

ALONE

Written by  
Kate Afable

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[cathrynafable@gmail.com](mailto:cathrynafable@gmail.com)

**OVER BLACK:**

VOICE (V.O.)

My whole life, I've felt like I'm watching the world from the other side of a window, and I just don't know how to pass through to the other side, where everything is effortless.

**FADE IN:**

1 INT. CAFETERIA - DAY

HUNDREDS of students are packing into the cafeteria. Most of them eat as a group. ALICE (20), skinny, tall, has a vacant stare while eating her pasta. She sits alone and stares at the surroundings of students eating and chatting happily.

2 INT. ALICE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Alice sits in front of a computer. Fingers type rapidly on a keyboard. She wears matching pajamas and her TWITTER page is open on her laptop. It features a private account and a picture of Elizabeth Bennet from Pride and Prejudice the movie. It reads: TWEETS (50K), FOLLOWING (307), FOLLOWERS (519).

ALICE (V.O.)

I've known for a while now that this was going to happen.

3 INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

MS. MANINANG, a young English professor, asked to form a group and pass an activity at the end of the class. Alice sits quietly with her classmates who she doesn't know yet. She looks worried. They exchanged pleasantries and greetings and proceeded to form a plan.

ALICE (V.O.)

But I need to know. How do you know if it's too late to change? How can you tell if it's still possible to begin again?

## 4 INT. ALICE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Alice's eyes are glued onto the computer screen as she types away on her Twitter page.

She stops typing and went into the little KITCHENETTE and made herself some hot cocoa.

She came back and saw "20+ NEW NOTIFICATIONS!". She clicks and reads a random mention. It's impossible not to notice the enormous smile across her face.

The minutes on the clock wind down to midnight. The cocoa is still untouched and stone cold. The only sound in the room is the occasional typing on the keyboard and a sound of joyful laughter which fills the room.

ALICE (V.O.)

But the worst part was. I was still unconsciously doing it. Separating myself from everyone. Like a sheep who strayed from the flock. The lone wolf.

## 5 INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Ms. Maninang stands in front of the class. The class goes on as usual. Alice stares at her seatmate, as though she is lost in thought.

ALICE (V.O.)

When was the last time I had a friend? A person you can confide in. A person you can trust with anything.

## 6 EXT. SCHOOL PLAZA - DAY

Lush plants, palm trees and several cabañas with stone benches surround the area. Alice sits at the bench browsing Twitter on her phone.

ALICE (V.O.)

I thought social media would help me express myself to other people. Help me overcome and improve my social skills.

A group of students carry a box of pizza, a box of chicken, and a box of cake. They opened the box and carefully took out the cake from the box. They put candles and proudly look at their work.

ALICE (V.O.) (cont'd)  
I thought wrong.

A STUDENT innocently walks towards them. They started singing "HAPPY BIRTHDAY!" to the celebrant. Alice looks at the group of friends with a thoughtful look. Her eyes filled with sadness.

ALICE (V.O.) (cont'd)  
The more time I spend on the internet, the more closed off I become. All I wanted was a friend... someone I could talk to... someone I could connect to... it's what we all need, right?

Suddenly, her phone rings where it displays "NEXT CLASS STARTS AT 2.40PM". She hastily placed her things inside her bag and

7 EXT. CORRIDOR - DAY

ran towards her next class. Students restlessly move along the corridor. There is some disturbance near the elevator and stairs.

As Alice makes an abrupt turn into a corner, she bumps into HARRY (18), an intelligent student who dresses in style, carrying his thesis paper and sends the papers flying in the air.

She quickly collects all his papers and arrange it in order.

HARRY  
(hunched over his papers)  
Thank--

She walks away before Harry gets to finish his sentence.

ALICE (V.O.)  
But maybe I can change. Maybe it's still possible to begin again.

She strides briskly at a faster pace.

**FADE TO BLACK.**

HARRY (V.O.)  
I used to have a friend.

**FADE IN:**

## 8 INT. HARRY'S ROOM - NIGHT

The refresh button on Harry's browser is repeatedly clicked. His eyes are glued onto the computer screen as he clicks. His account features a public account, where it reads: TWEETS (529), FOLLOWING (127), FOLLOWERS (92).

HARRY (V.O.)

Now I just spend time interacting with my Twitter friends who's from different countries.

## 9 INT. LIBRARY - DAY

Harry is bent over a desk filled with open books, a notebook, and a laptop. Sometimes he would scribble something on the notebook by his side which only he can understand. Well, he hoped he could understand. He tried to read his old notes for his thesis paper and gave up trying to decipher his own handwriting.

He stops typing on his laptop and looks at TWO STUDENTS talking animatedly at each other.

HARRY (V.O.)

I sometimes find myself at a strange crossroads in my life, and I'm in need of some social advice.

He sighed deeply at the thought and continues typing.

HARRY (V.O.) (cont'd)

I've always had trouble connecting with people. I just can't tell what they're feeling, what they're really thinking about.

## 10 EXT. CORRIDOR - DAY

Students moving around in the corridor. Harry is holding his thesis paper in both hands. His phone pings and shifts his thesis into one hand.

As he's reading his text message, he suddenly bumps into Alice. It's the scene from earlier.

He stared at the papers on the floor. He was certain that there were more than 50 papers that flew away when he bumped into Alice. But she managed to arrange it in order in less than a minute.

HARRY

Thank--

He looks up and saw Alice walking away. He stares at his papers with a quizzical look on his face.

11 INT. CAFETERIA - DAY

Harry lines up on the cash register. He looks miserable. He scans the packed room and saw Alice sitting alone.

HARRY (V.O.)

But maybe I can change. Maybe it's still possible to begin again.

He gestures for Alice to sit. She nods.

HARRY

Thank you... for yesterday. You know when we bumped into each other...

(beat)

But... what's your secret? You were able to arrange everything in order.

(beat)

I'm serious! There are more than 50 papers, so how did you do it?

He looks at her in utter amazement. She smiles and shrugged.

ALICE

I don't know.

HARRY

I think... you are a genius.

ALICE

Genius?

He nods. They smile at each other and make small talk while eating their food.

12 EXT. HARRY'S ROOM - NIGHT

Harry peers out his window. The street is deserted.

13 INT. HARRY'S ROOM - NIGHT

His gaze suddenly grows dark when he looks at his own reflection in the window until his mom enters and tells him that it's time to eat dinner. He smiles innocently and went downstairs.

14 EXT. PARK - DAY

Harry is with Alice. They are both happy.

They are sitting at a bench by the river. Alice takes out her phone and gestures for Harry to get in. He gets into the camera's angle and smiles. Snap. They smile at each other and admire the sunset and view of the river.

15 EXT. STREET - DUSK (LATER)

Harry and Alice walk down a long residential street. They stop at a corner. He removes his bracelet and places it on Alice's wrist.

HARRY  
Happy birthday.

He walks away and turns around to find Alice smiling at the bracelet. He smiles and continues walking as his expression slowly fades away until they look empty.

ALICE'S P.O.V.

A smitten Alice looks at the bracelet in awe. She looks up and finds Harry nowhere in sight. She walks away and her gaze suddenly grows vacant.

ALICE (V.O.)  
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HARRY (V.O.)  
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**FADE TO BLACK.**