

# Alchemist Friend Helps You Get Over a Crush

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  - ❖ **Summary:**  
*You've had a strong crush on someone for a while at this point, but you're confident that it's one-sided and unrequited, and it's been both on your mind and rather disheartening. As you go out to gather ingredients with your alchemist friend, she notices that you seem distracted, and you eventually decide to tell her the truth. You wish that your crush would feel the same way, but failing that, you just wish you didn't have to feel this attraction. And your friend, hesitant as she might be, seems to have a solution to that.*
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  - ❖ **Editing:**  
Small changes to the scripts are okay, but please ask before making any major line changes, additions, deletions, gender swaps, etc. Vocal cues and sound effects are suggestions, so feel free to be creative with those!
  - ❖ **Other notes:**  
I find it easier to write the listener's dialogue rather than keep track of half of a conversation, so their lines are given for context but aren't meant to be voiced. The word counts given only include the spoken text.
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## Characters:

- **Shallenia (speaker)** – A young woman, late teens or early twenties. She's a very talented and knowledgeable alchemist who runs her own atelier. She's generally easy-going and agreeable, cheerful but calm. She's been best friends with the listener for years and, as a result, knows them well and can often read them. She's firmly against the use of love potions due to concerns surrounding consent (which is partially why she has done

research into antidotes), and despite her making the antilove potion for the listener, she's very hesitant as she isn't fond of cutting off or removing the love one has for another. That said, Shal is arguably asexual/aromantic, so she doesn't quite understand the depth of the listener's experience.

- **unnamed listener** – They have been Shallenia's best friend for years, about the same age. They're generally bright and outgoing, but they're not necessarily very self-confident and can be anticonfrontational, which explains why they haven't asked out their crush and, in fact, are so keen to go down the route of the antilove potion in the first place.

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### **Formatting Guide:**

#### **spoken text (Shallenia)**

(tone marker)

[...] = a short pause

*[This is a stage direction and/or SFX.]*

*« example listener dialogue, not intended to be voiced »*

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**Note:** This script is a spiritual sequel to [Alchemist Bends Spacetime to Make You Hers](#), which involves the use of a love potion. When Shallenia makes a comment about one of her alchemist friends having made a love potion for a client, as well as hearing some rumours about that love potion, she's actually referring to Firomei. In addition, Shallenia is the "Shal" that Firo is referring to when she says that Shal or Meru could make an antidote to her love potion. However, these are minor details that are not in any way necessary for the comprehension of this script.

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*[The forest near Shallenia's atelier, near dusk. Shallenia and the listener are out gathering ingredients. Though the listener is not an alchemist, they often gather with Shallenia, so they're able to help find useful materials. They chat as they walk, quiet forest ambience also audible, though the listener is distracted and only half paying attention.]*

*(rambling)* ...and then she was surprised, somehow. She went somewhere literally called "the Snowy Corridor", didn't take anything warmer than her dress... didn't even wear leggings under it or a cardigan over it or anything... and—

*[She trails off, noticing that the listener not paying attention.]*

*(giggles, not upset)* Hey, are you ignoring me over there?

« H-Huh? What was that? »

*(still giggling)* So... "yes" is the answer to that one.

« Hm? »

I asked if you were ignoring me.

I mean, I'm just rambling, chatting to pass the time. Nothing important. It's just nice to have someone else to gather with. For some reason, I feel really awkward talking to myself when I gather alone... even though I know no one's out here to judge me.

So... I guess what I'm saying is that *(brightly)* I always really appreciate it when you come with me.

And... it's not a problem or anything, but... I don't know. You just seem a bit... distracted? Is everything okay?

« Y-Yeah. Why wouldn't it be? »

I mean... I don't know. We've been best friends for years, so I've learned to read you and... something feels off, that's all. You seem distracted, like you're off in your own world.

*(lightly)* You were even gathering mushrooms earlier and dropping them to the side of your basket instead of in it for a while.

*(gently)* Look... I'm not going to pry. If it's something you can't talk about with me, or don't want to talk about with me, that's perfectly fine. If you want to talk about it later, that's perfectly fine. And if you want to pretend this conversation never even happened, that's also perfectly fine.

