

HARD

*STRUGGLE, RESIST, DEFY,
ALL FOR THE CONCLUSION YOU DESIRE.*

*You are in an empty room,
tied to a chair when you woke up.
You somehow managed to remove the ropes,
but the door is locked.*

STAGE 1

EASY 4 BIT, 1 INPUT, SPATIAL PUZZLE

THE POEM

WHEN YOU GLANCED AT ME FROM THE OTHER SIDE,
I SHIVERED WITH DELIGHT.

NEVER HAD I FELT SUCH EUPHORIA,
COURSING THROUGH MY VEINS.
MY LIFE,
YOU TOWER OVER AND REIGN.

YOUR LITTLE ACTIONS SEND ME JOY,
SETS MY HEART AFLUTTER.

YOUR TROUBLES AFFLICT ME WITH TORMENT,
ABUSES ME WITH HELPLESSNESS.

WE ARE TWO SEPARATE INDIVIDUALS,
ONLY 2 SEATS AWAY FROM EACH OTHER,
YET IT FEELS LIKE AN UNCLOSABLE DISTANCE,
AN ETERNITY AWAY.

HOW I WISH WE COULD BE ONE,
TOGETHER FOREVER.

A BUDDING FLOWER

THE WORLD OF FICTION WAS A PLACE OF RESPITE FROM THE MEANINGLESSNESS IN MY LIFE. FROM TRAVERSING THE LAND OF GIANTS WITH GULLIVER, TO BEING ALONGSIDE A SQUARE SPREADING THE GOSPEL IN FLATLAND. EVEN AMIDST THE INCESSANT NOISE AND SCORNFUL EYES, I WAS ABLE TO FOLLOW THE BEAUTIFUL WORDS PENNED BY REMARKABLE INDIVIDUALS, INDULGING IN THE WORLD THAT THEY CREATED. BUT RECENTLY, I FIND MYSELF DISTRACTED, YEARNING TO VENTURE THESE WORLDS TOGETHER WITH HIM.

SINCE WHEN WAS IT, I WONDER, THAT I BECAME SO CONSCIOUS OF HIM?

I WOULD IMAGINE US ELOPING FROM OUR FEUDING FAMILY. HE WOULD BE NEXT TO ME AS WE WITNESSED THE WONDERFULLY INGENIOUS MR HOLMES SOLVING YET ANOTHER MURDER MYSTERY. WE WOULD MANAGE THE FARM WITH WEIRDLY PRECOCIOUS ANIMALS TOGETHER. EVENTUALLY, OUR FAMILIES' FEUD CAUGHT UP TO US. THINKING I WAS LEFT THE WORLD, HE DRANK THE VIAL OF POISON, WHILE I, GRIEVING OVER THE LOSS OF HIM WILL IMPLANT A DAGGER FIRMLY IN MY HEART.

WHILE I DREAMED, THESE SWEET BUBBLES OF THOUGHT WERE ONCE
AGAIN ABRUPTLY POPPED BY THE HIGH-PITCHED SHRIEKS OF THOSE
MONKEYS AGAIN. LIKE A PRIDEFUL PEAFOWL FLAUNTING ITS FEATH-
ERS, THEY WEAR FANCY DRESSES AND APPLY RIDICULOUSLY THICK
MAKEUP, TRYING TO SEDUCE HIM. I PITY THEM FOR LOOKING LIKE
CLOWNS. THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT HE SEES BEYOND THE SU-
PERFICIAL AND APPRECIATE VIRTUES FOR WHAT THEY ARE.

THOSE DUMB MONKEYS SHOULD JUST DISAPPEAR FROM THE FACE OF
THE EARTH.

ME AND HIM, WE ARE THE SAME,
HE SEES THAT WHICH CAN'T BE SEEN AND HEARS THAT WHICH CAN'T
BE HEARD.

OTHERS WILL NEVER PERCEIVE THINGS WE CAN PERCEIVE.
THEY SPEND THEIR LIVES BLINDLY CHASING AFTER THINGS WHICH
DON'T MATTER.

ONLY I CAN UNDERSTAND HIM,
ONLY I CAN STAND BY HIS SIDE AS HIS EQUAL.

WHAT HE IS OR WILL BECOME DOES NOT MATTER,
IF ONLY HE WOULD LOOK AT ME THE WAY I LOOKED AT HIM.

