

THE VOLUME

by

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INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - MONTEREY COASTLINE, CA - NIGHT

SEBASTIAN (28), tired and regretful, looking down staring at his hands. He is sitting in a modern hospital room beside a hospital bed.

Sebastian picks up his head, looks over to the bed, and sees LILY (27), fragile and unresponsive, lying on the bed. DOCTOR walks into the room.

DOCTOR
Do you ever go home?

SEBASTIAN
No.

DOCTOR
You should. You need rest too.
She's not waking up any time soon.
You understand that, right?

SEBASTIAN
She has to wake up. She is going to
wake up. I know it.

The doctor walks over to the machines and checks her chart.

DOCTOR
She's doing really well.

SEBASTIAN
You are lying to get me to leave.
You could do better, Doc. You just
told me she wouldn't wake anytime
soon, and now she's doing well?

DOCTOR
It was worth a shot, right? Plus,
visiting hours are almost over.

SEBASTIAN
I can't leave her now. She's
everything to me I-

The doctor looks over to Sebastian and gives him a look of sympathy.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)
I'm sorry. Thank you, Doc. I'll go
home soon.

Sebastian gets up from the chair and looks over to Lily. He grabs her hand and gives it a light and gentle kiss as he leaves the room.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - MONTEREY COASTLINE, CA - NIGHT

Sebastian walks down the hospital hall and begins to remember a fond memory of Lily.

FLASHBACK:

EXT. DRIVEWAY - SEBASTIAN'S HOUSE - DAY

Sebastian walks to the front of the cars.

SEBASTIAN
Everything is unloaded. It looks
like you are my official roommate.

LILY
Oh wow, don't sound too excited.

Sebastian laughs, grabs Lily's hands, and begins to dance with her in the driveway. He then pulls her in close.

Lily pulls away and closes the door to the car.

LILY
Hey?

SEBASTIAN
Yeah?

LILY
We're living together. We are
actually doing it.

Sebastian pulls her close, and they share a kiss. He Pulls away with a massive smile on his face.

SEBASTIAN
(whispering)
I love you.

END FLASHBACK

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - MONTEREY COASTLINE, CA

Sebastian snaps out of his memory, walking down a hall full of bright white walls and nothing more but one nurses' station. KATE (29), half asleep, sees Sebastian walking down the hall and points to the end of the hall.

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CONTINUED:

SUSAN (33), professional and posh, is on her phone as she waits at the end of the hall.

KATE

She was asking for you?

SEBASTIAN

Thanks for the heads up.

KATE

You can use the other hall but I think she has someone stationed there too.

SEBASTIAN

It's okay. If she came in person, It's probably time I talk to her.

Sebastian waves goodbye, continues to walk, and reaches the end of the hall.

SUSAN

So, did she wake up?

SEBASTIAN

You have no business being here; it's not like you care about her.

SUSAN

Excuse me? I have every right to be here. I think you got the roles reversed because I'm sure if I walk over there to Kate, she'll let me in to see my sister. If I'm not wrong, you just got kicked out because you're a visitor.

Sebastian looks down to the ground as tears begin to fill his eyes. He looks up his face full of remorse.

SEBASTIAN

No, she's not awake.

SUSAN

Seb, I didn't mean it. I'm sorry. I know it was an accident. It's not your fault.

SEBASTIAN

No you're right, I'm sorry. I should go. Visiting hours are over.

Sebastian walks out the hospital building.

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CONTINUED: (2)

SUSAN

Shit.

EXT. SUBWAY STATION - MONTEREY COASTLINE, CA - NIGHT

Sebastian sits on the bench in an empty subway station waiting for the train to arrive.

He pulls a small box out of his pocket and opens it, revealing an engagement ring. Sebastian begins to cry, this time uncontrollably.

SEBASTIAN

(sobbing)

It should have been me! I can't do this without you. I don't want to do this without you.

FLASHBACK:

INT. LILY'S CAR - 2ND ST. - DAY

Sebastian is driving as Lily sits in the passenger seat and begins to mess with the radio before turning the radio off.

LILY

Turn it up; this is my song!

SEBASTIAN

It's not on.

LILY

True, but the song in my head is so good. So, turn up the volume!

SEBASTIAN

(laughing)

Okay, whatever you say boss.

Sebastian looks over to Lily. He moves his hand to the side of her temple and pretends to higher the volume.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

That good?

LILY

Perf-

The car quickly begins to flip on it's side.

EXT. GURNEY - 2ND ST. - DAY

Sebastian opens his eyes and finds he's on a gurney with MEDIC 1 looking over him. His eyes begin to move around, and he notices his car smoking and flipped on it's head.

SEBASTIAN

Where is she? There was another person in the car!

MEDIC 1

Sir, please try to remain calm. Do you know your name?

SEBASTIAN

Where is she?

Sebastian tries to remove his oxygen mask, and Medic 1 tries to stop him.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Please you don't understand. She is- I- please save her.

Sebastian passes out.

END OF FLASHBACK

Sebastian hears his phone ring, snaps out of his memory, and answers the phone.

SEBASTIAN

I'm on my way.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - MONTEREY COASTLINE, CA

Sebastian races up the hall and finds himself in front of Lily's room. He takes a deep breath.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - MONTEREY COASTLINE, CA

Susan moves so Sebastian can get through. Sebastian and Lily lock eyes.

LILY

The music could be louder.

END