

# RoseMary

By SailorOtaku

Submitted: January 30, 2007

Updated: January 31, 2007

*Lilly had a happy life until her 14th birthday when her world was flipped in side out. Can she get out of this stituation with out being hurt for life? Read the story and find out.*

*There are many spelling and grammer mistakes.*

Provided by Fanart Central.

<http://www.fanart-central.net/stories/user/SailorOtaku/42997/RoseMary>

<b>Chapter 0 - Prologue</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Chapter 1 - Birthday Morning</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Chapter 2 - At the Movies</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Chapter 3 - Drama is the Movies</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Chapter 4 - Unexpected Meeting</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Chapter 5 - Almost Perfect Party</b>	<b>11</b>

## 0 - Prologue

### Prologue

If you are reading this then you are reading the life story of Lillian Grace Priston, Lilly for short. Do you want to know how I came to know this story? Well here's your answer: I'm not telling (; p). At least not yet, you'll have to wait till the end to find out. Ok, fine I'll give you some starter hints. I'm a character in the story. I'm not Lilly and I'm very important. Also I have a lot to do with the title. So I've pretty much told you who I am. You would have to be real stupid not realize it. When the time come you'll know who I am.

This story is about Lilly. It's about how in 1 short day she went from a happy birthday to ending up sleeping in a pile of garbage with a piece of pizza on her head. Not the prettiest sight or smell. (I have first hand info on that too.) If I started for the beginning it wouldn't be soon enough. Here is the Prologue.

Lilly always lived in her big house in a small very close suburban town. Her mom was so attached to the house that before she was born, her mom, dad, and her 5-year-old brother moved back in. That was also the house that Lilly's mom grew up in. The house was larger than average houses in the town, but it was just the right size for her family. You see, it wasn't just them four living there, it was her, her, mom, her dad, her brother, her grandfather, her uncle, and her aunt. They all lived there for some time. Most of the time they were really happy.

When Lilly was 2 her dad died. His name was Tom. She didn't really know anything about him, except that he was always smiling and never yelled once. My dad's side of the family never really liked my mom or any of her family, and almost refused to go to the wedding. After her dad died, they blamed it on her mom. (Learned from eavesdropping on phone conversations. It is a great way to find information. Just kidding. Eavesdropping is very wrong. DON'T TRY IT AT HOME :p). Anyway, she believed it. That made her mom so depressed. She locked herself in her room for weeks almost never coming out. The thing that got her out of her slump was when she realized the kids needed her and her family was there for her. After that they rarely ever kept in touch with them. That was fine, they didn't need them. They were fine just as they were.

Next is her mom. Her mom's name was Dawn. Dawn was a single mother of Lilly and her brother. Dawn always had a tight bond with her family hence why she lives with most of them. She and her husband moved away for a couple of years and Dawn couldn't stand it. She and her family had to move back. Dawn was the kindest person in the world and wouldn't harm a fly.

Next is Lilly's uncle. His name was Rob. Rob is Dawns older brother and probably her role model. He got married after Dawn even though he was older. His wife's name is MaryAnn. MaryAnn was 9 months pregnant with me as this story takes place. I was his first and only child. She collects pressed flowers. Her room was full of them wall to wall with flowers of all different shapes, colors and sizes. Lilly idolized Mary Ann. She even started pressing flowers. Lilly's collection never got to be 1/3 of what MaryAnn had.

Lilly's brother is 5 years older then her. His name is Mike. Mike was also in his first year of college. Mike loved music. He writes and plays 24/7. When people are around, Lilly and Mike hate each other's guts. When they are alone, they are the best of friends. They even have there own spot. Outside Mike's room is a lower roof. Lilly and Mike met out there every night to just talk and chill. Of course they didn't share the important info, only little things.

Lilly's Grandfather was an old man who lived in the basement. He can't move well or fast and loses his

dancers all the time. They would joke around and call him the ghost in the basement, because he rarely ever came up. Even her 2 best friends didn't know about him. The only person other than the family that knew he lived there was Jake.

