

## No Fear in Love

By: Iliyana R.

Hey there I am Autumn Parker. I'm a fifteen year old girl who goes to Oceanside High School, and I live with my dad in California. Oh, I think I forgot to mention something. I could die any day now. My immune system isn't as strong as others, and I get sick all the time. When I do, I have to make sure my symptoms drop or I could die. You're probably feeling bad or sorry for me. I am not afraid of dying or death, I am afraid of not trying. Mostly, I am afraid of not living the life that was given to me that could be taken away in a second. Okay, I think you've heard enough let me take you into my life.

"Are you sure you want to go to school today?" my Dad says nervously. "Dad, my social life is important too," I say crossing my arms. "Of course it is, I just don't want anything to happen." I cut my father off and say, "I haven't died yet, I've been fine" I say messing with fingers. My dad looks at me with the look he always gives when he can't say what he means to. "Just get ready," my dad says with a sigh. As I head up stairs my feet brush gently up against the carpet while I make it to my room. I throw on what I want to wear and when I am finally ready I grab my bag and my phone and go downstairs. I decided to walk today and I already knew my dad was gonna debate me, so I just thought I would do it anyways, besides it only takes a couple minutes to get there.

Ten minutes later, when I made it to the school, of course it was already swarmed with different high school kids. By the way, no one knows I am sick, only the teachers. As I doze off into my thoughts, I suddenly feel a tap on my shoulder and turn around wondering who is tapping me. It was this guy I think I've only seen a couple times before. I look him up and down and analyze him. He was wearing a beanie that covered some of his hair, which was black and a little messy. He was wearing a loose jacket with a black shirt underneath and some checkered Vans which all fit together perfectly. He smiled and looked down, I think he started to notice I was checking him out. My cheeks burned hot red and I could feel the warmth on my cheeks grow more than I thought it would. "Um, aren't you in my English class?" he asks. Thoughts and memories flash for a second and then I remember. "Oh wow yeah you're Oliver right?" I say trying to remember a bit more. "Yep that's me" he says with a cute little laugh. I smile at him and he smiles back and then we look off acting like that didn't happen but it

obviously did. "Im Autumn" I say trying to sound sweet. "That sounds about right" Oliver says nicely. "What I wanted to ask you was; do you get this work at all?" Oliver says handing me a couple sheets of paper. "Yeah, it's actually pretty simple I can help you after school if you want," I say. "Yeah that would be cool, uh here can I see your hand for a sec?" Oliver says reaching out. He places his hand under mine to keep it steady while he writes something."I'll see you later Autumn" he says with a wave and walks off. I look down and touch my hand, he wrote his number. I think to myself, I can't get close to this guy, who knows where everything could lead.

Throughout the day, thoughts and wonders crowded my head but finally cleared once it got to the end of the day. I helped Oliver with our English assignment and it was a lot of fun. He made me laugh and I made him laugh. Days passed and the texts turn into calls and those calls turned into FaceTime. Then I realized, I realized I was in love. The love I had for Oliver hurt because I knew he wasn't mine. He can't be with someone who could die any second. I knew I couldn't love someone that couldn't love me back. I lay in bed thinking about everything and suddenly Oliver texts me, I smile and grab my phone and read the message. "Meet me at Greenland Park, please." I reply with "sure, I'll be there right away."

When I make it to the park Oliver runs up to me and smiles. Oliver grips me with one hand and cups my face with the other. I look up at him and smile, he leans in and so did I. Then it happened. His lips pressed up against mine and the way we kissed each other wasn't like the ones in the movies. The kiss was real and different in a good way. I didn't care I wanted to get close to him even if it meant he could lose me. I sneak back home and then the days go by. Me and Oliver were happy together, and things were great but not a happily ever after. I awake to my head throbbing. I get up and then my legs start to tremble and then I fall. I yell for my dad and he comes in and then everything goes black. I see the ambulance, nurses, my dad, and then I see Oliver. I hear my dad say "I love you" and then I hear Oliver. "You being in my life is better, I love you Autumn I can't lose you" Oliver says. I close my eyes and my heart stops. Memories hit me. Then my heart plays again and my eyes open.