HARD 8 BIT, 2 INPUT OF 4 BYTES, ABSTRACTION & ENTER-A-VALUE PUZZLE

DREAMS

*Of where dreams are made into reality,
where fantasies realised eventually.*

ANN IS SO CUTE! FLIPPING THE PAGES OF HER BOOK WHILE PUSHING HER GLASSES UP, SHE IS LIKE A DAINTY ROSE BLOSSOMING, RADIATING THIS AURA OF LOVELINESS. SHE JUST MAKES YOU WANT TO HUG HER, DOESN'T IT? WHILE I DON'T THINK LOOKS ARE IMPORTANT, I JUST CAN'T HELP BUT KEEP HER AT THE CORNER OF MY PERIPHERAL VISION. HOW I WISH, I COULD MUSTER THE COURAGE TO PEER INTO HER MESMERISING ONYX EYES ALL DAY. THAT WOULD JUST BE WEIRD, WOULDN'T IT?

THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO THINK OF HER AS A NUISANCE FOR READING BOOKS DURING OUR BREAKS. THEY ARE AFRAID OF LAGGING BEHIND, ISN'T IT FINE TO DO AS SHE LIKES IN HER FREE TIME? ALRIGHT, THIS IS MY CHANCE TO SIT NEXT TO HER AND BEHOLD HER UP CLOSE! YEAH, SHE IS EVEN CUTER UP CLOSE. SHE SEEMS TO FIND MY PRESENCE COMFORTING, I'M GLAD.

RECENTLY, WHILE ENJOYING MY DAILY AFFAIR OF "ANN-WATCHING", I WOULD NOTICE HER GIVING ME VARIOUS GLANCES. SHE WAS LOOKING AT ME! COULD SHE BE INTERESTED IN ME? IT'S TIME TO STRATEGIZE!

HOW TO CONQUER HER HEART:

*STRATEGY 1: WHEN SHE IS ALONE (WHICH IS MOST OF THE TIME)
KEEP HER COMPANY AND CHAT HER UP.*

*STRATEGY 2: TALK TO HER ABOUT HER FAVOURITE DETECTIVE NOVEL
AFTER READING UP BEFOREHAND.*

*STRATEGY 3: IF SHE SEEMS LIKE SHE IS HAPPY AND COMFORTABLE
WITH YOU AROUND, MOVE ON TO STRATEGY 4.*

STRATEGY 4: GIVE HER A LOVE POEM.

I HAVE NEVER HAD ANY INTEREST FOR ANYONE. SHE IS THE FIRST GIRL I HAVE EVER BEEN SO CAPTIVATED BY. SHE IS UNLIKE THE OTHER GIRLS THAT I USUALLY HANGOUT WITH. THOUGH SHE IS SLIGHTLY EXCITABLE, SHE SEES BEYOND THE SUPERFICIAL AND HAS A TRULY KIND HEART.

RATHER THAN FOLLOWING SHERLOCK AND WATSON BACK TO THEIR APARTMENT AT THE END OF THEIR ADVENTURE, I HOPE, FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART, THAT SOMEDAY SHE WOULD RETURN WITH ME, BACK TO OUR OWN APARTMENT AT THE END OF OUR TRAVELS.

MAYBE, AFTER PAYING A VISIT TO MR HOLMES IN LONDON?

STAGE 2

EASY 4 BIT, 1 INPUT, SPATIAL PUZZLE

THE VOW

YOU ARE MY MOST SIGNIFICANT ONE,
TO BE YOUR PROTECTOR I WISH.
YOU CAN ALWAYS TRUST ME WITH YOUR BACK,
FROM YOUR WOES AND FOES I SHIELD,
STANDING EVER SO UNYIELDINGLY BY YOUR SIDE.

WITH THIS RING, I GIVE YOU MY PROMISE
THAT FROM THIS DAY FORWARD
I WILL GIVE YOU ALL MY LOVE,
AND YOU SHALL NOT WALK ALONE.

I HAVE NO GREATER GIFT TO GIVE,
AS YOUR LOVE IS MY ANCHOR,
AND YOUR TRUST IS MY STRENGTH,

WHEREVER YOU GO I SHALL BE,
EVEN FOR A BIT,
I DO NOT WANT TO PART.

MAY MY HEART BE YOUR SHELTER
AND MY ARMS BE YOUR HOME.

