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## DESTINED WITH YOU Ameya Mathew

Tears formed in her eyes as she was walking through the crowded amusement park. The place is filled with loud chatters, laughs and couples being lovey-dovey. Beautiful memories that she could never forget in her lifetime flashed through her mind there.

Lexi was a thirty four year old woman who had an unfortunate and tragic event happen in her life. She had a man that she loved more than herself and still does. Unfortunately destiny planned otherwise for her...

## (flashback)

Years ago, eighteen year old Lexi and her boyfriend, Alex decided to have a date at the ferris wheel on her birthday. She had spent her best memories there with him. They were having a great time there. On the ferris wheel that they rode, they cut a cake. He even gifted her a necklace that was a symbol of his endless love for her. The ride was filled with butterflies in her stomach.

Everything seemed great for them. That night, it had snowed for the time that year making their date even more special and this indicated that even the universe was on their side.

Unfortunately, their happiness didn't last long, before an unfortunate storm swept it away.



After their ferris wheel ride, Alex went to the toilet while Lexi was waiting for him a few miles away. All of a sudden, it came to her notice that a tall and well built man was behind her, staring at her hysterically. The latter's face wasn't much noticeable as he was wearing a hood on. Lexi tried her best to ignore him and tried to walk away.

However, that psychotic man, whose hands know no mercy but only harm, started following her. She tried the best of her abilities to walk away as fast as she could from him but he was way faster. Fear deepened in sync with her hurried steps. She was screaming on top of her lungs as she ran for her life.

Her boyfriend on the other hand sensed something wasn't right when he returned and found her purse on the ground. He ran as fast as his legs could carry him and screamed her name hoping that nothing was wrong.

Sad to say, he found her trying to run away from the psycho man who had a knife on her. Alex rapidly ran to her to save her. Lexi was there helplessly crying and screaming for help. Alex and the man were fighting and punching each other with blood in both of their faces. At last that man had a knife to Sunjae and stabbed him.

Poor Lexi couldn't do anything but cry helplessly for help. By the time the cops arrived, Alex was already dead. That is how the Alex- Lexi magical love story came to an end.

But Lexi wasn't ready to accept the fact that the love of her life, whom she loved to the moon and back was no more. All she had as the last memory of him was his black casio watch that fell off during the fight. The guilt that she carried thinking he died because of her was immense. She was holding onto the watch and cried till she fell asleep when something extraordinary happened. Suddenly his watch became a time travel machine and made her travel to the past. It took a while for Lexi to realise what had happened but when she did she immediately knew that this was the opportunity for her to save him.

The time she travelled to was her first meeting with Alex. Lexi thought it was the best if they never met then he would've been alive. So she left without meeting him and left heartbroken but she reassured himself saying she will do anything it takes to have her Alex alive even if it means she has to live heartbroken forever.

(end of flashback)

So that's how in Alex's present memory Lexi doesn't even exist. All the sweet memories that they had spent together now is unknown for him as if it never happened while Lexi is out there missing him every moment.

Presently Alex is a very famous actor and Lexi works for a movie production company. They have gotten the chance to meet for work reasons a few times but Lexi decided to avoid him as meeting him would make her miss him even more. She spotted a ferris wheel that was decorated for valentines day so decided to go for a ride. As the ride was about to start, suddenly, Alex, the finest actor of the time and also Lexi's love, steps inside her pod. She was too stunned to speak. He looked just as handsome and glowing as he did in the past. Her eyes formed a tear that fell through her cheeks. It was hard to figure out whether it was because she was scared that his meeting with her would do harm to him, or it was tears of happiness or because the person she loved and missed for years was infront of her.

"What are you doing here Mr Alex?", Lexi asks him, trying to pull herself from breaking down in front of him.

"I had a meeting at a cafe nearby and my heart suddenly told me to come by to this amusement park and enter this ferris wheel", he said confusedly.

He then sat down. There was this awkward silence in that pod that silently said they had so much to say to each other but both of them didn't know where to start. She had so much to ask him but she knew that he probably didn't even remember her. As for him, he was perplexed at himself about why he was here and wanted to ask her about her.

Finally, Lexi couldn't fight back her tears and started crying.

"Why are you crying? I didn't make you cry, did I?" Alex asks her, breaking the silence.

