**Secrets and Lies**

**Scene one**

**FADE IN**

**St. Ann's Hospital, evening**

**Int. Victoria's hospital room.**

The room is dimly lit with white walls. Coloured cards and balloons are scattered throughout the room. A bouquet of pink and yellow flowers stands on the bedside table next to the bed. A bed is placed in the middle of the room, pushed against the back wall. Above the bed hangs a sign with the name 'Victoria Johnson' and next to it 'Nurse Wilson'. A lamp is sitting on the bedside table, behind the flowers. It is turned on. To the left of the bed, against another wall, is a dark green wardrobe. It is shut. To the right of the bed is a large window, overlooking a main road with houses just beyond it. Outside, the sky is dark and stars are visible.

In the bed, a frail girl in a blue t-shirt lays with the covers pulled up to her chest. They are yellow and white with a trim of white lace. Her head is resting back against a stack of white pillows. Her hair hangs loose over the pillows. Her eyes are closed and in her ears are ear buds, connected to an iPhone. Her forearms are heavily bandaged with white cotton. Around her right wrist is a hospital band with 'Victoria Johnson' and the date 4/1/15 written on it. It is blue and white.

The door to Victoria's room is open wide, and outside the door is a brightly lit corridor. Doctors and nurses walk past the door, pushing trolleys and helping patients walk along. A boy, age eighteen, the same as Victoria, comes to stand in the doorway. He is wearing a black t-shirt with a grey hoodie over top. He is wearing dark blue jeans and black converse. They squeak on the glossy floor as he enters the room. In his right hand is a brown, fluffy teddy bear with a red ribbon tied around its neck. In his left hand is the string of a balloon which floats in the air above his head. The balloon is blue and written in white across the front are the words 'Get Well Soon'. His chest rises rapidly as he watches Victoria. Victoria slowly opens her eyes and pulls her ear buds out. Her eyes move to the left and fall on the figure standing in the doorway. She raises herself up by her elbows and sits forward.

VICTORIA

(surprised, smiling widely)

Scott! I didn't think you were going to come see me.

A wide smile spreads across Scott's face and he walks further into the room towards the bed. He places the balloon down on the floor and hands the teddy bear to Victoria. She looks up at him, still smiling.

SCOTT

(mock horror)

How could I not come visit my best friend?

Scott sits on the left side of the bed and pulls his right leg up onto the bed to sit at an angle. He is facing Victoria. He reaches his right hand towards Victoria's, which lays limp on the bed beside her. Connected to the index finger on her right hand is a grey monitor. Scott runs his fingers across the back of Victoria's hand. She turns her hand, palm towards the ceiling and Scott continues to run his fingers across her skin.

VICTORIA

I missed you, Scott. I'm really sor-

Scott quickly lifts his right hand and extends his index finger. He places it over Victoria's lips to silence her.

SCOTT

Shh, let's not talk about that yet.

Victoria sighs heavily and leans back against the pillow. Scott lowers his hand and lets it fall against the fabric of the bed. Silence falls between them. Scott runs his fingers over Victoria's right wrist, absent-mindedly playing with her bandages. Victoria snatches her hand back away from Scott. He jumps slightly and pulls his own hand back.

SCOTT

Sorry... I didn't mean to -

Victoria crosses her arms across her chest. Scott rubs the back of his neck with his left hand.

SCOTT

(nervously)

Do you - do you want to talk about it?

Victoria looks down at her wrists and shakes her head quickly 'no'. She turns her head to the right and stares blankly out of the window. She uses her right hand to tuck a stray piece of hair behind her right ear. Scott lifts himself off the bed and walks towards the window. He places his right hand against the glass and watches Victoria in the reflection.

SCOTT

Was... was it scary?

Scott continues to stare at Victoria through the reflection on the glass. She turns her head to look at his back.

VICTORIA

(nervously fiddling with her fingers)

I don't know... I don't remember really...

Scott moves away from the window and paces slowly moving from the middle of the window to one edge and back again. Victoria sits herself back up in the bed and draws her knees up to her chest. Her arms wrap around her knees and she places her head on her knees. Victoria opens her mouth to speak before a nurse walks in and interrupts her.

