

KARYSSA SIDE

Edited from pgs. 90-91. To be read as a monologue.

I think I had a dream about him last night.

And I want us to have the kind of marriage.... I want you to know me.

The good, the bad...

We were downtown. I mean, Main Street, you know. It wasn't a big town. He was taking me for frozen yogurt, just the two of us. I had this balloon from my birthday party the day before. My sixth birthday party. The balloon still had helium, so I just had to take it. But as we were walking along, I saw this cute little puppy, like a little cocker spaniel, I think, and for just a second, I let go, and my balloon was flying across the street, and I was right there just behind, and my dad was yelling, but I didn't know what he was saying, and then I was on the sidewalk.

And he was on the ground. Except it wasn't him, Cam. His head... It looked like him. Almost. But he wasn't breathing.

I never saw the car. Until it was on top of him. But he did. He knew exactly what he was doing when he ran into that street and pushed me to the sidewalk.

Everyone came rushing. The lady with the puppy. The people from the frozen yogurt place. The paramedics. And they all... I was shaking him, begging him to breathe, but they pulled me off of him.

It should have been me.