

SOUL

written by

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SOUL'S FATE

INT. SOUL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Soul stares up at the ceiling as lays on her bed, thoughts of the previous events of the day replaying in her head. She mindlessly swings her right leg which is hanging off the edge of the bed.

Arielle walks into the room, holding a small, white bunny plushie.

ARIELLE

(smiling)

Hey Soul, how are you feeling?

Soul turns her head, finally noticing Arielle.

SOUL

(shrugging)

Honestly, can't really answer. Same old I guess. I'm really tired.

Arielle sits on the edge of Soul's bed.

ARIELLE

I brought you this bunny as a gift. I remember when you were younger, you used to always ask your parents for a pet bunny. Can't get you the real thing, but I figured this might cheer you up.

Soul smiles shyly and takes the bunny plushie from Arielle's hands.

SOUL

Thank you Arielle.

ARIELLE

Of course.

SOUL

(nervously)

Arielle... could you come with me to our usual spot? I want to tell you something without my parents hearing us.

ARIELLE

Sure thing.

CUT TO:

EXT. FIRE ESCAPE - NIGHT

Arielle follows Soul up to fire escape on Arielle's floor.
The view is beautiful from the top floor.

SOUL

The star's are so bright today.

Both girls sit on the staers of the fire escape.

Soul hold the bunny tight against her chest.

SOUL (CONT'D)

My therapist told me I've made no
progress. I know I haven't.
Nothing's changed.

ARIELLE

(worried)

Ah... I mean, I don't think you're
actually supposed to make progress.

SOUL

(perplexed)

You always say stuff like that. But
I have to change.

ARIELLE

Why do you want to change so badly?

Soul looks down at the bunny plushie in her hands.

SOUL

I want my parents to treat me like
they did when I was little. They
loved me so much. Now they can't
bear to look at me. I disgust them.

Arielle doesn't know how to comfort Soul.

SOUL (CONT'D)

Do you think I'll really go to
Hell? Will I have to pay for my
sins?

ARIELLE

But you haven't done anything
wrong, Soul. You haven't made any
progress because it's part of who
you are. Would God make you pay for
something he created you with?

SOUL

If that's true, why does everyone
hate me for being a homosexual?

Arielle scoots closer to Soul, gently placing her hand on her
leg to provide comfort.

SOUL (CONT'D)

(voice trembling)

Why must I suffer like this if I've
done nothing wrong?

(pause)

You know... I feel like you're the
only person who understands me,
Arielle.

ARIELLE

(smiling)

I try my best.

SOUL

My therapist suggested sending me
away. I don't want to leave home.
What am I supposed to do without
you?

ARIELLE

What do your parents think?

SOUL

(sighing)

They think I should go. I can't
tell if they really want to help me
get better or they just don't want
to see me anymore.

Arielle looks up at the night sky. The stars bathe them in
light.

ARIELLE

No matter where you go, I'll wait
for you. We'll still be looking up
at the same sky, won't we?

SOUL

(shifting uncomfortably)

I don't want that. I want to keep
talking to you like this. And I
don't want to be sent away. They'll
probably start trying to change me
by force.

ARIELLE

So what do you want to do?

Soul looks up at the sky. The white light illuminates the tears rolling down her cheeks.

SOUL
(whispering)
I don't know. I've never been so
lost in my life.

Arielle grabs a hold on Soul's hands. They're cold and shaking.

SOUL (CONT'D)
Should I just accept it?

Arielle is at a loss for words.

SOUL (CONT'D)
As much as I want to get rid of
that part of me, I don't want to
lose who I am. They're gonna break
me.

ARIELLE
I... I'm not sure either.

Soul swiftly stands up, dropping the bunny plushie out of her hands. Her white, lacey dress flows as she slowly approaches the edge of the railing.

SOUL
The stars are so bright... But I'd
prefer looking at you.

Soul turns around and hops on to the railing. She grips it with her hands as her feet dangle above the floor.

ARIELLE
That looks a little dangerous,
Soul...

SOUL
(smiling)
Don't worry, I know what I'm doing.

Arielle picks up the bunny plushie off the ground and begins to get up to sit next to Soul.

SOUL (CONT'D)
(loudly)
Stop!

Arielle abruptly freezes. She looks up at Soul, shocked. She never raises her voice.

SOUL (CONT'D)
(quietly)
Sorry... Don't move. I like this
view.

Arielle accepts and sits back down.

ARIELLE
Maybe we should go try to talk to
your parents again. I can try to
convince them to let you stay.

SOUL
They won't listen. They're
convinced I'm a Hell spawn....
(pause)
Hey Arielle?