"No you didn't, sorry about that"



"To be honest, I do not know why I'm suddenly here in a ferris wheel with you. I'm sorry if I made you uncomfortable. It was as if my heart was telling me to come in here with you. I have never been here before but it seems familiar. I suddenly had this voice in my head that said I belonged here. I am truly sorry. I will leave once this ride is over"

His explanation made her heave a sigh of relief but also made her quite sad as if she wanted for him to remember her. Sometimes Lexi is confused at her own actions. Whether to listen to her heart that misses Alex or listen to her mind that says it's all for the best.

At the end of the day it's a happy ending for her that she got to save the man of her life but also she lost love. Can she still be happy after losing love?

It had been a while since the ride began. They have been sitting there in silence. Alex was staring at her trying to understand what his heart wanted to tell him while Lexi was trying not to make eye contact with him because she knew it would make her weak.

Suddenly the ride faced turbulence and the pod got shaken up a little. Due to that Lexi lost her balance and fell onto Alex. The latter caught her which made her heart skip a beat. None of them moved and stayed like that for a few minutes. His necklace that he was wearing slipped out of his shirt which made Lexi realise that it was the same necklace that he had gifted her at the ferris wheel on her birthday in the last timeline.

Lexi couldn't believe her eyes.

"Where did you get that necklace", she asked with teary eyes.

"I was in a mall when I saw this necklace in a store. My eyes suddenly started tearing up when I saw it. I had this feeling that I needed to get it."

All of a sudden after he said that, he suddenly got a sharp pain in his head. His head started spinning and felt heavy and lost consciousness. He was getting his memories from the last timeline back. Slowly but steadily he started remembering things about himself and Lexi. All the time they spent together was coming back to his memories. How much he loved her, how much she loved him, everything was back to his memories. It all felt like a dream but that was the reality.

After a while, Alex finally regained his consciousness. He woke up to find himself In a hospital bed with Lexi next to him.

" Oh my god, Alex, you are finally awake. I'm so relieved"

He didn't let her finish his sentence when he hugged her. His hug was so tight as if he was saying that he was sorry and missed her.

"I remember everything Lexi, I remember everything now. I'm sorry I'm late. I'm sorry I forgot. Now I know why my life never felt complete despite having fame and money." he said.

Lexi hugged him back too and placed a kiss on his forehead.

" I know Alex, I know. You don't have to be sorry. I know everything you mean. I'm sorry for not telling you either"

I guess it is right when we say memories don't disappear. The countless memories of what you see and listen and what you feel in your life doesn't disappear. They are all smeared into your soul. Even if the brain forgets them, the soul doesn't. It will keep every piece of it. Lexi was not too sure whether he would get in danger or not like what happened in the past, she couldn't take it anymore. She missed Alex so much that she decided whatever happens, they will go through it together. They hugged and kissed for a long time as they promised to not go away from each other no matter what happens.

It's been six months since all that happened. They have been together ever since. Although they both are really busy in their respective fields, they still take time for each other and love each other no less than before. Alex is now waiting for her at the ferris wheel park. He is finally going to propose to her. He picked this spot because this place has played an important part in their love story, especially the ferris wheel.

There came Lexi, looking gorgeous as always. Alex was nervous but confident she would say yes. Lexi on the other hand had no idea what was about to happen. As soon as she saw Alex, she ran up to him and hugged him.

Then it was time. He has done this a thousand times in his movies but is still nervous to do it in real life. He took a deep breath and was on knees holding a beautiful ring.

"I don't want to spend a single moment without you from now on because it was so wasteful to live forgetting you. From now on, I want to spend every waking moment with you. Will you, Lexi? Will you marry me?"

Her eyes were full of tears but this time she knew that it was tears of pure happiness. Without thinking twice she immediately said,

"Yes. Yes, Alex. I will stay by your side forever."

He then pulled her closer and they started kissing like there is not tomorrow. Tears of happiness fell from both of their eyes as they kissed. Just then, it started snowing like it did on the night they got separated. The universe was indeed on their side. So it was in their destiny to be together and no one can change your destiny. So that is how the last and final chapter of the Alex - Lexi love story began.

They both smiled and walked away.

The end

(adapted from the kdrama- Lovely Runner 2024)