NURSE SMITH

Hiya Victoria. Sorry but visiting hours

are over, he'll have to go now.

Victoria's head turns to look at Scott, who has now stopped pacing and is facing nurse Smith. He turns his head to lock eyes with Victoria, who motions for him to go. Scott quickly leaves the room, brushing past nurse Smith as he goes. Nurse Smith watches Scott leave before facing Victoria again. She adjusts her blue and white uniform and moves to sit on the edge of the bed next to Victoria. Victoria lowers her knees and lays down in the bed.

NURSE SMITH

He looked like a lovely boy. A boyfriend?

VICTORIA

(shaking her head quickly)

No! He's my best friend.

Victoria sinks into the bed and rolls to one side, turning her back to nurse Smith. Nurse Smith quietly leaves the room and closes Victoria's door. Victoria wipes a tear away from her eye before closing them both.

**Scene two**

**Scott's bedroom, night**

**Int. Scott's bedroom**

The room is almost completely dark. Clothes lay all over the grey carpeted floor. The dark blue walls are adorned with paintings and posters and framed pictures. The bed covers are blue with yellow strips on them. A small bedside table is placed beside the bed, to the right. On it, a magazine, novel and a small lamp. The lamp is turned on, casting a small circle of light into the room. Next to the lamp is a framed picture of Scott and Victoria. Scott is giving Victoria a piggy-back and is looking at the camera. Scott is looking behind at Victoria and smiling widely. The curtains are closed. Scott sits at the end of his bed, elbows resting on his knees and his head in his hands. He is wearing light grey sweatpants and no shirt. His hair is tousled.

Abruptly, Scott stands up and kicks over a small silver trash can that stands near the door. He brings his right hand to rest on his hip and his other hand into his hair. He tugs at it lightly, brows creasing.

SCOTT

(frustrated)

Fuck! I shouldn't have let this happen!

Scott throws himself down on his bed, face towards the ceiling. He runs his hands down his face and blinks back tears. He rolls over onto his right side and props his head up on his hand. He smiles at the picture of himself and Victoria and reaches out with his left hand to run his fingers down the image of his best friend.

SCOTT

(whispering)

I'm sorry Victoria. I'm sorry I couldn't stop

you for hurting yourself. I wish I knew why you did it...

Scott removes his hand from the picture and his eyes fall on a picture of his mother and himself as a baby in her arms. He turns the picture around so he cannot see it anymore. Scott rolls back so he is facing the ceiling again. He places both his hands, fingers interlocked, on his stomach and closes his eyes.

**Scene three**

**ST. ANN'S HOSPITAL, Next Morning**

**Int. Victoria's room.**

Victoria is sitting upright in bed. In front of her is a large black TV and a movable stand with wheels. She is smiling widely and laughter occasionally escapes her lips. She is wearing a pink long sleeve pyjama top with 'Sugar Craze' written across the chest. Her hair is braided to the right side of her head. The door to her room is wide open once again.

Scott stand in the doorway and watches Victoria in silence. He brings his right hand to rest on the left side of his chest over his heart. His head is tilted slightly to the left. Victoria turns to the right to reach for the teddy bear Scott gave her yesterday. She picks it up and sits it on her lap, kissing its head. Scott's lips curl into a smile as he walks into the room, into Victoria's view.

VICTORIA

Hey Scott!

SCOTT

Hey baby girl.

Scott sits on the bed with Victoria and leans his back against the foot rest so he can see Victoria. He quickly kicks off his blue shoes and swings his legs up onto the bed next to Victoria. He is wearing the same grey sweatpants he wore the night before and a yellow t-shirt. Victoria picks up the TV remote controller, which sits on her right leg and turns the TV off. She places the remote on the bedside table next to her phone.

VICTORIA

You never said you were coming.

SCOTT

(shrugging)

Yeah, I wanted to surprise you, you

(continued) need the cheering up.

Victoria smiles at Scott and places her right hand on his lower leg. She moves her hand up and down his leg.

SCOTT

(sheepishly)

I kinda wanted to ask you something anyway...

Victoria lets out a sigh and removes her hand from Scott’s leg. Scott tries to hold Victoria's gaze but she turns her head to look out of the window at the rain at pounds against the glass. Scott swings his legs off the bed and moves closer to Victoria. He takes her hand gently in his own. Victoria's head snaps around to look at her small hand in Scott's larger one. She slowly looks up at his face.