« *(hesitantly)* Can we talk about it later? I don't think I have a handle on it yet. »

Yeah, of course! Whenever you're ready, whether that's five minutes from now, or five days from now, or whatever.

*(playfully)* Though if it's the middle of the night, be prepared for me to be very sleepy and only half coherent.

« *(playing along)* But couldn't just make one of those Hyaniju Fruits? »

...I guess so? Hyaniju Fruits are really effective, and even simple to make. And they're tempting—too tempting. It doesn't seem to be a problem from most people, but I'm worried about drinking one "just this once" and then "just one more time" because it's convenient, and then not being able to ever feel awake without them.

Maybe that's silly. I don't have an issue making them for other people, and I've never heard any complaints. I just know that since I can make them whenever I want... That just seems like a really easy slope to fall down.

*(shrugs)* So I personally avoid them on principle.

« *I guess that makes sense. (laughing)* I won't wake you up in the middle of the night for it. »

*(laughing)* Yeah, that's probably for the best. Let's try to avoid the middle of the night... *(contemplating, lightly)* unless we've been chatting all night anyway. Who knows the number of times that we've hung out from dusk until sunrise, especially when I've been synthesising through the night... *(slightly embarrassed)* for one reason or another.

« *We have spent a lot of nights like that, haven't we?* »

Mhm. And it's always a lot of fun, even if I feel bad about keeping you up.

« *Honestly, I don't mind.* »

I know, you always say it's fine, and I believe you, but... I don't know. I still feel bad.

*[Shallenia returns to gathering, inspecting and pulling the bark off of a fallen tree. The listener returns to her gathering as well. As Shallenia gathers, her mind wanders a bit. After a moment:]*

*(idly, mostly to herself)* ...or maybe I could just make it more sour?

« *(confused)* ...Huh? What are you talking about? »

Oh, sorry. I was just thinking about the Hyaniju Fruits. They're not even potions: they're just... like... a fruit juice and a couple other simple ingredients which have been enhanced and refined through alchemy, right?

« *(still not sure where she's going with this)* ...Yeah? »

Well, I've always made them sweet since... you know, sweet things taste good. But it's actually not any harder to make an equally effective one that's really sour, instead.

« But... why would you want that, though? »

Because if it doesn't taste as good, maybe I wouldn't want to drink them as often, so having one every now and then wouldn't be as much of an issue.

« I guess that would work. You wouldn't want to drink it, so it becomes something of a last resort, only for those times when you actually need it. »

(brightly) **Exactly.**

(after a moment) If you asked another alchemist... say, the twins... they'd probably say something about how people tend to think that medicine which is bitter is more powerful, even if it actually isn't. It might also work with sour medicines.

(laughing) One of them would probably suggest selling the sour ones for a slight markup until her older sister would say that it's not fair to charge more for a less pleasant version of the same item.

Either way, I'll take a look at it the next time I make them. In the meantime, I've got most of the usable bark off of this tree. How's your gathering going?

« Pretty good, I think? I've got most of what I can in this area. »

Yeah? Then we should probably be getting back. It's going to be dark pretty soon. The nocturnal creatures in this forest aren't overly threatening, but I'd rather not deal with them if we don't have to.

« Yeah, it has gotten pretty late, hasn't it? »

It really has. It took us longer than I'd expected to get out here, and then we've been gathering for a while, so I guess it makes sense.

[Shallenia rummages in her basket for a moment as she searches for a Kaeri Ring, a glowing white disk, about 10 cm across, which will teleport them back to Shallenia's atelier when activated. After a moment, she finds it and pulls it out, holding it toward the listener.]

**Here we go. Grab hold.**

[The listener does, and Shallenia activates the ring. In a flash and a rush of air, Shallenia and the listener are teleported to Shallenia's atelier.]

(relieved) **And here we are... Alright, I'll take that basket for you.**

*(sighs)* I say this every time, but I wish this teleportation worked to anywhere and not just the atelier, as convenient as this is.

« *(playfully)* You could make a better one instead of complaining about it. »

*(lightly)* In theory, sure, but I haven't figured out how to do that yet. That's a lot of physics to "break".

