

# Forever Lonely

By Hotaru-chan-fan

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*When Naruto is rejected from the entire village for being gay, what will Sakura do to set him up with his love? [SasukeXNaruto!]*

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# 1 - No More Friends: Almost

Forever Lonely

Chapter 1 – No More Friends: Almost.

I do not own Naruto, or any of its characters. Too bad...

Naruto hated people no more than now. Naruto lay in the forest surrounding Konoha, thinking to himself, trying to rid himself of harmful memories. But the images burned into his mind. Even when he closed his eyes it was all very clear.

Flashback

“Where are you going with that gift, eh Naruto-baka?”

“Hm? Oh... I’m going to deliver it to someone.”

“Oh? You know, Sakura’s obsessed with Sasuke, Ino too, TenTen likes Neji, and Temari’s in the sand village; I wouldn’t try and deliver it to any of them if I were you, stupid. Then again, if I were you, I’d already have done us villagers a favor and killed myself.”

“... Well, that’s too bad. Because I’m done with girls; I don’t like them anyway! I like boys!”

End Flashback

And it had spread like wildfire throughout Konohagakure, and Naruto wouldn’t be surprised if it had reached Sunagakure, the village hidden in the sand. Uzumaki Naruto was gay. The following day, accusive stares followed him all around town. Kiba made an excuse that he needed to shop for his little sister’s birthday present, Shikamaru commented he heard his mother calling, and he couldn’t even find Sasuke.

No one wanted to be around him. No one liked him. They liked him before they knew. And he had always been like this; He hadn’t changed. People liked him gay, before they knew.

It didn’t make any sense to Naruto at all, but at the moment, he hated the villagers of Konoha with all of his heart. Or what was left of it. Tears filled his eyes as Naruto lay in a sunny patch of flowers in the Konoha woods. He wiped his eyes with his sleeve, but his tears didn’t stop. Eventually he leaned up against a tree, and held his legs close to him. Naruto had never before felt so secluded.

Why did people have to think it was so wrong? It was a way he was born. People didn’t choose to be gay, despite what so many people thought. “Don’t be gay,” one particularly religious villager told him. Naruto responded bitterly, “I don’t have a choice, baka; It’s something you’re born with. I didn’t choose.”

Naruto wiped his eyes quickly as he heard a rustle in the bushes. He turned his head towards the source of the noise, and called out, "W-Who's there?" Naruto heard his voice crack when he said it.

After a moment she responded. "I-It's me, Naruto." Sakura's voice. Sakura hated to see Naruto so upset. Once she had heard, she doubted it, and slapped the messenger for spreading such rumors. But upon seeing Naruto, not angry, or enraged, like he would have done if the rumors were lies, but sad, Sakura confirmed it in her mind. She would have never guessed... And hearing Naruto's voice crack from crying so much just broke Sakura's heart. Naruto was usually such a strong person... Poor guy, he must be going through so much right now.

Sakura stepped out of the bushes she had been walking through into the clearing of flowers, and sat next to Naruto, putting an arm around his shoulder, allowing him to lean on her.

And he did lean on her. "Th-Thanks... Sakura. But... don't you think I'm ... w-weird?"

Sakura saw what Naruto was inflicting upon himself. 'Stupid villagers,' she thought to herself. In a soft voice, she responded, "Of course not, Naruto-kun. You're my friend. Just because you're a bit different doesn't mean I'm going to abandon you. A-Are you okay?"

Naruto shook his head a little, and tears began to seep from his eyes again. "N-No. But... Sakura-chan. Thank you for being here for me... when I need it most. Y-You really are a good friend."

Sakura nodded a little, holding him softly. "Naruto-kun... Don't let what they say get to you. You're you. Remember that. Naruto, when I look at you, I don't think 'Hey look it's that gay guy.' I think, 'Hey look! It's Naruto!' Other people may think rude things, but if you can learn to not care what other people think, you'll be great."

Naruto bit his lip at her words. "I'd love to learn to do that, but... Sakura, I have no friends anymore. It's only you. I... I don't want to be alone for my life... because of this."

Sakura assured him, "Don't worry... I'm sure people will come back once they realize you haven't changed."

Sakura walked Naruto home, which Naruto greatly appreciated. Naruto was glad someone was his friend. But Naruto still hadn't heard what he thought. If he was freaked out by Naruto, and never wanted to see him again, then Naruto would be heart-broken.

