What is this story about: heartbreak and abuse

Narrative question: “What happened?”

What are the stakes: Diego’s recovery

Power of the antagonist: They were able to completely break the protagonist

**Between Level 0 (cloud-tutorial) and Level 1 (Library)**

*Someone knocks on the door*

Diego wakes up, light is shining in through the cracks of his window blinds.

The air in the room is stuffy, and the floor is littered with food packaging and old clothes. Even as an outsider you’d be able to tell he hasn’t taken care of himself for some time.

Mom- “Diego? Do you need anything? You haven’t left that room for over a week now. You have to start taking care of yourself we’re worried here”

D- “Thanks mom, I’m fine. I just need a bit more time is all”

M- “you’re going to have to tell us what happened at some point, you can’t keep missing work like this

D- “I know, I’m sorry”

M- “Well if you need anything your father and I bought some more groceries, we didn’t know you would be back”

D- “Thanks”

*Diego hears his mother's footsteps get quieter, as she gets farther and farther away from his room's door*

*Diego looks at his phone, the screen lights up his face. This is the brightest light in the room.*

D (to himself), he sighs- My team is having a party today, maybe I should drop by…

How should I prepare for the party? … I don’t even know that much huh, I really am useless

Cut to anxiety, inside room.

1. Oh what happened here? This is a mess. I hadn’t seen something so bad since grandma died!

**After Level 1:**

What happens in real time:

Bad – put dirty clothes on, and watch some TV, leave late

Neutral – Put on the first clean clothes he sees and heat up leftovers in the microwave, leave late

Good- Put on a nice shirt and quickly cook something before going, leave on time

Good:

D- Ok so the party is in 2 hours, that should be enough time to get all the preparations done.

D- I need to cook something, shower, and find something nice to wear.

D- It’s a lot, but I know I can make it in time. 30 min walking distance included.

Neutral

D- Ok so the party is in 2 hours, that should be enough time to get all the preparations done.

D- I need to cook something, shower, and find something to wear.

D- I’ll just heat up these leftovers form last night in the microwave and wear the first clean thing I find.

D- That should give me enough time to watch this movie before going

…

D- Darn, I should have known. I think I’m going to be a bit late. Good movie though.

Bad

D- Ok so the party is in 2 hours, that’s definitely not enough time to get all the preparations done.

D-I don’t want to think about it, it stresses me out.

*Diego spends the next two hours watching TV*

*Diego gets a reminder on his phone*

D- Great, I’m late. I’ll just grab whichever clothes I have laying around.

\*sniff sniff\* Ok it’s not too bad.

D- Let’s go

How it affects the ending:

Good- Study to become a doctor

Neutral- stay as a nurse

Bad- become unemployed

**After Level 2:**

What happens in real time:

Good- Enters bar, approaches friends and explains everything

Neutral- Enters bar, stands in a corner. Friends approach him and he takes the blame for abandoning them

Bad- He reaches the door of the bar but decides to leave

D- Okay, I made it to the bar

D- … The same bar where I met Taylor

D- God I don’t know if I can do this…

*Diego approaches the door of the bar, places his hand on the door handle and*

*Pushes the door with a sudden burst of energy.*

*Diego looks around for a bit and finds the familiar faces he’s looking for, his baseball team is standing there*

*They look happy.*

D- Hey… Liam… Here’s the game you lent me. Thanks for it.

*Diego takes a pause to look at the faces of his, perhaps now former, teammates.*

*They look… less happy than before.*

Dante- Well look who it is.

Da- The guy who stopped seeing us as soon as he landed a date.

D- It’s wasn’t like that.

Da- Oh really? Cause it sure seemed like it.

Liam- Dante! don’t be so rough on him, let him explain.

D- Thank you. I want to tell you all what actually happened between Taylor and I.

You don’t have to forgive me; I just want to air everything out…

*~~After explaining the abuse he received from Taylor, most of Diego’s friends turned kind to him.~~*

~~Ale- Wow I’m so sorry, I never realized any of this was happening.~~

~~D- No, I’m sorry for ignoring you guys for some time.~~

D- I’m really sorry.

F1- It’s almost brave of you to show up after having ignored us for so long.

When you stopped showing up we texted you, and then you just didn’t answer…

Do you have any idea how it felt?

Extend: We were so close, but clearly that “Taylor” was more important than all of that.

D- I get it, you’re angry.

I’m sorry, I’ll leave you guys alone

*Then takes a step back.*

D (t)- I don’t have what it takes to do this.

I’m really afraid of seeing them again after so long.

This was a dumb idea, better just go home before anyone sees me.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How it affects the ending:

Good- Reconnects with family and friends, and tells them what happened

Neutral- Talks with parents about what happened

Bad- Bottles happenings up

**After Level 3:**

**ALTERNATIVE NAME: “Sam”**

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**Continuation from good.**

*After detailing what happened with Taylor, Diego took a step back from the group.*

*On his way out he is stopped by someone…*

S- Hey, nice to see you here again, are you coming back?

D- Pardon?

S- Are you going to be playing for your team again?

((I hadn’t seen you in a while.)?)

D- I’m sorry, do I know you?

S- No, sorry. I’m Faith.

D- Faith as in…

F- Faith as in “my parents are very religious” -Faith

D- Hahaha, I see.