Jake was Lilly's neighbor. He is 1 year older than her and they were best friends. Jake was 15 at the time this takes place. Jake and Lilly were best friends ever since he moved next door. Jake was her hero, her knight in shining armor as she called it. Ever since they were little they shared everything from cookies to secret crushes. Jake lived next door with his dad and older brother. That was one thing they complained about the most, older brothers. Their brothers were both the same age. Jake could have been friends with the brothers, but he chose Lilly over them. That was one reason Lilly always hung with him. Jake's mother died when he was 10. Lilly had always felt bad for him and could relate because she lost her dad, but she couldn't imagine losing her mom, plus she barely knew her dad. Well she could never relate until her 14th Birthday. The day everyone's life turned upside down.

Okay, you probably want me to start this story so here it goes.

# 1 - Birthday Morning

## Chapter 1

### The Birthday Morning

It all started on Lilly's 14th birthday. It was a beautiful day, the only thing that put a damper on it was the fact that tomorrow would be the first day of school. At least that was all Lilly thought.

She had finished all her summer homework so she wouldn't have to spend her birthday doing it and could spend it hanging with Jake. Then that night her family would throw her a party. Mike had even come down from his first year at college, which started earlier to say happy birthday to her and give her, her gift.

Lilly had set her alarm really early to make sure she looked her best, she couldn't fall asleep the night before and ended up waking up to the sound of Jake walking into her room.

"Hey Lilly. Rise and shine. It's almost 12." Jake said as he walked into her room and opened her drapes. His golden hair shined in the light. The rays of light behind him look like an angel. He had an average t-shirt on and a pair of jeans but still he looked hot. His blue eyes stared right at Lilly. After taking a few moments to let the world catch up to her Lilly finally entered reality with a scream.

"AHH! Jake what are you doing here. I'm not dressed yet. I haven't taken a shower, or brushed my hair, or..." Lilly screamed as she pulled the blanket over her head to hide her blushing face and her pajamas (Which were a large t-shirt and an old pair of her brother's boxers. Don't worry they were super washed.).

"Wow, you do all that in just one morning no wonder you're always late for school. I don't think I can do that much in one day." Jake laughed.

"JAKE!!!" Lilly yelled still under the covers.

"Ok, Ok. I'll go down stairs and wait, but just remember, the longer you take the longer till you get your present and this year I promise it won't be something you already have. I've checked with everyone you know. Oh by the way Laura is insulted she wasn't invited to your party." From under the blanket Jake heard a muffled laugh as he left.

"Oh my god. I can't believe Jake just walked in on me like that. That was so embarrassing."

"I didn't think that was too bad." Jake called from behind the door.

"Jake GO down stairs! I'm getting changed. I promise I'll be down soon. Now GO." Lilly yelled as she stuck her head out the door to see his face right in hers. Jake's blue eyes glistened as he grinned. Lilly giggled and slammed the door shut again. That made her even more frustrated, because she was trying to be mad at Jake. That was the thing about Jake you couldn't stay mad at him no matter how hard you tried. Even if he ran over your hamster with his bike in 3rd grade you couldn't stay mad. (He did to Lilly's hamster and she could only stay mad at him for an hour.). It's his huge smile that could make anyone laugh at even the worst of times. Like if your world came crashing down on top of you and now you were all alone. Trust me. That smile of his comes as a huge help.

"But what I really can't believe is that I didn't wake up when the alarm went off. I'm going to kill my mom for letting him up here before I was awake. I know we're friends, but he is a guy and I'm a girl. Plus he is a year older than I. Ok; I've got to get ready quick. A quarter of my day is gone and I haven't even seen my family yet."

.....

Down stairs in the living room was the 1 room that all the members of the family share. Everyone was sitting there waiting, her mom, brother, uncle, aunt, and even her grandfather.

"Oh, Jake where's Lilly?" Lilly's mom asked as Jake came down the stairs in a laughing fit.

"She said she would be down in a second." Jake said as he got over his fit.

"She better be down soon I came from California just for her and she sleeps in. What a great sister."