That night in bed, Naruto couldn't fall asleep. The image of the one he loved kept appearing in his mind. 'He'll never love me... Not in a million years,' Naruto whispered through running tears. Naruto tried to sleep, but the image of the very cute and rude raven-haired boy kept appearing in his mind. Finally, through great struggle, Naruto slept.

Sunlight streamed through the blonde youth's room through an opaque window to his left. Naruto let out a soft sigh, and turned in his bed to his right side. Suddenly, his eyes popped wide open. "I have a mission today! Aaah! Baka!!" Naruto jumped out of his bed in an undershirt and boxers, and turned to

his bedside clock tentatively. "7:07," he screamed, seeing he was already seven minutes late. Naruto ran to his closet, pulled on his black shirt, zipped up jumpsuit, and dashed out the door, eating ramen in a cup as he ran.

Sakura looked around nervously. Where was Naruto? Yes, Kakashi-sensei was usually an hour or so late, but Sakura was really worried about Naruto. He hadn't done something stupid had he? On her right, leaning against the crimson bridge's rail, was Sasuke, in his usual 'I'm tired, so shut up' state. Although his face didn't suggest he was tired, it did suggest he was prone to thrash anyone who spoke. Suddenly, Sakura turned to her left, and saw a blur of blue and orange and heard a lot of yelling.

Finally, she could make out what the screaming figure was saying. "... I'm almost there, Kakashi-sensei! Don't worry, I'm not late! No! I will make it! Ack! Stupid ramen in a cup!"

Finally, the figure got close enough for Sakura to realize it was Naruto. As he approached the bridge, he dove onto it, slapping his hand down ##### it. Naruto looked up at Sakura with a grin, and said, "Safe!"

Sakura just sighed a little and rolled her eyes playfully, but smiled at Naruto. "Good morning Naruto-kun! Don't worry, Kakashi-sensei's not going to be here for another good ten minutes. Overslept?"

Naruto stood up, still smiling brightly, and went to stand in front of her. "Sakura-chan, ohayoo gozaimasu Ah... Good. I was hoping he wouldn't be here yet... Then again, what was I thinking? He's probably 'lost on the path of life' again, or some other crap. And yes, I just woke up like, two minutes ago."

Suddenly, Naruto shifted his eyes over to Sasuke, and blushed automatically. Naruto tried to read his expression to see what he was thinking, but once again Sasuke was unfathomable.

Sasuke looked at Naruto a little, thinking hard inside, but keeping a stern face. So... He's finally revealed that he's gay, huh? I was wondering when he would...

(A/N: The wonders of the Sharingan. @\_@

Hmm... Good, maybe I can get him now... Unless he likes someone else... Let's see... Kiba? Nah, too smart alec... Shino? Too weird... Shikamaru? Way too boring for someone like Naruto... Chouji? Too fat... Lee? .... Hahaha! Neji? No, too... blegh. So! That leaves me! Great! I'm sure he likes me... Well... I hope so.

And sometimes down there in Konoha they say: Sasuke Uchiha's heart grew three sizes that day! (A/N: XD)

Naruto turned from Sasuke, still bright red, toward Sakura. "Well... So —" He was cut off by a cloud of smoke that surrounded the area within seconds. After the wind scattered the smoke, Kakashi-sensei was revealed sitting atop the large scarlet arch on the left side of the bridge.

"Good morning, you three. You'll have to excuse me for being late. A new volume of Come Come

Paradise came out, and I stayed up late reading it,” was all he said, before talking about the simple, D ranked mission that were assigned, which was babysitting this little kid. Kakashi-sensei seemed rather indifferent to the news that Naruto was gay. Gay or straight, Naruto was still his student and a good person.

The three ninja walked over to the house, guided by their sensei. A very large, and scary woman let them in and showed them the little girl. She was at least three years old, and was asleep. The woman showed them some directions, scattered about in her hideous lime-green house, and then left.

The three ninja got extremely bored, considering the little girl was asleep, so Naruto started to practice some jutsu, and making a show out of it. Naruto put his hands behind his back, did a hand seal, and poof! A top hat was in his hand!

