

## A Moment Of A Lifetime

It was a bright, warm autumn day. We were walking side by side, and I could feel his shoulders occasionally brush against mine. We were on our way to the local coffee shop near our college campus. For some reason that day, it felt different. There was a different vibe in the atmosphere around us. It was hard to describe the feeling.

“So, Claire, you just finished your class. How was it? Did you enjoy what you learned today?” said Simon, breaking the silence between us. My name coming out of his mouth sounded like music to my ears. I was instantly alert.

“It was great. I absolutely love that class. You know me with video production. It is like storytelling, but with video. And what’s cool? I get to create the story myself,” I said, excitedly.

Simon’s eyes looked into mine, and he was smiling radiantly. He looked so good wearing something as simple as a black and white striped sweater and black pants. His style had definitely changed to become more mature than the first time I met him in our freshman year of high school.

“That’s great to hear! It’s awesome to see you enjoying your classes,” he said, his smile touching his eyes.

We arrived at the shop, and he opened the door for me. The familiar bells rang above our heads indicating a customer had arrived. We both walked toward the counter.

“What can I get you?” Simon asked me, looking for clues of what I would like to drink.

“Hmm. Let me think”, I said, looking at the lists of drinks on the wall. I always had a hard time choosing from a plethora of options, whether it was which shoes to wear today or what to eat at a restaurant.

“I am getting a drink called ‘Love Potion’, said Simon. “I know you don’t drink coffee, but let’s try it together. I always wanted to get it. Today seems like the perfect day.” he said, flirtatiously. I giggled and nodded, agreeing to try.

I don’t like coffee. I never had. But when Simon handed me the cup and looked at me while I took a sip, it was the best thing I ever had. My heart tingled knowing that this was a drink *he and I* tried together for the first time.

We left the shop shortly and were making our way back to the campus. The weather was so lovely that day. I couldn’t resist stopping for a moment to feel the warm sun cascade over my skin. We saw a bench and decided to sit down to enjoy our cup of ‘Love Potion’. He pulled me down to sit next to him and his eyes beamed into mine, but I could only gaze back shyly. I sat with some distance between us, but he nudged me to sit closer to him.

“Come sit closer. I don’t bite”, Simon giggled. With that sound, I couldn’t help but laugh out loud. It was contagious. I scooped closer to him and took another sip of the drink.

“So, Claire...”, he began saying. Oh no, I knew this tone of voice. My heart rate started to increase and began to feel my cheeks heating up just from him saying my name.

“...do you like anyone?” he inquired, looking at me. I gasped, not expecting him to ask me this question. I wanted to shout out, ‘It’s you...I like you. You are nice, gorgeous, and so sweet...’

But instead, I shrugged and looked down at my fingers. I started to sweat a little. He saw me this way and whispered in my right ear, “Well if I tell you who I like, would you tell me who you like?” I looked at him surprised as ever and automatically nodded.

“Okay! The person I like...is...you.”

I dropped my cup of 'Love Potion' spilling it on the ground. He looked at me and I at him, not believing my ears.

"Yes, it is you this whole time ever since high school. I just never had the courage", Simon confirmed. My jaw nearly hit the ground.

And little did I know, this special moment would change my life forever and I am so blessed.