LET US ALWAYS TAKE A STEP BACK AND,
APPRECIATE WHAT PRECIOUS THING WE HAVE.

AS I PLACE IT ON YOUR FINGER,
I GIVE YOU ALL THAT I AM,
AND ALL THAT I SHALL BECOME.

THIS RING HAS NO END OR BEGINNING,
AND SO SHALL WE FINALLY BE,
FOR ETERNITY.

MEDIUM 4 BITS, 1 INPUT, SPATIAL & LITERARY PUZZLE

WHITE DAY

*The truth might be simpler than it appears to be,
you just need to look,
for where the sacred Rule is*

TODAY IS WHITE DAY, OUR 3RD ANNIVERSARY, AND OUR WEDDING DAY.
TIME SURE FLIES.

EVEN BEFORE WE GOT TOGETHER, YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SO KIND AND ATTENTIVE. OUR CLASSMATES WOULD OFTEN MAKE SNIDE REMARKS AT ME FOR READING DURING BREAK-TIME. THEY SAY I COME OFF TOO STUDIOUS, TOO OBNOXIOUS, TOO ANNOYING A BOOKWORM. IGNORING THEM, YOU WOULD PULL A CHAIR UP NEXT TO ME AND ASKED IF I MIND READING A BOOK WITH YOU TOGETHER. HOW COULD I SAY NO TO YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS? THOSE TIMES MADE ME FELT THAT ONLY YOU WERE CAPABLE OF UNDERSTANDING ME. MY EYES WOULD UNCONSCIOUSLY FOLLOW YOU WHEREVER YOU ARE AROUND. GIRLS TEND TO FOLLOW YOU AROUND, AND THAT SIGHT USED TO IRK ME. BUT NOW, THAT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE.

ON WHITE DAY 3 YEARS AGO, I REMEMBER THAT MOMENT WHEN I SAW A PINK NOTE THAT WAS STUCK TO MY FILE ON THE TABLE. READING IT MY WHOLE FACE TURNED BEET RED INSTANTLY. IT WAS A LOVE POEM THAT YOU WROTE FOR ME. IT WAS SO LOVELY! FROM THEN ON, I KNEW THAT I REALLY WANT TO HAVE YOU AND I WON'T LET ANYBODY ELSE TAKE YOU.

LISTENING TO THE VOW YOU MADE TO ME TODAY – I SWEAR, IT WAS SO SWEET THAT IT ALMOST GAVE ME DIABETES. BUT I LOVED IT. BEFORE I MET YOU, I WOULD SAY THAT MY LIFE WAS A RATHER LONELY AND POINTLESS ONE. THE 3 YEARS WE SPENT TOGETHER BECAME THE HAPPIEST TIME OF MY LIFE, AND I AM SURE MANY MORE WILL COME. I BELIEVE NO MATTER WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS, AS LONG AS WE STAY TOGETHER, LAUGH TOGETHER, CRY TOGETHER, WE WILL BE ABLE TO MOVE FORWARD AS ONE. THANK YOU FOR CHERISHING ME WAY MORE THAN I EVER THOUGHT ANYONE WOULD. YOU ARE MY SOLE REASON FOR STAYING ALIVE. IF YOU EVER LEFT ME, I DON'T THINK I WOULD BE ABLE TO CONTINUE LIVING. NOW THAT YOU ARE OFFICIALLY MINE, AND ONLY MINE, STAY WITH ME, FOREVER.

DATE: ~~14~~/03/2016

P.S. I CAN'T WAIT TO GO ON OUR HONEYMOON TRIP TO LONDON*!

HARD 8 BIT, 2 INPUT , ABSTRACTION & BIT-WISE LOGIC GATE PUZZLE

A CIRCUS SHOW



HE HAD BOUGHT TWO FRONT ROW SEATS TO THE CIRCUS SHOW. HE KNEW THAT SHE HAD ALWAYS BEEN A FAN OF CIRCUS SHOW AND WANTED TO GIVE HER A SURPRISE. TODAY WAS AN IMPORTANT DATE FOR BOTH OF THEM.

HE TOOK A QUICK GLANCE AT HIS PHONE, "6.30PM? SHE'LL BE BACK SOON."

