## What is Love?

There once was a girl, sitting in an empty room. It was 12:00 at night. She was looking out of the window, staring at the stars, as they were shining brightly in the dark sky. She closed her eyes and tried to sleep but she couldn't. How can someone sleep, when their mind is struggling to look for an answer? How can someone get peace, when their life has so many questions. She used to think everything was simple and easy. She wanted to grow up so, she would be able to do things that she couldn't do, when she was young. But as she grew up, her life became more complicated. She didn't realise until she experienced it.

Alana used to think that love was everything. Love is in family, it's in friends. Love is in those little things that makes you laugh. Love is in the air that you inhale every day. Love is that sweet breeze in summer, that touches your face, and you close your eyes just to feel that moment. Love is something that cannot be seen but can be seen by someone who understands it. Love is a strange feeling, which is indescribable.

She was loving and kind to everyone. Alana had the most supportive family. She had a lot of friends, when she was young. She was stress free. She was happy with people around her. She had everything but she always desired to be loved by someone. She just wanted to feel the feeling of love.

When Alana was seven years old, she met a boy, his name was Aiden. At first, they started fighting but after spending some time with each other, they got very close. One day when they were playing, Aiden made two bracelets, one for him and the other for Alana. Alana was confused and asked Aiden "why did you make these?" He replied "so, we can remember these moments when we grew up".

Next day for some reason Aiden had to leave the country. Alana tried to contact him, but it was all in vain because he was gone far

from her. In the end, all she was left with, was his memories and the bracelet he had made for her.

Eight years later, Alana had now turned fifteen. She was playing with her friends as usual, then suddenly she slipped and closed her eyes in fear. As she was falling to the ground a guy named Tyler saw her and ran towards her to save her from falling. Luckily, he caught her, and she wasn't hurt. When she opened her eyes, her eyes met with Tyler's eyes, and she instantly fell in love. After that day he was the only one, who was running through her mind. She wanted to talk to him but, she never got a chance. Another day when she was sitting in her classroom with her classmates, she heard someone gossiping about Tyler. She got a little closer to hear them. When she heard, she couldn't believe what they were saying. She never thought, that the one who she had feelings for, has someone else in their heart.

She wanted to cry so hard, but she didn't. She tried to hold back her tears so, no one could see her breaking apart. She didn't tell anyone, what was going on inside her head. She even stopped going to school. Then after some days her best friend named Zoe came to her house and asked her "I haven't seen you in school since last week. Are you ok?" As soon as Alana heard those words, she broke into tears. Alana decided to tell everything to her best friend. She was so crazy over that guy that she didn't even care about herself. She was lost, didn't know what to do. Then Zoe told her to wait and trust her feelings, if they are true then you'll get what your heart desires. Then just like that Alana waited and calmed herself down.

Later, when she went back to school and the whole school was talking about Tyler's relationship. She bumped into one of her classmates and asked, "what is going on?" Her classmate told her everything, that was happening at the time, when she wasn't in school. After hearing that the Tyler has broken up with his girlfriend because the girl was cheating on him, she made her mind to go and talk to him. She thought maybe she could heal his heart

by giving him love but little did she knew she was making the worst mistake of her life.

As Alana was walking towards Tyler, she was continuously thinking "what am I going to say to him? Will he notice me? Will he understand my feelings? Or what if he ignores me?" Even though her mind was full of questions, she didn't stop walking. When she finally came closer to him, she stared at his eyes and her heart skipped a beat. She felt like the time has stopped. In her mind she had no words left as she was looking at his eyes. Tylor remembered her and said, "Aren't you the same girl whom I saved that day?" After hearing that she ran away, and she couldn't say a word. When she got back home, all she was thinking about was his eyes and his voice. She saw a text from her Zoe, on her phone, which said "so, how was your meeting with Tylor?". Alana explained everything to Zoe. When she ended her explanation, her best friend burst out laughing "like all best friends do!". After Zoe was done with teasing Alana, she texted her back by saying "loving someone is hard". She said "what if he's a wrong guy? What if he betrayed you in the end? But the Alana didn't listen.

Next day, all the way from home to school, Alana was just thinking about Tylor, and she was very nervous to express her feelings. When she reached the school building, she stood there and took a long breath then she went in. She was looking down and rushing to her classroom so, she could avoid Tylor. She was running fast and didn't look up then she bumped into someone and fell. When she looked up, she saw all her friends were standing in front of her. Her best friend "Zoe" gave her a hand for getting her up. She got up and said, "why are you guys standing like that? Are you waiting for someone?". Then Zoe replied, "we are waiting for you to meet the love of your life." Alana laughed and thought they were just playing with her but when they moved out of her way, she saw Tyler was standing right in front of her. She tried to run away again but one of her friends held her hand tightly so, she can't escape again. Then

her best friend Zoe confidently told Tyler in a big voice, that "my friend here loves you". Alana didn't move from her place and turned her head down and patiently waited for his answer. Tylor replied" I love her too". By hearing those words, her eyes teared up and she ran to give him a hug and he hugged her back. Alana blindly trusted Tyler but Zoe didn't. She knew something was up. Then Zoe started to keep an eye on Tyler.