Mike said as he tapped his knee with annoyance.

"Yes, I know aren't I?" Lilly mumbled as she came down the stairs with her hairbrush in her mousy brown hair and a clip in her mouth. She was wearing the new Tank top she had brought just for today. It was a tie-dyed shirt in blue, pink, and purple. She also wore her favorite pair of shorts. On the back they had a flower print on the back. She had a pair of flip-flops on to make it look like she wasn't trying to hard, but still looked cool. Her hair was pulled back in an alligator clip this made her look good with just her over grown bangs hanging out plus it kept her hair out of her face.

"Happy Birthday Lilly!" everyone said at the same time.

"Thanks." She answered

"You ready?" Jake asked.

"Yah lets go. Were going to that new movie that just came out. We should be back by 3 the latest. See you later." In seconds they were out the door and gone from sight.

"What is her problem I came here just for her and she ditched?" Mike said to no one in particular.

"Is it just me or are they getting to be closer friends?" Aunt Mary Ann asked.

"They would make a wonderful couple. And I would approve. If only they would tell each other how they feel." Sighed Dawn.

"I know. No matter how many times they tell us they're just friends, they really know they're not. They just need to be honest." Aunt MaryAnn responded to Dawn's statement.

"Is it just me, or is the girly talk over whelming?" Mike asked Uncle Rob.

"Yah, well you think this is bad. Wait till you get married." Uncle Rob joked and Aunt MaryAnn slapped him.

"I'm going back down into the basement." Grandpa said as he wobbled to the stairs to the basement.

## 2 - At the Movies

### Chapter 2

#### At the Movies

Ok, you should probably know this before I really start this chapter. Everybody jokes around about Lilly and Jake being just friends. Even the people at school that have never said a word to either of them know that “They like belong together and like totally love each other, they just need to admit it.” a quote from one of the 9th graders at their school. They were the only ones that didn’t know, but whenever they heard a comment on them being a couple the would look at each other and then laugh, then say “Sorry but were just friends.” Then they would walk away. (Tisk, Tisk the young and naive.)

Also Lilly loved fairy tales about knights and castles with princesses being saved by her true love, you know those stories. Image how she’ll feel when she learns her life is becoming a book. Well, believe it or not Lilly gets her self in a lot of trouble because of that big mouth of hers. And guess who’s the one that gets her out. (If you guessed Jake then your right.) He must have saved her butt a million times. So she thinks of him as her knight in shining armor. Get the connection?

Now back to the real plot. Jake and Lilly were going out to see the new fantasy movie.

“So what’s this movie your bring me to Jake?” Lilly asked as she crossed the street wondering what his gift to her was.

“It’s called The Fire of the Castle of Time. It’s about a princess that gets trapped in the highest tower of her castle trying to set time right when it gets set on fire. Her crush is a knight that comes and saves her, as her debt to him she marries him. I’m surprised you haven’t heard of it.” Jake said with his hand in his pocket holding something.

“Of course I’ve heard of it. I’ve been trying to get to it since it came out. Hey what’s in your pocket? Is it my gift?” Lilly said with interest in the answer that would come.

“Maybe you’ll have to wait to find out no wont you.” Jake said slyly.

“Come on why can’t you show me now. Or at least give me a hint. Please L.” Lilly whinnied and put on a fake pout.

‘If he’s making me wait that means it has to be good right.’ She thought.

“No, you will have to wait until tonight. It ‘s not ready.”

‘Or at least I’m not ready.’ He thought.

“Hey, look over there its Rebecca. Hey, Becca come here.” Jake said as he waved Rebecca over to change the subject. Rebecca was a girl in Jakes grade. She flirts with every nice looking boy she sees. After she gets tired with them she breaks their heart. Right now her crush is Jake and she is going into over drive. Witch also means the rougher the heartbreak. Rebecca has long blonde hair that any boy would fall for. She has the largest breast in the whole high school even though she is only in 10th grade (The school goes from 9 – 12). In her first year at high school she also has the largest record of getting sent home for inappropriate outfits. Today she was wearing the shortest miniskirt ever made with extra cut off by hand. Her shirt hardly covered her chest, the typical Rebecca outfit.

