with a picture of a giant teddy bear. This had to be her room, but still he hesitated to open the door. What if it wasn't? What if it was Autumn's room? He stared down the big brown eyes glaring at him on the door. No way could this room belong to a 16 year old.

He reached for the knob only to find it locked. Oh great! Not only did he manage to make her cry, he even scared her to. Score! She probably thinks I'm a pervert, Isaac thought rolling his eyes.

He tapped on the door with his knuckles. "Heyâ !" Was he supposed to apologize? "Umâ ! listen; I'm sorry if anything I said hurt you. Ok? I didn't mean to." He pressed his ear against the door. His breath stopped when he heard the sound of her crying. "May I please come in?"

He waited. Crap he was going to be late to school for this! Why had he offered to take Autumn to school? Now on top of that he had to deal with this little girl! That's what he got for wanting to be a "friendly neighbor". He paced up and down the hallway until he heard the door unlock. He reached for the door knob and turned it slowly, then froze.

In a soft whisper she said, "Don't just assume anything." With a small sigh she tugged the door open and took a step back. Isaac hesitated, this was of course his first time in a girl's room. Then he felt his shook. He always imagined that his first time in a girl's room would be a little more romantic. Instead, he thought as he looked around, he gets a blinding bright pink room with teddy bears covering every corner.

He looked at the small girl wearing his school uniform a light blue sweater-shirt with white sleeves a white skirt and light blue almost knee-high length socks and white tennis shoes, standing right in front of him. That's when he finally looked at her, really *looked* at her. Pale ivory skin, reddish brown hair which reminded him of a soft flame, and beautiful mysterious eyes that left him frozen in one glance, and then even more shocking, he realized that this girl was not Autumn's sister, but instead it was Autumn herself.

## Chapter 2: ~Meet, Greet, Flee!~

### ~Chapter 2: Meet, Greet, Flee!~

He inhaled a deep breath, trying not to offend her any farther. "Hello," he said with a smile he hoped said, I'm not a pervert, can we please be friends? "I'm Isaac." He offered out his hand for her to shake. He stared into her emerald green eyes and after a deafening silent minute lowered his hand.

"Soâ I uh, I'm supposed to take you to school. Ar-Are you ready?" Without even giving him a reply, she stalked out of the room and out of the house.

He came to a stop at the red-light and glanced out the window. "This is so exciting! I always love coming on the first day of school and seeing all the new faces!" He turned toward Autumn who was also staring out the window. "Don't you?"

"I hate it!" His excited state quickly deflated. She turned and glared at him. "I hate people like you that are always so cheerful in the morning! I mean, what's there to be happy about?"

"Well unlike you who attended this school for three years now, this is only my first day." He smiled at her. When the light turned green, he turned the corner and entered the school parking lot. After finding a good parking place, he unfastened his seatbelt and jumped out of the car. He ran to the other side and made it just in time to open the door for her. With little more than a mumbled thanks, she got out of the car and started to walk toward the school.

"Hey, hey, hey!" He caught her hand. "Wait." He waited for her to turn around and look at him. "I uh, I was wondering if you could show me around the school. I mean, since you're the only friend I have at the momentâ I was thinking that maybe we should help each other."

"Look." She spat the word out with hatred. "If its friends you want then I suggest you don't hang around me." She turned around and pulled her hand out of my grasp. "If they see you with me they'll hate you to." The shock rendered him speechless as she ran off toward the school's entrance.

*Autumnâ What have they done to you?*

### ~Autumn~

Autumn walked through the school entrance ready for another year of torture. She didn't hate him. Sure she envied Isaac for his cheerfulness, but she didn't hate him. Yet.

"As soon as he starts to befriend the rest of them, he'll mess with me too." She mumbled as she avoided the students who were chatting with friends. She hated mornings the most. She hurried to reach the library, which was a safe sanctuary that students wouldn't mess with her since there were teachers there.

Focusing too much on her speed, she didn't notice the foot that shoot out in front of her path. She tumbled down to the cement ground, her knees getting scraped from the fall. "You should watch where you're going bitch!" Said the kid who had tripped her. Her eyes stung. She wanted to cry so much, but she stopped the tears. The laughter of the other students echoed around her.

