

ALWAYS MY HAPPY PLACE

Written by

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INT. DINER - NIGHT

January 2023: VIOLET sits at a booth with two friends, cups of steaming tea and cocoa in front of them, jackets stuffed behind their backs. A guy walks by and their eyes shift towards him.

BOY

Cameron!

CAMERON

Hi!

CAMERON sits down besides VIOLET shoving his jacket off. The two friends sit facing them.

CAMERON (CONT'D)

Sorry, I'm late.

GIRL

Still on LA time?

Cameron nods and laughs.

BOY

Rumor's going around you were partying with certain A-list celebrities.

He looks at Violet.

VIOLET

I'm not starting rumors.

Cameron turns to Violet.

VIOLET (CONT'D)

I've heard nothing of it, actually.

She looks at Cameron with a sparkle in her eye.

CAMERON

You'll have to make it out there soon.

VIOLET

Not enough writers or something?

CAMERON

There's room for you.

GIRL

Oh, did you hear about Violet's new story?

CAMERON

There's always something new.

VIOLET

Okay, it's not my story though. I'm helping adapt a book for the screen.

CAMERON

Are you allowed to tell us anything about it?

VIOLET

It's due in like eight months or so. Work in progress title is "Happy Place."

BOY

Did they drop the director yet?

VIOLET

Not yet. But it doesn't mean I don't know.

They look excited.

VIOLET (CONT'D)

I'm not saying! And please do not try to guess.

GIRL

Did you sign an NDA though?

Violet nods.

VIOLET

You will have to wait like everyone else.

Violet turns to Cameron.

VIOLET (CONT'D)

Unless you can read my mind right now.

CAMERON

I could try guessing all day but I think I wanna wait. See it complete. And see your name in the credits.

His hand touches Violet's. It's the smallest touch, just enough for her visions to start. It feels like electricity. Her smile drops, and she pulls her hand away.

Still close but not touching. Violet looks confused, but Cameron is disappointed.

[FIRST TIME] plays.

EXT. DOWNTOWN NYC - DAY

AUGUST 2023: VIOLET walks down the sidewalk across from a park. It's hot and she wears sunglasses and headphones. She gets distracted from someone across the street. He looks like Cameron. When she's not looking, a child bumps into her.

Then we see her visions:

The child running around in the grass, playing with friends and eating ice cream. This was their happy place.

Violet snaps back, squatting down, pushing her sunglasses so we can see her face.

VIOLET
Are you okay?

The kid nods and runs off again. Violet smiles and continues on.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - MOMENTS LATER

Violet grabs the coffee from the barista and smiles.

VIOLET
Thanks.

Their happy place is dinner with their family.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Violet waits alongside a couple holding hands. She wonders if they can see each other's happy place.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Violet arrives home, putting her bag on the hook, shoving her shoes off. Her sister sits at the table, typing on her computer. She looks up.

VIOLET'S SISTER
If you start showering in four minutes we'll be ready for the show.

VIOLET
Huh, did you even shower?

VIOLET'S SISTER
Approaching three minutes.

Violet scoffs and enters her bedroom and closes the door.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT - FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER

Violet and her sister sit together watching their show.

VIOLET'S SISTER
I bet your vision right now
includes Spencer Riddler.

She playfully nudges Violet. Spencer was a handsome actor,
Violet thought. She still has a longing look.

VIOLET
I bet if I checked your vision
would be of these damn chips.

Violet snatches the bag.

VIOLET'S SISTER
Watch the show!

She grabs for a chip, making contact with her sister's hand.

There's her vision: A younger version of her, holding an
award, a medal around her neck, with cameras flashing. A
memory from over six years ago.

She smiles back, turning her head towards the TV.

VIOLET'S SISTER (CONT'D)
Have you ever seen something from
the future?

VIOLET
I think it can only be a place
you've been to already.

VIOLET'S SISTER
Once you see something, promise
you'll tell me?

VIOLET
Who else would I tell?

Only her sister knows. It's not really a secret, just easier
to keep to herself.

INT. APARTMENT - NEXT MORNING

Stills from around the bedroom, early morning light. The room and wall is decorated and trinkets around. Lots of books. Her room reflects part of her happiness, the things she has collected throughout the years. Photos of her sister, then photos of her friends.

Violet is still asleep.

FLASH TO:

INT. DINER - NIGHT

Retro diner booth with Violet, Cameron and other friends. They're laughing together, eating late night food. Cameron teasingly nudges at Violet sitting next to him.

BACK TO:

INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

Violet wakes up from the dream. She eyes the photo with the same friends from the dream. For a moment, her mind lingers on the dream and the corner of her mouth twitches.

Montage starts:

She gets out of bed. Violet getting ready, brushing teeth, washing face, doing her hair and makeup. She writes on sticky notes, placing them on the wall in front of her desk.

Her computer is out and a notebook. She goes back and forth between typing and writing. Then flipping through the book, checking her annotations.

Montage ends.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Violet shoves on her shoes and exits the front door.

EXT. APARTMENT - DAY

Violet sits on the stairs, sipping on her water. Now her hair is sticking to her sweaty forehead. She relaxes her shoulders. She takes a deep breath. She checks the time 2:22 pm. She smiles to herself like it's a good sign. She's about to stand up to go back inside when her phone rings. It's Cameron.

VIOLET
Hello?

CAMERON
(on the phone)
Hey, Violet.

VIOLET
You never call. Is everything okay?

CAMERON
Yeah, I'm good. I was calling
because I'm back in town.

Violet pauses to check her screen.

VIOLET
You're early?

CAMERON
Yeah, just a change of plans. But,
you know, I'm walking through your
neighborhood. Are you home?

VIOLET
Oh. Yeah, I was just about to get
back to work.

CAMERON
Sorry, I don't want to break your
focus.

VIOLET
Don't worry about it. I'm just
taking a break now.

EXT. DOWNTOWN NYC - SAME TIME

Cameron is walking with the phone at his ear.

CAMERON
Okay, well I won't be too long. And
you probably deserve a break.

VIOLET
(on the phone)
I'm just in the midst of figuring
out the end. I'm pressed for time.
It's a lot.

CAMERON
You're the best writer I know.

VIOLET
I'm the only writer you know.

CAMERON
And they're lucky to have you on
the team.

VIOLET
I just love doing this so much, it
scares me. This is so real.

BACK TO:

EXT. APARTMENT

Violet's brow furrows.

CAMERON
(on the phone)
"You are where my mind goes when it
needs to be soothed."

VIOLET
You read it?

CAMERON
It's my favorite line. I hope it
makes it into the movie.

Violet smiles to his words.

EXT. DOWNTOWN NYC

Cameron round the corner, looking around.

VIOLET
(on the phone)
I'll see what I can do. There's a
lot of words to choose from, so...

He spots Violet across the street. His face softens.

CAMERON
I believe you'll find the right
ones.

She stands when she sees him.

CAMERON (CONT'D)
You always do.

He crosses the street, lowering his phone. Violet does the
same.

VIOLET

Hi.

CAMERON

Hey. It's been a while.

They both go into a hug. Their sweaty arms wrapping around each other. And there's Cameron's vision.

Flashes of the times he spent with Violet. Through every single season, his happy place was with Violet.

CAMERON (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Happy to see you.

Violet pulls back to see his face. Her eyes searching him, wondering how his vision is possible. She was his happiest place.

The color tone shifts to a warmer tone. The same that is in the visions.

When the realization hits, she smiles as honestly as she knows, eyes locked with his. Here is Violet's happy place.

[FIRST TIME] plays.

Title card: Always My Happy Place

CUT TO BLACK

ROLL CREDITS