« I guess that's fair. It does seem rather difficult, and what you have already seems like a lot of work. »

**Mm. [...]** Anyway, can I get you anything while I'm putting these ingredients away?

« No, I'm okay, but thank you. »

**You sure?**

« Mhm. »

*[Shallenia begins putting away the ingredients they gathered.]*

**Oh, you got some high quality ingredients here. Ether Elm, Rainbow Berries, Tailgrass...**

« Ehehe. I did well? »

*(warmly)* **Mhm. Very well. You've developed a good idea just from helping me.**

*[There's a bit of a lull in the conversation as Shallenia puts things away and the listener sits on the sofa, watching. After a moment, the listener speaks up.]*

« Um... Hey, Shallenia? »

**Hm? What is it?**

« Is now a good time to talk? »

*(warmly)* **Yeah, if you're ready to talk about it, then sure, go ahead.**

**Is this a sort of serious "drop everything and sit and talk" conversation, or something less... proper?**

« Nn. Nothing that serious, I think? You can keep organising while we talk. »

**Alright, if you're sure. What's on your mind?**

*[Despite being the one to raise the conversation, the listener hesitates a moment to gather their thoughts. Shallenia begins boiling water over her cauldron for tea as she continues to put the ingredients away. As the conversation progresses, the sound of the boiling water becomes progressively more audible.]*

« *(shyly) So... I have a crush on someone... »*

**Ooh, a crush? That's exciting, right? We haven't ever talked much about that sort of thing before.**

« *...Mhm. I guess so? »*

**But... you don't seem very excited about it. What's wrong?**

*[The listener doesn't immediately answer.]*

*(hesitantly, shyly)* **I guess... before we get too deep into this conversation... this person isn't... *(quietly)* me, is it?**

« *(hesitantly) N-No, but— »*

*(gently)* **It's okay. I didn't think it was. Don't get me wrong: you're my best friend, and I like you a lot, but that's how I've always thought of us, and I hadn't gotten the impression that you thought differently.**

**But, especially since you seem so shy and hesitant about this conversation, I wanted to ask before it got any more awkward.**

**But... I'm sorry for interrupting. Go ahead. You have a crush on this unspecified person, but... *(trails off promptingly)***

« *...it might be better if I didn't. »*

**Hm? Why's that?**

« *It takes up too much space in my head, and I end up thinking about it a lot more than I want to. »*

**Hm... That makes sense. Love—and even infatuation—is easy to become preoccupied with when you're feeling it. I guess I did say that you were acting a bit distracted or absentminded.**

« *Mhm. That's exactly it. I want things to go back to normal, the way they were before. »*

*(confused)* **But... what exactly is the issue? Isn't a crush supposed to make you feel all light and excited about the other person? You seem... almost weighed down by it instead, no offense.**

« *Nn, no offense taken. You're exactly right. »*

Then...?

« (sighs) It would be exciting if the other person felt the same way, maybe. »

(with realisation) **Oh, did the other person...? (sadly) I'm sorry...**

« N-No... I haven't asked them out or anything. (sadly, quietly) I don't have to... »

**But... if you don't tell them how you feel, or ask them out, or anything like that, then how would you know if the other person isn't interested? You might be surprised how many people will hide a deep crush on someone in an attempt not to risk things getting awkward.**

(playfully) I mean, you are hiding a crush, aren't you?

« Well... yeah, but... (sighs) I know they're out of my league. I'd just embarrass myself. »

[By this point, the water which Shallenia set is now boiling. As she speaks, she pours it into two mugs for tea—one for herself and one for the listener.]

(sighs) **It's one thing to not be someone's "type", or for someone to just not be looking for a relationship, but... you know... it's hard to hear your best friend talk down on themselves like that.**

« You say that, but... you just said that you don't think our relationship is like that. »

[Shallenia goes to the sofa and sits down, handing one of the mugs to the listener.]

Here.

[Shallenia takes a sip or two of her own tea as she tries to gather her thoughts; when she does speak, her tone is gentle, warm.]