ARIELLE
Yes?

SOUL
If I ran away, would you come with
me.

Arielle stiffens up.

ARIELLE
(nervously)
You want me run away with you?

SOUL
Only if you want. You don't have
to.

Arielle's hands start to sweat and her heart beats faster.

ARIELLE
I can't answer that right now.

SOUL
It's okay, I didn't expect you to.

ARIELLE
I really think we should talk to
your parents again.

SOUL
Why would they listen to me now?
I've spent 3 years trying to
convince me to stop making me see
that evil therapist. It's no use.

Arielle stands back up, placing the bunny plushie down on the step.

ARIELLE

I don't think you're in your right mind, right now.

SOUL

I don't think I've been in my right mind ever since I started seeing that stupid guy. You know how empty I've felt these past years? It sucks living and knowing no matter how good you try to be, you'll end up in Hell.

ARIELLE

I'm going to go get your parents.

The tension is at an all-time high. Arielle and Soul stare at each other, no one brave enough to say anything or make a move.

(You, the audience, are now in control. You must decide what Arielle will do next.)

(Ending 1: Arielle agrees to help Soul run away. See page 7.)

(Ending 2: Arielle looks for Soul's parents to talk. See page 9)

ENDING 1

EXT. FIRE ESCAPE - NIGHT

Arielle's mind is fighting back and forth. She can't see what is objectively right. All she knows is she wants Soul to finally be happy again.

ARIELLE
(sighing)
Fine.

Soul turns her head to the side.

SOUL
(confused)
Sorry?

ARIELLE
You want to run away, don't you? I can't promise I'll go with you, but I'll help you.

SOUL
Why?

ARIELLE
You've suffered enough here. This isn't the place for you. You deserve to live a life surrounded by kindness and love. This isn't the place for you.

Soul is left speechless. The tears begin to run down her face once again. She hops off the railing, landing on shaky legs.

ARIELLE (CONT'D)
I don't know if this is the smartest idea. It'll be hard. But you should decide what you want for yourself for once in your life.

SOUL
(shakily)
Thank you Arielle. This means everything.

Arielle walks to Soul and gives her a hug. Soul lets go and cries uncontrollably into Arielle's shoulder. Arielle caresses Soul's brown hair.

ARIELLE
Are you scared?

SOUL

(muffled)

Yeah, I'm scared. But I'm going to do it. I'll start a new life away from all this pain. I'll feel whole again.

Arielle's chest hurts knowing she may never see Soul again.

ARIELLE

Yeah... You'll be okay.

They continue to hold each other in silence. The white light from the moon shines down on them and the stars twinkle with hope. Soul looks up, vision blurry, but she stares at the bunny plushie on the step behind Arielle.

She'll live far, far away, in a place where people will know to appreciate her. And maybe, she'll finally get her bunny.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END

ENDING 2

EXT. FIRE ESCAPE - NIGHT

Arielle wants to go up to Soul. She wants to hold and comfort her. But her feet can't move forward.

ARIELLE
(whispering to herself)
I can't help you, Soul...

Arielle takes a step backwards, towards the window they originally came through.

ARIELLE (CONT'D)
(continues whispering)
I'm sorry...

Arielle turn around and climbs through the window in a hurry.

Soul is left alone at the fire escape. Her grips on the railing tightens, knuckles turning white.

SOUL
Alone again.

Soul looks down at the bunny plushie Arielle left behind on the stairs.

SOUL (CONT'D)
Maybe I was wrong thinking you
could be the one to help. Am I
really destined to this life all
alone?

Soul sighs and begins to cry again. She turn around to look down at the street below her.

SOUL (CONT'D)
Do people like me really go to Hell
once they die?

Her white dress flows as the wind around her picks up. She shivers in the cold.

SOUL (CONT'D)
Why did I have to be this way? Is
to love another such a sin?

Soul looks up the night sky. She sighs as she hears footsteps rapidly approaching from inside the apartment.

Soul's grip on the railing begins to weaken. She takes in the moon once more before closing her eyes.

ARIELLE
(screaming)
Soul!

Soul slowly leans backwards. She gasps as she feels herself let go of the railing and fall backwards.

She opens her eyes to see Arielle and her parents yelling at her from the fire escape.

SOUL
(quietly)
I'm free.

Soul's body is overcome with pain as she hits the street floor. Her white dress is stained with red. Soul closes her eyes, remembering the sweet moments she held with Arielle, even after her final betrayal.

Soul hopes whatever the afterworld has in store for her is kinder than the world full of hate and rejection.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END.