

(Thank you so much for taking your time to help me, even if it is just a little, I can't thank you enough!!)

I (24) met my now ex girlfriend (25) in July 2020 at the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic back then. We met in an online game, went to discord and there everything started. At first she was a bit shy, but sent me a lot of pictures about her daily life. She was messaging me a lot back then, day in and day out. I should mention now that she lives in the USA and I live in Europe, quite the time difference I know but we made it work. When we first met we only messaged a lot, but soon both of us went in calls together with each other. I recall our first call being 6 to 7 hours long. Every day we used to message at least 1k messages, quite extreme I know but we had a lot of fun! On the 07.08.2021, yes I know the exact date, I told her that I had more feelings for her, soon after she told me that she had more feelings for me. We both were so happy, thinking about the future and how exciting everything would be. I should mention now that me and her, we both are almost the same in every aspect. Now I know how cheesy that sounds, but the only thing that both of us don't have in common is that I like to eat fish and she doesn't. Yes you heard that correct, after a year that is the only thing I found out we had not in common. Anyway, back to the story, after both of us were happy together, she sent me roses to my house. It was the first time I ever received any. Of course I sent her flowers too. Our strong relationship only increased the longer we were talking together. Soon we moved to WhatsApp and that is where things got out of hand, that is what I think the normal person would say..... We talked, a lot, on WhatsApp. We talked every day, literally. Some days we were just in the call and were talking to each other for an hour but we left the call running. Our longest call on WhatsApp was 72 hours, by then the call timer reset and my WhatsApp was kind of broken, but that is another story. We talked so much, were so in love and we understood each other perfectly. Then came Christmas and I sent her a big big package. I sent her a lot of stuff, not only to show how much she meant to me, but to show her my Love for her! I sent her a scarf, pillow that said I Love you, a shirt of mine, a blanket of mine and a ton more! It was a package made with pure Love. Obviously a Love card was in there too! I prepared it all carefully, only problem was I sent it too late, it arrived near new year.....

Anyway, she received my package and she was happier than ever before. She put my Love card on her wall along with all the roses I sent her. She was so happy and I was happy too. New years came and I promised her "Next year I will be right next to you to hold you as the clock is turning on Silvester!". Of course I wanted to keep my promise! But COVID was still going, and for someone in Europe it is quite hard to get into the USA while COVID is happening.

So after New year we both would still talk every day, would give each other kisses and everything. We even had..... lets say more private time while on video calls and face time and so on.

At this point in time I should've probably told you a thing or two about my ex. She said herself, that school is her first and biggest priority. She told me that before the relationship and I told her, that I am absolutely fine with that "I will wait, even if it takes forever!" because I Love her. I believe that is only natural. We still went for the relationship and in retrospect it was the best decision for both of us. She is also very committed to everything. She said that she is especially committed to relationships. In her words "I will do everything to make a relationship work, otherwise I wouldn't be in one!". It made me really happy to hear that of course. She also said herself, that she and everyone in her family is very independent. She jokingly often said "I am a strong young independent woman" and I always laughed about that, obviously not in a rude way but in a fun way, because both of us were laughing about it!

Very important is also the fact that the ex of my ex right now (so her previous boyfriend) was very abusive to her. He told her to stop school, stop meeting her friends and family and to stay home. He drove her to the point where she began to have suicidal thoughts, going as far as to planning her own death.

Now with all that said, moving forward through 2021 we arrive at May 2021 and she made plans to visit me. Luckily the travel ban was lifted somewhere around July and she booked her flight to my place. When I drove to the airport to pick her up, I was shacking and excited, nothing I ever felt before. And so was she! When I saw her, and I approached her..... I mean it when I say it, it was the most magical thing that ever happened to me, period. We hugged and were so happy to be close to each other. Soon after we went to the car and kissed each other. We both were kind of shaky but so so happy. Now a thing I didn't mention before is, that her Birthday is the 01.07.2021 and mine is the 16.07.2021..... she told me that she was my birthday present and yes it made me the happiest man alive!! When we went home, to my place, I brought her to my room. Before she arrived I prepared the room, put her Birthday presents I bought her on the bed and some flowers too! When she saw them she was so happy. In them was a necklace and one eternal rose (those that last two years or so), I bought one for her because she sent me one two before! The necklace was heart shaped and in it was engraved "I Love you" in 100 different languages. Later we found out that you could shine a light through it to see all the letters on the wall behind the necklace. After she arrived and we were at home, we were instantly going to bed. We cuddled, kissed and held each other. It was the best thing in the world, ever. We both told us, that we Love each other so very much. She would stay for one month, till the 16.08.2021. In that month, we went to the blackforest, spend time there, were cuddling while watching the rain, kissing while cuddling and everything in between! We went out to eat dinner together, took pictures holding each other, kissing each other and being the happiest couple ever! We even spent romantic time at waterfalls and took kissing pictures on boat rides!