SCOTT

Victoria, please. I just want to know

why you did it. I want to help you.

VICTORIA

(angrily)

Why do you spoil everything? Why can't you just

let it go?! It happened! I failed! It's over!

Victoria snatches her hand away from Scott and pushes the covers back off her legs. Scott flinches as she screams. She swings her bare legs off the bed and stands up. She pushes away from the bed to stand in front of the window. Her arms cross over her chest and she bounces up and down on the balls of her feet. Scott gets off the bed and creeps up behind Victoria. He places his hands on her upper arms and runs them up and down. Victoria watches Scott through the reflection in the window. Tears run down her face.

VICTORIA

I don't know anymore Scott. I don't even know

what went wrong this time. I tried so hard, I'm trying

so hard. I'm so scared... I don't know what - Scott help I just -

SCOTT

Shh...Shh

Scott spins Victoria around in his arms and hugs her tightly. Victoria places her hands on his chest and pushes him back from her. Scott catches himself on the edge of the bed to stop himself falling over.

SCOTT

(shocked)

What the hell, Vic?! What did I do?!

VICTORIA

(angrily clenching her fists)

What did you do?! WHAT DID YOU DO?!

Scott you sat back and watched me fall apart! You

watched everyday as another mark appeared on my

arm but you never said anything! Not once did you

try to ask what was wrong! You don't care about me!

Ever since you got with Lana! You were my best friend

Scott, I can't lie to you anymore, you broke my damn heart!

Scott lowers himself onto the bed and covers his face with his hands. Victoria clutches at her chest and a low sob escapes her lips. She sinks onto her knees on the floor.

SCOTT

So - so this was my fault? I've been doing this to you?

Victoria nods her head slowly. Scott glances up at her and sees her nodding. He quickly gets off the bed and grabs the covers. He throws them onto the floor and pushes the pillows off the bed.

SCOTT

Fuck! FUCK! I'm such a fucking idiot! Shit!

Fucking hell!

Scott continues to trash the room, throwing cards onto the floor and knocking over the lamp. Victoria stands up and wipes her eyes.

VICTORIA

Scott! Scott stop it! Stop it!

She rushes towards him and grabs his wrists to retrain him. Scott fights her grip. Victoria lets go of Scotts right wrist and his hand snaps up and clips Victoria across the face. She immediately releases his arms and her left hand shoots up to her reddening face. Scott's eyes widen as he watches tears stream down Victoria's cheeks. He reaches out for her but she flinches away.

SCOTT

Vic - Vic I'm so sorry! I didn't mean to!

You know it was an accident.

VICTORIA

I don't even know who you are anymore Scott...

You aren't the boy I grew up with.

Victoria moves around Scott and sits on the bed. She rubs her cheek gently. Tears fall from Scott's eyes as he lowers himself onto the floor and covers his face with his hands again. He sobs quietly to himself.

VICTORIA

Scott, all I ever wanted was for you to care

for me. I hate seeing you with that bitch, she

doesn't care about you like I do! She just wants

to be with you so she can brag about it to her

plastic friends. I care so much about you. Why

can't you return it?

SCOTT

Because! Because I love you okay?!

Scott furiously wipes his eyes and stands up. He runs his hands through his hair and his chest rises and falls rapidly. Victoria turns to look at Scott. Her brow creases.

VICTORIA

(quiet with shock)

You... You what?

SCOTT

I love you Victoria. I've loved you my whole damn life!

Scott lowers his voice and moves slowly to sit next to Victoria and the ruined bed. His chest rises rapidly and a small bead of sweat runs down his face from his temple to his jaw. He reaches for Victoria's red cheek with his left hand. His thumb rubs small circles on her burning skin.

SCOTT

I've always wanted you but I thought...

I assumed you didn't want me. You always

talk about how much of a brother I am to you.

How could you ever want that as a boyfriend?

Especially after everything with my father, I'm

just like him, Vic. I don't want that for you. How

can you still want me?