Sakura clapped enthusiastically, and Sasuke looked at him monotonously. Naruto put his hand in the hat and pulled out a lovely bouquet of flowers, whom he handed to Sakura. This act continued the whole time they completed their ‘mission’. Finally, the frightening mother arrived home, and upon seeing the baby not moved from her previous spot, handed Naruto, Sakura and Sasuke money to give to the ‘people in charge’.

They did just that, and they began to walk home. Sasuke left wordlessly at one street, leaving Sakura and Naruto alone. Suddenly, Naruto stopped in the middle of the path. He faced Sakura, and slowly said, “S-Sakura? I... don’t want you to hate me for this but... Do... you think it’s possible... that Sasuke’s... well... Umm... G-Gay?”

Sakura suddenly widened her eyes abruptly. That would make so much sense! That would explain why he liked none of the girls swooning over him... Sakura nodded energetically, and suddenly realized something. “... You like, Sasuke, don’t you?!” She grinned playfully.

Naruto shh’d loudly. “Sakura-chan! Do you want him to hear? Y-Yes I do... S-So you don’t hate me, do you?”

Sakura shook her head. “Of course not, Naruto-kun! I’ll even ask if Sasuke-kun’s gay for you, if you’d like.” Naruto went wide-eyed for a moment.

“You’d do that for me, Sakura-chan?”

“Of course! I’ll be right back! Stay here!”

Quickly, Sasuke ran from out the building he had been eavesdropping in, and ran down the road he had left on a moment ago. As soon as Sakura turned the corner, he stopped, so it appeared he had been walking at a slow pace for a few minutes.

“Hey Saasuke-kun!” Sakura called out in her annoying fan-girl voice. Sasuke grinned a little, knowing what she was about to ask. He quickly dropped the grin, turned around, and called out, “What do you want?”

She ran forward to approach him and curled her finger in her hair aimlessly. “Say, Sasuke, could I ask

you something?"

"...What?"

"Well... I just wondered. Since you don't like me, or Ino, or any of the other girls who are obsessed with you... Are you gay?"

Sasuke thought for a moment before responding. What was the worst that could happen? He slowly responded in a monotone, "Yeah. What's it to you?"

Sakura went wide-eyed for a moment like Naruto, and giggled inwardly. "Okay! Thanks! Bye!" Sakura ran back to Naruto, and told him the news, who blushed profusely upon hearing it.

"Well, goodbye, Naruto. See you tomorrow!"

Naruto waved back to her, and ran towards his house, happier than he had ever been in his life.

## 2 - Meeting at the Bath House

Forever Lonely

Chapter Two – Meeting at the Bath House

Sakura was thinking hard. She lay silently on her soft mattress, covered by warm, pink colored blanket. But Sakura couldn't sleep for the moment. She was too excited. Sakura was trying to find a way to hook up Naruto and Sasuke. Sasuke must like Naruto; otherwise he would have never told her he was gay. Sasuke had known what she was up to.

"Maybe I could lock them in a closet together... Nah, too popular. Hmm... Maybe I could give them each a note from the other to meet somewhere, and then they'd spill it. Somewhere romantic... Oh! I know," Sakura mumbled aloud. She grinned evilly and fell asleep right away.

In the morning, Sasuke woke up rather early with happy thoughts floating through his mind. He went in front of the mirror and spiked his hair in the back with a casual flick, and combed his bangs slightly. Sasuke put on his usual clothes: his shorts, high collared shirt, cloth arm bracers, bandage leg bracers, hitai-ate (headband), his sandals, and attached the shuriken holster to his leg and strapped the tan pouch on the back of his pants' waist. Sasuke glided out of the Uchiha manor toward his team's meeting place. He arrived there quickly, before Sakura, Naruto, and Kakashi-sensei. Easily. Sakura usually arrived only a short time after him, then Naruto a short time after her, then Kakashi-sensei, a long time after him.

Sasuke leaned against the crimson rail of the bridge, looking out into the crystalline depths of the river. His reflection was messily redone in the water, distorted due to the rushing water. A voice rang out like a bell, piercing the silent air, aside from the sounds of the river.