SHE WAS USUALLY BACK AT THIS TIMING, HE REASSURED HIMSELF AND CONTINUED WAITING. AS HE LIED ON THE SOFA, FATIGUE ASSAULTED HIM. A BIG PROJECT AT WORK JUST STARTED AND HE HAD VERY LITTLE REST. HE LEFT WORK EARLY JUST FOR TODAY. AS SUCH, HE VERY QUICKLY DOZED OFF. MEANWHILE, HIS PHONE LIT UP AND VIBRATED SILENTLY...

AT 11 PM, SHE CAME BACK. SHE SPOTTED HIM SLEEPING ON THE SOFA, AND HE WAS STILL IN HIS OFFICE ATTIRE WHICH ANNOYED HER VERY MUCH SO. COUNTLESS TIMES HAD SHE TOLD HIM TO CHANGE OUT OF HIS OFFICE ATTIRE BEFORE RESTING, BUT IT SEEMS TO HAVE FALLEN ON DEAF EARS AGAIN. HOWEVER, WHAT ANGERED HER EVEN MORE SO WAS THAT

WHILE HE WAS SLEEPING SO SOUNDLY AT HOME, SHE HAD BEEN BLINDLY WAITING AT HIS FAVOURITE RESTAURANT SINCE 7PM. SHE HAD LEFT A NOTE ON THE FRIDGE BEFORE LEAVING FOR WORK AND THOUGHT HE WOULD HAVE COME.

LOOKING AT THE DROOL THAT IS OOZING FROM HIS SILLY MOUTH, SHE HAD FORGOTTEN WHAT SHE WAS ANGRY ABOUT. SHE RESISTED THE URGE TO SQUEEZE THE TWO PUFFY MOUNDS ON HIS FACE AND WENT TO THE BATHROOM TO WASH UP.

PERHAPS IT WAS A PRANK BY THE SPRITES OF THE WIND, A NOTE ON THE FRIDGE ABOUT A DINNER APPOINTMENT LOST ITS ADHESIVENESS AND FLUTTERED SLOWLY, DOWN TO THE BOTTOM OF THE FRIDGE. THE NOTE, ALONG WITH THE FACT THEY HAD JUST MISSED EACH OTHER, IS NOW HIDDEN WITHIN THE OBSCURE DARKNESS.

STAGE 3

SINS

*There are sins you have committed,
you must recognise and accept the Truth*

3 SINCE THE START OF THIS WEEK, HE HAS BEEN HOME VERY LATE. HE HAD EVEN MISSED THEIR IMPORTANT DATE NAPPING ON THE SOFA. WHEN SHE ASKED HIM IF HE WAS ALRIGHT OR IF WORK WAS GOING WELL, HE WOULD SHRUG IT OFF AND SAY EVERYTHING IS FINE. SHE WAS REALLY WORRIED FOR HIM.

2 TO ENSURE HE WAS GETTING THE NECESSARY NUTRIENTS, SHE WOULD WAKE UP EARLIER AND PREPARE A WHOLESOME HEARTY BREAKFAST AND A LUNCHBOX FOR HIM. THIS WAY HE WOULD HAVE MORE ENERGY FOR THE DAY SHE THOUGHT. THIS WAS NO EASY FEAT AS SHE ALSO HAD HER PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES, BUT IF IT'S FOR HIM, ANYTHING WAS WORTH IT.

1 EVENTUALLY, SHE NOTICED THAT HIS SHIRT CARRIED THE SCENT OF PERFUME – THE SMELL OF ANOTHER WOMAN. SHE TRUSTED HIM BUT DOUBT STILL BEGAN TO SPROUT IN HER. SHE TRIED TO IGNORE IT, TRYING TO BE THE IDEAL TRUSTING WIFE SHE WANTED TO BE, BUT THAT STIFLING SMELL WHICH STAYED ON HIS SHIRT DISPARAGED HER EFFORTS. IT FELT LIKE THE FURTHER INTO THE NIGHT HE REACHED HOME, THE STRONGER THE SMELL WAS.

PARANOIA BEGAN TO GNAW AT HER FROM WITHIN. SHE COULDN'T CONCENTRATE AT WORK AND THOUGHTS OF HIM HOLDING OTHER WOMEN ASSAULTED HER SANITY. EVENTUALLY, HER WORST NIGHTMARE CAME TRUE. SHE HAD FOUND A RED LIP STAIN ON HIS SHIRT. SOMETHING BROKE IN HER.