Victoria lifts her right hand from her lap and places it over Scott's hand. She grips his hand tightly. Scott slowly leans in, keeping his eyes locked with Victoria's. Victoria begins breathing heavier, her chest rising and falling rapidly. She blinks sharply, twice. Scott's eyes flicker down to look at Victoria's mouth and back up to her eyes. He slowly closes his eyes and puckers his lips slightly. His lips come into contact with Victoria's. His shoulders lower as he deepens the kiss. Victoria's eyes close.

Scott pulls away from Victoria and lets his hand fall away from her face. His cheeks are flushed and his eyes bright. Victoria pushes forward slightly, fighting to keep contact between her lips and Scotts. Her eyes open slowly and she watches as Scott lifts his right hand and rubs the back of his neck.

SCOTT

I...ehm I don't know what came over me, I'm sorry.

Victoria's hands press against Scott's cheeks and she pulls him closer. Their lips connect again and Scott places his left hand around Victoria's waist. His right hand is on the bed, supporting his weight. They kiss for several minutes before they pull away from each other.

**Scene Four**

**SCOTT'S BEDROOM, a few days later**

**Int. Scott's bedroom**

The curtains are pulled open and the sun is streaming into the room. The floor is clean and the bed is made. On top of the bed, Victoria and Scott are laying down. Scott is laying on his back, his left arm placed under his head, bent at the elbow. His right arm is outstretched to his right. His right ankle is placed over his left one. Victoria is laying on her right side, her knees bent and drawn up slightly. Her right arm is pulled into her chest and her left arm is slung over Scott's bare chest. Her head is resting on Scott's arm. She is wearing an oversized hoodie and a pair of blue jeans. Scott is wearing a white t-shirt and black jeans. His hair is tousled and his gaze fixed on the ceiling. Victoria's hair is hanging loose behind her, small wisps trapped around her face. Her eyes are heavy. Her breathing is slow and deep.

Scott is watching a random spot on the ceiling, his right hand tracing small circles on Victoria's shoulder. Her eyes fall closed and he body slumps slightly. Scott turns his head and glances down at Victoria. His lips curl up into a smile and he laughs lightly at her.

SCOTT

(whispering)

My little sleeping beauty... I love you.

Scott kisses Victoria gently on the forehead and leaves his lips lingering there for a few moments. He pulls away from her again and turns his head to face his bedside table. He removes his arm from under his head and reaches for his phone. He slides it unlocked and types in his code. He opens his text messages and reads countless messages from Lana. He rolls his eyes and begins typing.

SCOTT

(typing a message)

Leave me alone. I'm finally happy. I don't want

you, I never did. Go away and never text me again.

Scott locks his phone and throws it towards the end of the bed. He rolls onto his side and faces the sleeping Victoria. His right hand rests on Victoria's hip and he pulls himself closer to her. Scott's eyes fall closed.

Victoria opens her eyes and comes face to face with Scott. His breathing is slow and gentle and it tickles her face, causing a giggle to escape her lips. She brings her left hand up and pulls her fingers through Scott's hair. She repeats the action a few times before leaning in and kissing Scott softly on the lips. His eyes flutter open and a smile spreads across his face as he realises what is happening. Abruptly, he pulls Victoria off the bed and onto his lap so she is kneeing, one leg either side of his body. Victoria's left hand is on the pillow to the right of Scott's head, supporting her upper body. Her right hand pushes through her hair, moving it out of her eyes. Scott's hands come to rest on Victoria's hips.

SCOTT

I really love you, you know.

Victoria leans down and pecks Scott on the lips.

VICTORIA

I know. I love you too. I'm still sorry,

you know?

SCOTT

Shh, let's not talk about that again. You're

okay now, we're okay now. We have each

other. I'll never let anything happen to you again.

I promise.

Victoria lowers her upper body so she is laying on top of Scott. She wraps her arms under his neck and buries her head in the nook of his neck. Scott's arms slide around to hold Victoria closer to him.

SCOTT

Promise me this is how it's gonna be forever?

Promise you'll stay?

Victoria quickly crosses the fingers on her left hand.

VICTORIA

(forced smile)

I promise.

Scott smiles happily and Victoria uncrosses her fingers. Her smile slips from her lips. She loosens her grip on Scott and a look of fear crosses her face. A tear escapes her eye.

**Fade out**

**The End**