

The Agony of Love

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Submitted: April 13, 2009

Updated: April 17, 2009

this story is about: <http://irishgirl982.deviantart.com/art/I-ve-Always-Wanted-You-20516127> (i did not draw this picture, give credit to the artist please!) but that is what my story is about! (i started to write the story before i found the picture)

Provided by Fanart Central.

<http://www.fanart-central.net/stories/user/blackblood/56058/The-Agony-of-Love>

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1 - Feelings...

I could hardly believe my eyes. The girl I had a crush on ever since the day we met, had an interest in someone else. It was like all my troubles had been for nothing. I had dreams that we would be together someday. But now, that one dream was another addition to the Graveyard of Broken Dreams.

And to think that the person she liked...you could call us friends because we hung out and acted alike. But deep down, I envied the love he received from her.

In my life, everything seemed to be on the decline. My heart about couldn't take anymore. Everyday a new ball and chain was attached to it. And this new pain was the tightest and heaviest of all. It made my heart pound with agony. And every time I saw them together, the chain would tighten, and it would race to keep me alive.

For I was dying on the inside. Day by day, a little piece of me would rot away.

2 - What Hurts The Most...

"You look glum." Hisagi rounded the corner to catch up with Renji. "What's eating you?"

"Nothings worrying me...it's a different matter." Renji went into his quarters.

"What's it about?" Hisagi followed through the door. "I've never seen you like this."

Renji sighed and sat down on the floor. "I don't really wanna talk about it."

Hisagi frowned and sat beside him. "Hurts that much, huh?"

Renji nodded.

Hisagi pondered for a moment. "Is this about Rukia?"

Renji cast a quick glance at Hisagi, and then turned away.

"I understand..." Hisagi got up and walked toward the door. "I'll leave you be."

Once Hisagi had shut the door, Renji curled up on the floor. He had a lot on his mind.

'Hey Renji!' Rukia ran up to me after school. I smiled as she approached. I had asked her on a date to the bowling alley. 'Ichigo just asked if I wanted o go see a movie and then go out to eat with him! I have awaited for the day when he got up enough courage to ask me on a date!'

Renji could feel the tears coming. She had forgotten all about their date at the bowling alley. She didn't even apologize for blowing him off. She either didn't care or just was caught up in the moment and didn't remember.

'Do I matter to her?' Renji thought sadly. *'Is Ichigo's interest in her greater than our friendship?'* Renji clenched his first to try and suppress the tears, but they came anyway. He buried his head in his arms and cried.

3 - Apology...

Renji awoke to the sunlight of a new day drifting through the window. He then realized that he had fallen asleep at the spot he cried. Slowly, he stood up, trying to rid the crick in his back. That's when he realized that someone was in his room.

Renji quickly turned around and his heart almost stopped.

There was Rukia.

"R-Rukia?"

"Hey, Renji." She walked toward him. "I want to apologize for missing our trip to the bowling alley. I was just so excited about my date with Ichigo."

'Our trip to the bowling alley was supposed to be a date!' Renji thought, then said. "I accept your apology. I know that you have been waiting for that question by him."

Rukia smiled. "More than anything!" She gave Renji a hug. "Thanks for being such an understanding friend, Renji."

Renji, of course, hugged Rukia back and breathed in her scent. How he loved her smell, and how he craved that he was in Ichigo's shoes. But he knew that whatever made Ichigo so special, he did not possess.

Rukia let go of him and turned to leave. "Why don't you come back with me? I've sure missed your company for the past two days."

Renji smiled and walked toward Rukia. "Why not? I've missed your company, too."

Rukia giggled. "You actually admit that?"

Renji blushed. "Why wouldn't I?"

"You would usually play it off as if you didn't." Rukia motioned for Renji to come. Renji followed obediently.

Together, they walked toward the entrance that would take them to Karakura town in the first rays of sunlight.

4 - Jealousy...

Rukia led Renji into Ichigo's house and was about to head up the stairs when Ichigo's dad called out.

"Rukia? Who is that?"

Rukia looked at Renji and hesitated. "Uh...my...brother! You've seen him before! Remember, he...hangs out with Ichigo sometimes."

Mr. Kurosaki only pondered for a second before he smiled. "Oh yeah! Welcome back Renji!" With that, he went into the kitchen.

Rukia let out a sigh of relief. "Sometimes I wonder if he knows what's going on."

Renji laughed. "Yeah. He's weird." He then began to follow Rukia up the stairs. *'Brother? Why would she tell him that? One, we look nothing alike. And two, it would seem like incest if I stole her from Ichigo...'* That's when Renji realized what was hidden beneath Rukia's words. *'It's like she's saying that she would never like me...'*

To Renji, that added another ball and chain to his heart.

Rukia opened Ichigo's door. He looked up from his bed where he was reading a book. "Hey Renji! Welcome back!"

Renji smiled in return but said nothing.

"Yeah, he left because I had forgotten all about our trip to the bowling alley. I instead went out to the movies and to eat with you. But he's cool with it now. After all, Renji isn't the type of person to hold a grudge against a girl!" She sat down beside of Ichigo.

Ichigo laughed and offered a place for Renji to sit, but Renji mumbled. "I'm fine."

"Suit yourself." Ichigo shrugged his shoulders. "Oh, before I forget, Kisuke wants to see you. I don't know why, probably to make you work to pay for all the food you eat. Man, from the way he sounded when I talked to him, you are a bottomless pit."

Renji gave Ichigo an unfriendly smile, waved his hand, and left the room.

"Rukia, are you sure that Renji is ok? He's acting kinda hostile."

Rukia sighed. "He seemed fine when I got him."

Ichigo rolled his eyes. "Renji sure is a weird fellow. I feel like he is a new person almost every time I see him. One day he's enthusiastic ole' Renji, and next, he is so serious that he almost reaches the level of Chad."

Rukia gave Ichigo a skeptical look. "I think that he's just tired. He probably didn't get a good night sleep because when I went to his quarters, he had fallen asleep on the bare floor."

"Sounds uncomfortable. Doesn't Renji know what a bed is?"

Rukia playfully shoved Ichigo. "Don't pick on Renji. I mean, you too act just alike! Twins?"

Ichigo gagged. "Me and Renji alike?! You're kidding..."

"Nope."

Ichigo sighed. "Oh well...he's trying to be me."

"He is not *trying* to be anyone! You just happen to have the same personality."

Renji shuffled his feet as he walked gloomily toward Urahara's Shop. He could still see the love in Rukia's eyes as they fell upon Ichigo. And the way that Ichigo seemed to be smiling at him, but had been aiming the smile at Rukia. They seemed so happy...

Renji gritted his teeth and kicked a pebble as hard as he could. It flew down the sidewalk and ricocheted

off a lamppost, skidding down the street until it became wedged under the tire of a truck. He would never admit to anyone, but his jealousy of Ichigo was growing with every smile that Rukia and him exchanged. It was possible that the jealousy could grow to the level of deadly.