## **Chapter 17**

Hey guys! Hopefully you will check out my new poems and the note I posted :) Enjoy this chapter, "Sun Child" is coming to an end!

## Chapter 17

My phone was buzzing loudly, awakening me from my Monday morning sleep. Who on Earth is calling? I picked up the phone and answered it without looking at the caller ID, because I'm just sleepy like that.

"Hello?" I grumbled.

"Heyy!" a happy voice called through the reciever and I groaned. How is someone happy?! I grumbled something unintelligent and then realized something...

Natalia is always happy in the morning!

"OMG! Talia!" I cried, smiling widely.

"Aaah! I know can you believe I called?!" she yelled.

"No! How?"

"Haha I'm in Florida right now and I figured maybe I could stop by?"

"Course!" I got out of bed, "When and where?" I walked over to my closet and pulled on a pair of jeans a Florida Gators tee, pulling my hair into a sloppy bun and a blue headband to hold it back.

"Ummm Starbucks, by your house at 12?"

That was like 15 minutes away from my house.

"Ya sure! I'll see you in like 40 minutes then?"

"Yup! Byee!!"

"Bye can't wait to see ya!"

We hung up and I brushed my teeth and grabbed a pair of boots and jacket before running downstairs.

"Hey, mom! Hey, dad!" I said.

"Hi, Ashton. Where are you going?"

"Natalia, one of my friends from school, is in town and wanted to meet me at Starbucks in 35 minutes and I was wondering if I could go?"

Dad smiled, "Sure honey." he said.

"You have fun, dear." Mom said and I gave a quick smile before walking out the door and hoping on my bike.

In this town we could ride bikes anywhere. I think it's a wonder how Talia remembered where I lived. I don't even remember where she does.... New York? Massachussets? Oh well, I can ask her later.

I pedaled faster with my anxiety, a smile slowly making its way onto my face. I didn't care about the people I would most likely run into at Starbucks, I mean, I was seeing my best friend!

I stepped into Starbucks, blowing into my hands to warm them up a bit. I glanced around and found Talia near the back with two co ees.

"Talia!" I squeeked and walked swi ly over, trying not to draw too much attention to myself. I prpbably know all these people some way.

"Ash!" she jumped up and we hugged, then slid into the brown booths.

"What's up?" I ask.

"I felt like coming down here, New York is too cold and my Grandma hasn't been feeling well. So, she got me a ticket and I came!"

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"Haha that's awesome. What's wrong though?"

"She's had a really bad cold for the past month, I guess. Hasn't got better and the doctor says that it is taking a tole on her old heart. He actually worries if her body doesn't stop it soon, she could die."

Talia looked really sad so I got up and slid into the booth beside her, pulling her into a hug.

"Don't worry, I'm sure she'll be fine. Anyways, if she does die, you can always come live with me, ok? My parents would love to have another child!"

She smiled weakly.

"Ya, it's hard because she's the only family I have le , ya know?"

I nodded even though I don't know, I've allways had my mom and dad, cousins too but we never see them, they're only on my mom's side and they don't like my dad.

"Ya, but come on, how long are you gonna be here?"

She smiled, "Four more days!"

"Yay! Where are you staying?"

"Well, I was kinda hoping with you?"

"Course! Where's your stu then?"

"On the floor, duh."

"Haha, well I only rode my bike so I'll call my parents and have them pick us up. Does that sound cool?"

"Ya, call away!"

While Talia drank the rest of her co ee I called my parents and they were thrilled to meet Talia, saying they would be over right away.

Once they came we loaded the trunk with my bike and Talia's suitcases and had a mini reunion at Starbucks before continuing before we had a big breakfast while they made Talia at home in my room.

A er the delicious breakfast Talia and I decided to go to the park and hang out for the day so we happily did. I was really glad to not have to speak to any of the people from school, or simply old friends. I didn't really want to talk to them anymore. I really just wanted them in my past, even Max. I think I was the most glad about how he wasn't there to be up in my butt.

We returned home around 4:00, just in time for dinner. We were all caught up but my parents wanted to here all about Natalia's life so we had a long and social dinner of spagetti and salad.

It was so nice to just be with my family and have my best friend here. We're just missing Rhea!

At 11:00 Talia and I went into my room and fell asleep, exhausted. It took a lot of energy out of you to be so happy for so long!

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Probably another chapter later tonight! Vote and Comment too, SPREAD THE WORD PLEEEEASE! I'm happy that "Sun Child" is back in the top #500 in Watty Awards but I would really like it in the top #200 so please tell everyone you know on here about it if you really like it! Thank you so much for reading and I hope you are enjoying this story!!

~AE

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