### Gone

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BTW, Spencer is a girl!

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#### 1 - Her

"So that's why 30% is the-" Mrs. Krasta stopped. The door swung open and a girl walked in. She had silky, long black hair. She had a blue streak down the side of it. "Hello, I'm guessing you're in this class now?" she asked. The girl said nothing. She gave Mrs. Krasta the piece of yellow paper she was holding in her hands. She had on bright blue nail polish with little black stars painted on them. Mrs. Krasta read the note, then looked up. She pointed to a seat towards the back of the room by the window. "You can sit there," she said.

"Okay," the girl squeaked out.

"What's your name?" Mrs. Krasta questioned. She looked relieved for the distraction.

"Spencer," the girl said quietly. The teacher moved on with the lesson. Spencer sat quietly in the back of the room, periodically looking out the window. Spencer wanted to be anywhere but there. She had made so many mistakes in her life, and she just wanted to go back. She couldn't go back though; only forward. She rolled up the sleeve of her black sweatshirt and looked at the scars slit onto her wrist. Stories lied behind those scars. She put her sleeve back to where it had been.

"Spencer, do you want to do the next problem?" Everyone turned around to look at the quiet girl in the back of the room.

"Umm..." she began, studying all the kids' faces. One caught her eye out of all of them. It was a kid with long brown hair and bold gray eyes. He seemed to be... studying Spencer. He looked her in the eyes and smiled, and she looked back. After realizing she was staring, she looked back at Mrs. Krasta. "Sure... I guess. What exactly are we doing?" Mrs. Krasta began to explain, although Spencer already understood it. She had been in honors Math classes for 4 years straight, but she felt like stalling. She didn't want to go in front of the class. In fact, she didn't even want to be seen. Actually, she wanted to get to know this kid with the brown hair and gray eyes. She could feel that she was totally and deeply in love with him... and she didn't even know his first name.

#### 2 - Again

Spencer trudged up to the front of the room. She looked at the board, and then began doing the problem. It wasn't like it was hard. It was basic percent problems. She finished quickly, then shuffled back to her seat. She plopped down, and as she did, the mystery guy turned around. He looked at her with his captivating gray eyes. He smiled, so Spencer casually smiled back. He slowly turned around, then flipped his hair. Spencer couldn't help but smile.

"Okay, let's look at this problem," Mrs. Krasta said, standing up at the board. She looked over Spencer's work, as if expecting to find a mistake which she could correct. "Good job, except..." she walked over to the other side of the equation and looked at it. "No, wait, that's right." Spencer rolled her eyes. *Well of course it's right!* she thought to herself. Mrs. Krasta was just about to say something else, but the bell rang. The kids ran out of the classroom. The mystery guy slowly put his stuff together, at the same pace Spencer was. Spencer walked out the door, and the mystery guy followed.

"Hey, I'm Andrew," he said coolly. "I take it that you're new here?" There was a twinkle in his eye. "Yea I just moved here yesterday," Spencer replied, pulling down her sweatshirt sleeves more. He explained how the school worked and where her classes were. They both had the same classes, so Spencer knew she could just follow this gorgeous boy instead of getting lost. He walked her to the English room next door.

"You can sit anywhere in this class. The teacher doesn't mind, but I would pay attention. This class isn't necessarily easy." Spencer nodded, then sat down towards the back of the room.

"Here we go again," she muttered to herself.

## 3 - Chemistry

Spencer managed to get through the English period, but only because she was thinking about Andrew. Her mind raced with thoughts about him. He constantly flipped his hair, which made her fall more and more in love with him. As she walked out of the classroom, Andrew caught up with her. On his way out, he ran into his friend. This guy was tall with shaggy black hair. He wore a white sweatshirt and a teal DC tee-shirt. His arm was around a girl with blond shoulder-length hair and was wearing an Escape the Fate tee-shirt and a Fila jacket. Andrew talked to this guy for a while, so the girl started a conversation with Spencer.

- "Hi, I'm Cameron," the girl said sweetly.
- "Spencer," Spencer replied.
- "I guess you're new here? I haven't seen you around."
- "Yea I just moved here yesterday, but I started school today."
- "Okay cool. Do you wanna eat lunch with us?" Spencer nodded. She followed Cameron to the lunchroom and sat down at the table. She didn't bring lunch, nor did she have any money to buy lunch, so she just remained seated and talked with the other girls.
- "So... I see you were talking with Andrew, huh? I think he likes you!" Cameron exclaimed. Spencer was shocked.
- "How can you tell? I'm clueless!"
- "Just the way he always looks at you when you talk, the way he always walks with you. He never does that to any girl! He's a really good guy, though." Spencer considered this. He had always looked at her in a strange way when she talked to him. And he did seem very loveable. Should she tell this girl how much she liked him? She wasn't sure if she trusted anyone yet. But she was sure that there was some chemistry between herself and him.