I’m not sure about the whole playing again thing.

F- Oh really? That’s a shame. I loved watching you play.

D- You did?

F- Yeah, I would always watch you guys play while I waited for my little cousin’s lesson to end.

D- I guess I will consider rejoining then!

F- Looking forward to it!

I need to run, or I’m going to be late.

D- I understand

*As Faith start to walk away, Diego’s mouth starts moving almost by itself.*

D- Do you have a phone number?

F- Hm?

D- That way… I can let you know when our next matches are

EXTEND: , wouldn’t want you to miss any…

F- Sure! Hand me your phone for a sec.

EXTEND: ..

F- Here you go, talk to you later then!

D- Yeah, see ya.

**\_\_\_\_\_**

**Continuation from neutral**

*After confronting his former friends, Diego decides to leave the bar.*

*On his way out he is stopped by someone…*

S- Hey, nice to see you here again, are you coming back?

D- Pardon?

S- Are you going to be playing for your team again?

((I hadn’t seen you in a while.)?)

D- I’m sorry, do I know you?

S- No, sorry. I’m Faith.

D- Faith as in…

F- Faith as in “my parents are very religious” -Faith

D- Hahaha, I see.

I’m not sure about the whole playing again thing.

F- Oh really? That’s a shame. I loved watching you play.

D- You did?

F- Yeah, I would always watch you guys play while I waited for my little cousin’s lesson to end.

D- Sorry to disappoint. But I really doubt I’ll be playing again, at least for a while.

F- It’s ok, you take your time.

I need to run, or I’m going to be late.

D- I understand

*Diego starts walking on his way home and takes a peek at Faith’s back.*

*Faith’s compliments strike something in him, and he feels a sort of hope he hadn’t in a while.*

*He looks back ahead, and heads home with a smile on his face.*

**Continuation from bad**

*On his way out he is stopped by someone…*

S- Hey, nice to see you here again, are you coming back?

D- Pardon?

S- Are you going to be playing for your team again?

((I hadn’t seen you in a while.)?)

D- I’m sorry, do I know you?

S- No, sorry. I’m Faith.

D- Faith as in…

F- Faith as in “my parents are very religious” -Faith

D- Hahaha, I see.

I’m not sure about the whole playing again thing.

F- Oh really? That’s a shame. I loved watching you play.

D- You did?

F- Yeah, I would always watch you guys play while I waited for my little cousin’s lesson to end.

D- Sorry to dippasoint. Disp- Dipsa…

*Faith laughs a little.*

F- You’re funny

D- Funny? Am I a joke to you?

I mean, clearly, you are laughing at me.

F- No, I didn’t mean it like that!

D- Whatever just leave me alone.

*Diego briskly walks home.*

What happens in real time:

Good- Meets a new interesting (gender neutral named) person, gather the courage to ask for their number and we hint at them dating later

Neutral- Is approached by new person, but never gathers the courage to ask for number or to text back

Bad- Is approached by new person, but makes a small mistake (like stuttering), person laughs at his embarrassment, he takes offense to that and decides to leave mid conversation.

**Endings**

You did it. You helped the heart fully heal and it now beats full of love.

Diego went to

Anxiety returned to his usual post in the brain.

With that, the years went by.

Diego went to university to study medicine, he’ll soon be a doctor/ Diego still looks over the ill as a nurse, and they’re really grateful for the work he does/ Diego lost his job because he wouldn’t get his act together.

He also reconnected with his friends and plays baseball with them on the weekends/ He had a long talk with his parents about Taylor. It took some time for them to understand, but now they’re interacting the way they used to before all of this happened. / He never told anyone about what exactly happened with Taylor, but it’s ok because his friends would never forgive him for ignoring them in any case.

Diego and Faith became closer shortly after. They’ve been dating for a while, and it’s completely different. He feels a new sort of happiness unknown to him before. / Diego bought a Hamster, Cupcake. He finds comfort in having a little animal to care for, it gets him through his day. / Diego moved out of his parents’ place and is now living on his own

All is fine, yet somewhere, deep inside of the heart, lie some wounds that have never healed. You get the feeling things could have gone better.

*Diego thought this horrible day was over, but then…*

**Best-** For the best ending we’ll mention all of the previous “how it affects the ending”’s + actually say that Diego and this new person are dating

**Neutral-** We mention all of the previous “how it affects the ending”’s + we’ll say something like “yet somewhere deep inside of the heart, lie some wounds that have never healed. You get the feeling things could have gone better”

**Worst-** You thought this horrible day was over, but then you see them. You try to walk past them but then : “Wait, Diego! Please, let’s come back together. I know I’ve done wrong and I promise it’ll never happen again. Everything I did, I did because I love you” You find yourself unable to resist, so you come back with them

And also maybe Add moment where Diego is being touched inappropriately by Taylor, and he asks for help, but no one helps him cause he’s a man. People laugh and or/are like “hell yeah, someone’s getting laid”.

~~How it affects the ending:~~

~~Good- Is able to love self and others~~

~~Neutral- is able to love others, but not himself (= no romance)~~

~~Bad- Heavily hates himself and others~~

~~Overall story :Decide whether to leave the house to go to a party~~

~~Worst-> stays home~~

~~Neutral -> Beer and reconnect with friends~~

~~Best -> reconnect and meet a new romantic interest at party~~