**It's often said that dating someone is to be "more than friends" with them, but I've never liked that framing. It implies that friendships are "less than" romance, and... well... I value our friendship too much to agree with that.**

**It's like saying that waffles are less valuable because they're typically only a breakfast food. I like summer and winter not one less than the other, but in fundamentally different ways—it's fun to make sandcastles and splash in the water and have snowball fights and drink hot cocoa.**

**Romantic, platonic, familial... all just different types of love, none better or more valuable than the other.**



« I... I guess that makes sense. And I do really value our friendship. We've been best friends for so long... »

**Mhm. You're a great person. You're kind, you're helpful, you're supportive, you're smart, you're funny... and so many other things... so I don't want to hear you say you're not "good enough" for me or your crush or anyone.**

« (a bit flustered) Th-Thanks. Hearing that helps. »

**I mean... I can't force you, obviously, but I still think it might be a good idea to actually talk to your crush about this. (lightly) At least, you know, if you actually want something to come of it. You won't know what they say until you ask, and even if they say no, might that be better than having that uncertainty clouding your head?**

« I... I'm not sure. (sighs) I've never really gotten the feeling that they look at me or think about me in that way, in any of our interactions. So I think what's bothering me is the fact that I "know" what the answer is, and yet I still feel this attraction toward or infatuation toward them that I know isn't going to go anywhere. »

(sadly) I... see...

**Well, if you don't want to talk to them about it... Is there anything I can do to at least help you feel better about the situation or distract you from it or anything like that?**

« I don't know, actually. What would help is if my crush felt the same way I do, or if I felt the same way they do. »

Hm...

[Shallenia contemplates this for a moment.]

**Well, I can obviously do all of the regular supportive best friend sort of things, but... if you would like, I might be able to put my alchemy skills to use here.**

« What do you mean? »

**In terms of having your crush feel the same way that you do, or having you feel the same way that they do—at least in a "right now" sort of way—there are ways to accomplish that.**

**The first would be a love potion, or something of the sort, but... that's not something I'm comfortable with. I know that one of my alchemist friends has made a love potion for a client, but... I don't know.**

**There are some real concerns about consent, and even if you could solve those, there's something a bit off-putting to me about using a love potion. Probably another reason recipes for them are hard to come by.**

« I guess that makes sense. Love potions are... maybe convenient, but I can see why you wouldn't be comfortable with that. What's the other option? »

The other option would be an antilove potion. Rather than making the other person fall in love with you, it should be possible to make you no longer in love with them. It'd be a relatively delicate process, making sure it didn't affect any other relationships as a side effect, or that it doesn't go too far and make you hate the person instead, but...

I did do some theorising about an antidote after I heard some rumours about that love potion my friend made. I think I can repurpose a lot of that theory to make something here, if that's something you'd be interested in.

« (surprised) You can do that? »

Mhm. There aren't many things that alchemy can't do, at least in theory. (*giggling, with pride*) No matter the miracle, a skilled enough alchemist with the right recipe and ingredients can probably pull it off.

But... (*concerned*) does this antilove potion idea interest you? As I said, there are some risks that it might go too far, and it's not really reversible, so... are you sure?

« I... I think so. »

(*deep breath, after a moment*) Alright. I don't remember all of the details, so let me go check my notes, okay?

« Yeah, go ahead. »

[Shallenia gets up and goes over to her bookshelf, searching for the correct notebook.]

(*to herself, as she scans*) **Potion notes... Potion notes... (finds it) Ah, this one.**

[Shallenia pulls the notebook from the shelf and begins flipping through it, looking for her love potion antidote recipe.]

(*to herself, as she scans*) **Love potion antidote... Love potion antidote... (finds it) Here we go.**

(*reading*) **Aromatic Bark... Rosecane... a Traumfresser Shielding Stone... a Tempered Temperament.**

[Shallenia considers this recipe for a moment.]

I think swapping the Shielding Stone for a Duskborne Purifier should do the trick...

« Can you make it? »

Yeah, I should be able to, though it'll take a little bit of time. We gathered the Aromatic Bark while we were out today, and I have plenty of Rosecane, but I don't have the other two on hand, so I'll have to make both of those.