"IT WILL BE FINE, HE WON'T DO ANYTHING UNFAITHFUL TO ME. HE LOVES ME," SHE REPEATED TO HERSELF LIKE A CHANT, AVERTING HER EYES FROM THE REALITY IN FRONT OF HER.

MEDIUM 4 BIT, 2 INPUT, ABSTRACTION & ENTER-A-VALUE PUZZLE

THE SOLILOQUY

NO MATTER HOW MUCH I SCRUB IT
THE PUNGENT SCENT CANNOT BE ERASED

NO MATTER HOW MUCH I TRY TO FORGET
THAT BRIGHT SHADOW HAUNT ME STILL

NO MATTER HOW MUCH I IGNORE IT
THE VILE SEEDS OF DOUBT BLOOMED GROTESQUE FLOWERS

NO MATTER HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU
THIS SENSE OF BETRAYAL STAYS

...

A HOPELESS WOMAN,
AN OBSESSIVE FREAK,
A MANIPULATIVE WITCH.

I WONDER IF THESE ARE THE THINGS
YOU THINK OF ME AND CURSE,
BEHIND THE WALL OF SILENCE.

WHAT DID I DO TO DESERVE ALL OF THIS?
WHAT CAN I DO TO MAKE THINGS RIGHT?
WHAT SHOULD I DO TO MAKE YOU TURN BACK?

IF ONLY WE COULD RETURN TO THE DAY
WHEN YOUR LOVE WAS ETERNAL
AND YOUR HEART WAS SOLELY MINE...

...

MAYBE ONCE YOU ARE OUT OF HER REACH
TIME WOULD FINALLY REWIND,
AND YOU WILL LOVE ME AGAIN.

LET US DISAPPEAR TO A PLACE
WHERE NO ONE WILL BOTHER US
AND NO ONE CAN BOTHER US
EVER AGAIN.

HARD 8 BIT, 2 INPUT OF 2 BYTES, ABSTRACTION &
ENTER-A-VALUE PUZZLE

WHENCE IT ALL STARTED

RECENTLY, I WAS PLACED IN CHARGE OF A MULTI-MILLION PROJECT FOR MY COMPANY. THIS WAS MY CHANCE TO PROVE MYSELF TO THE BOSS-ES AND RISE IN THE CORPORATE LADDER. THIS WAY, ANN AND OUR FUTURE CHILD WILL HAVE A BETTER FUTURE. HOW MANY CHILDREN SHOULD WE HAVE? TWO? THREE? A FOOTBALL TEAM? RAISING A KID IN THIS INFLATED ECONOMY IS NOT EASY. ANN SEEMS TO BE WORRIED ABOUT ME, SHE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A WORRYWART AND GOES SLIGHTLY OVERBOARD WHEN IT COMES TO ME. I CAN'T LET HER WORRY!

ANN'S YUMMY BREAKFAST AND LUNCHBOXES! AMIDST THE GROWING WORKLOAD, THEY ARE WHAT KEEPS ME GOING STRONG AND FIGHTING HARD. I REALLY APPRECIATE WHAT SHE HAS BEEN DOING FOR ME. SHE HAS HER JOB TOO, HOPE SHE IS NOT PUTTING TOO MUCH BURDEN ON HER BODY.

AS THE PROJECT ENTERED ITS FINAL STAGES, THE FOREIGN COMPANY THAT MY COMPANY PARTNERED WITH HAS SENT A FOREIGN EXECUTIVE TEAM TO MONITOR THE PROGRESS. DO ALL FEMALE FOREIGNERS USE SUCH STRONG PERFUMES? I AM GLAD ANN DOESN'T USE SUCH THINGS, I LOVE HER THE WAY SHE IS.

RECENTLY ANN LOOKS VERY TIRED, LIKE SHE IS WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING. I HOPE IT'S NOT BECAUSE OF ME. WE HAVEN'T BEEN ON DATES RECENTLY. ONCE THIS PROJECT ENDS, I WILL BE ABLE TO SPEND MORE TIME WITH HER. WE COULD GO TO THE LARGEST BOOK-STORE IN TOWN, I HEAR THEY HAVE NEW ARRIVALS. I AM SURE SHE WILL ENJOY IT.

