## Love Through The Heart

Student: Lilianne D.

Words: 877

Even though you're gone, I still love you. I feel sick without you next to me, without you hugging me, without you talking to me, without hearing your sweet, comforting voice. I wish you didn't take the bullet for me, I would do anything to have you here with me right, anything, even if it means I could die, it's worth it if I get to be with you, if you get to be with me. I know you're with me, checking in on me to see if I'm happier without you, you've always said that I would be, you said a lot of things, which made me grow more fond of you, I found myself when I was with you, moving on doesn't mean I've forgotten our love for each other, it doesn't erase what we had, it just hurts more when I remember. I don't ask for help often, my therapy isn't with a therapist, instead, it's with him, the love of my life, the one who sacrificed his own life for my dumb mistake of standing still as a rock when the shooter shot a bullet towards me. School shootings suck, what sucks, even more, is when the person you love the most, gets in front of you and takes the bullet for you. Here I am, sitting in front of his grave, reading the words craved onto the grave, "Here lies James Fall, the boy who sacrificed his life for his love, and school. 2006-2023.", I just broke down into tears while I was holding his picture to my chest, those words broke me, I was crying for what felt like hours until someone tapped on my shoulder, "Come on Daisy, he wouldn't want you to be here everyday and cry, it's been 6 months already "I hear my older sister, Sarah, tell me. "He just means a lot to me, and he sacrificed his life for me, I can't just forget him that easily" I say, "That's okay, I understand, why don't we go on a walk?" "Ok" I reply, Sarah and I go walk along the cemetery until we found ourselves at a bridge crossing over to a forest, "You can go ahead Sarah, I'm going to stay here", "Okay just make sure you come home before 8 for dinner", I nodded as she walked back. I walked halfway onto the bridge until I stopped, looking over the bridge, looking at the beautiful sunset, I close my eyes as a tear escapes from my eyes, "I know you can hear me, I know it's been 6 months, I wish you didn't

take that bullet, I would do anything to have you back to me. I can't walk away from the love we had, these last 6 months have been a tough challenge to get through, it hurts more when I look up at you, in the skies, in the beautiful sunsets. I wish I died instead, I love you so much it hurts so bad", suddenly a gush of wind passes through me and shook the bridge, and then I knew he heard me. I looked straight into the sunset as tears started to form, getting ready to pour out, "I think I'll miss you forever, I can't forget you this easily, I'll love you forever, no matter the distance between us" I say while tears started to roll down my cheeks. I'm ready to be back with you, I'm ready to spend forever with you, even though you're not here with me, I love you. Suddenly, I get a flashback from the day we were in the hospital, I wake up, I look around, and then I slowly realize I'm in a hospital room, with many "Get well" cards, with James in a hospital bed next to me. "What happened?" I asked the nurse, "Well the shooter shot you in your heart, and we needed a heart donor for you, and James chose to donate his heart for you", "No! How can he stay alive?! Please tell him to change his mind!" I screamed while tears started to form in my eyes, "I'm sorry Daisy, the surgery already happened". "No! This can't be real, he needs to be alive, he needs to be with me, I need him!" I shout at the nurse as angry tears poured, I felt numb, I don't know how to live without him, I need him, I hug my knees to my chest while I cried, and cried, and cried. "Don't be sad Daisy" I hear someone say, someone that sounded like James, I looked around to see if anyone was in the room, I started to pour my eyes out again as I realized that even though he isn't there, he is in my heart. I then snapped back into reality as the breeze was blowing on my face. He is forever in my heart, but now he's gone, I love him more than I will ever love anyone in my life, love hurts, and losing him hurts, but now I know he's never going to leave me as he is always going to be with me through my heart, love through the heart.