“Like OMG. What are you doing here with, oh hi Lilly?” Rebecca said with a fake smile when she said hi to Lilly.

“Oh we were just going to see a movie together, just the 2 of us.” Lilly said putting extra effort on the just us part to get her to go away. Because the thing is everyone except Jake knows that Rebecca has a huge crush on him. She flirts with him with no remorse on how Lilly feels and they both hate each other’s guts if you haven’t already guessed. Jake the nice guy he is hangs with her to make her happy.

Which makes Lilly mad because it always happens to be when it's just the two of them together.

"Wow, I was just to the movies too. How funny. What movie?" Rebecca said in her in trying to get you to notice me high-pitched voice.

"How can you be going to a movie if you came from the other way? Hmm?" Lilly said with as much attitude she could use with of Jake noticing.

"Were going to see The Fire of the Castle of Time. What are you seeing Becca?" Jake asked missing what Lilly said. Rebecca laughed at the thought of seeing a dumb fantasy movie but said "LOL that's so funny I was going to see the same thing. Lets go together."

Lilly opened her mouth to say no that it was her birthday not Rebecca's and that Rebecca should stop trying to steal Jake away from her but, Jake spoke before her.

"Sure why not. Lets go."

So the three of them walked into the theater and after a long seating conflict, sat down. It ended up with Rebecca on the right with Jake in the middle and Lilly on the left.

"I'm going to get snack. Want anything?" Lilly said looking only at Jake totally ignoring Rebecca.

"Oh no, I'll get snacks. You want the regular right? What about you Becca?" Jake said as he stood.

'Good' Lilly thought 'Now I can tell Rebecca off with out Jake being here to see.'

"Oh no, the snacks here are too fatty. I'm fine." Rebecca said with the flirtiest smile ever.

"Ok I'll be back in a sec."

As soon as Jake was out of sight, the girls got into a catfight even lions wouldn't want to be part of.

"Hey Becca." Lilly spat at Rebecca using the nickname Jake calls her. "I'm so sorry but Jake doesn't like you the way you think he does.

"Oh that's right you're his girlfriend aren't you."

"Wha...? What are you taking about? Were just friends." Lilly blushed but the previews had started so it was a little darker and Rebecca couldn't see her blush.

"Great, then if you're not his girlfriend he's free. I'll ask him as soon as he gets back because your just friends and you'll never be anything more then friends. Jake doesn't like you as more then friends he likes me. He told me, plus it's kind of obvious. I mean he even came up with a nickname for me I don't think you have a nickname do you? That right you don't your nothing more then a friend and as soon as he's mine I'll make sure you won't even be that. Nice shirt. What are you, a hippy? Oh, and who's idea was it to come to this stupid movie anyway I only agreed to come to be near Jake."

Rebecca said a small smile of triumph came across her face after she finished. Her smile would have been even bigger if she had looked hard enough in the dark at Lilly's face. Lilly had tried her best to hide it but she was crying. It took all her might to keep her self from sobbing in front of the 1 person that could make her cry even more if she saw.

As all this was happening as Jake was on his way down the isle with snacks in his hands.

"That will never happen and you know it! So stop with the lying you slut!" Lilly yelled as she stood up to leave. That was big langue for Lilly she never was one for bad word or curses. In fact when Jake heard her he almost dropped the snacks on the floor, but he caught himself before they did. Lilly was not going to stay to get tormented by a brat through out a movie that was supposed to be just her and Jake watching. She sped through the isle trying to keep her gaze at her shoes to keep the pool of tear from being seen.

"Lilly wha... what's wrong? Where are you going?" Jake asked with concern in his voice. Lilly stopped were she was and looked up with the corner of her eye to see Jake looking at her holding all the candy. Lilly hadn't even noticed he came in.

'When did he get here? How much did he hear? He must think I'm horrible.' Lilly thought to herself.