"Sasuke-kun, ohayoo gozaimasu! Good morning Sasuke-kun," Sakura called out in a cheery voice. But not her normal voice that just trilled 'Look at me Sasuke! I love you!' This was a genuine, friendly greeting. For so graciously being told good morning, Sasuke decided to respond. "... Hey Sakura." It was a monotonous tone. Sasuke could tell from Sakura's face, voice, and general attitude that she hadn't ran around telling everyone within shouting distance that Sasuke was gay. Perhaps she wouldn't be bugging him all of the time.

Sakura didn't try to push it and make him talk more, but sat down on the bridge, leaning against the railing as well, occasionally smiling at the Uchiha. Not long after, Naruto arrived. The instant his eyes laid contact upon Sasuke, Naruto blushed. He turned away from Sasuke, and gave Sakura a friendly wave. "Sakura-chan, kon nichiwaka! Heya!"

Sakura waved back. "Good morning, Naruto-kun. How are you feeling this morning?"

"Meh, okay, I guess. Tired, as usual."

Sakura grinned at the awkwardness between Sasuke and Naruto, which she planned to break as soon as possible. Kakashi-sensei arrived later, and had a mission to refill the village well, which took a surprisingly long time to fill. Once the well was nearly filled to the top, and the three youngsters arms were sore from carrying heavy buckets, the mission was completed.

The three Genin returned to their houses, doing nothing in particular. Well, all except one. Sakura was at her house, sitting on the chair at her writing desk. She had two pieces of stationary, and was writing very carefully. Luckily, Sakura had very good penmanship, so forging Kakashi-sensei's handwriting wasn't very hard...

'Naruto,

Please meet me at the central bath house in Konoha. I have more ninja training to supervise. We will be going over more ninja techniques. The time is 8:00 pm tonight. This is because we are less likely to be undisturbed at night. I will probably be late, as always, so feel free to get into the bath before I arrive. I will attempt to not make you wait too long.

Signed,  
Hatake Kakashi'

Naruto received the letter in his mailbox when he checked it that night after the mailperson came. The stationary was even decorated with the covers of Come, Come Paradise. It was 6:00 about, so he had two hours to wait...

'Sasuke,

Please meet me at the central bath house in Konoha. I have more ninja training to supervise. We will be going over more ninja techniques. The time is 7:50 pm tonight. This is because we are less likely to be disturbed at night. I will probably be late, as always, so feel free to get into the bath before I arrive. I will attempt to not make you wait too long.

Signed,  
Hatake Kakashi'

Sasuke received a similar letter in his mailbox after he checked his mailbox after the mailperson passed. Sasuke rolled his eyes at the border of the stationary. Only an hour and 50 minutes 'till he would go. It would take him about five minutes to get there, so he should leave at 7:45...

At the designated time, after waiting in anticipation for an two hours, Naruto rushed over to the main bath house, clutching Kakashi-sensei's letter in hand; He wasn't usually treated to a bath, but he was happy he had been.

Upon arriving, Naruto slipped off his sandals in the main room. He went into the dressing rooms, changed into a towel, locked his clothes up, and walked over to the baths. The second he opened the small wooden door to the baths, steam from the hot water blew in his face, and he walked inside,



standing to the side for a moment, waiting for his eyes to adjust. After a few moments Naruto walked over towards the rocky edge of the water. He unwrapped the towel from his waist, and got into the water. It felt great. The water was so warm... Naruto swore he could fall asleep. He folded his towel at the edge of the pool, and laid his letter from Kakashi-sensei on it. Naruto looked around for a few moments. There really was no one here... "Mmmhmm... I suppose I get it all to myself—" Suddenly, he spotted him over there. Across the pool, Uchiha Sasuke was looking at him. His face was beet red; Naruto could even tell from this distance. Naruto had the faint idea Sasuke might have watched him climb in the water.

Suddenly, Naruto blushed bright red, realizing Sasuke and he were in the same body of water... Naked. Naruto got somewhat closer, so he could at least see the expression on the Uchiha's face.

"S-Sasuke? Did Kakashi-sensei call you out here, too?"

Sasuke slowly nodded a yes. His face was still bright red, a first for Sasuke. Naruto was so... hot, Sasuke realized, staring at the blonde unintentionally. "H-Hai."

Both Naruto and Sasuke couldn't take their eyes off of each other. They were both thinking the same exact words. 'He is so... hot!' But neither of them new the other felt the same way, so tried to cover it up. But neither of them succeeded.

