

Not So Happily Ever After

By - Abigail Dixon

Part 1 - Edward

I'm sitting in the family room with Bella, Alice, and Emmett, although something feels off. Bella has been really quiet today, but I just blame it on something that happened with Charlie or her friends. She looks around the room and turns to me with a sad look in her eyes.

"Edward, could I talk to you about something? Alone.", she says with a smile that doesn't meet her eyes. "Of course, love." She takes my hand and leads me into my bedroom, dropping it as soon as she closes the door.

"You know that I'll always love you, right?" "Of course, what kind of a question is that?" I say, the confusion turning into straight panic. "What's wrong? Are you sick? Are you hurt? Are you..." She takes a deep breath. "No, nothing is wrong with me." Now I'm even more confused. "So what is it?"

She turns away, but I know that she has knows something important that I need to know. Right now. I pull her chin back, forcing her to look at me. The tears brimming in her eyes pull something in my chest and make my heart ache. "Bella, love, please just tell me so I can fix it." I press a soft kiss to her forehead, but she pushes me away. "That's the problem!", she sobs. "You can't fix it. I....", trailing off. "I don't want to be with you any more."

My heart drops in my chest, my heart racing and voice deathly calm. "What do you mean, love?" "I've been thinking about us, and our future, and ... Jake." My head spins, and I can't think straight. "Jake, he feels like home, and warmth, and happiness. He feels like a future. But you, as much as I hate it, feel like a stone wall that's stopping me from being, well, me."

I can't take this any more. I drop to my knees in front of her and whisper, "You can't mean that." "I do. I love him more than you. I'm so sorry.", she says, her voice shaking. "You'll always have a special place in my heart. I'm sorry it had to end this way."

She gets up from the couch and starts walking to the door as I sink lower to the ground, begging. "Please, Bella. I can't live without you. I need you. You are my whole world. You are my reason for living. Please, just stay with me." She gives me one last look, and walks out of my room as fast as she can.

I jump up and run after her, grabbing her wrist, but she breaks free. "Edward, please. Don't make this harder than it already is for both of us. Don't come after me, don't look for me, just let me go." She runs out to her truck and drives away, leaving me to stand there in disbelief. I can't think, I can't breathe, so I do the only thing I can think of : run away.

I run through the forest until I know I'm as far away from everything as I can be and collapse onto the soft grass. I sit there, silently begging someone, anyone, to bring my Bella back to me, even though I know it's useless. Gone. My sweet, beautiful Bella. Gone for good. I lost her, and I'll never get her back.

Part 2 - Bella

I drive away from his house as fast as I can, sobbing. That was the hardest thing that I've ever had to do. I hate myself for breaking Edward's heart, I really do. I just can't bear another day of not being with Jacob. He has that kind of effect on me, one that draws me in and won't let go. In the chaos of everything, I didn't even notice that I was already on my way to his house.

I pull into the driveway and park the truck, silently begging that he's there. Running up to the front door, I see someone approaching me from the side. Turning, I see Jake's smiling face looking down on me. "Bella! Hey! What's up?" One look into his eyes sends me into another fit of sobs. His smile drops and he grabs my waist to hold me up. "Hey, hey, shhhh, it's okay. Breathe. What's wrong?"

"I ... I broke up with Edward." He pulls me in closer and strokes my hair. "I don't know who else to go to because Charlie's weird about this kind of thing and Jessica's on that trip with Mike and Angela's sick again and.." "Bella, I need you to breathe for me. You can tell me all about it when you calm down, okay? I just need you to breathe." I nod and take a deep breath in, trying to forget about the last couple of hours.

"I'm going to take you inside now so we can talk, okay? I don't want you to be out here in the cold.", he says, lifting my feet off

the ground and sweeping me into his arms. "Keep breathing for me." I close my eyes to shut out the world and suddenly hear the front door open. He slowly lowers me onto a bed that feels like heaven after a day of hell.

A calm, soothing voice in my ear says, "I'll be right back." I try to open my eyes to thank him, but it feels impossible. A strong wave of drowsiness creeps up on me and pulls me into a deep, deep sleep.

Part 3 - Jacob

I walk back into the bedroom with a bottle of water, some chips, and a blanket for Bella. When I peek through the doorway, I can see her curled up on my bed with my pillow. Mine. Not Edward's.

It feels wrong to say after she just broke up with him, but she looks so beautiful it makes my heart hurt. As soon as I saw the tears fall from her eyes, something broke inside of me. I can't bear to leave her alone, so I sit beside her on the floor and move my fingers through her hair.

This just feels so right between us. I've wanted her since the day that I first saw her standing by that truck. I can't even count the amount of days I've spent thinking about her beautiful smile, her sparkling eyes, that soft hair, and her perfect lips. Those lips. They're going to be the death of me.

And even now, with her eyes closed and her face puffy from crying, she's the most beautiful thing I've ever seen. It takes all of my strength not to pull her out of that bed and into my arms.

The one thing that keeps crossing my mind, though, is why. They seemed happy enough. I've never seen them argue or fight, never thought there was any problems with their relationship. Did he find someone else? Did he cheat on her? God, I hope not. Did he... hurt her? If I ever find out that he touched her, ever laid a finger on her when she didn't want it, I'll find him and tear him apart. Piece by piece.

