

The restart

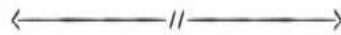
It is 5th of June 2018. Sky's last day in high school. And after that, she will move to a new city, where she does not know anyone and anything. It is not different here in Hartford, Connecticut. She always lived surrounded by a lot of people, it is how orphanage works here, but she has only been close to one person in her entire life. And this person was Layla.

Layla was an orphan too. They were very similar. In everything. Both did not know who their parents were, they were shy and liked the same things, so the approach was inevitable. In all the moments of weakness, each helped the other to rise and move on.

After 16 years of being inseparable, Layla had an accident. Last year, they agreed to go to the mall. They would pick the same taxi and go together, but Sky was late. She sent a message saying that Layla could go alone, and they meet there. That night was darker than normal, and it rained so hard that it was impossible to see a meter ahead. So, in a moment of inattention, Layla's taxi crashed with another automobile, and no one in her car survived.

And they never met again.

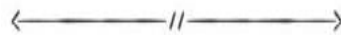
Since last year, Sky has feeling guilty. Sometimes it hurts as if they squeeze your heart. There was no one left...



The last signal rings, putting an end to high school, and to Sky's life in Hartford.

She picks her backpack and starts to walk through the hall, where she hears everybody talking about graduation parties, that, apparently, no one remembered to include her into. She pretends to ignore it, showing that she does not care about it, but inside, of course she cares.

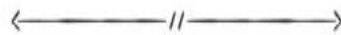
When she is at "home", she picks all up her things, which fit in two backpacks, and buys her bus ticket, with the money that she earned when working in a market with Layla. Sky stopped working too. She tried, but the memory that Layla should be there, haunted her every time.



The new city, Stars Hollow seems a good place. It is small, tidy, and pleasant. Sky's new house is in front of the central city square. It is light yellow, like cream ice cream, small but cozy and furnished with furniture bought at a local antique store.

Sky opens the door. When she looks back, there is a boy strangely looking at her. Despite being annoyed, she ignores him and enters the house.

Sky accommodates all her thing. Already sad because of the school and tired from the trip, she sat on the floor and cried. She cried even more when remembered that Layla should be there to see everything Sky achieved. Look at that, now she has her own house, bought with her own money!

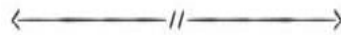


In the next day, the guy that was staring Sky yesterday came to her house. His name was Atlas. He came, welcomed her, and offered to help her when needed. Out of politeness,

she called him in. They talked for hours about the city, the residents, music, and personal interests.

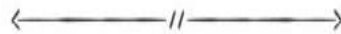
After a while, Atlas started to want to know more about Sky's life. She was very close; she did not open to anyone. But Atlas' blue eyes were so serious, and they wanted to know more about her, so she felt that she could trust him. So... she told everything. From her parents to Layla.

Atlas was very helpful. He comforted her and said he would help her making friends and get on with her life. He also noticed that she was very smart, with so much potential, but she was not motivated for anything else. So, he decided to help her.



After that day, they started to meet almost every day. He helped her choose a college, showed her where the girls in the city usually went and motivated her to go there too and try to talk. They became really good friends.

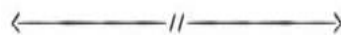
They started to know each other a lot. Atlas always helped Sky in her difficult days, it seemed like he had the best words and attitudes. He always saw everything from the best angle. This motivated her to follow her dreams and move on, because now she knew she was going to make it.



Five months had passed.

In this period Sky's life changed completely. Now, she wants to live, she wants to chase her dreams, to get involved with other people. She can feel the good things, enjoy the little moments, be positive. Now she is happy again. Of course, she still misses Layla and the family she never had, but that does not stop her from living her life, like it did all those years.

It was obviously Atlas who gave her a little push. Because of him, she has evolved so much, has several friends, goes to college, and loves the life she has. Atlas came as an angel in her life.

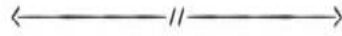


Yesterday, Atlas asked Sky to meet him at 2 PM on the park bench. But not in any bank. On the bench that is exactly to the left of the bandstand, facing a cafeteria called "Luke's". She found it very weird, but she did so.

She looked at her phone, it was December 15, 2018, 2:05, and she was late. When she arrived, she sat and waited. And waited. And waited. 30 minutes went by, and he still hadn't arrived. The city was very small, it was time for him to arrive, after all, he made this appointment.

When 40 minutes passed Sky lost her patience. She stood up and looked around looking for Atlas. No sign of him. She looked down and closed her eyes thinking why he did not appear at all. Finally, she opened her eyes and realized that there was something written on the bench, like a dedication. She read it and the world stopped, she didn't understand what was going on. She started to shake, and tears rolled down her eyes.

“In memory of the dear and loved Atlas Corrigan.★06/17/1999 – ✚ 08/14/2016”



Author's note: Even after discovering that Atlas had died two years ago, Sky continued her life. Atlas was the best person who could have passed through her life.