

HUYNH, DESTYNIE

Destynie Huynh

Age: 15, Grade: 10

School Name: Cardinal Gibbons High School, Ft Lauderdale, FL

Educator: Aaron Gillego

Category: Short Story

Shattered Mirror Shattered Heart

Shattered Mirror, Shattered Heart

The bathroom door closes shut as you lean against it sliding down to the marble floor. The ringing in your ears start to take over your mind. You pull on your hair as your face reddens with tears pouring out your eyes. You try to stay silent, holding back the screams but it just makes the pain worsen. There's a knock on the door. A voice could be heard from the other side of the door, but you can't make out the words since your thoughts are all just a heated blur. Your mind goes back to last Valentine's Day, and you start to daze off in a day dream.

You remember the evening of Valentines Day, a year ago in just 4 days, coming home from practice to a package on your door step. A small purple box with pink ribbon wrapped around it addressed to you, but with no clue who it's from. A secret admirer maybe? Hesitant to open it, you grab the box and place it on the glass dinner table and sit down staring at it. You carefully start to unwrap the pink ribbon until a sudden loud bark is heard from the room across the dining room. You hear your mom in the other room but don't think much of it and continue to open the purple box. Inside the box, you see a silver engraved tag with your address and name hanging from a black collar lined with rhinestones. You shout for your mom and dad, and your mom comes out with a blanket in her arms and your dad following close behind. Your eyes lit up and your speechless. It wasn't a secret admirer, but you knew this was better than any corny Valentine gift you could've gotten from some boy. Your parents standing there holding a small brown Yorkie, with eyes as green as an emerald. You grab the puppy from them with care and you set her down and give your parents the biggest hug.

For the past year, you have loved this puppy. You came home every day from school with a smile on your face as your puppy came running to you as you walk through the door. You put that black rhinestone collar on her after dinner every night for a walk, but this one night. This one night, you go out to a football game. You have your neighbor come by to walk your puppy, and a car with no headlights comes speeding at 96 mph. She's gone. It could've happened to anyone, it wasn't your neighbors fault, it wasn't your fault, but you weren't there. She died, and you weren't there.

She was the most precious gift, and had become family to you. You awake from the day dream and you get up from the floor. You look in the mirror and you hit the glass with your two hands and it shatters. Leaving the mirror broken in pieces like your heart hours before when you came home to the news of your puppy.