The soft rustling of the blanket tears me from my thoughts. I turn to see her eyes flutter open and focus on me. I give her a small smile. "Good morning, angel." She gives me a look. "Babe?" She narrows her eyes again. "No? What about darling? Sweetheart? Princess?" A small smile appears on her face, and then disappears as she tries to hide it.

"Princess it is. Okay, princess. Do you want something to eat?" "No, I'm good. Thanks, though." "Anything for you." I could have sworn her cheeks grew pinker, like she liked it. Like, just maybe, she felt the same way as I did. I hop onto the bed beside her.

"Did you want to talk about it with me? You don't have to if you don't want to, but I like to think of myself as a good listener." The shy smile on her face grows wider. God, this girl. "I want to, but it's kind of hard to explain." "Princess, you can tell me anything you want to. I promise I won't judge, unless you want me to."

"Yeah, I don't want that." My hand combs through my hair and I smile. "Okay. Talk to me. What brought this on?"

"I've just been thinking about my future, and how I want to live my life. He just wasn't enough for me." My heart skips a beat at that, wondering how I never noticed her unhappiness as she says, "I've also been thinking about you a lot the past few weeks." My breath catches in my throat. Maybe, just maybe My eyes meet hers and she says, "When I think about you, I feel so happy, so ... free from all of my problems. So, I decided to break up with him, because all I've really wanted, is you."

Part 4 - Edward

I can't listen to this anymore. My heart is splitting into a million pieces as I hear my Bella tell another person about how I wasn't enough for her. He gave her a nickname. I was supposed to do that. I already did that. We were supposed to get married, have kids, love each other until the end of time. I already had the ring, for God's sake.

But all of that got destroyed by a werewolf who thinks he can just swoop in and take the love of my life away before I can even talk to her again. She couldn't have meant anything she said. All of those days, those wonderful months spent together, just ripped away that easily by six simple words. "I love him more than you."

I can't let her go. I don't know what to do without her. The only person I want to talk to is Bella. The only person I want to look at is Bella. The only person I want to touch, to love, is Bella. She can't leave me. I won't let her.

I burst through the front door and turn into his room, finding my precious girl in his arms, his hands in her hair. Jacob jumps up and throws Bella behind him.

"What do you want, Edward?", he says with an irritated look in his eyes. "What do I want? I want my love, my world, my whole reason for being alive right now. Bella, you can't just throw our whole relationship out the window. You can't leave me. Please, I'm begging you. I will do whatever it takes to for you to love me again. I just need you."

"Edward, ...", she says with a pleading voice. "Please, just let me go. Live your life, find someone new." "I don't want anyone new.", I say, my voice breaking. "I can't live without you. Don't you understand that?"

Jacob turns to me with a look of pity on his face. He looks like he almost feels bad when he says, "Edward. I know what you're going through. I understand. We both do. But you have to respect what she wants too. Give her some time, and who knows? She might find her way back to you, as much as that kills me. Just make it easy for all of us and let her go."

What do they not understand? I can't live without her. She is the sole reason that I have kept myself alive for all these years. I sink to the ground. "Bella, please, ... I can't ... I need" She pulls

out her cell phone and sends a text. I sit there on the ground, begging her to come back to me.

The door opens and I hear footsteps walking into the room. I don't have to turn to know who it is. Alice. She walks quietly towards me and puts a hand on my shoulder. I read her mind and she quietly says, "Edward. Come with me. Let's go home. It's okay." "No, it's not okay."

She tugs on my shirt, trying to get me up. "We're leaving. Right now." "I can't. Please..." The grip on my shirt tightens and she pulls me to my feet, pushing me through the doorway. I turn my head and give Bella one last look before Alice pushes the front door open and I stumble to the ground.

"I don't know what's happening, but you're acting like a child. If she broke your heart, give her time. It'll all work out eventually." None of them get it. They don't know that she was made for me, and only me. She is the only thing keeping me sane. They don't understand that I can't live without her. I just can't.

Part 5 - Jacob

She looks at me with such sad eyes that my heart cracks. She leans into my chest and says, "I'm such a bad person." "Princess, I need you to know that you did the right thing. He's going to be okay. Don't think less of yourself because he's

unhappy." She sighs and says, "What we were talking about earlier, ... what do you think of that?"

I pull her closer to me and put my chin on the top of her head. I've always thought of what I would say to something like this, her asking if I loved her. "You want to know what I think about that?" She nods slowly.

"I think that I've loved you since the first time I laid eyes on you this year. I've spent every single day thinking of ways I could try to win your heart, the way I would kiss you for the first time, about the perfect way to say I love you. And your perfect little lips, God, they've killed me every time I look at you. I love you, Bella. I hope you can love me too."

She stares at me in shock for a moment, and then she finally whispers, "I love you, Jacob Black. I want to spend my life with you, be near you, make you happy. Always remember that." I smile at her and whisper, "Please don't hate me for this." That's the last thing I say before I grab her face and press my lips to hers.

Part 6 - Edward

It's been two days since she left me. I still can't believe it. The only reason I'm still here is because of the faint hope that she'll come back to me one day. It's really cloudy today, so I've decided to go walk through the town today, just to maybe get a glimpse of her face on the street.

As soon as I get onto the sidewalk, I feel something rub against my ankle. When I look down, I see a small, chubby grey and white cat looping its way between my legs. It stops and looks up at me, so I decide to pick it up. The little creature rubs its furry head on my palm and starts to purr. "I think you should come home with me, don't you?" I stop and think for a minute. "I'm gonna name you Bella."