After waiting for at least 30 minutes, both Sasuke and Naruto realized Kakashi-sensei wasn't coming, and this was a set-up by Sakura. Neither of them said anything, but continued to play along.

"Usually Kakashi-sensei's not this late. I wonder where he could be," Naruto asked Sasuke, rather loudly.

After utter silence for a long time, Naruto finally spoke up. "H-Hey Sasuke. I got a question for you."

Sasuke ##### his head to the side slightly, raising an eyebrow. "What?" Even a simple word, Sasuke could make it sound hateful. But this one wasn't. It sounded like an innocent 'what?'. Naruto poked his ear a little, thinking he had gotten water in it.

After a moment, Naruto stuttered out, "S-Sasuke? Do you... like anyone?"

And the Uchiha responded truthfully. "Yah. I say this: how about we play a game. It's called Yes and No."

Naruto nodded a little, only slightly confused. "Okay... How do you play?"

"I'm going to think of the person I like, and you can ask me yes or no questions until you can figure out who it is."

Naruto nodded a little, and began. He decided to play dumb, and act as though he didn't know Sasuke was gay... "Okay, erm... Does she have pink hair?"

Sasuke responded with a grinning, "No."

“Hmm... Does she have blue hair?”

Sasuke grinned a little, shaking his head again. “Not even close.”

Naruto pretended to be surprised for a moment, before asking, “Is it a boy?”

“Yes.”

Okay, now he was caught up. But Naruto’s heart sunk, knowing Sasuke liked someone else... Finally, he finds someone he loves who’s gay... and he doesn’t love him back.

“Does he have... brown hair?”

“Iiya! Nope!”

Well, that took out Shino, Kiba, Shikamaru and Chouji. Left was Lee and Neji. “Does he... have pale eyes?”

“No!”

That took out Neji... So it must be Lee... How could Naruto loose to bushy brows?! “... It’s Lee, then, huh?”

Sasuke shook his head again, grinning still. He was obviously having fun with this. Naruto looked at Sasuke for a moment before asking, “Is he a Genin?!”

Sasuke laughed. He actually laughed. And Naruto adored it. It was such a cute, genuine laugh... Back to the game. That took out Naruto’s weird suspicion that it was Kakashi-sensei. But who was left?

(A/N: They don’t know the Sand team yet.)

Naruto shrugged, blushing lightly. “I dunno then. Who’s left?”

Sasuke smiled cutely, and decided to help him. Slowly, Sasuke inched forward only a little bit. “Let me help you, then... He has blonde hair, tan skin, and blue eyes...”

Naruto thought for a moment before blushing bright red. It was him. Naruto suddenly wanted to run up and hug Sasuke; but that would just be awkward. “... It’s me?” He asked slowly, his face bright red.

“Yah...”

And quickly, Naruto smiled, and shouted, “My turn, my turn!! Go! Guess!”

Sasuke blinked for a moment, before asking. “Does he have a dog for a partner?”

“NO!”

“Does he play with bugs all the time?”

“No!”

“Is he lazy or a fatso?”

“No! He’s determined and thin...”

“Is he a genius or a dork?”

“No! Well, he may be a genius, but definitely not a dork.”

Sasuke suddenly blushed brightly as well. Naruto, that hot boy standing naked in a pool of hot water 10 feet away was in love with him? This was far too much to be true. But slowly, in a cute, innocent kind of way, Sasuke asked, “... Is- Is it me?”

Naruto grinned and nodded bravely. “Yah! It’s you! As long as we’ve been teammates... I couldn’t stand that so many of those girls liked you. So... I guess I replaced it with hatred... Because I was sure you liked all of those girls hanging all over you... But I began to feel happy as you rejected their love... and thought it was a possibility that you didn’t like girls either... Sasuke; I’m so happy...”

Sasuke smiled a little. And oh, what a cute smile it was. Sasuke swam forward a little bit, and reached out to touch Naruto’s hair... He had always wanted to do that... And slowly, Sasuke leaned forward to whisper in Naruto’s ear. “I love you...”

And he leaned forward, to kiss Naruto. The two kissed gently, for only a quick time on the lips. When Sasuke had leaned forward, under the surface, Sasuke’s leg had brushed against Naruto’s leg.

Naruto blushed, and felt the urge to hug Sasuke, just to feel the feeling of wet body touching wet body. But he resisted, and the two kissed again.