*(to herself)* And... for those, I think I'll need a Fervent Feather and an Emerald Soulgem...

*(to listener)* If this is something you're interested, I can get working on this for you, but it'll take... *(pauses, thinking)* Can you come back tomorrow night? maybe a bit later than it is now? I think I'll have it done by then.

« *(excitedly)* Really? That's pretty fast. I'm impressed, Shallenia ^\_^ »

*(a bit self-conscious)* Well... it's for you, silly. That, and the fact that I already had this recipe. I remember this one taking me quite some time to work out.

« Well, genuinely... I really appreciate it, Shallenia. Thank you. »

You're welcome. But... while you're waiting, I want you to keep thinking about whether this is something you want. Sleep on it, think about it tomorrow. I want to make sure that you are certain about this, and I really won't mind if you change your mind, even after I've made it. *(gently)* Okay?

« Okay, I can do that. Thanks. »

*[The listener leaves, and Shallenia begins preparing for the syntheses she'll need to do. Fade for:*

*TIME SKIP: 24 hours or so. Scene: Shallenia's atelier, the following night; Shallenia has finished the antilove potion. The listener arrives, knocking on the door. Shallenia answers it.]*

Ah, hey. Good evening. Come in.

*[The listener enters, and Shallenia closes the door.]*

« Hey, Shallenia. How are you doing? »

Pretty good, I think. I finished the potion just a little bit ago. How about you?

« I think I'm okay. Not great, not terrible, somewhere in the middle? It's been a pretty uneventful day. »

I see. Not too bad, then? That's good.

« Mhm. »

Shall we get down to business, then? You seem a bit... restless?

« *(embarrassed)* ...A bit, yeah. »

**Have you thought about the situation and made your decision?**

« (nodding) I have, yes. »

[The implication is clear: the listener wants the potion.]

**And just to be sure, that isn't based at all on the fact that the potion is already made, right? I told you: I don't mind having made it, even if you aren't going to drink it.**

« That's not part of it. I thought about this today, and I realised that forgetting, or at least getting over this crush, is something I've wanted for a while, ever since it started really occupying my thoughts. »

**(hesitantly) I see. Well, then if you're sure...**

[Shallenia goes over to her desk and picks up the antilove potion she made earlier, then brings it to the listener.]

**(deep breath) Take this and close your eyes. Focus on your crush—(scoffs, quietly) which might not be too difficult for you—and block out thoughts of anyone else. Just your crush.**

**When you're ready, take a deep breath, and then drink the potion. Okay?**

[The listener nods. After a moment, they do as instructed. Once the listener is done:]

**How was it?**

« It was pretty bitter, to be honest. »

[This response saddens Shallenia, who knows—but does not say—that the taste of the potion is dependent on the relationship between the person drinking it and the crush. In this case, it being bitter indicates that the listener's crush was rather strong and, potentially, that it might have been reciprocal, though this latter inference is hard to be sure of.]

**(sadly) I'm... sorry. I was hoping it wouldn't be too bitter for you, but... I guess it didn't work out that way. But I don't think that you'll need to drink it again.**

**(tentatively) It'll probably take a little bit of time to fully take effect—a few hours, maybe overnight—but for now... How do you feel about that person?**

« Um... I can definitely start to feel the potion's effect. Definitely not as strong of a crush on them. »

**I see. So the potion is starting to work, which is good. Even when I know I've double checked the recipe and theory and should be sure that the potion—or whatever item it is—will work, I'm always a little nervous.**

« Yeah, it seems like it's working. »

**Let me know if anything goes wrong or you notice any side effects, okay? There shouldn't be, but I'd hate for anything to happen to you, you know?**

« Yeah, I'll keep an eye on it and let you know if anything happens.  
(warmly) I'm not too worried, though. I trust your potions. »

**Th-Thanks.**

*[There's a lull in the conversation as neither Shallenia nor the listener really knows what to say at this point. Eventually:]*

**Nothing against you at all, but... (scoffs) All this trouble just because romance is so... romanticised, as it were.**

« Genuinely... Thank you, Shallenia, for putting in so much effort for me on this. »

**(warmly) You're welcome, of course.**