

## 8. Pratyusha C. and Heera S.

### The Secret

We had just moved from Pheonix, Arizona to Ohio Valley. I was going to be the new girl, the talk of the school, that one girl who is trying hard to fit in. I was walking to my English class when I ran into a girl, she was wearing ripped black jeans with black high tops and a black shirt. She helped me pick up my books and introduced herself.

“My name is Veronica, I just moved into town.”

” My name is June, also new around here,” I said. Behind her, there were 2 boys and a girl. Veronica introduced me to her friend group, pointing to them, “This is Blake, Jerry, and Fenice. All 3 of them looked smart and nice, but Blake was the one that stood out to me. He had beautiful, silky hair and nice cheekbones. While I was obsessing over him, the bell rang, I rushed to class. His name was Mr. Sinas and he was a very boring, old teacher. While he was talking about sentence fragments, all I could think about was how to start a conversation with Blake without making a fool of myself. I was going to say something to him, but the bell rang for the next class.

As I was walking out, he stood in my way and my heart was beating fast.

“So, you’re the new kid,” he said.

Yes, I am, it’s that obvious, huh?” I said. He chuckled and asked, “Do you need help finding any of your classes?”

“Let me walk with you.” So, we walked without saying a word to each other. He said hi to a few of his friends as they walked by. We finally reached my class and he said, “See you at lunch,” and walked away with his friends. I sat down and had the same lecture but about math this time.

After class, was lunch so I met up with Veronica and her group. We sat together and talked about a recent murder that had just happened in the town and how the killer was not found yet. I was shocked that there would be a murder in a small town with such friendly and kind people. I wondered if my dad knew about this incident. The rest of the day went by pretty fast. As I was walking home, Blake met up with me and we started walking together. While we were talking, from the corner of my eye, I saw a man watching me. Something about that man was off, he was different. I was trying to concentrate on what Blake was saying to me, but I felt like the man was walking towards me. I couldn't take the intimidation anymore, so I quickly turned around to see if the man was still there. He wasn't there, he disappeared.

“Are you ok, what happened?” Blake asked confusingly.

“Nothing happened, I'm fine. My house is around the corner anyways, I think you should go.” I ran. Fast.

As soon as I got home, I checked if all the doors were locked. I looked out the window and rain was pouring down from the dark, cloudy skies. Lightning filled up the sky making me feel powerless. Suddenly. The phone started ringing, I slowly picked up and heard someone taking very small breathes. It was my dad.

“Hello, Hello is that you June?”

I hesitated for a moment before speaking and nervously said, “Yes dad, it's me.”

“Honey, are you ok? Is anyone there?”

“No, no one is here. What's going on?”

“Honey, I need you to listen to me carefully. There is a man out there who is...” (The phone disconnects). The man was staring at me through the foggy window...