*I will not give them the pleasure of seeing me cry.* Autumn thought as she stood up. An arm shoot out beside her, punching the kid right on his nose followed by a cracking noise. "Apologize! Apologize to her, you sick

bastard!" Autumn's eyes widened with shock when she recognized the voice. She looked up to see Isaac guarding her and glaring at the boy he had just called a bastard with a pissed off expression.

"Holy crap! What...? You broke my nose!" The boy stepped back, holding his nose while blood spurt everywhere. The crowd of students shrieked a series of "fight, fight, fight, fight, fight!"

"Come on!" Isaac yelled over the students' roar as he pulled her along as Isaac made his way through the wall of excited teenagers. Half dragging her as he ran, they made it to the nurse's office. On the window there was a sign which read "Be back soon!" Without a word Isaac opened the door and sat her down on the bed.

"What are you-"

"Where's the first aid kit?" He asked, interrupting her.

"In the cabinet- Why are you doing this? If you're doing this because you feel sorry for me, then stop. I don't like being pitied by others." Autumn said with anger.

Ignoring the question, he knelt down in front of her, setting the first aid kit down on the floor. Isaac took out the disinfectant and applied it to her scraped knees. Autumn bit her lower lip to keep from shouting in pain. Isaac gently placed the big square Band-Aids on both of my knees. As he placed everything back into the first aid kit he finally answered. "It's not pity." Isaac picked up the kit and stood, looking Autumn directly in the eyes, Autumn felt the strange intensity of his electric blue eyes. "In fact, I praise you." He turned and walked to the cabinet and placed the kit back inside.

"Wait, so you praise me for getting bullied?" She asked, a bit confused.

He sighed before he spoke. "For enduring it. I know how much pain you must have been in, yet you didn't cry." His hand turned into a fist at his side. "If it hadn't been for you being hurt, I probably wouldn't have stopped at just one punch. You saved me this time." Autumn thought he was joking, until she looked into his eyes and saw how serious he was.

She dug her nails into her palm, frustrated for not knowing how to respond. "Well, thank you for helping me back there." She said a bit embarrassed. She wasn't used to others helping her. No matter in how much pain she was or how many times they had caused her to cry, none of the other students ever helped her. Except one.

Luke had been the first one to help her back in second grade when they were friends. She had been on the play ground playing with the sand, when suddenly some boys started insulting her and kicking sand at her. She still remembered the furious expression Luke wore as he beat up all the boys for "bullying his friend", and then later he helped her wash it out of her eyes and hair.

"Hey, I think we should go get our schedules and go find our class, or we'll be late." Isaac said bringing her back to the present. He held out his hand to help her get up and she gladly took it. He turned back to her and smiled. "Let's go."

Without letting go of her hand, they ran all the way to the gym, where there was a long stretched out table with teachers sitting behind it holding the students' schedules in alphabetical order by their last name.

Isaac tugged at her hand. "Both our last names start with an S, we're in this line then." Autumn went along as Isaac led her to the end of the S line.

## Chapter 3: Colorful Friendship

### ~Chapter 3: Colorful Friendship ~

"This is bad. There must be a mistake." Autumn said, grinding her teeth as they exited the gym. This could not be happening! "And why are you still holding my hand?"

"Oh come on, this is possibly the best thing that'll happen all year! And aren't friends allowed to hold hands?" He yelled, the echoes bouncing throughout the court yard. "Woo!"

"Shhh! Can you keep it down? What's so good about spending the whole year taking every class with me anyway? In about a week you'll become just like the rest of them and start bullying me to." Autumn was shocked as her heart seemed to hurt a little on the last sentence. She squeezed her eyes shut and dug her nails into her free palm. "In a matter of days you'll just end up hating me to!" She tore her hand away from his and ran away.

"Autumn - Autumn wait!" She ignored him as he shouted pushing herself faster until she reached the classroom.

Isaac curled his hand into a fist, trying to desperately save the feel of her hand against his. He wouldn't lose someone important to him, no, not again. "I'll be dead before I let some fool harm her." Isaac growled as he ran to class.

### ~Autumn~

"Isaac? Isaac Salentino? Is Isaac -"

"I'm here!" Hollered Isaac as he barely came in, cutting the teacher off mid-sentence. Autumn glanced up to meet his eyes; he was sweaty from running and had a deep, serious expression. His electric blue eyes burned into hers, making her turn away.

