

What Hurts The Most

by sidneysnape

Hermione remembers her lost love.

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Chapter 1 of 1

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WHAT HURTS THE MOST

I own nothing of the Harry Potter universe, and I also own nothing of the song involved.

My thanks to Becky for betaing this story for me.

I can take the rain on the roof of this empty house

That don't bother me

Hermione sat in her home in Muggle London. She sat in her window seat, looking out across her garden through the rain. It seemed appropriate that it would rain this day.

I can take a few tears now and then and just let them out

I'm not afraid to cry every once in a while

As Hermione watched, the rain came down to help give life to all the plants outside; she felt her tears rolling down her cheeks. She didn't brush them away; no-one could see them. Everyone had left hours ago. Harry and Ginny offered to stay, but she assured them she would be all right. Told them she would Floo if she needed them.

Even though going on with you gone still upsets me

There are days every now and again I pretend I'm OK

But that's not what gets me

He had been gone for about a week before anyone found him. She remembered back; Severus said he was only going to be gone a few hours, and when he didn't return home, Hermione got worried and Flooed Harry. Harry got the Order to help look for him. She pretended everything was going to be alright when he finally got home. He had to come home!

Hermione kept her sorrow to herself, only crying at night when she lay alone in the big bed that she had shared with Severus.

What hurts the most,

Was being so close,

And having so much to say,

And watching you walk away,

And never knowing,

What could have been,

And not seeing that loving you,

Is what I was trying to do

Everyone in the wizarding world knew how Hermione had stolen the heart of the most feared professor at Hogwarts. Severus and Hermione would walk into any shop in Diagon Alley, and you could tell instantly how much in love they were. People were just surprised that they weren't married and expecting their first child.

It's hard to deal with the pain of losing you everywhere I go

But I'm doin' it

It's hard to force that smile when I see our old friends and I'm alone

The day after Severus had been found, everyone gathered at the house trying to make Hermione feel as comfortable as possible. She gave half-hearted smiles and told them she was fine. The hardest part was going to Hogwarts. They would always go and visit everyone together. She cried as she remembered how much he actually enjoyed seeing what new animal Hagrid had found or talking to Minerva and seeing how the school was doing.

Still harder

Getting up, getting dressed, livin' with this regret

But I know if I could do it over

I would trade, give away all the words that I saved in my heart

That I left unspoken

Each day that Severus remained missing, Hermione would feel a guilt that no one could understand. Everyone in the wizarding world knew how much they meant to each other, but they hardly said the words to each other. They both knew what they meant to each other, and Severus wasn't much for vocalizing it. But now, Hermione wanted so much to hug and kiss him till he couldn't breathe and tell him how much she really loved him. Hermione might have stolen Severus' heart, but she gave hers freely to him.

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Today, five days after they had found Severus, he was laid to rest. He was found beaten in Knockturn Alley. They'd tried to save him at St. Mungo's, but he'd lost too much blood and had been out in the cold for too long. The doctors reasoned that if they could have found him a few days sooner, he most likely would have survived. Harry and Ginny were right to be concerned about Hermione. She collapsed at the grave side crying, and she kept saying how much she loved him. When Harry came up behind her, she wrapped her arms around him. She kept repeating, "He will never know now." When he asked what Severus would never know about, he was sadder for his friend than ever. It turned out that when Severus was to return home, Hermione was going to tell him that she was pregnant.

After the funeral everyone but Harry, Ginny and Minerva had departed. Hermione was given everything that had been found with Severus. They were all shocked to find an engagement ring among his belongings. It turned out that when he'd left home, he'd gone to a jewelry shop for the ring. Hermione placed it on her finger and vowed never to remove it. All she could do now was love their child, this small part of her Severus, and tell him/her how brave and loving their father was.

What Hurts The Most lyrics - by Rascal Flatts

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