But, there was this one thing that happened. I was asking her about the future, and about our committed relationship, and she said that she is not sure if she is ready to be in a fully committed long term relationship. I told her that I would still wait for her, but she seemed stressed out by that. Of course I didn't want that, so I told her, that we could just see and wait, to give her time. After that we spend the rest of our trip traveling, having fun while driving, laughing, meeting long distance friends of hers, going out together, star gaze together and hike together.

There was also this one time, where she met friends she knew for a long time over the internet, and while she was hanging out with them I bought her roses and her favorite drink from the store. When she came back an hour later, I surprised her with the roses, and she was so very happy! It made my day.

Now I don't want to make this to long. Essentially the top part is to show, how much she Loved me and I Loved her. It was not some "Friend Love" or anything. Yes we had Sex, multiple times, often multiple times in the same day, and we told us we Loved each other. I wouldn't consider that "Friend Love". It was a romantic relationship, completely.

Now to the reason why I write here.

Once the 16.08.2021 hit she had to go back to the USA. I was shattered obviously. But it wasn't the end of the world. We promised each other that I would come over in November, the 24 to be exact, and that she would come over to my place again in March 2022. We even made plans where she could stay for six months, not just one month! When we arrived at the airport, I was already somewhat crying (Yes, I am a emotional guy) and she could tell. She comforted me but it was no help, I was sad in every way. The last time we hugged, the last time we kissed, my heart was pounding so hard! And she was crying too! Of course not as much, but she was sad too. She even messaged me later "You made me cry too, and this lady saw me, NOW SHE THINKS I AM A BABY" in a joking was to make me feel better!

After she flew back..... things went okay for the next couple of weeks.

When she came back home, she received a bunch of roses and lilies from someone. I was asking from who, and she said from that one guy. He is someone she met in May 2021, 32 years old and has a child (she doesn't want children that much but likes them a lot. If you think she will get together with him his child would be a major negative factor for her), but she had no feelings for him. Soon after he sent her the flowers he called her, and told her that he Loved her, romantically. I was shocked and obviously jealous and angry, but I didn't show any of that in my voice or face expression. She went in a call with him, he told her that he Loves her and she told him, that she is in a committed relationship with me and that the relationship between her and him is only platonic. Can you imagine how happy I was? Not only were we official to everyone now, but she even dumped him. Sure it sounds rude to say that I was happy, but you need to understand that I was just plain happy. My heart was filled with joy!

I should point out that she has had a lot of period pains, so much so that she is vomiting a lot and in pain a lot. I felt unbelievably bad for not being right there with her while she is in pain to help her even if it is just a little. I always want to be there for her, even if I can't provide as much help. She always told me that it is okay and that she is okay, but I know she wasn't. I know she just wanted me to be there. Jokingly we always told each other how amazing it would be if I was there, baking, cooking, star gazing and just spending time together. Hugging and cuddling her when she came back home, showering with her and all those things. That one guy was sometimes there, giving her comfort, but she always told me that I shouldn't worry and that everything is okay.

Now, after that, her school started, college exactly. And that is where things started to..... change. Soon she would not talk to me every day, but every second day or even third day. I was obviously wondering why so I asked her and she said she had a lot going on. Dumb as I was I overthought things. I thought something is going on but I kept it to myself.

A week passed and I hear from her that the guy, the one that confessed to her, came to her house and picked her up to go eat breakfast with her. I was angry and jealous that he get to spend time with my girl. Now I was happy for her because he is still a friend, but I was also somewhat questioning it, why would she go out with him.

Now I was thinking about her previous relationship, how her previous boyfriend of three years didn't allow any of her friends close to her. I didn't want to be like that, mainly because I wouldn't like that too. So I kept to myself. Many of my friends, and even my Dad told me that such a thing is not normal. She has to think about your feelings. But I didn't understand what they meant. She told me she didn't Love him, and that she is in a committed relationship with me! So I just shrugged it off and moved on. Sure I

was still overthinking a hell of a lot! Especially after she told me she would go on a photoshoot with him to L.A. That means over 8 hours with that guy alone! But I still kept it to myself. I guess she noticed it, because soon she told me that every time we are on face time, I have a sad look on my normally happy face. She doesn't like that and she wants to see me happy, not sad. After she said that, something in me realized that I couldn't eat those thoughts into me. I told her how I felt, that I hate that guy and that she has less and less time for me. In retrospect, I was a complete and utter fool, I should've just trusted her and respected her, respected the fact that she needs time. Now, right then and there, after I told her that and I was somewhat crying (yes very mature I know) she told me "You know, I think we need a break from this relationship.". At that exact moment, I was shocked and shattered. Suddenly everything came to my mind and I was realizing what kind of a fool I was. She ended the call, saying she needs time, and I told her that I will give her all the time I can. That was on the 01. October.