"Well how nice of you to join us, Mr. Salentino, please take a seat." He slowly walked to one of the empty seats in the back, staring at her the whole time.

*Did he hate me? He couldn't hate me already it was barely the first day! They usually began to hate me once the class bullied them for being friends with a geek like me for at least a week.* Autumn thought frightened.

Autumn's stomach began to hurt. She sadly placed her head on her desk and waited for the class to end.

## Chapter 4: King of Doge-Ball

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#### Isaac

*Good old gym.* A smirk appeared on Isaac's face as he remembered the first time he'd been introduced to doge-ball. He remembered the humongous bully in his fourth grade gym class hollering at him. *"You can't just stand there, you loser! You're pathetic! Can't you even catch the ball?"* Of course he didn't say a thing back to the overweight gorilla for fear of being brutally torn to pieces, come on give him some credit, the guy was like five feet tall and his volume had to consist of at least a hundred and fifty pounds! Little Isaac was barely four foot seven and ninety-seven pounds then.

Over the next two years though little Isaac was no more. During the summer that his cousin Joseph had come to stay for the holidays, he had gotten Isaac to take an interest in soccer. *"What are you, a sissy boy? Get up and show some guts, you little punk!"* His cousin would scream that for hours during training, only to patch him back up and treat him to an ice-cream later. By the end of the long torturing summer, Isaac had grown to be five feet seven and weighed a hundred fifty seven, which mostly came from his muscles by the way.

So when the two team captains were chosen to pick their team members for a game of doge-ball, it was no shock to hear his name called out first.

"Isaac! I want Isaac!" Yelled the red team's captain at the coach.

"Wait, no fair I wanted to pick him!" Argued team blue's captain.

Maybe it was because of the heat, or maybe it was because of how *loved* he felt as the two team captains fought over him that caused him to blush, but whatever it was, it had him looking like a tomato.

"Aw! That's so cute!" Squealed a couple of girls that *had* to be cheerleaders.

He avoided their gaze, trying to not call attention to himself, when he saw Autumn sitting alone at the corner of the first left bleacher. He glared at the two boys sitting three bleachers above her, who were getting ready to pelt her with paper spit balls. Biting back on his anger, Isaac strode over to Autumn and "casually" leaned against the metal safety bars right next to her.

With a fake look of surprise he said, "Autumn! I didn't even see you there, what a coincidence that I just happened to absent mindedly feel the urge to rest over hereâ!" He looked up to see the boys lowering their straws as they caught sight of him. They stared at him perplexed why someone like him would even stand within a meter of Autumn. Not being able to resist, he stuck his tongue out at them.

"Do you want something?" Taking a second to compose himself, he smiled down at Autumn, feeling satisfied with himself for having protected her from the wrath of the spitters.

"Oh come on, you must see it to! It's practically destiny that I was, mysteriously drawn to this secluded location, this has to be the power of lov- friendship!" Isaac whirled around blushing a deep red. *Love? Really? You did a great job of hiding that you idiot!*

I tiny giggle interrupted his internal conflict. "Alright, fine. If it is destiny then what would it mean?" Autumn asked a bit jokingly, although he sensed the weight of "dead serious" behind it.



He analyzed his options carefully. He so desperately wanted to tell her the truth, to make her happy and make sure no one else ever dare cause her to cry again. But he couldn't, and having come to a strong understanding with himself, he knew for a fact that he wouldn't as to not betray her trust in him.

"It means that I will help you finally show your true bright orange colors of autumn." He whispered. With a somewhat forced smile he silently vowed that he would do anything to help her achieve her true love, to which only he approved of, even if it meant sacrificing his feelings and giving her up to another.

"Let's go." He said tugging at her hand. She hesitantly stood up standing a small distance away from him, leaving their held hands utterly exposed.

The *whole* gym seemed to gasp in unison. Isaac felt her tighten her grip on his hand, fighting the need to run away. The whispers erupted, rapidly gaining volume.

"Isaac - I'm so sorry, this is why I told you -"

Isaac gently placed a finger to her lips to make her quiet. "I'm not mad; in fact it's quite the opposite. Now, you can't hide the fact that we're friends!" He replied enthusiastically.

"Isaac, you idiot." Autumn said with a smile.

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