

'Skylar'

There's not much I regret in life. Obviously there have been times I've been embarrassed, rejected, broken down... but I feel like I'm a better person for it. Well, except for Skylar. Skylar was of a different sort altogether.

We'd met at a school play; she was a dancer from our sister school and I was on the sound and lighting team. We talked and relaxed backstage on the performance days and had a good laugh at the after-party. We exchanged numbers but never really got around to talking to each other.

Fast forward a few months to church. Who else could've surprised me outside after I altar-served at mass but Skylar. She gave me a hug and a squeeze and said she missed me. I remember thinking that was a little odd considering our lack of contact since the play but brushed it off as her being friendly.

She suggested we go to the church teen program, which I'd planned on going to anyway. Once there, I noticed that Skylar was acting a little strangely; shuffling her chair, glancing at me every now and then, slightly flushed and really quite uncomfortable it seemed. Without warning she got up and moved to the back door. I asked behind if she was okay but it was ignored. I looked at one of the facilitators and was considering asking if I could check on her when I got a text:

"Catch me outside?"

I was worried so I snuck out the door to see what was the matter. She was nowhere to be found.

As I wandered around the Church grounds, I thought I saw something move in the Garden of Remembrance. I found Skylar sitting on an old stone bench, looking up at the sky.

"You good?" I asked, cautious of startling her. She looked at me blankly and patted the dark stone beside her. I sat slowly and repeated my question.

She whispered, *"I am now,"* before quickly leaning in and capturing my lips with hers. I was shocked but soon woke up and reacted like any warm-blooded male would when kissed by a pretty girl, and kissed back. This went on for some-time and I won't

elaborate on the details but it was indeed memorable, although slightly taboo what with all the religious statues watching on.

Suddenly she stopped, stood up and dashed back inside. I took a minute to gather myself and followed. I got in to hear the facilitator asking,

"Skylar hun, are you feeling better?"

And Skylar replying,

"Yes thanks miss, sorry I was just thirsty."

Well I'd say.