"I'm...I'm really sorry I've got to go." Lily said with her head still facing down. With out another word she ran out of the theater and the only sound that was made was the crunching of the freshly spilled

popcorn on the floor and the opening dong for the movie. “And now for your feature presentation



### 3 - Drama is the Movies

“Great, just great. Jake probably thinks I ditched him. Which I did, but I couldn’t let his see me cry that would be so much worse. Plus I made such a ruckus I wouldn’t be surprised if I wasn’t allowed back into this theater ever again. Now what I’m I going to do? How I’m I supposed to get out of here now? I’m in side a bathroom stall at the movies crying over something somebody said to me that’s not even true. I can’t image the rumors she’s going to start about me tomorrow, some way to star high school. Oh great. Hear come the tears again.” Lilly said to herself in side the bathroom stall at the movies. She had run in there after she ran from the movie. She couldn’t run home and let her family she her like this. They would think it was Jake’s fault and never let her see him again. She needed the fastest and safest place and for now that was the bathroom.

.....

“Rebecca for the last time, tell me the truth of what happened while I went to go get snacks. Lilly would not cry because I was taking to long, because she saw a sad movie preview, because the smell of the room was getting to her, because any other of the stupid reasons that you said. Tell me the TRUTH!” Jake yelled at Rebecca in the lobby after they were told to leave the theater because they were being too loud.

Rebecca still didn’t answer him. She was so surprised that he was actually angry. Nobody had ever seen Jake mad. He was always so happy and always joking, nobody ever though he had a serious side. Well Rebecca had just found it. Since she wasn’t answering he started to walk off.

“W... Wait Jake. You really like her. Don’t you?” Rebecca asked as Jake stopped but didn’t turn around. “ Don’t lie I you wouldn’t do that for anyone else except for Lilly so don’t even try to deny it.” Jake started walking again with out answering Lilly could already be half way home by now.

.....

‘ Ok, as soon as my eyes dry I’ll run out and go home.’ Lilly thought to herself while she still sat in the bathroom. She had been in there what seemed like 10 minutes.

After her eyes dried, Lilly left the bathroom and was on her way out when she saw Jake. He just on his way out the door. Lilly wondered if it had really been as long as she thought. Then the worst thought came into his head. What if he didn’t care that she left?

Quickly she hid behind a tree so he wouldn’t see her. “ Lilly right? What are you doing behind a tree?” asked a tall handsome guy looking down at Lilly.

“Oh Bret. I’m ahh... I dropped my earring so I leaned down to pick it up.” Lilly stumple.

Bret chuckled “It’s cool. What are you doing now? You free?”

“Yah, I guess you could say I got ditched.”

“ Me too. Want to see a movie?” Bret asked.

“Sure. But I highly doubt you got ditched your like the coolest 10th grader to be. I’m just 9th grader. Why would you want to hang with me?”

“Lets see that one.” Bret said pointing to a poster of the new comedy movie with out answering her question. Lilly never really found those movies to be as great as everyone said, but she went with him anyway. Also Jakes worst enemy was Bret, but right now she really didn’t care. She was hanging with the most popular kid in the high school.

## 4 - Unexpected Meeting

You know how life works. The one person you don't want to sit next to ends up being next to you every second of every hour of every day for the rest of the year. Or how the one day you have to do your work is the day your teacher or coworker checks to see if you have it but never checks on any other day. Well that's life and this story is a part of it.

As you probably guessed Jake was freaking out when he quickly checked back at Lilly's house and found that she wasn't in the house or the yard. Jake didn't actually go and ask her family, but her family has a tradition of putting a card in the door when they are home and they take it when ever they leave to make sure they know who's home and who's not. When Jake looked at the door and noticed that her card was missing he got nervous, even more than he was already. Quickly Jake ran back to the movie theater to look for Lilly little did he know she was having a blast.

Lilly was having a blast with Bret. They went to see a comedy movie, which wasn't Lilly's favorite. Actually it was her least favorite, but she didn't really watch the movie she was staring at Bret the whole time. So far he wasn't paying that much attention to her, but he paid for the movie and snacks, plus he said he would take her out for hotdogs later so what difference did it make?