ALRIGHT, THE PROJECT IS FINALLY COMPLETED! FOR THE ALMOST TWO MONTHS, I HAVE BEEN HOME LATE EVERY DAY, AND HAD TO WORK EVEN ON THE WEEKENDS TOO. ANN SAID SHE WAS FEELING NAUSEOUS, MAYBE I SHOULD DROP BY THE PHARMACY ON THE WAY BACK. EH? CELEBRATORY PARTY AT THE NEARBY BAR? I MUST ATTEND SINCE I WAS THE MAIN CONTRIBUTOR FOR THE PROJECT? IT SEEMS THEY INVITED THE FOREIGN COUNTERPART TEAM TOO. ALRIGHT, JUST A FEW DRINKS AND I'LL QUICKLY HEAD BACK TO MY BELOVED ANN. WAIT FOR ME!

BEHIND THE WALL OF SILENCE.

STAGE 4

0 BIT

A FUTILE ENDEAVOUR

GOOD MORNING DEAR.

I ALREADY TOLD YOUR BOSS THAT YOU WILL BE TAKING A SHORT
BREAK.

IT'S A LITTLE COLD IN HERE, BUT I'M SURE WE CAN WARM EACH
OTHER UP.

HEY, DON'T STRUGGLE SO MUCH, IT'S USELESS.

I'M JUST TRYING TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU STAY SAFE.

IT'S SAFER HERE. THE OUTSIDE WORLD IS FILLED WITH HORRIBLE
PEOPLE TRYING TO BREAK US APART, ESPECIALLY THAT WOMAN.

I'M SURE YOU DIDN'T MEAN FOR THAT TO HAPPEN.

IF ANYTHING, IT MUST BE HER.

SHE MUST BE THE ONE WHO TURNED YOU ASTRAY AND RUINED YOU.

AFTER ALL, YOU SAID THAT YOU LOVE ME FOREVER RIGHT?

SO THAT VIXEN MUST HAVE SEDUCED YOU,

OTHERWISE THERE'S NO WAY YOU WOULD HAVE DONE IT.

...

WHY ARE YOU LOOKING SO SCARED?

OH WAIT, SORRY, YOU COULDN'T REPLY ME EVEN IF
YOU WANTED TO.

BUT IF I DON'T SEAL YOUR MOUTH AND YOU MIGHT START SHOUTING,
WHAT IS HAPPENING HERE? I'M JUST TRYING TO KEEP YOU SAFE,
OKAY?

DEAR, YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE YOU BELIEVE ME.
DO YOU THINK THAT I'M CRAZY?
I'M NOT CRAZY, OKAY. YOU KNOW I'M NOT.
YOU KNOW THAT I LOVE YOU THE MOST.
BUT WHY DOES MY HEART ACHE SO MUCH?
WHY, NO MATTER HOW MUCH I PUT IN,
WHY, NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRY,
NOTHING SEEMS TO WORK.

YOU DON'T TALK TO ME ANYMORE.
YOU DON'T HOLD ME ANYMORE.
YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT ME ANYMORE.

AND WHEN I REALIZE THAT YOU MIGHT NOT LOVE ME ANYMORE,
SOMETHING INSIDE ME BROKE AND
I WANT EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE
THAT HOLDS YOU DEAR TO BE GONE
SO THAT YOU WILL REMEMBER.

THE ONLY ONE THAT TRULY UNDERSTANDS YOU IS ME
THE ONLY ONE THAT TRULY CARES ABOUT YOU IS ME
THE ONLY ONE THAT TRULY LOVES YOU IS ME
AND THE ONLY ONE THAT YOU TRULY NEED IS ME

...

DON'T WORRY DEAR,
EVERYTHING WILL BE ALRIGHT.
NO ONE LOVES YOU MORE THAN I DO.

16BIT, 2 INPUT. SOLVE THIS!

—THE TRUE ENDING—

OF WHEN THEIR LOVE OVERFLOWS.

I UNLOCKED THE DOOR AND PLACED MY HAND ON THE HANDLE. SOMETHING IS WRONG, WHAT AM I RUNNING AWAY FROM? MY LOVELY WIFE WHO MAKE ME LUNCHBOXES AND COOKS FOR ME EVERY SINGLE DAY? THE KIND GIRL WHO WOULD BE TORMENTED BY GUILT FOR DAYS FROM STEPPING ON A SNAIL? THE PERSON WHO LOVES ME MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THIS WORLD?

