

One Missed Call

Beep. Beep. Beep. She hit the snooze button on the loud alarm clock. Gabby knew she needed to get up but she couldn't just yet. The bed felt so good and it was still a little dark outside. She laid there under the warm blankets staring at the white ceiling of the apartment. *I was such a failure, there was lot I could have stopped from happening.* Gabby looked over at the clock, brightly blaring '5:23.' She pulled the covers back, knowing it was time to get up. She got up and when my feet touched the floor, it felt like ice. She tiptoed quickly across the cold hard wood floor, and grabbed my clothes. She quickly got dressed, and went to the bathroom to put on makeup and curl her dark brown hair.

Gabby walked downstairs and saw how empty the apartment was. *I hate being alone. I can't stand it to be this quiet.* She walked to the kitchen and turned on TV for noise. "The weather for today is partly cloudy with a chance of rain. Now to Bryan with sports." She made myself a bowl of Lucky Charms, knowing it was probably getting close to time to go. "I'm Detective Otis Bowman and there is nothing new on the Jennie Lockhart case but if anyone has information plea..." She grabbed the remote and turned the TV off. Gabby wasn't in the mood to hear about it anymore and she knew it was time for me to leave. She grabbed her bags, cup of coffee, and walk to the car.

Gabby went to her classes at the nearby college and when they were over she walked outside. *I feel like someone is watching me.* She kept looking behind me as she walked across campus to the car. Once Gabby was in the car she felt a little better, so she made sure to check everything out. She pulled out of the parking lot still feeling very paranoid, but she figured it would be best to get home.

When Gabby arrived home, she was scared to get out of the car. *You can do this Gabby, I know you can.* She got out and sprinted into the building. Gabby got her key out of her coat pocket. She unlocked the door, and went into the apartment. *I cannot wait to see my fiancé. I haven't seen him in almost two days.* She shut the door behind her, and looked around for him. He said "Gabby you're home!" He ran to her, hugging her tightly.

She smiled a little at him and said, "I'm so happy you are home." She looked up gazing into his eyes "How was work?"

"It was alright but I am really glad to be off tomorrow. We had a lot of calls today, so we were on the go all day. Are you ok?" He replied to her, noticing that something was wrong. She looked down and thought about her day, and teared up. "Gabs, what happened?"

"Well I seen another story on the news about Jenny today... I just feel like there was something I could have done to stop that from happening. I don't think I would have lost her if I would have answered her call that night" she said with tears running down her cheeks.

Held her tightly in his arms "Darling, you don't need to feel that way. I am sure there is nothing you could have done. You were busy with school and couldn't have answered your phone then. I know Jenny was your best friend and it has to be hard on you but it's not your fault."

Gabby was still crying and held onto him, not wanting to let him go for a while. She had listened to everything he had said, but it just didn't sink in. It might never sink in. She still felt awful about the situation with Jenny.

That night in bed, she was laying there, just thinking. She didn't want the memories to come back. She had just recently got them to not be my main focus. *I was at school when she called me and I didn't answer her call because I was in the middle of an exam. After class was*

out I tried to call her over and over. I never got an answer from her and drove around trying to figure out what was going on. Next thing I know she had been murdered and no one can seem to settle the case. I hope for a day when I can just stop seeing it everywhere. I want everyone to let it go so I can finally be ok. She laid there and tried to calm down, but cried herself to sleep after a while.

The next morning, Gabby got up and decided she would go to the coffee shop, which was right down the road. She didn't know if she could function throughout the day without it. She grabbed my phone, book, and money off the kitchen counter. *I can deal with cleaning up later.*

She told Matt where she was going, kissed him, and left. Since it was so close, she would walk to the coffee shop. On the way to the shop Gabby didn't think much about what had happened the night before. It might have been nothing, or maybe she had just been paranoid. She got to the shop, ordered a large caramel coffee, and took a seat at one of the tables, and got out my book. It was a nice little shop, it felt really homey and cute. She looked around at the other people in there, most of them were on their phones or reading, but one guy was looking back at me. When she made eye contact with him, it sent chills up her. She just looked down, going back to her book.

After Gabby had been there reading for an hour and had finished her coffee, she decided to go home. She started to walk down the sidewalk, back to the apartment, she felt that same feeling. Only this time she knew there was someone, and panicked. She got her phone out, and called the police. "I am sure I am being followed and I need..." Someone grabbed her shoulder, and turned her around, making her drop everything. She was shaking from head to toe as she stared at this man. He was really tall, with this piercing eyes, and a darkness about him. Gabby was frozen.

His grip tightened on me “Remember your friend, the one that tried to call you?” As those words came out of his mouth, she felt even worse about it. She tried to answer him, but she couldn’t seem to get words out. “And little lady you’re going to end up the same way.” In that moment, she got weak at the knees, and saw her life flash before my eyes. *Wee Woo. Wee Woo. Wee Woo.* She stood there shaking in her socks, her eyes on him, but was ecstatic to hear that.

The police officers pulled up, and the guy let go. He wanted out of there. He wanted to run once again. As he started to make his getaway, Officer Herman slammed him up against a wall. He handcuffed the man behind his back, telling him his rights. The officer grabbed him, and walked him to the car, shoving him in the backseat. He shut the door, and drove off.

Once he was gone, one of the officers came and said to her “Hello, are you ok?” She looked up at the officer and nodded, she couldn’t do much more. “Ok. What happened?” She tried her best to tell him everything that had happened. Gabby told him about yesterday, what the man had said to her, and about Jenny. She was still shaking all over, but she told him everything. “Thank you ma’am. Everything is going to be just fine,” he said.

“Thank you so much” she replied. She bent down and gathered her belongings, and walked on home. Gabby got to the door, barely able turn the knob, from shaking so bad. *Its ok, you’re home and safe now.* She took a seat on the couch, and breathed really heavy, wiping my tears.

Once she had calmed down a little, she walked upstairs and crawled into bed. Gabby looked over at Matt. “I love you.”

“I love you, too” he replied sleepily.

She turned on the TV, saw a story talking about Jenny and how they now know who did it. She knew in that moment that things were going to get better from there on out. *Now everyone*

might stop talking about it. I finally got the closure I needed. Not the way I thought, but I was glad to have gotten it. Gabby got up, and walked downstairs. She started to clean up, as she knew she had to. I could now move on, without the feeling of remorse.