Jake was searching at all of Lilly's favorite places for her. He had no idea what he was going to do if he couldn't find her. Lilly also seemed upset when she ran out of the theater. And Jake thought it was probably his fault.

When Jake saw Lilly standing at the entrance to the park, he was so relieved. Lilly was safe and now he could ask her why she ran out. Jake started to run to Lilly calling her name. "Lilly. Hey Lilly!" Jake yelled running to where she stood.

"Jake? What, why are you here?" Lilly asked turning to face him as he ran.

"Lilly where did you go? I was looking all over for you." Jake said putting his hand on her shoulder. Lilly turned away from him to hide her now bright red face. He really did care about her. He hadn't stayed to watch the movie with Rebecca. Or had he started to look after the movie was over? I mean it had been a good hour since it ended. To Lilly's great surprise at that second Bret walked over and broke the tension in that conversation but started another.

"Hey Lilly, hi Jake what's up? What are you doing here?" Bret asked handing a hotdog to Lilly. "I would have bought you one but I didn't know you would be here. Sorry."

"I met up with Bret in side the movie theater and we saw a movie. After we went to get hotdogs. No biggy." Lilly said trying to clue Jake in on what happened after she left him.

"Oh, ok. I just wanted to make sure you were ok. I mean you kind of ran out on me. I'll see you later then. Bye." Jake said then walked off with his head down thinking to himself. If Lilly wasn't preoccupied staring at Bret she would have noticed how sad Jake was and probably went with him, but she didn't and he went home alone while she had a blast with Bret.

'If she was going to a different movie why did she come with me? Why did she agree to go? Doesn't she love fantasy movies? Why would she want to go with Bret, he a big jerk. Does she like him?' Jake thought on his long lonely journey home. When he arrived home he ran up stairs ignoring his older brothers taunting questions that only made him feel worse. He went start to his room and plopped down on his bed. Alone with his thoughts Jake thought about every thing that had happened today and how he should deal with it. If only he knew that the problem would only get worse before it got close to getting better.

## 5 - Almost Perfect Party

Lilly had a great time with Bret. After Jake, left Lilly felt a little bad, but she was too embarrassed to talk to him about what happened. Bret and her went to the park and watched a football game. Actually Bret watched and Lilly stared at him and the hot football players. Bret was screaming the whole game about how badly the players were playing. At one point he almost jumped on to the field. After the game Lilly could have flown home, but she didn't want to scare Bret or anyone on the street, so she walked. Bret didn't walk her home, but they walked together for a little while. The whole walk home he talked about how horrible the game was, Lilly nodded at everything thinking about how great the day had become.

At her front door she skipped in. And because of that her family assumed that Jake had asked her to be her boy friend. They started to tease her about it.

"How did it go?" They asked while they got everything ready for the party.

"Was the movie good?"

"What was it about?"

"What happened?"

"Did he ask you any questions?"

Since Lilly knew where they were going with these questions she teased back.

"OMG. It was great. I feel like I could die." Lilly said telling the truth. "The movie was fanatic. It was the most eventful movie I've ever seen. There was a knight who had once saved a princess and they fell in love. There was a huge scene when they meet each other for the first time. It was my favorite part. After the movie we went out for hotdogs and soda for a late lunch. But I don't see why you want to know if he asked me a question. Of course he did. He asked me what kind of snacks I wanted." Lilly said with a smirk telling them they're not getting answers yet. She turned away from them to go up stairs. As she did her smirk changed to a frown. The last answer to their questions brought back the whole incident in the theater. Tomorrow would be the first day and she needed Jake to help her adapt to school and to tell him about everything that happened. He would tell which teachers to look out for and what was the best lunch. At least she hoped he would after what happened. I mean she always had Claire, but Claire had been acting weird since the end of the school year. Claire also just wasn't Jake.