SHE IS MY OTHER HALF IN THIS LONELY WORD, ONLY SHE COMPLETES ME. WHAT WOULD I DO IF SHE IS NOT BY MY SIDE FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES? A LIFE WITHOUT HER IS NOT WORTH LIVING AND I AM SURE SHE FEELS THE SAME WAY TOO.

...

ANN WAS IN FRONT OF THE ROOM. SHE WAS HESITANT ABOUT ENTERING. THERE WAS A PERIOD BLAINE WAS IN SCOUTS AND SHE WAS CERTAIN HE KNOWS THE TRICK TO REMOVE THE ROPES SHE HAD TIED. ANN HAD EVEN PURPOSEFULLY LEFT CLUES ON HOW HE MIGHT UNLOCK THE DOOR.

“WHAT IF HE DECIDES TO LEAVE ME? WHAT IF HE GOES BACK TO THAT WOMAN? WHAT WILL I DO THEN?” ANN WAS HAUNTED BY SUCH THOUGHTS OVER AND OVER.

SHE HAD AN UNBELIEVABLY VIVID IMAGINATION AND THE SIGHT OF BLAINE HOLDING ANOTHER WOMAN IN HIS EMBRACE WAS TOO EXCRUCIATING FOR HER TO BEAR.

A WORLD WITHOUT BLAINE WAS NOT WORTH LIVING FOR HER.

THE ANSWER WAS CLEAR. SHE RESOLUTE HER HEART AND OPENED THE DOOR.

...

"HEY BEAUTIFUL, YOU ARE BACK? I AM ALMOST DONE WITH CLEANING UP THIS ROOM." BLAINE SMILED GENTLY AT HER.

BLAINE'S SMILES WERE ONE OF THE THINGS SHE LOVED THE MOST IN THIS WORLD. IT WAS RIGHT AT THE TOP ALONG WITH BLAINE'S SLEEPING FACE AND EMBRACES.

"W-WHY ARE YOU STILL HERE?" ANN ALMOST CHOKED ON HER WORDS FROM THE HAPPINESS SHE FELT.

"HMM? DIDN'T YOU HELP ME TO APPLY LEAVE? YOU EVEN PLANNED OUT THIS WONDERFUL STAYCATION AT THIS ROMANTIC ABANDONED HUT. KINDA REMINDS YOU OF THE CAMDEN HOUSE FROM 'THE ADVENTURE OF THE EMPTY HOUSE' DOESN'T IT?" BLAINE REPLIED LIGHT-HEARTEDLY WHILE STILL TRYING TO PACK UP THE ROOM.

"HEY, DON'T JUST STAND THERE, COME HELP ME."

AT THIS POINT, ANN COULDN'T CONTROL HER EMOTIONS ANY FURTHER. SHE DROPPED TO THE FLOOR AND STARTED CRYING UNCONTROLLABLY. HER WORRIES AND DOUBTS HAVE ALL BEEN LIFTED. IT FELT AS THOUGH AS THE DARK CLOUDS THAT SHE HAS BEEN SHROUDED IN FOR THE PAST TWO MONTHS HAVE VANISHED. ONLY TEARS OF HAPPINESS FROM FINDING OUT BLAINE STILL LOVES HER IS REMAINED. HER LOVE FOR HIM HAS ALWAYS BEEN FULL, FILLED TO THE BRIM. SHE HAS JUST BEEN WAITING FOR BLAINE TO SHOW HER EVEN A BIT OF AFFECTION. THAT IS MORE THAN ENOUGH TO CAUSE HER EMOTIONS TO OVERFLOW WILDLY.

"THERE, THERE, DON'T CRY ANYMORE YOU CRY BABY," BLAINE WHISPERED SOFTLY WHILE HOLDING ANN WITHIN HIS WARM EMBRACE, GENTLY STROKING HER BACK.

"I - *HIC*, I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT I WOULD DO IF YOU LEFT."

BLAINE PLACED HIS PALMS TENDERLY ON ANN'S MOIST CHEEKS, AND THEN AFFECTIONATELY NUZZLED HER NOSE AGAINST HIS.

"THERE IS NO ONE ELSE, AND THERE NEVER WILL BE, ANYONE I LOVE MORE THAN YOU, ANN," HE RENEWED HIS VOW TO HER.

"I WILL ALWAYS BE BY YOUR SIDE, SO PLEASE STAY BY MINE AS WELL, FOR ETERNITY."

KEY TO UNLOCK
ENDING
'C & D'