One day when the Zoe was spying on Tyler, she saw he was meeting some other girls in the bar. As soon as she saw that, she pulled her camera out and started recording. When one of the girls, who was with Tylor, went out because she was drunk. Zoe started following her. When she got near to that girl, she grabbed ger hand and took her to a place where there were no people. She asked her about the Tylor. She said, "How do you know about Tylor?". The drunk girl then replied "he told me, if I went with him, he'll give me money. After hearing that she stopped recording and went straight to Alana's house and showed her the recording. When Alana saw that, her heart broke into thousands of pieces. She cried out loud in pain. Her best friend somehow calmed her down. "Just leave me alone right now" said Alana in a low tone. Zoe understood her feelings and left her alone.

The next day, when Alana went to school, everyone was talking about her relationship with Tylor. She was really confused and asked Zoe "How did they know about this?". Zoe replied that "Tylor told everyone that you both are dating". She then saw Tylor walking towards her. When Tylor got closer to Alana, she ignored him and ran away from school. When she got home, she saw her father, who returned to home after years, and he was standing right in front of her. She ran and hugged him tightly. She then started crying by seeing that her father started tearing up too and her whole family got emotional. Alana forgot every pain, every bad thing that happened to her when she heard her father saying, "No more crying,

I'm home now". It was a long day for her, she was tired, then she closed her eyes and fell asleep.

Five years later a lot was changed in her life. She left her country with her family. She went to Australia and started a new life. She forgot every bad thing happened in her life and just kept the good memories. Even though, she was like a new person but one thing that she couldn't forget was her childhood friend.

It was her first day in Australian university. She was walking to her class but because she was nervous, she went to the restroom. When she got there, she turned on the tap to wash her face. After she was done washing, she was wiping her face with a towel. When she opened her eyes and looked at the mirror, she saw a random boy standing behind her. She was startled and as she was going to scream the boy held her closer and put a hand on her mouth and stopped her from making any noise. The girl was feeling anxious until the boy told her quietly "You are in man's restroom ". The girl was embarrassed and as soon as the boy removed her hand from her mouth, she ran away to her class. The boy stood there and seeing the girl running made him smile.

Later when the professor came in class, he introduced Alana to everyone because she was the new student. From the other side, the weird looking boy came into that class. When he turned around, his eyes met with the girl's eyes. The girl recognized him and looked down. Then after introducing Alana, the professor told her to next to the boy named Aiden, who she met earlier. She couldn't even say no because that was the only place left to sit. When she sat down, Aiden whispered in her ears "Have we met before?" Alana then replied, "I don't think so". Aiden smiled again because he knew that she is the same girl who've he met earlier. The class was over, and Alana was packing her bag and she left the class. Aiden was going to leave too but his eye caught the bracelet that was on the ground. He picked it and saw that, this is the same bracelet he made for his

childhood friend. Suddenly, the thought of Alana came into his mind, and he ran to find her.

Alana was heading home, when she heard someone calling her name loudly. She looked back and saw Aiden was running towards her, by seeing that she started running too. Alana thought maybe Aiden will make fun of her as she was accidentally gone to man's restroom earlier. Aiden was chasing her and keep on calling her name, but Alana didn't stop. By running they have gone too far from their university. Alana stopped and looked back too see if Aiden was still chasing her. She took a breath of relief when she saw he was gone. She thought Aiden had gone so, she sat on the ground to take a breath. After a minute Aiden was running behind Alana with her bracelet in his hand, while she was sitting on the ground. He was almost going to catch her, but Alana looked back and started running again but this time Aiden ran faster and finally grabbed her hand. Alana said in a loud voice, "let me go" but he didn't, and he immediately showed her that bracelet and said, "does this belong to you?". Alana replied with yes and said, "It was a gift from my childhood friend". Aiden then showed her the same bracelet that was on her wrist and said, "I think I've got the same one." They both looked at each other and started laughing.

Then again after years of waiting, they met, they fought, they laughed, and they got together. Some people say, it's hard to find your soul mate but I think true love exists and it'll find you when the time is right. You just have to wait patiently, and you'll get what you deserve.