Lilly ran up to her room and looked at her horoscope. It was a habit she had every morning. She would sign in on to her favorite website and read the horoscope that they put up every day. Today since she was running late, she didn't get to check it this morning. She clicked on the Virgo link and read her horoscope. It read:

If you find yourself dealing with some disappointments today, Lilly, try not to let it get you down. An unexpected person might show up at a bad time and change your plans. Don't worry too much because things for you will work out later. You may receive a letter or a phone call that brings less than favorable news. Perhaps someone you were hoping to have a visit with someone who won't be able to make it or a friend has to turn down an invitation to a party you're having. Try not to let this spoil your mood. These things happen. Keep your head high and heart open because support will be needed to help you overcome your issues. Some times help is needed to overcome problems. Take it with arms wide open, but don't forget to give help to others who needed it as well.

Times like these really prove that horoscopes are real and to Lilly they have always been real.

"Ok, so I've already had some disappointment today when I screamed out loud in the movie and an unexpected guest changed our plans. That was Rebecca." Lilly spat. "It worked out because I met up

with Bret. But I still haven't gotten a phone call, or a letter. I hope it isn't too bad of news. Oh well." Lilly said to herself as she headed down stairs to start the party.

Lilly's party wasn't big it was just her family, cards, cakes, presents, and more nagging about her day out. Of course Lilly didn't answer. But it was fun teasing them.

She got every thing she asked for, an mp3 player, from her brother with a special song her brother wrote and sang loaded in it, as you can guess it was from Mike. Her mom bought her a couple new magazines. Her Uncle Rob gave her \$40. Her grandfather came up from the basement and gave her a name brand pocket book (picked out by her a month in advanced. Lilly's favorite present was a gift from Aunt MaryAnn. She gave Lilly a book. This wasn't just any book though. The out side was deep brown colored leather. The leather was as beautiful as it was soft. If the out side wasn't enough, inside was even better. On the first page was Aunt MaryAnn's favorite pressed flower. It was a large red rose. It looked so fragile but it was beautiful that way. The rest of the pages were empty for Lilly to fill in with her own pressed flowers.

" Oh. Wow. Thank you so much. I love it." Lilly cooed as she put her presents on the stairs to bring up stairs later. She kept one present at her side at all times that night, her flower-pressing book.

When all the food was served and their stomachs felt like they were going to burst. They had cake. Then after all food was in the refrigerator and dirty plates in the dishwasher, they started to play cards. It was a family tradition to play card at every holiday or any day they were all up for it. Some times they would play poker, but no money was on the line, usually they player games like 31, KooKoo, Crazy Eights, or Uno.

During the second round of Crazy Eights, the phone rang. Lilly jumped out of her chair to answer the phone. She knew who it was. Claire always called her on her birthday and she to her too.

" I'll get it" Lilly said as she pressed the talk button on the phone.

" Hi Claire, how was your last day of summer mine was awesome I have to tell you every thing." Lilly said into the receiver before the person on the other end could even say hello.

" Claire? That is you Claire right? Hello?" Lilly said when no one answered her. Usually her and Claire were fighting to get the first word in.

"Yeah, I'm here Lilly." That was all Claire said. Her words made it sound like she was crying.

"Claire are you crying? What's wrong?" Lilly asked as she ran up to her room with the phone for some privacy.

"Lilly I have to be quick."

"Ok, we can talk in school about my day."

" Actually Lilly we can't. I wont be in school."

"What are you talking about Claire are you sick or something." Lilly asked getting nervous.

" No, Lilly. I'm moving. I won't be going to this high school. I'm moving 20 minutes away. I'm really sorry. I just learned last week and I really didn't want to ruin your summer so I held it off." Claire was now crying. Lilly could definitely hear her sobs through the phone, but she didn't pay any attention to them.

"So you decide to ruin my birthday instead! What a great choice!"

"I'm really sorry Lilly. Do you think I want to move? I've, I've got to go bye Lilly." Claire hung up the phone leaving Lilly to listen to the dial tone. For a couple of minutes she stood there with the phone to her ear starring into space.