The following things that occurred, those are some of the dumbest things I have ever done. After she said she needed time, I gave her time, but only one week. After that I messaged her, and she messaged me back. Soon we would talk again and then something magical happened, not only did she end the call with giving me a kiss, no she also sent me a picture of her and she was still wearing my necklace! I was again on cloud nine. "Everything will be okay" I thought to myself. Soon after I sent her flowers, to make her feel better, especially during those study times for college. I even bought some presents I wanted to take with me when I visit her in November, but those are now lying around here. I bought her a picture frame with hearts and a picture in it of us, a keychain, a T-Shirt that I thought she might like and a couple other things, for our anniversary, because I forgot to give her something. She told me it doesn't really matter, but I just thought I make a little surprise out of it!

But this is where the happy times end. Strange, I know, I don't understand it that much either. Around the 15 October I messaged her, asking her if we could plan my flight to her and she said we need to talk. I asked her if it was something serious and she said yes. When we went on the call, she told me that I could still come visit her, but it wouldn't be the same as it was when she was over at my place. She said she doesn't Love me the same way anymore and that it might be awkward for me to be there. I was shattered, shocked, surprised and everything in between. I didn't understand. I was asking how and why that happened, and then I remember what she told me before. She told me that she was talking to a colleague over at work. That colleague told her, if she has issues, she needs to talk to me about it. That colleague asked her, why is she not in a relationship with that other guy? And she answered "Honestly, if I wasn't in a relationship with my now boyfriend I wouldn't be in one to begin with". I remembered these words. I

was shocked, like I said. I tried to act cool..... but the emotions got the best of me. I started to cry, and she did too. She told me to always smile and be happy, and that is where the call ended.

Now that is not the complete end of the story..... about two weeks past, that would mark the 02. November or so, and we messaged each other back and forth between the breakup and 30 October. Then she called me. She told me what she was up to and that she dressed cute for Halloween. I was happy to hear her voice. She told me too that she missed my voice, my laugh and talking to me and it made me so happy. We had fun, were laughing and just enjoying our company again! Then she sent me pictures she took on another photo shoot with that..... guy. And I could somewhat see that she didn't have my necklace on anymore (at least I think she hasn't). I was again shattered. Of course she broke up with me, but I still had hope. After that I started to cry again, on the phone. She said she doesn't want me to be sad and she said I should smile more! Be more happy in life! Then, after being there for another 5 minutes or so, she ended the call. And that was the last time I heard her voice. After that, I made the foolish mistake to message her, asking if it is really over.

I recorded two audio messages, asking her, both about 7 minutes (yes pathetic I know) with the first being me only crying (foolish I know) and the second asking.

After that, she told me:

"[Name] no, I left for a reason right now I don't love you romantically. I want what's best for you, and that means I won't talk to you. I want you to move on and live your life smiling and happy. Right now that might not be possible but it will. Don't over think or blame yourself, this is my choice."

and that is it. After that, I went a week silent. Then I messaged her a very long text, recapping everything we've been through, everything we did, everything we felt for each other back then, and I questioned her, if she truly ever Loved me for real. I was asking her, why she said that she will fight for a committed relationship but throw ours away just like that. I was wondering and telling her that I miss her. I told her, that even if we can't be together anymore, that maybe we can stay friends. She often told me that I was her "best friend" and that she could always talk to me about everything and all. I was asking her that maybe we can stay that way. And I told her that maybe in time, she and I can come together again.

The next day I sent her another message. My long message, the one I sent on the 10. November, was something I sent out of pure emotions and regret. My message I sent on the 11. November just told her:

"I just wanted to say sorry for the things I said in my message. It is not fair for me to respond to the breakup that way. Sorry that the message was so long too. I do respect your decision and your choice. I wish you the best moving forward and achieving your dreams! And please always take good care of yourself!"

And that is it.

These two messages she only read and ever replied. She hasn't been online since. Now important to point out here too is, that she is not very active on any social media platform anymore (those that I know of at least). I don't stalk her, no. I simply see it when I go online and I scroll thought. She hasn't been online in Discord for a long time. On other social media she is rarely replying to mutual friends. To me it seems like she cut off a good amount of online time. Maybe because of me or because of the things that happened.

(The rest of my post is in the forum post, including my opinion and a bunch of other important info)