#### 4 - Trust

- "Okay fine," Spencer said, after being challenged by impatiently-waiting Cameron. "I do like him! I really really do!"
- "Well that's good, because he likes you back!" Cameron was ecstatic; she seemed really crazy. Spencer didn't care though; all of her other friends were crazy, too.
- "Oh come on. We don't know that for sure. Maybe he was just being a nice person... I guess..."
- "YES! You guess. But you don't know! Want me to ask him for you?" Cameron was really excited now. "Err... well... umm.... NO!" Actually, Spencer wasn't quite sure. Maybe she did really want to know if he
- liked her, but it would be uncomfortable for her friend to go up and ask her. Then, he would know that she liked him. She knew she couldn't push it that far.
- "Oh come on, why not? It's not like he's gonna tell anyone. He's a really good guy he wouldn't do that!" Spencer considered this. He did seem like a good guy.
- "I just don't want him to know that I like him. That would be awkward considering the fact that I don't know if he likes me back." Cameron was silent. She seemed to be taking in Spencer's logic.
- "I guess you're right. We'll stick around for more evidence!" Spencer just nodded, but she still wasn't sure. Just then, another girl with shoulder-length curly brown hair came and sat down. She had glasses and was a little on the shorter side.
- "Spencer, this is Crystal. Crystal, this is Spencer."
- "Hi!" Crystal said. She had an energetic voice, but she seemed really nice. Cameron tossed Spencer a glance that basically said "Can I tell her about Andrew?" Spencer wasn't sure if she could trust this girl either. She considered it for a few seconds, then just shrugged at Cameron. Cameron began to tell Crystal all about Spencer's little love story with Andrew. Thankfully, she didn't mention the fact that Spencer was in love with him.
- "So what do you think?" Cameron asked Crystal after she was finished.
- "I think you have a chance with this guy," Crystal said. "He never does that to any girl, so I think there might be a little connection going on there!" Spencer nodded, then saw Andrew walk by the doors of the cafeteria and shake out his long brown hair. Spencer felt like she was going to faint. Cameron shot her a glance. Spencer could tell that she really wanted to tell Crystal about how much Spencer liked Andrew. "Okay fine," she said.
- "Yay!" Cameron exclaimed. "And Spencer likes him back!" Crystal smiled. Spencer blushed. She did like him back, she really did.
- "Okay, but this word never leaves this table, got it?" Spencer confirmed.
- "Yea, but one problem... this is the table where Andrew sits."

# 5 - Even More Exciting than this Math Homework

After the school ended, Spencer grabbed her backpack and got on the bus. She rode in solitude home, listening to her iPod. When the bus got to her stop, fifteen minutes later, she jumped off and ran inside the house. It was pretty big, which was unusual for her parents. Spencer chose the biggest room, since she was an only child. She kicked off her shoes by the front door and locked it. As usual, no one was home. She went up to her room and threw her backpack down on the floor. She didn't feel like starting her homework, so she placed her iPod into her iHome and listened to music. She sat herself on the window seat, which faced the direction of Andrew's house. She stared at the house and thought about Andrew. She wished he would walk outside, just so she could see him again. As she was thinking this, the French doors from his house opened, and out stepped Andrew. He flipped his hair in the surfer fashion and chased his dog around. Spencer couldn't help but laugh. Not because he looked stupid, (because that just wasn't possible for him) but because he looked cute. In fact, he looked adorable. Spencer looked at him for the ten minutes he was outside, and hoped that he didn't see her. He probably did know that he liked her, but she didn't want to give it any more support. She didn't want him telling anyone or give anyone the wrong idea. She decided to start on her homework, which shouldn't have taken her that long; but it did. She spent two hours on her homework, since her mind kept wandering to thoughts about Andrew. What was he doing now? What was he thinking about? Does he know the answer to question 21 on their math homework? She didn't and at that moment she thought of it as an excuse to call him and ask. She didn't want to go all fan girl-attack on him, though. It was just better to remain calm and act natural. Just then, her phone rang, interrupting the middle of her fantasies. She picked it up, and saw that it was Andrew.

"H-hello?" she answered in a stuttering voice. You need to chill out! She told herself.

"Hey Spencer. I was just wondering... maybe do you wanna go to the movies on Friday?" Spencer's heart raced. She was so excited. She couldn't even get words out to answer.

"Do you know the answer to number 21 on the math homework?" She didn't want to risk hanging up on him, this moment was priceless.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Yea, sure, sounds good!"

<sup>&</sup>quot;Awesome, I'll talk to you later."

<sup>&</sup>quot;Wait," she stopped him.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Yea?"

#### 6 - Love at Long Last

Spencer felt loved for the first time in her life. She had liked a lot of guys, but none of those liked her back. She knew that this would be a fresh start for her. She finished up her math homework, then jumped onto her laptop. She was writing a story, most of which was inspired by her life. She began to consider the fact that she had a terrible life. Her father had died in a car accident, and her mom had gotten remarried to another man. Spencer remembered crying for days after the wedding. She missed her dad, and she didn't need some other guy to replace him. Days after the incident, she had gotten a scrape on her arm. It had felt good, releasing all of her pain. She had gotten a butter knife from her kitchen drawer and ran began to dig at her wrists. That had been two years ago, and the scars were still visible. Spencer had always been scared of her step-dad. He wasn't a very pleasant man. He yelled a lot and could just be mean. Spencer found joy and pleasure hiding up in her room. Spencer also got a step-brother in the deal. He was two years older than her, and could just be plain annoying. Her life just never seemed to make sense.

After dinner, Spencer decided to get in the shower. After her shower, she just fell asleep. It was only 8:30, and she was tired. She wasn't too happy about it, but she wanted to sleep on her thoughts. She had crazy dreams as she slept; all about Andrew. She knew for sure, she couldn't live without him. Spencer walked into school the next day feeling proud and confident. She saw Cameron and Crystal standing at her locker.

- "Tell us EVERYTHING!" Crystal exclaimed. Spencer was confused.
- "What are you talking about? Everything about what?"
- "Andrew of course!" Cameron added. "We heard he called you last night!"
- "Who did you hear from? I never told you." Spencer was even more confused now.
- "Max told us," Cameron said, motioning her head to her boyfriend. He knew all about it before Andrew even asked you out. They're pretty good friends. In fact, we were invited to go with you this Friday!" "Yea and I'm coming to spy on you guys!" Crystal added in.
- "Sweet! This should be exciting! Where is he anyway?" Spencer began to look around. She didn't see him anywhere, and he always hung out around here.
- "Oh... well he's sick today... sorry..." Crystal said sympathetically. Spencer began to feel upset and empty. Was he really that important to her?